

THE TRINITY TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 2022

From the Pastor

A couple of weeks ago in the weekly email, I wrote about the beauty of connectionalism in the Presbyterian church. What I wrote was about the late Dr. Jim Cogswell, a Presbyterian minister with whom I had connected as a child, as a young adult, and as a colleague.

But as I have discovered, connectionalism isn't restricted to the Presbyterians. I first met Linda Rogers, our retiring office manager, when she worked at Legacy Crossing in Franklin. One of my church members at Historic Franklin lived there, and as the activity director for the facility, she arranged for the residents to take a tour of our church, and of downtown Franklin. We have a picture to commemorate that occasion! The next time I met Linda was when our mother, Sara Hughes, enthusiastically insisted that I take her by Trinity so that I could meet the new office manager! Which I DID, and even though no photo was taken of that occasion, I remember the occasion because I remembered Linda. I was delighted and happy for Trinity to have such a wonderful person working in the office.

An elderly colleague of mine once told me that the selection of the office manager (or secretary, as they were known then!) was important because the office manager was the face and voice for the entire congregation. Whether that person could type or be organized or use the copier (or mimeograph machine!) were good skills, but a warm greeting on the phone or when someone came into the office was essential. The church office manager should convey to a caller or visitor that this church is a welcoming, inclusive, joyful church.

Which is exactly what Linda Rogers has conveyed, and even more so in those times when Trinity was in-between pastors. She encouraged people who

were looking for a church home to give Trinity a try. She helped needy persons find resources for their rent or gas. She knew who to call for building problems or billing issues or equipment failures. She dispensed wintergreen lifesavers and tiny packages of Junior Mints to everyone who stepped foot in the office.

And we have Linda to thank for the beautiful bulletin boards in East Hall, creative messages that signaled the beginning of Advent, Lent, and Ordinary Days. We have Linda to thank for weekly bulletins and emails, congregational notices and additions to the newsletter. We have Linda to thank for her help during Presbytery meetings, community gatherings, special events during which she cheerfully gave directions, set up, cleaned up, and gave Trinity an excellent reputation as a place to meet. We have Linda to thank for providing stability at a time when things were a bit unstable at Trinity; we have Linda to thank for the positive relationship that we enjoy with the Linden Waldorf School since she interacts with them on a daily basis.

We even have Linda to thank for our new office manager, Peyton Chandler, since it was Linda who listened to the voicemail that Peyton left on the church phone. In Peyton's voice, Linda heard welcoming, inclusive, joyful tones—what she knew Trinity needed as an office manager.

Since 2008, Trinity has been strengthened by the faithful service of Linda Rogers. We are appreciative that she answered the call to serve as office manager, and we wish her happiness in her retirement!

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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

William E. Berger, Minister of Music

Peyton Chandler, Office Manager

Jeff Durham, Facilities Manager

SESSION MEMBERS

Sally Hughes, Moderator

Paul Parker (2021)

Vira Baker (2023)

Linda Rutherford (2022)

Vera Billington (2021)

Benita Sims (2023)

Jane Cooper (2023)

George Ward (2022)

Jackie Elbert (2022)

Aad Zeeuw (2021)

JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE AND LECTIONARY READINGS

January 2 **Second Sunday of Christmas**

Jeremiah 31:7-14 *and* Psalm 147:12-20;
Ephesians 13-14; John 1: (1-9) 10-18

January 9 **Baptism of the Lord**

Isaiah 43:1-7 *and* Psalm 29;

January 16 **Second Sunday after Epiphany**

Isaiah 62:1-5 *and* Psalm 36:5-10;
1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

January 23 **Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6, 8-19 *and* Psalm 19;
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

January 30 **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Jeremiah 1:4-10 *and* Psalm 71:1-6;
1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SESSION

Sara Hughes, Moderator

Peyton Chandler, Office Manager beginning January 1, 2022, will begin training with Linda Rogers December 1st, 2021.

Session sent letter rejecting the offer for 0.25 acres on White Oak property. Will make a counter offer.

The "jungle" property sale is on hold until White Oak property is settled.

Discussion regarding a parttime bookkeeper continues.

Trinity Holiday Market set for Saturday, December 4th, 2021.

Discussion on organ repairs and flute enhancement noted a cost of \$6550 dollars. Will Berger and Jeff Light agree this is a reasonable bid and the work was approved. A special music fund and Memorial Fund contributions are available to help cover cost.

Jeff Durham will work on cleaning gutters to determine which ones only need cleaning and which ones need to be replaced.

Session approved sending Christmas baskets to Francis Burns, Norma DeJarnette, TS Fleming, and Ann Wise. Sally will order the baskets online and deliver to shut ins.

The session will have an inspection of the Chapel window made, and receive estimates for repairs.

PRAYER & REFLECTION TIMES

On Friday mornings, Sally Hughes offers a Facebook Live prayer time beginning at 8:30 AM. This prayer time includes concerns and people for which we pray on Sunday, as well as any provided by members or friends. The prayer time consists of opening words of scripture, a psalm reading, then prayer, and conclude with the Lord's prayer. If you are a

Facebook member, you can submit prayer requests via the comments, and if you are not, you can send them via text to Sally (615-594-5765) or email. These Facebook prayer times will NOT be saved on the Facebook page as our worship services are saved.

After Friday prayer, Sally offers a brief reflection from Adam Hamilton's book, [The Journey](#). The Lord's prayer and benediction will mark the break between prayer time and reflection time, if you are interested in one and not the other!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our next meeting will be January 4 at 10:30 a.m, covering Lesson 5 , "Ruth and Redemption", from *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthews's Genealogy of Jesus*. Call the church office if you need a study book, which is \$10.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS RESUMED!

Adult Sunday School has resumed at 9:45 a.m. until 10:15 a.m. in the Parlor, with Sally Hughes as the leader.

NOTE OF GRATITUDE FROM LINDA

Dear Trinity Family,

I have been overwhelmed by your generosity and outpourings of love and support through the years. But you completely blew me away in December - from the gorgeous roses on the chancel table in my honor to cards and gifts. As you know, I've seldom been at a loss for words, but I sincerely am right now. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your office manager the past 14 years.

Having worked with Peyton Chandler during December, I'm very excited to be passing the office keys to someone who learns so quickly, but most of all, loves God and has a great heart for the ministry of the church office manager role!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In loving appreciation,

Linda Rogers

Office Manager 2008 - 2021

CALLING ALL BOX TOPS!



Box Tops for Education help Linden Waldorf School! Every little bit adds up to aid in the purchase of necessary school supplies. You can scan receipts and upload them to the Box Tops app!

TRINITY BOOK CLUB

The next meeting is Thursday, January 13 at 6 p.m. in the parlor. The book for January is *The Dearly Beloved* by Cara Wall. If you would like to be on the email list for the book club, please let Carla McDonough (carla_mcdonough@bellsouth.net) or Katy Wilson (katywilson@gmail.com) know. Sneak preview: Book for February 10 meeting is *The Only Woman in the Room* by Benedict.

SWEET TREATS FROM ABBY

You can now find Mountain Laurel Bakeshop at several farmer's markets throughout the week! Abby will be at 12 South Farmer's Market on Tuesdays from 4-7 and Crieve Hall Farmer's Market on Thursdays from 4-7. If you would like to know what's on the menu this week or to put in a special order, email her at abby@mountainlaurelbakeshop.com

KNIT & CROCHET TN: THE BIG STITCH EVENT

Do you like to knit or crochet OR want to learn more? The quarterly Big Stitch University will be held at Trinity on Saturday, January 8 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Instructions are free, but classes are by reservation only. For more details, visit KnitAndCrochetTN.org. For questions, e-mail deb@knitandcrochettn.org or call 615-410-0620

2022 STEWARDSHIP LETTERS AND PLEDGE CARDS

The 2022 Stewardship letters and Pledge **cards** have been mailed. If you did not receive one, or if you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive one, please let the church office know. The Finance Committee reminds folks that creating an automatic bank draft from your bank to Trinity is an easy way to contribute, especially during these COVID days. Contact your bank about how to do this, or Aad Zeeuw or Linda Rutherford. Our congregational giving has been wonderful and generous, and we thank you, and hope that 2022 will enable us to put our church's money to work for God's service!

LATEST COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

The CDC has recommended that even vaccinated folks should wear masks indoors, as well as practice social distancing. As COVID cases are on the rise in Davidson County, members of the congregation should wear masks on Sunday during worship, use hand sanitizer and practice social distancing. We will sing through our masks! Wearing masks is small

IF YOU WISH TO ENTER THE CHURCH DURING THE WEEK

If you're coming to the church during the week, please call the church office (615-297-6513) and leave a message so we can call you back) or text (615-594-5765) in advance to plan when you're coming by. Staff are often not within earshot of the doorbell or may be working remotely and we don't want to miss you! call.

Linden Waldorf School is in session. Due to car lines for drop off (includes COVID 19 temperature check) and pick up, you may want to plan your trips to the church to avoid these times:

7:45 – 8:30 a.m.

12:20 – 12: 50 p.m.

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

We're grateful to have our school friends using our property but even more grateful if we don't get tied up in school traffic!

price to pay to remain healthy. If you have not been vaccinated, please do! We will continue to offer Face Book Live worship as a worship option. We'll keep monitoring the CDC guidelines and on a week-to-week basis, decide about worship.

HELP FOR THE AFGHAN FAMILY

If you'd like to help the Afghan family, here are website links to ways you can help: <https://tnrefugees.org/index.php/meet-our-partners/>

Resettlement (NICE) Nashville International Center for Empowerment: empowernashville.org

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Nashville: cctenn.org

Partner in English language instruction - TN Language Center: tlli.org/esl-to-go/

Health Care - Siloam Health:

HOW TO HELP HAITI

GIVE: Gifts can be made by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check, which can be mailed to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

PRAY: As this earthquake continues to cause destruction and loss of life, please pray with us that the communities affected by this event and those offering assistance will be strengthened, have their needs met and be reminded of the hope found in God.

Through PC(USA) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), we can join together to help our neighbors in Haiti who are struggling following another devastating earthquake.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jonathan Oppenheimer 5

Sara Anne Berger 3

Thoma Parker 5

Peter O'Brien 22

Ruth Sims



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

GIVE: Gifts can be made online at pcusa.org/DT21, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check using the below reply device. You can also text PDA to 41444 to donate.

PRAY: As we awake to news of devastation and death from another natural disaster

JOIN IN COMMUNITY COMPOSTING

So far, we have a nice amount of compost being created in two holding bins, with a third bin containing a shovel for mixing, a self-log and pen, and a bag of dry browns/leaves for layering in the compost bins. Word is getting out, and neighbors are now learning to drop off at their convenience. We strive to, and often do, have a volunteer present for part of Saturday mornings.

We hope Trinity Presbyterian Church members are availing themselves of this convenient opportunity to contribute to the wider, community goal of zero waste. If anyone wishes to meet for a quick talk about composting, please let me know and we'll set it up. Below are photos from

today that you may wish to share with the greater Presbyterian community.

Because of you, the community has this space. And, as always, Hillsboro-West End and surrounding neighborhoods, CMs Allen and Cash, and Metro Beautification and Environment, are so very thankful for TPC's partnership in stewardship.

Miriam Mimms , Beautification Chair, HWEN

Commissioner, District 18

Metro Beautification and Environment Commission



MEET TRINITY'S NEW OFFICE MANAGER

Meet our new Office Manager, Peyton Chandler! This past April, he and his partner, Wesley, moved to Nashville from their hometown of Birmingham, AL. Peyton is pursuing his Master of Divinity degree from Vanderbilt Divinity School, as well as ordination in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). After graduating from The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Peyton worked for several years in editorial and advertising positions before shifting his career focus to pastoral ministry. Peyton and Wesley were married in October of 2020. In their free time, they love to cook together, check movies off of their "must watch" list, explore Nashville, and play with their new kitten, Elmo. We are so excited for Peyton to join Trinity as our new Office Manager.



New Office Manager, Peyton Chandler, and his partner, Wesley