



January, 2014

Volume 24, Issue 1

*Inside
this
Issue:*

<i>New Year Prayer</i>	1
<i>Pastor's Letter</i>	2
<i>Worship & Music</i>	3
<i>Christian Education & Helping Hands</i>	4
<i>WednesdayNiteAlive!</i>	5
<i>Congregational News</i>	6
<i>Christmas Photos</i>	7
<i>Session Notes</i>	8
<i>Mission News</i>	9
<i>Trinity Women</i>	10
<i>Trinity Milestones</i>	11



A New Year prayer:

Gracious God, thank You for each and every day You have blessed us here on earth. Thank You for Your tender mercies. Thank You for giving us friends and family to share these joys with. I ask You to bless my friends, relatives and those I care deeply for. Where there is joy, give them continued joy, where there is pain, give them your peace and mercy. Where there is self-doubt, release a renewed confidence. Where there is need, fulfill their needs. Bless their homes, families, finances, their goings and their comings. And bless all people.

EPIPHANY

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." May his brightness illumine our lives and beckon all nations to live as one in His light.

PASTORAL LETTER



Friends –

One of the comments heard around the church in response to my letter of resignation has been:

“So I guess everything stops now, right?” It’s an understandable question. But it involves a misunderstanding of what transitional ministry is about!

What needs to happen, when a church is in between called pastors, is a bit of communal self-reflection. Who are we as a church? What more is God calling us to become? The purpose of this reflection is to clarify who you are as a faith community, and what kind of ministry you are committed to, so that this vision can guide your search for the right next pastor for the church.

Putting the church’s ministry on hold “until a new pastor arrives” actually defeats this purpose! Instead transitional pastors are trained to enter into a church’s ongoing ministry, help you sustain what’s strong, let go of what’s holding you back, clarify your sense of mission and vision, and keep moving steadily towards it. While there were unusual circumstances that led to Trinity’s last interim extending for 4 years, typically this transitional period between called

pastors lasts 12-18 months.

So please be assured: ministry does not “stop” when a pastor departs! The services and programs currently in place will continue, and new ministries may develop and grow out of them. Elsewhere in this Vision, for example, you will see that the WedNiteAlive! schedule is planned through the spring, including an exciting Lenten series exploring Beatitude living.

The work on development does not stop either. At a recent meeting convened to inform the developers of my upcoming departure, representatives from the Long Range Development Team and the Presbytery were on hand to assure them that the church remains committed to exploring this direction fully. Meanwhile the developers are making progress on a more modest and financially viable design to help bring this dream closer to reality.

You have on your session a solid group of leaders. You have a committed staff. You have a session-appointed Transition Team who will help put in place transitional pastoral leadership. I have every confidence you will be well-led, as you keep growing into your mission to “serve God in the heart of this city”, through lively worship, strong discipleship and wide service.

*Grace and peace.
Marney*

WORSHIP & MUSIC



JANUARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Two special Sundays begin the calendar year, Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord, with readings appropriate to the revealing of the light of Christ to the world, and the meaning of both Jesus' and our own baptism. After that we begin a set of readings that will take us up to the start of Lent. The Gospel readings, mostly from Matthew, explore the calling of the disciples and other early events of Jesus' ministry, including several sections from the Sermon on the Mount. The Old Testament readings are selected to help us unpack the Gospel for the day. And the New Testament readings take us into what is arguably the most beloved of Paul's letters, I Corinthians.

Read the stories, listen to the texts, gather together around Word and font and table, and let yourselves be met by the living God. Join us for mid-week Bible Study at 5:00 pm each Wednesday. Every Sunday, as one passage is set beside another, new insights emerge from the dialogue between them.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

On January 12, the Sunday we read the gospel account of the Baptism of Jesus, worship will include an opportunity to remember and renew our own baptismal vows. The point is not to remember the event of our baptism long ago (most Presbyterians, baptized as infants, can't do that anyway!). Rather it is to remember that we are baptized, and that our baptism makes an important difference to who we are and how we live. On that Sunday in worship, we will celebrate the gracious gift of our baptismal identity as God's own, and recommit ourselves to living out our baptismal calling as followers of Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READINGS



- Jan 5 - Isaiah 60:1-6; *Psalm* 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:1-18
- Jan 12 - Isaiah 42:1-9; *Psalm* 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17
- Jan 19 - Isaiah 49:1-7; *Psalm* 40:1-11; I Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42
- Jan 26 - Isaiah 9:1-4; *Psalm* 27:1, 4-9; I Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23



Baptism of the Lord

SAVE THE DATE!

A hymn festival celebrating *Glory to God*

The festival for the new Presbyterian hymnal will be held on Sunday, March 9, 2014 at Trinity Presbyterian Church at 3:00 pm. This exciting event is being planned by the music directors, pastors and keyboardists of Holy Way, St. Mark's, Southside and Trinity – the four churches in our Presbytery that have begun to use the new hymnal. Leadership in the singing will come from the choirs of these churches, as well as various instrumentalists. Please come to enjoy an afternoon of inspiring congregational song as we come together with our brothers and sisters from throughout the Presbytery to sing together!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WORD OF LIFE

Our Bible Study class is studying II Corinthians. *Living Letters of Paul*, written by Pauline scholar, Calvin Roetzel, reminds us that the lives of faithful disciples are "living letters" in Christ for the world.

THE WIRED WORD

Beginning January 12, join us for a 3 part series on *"THE MAKING OF A RELIGION"*. Journey with us on DVD and in discussion as we explore the religious and political views of the ancient Middle East that helped to shape the religions of today.

THEOLOGY FOR TODAY

Theology for Today will resume its study and discussion of Walter Brueggemann's presentation of the *Prophets in Contemporary Culture, Confronting Today's "Pharaoh's"*. On January 5 the focus will be Moral Coherence in a World of Power, Money and Violence. We welcome all to join us. We meet following worship at 11:45 am in the West Lower Level.

POLO

Parents of Little Ones is now at 9:00 am. on the third Sunday of the month (before worship instead of after). Meet in the nursery for family breakfast munchies. Then head downstairs to the Lounge for our parent study: *99 Ways to Raise Spiritually Healthy Children*. Parents with young children are welcome to join us!

GODLY PLAY

Godly Play is a worship-based learning program that invites exploration of core Biblical stories in an atmosphere of reverence, wonder and prayer. We meet during 10:30 worship. Worship Clipboards with resources for children are also available at the back of the sanctuary for those children who remain in worship with their families.

Helping Hands



Many "Helping Hands" helped make the season bright.

See page 9 for more information on the many service projects.



The VISION photos contributed by Terry Dalke, Kathy Moser and L'Orien Smith



WednesdayNiteAlive! - Spring 2014



Spring 2014

5:00 pm Bible Study
6:00 pm Meditation Service
6:30 pm Fellowship Supper
7:15 pm Program
7:15 pm Service activity

Jan 8

A Trip to Chiapas

Sheila Sievert, Café Justo partner

Service: fleece blankets

Jan 15

Affordable Care Act, Part B

Jan LaWall, retired social worker

Service: Water bottles/bars

Jan 22

Raising Confident Girls

Debbie Rich, Girl Scouts USA

Service: Sandwiches

Jan 29

Mentoring Youth

Don McNeil, MentorKids

Service: cards for kids w/ cancer

Feb 5

Egypt in Crisis:

Fall of the Muslim Brotherhood

Frontline video & discussion

Service: Valentine cards

Feb 12

CRREDA: Reaching Addicts

Luis Cordeova, border worker

Service: clay beads for Ben's Bells

Feb 19

Prison Ministry

Cheryl Tuck, SISTER

Service: clay beads for Ben's Bells

Feb 26

Singing Lent & Easter

Lynn Moser, church musician

Service: sandwiches

Mar 5

Ash Wednesday Service

in the Sanctuary at 7pm

Supper & Service Project at 6pm

Mar 12 - Lent

Blessed Are the Poor

Peggy Free on Poverty

Service: fleece blankets

Mar 19 - Lent

Blessed Are the Justice-Thirsty

John Fife

& Alison Harrington on Justice

Service: fleece blankets

Mar 26 - Lent

Blessed Are the Peacemakers

Donna Fulton, MD, on

Quaker Bolivia Link

Service: Easter cards

Apr 2 - Lent

Blessed Are the Meek

Dery Dean on Mental Illness

Service: Easter cards

Apr 9 - Lent

Blessed Are the Persecuted

George Bitar on Middle

Eastern Christians

Service: Easter surprise

Apr 16

A Passion Film for Holy Week

Supper & a Movie at 6pm

Apr 23

The Cross in Christian Art

PBS video & discussion

Service: sandwiches

Apr 30

Life After Death

in the 3 Abrahamic Faiths

UA Religious Studies speaker

Service: clay beads for Ben's Bells

May 7

Not Your Parents' Library

Jere Voigt, library administrator

Service: clay beads for Ben's Bells

May 14

Young Adult Volunteers

Brandon Wert, coordinator

Service: fleece blankets

May 21

Patio BarBQ & Free Concert

with guitarist, Greg Morton



Trinity's First Annual Neighborhood Block Party was a wonderful success!
Thanks to the WednesdayNiteAlive! Team!

Congregational News

HAPPY NEW YEAR! The church was busy with service and giving during the year-end holiday season.

- The Christmas Joy Offering was \$2,600, serving retired pastors and missionaries, and students in PCUSA racial-ethnic schools and colleges.
- Christmas Market received about \$1,300, most of it for DouglaPrieta Works in animals and gardening supplies.
- 600 pairs of socks were stuffed with toiletries and distributed via the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen.
- Angel Tree provided Christmas gifts for at least 50 children of prisoners.
- We assembled dozens of diaper bundles for families in Kayenta, AZ.
- We provided enough food for over 110 men at the Primavera shelter on New Year's Eve.
- We held a successful food collection at Winterhaven for the Tucson Community Food Bank.
- A sizeable number of homeless people have been fed and supplied since Christmas Day.

THANKS!

Special thanks to Tom Henderson, Grace Philips, Jan Bond, Rosalie Goll, Alice Smedley and others for organizing our Christmas Day Dinner.

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

We are very close to our 2014 Pledge goal of \$280,000 - about 10 or 15K higher than last year's giving.

Our projected budget "shortfall" for 2013 was close to \$150,000. When the final checks are in, we will have posted about \$100,000 as a "shortfall" - \$50,000 better than projected. Our \$150,000 bridge grant from the Emerald Foundation for 2013 more than covers this "shortfall".

A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

Last month, on Saturday December 7th, twenty congregation members and friends gathered to clean

and spruce up our church building. They dusted, straightened up, cleaned glass, washed up and vacuumed everywhere. The sanctuary, narthex, library, fellowship hall and chapel were all left in sparkling, clean order.

Everyone worked quickly so that the job took only half of the time allotted. There was even time for a little fellowship and camaraderie.

Those who volunteered were: Peggy Andrews, Bev Bechtel, Bob Bechtel, Jan Bond, Lori Boston, Jim Croxen, Tom Coyle, Kelsey Coyle, Tom Henderson, Pete Holbrook, Betty Lou Holland, Doug Holland, Greg Keidel, Elliott Koeppen, Dave & Jennifer Koop, Sherry Letson, Leone Mohny, Ruth Russell, Carolyn Maycher and Maria Andrade. A hearty thanks to all these helpers from the Property Committee.

PAINTING FELLOWSHIP

Join us as we encourage and help one another in watercolor, acrylics, oil, pen & ink - all skill levels, all media welcome. You will need to bring your own supplies. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Any questions, please contact Charity Everitt.

Announcing.... THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING!

Sunday, January 26 will be the annual meeting of the congregation of Trinity Presbyterian Church. The meeting will be in the Sanctuary, directly following the 10:30 service. We will receive the annual report of the church's leaders, act on pastoral compensation terms for 2014, hear from the Long Range Development Team regarding progress towards a viable multi-use development, and from the Session's Transition Team concerning plans for a smooth pastoral transition. Please set aside this date on your January calendars! *The long-awaited Picture Directory should be available at the Annual Meeting!*

A Glorious Season at Trinity!



SESSION NOTES



Session Notes for December 17, 2013 Session and Deacons enjoyed with gusto their annual joint dinner/meeting. The elders produced a great meal while the deacons cleaned up later. Leone

Mohney, Liz Strong,

Carroll Keegstra, Ann Walker, Bobby Whipple and Terry Dalke set up their favorite crèches and talked about why they were special to them. Then Kathy and Lynn Moser passed out bells and music to all and – yikes! – everyone performed! We actually made a bit of music with favorite Christmas carols and hymns!

After the frivolity, Sherry Letson displayed a wonderful poster that outlined all the many activities and accomplishments of the Deaconate for 2013. No doubt about it – Trinity deacons are the best! Next, we remembered and honored the gifts of the retiring deacons and elders. They are deacons Steve Barlow, Carolyn Carter, Erin Henderson, Sherry Letson, Jerry Rowe, Ron & Jane Uhle, and elders Bill Goodhue, Leone Mohney and Alice Smedley. The thing is this: though these good people will no longer be serving as active deacons and elders you will probably see them being just as busy and active as always. Give thanks for their untiring service.

In the Upper Room West the session conducted its business. Session elected Janet Hooper as Clerk of Session, Leone Mohney as Treasurer and Alice Smedley as Assistant Treasurer for 2014. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is set for Sunday, January 26, 2014. Communion dates were decided. Housing allowances, auto, travel and professional expenses were approved for Marney and Bill. A draft 2014 budget was presented by Stewardship and Finance.

Elders are submitting requests for committee assignments, planning their input for the Annual Report and preparing for their retreat at the end of January 2014. The Transition Team plans to meet

on January 6, 2014. Rona Kreamer will be joining that team. The party planners are busy preparing for Marney's farewell luncheon. Mark your calendar for February 9, 2014 after worship to honor Marney for all the gifts she has shared with us during her time at Trinity. More info will follow later.

Growth & Outreach outdid themselves distributing door hanger, flyers and posters to alert our neighbors about our Advent events and the big Block Party. Apparently we also have a huge following on Facebook. Long(est) Range Development Team shared some new development design ideas. And Property Committee is overseeing the installation of new flooring in the Narthex men's room.

Session members spent some moments in prayer for those who are ill, those who are recovering and those who are grieving. Prayers were said giving thanks for the good gifts of all those who serve God at Trinity.

Janet D. Hooper, Clerk of Session

NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

New ruling elders and deacons were elected in November. They will be trained in January, and will begin serving in February 2014. Thank you, friends, for your willingness to serve the church.

Elders (Class of 2016): Dave Koop, Bucky Lovejoy, Carolyn Maycher, Lynn Moser, Ann Walker, and Cameron Toering for a 1-year term (Class of 2014)

Deacons (Class of 2016): Greg Keidel, Daphne Madson, Jeanette Ryan, Michelle Valaskova, and Rick Wickizer

LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT

The Long Range Development Team (LRDT) will be looking at a new set of ideas from the developer at their January meeting. The new vision (no pun intended) involves more commercial office space and less residential space. The developer will meet with WUNA in January to solicit their ideas on the new plans.



Mission News



SANDWICH MAKING for the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen will be on January 12 in Fellowship Hall. Please join us after worship in making 600 sandwiches for the homeless. Many thanks to all who help!



EMERGENCY CIRCUS

Some of you got to see Clay Letson juggle, lasso, and give a presentation on the Emergency Circus, a nonprofit organization Trinity is supporting. The goal of the Emergency Circus is to minister to people by uplifting their hurt and healing with entertainment, inspiration, and empathy. Clay toured areas in the middle-east, and in the U.S., visited children's hospital wards, senior centers, homeless shelters, prisons, and the streets. During his stay in Tucson, Clay brought his talents to Casa de los Niños. For more information, and to read his inspirational blog, check out www.emergencycircus.com.

PRIMAVERA ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

What a wonderful way to bring in the new year: Trinity members got together early on New Year's Eve to bake apple crisp and brownies, make chicken soup, cut up vegetables and fruits, and other goodies for the Primavera shelter for homeless men.

PROJECT HOSPITALITY:

We're serving dinner for 200! As most of you have heard, the Salvation Army's Project Hospitality program for homeless men and women has been handled in-house this year. We have agreed to serve dinner for one evening for the group, which may include folks coming in for Project Deep Freeze should temperatures dip low. We will need 8 volunteers to come with us to serve dinner, and will need the help of the entire congregation to cook the meal. On Sunday, January 12, we will hand out aluminum trays asking for a dish to be prepared and returned potluck-style on January 19th. The trays will be labeled with the type of dish needed to fill out the

meal. If your dish can be frozen, it can also be brought in advance. We look forward to your help in this awesome event!

FOOD BANK COLLECTION AT WINTERHAVEN

Trinity members volunteered for the Community Food Bank with their annual food drive at the Winterhaven Festival of Lights. This is one of the Food Bank's largest collections, and this year was no exception. Our hard-working volunteers were serenaded by Renaissance Christmas carolers during the shift, and collected both food and monetary donations, meeting generous folks as they entered the Winterhaven neighborhood.

ANGEL TREE

An amazing feat for a church our size, Trinity members purchased one fun gift and one clothing gift each for 30 children, and in addition provided one gift for 20 additional children through a ministry dedicated to ensuring all Pima County children of prisoners were served. In addition to the 80 children's gifts, small caregiver gifts went out as well. Thanks so much to those who made contact with families, our gift shoppers, wrappers, sorters, and deliverers, as well as those who support our ministries financially. Wayne Steele, who delivered packages, reported ".....When I had delivered gifts to the mother and children of an inmate, their gratitude was so overwhelming- I had ended up crying with them huge tears of joy and gratefulness which had been given to a family that had been estranged".



Trinity Women



Ryan's Bears will begin meeting January 21 to make bears for Christmas 2014! Donations of fabric would be appreciated. Flannel, fleece, light weight denim or corduroy are good to make bears. Any strong cotton fabric is useful also.

We made and delivered 30 bears in 2013. They were divided between Our Family, a social service agency that runs an after-school program at the House of Neighborly Service in south Tucson and homeless families with children served by Primavera.

The bears do not solve any economic or social problems for children but it gives a child something to hold when their world is falling apart. Bears are comfort and they keep secrets.



Join us January 21, 2014 in the lower lounge at 9:30 to cut out bears, stuff bears and stitch bears. If you have questions call Ruth Myers.

January Women's Gathering is the Annual Book Reports and the Recommended Reading Book Awards. Join us at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall on January 28. This Gathering includes a book sale, so bring your unwanted books to sell. The moderator will be Ruth Myers.

COMMUNITY FOOD BANK NEW CEO

Thursday, January 2, 2014 will mark the first day on the job for Michael McDonald, the new President/CEO of the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. He succeeds Bill Carnegie who retired after eight years at the helm of the Community Food Bank.

Michael will lead the Food Bank with a staff of over 125 employees, hundreds of volunteers and numerous community partners to assist families in need in a 23,106 square mile area of Southern Arizona. Welcome aboard, Michael!

Policy Training

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY TRAINING IS COMING

It has been more than 20 years since Trinity required training in our Sexual Misconduct Policy. Recently, that policy has been significantly revised and, once again, training regarding the many elements of this policy will be mandatory for many in the church, including staff, Elders and Deacons, volunteers who work with children, and others.

The training will be conducted by two lawyers, our own Terry Dalke, and John Lacy from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. It will be on Saturday, January 18th, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. It will be videotaped so that those who are unable to attend the January 18th session, may fulfill the training requirement at a later date after viewing the video. Other members of the congregation are welcome to attend the training as well.

This is a strong, thoughtful policy, that will help us protect our children and other vulnerable people among and around us. In today's world, this is an educational opportunity that every church member would benefit from. You may sign up by using the registration flyer in the Sunday bulletins this month, or by calling the church office.

TUCSON HOMELESS CONNECT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Once again, Trinity is hosting Tucson's community-wide day of homeless services. Tucson Homeless Connect is Friday, January 24. The services offered will include haircuts, dental cleaning, food stamps, ID application, employment counseling, dog grooming and more. Snacks and a nutritious lunch are served.

Volunteers are needed for setup, clean-up, serving food, dog-sitting, parking and more. To sign up, contact Alice Smedley at the church office, 623-2579. Training will be that morning at 7:00 am.

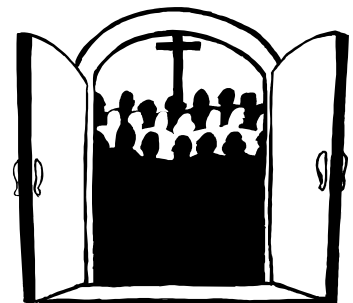
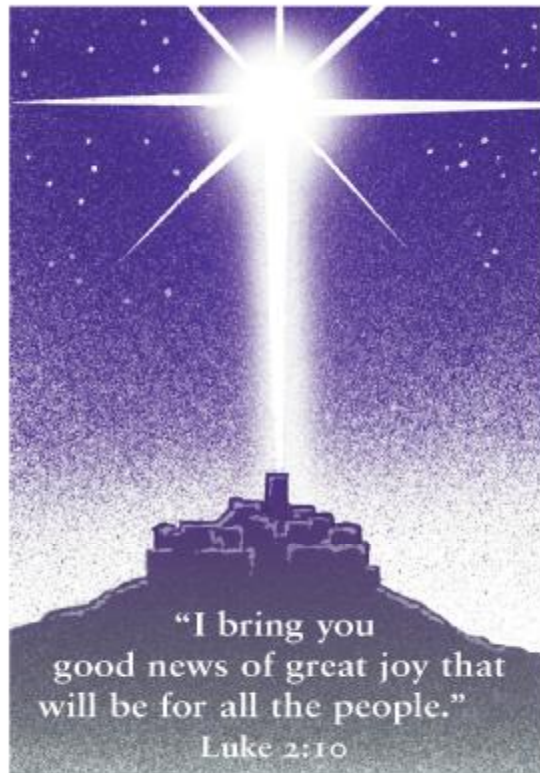


Trinity Website
www.trinitytucson.org

Email Addresses
office@trinitytucson.org
volunteers@trinitytucson.org



**Tucson Homeless
Connect
January 24**



**Congregational
MEETING
January 26**