

THE TRINITY TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JUNE/JULY 2020

From the Pastor

We have entered what I consider to be "tender times." No comment--good, bad, or ugly--goes unexamined. Facebook, which does provide joy to many of us, can also contain the vicious streams of unfiltered opinions, often from people who barely know each other. I recently posted a question on Facebook seeking an explanation for an expression that I didn't understand, and I received all kinds of strong responses, including a private message from someone who wanted me to know that my Facebook friends were racist.

This message is not about racism, even though I know that just bringing up the word makes the hair stand on the back of some people's head, for different reasons. This message is about the how this pandemic has made us all a little edgy, a little befuddled, a little frustrated, a little tender. We don't know how or when this crisis will be over and patience is not our strong suit. We like answers and solutions and being able to pencil things in on our calendar, not postpone things until whenever. We know it's a "first world problem" not to be able to hop in our car and go out to eat, but we don't like limits or restrictions. But we also don't want to get the virus or give the virus to

someone else. Some of us wear a mask when we are out in public and some of us don't and we are judging the other person by the presence or absence of masks. Our trips to the stores are made cumbersome because we have to follow the lane arrows, and made downright miserable when another customer is going the wrong way.

This pandemic, together with recent acts of violence, together with less recent but no less impactful storm damage, has made us a little edgy, a little befuddled, a little frustrated, a little tender. We need some relief, some real rest and refreshment which comes not from anything here on earth, but from heaven above. John Baillie, in his Diary of Private Prayer, writes, ***"O God, you have been the refuge of your people through many generations; be my refuge in every moment and every need that I face today. Be my guide through all uncertainty and darkness. Be my guard against all that threatens my spiritual well-being. Be my strength in times of testing. Cheer my heart with your peace."***

In these tender times, may that be our daily prayer.

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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

Linda Rogers, Office Manager

Charlie Bundy, Facilities Manager

SESSION MEMBERS

Sally Hughes, Moderator	Vira Baker (2020)
Lucas Bates (2022)	Vera Billington ((2021))
Jackie Elbert (2022)	Hank Howerton (2020)
Paul Parker (2021)	Linda Rutherford (2020)
George Ward (2022)	Aad Zeeuw (2021)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Sally Hughes Stated Meeting of April 28, 2020

At its April meeting the session thanked George Ward for the beautiful communion cup, plate and pitcher now used on the Chancel Communion Table.

2020 Graduates this year: Kathy Hilbert (daughter of Vira Baker) from graduate school in Chattanooga TN and Daniel Brawner (son of Jackie Elbert) from Vanderbilt University, Nashville TN.

Linda Rogers will be back from her sabbatical on May 5.

Trinity successfully applied for and received the Federal Government's Paid Protection Program stimulus package.

Session officially suspended worship services because of the Coronavirus crisis until further notice. Trinity's Sunday morning service has been celebrated in an empty sanctuary and viewable online via the Trinity Facebook page since March 22.

Joe Brady was received into membership.

Session approved new Space Sharing Agreement for presentation to Linden Waldorf School's board of Directors. A new agreement will be needed July 1.

JUNE WORSHIP SCHEDULE AND LECTERN READINGS

June 7 **Trinity Sunday**

Genesis 1:1—2:4; Psalm 8;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13;
Matthew 28:16-20

June 14 **Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7);
Psalm 116:1-2,12-19;
Romans 5:1-8,
Matthew 8:35—10:8 (9-25)

June 21 **Third Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 21:8-21;
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17;
Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

June 28 **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13;
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

Please remember to continue to make your contributions to Trinity. You can mail them to the church office, as the mail does get picked up on a regular basis. The address is Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3201 Hillsboro Pike, Nashville, TN 37215. Thank-you.

Discussions continued about replacing Facilities Manager Charlie Bundy who is expected to retire

The wooden wheelchair ramp by the mailbox will be removed due to safety concerns.

We are looking for the best alternative to replace the air-conditioning unit for the garage apartment.

Trinity's Sunday Service is available each week at 11:00 a.m. on the Trinity Facebook page:

facebook.com/trinitypresbyterianchurchnashville/

Please join us!



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Hunter Treat Bagsby was graduated from Spring Hill High School in May. He plans to focus on finding a job helping animals. Proud parents are Jr and Kayce Bagsby.

Daniel Brawner was graduated from Vanderbilt Next Steps, Nashville, TN in May. His plans are to secure a full-time job with benefits. Proud parents are Jackie (& Phil) Elbert and Eddie (& Sharon) Brawner.

Kasen Ertel was graduated from Walnut Grove Elementary School and will attend Grassland Middle School in the fall. Proud parents are Marieke Georgiadis-Ertel and Steve Ertel.

Kathy Hilbert was graduated from Richmont Graduate University, Chattanooga, TN on May 16, 2020 with a Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Proud mother is Vira Baker, and proud aunt is Vera Billington.

Everly Jeanne Rutherford (Evie) was graduated from City Road Child Development Center preschool, Nashville, TN this month and will start kindergarten in August at Lockeland Design Magnet School. Proud parents are Megan and Matt Rutherford, and grandparents, Linda and Robert Rutherford.

Matthew Kevin Walling was graduated from Grassland Middle School and will be a freshman at Franklin High School. Proud parents are Alisa and Kevin Walling.

Rachel C. Weiss was graduated from Mercy College, New York City on May 20, 2020. Proud parents are Carolyn Vick and Aad Zeeuw.

REQUEST FOR HELP WITH SERMONS AND BIRDS

Since things are a little bit different this summer, I thought I'd go a different direction in my preaching. I recently finished reading a book by Debbie Blue, Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to the Birds of the Bible, and I loved it! I loved it so much that I decided that I would combine my love of birds, the Bible and this book and do a summer sermon series on birds, using the Bible and Debbie Blue's book as my guide. I'm not going in the same order as she did, but here are my birds and sermon dates:

Pigeon June 7
Ostrich June 14
Sparrow June 21
Pelican June 28
Quail July 5
Rooster July 12
Raven July 19
Vulture July 26
Eagle August 2
Hen August 9

I'd like to ask the congregation's help for some visual aids--does anyone have a toy or decorative quail, vulture, eagle, ostrich, sparrow, or rooster? I have a pigeon, pelican, and raven. Whether we are worshipping online or not, I'd like to have the visual prop. (continued on following page)

I hope to provide you with some facts about the particular bird as well as a connection with a Bible passage and our lives! We'll wing our way through the summer!

If you would like to purchase the book, here's the information:

[Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to Birds of the Bible](#)

by [Debbie Blue](#) | Aug 1, 2013

TRINITY SUNDAY IS JUNE 7

On Trinity Sunday we proclaim the mystery of our faith in the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One-in-Three and Three-in-One.

The celebration of Trinity Sunday began among Western Christians in the 10th century and developed slowly until it was formally established on the Sunday after Pentecost by Pope John XXII (1316-1334).

Unlike other festivals in the church's liturgical calendar, Trinity Sunday centers on a *doctrine* of the church, rather than an *event*. It celebrates the unfathomable mystery of God's being as Holy Trinity. It is a day of adoration and praise of the one, eternal, incomprehensible God.

Trinity Sunday, in a sense, synthesizes all we have celebrated over the past months which have centered on God's mighty acts: Christmas-Epiphany celebrating God's taking flesh and dwelling among us in Jesus Christ; Easter celebrating Christ's death and resurrection for us; Pentecost celebrating God the Holy Spirit becoming our Sanctifier, Guide, and Teacher. It is, therefore, a fitting transition to that part of the year when Sunday by Sunday the work of God among us is unfolded in a more general way.

The triune God is the basis of all we are and do as Christians. In the name of this triune God we are baptized. As the baptized ones we bear the name of the triune God in our being. We are of the family of the triune God. We affirm this parentage when, in reciting the creeds, we say what we believe. Our discipleship is rooted in the mighty acts of this triune God who is active in redeeming the world. The triune God is the basis of all our prayers — we pray to God the Father, *through* Jesus Christ, *by* the Holy Spirit. The Trinity holds central place in our faith. ...

In celebrating Trinity Sunday, remember that every Lord's Day is consecrated to the triune God. On the first day of the week, God began creation. On the first day of the week, God raised Jesus from the grave. On the first day of the week, the Holy Spirit descended on the newly born church. Every Sunday is special. Every Sunday is a day of the Holy Trinity.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/trinity-sunday/>

