



TRINITY TIMES



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JULY 2024

Michael's Musings

Although I know that the time is right, the decision to leave you and retire completely from parish ministry has been extremely difficult. I have already shed quite a few tears and I am bound to shed quite a few more. Being a pastor of a group of committed, loving disciples—especially ones like you—is unlike any other kind of relationship. Every bit of my social and emotional energy has been fully invested in you for the last nine years. As your pastor I have been entrusted with the precious space or container from which you all could lovingly and confidently do the work of ministry. To that end, I have loved you as individual members who make up the congregation and I have loved Trinity as a whole. You have reciprocated in spades. And now I take leave of you as keeper of your sacred spaces. Indeed, there is a level of intimacy I have had with all of you that is unprecedented. At the same time, although these relationships are quite loving and close, one's parishioners are not really one's friends in the normal sense. The pastor-parishioner relationship is really more than that. It is much like the therapist client relationship—only with benefits! It is what makes moving on from a pastorate so difficult for congregants and pastors alike. And my move from you is the hardest of my career for, when it comes to a peoples' capacity to love, yours is exceptional!

So, I will go from entering automatically into the most private of spaces during your times of illness, difficulty, and death, as well as your times of celebrations and great accomplishments, to having little or no contact at all – not because I don't care, but precisely because I do. Any pastor who remains overly involved in the lives of church members after the pastoral relationship ends prevents those church members from having the same wonderful relationship with the eventual new pastor. It can even spell disaster for the congregation.

You are and have been my beloved congregation. I am and have been your beloved pastor. As far as I am concerned, moving away from that is as hard as it gets. But for your sake, and the sake of the church, once I leave, I will not be able to visit you when you are sick. I will no longer be able to officiate at your baptisms, your funerals, and your weddings. The unique, wonderful relationship we have had is coming to an end. There is another out there who is just as deserving of the kind of deep love, broad support, and genuine adulation as you have given me. Our saying goodbye and so long for keeps is the first step towards making room for whoever that person is and whatever God has in store for you in that relationship. I have great confidence in your capacity to love. There is nothing so special about me that makes it impossible for you to love another as greatly as you have me.

So, I hope we will make the most of the time we have left with each other – expressing to each other what we need to express. Blessings upon us all as we walk together through this time of ending.

With all my love,

Michael



**The church offices will be closed
on Thursday, July 4.**



**Sunday, July 14
4:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall
Popcorn—Drinks**

Movie to be announced soon.

July Worship/Trinity News

* **July 7, 2024** 10:30 a.m.

Old Testament: Genesis 25:24-26

New Testament: Mark 6:1-13

Sermon: “Faith and the Wallenda Factor”

Theme: Being faithful means gaining a certain level of comfort with failure.

* **July 14, 2024** 10:30 a.m.

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 6:1-15

New Testament: Acts 8:18-24

Sermon: “Containers of the Holy”

Theme: What it means to encounter “The Holy”

* **July 21, 2024** 10:30 a.m.

Old Testament: Psalm 116:2-12

New Testament: Mark 6:30-34; 53-56

Sermon: “God’s Time; Our Time”

Theme: Jesus invites us to view time differently.

* **July 28, 2024** 10:30 a.m.

Old Testament: Exodus 16:13-21

New Testament: John 6:1-14

Sermon: “More than Enough”

Theme: We tend to view life through a lens of scarcity. Jesus invites us to choose a different lens.

* In person service, *and* live-streamed on Facebook.



Trinity Library - Book Highlight

with Marianne Fues,
Trinity Librarian

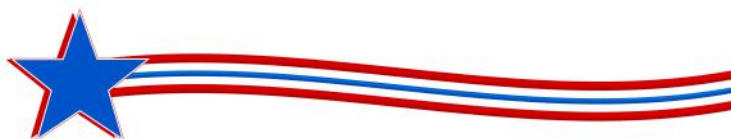
Always a Guest: Speaking of faith from home
by Barbara Brown Taylor

Barbara Brown Taylor is an Episcopal priest, professor, author, and theologian. She has won numerous awards for her work and many books. *Always a Guest* is filled with her sermons, graduation speeches, and presentations given at various locations including Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Evensong at Winchester Cathedral, UK, Washington National Cathedral in DC, and Eden Theological Seminary, Webster Groves, MO.

This collection of thirty-one sermons is filled with news, humor, and storytelling told in a fresh, straight-forward way. The graduation at Eden Seminary is based on Matthew 6:25-32 and is titled “What’s Your News Source?”

“The problem is, many of the people in need of saving are in churches, at at least part of what they need saving from is the idea that God sees the world the same way we do.”
—Barbara Taylor Brown, *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*

The libraries has moved! The **Adult Library** has been moved into the former office of the Administrative Assistant. The **Children’s Library** has been moved into the former adult library space outside the sanctuary. Feel free to check out books of interest. The three ring binders used for checking out books are available with each collection. Feel free to ask for help.



FESTIVAL OF SHARING SCHOOL KITS 2024

As we have done for many years, Trinity Presbyterian Church will be collecting School Kits for donation to the Festival of Sharing in 2024. These kits will be delivered to one of the Festival of Sharing ‘Sharefests’ this fall and will go to Church World Service to be distributed to individuals throughout the world who are need in them due to poverty, displacement or disaster.

By the end of July, we will have school kit bags (with lists of items needed in the bags) available in the Narthex – just in time for the Missouri ‘back-to-school sales tax holiday’, August 2-4. The filled bags will need to be returned to the church by Sunday, September 15.

If you would rather make a monetary donation for this activity, please make your payment payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church and designate ‘school kits’ on the memo line. The monetary donations will be applied to the shipping costs for the kits or to the ‘where needed most’ category on the Festival of Sharing-2024 Record of Giving Form.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE - God's Work, Our Hands



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, our Wardrobe Coordinator.

Trinity's day to work is **Wednesday, July 17** and volunteers are needed for the 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. shift.



Loaves & Fishes

Trinity serves next at Loaves and Fishes on **Thursday July 11th, from 4:30 to 5:45**. More folks needing a meal are finding their way to Ashley Street Center.

Please use the link sent out in the Friday emails to sign up to donate food items or to serve. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated! 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.

Please call Susan or Bob Winkelmann if you have questions. Thank you for supporting this important mission!



Flowers for Worship

If you can provide a simple flower arrangement for worship one Sunday this summer, please sign up on the flower chart on the kiosk in the church lobby or contact Becky Livingston at (573) 445-6119. There are a variety of vases available in the kitchen (tall cabinet on the north wall of the pantry area) Flowers from your garden will be perfect or a small, store-bought bouquet.



Volunteer to water the flowers and flowering trees this summer.

Trinity's planted areas are beautiful and we need help keeping them watered during the hot, dry days of summer. You can come anytime of the day or evening but would need to water (unless we get rain) about three times during the week. Pick a week and contact Odell Newkirk to offer your help. (You can even cool yourself off with a little shower, too!)



Sunday After-Church Refreshments

Please help out the members of our Fellowship Committee by volunteering to provide and serve light refreshments after worship one Sunday.

A sign up form is on the kiosk in the church lobby or you can contact Marianne Fues, Chair of the Fellowship Committee.

Trinity's Brotherhood Fund Provides Financial Help to Others

The Brotherhood Fund was set up by Trinity's session over 50 yrs. ago as a pastor's discretionary fund that is completely confidential. Money is disbursed only by the pastor and designed to help out those in our community who need assistance. Most recently, the Brotherhood Fund paid for temporary lodging for an individual, and two others received help in purchasing groceries. Last month, a payment for car insurance was also made from the fund. Donations are always appreciated.

Trinity News

"Dive Deep into the Bible" Summer Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School registration is open for both volunteers and participants. It will be held at First Presbyterian Church (downtown) on **Monday, July 8-Thursday, July 11 from 4:30-7:30pm.**

Registration link (participants): <https://forms.gle/MwHfVgmt9wRtcKar5>

Registration link (volunteers): <https://forms.gle/spZfFtQgBF2bvz4w6>

All children ages 3 years—5th grade graduates are invited to participate. Cost is \$15.00 per child. Register by July 2.

Church camp registration is still open for children & youth.

Registration link: <https://mid-americaandmupcamps.godaddysites.com/>

Our next youth event will be at Hexagon Alley on Tuesday, July 2. We will meet in the First Presbyterian parking lot at 3:45pm and walk to Hexagon Alley. We will play games until about 6pm then walk over to Sparky's for ice cream. We plan to be back at the FPC parking lot by 6:45pm for pickup.

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/QFCp4ztK4Ny9WzdX6>

FYI

Submissions for Trinity Times?
Email: trinitytimeseditors@gmail.com
The deadline for the August *Trinity Times* is Friday, July 26.

FYI-2

TO READ OUR PASTOR'S
PREVIOUS WEEK'S SERMON OR WATCH THE WOR-
SHIP SERVICE VIDEO, GO TO:
<https://www.trinity-presbyterian.org/archives>

Highlights from the June 24 Called Session Meeting

Session met via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 24. Since the May meeting was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum, the docket for the called meeting was expanded to include receiving the April 2024 and May 2024 financial reports, acting on motions from several committees, and doing a first reading of the extensively revised Policy Manual of the church.

- Session voted to disband the Ad Hoc Capital Campaign Committee with much gratitude for their oversight of the 2023-2024 property improvements projects. The Design Team has also completed their work.
- A motion regarding improvements to the Memorial Garden brought to session by the Property Committee was tabled until it can be verified that the proposed retaining wall will keep the embankment from eroding further.
- Proposed changes to the church's Policy Manual were reviewed and additional changes/corrections approved. A second reading and motion to approve the revised Manual will take place at the session's July 16 stated meeting.
- Operating income through the end of May exceeded expenses by \$58,070.48. 2024 income and expenses and tracking very closely with those of 2023 so far.
- Trinity will host the Tuesday, August 27th meeting of Missouri Union Presbytery. A planning meeting is scheduled for June 25.
- The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, August 4. The new Missouri Union Presbytery General Presbyter will preach at Trinity on Sunday, August 18.



Trinity News

News for Presbyterian Women

PW National Gathering Special Opportunity

First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, has arranged for live streaming of the PW National Gathering, "Do Everything In Love," in St. Louis on Saturday, August 10th and has invited Trinity women to join them. We will meet in the Ramsey Center at First Presbyterian; attendees should bring a sack lunch and they will provide coffee and water. We would love to have a group from Trinity attend this special chance to gather. As I receive them, I'll share more details with you. Questions? Give me a call at 573-447-0552.

Registration is still open for the in-person Gathering of Presbyterian in St. Louis August 8-11. A one-day option is available for \$150.00. To register, go to

We invite all women of the church to join a circle when we reconvene in the fall. Our 2024-2025 Bible Study is "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation." Let me or one of the circle leaders (Sue Young or Karen Neely) know if you are interested in being part of a circle.

Charlotte Larrick, PW Coordinator
Any questions? Give me a call at 573-447-0552.

Book Discussion Group



The next meeting of the Trinity Book Discussion Group will be on **Friday, July 12 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall** to discuss the book, **A Place Called Home** by David Armbroz.

In this book, the author shares his experiences growing up homeless in New York for 11 years and his subsequent years in foster care and provides a glimpse of childhood poverty and homelessness as it is experienced by many young people today.

The National Presbyterian Women discussion of the book will be on Monday, July 8, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Central Daylight Time, via Zoom. To participate in the national discussion, you may sign up at presbyterianwomen.org/justice.

If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Lake at 573-474-3494 or marcialake@gmail.com. Trinity has two copies of this book in the library.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rex Ricketts—undergoing treatment for cancer; recently hospitalized

Jackie Blanton - now at The Villa at Blue Ridge, Rm. 113; on hospice care

Continuing Requests

Lou Boka - father of Samantha George, who is undergoing treatment for cancer

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

Rev. Dr. C. W. Dawson, Jr. - serious health issues—heart and lungs

Cheryl Gysbers - breast cancer

Esther Muench Plonk - Jim Muench's mother, who suffers from dementia

Hugh Williams—Sharon Daly's brother, who has bladder cancer



All Men Of Trinity

are invited to meet for breakfast on

**Wednesday,
July 10, at 8:00 a.m.**

JJ's Café 1712 N. Providence Rd.

Reservations are not required.

Please join us!



Our Christian sympathy is extended to Sharon and Bill Daly and their family on the death of Sharon's sister, **Jane Cooper**, on Saturday, June 22nd.

July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00-11:30 AM—PEO Chapter LM (FH) 7:00 PM—Fellowship (Z)	2	3	4 Independence Day Church office is closed.	5 5:30 PM—Women in Recovery	6
7 9:30 AM—Choir 10:30 AM—Worship 11:30 AM—Fellowship	8 1:00 PM—Garden Club (FH)	9 2:30-5:00 PM—PEO Chapter “JJ” 7:00 PM—Sacred Harp Singers (FH)	10 8:00 AM—Men’s Breakfast (JJ’s Café) 6:30 PM—Caring Women of COMO	11 3:15 PM—Loaves & Fishes	12 1:30 PM—Mahjong Group (FH) 10:00 –11:30 AM—PW Book Discussion Group (FH)	13 1:00 PM—AAUW Book Club (FH)
14 9:30 AM—Choir 10:30 AM—Worship 11:30 AM—Fellowship 4:00 PM—Movie Night (FH)	15	16 7:00 PM—Session	17 11:00 AM—Wardrobe	18	19 1:30 PM—Mahjong Group (FH) 5:30 PM—Women in Recovery	20 9:00 AM-4:00 PM—AAUW State Board Meeting (FH)
21 9:30 AM—Choir 10:30 AM—Worship 11:30 AM—Fellowship	22	23 7:00 PM—Technology Committee (Z) 7:00 PM—Sacred Harp Singers (FH)	24 10:00 AM—Congreg. Care Comm. (Rm 12)	25 7:00 PM—Mission/ Outreach Comm. (Z)	26 Trinity Times Deadline 1:30 PM—Mahjong Group (FH) 5:30 PM—Women in Recovery	27
28 9:30 AM—Choir 10:30 AM—Worship 11:30 AM—Fellowship	29 7:00 PM—Stewardship & Finance Comm. (Z)	30	31			