



November/December 2025

Words from Our Pastor | The Holidays Are Coming!



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."

Press deadline
December 21, 2025

Hello Everyone!

We're heading into the fall and winter seasons, also known as the holiday season, where our plans and preparations for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's begin. As I look at the church calendar and my own family calendar, I see that weekends fill up with scheduled activities, gatherings, errands, and performances.

And, of course, all of these things that require additional time are good and full of joy. Yet they still take up time. Whether you are Christmas shopping in various stores, heading to friends' homes for get-togethers, attending a Christmas performance, or heading out to see the lights, these activities take up time on top of all of our usual activities.

The result is something quite odd. We spend so much extra time doing things about Christmas that we find ourselves stressed that we are missing what Christmas is about! We feel stressed that we aren't spending additional time in prayer and thinking about Jesus and his birth, feeling guilty that presents and food seem to take up more time than Christmas hymns and carols.



We've all been there, and we will all be there in that mindset again this Christmas. So now, even in early November, prepare your heart and mind for that conflict. Ask yourself what you can do to change the feeling you will have today.

Deuteronomy 4:39
Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the Lord is God in

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heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other.

Start taking time now to prepare your heart for Advent by finding time daily to acknowledge that God is in heaven right now. You don't have to wait for Christmas Eve to celebrate what the Messiah has done. You can do that right now.

Psalm 118:24 *This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

Even though the tree isn't up yet and the Christmas carols aren't on the radio, you can prepare in small and large ways now. You can take this day to give God thanks, to pray a prayer of joy and thanksgiving for what God has done for you, to give thanks for the birth of Jesus, and be glad that God has given you a new life and a new day.

Blessings,
Pastor Brent Barclay



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Children's Ministry | The Story of the Bible

The story of the Bible in four words:

- 1. Creation:** Wow! God created everything good!
- 2. Fall:** Uh-oh. Sin ruined it and separated us from God.
- 3. Redemption:** Yes! Jesus is our Savior who paid it all for us.
- 4. Restoration:** Ahhh! King Jesus will return to make all things right and perfect again!

For the past couple of months, we have focused on this summary of the Bible. We began with praise to our Creator God for making all of our favorite things. He also masterfully made each of us in our mother's womb, and we celebrated how God made us unique with different gifts and interests. One week, we discussed what the kids want to be when they grow up.

Next was the Fall, and how we are all tempted and sometimes make bad choices. We created 3D trees and discussed how God gives us a garden of so many trees to enjoy, but then Satan points out the one tree God says no to. The evil one tries to tell us

God doesn't love us and is holding out on us, but God has rules for our good and for our protection.

After that, we celebrated Good Friday and Easter (in October). The children learned about communion and had the opportunity to participate in communion, remembering how Jesus' body was broken for us and his blood was shed for our sins. This free gift is for all who repent and choose to believe.

Lastly, we are focusing on heaven and what will be there and what won't be there as described in Revelation 21. The children learned there will be no more pain, sickness, or death. Jesus is preparing a place for each of us who believe, and one day we will see Him face-to-face. What a glorious day that will be!

Isn't our God the great storyteller? We will be making mobiles to culminate this summary of the Bible that the kids can take home to remember these truths. May they understand with their hearts and be healed and transformed from the inside out.

May our God of Hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing; and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we may overflow with **h o p e**. In Jesus's Name, Amen.

Lydia Barclay

Interim Children's Ministry Director

Our Sunday School students discussed what they wished to be when they grew up. They created an art project.



Trinity Christian School | The Excitement Never Stops

Our year has started great and is in full swing. We have already hosted numerous events. We had the New Parent Dessert Night, a pastoral prayer meeting, the Back-to-School Barbecue, Back-to-School Night, and Watch D.O.G.S Pizza Night. Our Student Council was installed, we took school pictures, See You at the Pole, and held Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF) meetings. Seventh- and eighth-graders went to Catalina. Our kindergarten through first-grade celebrated Apple Days, and PTF hosted our annual Hoedown! It has been an amazing and busy first months of school!

New Parent Dessert Night

We had the opportunity to meet and greet with 13 of our new families at Trinity Christian School (TCS). It was a great night to get to know them, and for them to get to know us.



Above: Pastors who are part of the TCS family attended our pastoral prayer meeting. Four churches were represented including Pastor Brent.



Above and right: Seventh and eighth grade students went to Campus by the Sea, a Christian camp based on Catalina Island.

Pastoral Prayer Meeting

Right before school started, we had an opportunity to share our vision for our theme verse, chapel services, and a time of prayer with some of the pastors who are part of the TCS Family. We had six pastors attend, representing four different churches, including Pastor Brent from our own Trinity Church.

See You at the Pole

See You at the Pole is a global student-led prayer event that takes place on the fourth Wednesday in September. Our students gathered around our flagpole and prayed for our school, our communities, and our nation.

Students Go to Catalina

The seventh- and eighth-graders attended a Christ-centered camp on the island of Catalina this past



week. The camp emphasizes on science-related activities, all through a biblical worldview. This camp creates a fun and educational experience where students learned about God's wonderful creation and participate in activities including hiking, kayaking, and snorkeling. One of the highlights was dissecting a squid. The TCS staff, students, and parent chaperones enjoyed themselves!

Apple Days

This fun fall celebration includes wonderful apple-themed activities and treats for the kindergarten and first-grade classes.

Hoedown

The PTF planned and executed a wonderful evening on October 10th with a Hoe Down. Mandy Dhalliwal MC'd the event, and the PTF did a fantastic job.

There was country music, line dancing, and multiple games, including a pie-eating contest and races on blow-up cows for children and adults.

Chapel Services

At the beginning of the year, the administration decided to focus on respect as our word for the year - what it means to respect God and others. Each month, we plan to focus on different themes. October was Identity. November is Compassion and Empathy. Each chapel speaker will highlight

these different characteristics as the school staff incorporates these characteristics into their school work and conversations.

Upcoming Events

As we head into the holidays, we are excited for the many upcoming events. October 31st, we had our annual Book Character Day. The students got dressed up as their favorite book character. Saturday, November 1st, we collaborate with Trinity Church for our annual Fall Festival. November 21st, first-grade presents Chapel. We will hold numerous Christmas programs and events in December.

We are truly blessed by the opportunity to partner with Trinity Church to further the Kingdom of God. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

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Above and right: Apple Days



Below: Students met at the TCS flagpole to pray for See You at the Pole prayer event.



Above and below: Catalina Island trip



Above and below: The TCS Hoedown



Clippers



Ahoy mates!

The Good Ship Trinity Clipper will dock at Williams Hall on Saturday, November 15th, for some yummy grub and a program by Trinity Swabbies, Lois Moravec and Lulu Flatt, who will share their life stories and

testimonies. A potluck lunch will be served at 1:00 p.m., with the program to follow. Don't miss this fascinating presentation!

Looking ahead, the Christmas program is approaching! Be sure to get your ornament for your Secret Pal, if you have had one this year. Hang your ornament on the Christmas tree in Williams Hall for the big reveal. Also, each member is to bring a gift, with a suggested value \$20.00 for the storybook gift exchange. Our meeting date will be announced at a later date. Our holiday potluck will precede the program and will be served at 1:00 p.m.

Yer trusty first mate,
Melanie Plett



Christmas Eve Service • 5:30 p.m.

On Wednesday evening, December 24th, we will have our annual Christmas Eve service at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Invite your friends and family to join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

The staff at Trinity Church wish you and yours a

blessed *Thanksgiving*,
a joyous *Christmas*,
and a peaceful *New Year!*

Special Sunday | Trinity Church Blesses Teachers

On September 28th, Trinity Church prayed a special blessing on all teachers. Trinity Church invited the Trinity Christian School

educators to attend this special service. We blessed all those involved in educating children and adults.



Trinity Church Clippers Presents Their Annual

Fall Festival

Saturday, November 1st and Sunday, November 2nd

Holiday Crafts • Christmas Ornaments • Gifts • Woodcrafts •
Baked Goods • Jams & Jellies • Cinnamon Rolls
Hamburger Soup • Salad

Kid's Carnival

Saturday Only - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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