



TRINITY TIMES

WORSHIP AT TRINITY:

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Crossroads Contemporary
Worship in Fellowship Hall

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Cheers!

by Reverend Philip Brooks

When novelist Mark Twain was asked what his New Year's resolution would be, he replied, "I'm going to live within my income

this year even if I have to borrow money to do it!"

A man said he had started a diet on January 1. He continued, "In less than a week I lost three pounds - and the will to live!"

Old movies used to depict people at parties hoisting a glass for a toast and uttering "Cheers!" It was a wish for a cheerful life.

In the New Testament (KJV translation) there are seven places where we find the phrase, "Be of good cheer" spoken either by Jesus or the Apostle Paul. The most important of these are from Jesus Christ Himself. As we embark upon 2010 let's carry with us Jesus' "be of good cheer" statements. His words are encouraging and empowering.

"Be of good cheer", Jesus said to a man in Matthew 9:2, "your sins are forgiven you." How wonderful to experience the cleansing and freedom from guilt that so weighs down multitudes of people, unable to forgive their past. But let us hear Jesus' words that bring cheer: "Your sins are forgiven you!" As we confess and believe in Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf, the blessings of that gift are given to us by God.

"Be of good cheer", He said to frightened disciples in Matthew 14:27, "It is I; do not be afraid." As we face the unknowns of another year, especially in light of the experiences of 2009, we may harbor fears about the economy, or health, relationships, or any number of circumstances that produce anxiety. In such times, hear clearly Jesus' words that come ringing down the centuries to this place and moment, "Do not be afraid" because His presence is with us.

"Be of good cheer," Jesus said in John 16:33, "I have overcome the world." When facing uncertainties, it is wonderful to know that whatever happens, in the end things will be OK. By His death and resurrection, life was given new meaning and possibility. The gift of abundant life now and the assurance of eternal life to come brings comfort, hope, and joy for all our tomorrows.

As we pass through the hours and days of 2010, let us carry with us these promises from Christ that our sins are forgiven, that we need not be afraid, and that all this is possible because Christ has indeed overcome the world. In the end, we will be OK.

That's reason enough to cause even a teetotaler like me to lift a glass of diet cola and wish you "Cheers!" for a wonderful New Year.





christian education

Dr. Carolyn Leick

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... in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 9:39

"Oh how I wish I could take all of the adult Sunday school offerings for the next Winter session!" a mother of some of our young Trinity children lamented to me this week. My empathy for her was immediate and strong, for I too was feeling the same frustration. God's creation is so vast that we simply cannot partake of it all at once, and sometimes we are forced to realize that we can't partake of it all even in a lifetime.

Stop into the nursery if you want a toddler's miniscule view of God's creation unveiled in their ceiling that they like to take in while lying briefly on the floor between pursuits with peers, toys, books, climbing on a helper's lap or just relaxing. The light panels above them now sport exquisite photographs of animals, flowers, mountains, clouds, insects and schools of fish, each with glints of sunlight attracting our rapt gazes as well as those of the children.

If you want another miniscule display for adults, check out our blurbs on this page of Sunday school classes for all adult ages and interests . . . marriage, mental health, prayer, music, Bible study, social issues, relationships. Maybe you, like our young mom, will have a difficult time choosing which tempting offering to attend, or maybe you'll take a Sunday in each one, just to whet your appetites.

Whatever piques our interest and inspires our joy leaves us renewed, and Trinity has that effect on each of us in more ways than we can count or imagine. Come ye to the waters!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 2 Corinthians 5:17

Adult Sunday School Classes

January 3 - February 14, 2010

Prayer

Jim and Cassie Rehl
Room 209

A study featuring one of the most significant Christian thinkers of our generation, Philip Yancey, and his book, *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?*, will be facilitated by Cassie and Jim Rehl. Our relationship with God, our most fundamental, challenging, perplexing and deeply rewarding need, will be explored in depth. Many questions surrounding prayer that many of us wonder but few of us find easy to express, will be examined.

Religion and Psychology: What Do We Believe and Why We Believe It

Janet Peterson, PhD
Chapel

Do Christian beliefs run counter to psychological theories? Taught by an ordained Lutheran minister who is also a counseling psychologist, this class will explore the history of mental illness - what people have believed and how people with mental illness were generally treated from earliest times. We will look at what the Bible says about mental illness . . . surprisingly little, directly, and yet a great deal about how to understand suffering, feelings of depression, anxiety, loneliness and grief and the importance of the community. We will look at more recent psychological practice - diagnosis, treatment modalities, use of medications and how psychological phenomena can challenge us to examine what we believe and why we believe it.

Bell Choir Offering for All

Diane Stanley
Room 201

Diane Stanley, Director of our wonderful Bell Choir, will be training all adults and children who wish to learn to play the bells. The training will take place during the 10:00 Sunday school hour each Sunday of January and February. Come one, come all! This is an opportunity for people, age 8 through 98 or older to learn to play the bells. Families may have fun coming together! But do not feel you must be part of a family. You are part of the Trinity family. Diane will be teaching the bells through the scriptures and the Sunday school curriculum the children would be having in their classes. This Christian Education/Music Education

combination packs a punch that only the two together can accomplish!

Confronting the Controversies

Christopher and Susan Scott
Chapelside Parlor

Though this study will put out on the table the major controversies and social issues that our churches are struggling with today: same-sex marriage, global warming, homosexuality, evolution etc., the "meat" of the study is about loving, respectful conversation, willingness to respect those with ideas different from our own, understanding of the value of listening and learning from one another and building strong trusting, Christ-like relationships with one another. Led by Chris and Susan Scott, we are certain that the blessings all will experience will be profound.

Fireproof

Dr. Brian Jones, Laura Diggs,
Sue and Bill Fitz
Room 208

A study about relationships, based on the award-winning movie of the same name, *Fireproof*, we'll look at:

He Said/She Said - appreciating the God-designed differences between men and women

He First Loves Us - God's love for you and how it enables you to love others

Love for a Lifetime - marriage as a lifelong covenant

Breaking Free - freeing yourself from temptations that can destroy a marriage

Forgiveness - offering and receiving forgiveness

A Better Way of Living - unconditional love

Though the topic of marriage is of great interest in this study, it is really about all of our relationships, professional, personal and spiritual.

In His Word

Matt Hamilton
Room 206

Join us for this in-depth study of God's word. We are beginning a new series on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12), devoting almost a week to each one and how it applies to our lives.

Brian Edwards
 Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries
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Personal Financial Management Class

with Jeff Matter and Andrew Widing

Based on a study entitled "Financial Peace University," featuring nationally known radio personality Dave Ramsey, this Christian based financial management program will be presented by our own Jeff Matter and Andrew Widing. The class will meet Thursday evenings for 13 weeks from 7-9 p.m. beginning January 28.

Members of our own congregation have been blessed by the help received from this study, and other United Methodist churches in the area have shared with us their praises of its enormous value to those who have completed the study.

We strongly recommend the class for all who wish to improve their own personal financial management.

Amazing Dates begins Feb. 10

Are you still wondering what to get your spouse for Valentine's Day? How about the gift of a stronger marriage? Beginning February 10th, the "Amazing Dates" will offer you the opportunity to do just that.

The "Amazing Dates" program is an exciting six-part series which will feature a discussion on different aspects of marriage and relationships, led by a member of the Trinity staff, followed by a date night with your spouse. The conversation portion of the evening will be held in the chapel at Trinity from 6:15-7pm. Afterward participants will be urged to have a date with their spouse to reflect on that night's topic, their marriage and simply to enjoy each others company.

Among the topics that will be covered are: Our Story - Past Present and Future, Communicating When We Disagree, Love Languages, Finances and Faith in Challenge.

Registration for this "Amazing" program will run from January 24 - February 7 at tables located outside of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.



Youth serve Hanging of Greens Spaghetti Dinner



Sunday Evening Youth Group

Middle School - 7-8:15 pm Youth Room
 High School - 7:45-9 pm Fellowship Hall

Dare 2 Share

February 5-6, 2010



opportunities

Weekly meetings:

Sunday

Monday

Baptism Sunday

Baptism Sunday is February 21, 2010 during the morning worship services. Families interested in baptisms are requested to call Judy in the Church Office for scheduling, 488-0695, or trinityoffice@trinityumchurch.com.

Green Tip

As we enter the New Year, resolve to re-commit to Christ & to the glorious green and blue planet. All the Earth is our God-given beautiful, but fragile & beleaguered home, and on it, Christ was & is the ultimate role model for the idea of "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." So, to serve Christ is to serve and help all our global ecosystems, because plants and animals are 'people' too. Without clean & healthy air, water and soil, service to others has no foundation on which to build. Have a Happier, Helpier, Greener New Year. Questions, comments, suggestions - call Bruce Satterthwaite at 488-7613.



WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Mornings

9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sanctuary
Traditional Worship

11 a.m. Fellowship Hall
Crossroads Contemporary
Worship

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10 a.m. for Adults and Children

5:30 pm Stephen Ministries Training

Youth Gatherings
7-7:45 MS
Youth Room
7:45-8:15 MS&HS
8:15-9 HS
Fellowship Hall

9:30 am Wee Moms;
Fellowship Parlor

3

10

Communion Sunday

12 pm Leadership Training

17

24

31

5 pm Hosting YWCA Family Center

4

9:15 am Women's Bible Study;
Chapelside Parlor
6 pm Mexico Mission Group; Fellowship Parlor

11

18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Offices Closed

25

9:15 am Women's Bible Study;
Chapelside Parlor
7 pm Mexico Mission Mtg.; Fellowship Parlor

Trinity Times is a monthly newsletter published for members of Trinity United Methodist Church. Subscriptions are available for \$15 per year for non-members. Make checks payable to Trinity UMC and designate Trinity Times on the memo. **The deadline to submit information for the February issue is Tuesday, January 12.** Please place your information or photos in the *Trinity Times* box in the church office or email to bekywest22@aol.com.

January 2010

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6:30 am Men's Small Group; Chapelside Parlor</p> <p>12:30 pm Tuesday Team @ New Life Clothing Room</p> <p>6:45 pm Women of the Living Word; Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7 pm Troop 261; Room 011</p>	<p>9 am Women of the Living Word; Fellowship Hall</p> <p>4:30 pm Children's Choir; Room 204</p>	<p>11 am Disciple Study; Room 207</p> <p>6:45 pm Chancel Bell Choir; Room 201</p> <p>7 pm Young Professionals Group; 1485 W. Third Ave. Apt. 5D</p> <p>8 pm Chancel Choir; Room 204</p>		
<p>5</p> <p>7 pm Women's Retreat Planning; Rm 221</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>January Dinner; Beef Stew Apple Pie; Fellowship Hall</p>		<p>8</p> <p>7 pm Art Night; Room 001</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Trinity Times Deadline</p> <p>7 pm Meeting Night for Committees & Council</p> <p>8:10 pm Admin Council; Rm 204</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 am Prayers & Squares; Room 208</p> <p>7 pm Caring Card Ministry; Room 001</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>19</p> <p>6 pm Small Group Council; Rm 206</p> <p>6:15 pm Pizza Making for Homeless; Fellowship Kitchen</p> <p>6:30 pm Children/Family Council; Fellowship Parlor</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5 pm YWCA Family Center Hosting</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
				



It is a privilege for me to carry on this ministry in Mike Johnson's memory and to work with so many giving people. I sincerely thank those who volunteered their time to make this happen and especially thank the people from Trinity who have given so generously to help feed families this Christmas season. Donations will continue to be accepted through the church office. Reaching down and lifting people up is what we are called to do as Christians. Trinity exemplifies this through Bethlehem on Broad.

Thank you!
Eric Hagely

More Bethlehem on Broad Street photos on page 5.

Rev. Amy Barlak Aspey
Director of Small Groups & Missions
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Trinity supports successful Bethlehem on Broad Mission

By Eric Hagely, 2009 Bethlehem on Broad Chairman

"There's no better exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up."

– John Andrew Holmes

Members of Trinity's congregation have realized this in their support of the Bethlehem on Broad ministry. Bethlehem on Broad, also known as "BoB," is an annual project by Trinity to build 500 food boxes for needy families of Columbus, and to offer financial support for the Inn at Broad Street – a transitional housing mission operated by Broad Street United Methodist Church.



"God will not look you over for medals, degrees or diplomas, but for scars." – Elbert Hubbard

Sore muscles, nicks and cuts from moving boxes of food and enduring cold weather were very small sacrifices for Trinity volunteers who helped with BoB compared to the challenges

faced by the families served through Bethlehem on Broad. More than 200 Trinity volunteers donated their time and energy to ensure that BoB boxes were built with care and distributed to the families.

"... For God loves a cheerful giver."

– 2 Corinthians 9:7

Trinity continued its generous support of BoB, which began in 2000 when Trinity member Mike Johnson started this initiative by putting together 25 food boxes out of his garage. Since then the ministry has grown. Trinity's commitment of 500 food boxes is combined with more than a dozen other area churches that contribute enough boxes to generate more than 1,200 total BoB boxes for distribution.



Counting on "Count on me, Trinity"



How many Lego pieces are required to build a to-scale replica of Trinity's steeple? Ask Trinity member Julie Andrews. She guessed 3,500, closest to the actual number, 3,362. Congratulations to Julie, pictured here, with her prize ... fittingly, Legos!

The amazing replica of our steeple, designed and built by ten-year-old A.J Heatley from Madison, Wisconsin, marked the progress of this year's Loyalty Campaign, "Count on me, Trinity." Trinity member Jamie Lowery (and friend of the Heatleys) added the pre-built sections to the model as pledges came in. Trinity members Jim Rudy updated the architectural blueprint to mark dollars pledged, and Mark Grindley provided the attractive plexiglass cover to complete the display.

Trinity thanks AJ, Jamie, Jim, and Mark for their efforts toward this unique display in the atrium.

The official total for the campaign will be marked on January 31, 2010. **Please submit your pledge now if you have not yet responded.** Many thanks to all members and friends who have generously pledged to continue Trinity's vital ministries in 2010.

Strength Training for Life Women's Retreat February 5 & 6, 2010

Need a break from the Winter Blues? Need to spend some time with other women? Need to strengthen your mind, body and spirit? Well ... we have the perfect solution for you! On February 5-6, all Trinity women are invited to come and enjoy the "Women of Strength: Strength Training for Life" Retreat.

The weekend will include speakers on physical, mental, and spiritual health; worship; small group conversation; time for reflection; break-out sessions by interest; fellowship and of course, good food! The event begins with dinner on Friday and will conclude by 4 p.m. Saturday.

This year's retreat will be held at Salt Fork (saltforkresort.com). The cost per person is: single room-\$180, double room- \$125, triple room - \$105, quad room- \$95. The price includes both lodging and meals. Registration will take place before and after all services on January 3, 10 and 17th. If you unable to register at these times or have other questions please contact Rev. Amy Aspey.

So, grab your overnight bag, a Bible, and come along for a great opportunity to strengthen your mind body and spirit!

- Joette Bryant

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Celebrating Trinity Stewards

Each month in *Trinity Times*, the Stewardship Committee invites us to celebrate the efforts of the members of our church family who contribute their time and talents to support the ministries of the church. If you would like to nominate someone for his or her stewardship contributions, please contact Seth Metcalf (smetcalf@ssd.com or 365.2778). Jamie Lowery wrote the following tribute.

Betty Creagan



We kick off our 2010 Steward of the Month with a salute to another true steward of Trinity, Betty Creagan. Betty is one of those people who keeps Trinity a going entity and a functioning church. She does a lot of the little Sunday to Sunday necessities. Those little things that we generally don't even notice, but would be glaring, if absent. A lifelong Columbus resident, Betty grew up attending Linworth United Methodist (where Rev. Brooks' wife has served). Time and circumstance led her twin sister,

Barbara Coombs, to Trinity during Gene Frazer's tenure, and Betty soon followed.

Currently, Betty gives her time by serving on three committees: Worship, Finance, and Administrative Council. But time spent serving on the committees is but a fraction of her commitment to Trinity. Any Saturday prior to a communion Sunday, come over to Trinity bright and early and you'll find Betty there filling the cups with juice and preparing the plates with bread. She also makes sure the pastor has a loaf to break. It's a job for which she's had years of preparation. As a youth, she helped her mother prepare for communion at Linworth, when they baked the bread at home. And, of course, setting up is only half the job. Betty stays after communion services to clean up and get ready for next time.

You, dear reader, may I safely assume are a pledging member of Trinity? And if not, tsk tsk, why not? Come on! Get on board with your fellow believers and get your own personalized envelopes. Betty would certainly applaud you and would like to remind you to use your pledge envelopes. It would make Betty's, and her Sunday blessed bevy of counters', jobs easier. For Betty organizes the counting and accounting of our Sunday offering. Each Sunday she sees to it that we have two counters for the money and a third official to finalize the count. The fun begins at 10 a.m. and doesn't end until the books are balanced and each of you regular contributors get credit on your account. Turns out it's a lot easier to get all the accounting done in a timely fashion if your gifts come in your personalized envelope (or, as Betty suggests, if you don't have your envelope, help them out and put your envelope number on your check).

Not content just to donate her time, Betty also gives of her talent with the Prayers & Squares group that makes quilts. Betty and about a dozen other women are currently working to produce 40 quilts for Trinity to send with members of our Mexico orphanage mission trip. They hope to have 25 ready to go with the February group and the next 15 to go with the March group. Generally, Prayers & Squares quilts are made as gifts and symbols of our prayers for ailing members of our Trinity family.

In her spare time Betty cleans the offering plates, creates new designs for and has made new communion linens, as well as serves on the Altar Guild. Altar Guild makes the arrangements to have flowers in the sanctuary, meditation room, and chapel.

Betty's contributions to Trinity are all around us, from the simple beauty of the new linens and quilts, to the polished shine on our offering plates and/or the quarterly contribution statements. In many ways these are the things we take for granted or don't even stop to think about (e.g., how much dedicated effort does it take to fill all those little juice glasses?), but going to church wouldn't be going to church without them. A steward is one who manages the affairs and finances of a household. We at Trinity are blessed to have so many good stewards like Betty who keep our Trinity house a good church home for us and for our Lord.



our church family

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Gene Bulman	Linda Robert
George Coles	Dave Rummel
Stan Morris	Chris Scott
Joanne Patete	

IN SYMPATHY

Trinity sympathies are extended to Chris Spielman and Family in the passing of his wife and Trinity member, Stefanie Spielman.

BAPTISMS

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was given on Sunday, November 29, 2009 for Olivia Elise Bradaschia, daughter of Leila and Giancarlo ... for Graham Everett Conway, son of Karin and Bradley ... for John Matthew Doyle, Jr., son of Krista and John ... for Natalie Grace Hendershot, daughter of Abigail and Michael ... for Jackson Brock Mills, son of Kimberly and Douglas ... for Christopher Marshall Reinke, son of Caroline and Christopher ... for Ella Christine Stafford, daughter of Elizabeth and Matthew ... and for Maxwell David Wright, son of Julie and David.

Strategic Planning Goals Adopted

The Strategic Planning Executive Committee of the Administrative Council was charged to identify a set of priorities for the improvement, expansion, and further development of Trinity's mission and ministry. To assist in accomplishing this task, the Strategic Planning Executive Committee sent on May 28, 2009 a survey to the chairs of Trinity's 16 councils and committees, 24 elected At-Large members of the Administrative Council, five church officers and leaders, and six ministers and program staff members.

Using the responses to the survey as a resource, the Strategic Planning Executive Committee drafted a series of priorities, objectives, and goals organized by four major themes:

- Discipleship/Mission/Education
- Hospitality/Fellowship
- Financial Growth and Stability
- Planning and Evaluation

The priorities were revised and submitted to the Administrative Council on November 10, 2009. The Administrative Council accepted the report and passed unanimously the motion that the goals document be presented to the congregation on November 19, 2009 during the Annual Church Conference, where it was adopted as the goals to improve, expand, and further develop the mission and ministry of Trinity United Methodist Church during the next three to five years.

A complete copy of the *Goals to Improve, Expand, and Further Develop the Mission and Ministry of Trinity United Methodist Church* is available on the website at www.trinityumchurch.com or in the Church Office.