TRINITY TIMES

1600 West Rollins 65203 573.445.4469 trinity@trinity-presbyterian.org April 2026

The Date of Easter Sunday Changes but the Truth of Easter Never Does

by Reverend Ronnie Osborn

This week, as I was working on the Maundy Thursday service for April 2nd and preparing for Easter, I looked back at last year's services and noticed something striking: Maundy Thursday in 2025 fell on April 17th, and Easter was on April 20th. That difference reminded me just how confusing the moving date of Easter can be—not only for congregations, but especially for pastors. When Easter lands "early," particularly when it falls in March, planning for Lent and Easter in February can feel overwhelming, as though we've barely wrapped up Advent and Christmas. Have you ever commented or thought about the moving dates of Easter or heard (or said) that Easter is going to be "late" or "early,"?

So why can't Easter have a fixed date on the calendar like Christmas? Why not simply choose a Sunday in March or April and declare it Easter every year? It would certainly make planning easier for pastors, and it would simplify school districts' attempts to schedule spring breaks without overlapping Holy Week.

The reason Christmas is fixed, and Easter moves is actually quite simple: we know far more about the timing of Jesus' death and resurrection than we do about His birth. Scripture gives us very few clues about when Jesus was born, and early church history doesn't record the celebration of His nativity. The date isn't given—nor even the season.

But the death of Jesus is different. Scripture and historical records give us many references. Passover was celebrated on the first full moon after the first day of spring, and we know from God's Word that Jesus' death and resurrection took place during the Jewish Passover (Matthew 26:17–20; Mark 14:12–17; Luke 22:7–18; John 13:1). With that in mind, in 325 AD the Council of Nicaea—the same council that gave us the Nicene Creed—declared that Easter would be celebrated on the first Sunday after the "Passover moon."

This year, the first full moon of spring falls on April 1, which means Easter lands on April 5—a relatively "early" date.

From there, we count backward 46 days to determine Ash Wednesday. Yes, it's 46 days, not 40, even though we often refer to Lent as a 40-day season. Why? Because the six Sundays in Lent "don't count"—they are considered "little Easters," weekly celebrations of the resurrection. All of this can make Lent and Easter feel a bit confusing, can't it? But it also ties beautifully into this year's Lenten sermon series: "We Aren't There Yet."

As I was writing this article, I was reminded of a comforting truth: no matter when Lent begins or where Easter falls on the calendar, the message remains the same—

"Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again."

And that, my friends, is something that never changes!

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Easter Offering—Sunday, April 5

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Special Offering envelopes will be available. Checks should be made payable to Trinity with "One Great Hour of Sharing" on the memo line. Online giving is also available through the church website.

Trinity News

March/April Worship Schedule

*__Sunday, March 29, 2026 10:30 a.m.__
Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn
Palm Sunday

*__Thursday, April 2, 2026 7:00 p.m.__
Maundy Thursday—Communion & Tenebrae Service

*__Sunday, April 5, 2026 10:30 a.m.__
Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn
Easter

*__Sunday, April 12, 2026 10:30 a.m.__
Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

*__Sunday, April 19, 2026 10:30 a.m.__
Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

*__Sunday, April 26, 2026 10:30 a.m.__
Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

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

TO VIEW PAST WORSHIP SERVICE VIDEOS
go to:
https://www.trinity-presbyterian.org/archives

Take Note:
Sunday School classes will not meet on Easter.

Prayer List Updates

Lou Boka—still has periodic cancer treatments

Paul Conditt—Sarah Humfeld's father, health issues

Bill Daly—is still weak and has a lot of pain

Sarah Grim—dealing with vertigo, nausea, and head-aches related to TMJ displacement and treatment

Ted Groshong—surgery on March 25th for a broken ankle, will be at Columbia Post Acute after surgery

Peggy Jeffries—remains at Columbia Post Acute. Please continue to pray for her healing.

Esther Muench Plonk - Jim Muench's mother, on Hospice

Linda Rose– a regular Trinity visitor, is at Columbia Post Acute after hospitalization resulting from a bad fall, she expects to be there indefinitely.

Jan Storvick—recovering from hospitalization for No-rovirus

EASTER POTLUCK BREAKFAST

Join us in celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ, at an Easter Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 5, 2026 in the Fellowship Hall.

Please bring your favorite egg casserole or other breakfast goodies.

Easter Egg Hunt

Join us Easter morning, April 5, at 9:00 a.m. for our annual Easter Egg Hunt.

All children (and grandchildren toddler age – 5th grade are welcome to participate. Weather permitting, the hunt will be held in the backyard of the church.

Children are asked to bring their own basket or bag to collect the eggs.

Coming Up in April!

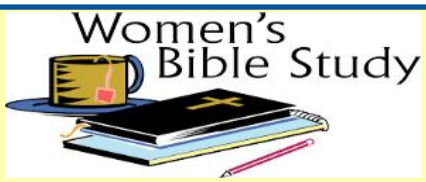
Fiber Fellowship - Saturday, April 25th, 10 a.m.—noon in the Youth Room

Men's Breakfast - Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month, April 8th, at 8 a.m. at JJ's Café, 1712 N. North Providence Road. All men are invited!

Mahjong Group - Meets most Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Karen Kennedy is the contact.

Women's Coffee Group - Meets the second Friday of each month, April 10th, at 9:30 a.m. at Love Coffee on the Business Loop to socialize. All women are invited!

Trinity News



Evening Circle meets Tuesday, April 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
Afternoon Circle meets Wednesday, April 1, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 12 on the lower level.
Both groups will study lesson 8 in this year's Bible study book, "Remembering Jesus' Baptism.

If you have not been participating in one of the Presbyterian Women's Circles and would like to start, contact either Karen Neely (Evening Circle) or Sue Young (Afternoon Circle).

Trinity Pastor Search

Your Pastor Nominating Committee ("PNC") continues meeting regularly to diligently review Personal Discernment Profiles of pastors matched to Trinity's filed Ministry Discernment Profile with the Church Leadership Connection ("CLC") or who have self-referred through the CLC. The PNC has conducted online interviews with four applicants. The PNC posted Trinity's open pastor position to the online version of The Presbyterian Outlook and to several PC(USA) affiliated seminary job boards that seminary graduates and alumni use. Please keep the PNC in your prayers as its members do this important work!

Please keep the PNC in your prayers as its members do this important work!

Library Talk

with Marianne Fues, Trinity Librarian

Easter Eggs for Everyone

by Evelyn Coskey

Are you from an egg-decoration family? Evelyn Coskey will inspire you to not only dye eggs in multiple ways but use eggs in novelties, entertainments, and games. Legends come from Egypt, Hindu mythology, Finland, Hawaii, Persia, China, Italy, Russia, and Celtic folklore.

It is thought that Easter egg customs date from the morning of the Resurrection. It is not known when or how the custom of coloring eggs at Easter came to Europe. One theory is that warriors returning from the Crusades picked up the idea from an African tribe and carried it back to Europe.

In spite of its origin, egg-decorating continues to be popular in England. Scratch-carving was one of the favorite ways of decoration. Ireland, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland all have their favorite customs and legends as well as decorating ideas.

Feel free to visit the Trinity Libraries between 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Materials can be checked out using the three ring binder on the desk in the main library and also in the Children's Library.

Dear Church Family,

My heartfelt thanks to you for my farewell reception. The decorations, program, unique gifts, cake and punch and so many friends to visit with were very special! Thanks to Marge Veum and her crew for planning the event. I shall never forget your kindness and will miss all of you. Come visit me if you are in Cape. ~ Margaret Guthrie

After April 2, Margaret will be residing at
Chateau Girardeau
3120 Independence St., Suite 411
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
Phone: (573) 651-8411

Session Meeting Highlights

The March stated meeting of Session was held on Tuesday evening, March 17, at 7:00 p.m. in Rm. 12. At the meeting, Session

- approved the March-April covenant between Rev. Ronnie Osborn and Trinity and a covenant extension for May, 2026, which includes a paid week of study leave and a reimbursable study leave allowance of $2,000;
- received information that Rev. Osborn will be away on Sundays, May 17 and May 24 for vacation and study leave.
- approved the 2025 Annual Statistical Report which was submitted to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.);
- approved a change to the Memorial Garden Policy which requests the family of the deceased to pay the cost of the engraved memorial nameplate which is affixed to the memorial plaque at the time of interment of ashes;
- had a first reading of a new Accountable Reimbursement Policy for the Pastor for professional and continuing education expenses;
- approved requests from Stewardship and Finance to open a money market account with the Texas Presbyterian Foundation, to adjust 2026 operating budget line items to reflect changes in anticipated income and pastor/transitional pastor expenses, and to make a small change in the Legacy Fund policy;
- received a very positive January-February financial report:

Operating Income:	$121,773.22
Operating Expenses:	$ 59,621.94
Excess Income/Expenses:	$ 62,151.28

- heard a report from Ann Bouchard that the new fund accounting software was now set up and that beginning in March, payroll will be outsourced to Columbia EDP. Total savings to the church for these two changes will be about $1,000 annually.
- received a report from Trinity's commissioner Susan Winkelmann about the February 21 presbytery meeting;
- completed Part 2 of the annual emergency procedures training (how to use the AED machine).

Trinity News

Celebrating Our Members!

March 1
Amelia Schondelmeyer's Baptism

March 8
Jacob Fues' Eagle Award Celebration

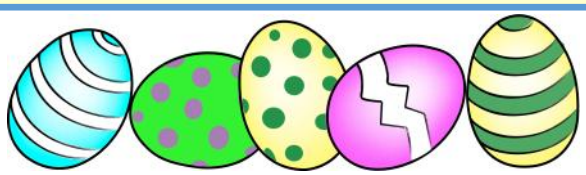
March 15
Margaret Guthrie's Farewell Reception

Congratulations to Chef **Brook Harlan,** son of Tim and Linda Harlan, who received the **2026 Outstanding Secondary Educator Award** from the Columbia Fund for Academic Excellence (CFAE). Brook is a culinary arts instructor at the Columbia Area Career Center.

Farewell to Delbert Botes
April 19th
in the Fellowship Hall
immediately following church

Delbert Botes came to our church about 2 1/2 years ago, when he accepted a Post Doc position in Chemistry at the University of Missouri. He has just recently accepted a position in the private sector in Los Angeles, California! It is a really exciting opportunity for him. Fun fact, Delbert was actually born in LA!

Stop by for refreshments after church on Sunday, April 19th



Thanks So Much, Chris Sheriff!

146 hand-knitted Children's Hats!!!

Thank you, Christine Sheriff! This Fall, 1600 Columbia School Children will receive new clothes, including a winter coat through the Assistance League of Mid-Missouri's Operation School Bell Program. We're thinking that Trinity's champion knitter isn't finished yet! If you would like to help with knitting hats, Chris created a simple-to-do pattern for us to use. Let Chris or Karen Neely know if you'd like a copy. She also offers a special thank you to the person who gave the group a very generous donation of yarn.

Opportunities For Service - God's Work, Our Hands

Trinity—Let's Do This!

ForColumbia was founded to bring Christians together to freely share the love of God by serving our community, side-by-side. By organizing volunteers from Christian churches throughout mid-Missouri, assistance is provided to individuals, non-profit organizations, and other public venues in an annual city-wide day of service.

For the last several years a team of Trinity Members have participated in this program. Last year, Trinity's group worked at the Room at the Inn, painting, cleaning and moving furniture.

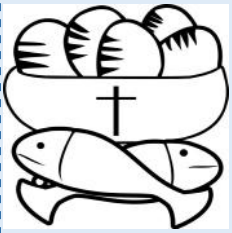
The ForColumbia work day is Saturday, April 25th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please sign up to help at ForColumbia.com. You may indicate church affiliation of Trinity Presbyterian, but when it asks you, "Do you intend to work with a specific group or specific person?" - use Trinity's group name for this purpose, "CALVIN". ForColumbia will find a project appropriate for our group.

Trinity youth are also encouraged to sign up, and parents with children under 12 can sign them up to work with you, or childcare will be provided through the program.

- Registration closes Sunday, April 12
- A table will be in the Fellowship Hall to help people register on a laptop for easy sign-up
- Mission and Outreach committee will hand out "Sign Up Now" cards on Sundays with QR codes that lead directly to the registration.

LOAVES AND FISHES



We are looking forward to serving next on:

Thursday, April 9

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, April 15*** *and volunteers are needed for the 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. shift.*

Let's get a Trinity Group together for **Cleanup Columbia**, a city-wide litter pickup bringing our community together to care for our city. It will be FUN! Gloves/supplies provided. 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Sign up in the lobby following church on March 29th, or April 5th, or contact Kyle Groshong at gnewellk@gmail.com, or call or text 573-808-0440

A Big Thank You

to everyone who donated tissues, wipes, and hand sanitizers for our neighbor, Russell Blvd. Elementary School.

Submissions for *Trinity Times*

The deadline for the May *Trinity Times* is April 24, 2026.

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

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Palm Sunday 9:15am Church School Classes for Youth & Adults 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	30 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Pastor Nominating Committee	31	1 1:00pm Afternoon Circle (Rm. 12) 6:00pm Yoga Group 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	2 7:00pm **Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion**	3 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	4
5 Easter Sunday 9:00am Easter Egg Hunt 9:30am Potluck Breakfast 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	6 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Fellowship Committee	7 Election Day 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 71859 7:00pm Evening Circle	8 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:00pm Caring Women of COMO 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9 3:30pm Loaves and Fishes-Ashley St. Ctr	10 9:30am Women's Coffee Club 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	11 1:15pm AAUW Book Club
12 9:15am Church School Classes for Youth & Adults 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	13 9:00am PEO Chapter "LM" 7:00pm Boy Scouts	14 2:30pm PEO Chapter "JJ" 5:30pm AAUW Meeting-Fellowship Hall 7:00pm Christian Education Committee	15 11:00am The Wardrobe 12:10pm Meals on Wheels Training 4:30pm Love Coffee Board Meeting 6:00pm Yoga Group 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	16 3:00pm Property Committee	17 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	18 9:00am Big Muddy Rug Guild
19 9:15am Church School Classes for Youth & Adults 10:30am Worship **11:30am Farewell Reception for Delbert Botes** 11:30am Fellowship Time 2:00pm Jane Austen Book Club	20 7:00pm Boy Scouts	21 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 71859 7:00pm Session	22 10:00am Congregational Care Committee (Rm. 12) 6:00pm Yoga Group 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	23 5:00pm—Caring Women of COMO 7:00pm Mission & Outreach Committee	24 Garden Club Setup 1:30pm Mahjong Group 5:30pm Women in Recovery	25 Garden Club Plant Sale 10:00am Fiber Fellowship
26 9:15am Church School Classes for Youth & Adults 10:30am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Time	27 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Stewardship & Finance Committee (Zoom)	28 11:00am Missouri Symphony League 7:00pm Technology Committee	29 6:00pm Yoga Group 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	30		