



TRINITY TIMES



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SEPTEMBER 2025

The Search

Presbyterians believe that God guides the selection of the church's pastor through the use of committees, procedures, and church governance, all enriched by prayer, Scripture, and worship. This calling is confirmed when the pastor, the church, and the presbytery all agree to the relationship.

Dear Trinity Family, I want to take a moment to share where we are in the search for your next Pastor and Friend. Your continued prayers, patience, and encouragement mean the world to our church. We're leaning into God's guidance every step of the way, and we're grateful to be walking through this season together with you.

After our healthy and Spirit-led season of preparation, we are ready for our final steps. To help provide clarity on where we are, I've outlined the process into four key phases based on the framework we're following. This approach will allow us to move forward with wisdom, prayer, and unity as we seek the leader God has prepared for Trinity.

The Status of Trinity Presbyterian's Search

✓	✓	✗	✗
Mission Study Is Conducted & Complete	Pastor Nominating Committee Is Formed	Pastor Nominating Committee Searches for a Candidate	Congregation Votes to Affirm the Pastor Nominated by the PNC

On September 7th, TPC will hold a congregational meeting to elect the Pastor Nominating Committee ("PNC"). The members to be elected are Chris Bouchard, Brian Griffith, Karen Kennedy, Fran Muench, Wade Schondelmeyer, Sue Young. Under the PCUSA *Book of Order*, the PNC has the ultimate responsibility for nominating a candidate to the congregation for election as the next pastor.

The PNC's first meeting will be on September 16th where they will meet with Rev. Barbara Chalfant, our Transitional General Presbyterian/Stated Clerk from the Missouri Union Presbytery, in a training session going over the required steps in the pastor call process. In an effort to discern the ministry direction in which God is leading us, the PNC has been reviewing and will use the Mission Study Report that was completed and approved by Session and MUP COM in August. This insightful report is an honest and thoughtful look at our congregation and community.

The first order of business for the PNC is to work on the completion of the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP), which describes to potential candidates who we are as a church and what we are looking for in your next pastor. Upon completion of the MDP, the PNC will present it to the Session and the Missouri Union Presbytery for approval. Once approved, they will upload the MDP to the PCUSA Church Leadership Connection (CLC) System to begin a nationwide candidate matching process. In addition to posting on the CLC system, the PNC hopes to prepare a list of names and organizations for us to proactively contact to help ensure qualified persons are aware of this position – including possible persons who are not actively seeking a new call. We also encourage and welcome recommendations from the congregation.

The PNC and I will continue to seek God's wisdom and guidance as we work through this important process and will update you periodically as we diligently proceed with the responsibility you have entrusted to us. Your continued patience and prayers are greatly appreciated. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the PNC or me with any questions you have regarding the search process.

—*Rev. Ronnie Osborn*

Trinity News

August/September Worship Schedule

* **Sunday, August 31**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

* **Sunday, September 7**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

Congregational Meeting following and Special Reception in the Fellowship Hall to honor this year's Evelyn Bell award winners, Debbie and Odell Newkirk.

* **Sunday, September 14**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

* **Sunday, September 21**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

* **Sunday, September 28**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

* In person services, are also live-streamed on Facebook

Join us in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday after worship for light refreshments and conversation with church friends.

TO VIEW VIDEOS OF PREVIOUS
WEEKS' WORSHIP SERVICES

go to:

<https://www.trinity-presbyterian.org/archives>



Sunday School

resumes

Sunday, September 7
All classes begin at 9:15 a.m.

- Adult class will meet in Room 12
 - High School class will meet in the Youth Room
 - Younger Youth (grades 6-9) will meet in Room 8
- Rooms are all on the lower level.

All are welcome!



*"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his
presence with singing." (Psalm 100:1-2)*

Trinity's vocal choir will begin fall rehearsals on **Wednesday evening, September 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the choir room**. The choir will resume singing in worship on Sunday, September 7.

New choir members are always welcome! Please contact Director of Music J. West for more information.



Next Sunday, August 31, 2025

4:00 p.m. in the back parking lot.

Volunteers are needed to make canisters of homemade ice cream and/or to bring a dessert. Please contact Debbie Newkirk right away to offer your assistance. Lawn games will also be available for those who would like to play.

*Bring your family and friends
& lawn chairs.*



The Church
offices will be closed on
Monday, September 1, for the
Labor Day holiday.

Trinity Prayer List

Sarah Grim—vertigo; undergoing tests and PT

Linda Harlan—knee replacement surgery 8/25

Georgia Morehouse—recovering from a stroke

Sondra Ricketts—has daily home health assistance

Paul Conditt - Sarah Humfeld's father, health issues

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

Anne Stahr—at Lake George Assisted Living

The West Family—Brenda, J., Laura, Alex, Jimmie—as they continue to grieve following the death of **Jim West**.

*Please let Ann Bouchard know of
prayer requests or requests for pastoral care.*

Trinity News



Linda Harlan to Be Honored by Columbia Public Schools Foundation

Trinity member **Linda Harlan** will be honored on September 25th by the Columbia Public Schools Foundation (CPSF) as an "Outstanding Retired Educator" at the Foundation's 2025 Hall of Leaders event at the State Historical Society of Missouri.

Linda retired in 2011 after a teaching career with the Columbia Public Schools spanning more than three decades. She began her career at CPS teaching English and Humanities at Rock Bridge High School when it first opened in 1973. As an original member of the Rock Bridge High School faculty, she was a leader in the development of all of the programs, activities and curricula at the school. Linda served as the first sponsor of the school newspaper, "The Rock."

For 22 years, she team taught Humanities at Rock Bridge with Conrad Stawski, founder of the Humanities program in the Columbia Public Schools. Their Humanities program was recognized statewide. Linda frequently took students on field trips and brought in guest speakers like music legend Chuck Berry. After Conrad Stawski retired, Linda continued to teach Humanities, with Mr. Stawski as a frequent guest.

When Hickman High School needed a Humanities teacher, Linda agreed to teach at both Rock Bridge and Hickman. She taught Humanities and film studies at Hickman High School, where she also sponsored the Film Club and co-sponsored the school's Amnesty International chapter.

This is the second year in a row that a member of Trinity has received this award. Last year, **Sue Young** received the award from CPSF.

For more information cpsf.org/event-tickets



Church Committees

Call for Pictures!

The Mission and Outreach Committee wants to celebrate the hard work of all our committees by featuring pictures from the various committee meetings on our Facebook page. At your next meeting, please take a few shots of the members. (Zoom meetings can easily be done by taking a screenshot.) Please send photos to Chris Sheriff (bookz54@yahoo.com) and stay tuned for our Facebook post.

HIGHLIGHTS from Trinity's August Session Meeting

- ◆ Approved—with much gratitude to the Mission Study Team for their exceptional work—the Mission Study Report, which will be submitted to the presbytery's Commission of Ministry for their review;
- ◆ Received for first reading, a draft of an Antiracism Policy, which all churches are now required to have by the *Book of Order* of the PC (USA).
- ◆ Approved Elder Karen Neely to serve as Trinity's commissioner for the August 26 presbytery meeting;
- ◆ Heard a very positive report from CE Chair Chris Sheriff about a successful Youth Movie Night. Nine youth (from Trinity and First Presbyterian) and several adults attended the event;
- ◆ Received the August financial report from Administrative Assistant Ann Bouchard. Through the end of July, 2025 operating income has exceeded expenses by just over \$80,000.
- ◆ Reviewed thank you notes from COMO Mobile Aid Collective, City of Refuge, True North, the Food Bank, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Voluntary Action Center for recent donations from Trinity.

Trinity News

Youth Group Opportunity

Once again, First Presbyterian has invited our youth to participate in their Youth activities. The first meeting is Sunday, September 7, from 5-7 p.m. There will be three, giant-sized games to enjoy, as well as food and a short lesson. Hope you can attend!



Build connections by joining one of these small groups.

Fiber Fellowship - Saturday, September 27 (the 4th Saturday of each month) 10 a.m.—noon

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 (September 10) at 8 a.m. JJ's Cafe on 1712 N. North Providence Road. All men are invited!



Senior Singles - Arranges 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 (September 12) to socialize at Love Coffee on the Business Loop, 9:30 am. All women are invited!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS SEPTEMBER 2025



"See You in September" as the old song goes. Hopefully, it will be a tad cooler by then when circles resume meeting. I think we have gotten the new study books out to all but one or two

of you. Please stop by the church office and pick yours up or let Sue Young, Karen Neely, or me know to get one delivered to you.

Evening Circle will meet at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall on September 2 and Afternoon Circle will meet downstairs in Room 12 at 1 p.m. on September 3.

Look for an email from Karen or Sue with details of who's doing what. Both groups will be going over the introduction and discussing Lesson 1, "Mary Magdalene, the Tower" in our 2025 Bible Study "*Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*". **SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!**

Charlotte Larrick. PW Coordinator—573-447-0552.

Fiber Fellowship is Resuming in September

Join us Saturday September 27 and every 4th Saturday to work on fiber projects and chat. (Or just to chat.)

We'll meet in the Youth Room downstairs 10 a.m. – noon. We have plenty of yarn to share for your projects. We'll talk about a specific project we'd like to work on together.

If you have any questions about the group, please contact Christ Sheriff or Karen Neely.

Submissions for Trinity Times

The deadline for the October Trinity Times is **September 19, 2025.**

Email: newsletter@trinity-presbyterian.org
Kyle Groshong is our editor.



Trinity Library Book Highlight with Marianne Fues, Trinity Librarian

For All Who Hunger: Searching For Communion In A Shattered World, By Emily M.D. Scott

Emily Scott never really meant to become a pastor. Although she wanted to answer "God made me do it" when she was asked how she decided to become a minister, she could never get those words out.

She was young, female, not married, did not have children so she didn't fit in at gatherings of Lutheran clergy. But she wanted to start a church.

They need not go away; you give them something to eat. -Matthew 14:16

Emily founded St. Lydia's in Brooklyn as a Dinner Church. "We all cook and set up for dinner together. We sing and light candles, bless the bread and we share it. We eat, talk about scripture, share our stories hold hands and pray, clean up together, get a blessing and go home." As a pastor looking for love and friendship in a city of millions, she discovered small acts of connection mean a great deal a church that accepts everyone.

Find this book on the special shelf for newsletter features in the main library. Feel free to visit the Trinity Libraries between 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Books can be checked out using the three ring binder on the desk in the main library and also in the

Opportunities For Service - God's Work, Our Hands



Crop Hunger Walk 2025

Celebrating 30 Years of Walking and Working Together!

Sunday September 21, 2025, Registration begins at 1PM
Stephens Lake Park- Gordon Shelter- Off E. Broadway

How to participate:

Walk the trails in Stephens Park on September 21 beginning at 1:30PM. Walk together or walk individually, and/or the week before September 21: walk park trails, in your neighborhood, at your gym, on your home treadmill—on your own schedule. Bring your total mileage to the Park on September 21. **Also, bring nutritious canned/boxed items to be given to our local Food Partners.**

These 2025 Food Partners receive 25% of funds raised in Columbia:

- Destiny Worship Center Food Pantry
- Fifth Street Feed the Community Meal
- Loaves & Fishes
- Russell Chapel Community Food Pantry

More information will be posted on the Narthex bulletin board and in the Friday Emails!

Thank you!

Mission and Outreach Committee, Contact Karen Neely if you have any questions.



FESTIVAL OF SHARING SCHOOL KITS 2025

REMINDER: Completed kits need to be returned to the church by Sunday, August 31st. We have had a wonderful response this year and are so grateful for everyone's generosity. Special thanks go to Mission & Outreach Committee member Marcia Lake for coordinating this project and making sure all the filled kits are packed according to instructions. She will also transport all of the completed kits to one of the Festival of Sharing's Sharefests for distribution.



Save the Date!

Saturday,
October 25

Once again this year, Trinity will host a Trunk or Treat event for Columbia kids. Watch for more information about how you can participate!



We are looking forward to serving
next on

Thursday, September 11

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, September 17
and volunteers are needed for the
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. shift.



September 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time 4:00pm Annual Ice Cream Social	1 Church Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday	2 9:30am Administration & Personnel 7:00pm Evening Circle-FH	3 1:00pm Afternoon Circle (Rm. 12) 6:00pm Yoga Group 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	4 7:00pm Worship Committee (Zoom)	5 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	6
7 10:30am Worship 11:30am Congregational Meeting 11:40am Reception for Evelyn Bedell Award Winners	8 9:00am PEO Chapter "LM" 12:00pm Garden Club Potluck 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Fellowship Committee (Zoom)	9 2:30pm PEO Chapter "JJ" 7:00pm Christian Education Committee 7:00pm Sacred Harp Singers	10 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:00pm Caring Women of COMO 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	11 3:30pm Loaves and Fishes	12 9:30am Women's Coffee Club 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	13 1:00pm AAUW Book Club
14 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	15 7:00pm Boy Scouts	16 10:00am Columbia Garden Club Officers Meeting 6:30pm Pastor Nominating Committee Training 7:00pm Session	17 9:00am Fortnightly Group 11:00am The Wardrobe 4:30pm Love Coffee Board Meeting 6:00pm Yoga Group 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	18 3:00pm Property Committee	19 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	20
21 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	22 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Stewardship & Finance Committee (Zoom)	23 11:00am Missouri Symphony League 7:00pm Sacred Harp Singers 7:00pm Technology Committee	24 10:00am Congregational Care Committee (Rm. 12) 6:00pm Yoga Group 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	25 7:00pm Mission & Outreach Committee	26 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	27 10:00am Fiber Fellowship
28 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	29 7:00pm Boy Scouts	30	<p>An updated calendar is always available on Trinity's website. Just go to www.trinity-presbyterian.org and scroll down to "View Calendar".</p>			