

# Trinity Tidings

Welcome Spring!!



## *From the Pastor's Pen*

### April 2016

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Such joy seeing the House of God so full on Easter – and so full of joy! Eleven years! It's been eleven years since I've been responsible for Holy Week services, so on the Monday after Easter, as the Easter adrenaline came down, the truth is, I was so tired I could hardly move.

Yet, when we look at scripture, the day after Easter is not the end, but only the beginning. We're told to leave our places of hiding and go out and tell the story. That may be another way of saying, leave our places of discomfort! With the breath of the Holy Spirit within us, we are to do what the first apostles and early Christians did. They went up and down the country preaching the resurrection in obedience to the Risen Lord. (Acts 10:39-42) Because of their obedience, we know the story today.

So, we have our day of tiredness! But, then, get up and start out all over again. When bone-tired, I am reminded of a story I heard years ago – then Dick Donovan brought it to my attention once again. Survival as a POW often depends as much on spiritual strength as physical strength. Those who kept going lived; those who didn't, died.

One of the American prisoners during the Korean conflict was a physician and Commissioner Lord of the Salvation Army. After the war he told another chaplain of a day when the men were dead beat and another terrible day's march lay ahead. The men were lying cold and half-starved in the shacks waiting for their command to stand and get going. Many believed they couldn't make it another day. Suddenly the Commissioner (he) appeared in the doorway, looking like he had something confidential to say. "Boys, I've got news for you – great news – listen." And he stood among them and said, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want, he maketh me to lie down in green pastures, he restoreth my soul ... and continued through the psalm ... as if God's personal message to them. "Chaplain, I'm telling you, you could hear the silence. I've never been so moved in my life." The Commissioner continued saying that when the guards came in and told them it was get going or die, those men rose like they had new strength. They marched and stuck it out.

*Continued on page 2*

*Pastor's Pen cont.*

Without hope (the promise of a brighter tomorrow) we lose heart.

Sometimes all it takes is:  
 a simple word or phrase  
 a handful of daffodils  
 an unexpected gesture  
 a ride to the doctor's office  
 a hug or note

... the possibilities are endless. Part of telling the Good News of the Resurrection is to bring in a personal way the hope of a brighter tomorrow through simple gestures. Let the Holy Spirit within you empower you to open the door of your heart to continue doing strengthening, simple gestures. It breathes life into the Other, restores your Soul, and welcomes the Stranger.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Judy*

## *Evangelism* brenda cunningham

We are thrilled to have all the new members that have graced our lives by joining us here at Trinity! The Evangelism Team is working on making our church more inviting to visitors and members alike. We are currently working on the following items:

- Need at least four more chairs in Trinity café area
- Move café banner to banner room and change pictures in that area. We are looking at Mardels and other stores for new pictures
- Need "Trinity Café" lettering for ledge in café area
- Finish project for signs for B4B and BOC baskets in entryway

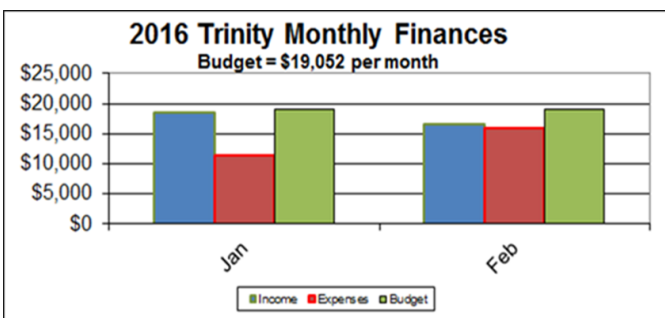
We are planning a Greeter get together for April or May. If you are currently on the greeter list, please let us know if week night or weekend is better for you. If you would like to become a greeter, please tell Deanna or Ed Jolly, Laura Van Newkirk, or Joe or Brenda Cunningham.

Please see Cathie Harper's bio in this newsletter and next month we feature Melody and Ron Carver.

Respectfully, Brenda Cunningham

## *Finance/Stewardship* randy smith

2016	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>
YTD	\$ 34,872	\$ 27,189	\$ 38,104



## *Congregational Care* margot ries

Congregational Care always needs to hear if someone needs some assistance. If you have a need to go to the doctor and no one is around to drive, give a call to the office and we will be notified. Fixing a lunch or dinner is something we like to do, and if you know of one of our church members who may need some assistance in this direction, please call the church office.

Every month we have the LUNCH BUNCH on the third Sunday of the month after church. It is a wonderful time to get together and have fellowship. Please put this on your calendar, and it will be announced where we will be eating. Of course, if you have a special place you would like to go, give me a call.

Margot Ries

# 2016 EASTER LILY OFFERINGS



## In Memory of:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Howard & Evelyn Fenton              | In Memory of our parents and Evelyn's brother, Bob.                    |
| Jackie Ballew                       | In Memory of Don Ballew  |
| David & Pat Barnard                 | In Memory of our parents and grandparents                              |
| Royce & Sue Chancellor              | In Memory of Wyman Chancellor, Chuck & Sarah Bixler                    |
| Nancy Cain                          | In Memory of Jerry Cain  |
| Larry, Valerie, Logan & Leah Wagner | In Memory of Lauren Victoria Wagner                                    |
| Jean Keller                         | In Memory of Dean Keller and Sandra Estep Derrick                      |
| Ed & Deanna Jolly                   | In Memory of Rena Cevetto, Edward H. Jolly and Madge Spichelmier Jolly |
| Dorothy & Robert Block              | In Memory of our parents   |
| Cathie Harper                       | In Memory of John Harper   |
| Bess Guthrie                        | In Memory of my parents, Frank & Emma Hunter                           |
| Beverly McComb                      | In Memory of Bob McComb  |
| Sally Autin                         | In Memory of my parents, Ruth & Bishop Shields                         |
| Liz Powell                          | In Memory of Dee & Lois Powell   |
| Lynn Sanstra                        | In Memory of Robert L. Melton  |
| Maverick Sanstra                    | In Memory of Mary L. Melton (MeMa)                                     |
| Jim & Tomye Mainer                  | In Memory of our parents   |

## In Honor of:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Bob & Laura VanNewkirk        | In Honor of Lucy VanNewkirk and Virgil Sigley  |
| Millie & Richard Spencer      | In Honor of Kaiden Spencer Haughey             |
| Barbara Higgins & Margot Ries | In Honor of our family members                 |
| Royce & Sue Chancellor        | In Honor of Betty Chancellor                   |
| Judy Henderson                | In Honor of my journey with the Trinity Family |
| Lois Ann Rude                 | To the Glory of God                            |

## *Worship* vicky adams / liz powell

### A LITTLE FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM THE WORSHIP TEAM:

This tidbit of wisdom tapped me on the shoulder, perhaps slammed into me would be more accurate, as I was getting Amelia ready for Easter Sunday Worship. You see, my granddaughter is all legs and no hips. I frequently have to tailor her "off the rack" garments. Since she, in her own mind, is a fashionista and someday the queen of 7th avenue, it is more often than not that I am required to make fit that which didn't fit before.

While I do not have the sewing abilities of Nancy Cain, I can sew on a button and I'll match my safety pin expertise up with the best of them. We were running late, which means by my internal clock, we were right on time. Amelia was busy whirling, twirling and dancing. I was running behind her with a brush begging her to stand still long enough to fix her curls. Suddenly, she stopped dancing and let out a murderous scream. That scream was probably heard two streets over. "Oh Lord, what is it? Child?"

"Something is stabbing me in the back!" I looked for an artery or a vein. Not even a capillary had been compromised. "You're not even bleeding. What are you talking about?"

"It's stabbing!! Get it out! Get it out!!!" Yes, you're right, she could have a big future in soap operas.

Then I remembered my handy work with the safety pin. Perhaps I could use a bigger pin. Beneath the fabric and the waist band I found the offending culprit.

What is the point? (pardon the pun). The point I am trying to make is that nothing in life is perfect. That's not to say we should not strive for perfection. It is because of that continued quest for something near perfection that we celebrate this day of resurrection. Jesus knows we are not even close to perfection. He knows that we, the entire human race, are a work in progress. He loves us anyway. To wrap it all up and safety pin together; you have to have green beans on the carpet to realize what life is really all about.

Vicky Adams

## *Christian Education* sue chancellor

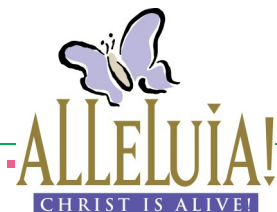
**Nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:38**

**"The women who came to the tomb and the disciples who heeded their word, took up their walk on the way of faith by returning to Galilee as Eastered people for whom resurrection was not their story's ending but the beginning.**

**What of you? Where will Easter lead you in the way of faith and discipleship, with its promises that stretch beyond our horizons?**

**Christ is risen. If you say it then live it." John Indermark**

As beautifully portrayed by some of our Trinity thespians in our Easter skit yesterday, the scene at Christ's empty tomb is such a powerful image for me and one I love to think about, often. In these days following Easter, with the image of the empty tomb and with Christ's guidance, may we journey forward as Easter People! May we be awakened to where Jesus is leading us, open to renewed relationships and ready to take on challenging opportunities. This newsletter is filled with a wonderful variety of worship, learning, serving, and fellowship experiences available to all who have entered, or WILL enter, within our Trinity doors. So all who receive this newsletter, please read it carefully and prayerfully, and join us whenever and whenever you feel led to be.



## 9:15 Sunday Morning Possibilities

Please join Richard Spencer and his group in the room off of Churchill Hall as they continue their insightful conversation on the book of Genesis. Each week is its own entity with it's own set of questions to ponder and discuss. New folks are always welcome every Sunday as a new chapter in Genesis is creatively discussed.



Bill Reynolds is leading a friendly group in an uplifting discussion of Rodney Newman's book, "Journey with the Celtic Christians." They meet in the church library, and now is an excellent to join in the fun conversation.

### Youth News sue chancellor

**Tweens/Youth (Fifth through High School) meet upstairs in the second classroom.** We have an enthusiastic team of teachers ready to engage all in interesting meaningful discussions and experiences focused on "Christ's Amazing Grace." Lots of fun and fellowship await you as well a learning and growing in God's embracing love! We are set to break into two groups upstairs whenever the need arises.

April 3	John Clawson	"Can You Believe?"
April 10	Sue Chancellor	"Feed My Sheep"
April 17	Stephanie Smith	"Faith in Action"
April 24	Royce Chancellor	"Crossing Boundaries"



### Multi-age Teaching Schedule

Children, preschool through fourth grade, meet this month in the Sunday School room by the childcare room. Our dedicated teachers are energized and ready with engaging thought-provoking fun experiences focused on "A Generous and Loving Jesus." This is the perfect time for more children to join in the excitement. Be ready to explore the stories of Jesus using all your senses!

April 3	Millie Spencer	"Jesus' Peace"
April 10	Vicky Adams	"A Beach Breakfast"
April 17	Sue Chancellor	"Helping the Community"
April 24	Katy Reed	"Welcome Everyone"
May 1	Valerie Wagner	"Good News Travels"



**Child Care** Donna Bridenstine is available on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. through the close of worship to provide nurturing fun and safe care to the youngest of our Trinity family. Infants and toddlers can join her during the Sunday School hour, and the older preschool children through kindergarten can come in after Sunday School or "Time with Children" and stay through Worship.

**\*\*Parents needing childcare during choir practice or team meetings can let Sue or Donna know in advance, and Donna will be in the nursery during those times.**

**\*\*The Christian Education Team would like to extend a warm heartfelt thank you to Donna Bridenstine for the awesome and loving care she provides each Sunday morning (and also for special church events). We are very grateful to you Miss Donna; you're the best!**

## YOUTH/KID NEWS

Easter Sunday was bright and sunny inside our beautiful church building! We began with Sunday School fun and an Easter egg hunt adventure reaching across the entire first floor of Trinity. The joyful celebration continued at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, with all the children/youth enthusiastically waving "Alleluia Ribbons." Thanks so much to the many volunteers who helped with these activities and of course, to our dazzling energetic kids!

### WE HAVE LOTS MORE EXCITEMENT PLANNED IN THE WEEKS AHEAD:

**April 3:** Fun family hike up Turkey Mountain--The Smith family and John Clawson will be hosting the event following Worship. Everyone will meet in the foyer and caravan together to Turkey Mountain. The group will grab lunch close by to fuel up for the trail-blazing trek! Wear or bring your hiking gear.



**April 21:** Come one and all to our April Family Picnic in our very own Trinity backyard! Be ready for scrumptious picnic cuisine and fun/games for all ages! The food, fun, and fellowship will begin following Worship so wear your comfy picnic clothes!



### LOOKING AHEAD:

**May 1:** Mark your calendars for a joyful Trinity afternoon at the Tulsa Zoo. We will meet following Worship and have a great afternoon outside at the zoo being entertained by ALL the amazing creatures that the zoo has to offer.



**May 15:** Save the Date as we will honor our sensational senior, Logan Wagner, on Senior Sunday. With the Fellowship team, we'll also have a reception for Logan following Worship. This is also Pentecost Sunday so be ready for an uplifting energizing morning with all these wonderful events happening!

### ATTENTION KIDS/YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Dwight Mission Camp's theme this summer is "A Love that Never Ends" and will kick off with Family Camp on May 27-30. There's still plenty of time to sign up any of the 14 camps available that best suits you! Information is available on the window ledge and on the bulletin board. Camperships are also available. For more information, go to Dwight's website: [dwightmission.org](http://dwightmission.org) or call 918-775-2018.



## Notable Information

**Midweek Book Study will continue meeting in the cafe at 10:00 am this spring through Wed. May 11.**

We are enjoying stimulating and interesting conversation centered on Barbara Brown Taylor's book, "Learning to Walk in the Dark." We will be discussing Chapter 7 on Wednesday, April 6, but will not be packing backpacks that day. Instead, we will be packing them on both April 13 and April 20 at 9:30 in Churchill Hall. In May, we will pack on May 4th and May 11th, and all backpacks will be delivered by 1:00 pm on May 11th, which will be our last backpack delivery this season.

**Save the Dates: VBS 2016 is coming this summer...July 10-14 with VBS Worship Service on July 17**

**Dive Into... "Deep Sea Discovery: God is With Me Wherever I Go**

**Get Ready for a most exciting Sea Adventure where we will explore just how deep God's love is for each of us!**

**Co-Directors: Cathy Hanson and John Clawson**

**Music Leader: Lynette Kraft-Lindsey**

Thanks to those who have already volunteered to be part of this awesome adventure that reaches out into our Bixby/Tulsa community! Please let Sue, John, or Cathy know if you would like to help in any area of your interest! More information will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.

**Book Study @ 10:00 am / 9:30 packing backpacks (dates TBA)**



**Save the Dates: VBS 2016 is coming this summer...July 10-14 with VBS Worship Service on July 17.**

**Be Ready to Experience God's Amazing Love during a most adventurous engaging week of  
Fun & Excitement!**

**Co-Directors: Cathy Hanson and John Clawson**

**Music Leader: Lynette Kraft-Lindsey**

Thanks to those who have already volunteered to be part of this awesome adventure that reaches out into our Bixby/Tulsa community! Please let Sue, John, or Cathy know if you would like to help in any area of your interest! Much more news to follow in the weeks ahead!

## *Pictures from Our Family Album*



### **A LITTLE BIT ABOUT CATHIE HARPER:**

I was born in Scotland and grew up in the small village of Kinlochleven, in the West Highlands. At age 19, I left home to begin nurse's training at Stobhill Hospital in the City of Glasgow. During my time there, Billy Graham came to preach at one of the soccer stadiums. He left a lasting impression on thousands of people, including me!

After graduation, I moved to Forresterhill Maternity Hospital in Aberdeen to train as a midwife, so I can fully relate to the show on PBS, "Call the Midwife."

I returned to Glasgow where I had the opportunity to attend a recruiting seminar given by Rod Bell, the Administrator of Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas, TX. He explained that there was an acute shortage of nurses in the US, and he needed nurses to staff his new hospital. Within 2 months, I was aboard the SS United States headed for New York, followed by a 3-day train trip to Dallas and Presbyterian Hospital. In Dallas, I met my future husband, John Harper – a fine southern gentleman from Mississippi. One year later, we were married in the chapel at Presbyterian Hospital. John and I lived in New Mexico for a short time, and there I worked at Saint Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe.

We moved to Tulsa where our son, Sean, was born. We attended Memorial Drive United Methodist Church. Sean, his wife Traci, daughter Taylor and son, Luke, live in Bixby.

John and I were members of the Tulsa Ceilidh Dancers – a group of Scottish Country dancers headed up by Mary Lane, who was a former Scottish Highland Dancing Champion. We performed at Mayfest, Octoberfest, the Scottish Highland Games, and also entertained at retirement communities throughout the area. I do miss those days.

I worked at Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa as an R.N. for 43 years, and just retired in 2014 – the year John passed away.

I moved to Bixby last summer, and at the invitation of my dear friend, Jackie Ballew, began attending Trinity. I cannot begin to tell you what a blessing this church family has been to my life. Thank you all for welcoming me so kindly.

Cathie Harper

## *Building & Grounds* bob block



**April 9<sup>th</sup> is Church cleanup day** – all hands are welcome! Meet at the church at 8:30 AM and bring any tools, gloves or other things you may think of for a busy day of working! We are also in need of garbage bags, so please feel free to help in that area as well.



# Easter Sunday Celebrations



## Alleluia Jubilee Parade & Easter Egg Hunt



### Baptism



### Skit



## ***April Lectionary Readings***

### **Second Sunday of Easter—April 3**

Acts 5:27–32  
Psalm 150  
Revelation 1:4–8  
John 20:19–31

### **Third Sunday of Easter—April 10**

Acts 9:1–6 [7–20]  
Psalm 30  
Revelation 5:11–14  
John 21:1–19

### **Fourth Sunday of Easter—April 17**

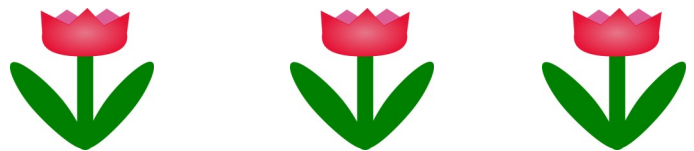
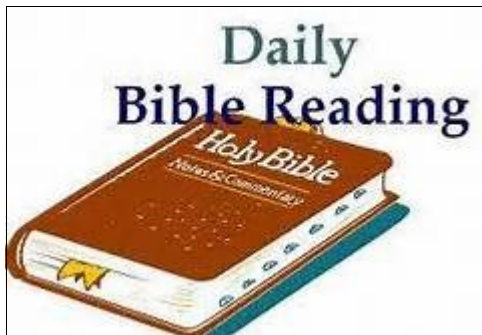
Acts 9:36–43  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9–17  
John 10:22–30

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter—April 24**

Acts 11:1–18  
Psalm 148  
Revelation 21:1–6  
John 13:31–35

## *Happy Birthday*

Bess Guthrie 4/06  
Thomas Spencer 4/14  
Hannah Cowan 4/18  
Sela Smith 4/22  
Tyler Eckert 4/27  
Linda Beuttel 4/29  
Alec Wigton 4/30






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# April 2016



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">shutterstock · 180559172</p>					1	2  4:00 pm Tulsa Children's Chorus *Free Concert*
3  <b>Family Fun Event</b> Trek up Turkey Mountain Following Worship Today!	4 Yoga Class 10:00 am Banner Making 11:30 am Turning Point 7:00 pm	5  ELECTION DAY	6 Mid-Week Book Study 10:00 am	7	8	9  8:30 am Church Clean-Up Day
10	11 Yoga Class 10:00 am Banner Making 11:30 am Turning Point 7:00 pm	12	13 -Pack backpacks 9:30 am -Mid-Week Book Study 10:00 am -Team Meetings 6:00 pm dinner 6:30 pm meeting	14	15	16
17  Lunch Bunch	18 Yoga Class 10:00 am Banner Making 11:30 am Turning Point 7:00 pm	19  Session 6:30 pm	20 -Pack backpacks 9:30 am -Mid-Week Book Study 10:00 am	21	22	23
24  Family Picnic following worship, @ church	25 Yoga Class 10:00 am Banner Making 11:30 am Turning Point 7:00 pm	26	27	28	29	30

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