



## Come, Follow Me: A Disciple's Journey Through Lent

*"Perhaps somewhere in the subterranean chambers of your life you have heard the call to deeper, fuller living. You have become weary of frothy experiences and shallow teaching. Every now and then, you have caught glimpses, hints of something more than you have known. Inwardly you long to launch out into the deep."*

Richard J. Foster (*Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*)

In just a few short days we begin our Lenten journey, a time of self-examination and reflection. In the Presbyterian Church, when we join the church, we vow to a Lifelong Discipleship Formation in our daily life. It is about how we claim and proclaim our identity as followers of Christ. It is about how we practice our faith; how we grow in faith, cherish faith, and share faith in the world.

Beyond mere words, it is about daily seeking and living in relationship with our living God. Thus, Lifelong Discipleship Formation is about the call to daily take up our cross and follow Christ wherever He is leading us.

These last few months, after I accepted God's call to be your transitional pastor, I have done a lot of reading and research

concerning churches in transition as well as the shift and restructuring happening in the church due to all the upheaval our world has seen these last few years. And what I discovered from each of these authors is their primary concern in the movement from being an institutional church to a living body of Christ. From being a member of a church to a disciple of Jesus.

So, you might be asking yourself, "Ronnie what does this have to do with Trinity and us finding our next pastor?" Well, at its

simplest, one of my jobs is to look at who you are as a church, to discover if God is calling Trinity for a new congregational identity, and to help you all to prepare for new pastoral leadership **and a new future**. At its simplest the focus of these authors and my time as your transitional pastor is to ask, "who are you as a church and what is God calling you to be!" You see, if we identify ourselves as members of the church, we are free to come and go at will. If we identify ourselves as Christ's disciples, everything we do falls under the authority and power of Christ. We live our commitment to Christ through the church and through all our actions. Our lives are less about going to church, being part of a denominational institution, and more about **being** the church and being lead by Christ's Spirit!

That's why I am excited to invite you to you to join Trinity's Session and Trinity's Mission Study Team in 40 days of praying for Trinity Presbyterian Church as we learn how to sail with the Holy Spirit and go where God is leading us. Our Devotional Guide is adapted from the *Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice* by Joan S. Gray. In the book she writes, "If a church is to sail [where God is calling it], there must be a critical mass of people who are willing to become sailors. Only God can make the changes in our life that will turn those of us who are by nature rowers [moving where we want to go] into sailors [going where God wants us to go]. However, sailing begins with praying. Participating in interactive prayer puts us where the Holy Spirit can make us into sailors."

It's for this reason my sermon theme for Lent this year will be, "Come, Follow Me: A Disciple's Journey Through Lent," where we'll look at defining moments of Jesus, moments we are called to adopt.

- **Week 1:** The Baptism of Jesus (Matt. 3:13-17) – What does it mean for us to be baptized into Christ?
- **Week 2:** Wilderness and Temptations of Jesus (Matt. 4:1-11) What are the challenges to our identity as Christian followers?

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## Trinity News

- **Week 3:** The Beatitudes, Salt and Light (Matt. 5:1-16) – How are we embracing and living these values of God's kingdom?
- **Week 4:** Prayer and Attitude (Matt. 6:1-18) – How are we engaged in the work of introspection and prayer?
- **Week 5:** Healing, Exorcism, Service, and Following (Matt. 8:14-27) – What is our ministry? How are we following Christ in ministry and mission?

Both our Lenten Devotion and Sermon Series is to be the foundation for the church's discernment process that will begin on the Monday after Easter where you all will be invited to participate in a "14 Day Exercise in Faithful Listening." Then on May 4th immediately after church we will have an all church "Gleaning" session to gather, discuss, and prioritize the key ideas generated by individuals during the Faithful Listening process and any insights gathered during our Lenten Devotions. It's from all these spiritual disciplines that the Mission Study Team will write their report which will be the basis on your next pastors' call. I know it seems like a lot but what an opportunity to shape your church, her future, as well as deepen your faith.

The monk Thomas Merton wrote, "Ask me not where I live and what I like to eat. Ask me what I am living for and what I think is keeping me from living fully for that." My prayer is that this Lenten series and our Faithful Listening discernment process will give us all the nudge we need to live more deeply as disciples of Jesus Christ, as we discern together, where God is leading, who God is calling us to become, and who God is calling to join us in this journey.

This Lent 2025 let us all get in the boat and, "Come, follow Jesus!"

~Rev. Ronnie Osborn

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage Supper March 4 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

The Fellowship Committee will host its annual Shrove Tuesday pancake and sausage supper in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00-6:30 p.m.



There is no charge for the meal, but donations will be accepted.

Come and enjoy pancakes, sausage, applesauce, juice, and coffee and visit with church friends.



### Ash Wednesday Worship Service March 5 at 6:30 PM

Please join us in the sanctuary or online via Facebook Live as we mark the beginning of the Lenten season. The service will include the imposition of ashes for those who desire to receive them.

### Calling **All** Children and Youth for a special Palm Sunday (April 13) musical performance



Short (15 min.) rehearsals will be held after church. Please gather in the choir area in the sanctuary after worship on March 2nd for an introductory meeting.

We really hope all the children and youth of Trinity can participate. Contact Janet Krause for more information.



### Lent 2025 Forty Day of Prayer Booklets

Our Transitional Pastor, Ronnie Osborn, has prepared Lenten study booklets for the congregation which you will want to pick up by Ash Wednesday, March 5. Trinity's session invites you to join in 40 days of praying for Trinity as we learn how to sail with the Spirit and go where God is leading us. This Lenten practice will lead us into further discernment after Easter.

## Trinity News

### Let's Welcome Our Newest Members!



**Tryg and Marge Veum** were received into membership at the February 25 stated meeting of session. They have been lifetime church members who were raised in different denominations—Tryg in the Scandinavian Lutheran Church in Wisconsin and Marge in the Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, PA. They raised their two children, Eric and Kristen, in the Missouri United Methodist Church in Columbia.

Tryg is a Professor Emeritus (Dept. of Animal Science) from MU and Marge is retired from Columbia Public Schools. She served as a counselor at Jefferson Junior High School for 25 years. In previous church work, Tryg has helped with Property and homebound communion, and Marge has had leadership in community outreach programs, funeral food ministry, and small groups.

They both enjoy reading, walking, gardening, and travel. Marge also likes cooking, sewing, and genealogy, and Bible study.

Please welcome Tryg and Marge when you see them on Sundays.



Are you able to help on Saturday, March 8th, by providing food for and/or helping set up and serve at the luncheon reception following the Celebration of Life worship service for Bob Duncan? Please contact our Reception Coordinator, Judy Hughes, to offer your assistance. You can call Judy at (573) 387-4416 or (573) 819-7966.



### Sunday School Classes 9:15-10:10 a.m.

Classes for all ages,  
kindergarten through adult.  
Please join us!

### Presbyterian Youth Triennium

The Missouri Union Presbytery is sending a delegation of youth and Adult Advisors to Triennium, this summer, July 28-31.



Triennium is an ecumenical event hosted by the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, gathering high school-aged young people every three years. This event focuses on worship, decision-making, Christian compassion and justice, and Biblical/theological education.

Triennium has served as a catalyst for many young people to take the next steps in their faith.

The 2025 Triennium will take place in Louisville, Kentucky. All youth who are entering freshmen through graduated seniors in high school are welcome.

*This is a fantastic opportunity for our youth.*

Audra West from First Presbyterian Church is serving as the MUP Registrar. **Registrations are due March 15, 2025.** If your students want to attend, or for more information, please contact Chris Sheriff 573-489-1783.



*Dear Friends, you showered me with 90th birthday cards, and I received 35! What a joy to see the beauty in them. Thanks so much for your kindness.*

Margaret Guthrie



### Easter Egg Hunt

Join us Easter morning (April 20) at 9:30 a.m. for an Easter egg hunt. All children (and grandchildren) toddler – 5th grade are welcome!

Meet us in the grade school classroom downstairs.



## Trinity News

Be a "Joiner". Build connections by joining one of these small groups:



**Fiber Fellowship** - Meets the 4th Saturday of the month, (March 22) 10:00 a.m. - noon, in the Youth Room. Bring your needle-crafts. Karen Neely and Chris Sheriff are contacts.

**Geocaching** - Delbert Botes and Chris Sheriff are contacts.

**Dining Out** -Cathy and Larry Holder are contacts.



**Men's Breakfast** - Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month (March 12) at 8 a.m. JJ's Cafe on 1712 N. North Providence Road. All men of Trinity are invited.

**Senior Singles** - Arranges group activities 6-8 times a year. Contact the church office to be put on the email list.

**Mahjong Group** - Meets every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Karen Kennedy is the contact.

**Women's Coffee Group** - Meets the second Friday of each month (March 14th) to socialize at Love Coffee on the Business Loop, 9:30 am. All women are invited!

## Highlights from the February Session Meeting

Trinity's session met on February 25 at 7:00 p.m. Here's a recap of actions taken:

- ◆ Reinstated Rob Dolliver and Angie Meisenheimer to the active membership roll.
- ◆ Approved Brian Griffith, Cathy Holder, Rob Humfeld, Chris Sheriff, and Susan Winkelmann as members of the Mission Study Team.
- ◆ Approved Rev. Osborn's plan for congregational discernment beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through Sunday, May 4.
- ◆ Approved the formation of a Permanent Funds Subcommittee of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. This subcommittee will oversee the February 15th Fund as well as a new endowment fund which is being established.
- ◆ Approved the formation of an Endowment Fund Ad Hoc Committee to draft a new policy/guidelines. Members will be Ann Bouchard, Brian Griffith, Karen Neely and Mark Virkler.
- ◆ Approved Michael Fues, Brian Griffith, and Fran Muench to serve as additional Sunday offering counters on a rotating basis.
- ◆ Approved the use of \$1,240 from reserve funds to purchase new furnishings for the middle school classroom.



**Trinity Library  
Book Highlight**  
with Marianne Fues,  
Trinity Librarian

**The Purpose Driven Life: "What on Earth Am I Here For?"**  
By Rick Warren

Rick Warren tells us that "Many people try to use God for their self-actualization but that is a reversal of nature and is doomed to failure. You were made for God, not vice versa, and life is about letting God use you for his purposes, not your using him for your own purpose."

How does one discover the purpose we were created for? Warren says there are only two options: speculation or revelation. Life is a test and a trust, and the more God gives you, the more responsible he expects you to be.

## March News for Presbyterian Women



I know we are all looking forward to March after a long, cold, snowy, February!

**Evening Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 4, 7ish,** (following the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper) downstairs in Room 12 and will be discussing Lesson 7, "Economic Climate Change", in the *Let Justice Roll Down* Study Book.

**Afternoon Circle will meet Wednesday, March 5, at 1 pm in Room 12** and will be discussing LESSON 6, "Climate Change" in the study book. (We decided to forfeit discussing Chapter 5 after trying for 2 months and having to cancel!) We will decide what lesson is next at the meeting.

As usual, look for an up-to-date e-mail from your circle chair for final details. Hope to see you at circle. Any questions, give me a call at 573-447-0552.

Take care and stay warm,

Charlotte Larrick, PW Coordinator

**Thank You!**

**Clay Stem from the Food Bank said this about our Souper Bowl Food Drive:**

"Wow, great drive! Your barrel weighed 132 pounds!" Trinity members also donated \$465 to the drive. "Your Souper Bowl Drive helped to provide over 1,600 meals to our neighbors in need. Your continued support is very much appreciated."

## Opportunities For Service - God's Work, Our Hands

### March is Trinity Presbyterian Church's COMO Mobile Aid Collective's New Underwear Drive



Why new underwear?

COMO Mobile Aid Collective hands out 300-500 pairs of new underwear per month!

The undies are handed out at the med clinic, on meal runs, before showers and as needed through their outreach services. New underwear is healthier and more hygienic than trying to launder the 100s of under clothing items each month.

What's needed? Any amount we gather will be greatly appreciated!

#### **Male-Style (Boxer Briefs preferred)**

Sizes (amounts distributed each month)

Small (20 pairs)  
Medium (75 pairs)  
Large (150 pairs)  
X-Large (75 pairs)  
XXL (50 pairs)

#### **Female-Style (Bikini preferred)**

Sizes (amounts distributed each month)

Small (20 pairs)  
Medium (50 pairs)  
Large (50 pairs)  
XL (20 pairs)  
XXL (20 pairs)

A crate will be placed in the Narthex to collect the undies through March.

Have Questions? Contact Karen Neely, Mission and Outreach, Chair



We are looking forward to serving next on

**Thursday, March 13**  
**4:30 to 5:45 p.m.**

**Please use the link sent out in the Friday emails to sign up to donate food items or to serve.** We are always grateful for monetary donations as well.

*Donated food items need to be dropped off at Trinity by 2:30 and those helping to serve will need to be at the Ashley Street Center by 3:30 for prep work.*

Please call Susan or Bob Winkelmann if you have questions.

### The Wardrobe:

**Columbia's all volunteer,  
non-profit thrift store**



A monthly sign up form for volunteers is on the kiosk in the church narthex, or volunteers can call Anne Seymour.

*Trinity's day to work is  
**Wednesday, March 19**  
and volunteers are needed for the  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. shift.*

## ForColumbia 2025

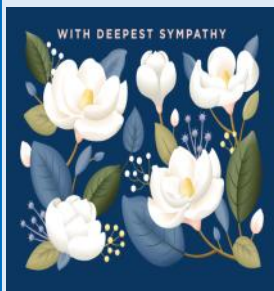


## Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Andrew Koepp**, who is the grandson of Janet Krause. Andrew is a member of the Akropolis Reed Quintet and plays bass clarinet. Akropolis took home its first Grammy for *Best Instrumental Composition* for the track "Strands" at the 67th Grammy Awards on Feb. 2. The group became the first Grammy-winning reed quintet with their 2024 album, "Are We Dreaming the Same Dream?" along with composer Pascal LeBoeuf and jazz drummer Christian Euman.

## Prayers and Giving Opportunities

### *With Deepest Sympathy*



Our deepest sympathy is extended to **Nancy Duncan**, daughters **Amy Duncan** and **Rachel Netemeyer**, and their families on the death of husband, father, and grandfather **Bob Duncan** on February 14.

Bob was a longtime Trinity member. *A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at Trinity.* The service will also be live-streamed via Facebook Live. A luncheon reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Bob and Nancy joined Trinity in September 1980. Bob served multiple terms on session and continued serving as Clerk of Session for several years after his last term ended. He was also involved in the work of Missouri Union Presbytery for many years.

## Prayer Requests

### Recent Prayer Requests

Margaret Osborn's sister, **Marshall**, has been diagnosed with lymphoma and is scheduled for a biopsy March 5.

**Jim West** — continuing chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer

**Sarah Young** - granddaughter of June and Bob Young, has a leak in her carotid artery which puts her at a risk for stroke.

### Long Term Prayer Requests

**Lou Boka** - father of Samantha Boka (George), who is under-going treatment for cancer

**Paul Conditt** - Sarah Humfeld's father, who has health issues

**Carol Lewis**—sister of Georgia Morehouse, lives in Rockville, MD, and is undergoing treatment for chronic myelomonocytic leukemia.

**Esther Muench Plonk** - Jim Muench's mother, on hospice

**Anne Stahr**—now at Lake George Assisted Living on Richland Rd. Webb is staying with her.

*Please be sure and let Ann Bouchard know of other prayer requests or requests for pastoral care.*

## Submissions for Trinity Times

The deadline for the April Trinity Times is March 21, 2025.

Email: [newsletter@trinity-presbyterian.org](mailto:newsletter@trinity-presbyterian.org)



## Trinity's Brotherhood Fund Provides Financial Help to Others

The Brotherhood Fund was set up by Trinity's elders as the pastor's discretionary fund that is completely confidential. It is dispensed only by the pastor and designed to help out those in our community who may be in the midst of a financial crisis.

Simply make out your check to "Trinity Presbyterian", write in the memo line, "Brotherhood Fund" and mail it into the office or contact Ann Bouchard to determine how to contribute online.



## Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS)

### *Columbia Luncheon May 14 "Waves of Change"*

PCHAS is excited to share news about the upcoming Columbia luncheon on May 14 that we hope you will find both inspiring and impactful.

It is also an event that benefits the children of Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services.

*We hope to see you there!*

Please RSVP to Aleisha Mulnix at 573.999.9218 or [Aleisha.mulnix@pchas.org](mailto:Aleisha.mulnix@pchas.org)