



Trinity Tidings

Monthly Newsletter

September 2017

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Harris County Sheriff's Office/Twitter

From the Pastor's Pen

When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

~Rev. Fred Rogers, Children's Television Host

Whenever disaster strikes, helpers are everywhere. There's always someone moved to make a difference – whether it's a small difference, like picking up a piece of trash from a creek, or a big difference, like rescuing people stranded by rising waters. Making a difference in the lives of others is important – it's a big part of what Jesus

calls us to do when he said, "Love your neighbor as yourself."*

I, for one, would not be here today without the intervention of a helper. When I was nine years old, I went to Carolina Beach, and got into a wave-jumping competition with my cousins. What we didn't realize, since none of us were from regions of the country with a tide, was that the tide was going out – and each wave we jumped was taking us further from the shore. Finally, we got to a point that we couldn't move against the tide, and the water was deeper than we could stand up in. A passing surfer noticed us, paddled over to us, and let us hold onto his surfboard until stronger-swimming relatives could tow us to shore. I'll never forget that day, even if I was too afraid at the time to think of asking the name of the surfer.

In times of crisis, like the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, it can be paralyzing to think of everyone in trouble. After all, what can I do against all the power of nature? Against all the people who need help? It's easy to be demotivated. But doing just one thing can make a huge difference – and once you've done one thing, you may find it easier to do another thing. And another after that. But you don't have to start with a big thing – nor are you, personally, responsible for saving everyone.

Because God is ultimately responsible for salvation, you don't have to be. But you can help! If you want to start small – start with prayer. Even a short prayer can help you focus on what God is calling you to do. Then, maybe you'll be called to donate to organizations assisting with disaster relief. Or participate in building a hygiene kit – or a clean-up bucket. **

Or maybe, if you're in the right place at the right time, God will call you to save a life – whether you're just surfing nearby, or you chat with someone suffering from depression, or you carry children to a boat in the midst of torrential rains and flooding.

Cont'd. on p.2

From the Pastor's Pen, Cont'd:

Through it all, God promises to be there, lending you strength and guiding your way. In the Song of Songs, the writer promises that *many waters cannot quench love – nor can rivers drown it.*[^]

The Psalmist reminds us that *God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. So we will not fear when earthquakes come and the mountains crumble into the sea.* #

And God directly tells us through the Prophet Isaiah that, *I have called you by name; you are mine. When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you.* +

-Pastor Lucus

* Mark 12:31, quoting Leviticus 9:18

** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – <http://pda.pcusa.org/page/act>

^ Song of Songs 8:6-8

Psalm 46

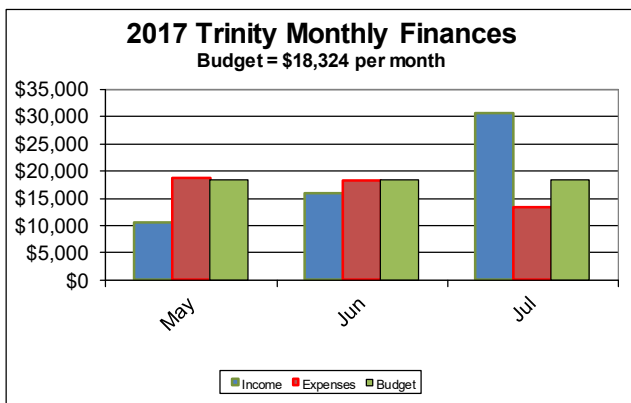
Finance/Stewardship randy smith

As you will notice in the graphs below, there have been some wonderful contributions recently. Your giving allows for Trinity's day to day operations to be met and enables us to support our many church missions.

Members can contact me anytime to receive a copy of our year to date Income & Expense Statement. Also, if you are interested in serving on the Stewardship/Finance committee, please see me or join us at one of our monthly team meetings.

Randy Smith,
Stewardship/Finance Team

2016	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>
YTD	\$136,609	\$120,727	\$128,268



Evangelism brenda cunningham

The eclipse is behind us, September in front of us and an exciting Rally Day is ahead. We have the new Trinity Directory finished and ready for new members. All the new member info is self-contained in the Directory instead of having individual handouts.

The pictorial directory remains as the major focal point, but we would like to add another section to the Trinity Directory. If you have a profession, a hobby or interest in a field that may be of interest or may help one of our fellow members, please give us your business card or a short recap of your skill. As examples, this might include knowledge in the following fields: legal, mechanical, real estate, decorating, medical, accounting, translating, landscaping, cooking, etc. This might include sharing your time, your knowledge, an item or maybe advice with another member for sale, trade, barter, rent or free! If you would like to be included in this section, contact Kim Harvey, Admin Assistant, Joe Cunningham or me. Thanks!!

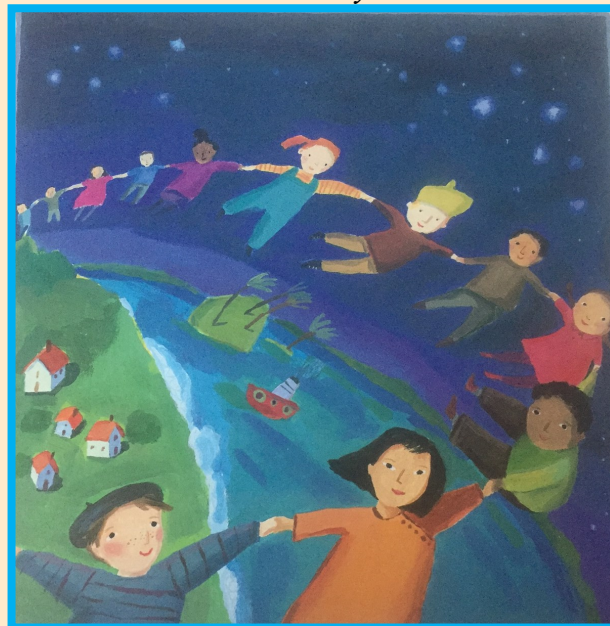
Respectfully, Brenda Cunningham



Christian Education sue chancellorRing Around the World

Ring around the world
taking hands together
all across the temperate
and the torrid weather.
Past the royal palm-trees
by the ocean sand,
make a ring around the world
taking each other's hand;
in the valleys, on the hill,
over the prairie spaces,
there's a ring around the world
made of children's friendly faces.

Annette Wynne



But Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs."

Matthew 19:14

God bless the children; let us always be inspired and feel joyful when we're in their astounding company! Their energetic spirit can keep us each young, vibrant, and hopeful. Thank you Lord, for the beautiful gift of children; may they grow strong in the safe embrace of your love.

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 our wonderful childcare teacher and is in the nursery every Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. until the close of Worship for all children from infant through pre-school. Pre-kindergarteners and kindergarteners are welcome to join Donna and the younger ones after Sunday School or "Time with Children" for safe nurturing play, snacks, and engaging activities.

Donna is also available for childcare at 8:00 a.m. for parents of young ones who have choir practice. Please let Donna or Sue know a week in advance if childcare is needed then.



Multiage Sunday School for pre-school through fifth grade continues with the summer theme, "Journeying with Jesus," as we celebrate the new school year and Jesus' never-ending love this Sunday, Sept. 3. Kids and teens will meet together in the youth lounge and celebrate together. The teens and Sue will help the younger ones cook special concoctions and all will engage in wondrous activities of "Hope."

Attention: No Sunday School classes on Sunday September 10. Everyone of all ages are welcome to Churchill Hall at 9:15 to kick off the new Sunday School Year, "God's Hope...God's Children" with brunch and interactive celebration activities. Bring your favorite brunch item to share.

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

New Sunday School curriculum begins **Sunday, September 17** for the multi-age class; Valerie Wagner will kick off the popular "Feasting on the Word" lessons with a variety of experiences to delight all the senses. Be ready to learn first-hand about God's never-ending love through new Bible stories this 2017-18 school year.

September 3:	Sue Chancellor	"Celebration of Hope"
September 10:	Rally Day Brunch:	"God's Hope...God's Children"
September 17:	Valerie Wagner	"Forgive Again and Again"
September 24:	Katy Orrell	"So Much Love"
October 1:	Millie Spencer	"Finding God's Way"
October 8:	Melinda Carver	"Serving God"



Tweens and Teens, Sixth Grade through High School:

Teens (sixth through twelfth) meet upstairs in the room by the sound tech booth and all teens are most enthusiastically welcome! The Teen Teaching Team is excited to kick off the new school year with some timely teen-friendly curriculum from Kieth Stulp's, "52 Great Bible Studies for Teens." Come any Sunday you are able and be ready to join in fun, current, and inspiring conversations and activities.

September 3:	Sue Chancellor	"Celebration of Hope"
September 10:	Rally Day Brunch:	"God's Hope...God's Children"
September 17:	Liz Powell	"Words of Faith: Always and Hope"
September 24:	John Clawson	"Words of Faith: Community and Spirituality"
October 1:	Royce Chancellor	"Words of Faith: Grace and Purity"
October 8:	Sue Chancellor	"Words of Faith: Humility and Forgiveness"

Pastors Elana and Lucus will be starting a **confirmation class** later in the fall for interested seventh through twelfth grades which will meet certain Sunday mornings throughout the entire school year. Junior and Senior High youth, be looking for more detail on this terrific opportunity.

Adult Sunday School

Richard Spencer's adult class, "Living the Questions 2.0 DVD series" continues into the fall with amazing conversations each week centered on short video clips and intriguing questions. Please step into the classroom off Churchill Hall Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. to meet with a most friendly inclusive group of folks sharing their insights and experiences along their own personal faith journeys. No prep work is necessary, and each class is its own entity accompanied by its own questions and video clips.



Check this Out! The youth and other Trinity family members will be hosting an Alzheimer's table in the narthex beginning this Sunday morning, September 3 and continuing through all the Sundays in September. Please come by for information on this tough disease and learn ways you can help.

There is a walk at Tulsa University's Dietler's Commons on September 23 at 9:00 a.m. Information on the walk will be at the table and you can also make a monetary donation to the Alzheimer's Association if you wish.



Adult Opportunities, Cont'd:

Fall 2017 Book Study will kick off on Wednesday morning, **September 13** in the Trinity Cafe at 11:00 a.m. The group will be reading and discussing Lillian Daniel's gritty and impassioned book, "When 'Spiritual But Not Religious' is Not Enough." Any interested folks can purchase their own paperback book on Amazon (Prime) for \$10.33. If you'd like Sue to order one for you, please let her know by Thursday, September 7 and you can pay for it on the first day of Book Study, September 13. The group will be discussing chapter 1, "Spiritual but Not Religious."

"Lillian Daniel tells beautifully crafted stories of a world filled with fascinating people...Daniel sees herself and all the rest of us as everyday saints, halos slightly askew, stumbling our way across the holy ground of our ordinary lives toward a God of overwhelming love." *Thomas G. Long*

The next backpacking opportunity for Book Study participants will be Wednesday, September 20 at 10:30 a.m. in Churchill Hall. Please come and help if you are able.

If you'd like to grab a bunch of single sacks and double them up from the youth lounge, and then return them to us, this would be a great help! The backpack program can always use **doubled plastic grocery sacks**, if anyone wishes to donate some from home.



FAMILY/YOUTH/TWEEN/TEEN NEWS

Thanks again to all the youth who helped out at Camp Trinity and VBS; thanks too for your cool presence at the "Thank you Pool Party." What an enjoyable bright sunny afternoon of fun & food we all experienced!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR:

Rally Day Putt-Putt Family Event at All Star Sports Complex, 10309 E 61st St, Tulsa, following Rally Day Worship on September 10. Bring your family and friends and be ready for a grand time and fine fellowship! We can grab lunch on the premises at their diner.

It'll be here before you know it: All kids, teens, families, are invited on **Sunday, October 1, to "An Afternoon of Art from the Heart"** in Churchill Hall following worship. There will be an array of artistic and creative possibilities for kids and teens from "Bixby Rocks" to mini easels/canvases. Lunch will be served right there at Churchill Hall for all hungry artists.



Music Notes erik collins

Welcome back to another exciting church year here at Trinity. On September 9, the choir will reunite through its annual Fall Choir Social & Dinner Party hosted by the Hanson's. This great re-gathering event allows our team to catch up on what happened over the summer and prepare for the start of another exciting season.

September's music brings great representation of the word "diversity." Our first anthem for the season - on Rally Day - comes from NY-based composer Jim Papoulis and is entitled **Give Us Hope**. This piece from the popular SOUNDS OF A BETTER WORLD series expresses a powerful message of hope for a better world and strikes a universal chord for all to hear! Listen now to these words from the composer ...

"When this journey began for me almost five years ago, I was very saddened to learn of various incidents around the world where children were subjected to adverse conditions. I began to wonder how they could possibly develop into caring, responsible adults, with such hardship defining their childhood.

As I read more and explored our attitudes as a society toward children, I began to feel that we (as Dr. Martin Luther King said) "must ask ourselves how responsible we are for the well-being of others". Do we have the courage to feel responsible? What ideals do we strive for? How can we find innovative ways in which the personal and social problems of childhood can be overcome? Can music be utilized as a potential bridge to reach out and address these issues?

What I have come to understand is that we must send the best part of ourselves into the future through our children. If we want society to evolve, we need to understand the importance of childhood, and how vital our role should be in doing whatever we can to nurture every child. We should all be aware of our powerful influence on their minds. Through this incredible journey that Sounds of a Better World has taken me on, I hope to have somehow addressed these issues and to have embraced the joy that children can bring into this world."

The following Sunday, the choir will present Daniel Cason and Rev. Freddie Washington's **Unity**. In a time when we worry about racial tension and war-like aggression, music can offer solace. This ancient text can counteract hatred. From Psalms 133:1, these words are known and sung by many people - here it is set to a gospel style.

*Behold how good and how pleasant it is ...
for brethren to dwell together in unity.
Unity, unity. Lord, we pray for unity.*



Mission News craig hanson



One of our many Mission projects this year will be supporting the Alzheimer's Walk in Tulsa on **September 23, 2017**. The walk will take place at the University of Tulsa/Dietler Commons.

The party starts at 7:30 am, and the walk begins at 9:00 am. Please consider joining in this worthwhile cause that touches so many. A table manned by Trinity youth will be set up in the Narthex each Sunday in September, displaying the many ways Alzheimer's touches individuals, caregivers, families and friends. Please stop by and check it out.

Also, we will be collecting funds to support the efforts of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance related to hurricane Harvey. Please drop you check with PDA on the memo line in the plate during one of the services for the next 4 weeks. 9/3, 10, 17, and 24th. Other ideas are being worked on as well.



Fellowship News dwayne strasheim

RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2017 9:15 AM

Please plan to join us at the Rally Day Brunch Sunday, September 10, from 9:15 until 10:15, in Churchill Hall. Share with your friends by bringing a breakfast casserole, a pastry item, a fruit tray, or fruit juice. There is a sign-up sheet in the Trinity Cafe.





Trinity Players Theater Group

Practices will begin after Rally Day - if you are interested in joining this wonderfully talented group of performers, please contact Pastor Lucus or Pastor Elana! The group will be performing their first play on October 29, 2017 during worship, marking the 500th anniversary of The Reformation! (Days/times for practices to be discussed and determined based on everyone's availability/preferences.)

Stay tuned for details!





Trinity Players

Announce the Beginning of their Fall Season!

On **Oct. 29, 2017**, the Trinity Players will be performing a play
entitled,
**“Reform Boldly—But Believe & Rejoice in the Spirit
Working More Boldly Still”**



Reformation's
500-Year Anniversary—2017



September Lectionary Readings

13th Sunday after Pentecost—Sept. 3

Exodus 3:1–15

Psalm 105:1–6, 23–26, 45b

Romans 12:9–21

Matthew 16:21–28

14th Sunday after Pentecost—Sept. 10

Exodus 12:1–14

Psalm 149

Romans 13:8–14

Matthew 18:15–20

15th Sunday after Pentecost—Sept. 17

Exodus 14:19–31

Psalm 114

Romans 14:1–12

Matthew 18:21–35

16th Sunday after Pentecost—Sept. 24

Exodus 16:2–15

Psalm 105:1–6, 37–45

Philippians 1:21–30

Matthew 20:1–16

Happy September Birthdays

Larry Wagner	9/1
Jackie Braselton	9/8
Jackie Ballew	9/9
Richard Spencer	9/9
Kira Smith	9/12
Larry Boxum	9/18
Bradley Byers	9/24
Evelyn Fenton	9/30



Thank You Notes

From the BOC (Bixby Outreach Center):

“A special Thank You for your support and contributions to the continued growth of our organization.”



September 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 10:00 am Pastors' Moving Party
3 13th Sunday after Pentecost	4 LABOR DAY No Gentle Yoga Church Office Closed	5	6 11:00 am Mid-Week Book Study 12:00 Sack Lunch Fellowship Hr. 1:00 pm Banner Making	7	8	9
10 14th Sunday after Pentecost Communion Sunday RALLY DAY! Brunch at 9:15 am Trinity Café "Putt-Putt" after worship	11 Yoga Class 10:00 am	12	13 9:45 am—P.W. 11:00 am Mid-Week Bk. Stdy. 12:00 Sack Lunch Fellowship Hr. 1:00 pm Banner Making 6:30— Team Mtg 6:00—Dinner	14	15 Presbytery Meeting— Dwight Mission, Vian (15-16)	16
17 15th Sunday after Pentecost 11:30 am Lunch Bunch	18 Yoga Class 10:00 am	19 Session Meeting 6:30 pm	20 (Pack backpacks) 11:00 am Mid-Week Bk. Study 12:00 Sack Lunch Fellowship Hr. 1:00 pm Banner Making	21	22	23
24 16th Sunday after Pentecost	25 Yoga Class 10:00 am	26	27 11:00 am Mid-Week Book Study 12:00 Sack Lunch Fellowship Hr. 1:00 pm Banner Making	28	29	30 

Trinity Happenings



Camp Trinity
Sunday

August 6, 2017

CAMP
TRINITY



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