

# A Place to Belong

### March 2018

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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 March 25, 2018

# **Beyond Sunday Morning**

"So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing." | Thessalonians 5:11 (NLT)

s I pondered the meaning behind these words written by Paul to the Thessalonian church I was struck by the words "... just as you are already doing." Paul knew that the church was already encouraging and building each other up, but he also must have known that we all need to be reminded. A reminder of the importance of encouragement took place Valentine's Day as the office staff held a very special luncheon for the office volunteers to thank them for helping the office to run smoothly by doing many important tasks including answering phones and getting the weekly bulletins ready.

Headed up by Yasmin Hampton, using her amazing gift of hospitality, guests were welcomed to a beautifully decorated room. A delicious lunch was prepared by Don Axe and served by the office staff. It was a wonderful example of just what Paul was telling the Thessalonians to do. It was evident that there is a great team of staff and volunteers working together. I believe that as Christians minister

to each other encouraging each other and building each other up in the faith, God transforms our lives to help us be more like Jesus. The Sunday morning church service is the best way to start the week but I believe it's just the "kick-off" for living out the rest of the week in faithful obedience and surrender to the Lord. I





recently heard the idea that "God uses circles to transform lives." I have known this to be true in my own life by being involved in small groups of believers that meet during the week.

Paul knew that life change happens when we walk in the power of God's Spirit as he encouraged the Thessalonians to do. Our church has great small groups to be involved in throughout the week that help us to become more spiritually mature. As these groups meet, we become more aware that God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

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# **Words from Our Pastor**

arch! It means the start of Spring Training for major league baseball and March Madness playoffs leading to the finals in NCAA Basketball.

It also means we are in the heart of the season of Lent – the six weeks leading up to the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Earlier this morning, I read a daily devotional that asked the question, "What difference does the resurrection of Jesus make to you?" That is a significant and thought-provoking question. What difference does this truly unique event make in my life, in the ways I trust God, in the ways I seek to bless others, and in my confidence that in life and in death I belong to God?

For the Apostle Paul (he was called Saul at the time), who, while traveling from Jerusalem to Damascus, was confronted by the risen Jesus. It meant a life-changing encounter that set the course of the rest of his earthly life. Jesus challenged Saul's focus on persecuting those who followed him. He equated persecution of the church with persecution and dishonor of Jesus himself. He asserted that he was, by the power of his resurrection, the Lord of all.

But there is another interesting thing disclosed to Saul that is recorded in Acts 9:16. The Lord sends Ananias to go to Saul (who is now in Damascus, still blind and neither eating or drinking since his encounter with Jesus) to care for Saul and encourage him, to lay hands on him, and to pray for Saul to be filled with the Spirit of God. God also uses Ananias to "show him (Saul) how much he must suffer for my name."

How is it that I never noticed these words? Here's Saul who becomes Paul, transformed by the risen Lord Jesus, chosen by him to proclaim the gospel to the Gentiles, and then told he will suffer

immensely – beatings, shipwrecks,



Jim Wilson Interim Pastor

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imprisonment, loss of human prestige and status, forgoing marriage, being mocked, and threatened with death.

What made the Apostle Paul willing and able to live out this calling? It was the assurance that, because of the resurrection of Jesus, the effort and suffering and sacrifices were not in vain (See 1 Corinthians 15:58). Paul was faithful – even in the face of severe difficulties – because of his confidence in the risen Lord Jesus.

May the Holy Spirit fill you with this same confidence through this Lenten season and always.

**Pastor Jim** 

## **Upcoming Events for Easter**

#### **MARCH 24TH · SATURDAY**

Serv-o-lution 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch is included. Help get the church campus ready for Easter. More information to come.

MARCH 27TH – 30TH TUESDAY – FRIDAY Prayer Walk - Williams Hall

Noon to 7:00 p.m.

### MARCH 30TH · FRIDAY

Good Friday Service Sanctuary • 7:00 p.m.

### APRIL 1ST • EASTER SUNDAY

Services Sunrise Service Out by the rocks • 6:30 a.m. Regular Service Sanctuary • 9:30 a.m.

## Exotic Plant Society

We will meet Tuesday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m. in Williams Hall.

### All visitors are welcome.

Come discuss how to grow any kind of plant successfully. We also have a plant exchange. Please call Jackie Van Dyne or Julanna Loveberg for more information.

# Kid's Kingdom Changes

ver the last several months, we've gathered together on Wednesday evenings during Building Community. We've spent time learning about prayer, doing some amazing crafts, and sharing God's word on a personal level. Unfortunately, we've had low attendance due to the late hour.

I'm excited to announce that Kid's

Kingdom will be returning to its after-school time slot beginning Wednesday, March 7th! The children will gather from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. for homework help, Bible study, games, and more.

Parents will be encouraged stay for our potluck dinner and accompanying Bible study after picking up their children. Additional childcare will be provided in the nursery for those parents who wish to attend the Bible study. For more information or questions please contact me.

#### **Krista Young**

Children's Ministry Director

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### **Youth Group**

# Youth Group is Ready for Action

ebruary was a great month for the youth group! We got our new TV and game system, a foosball table, and new curtains! Many a game was played, and we have talked about topics like kindness, boasting in the Lord, and love.

This past Friday, we had our first movie night. Some events coming up will be a **Girl's Night In** on March 16th! I will be having a little hang out at my house for any 5th-8th grade girls who want to have some fun! We will be doing what girls do best: painting nails, watching movies, talking, and playing games (more details to come).

A **Pancake Breakfast,** with special homemade sausage, will be held in Williams Hall on Sunday, March 25th, right after the church service. All donations will go towards the youth group. Thank you for your support, and here's to another great month!

### Katrena Roberts

Youth Ministries Director

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### Beyond Sunday Morning Continued from page 1

In the "Becoming a Contagious Christian" study, we are praying for people in our lives that are not yet believers and for those we know who have wandered away from the faith. Each of us is keeping a list and praying daily with the goal of inviting them to Trinity Church for our Easter service on April 1st. Easter is a time that many people are open to coming to church, so let's pray and ask God for the opportunity to extend an invitation to them.

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us." Ephesians 3:20 (NIV)

> Kirk Drummond Elder, Adult Discipleship

Don Axe made the food for our "Thank You" lunch. Yasmin did the set up and organized it all.



# Serv-a-thon Update

e are excited to be half way through our Serve-a-thon event for 2018! We will be collecting donations through March.

From the funds raised for Trinity Christian School (TCS), we will tithe to Rancho Sordo Mudo, a residential school/orphanage located in Mexico which hosts deaf children. This mission has been supported for many years through Trinity Church. We were wonderfully blessed to have Luke Everett and his son, Josh, come to speak eloquently and enthusiastically to our TCS students the week before the Serve-a-thon kick-off.



In spite of the rain downpour minutes before the students ventured out, they had amazing experiences

serving others in the name of our Lord. While serving in the community, they all wore their bright green Servea-thon shirts that let people know what they were about and who sent them out.

The preschoolers collected and delivered food to the Ronald McDonald House pantry. Families of sick children staying at Rady's Children's Hospital for treatment find a home away from home there. It was precious seeing the small ones carry their bags of food into the facility and to hear them singing "Jesus Loves Me" as it echoed through the entryway. They were so happy to be helping others. The kindergarten class packed Blessing Bags for the homeless. They collected items such as combs, toothbrushes, shampoo, tissues, and granola bars to be given to those in need. We want to give a special word of thanks to Peggy Watkins, who crocheted 40 caps, and Sue Walters, who made hand wipes to be included in the Blessing Bags!



First grade students wrote heartfelt letters and drawings for our military. They will be distributed through MOM's (Military Outreach Ministry) contacted through Trinity Church.



Second grade braved the cold wind during their beach clean-up project. The lifeguard thanked them and stood with them to have a picture taken.



The third grade visited Country Manor which is a rest home in La Mesa. They met the residents, shared a snack and made crafts together. They then proceeded to a nearby park to clean it up and enjoy their lunch.

The fourth grade class stayed here on campus and pulled weeds, scrubbed the cement around the quad area, and washed the legs of all the chairs in Williams Hall. They also plan to plant flowers around the grounds.

The fifth grade students traveled to Stanford Court rest home located in Santee. They sang to the residents and later danced with them. They brought games to play and enjoyed having conversations.



Continued on page 6

# **New Projects and Connections**

ebruary was filled with new projects and new connections with people. Rebecca Casey, with the help of the Finance Committee, spearheaded the online giving research, especially with regard to the backend administration. I had the opportunity to review the design and communication aspects of various service organizations.

Vanco is the service provider we have contracted with to provide online banking services to Trinity Church. I had the pleasure of working through how to best link our website to the service and how our giving page through Vanco would look. Online giving is off to a great start! I am impressed with how easy setting up my monthly giving was using this tool.

One of the highlights of the month was the opportunity to spend some quality time connecting with Betty Smith's daughter and son-in-law, Sandy and Randy Moyer. As a church, we are helping support their son, Chris Moyer, who is headed to France with his family in the very near future. Randy and Sandy are missionaries to France also. This country is considered the most difficult mission field in Western Europe.



Some years ago, Randy and Sandy planted a church in Saint-Etienne (check out the map). This amazing couple continues to serve God in spite of significant health issues for both of them. Their perseverance is paying off – their church has grown significantly in the last few years. The congregation is made up primarily of young families (with lots of children) from various ethnic backgrounds.

March will be filled with planning for Easter. The most significant project for me will be the 2018 Prayer Walk (the Labyrinth). As I began planning for this year's event, I wondered if I'd be able to create a whole new experience this year. I am truly excited about this upcoming walk – it will be completely different, but hopefully as memorable as Prayer Walk 2017.

The 2018 Prayer Walk will begin Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, and continue through Good Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 7:00 p.m. in Williams Hall. If you are interested in helping set up the walk on Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, take it all down on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, or would like to help welcome visitors, please contact me at the church office by phone, or email me. I would greatly appreciate your help.

Soon, we will have postcards with all our Easter information for you to pass along to your friends, family, neighbors, and strangers. Easter is a wonderful time for others to see what God is doing at Trinity Church and to be transformed by Jesus.

#### Rebecca DeBreau

Director of Communications, Discipleship and Missions

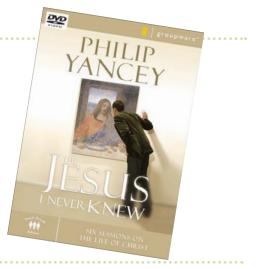
> rdebreau@trinitypres.org 619-465-3011 x107

# Starting March 12, 2018

### In Pastor's January blog, he recommended studying Philip Yancy's book, "The Jesus I Never Knew."

Come join us for this 6-week study which includes video teaching on the book! The class starts March 12th and ends April 30th.

Monday morning • 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. **OR** Monday evening • 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



## **CLIPPERS**

Saturday • March 17th

Our speaker is Leigh Taylor

### He will update us on his work as an urban missionary.

We meet at 5:45 p.m. for a fantastic 6:00 p.m. potluck dinner. GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

Please contact Debbie Torres at 619-916-7803 or Venita Barry at 619-698-4545 for more information.

# **Presbyterian Women**

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

March 6	9:30 a.m Board Meeting • Ward Center		
March 13	The Gathering • Williams Hall		
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study	
	10:30 a.m.	Business Meeting	
	11:00 a.m.	Child Evangelism	
		Anne Hockstead	
	12:00 p.m.	Luncheon by Circle One	
March 20	9:30 a.m.	Crafts • Ward Center	
	6:30 p.m.	Circle 3 • Debbie Torres' home	
March 27	9:30 a.m.	Circle 1 and 2 • Pat Palmore's Home	
March 31	9:00 a.m.	Last Saturday Sewing/Quilting Ward Center	

## Serv-a-thon Update Continued from page 4

The sixth and seventh grade students went to the home of a Trinity Church member to clean up his property and then deliver what was cleared to the dump. We had such a large crowd of helpers that the event went faster than expected.



The eighth grade students prepared eight meals to be given to four of Trinity Church's widowers who live alone. They enthusiastically prepared, packaged, and delivered the meals to their eager recipients. One gentleman shared his testimony with the students. Another shared his woodworking skills and gifted the students with one of his projects.



Both those who served and those who received were blessed. Thank you to those who have already donated to the Serve-a-thon. Thank you for your prayers for TCS. **Tax deductible donations for the this event will be accepted through March.** 

### **Our Korean Students**

Our Korean students departed Tuesday, February 27th. It was a wonderful crosscultural experience for all involved. We pray for their continued educational growth and for their spiritual development.

### The Speech Meet

Each TCS student participates in a schoolwide speech meet. You are welcome to attend this event on March 15th in Williams Hall starting at 8:45 a.m. The top scoring students will attend the annual ACSI Speech meet that occurs off campus on April 27th.

### **Our Easter Break**

The school will be closed from March 26th until April 6th in honor of Easter, the rebirth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We pray that your lives will be filled with God's mercy, grace, and love. "ALLELUIA ... HE IS RISEN ... HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

Sharon Axe	Jimmie Drummond
Principal	Principal

### **Greetings, Trinity Family!**

n January and February, God has been good to us. All of our financial obligations have been met including our missionary donations.

With the help of Pastor Wilson and the Finance Committee, the budget for 2018 has been accepted by the Session, and was presented in the annual congregational meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>. If you want a copy of the Annual Report for 2017, please email or call me in the church office. I am grateful for the watchful eye and knowledgeable guidance of the Finance Committee; Robert Hensley and Dave Van Dyne. I also want to thank our friend Bob Klaiber who has served as a valuable member of the Finance Committee for many years.

I am happy to announce that we now offer online and mobile giving! You can give online right from a link on our website, <u>www.trinitypres.org</u>. If you have any guestions about online or mobile giving, feel free to contact me by phone or email in the church office.

Blessings to you all as we look forward to another wonderful year at Trinity Chuch.

### Rebecca Casey

Financial Administrator

rebecca@trinitypres.org 619-465-3011 x108

	January 2017 Final	<b>February 2018</b> (As of 2/22/18)	Year to Date 2018	
BUDGETED INCOME	\$34,291.51	\$34,291.51	\$68,583.02	
ACTUAL INCOME	\$51,425.22	\$17,742.52	\$69,167.74	
DIFFERENCE	\$17,133.71	-\$16,548.99	\$ 584.72	
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$47,224.79	\$11,779.23	\$59,004.02	
INCOME – EXPENSE	\$4,200.43	\$ 5,963.29	\$10,163.72	

# **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 Communications, Discipleship and Missions rdebreau@trinitypres.org

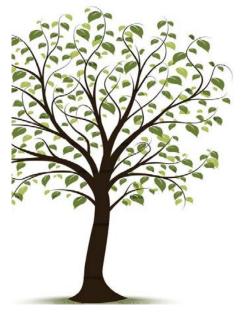
Yasmin Hampton Office Administrator yasmin@trinitypres.org

Katrena Roberts Youth Ministries Director katrena@trinitypres.org



Shirley Woodson Organist

Krista Young Children's Ministry Director krista@trinitypres.org **SAVE THE DATE** April 27, 28 & 29, **The Annual Women's Retreat** 





# with Dr. Karen Boden

### at Pine Valley Christian Conference Center

Cost	Early Registration	<b>\$140</b> (by March 25th)
	General Registration	\$150 (after March 25th)
	Saturday Only	\$ 55
	Deposit required	\$ 25

Sign up with Barbara Wells before and after Sunday service.

3902 Kenwood Dr. Spring Valley, CA 91977

