



TRINITY TIMES



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OCTOBER 2023

Michael's Musings

October is the time of the year in the church when we celebrate the lifegiving goodness we know because of God's generosity. Our focus is on being faithful stewards of God's many gifts to us. This year's stewardship theme is *Life Giving*. The Scriptural focus is upon 1 Chronicles 29:14: "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this free-will offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you."

Although the books of Samuel/Kings and of Chronicles cover many of the same events in the history of Israel, Samuel/Kings was written around 550-560 BC during the Babylonian exile, while Chronicles was written after the exile was over, around 450-440 BC. Whereas Samuel/Kings addressed the hardhearted Israelites experiencing exile and captivity, Chronicles seeks to inspire hope and faith in God among those who are hurting after this spiritually devastating ordeal.

Thus, having just come through the pandemic of 2020-2022, the hopeful words of Chronicles seem appropriate as we look ahead to 2024 and a post-covid world. Hopeful people, people who move forward together with grace through difficult times are generous people and it is my observation that the people of Trinity are indeed hopeful, generous people. That is no small thing; for genuine hope lived out as generosity is as contagious as the coronavirus. With all of this in mind, your elected elders encourage all of us to prayerfully respond to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give back to God in 2024?"

We kick off our Stewardship Season this year on October 15. It will culminate at the end of worship on Dedication Sunday, October 29 at which time you will be asked to make your financial commitment to our church's ministries by bringing your pledge card forward to leave on the communion table. Following worship, we will have a celebration dinner in the fellowship hall. The Stewardship and Finance Committee will provide the meat, and members are asked to bring sides and a dessert. The pledge card will be mailed to you with a letter the week of October 16. When you turn in your pledge, our Administrative Assistant, Ann Bouchard, will be the only person to see that pledge. From then on, she will also be the only person with access to that information.

I thank you in advance for the prayerful consideration that you will give to engendering hope with your generosity as we look to the *Life Giving* spirit of the one who calls us together again in 2024.

Michael



"Invite Someone to Church Sunday" is October 1.

We hope to see you and your "someone" at church on Sunday! We'll have special treats in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

October Worship

***October 1, 2023 10:30 a.m.**

Old Testament: Psalm 25:1-9

New Testament: Philippians 2:1-13

Sermon: "The Old Lady Principle"

Theme: A little humility goes a long way.

***October 8, 2023 10:30 a.m.**

Guest Preacher, Rev. Dick Ramsey

New Testament: Ephesians 2:1-10

Sermon: "Life in the Tent"

Theme: Everything we have in life is because of grace.

***October 15, 2023 10:30 a.m.**

Old Testament: 1 Chronicles 29:10-14

New Testament: Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon: "The Tithe Blessing"

Theme: There is a strong correlation between generosity and happiness.

***October 22, 2023 10:30 a.m.**

Old Testament: Psalm 8

New Testament: John 12:1-8

Sermon: "Extravagant Giving"

Theme: How our God given resources are used matters.

***October 29, 2023 10:30 a.m.**

Old Testament: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

New Testament: Psalm 65

Sermon: "Faith in God's Abundance"

Theme: Faith in God's provision can help us overcome our worry about scarcity.

* Services are also live streamed on Facebook

Need reasons to give to Trinity? Here are just a few:

-Trinity provides a Christian witness unlike any other in Columbia. In a world where religion has become a symbol of division, Trinity is a place of loving inclusion that genuinely welcomes people no matter who they are. Members at Trinity manage to be among the warmest Christian hosts of any congregation anywhere.

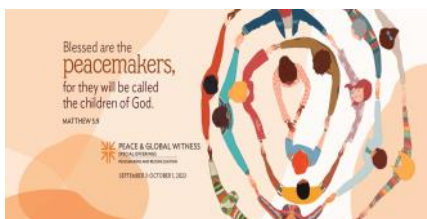
-Trinity values meaningful worship. Our online worship online is of the highest quality, using the most up to date audio visual equipment. Our new music director, J. West and new organist/accompanist, Jim West along with our excellent choir and scholarship singers, bring us beautiful, high-quality music every week. In fact, great music and great sermons delivered by trained, practiced and accomplished leaders mark every worship service at Trinity. Ann Bouchard and the tech crew of Joe Bogue, Stacy Bryant-Wimp, Marianne Fues, Michael Fues, Larry Holder, Rob Humfeld, Bill Kennedy, Karen Neely, Debbie Newkirk, Odell Newkirk and Bob Winkelmann, along with our pastor, Michael Stanfield, ensure that the services are well prepared and executed.

-Trinity hires and continues to keep excellent support staff without whom, the church would not function. Since Ann Bouchard took over in the office, Trinity has run with the efficiency of a congregation four times its size! Debbie Newkirk continues to ensure that we are never without someone to cover the growing demands in the office as we have begun to take on new members again! J. West recruits and focuses the musical talents like few others. Jim West is absolutely committed to high level performance on keyboards every week. Add our custodian Dale Smith and there you have five of the finest, most dedicated servants of God anywhere.

-Trinity understands and values being part of the larger church. Trinity is committed to being one of the largest per capita givers to the presbytery, synod, and general assembly in the whole Presbyterian denomination! It is one of only a handful of churches in the synod that contributes to all four of the yearly special offerings of the PCUSA.

-Trinity values the spread of the good news of God's love beyond the walls of this church giving more than fifteen percent of its offerings to local and worldwide ministries dedicated to things like alleviating hunger, caring for neglected children, providing clothing and housing to those without, disaster relief, repatriating refugees, and peacemaking. This is all in addition to the thousands given for helping others through the Brotherhood fund and the mission offerings.

We may be a small congregation but God will do amazing things with your dollars here! As you consider the possibility of working toward giving a tithe of your income to God, you can't go wrong giving a large portion of that to Trinity.



Special Offering October 1

Peace and Global Witness Offering

Twenty-five percent of this offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community. This year the Mission Committee selected *City of Refuge* to receive the offering. The City of Refuge equips the refugees and immigrants arriving in our community with the supplies they need, as well as deeper friendships they can count on as they navigate a new life in the United States. Special offering envelopes will be available for in-person worshippers. Donations may also be made online by going to the church website and clicking on the "Give" menu option.

Children's & Youth Activities

October Activities for 6th-12th Grade Youth

Trinity is beginning a partnership with First Presbyterian-Columbia to provide regular Sunday evening activities for youth in 6th-12th grades. The two churches will take turns hosting. Here's the October calendar:

Sunday Oct. 15, 4:00-6:00 p.m. youth group to corn maze with Community Methodist and First Presbyterian youth

Sunday Oct. 22, 5:00-7:00 p.m. combined youth group at First Presbyterian Church

Please contact Karen Kennedy, Christian Education Chair, for more details.

MUP Fall Youth Retreat

for youth 6th-12th grade

Nov 4th 10:00-6:00

cost - \$10

First Presbyterian Church - Columbia

Registrations received before Wednesday, October 4th include a t-shirt. All registrations include lunch & dinner plus all activities.

To register, complete the release form found at <https://files.constantcontact.com/05bba5e4301/3f12cf0d-9335-49da-9c4f-a37a5dfd2c5e.pdf?rdr=true> and send it with the fee to Missouri Union Presbytery, 3236 Emerald Ln., Suite 500, Jefferson City, MO 65109

For information contact Audra West at 573-615-6675

October 27th is another Columbia Public Schools teacher workday and 1st Presbyterian Church has planned a Mission and Movie day at their location at 16 Hitt Street. Forms are available on-line, in Trinity's narthex, or in the Trinity office to register a child for the event. The cost is \$10. Questions? Contact their children and youth coordinator Audra West audraw@fpccolumbia.org.

Children's Mission & Movie Day

Friday, October 27th

9am-4pm

Drop off begins @ 8:30am

Open to children in kindergarten – 5th Grade

Youth Helpers are welcome w/ registration.

\$10 per participant

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/kSBsht3cL5GwvM8J8>

Contact Audra with questions – audraw@fpccolumbia.org



Join the Fun on Friday Evening, October 27—5:30-7:00 p.m.

4th Annual Trunk or Treat at Trinity

Decorate your car, dress up, bring some candy—enjoy the fun!

Let's fill the entire upper parking lot with cars!

Let Samantha George know you'll have a car for the event —732-570-0785 or Samanthaheart92@gmail.com

Invite your family members, friends, & neighbors to come and "Trunk or Treat at Trinity"
Donations of candy *without nuts* will be gladly accepted.

Trinity News

Agencies Supported through Our Annual Budget

SPOTLIGHT



ON MISSION

This article is part of series on missions supported by Trinity.

by Karen Neely

In honor of the City of Refuge: The Soup Supper is back! Join us on Sunday October 15th at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll have plenty of comfort food and best of all we'll hear Dan Szy from the City of Refuge present their remarkable services that open opportunities for refugees and immigrants to successfully start new lives.

City of Refuge is one of the Missions that Trinity supports. This year they are the recipient of the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering, the Free Will Offering at the Soup Supper and a recipient of a donation from the Mission Committee.

Recently members of the Trinity's Evening Circle volunteered at the City of Refuge location and experienced sorting clothing, shoes and toy donations and arranging the items in a Basic Needs Room. We were delighted to see children immediately drawn to the toys we placed in the room, when they plopped down on the floor to play! All the items in the Basic Needs Rooms are available for free.

The City of Refuge serves 1,200+ people from 15 countries of origin. The largest groups are 37.8% Burmese, 24.6% Congolese, 19.0% Afghans, and 1.4%-3.4% are from Ukraine, Uganda, Iraq, Eritrea, and Burundi.

The City of Refuge focuses on three services: Basic Needs Fulfillment, Education and Professional Development. 150+ volunteers along with staff and interns provide the services. A Refugee Advisory Council meets every two months for both input and a means to distribute information.

Where is the City of Refuge located: 10 N. Garth Ave. across the street from the Columbia Public Library. At this location are free clothing, shoes, toys and basic essentials. A partnership with the Food Bank gives immediate access to food needs from their building. A Health Clinic was held in the Spring and they anticipate holding these clinics monthly beginning this Fall. Classes and information sessions include help navigating the public and private school systems, weekly Homework Helpers for K-8, a weekly "Youth Impact" group for High School students, twice a week Adult English Language learning classes led by volunteer instructors (volunteers and interns provide transportation and child-care for the classes) and typing classes held in their computer lab. The adults also learn how to apply for jobs and learn tangible marketable skills so that they can find work, support their families, and become successful members of our community.

In the North Garth complex, they anticipate opening a preschool in January 2024 where both refugee and non-refugee children can attend.

There are several ways the organization has developed avenues of income and free essentials for the refugees. At the Garth location is an attractive shop called City Boutique. There is a drive-up drop-off for donated small items that first go into the Basic Essentials rooms where the items are free for the refugees or are sold in the City Boutique. The Boutique's earnings go back into the refugee care and programs. With the shop's funding the Global Artisan program was started and the handcrafted items are available for purchase in the Boutique.

City of Refuge and City Boutique Open Hours: Monday-Friday 9a.m.-4p.m.; phone 573-454-1552

Small Items Donation Drop-Off Hours: Monday-Thursday 9a.m.-1p.m. (For Large Items check the website for details)

Trinity News

Pictures from the City of Refuge



Music News with J. West, Director of Music

Hello everyone,

My name is J. West, and I am thrilled to be your new choir director. I graduated from Central Methodist University in 2000 with my Bachelor's in Music Education and certification in K-12 vocal and instrumental music. This is my 24th year teaching in MO public schools, and I am excited to be a part of this community.

I feel so humbled to be a part of such a wonderful group and am grateful for the warm welcome from so many people. My family and I are thrilled to be here, and we cannot wait to get to know everyone better.

We began Wednesday evening rehearsals on September 6, and I must say, we are off to a great start. I am looking forward to the time ahead of us, walking in faith through music, and making beautiful music together.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your choir director. I am excited to see what we will accomplish together.

Grace and peace,

J. West



Celebrating Steve Yates' Service to Trinity Sunday, Oct. 15

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a reception honoring Steve Yates as he retires as our Music Director.

Come for cake, punch, and conversation as we express our gratitude to him for his years of dedicated service to Trinity's music program. Steve began his tenure here in August of 2017 as Choir Director and became the Director of Music in 2019. He had to step away from his position this summer for health reasons.

TO READ OUR PASTOR'S
PREVIOUS WEEK'S SERMON,
go to:

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

All Men Of Trinity
are invited to meet for breakfast on
Wednesday, October 11th
8:00 a.m.

at JJ's Café 1712 N. Providence Rd.
Reservations are not required.



Trinity News



Trinity Library - Book Highlight

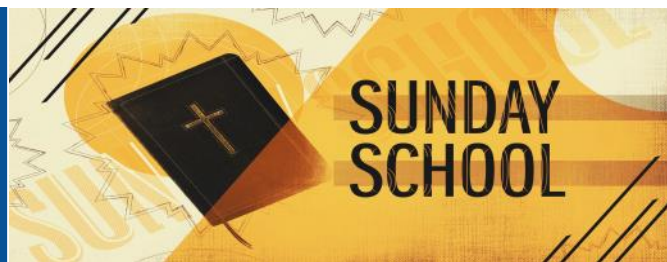
with Marianne Fues, Trinity Librarian

I Thought It Was Just Me (but it isn't) : Making The Journey From "What Will People Think?" to "I Am Enough" by Brené Brown. "Shame corrodes the very part of us that believes we are capable of change." One of Brené Brown's favorite quotes. The first step of understanding shame is to define what it means to each of us.

Brown gives us shame resilience strategies and "points out that sometimes we are in the shame soup and need help and other times are the ones who can throw the life preserver to the person who is drowning." There are differences that separate us but in the end, we are more alike than different. We all want to feel valued, accepted, and affirmed. We feel shamed when we feel worthless and rejected. When we reach out to others, we learn that the experiences where we feel alone are actually universal experiences.

As you know, the libraries are in the process of being moved. Since there is increased organizational activity downstairs, the Children's Library book shelves are now temporarily located in the crib room. The adult library is still in the same space until further renovations can be done to the former front office space. Feel free to continue to check out books of interest. The three ring binders used for checking out books are still available with each collection. Please feel free to ask for help.

October 7 is World Smile Day! A reminder to SMILE to those you meet. It may be the only smile they receive that day!



Adult Class—9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

"The Call"

This video study is based on the life of the Apostle Paul beginning with his dramatic conversion, as he spread the Gospel through modern-day Greece and Turkey. Through short video presentations, we will travel to the early church sites and explore Paul's conversations with the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. Bible study and discussion will follow each presentation. Please join us for this new study.

Children's Class—9:15 a.m. in Rooms 2-4 on the lower level

Submissions for Trinity Times?

Email: trinitytimeseditors@gmail.com

The deadline for the November Trinity Times is Friday, October 20, 2023.



News for Presbyterian Women

Fall is here! PW Circles will gather on October 3 and 4 to discuss Lesson 2, "The Exorcism in Gerasa," in *Sacred Encounters, The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*. **Evening Circle will meet Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall;** and **Afternoon Circle will meet in Room 12 downstairs at 1 p.m. on October 4.**

MISSOURI UNION PRESBYTERY NEWS:

As reported at the September Circle meetings all women are invited to join MUP Women at First Presbyterian Church in Jefferson City on Saturday, October 21, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on AN ISLAND OF SACRED ENCOUNTERS - a day of crafts, mission, lunch, fellowship, and worship, and an inspiring presentation by Rev. Deborah Boucher-Payne, who will share her experiences from her sabbatical in Scotland. Please see the notice on the upstairs kiosk, last month's *Trinity Times* or call Charlotte Larrick for information on how to make reservations. If you do plan on going, let me know and I'll let you know of others who are going from Trinity so carpools can be arranged.

Please participate in the 2023 **Festival of Sharing Quilt Auction** which raises funds for the Church World Service Blanket program which supplies blankets of comfort and hope to refugees and disaster victims around the world. The 2023 Quilt Auction will be at 10 AM CST Sunday, November 5 thru 10 AM, CST, Saturday, November 11. Quilt photos, details and bidding instructions will be accessible from the quilt auction webpage (festivalofsharing.org/quilts) one month prior to bidding going live. For more details, please see the kiosk in the narthex.

Charlotte Larrick, PW Coordinator, 573-447-0552

Trinity News



Highlights from the September Session Meeting September 19, 2023

- ♦ Session approved changing the date for the November stated meeting to Tuesday, November 14.
- ♦ Elder Don Bay was elected to serve as Trinity's commissioner for the November 14 meeting of Missouri Union Presbytery at First Presbyterian in Mexico, MO.
- ♦ The Stewardship and Finance Committee is working on a gift acceptance policy and financial review procedures.
- ♦ Fourteen children and two youth helpers participated in Christian Education's "Caring for God's Creation" Day for elementary age children. There were many adult helpers, too, including our new accompanist, Jim West, and our new Music Director, J. West.
- ♦ The Technology Committee will provide hearing-assist devices for members to use in worship.
- ♦ Small groups will be deferred until January so that more opportunities and leadership can be coordinated.
- ♦ 59 school kits and \$136 to help cover shipping costs will be delivered to one of the Festival of Sharing's Share Fests by Mission Committee member Marcia Lake.
- ♦ One of the Girl Scout troops which meets at Trinity may be interested in putting up a new playground structure for a Silver Award project.
- ♦ The Property Improvements Ad Hoc Committee is waiting for a bid for kitchen remodeling; carpet for the upper level has been ordered; doorbells with cameras will be installed by the front and east side exterior doors.

Please come and learn!

Mission Soup Supper



Sunday October 15
5:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall.

Enjoy a bowl of soup
(You'll want to taste more
than one!) along with a variety of breads and
appetizers.

Our featured speaker will be
Dan Szy
from the City of Refuge.

Contact Karen Neely if you'd like to bring one of
your favorite soups, breads, appetizers or desserts.

*This is such an interesting organization and
the City of Refuge is one of the missions
Trinity supports!*



Congregational Celebration Luncheon Pledge Sunday **October 29th**

All are invited to the Celebration Luncheon held immediately
after the Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall.

The Stewardship and Finance Committee will provide the
chicken course and beverages.

Church members are invited to bring a side dish or dessert to
share.



Short Term Prayer Requests

Esther Muench Plonk - Esther is back at The Neighborhoods rehabbing after breaking her hip recently and her pelvis several months ago.

Clarence Grim—Sarah Grim's 85 year-old brother who was hospitalized in South Tahoe with COVID-19.

Ted Groshong—recovering at home after hospitalization for low sodium and bronchial issues

Long Term Prayer Requests

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

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

Jane Cooper - Sharon Daly's sister, on dialysis and dealing with problems from diabetes; **Hugh Williams**—Sharon Daly's brother, who has bladder cancer

Cheryl Gysbers - daughter-in-law of Norm Gysbers, has an aggressive form of breast cancer



Trinity's Brotherhood Fund Provides Financial Help to Others

The Brotherhood Fund was set up by Trinity's elders as a 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



The Virkler family appreciated all the prayers for Kate as she recovered from pneumonia. She is doing well.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE - God's Work, Our Hands



Fiber Fellowship Saturday, October 28 - 10-12 in the Youth Room

Bring your knitting, crocheting, or other fiber creations to work on, as we enjoy each other's company.



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 Georgia Morehouse. **Trinity's day to work is Wednesday, October 18th, and volunteers are needed for the 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. shift.**

Trinity Provides Food for the Hungry through Loaves and Fishes

Trinity will serve at Loaves and Fishes on **Thursday, October 12th at 4 p.m.** Please watch for an email regarding sign up requests for food donations and servers. More servers are needed now that dishes are being used again. Your donations of money, food and time continue to be greatly appreciated.

