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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
September 24, 2018

Words from Our Pastor

My summer reading has included another book by author Phillip Yancey. Yancey is the author of an incredibly significant book entitled ***What's So Amazing about Grace?*** From what I have read, this book is one of – if not the most – poignant treatments of the concept of Grace. Grace has been described as unmerited favor, unearned mercy, God's loving kindness, and **God's Riches At Christ's Expense**. Grace is an idea or concept that is unique to Christianity.

Jesus demonstrated God's grace – loving outcasts, healing diseases, feeding the hungry, opening the eyes of the blind, valuing those who were deemed to be of no value, and forgiving the sins of people – at the cost of his own life on the cross. Jesus showed us what grace is all about and then called his followers to be people of grace.

Four years ago Yancey completed another book about grace entitled ***Vanishing Grace: What Ever Happened to the Good News?*** Sadly, in the later book Yancey focuses on the fact that the Amazing Grace of Jesus Christ seems to have vanished from many churches in America.

"Jesus came into this world," as John writes in his Gospel account (see John 1:1-14), "and we beheld his glory, the glory of the one and only Son of God, full of **grace and truth.**"

Yancey points out that for several reasons – fear, lack of love (sometimes even overt hatred), self-seeking motives, deep rooted prejudices, and a lack of trust in God's sovereignty – many Christians in America today appear to be "full of truth" but "short on grace." We do not have to compromise what we hold to be true in order to be people of grace, but too often we compromise grace in order to stick to our convictions.

Same-sex relationships are not consistent with God's intention in creation, but despising or rejecting or even outright hostility towards those who affirm them is not consistent with grace. Placing a high value on the sanctity of life affirms the glory of God's creation, but venomous words and anger toward those who do not affirm this value lack grace. Welcoming strangers from other nations – just as Israel was commanded to do – expresses the love and heart of God and is an act of generous hospitality. But, seeing immigrants as people to be feared, as those who will take what we don't want to give, or by labeling all immigrants as a threat to our security is a failure to be persons of grace.

Grace may be amazing and world-changing but, to borrow the phrase from Dietrich Bonhoeffer – a German theologian and pastor martyred by the Nazis,



Jim Wilson
Interim Pastor

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Words from Our Pastor

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it must not be “cheap grace.” Cheap grace “is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline. Communion without confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ.”

In other words, Cheap Grace seeks the benefits of Christian faith without willingly embracing the cost – the cost of following Jesus in living and speaking and acting as people of grace.

You and I are on a journey of faith and called to be grace givers to one another as we join in worship and study and as we build a community of faith. And to others – our neighbors and friends (even those with whom we strongly disagree), people immigrating to and settling in El Cajon, and those who lack fresh water and sanitary bathrooms.

As we journey together let’s help one another be people who, like Jesus, are full of grace and truth.

Pastor Jim

NEW Precept Bible Study Begins October 1, 2018

COLOSSIANS & PHILEMON

GAINING A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST SO NO ONE DELUDES YOU!

Plus TITUS DEVELOPING CHARACTER & INTEGRITY IN THE MIDST OF A SOCIETY WHICH HAS LOST RESPECT FOR GOD

MONDAYS: 9:30-11:30 a.m. AND 6:30-8:30 p.m.

COLOSSIANS AND PHILEMON • What does it mean to be “complete in Christ”? Is Christ your “all in all” - does He meet all your needs? Don’t let anyone delude you with manmade philosophies or traditions that contradict the Word of God.

Colossians is filled with rich and abundant treasures of truth — treasures that will keep us from error if we give ourselves to diligent and careful study. As you begin this course, stop and count the cost. If you don’t do it now, you will not be prepared for Satan’s subtle allurements, devices, distractions, deceptions, and discouragements which will slip in to keep you from completing this study.

The message of Colossians exposes what is going on in Christianity today and causes you to focus on the source of all life; therefore, the enemy of your soul wants to keep you ignorant of the wonderful mystery revealed in this book.

TITUS • How do you live with integrity in a nation without morals? Can the church effectively engage and change this destructive condition in our society? How does your life reflect your faith? You can change the culture into which God has called you.

This is study is open to both men and women!

We have three dedicated facilitators along with a wonderful video teaching that will help bring these three books to life!

Feel free to contact Bobette Barfod, Linda Hensley, or Rebecca DeBreau for more information.

The cost is \$25 for your study guide.

With an Awesome Summer Behind Us, Kids' Kingdom Begins Soon!

Monday, July 23rd, our Hero Central Vacation Bible School (VBS) began. We had more than 75 children every day and also had an amazing group of volunteers. The week was spent learning that we are God's heroes, and He has equipped us with some pretty amazing superpowers. The days began with worship, followed by our Bible lesson of the day, and some pretty tasty snacks! The kids also spent the week bringing in their change to raise money for The Shoe That Grows. Through videos and stories, the kids were really able to understand how blessed they are with something as simple as a pair of shoes. The kids made a goal at the

beginning of the week to raise \$1500, enough to purchase 100 pairs of shoes. With their collection and thanks to the generous donations from the congregation, they were able to raise a total of \$1524! I would like to extend my deepest thanks to each and every one of you who volunteered countless hours of time and showcased your amazing talents. I COULDN'T have done this without you!

Kids' Kingdom Begins

As we look forward to the fall we will be starting off with Kids' Kingdom. The decision was made to break it into two sessions this year with the first one running from September 19th –

December 19th. The second session will pick back up after the holidays. The kids will meet from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. for homework help, Bible study, crafts, and more. Thanks to a very generous donation we will be able to offer the program free of charge this year, what an amazing gift! I am still in need of volunteers in all areas to help make this program a success. Please contact me if you feel led to help or have any further questions.

Krista Young

Children's Ministry Director

krista@trinitypres.org

619-465-3011 x104

Youth Group

Summer: Never a Dull Moment! Now School Begins!

Summer has been a blast for the Trinity Youth group, from pool parties, to adventures in camping, to Knott's Berry Farm, we have rarely had a dull moment. We even have gotten on board the social media train! Follow us on Instagram: tygyouth, or like and follow our Facebook page: Trinity Youth Group.

We have been collaborating a lot with another youth group from the Cloud 9 Worship Center, and hope to do some

more combined events with nearby church youth groups.

As School Starts

With fall coming soon, we ask for your prayers over the kids as they return to school, as well as prayers for new kids who will be joining our group this school year. Please be on the lookout for upcoming fundraisers and events from our group!

Katrena Roberts

Youth Ministries Director

katrena@trinitypres.org

619-465-3011 x111

A New School Year Begins

As we look to the school year ahead, we are reminded of God's faithfulness to us in the past. His outstretched hand of mercy and grace gives us assurances for the future.

School will start on the fourth of September with our annual meet and greet family bar-b-que. We will welcome twenty-three new students. There will be approximately 200 preschool through eighth grade students enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year. We will also welcome

several new staff members. Mr. Joe Burke will be our new coach. Ms. Chelsea Picksly will be teaching middle school English. Mr. Jonathan Macintyre will be teaching one of the middle school math classes and Bible. He will also carry the responsibility of middle school chapel and service events. Mrs. Cynthia Tarpy will be returning as an assistant teacher.

Trinity Christian School serves the surrounding community by providing

a strong academic program with a Biblical worldview. Over fifty different churches are represented. The parents have chosen to invest in God's kingdom through the next generation. Please continue to pray for Trinity Church's school. It is truly a backyard mission. Thank you for your faithful support.

Sharon Axe
Principal

Jimmie Drummond
Principal



Trinity Christian School Staff • 2018 - 2019 School Year

Fall Kicks Off with our Wednesday Night Bible Study and “Building Bridges with Our Muslim Neighbors”

With fall coming Trinity Church ramps up with a whole range of wonderful options for spiritual growth. One of my favorites is our Wednesday night **Building Community**, where we get together for a potluck dinner and a great Bible Study.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Beginning September 12th, we will start with a study through Philippians, *Living the Contented Life*, led by Kirk Drummond. Kirk has a God-given talent for leading us into God’s word, bringing out new insights along with time-tested truths of which we need to be reminded.

Come join us for a wonderful potluck dinner, connect with old friends and make new ones, and learn from the Word of God.

Building Bridges

The summer has been quite busy with planning for the upcoming **Building Bridges with Our Muslim Neighbors** program. Beginning September 24th and ending October 6th, this unique immersion and outreach into Muslim culture is so much bigger than anyone anticipated. The deadline for applications is September 7th, so there is still time to apply at this printing. If you are unable to attend, please consider praying for:

- **The participants** - Pray we will have the number of participants we need. Pray that each participant comes away with a deeper understanding of Muslims and refugees, and that they will have concrete ways they can serve our Muslim neighbors.

- **The instructors/panelists** - Pray over the instructors and panelists. Pray that they will be led by God to teach us what we need to hear personally and corporately.
- **The staff** - Pray that we will be able to see what God is doing and respond, and that we will stay focused on Jesus rather than be anxious about results. Pray for Pastor Jim as he helps us traverse this new path.
- **Everyone involved** - Pray for both physical and spiritual well-being for everyone involved!

Summer Thoughts

Throughout this summer, I found God honing in on one topic – loving everyone without inhibition, insecurity, or restriction. In the U.S., we are concerned about justice. Justice punishes evil – it is part of our worldview. We see God as a just God. But what about mercy and grace? Could any of us be Jesus-followers without God’s incredible mercy and grace? I am learning that something beyond justice needs to take place in my heart. Jesus forgave all His enemies in spite of the physical and emotional pain He experienced.

Jesus said we were to love our enemies and pray for those who mistreat us. Some who perceive Syrian refugees as enemies have questioned our plan to reach out to them. Others have had concerns about our physical safety – we could get hurt by the refugees.

This summer, I grew in the knowledge that I am to love and serve all the

world – enemies or friends. This is not just for missionaries; this is for all who call themselves Christians. If Christians around the world are willing to give their lives to serve others in the name of Jesus, then I certainly can serve an unreached people group down the street where I am more likely to get hurt in a car crash than endure physical harm from a refugee.

English Camp

A few of us had the opportunity to put this love into practice. For one week in August, five members of Trinity Church helped transport more than 35 Syrian refugee children between the ages of 10 and 15 from El Cajon to an English camp held at College Avenue Baptist Church. The camp was put on by a Christian nonprofit that is focused on Muslim refugees in San Diego. We all had an opportunity to converse with our students a bit and get a snapshot of refugee life. We found ourselves loving these dear children who have been through so much trauma in their young lives.

What Can You Do?

Consider praying for Syrian refugees, especially if you have anything but love for them. Pray that they would know God’s love. Pray that we would grow in love for all who have been created in God’s image including Muslims. In praying allow God’s love to cover you and let it flow to those around you.

Rebecca DeBrau
 Director of Discipleship,
 Communication & Missions
 rdebreau@trinitypres.org
 619-465-3011 x107

CLIPPERS

**Saturday
September 15th**

Featuring
Natalie's Friends

"Natalie's Friends" is a ladies singing trio accompanied by piano and trumpet. Their recent performance of American favorites at Mount Miguel Covenant Village was wildly acclaimed.

We meet at 12:45 p.m. for a fantastic 1:00 p.m. potluck dinner. GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

Please contact Pat Palmore at 619-444-6736 or Lois Moravec at 619-741-2005 for further information.

Presbyterian Women

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

September 4 | 9:30 a.m. Board Meeting • Ward Center

September 11 | The Gathering • Williams Hall

9:30 a.m. Bible Study with Linda Hensley

10:30 a.m. Business Meeting

11:00 a.m. **Pastor Jim Wilson**

Interim Pastor of Trinity Church

12:00 p.m. Luncheon by Circle One

September 18 | 9:30 a.m. Crafts • Ward Center

Circle 3 • No meeting in September. Next meeting is October 16th!

September 25 | 9:30 a.m. Circle 1 and 2 • Ward Center

September 29 | 9:00 a.m. Sewing/Quilting

October 6 | 8:00 a.m. Rummage Sale • Williams Hall

Starting Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Building Community @ TRINITY CHURCH

Our Mid-Week Gatherings Continue with

PHILIPPIANS **Living the
Contented Life**

We will continue our potluck format - details soon!

Dear Trinity Family!

“Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.” Psalm 29:2

God’s grace has seen us through another summer, and it’s exciting to look forward to what the Lord has in store for us this fall. Through your faithfulness, He has blessed us consistently, and met Trinity’s every need.

Soon we will begin our annual time of Stewardship and set the budget for 2019. Please be in prayer for how you will share your Time, Talents, and Treasures with your Trinity Church family. Please also join the Finance Committee in prayer as we seek the Lord’s plan for Trinity Church in the coming year.

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

	July 2018 Final	August 2018 (As of 8/27/18)	Year to Date 2018
BUDGETED INCOME	\$ 35,291.51	\$ 35,291.51	\$ 280,223.08
ACTUAL INCOME	\$ 34,051.93	\$ 25,659.19	\$ 216,272.74
DIFFERENCE	– \$ 1,239.58	– \$ 9,632.32	–\$ 18,114.34
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$ 36,704.16	\$ 14,322.00	\$255,940.82
INCOME – EXPENSE	– \$ 2,652.85	\$ 11,337.19	\$ 6,276.92

Trinity Staff

James Wilson • Interim Pastor | jim@trinitypres.org

Don Axe
Facilities Maintenance
 don@trinitypres.org

Victoria Browne
Hand Bell Director
 xlittledrummergirlx@gmail.com

Rebecca Casey
Financial Administrator
 rebecca@trinitypres.org

Bill Coe
Director of Music/Worship Leader
 billcoe1@cox.net

Rebecca DeBreau
*Director of Discipleship,
 Communications and Missions*
 rdebreau@trinitypres.org

Patty Mason
Secretary/Receptionist
 patty@trinitypres.org

Katrena Roberts
Youth Ministries Director
 katrena@trinitypres.org

Shirley Woodson
Organist

Krista Young
Children’s Ministry Director
 krista@trinitypres.org

Trinity Church
Community
RUMMAGE SALE

3902 Kenwood Drive, Spring Valley

Saturday, October 6, 2018

8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

SAVE THE DATE



**Children's items, clothes, jewelry,
dishes, furniture books, and any
other gently used items**

Please bring donations to church
on Friday October 5, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

**Request items be clean & furniture no
larger than midsize**

Trinity Church
Presbyterian Women
FALL FESTIVAL

3902 Kenwood Drive, Spring Valley

Saturday, November 3, 2018

12:00 Noon to 5:00PM

Crafts, Plants & Food Fair
Kids Carnival Games

Beautiful Handcrafted Quilt
Opportunity Drawing

Desserts, Breads, Cakes, Pies
Cookies, Jams, Jellies & Candy

Lunch
Famous Homemade Soup
Salad, Sandwiches & Beverage



3902 Kenwood Dr.
Spring Valley, CA 91977

