

Trinity Tidings

2019

APRIL

From the Pastor's Pen

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1-2
Lectionary	2
Christian Education	3
Youth News	4
Congregational Care	4
Evangelism	5
Building & Grounds.....	5
Birthdays & Announcements	6
Photo Album	7
Calendar	8

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This year, Holy Week and Easter Sunday fall near the middle of April. You've probably noticed this, what with the availability of Easter decorations since... October (at least, that's what it feels like). Easter, of course, is a celebration of Jesus' resurrection – of his rising from the grave with a promise of new life and the ultimate defeat of death and evil. However, if we skip right to Easter, we miss out on some pretty important moments and risk misunderstanding the whole purpose of Easter.

You see, every time that Jesus healed someone in the Gospels, he did more than put their bodies back together. He also restored them to relationship with their community. In fact, if you read the scriptures with a mindset of good relationships as healing, then you'll find many, many more stories than you expected. For instance, the Woman at the Well (John 4:4-26) – she's not injured physically, but finds herself restored in relationship to her community after the conversation with Jesus. Zacchaeus, the chief tax collector who wants to see Jesus is physically healthy enough to climb a tree (Luke 19:1-10) – yet, because he acquired his wealth from attacking the poor and taking more than what they owed, he finds himself agreeing to pay back four times over anything he's taken. In this way, Jesus has healed his relationship with the community.

Pastor's Pen cont.

It's in the times that things aren't going well that healing is most needed, and we see this in Holy Week and Easter. During the services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we remember when the breach between the world and God was made visible in the passion and crucifixion of Jesus. Here, it is not only the physical wounds, but the emotional and communal ones that need to be healed. Just as Jesus restored the relationships of the people he healed as well as their bodies, in the crucifixion and resurrection, the relationship between humanity and God was visibly healed as well.

But healing relationships, like healing wounds, can leave behind some scar tissue. Some rough places, where things still don't work as well as they should. That's where we find ourselves today, still hindered by the old wounds, even when they seem to be healing. In the stories of Holy Week, we are reminded of what caused those scars – our rejection of the love of God – and that God's grace-filled love is greater than even our strongest attempt to reject God. Reminded of where we've been, we ought to work to continue the work that Jesus taught us – healing relationships as well as bodies, restoring dignity to those on the edges of the world, and recognizing where we, like Zacchaeus, have harmed others, and need to make things right.

May the light of God shine through the darkest places of your life. May the call of Christ resound through your being. May the love of the Holy Spirit connect you always with fellowship and community. Amen.

~Pastor Lucas

Monthly Liturgy

5th Sunday in Lent—April 7th

John 12:1-8

Palm/Passion Sunday—April 14th

Luke 22:14-23:56 or Luke 23:1-49

Maundy Thursday—April 18th

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday—April 19th

John 18:1-19:42

Resurrection of the Lord/Easter—April 21st

John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

2nd Sunday of Easter—April 28th

John 20:19-31

Christian Education

Melinda Carver

Multi-grade Sunday School (pre-k through fourth grade)

Young children through fifth grade are invited to the classroom by the CE office each week in April for engaging lessons focusing on a different bible story or scripture each Sunday. A great team of teachers take turns presenting a variety of kid-friendly experiences created to emphasize how very much God loves each of us!

April 7th	A Lavish Gift	Melinda Carver
April 14th	From Palm Branches to the Cross	Valerie Wagner
April 21st	Easter Brunch Churchill Hall	Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00am
April 28th	Peace Be With You	Millie Spencer

The Tween/Youth Class (fifth through twelfth grade)

A Sunday School teen/tween class is available every Sunday and all youth, sixth grade through twelfth grade, are welcome to the Youth Game Room. Please come join us!

April 7th	Making Time For God	John Clawson
April 14th	Is Your Easter Hollow?	Stephanie Smith
April 21st	Easter Brunch Churchill Hall	Youth hides eggs at 9:45am; Egg Hunt at 10:00am
April 28th	Youth practice for Holy Humor Sunday	

Midweek Book Study:

Midweek Book Study will continue studying *God, Improv, and The Art of Living* by MaryAnn McKibben Dana each Wednesday. The wonderful teaching team is composed of Pastors Lucus, Pastor Elana, and Cindy Strasheim. All interested adults are invited to join them in the cafe at 11:00 am. Lunch fellowship follows book study for all who can bring a lunch and stay for friendly conversation.

Schedule for Nursery help,
if needed.

April 7th Sarah Rayment
April 4th Lynn Sanstra
April 21st Melinda Carver
April 28th Millie Spencer

Thank you, ladies, for your
time and service! If you
would like to volunteer for
any youth positions, please
let Melinda know!

Sunday Morning Opportunities

Childcare for infants through preschool is always available every Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. through the close of worship. Donna Bridenstine offers a nurturing engaging atmosphere for our very youngest.

Pre-kindergarteners and kindergarteners can join Donna and an adult volunteer (whenever needed) after their Sunday School class and through worship. Please note: Donna can be ready at 8:15 for childcare for those parents/guardians practicing with the choir. She's also available for team meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. Just let Melinda Carver know.

Youth News



Our Easter Egg Hunt will be April 21st, just after our Easter church brunch around 10:00am. Our ever helpful and talented youth will fill the plastic eggs and hide them for our younger children to find. Teens and any adults who would like to participate can be in the church parlor at 9:45am on Easter Sunday to hide the eggs on the church grounds. Kids can gather in the youth lounge at 10:00am to prepare for the hunt. If we have rain, we'll be indoors. Either way it should be a delight to see our kiddos looking for their treats!

There is a Bunny Bin near the Choir room where you can drop off plastic eggs and items to stuff them. Any donation is greatly appreciated. The youth/volunteers will begin stuffing eggs on April 7th between Sunday School lesson and worship! We will also take this time to plan some fun summer Youth opportunities

Looking Ahead! Trinity Vacation Bible School is coming June 23rd-27th. Our program presenting our week's experiences will be during the service on Sunday, June 30th. This year's theme: ROAR! Life is wild, God is good! We're inviting anyone who would like to participate in this fun church outreach to contact Melinda Carver, Cathy Hanson, or Kate Hanson. Remember it takes a village!



Congregational Care

Grant Kessler

Grant Kessler is the Session contact for the Congregational Care Team and can be contacted at g@kessler5.com.

The Congregational Care Team hosted a very successful Lunch Bunch gathering March 17th at Chili's restaurant. It was attended by 14 members of the congregation, including four relatively new members. There were a lot of discussions including some needs of congregation members and history of Trinity Church and the surrounding area. There was also some viewing of the kick off of NCAA Basketball 'March Madness' and some predictions of the results. BBQ ribs was a popular choice for lunch.

The most important way that you can help our Team is by letting us know of any of any of Trinity's congregational members who are sick, who are in the hospital, are having surgery, or have other needs so that we may support and provide assistance to them and their families. We will be glad to send cards, call, visit, provide meals, or other assistance as needed. Please make sure we are aware of our college students that are away from home and need a bit of additional support in the way of cards/ letters and occasional gift cards.

Evangelism

Dwayne Strasheim



For the next several Sundays, the Evangelism Team will set up a table in the narthex, inviting members to update their information in the “Trinity Presbyterian Church Family,” our church directory. Please stop and say hi and let us know of any changes that need to be made.

Building & Grounds

Nancy Cain

It's Spring Cleaning time! Plan to join your other church friends on April 6. We'll spruce up our building and grounds for Easter. Some projects include vacuuming the chairs in the sanctuary, cleaning and replacing the bulbs in overhead lighting, refrigerator clean out (strange things have shown up in there), rearranging and organizing costumes and moving all to the storage facility, and a big clean-up in the storage building.

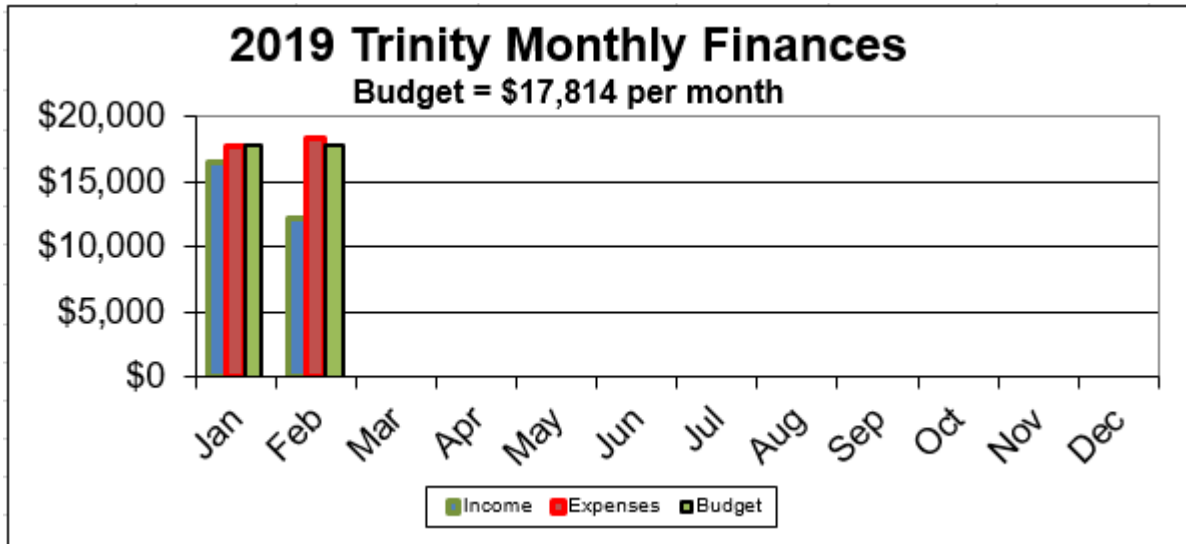


Look for forthcoming information about reshingling the storage facility. It has served us well for 18 or so years. Incidentally, I remember when our good guys built it for the use of the youth group. You can still see evidence of youth activities when you look inside. I digress. Shingles have been showing up in the grass around the building. It's our major storage facility.

A great big thanks to all the people who keep our building in shape. The most recent thing I know about is the replacement to 3 toilet valves. What was the clue? A larger than usual water bill.

Finance/Stewardship

Craig Hanson



2019	Income	Expenses	Budget
YTD	\$ 28,603	\$ 36,106	\$ 35,628

Mission Fundraiser



Bess Guthrie	04/06
Michelle Buttress	04/08
Thomas Spencer	04/14
Sela Smith	04/22
Lois Rude	04/26
Tyler Eckert	04/27
Alec Wigton	04/30

Trinity Presbyterian Mission Fundraiser

Ever wanted to shave a pastor's head?

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!

You donate, you decide! Every dollar equals one vote toward the hairstyle you'd like to see for Pastor Elana.

Results revealed April 28th.

Bald

Malawi
Women's
Scholarship

Pixie

Backpacks
4
Bixby

Shoulder

Wounded
Warriors
Project

Wounded Warriors: offers services and events for veterans
Backpacks 4 Bixby: provides food to children in Bixby, OK area

Malawi Women's Scholarship: funds will be given to women wanting to further their education in Malawi, Africa

The hair donations will be donated to Locks of Love, a charity that provides wigs for those who have lost hair during a medical treatment.

Contact 918-369-3690 or email trinity@olp.net if you would like to donate to the cause.

TRINITY PHOTO ALBUM



Our youth participating in Youth Sunday.

Great job, guys!

April

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> Join us Wednesdays at 12:00 for Sack Lunch Fellowship! </div>	1	2	3 Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m. Book study at 11:00a.m.	4 Lent Study at 6:00pm Chimes at 7:00pm	5	6 Church Clean- up Day
	7	8	9	10 Presbyterian women at 9:45 a.m. Book Study at 11:00a.m. Team Meetings	11 Lent Study at 6:00pm Chimes at 7:00pm	12
14 Palm Sunday	15	16	17 Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m. Book study at 11:00 a.m.	18 Maundy Thursday service at 6:30pm	19 Good Friday service at 6:30pm	20
21 Easter Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt	22	23 Session meeting	24 Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m. Book study at 11:00 a.m.	25	26 -----Dwight	27 -----
28 Mission -----	29	30				