

THE TRINITY TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL, 2018

From the pastor

One of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances begins with two men, two followers of Jesus, who were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. It wasn't an especially happy walk (one week after Jesus' death) and these two men were grief-stricken over Jesus' death, puzzled over reports of Jesus' resurrection. They were joined by a third man who asked, "What are you all talking about?" The other two were astounded that this fellow didn't know the news. I mean, are you the ONLY person in Jerusalem who doesn't know? The man whom they do not recognize, was Jesus. Luke records that their eyes were kept from recognizing Jesus.

Humor me, said the man/Jesus, and so they told him the long, sad story of Jesus' death, and the reports of his resurrection. The deal is, there was now an empty tomb and no way to explain it—no dead body, but no live body either.

Hold on, said the man/Jesus, and continuing their walk, he took all that they had told him and using scripture, interpreted all the events of the past days. Everything made sense; this guy knew his scriptures!

So they reached Emmaus, and urged the man/Jesus to stay with them, to eat with them. He wouldn't be walking too much farther, anyway, because it was almost evening.

They didn't recognize him as they prepared supper. They didn't recognize him as they set the table. They didn't recognize him as they all sat down to eat. But when he took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to everyone, their eyes were opened and they recognized that this stranger was none other than Jesus!

Then he vanished from their sight.

Immediately, they realized that their hearts had been burning while the stranger talked to them on the road. It had to be Jesus; why didn't they recognize him as they were walking? And then, even though it was after dark, they hurried back to Jerusalem, to the eleven disciples and their companions.

This entire passage is about recognizing Jesus in ordinary things—a walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a blessing and sharing of bread. Jesus

appeared to his disciples quietly, in the everyday rhythm of their lives. He didn't command the sun to stop shining, or make the entire Roman army faint. He didn't still another storm or feed 5000 more people with leftovers. He didn't cure every leper in the area with a single word, or banish every demon-possessed individual. Nothing spectacular except walking and talking alongside two disciples and sharing a meal.

This passage reminds us that in the midst of our grief and pain, Jesus is alongside us, in our midst, speaking words of comfort. We may not recognize him at first—maybe he sounds like our best friend or spouse, offering prayer and encouragement. Or he looks like one of our children or grandchildren, sharing a meal and passing the dinner rolls. Then suddenly we know the voice of our Savior, we experience his loving touch, and our doubts vanish. Our pain is eased. Our hope is restored.

In the ordinary moments of our lives, we can see Christ in our midst—but after all, we have invited him, have we not? As Christians, we have asked him to walk with us, we have urged him to remain with us because darkness is coming. As Christians, we don't want to be far from our savior, as we travel this life.

Someone once gave me metal plaque with the Latin phrase "Vocatus atque non vocatus deus aderit" which means, "Bidden or unbidden, God is with us," or as Frederick Buechner put it in everyday language, "In the long run, whether you call or don't call on God, God will be present with you.

But sometimes we don't recognize Jesus walking with us, or praying with us or sharing bread with us. We are wrapped up in our personal pain and sadness, doubts and fears. Our loved one's cancer returns, or a dear friend returns to rehab; a young child dies or a grown child's marriage is a mess; a promising job didn't happen or a congregation suffers a sharp division. And we walk along, loaded with the weight of whatever grief or doubt or pain we bear. It's all we can think about, talk about until we hear, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!"

Those aren't meant to be scolding words, but affirming words. Jesus walks in step with us and shows how the scriptures bring life, not death. Jesus

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The Trinity Times is published monthly. We welcome news items and other contributions from members and friends of Trinity. Bring your articles to the church or e-mail them to the editor, Judy Schomber (schomberstat@aol.com), by the 20th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Sally Hughes, Pastor

Simon Thomas Jacobs, Music Director

Linda Rogers, Office Manager

Charlie Bundy, Facilities Manager

SESSION MEMBERS

Vira Baker (2020) Matthew Rutherford (2019)

Allen Brown (2018) Robert Rutherford (2018)

Bill Dougherty (2020), Hank Schomber (2019)

Phil Elbert (2019) Cindy Turner (2018)

Hank Howerton (2020)

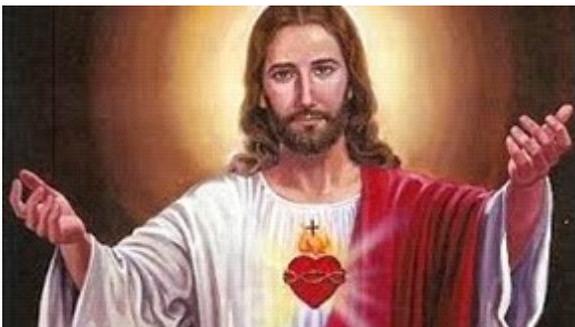
From the pastor

(continued from page 1)

prays with us, pointing out the blessings we can't see. Jesus shares with us so that we never hunger or thirst for righteousness.

It's not that our troubles disappear, like Jesus vanished from the disciples' sight, it's that our troubles are caught up in the walk, in the talk, in the meal, in the fact that Jesus is in the midst of us—in the midst of our family, in the midst of our congregation, in the midst of our world. Even if we don't immediately recognize him. He's there.

It is in those ordinary moments that we see Christ in our midst, that we recognize our Lord and Savior. In ordinary moments of giving thanks and sharing, we see—sometimes unexpectedly!—the face of Jesus. Every day, sometimes knowing, and sometimes without knowing, Jesus walks with us, talks with us, eats with us, is with us in the midst of our lives. He is there, and will be there, always.



APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE AND LECTIONARY READINGS

April 1 Resurrection of the Lord/Easter/Easter Sunrise Service

Acts 10:34-43 *or* Isaiah 25:6-9;

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 *or* Acts 10:34-43;

John 20:1-18 *or* Mark 16:1-8

Easter Evening:

Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 114;

1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49

April 8 Second Sunday of Easter/Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1--2:2;

John 20:19-31

April 15 Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7;

Luke 24:36b-48

April 22 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24;

John 10:11-18

April 29 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21;

John 15:1-8

HELP OUTFIT SPENCE FOR WORK RELEASE

Later this month, Claude Spencer ("Spence") will begin a new job in a work release program. For this job, he is required to wear specific items of clothing. If you would like to purchase any of these items, or contribute toward the purchase of these items, please call the church office or drop off your purchase:

1 pair of Carhart Work Boots, size 11

**5 pairs of blue, prewashed, relaxed fit jeans
size 40 x 34**

**5 black Dickies twill work shirts size 2X
Tall**

8 black short sleeve shirts, 2X Tall

12 pairs of black or grey tube socks

EASTER MORNING



The second Easter Sunrise Service in Sally's ministry at Trinity was held on a rainy Easter morning. But a little rain didn't dampen spirits, as worshippers assembled on the covered entry patio.



photos by Hank Schomber



The chancel was adorned with beautiful spring flowers, which were taken home by worshippers after the service.

The sanctuary was filled with glorious music from the organ, the choir, and the brass quartet which punctuated the hymns with joyful accompaniment.



ADULT EDUCATION IN APRIL

On Sunday, April 8th, the adult Sunday school class will begin studying the Gospel of Mark. The gospel of Mark is the oldest gospel, believed to have been written between 66 and 70 CE, as well as the shortest gospel. Biblical scholars view Mark as the gospel which encouraged other gospels to be written, noting that both Matthew and Luke borrow sayings and

stories from Mark. The class meets in the parlor on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.



TRINITY CHILDREN AT THE EASTER EGG HUNT

photos by Hank Schomber and Staff



Maya and Sofia



Max



Xander

THE POLE IS GONE!

When NES replaced a power pole in the early part of the year, it soon became evident that the new pole placement was highly visible to those who sat on the right side of the sanctuary. After discussions among NES, the Trinity Session, Charlie Bundy, and LWS, it was agreed that NES would move the power pole to a site not visible through the front window of the sanctuary, positioned where the power lines would not overhang the playground, and that new connections from the power line to the main church building would be installed. During the week beginning March 12, NES completed the work. Below, the work in progress and the spot from which the pole was moved.



Staff photos



COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

photos by Hank Schomber and Staff



OFFICE HOURS FOR SALLY HUGHES

Sally has office hours Tuesday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and also by appointment if someone needs to come by earlier or later.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Mary Berger – 5
 Cindy Turner – 5
 Lila Newton – 10
 Charlie Bundy – 12
 Evie Rutherford - 15
 Mary Virginia Bond – 21
 Michael Cuppett – 25
 Claude Spencer – 28

Our apologies if we have missed your birthday or if it is incorrect. If we have missed or muffed your special day please call the church office at 297-6513 and let us know.

SPECIAL GROUP ACTIVITY MEETINGS

*****Presbyterian Women** meet the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Trinity parlor. Our next meeting is April 3 We will study Lesson 8 “In Community with the Household of Faith”, in our study book, “*Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*”. Please bring a sandwich or salad for lunch and a time of fellowship after the meeting.

***You are invited to join the **Changing Gears** group for lunch and fellowship at Westminster Presbyterian on Wednesday, April 25 at 11 a.m.. Elizabeth Coker of *Nostalgic Nashville & Middle Tennessee* will offer a dramatic portrayal of Adelia Acklen, who became the wealthiest woman in Tennessee and a plantation owner in her own right after the 1846 death of her first husband, Isaac Franklin. Reservations for lunch are required by noon on the Friday before, and there is a \$10 charge for lunch. Call Trisha Biggs at the Westminster church office (292-5526) for reservations or if you’d like more information.

*****Wandering Presbyterians** will go Greek and French for April. Join us Thursday, April 26 as we wander close to home for our Greek experience, touring the Parthenon, followed by a taste of French (& American) cuisine for lunch at Chateau West Restaurant! Originally built for Tennessee’s 1897 Centennial Exposition, the replica of the Parthenon houses 63 paintings by 19th and 20th century American artists. Also, there’s currently a special exhibit featuring the Day at the Fair, which gives modern-day travelers a feel for what it must have been like to visit the Centennial Exposition over a hundred years ago. After exploring the Parthenon, we’ll hop over to the Chateau for a variety of choices from a grilled chicken sandwich or special burger to quiche or crepe to salmon or boeuf bourguignon! Truly, something for every taste.

If you’d like to join this outing for adults, sign up in the East Hall, call the church office at 615-297-6513, or e-mail office@trinitypresnashville.org. We will meet at the church at 10:15 a.m. to carpool. Lunch reservations at the Chateau are at 12:30 p.m. Cost for admission to the Parthenon is \$6 adults/ \$4 seniors over 62. Lunch prices range from \$5 for a cup of soup to \$21 for Chateau Filet.

THE ONLINE CALENDAR

For a complete list of activities, visit www.trinitypresnashville.org and click on “church calendar”. The calendar is updated regularly as activities are added, deleted, or changed. If your committee or group schedules a meeting using the church’s facilities, please contact Linda Rogers (297-6513 or office@trinitypresnashville.org) so your meeting can be placed on the calendar, or if there is a facilities conflict, it can be resolved before scheduling.

MEDICARE CARD SCAM

New Medicare card Beginning April 2018, Medicare will begin the year-long process of issuing new Medicare cards. The new card will have a unique Medicare number listed, not your social security number. You will NOT have to do anything to receive this new card. This change will encourage scammers to try new tactics. If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from Medicare asking you to confirm your social security number for the new card, it is a scam. If you receive a call telling you to pay for a new or temporary card, it is a scam. Here are a few reminders while Medicare changes to the new card:

A legitimate agency is **NOT** going to call and ask for your Social Security number in order to issue you a new Medicare card.

If you are not sure if the call is authentic, hang up and call the agency back on their



customer service line. Call Medicare at 1-800-633-4227 and Social Security at 1-800-772-1213.

There are **NO** fees associated with the new Medicare cards. You will **NOT** lose benefits while you wait for the new card.

Sources: *Detroit Free Press, AARP & Federal Trade Commission*

TAX SEASON MEANS TAX SCAMS

Last month, the IRS warned of a new email scam that seemed to target Hotmail account users. With this scheme, phishing emails were sent out under the guise of being from the IRS. If you used a link within that email, it redirected you to a Microsoft page, where the user was asked to enter personal and/or financial information.

The websites associated with this particular scam have since been disabled but it is still important to be vigilant. As a new tax season begins, keep in mind scammers will be revving up their efforts to steal YOUR money.

Here are some reminders about the IRS. They will NEVER:

*call about past due taxes without having mailed several notices first

- *call to demand payment including threats to involve law enforcement and have you arrested
- *call or email asking you to divulge personal and/or financial information
- *require payment without allowing you to appeal or even question the amount due
- *require you to use a specific payment method like a pre-paid debit card
- *ask for your credit/debit card and/or bank information over the phone

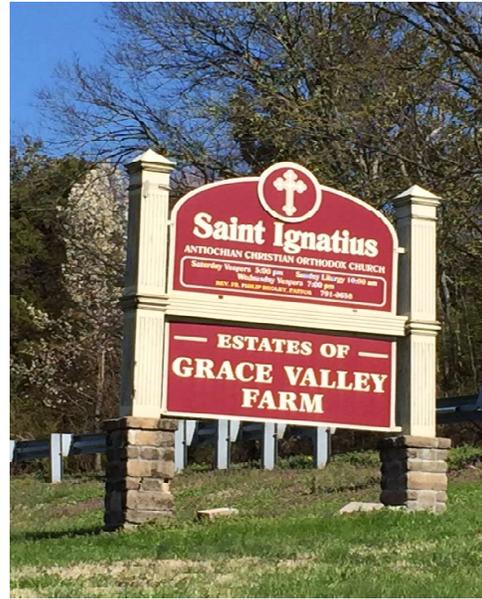
Sources: Forbes and Internal Revenue Service

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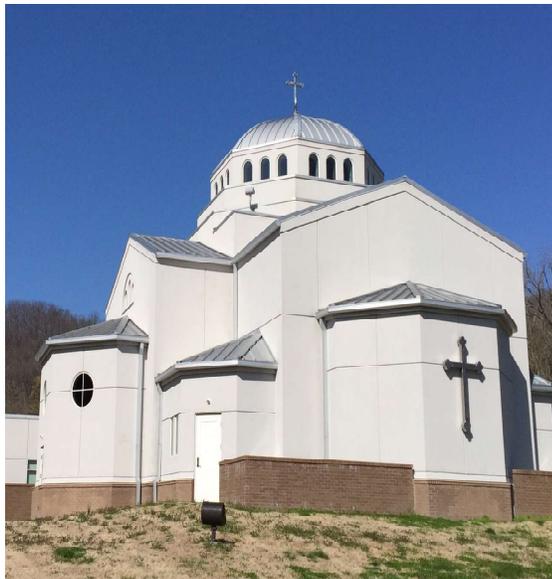
WANDERING PRESBYTERIANS VISIT ST. IGNATIUS ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Wandering Presbyterians visited St. Ignatius Orthodox Church on March 13. The church is located on Peytonville Road in Williamson County and is part of the Antiochan branch of the Orthodox church. Father Philip Bagley and his wife explained the history of the Orthodox tradition and the liturgy and meaning of the numerous icons in the building. Currently the church has over 400 members located on blueberry fields of the Grace Valley Farm, which donated the land.

Twelve Trinitarians and guests took part in the tour. They were delighted by the paintings of icons adorned with gold leaf and amazed by the beautiful dome over the nave. Following the tour, they enjoyed a lunch at the Tupelo Honey Café in Cool Springs.



Staff photos





BLACKBURN COLLEGE SINGERS GIVE CONCERT IN SANCTUARY

The Blackburn College Voices made Trinity a stop on their 2018 Concert Tour, singing in the sanctuary on March 17. The *a cappella* group, composed of eleven singers, were conducted by Dr. Elizabeth W. Zobel of the Music and Theatre Department.

The Fellowship Committee served them a dinner of cassoulet and salad before the concert. Dessert, consisting of a chocolate trifle and a fruit trifle accompanied by cookies and cake, was served after the performance at a reception to allow performers and the audience to mingle.

The Blackburn Voices sang their full repertoire of selections, grouped by categories -- African, traditional hymns, madrigals, Spanish, and contemporary pop music. There were numbers by the whole group and by male and female groups.

Blackburn College, founded in 1837, and affiliated with the Presbyterian (USA) Church, is a private 4-year liberal arts college with 400 students, located in Carlinville, Illinois. The campus is 40

miles southwest of Springfield and 60 miles north-east of St. Louis, Missouri. It is recognized nationally for its unique Work Program, one of seven work colleges in the U.S. In the program, students themselves manage and work building maintenance, cleaning services, administrative resources, educational assistance, athletic support, financial management, business and retail management, safety and security, counseling services, food and catering services, graphic design, marketing and communications resources, and research. In return students receive a reduction in tuition but also gain valuable hands-on experience for their careers following graduation.

The Blackburn Voices participate in the annual Madrigal Dinner on campus in November along with the Blackburn Chorus. In the spring, they travel on tour to churches and schools to perform. As is the case at their other tour sites, Trinity members housed the students overnight and fed them breakfast before they left for their next tour stop.



photos by Hank Schomber



“VIOLINS OF HOPE” FEATURED IN NASHVILLE CONCERTO ORCHESTRA CONCERT AT TRINITY

Nashville Symphony Bassoonist and contra bassoonist Gil Perel and NSO trumpeter Alec Blazek were joined by pianist Megan Gale and the Nashville Concerto Orchestra conducted by Shreyas Patela at a free concert on Saturday, March 24, in the Trinity Sanctuary. The concert was presented as part of the Nashville Symphony's Violins of Hope project, which features violins that were played in the death camps of Nazi Germany and presenting music that celebrates the triumph of the human spirit over unimaginable adversity.



photos by Hank Schomber



April 2018

A calendar that includes all building use, including LWS, can be found on the church website: www.trinitypresnashville.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Easter! 7:00 am Sunrise Service No Sunday School 10:15 am Easter Breads 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship Fellowship Time	2 8 pm – AA Meeting	3 11 am Presbyterian Women	4 No Choir Rehearsal	5 8 pm – AA Meeting	6	7
8 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	9 8 pm – AA Meeting	10	11 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 8 pm – AA Meeting	13 6 pm LWS Lower Grades Spring Concert	14
15 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	16 8 pm – AA Meeting	17	18	19 8 pm – AA Meeting	20 Newsletter Articles Due	21
22 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	23 8 pm – AA Meeting	24	25 No Choir Rehearsal	26 10:15 am Wandering Presbyterians carpool to tour Parthenon; lunch at Chateau West 8 pm – AA Meeting	27 6 pm LWS Lower Grades Spring Concert	28
29 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	30 8 pm – AA Meeting	31 7 pm – Session Meeting	No Choir Rehearsal			

Note: Church office is closed on Mondays