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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."

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**Next Press Deadline**  
December 24, 2017

## Words from Our Pastor

Advent. Synonyms include "arrival", "beginning", "introduction" and "dawn". There is something so remarkable and stunningly profound about Jesus' advent that words are almost incapable of expressing it. John, the author of the fourth Gospel account, devotes the opening verses to an attempt to capture the weight of glory that falls at Advent. "In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God ..." And then in verse 14 John captures the tremendous reality that eludes full capture: "and the word became flesh and dwelled among us."

God has "arrived". The activity of the Rule or Kingdom of God is "beginning" in a new way. Jesus is the flesh and blood "introduction" to what God is like. It is the "dawn" of God's dream of a world reconciled to the Creator, of humanity filled with hope and joy and peace and life. There is great cause for both joyous celebration and quiet reflection this Advent Season!

There is also cause for joy and hope in the future God has for Trinity Church. In the coming months, we will be formally defining our vision for ministry – describing the ways we can more effectively help others become Jesus' disciples in a healthy community of faith. We will launch the process of calling a pastor to lead, equip, and join with the congregation in this ministry. We will turn the page into the next chapter in the life of Trinity Church.

Last week, one of our members stopped by my office and expressed his enthusiasm for the things God has done, is doing, and will do in and through this church. Then he added, "But, if we are going to have a fruitful future ministry, we will need to be willing to work."

He is right. Jesus told his disciples to "pray for laborers to enter into the harvest." I pray that we will all willingly step up in the ways we can and be willing to work. We can all engage in the work of prayer for the church and school, for Elders, Deacons, and staff, for new people to be invited, and for people to come to faith in Jesus.

And many can join in the ministry teams that lead ministries to children, youth, and adults. Some can join in the worship leadership provided by the choir and praise teams. Others can help with facilities maintenance, communications, or leading small discipleship groups. We can all enter into the harvest field of this church and our community.

I wish you a blessed Advent Season and a Merry Christmas.

Pastor Jim



**Jim Wilson**  
*Interim Pastor*

*jim@trinitypres.org*  
*619-465-3011 x105*

# November Memories



Preparing for the Fall Festival



Thanksgiving Dinner at Trinity Church



Wednesday Night Dinner - Youth Table



Wednesday Night Dinner



## Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift drive this year. The church and school delivered 198 boxes in total. If you paid for the shipping of your shoebox online, you can follow your box to see if it and where it has been shipped by logging onto the Samaritan's Purse website using the following link: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box-lookup/>. Shoeboxes will be shipped through mid-December so if you do not see a posting yet, check back later.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE TRINITY STAFF!

May 2018 be filled with the joy, peace, and love of God, our Lord Jesus, and the comforting presence of the Holy Spirit!

## Please Share Your Extra Produce

One of our members shared the following article with us. We wanted to pass this on. It is taken from the GMIA Viewpoints newsletter. It is edited for brevity.

Many of us in the Grossmont-Mt. Helix community are fortunate to have abundant gardens and ample produce. If you have more fruits and vegetables than you can utilize, organizations including Senior Gleaners, Produce Good, and HarvestCrops would like to harvest your surplus to feed hungry residents of limited means.

Last year San Diego Gleaners distributed nearly 252 tons of food. It makes sense to support groups like Gleaners who will get food to people who need it, keeping edible food out of our landfill, and discouraging rodents who may feed on unpicked produce.

Visit [www.sandiegogleaners.org](http://www.sandiegogleaners.org) to learn how you can join hundreds of people already involved. The groups need all types of fruits and vegetables, volunteers of any age, assistance transporting collected food, and cash donations to support their work.

## Military Outreach Ministries

Thanks to everyone who donated toys, games, clothes, quilts and other soft and cuddly things to the MOM's Christmas toy drive. 1 1/2 loads were delivered this month along with other miscellaneous items. The volunteers were especially touched by and appreciative of the numerous hand-made children's quilts that were donated and the work that they represented. On behalf of the MOM's organization, thank you for your generous support.

## Our Children Continue to Grow!

This fall the children of Trinity have been busy discovering the adventure of trusting God's faithfulness in the midst of dangerous time. We just finished learning that Joseph's faith and trust in God carried him through many years as a slave and prisoner before becoming ruler of Egypt. In December we are going to spend some time learning about the miracle of Jesus' birth before diving into brand new curriculum in January.

On December 10th, we'd like to encourage everyone to support our Trinity Church choir as they perform

"O Happy Day." The nursery will remain open, and for those kids who just can't sit still, I'll have a Bible lesson ready in the Castle Room just in case! We will be holding our annual "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party on December 17th. This is a fantastic time for your children to invite a friend to church. We will decorate cookies, play games, and make a fun craft while we enjoy the season together. There will be **no** Sunday School on December 24th. The nursery will be available at both the morning 9:30 a.m. service and the 7:00 p.m. service for children

three and under. I think it's important to take this time to worship together as a family while we celebrate the amazing Gift the Lord has given us. I hope you all can enjoy this wonderful time of year by keeping true the miracle of the birth of our Lord and Savior at the heart of all you do this holiday season.

Blessings,

**Krista Young**

*Children's Ministry Director*

*krista@trinitypres.org*

*619-465-3011 x104*

## Youth Group

## Wednesday Nights



**Russ Douglass**  
Youth Director

*rusmail13@yahoo.com*  
*619.204.4293*

- 3:00 p.m.** Homework Club\* **OR** Sports with Coach Daniel\*\*
- 4:15 p.m.** Games/Homework Time with Pastor Russ
- 5:00 p.m.** Dinner (\$3 per teen)
- 6:30 p.m.** Worship/Teaching with Pastor Russ (ends @ 7:30 p.m.)

Contact Russ Douglass for more information about our Youth Group events!

\* Homework Club is free. \*\*Sports with Coach Daniel is \$80 for eight weeks.

## 2018 is Just Around the Corner

**W**ow, 2018 is just around the corner! What a wonderful time of the year to remember God's faithfulness and love. 2017 brought many blessings to Trinity Christian School (TCS) including the families that the Lord has led here as well as the visiting Korean students, the facility improvements including fences, bleachers, a washing station, and Williams Hall lighting and sound improvements. Additionally, the spiritual and academic growth that has taken place, and the character building and community service that has been encouraged in preschool through eighth grade, have all been opportunities to see God's hand at work. We look forward to what the Lord will do next year.

### Genesis: Paradise Lost

TCS students (3rd-8th) enjoyed the adventure of seeing the newly released movie, "Genesis: Paradise Lost," at the theater in Rancho San Diego on November 13th. We very much appreciated that Eric Hovind, one of the producers, spoke to the entire school the preceding week. The students and staff thoroughly enjoyed his dynamic presentation!

### Operation Christmas Child

Trinity Church and TCS collected 198 boxes for Operation Christmas Child this year. Thank you to all who participated in sharing the gospel

around the world through this gift giving event. All for the Glory of God!

### ACSI Conference

The teaching staff of TCS attended the annual Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) conference that was held in Anaheim on November 27th. The keynote speakers included John Stonestreet, Kim Bearden, and Josh McDowell. The breakout sessions hosted exceptional speakers and information from around the country.

### Student Christmas Programs

December brings the fun and excitement of the Christmas season as we remember the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. TCS students will present five separate Christmas programs resulting in hundreds of guests filling seats in Williams Hall and the sanctuary throughout the advent season. We have five programs because there are not enough parking places for the number of family members who attend.

The following are dates and times of the presentations:

#### Preschool Program

December 1st • 6:30 p.m.  
Williams Hall

#### Kindergarten - Second Grade Program

December 4th • 6:30 p.m.  
Williams Hall

#### Third - Fifth Grade Program

December 5th • 6:30 p.m.  
Williams Hall

#### Sixth - Eighth Grade Program

December 12th • 6:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary

#### All School Program

December 8th • 10:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary

*This program is for the county-wide Presbyterian Women annual December meeting.*

### School Vacation

School will be closed December 18, 2017 through January 2, 2018 in honor of Jesus' birth. May the Lord bless you in this time of rejoicing in Him and may you in turn find opportunity to bless others in His name.

*"Rejoice in the Lord always... again I say rejoice!"*



**Sharon Axe**  
*Principal*



**Jimmie Drummond**  
*Principal*



## It's a Rare Thing ...

**W**e now move into the Christmas season after a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for all God has done for us throughout the year. I love Christmas – Jesus came that we might have abundant life.

Because of Jesus, 2017 has been abundant for me. I love working at Trinity Church. The challenges have been such that my faith and trust have grown. God has shown His goodness to me in so many ways.

I recently had an occasion to welcome a photographer, Arne, from Berlin, Germany to Trinity Church. He was photographing “modernist” churches throughout Europe and North America. Our sanctuary is a classic example of this kind of architecture. Having had German grandparents and having traveled throughout Germany including Berlin, I was thrilled to show Arne our sanctuary and converse a bit in German. After he returned to Berlin, he emailed me. Here is an excerpt

from his email – “...it’s a rare thing that I experience such enthusiasm and faith at the same time - so really thanks again for your warm welcome.”

I was glad I blessed him, but that he rarely experienced faith and enthusiasm at the same time came as a shock. How can we have faith and not enthusiasm? The apostles had so much enthusiasm surrounding their faith in Jesus that they drew others to that same faith. Are we so “comfortable” in our faith that we no longer have the enthusiasm to draw others to Jesus? I pray that our enthusiasm grows brighter into 2018 so others will know the love, grace, and mercy of our Jesus!

### Website is Redesigned

On a completely different note, I hope you have had a chance to check out the redesigned Trinity Church website. We have introduced a blog, we are hoping to have online giving available to you in early 2018, and the site is

now more compatible with mobile devices.

### Mission Trip to Lesbos, Greece

Anyone who is interested in serving the refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos in mid-September 2018 has until December 31, 2017 to let me know. We have four confirmed people going. We need at least two more. Please call or email me with any questions you may have regarding this trip.

### Thanksgiving Dinner 2017

Below is a short report on our Thanksgiving Dinner we had at Trinity Church on Thanksgiving Day. I want to publicly thank Dave and Mishon Wallace for spearheading this event in my absence. We plan to continue this Thanksgiving tradition in 2018.

**Rebecca DeBrau**

*Director of Discipleship & Outreach*

*rdebreau@trinitypres.org*

*619-465-3011 x107*

## Thank you!

Thank you to all who stayed on Sunday to help decorate Williams Hall and the sanctuary. We enjoyed a delicious potluck, decorated, and had some yummy desserts. Both rooms look very festive and ready for Advent. It wouldn't have been possible without so many helping hands.

## Trinity Church's Thanksgiving Dinner

**Trinity Church served 28 members, friends, and guests a fantastic Thanksgiving feast.**

**My special thank you to Venita Barry, Barb Hughes and Mishon Wallace, who prepared the turkeys, set the table and had everything ready.**

**– David Wallace**

## CLIPPERS

Saturday • December 15<sup>th</sup>



**Please join us for our annual Christmas program!**

This will be a fun-filled evening, with Christmas songs, wrapped gift exchange (homemade or \$5 purchase), Secret Pal ornament, and much more.

We meet at 4:45 p.m. for a fantastic 5:00 p.m. potluck dinner. **This is one hour earlier than normal.**

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

Please contact Norma Mondeck or Julie Wolfe at 619-466-2367 for further information.

## Presbyterian Women

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

December 5 | 9:30 a.m. - Board Meeting • Ward Center

December 8 | **The Gathering of all Presbyterian Women in S.D. County**

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

10:30 a.m. **Musical Program • Sanctuary**  
*Trinity Christian School*

12:00 p.m. Luncheon & Final Fall Festival Sale

**All women are invited!**

**Cost is \$9.00 with lunch by Don Axe**

December 19 | 9:30 a.m. Circle 1 and 2 Christmas Meeting • TBA\*

6:00 p.m. Circle 3 Christmas Meeting •  
Debbie Torres' home

**Note:** NO Gathering on December 12th.

\*Circle 1 and 2 Christmas Meeting is to be announced at a later date.

Join Us on Wednesday Evenings!

# Building Community @ TRINITY CHURCH



Please RSVP by Monday at 2:00 p.m. Call Yasmin at 619.465.3011

\$6.00 per person | \$20.00 maximum per family

- 5:00 p.m. Gathering Time
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. Intergenerational Interaction
- 6:30 p.m. Split off into appropriate age-related programs

Check out the schedule for the Youth Group on page 3!

### Age-Related Programs

#### Kids Kingdom

Preschool - 4th Grade  
Nursery

#### Youth Group

5th - 12th Grade  
Youth Room

#### Adults

Williams Hall

*“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything, and may provide in abundance for every good work.”*  
2 Corinthians 9:8

**D**ear Trinity Family - God does indeed bless Trinity Church - here on our hill and in the community as we reach out. Thank you to everyone who took the time to return your pledge card for 2018. Every reply is valuable to us. 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 2018.

Soon I will be sending out a statement of your giving for 2017. Please take time to review your statement. Contact me as soon as possible if there are any changes or corrections. The offering envelopes for 2018 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 2017, I would encourage you to catch up before December 31st. Have a wonderful December.

In Hope and Faith,

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

	<b>October 2017 Final</b>	<b>November 2017</b> (As of 11/22/17)	<b>Year to Date 2017</b>
<b>BUDGETED INCOME</b>	\$32,762.80	\$32,762.80	\$360,390.76
<b>ACTUAL INCOME</b>	\$38,646.01	\$23,092.51	\$372,704.39
<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	\$ 5,883.21	<b>- \$ 9,670.29</b>	\$ 12,313.63
<b>CURRENT EXPENSE</b>	\$22,014.54	\$26,004.08	\$300,054.62
<b>INCOME - EXPENSE</b>	\$16,631.47	<b>- \$ 2,911.57</b>	\$ 72,649.77

## Trinity Staff

**James Wilson • Interim Pastor** | jim@trinitypres.org

**Victoria Browne**  
*Hand Bell Director*  
xlittledrummergirlx@gmail.com

**Rebecca Casey**  
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*Director of Discipleship*  
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**Russ Douglass**  
*Youth Director*  
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**Yasmin Hampton**  
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*Facilities Maintenance*  
caleb@trinitypres.org

**Shirley Woodson**  
*Organist*

**Krista Young**  
*Children's Ministry Director*  
krista@trinitypres.org





**We would love you to  
join us during this  
Christmas season!**

**Weekly Sunday Worship:**  
9:30 a.m.

**Christmas Worship  
with Special Music:**  
Sunday, December 10th  
9:30 a.m.

**Christmas Eve Services:**  
Sunday, December 24th  
9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**Check out our website,  
for more information  
about Trinity Church!**  
[www.trinitypres.org](http://www.trinitypres.org)

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