



TRINITY
C H U R C H

April 2022

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From the Pastor's Desk...

Make no mistake: Easter is exponentially more important than March Madness! I enjoy March Madness. I'm sure that doesn't come as a surprise to any of you. College basketball is fun and exciting. It is especially fun when my favorite team wins. That means the last few years haven't been quite as fun and exciting as some years in the past. Nevertheless, I still enjoy when they play.

As I write this today, it is the first game of the NCAA tournament. I will be watching on the TV. I won't be in person. While I am grateful to see the game, I must admit, being there in person would be even more exciting whether they win or lose.

April 17th is Easter. You are invited to celebrate the victory of Jesus Christ in person or online!! We can gather with others at home or at the church for worship to sing praises to the Lord and hear the most incredible story in human history. Even more incredible is that the story is true. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, came to tell us how much God loves us and wants us to be with Him forever. Jesus comes to us with the grace of forgiveness to remove any barrier that might exist between us and God. Part of the Easter story includes Good Friday. On this day, Jesus was crucified. He paid the penalty for our sin. He took the burden on His own shoulders. He suffered for our sake. Then, on Easter morning, God raised Jesus from the dead. When He was restored to life, we received the promise that through faith in Him as Lord and Savior, we too would be restored.

This promise continues to echo and reverberate into our lives each and every day. Easter means that our sins are forgiven today. Easter means that God continues to love us in and through everything we may encounter in life. There is no sin so great that Jesus cannot forgive. There is no brokenness that God cannot make whole. There is no distance so great that God cannot draw us near again. No depth so low, no anxiety so distressing, no fear so overwhelming that God cannot lift us up, calm our hearts or give us peace.

Come to worship this Easter Sunday. The message of Easter is too important to miss. It is so important that every person needs to hear it...again and again. Bring your friends. Bring your family. Bring your one. Come celebrate and know, without a doubt, that you are Restored.

Your Pastor and Friend,



Easter Worship, April 17 @ 8, 9, & 10:30 a.m.
Unable to be in person, subscribe to our YouTube channel at
<https://www.youtube.com/c/TrinityPapillion>

Hi church family!

I'm very excited for Holy Week this year. We as a staff have explored what it means to immerse ourselves in the story of Jesus' final week, and I'm very proud of the services and experiences we've developed. The following is a brief overview of our Holy Week services. On Maundy Thursday, we will gather to remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples. We will challenge ourselves with Jesus' example of servanthood, of laying down our preferences, our hopes, our resources, and even our lives, for the sake of the world and others. On Good Friday, we have crafted an experience where we will walk through the Stations of the Cross, utilizing the paintings of a brilliant artist named Scott Erickson. When you come in through the front doors, you will receive a packet containing directions for participation as well as scripture verses and meditations for each image. The Stations will be placed in various locations around our building, and there will be various sensory activities that will enable us to immerse ourselves in story. As you leave on Good Friday, you will be given a tealight candle to take home with you. This is to be lit on Holy Saturday as a reminder that, even when all hope seems to be gone, we can trust the resurrection power of God to make all things new. We will celebrate this reality by worshiping together on Easter!

I hope that you will approach this season with intentionality and expectation, making space for God to meet you where you are. As followers of Jesus, we come together during this week to remember and reflect on the reality that two thousand years ago, the course of human history irrevocably shifted. God demonstrated once and for all that he is not aloof and indifferent to our suffering, our sorrow, and our brokenness. Rather, he showed us definitively that he is Immanuel - God with us. In the person of Jesus, the creator of all things stepped into time and space to rescue humanity from our self-imposed prison of sin and death. As followers of Jesus, our hope hinges on these events, and it is in their celebration that hope for the restoration of all things is born and nurtured. I'm looking forward to worshiping the Father, Son, and Spirit with all of you.

"Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe. The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven." - Hebrews 1:1-3

Your friend,



PASSION SUNDAY

Called to be Holy

Sunday, April 10, 2022

8 | 9 | 10:30 a.m.

A photograph of a rustic, golden-brown loaf of bread, partially sliced, with a piece of bread broken off and placed to the right. In the background, a dark, speckled ceramic cup is visible.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Love in Death

April 14 at 7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

April 15 between 3:30 & 7:30 p.m.

A self-paced, self-guided, interactive Stations of the Cross experience
Instructions for your journey available at the door.



Artwork by Scott Erickson

This experience has been created with adults (and mature children) in mind.
Our nurse and childcare is staffed between 5:00-6:30 p.m.
for families with children under the age of 10.

The Lenten series you are doing at Trinity is called "Forgiven Challenge." What a timely theme! As our society continues to come together in-person more often, it will continue to be necessary to practice grace and forgiveness. It might feel like we need to do it more often. The question is not whether, but how. How can we lean into grace and forgiveness in the midst of community that is ever more divided and emotionally isolated? The series you are doing has much to offer here. What I want to highlight is that it requires personal growth and renewal from the inside out. Forgiveness is not something we can pick up and hand to someone, as in a bag or a box. It is not something we can buy at the store. It is something intangible that comes from our heart and spirit. It is something we learn and grow into with experience.

The same is true for anyone going through a pastoral formation program, like Matt is on internship. There are many tasks and activities he is doing and practicing, all of which help him grow in carrying out his pastoral duties. But the real work of pastoral formation is the change that takes place within. Matt's heart and soul are changing as he leans into the Holy Spirit to help him develop in his call and pastoral identity. This development in turn helps him better practice his craft.

The kinds of growth we were talking about here are not something a person can see or necessarily measure. Yet you can feel the effects and know that it's happening. Kind of like parents who are surprised when grandparents see grandkids after a certain period of time. The grandparents always are surprised how much the kids have grown - something parents don't see on a day-to-day basis. Matt recognizes the growth of the Holy Spirit within him in his growing sense of confidence, openness to new ways of thinking and doing ministry, excitement to embrace new opportunities. These are qualities that can't be manufactured. They, like forgiveness, are gifts of the Holy Spirit working within him and us to make us the people God intends us to be.

What is God growing within you this Lenten and Easter season? What changes do you notice in yourself from where you were 6 months or a year ago? I'm sure your daily routines have changed in some way, but what about your heart and spirit? Are you more open to forgiveness, gratitude or opportunities to serve others now that we aren't limited as much any more?

The good news of Easter is that growth and renewal, resurrection and hope are possible through the death and resurrection of Jesus! God loves us and has made a way for us to live in freedom, forgiveness and faith by the renewing of our minds and hearts in Jesus. May we recognize the ways the Holy Spirit is growing us from the inside out. May we celebrate the renewal and new life this kind of growth and learning brings for us and for the life of the world.

Easter blessings to you,



Pastor Ellen
Matt Pearson's Intern Sponsor

THE HEART OF TRINITY KIDS
IS TO EQUIP PARENTS
TO WALK ALONGSIDE
THEIR KIDS AS THEY
LEARN & EXPERIENCE
THE LOVE OF JESUS.



TRINITY
KIDS

*VBS 2022
is coming
June 6-10!
Yay!!!*

*Register by May 1 for
your fun free t-shirt!*



Register today at www.nextsteps.guide

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 04/02 - Mary Howe
- 04/05 - Donna Nichols
- 04/09 - Caryl Horton
- 04/24 - Janice Reed
- 04/25 - Jackie Wood

Baptizezd into our Faith Family

- Madeline Rae Sigmon, daughter of John and Lauren (Ketcham) Sigmon. Madeline's sponsors are Ryan and Katie Adler.

Health and Healing

- George Beck

Sympathies

- George and Sue Beck family on the loss of Sue's mother, Trinity Church member, Betty Tollander
- Rick and Nancy Noda on the loss of Nancy's aunt



RSVP for either class @ www.nextsteps.guide

OUR VISION: A place to belong and become who God is calling us to be.

OUR MISSION: Connecting People to Christ

OUR STRATEGY: Love God | Grow Community | Serve Others

TRINITY IS GENEROUS

Our Tithes and Offerings
Connect People to Christ!

GIVING IN FEBRUARY

Offering Entries = 458

of: Donors = 216 | New Donors = 7 | Recurring = 89

Source: Electronic Giving = 279 | Cash & Checks = 179

Total Gifts Received = \$89,021.03

General Fund: \$66,960.29

Go Vision Appeal Fund: \$19,389.66

All other giving*: \$2,671.08

*includes Papiro Creek, Little Miracles, Memorials, The Raining Season, Trinity Kids, Trinity Kids-Mary Kamara, Food Pantry, and Stephen Center

FEBRUARY ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ 28,315

Building Fund: \$ 183,441

Endowment: \$ 390,607

GO Fund May 2021- April 2024

Received as of 03/21 - \$480,884.18

40% of our \$1.2 million goal

has come in from 1474 donations

1161 from pledges/ 313 from non-pledged

General Fund 2022

Received as of 03/21 - \$172,719.07

20% of our \$878,584 goal

has come in from 1015 donations

428 from pledges / 587 from non-pledged

We have good work
to do as we follow
God's lead into 2022.



SCAN ME

←
to pledge to the
General Fund in 2022

Join God in what He's doing in and through Trinity Church
www.nextsteps.guide and click **GIVE**