

Trinity Tidings

An Inviting Community Following Christ For Life

Volume 56, Issue 5/6

June/July 2023

Hearts Set on Pilgrimage

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage. Psalm 84:5

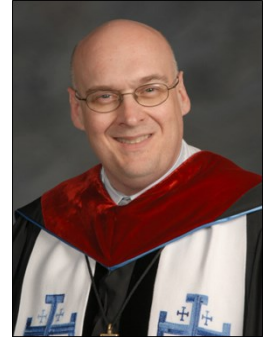
As the summer begins, it is often a time for our staff to review the past year and to give some thought to what the new year holds. Like you, it is often a time to slow down a bit and recharge after a demanding program year. For me and 17 others, however, the summer also will be a time to pray in, perhaps, a new way. For the 12 Trinity members and 5 members of First Presbyterian, Sterling, Colorado (where our former Associate Pastor, Michelle Witherspoon is the Senior Pastor) who will be with me, it will be prayers offered while on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. For me, the pilgrimage will be part of my vacation time for this year, though I'm grateful to be able to also then take 10 days of my denominationally-required continuing education days to spend doing individual study time in Israel/Palestine. You'll hear more about that in the next issue of *The Tidings*.

To ensure this trip will be a pilgrimage rather than a sightseeing tour, I am planning a slow enough pace so our pilgrims can have time for quiet reflection and prayerful worship. Of course, as I have told you many times before, you don't have to go to the Holy Land to pray deeply and to worship joyfully. The vast majority of my life—all of it minus about 10 weeks!—has been lived outside of the Holy Land, and yet by prayer, I believe my heart has always been set for pilgrimage. As the baptized people of God, we have been made part of God's mission expedition.

I want to encourage all of us to keep this summer with prayer and to consider, during possibly slower days, what it means that Christ accompanies us. I want to ask you to join me in praying for all your siblings in Christ who will be going to the Holy Land. I also want to ask you to think about your life as a follower of Jesus as a journey *toward* God and also with God. Whether we are in Jerusalem or Cherry Hill, Nazareth or Mount Laurel, we are invited to walk with the Lord Jesus in prayer and worship. Like the two on the road to Emmaus, Christ longs to walk with us, to open the Scriptures to us, to make Himself known the breaking of bread at His holy Table—and Christ has done that among us pilgrims through Sunday worship and mission projects and PW circles and small group Bible studies and choir rehearsals and Sunday school lessons and so much more. This past year has been for us, by God's amazing grace, a year of walking with the God revealed in Jesus Christ and made known by the Holy Spirit. The next year will be the same: Christ showing up along the road with us, and setting our hearts ablaze with love. So set your heart on pilgrimage wherever you are, for wherever you are, Christ is with you on this journey and so gives all of us every reason to be . . .

Hoping Big,

Gregory



Staff

Pastor/Head of Staff

The Rev. Dr. Gregory C. Faulkner

Associate Pastor

The Rev. Ms. Sarah Craven

Parish Associate

The Rev. Mr. Barry Gruver

Director of Music

Lisa Marcelli

Music Associate Brian Kain

Church Treasurer

Debby Talbott

Office & Media Manager

Alysia Sieh Badskey

Office & Membership Associate

Pam Dougherty



News & Notes

Congratulations to the 2023 Senior Graduating Class:

*Nitin Charles, Sarah Lausi, Marissa McGrath, Alexa Rankin,
Jaret RitterJack Schwarz, Zhi Strobel, & Matt Yeary*

Please send graduation photos and a short bio of interests/plans to alysia.sieh@trinpres.org to be included in the July/August Tidings.

Congratulations to the 2023 Commissioning Class:

*Selena Carol Bandi
Camrynn Diane Curl
Ethan Gregory Leitinger
Rebecca Lee Strobel
Giovannina Emma Viglietta
Jacob Thomas Henderson*



Other News:

Sue Nork is signing-off! In case you missed it, Sue Nork is retiring from the Trinity Office Staff **after more than 20 years!** We are **beyond grateful for all the ways in which Sue has served the church.** We look forward to continuing to worship and fellowship with her at Trinity. For all church office matters please contact Alysia Sieh Badskey: alysia.sieh@trinpres.org.

Session Update

- At its stated meetings in March and April the Session:
- Reviewed and approved an updated Child Protection Policy.
- Re-elected Jenny Stark for a one-year term as clerk of session.
- Approved March 6th and April 3rd member counts of 630 and 638.
- Approved facility uses by the Garden State Chorale on May 13th and a member piano recital on May 20th.
- Voted to use session funds to cover half the Commissioning Class Dinner cost.
- Voted to use session funds for a retirement gift/office farewell party for Sue Nork.
- Heard the APNC's (Associate Pastor Nominating Committee) progress report.
- Reviewed February and March financial statements.
- Prayed for our members, friends, and the world.

- Jenny Stark, *Clerk of Session*



Session of Elders

Clerk of Session

Jenny Stark

Adult Ministries

Beth Gammie, Chair

Jen Dukelow

Children's Ministries

Liz Nieradka, Chair

Michelle Yeary

Finance & Stewardship

Brad Ritchie, Chair

AnneMarie Palatnik

Membership

Susan Bastnagel, Chair

Audrey Azevedo

Wendy Anders

Mission & Outreach

Stacey Blackmer, Chair

John Wilson

Personnel

Donna Croker, Chair

John Young

Property & Buildings

Walt Steinle, Chair

Dave Large

Steve Morton

Worship & Music

Bonnie Jones, Chair

Youth Ministries

Tracy Miller, Chair

Rich Fletcher

Strategy Committee

John Young, Chair

Deacons

Moderator of Deacons

Michele Strobel

Committee Chairs

Assistance

Judy Spotto

Fellowship

Alison Schwarz

Visitation

Janelle Curl

Service

Kelly Murray

Trinity Sunday Funday 2023!

Sunday, April 30, 2023

10:45am - 12:00pm



Hot Dog Bar

Tasty Sides

Cupcakes

Family Games

Fellowship and Fun



FREE Ice Cream Truck Treats

Enter the **CUPCAKE CONTEST** and win a ribbon!
Ribbons will be awarded in 3 categories and this year entries
will be judged in Adult, Teen, and Youth levels.



*This is an event for all ages and multi-generations.
Come take part in Trinity's Sunday Funday!*

Sign-Up to bring a side dish or enter the cupcake
contest, starting April 2 in Fellowship Hall.
Invite Your Friends and Neighbors!

We hope to see you there!

Children's Ministry

Children's Ministries was busy this past month with our mission projects and our Palm Sunday Festival.

Our February mission project was to make Easter Cards R & M Boarding Home. Children decorated the cards and wrote thoughtful messages. In March, children decorated over 100 placemats for Cathedral Kitchen and we are beginning to prepare for our May mission, when the children will create hygiene bags with the materials collected by PW. It is wonderful to see the children learning about helping others in their own community.

Children's Ministries also organized the Palm Sunday Festival this past month. Children decorated many Easter crafts and spent time together as a church community. On Easter Sunday our preschool and kindergarten children learned about the resurrection and celebrated Easter with special crafts and their very own Easter egg hunt. It was a festive day!

We are looking forward to April 30th and the Sunday Funday. Hope to see you there!



SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL

Please consider signing up for Summer Sunday School coverage. This is for the Nursery through Kindergarten age children. Two people are needed to cover each Sunday during the summer. The coverage will be in room 6 with many toys, coloring, and games for the children. You do not need to teach a bible lesson. Bibles and biblical stories are available, but our goal during the summer is to provide a safe and positive environment for the children so the parents are able to attend worship. Check your calendars! Sign-ups will be in the

Fellowship Hall! Contact Liz Nieradka - enieradka@verizon.net if you have questions or are interested in signing up for a specific date.

Help us bless the children and the parents. Thanks in advance for your consideration!

Children's Music Ministry

5th Grade Bios

Landon Mast

Landon lives in Cherry Hill with his 14 year old sister Hannah and his 12 year old brother Braydon. Landon started singing in choir when he was 7 and also plays baseball, street hockey and basketball. Landon's favorite ice cream is chocolate and his favorite food is spaghetti. Landon loves to play Outburst with his family. Landon's favorite part of Trinity is "the stained glass windows and listening to the adult choir." Landon's favorite time to sing in church is "at Christmas because of the beautiful songs." Landon's favorite part of Moses and the Freedom Fanatics was "Moses, Moses, he's our man!" and Landon learned that "God helped the slaves gain freedom with the help of bugs."



Jacob Peelman



Jacob lives in Marlton with his 14 year old brother Ben and his 6 year old sister Abby. Jacob started singing in choir when he was 4 and also plays soccer and piano, does theater and is in the band and book club. Jacob's favorite ice cream is cookie dough and his favorite food is a maple bacon doughnut. Jacob loves to read, watch TV and play with his family. Jacob's favorite part of Trinity is "the stained glass because it is peaceful." Jacob's favorite time to sing in church is "on Rally Day because everybody is energetic." Jacob's favorite part of Moses and the Freedom Fanatics was "when Moses gave the Benediction" and he thinks "Moses's faith in God made him strong and persistent."

Alayanna Strobel

Alayanna lives in Somerdale and has 5 siblings... Connor is 22, Zhi is 18, Rebecca is 14 and Emily is 28. Alayanna began singing in choir when she was 4 and also plays soccer and draws. Alayanna's favorite ice cream is cookies and cream and her favorite food is fried tortellini. Alayanna likes to play games, have funny conversations and tell jokes with her family. Alayanna's favorite part of Trinity is the library because "that is where I do work with my mom." Alayanna's favorite time to sing at Trinity is "all of the time, because I love being with my friends." Alayanna's favorite part of Moses and the Freedom Fanatics was her "solos, duets and trios" and she learned "slavery was long and hard."



We had so much fun making music!



Thank you for a wonderful year of choir and bells! - Ms. Lisa

Soup and Sound Thank You!



The 2023 Soup and Sound series was a huge success! We enjoyed wonderful concerts presented by varied artists including piano, trumpet, organ, harp, and saxophone. This year we were able to partake in a pre-concert lunch once again. We could not have had these lunches without the contributions from the following people: Georgeanne Moore, Janet Cohen, Linda Flanary, Linda Wilson, Bob Thorpe, Donna Wasik, Carolyn Kramer, Beth Gammie, Victoria Ebiri, Karen Kain, Linda Wean, Gail Van Dyke, Trudie Levins, Bob Krchnavek, Sue and Dick Nipe, Susan Bastnagel, Deepa Albert, Michele Strobel, Carol Plimpton, Donna Croker, Bonnie Jones, Audrey Azevedo, Nancy Roberts. Thank you!

R&M Spring Collection

Trinity friends, **our friends at R & M Boarding Home need our help.** For those of you not familiar with the program, Trinity has been a longtime supporter of the residents at R&M. This state funded residence is for recovering and developmentally disabled people, for the most part without family support. In the past, many of our PW circles and youth groups supported these folks with visits meals and you may recall sent a food truck there last summer.

We recently met with the new administrator there and learned of the needs of the **51 residents (41 men and 10 women).** In May, we will be **collecting items that the residents need most...**

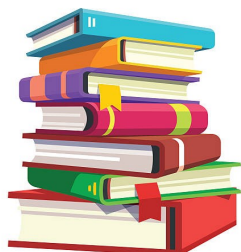
- Toiletries (soap, deodorant, razors, toothpaste and toothbrushes)
- Underwear (men's and women's in a variety of sizes)
- Shoes (gently worn or new)
- Clothing (also a variety of sizes)



We will **have bins at the PW bulletin board** (on the left as you exit the Sanctuary) and will be collecting at our **Mission Thursdays on May 4 and May 18.**

Please consider donating for our Sisters and Brothers in Christ at R&M. If you have questions, contact Carolyn Kramer (carolynhkramer@comcast.net). Thank you so much!

Trinity Library



The Library Committee would like to know what YOU want included in the items available in the library. It doesn't matter if it is a children's book, something by a popular secular adult author, or an addition to the non-fiction section. We are looking for ideas to supplement our Youth book cart as well. Remember to come check out the new books as well as the seasonal displays. Don't forget that you can look up and reserve books online at www.libib.com/u/trinpresch. Your name and email address can be added to the system simply by letting us know you are interested. See a committee member or email Michele Strobel at kndlkal1@comcast.net.

Care 'n Share

Care n Share has been unusually busy with sales of spring & summer items! Many great items that have been donated mostly by Trinity members!



Our schedule will continue thru May, with the “first” Saturday in May (May 6) & all Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10 am to 1 pm. The last day to bring in summer items will be the Thursday before Memorial Day (May 25).

In June our “first” Saturday will be June 3. On that date we start our half price sale on everything and which will continue on Tuesday, June 6.

On Thursday, June 8, we will end the season with a \$5.00 bag sale on clothing and half price on every thing else!! Left over clothes will go to homeless missions.

We are closed for the summer & will re-open in mid-September. Our wonderful & dedicated volunteers deserve some R & R!

Have a wonderful summer! Check Work & Worship for winter clothing donation dates in August...Also our monetary donations that we send to local missions!



BookSmiles

Book Smiles Update

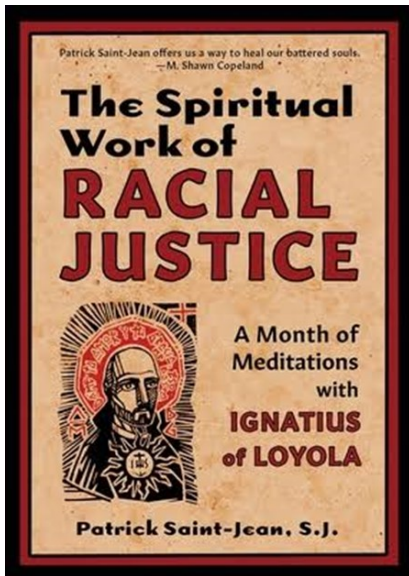
Mission & Outreach Committee is grateful for the Trinity Community’s support of this year’s Church Wide **BookSmiles** Collection. Since February 1st, we have received 580 books. We also know many of you purchased books through Ida’s Book Store and Amazon which were shipped directly to the BookSmiles Book-Bank. We are particularly thankful for everyone who embraced our intention to provide books representative of diverse cultures and peoples.

Thank you for making an impact on young readers in our own community and the larger world. In support of an Urban Promise Ambassador, BookSmiles is collecting 40,000 books to ship to Malawi to develop libraries & resources in schools. Many of Trinity’s donations will be part of that project.

Please remember that our permanent BookSmiles collection bin is available 24/7 under the covered entrance to Care n’ Share/Community room & can be accessed from the rear parking lot. The Malawi Book project is particularly in need of current dictionaries, thesauri, and elementary level reference books. Watch for more info about BookSmiles projects in upcoming Tidings issues.

Adult Education

It's not too late to join Trinity's
Racial Equity Advocacy Project's spring initiative.

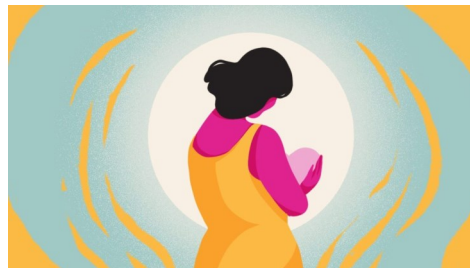


REAP's Spiritual Support Group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7-8:30 PM with our next zoom gathering scheduled for May 18th, 2023.

Facilitated by Rev. Pat Weikart and using **Patrick Saint-Jean's** text, "The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice" as our devotional guide, we strive to move forward in bridging the divide that racism has wrought among us by building spiritual strength through Bible study, meditation, and reflection.

Please register to obtain the zoom link by emailing Pam Dougherty in the church office at pam.dougherty@trinpres.org. The study guide may be purchased through Amazon (Print & Kindle versions available) or Barnes & Noble.

Mother's Matter Thank You!



THANK YOU to PW Circles and everyone in the congregation who donated items to the Mothers Matter (MM) Project. We collected 325 items that will be used to make gift bags for deserving mothers. Many are delivered for Mother's Day and this is the only gift these women will receive. Other gift bags will be delivered during the year. We appreciate your generosity with this very worthwhile project. Thank you again. - Jan Caffrey

From the Desk of the PW

THE GIFT OF MUSTARD SEEDS

Mark 4:30-32 - Again he [Jesus] said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, of what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade." (NIV)



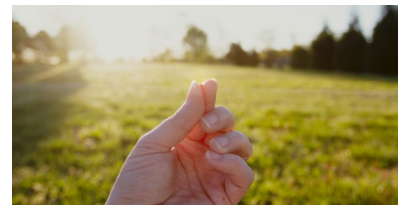
PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

To All of the Sisters of Christ at Trinity,



This year's PW theme has been Mustard Seed Moments. The goal was to focus on the many ways each of us individually and collectively makes a difference in the world; to see how God works in unseen and unexpected ways in our lives and the world. I am sure you are tired of hearing about how much good our PW group does between Circle mission projects, Care 'N Share fund raising, and community service, as well as the many ways we support our faith journeys and enjoy fellowship, but all of this depends upon the contributions of time, talent, resources, and love (i.e., "mustard seeds") that each individual brings. Please continue to seek ways to plant and grow the mustard seed you have been given for it is surely a gift.

Thank you to PW Coordinating Team Board this year. As Moderator, I have had to use my Mustard Seed to learn and grow all year. Thank you to the Board Members who encouraged, supported, and helped me. Thank you to Rev. Sarah and Rev. Gregory for their belief that I could do this job, and all the many ways they helped! Thank you to office staff for the many times they scrambled to help me get something done.



I hope you will join me in welcoming and supporting our new PW Moderator, Jenny Leitinger, and Vice Moderator, Willemijn Don-Goetz. If you are not in a circle yet, please consider giving it a try. Feel free to reach out to me at sparky11142@verizon.net or Jenny Leitinger at jerseyjenny13@gmail.com for more information. Go ahead, plant your Mustard Seed!

Thank you! - Barb Clarke

DATES TO REMEMBER: 5/2/23 - PW Spring Gathering, 6:30pm



PROJECT ROZANA



MEMORIAL DAY

Prayers for Military Personnel

For the last 15 years, it has been our practice to remember in our Sunday prayers all those who are serving in the United States military. Beyond the prayer for safety, which I'm sure each of us offers often, I am sometimes asked how are other ways we can we pray for those who are serving.

Below are two prayers that come from the Anglican tradition; I think both are helpful and beautifully written prayers that you and I can add to our daily devotions as we pray for those of our Trinity family serving in the military. We need to pray for Cory Allen, Connor Barnes, Aaron Bill, Tyler Parsons and Connor Strobel.

*Heavenly Father,
we commend to your gracious care and keeping
all the men and women in our Armed Forces at home and abroad.
Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace;
strengthen them in their trials and temptations;
and give them courage to face the perils that beset them;
and help them to know that nothing can separate them from your love;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

*O Lord God of Hosts,
stretch forth, we pray, your almighty arm
to strengthen and protect our service men and women.
Support them in times of conflict,
and in their rest and training keep them safe from all evil;
endue them with courage and loyalty;
and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*





Trinity Presbyterian Church (USA)
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Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-2462

Next Tidings deadline is June 15th for July/August Issue

*Wishing you a peaceful
and blessed*

Memorial Day

THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHAT LOVE IS:
JESUS CHRIST LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US.
AND WE OUGHT TO LAY DOWN
OUR LIVES FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

1 JOHN 3:16

In–Person
& Virtual
Worship:
9:30am
Sunday
Mornings