



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 2021

Words from Our Pastor



Rev. Brent Barclay
Pastor

Hello Everyone!

We are here in a new year – 2021. It’s human nature to desire new things, to get rid of the old, and bring in the new. 2020 has been a year to remember for many difficult reasons, as well as new things. I think the common consensus among people is that 2020 was a bad year, and we should look forward to a new year, one that hopefully will be better than the last.

2020 was a trying year for everyone. Covid-19 forced us to stop our normal routines and practices and adapt to a world of words like “social distancing” and “flattening the curve”. We’ve had to meet online rather than in person for the better part of the year, with the date of return unknown. Yes, 2020 was a year of difficult and challenging events.

But 2020 had some good as well! I will always remember 2020 as the year I began at Trinity Church, got to meet all of you, and was ordained as a pastor in this church. I’m sure for you, there are also aspects of 2020 that were good.

As 2020 was a year to move on from, but also one to remember. Truthfully, I find that every year fits that description! But with such a general consensus that 2020 was such a bad year, how as Christians, can we acknowledge that the year was challenging ... but there was some good? How can we look forward with hope, but not totally discard the past?

Psalm 98:1-3 *“Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.”*

I like Psalm 98 as a guide to that dilemma. A new song reflects new thoughts in our hearts and minds. We are not the same people we were a year ago. We are certainly not the same church we were a year ago. A new song mirrors how we view God as we have grown and changed during 2020. We sing how God has done marvelous things (which he has) as we toughed it out through the year.

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REMEMBER! You can see this publication online. 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
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Forty Days of Prayer

“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

Believing this verse wholeheartedly, many at Trinity Church embarked on a 40-day prayer challenge four years ago. We prayed for our friends, our families, and our homes. Most of all we prayed for unity at Trinity Church as we had entered a time of uncertainty with Pastor Randy Yenter’s retirement.

We used the book “Draw the Circle - The 40 Day Prayer Challenge” by Mark Batterson. In chapter 32 we read, *“When God answers a prayer, no matter how big or how small, we need to share it. It’s a stewardship issue. If we don’t turn the answer to prayer into praise, it may very well turn into pride. Giving testimony is the way we give God all the glory. But we also need to share it because others need to hear it. If we don’t share our testimony of how God is working in our lives, then others are tempted to think He isn’t working at all.”*

This article is a testimony of how God worked at Trinity Church as we prayed for His provision. We were in need

of leadership and the Lord answered our prayer by bringing Pastor Jim Wilson. God opened the door and the San Diego Presbytery allowed him to be our interim pastor. He brought the church together in unity as he already had well-established, strong relationships with many church members that had been formed and nurtured over the years.

In another amazing answer to prayer, the Lord brought Pastor Jim Rauch with a seamless leadership transition that again had the church united in purpose. Both of our “Pastor Jims” brought us excellent, Bible-based teaching. They encouraged us to press on in loving God and each other. The Lord also brought several new members that became an active and vital part of Trinity Church. Now, after several years of fervent prayer by our body of believers and the hard work of our Pastor Nominating Committee, the Lord has brought us Pastor Brent Barclay. He indeed is an answer to the prayers of his people. He has a shepherd’s heart, a genuine love for the Lord, and a desire to be used by him.

Four years ago we were praying that the Lord would prepare the heart

of our new pastor and we now see the fruit of that prayer with Pastor Brent. While he was being readied for ministry, God provided two interim pastors that kept the church together in unity through what could have been a very turbulent time. God is so faithful and we can look back and marvel at how he took care of Trinity Church!

It’s not time to stop praying as a church because we have reached the place of having a new pastor. It is time to pray even more fervently as Trinity Church enters into this new season. It is time to pray for the Lord to continue using Trinity Church for his glory. Several years ago, I came upon a saying, *“God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things.”* We can all be used by God in praying for each other and our church. Everyone is invited to join together with the leadership at Trinity Church as we start a 40-day prayer challenge beginning this month. Look for more information coming by email and Sunday morning announcements about how you can get involved.

Kirk Drummond
Discipleship Elder

Words from Our Pastor

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A new song allows us to hope for a better year ahead, acknowledging that God’s salvation has never left us, even in the bad years.

So, as we say goodbye to the last year and say hello to the next, what is your new song to the Lord? How have you changed, and how does that change impact your future?

How has God been unchanging in our ever-changing world, and how has that been shown in your life? Sing a new song to the Lord.

Blessings,
Pastor Brent

Words of Thanksgiving during a Difficult Year

God has shown me that his timing is perfect. He has also given me more boldness in sharing my faith. Praise his faithfulness. *Bob Hensley*

I'm grateful for President Trump's National Day of Prayer on 3/15/20 because I got acquainted with World Outreach Church through which I did their "100 Days of Intentional Faith" which has greatly enriched my relationship with Jesus and helped me stay focused on him rather than the disaster of 2020. *Shirley Woodson*

God has awoken a new love and joy in me through the greetings and encouragement of many Trinity Church members who have spoken up during Zoom services and Bible studies when the sharing time allowed. How wonderful to experience God's care through people in new ways during this unusual year! *Linda Hensley*

I was greatly blessed by permanently moving in with my son Tim and his wife Marie two weeks before Covid-19 shut everything down. I have (human) security I never dreamed possible. Thank you, dear Jesus, for caring for me. *Elsie-Mary Luranc*

We are especially thankful that Bob regained most of his muscle function in his upper arms in 2020. We're also thankful that we've been able to participate in worship via Zoom. *Bob & Shirley Klein*

We are thankful for the slower pace of life, our good health, and that Jon's brother-in-law Ken is safe and comfortable in his Westmont memory care facility. It was a long journey. *Jon & Barb Hughes*

I am thankful for Venus's new home at Westmont and the wonderful staff there, Medicare, young people delivering food to elders, medical workers so cheerful and dedicated, friendly smiles and steel drum music at Trader Joe's, neighborhood friends and walking buddies, picnics with JD and Venus at Briarcrest Park, Zoom, and all the creators of Zoom church, phone calls from Trinity friends, JD's love and cooking, the radiance of the sun, a lung full of fresh air, Vicky - our mail lady, and Jesus caring and watching over us. *Cher Donovan*

My heart is swollen with thankfulness for the Trinity Church family's support of our missionaries and the needy family this season. *Sue Walters*

I'm thankful for Pastor Brent and our unified congregation who waited patiently as we figured out this courtship and wedding ... and did it on Zoom! *Bobette Barford*

A Special Thank You!

We want to thank all those that help make our live Sanctuary Sundays possible. Thanks to Bill and Kathy Coe who worked tirelessly to make the transition to an entirely online live service. They continue to organize and coordinate all the parts and pieces that make our services possible. We so appreciate all the work Pastor Jim Rauch and Elizabeth did to get us acquainted with Zoom. Along with Bill Coe, the other staff members who make church happen are Shirley Woodson, our wonderful organist and Rebecca DeBreau, our Zoom host, who also edits and uploads the videos to YouTube. We also want to thank our volunteers – John Barry, Peggy Watkins, and Jack Plett who help monitor and support the live service, manning the cameras and the switchers. We would not have been able to meet virtually without this amazing team.



Happy New Year!

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

Our Scripture verse for this 2020-21 school year has helped us to focus on prayer, trusting that the Lord is leading us and taking care of each detail needed to keep Trinity Christian School (TCS) thriving even through the very difficult circumstances of a pandemic. Although the school year has looked different with all of the COVID safety protocols needed, the students and staff are happy and so thankful to be teaching and learning in person. Of course, our TCS parents have been beyond grateful to have their children be able to come to school each day in a place where they are nurtured academically, spiritually, emotionally, socially, and physically.

Sharon Axe Retires

We have indeed felt the peace of the Lord guarding our hearts and minds through a big change. Our co-principal, Sharon Richmond-Axe, retired after serving in Christian education for 32 years, many of those years at TCS. We were not able to have a retirement party but are thankful we could have a retirement drive-by parade on Sunday, December 20th in the church parking lot. There were many people who came up to honor Sharon and thank her for serving the Lord through Christian school ministry. The list included current and past TCS students and

staff along with many from the Trinity Church congregation. Sharon will be missed by one and all! We will all be keeping her and Don in prayer for the Lord to lead them on their next adventure with a move out of state to be closer to her precious grandchildren.

Our New Associate Principal

Looking ahead to the new year 2021, beginning in January, Jamie Warren will be joining the administrative team in the school office as the new Associate Principal. Jamie has been working in Christian ministry for over 20 years. She has been teaching music and technology classes at TCS for 10 years. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Campbellsville University majoring in Educational Ministries with a minor in Music.

She is excited for this new opportunity to continue serving the Lord at TCS in administration. She brings many gifts and talents to this new position, most importantly her true love for God and his people.

Jamie and her husband Will are from Kentucky and came to San Diego 10 years ago when Will accepted a position as the head pastor at Christian Church of Lemon Grove where he continues to serve. They have two wonderful boys, Brodie and Gradie. Brodie attended TCS from kindergarten through eighth grade. He is currently a sophomore at Foothills Christian High School. Gradie is in sixth grade at TCS.

Our school will truly be blessed as Jamie brings a wealth of experience in ministry that has included working in youth ministry, Sunday school, V.B.S., as a children's ministry leader, Christian school teacher, worship leader, and pastor's wife to her new position.

Registration for Next Year Begins

January 4th marks the beginning of in-house registration for the 2021-22 school year! Open registration starts February 1st for those who are not currently enrolled. We are looking forward to what the Lord will do with his school here on the hill during the coming year. Trinity Church members are afforded a 20 percent discount for family members and can apply during closed registration in January until classes are filled.

Please pray for the staff, students, and families at TCS as we continue ministry on our hill all for the glory of God!



The Warren Family (from left to right)
Gradie, Brodie, Jamie, and Will

Jimie Drummond
Principal

The Students Decorated Pastor Brent's Office



Sharon Axe's Retirement Parade





Clippers

Gi'day Mates,

The HMS Clipper Ship must have drifted all the way over to Aussie land by now. It seems we will never get back to port. If we live long enough, we may have a potluck and a program again but it seems like a remote possibility.

We will have a board meeting on Zoom at 1:00 p.m. on January 5th, a Tuesday.

We are being blessed by the messages of our new pastor and that is something to be thankful for. He will need our prayers sailing through these stormy waters but our Lord is able to calm the seas. Our trust is in Jesus who works all things after the counsel of his own will. Our part is to be faithful and to trust him, to keep his word and not deny his name. May we shine like stars in this darkness and love one another as our Lord commanded us so that all will know that we are his disciples.

May God bless you all.

Yer trusty signalman,
Jack, the ancient mariner

Missions Update

Here are some greetings from some of our missionaries.

From Betty Barnett: *"I am so grateful for your ongoing generous support of my ministry. You have been so faithful and it means the world to me. So glad for this new season for Trinity [Church] with a new Pastor! Wishing you Blessings of the Season!"*

From Steve and Debbie

Robinson: "Thank you for being a very special part of our lives. All that you have done for us over the years means so much to us. We love and appreciate you, and pray our Lord's peace, joy, and hope in your lives."

Chris and Laura Moyer: We received a very long email from Chris and Laura

Moyer, missionaries in France. In it, they outline the past year and how God has met and guided them at every turn.

They have been in serious lockdowns there twice with penalties if broken. They have homeschooled their children in French and been able to continue their ministry in creative ways. God led them to buy a home when they thought they were returning to the states to touch base with supporters.

This is just part of their informative, challenging, and encouraging email. If you would like to read the whole thing, just call me and I will send it to you.

Ardis Rowland, Missions Elder
1-619-813-5810

Presbyterian Women

Another month has passed and we find ourselves entering the new year with the Hope only God can give us. Also, the ministry of the church and Presbyterian Women (PW) continues.

Because of our efforts, over \$450.00 was deposited for missionaries from the jam sales. Pies and breads were baked, services were rendered, and donations added up.

Unfortunately, we were unable to give our missionaries a Christmas gift this year but we have made a good start on being able to give them their regular monthly gift.

One of our hopes is that we will have a Fall Festival in 2021 so this is a reminder to keep working on crafts. If you have an idea for a craft but need supplies, contact Sue Walters or me and we'll make sure you get them.

Circle leaders, please continue checking on your ladies. If you learn of prayer needs send them to me and they will go out on the prayer chain.

Ardis Rowland
Secretary
1-619-813-5810

UPDATE:

At the printing of this newsletter, while the Moyers were visiting the states in December, Chris was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. He will have to wait until they return to France to verify this diagnosis.

We are planning on having an update for you about our Lifewater project in the February issue of the Press.

We look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. *Titus 2:13 (NLT)*

Trinity Church is a church family that believes in the power of prayer. We spent 2020 praying and trusting God. We are grateful that nothing is too great for him. The pastor we have been praying for has been delivered and installed. Praise God for that!

Although we have not been able to greet each other with hugs and handshakes, technology has allowed us to worship together from our homes. Most of our members have

been able to join us on Zoom, and it has been nice to see some missing friends worship with us online. God has kept us safe, he has kept us together, he has given us hope, and he has blessed Trinity Church with your faithfulness.

Even during this unprecedented year, thanks to your consistent generosity in 2020, Trinity Church has been able to meet all of our financial needs. Your stewardship allows us to participate in the work of God here in Spring Valley,

and around the world through the missions and missionaries we support.

Tithe Envelopes

The tithe envelopes for 2021 are ready. If you have not received yours, please email me so I can get them to you. Thank you, and blessings for a bright 2021.

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

	November Final	December (As of 12/21/2020)	Year to Date (As of 11/30/2020)
BUDGETED INCOME	\$ 29,874.72	\$ 29,874.72	\$ 328,621.84
ACTUAL INCOME	\$ 35,380.91	\$ 23,157.02	\$ 379,947.72
DIFFERENCE	\$ 5,506.19	– \$ 6,717.70	\$ 51,325.88
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$ 34,321.90	\$ 25,037.40	\$ 336,839.03
INCOME – EXPENSE	\$ 1,059.01	– \$ 1,880.38	\$ 43,108.69

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**Our annual congregational meeting is on Sunday, January 24th.
We will have a Zoom meeting from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Thank You!

CLIPPERS would like to thank Trinity Church members for their generous donations for our missionaries this Christmas. We were able to gift each of six missionaries \$1,000.00.

Thank you also for your wonderful gifting toward a needy family. They received more than \$2,000.00 from Trinity Church members. Thank you for sharing your blessings this season.

*Happy
New
Year!*

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