



Inside this issue:

From the Pastor's Pen	1-2
Evangelism	2
Christian Education	3-7
Mission, Cong. Care	8
Fellowship	9
Photo Album	9-11
Lectionary/B'days	12
Thank You Notes	12
Calendar	13

From the Pastor's Pen

Much Ado About Junia

“Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives who were in prison with me; they are prominent among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.” – Romans 16:7

[Icon of St. Junia]



At the end of the letter to the Romans, Paul takes a moment to greet specific members of the church. For those of us who are curious types, these brief mentions can be endlessly intriguing. Who were Andronicus and Junia? What relation were they to Paul? What exactly landed them in prison? In what way were they prominent among the apostles?

Whatever their exact position, it is clear that these two were active in the church, putting their lives (and freedom) on the line for the word of Christ. One of the most curious things about Junia, though, is that history has been arguing about whether Junia is really Junias (a woman or a man). Ancient Greek was written without accents so the gender form of Andronicus's and Junia's name isn't entirely clear. Into the 4th century AD when scribes began using accents more often (for clarity's sake), the dramatic majority of them were using feminine accents for Junia. (It's probably also worth mentioning that Junia was a very common name and that Junias was not a very common one). But then things changed, a 4th century bishop named Epiphanius lists Junia as a male. He also insisted that Prisca (that is, Priscilla) was a man, too!

Cont'd. on p.2

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Pastor's Pen cont.

Perhaps, beginning with the insistence of that bishop and compounded by the sensibilities of the church leadership, it became important to downplay the role of women in the early church. Surely one who was prominent among the apostles couldn't have been a woman! Surely women didn't display *real* leadership back then! And so, many scholars and theologians have gone to great lengths to re-translate, re-frame, and re-cast scripture according to their own biases and preferences. They say it never was a woman and that "relative" can only refer to male relatives. They say that, "prominent" actually just means well known and has nothing to do with important activity – it refers to likability and name recognition. They say that a woman could not have been considered an apostle by Paul or anyone else.

While there were a set 12 apostles during and after Jesus's life, late-comer Paul also claimed this title for himself when he was converted. To be an apostle came to mean someone who had an important role in the leadership of the early church. After all, apostle meant "one who was sent." Some scholars believe that many others came to be considered apostles in their day including Silas, Timothy, and others.

In Galatians 3:28, Paul reminds us, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." This is a radical idea, then and now. No amount of shuffling verses or trying to explain things away will change the fact that scripture details women leaders in the early church: Philip's four daughters who prophesy (Acts 21:9), Euodia and Syntyche who were evangelists (Philippians 4:2-3), Phoebe who was a deacon and a patron of the church (Romans 16:1-2), Priscilla (1 Corinthians 16:19) and Lydia (Acts 16:15) who hosted churches as their homes. What's more, it was Priscilla and Aquila who together taught the great evangelist Apollos, strengthened him, and corrected his theological errors (Acts 18:24-26).

There are many more women leaders unnamed and mentioned without detail. Our challenge for June is to remember Junia and others like her. Our first instinct might be to forget or downplay so many voices in the history of our church, but their contributions cannot be silenced or erased. We are who we are because of those who fought to be heard despite those who thought they could rewrite our own scripture and history. Today we can rejoice to read scripture for ourselves, to learn from those whose lives were beacons of faith, and to be emboldened to speak even when we are told that our voices don't matter. May we always remember that we are one in Christ Jesus, united and unique, bold to sing our songs of love and hope. Amen.

~Pastor Elana

Evangelism

This month we are working on getting pictures of our New Members for our Trinity Directory. Grant and Annmarie Kessler, John and Sarah Rayment, Chuck and Beth Keppel and Mabel Niewoehner, please see Joe Cunningham so we can get your picture taken. Also we hope to get bios soon to put into the newsletter.

Evangelism cooks for our Ministry Team Meeting in June, so come enjoy the chance to talk and laugh with other Trinity Folks. Come hungry and come happy!!

Respectfully, The Evangelism Team

Christian Education sue chancellor

The Presence of Spirit

"The Spirit, God's presence in the world, works actively through us in pursuit of justice.

This Spirit transforms the world by transforming us.

Many theologians and philosophers describe the Spirit as imminent and willful.

The Spirit blows and sweeps through the earth. It will bring about change and new life.

The Spirit is movement.

The Spirit, who goes between, moves through the borders and boundaries of space and time.

The Spirit can move into the boundaries of space and time.

The Spirit can move into the in-between spaces that marginalized peoples and foreign women are oftentimes relegated to.

These hard-to-reach spaces can be obtained by the Spirit who can move into all places to bring healing.

The power of the Spirit stirs us to change."

Grace Ji-Sun Kim

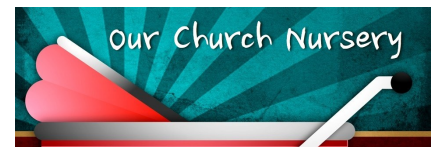
"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness stir through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of Restlessness stir us from placidness, wind, wind on the sea."

And Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ~Romans 5:5

It's already June and summer may quickly breeze through and be gone before we know it! Let's all be mindful of how the spirit can move in us and work through us in these warm weeks ahead. Let's not miss an opportunity to serve and love others in all kinds of generous, creative, and caring ways!

SUNDAY MORNING OPPORTUNITIES

(SUNDAY SCHOOL IS 9:15-10:15)



Donna Bridenstine is available for infants through preschool from 9:00 a.m. through the close of worship. Pre-kindergarteners and kindergarteners can join Donna and an adult volunteer (when necessary) following Sunday School, for safe fun learning experiences and nurturing care.

Donna can be available for childcare on Wednesday, June 13 from 6:30-7:30 during team meetings. Please let Sue know if you need childcare.

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

A talented team of teachers are ready and excited to kick off "Summer Sunday School 2018-Celebrate God's Great Gifts," in the Sunday School room by Donna. All kids are invited each Sunday for tons of fun engaging activities focused on a special gift for us given by our Gracious God.

June 3	Katie Hanson	"Larry Boy and the Kid from Outer Space"
June 10	Melinda Carver	"The Glorious Gift of Joy"
June 17	Katy Orrell	"The Gift of Gratefulness"
June 24	Sue Chancellor	"The Gift of Forgiveness"

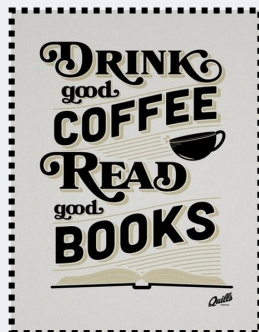
Attention Youth and Adults of All Ages:

Liz Powell will be facilitating a most timely and helpful conversation on "Ways to Serve" beginning on June 3, in the classroom off Churchill Hall. The group will tackle such important topics as hunger, clothing/shelter, and caring for the environment. Please join her whenever you're able on June 3, 10, and 24. Pastor Elana will lead a Sunday School discussion on Father's Day, June 17, for both youth and adults; currently, she's calling it "Sunday School Surprise." lol

Thank you, Richard Spencer, for your awesome leadership during the "Living the Questions 2" DVD series. We appreciate you tons and hope you can have some actual rest and relaxation time this June! We look forward to resuming this insightful class with you later in the summer!

The tween/youth class will resume in July and August with Rob Bell DVD's and Thoughtful Christian lessons focused on "Live a Life of Love." There will also be a Sunday or two later in the summer when the youth will help host another "Marvelous Movie Morning."

Book Study completed their study on the book, "Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt," on May 30. The group will be taking a break this summer. Please watch for information on a "summer read book" coming later in June. The fall book study will officially start following Rally Day, on Wednesday, September 12. Many thanks to this great group for your openness, honesty, and compassion as we discussed this latest book. A huge thank you for all your help with preparing and packing backpacks too!



Two important Organizational meetings in the parlor following worship are planned for June: On June 3, Liz Powell will lead a brief meeting for all interested youth and adults who can help out in any way for Camp Trinity. And Sue Chancellor will lead a brief meeting on June 10 for all folks who can help with VBS as shepherds, station/learning leaders, assistants, and/or sign-in attendants.



Many thanks to all the kind talented volunteers who helped make Intergenerational Art Afternoon, "Our Imaginations Ignite" such a grand success! Both volunteers and participants had a blast!



The Dwight Mission Summer Camp 2018 Schedule is up on the church front door and bulletin board across from the kitchen.

This summer's theme is "Beyond Belief! The Universe of God." Please check the web site at dwrightmission.org for more details. Teachers receive a 50% discount.

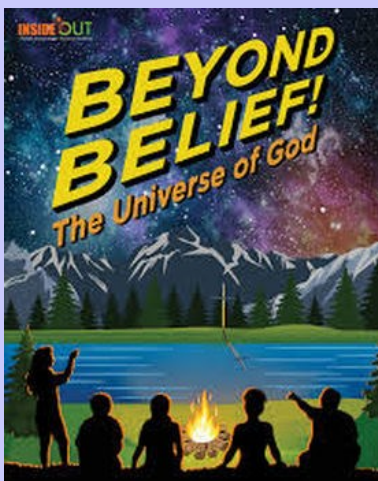
Family Camp - May 25 - 28 (All Ages)

Session I - June 10 - 16
Elementary Camp I (3-5)
Jr. High Camp I (6-9)
LIT (10-12)
CIT (12-Grad)

Session II - June 17 -23
Elementary Camp II (3-5)
Jr. High Camp II (6-9)
LIT (Week 2) (10-12)

Session III - June 24 -30
Dwight Institute (6-12)

Session IV - July 8 - 14
Elementary Camp III
Night Owl Camp (6-9)
Senior High Gathering (10-12)



**DWIGHT
MISSION**
CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

CAMP TRINITY

2 0 1 8

"Let's Open the Door To..."

For children Pre-KinderGarten through those
entering 5th grade.

Activities will include

MUSIC ● YOGA & GAMES ● ARTS/CRAFTS
PLAYS & STORIES ● COOKING & GARDENING

*****LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED*****

TUESDAYS

June 12 & 26, July 17 & 24

10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Lunch provided

There is no charge for Camp Trinity!

Call 918-369-3690

for reservations and information.

Volunteers are needed and greatly appreciated
for both of our summer programs! Please

See John Clawson, Liz Powell or Sue Chancellor if you are
able and willing to help out!!





VBS 2018

God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride

Prepare yourselves for the excitement that awaits kids
and volunteers this summer.
We'll have a blast as we explore more ways to trust God
and deeply feel his presence...
"For all the promises of God, find their yes in Him."
2 Corinthians 1:20

For ages 3 to Entering 5th Grade

5:45 to 8:10 pm

Sunday July 8 - Thursday July 12

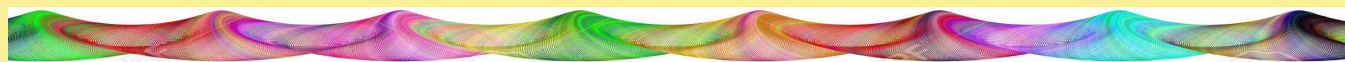
Family Dinner at 5:45 pm

Singing begins at 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary

Volunteers are needed
and greatly appreciated
for both of our summer
programs! Please
See John Clawson, Liz
Powell or Sue
Chancellor if you are
able and willing to help
out!!

VBS Worship Service and Family Picnic/games for
Families

Sunday July 15, 10:30 AM



YOUTH/KIDS/FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations again to our senior, Alec Wigton, and our confirmands, Leah Wagner, Seve Smith, and Matthew Sanstra! We're very proud of our most amazing youth! And all of you did an outstanding job in assisting with the leadership during these special May worship services! We love you!



Youth, please let Sue, John, or Liz know if you can help out with Camp Trinity or VBS this summer. The kids are so excited to work with you during both of these adventurous summer programs. Any day or part of the day you can set aside from your busy summer schedules to assist us, is most enthusiastically appreciated!



And coming on **Sunday, June 24**...our cool Joe Cunningham is organizing a fun and informative excursion to Lifelight for all interested kids, youth, and folks. We'll meet in the narthex following worship and caravan to Rex's Chicken before our tour that afternoon. Please plan on joining us for this summer adventure!



Mission john clawson

The Mission Team is very excited to announce that we have started a recycling program at Trinity. This is a service that the Mission Team is sponsoring and our service provider is American Waste Control. The recycling bin is located by our standard trash bins on the west side of our parking lot. The recycling bin will be emptied once per month.

What can be recycled?

Aluminum cans, plastic bottles, Styrofoam, paper, newspaper, magazines and cardboard.
No need to sort what you recycle just place it in the bin.

What cannot be recycled?

Glass, acrylic, adhesives, hazardous/industrial waste and food waste.
For glass we would need to order a special pickup that we will work on in the future.
Certain food waste can be composted in the container by the garden (check with Farmer Jim).

Please let people at our church and in the community know that we are recycling at Trinity!

Submitted by John Clawson

Congregational Care brenda cunningham



We were able to send out some fun gift cards to our College Students as they wrapped up the semester. We also sent out letters to the new and returning College Students informing them of the opportunities offered through our Trinity Scholarship Fund. We received cash donations during May for the Scholarship Fund and will again ask for donations in August to help these students.

The Lunch Bunch will be meeting at Bravos Mexican Restaurant on Sunday June 10th, right after the Worship Service and the Reception for Kim Harvey. Bravos is located at 8010 E 106th St, on the West side of the street at Memorial and 106th Street.

If you could occasionally pick up or drop off one of our Folks that cannot drive themselves to Trinity Services, please contact me or let the office know and we will add you to our list. This is especially important during the summer as we have our volunteers scattered in all directions!

Respectfully, Brenda Cunningham

Fellowship News dwayne strasheim

Fellowship events during the Month of May included two receptions: a graduation reception for Alec Wigton May 13, and a confirmation reception for Matthew Sanstra, Seve Smith, and Leah Wagner on May 20. The team is proud of its 100 percent participation in the planning of these events and the support of the congregation in attending these events.

Our main event during June will be a reception honoring Kim Harvey immediately following the service on June 10. Then, we will begin planning for Vacation Bible School, unquestionably our busiest time of the year. We will prepare and serve dinners for the VBS participants and their families July 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, and assist with the closing barbecue following the church service Sunday, July 15.

Members of the congregation who wish to assist with VBS meal preparation and serving are invited to sign up as kitchen helpers. The sign-up sheet is located on the counter between the kitchen and the Trinity Café. And while they're signing up for VBS, members can also volunteer to provide Sunday morning snacks at the Trinity Café. We are covered through Sunday, June 17, but we have openings for literally every single Sunday from June 24 through the end of December. Please know that your support is always sincerely appreciated!

Thank you, Dwayne Strasheim

TRINITY PHOTO ALBUM



More Trinity Art Day Fun!!



TRINITY PHOTO ALBUM



Monthly Liturgy

2nd Sunday after Pentecost— June 3

1 Sam. 3:1-10
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
2 Cor. 4:5-12
Mark 2:23-3:6

3rd Sunday after Pentecost—June 10

1 Sam. 8:4-11, 16-20
Psalm 138
2 Cor. 4:13-5:1
Mark 3:20-35

4th Sunday after Pentecost—June 17

Father's Day
1 Sam. 15:34-16:13
Psalm 20
2 Cor. 5:6-10, 14-17
Mark 4:26-34

5th Sunday after Pentecost—June 24

1 Sam. 17:32-49
Psalm 9:9-20
2 Cor. 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41



June

Katy Orrell	6/2
Maverick Sanstra	6/2
Sally Bright	6/7
Beverly McComb	6/8
Jack Sanstra	6/10
Lee Adams	6/14
Royce Chancellor	6/16
Sue Chancellor	6/17
Amelia Austin	6/18
Ben Haughey	6/21
Otis Buttress, III	6/25
Craig Hanson	6/27

Thank You Notes

“Dear Trinity Presbyterian Church: Thank you so much for the gift cards and the thoughtful card! It means a lot to me to have such a wonderful church and community supporting me in all of my endeavors!”

Darby Campbell

“Dear Trinity Family: I am honored to become a full member of the congregation. Thank you for the wonderful gifts and recognition. Thank you also, for guiding me down the right path.”

Leah Wagner

“Dear Session: Please find the \$100 donation to the church from our PEO Chapter. We appreciate the use of the building for our Spring luncheon. It is always a great event and the hospitality of Trinity in allowing us to have it at the church is very generous.”

Sincerely, the Women of Chapter CY Tulsa PEO (including Kate Hanson & Kim Campbell)



JUNE 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Presbytery Meeting
3 Communion Sunday Dwight Mission Campership Scholarship Loose Change Collection	4	5	6 12:00 pm Sack Lunch Fell. 1:00 pm Sewing Group	7	8	9
10 Lunch Bunch Bravo's Mexican Rest.	11	12 CAMP TRINITY	13 12:00 pm Sack Lunch Fell. 1:00 pm Sewing Group TEAM MTGS	14	15	16
17 Father's Day	18	19 SESSION	20 12:00 pm Sack Lunch Fell. 1:00 pm Sewing Group	21	22	23
24 Service of Healing & Wholeness Life Flight Trip	25	26 State/County Primary Election CAMP TRINITY	27 12:00 pm Sack Lunch Fell. 1:00 pm Sewing Group	28	29	30

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