



October 2016

From the Pastors' Pens

Inside this issue:

From the Pastors' Pens	1-2
Finance / Evangelism	3
Congregational Care	3
Building & Grounds	3
Worship	4
Christian Education	4-7
Mission	8
Photo Album	8-10
Lectionary/B'days	11
Calendar	12

Jacob Becomes James

There's a nasty rumor that floats around from time to time that when King James authorized an English translation of the Bible, he insisted that his name be inserted where it didn't belong (like in the Epistle of James). This may seem baffling until you find out that the Greek title for the Epistle of James is Iakobos – clearly taken from Jacob.

So, you might ask, how on earth did Jacob become James? Well, the original name in Hebrew is pronounced Ya'akov. When Alexander the Great conquered the Persian Empire (including the land of Israel) in the 4th century BC, Hellenistic or Greek influences spread far and wide. Male Greek names typically ended in –as or –es or –os. So, Ya'akov became Iakobos. Many Jews also had Greek names just as, under Rome, they took Roman names.

In 64 BC, the burgeoning Roman Empire annexed the land of Israel and began the long, slow process of replacing Koine Greek with Latin as the everyday language of trade and marketplace. Though the first Latin translation of scripture, the Vulgate, has Iacob, Catholic liturgy used Iacobus in worship. Then, in Late Latin (after the 3rd Century AD), Iacobus became Iacomus in some places and Iacomus in others.

Now is when it gets really interesting. We know that Latin evolved into many Romance languages and Germanic ones, too. Iacomus is really hard to say so Old French evolved the name Jacmes. This, in turn, was simplified to both Jacques and Jammes. With the movement of the Normans and the influence of Celtic languages, Jammes came into England as James in the middle ages amidst conquest and battle.

As for King James inserting himself into the Bible, the earliest known complete English Bible translation was in the 14th century, credited to John Wycliffe. He used James for the New Testament epistle two centuries before King James was born!

Turning to Isaiah 2:2-3a, we read, "In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the G-d of Jacob.'" In each word of scripture that we have preserved today, we find the devotion, dedication, and sacrifice of countless individuals from many nations who sometimes risked persecution, torture, and their very lives to get this holy Word into our hands. We find that even those who would conquer and assert their own power and control were also supporting systems and structures that carried the Gospel forward. Their influence is stamped into the very words that we read, like in the name of James, but we can see that that influence could never control or quash the Word of G-d to us. The Word will never leave us, no matter who seeks to strip it away or alter its meaning. In our brokenness, we may make Jacob into James, but we cannot change the life-giving power of G-d's covenant promises to us. No matter what we do, the Word stands as our connection to G-d, our fount of hope, and our daily challenge to build up justice to the glory of G-d's holy name. However we say it, we hold something beautiful in scripture.

- Pastor Elana

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

Sue Chancellor, Christian Educator
(cell) 918-764-5566
schancellor5@gmail.com

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

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

Kim Harvey, Admin. Assistant
(office) 918-369-3690
trinity@olp.net

From the Pastors' Pens, cont'd.



I've been thinking a lot about space travel and religion lately, especially after preparing the sermon for World Communion Sunday, and the first communion taken on the Moon. A few people asked me after that service why they hadn't ever heard of Buzz Aldrin's communion before the first moonwalk – and the reason is fairly sad. Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin were traveling to the moon on the Apollo 11 mission – but just a few months before, Christmas Eve 1968, the astronauts of Apollo 8 took turns reading from the book of Genesis on air. Bill Anders, Jim Lovell, and Frank Borman wished the earth merry Christmas, while seeing both the earth and the moon from space, in what was then the most-watched television broadcast up to that point. After that broadcast, though, Madelyn Murray O'Hair (founder of American Atheists) sued the US Government for violating the first amendment. Though the lawsuit would be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction, it was still ongoing during Apollo 11, and so NASA, allowing Aldrin to take communion, nevertheless asked him to not broadcast anything that could hurt their case. So, even though it was not a secret, the first communion on the moon was not brought forward in the attention of most of Earth.

Though Buzz Aldrin is most famous for being the second man on the moon, he holds a place of honor in NASA history for another reason – his doctoral thesis on orbital mechanics helped detail how to dock two objects in orbit. You see, in space, you can't just point your ship at your target, and travel straight there (despite what popular movies and TV shows would have you believe). Instead, you have to match orbits somewhere ahead of where you are, burning now to affect your trajectory later. There's a lot of complicated math behind this, but the point is this: the actions you take immediately may not seem to move you in the right direction, but has a great impact later on in the future. And this is the part that reminds me of God's path for us: when we turn back to God's way, it may not seem to have a huge impact immediately. When we confess sin in Church, it can seem like part of the normal routine. But down the road – maybe days, months, or years later – the actions and decisions we took will have great ramifications. When we say, "I forgive you," or accept someone's forgiveness, that has an impact later. And though we can't plan our own paths perfectly – navigating through life is more difficult even than docking with the space station – we can appreciate how God's path ends up with us in the right orbit, following the Way of Jesus Christ.

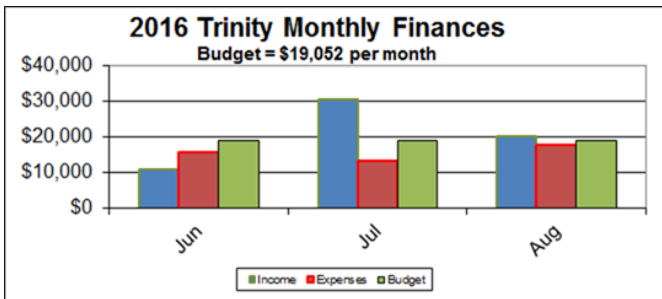
- Pastor Lucas

Finance/Stewardship randy smith

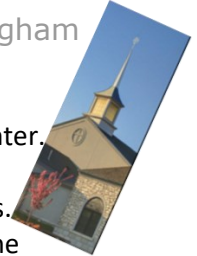
Around the middle of October, we will be mailing out the "Time & Talent" sheets to all our church members. These sheets are very helpful to our ministry team leaders and staff as we plan for our church activities and committees. We ask that you please take a couple of minutes to complete your form and return to the church on Sunday, October 30th where they will be offered during service (or return to the church office at anytime). Whether you have a special talent or passion for a certain activity or just want to explore an area of interest, there is always a need for your time and service. Thank you for your commitment to Trinity!

*Randy Smith,
Stewardship/Finance Team*

2016	Income	Expenses	Budget
YTD	\$ 135,169	\$ 120,016	\$ 152,416



Evangelism brenda cunningham



We have revised the Trinity tri-fold brochure and are sending it to the printer. It should be ready in a few weeks to give to Visitors and Potential Members. One of our team will announce it to the congregation when they are ready to go.

Volunteers needed for Nov 8th



Trinity is used as a voting place during and for the Primary Voting, over 500 people came to our church to vote.

Many of them asked questions about our church and gave us an opportunity to let them see what we have to offer. With the November 8th election fast approaching, the Evangelism team believes this will be another great opportunity to show off our beloved church. We are asking for volunteers to work one hour or more from 7 am to 7pm (during the voting hours) to serve coffee, cookies and bottled water to the voters as well as hand out brochures and talk about Trinity to anyone who asks. We will pass around a sign-up sheet in October, but if you wish to participate, please tell Laura Van Newkirk, Michelle or Otis Buttress, Ed or Deanna Jolly, or Joe or me. Suggestions accepted also!

Respectfully, Brenda Cunningham

Building & Grounds bob block



Saturday, October 15, 2016 8:00 am

Fall Clean up day at Trinity! Everyone come out, bring tools and garbage bags and help clean up our beloved church building and grounds! Any and all help will be appreciated.

Congregational Care margot ries

Our College Students are back to their respective colleges and ready to start another year of study. If you wish to send them a note to wish them well for this 1st Semester, please feel free to write a note and give to our Trinity Office Staff, who will in turn, mail your notes on to them.

Our College students this year are:

- Kelsey Johnson in Fayetteville*
- Luke Clawson in St Louis*
- Darby Campbell in Fayetteville*
- Trevor Eckert in Stillwater*
- Logan Wagner in Grand Junction*

Blessings, Congregational Care Team

Worship vicky adams / liz powell

HAPPY FALL!

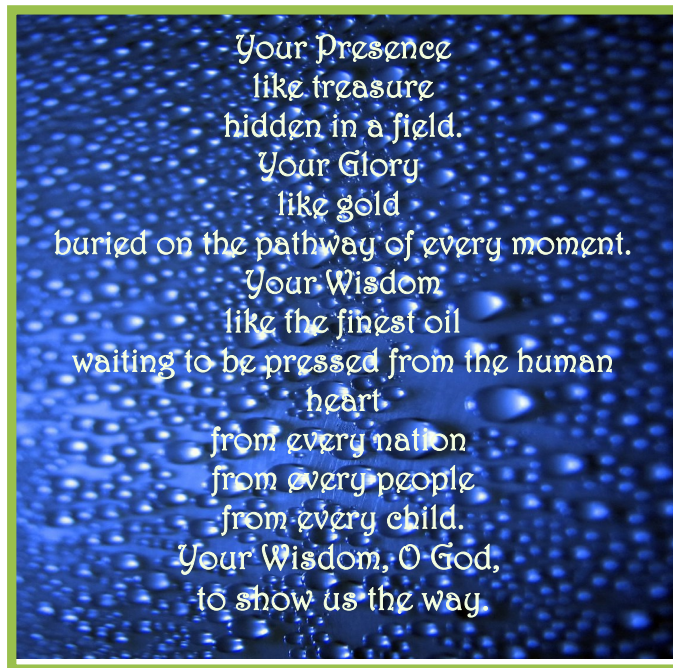
Sunday October 30th is going to be a very busy day. We will enjoy the bag pipes as we celebrate our heritage on Reformation Sunday and recognize All Saints Day during the morning worship service. After the worship service there will be a meeting of the congregation.

Special thanks to all who assisted in the preparation and participated in the Service of Installation for our new pastors and World Communion Sunday. These were wonderful celebrations of our faith. The installation was an important milestone in the life of this congregation. World Communion Sunday reminds us of our connection to our brothers and sisters in faith around the world.

As we look ahead, November 20th is Reign of Christ Sunday; we will celebrate communion and Rev. Keppel will take us through a review of the past year.



Christian Education sue chancellor



~John Philip Newell

These are wise beautiful words for us to hold onto tightly as we continue on our faith journeys into the crisp fresh Autumn days ahead. What a joy to be part of this blessed Trinity family as we grow, learn, and work together in the wise embracing love of our Lord. Let us be awakened to the treasure of God's Presence felt in so many glorious ways and at such beautiful surprising moments!

Back by popular demand...Pumpkin Day 2016

Hosted by Sue & Jonna! It will be on a **Saturday** this year, on **October 15**, come and go as you please between **1:00 pm and 2:45 pm**. Just bring a pumpkin or two and we'll provide snacks, games, and all the creative materials needed to make a most perky, precious, perilous pumpkin!! Kids, youth, and adults of all ages are invited!! Bring friends, relatives, and pumpkins, big, small or in between!!



Sunday Morning Possibilities *Please join us when you are able every Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. for many learning possibilities:*

Child Care Donna Bridenstine is ready for little ones at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday morning through the close of Worship. Preschoolers and kindergarteners can also join her, and another adult helper or two, after Sunday School or "Time with Children" through Worship Service for fun safe hands on activities and play.



****Parents needing childcare during choir practice or team meetings can let Sue or Donna know in advance and Donna will be in the nursery during those times.****

Children's Sunday School for Pre-kindergarten through Fourth Grade

The Children's Teaching Team invite all of our children from preschool through fourth grade to join us in the Sunday School room by Sue's office for a wondrous engaging learning experience centered on "Being Followers of Jesus" every Sunday morning at 9:15.

Oct 9:	Vicky Adams	"The Strength of Jesus"
Oct 16:	Sue Chancellor	"Be Persistent"
Oct 23:	Millie Spencer	"Show Mercy"
Oct 30:	Katy Reed	"Come Down!"
Nov 6:	Melinda Carver	"Hold On"
Nov 13:	Valerie Wagner	"Teamwork"

Tweens and Teens, Fifth Grade through High School

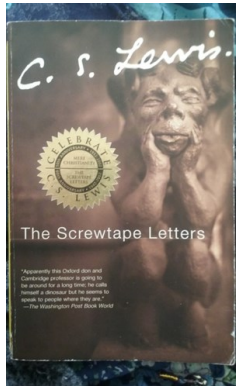
The Tweens/Teens team of teachers is excited to invite all tweens though High Schoolers to the upstairs classroom for lively fun discussion/activities focused on important interesting scripture and topics.

Oct 9:	Sue Chancellor	"Stick with the Story"
Oct 16:	Royce Chancellor	"Prayerful & Persistent"
Oct 23:	Bob Eckert	"Love & Mercy"
Oct 30:	John Clawson	"Extravagant Welcome"
Nov 6:	Sue Chancellor	"Rage Against Evil"
Nov 13:	Royce Chancellor	"Community Works"

REMINDER: This is a friendly reminder to fill out and hand in a survey on days/times you could be part of the Trinity's "All-ages Theatre Group." Extra surveys are on the office window ledge. What a wonderful opportunity for folks of all ages to come together and be part of creative, innovative, and uplifting Worship Services!

Adult Sunday School

Our adult class is officially meeting as one group this fall in Churchill Hall and diving into the book, "The Screwtape Letters," by CS Lewis. Rev. Elana is leading this exciting study and it's never too late to come and join the friendly group. Books will be available for \$8.00 if you would like one of your own, but it's not necessary, as she will have printouts of the current chapter being discussed and Youtube clips at each class. Come one and all!



C.S. Lewis' The Screwtape Letters

Join Pastor Elana in the Library starting Sunday October 2nd for an exploration of sin and temptation. In this classic book, Lewis offers us secret correspondence from below, imagining how a senior demon would advise a younger demon on how best to tempt humanity. Written in 1942, it grapples with the way that evil rears its ugly head in our world (and how we can be on guard for its trickiness!). Each class, we will hear the book read by John Cleese of Monty Python fame. All are welcome!!

The Christmas Pageant Rehearsals are off and running with our kids and youth, once again under the leadership of Ms. Lynette Kraft-Lindsey. This year's pageant, "Jesus Means Christmas to Me," is a high-energy, joyful, kid-friendly, pageant telling the precious story of Jesus' birth through uplifting meaningful songs. There's a place for all of our children and youth in the pageant, so please **join us for practice at 10:00 a.m. following Sunday School upstairs** in the "Pageant-Practice" room whenever you can. **There will be two Saturday morning practices on Dec. 3 and 10 and the pageant will be presented during Worship on December 11!**

Our new Book-Study books, "Tattoos on the Heart," have arrived and we are set for our first conversation this Wednesday, October 5 at 11:00 a.m. in the cafe. Author Jack Kornfield describes the book as... "One of the bravest, most humane, heart breaking, brilliant, and hopeful stories I've read in ages. Father Greg, the Gandhi of the Gangs, fill *Tattoos* with unquenchable soul, force and down-to-earth love."

I look forward to more heart-felt genuine discussions with returning folks and new friends joining us this fall. It's not too late to sign up for a book and join us when you are able. Also, please bring a hygiene item for the BOC or a backpack item (s) for our weekly 83 backpacks. **Our group packs backpacks in Churchill Hall every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am, so please come and help out whenever you can.**

And remember our sack lunch fellowship for all who can join the group at noon every Wednesday for friendly conversation and time together with friends.

Coming this Sunday...Rev. Elana's talk: "Nazi Resisters: There's a Way"



Hans and Sophie Scholl with Christoph Probst—members of a resistance group called the White Rose.

Nazi Resisters: There is a Way

Though the Nazi years were dark days, there were some who rose up against them and resisted. These included people of all ages, circumstances, and many different faiths. Rev. Elana Keppel Levy has devoted years of her life to translation and research on the Nazi years, assisting in the writing of a book about that time.

Come hear a talk on Nazi resisters on
October 9 following worship.

Lunch will be provided

FAMILY/YOUTH/TWEEN/TEEN NEWS

Trinity Presbyterian Church was most wonderfully represented by 23 astounding kids, youth, and adults Sunday afternoon at the Tulsa Airport Control Tower. Stefanie Tyree was our terrific, informative personal guide as we toured the facility, which culminated in actually going up and out into the tower!! Each group was able to see a plane or two in action, as well as all the amazing equipment and the impressive Tulsa skyline. Thanks to Joe Cunningham for planning and arranging this great trip and learning experience for us all. It was also fun eating out together at Raising Caines and...we didn't actually raise too much cane !!



Next Sunday, Oct. 9, following Worship in Churchill Hall, I hope the youth along with their parents, are able to stay for Rev Elana's important and enlightening talk on "Nazi Resisters: There is a Way." Lunch is included.



Kids from 2 to 92: Mark your calendars for Oct 16 for our trip to the Children's Museum Discovery Lab, 560 N. Mabelle Ave., following Worship. This high-energy hands-on museum offers a host of engaging learning experiences for ALL! We'll eat together before hand and have plenty of energy to explore as much as we can on a Sunday afternoon in Tulsa.



Looking Ahead to Sunday, November 6...And the hits just keep on coming...It's about here...the long anticipated Paintball/Laser Tag trip hosted by the Youth Group! Be looking for further info on this excursion and meanwhile...**save the date**...so you can be part of this adventure!



Plans are also in the making for some interesting informative visits to other places of Worship in and around Tulsa. Be looking for more info on these future opportunities.

We're still looking for great additions to our busy bags for all our younger worshippers from ages two to twelve...so please let Sue or Jonna know if you have news or items to share. We have more and more first graders and up, staying in Worship and we're trying to include some good ways to connect our young Worshippers to Trinity's Worship service. Also, families please check out the Kids Worship Booklets and Pew Cards on the office window ledge. More Pew Art is needed on our bulletin board!



Mission News john clawson



Backpacks 4 Bixby (B4B):

Our Backpacks 4 Bixby program continues in this our eighth school year delivering weekly food bags to 84 children at four Bixby schools.

We started the program to fill a gap in our community. Elementary school children in need receive assisted lunches during the week but do not have that support during the weekend. So the Backpacks 4 Bixby program was started back in 2009 to help feed children on the weekends. The goal is to give them healthy food for breakfast & lunch on Sat. & Sun. every week during the school year.

We appreciate everyone that has signed up to deliver bags and there are still a few spots available to deliver on Thursdays. The sign up list is posted on the bulletin board outside the kitchen.

Donations of food are always welcome. Please continue to donate food items that are posted in your Sunday bulletins. Examples of items needed are:

- 1st Sunday - Peanut butter & Jelly**
- 2nd Sunday - Tuna**
- 3rd Sunday - Spaghetti/Ravioli**
- 4th Sunday - Canned chicken**
- 5th Sunday - Juice boxes, fruit cups, individually wrapped snack packs, small cereal boxes**

Our donation basket is by the front door. Please remember that we can use whatever you bring; whenever you bring it. Also note that when you donate money to Trinity's General Fund, you are supporting our B4B program financially.

We truly appreciate your generosity.

Submitted by John Clawson



Some pictures from the Installation Service of Revs. Keppel & Levy
September 25, 2016



Recent Trip to the Tulsa Airport! Trinity activities are the Best!!



What a great group for the Tulsa Airport Tour!!!



Control Tower
from the ground....

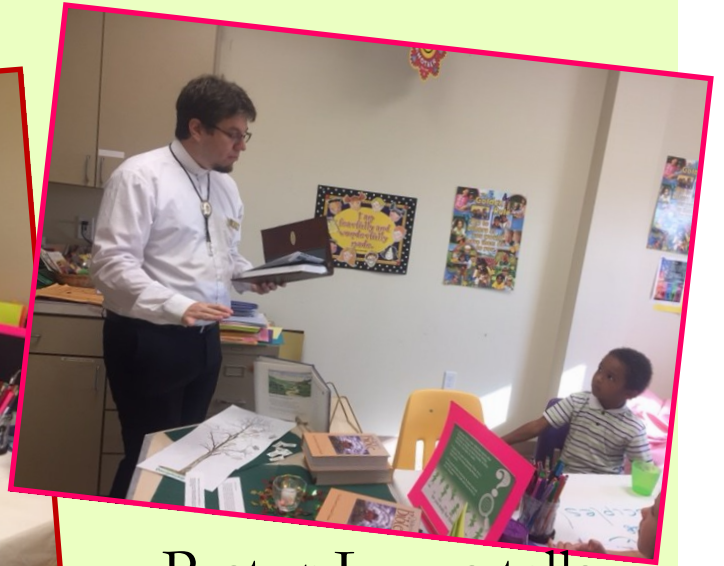
.... and from
inside!!



FUN TIMES AT TRINITY



Miss Melinda leads an art project!



Pastor Lucas tells a story!



Rally Day 2016—Looks like a fun time was had by all!



Scribble, scribble, scribble..... :)

October Lectionary Readings

20th Sunday after Pentecost—Oct. 2

Lamentations 1:1–6
Lamentations 3:19–26 or Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1–14
Luke 17:5–10

21st Sunday after Pentecost—Oct. 9

Jeremiah 29:1, 4–7
Psalm 66:1–12
2 Timothy 2:8–15
Luke 17:11–19

22nd Sunday after Pentecost—Oct. 16

Jeremiah 29:1, 4–7
Psalm 66:1–12
2 Timothy 2:8–15
Luke 17:11–19

23rd Sunday after Pentecost—Oct. 23

Joel 2:23–32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18
Luke 18:9–14

24th Sunday after Pentecost—Oct. 30

Habakkuk 1:1–4, 2:1–4
Psalm 119:137–144
2 Thessalonians 1:1–4, 11–12
Luke 19:1–10

Happy Birthday to our friends born in October!

Margot Ries	10/12
Jeff Frazier	10/12
Trevor Eckert	10/19
Luke Clawson	10/23
Laura VanNewkirk	10/23
Stephanie Smith	10/24
John Spencer	10/28





Thank You Notes

A big thank-you to everyone who made Rally Day 2016 a huge success! What a blessing it was to have so many smiling faces here to kick off our Sunday School 2016 program, both children and adults alike! We are very excited about the programming for this year, and looking forward to more fun things to come. Thank you again, everyone—too many names to list and I certainly don't want to forget anyone.

~~Sue Chancellor & the 2016 Rally Day team



October 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 COMMUNION SUNDAY 11:30 am Tulsa Airport Trip for 1st Grade and older	3	4	5 10:30 Pack backpacks 11:00 Mid-Week Book Study 12:00 Sack Lunch Fellowship Hour 1:00 Banner Making	6	7	8
9 11:30 Elana's talk : "Nazi Resisters: There is a Way" Lunch to follow	10 Yoga Class 10:00 am Turning Point 7:00 pm	11	12 9:45 am Pres. Women Grp. 11:00 am Mid-Wk. Bk. Study 12:00 pm Sack Lunch F. Hr. 1:00 pm Banner Making Team Meeting 6:00 dinner 6:30 meeting	13	14	15 8:00 am Fall Church Clean Up Day 1:00-2:45 Pumpkin Day Activity at Trinity
16 11:30 am Lunch Bunch	17 Yoga Class 10:00 am Turning Point 7:00 pm	18 Session Meeting 6:30 pm	19 10:30 Pack backpacks 11:00 Mid-Week Book Study 12:00 Sack Lunch Fellowship Hour 1:00 Banner Making	20	21	22
23	24 Yoga Class 10:00 am Turning Point 7:00 pm	25	26 11:00 Mid-Week Book Study 12:00 Sack Lunch Fellowship Hour 1:00 Banner Making	27	28	29
30 Reformation Sunday	31 HALLOWEEN					



Trinity Presbyterian Church
9303 E. 111th St. S.
Bixby, OK 74008

Phone: 918.369.3690

Fax: 918.369.3890

E-mail: trinity@olp.net
