



## Words from Our Pastor | Moving Forward



**Rev. Brent Barclay** | *Pastor*

### CONTENTS

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."

**Press deadline**  
**April 20, 2025**

### Greetings Everyone!

It might seem like ages ago, but it was not that long ago that we had to be outside for church. The year was 2021, and Covid shut down many things, including worship indoors. I arrived in 2020 to worshipping on computer screens in our living rooms and kitchens. As we moved into the chilly winter of 2021, we were allowed to be together but needed to sit outdoors in our lunch area.

It was Easter Sunday of that year when we could throw open the sanctuary doors, space everyone out, and worship inside our sanctuary after over a year outside. It felt like a new beginning, meeting some of you in person for the first time as your pastor

and seeing everyone together in one place. It was a special Easter.

And I know one thing about that Sunday - no one was reminiscing about going back outside to the lunch area to do that again. We were through with it.

On Easter Sunday, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. His death and resurrection represent a new beginning, a new chance to live differently. We no longer live in fear of our sin being our ultimate end. We no longer have to worry if we are "good enough" to enter heaven or if we have atoned for every sin and made restitution for all the harm we caused.

On Easter, we celebrate that Jesus atones for it all, once and for all. We



*Continued on page 2*

## Words from Pastor | Moving Forward

*Continued from page 1*

no longer have to live under the old ways of temple sacrifices and trying to take on our atonement for ourselves. Just like not wanting to return to worship outside once we were back inside, why would we want to return to having the responsibility of attempting to atone for our sins?

Yet simultaneously, we struggle with moving forward in new beginnings. We seemingly still hold onto the past, returning to the mindset of doing things on our own, thinking we have to solve all the problems of our lives and the world without God's help. We believe this new relationship with God is on our terms, at our comfort level, and in our time. We sometimes get a false nostalgia for "how it was before" and live in fear of where things are



going now. We believe in the resurrection, but we have a hard time trusting God with our futures, so we battle God over the control of it.

Why would we want to return to a life of sin and selfish thinking when Jesus paid it all? It sounds just as silly as having a beautiful sanctuary but feeling we should go back outside in the cold again. This Easter, if you have not done it yet, put the past behind you. Embrace and trust God with your life moving forward.

Blessings,  
Pastor Brent Barclay

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# Trinity Christian School | Learning to Bless Others

**W**e are excited to share some recent school activities reflecting both fun and service. We hope you enjoy reading about these special moments.

## International Day

On February 28th, our school hosted International Day, a celebration of cultures worldwide. Students had the opportunity to learn about different countries - the traditions and even taste some food from that country. Students traveled around campus in multi-age groups from kindergarten to eighth grade. Each classroom hosted a different country. Countries represented included Ireland, China, Ethiopia, Italy, Denmark, Spain, Greece, Jordan, Mexico, and Brazil. The students also explored how the gospel is shared across various cultures, deepening their understanding of how God's word reaches people in different parts of the world. It was a delightful way for our children to appreciate the global community God has created while recognizing His hand in the diverse cultures making up the body of Christ.



First Grade Chapel

## Sixth-grade Camp

Our sixth-grade students headed off to Pine Valley Christian Camp for a memorable time of growth, fellowship, and adventure. This camp was a chance for our students to bond with each other, develop leadership skills, and deepen their faith through outdoor activities and spiritual reflection. We pray that this time away strengthened their relationships with one another and the Lord.

## First Grade Leads Chapel

On March 7th, our first graders led the Friday Chapel service. This special time allowed some of our youngest students to share what they learned about the history of the United States of America. Their Chapel presentation included presenting patriotic speeches and leading the students in worship to the Lord. It was a joy to see our first graders expressing their faith in such a creative way.

## Our Annual Serve-A-Thon

March also brought our annual Serve-a-Thon Service Day, dedicated to giving back to our community. Students were involved in various





service projects, including the following: Preschool visited residents at Mount Miguel Covenant Village, kindergartners packed Blessing Bags for the homeless, first graders wrote letters to active duty military personnel, second graders worked on a craft with residents at Monterra Retirement Home, third graders reached out to several Trinity Church members to give them a special blessing, fourth graders traveled to the Rancho San Diego Sheriff Station where they brought the officers yummy treats and had the opportunity to lay hands on several of the officers and pray for them, fifth-grade students helped out at Indian Hills Christian Camp, sixth graders helped Mr. Murphy plant a garden at his house, seventh- and eighth-grade students took on a specific project at Flynn Springs Park with the San Diego County Parks and Recreation Department.

The Serve-a-Thon was a significant opportunity for our students to learn the importance of serving others, following in the footsteps of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. We appreciate your support for the students as they took on these meaningful tasks! Students surpassed our goal of

\$35,000, raising more than \$40,000 to fund our engineering and robotics program!

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17th, we had a fun "Wear Green Day!" Students (and staff!) dressed in green to spread joy and festive cheer. While we enjoyed the festivities, we also reflected on the real, true meaning of St. Patrick's Day. Originally a celebration of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, the day honors his life and work in spreading the gospel to the Irish people. St. Patrick used the three-leafed clover to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity, a powerful reminder of how God works in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It was a unique opportunity for our students to learn about this important historical figure and the Christian faith he shared with so many.

Thank you for supporting and praying for these school events. These activities help our students grow academically, spiritually, and socially, strengthening the bonds of community God has placed in our lives.

Blessings,

**Jimmie Drummond**

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Third-grade students present Trinity Church's Pastor Brent Barclay with a goodie basket and flag painting. Looking on are Sharlene Park, School Board President (far right), and third-grade teacher, Nina Dillehay (far left).



Above: Kindergarten students pack blessing bags for unhoused individuals.



Above: First-grade students write letters to active duty military personnel.

## Clippers



Ahoy mates!

The good clipper ship Trinity will dock Saturday, April 19th, in Williams Hall at 12:45 p.m. for the usual yummy potluck and a fascinating program.

Betty Barnett, one of Trinity Church's own missionaries, will update

members on her current activities, especially her upcoming book, "Ending Well."

Betty will update us on her current activities, especially her upcoming book, "Ending Well." In it, she describes what each of us should know about our own end of life, and what we want those who survive us to know. Specifically, how do we best honor our parents by our own lives, going forward?

You will not want to miss this interesting presentation!

On May 17th, Pastor Dick Adams will continue with the theme set by Betty with his presentation, "Are you ready for tomorrow?" Pastor Adams will discuss how to plan a memorial to include the items you wish to have.

**REMEMBER!** You can bring food to the kitchen before our meeting Saturday, April 19th for the Easter morning continental breakfast on Sunday, April 20th. Check the sign-up sheet with Sue Walters if you need to refresh your memory on what you are bringing.

Yer trusty first mate,  
Melanie Plett

## Sock Sunday | Sunday, April 27, 2025!



**Remember that the last Sunday of each month is officially Sock Sunday, but you can bring your clean, useable items and new socks each Sunday. For your convenience, the basket will be in the narthex. Suitable items for cold weather are still in order and will be much appreciated.**



## Easter Schedule!

Good Friday Service | April 18th • 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

**We will have three services on Easter Sunday, April 20th!**

- Easter Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m.  
A continental breakfast will follow the service.
- The Living Room Service at 9:00 a.m. in Williams Hall.
- The Main Service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

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