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REMEMBER! You can see this publication in color. Just go to the Trinity Church website, click on "Ministries" in the navigation bar and go to the last item on the list, "Newsletter."

Next Press Deadline
December 16, 2018

Words from Our Pastor

Christmas is right around the corner and as I have begun to plan messages and have worked with Bill Coe to plan worship services my thoughts have turned to the amazing generosity of God. The familiar words of John 3.16 remind us that God so loved you and me and all people of all time that he **gave** his Son. God is a generous God, a giving God, and a present God. *"The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."* John 1.14.

Followers of Jesus are to be generous as well – generous in our love for one another within the church, generous in love for our neighbors, and generous in love for our enemies.

Looking ahead to 2019, we can see the need for generosity in giving toward the operating budget of the church. We also see the need for generosity in using the spiritual gifts God has given each of us, giving time and energy to help with various ministries, and giving ourselves to prayer for Trinity Church to be a blessing to the communities around us.

I am confident your generosity will abound.

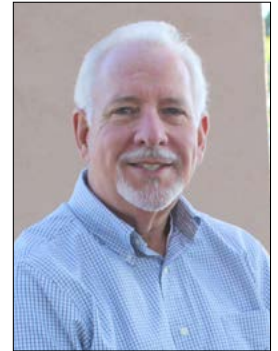
One way I have been made confident of this is the generosity of the Presbyterian Women, the Clippers, and through them, the congregation. The annual Clippers' Auction last spring raised over \$6,000 that went to supplement the support of eight missionaries supported by Trinity Church. The recent Rummage Sale and Fall Festival – ministries of the Presbyterian Women – raised a combined \$8,000. Eighty percent of that goes to our missionaries. Ten percent goes to Trinity Christian School. Ten percent is for scholarships for the Women's Retreat.

Add this generosity to the overwhelming generosity enacted in our partnership with Lifewater International - \$24,000 for fresh water, sanitation, hygiene, and church planting in central Uganda – and you see a powerful demonstration of loving generosity.

I thank God for you, the people of Trinity Church, who show your love in so many ways. At a recent mid-week gathering as people shared the ways they experience joy and contentment in Christ, I was overcome with gratitude. I was struck with the awareness that I have the privilege to serve with saints – amazing people who are being transformed into the likeness of Jesus. What a great gift it is!

Thank you for your faithfulness, your love, your generosity,

It is an honor to journey with you in Christ.
Pastor Jim



Jim Wilson
Interim Pastor

Update from Our Urban Missionary

Greetings,

Leigh Taylor here. Just thought I would give you all an update on what's been happening in the last few months.

First, I'd like to thank you for your support. It means a lot to get donations on a regular basis from you, even though most of you choose to remain anonymous so I have no idea who to thank! It helps to keep me in guitar strings, gas money, and functioning equipment which is very important to say the least.

Second, please pray for me to find more opportunities to go out and minister. Recently, a couple of the places that I would play at regularly have undergone changes and are not having the same ministry events they have had in the past. An example is the San Diego Rescue Mission. Please pray that other opportunities will present themselves. Although we live in a big city, it is surprisingly difficult to find places to minister with music.

I did just lead worship at "Luv on Fire," an outreach for special needs



folks. The Holy Spirit did His thing there, and they entered in! I just need more places like that!

Third, I have begun recording a CD with the "Tribal Elders" which consists of me, Ramon "Piki" Moreno (percussion), John Simons (bass), and Greg Bannister (sax). We have had a few recording sessions already and have actually achieved a lot. The next step is to listen to what we've done so far and decide what we need to do next. It's been a slow process to get to this point, but it feels good to

actually get in the studio and record. We still have some work to do before we can get something out there, so pray that we are able to accomplish all that we want to get done.

That's about it. Thanks again and please keep me and the rest of the "Tribal Elders" in prayer as we endeavor to do what the Lord leads us to do.

God is Good – All the Time!

Your Trinity Church staff pray that Jesus will bring you a deeper understanding of His love and care for YOU this Christmas!

Thank You to My Volunteers

As we move through the holiday season, I would like to take a moment to thank my tireless volunteers. I am so grateful for each and every one of you. Without your dedication and prayers, my job would be impossible.

Beginning in December, the children will be joining "big church" on every fifth Sunday. I know this has been met with resistance in the past but the

answer lies in Matthew 19:14. *"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'"*

Coming up on December 20th, we will be offering parents a few hours to do some last minute shopping or just run some kid-free errands before Christmas by hosting pizza and a movie. I am looking for several

volunteers to help pass out pizza and be an extra set of eyes to watch the kids. Please contact me if you are interested in helping, even if you can only be there part of the time!

Krista Young

Children's Ministries Director

krista@trinitypres.org

619-465-3011 x104

PHOTOS FROM "TRUNK OR TREAT"



The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

The most wonderful time of the year is upon us! Our youth group kids have enjoyed

Thanksgiving dinners at school, and eagerly await Christmas time. As you may know, we have been going over the fruits of the spirit in our group, and are nearly finished. For our next series, I have begun to stress the importance of sharing our personal testimonies, encouraging the kids to

get up in youth group and share why they have chosen the path to follow Christ.

Please be in prayer for the kids to think about the importance of their testimonies and the importance of their peers' testimonies.

Trinity Youth Group (TYG) is also trying to spread its roots within the high schools around this county through

the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. One of the long term goals of TYG is to establish both a flourishing junior high AND a high school group. Hopefully, this ministry will be a step in the right direction.

Katrena Roberts

Youth Ministries Director

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Giving Thanks

November was very busy! The Fall Festival was a delightful day spent with family and friends here on the Trinity hill enjoying both the outdoor events and indoor treasures. The Western Regional ACSI conference was held Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week. Our TCS staff enjoyed traveling together, spending time together at meals and sharing rooms. There were inspirational speakers as well as amazing presentations that encouraged creativity and challenging approaches for classroom instruction and school improvements. We all appreciated the opportunity to worship together with other Christian schools in ministry from a variety of places.

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were delivered for transport to Los Angeles, and then on to the ends

of the earth, so to speak. We are delighted to report that there were 202 boxes collected between Trinity Church and Trinity Christian School. Since 2003 we have sent 2,694 shoeboxes to children in some of the most desperate circumstances. The boxes were prayed over at our TCS Chapel and again when they were dropped off at the Operation Christmas Child collection center in El Cajon.

December brings with it the joy of celebrating Jesus' birth and presenting Christmas programs to honor Him and bless others. On Friday, December 7th, the entire school will be presenting a program for San Diego area Women's Associations. This will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Please come to the performance and bring friends, husbands or neighbors. If you would

like to stay for lunch, you can make a reservation with Pat Palmore by Wednesday, December 5th (619-444-6736). The cost is \$9.00 a person. All the proceeds go to Trinity Church's mission fund.

There will also be four individual evening performances for preschool, K-2nd grades, 3rd-5th grades, and middle school in order to accommodate crowds and parking issues. Each performance will be different and age appropriate. Past programs have provided many happy memories over the years.

May the peace which passes all understanding and the love which has no end fill your lives with JOY and thanksgiving for His everlasting faithfulness to all generations.

Merry Christmas!

Sharon Axe
Principal

Jimmie Drummond
Principal

Loading up the Christmas Shoeboxes!



The middle schoolers helped load up the vans to take the more than 200 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child to the collection center in El Cajon

God Loves Us Continuously

I continue to be amazed at how God moves in our lives. It amazes me that I have the privilege to serve Trinity Church with the gifts and experience God has given me. To use my graphic design background for setting up the bulletin, editing and designing this publication, working on the website, designing flyers, and other event materials, is a blessing.

It is also a delight to work with Kirk Drummond, our Discipleship Elder, to direct and facilitate our Wednesday night Bible study and potluck. Teaching the Precept Bible Study, supporting Presbyterian Women, and contributing to other adult discipleship events allows me to apply my gifts to help build up the Church.

I have been in regular contact with our church-supported missionaries. My hope is to build a larger team to work with me to encourage these men and women who are on the front lines of global ministry. Would you consider being a part of this team? I am also in the initial planning phase for *Building Bridges with Our Muslim Neighbors 2019*. We are exploring some timing options, and contacting instructors about their schedules.

Because of my involvement in *Building Bridges*, a number of other

projects outside of, but related to my position here at Trinity Church, have sprung up.

A graduate of *Building Bridges* (and a Trinity Christian School parent) and I have befriended a Syrian refugee family. They have five children ranging in age from 11 years to nine months. We have helped them understand the mountains of paperwork they receive – communications from the school, the government, medical offices, and helping them navigate the incredibly complex system around them.

For example, a doctor told them to order something on Amazon for their child. He did not write out what it was called, and they didn't know how to explain it in English. Google Translate was no help, and Amazon doesn't understand Arabic, so the parents couldn't order this item. It took me five minutes to figure it out for them.

I am also taking Arabic lessons once a week from Yosef, a Muslim background believer. He was introduced by Pastor Jim one Sunday. After learning basic words and phrases, he will give me a biblical phrase in Arabic to learn. The latest phrase I am learning is "Allah* yuhebuk (my transliteration)." It means "God loves you (continuously; without

end)." In English, this concept of the continuous and unending love of God is lost.

As I meditated on this statement, I was overcome with a deeper understanding of the truth that God's love never changes, never turns away, never ends.

Gratitude filled my soul, as I grasped more deeply His love for me, for you, for each person in this world. We, as human beings, are bound by prejudice, fear, hurt, and/or misunderstanding – emotions that stop us from loving others in our congregation, our communities, our country, and our world.

May we all grow in our understanding of God's continuous and unending love for us all so we can pass it on to others. Allah* yuhebuk!

Rebecca DeBreau

*Director of Discipleship,
Communications, and Missions*

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619-465-3011 x107*

* The word, "Allah (God)," comes from the root of the Hebrew word "Elohim," and was used by the Apostles who brought the Gospel to the Arab world long before Islam came into being.

Thank YOU!

LINDA SHEPERSKY

She graciously headed up our Thanksgiving dinner! About 40 people attended this event.



CLIPPERS

Saturday • Dec. 15th

Our Annual Christmas Party

Please join us on Saturday, December 15th for our annual Christmas party in Williams Hall. Our program of Christmas songs will be led by Leigh Taylor & the Tribal Elders.

Please bring:

- A wrapped gift for our gift exchange (homemade or \$5 purchase),
- An ornament for your Secret Pal,
- A \$2 donation for our main course - ham.

We meet at 12:45 p.m. for a fantastic 1:00 p.m. potluck luncheon. GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. Please contact Pat Palmore at 444-6736, Debbie Torres at 916-7803, or Norma Mondeck at 466-2367 for further information.

Presbyterian Women

Below is the December schedule for Presbyterian Women. Remember - ALL women who attend Trinity Church are members.

December 4 | 9:30 Board Meeting • Ward Center



FRIDAY

December 7 | PWP Christmas Event

9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast • Williams Hall

10:00 a.m. Business Meeting • Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. **Trinity Christian School's Musical Christmas Program**

12:00 p.m. Christmas Luncheon by Don Axe

Final Fall Festival Sale • Free \$2.00 off ticket on all items!

Please make reservations for the luncheon after Church on December 2, 2018

December 18 | Circle Meetings

9:30 a.m. Morning Circle at Vee Smith's house

6:30 p.m. Evening Circle at Deb Torres' home
Christmas Potluck Supper

WE NEED YOU!

Openings available for elders and deacons

The Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for the following key roles:

- Elder for Worship
- Elder for Missions
- Three Deacons

Elders provide leadership and oversight of all aspects of the Church. Deacons provide significant care-giving and service to the Church and community. Is God calling you to serve in one of these important roles?

Please contact Pastor Jim (jjim@trinitypres.org) or Greg Schwartz (inspectorbub@att.net) to learn more or to express your interest.

“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV)

Dear Friends!

God does indeed bless Trinity, here on our hill, and in the community as we reach out. Your faithfulness allowed us to not only meet our projected income in October, but to exceed it. As of right now, all of our financial obligations are being met, and our mission donations are up to date.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to return your pledge card for 2019. Every reply is valuable to us. If you did not receive a stewardship

letter from Pastor Wilson, and you would like to receive one, please contact us in the church office. Financial stewardship is a leap of faith. We hold fast and continue following God even when we aren't sure where He may lead us. Please consider joining us as we pledge to financially support Trinity Church in 2019.

Soon I will be sending out a statement of your giving for 2018. Please take the time to review your statement and contact me as soon as possible if

you have any changes or corrections. The offering envelopes for 2019 will be ready to pick up in mid-December. Look for them in the back of the sanctuary. Finally, if you find you are behind in your giving for 2018, I would like to encourage you to catch up before December 31st. Have a wonderful December.

Rebecca Casey
Financial Administrator
rebecca@trinitypres.org
619-465-3011 x108

	October 2018 Final	November 2018 (As of 11/18/18)	Year to Date 2018
BUDGETED INCOME	\$ 34,791.51	\$ 34,791.51	\$ 382,706.61
ACTUAL INCOME	\$ 41,692.52	\$ 19,524.41	\$ 348,420.78
DIFFERENCE	\$ 6,901.01	– \$ 15,267.10	–\$ 34,285.83
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$ 23,552.56	\$ 20,750.64	\$ 349,007.27
INCOME – EXPENSE	\$ 18,139.96	– \$1,226.23	–\$ 586.49

Trinity Staff

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Katrena Roberts
Youth Ministries Director
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Shirley Woodson
Organist

Krista Young
Children's Ministry Director
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May the Joyous Christmas Message
of God's Son, Jesus, Coming to Bring
Peace, Joy, & Salvation Fill your
Hearts this Season!

Come and worship
CHRIST
the newborn King!




Christmas Worship at Trinity

Sunday morning service *featuring* Leigh Taylor
9:30 a.m. December 16 Heather Riggs
plus the Trinity Bells
& the Von Wallace Family Ringers

Choir & Orchestra

TRINITY CHURCH
3902 Kenwood Drive
Spring Valley
www.trinitypres.org



FREE Admission!

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