

## *Holiday Time at Trinity*

January, 2017

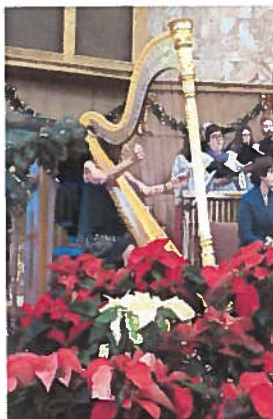
Volume 27, Issue 1

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Photos by Kathy Moser

Holiday Block Party, Cantata Sunday and Christmas Eve



# PASTORAL LETTER

## NEW WINE FOR THE NEW YEAR

*“No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, so both are preserved.” (Luke 9: 14-17)*

When Jesus speaks the words that are quoted above, he is responding to a challenge set before him by the disciples of John the Baptist in regards to fasting: “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?” Jesus responds by describing his followers using two unusual images - “unshrunk cloth” and “new wineskins.” In both cases, Jesus is comparing the new life that he has come to offer to the old life represented by the “old time religion” of his day. The Pharisees totally centered their lives on obedience to the law; the followers of John the Baptist totally centered their lives on John’s baptism of repentance. The problem with both the Pharisees and followers of John is that they saw the law or baptism as the complete embodiment of all God was, is, or will be in the world. The God of the Pharisees and the God of the followers of John was not a living God, a God who could do new and surprising things - a God with whom believers could have a relationship.

Jesus speaks of a new life in regards to those who follow him, a new life that he described as “new wine” in the gospel of Luke. In John’s gospel, Jesus changes the ritual water of Jewish purification into wine at the wedding of Cana, which illustrates once again the new life that the Messiah brings into the world. God’s law and John’s baptism were stepping stones into the

new life of Jesus, but life in Christ could not be categorized, summarized, or organized into something under the total manipulation of the sinful human heart. In Jesus, we are dealing with a living other, one with whom we relate in the same way we relate to the others we encounter in our lives each day. We never wake up each day saying, “I know exactly how my day will go... I know exactly who I will encounter.” Yet, we often view our Christianity as a static rather than a dynamic part of our lives. Yes, the church does run on a schedule, but we cannot schedule our encounters with Jesus Christ or the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. To say that we worship this hour on this day or we celebrate this season or we practice this sacrament does not mean we confine our Christianity to just those days, seasons, and sacraments.

Authentic Christianity is about one’s heart-to-heart encounter with the living God - a relationship more real, more profound, and more effective than the closest relationships we experience in this world, including husband/wife or parent/child. The “new wine” of which Christ speaks is the new life of living with Christ in the same way that the first disciples lived with their Lord - they spoke to him as he spoke to them; they learned from him every day; they observed the miracle of Christ’s love working in the lives of others, then they shared that miracle by living out Christ’s love in their lives.

As we enter the New Year, Christ invites us to become new wineskins, filled with the Holy Spirit and its meaningful life. Repentance is part of this, as is obedience to the law of Christ’s love and the practices of our worship, but both must only serve to lead us to the center of our faith - our living relationship with the Son of

God. With Christ we cannot possibly know what to expect, but we can live in expectation, because every day, every moment, is new and different; every moment we are called to be more like our Lord than the moment before. This is a radical change in our way of thinking and our way of living. It means that we live to change the lives of others. Are we ready for the radical life of being a Christian in 2017? This community is going to need us more than ever – all of us, in all the ways that Christ calls us to serve. If we make this commitment, 2017 will mean so much more than just raising a glass of wine on New Year’s Eve – the New Year will provide a joyous new wine to fill our hearts and the hearts of those who need God’s love.

*Dr. Mack*



### SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 1- Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23

January 8 - Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 29, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3:15-17

January 15 - Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42

January 22 - Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23

January 29 - Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12



### LOVEJOY LIBRARY NEWS

**The Trinity Kids Reading Club began on January 1, 2017.** Please get your chart and some stars, and for each book you read, place a star in a square.

For every five (5) books you check out, read and return, you will get to draw a little prize from the Treasure Chest. Many books have been added to the Children’s Cart, so you will have lots of books to choose from. Hey, Dad and Mom, while your children are looking for books at the Children’s Cart, you can browse through the many books we have in our beautiful library.

A big Thank You to Alice Anderson for the beautiful ‘book tapestry’ wall hanging. **Happy Reading!! DeDe**

**Rene Myers, Mission Engagement Advisor from the PCUSA,** will be at Trinity this Sunday morning, January 15 to give a Minute for Mission as a prelude to her talk on “Disaster Assistance and Racial/Ethnic Issues in the Mission Field” following worship in Fellowship Hall at 11:45 am.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## WORD OF LIFE

Join us in the Lower Level Lounge (Rm 5) at 9:00 am. We continue our study called *Living Stones - The Making of an Eternal Fellowship* by Becce Bettridge. Come join us for lively discussions. We meet in the Lower Level Lounge at 9:00 am.

## WE THREE KINGS

Why not two or four and why did they come to Bethlehem other than the obvious reason? What part of the Orient were they from and what were their names? Why are they only in Matthew's Gospel at the birth, and why didn't Luke include them along with the shepherds in his Gospel? An entire course could be taught on this issue, but we're going to do it in three classes hopefully. Join Rev. Bill Voigt in the Upper Room West at 9:00 am Sunday, January 8, 15 and 22, for a fascinating journey with the Wise Men!



## THEOLOGY FOR TODAY

Theology for Today meets in the Lower Level Lounge at 11:45 on Sundays and is discussing *The Jewishness of Jesus*.

## TRINITY BOOK CLUB

We meet in the Library the 4th Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm. We would love to have you join us in 2017. 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](mailto:billie.holbrook@cox.net)



## 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!

## GODLY PLAY CLASS

A Sunday School class, *Godly Play* for ages 4-8 is held during the 10:30 worship service. Children meet their leader at the front of the Sanctuary and participate in the first part of the service. They then go to their classroom for Bible stories, snacks and craft activities.



## 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

All high school & college aged youth are invited to Anchor Trinity a youth group where we focus on fellowship and service, as well as asking and answering the tough questions about our faith. Meet downstairs at "The Harbor" (next door to "The Den") every Sunday at 11:15am.



# Wednesday Nite Alive! - January 2017

Time	5:00 pm Bible Study (Library)	6:00 pm Quiet Time with God (Chapel)	6:30 pm Helping Hands Project and Recipient, Fellowship and Snacks (Upper Room)	7:00-8:00 pm Discussion Topic/ Guest Speaker (Upper Room)
Jan 11	Working Together Galatians 6:6,9&10  <i>Bill Voigt</i>	Lifting Up Our Brothers and Sisters  <i>Bill Voigt</i>	Water bottles/cereal bars for Salvation Army Hospitality House  <i>Kathy Moser</i>	"Getting to know you"  <i>Rev Dr. Lawrence Sigmon (Pastor Mack)</i>
Jan 18	Diversity and Inclusion Romans 10:5-13  <i>Bill Voigt</i>	Called to Reconciliation  <i>Mack Sigmon</i>	Water bottles/cereal bars for Salvation Army Hospitality House  <i>Kathy Moser</i>	Diversity & Inclusion  <i>The Rev. Kelly Fryer, MDiv, MTh CEO, YWCA</i>
Jan 25	Who is my Neighbor? Luke 10:25-37  <i>Mack Sigmon</i>	Brothers and Sisters?  <i>Mack Sigmon</i>	Valentine cards for Trinity's Homebound  <i>Kathy Moser</i>	Islam for Today  <i>Islamic Center of Tucson/ University of Arizona</i>

## WEDNESDAY NITE ALIVE!

THE TOPIC OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IS THE THEME FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE AS WE BEGIN 2017. God's call to reconciliation for His people is at the heart of the work that God prepared for us to do as Christians. "Diversity and inclusion move us forward. They enhance our ability to think critically and challenge us to realize our potential. Diversity and inclusion are the tools that shape excellence" (quote from the University of Arizona's Diversity and Inclusion Department).

Diversity includes all the characteristics, experiences and cultural influences that make each of us unique individuals. Inclusion means that all are welcome at Christian Aid and will be treated with respect and dignity in line with the Christian Aid values, irrespective of their background.

Equality, respect, openness, valuing people, inclusiveness, the lack of discrimination, all of these and so much more work together as we seek to create human relationships that glorify our God.

## GOODBYE TO JERRY FOUST



There was a reception December 18 after church to thank Jerry for his time as our Transitional Pastor. His work was invaluable to the leaders of Trinity as we searched for a new senior pastor. We will be forever grateful for his guidance during that time.



# Congregational News

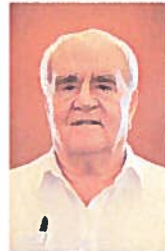
## GOODBYE CLASS OF 2016 ELDERS



Carolyn Maycher



Ann Walker



Bucky Lovejoy and Matt Kreamer



## CLASS OF 2019



Ed Buck



Peggy Chamberlain



John Hill

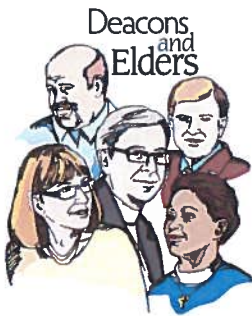


Lynn Moser



Ruth Russell

## GOODBYE CLASS OF 2016 DEACONS



Johanna Moyer



Holly Clark

## CLASS OF 2019



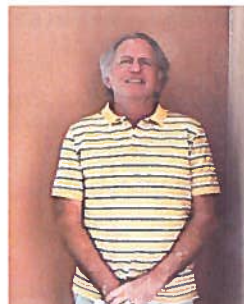
Georgia Bach



Steve Barlow



Daphne Madson



Rick Wickizer



Karen Wilkison



# Mission News



## TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

In 2016 Trinity's food pantry gave out 1,350 food bags to clients and served over 3,453 street people. A rough estimate on the number of pounds of food we gave out is 31,705. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked our food pantry and to those who provided food donations. Keep up the good work, the number of clients we serve is gradually increasing.

## RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is open Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 to 4:00 pm to help clients with Department of Economic Security (DES) applications and other items.

## THE NEXT 4TH ON 4TH FRIDAY

Community Supper will be on Friday, January 27, 2016, 6-7 pm, downstairs in Trinity Hall. Come and meet new people from the community, and bring a dish to share. January's theme is soups & stews. Someone will be in the Narthex with a sign-

up sheet Sundays after church. Questions- please call Betty Lu Holland 579-2895

## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING



Through the Christmas Joy Offering, Presbyterian congregations have long expressed their compassion for others, especially for those who serve the Church and racial ethnic schools and colleges of the PC(USA). This Offering, taken on Christmas Eve, received \$1,989.00 for 2016.

## CHRISTMAS MARKET

\$1,136.47 was raised for HEPAC (the Home of Hope and Peace) in Nogales Sonora and CRREDA (Center for Rehabilitation and Recuperation of Infirmities of Drugs and Alcohol) in Agua Prieta Sonora. Trinity individuals and families also purchased gifts through a partnership with The Holy Way for families in the Three Points area southwest of Tucson.

## COMPANIONS

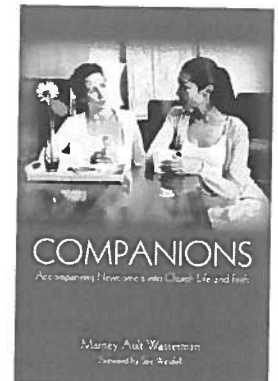
### Accompanying Newcomers into Church Life and Faith

Marney Ault Wasserman

Is your "new member class" uninspiring? draining energy? Consider a different way of ministering to church newcomers. One that builds on the simple arts of friendship and conversation, instead of classes and presentations. One that invites *transformation*, rather than just imparting *information*. One that gives the whole congregation a role to play in the church's ministry of spiritual hospitality.

*Companions* is an outreach ministry that pairs newcomers in worship with church member companions for eight weeks of conversation about Christian faith and discipleship. One-page conversation guides, grounded in Scripture and prayer, help focus the dialogue on core themes of the life of faith, like gratitude, forgiveness, and community. *Companions* is designed to build friendships, invite honest sharing, encourage questions, meet newcomers wherever they are, and help them grow in their life with God. **Orders:** Contact your favorite bookseller or order directly from the publisher via phone (541) 344-1528 or e-mail [orders@wipfandstock.com](mailto:orders@wipfandstock.com).

ISBN: 978-1-5326-0092-0 | 120 pp. | \$16 | paper



# SESSION NOTES

On Monday evening, December 12, 2016, elders and deacons mingled together at their annual joint dinner and meeting. The elders cooked some delicious food and after they retired to the Upper Room for their stated meeting, the deacons cleaned up. A couple of Class of 2019 elders and one Class of 2019 deacons showed up for the festivities. A special guest for the dinner was the Rev. Mack Sigmon. Lynn Moser played piano so all could sing "Silent Night" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

Daphne Madson led the Deacons in reporting about their 2016 activities. Foremost on the list of deacons' activities is taking care of the people of Trinity. They supply ushers each Sunday, distribute prayer shawls, support the hamburger stand during the street fairs and work with Pete Holbrook in the parking lot. Planning for the All-Church Picnic is another effort. Holly Clark and Johanna Moyer are rotating off the Deaconate and were given heartfelt thanks for their service. Remember! Deacons Rock!

The Elder Chairs of each Session Committee took a turn to inform the deacons in attendance about their plans and accomplishments. We learned from Carolyn Maycher that Property has the money to replace the flooring in Fellowship Hall. Billie Holbrook reported that Christian Ed held a Christmas party for our refugee children and that the first Trinity Vacation Bible School in years and years was a success. And in the Lovejoy Library, Dede Markin is cataloging books with both Dewey Decimal and the newer system.

Doug Holland made an appeal from Mission that in the new year one of the refugee adults, perhaps Sanani, needs someone to teach her how to drive. Never having touched a steering wheel in her life makes it a difficult task. Also, Hadija needs someone to help her improve her English. And Amos needs some networking on his behalf to find more work.

Bucky Lovejoy says that Trinity and the Development Group have a signed contract. Next steps in our development require a report from the Zoning Examiner and a positive vote to approve the zoning change from the Mayor and the City Council.

Cindy Toering reported that by the beginning of 2017 we may see some changes in the back of the sanctuary. The high tables and chairs arrived and need installation.

Once the elders went upstairs Stewardship & Finance presented their many year-end motions. Session approved the 2017 budget after viewing a power point presentation.

A contract with Church Mutual Insurance Company insures our church for 2017. Plans were approved for reviewing the 2016 balance sheets. Session approved all 2017 Housing Allowances and Professional Expense Allowances for the pastors.

Plans are underway for a Session Retreat in late January or early February. Session members gifted the Rev. Jerry Foust with a gift and thanked him for his 2 and 1/2 years at Trinity preparing us for a new pastor. We have had a good journey together.

Janet Hooper  
Clerk of Session



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



## Trinity Women



On January 10, Trinity Presbyterian Women met for the morning Circle at 10:00 am. Join them monthly for Bible study and conversation in Fellowship Hall. Ryan's Bears will meet January 17 at 9:30 am in the Lower Level Lounge to begin the bears for Christmas 2017! We will be cutting, stuffing and stitching. The 2016 bears were delivered to Primavera, Our Family Services and Arizona Children Services.

*Newcomers are always welcome!*

## Thank You

Dear Trinity family,  
Thank you for your get well wishes and Christmas cards. Christmas Blessings and New Year Peace to you all. Hope to see you soon at Trinity. Imogene Moser

Hello "Helping Hands"!

Thank you for the super-soft fleece blankets! Cheerful color and happy fringe will bring smiles. We can even use the squares cut from the corners. Thank you, Project Linus

To the Congregation

Amy, Patti and I would like to express our great appreciation for the many wonderful cards of welcome that we received over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Your warmth has made us feel at home even before we arrive. I am thanking God each day for the opportunity to serve Trinity, and I pray that – together and with Christ's help – we will change the lives of many in the years to come. Mack

## Milestones

### January Birthdays

2	Dale McCray	23	Hannah Toering
5	Jeanette Ryan	24	Cindy Toering
9	Jeri Ogden	24	David Toering
11	James Hooper	27	Tom Henderson
15	Peggy Chamberlain	30	Bobby Whipple
19	Matt Kreamer	31	Shirley Carr Ezra Moyer

### February Birthdays (1—10)

3	Betty Lu Holland	9	Jackie Winn
8	Emmanuelle Seddo		

### January Anniversaries

15 Lynn & Kathy Moser



## Deaths

Fay McCormick - Rev. Bill Voigt officiated the memorial and graveside services at South Lawn December 28, 2016

Arlene Booth passed away. Services will be held on Friday, January 20, 2017 at 11:00 am in the Chapel..

## Memorials

In memory of Bill Dean by Derry Dean

In honor of all the musician and choir in love by Imogene Moser

In honor of Don Myer's 85th birthday by Ruth Myers

 **Trinity  
Presbyterian  
Church**

400 East University Blvd.  
Tucson, Arizona 85705

Phone: (520) 623-2579  
Fax: (520) 624-7115  
Email: [office@trinitytucson.org](mailto:office@trinitytucson.org)

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**HAVE A  
BLESSED  
NEW YEAR!**



**WELCOME**

Trinity Website  
[www.trinitytucson.org](http://www.trinitytucson.org)

Email Addresses  
[office@trinitytucson.org](mailto:office@trinitytucson.org)  
[volunteers@trinitytucson.org](mailto:volunteers@trinitytucson.org)

**Deadline for the February, 2017**

***VISION***

**Tuesday, January 24**

**Please submit typewritten articles to  
the church office or to:  
[office@trinitytucson.org](mailto:office@trinitytucson.org)**