



Words from Our Pastor | Speaking Words of Blessing



Rev. Brent Barclay | Pastor

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REMEMBER! You can see this publication online at 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!

About a month ago, we had a time when the Trinity Church leadership came together for a day of worship, encouragement, reflection, and teaching. As I prepared for what I would encourage everyone, I recalled the story of Balaam and what God did through him.

Numbers 22-24 describe this famous story. In summary, Balak, the king of Moab, commissioned Balaam to curse Israel. Their prosperity as a nation was a nuisance to Moab. The king wanted Balaam to curse Israel because it grew increasingly powerful. He hoped cursing Israel would benefit Moab. You probably remember this story best because of a talking donkey! As



Balaam was on his way to curse Israel, God stopped Balaam in his tracks. He allowed Balaam's donkey to see his angel standing in the road. The donkey would not move forward. As Balaam struck the donkey, the donkey began to speak, asking what he had done to Balaam to deserve this punishment!

Through the incredible power of God shown through a talking animal, Balaam realized Israel's God was not someone to mess with. God would not allow Balaam to curse Israel. Instead, he

instructed Balaam to bless Israel! Likewise, God does not desire his followers and disciples to curse the things of God. Instead, we are to speak words of blessing.

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Words from Pastor | Speaking Words of Blessing

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It is so easy to speak words of cursing. We can say the things of God are doomed to collapse. We can say God's servants are failing or will not find success. We can say God's plan for the church will fall flat, so why try? The truth is we all can think and say these very things –

The church is dying, God's plans will not work, and that person is unqualified for this ministry. The list of our curses can be endless.

Balaam's story shows us God does not want us to talk like this! God wants us to pronounce blessings upon God's people and plans. If God is in it, why would we declare it a failure before we follow it



through? If God has sent this person, why are we deciding they are doomed to fail?

The challenge to our church leadership is really for all of us. We must use our words to bless God's plans and people, not curse them. We need to speak of the hope that God shows us through his

church, not pronounce its failure and coming death.

The victory over our sin has come, Jesus has defeated the death resulting from our sin. May our words and thoughts reflect the victory and the hope that comes from God's promises.

Blessings,
Pastor Brent Barclay

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Children's Ministry | Learning about Prayer

In our relationship with God, we can approach His throne of grace any time of the day through prayer. What a gift and privilege! We have been focusing on the Lord's Prayer and what it means to come to our holy God, the King of kings, throughout our day and each day. There are so many examples of prayer in the Bible. We have been looking at a few of them to help us learn more about how to pray without ceasing.

First, we looked at the example of Jesus. He habitually prayed to his father in heaven and surrendered to God's plan in the Garden of Gethsemane, saying, "Not my will, but your will be done" (Matthew 26). Next, we read about Moses experiencing God's presence. He sang praises to God because God triumphed over his enemies (Exodus 15). God was Moses' daily bread and delivered him from evil when God did the impossible and allowed the Israelites to walk through the Red Sea on dry land. We also learned about Nehemiah because he prayed to our great and mighty God day and night, confessing and

asking God to show mercy once again to Israel by answering his prayers (Nehemiah 1). Lastly, our living God showed his power through Daniel. Everyday no matter his circumstances, he faithfully served and prayed. (Daniel 6). The faith of Daniel brought many to fear the one true God.

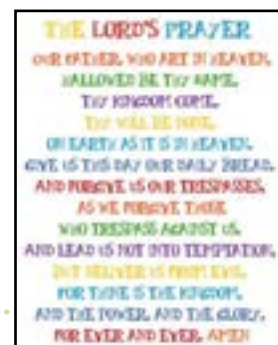
To help the children memorize the Lord's Prayer, we have been learning a song by Saddleback Kids, and the chorus is a beautiful explanation as follows:

*"God's love came down, down, down,
Our prayers go up, up, up,
God gives me what I need.
He gives me what I need."*

To culminate our study about prayer, we made prayer journals to take home and a craft to hang on their bedroom doors. As these children learn to abide in God's love and word, may he take them deeper in their faith and keep them close to his heart.

Lydia Barclay

Interim Children's Ministry Director



Trinity Christian School | Blooming with Blessings!

Trinity Christian School (TCS) has been blooming with blessings! These past weeks of school have been busy with some fabulous and memorable events. Here are a few. I hope you enjoy reading about how full our calendar has been and everything has been full of joy!

Speech Meet

After Easter break, our first- through fifth-grade students kicked things off with our annual Speech Meet on April 29th, followed by the sixth- to eighth-graders on May 1st. These annual speech meets are more than just an academic exercise – they celebrate courage and growth as students exercise their communication skills. As Proverbs 16:24 reminds us, *“Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.”* Our students truly sweetened our spirits! We thank church members, Sharlene Park and Bob Hensley, two of our speech meet judges.



Above: Some TCS students pray for our service dog, Biscuit, during the National Day of Prayer.

National Day of Prayer

That same day, we gathered as a school family to pray on the National Day of Prayer. We prayed for our nation, leaders, school, and beloved Trinity Church family. Our students led prayers together in unity, reminding us that prayer is not just a moment in our day. It is our life.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

Our dynamic and generous Parent Teacher Fellowship gave our teachers and staff a week of appreciation from May 5th through 9th. And oh, what a week it was! We had a Taco Cart lunch served on the patio off of Williams Hall, coffee and pastries delivered from The Living Room in Rancho San Diego, freshly made cheesecakes made by Sugar Mama Cheesecakes, neck massages by a professional massage therapist, and more!



Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week



Mom's Chapel

Tissues were in high demand as students honored their moms and important ladies during a chapel just for them. Our marvelous music teacher, David Dailey, created an awe-inspiring music program featuring all our preschool to eighth-grade students. Our middle school worship team even led a special song. It was an incredible experience to be led to worship our Lord and King, Jesus Christ, by our middle school students.

Standardized Testing

In the spring of each year, our students in kindergarten through eighth-grade take a standardized test called the IOWA Test of Basic Skills. This test measures each student's learning in reading, math, spelling, language, science, and social studies. This testing creates accountability between the school and our parents and their families,

ensuring students meet and exceed grade-level standards in every subject. They worked hard and persevered through a whole week of testing. Our Parent Teacher Fellowship ladies dressed in blow-up costumes to pass out encouraging words and special treats. Throughout the week, students were reminded, *"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."* (1 Corinthians 10:31) - even bubble tests!

Color Wars!

It was pure, colorful chaos in the best way possible! Our first- and fifth-graders earned a Color Wars showdown as a prize for raising money for our annual Serve-a-Thon, and they made the most of it. With clouds of powder flying, it was a hilarious, high-energy celebration of teamwork and friendly competition. By the end, everyone was full of color and grinning from ear to ear!

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Above: Mom's Chapel



Below: Our Parent Teacher Fellowship dressed in blow-up costumes to encourage our students during testing.



Above and left: Colors War

Clippers



Ahoy mates!

Now is the time to gather clean, still-useable items you no longer want and plan to attend Trinity Church's annual rummage sale. This event is BIG, and all proceeds go to the missionaries Clippers support. The

setup begins Monday, June 16th, and items can be brought to Williams Hall daily until the sale starts. Times for the sale are Friday,

June 20th, from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 21st, from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Members are encouraged to help with setup and selling because there is plenty to do! Please consider donating good, clean, used clothing, shoes, household items, artwork, kitchenware, small appliances, children's clothes, and craft items. For questions, contact Muriel Johnson at 619.772.7653. We thank you for your support!

Yer trusty first mate,
Melanie Plett



Happy Summer!

A couple of important announcements!

- The Living Room Service will be on summer break **AFTER** June 1st.
- The Youth Group will not meet through the summer. The last meeting is June 4th until September.

TCS Kids Meet the Trinity Church Organ

You may think kids and pipe organs do not mix, but you would be surprised! Our students enjoyed a unique opportunity to explore the inner workings of our Trinity Church organ. Our church organist, the phenomenal Shirley Woodson, led an individualized tour of the organ for each grade level, kindergarten to eighth grade. She played special music for each group, giving them knowledge about this specific organ and music history. After Shirley's presentation, Mike Williams from the Theater Organ Society of San Diego gave each group a behind-the-scenes tour of the pipe room. The looks of wonder and the questions the students asked showed their genuine interest and enthusiasm for learning about this very special musical instrument on our Trinity Hill.



Gratitude

Whew! That was a lot – and that is not even all of it! As we press on toward the final weeks of school, we do so with grateful hearts – grateful for the students who make us laugh and learn daily and for our staff who serve with devotion. Most of all, we are thankful for you, our church family, whose prayers and partnership make it all possible. As it says in Philippians 1:3-5, *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."* Thank you for standing with us as we raise the next generation of Christ-followers. We are almost at the finish line, and we run with joy!

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Above: At the left, Mike Williams from the Theater Organ Society of San Diego explains the pipe system of the Trinity Church organ to TCS students. At right, Shirley Woodson, Trinity Church's organist, shows TCS students the fine art of playing the organ with all its bells and whistles - literally.



Rummage Sale | Friday, June 20th, and Saturday, June 21st



Trinity Church's annual rummage sale is Friday, June 20th and Saturday, June 21st. Start packing up your usable, clean treasures you do not want anymore!

This is big every year, and all the proceeds go to missions through Clippers. Call Muriel Johnson with questions.

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