



# TRINITY TIMES



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

October 2026

## "The Way of Welcome"

Every now and then, I catch myself standing at the church doors on a Sunday morning, doing that little pastoral dance — half praying for the morning's worship and the people who will be here, half wondering if I'll make it home before the Chiefs kickoff, and half hoping the greeters aren't so friendly that they've accidentally created a bottleneck at the door and folks are stuck outside in the heat. It's in those small, ordinary moments that I'm reminded how deeply spiritual hospitality really is. Not the glossy, welcome brochure version, but the simple act of looking someone in the eye and saying, "I'm glad you're here." Scripture calls this a holy practice — "Welcome one another... just as Christ has welcomed you" (Romans 15:7). That's not a suggestion. It's a way of life.

Maybe that's why, even before I began our "Come to the Table" sermon series, I felt such a nudge from the Spirit — a gentle but persistent tug that Trinity is being invited into something deeper, something more intentional. And it seems the Session has felt that same tug, because they've recently commissioned a Hospitality Task Force. We just held our first meeting, and as we sat around the table, I couldn't shake the sense that God is stirring us toward a kind of welcome that looks a lot like Jesus: open-armed, generous, and willing to make room for whoever shows up. It feels like the Spirit is saying, "Pay attention. I'm doing something here."

I've been thinking a lot lately about how welcome works in a small church like ours. We don't have a large presence on a busy road or a coffee bar with a clever name. What we have is better — we have people who know how to notice. People who remember names. People who walk alongside others the way Jesus walked alongside His disciples: slowly, kindly, without rushing the conversation. Henri Nouwen once wrote that real hospitality is creating "space where the stranger can enter and become a friend." I've felt that here at Trinity more times than I can count.

Of course, hospitality isn't just about first impressions. It's about second chances, and third cups of coffee, and those quiet Monday moments when someone on our hospitality team will sit down to write a handwritten note because they genuinely want a guest to know they matter. It's about offering our best to God — not a perfect hospitality program, but presence.

So as we continue discerning God's call for Trinity in this season of transition, I want us to lean into "The Way of Welcome" — not as a program, but as a practice. A way of seeing people the way Jesus sees them. A way of slowing down enough to notice the person who slipped in quietly. A way of remembering that every handshake, every smile, every "sit with me" is a small moment of grace. My hope is that Trinity Presbyterian Church becomes the kind of place where strangers become friends, friends become family, and where we keep learning what it means to welcome others the way Christ keeps welcoming us.

**Rev. Ronnie Osborn**



In the 8th century before Christ, the humble prophet Micah was deeply in touch with the plight of the people. He envisioned a world where everyone would be free to live into the fullness of the life God intended. Yet the society and the culture in Micah's day did not match his visions of God's reign — there was no justice, kindness or humble living.

The **World Communion Offering** is a new way for Presbyterians to "love kindness" expressed in action, often involving mercy, faithfulness and steadfast commitment. Racial justice, gender justice, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement are the important causes supported by this Offering.

The prophet Micah is clear: Our love of God moves us to faithful action through justice, kindness and humble living. Participating in the Churchwide Special Offerings is one way Presbyterians show their love for God and help all God's children live into the fullness of Micah's prophecy.

We will receive this special offering on **World Communion Sunday, October 4**. Offering envelopes will be available on the table at the entrance to the sanctuary. Please hold your offering that day until the designated time in the service when ushers will pass the offering plates. Donations may also be made online through the church website. Please be sure and add "World Communion" in the notes section of the offering form.

## Trinity News

### October Worship Schedule

\* **Sunday, October 4, 2026 10:30 a.m.**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn  
*World Communion Sunday*

\* **Sunday, October 11, 2026 10:30 a.m.**

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Bill Young

\* **Sunday, October 18, 2026 10:30 a.m.**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

\* **Sunday, October 25, 2026 10:30 a.m.**

Preaching: Rev. Ronnie Osborn

\* In person services, are also live-streamed on YouTube (Trinity Presbyterian COMO) and Facebook (Trinity Presbyterian)

TO VIEW PAST WORSHIP  
SERVICE VIDEOS

go to:

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



### Home Communion Offered in October

The *Book of Order* provides for the celebration of Holy Communion with those who are homebound, hospitalized, or otherwise unable to attend in-person worship. Session will offer this extended service of communion on **Sunday, October 4**, the day the sacrament is next celebrated in worship.

If you would like to receive the Sacrament on the afternoon of October 4, or shortly thereafter, please contact Ann at the church office by phone—(573) 445-4469—or email—[abouchard@trinity-presbyterian.org](mailto:abouchard@trinity-presbyterian.org)—to coordinate a time. Others in your household will be welcome to join in receiving the Sacrament.

### Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The PNC began its work in September, 2025. Since then, the committee has met thirty-six times and has reviewed approximately seventy ministers' personal profiles, inviting certain of these individuals to apply for the Trinity pastor position. Some of these pastors declined, but others accepted the invitation.

After reviewing background information on applicants and listening to online sermons, Zoom interviews have been scheduled with a number of candidates and second Zoom interview with several. At any time during this process, the "matched" or interviewed pastor may withdraw from consideration, and several have done so. The PNC has hosted an in-person meeting with one candidate who later withdrew from consideration.

Currently the committee is reviewing and considering updates to the information about Trinity and the position posted on our denomination's Church Leadership Connection website. They are also recontacting Presbyterian seminaries to ensure that information previously submitted is still available for viewing.

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

### Prayer List

Please pray for these members who are experiencing current health issues: **Ed Coe, Bill and Sharon Daly, Marianne Fues, and Becky Livingston.**

Please pray for these relatives and friends of our members: **Glenn Allen** (Karen Neely's brother), **Lou Boka** (Samantha Boka's father), **Marshal Clark** (Margaret Osborn's sister), **Baby Grace, Paul Conditt**, (Sarah Humfeld's father), **Dorothy Jane Greene** (Karen Neely's great-niece) **Peggy Jeffries** (Bruce Jeffries' wife), **Ian Massey** (son of Rim and Judy Massey), former member Nancy Mueller and family on the death of her husband Don, and **Linda Rose.**

Please help us keep our prayer list up to date by letting the church office know of any changes. Please watch the Friday e-mails for updates.

## Prayers

If you are going through a difficult time and would like a confidential prayer partner, please contact the Trinity office at (573) 445-4469 or [trinity@trinitypresbyterian.org](mailto:trinity@trinitypresbyterian.org).

## Trinity News

### Celebrating 100 Years!



**Ed Coe** will celebrate his **100th** birthday on December 7. Plans are underway to honor Ed on this milestone event.

The Congregational Care Committee is collecting remembrances of Ed from Trinity members which will be collated and presented to him on Sunday, December 6. **We will also be asking everyone to sign a special birthday card for Ed.** Marge Veum, Chair of Congregational Care, will be in the lobby before worship on Sundays encouraging you to sign the card.

**Please send or give your birthday reflections to either Ann Bouchard or Marge Veum soon.**



Build connections by joining one of these small groups.

**Fiber Fellowship** - **Saturday, October, 24th**  
10 a.m.—noon in the Youth Room



**Men's Breakfast** - Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month, **October 14th**, 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, **October 9th** at 9:30 a.m. at Love Coffee on the Business Loop to socialize. All women are invited!

**Public Witness Group**—**Monday, October 5th** at 2 pm. Room 12 at Trinity. Contact is Cathy Nelson.

### German Dinner and Band



**Saturday, October 10**  
**4:00 p.m. at Trinity**

Please bring your favorite German dish or a snack to share.

**Meat and drinks will be provided.**

The Die Deutschmeister Musik Makers, featuring Trinity's own Bill Kennedy, will entertain us with traditional German dance music. **Don't forget your dancing shoes! If you have any German attire, you are invited to wear it and join in the fun! Willkommen!**

### Women's Circles



All are invited to join either of our two Presbyterian Women circles. In October, the Evening Circle will meet on **Tuesday, October 6, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Please be sure and bring your items for the Youth Personal Care Packs. The Afternoon Circle will hold their meeting on **Wednesday, October 7, at 1:00 p.m.** in Rm. 12. Both circles are participating in the 2026-2027 Bible study, "United Through Christ: Bound to Each Other."



### 2027 Stewardship Campaign "Releasing God's Blessings"

**"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8)**

We'll be kicking off our 2027 Stewardship Campaign on Sunday, October 11, with a Minute for Mission and the distribution of the campaign packets. Each packet will contain a letter from Session, a copy of this year's proposed 2027 operating budget, an estimate of giving card and return envelope, some information about Trinity's Legacy Fund, and a special devotional booklet prepared for you by Rev. Osborn. For those who cannot be present for in-person worship on that day, the packets will be mailed to your home.

On Sundays, October 18, 25, and November 1, Rev. Osborn will preach on our theme "Releasing God's Blessings." On **November 1**, we will present our estimates of giving for next year during worship, then have a celebration meal in the Fellowship Hall after the service. Stewardship & Finance will provide the meat, drinks, and dessert. You are invited to bring a side dish to share.

## Trinity News

*Members of Trinity, Trinity Friends: If you have a special birthday, anniversary, accomplishment, family news, special thanks, upcoming children's events/concerts, or acknowledgements you would like to share, this column is just for that purpose. We want you to be able to share what is important to you, with your friends at Trinity!*

### Trinity Shares Its Joys

**90+ yr Birthdays:** **Bob Young** will celebrate his 94th birthday in October.

**Caleb Humfeld** was named a National Merit Semi-Finalist from Hickman High School! Way to go, and congratulations, Caleb! That's a big deal!

**Addy Lilien**, Ann and Chris Bouchard's granddaughter, was selected Homecoming Queen at Hickman High School on September 18. As part of her candidacy, Addy raised almost \$5,000 for True North. Collectively, home



### September Session Highlights

Session met on Tuesday evening, September 15, for its monthly stated meeting. Here's a recap of notable items from the meeting.

- ◆ The Clerk shared thank you notes from Mobility Worldwide and Habitat for Humanity for recent, budgeted donations.
- ◆ Trinity will host one of the quarterly meetings of Missouri Union Presbytery in 2027. The date is still to be determined.
- ◆ Mission & Outreach has not been able to find a new coordinator for the Dining Out Small Group so it will be discontinued for the present time.
- ◆ A date will be set soon for the annual Mission Soup Supper. November 15 was recommended.
- ◆ The Worship Committee presented two revised policies for first reading: the "Policy on Weddings" and "Guidelines for a Service on the Occasion of a Death".
- ◆ Rev. Dr. Bill Young will preach at Trinity on October 11; Rev. Kathie Jackson will preach November 29 and Rev. Bruce Jeffries will preach on December 27.
- ◆ The 2026 Session Retreat will be held on Saturday, November 14. General Presbyter Barbara Chalfant will be this year's retreat leader.
- ◆ Session approved a request from the Public Witness Small Group to place several signs urging people to vote in the November election along the edge of Trinity's property on Rollins. The signs will be put out 2-3 weeks before election day.

### Session Approves Distribution of February 15 Fund Interest

The February 15 Fund was established as a result of an anonymous gift received by Session on February 15, 1979. The purpose of the fund is to provide long-term funding to enhance Trinity's ability to help others through an enlarged program of benevolence and to provide resources and opportunities to the Church that would otherwise not be available.

At its September meeting, Session unanimously approved the distribution of \$3,550 in February 15 fund interest to be disbursed to the following organizations:

**Meals on Wheels**—\$1,000

**Mobility Worldwide**—\$550

**Columbia Foster & Adoption Project**—\$500

**Services for Independent Living**—\$500

**NAMI Columbia** (Mental Health) —\$500

**Caring Hearts and Hands** (hospice care) - \$500

The total value of the February 15 Fund as of August 30 was \$120,965.41. The majority of the money is in an endowment fund with a small portion in a money market account.



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



### LOAVES AND FISHES

Trinity serves next  
**Thursday,  
October 8**

**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.

**Those serving** will need to be at the new Voluntary Action Center Opportunity Campus, 1300 Bowling St. by **4:00 p.m.**



### The Wardrobe:

Columbia's all  
volunteer,  
non-profit thrift store

Our work at the Wardrobe starts again in October!

### Volunteers are needed!

Please sign up using Sign Up Genius in the Friday e-mail for

**Wednesday, October 21**

*Volunteers are needed for the  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. shift.*

## Trinity News

### Celebrating Ann Bouchard's New Role!

Following approval by Session, the Administration and Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that Ann Bouchard's title has officially changed from Administrative Assistant to Church Administrator!

This new title more accurately reflects the scope and responsibilities of Ann's current role, particularly during this important season of transition as we search for a called pastor.

We are grateful for Ann's leadership, dedication, and the many ways she supports the ministry and life of Trinity. Please join us in congratulating Ann on this well-deserved recognition and in thanking her for all she does for our church community!

***Congratulations, Ann!***

### Thank You, Debbie, and Welcome, Cathy!

Please join us in expressing our heartfelt thanks to Debbie Newkirk for the wonderful work she has done for Trinity over the past ten years as our part-time office assistant. We are deeply grateful for Debbie's kind heart, faithful service, hard work, and dedication to our church. Her many hours of service have made a meaningful difference in the life and ministry of Trinity.

After ten years in this role, Debbie has decided to step back from her office responsibilities over the next couple of months. We are so thankful for all she has given to Trinity and look forward to her continuing to be an active part of our church family.

As Debbie transitions out of the role, we are pleased to welcome Cathy Nelson as our new part-time office assistant. We are excited to have Cathy step into this position and ask everyone to offer her their encouragement and support as she learns the role and receives training from Debbie and Ann.

***Please take a moment to thank Debbie for her many years of faithful service and to welcome and encourage Cathy as she begins this new role. We are grateful for both of them and for the gifts they bring to our Trinity community!***

## Trinity News

### DID YOU KNOW .....

Another Presbyterian Church (USA) film has won international recognition. Documentaries have become an important medium for uplifting voices from communities that are often marginalized and not represented.

Evicting the American Dream was produced by Counter Stories Productions, the story ministry within our denomination. Released in March 2025, it received an Award of Excellence from IMPACT DOCS in August 2026. The film “examines the root causes, systemic issues, and human impact of the U.S. eviction and family homelessness crisis”. It focuses heavily on causes of eviction and how housing insecurity affects young children. Voices of experts are juxtaposed with those of children describing their dreams of better housing.



The documentary may be watched via Amazon Prime, or you contact Cathy Nelson to watch it with the Public Witness Group at Trinity in the near future.



### Library Talk

with Marianne Fues, Trinity Librarian

**Beyond Homelessness : Christian Faith in a Culture of Displacement** by Steven Bouma-Prediger and Brian J. Walsh.

The word “**Home**” conjures many, many different memories for people. Home. Homelessness. Longing for home. Exile. Socioeconomic homelessness. Ecological .. Spiritual .. Nomadic.

Bouma-Prediger and Walsh delve deeply into this global problem from lonely suburbs to lonely slums, cultural refugees to undocumented immigrants. Interspersed with Biblical interludes, they offer a vision of Christian response.

Check out materials anytime by following instructions in the binder on the library desk and in the Children's Library. Come in and browse anytime! Newsletter featured materials are easy to find on the special shelf.



## 7th Annual Trunk or Treat

Join the Fun on Friday Evening  
October 30 from 5:00—6:30 p.m.

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

Use this link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA8A82CABFAC61-66248050-trunk#/>

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

Invite your family members, friends, & neighbors to come and “Trunk or Treat at Trinity”

**Donations of candy without nuts will be gladly accepted.**

### November 3 Election

Cathy Holder has kindly offered to provide rides to polling places for anyone at Trinity who needs one. Please contact Cathy at this email: [como.cat@yahoo.com](mailto:como.cat@yahoo.com) by November 1 or speak to her at church.

### Submissions for Trinity Times

The deadline for the November *Trinity Times*

is October 23, 2026.

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