

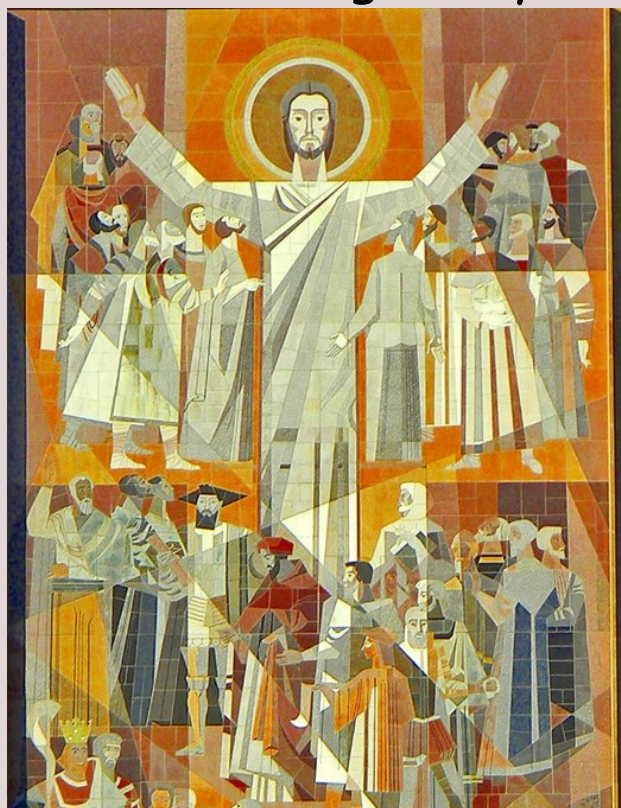


From the Pastor's Pen

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The Living Story



(“Word of Life” by Millard Sheets, a mural in South Bend, Indiana, 1964)

Jesus said, “And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? God is God not of the dead, but of the living” – Mark 12:26-27

There is nothing quite as captivating as a good story – whether it’s fiction or non-fiction, fantasy or mystery, adventure or romance. Once we get drawn in, we just need to know what happens next. We care about the characters, we root for the heroes, and we oppose the villains, hoping for our happy ending.

Cont’d., p2

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Pastor's Pen, cont.

We can be so incredibly invested in our stories that it's fascinating to me that sometimes when we talk about our faith the term "story" becomes a taboo. We tell children "stories." We can ignore "stories." Somehow it can start to feel like we're taking away from the real weight of scripture if we're only thinking about stories and characters. But so often, Jesus taught in stories precisely because he knew that's what would reach people the easiest and the best. That's what challenges us – that's what hooks our interest and keeps us thinking and wondering and re-working time and time again. He didn't tell us stories because he thought we were low or little or less than. As part of the Triune God, Jesus knew our hearts, knew his own creation. We are people of words and stories, plots and surprises, reversals and celebrations.

So, this month, when you study your Bibles and when you hear the Word read and preached, I invite you to revel in the stories. The amazing thing about all these stories is that they are filled with open doors for each one of us to walk in. There's a part for us that reads into our own lives and adds our joys and sorrows, our triumphs and our woes to those already found in scripture. As Jesus said, God is a God of the living – holding us all together from birth to death and beyond into the eternal. Remember that good, old hymn, "I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love." May you find yourself joyfully immersed in this love and eager to turn each new page. Amen.

~ Pastor Elana

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

**Trinity Presbyterian Women
meet the
2nd Wednesday of each month at
9:45 am in
the Trinity Café.**

Please join us!

Worship *Sarah Rayment*

Hello, my name is Sarah Rayment and I am the new chair of the Worship team.

January was a great month. We completed our play of Nebuchadnezzar. We bought some new red and blue paraments for our church. Also congrats to the new Elders!

We appreciate all the support from members in the church and our pastors.

In February, the worship team plans to prepare for the Ash Wednesday service, which will be held on Feb. 26th at 6:30 pm.

If you are interested in serving communion, being an Acolyte or Liturgist, or anything else for Worship, please contact Sarah Rayment at 806-570-2202.



Care Partner Support Event ~ 2020

Saturday, April 18th from 8:00 am to 5:15 pm
Evergreen Church - 10301 E. 111th Street South
Bixby, OK 74008 ~ Office (918) 369-6400

This event is provided to the Tulsa community at no cost! The Church and our expert speakers are donating their resources!



Eight
Onsite Respite Care Spots Available!
First Come! First Served!
Call to Reserve: 918 369-6400

Register: February 1 - April 15 at <http://www.evergreenbc.org/carepartner>

Attend up to 6 Sessions - Pick from 12 Different Topics Such As:

- Effective Communication Strategies *Cathy Sullins*
(Offered during Sessions 1 and 3 at 9:00 and at 11:30)
- When Is It Time to Consider a Move? *Chris Finley*
(Offered during Sessions 2 and 3 at 10:15 and at 11:30)
- Hospice ... "I Wish We Would Have Known About You Sooner" *Ashlie Casey*
(Offered during Sessions 5 and 6 at 3:00 and 4:15)
- Caregiving 101 *Mickey Hinds*
(Offered during Sessions 4 and 6 at 1:45 and 4:15)
- Trusts, Wills, Estate Planning, DOPA's *Kathy Lee Hatchett*
(Offered during Sessions 2 and 3 at 10:15 and 11:30)
- Home and Community Based Services for Senior's and Care Givers *Carol Carter*
(Offered during Sessions 1 and 3 at 9:00 and 11:30)
- Guardianship, POA, Advanced Health Care Directives and End of Life Decision Making
..... *Curtis J. Shacklett*
(Offered during Sessions 1 and 2 at 9:00 and 10:15)
- Financing Long Term Care, Veterans Pension Planning and Medicaid Planning *Brandy Robles*
(Offered during Sessions 1 and 3 at 9:00 and 11:30)
- Veteran's Benefits Explained *Steven M. Juett*
(Offered during Sessions 4 and 5 at 1:45 and 3:00)
- What is the Biggest Challenge of Dementia Care? Learn how to get connected and establish a relationship
..... *Cheryl Doyle*
(Offered during Sessions 4 and 5 at 1:45 and 3:00)
- How to Care for the GEM in your Life, get the final piece of the puzzle when you learn about
TEEPA's GEMS Model of progression *Cheryl Doyle*
(Offered in Session 6 only at 4:15)
- Caring for Those Who Care *Dr. T. David Willets*
(Offered in Sessions 4 and 6 at 1:45 and 4:15)

Christian Education

Katie Hanson

I wanted to drop a note and tell Melinda Carver THANK YOU!! Although I am excited (and nervous) for this new challenge, I am thankful that Melinda is continuing on CE as a mentor.

If you have a minute this month, stop by the Christian Education Bulletin Board! This board has had a face lift, but is still interactive!

Galatians 5:22-23 says

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this.”

These verses have been showing up everywhere in my life! I decided to incorporate them into an interactive bulletin board. You are invited to “take what you need.” Each envelope is full of Bible verses that will inspire or encourage you! If you do not like the verse, put it back and grab another. I encourage you to visit the Bible and see what was happening before, during, and after that verse to get the full story. It is my hope that these verses help you dive into the Word.

The other half of the bulletin board has a calendar for Christian Education and Youth events! Check it out to see what activities are happening this year!



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

Young children through fifth grade are invited to the first classroom each week in February for joyful, engaging lessons focused on a different New Testament Bible story or scripture each week. A fun team of teachers take turns presenting a variety of kid-friendly experiences created to emphasize how very much God loves each of us!

Your teachers this month are:

- Feb 2 Melinda Carver
- Feb 9 Katie Hanson
- Feb 16 Millie Spencer
- Feb 23 Melinda Carver



The Tween/Youth Class (fifth through twelfth grade)

**ATTENTION ALL
Tween and Youth!**

You are needed during Sunday School time to help prepare for Youth Sunday! Our wonderful Pastors will lead your time together in worship and practice.

**Youth Sunday will be
March 8th.**

Mark your calendars for a final practice on March 7th. Time TBD.

ATTENTION ALL WHO WORK WITH YOUTH:

Do you help with Camp Trinity, VBS, Sunday School, or general day-to-day operations at Trinity? If so, you may need to fill out a background check! We complete background checks on all individuals who take pictures, work in the kitchen, shepherd, lead Sunday school, etc., every 3-5 years. Forms can be found in Katie Hanson's box in the workroom. Please complete your forms and leave them in the pink folder in her box by February 23rd!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

VBS will be held June 7th-11th with VBS Sunday being on June 14th! The Knights of the North Castle are excitedly awaiting to greet our youth!

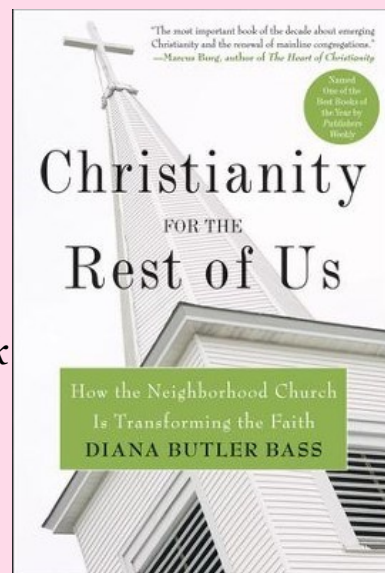
Look for more information in March's Newsletter about an Intergenerational Game Night!

Midweek Book Study

Join the Midweek Book Study group! All are welcome! The group meets in the Trinity Café every Wednesday morning at 11:00 a.m., to discuss our thoughts on the chapters as we read through various selections chosen by our Pastors!

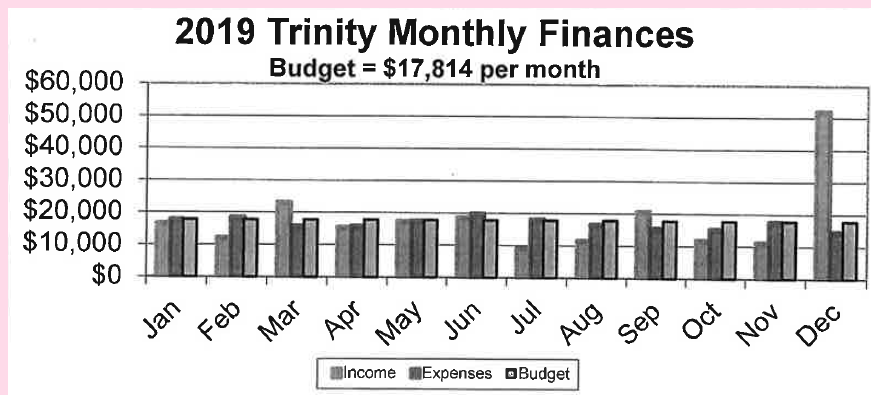
Pastor Lucus says, *“Diana Butler Bass is an amazing writer and speaker, from the Episcopal tradition. This book helps to see how mainline churches (like ours) have been thriving despite a decline in attendance. It’s a great informative read, and is filled with vision and hope for the future!”*

Join us and see what Midweek Book Study is all about!



Finance/Stewardship

Grant Kessler



2019	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>
YTD	\$ 219,838	\$202,305	\$213,768

Congregational Care

Liz Powell

The Congregational Care team is working on ways to better serve the whole Trinity Community and especially those among us that may be facing trying times.

Shepherding Groups - We are in the process of updating the Shepherding List with our new class of elders. Shepherding groups will include every member of the church with an elder as the group leader.

Lunch Bunch - The first outing of the year for the lunch bunch took us to Red Robin. Fellowship and good food were enjoyed. The Lunch Bunch will meet after worship on the 4th Sunday of each month. We try to visit different restaurants each month and the site of the monthly lunch gathering will be announced in worship and the weekly email update. Please join us for fellowship and fun.



Building & Grounds

Nancy Cain

Perhaps you are wondering about the information from Heffernan webinars. This is to let you know that we get more from them than insurance. Our building and its contents are worth something in the neighborhood of \$2,300,000. Pretty surprising isn't it? So of course we need insurance.

We have our insurance with Heffernan because they realize "we are different". We are not a business, not a home (although we may think of it as our home) not a car or SUV, the usual things we think of insuring. Heffernan offers these webinars as educational experiences for churches' unique needs.

Let's look at our building and grounds for a moment. Your B & G team has been hard at work with the upkeep side of things. I call it "maintainance" or to maintain. We try not to forget anything or let anything slide. So in that regard, if you see a need in our building upkeep please let me, team members, or the pastors know.

In case you don't know whom B & G team members are: Jim Mainer, Barry Straabe, Bob Eckert, and myself. We work with members of the Stewardship and Finance team.

By the way, if you have an interest in and ideas about the care of our property, please let me know, or better yet, fill out your Stewardship survey and show us your interest.

Best Wishes as we journey together,
Nancy Cain

Trinity Photo Album -a Snapshot of our Church-



Monthly Liturgy

Feb. 2—4th Sunday after Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8;
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31;
Matthew 5:1-12

Feb. 9—5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12);
Psalm 112:1-9(10);
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16);
Matthew 5:13-20

Feb. 16—6th Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9;
Matthew 5:21-37

Feb. 23—Transfiguration of the Lord

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99;
2 Peter 1:16-21;
Matthew 17:1-9



Bob Eckert	2/1
Kelsey Johnson	2/2
Dana Clawson	2/7
Emily Hanson	2/9
Ian Campbell	2/10
Lee Spencer	2/13
Robert VanNewkirk	2/15
Jim Mainer	2/18
Jean Righter	2/19
Jill Eckert	2/21
Stephen Swayze	2/22
Harriet Burns	2/24
John Clawson	2/27

New Flower Ministry

Help beautify our sanctuary each week by giving flowers for our worship service in honor, memory or celebration of something or someone special.

You can either bring your own flowers, or have them purchased on your behalf, for \$15.00.

Sign up on the sheet in the Trinity Café, and contact Beth Keppel if you have any questions!

248-505-4318.

Thank you in advance for helping to beautify our worship service!





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 COMMUNION	3	4 6:00 pm "Read the Bible" Class	5 10:15 Pack Backpacks 11:00 Midweek Bk. Sdy. 6:30 pm Bells Practice	6	7	8
9 Team Meetings 11:45 a.m. Healing & Wholeness Service	10	11	12 9:45 am Presb. Women 11:00 Midweek Bk. Sdy. 6:30 pm Bells Practice	13	14 Valentine's Day 	15
16 Session 11:45 am	17 President's Day Holiday Church Office Closed	18 EOP Mtg. Hugo	19 10:15 Pack Backpacks 11:00 Midweek Bk. Sdy. 6:30 pm Bells Practice	20	21	22
23 Transfiguration of the LORD Lunch Bunch	24	25 6:00 pm "Read the Bible" Class	26 Ash Wed. 10:15 Pack Backpacks 11:00 Midweek Bk. Sdy. 6:30 pm Ash Wed. Service	27	28	29



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