



Trinity Tidings

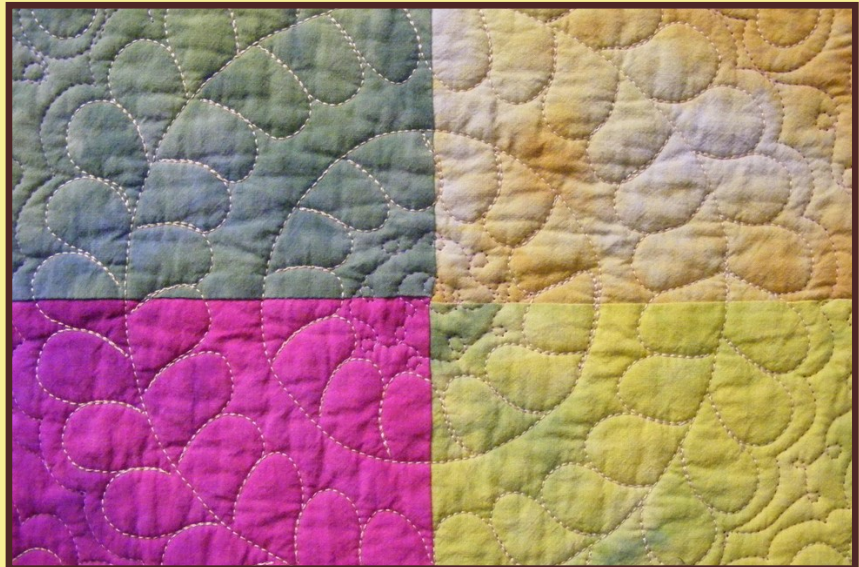


March 2021

From the Pastor's Pen

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Trinity Presbyterian Church
 9303 E. 111th St. S.
 Bixby, OK 74008
 918-369-3690
trinitychurchbixby.org

SERVING YOU

Rev. Lucus Keppel, Co-Pastor
 (cell) 248-845-8287
trinitypastor@olp.net

Rev. Elana Levy, Co-Pastor
 (cell) 757-876-7025 (Elana)
trinitypastor@olp.net

Erik Collins, Director of Music
 (cell) 918-809-3418

Donna Bridenstine, Childcare
 (cell) 918-982-5868

Deb Walker, Admin. Assistant
 (office) 918-369-3690
trinity@olp.net

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth.... I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

~ John 14:15-18 KJV

In John's Gospel, Jesus promises to send the "Comforter" to be with his disciples (and by extension, us!) after he ascends to heaven. This "Comforter" is also known as Advocate, Helper, Companion, and even by the Anglicized-Greek, *Paraclete*. By any of these names, however, it is clear that we are never without company in the time of need, especially in a time of grief. God sends the Spirit to be with us, to be our companion, our advocate, our comforter – and will not leave us comfortless.

We are always connected through the Comforter. On chilly mornings, it can be a comfort to think of the Spirit as a big blanket, warming all of humanity with the presence of God. Perhaps the

Comforter is a patchwork quilt, since we are connected to it in all the wonder of our strange and diverse ways. Perhaps the Comforter is like the arms of a beloved one, holding us close and reminding us that we are loved.

This is good news, indeed, my friends. I encourage you, as we start to emerge from this time of pandemic, to remember the warmth that we share in the Spirit of truth – the great Comforter, who has helped us all the while. Let us be just as warm and welcoming in person, knowing that God has not left us comfortless.

~Pastor Lucas



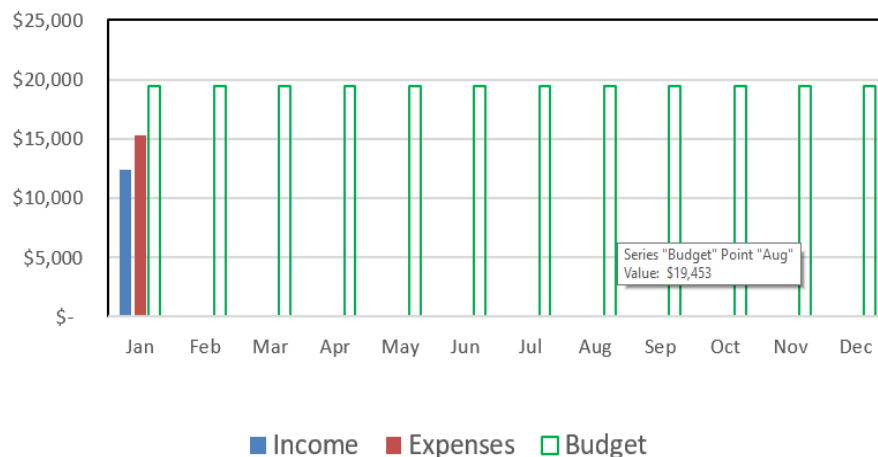
**Trinity Presbyterian Women meet the
2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:30 via Zoom.
Look for the meeting zoom link in your email.
The PW from John Knox will join us this month.**

Finance/Stewardship

grant kessler

2021 Trinity Monthly Finances

Budget = \$19,453 per month



Lenten Devotional Calendar

For each day there will be three suggestions of spiritual disciplines you can follow during this Lenten season. Traditionally, Lent has been practiced through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving so each day will offer one suggestion from each category. You can try to do one (or more!)

March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Ps 13	2 Ps 14	3 Ps 15 11am Book Study 6pm Bells practice	4 Ps 16 6:30pm Lenten evening study	5 Ps 17	6 Ps 18
7 Ps 19 3rd Sunday in Lent Communion	8 Ps 20	9 Ps 21	10 Ps 22 11am Book Study 6pm Bells practice	11 Ps 23 6:30pm Lenten evening study Ps 23	12 Ps 24	13 Ps 25
14 Ps 26 4th Sunday in Lent	15 Ps 27	16 Ps 28	17 Ps 29 11am Book Study 6pm Bells practice	18 Ps 30 6:30pm Lenten evening study	19 Ps 31	20 Ps 32
21 Ps 33 5th Sunday in Lent	22 Ps 34	23 Ps 35 6:30pm Session	24 Ps 36 11am Book Study 6pm Bells practice	25 Ps 37 6:30pm Lenten evening study	26 Ps 38	27 Ps 39
28 Ps 40 Palm Sunday	29 Ps 41	30 Ps 42	31 Ps 43			

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

Session Highlights

The Session met on Sunday, February 21st. The team leadership assignments were set for 2021 and are as follows:

Finance & Stewardship	Grant Kessler
Building & Grounds	Nancy Cain
Worship	Liz Powell
Christian Education	Kate Hanson
Evangelism	Leslie Haughey
Congregational Care	Richard Spencer
Fellowship	Craig Hanson
Mission	John Clawson
Personnel	Liz Powell & Craig Hanson
Nominating	Nancy Cain & John Clawson
Clerk of Session	Melinda Carver

As was approved in the January Congregational Meeting the Trustees are:

Grant Kessler Class of 2021
Leslie Haughey Class of 2022
Craig Hanson Class of 2023

Donna Bridenstine will be in the nursery at 10:00 on Sunday mornings to care for our children during the worship service.



Worship

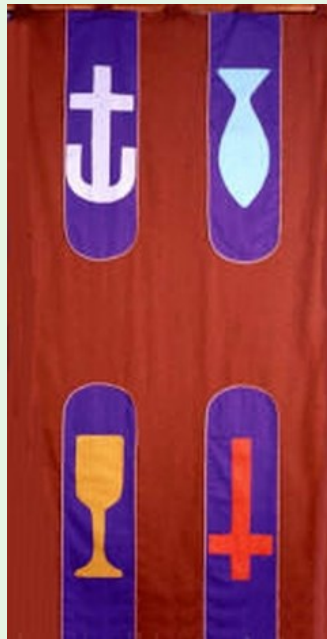
liz powell

COMMUNION - We will celebrate communion on Sunday, March 7th. If you would like to have communion elements delivered to your home please call the church office.

CONFESSIONAL BANNERS - During each month of 2021, a different Confessional Banner will hang in the narthex. These banners represent each of the Confessions which are a foundation of our denomination. The banners will be presented in chronological order starting with the oldest Confession. The banner currently hanging in the narthex represents The Apostles' Creed.

Although not written by apostles, the Apostles' Creed reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. The creed's structure may be based on Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In a time when most Christians were illiterate, oral repetition of the Apostles' Creed, along with the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, helped preserve and transmit the faith of the western churches. Additions were made to the creed in the second, fourth and fifth century. By the eight century the creed had attained its present form. (Book of Confessions - PCUSA)

An Apostles' Creed Banner



THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

Presbytery Report nancy cain

As the session volunteer, I attended the recent Presbytery Meeting. I was happy to see Nancy Covington open the Zoom meeting and moderate the rest of the "gathering" very well.

A highlight of our time together was a history of our native churches. There are many native churches throughout Oklahoma and the United States. How can Presbytery best lift them up and support their mission? Many have buildings that need attention. Park Hill is not far from Bixby and it is perhaps the oldest of Native Oklahoma churches, this year celebrating 185 years in existence. Many of its member families numbering about 35 are descendants of John Ross. They could find a larger church, but are dedicated to the family there.

On the subject of anniversaries, Trinity Bixby is 40 (woo hoo!) this year and Elana Keppel Levy has been in the ministry 15 (woo hoo!) years.

One of the most delightful segments of the appearance of Julia Metcalf. Julia is another beautiful young person who experienced the call to become a pastor. One year ago, I was the representative of the Trinity session at Presbytery. At that meeting, Julia, accompanied by her father, was taken under care to become a Presbyterian minister. This year she has fulfilled all requirements and has been examined by CPM for certification.

My generation still has much to give, but seeing this beautiful, talented, young woman following her call was most exciting.

Our own energetic Pastor Lucus is well known in Presbytery, helping to create and support the work of the larger church as well as our own.

Mission News john clawson

Our Backpacks 4 Bixby program is operating like a well-oiled machine and we are delivering 59 food bags each week to four Bixby schools.

We started this Mission in 2009 with the goal of providing healthy breakfast and lunch items to help feed children in need over the weekend.

Thanks so much to our volunteers for signing up to purchase food, pack and deliver each week. Our community truly appreciates what we are doing.

Recycling

We have received several complaints about the recycling bin that was located in the church parking lot. These complaints included early morning noise from the truck picking up as well as recyclables being left next to the bin and blowing around the neighborhood. Because Trinity's session wanted to be a good neighborhood we have decided to suspend the recycling and reevaluate the situation later this year.

Rest assured that all recyclables from the church & the Backpacks 4 Bixby program will still be recycled. We're just going to take all recyclables off site.

Fellowship News john clawson

The Fellowship team is in the planning stages for an outdoor Easter celebration. The Fellowship team will be coordinating with Christian Education team so that we can pull off a safe/socially distant event that includes eating brunch and an Easter egg hunt. More to come as we get closer to Easter.

March Lectionary Readings

3rd Sunday in Lent—Mar. 7

Exodus 10:1-17;
1 Corinthians 1:18-25;
John 2:13-22

4th Sunday in Lent—Mar. 14

Numbers 21:4-9;
1 Ephesians 2:1-10;
John 3:14-21

5th Sunday in Lent—Mar. 21

Jeremiah 31:31-34;
Hebrews 5:5-10;
John 12:20-33

Palm Sunday—Mar. 28

Mark 11:1-11



March

Ted Karner	3/2
Reggie Marshall	3/5
Dwayne Strasheim	3/8
Pat Barnard	3/14
Chuck Keppel	3/20
Tomye Mainer	3/20
Dorothy Block	3/21
April Goodale	3/30
Matthew Sanstra	3/31



Welcome, Deb!

My name is Deb Walker and I am excited to be the new Administrative Assistant at Trinity Presbyterian Church. My parents, David and Faith Sellen, are members here at Trinity. My husband, Matt, and I have been married 21 years and have two beautiful daughters, Gracie and Maddie; Gracie will be graduating this year from Broken Arrow High School and Maddie is a freshman. I grew up in Broken Arrow and graduated college from Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a middle level math endorsement. I started out teaching middle school in Jenks and Sand Springs before becoming a stay-at-home mom. I have since been active in volunteering in my children's school and extra-curricular activities, as well as tutoring elementary and middle school math. I am thrilled to begin a new chapter here at Trinity and look forward to meeting you all. I pray for your patience and understanding as I adjust to the duties of this new position, but I assure you I will do all that I can to make the transition as smooth as possible.

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