

# Trinity Tidings

2019



From the  
Pastor's Pen

## Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen .....	1-2
Lectionary .....	2
Christian Education .....	3
Youth News .....	4
Congregational Care .....	4
Music Notes .....	5-6
Evangelism .....	6
Birthdays & Announcements .....	7
Photo Album .....	8
Calendar .....	9

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## The Case He Never Saw Coming



(Screenshot from "The Big Combo" (1955) dir. Joseph Lewis)

*"We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal." -2 Corinthians 4:18*

It was dark in the city of peace – a city that's had more than its share of flimflammers, money grubbers, and dopes. The name's John – John of Jericho, private eye. As soon as they walked in the door, I knew they'd be trouble: dumb mugs in the Roman outfit, looking to wash away the grime that sticks to all of 'em. But they came with dough – enough dough to make more bread than I could eat in a month. Business was slow so I heard 'em out.

The skinny one rolled a coin around his fingers and said, "There's this guy Jesus."

"Yeah, I heard of him. I heard a lot of stories, too."

The short one leapt at me, knocking me against the wall: "If you know what's good for you, you won't be bumping your gums any time soon."

I turned to the skinny one, "get this mook offa me or I'll..."

"You'll what? You work for us now. And we need you to get

*Pastor's Pen cont.*

that body – I don't care what it takes. Prove to his chippies and lunkheads that he's sleeping the big sleep or you'll join him."

They slipped out the door, slamming it behind them, leaving the stink of the city in my nose. Now, I don't know from nothing, but a payday is a payday. I had heard rumors about the impossible – rising from the dead, body vanished. A stool pigeon in town told me I was looking for Mary Magdalene – a dame who could make you sit up and forget why you walked into a room. I'd heard of her. They said she'd had seven demons and now she didn't. Where I come from, no one comes back from that. No one. But there she was, no weak sister, and she didn't wait to tell me everything. She sang like a canary and just as sweet.

"You've got it all wrong, Johnny. It's no con. He was dead and now he's risen. I seen him – I seen him myself standing outside the tomb. He called my name."

"That can't be, doll. It's batty." Being around Mary made me feel dizzy, but from her eyes I could see that it weren't no wise crack. She just kept saying, "I have seen the Lord" and, "Christ is Risen." Her words came out so fast, I thought she had a leak in her somewhere. But somewhere in the middle of it, I heard her mention other women: Mary wife of Clopas, Mary Salome, Mary mother of James. I burned a lot of shoe leather tracking down Mary after Mary after Mary. Each one talked about earthquakes and angels, flashes like lightning and linen cloths rolled up neatly in the corner. I tracked down the Roman guards stationed there and grilled them until they 'fessed up.

"I can't say I can't say!"

"What? Talk, Tertius, what did you see?"

He fell apart like a house of cards on a speed boat. "It's all true! I saw it – the angels, the empty tomb, the resurrected guy. All of it!"

"Then what am I mixed up in all of this for? They're after my neck!"

"Because they don't believe – they won't believe even if they see him again. They want their power and influence and world to stay the same."

"But it's not the same – this Christ is risen and there are dozens of witnesses, more and more all the time. He's brought light to every human soul – why stay in the darkness? Why turn from his help? You tell your boss to threaten my life all he wants. I will serve the Lord."

~Pastor Elana

## Monthly Liturgy

### 3rd Sunday of Easter—May 5th

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)

*Psalm 30*

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

### 5th Sunday of Easter—May 19th

Acts 11:1-18

*Psalm 148*

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

### 4th Sunday of Easter—May 12th

Acts 9:36-43

*Psalm 23*

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

### 6th Sunday of Easter—May 26th

Acts 16:9-15

*Psalm 67*

Revelation 21:10; 21:22-22:5

John 14:23-29 or 5:1-9

## 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 May for engaging lessons focused 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!

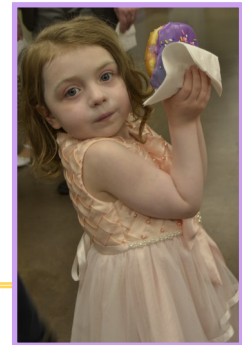
<b>May 5th</b>	<b>A New Disciple</b>	<b>Katie Hanson</b>
<b>May 12th</b>	<b>The Good Shepherd</b>	<b>Melinda Carver</b>
<b>May 19th</b>	<b>All New Things</b>	<b>Sarah Rayment</b>
<b>May 26th</b>	<b>A Faithful Servant</b>	<b>Valerie Wagner</b>



### 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!

<b>May 5th</b>	<b>Power of Prayer</b>	<b>John Clawson</b>
<b>May 12th</b>	<b>Under Pressure</b>	<b>Liz Powell</b>
<b>May 19th</b>	<b>Relationship with God</b>	<b>Stephanie Smith</b>
<b>May 26th</b>	<b>Attitudes</b>	<b>Pastor Lucus</b>



### 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.

May 5th	Katy Orrell
May 12th	Melinda Carver
May 19th	Millie Spencer
May 26th	Melinda Carver

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 or they can join her in the nursery after Time With Children during the service. 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

Looking Ahead! Trinity Vacation Bible School is coming June 23rd-27th. The 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 need Crew leaders! A few good people willing to lead our groups of children to the different areas of learning about God's steadfast love. This could be just as much fun for you as the kiddos!

There will be other craft needs for this event, but for now if you could save the longer aluminum tubes, the heavier ones, we could sure use as many as we can get.



We're inviting anyone who would like to participate in this fun church outreach to contact Melinda Carver, Cathy Hanson, or Kate Hanson.

### Dwight Mission Camp Opportunities

Dwight Mission Camp is offering Elementary and Junior High camp sessions for campers entering the 3rd-5th grades and 6th-9th grade students. Sessions begin June 9th-13th and go weekly through July 7th-13th. There is a combined session for Junior/Senior high students, which includes tent and backpack camping. Campers will find great counselors, great friends, and great fun for all! Go to [www.dwightmission.org](http://www.dwightmission.org) for all details.

## Congregational Care

Grant Kessler

Grant Kessler is the Session contact for the Congregational Care Team and can be contacted at [g@kessler5.com](mailto:g@kessler5.com).

The Team has a list of congregational members who are willing to help other members by providing transportation to the worship service. If you are a member in need of assistance, please contact us.

The next Congregational Lunch Bunch will follow the Sunday Service on May 19. It will be at The Lazy Fisherman, 16830 South Memorial, around 12:00 noon. Please plan on attending. Visitors are welcome to join.

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.

## Music Notes

Erik Collins, Director of Music

**Be Thou My Vision** is a time-honored hymn that speaks anew in this lyrical setting, beautifully decorated in a Celtic style by Heather Sorenson. The poetic imagery of this hopeful text is well suited to the sensitive choral writing.

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;  
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won, May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whate'er befall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.*

**Psalm 23** takes on new life in this peaceful, contemplative setting by Eugene Oldham that's based on a Chinese folk melody. The spare accompaniment and simplicity of the choral writing take us on a journey of solitude until the word "forever" literally soars towards the heavens.

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;  
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

**Hymn to Freedom** is one of Oscar Peterson's most significant compositions, It was written in 1962 and swiftly embraced by people the world over as the anthem of the Civil Rights Movement.

The piece was Peterson's first major work and written with encouragement from his producer and dear friend Norman Granz. During those initial recording sessions, Granz urged Peterson to create a tune with a "definitive early-blues feel".

For inspiration, Peterson drew upon various church renderings of African American spirituals recalled from his childhood in Montreal. He aimed to maintain the unadorned, yet poignant quality of these early Baptist hymns while composing the beginning chorus of Hymn to Freedom. Upon its completion, Peterson and Granz decided that lyrics would complement the music and contacted Malcolm Dodds, composer, arranger and choir director of The Malcolm Dodds Singers; a backup group for many popular artists of the day.

Dodds turned to his collaborator Harriette Hamilton, who had been writing lyrics for the choral group's original compositions for several years. According to Hamilton, "all the lyrics had to do was express in very simple language the hope for unity, peace and dignity for mankind. It was easy to write."

*When every heart joins every heart and together yearns for liberty, that's when we'll be free.  
When every hand joins every hand and together molds our destiny, that's when we'll be free.  
Any hour any day, the time soon will come when all will live in dignity, that's when we'll be free.  
When every one joins in our song and together singing harmony, that's when we'll be free.*

## Music Notes continued

**Al Shlosa D'varim** is a lyrical setting by Allan E. Naplan of an essential maxim from Jewish morality laws, Pirkei Avot, which states that the whole world stands upon three pillars – *Justice, Truth, and Peace* – and that without them the world cannot be sustained. All three pillars are essential; not one can exist without the other two. They are a promise that humankind must share in order to sustain the world.

*Al shlosa D'varim haolam kayam. Al haemet v'al hadin V'al hashalom, hashalom.  
The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace.*

**Hope for Resolution**, *A song for Mandela and deKlerk*, is a juxtaposition of a European chant melody and an antiapartheid song from South Africa - a celebration of diversity. The arrangement by Paul Caldwell & Sean Ivory reflects a respect for divergent musical styles and points our world towards our innate potential for peaceful coexistence. This one has become a favorite here at Trinity and is sung in worship annually on the last Sunday of the choir season.

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore!*

*O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Savior of our race;  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face,  
evermore and evermore!*

*O ye heights of heaven adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King!  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Every voice in concert sing,  
evermore and evermore!*

Thula sizwe, ungabokhala, uJehovah wakho uzokunqobela.  
Inkululeko, sizoyithola, uJehovah wakho uzokunqobela.  
(Translation: Nation, do not cry. Jehovah will protect us.)

## Evangelism

Dwayne Strasheim

The Evangelism Team is making slow but steady progress on its updating and revision of the "Trinity Presbyterian Church Family" directory. If you have corrections to make in your directory information, contact Dwayne or Cindy Strasheim. You can e-mail me at [dstrasheim@hastings.edu](mailto:dstrasheim@hastings.edu) or call or text me at 402-469-0941. You can e-mail Cindy at [cindy.strasheim@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.strasheim@gmail.com) or call or text her at 402-469-5357. Cindy is also our photographer, so do get in touch with her if you would like a new photo in the directory.



Respectfully submitted,  
Dwayne Strasheim

## Notes to Trinity

For all my Trinity Friends,

I miss you greatly. Still adjusting to the retirement home routine, but I am feeling well and eating well. I hope all matters at Trinity are good. You are a special, extraordinary congregation.

With love,  
Brad Byers

## Trinity Couples Group



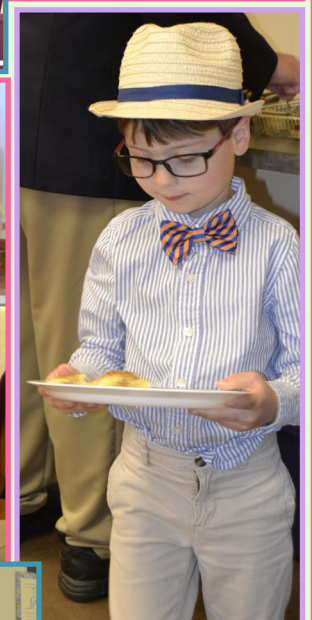
Our second gathering was in March. Food, fun, & stories were abound. If you are interested in joining us (we meet about 3-4 times a year) talk to Rev. Elana or Kim Campbell. It is a great way to get to know each other & maybe learn a thing or two, as well!

As you can see we are intergenerational, so all are welcome!

Ben Austin	05/02
Kim Campbell	05/11
Leah Wagner	05/11
Ann Frazier	05/15
Mitchell Sanstra	05/28
Nancy Foland	05/29
Scott Wigton	05/31




# TRINITY PHOTO ALBUM







SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">                     Join us                      Wednesdays                      at 12:00 for                      Sack Lunch                      Fellowship!                 </div>		1  Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m.  Book study at 11:00a.m.	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Presbyterian women at 9:45 a.m.  Book Study at 11:00a.m.  Team Meetings	9	10	11
12	13	14	15  Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m.  Session Meeting Book study at 11:00 a.m.	16	17	18
19  Lunch Bunch at The Lazy Fisherman	20	21	22  Pack backpacks at 10:30 a.m.  Book study at 11:00 a.m.	23	24	25
26	<div style="text-align: center;">                       Memorial Day                      Trinity office closed                 </div>	28	29	30	31	1  —EOP Meeting in OKC—