

February

From the Pastor's Pen

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The recent demonstration of the flossing dance by the Ohio State University marching band is a great example of many people acting as one.

A week in January is designated by the World Council of Churches (and the Papal Council) as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It's a time when different denominations are supposed to work together to rebuild their strained relationships. But Christian Unity shouldn't be just about different denominations getting along – there's a lot of division even within a denomination. Even individual churches should be able to worship, to fellowship, and to commune together.

That's why I was so excited for Trinity to be able to host the first half of a Winter Jubilee with Bristow Presbyterian. It was a great opportunity to get to know others in our Presbytery, and to help build up the "ties that bind." When Bristow hosts us next month, I hope you'll be able to go – it was an excellent and fulfilling time that stands outside of our regular routine.

Pastor's Pen cont.

You see, Unity doesn't mean making us all the same. It doesn't mean that Trinity and Bristow need to be in lockstep with each other. Or that the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the United Methodists, for example, have to do everything exactly the same. Or – since it is Valentine's month – that a couple in a relationship need to be interested in the same things all the time. Instead, unity is about holding to the same purpose, even if our methods differ.

That's part of what Paul was getting at when he described the church as the Body of Christ. It's a *functional* metaphor – that some people might function as hands, some as eyes, some as hearts, and so on – and that no one person, no one church, no one denomination can do it all.

This metaphor leads us to see ourselves differently. Instead of everyone needing to be exactly the same, we have the beauty of difference leading to a harmony of purpose. The body takes a step not when the hands point, but when the whole body works together. When the body takes a step forward, one foot swings forward, but one foot stays still. One hand might go forward, while the other swings backwards. From any one perspective, things might seem to be moving chaotically, but God can see the interconnectedness and harmony of the system, and wants us to show love for the whole body, just as God does.

You see, our differences allow us to harmonize, to riff on the same theme in different ways. Our individual paths may differ, but our goals are mostly the same. When we speak up from wherever we are on the body, we help the whole body understand itself better! So – may we strive for a unity of harmony and not conformity, as individuals, as a church, and as part of the greater body of Christ.

~Pastor Lucas

The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with greatest care... This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other.
1 Corinthians 12:21-25

Monthly Liturgy

4th Sunday after Epiphany—February 3rd

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

5th Sunday after Epiphany—February 10th

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

6th Sunday after Epiphany—February 17th

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

7th Sunday after Epiphany—February 24th

Genesis 45:3-11
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

Christian Education

Melinda Carver & Katy Orrell

We were so excited to see everyone at our inter-generational game day on the 26th of January! There was so much fun had by all. Thank you to everyone who brought games, snacks, and their love for playing games and socializing!



Midweek Book Study:

Midweek Book Study resumes their interesting spiritual conversation on Brian McLaren's book, "Naked Spirituality...A Life with God in 12 Simple Words." 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.

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

Feb 3	Sarah Rayment	"A Prophet of God"
Feb 10	Kate Hanson	"Fishing for People"
Feb 17	Melinda Carver	
Feb 24	Millie Spencer	

The Tween/Youth Class (fifth through twelfth grade)

Feb 3	John Clawson	"Stop Bullying"
Feb 10	John Rayment	"Stop Bullying"
Feb 17		
Feb 24		

Sunday Morning Opportunities

Attention All Infants through Kindergarten: Donna Bridenstine is ready to greet you in the childcare room every Sunday starting at 9:00am through the close of worship. Preschoolers and kindergarteners can go to 9:15 Sunday School and then return to childcare. Teen and/or adult volunteers helpers are available to help her during worship, if needed.

Fellowship News

Dwayne Strasheim

I am grateful for the privilege of having served with Ann Frazier, Deanna and Ed Jolly, Tomye Mainer, Margot Ries, and Millie Spencer on the Fellowship Team during 2018. Thanks also to the members of the congregation who responded to our many requests for assistance with Fellowship projects during the year.

The Fellowship Team will be under the capable leadership of John Clawson during 2019. I will be moving to the Evangelism Team, to serve with Cindy and others who would like to join us in promoting Trinity's Christian faith by sharing the love of God with our congregation and the surrounding community.

Respectfully submitted, Dwayne Strasheim



Bob Eckert	02/01
Kelsey Johnson	02/02
Karen Vaughan	02/06
Dana Clawson	02/07
Emily Hanson	02/09
Ian Campbell	02/10
Lee Spencer	02/13
Bob VanNewkirk	02/15
Jim Mainer	02/18
Jean Righter	02/19
Jill Eckert	02/21
Stephen Swayze	02/22
Harriet Burns	02/24
John Clawson	02/27

Personnel

Brenda Cunningham

For 2019, Craig Hanson will lead the Personnel Committee that includes one other session member and three members from the congregation. If you would like to be part of this team, please let Craig know.

Now that the new session members are on board, the Shepherding Program is in full swing. Trinity members, friends of the church, and frequent visitors will receive a call, an email or a letter from your Session contact for an extra level of communication within our Trinity community. If you fail to hear from anyone, please contact one of the session members listed on the back of your Sunday bulletins.

Respectively,
Brenda Cunningham

Music

Erik Collins

FEBRUARY MUSIC NOTES

Amazing Grace is a Christian hymn published in 1779, with words written by the English poet and Anglican clergyman John Newton. This arrangement by Evelyn Simpson-Curenton is a fresh, contemporary approach to the traditional tune, arranged specifically for the African American Church Music Series.

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!*

*The Lord hath promised good to me, His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first begun.*

Lord, I know I Been Changed is a wonderful, upbeat arrangement of a traditional Gospel piece. More and Regin give a new approach via eclectic balancing of parts.

*Lord, I know I been changed. Lord, I know I been changed.
Lord, I know I been changed. The angels in heaven have signed my name.*

*Went down to the river Jordan. The water was chilly and cold.
The water chilled my body, but not my soul.*

*Lord, I know I been changed. Lord, I know I been changed.
Lord, I know I been changed. The angels in heaven have signed my name.*

May the Road Rise Up is a new gentle musical approach by Jay Rouse given to the beloved traditional Irish text. A reminder to love life and appreciate the good that God provides.

*May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back.
May the rains fall soft upon you, and the sun shine warm upon your face.*

*The rains fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of his hand.*

More Love offers four simple words that form the healing message of this song: "More love, less hate." Such a powerful expression of hope from composer Mark Miller.

*Four simple words we sing today. With these four words we ought to pray.
And take to heart this sacred phrase: "More love, less hate."*

*It seems so easy on its face, four words to heal the human race,
and yet we struggle to create more love, less hate.*

*For love, we stand. More love in this land.
Will you join, come take my hand. More love, less hate.*

Mission

John Clawson

Souper Bowl of Caring

Our Souper Bowl of Caring event will be held Feb. 3. We will be taking donations of food and money for the Bixby Outreach Center and we will have a potluck soup luncheon after worship. This will be a great time for fellowship before the big game, as well as an opportunity to help those in need in our community.

Mission Trip

The Mission Team is sponsoring a mission trip this spring. We will be going to Dwight Mission on April 26 – 28, 2019. Trinity's team of volunteers will complete seasonal work projects (such as painting and clearing brush from walking paths) that help defer maintenance costs at Dwight Mission. Adults and Youth will be able to participate. Lodging at Dwight Mission will be free of charge and meals for the weekend at Dwight Mission will cost \$50 per person. The Mission team is really looking forward to this Service opportunity and we will provide more information in upcoming months.

Backpacks 4 Bixby (B4B):

Our Backpacks 4 Bixby program is operating efficiently with the help of all the volunteers that are shopping, packing and delivering food bags to children at four Bixby schools every week.

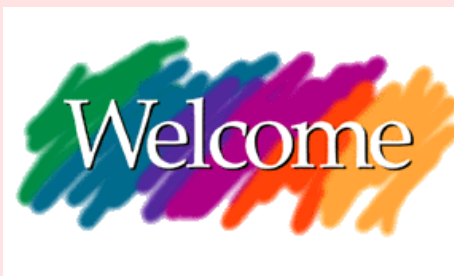
Donations of food are always welcome. The goal of the program is to provide healthy breakfast and lunch items to help feed children in need over the weekend. Food donations that we can always use include:

Peanut butter & Jelly – Canned Tuna - Spaghetti/Ravioli - Canned chicken - Juice boxes, fruit cups, individually wrapped snack packs, & small cereal boxes

Submitted by John Clawson

Congregational Care

Brenda Cunningham



A big Trinity WELCOME to Grant and Annemarie Kessler as they join the Congregational Care Team. Grant will be the Team's Session liaison and Team Leader. Ruby Morain and Cathie Harper have volunteered to be shoulders for Grant and Annemarie to lean on as they learn what the team duties are all about. Evelyn Fenton, Jackie Ballew, Dorothy Block, and myself will continue as part of the support team. If you are looking to join the team, please talk to one of these members.

Respectfully,
Brenda Cunningham

Evangelism

Brenda Cunningham

Dwayne Strasheim is taking over the reins of Evangelism for 2019. The main immediate focus is to get the Trinity Directory into the hands of those who need them, pictures taken of new members and updates made to current pages while making sure there are greeters and sign changers. Dwayne's wife, Cindy, will be behind the camera and probably the computer to help get these tasks accomplished.

If you are looking for a great team, please join us Wednesday February 13th for team meetings.

TRINITY PHOTO ALBUM



february

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<p>Join us Wednesdays at 12:00 for Sack Lunch Fellowship!</p>		1	2
3 "Souper Bowl of Caring" after worship	4	5	6 Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m. Book study at 11:00a.m.	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Presbyterian women at 9:45 a.m. Book Study at 11:00a.m. Team Meetings	14	15	16
17	18  Trinity office closed	19 Session at 6:30	20 Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m. Book study at 11:00 a.m.	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m. Book Study at 11:00a.m.	28	