

February, 2016

Volume 26, Issue 2

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Photo: Installation of Officers on January 24.
 ELDERS CLASS OF 2018 will be Tom Coyle, Elliot Koeppen, Anne McConnell, Jeanette Ryan and Sheila Sievert.
 DEACONS CLASS OF 2018 will be Melissa Bird, Pat Hardy, Peter Holbrook, Betty Lou Holland and Allyn Spence.
 DEACONS CLASS OF 2016 addition will be Johanna Moyer



Photos: Children in Worship (with Liz Barlow)



Photos by Kathy Moser

PASTORAL LETTER

GOD AND SUPERSTITION

*In the beginning,
God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1*

There is a vast difference between miracles and magic, between superstition and Supernaturalism. Like many baseball players, many Christians are more or less superstitious. Christianity is not. Christian belief does, however, entail a specific kind of Supernaturalism that accounts for a peculiar relationship between Creator and Creation. Magic and superstition are at odds with both Christian theology and with a rational and scientific view of reality. Christian Supernaturalism is quite the opposite! Deterministic Naturalism corresponds to Classic Newtonian Science that has been defunct since Einstein's essays of 1904. But no worldview is more amenable to the best contemporary Relativistic Science than Christian Supernaturalism.*

Lewis explains the distinction in this way: "The Naturalist believes that a great process, of 'becoming', exists 'on its own' in space and time, and that nothing else exists. This single, total reality, he calls Nature. The Supernaturalist believes that one Thing exists on its own and has produced the framework of space and time and the procession of systematically connected events, which fill them. This framework, and this filling, he calls Nature."**

On the face of it, it may seem that these two notions of reality, Naturalist and Supernaturalist, are equally arbitrary and equally rational. Flip a coin. (I am convinced that this is not the case at all, and I suggest some reading, listed in this *Vision*.) But, for the moment, understand that Christian belief entails a choice of worldview. Christianity as seen from a Naturalist perspective is radically different from Christianity as seen from a Supernaturalist perspective. And the presenting question for the Christian is not principally about which perspective is more congruent with Nature or with Science, but which is more congruent with Christ.

I am a thoroughgoing Scientific Supernaturalist.

That is, I believe that the best contemporary Science sees Nature as being an open rather than a closed, self-determining and self-explaining, system—one that is amenable to the possibility of God rather than exclusive of God—one that allows that it all may be Creation in dependent relation to its Creator.

Superstition has nothing to do with Christian Faith, indeed it is a destructive force. But, God is free. God answers prayer. Jesus is Lord. And . . .

This Jesus, God raised up . . . Acts 2:32

Blessings, *Jerry*

* *Divine and Contingent Order* by T. F. Torrance.

** *Miracles* by C. S. Lewis.

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Pastor's Picks: | Science and Theology |
| Books on Science and Christian Faith | Belief in God in an Age of Science |
| <u>Author & Titles:</u> | By Alister McGrath |
| By John Polkinghorne | Science and Religion |
| Science and Religion in Quest of Truth | The Passionate Intellect |
| Quantum Physics and Theology | Dawkins God |
| Questions of Truth | Surprised by Meaning |
| Quarks, Chaos and Christianity | By Leslie Newbigen |
| | Proper Confidence |
| | Truth to Tell |

| | |
|--|--|
| FEBRUARY | |
| SCRIPTURE READINGS | |
| Feb 7 - <i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i> | |
| Exodus 34:29-35; <i>Psalm 99</i> ; Luke 9:28-43 | |
| 1st Sunday in Lent - <i>The Father Almighty</i> | |
| Feb 14 - Isaiah 43:1-4a; <i>Psalm 124:8 & 118:24</i> ; | |
| Matthew 6:25-34 | |
| 2nd Sunday in Lent - <i>Creator of Heaven & Earth</i> | |
| Feb 21 - Carroll Keegstra preaching | |
| 3rd Sunday in Lent - <i>Jesus Christ His Only Son</i> | |
| Feb 28 - Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 1:1-4; <i>John 1:14</i> | |

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WORD OF LIFE



Hosanna! Word of Life is beginning a new study on February 7th. *Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey Through Holy Week*, a Kerygma Study by Carol J. Miller, will explore the Holy Week and resurrection texts in all four Gospels and in Paul's writings. Come listen and respond to five stories of the One Story as we take a spiritual journey through Holy Week. Join us in the Lower Level Lounge at 9:00 am.

THE FOUR GREATEST STORIES

"The Four Greatest Stories Ever Told: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John"

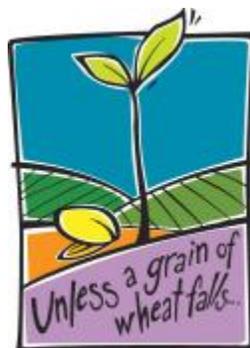
We have been learning about Jerusalem and the Biblical lands where Jesus and his disciples traveled.



We continue our journey each Sunday. Join Rev. Bill Voigt at 9:00 am in the Upper Room West. A Southwestern breakfast is served.

THEOLOGY FOR TODAY

Theology for Today welcome you all! The meeting place is the Lower Level Lounge at 11:45 am on Sundays. Amy-Jill Levine's book *Short Stories of Jesus* will continue to be our text. Join us - we would love to have you!



POLO

Parents of Little Ones (POLO) meets at 9:00 am on the third Sunday of the month. We meet in the nursery for family breakfast munchies and then head downstairs to the Lounge for our parent study. Parents with young children are welcome to join us! We are engaged in reading about different parenting styles and financial accountability for our young kids in "Free Range Kids" by Lenore Skenazy and "Smart Money, Smart Kids" by Dave Ramsey.



GODLY PLAY CLASS

A Sunday School class, Godly Play for ages 4-8 is held in the Music Room (off the nursery) during the 10:30 worship service. Bible stories, snacks and craft activities will take place.

KREAMER'S CRUSADERS

Kreamer's Crusaders for youth in grades 4-8 meet in the Narthex Sunday mornings at 10:30 and then move to "The Den" (This is the classroom just past the downstairs lounge). Matt Kreamer leads the Crusaders on Biblical adventures in learning. A Biblical foundation is built through discussion with active participation and openness to thoughts and questions. The class follows the text entitled *The Old Testament* by Kara Powell.



ANCHOR TRINITY

After the 11:15 am sermon is finished, all high school & college aged youth are invited to come downstairs to attend a meeting of Trinity Anchor - a youth group where we focus on fellowship and service, as well as asking and answering the tough questions about our faith. We meet downstairs at "The Harbor" (Lower Level East) every Sunday. (See page 5 for more details)





Wednesday Nite Alive! - February 2016

| Date | 5:00 pm Bible Study (Library) | 6:00 pm "Getting Quiet With God" (Chapel) | 6:30 pm Helping Hands Service Project & Fellowship (Upper Room East) -Munchies provided or BYO food | 7:00-8:00 pm Guest Speaker & Discussion Group (Upper Room West) |
|--------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Feb 3 | Luke 9:28-36 | The Transfiguration | Preparing Valentine cards for Trinity's Homebound <i>Kathy Moser</i> | Introduction to Seed Library (Main Library) <i>Kelly Wilson, Pima County Public Library</i> |
| Feb 10 | Apostles' Creed Series | 6:00-7:00 pm Sacrificial Soup Supper and Service Project: Food Packs for Trinity's Food Bank (Fellowship Hall) | | ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7:00 pm (Sanctuary) |
| Feb 17 | Apostles' Creed Series | Creator of Heaven and Earth | Preparing Simple Encouragement Cards for Youth on Their Own (YOTO) <i>Kathy Moser</i> | Lenten Series Living The Questions: Taking the Bible Seriously |
| Feb 24 | Apostles' Creed Series | Jesus Christ His Only Son | Preparing Simple Snack Packs for YOTO (include card) <i>Kathy Moser</i> | Lenten Series Living The Questions: Paul - A Passion for Christ <i>Billie Holbrook</i> |

WEDNESDAYNITEALIVE!

February 10th is Ash Wednesday. On Wednesday, February 17, Trinity will begin a Lenten series called *Living the Questions*. This is a DVD series that creates an environment where 35 leading religious voices explore today's Christianity. Topics for the five Wednesday evening sessions are the following:

- ◆ Feb 17th - Taking the Bible Seriously
- ◆ Feb 24th - Paul - A Passion for Christ
- ◆ March 2nd - Evil, Suffering, and a God of Love
- ◆ March 9th - Restoring Relationships
- ◆ March 16th - Compassion - The Heart of Jesus's Ministry

On Trinity's website you will see materials posted with discussion topics for each of the sessions as well as the bios of the contributors (some of whom you will recognize). Relax, sit back and ponder what respected religious thinkers have to say about these five topics.

TRINITY BOOK CLUB

February 23rd, at 7 pm in the Lovejoy Library, the Book Club will be discussing *The Undertaker's Daughter*. This is a wonderfully quirky, gem of a book. Kate Mayfield explores what it meant to be the daughter of a small town undertaker in this fascinating memoir evocative of *Six Feet Under* and *The Help*.

Please join us for fun discussions and good reads. We would love to have you join us in 2016. The lineup for this year's selected readings will be configured soon. If you have a favorite that you would like to recommend, please contact Billie Holbrook at 668-6341 or billie.holbrook@cox.net.



ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2015 are available in the narthex or call the church office at 623-2579 and we will mail you a copy.

Congregational News

ANCHOR AT THE HARBOR

It is wonderful to see so many people returning to Trinity and I am pleased to report that our High School/College aged youth group, Anchor, is off to a great start! We have had a few Sunday meetings, where I have explained Bible Journaling, introduced the youth to some new Christian bands, and given them an overview on some of the service and justice projects we will be doing over the next few months. We are meeting after the sermon is concluded on Sundays at 11:15 am downstairs in the room next to the Terry J. Dalke Social Service Resource Center (look for the sign on the door "The Harbor" and the anchors our members have decorated!) If you know of any high school or college aged youth who are looking for a place to hang out, enjoy each others' company and learn about a loving God in a safe environment, let them know about Anchor!

We are always in need of your prayers and would appreciate any help you would like to give! Are you especially good at art? We would love for you to show us some artistic ways to reflect on God's words! Has God blessed you with a love for the sciences? We would love to have you speak at one of our meetings showing the youth that science is not at odds with believing in God. Do you have a flair for fellowship? We would love to sit down with you over a nice cup of coffee or tea and listen to your ideas for living as a Christian in an increasingly secular world. We are also in need of a male member of the congregation who would be willing to volunteer to be part of the group- it is important to have male and female leader perspectives on questions raised by young adults! I will have a sign-up sheet downstairs on the Anchor Door - if we had every male in the congregation volunteer just ONE SUNDAY a year, our prayers will have been answered for the entire year!

Please pray for us as we travel on our faith journey over the upcoming year!

Anchored in Christ, Rona Kreamer

PNC UPDATE

Members and Friends,



I am excited to bring you some good news from your Pastor Nominating Committee! In the December "VISION" I shared with you our process for completing Trinity's Ministry Information Form (MIF). I am happy to report that we completed the MIF in mid-December and contacted the Session to set a date for review. In a special called meeting with the Session on January 5th, we presented the document for their review and it was enthusiastically approved! The Presbytery's Committee on Ministry also reviewed and approved it at their January 7th meeting. Our MIF is now entered into the Church Leadership Connection system of the PC(USA) and we have already begun receiving Pastor Information Forms!

We are also working on a three-fold advertising plan. We have an ad ready to run in the two major publications of our denomination, "Presbyterian Outlook" and "Presbyterians Today". We are currently working on contacting the various Presbyterian seminaries about including our position on their alumni job boards and placement offices. We also plan to utilize our own network contacts within the denomination to further expand our search effort.

Over the last several months, we have been doing a LOT of listening. We have been listening to all of you, through your Appreciative Inquiry and Session committee responses. Through prayer and scripture, we have been listening to the voice of God, seeking His guidance and direction. As we begin this next step in the process, we will continue to be mindful of everything we have heard in order to find the one whom God has already chosen.

Blessings,

Roberta Westergaard, PNC Chair

SESSION NOTES

Session Notes from January 23, 2016

Once again, Session enjoyed the desert beauty of the Redemptorist Renewal Center at Picture Rocks for their annual retreat. We spent time in fellowship and in worship as well as hours learning and planning. Using "Twelve Keys to an Effective Church" by Kennon L. Callahan, many productive and informative small group discussions brought clarity of thinking about what the future of Trinity might look like.

The retiring elders examined the new elders and deacons and found them faithful and ready to seize the opportunity to serve at Trinity. During examination Melissa Bird, new Deacon, made the observation that "God doesn't call the equipped; He equips the called." Elders-elect examined were Tom Coyle, Elliott Koeppen, Jeanette Ryan and Sheila Sievert. (Anne McConnell will be examined at the February stated meeting.) Deacons-elect examined were Melissa Bird, Pat Hardy, Peter Holbrook, Betty Lu Holland and Johanna Moyer. (Allyn Spence will be examined at the February stated meeting.) Those of you in worship on January 24, 2016 witnessed the ordination and installation of these new officers.

At their stated meeting Session approved the Annual Statistical Report that is submitted to PC (USA) General Assembly. Also, they approved not having an 8 AM worship service on Easter Sunday, March 27th, because of the Cantata with Trinity choir and an orchestra.

Session elected Janet Hooper as Clerk of Session, Leone Mohney as Treasurer and Alice Smedley as Assistant Treasurer for 2016. They also approved an exception to The Session Guidelines to allow retiring Elder Roberta Westergaard to remain as the Chair of Administration & Personnel Committee in 2016. This will ensure continuity during this transitional period and not burden a brand new elder to be thrust into a chair position so abruptly. Roberta will be reporting to Session for the Pastor Nominating Committee as well.

Very few changes were made to committee composition. Roberta Westergaard and Jeanette Ryan

will serve on the Administration & Personnel Committee. Billie Holbrook (Chair) and Matt Kreamer remain on Christian Education. Bobby Whipple will chair Growth & Outreach with no other active elder to serve there. Luckily Cindy Toering will remain on this committee as a member-at-large. Doug Holland and Sheila Sievert remain as Co-chairs of Mission Committee. Carolyn Maycher (Chair) and Tom Coyle will serve on the Property Committee. Ann Walker (Chair), Elliott Koeppen and Leone Mohney will serve the Stewardship & Finance Committee. Lynn Moser (Chair), Janet Jones and Anne McConnell remain on the Worship Committee. And Bucky Lovejoy (Chair) and Matt Kreamer remain on the Long Range Development Team. Maybe there are some of you in the congregation who might want to help out by choosing a committee and by coming forward.

The Session and a few of the Deacons celebrated Communion together at the end of the day in the serene and lovely chapel at the Redemptorist Renewal Center. Please keep your Session, your pastors, your Deacons and all those who serve at Trinity in your prayers.

Janet D. Hooper
Clerk of Session



**CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

Trinity Presbyterian Church will host a Vacation Bible School from June 20th-24th from 6pm-8pm. This will be open to any child ages 2-14. We will have stories, crafts, and activities all centered around our loving Lord Jesus Christ.

Rona and I are in need of some great volunteers to assist and teach some classes. Please let either of us know if you would like to volunteer for this week. Thank you very much and look out for more details coming soon.

Rona and Matt Kreamer



Mission News



SANDWICH MAKING for the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen will be on the third Sunday, February 21 this month. Please join us after worship to make 600 sandwiches for the homeless.

TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to all my volunteers and those who donated food and other items for our pantry. You made a difference in the lives of our clients!

Community Ministries Coordinator, Alice Smedley



THE NEXT 4TH ON 4TH FRIDAY community supper will be on Friday, February 26, 2016, 6-7 pm, downstairs in Trinity

Hall. Come and meet new people from the community, and bring a dish to share. We need 10 people to bring a main dish to serve 10, and another 10 to bring a salad or dessert to serve 10. Someone will be in the Narthex with a sign-up sheet Sundays after church. Questions- please call Betty Lu Holland 579-2895



GET YOUR TICKET NOW FOR THE FIFTH ANNUAL ICS EMPTY BOWLS SPRING FUNDRAISER! On Saturday, March 5 at the Tucson Chinese Cultural Center, come sample soups, breads and desserts from area restaurants, bakeries and food partners, and select a unique, handmade pottery bowl to take home. Tickets are \$20 each and only available in advance. Buy your ticket online at www.icstucson.org
(Trinity is a member of ICS)



Southwest Shepherd Showdown 2016!

A fun family event raising money for the ministry of the Tucson Borderlands Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Program

February 13, 2016 – 4:30 pm

Trinity Presbyterian Church

400 E University

Tickets \$10

Support the mission work of young people in the Presbyterian Church, celebrate the hidden talents of fabulous Presbytery pastors, and hear stories about how the YAV program changes lives!

Participants will "compete" in four rounds:

- Best Vestment
- Best Joke
- Hymn Sing
- Best Hidden Talent



Starring:

- Lesley Abrams, St John on the Desert
- Rev. Bill Voigt, Trinity Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Bart Smith, St Mark's Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Mark Adams, Frontera de Cristo

To Buy Tickets:

<http://www.tucsonborderlandsyav.org> or email tucsonborderlandsyav@gmail.com



SUNDAYS
Just Coffee in Fellowship Hall
FOR SIPPING & FOR SALE!



Trinity Women



On February 9, Trinity Presbyterian Women will meet for the morning Circle at 10:00 am. Join them for Bible study and conversation in Fellowship Hall. *Newcomers are always welcome!*

On February 9, Trinity Presbyterian Women will meet for the morning Circle at 10:00 am. Join them for Bible study and conversation in Fellowship Hall. *Newcomers are always welcome!*

PLEASE JOIN TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FOR LOVE STORIES: TRUTH OR FICTION



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23
10:00 am
FELLOWSHIP HALL



VALENTINE THEMED GOODIES will be provided by the members of TPW Coordinating Team



Have you read any good books lately? Please contact Ruth Myers (326-6888) or Kathy Moser (247-4178) with the titles and authors of 3 books* you would like to see on the recommended reading list in our church library.

*Fiction, Non-Fiction: Autobiographies, Biographies, Children's, Poetry and Romance just to name a few.

Community News

Save the date:

**HYMN SING
EXTRAVAGANZA**

Sunday, February 21, 2016
2:30 p.m.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
7650 Paseo del Norte, Tucson

Join with other Presbyterians in an afternoon of glorious music singing favorite hymns. A reception will follow



hosted by students of the Presbyterian Campus Ministry (PCM).

This event is presented through the joint efforts of the music ministries of Tucson Presbyterian churches and the PCM, a mission of the Presbyterian Church, reaching out to college students at the University of Arizona.

Free-will offering

All proceeds support Presbyterian Campus Ministry and Missions

TRUE CONCORD

Southern Arizona's GRAMMY® nominated True Concord (formerly Tucson Chamber Artists) presents "King of Instruments," a program of music for choir and organ to feature outstanding pipe organs in the area February 26-28. The program includes works by Mozart, Mendelssohn, Brahms and Howells, as well as Britten's whimsical *Rejoice in the Lamb* and Pärt's spell-binding *Beatus*. More information can be found at: www.TrueConcord.org.



Trinity Milestones



Memorials

In memory of Grace Phillips by Melinda Arnold, Helen Forbes and Bonnie Stull

In memory of Jan Bond by Melinda Arnold, LuLu Brown, Jo Campbell, Helen Forbes, Bonnie Stull, Ron & Jane Uhle and Frank & Pat Whiting

February Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|-----------------|
| 3 | Betty Lu Holland | 19 | Ida Medina |
| 8 | Emmanuelle Seddo | 20 | Kathy Moser |
| 9 | Jackie Winn | 24 | Caroll Keegstra |
| 14 | Laurie Hull | 28 | Shirley Wilka |
| 18 | Bill Goodhue | 29 | Alice Smedley |

Deaths

Beloved longtime member, Grace Phillips died on December 16, 2015. Her Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, February 6, in the Sanctuary at 1:00 pm.



March Birthdays (1—10)

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|----------------|
| 1 | Harriet Marsh | 4 | Jeanette Wilka |
| 2 | Truman Spillers | 6 | Jan Menke |
| 3 | Riley De Pizzo | 7 | Holly Clark |
| 4 | Ed Hawley | | |

February Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|----------------------------|
| 1 | Elizabeth and Steve Barlow |
| 12 | Elaine and George Banghart |



Happy Valentine's Day!



Deadline for the March, 2016 *VISION*
Tuesday, February 23
 Please submit typewritten articles to the church office or to:
office@trinitytucson.org

WEAR YOUR TRINITY PRIDE!

The Growth and Outreach Committee has Trinity t-shirts and tote bags available for purchase starting February 14th from the Ambassador at the Welcome Desk. T shirts are \$7 each, Tote bags are \$9 each.

Polo shirts with the embroidered Trinity logo will be available by special order. Please use the enclosed order form (or get one at the Welcome desk) and turn in to Cindy Toering or the Church office by February 28th. Polo shirts will be \$25 each.

Also please get your complimentary Trinity car decals, pens, magnets, and cups at the Welcome Desk. You can use them yourself or hand them out to your friends. Help us get Trinity's name out to our community!





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Trinity Website
www.trinitytucson.org

Email Addresses
office@trinitytucson.org



**New Anchor Class
for high school
and college age**



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23
LOVE STORIES: TRUTH OR FICTION**



**Southwest Shepherd Showdown
YAV Fundraiser on February 13**



Lent begins



**Wednesday Nite
Alive!**

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