



## Words from Our Pastor | Rejoice, Pray, & Give Thanks



Rev. Brent Barclay | Pastor

### CONTENTS

Children's Ministry *page 3*

Trinity Christian School *page 4*

Clippers *page 6*

**REMEMBER!** You can see this publication online at [www.trinitypres.org](http://www.trinitypres.org) and click on "Ministries" in the top bar and go to the last item on the list, "Newsletter."

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### Greetings Everyone!

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**A**s Paul is winding down his first letter to the Thessalonian church, he begins a set

of "final instructions," a rapid-fire list of things to be and to do. Lists like that can seem overwhelming. You do not know if you heard them all or which ones to focus on. Their importance can get lost in the shuffle.

Yet each of these listed here was so important Paul gave them a separate verse designation! Rejoice always.

Pray continually. Give thanks in all circumstances. Here are three short phrases - three verses.

Rejoicing always is finding ways to celebrate God for who God is and what God is doing at all times. Sometimes, we must look outside our day-to-day lives to see this happening

in another life. It asks us to look beyond ourselves and see the good things around us. If you have ever watched an entire Super Bowl game, you see one team cheering on the field and the other team sulking off that same field. To rejoice always is to be the losing team, yet find a

way to rejoice for the winning team. We see God at work, even when we



*Continued on page 2*

are not the immediate beneficiaries of God's blessings.

To pray continually is to be in constant dialogue, in continual conversation with God. We often remember to pray to God when our daily habit calls for it or when we need something from God. Yet to pray continually is to always look for God: in the mundane and routine, the difficult moments, and the busy moments. Praying continually always puts us in the mindset of seeking God's will, learning to see the world and our context as God sees it, and seeking ways to stretch ourselves in new ways to bring light into our world.

To give thanks in all circumstances is to seek God in everything. Seek God in the good fortunes and blessings in life. Seek God in the trials, challenges, and hardships. Seek God in the unknown, the confusion, and the lost seasons. To give thanks is not only seeking and finding God, but realizing that

God can turn every day, circumstance, challenge, and task into an opportunity to learn more about

God and how he has created and gifted us. God can use every moment of every day to deepen our relationship with him.

These three instructions from Paul are indeed challenging. The "all-ness" of them seems impossible; our brains cannot handle such intense focus! Yet the truth in Paul's words is that this "all-ness" is present for us. We can find God all the time! The difficulty is discovering God in things our human condition would never think to look at: the routine, the mundane, and the hardships. Yet God is always present, willing to walk with us, challenge us, shape us, and even

bless us all the time, even when we do not think God is there! To see God more and more, all we need to do is rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances.

Blessings,  
Pastor Brent Barclay



*Save  
the Date*

## Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24th  
5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary



# Children's Ministry | We Started the Year with a Bang

## Hello Trinity Church Family,

This month at Trinity Church Kids, we have had so much fun! We have learned about God's different attributes, including the concept that God is omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent. We discussed how God knows our hearts, thoughts, and every move. We learned how much God loves us through his willingness to love us even when we choose to do the wrong thing.

We discussed how, even if we do not feel God, we can see God in our every day lives by the blessings

we have received. We went on a scavenger hunt to find things that show us who God is through the beauty of His creation. We have been blessed with beautiful weather so we have spent much of our time outdoors!

Next month, we will continue to talk about God's love by examining different ways we can be grateful!

**Mandy Dhaliwal**

*Children's Ministry Director*

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*Editor's Note: Mandy gave birth to a baby boy on October 31st, a month early! She will be on maternity leave. Please remember Mandy and her family in your prayers as they adjust to this new addition.*



# Trinity Christian School | Saying “Goodbye” and Other Events

**A**s we dive into November, our school year has been off to a great start! We’ve already had several memorable events, including Watch D.O.G.S. Pizza Night, a farewell celebration for our beloved Associate Principal, Jamie Warren, and a family fun Hoe Down.

## Watch D.O.G.S.

Zeek Wheale, our dedicated Campus Security Specialist, led our Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) annual pizza night in Williams Hall. Dads learned about the Watch D.O.G.S. program, ate some great pizza, and had a wonderful time of fellowship. Dads interested in joining the program filled out a volunteer packet, which included a background check. Watch D.O.G.S. dads volunteer

to spend a day on campus, seeing first-hand what life is like for their child at school. This vital program is also part of our campus security plan to have an “extra set of eyes and ears” during the school day.

## Saying Goodbye

We gathered to bid a heartfelt farewell to our beloved Associate Principal Jamie Warren. She is moving back to Kentucky to be closer to her family. Fourteen years ago, the Warren family packed up all they knew in their hometown of Black Gnat, Kentucky, to follow the Lord’s leading to accept the call to pastor the Christian Church of Lemon Grove.

The Warren family blessed their church and Trinity Christian School. Jamie was an outstanding music and technology teacher and stepped into the role



Above: Jamie Warren and her family



of Associate Principal when Sharon Axe retired in December 2020. She shined in this administrative role, bringing biblical knowledge and wisdom to every situation.

Through a series of unexpected events this summer, it was evident that God was leading the Warren family to return to their family in Kentucky. Jamie and her family will be missed by one and all.

Trinity Christian School (TCS) celebrated Jamie at an event held in Williams Hall on October 3rd. The staff, students, and many TCS alumni came together to thank her for the years she invested in discipling and pouring her heart into each student she encountered. The school also held a chapel in her honor on Friday, October 11th, her last day at TCS.

### TCS Annual Hoe Down

Jamie had one last Hoe Down at TCS on the evening of Friday, October 11th. We all had a

wonderful time. Folks could participate in line dancing lessons, a “greased pig” contest using dish soap and mylar balloon pigs, a pie-eating contest, “bull” riding, and lots more fun!

There was a great turnout of students, parents, and staff! Having evenings like this brings our TCS family together and fosters our strong community-building culture.

### Thank You!

Thank you all for being part of the exciting journey of faith that students, parents, and staff have at TCS. We look forward to many more years of partnering to disciple students in biblical wisdom and a Christian worldview as an outreach ministry of Trinity Church.

**Jimmie Drummond**

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## Clippers



Ahoy mates!

The upcoming meeting of Clippers on November 16th will feature Jo Alegria from Pregnancy Care Clinic. Jo is the secretary at the clinic and oversees the Bible studies, one of which is “Forgiven and Set

Free.” She also manages the volunteers who present the Bible studies.

A potluck meal is served at 1:00 p.m., followed by the program. Join us for this uplifting presentation showing how God is working in the lives of those seeking answers in their lives and the lives of their unborn children.

We will hold the annual Christmas program in December. Think about what you can get your Secret Pals, and do not forget your tree ornaments!

Remember that Sock Sunday is the last Sunday of each month. Bring your new socks and clean, season-suitable clothing items such as pants and jackets as the weather gets cooler. New personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes and toothpaste are always welcome. The basket is available in the narthex each Sunday.

Yer trusty first mate,  
Melanie Plett



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