

TRINITY TIMES

March 2011

Inside this edition . . .

- Pastor's Pen/Blog
- Session Highlights
- Treasurer's Corner
- Mission Committee
- Lenten Study
- Fellowship Committee
- Director of Faith & Art
- Weekly Worship Attendance
- Ash Wednesday
- Library Corner
- Preschool
- Men's Study Group
- Sew 'n Sews
- Director of CE & Youth
- Newsletter Deadline
- TPW
- Thanks
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Collection Counters
- Sunday School Volunteers



PASTOR'S PEN/BLOG

In Philippians 1:7 Paul makes a powerful statement about his friends in the Christian church in Philippi. He writes, "I have you in my heart . . . you are all partakers of God's grace with me." Clearly there was a strong bond between Paul and his fellow Christians in that congregation. The word "heart" in Hebrew thought referred to the center of a person's thoughts and feelings; it was at the very core of his or her being.

We all have people who we carry in our hearts, who are in our thoughts, for whom we have deep feelings. I believe that Paul's words remind us that often the most significant relationships we enjoy are created in the context of Christian ministry. There's a great bond among folks who work together for God's purposes.

These thoughts were in my mind recently while meeting with our Acts 16:5 Team. Together, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we have developed the church-wide Lenten study for 2011. It was with enthusiasm and gratitude that we opened God's Word together and prayed to be led in the direction that would bear the most fruit. I pray that each of you will make use of the Lenten study that is detailed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Also, my prayer is that each of us finds fellow "partakers of God's grace" here at Trinity

Grace & Peace,
Shawn

Session Highlights. . .

Highlights from the February 2011 Meeting

- Reminder: There are 14 months remaining on Building Fund commitments.
- Accepting new commitments/donations/gifts for Building Fund.
- Trinity Preschool summer camp dates approved: June 20-24 & July 18-22.
- Dory Furlong Preschool Scholarship Committee in place, first meeting to be held soon.
- Faith & Art Committee will be applying for grants to help fund programs. Please be in prayer for the process.

Treasurer's Corner. . .

**STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY
For the Month ending January 31, 2011**

	JANUARY		
	Jan-11 Actual	Budget	Jan-10 Actual
Pledges	—	—	\$34,179
Plate offering	\$461	\$376	\$347
Donors	\$34,889	\$42,175	\$5,725
	<u>\$35,350</u>	<u>\$42,552</u>	<u>\$40,251</u>

*Note: since pledge cards were not signed this year, all identified contributions are show in the "Donors" category.

One of our congregation members has brought it to our attention that folks who must take a minimum distribution from their IRA might be able to do this for 2011 in a non-taxable manner if they wish to make a gift of the distribution to their church or another non-profit, and they have the distribution transferred directly to the organization. This may be particularly helpful if you do not itemize deductions or if you have surpassed the allowable charitable gift deduction. If you think this might apply to you, please check with your accountant or financial advisor.

From the Mission Committee. . .

Thank you for your support of *Souper Bowl of Caring*. Because of your generosity we were able to send \$325.50 to "Dare to Care" and \$100.00 and 150 food pantry items to EACM.

I know Operation Christmas Child Collection last November feels like it happened ages ago. But here are the final numbers:

Trinity's Relay Center collected 5,743 shoeboxes.

The Mid South Region, which includes Tennessee, Kentucky and Arkansas, collected 446,640 shoeboxes.

Nationally we saw God provide 5,503,968 shoeboxes

That's **5,503,968** Gospel Opportunities! AMAZING!

Just imagine, since 1993, well over 85 million children have been touched by the Gospel through the shoebox gifts packed by people like you! Who says God is sitting by idly?

As we look to 2011, we know we have a huge task before us to break last year's record and equip even more pastors' and ministry leaders' efforts with the Gospel. As a regional team, would you join me in praying to surpass 480,000 shoebox gifts regionally and 5.8 million nationally? It will take a lot of work and it will take much time on our knees in prayer. But, through our Lord, all things are possible!

EACM – NEEDED ITEMS

Angela Humes, Client Services Director, has asked for some specific items. Here is her wish list:

Toothpaste, toilet paper, spaghetti/noodles, rice, and crackers. Please add one or two of these items to your shopping list and place them in our shopping cart in the narthex. **THANK YOU!**

2011 Lenten Study. . .

The Marks of a Christian Disciple is a study that was created by Trinity's Acts 16:5 Team. During Lent the Trinity church family will be invited to attend a seven-week study on discipleship. We will explore themes related to the characteristics, attributes and habits of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

The congregation is given three options for participating in a study group: 1.) After the WoW meal. 2.) Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., in the parlor. 3.) In the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings.

Schedule:

Week 1:	(March 6th and 9th)	Prayer
Week 2:	(March 13th and 16th)	Bible Study
Week 3:	(March 20th and 23rd)	Servanthood and Stewardship
Week 4:	(March 27th and 30th)	Worship
Week 5:	(April 3rd and 6th)	Healthy Relationships
Week 6:	(April 10th and 13th)	Obedience to God's Calling
Week 7:	(April 17th and 20th)	My Own Well-Being

There are four leaders who will lead the groups on Wednesday evenings. Groups will range between 10 and 15 people in size, and each week the leaders will rotate. Participants will receive a study guide that should be of value during the study and beyond. Everyone is invited and urged to attend!

From the Fellowship Committee. . .

The new year has started and the Fellowship Committee is in full swing with fun events for all - most of them involving our favorite subject: food. On March 13, we are having the After Church Lunch at El Torazo. Those interested and hungry should sign up and indicate how many plan to attend. We will order off the menu. If you have questions, see Andy or Diana Alderette.

Still on the subject of food, we plan to start up the Supper Club again. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway across from Shawn's office. You can either indicate that you want to host or attend. Last day to sign up is March 27. Amy Jo and Brenda Miller are coordinating. Future events are the Ladies' Lunch/Men's Golf outing in June or July and a Bats Baseball game, probably in August. If you have questions about either event, contact Gary Watson.

Let me close with – what else? Food. Please don't forget WOW this month:

- March 9: "It's Soup – Let's Roll." Committee to bring soups, with members to bring salads & desserts.
- March 16: "Potato Bar Night." Committee to provide baked potatoes, members to bring condiments & desserts.
- March 23: "March Madness." Wear your favorite team jersey. Check the sign-up sheet for more information on food.
- March 30: "Italian Night." Decorations – Red/Green Wine bottles with candles. Check the sign-up sheet for food updates.

The Fellowship Committee looks forward to a busy but blessed time.

In Christ,
Andy Alderette,
Fellowship chairman

News from the Faith & Art Center . . .

Peace & Grace to All from the Trinity Center for Faith & Art,

The following is a letter I'd like to share with you from Paul Michael's mother. Paul Michael attends our Friday Night Autism Teen Group.

Dear Candy:

This letter is to thank you for Trinity Presbyterian Church Pottery Club that my son attends during the summer and throughout the school year. On behalf of my son, I wish to thank all of you from the bottoms of our hearts.

This is my son's third year attending the pottery club, and he hopefully will for many years to come. For a child with huge social deficits this is not something that we have been able to teach and put into practice. Most peers start realizing that my child is different, he doesn't communicate, he doesn't take turns, he invades personal space, etc. The pottery club allows him to be with peers that are like him, but provides peer tutors so he can be corrected when he is inappropriate. This social skill would be impossible to be taught at home since he doesn't have any friends.

As a parent, I have exhausted myself trying to do all of these things on my own. The pottery club is a huge respite for the very large responsibilities of taking care of and raising a child with autism. It has provided me with so much comfort knowing that he is active and engaging in the community like a normal person and enjoying his social time. He also prefers to be "hanging out" with his friends versus his mother.

Most importantly this pottery club has opened the door for not only Paul Michael and me, but so many other opportunities have come from it. He went from being a very, very lonely little boy to a teenager that is so active with after school activities and a year round social calendar. This has been my dream his whole life and without all the pieces in place none of this could happen.

Paul Michael gets to go to pottery once a month free of charge and his parents get to go out to eat dinner while he is there. He also gets to meet with all of his friends from school and the summer camp he attends. All of these things I think he is worthy of and without pottery club, none of them would have been possible. He would still be that lonely little boy without any social skills wanting friends.

I am so proud of all of his accomplishments and can honestly say without pottery club, friends and the loving hearts of so many people my son would not be where he is today. He still lacks in so many ways, but he has grown leaps and bounds through this opportunity..

Thank you again and kindest regards, Barbara A. Wallender

As always we are always in need of volunteers. If you would like to assist, please call the church office.

In Christ, Candy Wheat

******Open Studio on March 20th, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.******

Weekly Worship Attendance . . .

		one year ago		one year ago	
January 23	171	146	February 13:	132	126
January 30:	165	129	February 20:	192	191
February 6:	174	138			

Ash Wednesday . . .

Our Lenten study will begin on March 9th, which is Ash Wednesday. Everyone will meet in the sanctuary at 6:45 to sing a hymn and have the ashes imposed on our foreheads. By 7:00, we will be divided into small groups and meeting in various rooms around the building.

Library Corner. . .

The following are new books to be found in the library.

220.9 Williams, Michael. *Storyteller's Companion to the Bible: Exodus - Joshua.*

A brief synopsis of various chapters is presented as well as comments on the story.

Then each story is retold in either ancient or modern forms.

222.3 Pressler, Carolyn. *Joshua, Judges, and Ruth.*

Explores the biblical book in its original historical context and explores its significance for the church today.

223.2 Griggs, Donald. *Discovering the Psalms: Passion, Promise and Praise.*

248.2 Brother Andrew. *The Calling.* How one man was called to do mission work behind the Iron Curtain in the 1950's. He visited home churches in Iran; smuggled Bibles into China. A true adventure story!

248.3 Lawton, Wendy. *Impressions in Clay: Learning How to Live Under the Master's Hand.*

Reflections on the rich biblical metaphor of pottery and clay.

Collette Sangster

From the Preschool. . .

February has been a busy month in the Purple Room. Our two's have grown by leaps and bounds this school year. It is a thrill to watch their development during this very formative year.

This month we have enjoyed a Dental Health Program, participated in the Valentine Program and celebrated during the 100th Day of School festivities. Our curriculum for the month has included exposure to the letters Q, R, S, T, and U. We have covered numbers 5 & 6, the heart shape and the color pink. Our theme for the month has been dental health, Valentine's Day and love!

Miss Linda and Miss Sally, Purple Room 2's

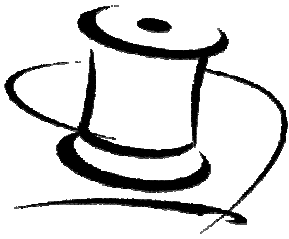
Preschool Guest Reader Program

One day each week during March we are inviting preschool parents and church members to be a guest reader for one or more of our preschool classes. The guest reader may bring a children's book of their choice or have one provided by the teacher. Each participant will be contacted to set up a convenient time to visit and determine the age group they would like to read to. You may chose to sign up for one or more days. A sign-up sheet is located on the preschool bulletin board in the church office hallway. Please join us in this opportunity to share the joy of reading with the students.

Men's Study Group. . .

In March the Wednesday morning Men's Study Group will read Luke 3. All Trinity males are invited to meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at Panera Bread on Hurstbourne Lane at 7:30 a.m. The dates in March are the 6th and 20th; it's not too late to get in on the Luke study.

An Update from the Sew 'n Sews . . .



Sew 'n Sews continues to meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the church at 9:30 a.m. For those who don't know, Sew 'n Sews is a group of six church women who meet to exchange ideas in sewing, make healing blankets, and work on projects to sell at the Trinity Women's Christmas Sale each December. We welcome anyone with an interest in crafting and sewing to join us.

Since our beginning in 2007 we have made for delivery to ailing church members and friends fifty-six healing blankets, sent thirty blankets, twenty-eight wraps, and four burp clothes to the Home of the Innocents; sent over two-hundred medicine bags to a medical mission team in the Dominican Republic; made pottery aprons for our Center of Faith & Art; made curtains and blankets for our church nursery; plus four annual Christmas Sales netting over seven-thousand dollars for Trinity Women's benevolences.

We would like to thank you for supporting our projects in the past and hope you will continue to do so. We always appreciate donations of fabric and sewing supplies. We would love for you to join us and welcome any new ideas you might have. If you have any questions, ask any of the women in our group listed below.

Anuji Abraham, RoseMary Hambleton, Glenna Ogle, Martha Warrick, Betty Wilborn or Arlene Van de Hoef

From the Director of CE and Youth . . .

Looking ahead to summer...

I am very excited to share with you a very special retreat that will take place this summer. Before I continue I must tell you that this one is for girls only. And when I say girls, I do mean girls of all ages! On July 22nd and 23rd we will head to Wooded Glen in Henryville, Indiana for an overnight adventure. We will spend time getting to know each other and traveling through the book of Ruth. If you have never read the story then you are in for a treat. If you have read it you will be challenged to look at it in a different light. This retreat is designed for girls from 12 to 112 years old. The facility offers comfortable rooms, great food and a beautiful setting. There is a \$50.00 deposit and the total cost will vary depending on the number per room.

Also this summer: Montreat – Youth Conference June 12-18 and Two Nights Together – Sunday, July 10th and 11th.

If you have any questions about these events or any others please feel free to contact me.

Many Blessings, Linda Kennedy

Newsletter Deadline . . .

The deadline for the April 2011 *Trinity Times* is March 18. Please email articles to trinitypc@earthlink.net or leave them in the secretary's mailbox.

Trinity Presbyterian Women. . .

GAME DAY: On Friday, March 25, Trinity Presbyterian Women will be providing lunch for Rose Anna Hughes Game Day. Bring dishes to the church by 9:00 a.m., as we'll leave by 9:30 a.m. Games and playing cards will begin at 10:00 a.m., with lunch served at 11:30 a.m. It's a fun morning for all of us and the ladies are very appreciative of the "home cooking." To participate, whether by providing food or attending the event, the sign-up sheet is on the TPW bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact Linda Strohmeier or Brenda Miller.

SPRING GATHERING will be Saturday, March 26, at Second Presbyterian Church. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more information.

SAVE THE DATE: Mark your calendar for Sunday, May 22. Trinity Presbyterian Women, assisted by the Fellowship Committee, will be hosting our Annual Birthday Celebration. This year will be a potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. Bring a dish and come enjoy the fellowship, birthday cakes, tables decorated for each month of the year, and more! The 2011 birthday offering will be received and dedicated. This year it goes to: Across in Jonglei, South Sudan; Menaul School in Albuquerque, New Mexico and Anderson Interfaith Ministries, Inc. in Anderson, South Carolina.

Tuesday Morning Circle: March 8th, 10:30 in the parlor, brown bag lunch. Combined lessons 5 & 6 from *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*. Facilitator: RoseMary Hambleton. Hostess Group #3 (Janet Pender, chair).

Prepared by: Brenda Miller, Kay Nolan and Virginia Kozak

Quote of the Month:
In this Irish home may these walls be filled with laughter, may it reach from floor to rafter. May the roof keep out the rain, may sunshine warm each windowpane. And may the door be open wide to let the Good Lord's love inside.
Traditional

Thanks . . .

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,

Sean, Rachel, Jack, Kayla and I just wanted to say thank you for the outpouring of generous gifts we have received these past weeks after the birth of the twins. We have been so overwhelmed by the cards, gifts and wonderful food our church family has given us, that a mere "thank you" pales in comparison. How blessed and honored we are to be part of this circle of friends and look forward to raising our family here.

In Christ, Shelley Shumate and Family

Thanks for the prayers, cards and visits during my recent hospital visit. They were a real morale boost.
Ted Kozak

March Birthdays. . .

3-5	Lucie Fulmore	3-18	Wally DeWitt	3-25	Clyde Muse
3-7	Ruth French		Kathy Schuler	3-26	Sarah Douglas
3-8	Megan Barnum	3-19	Nolan Anderson		Bill Hambleton
	Vance Gilley		Harry Furlong		Drew Hatch
	Arlene Van De Hoef	3-21	Jack Blair	3-29	Emily Anderson
3-10	Andrea Williams-Neal	3-23	Liz Barnum		Thomas Douglas
3-13	Harper Davis		Betsy Sangster	3-31	Frank Whatton

March Anniversaries. . .

3-3	Tom & Molly Woods	3-26	Jay & Mary Charnes
3-9	Richard & Beth Bloss Bird		Charlie & Chris Niemann
3-24	William & JoAnne Fraser		

Collection Counters

March 6:	Tom & Cathy Dawson
March 13:	Bill & Janet Husband
March 20:	Virginia Kozak and Betty Wilborn
March 27:	Mary Corum & Marilyn Davis

Nursery Volunteers

Liz Barnum
Susan Hornung and Mary Charnes
Kay Nolan
Amy Jo Barkley and Elizabeth McDaniel

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Trinity's Vision Statement

"We are a welcoming church family, developing disciples who joyfully minister to others in the name of Christ."