

March, 2021

Volume 31 Issue 3

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Dr. Mack's Lenten Class Continues

Dr. Mack continues Susan Robb's Lenten Study titled "Seven Words" as we go through the Lenten Season. Her video-led course takes us through a study of the seven last words of Christ from the gospels. More information, the Zoom invitation, previous class videos & a preview video are at <http://trinitytucson.org/seven-words-a-lenten-study-with-dr-mack/>.

March 7 – "My God, My God"

March 21 – "I Am Thirsty"

March 14 – "Woman, Here Is

March 28 – "Into Your Hands"

Your Son"



Online Lenten Services

- ◆ Palm Sunday, March 28 at 10:20 am Join us online as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with organ, trumpet, & vocal quartet at trinitytucson.org/watch-live.
- ◆ Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 6:30 pm will be observed with the Sacrament of Communion & a Service of Tenebrae. Scripture readings and music will relate the story of Jesus' life from the Last Supper to the Crucifixion as candles are extinguished and the sanctuary darkens. Join us online at trinitytucson.org/watch-live Some of the service will be prerecorded.
- ◆ Easter Sunday April 4 at 7:00 am & 10:20 am The Sunrise service begins at 7:00 am in the Memorial Garden. The Sanctuary service begins at 10:20 a.m. & includes Mack's Easter message. It also features music from Trinity's vocal quartet, the Trinity Ringers and trumpet. Join us online to celebrate that Christ is risen at trinitytucson.org/watch-live.

PASTORAL LETTER

The season of Lent has been associated with the idea of deprivation for centuries, and this should not surprise us. Personal deprivation was a normal part of Jewish religious practices in the first century. However, we should take note that in the gospels, we only see Jesus fast one time. Jesus' fast takes place immediately after his baptism in the Jordan when, according to the gospels, the spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness for 40 days. During this time of personal deprivation, Jesus is tempted by Satan to turn the stone into bread, but Jesus resists Satan's voice by declaring that "man cannot live by bread alone."

While not all the gospels include this, several of them assert that Jesus was ministered to by the angels who provided food and strength to heal Jesus' weakened condition. Jesus resists Satan by having faith that his Heavenly Father will see Jesus through his forty days of need. This tells us that Jesus did not engage in an act of personal deprivation for its own sake, but trusted in God to get him through both his hunger and his temptation, and God delivered.

After the forty days, we see Christ experience many types of deprivation, all of them apart from the religion of his people. Jesus is deprived of a home ("the Son of Man" has no place to lay his head.) Jesus is deprived of peace - he is harassed and interrogated throughout his ministry by his religious and political enemies. Jesus is deprived of family - we read in John's gospel that Jesus' brothers would have nothing to do with him in the latter stages of his work. Jesus is deprived of his followers - in John we read that just after Jesus called himself the bread of life, all of those who had been following him left except for the twelve apostles. Jesus was deprived of his friends - even the twelve, including Peter, abandoned him after his arrest. Jesus was deprived of justice - only a kangaroo court and a corrupt Roman ruler could take Jesus from arrest to crucifixion in less than a day. Jesus was deprived of his life and the comforting presence of his Father - "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Is it any wonder Christians have traditionally

remembered Lent with acts of deprivation? But maybe it is a misunderstanding to focus the forty days entirely on self-denial as a religious practice. Do we not experience deprivations in our lives at certain times, no matter our circumstances? There are times we are deprived of health - sometimes temporary, and other times as a permanent part of our lives. There are times we are deprived of peace. Anxiety can come from many sources - family, money, work, politics, religion, and many others. We are deprived of justice, sometimes for ourselves, sometimes for others for whom we expect justice. We are deprived of life, be it those we love or our own. In all these situations, deprivation is just a part of living in an incomplete and broken world.

But lest we forget, even as the angels ministered to Jesus in the wilderness, so does the Holy Spirit of the risen Christ minister to us. Jesus was deprived of his family, but God provided for God's Son the church. Jesus was deprived of peace, but God provided for his Son spiritual communion and the constant presence of divine love. Jesus was deprived of justice and life, but in his resurrection, God justified the sacrifice of the Messiah for our sakes, and restored Jesus to us that we may believe in him and receive eternal life. We have family, community, peace and justice that transcends a broken world, and in this we are to rejoice.

In all the "noes" of Jesus' life and death, God answered with a divine "yes." If we do not remember this during Lent, we miss its point entirely. If we embrace deprivation during this season, it is only to remind us of that which we already have. Whether we embrace acts of personal deprivation or discipline, we do this out of gratitude to Christ, for giving us his life out of his love for us, and to God for providing for us out of God's love, in the same manner as the Father provided for the Son. Lent should never mean a celebration of deprivation, but a joyous recognition that in Christ we have everything, now and forever.

Dr. Mack

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

YOUTH CLASSES

GOD'S TRAILBLAZERS (children ages 4-8)

Teacher: Kathy Moser

We will continue using Top 50 Instant Bible Lessons for Elementary. Each lesson begins with the focus Scripture and memory verse. The "Big Idea" keeps children focused on the main truth being taught from God's Word. The Bible Story opens God's Word and begins the learning. Until we are together again for in-person class time, a month's lessons will be mailed to the parents. We will be in the New Testament with lessons (March 14-April 4th): Lazarus (Jesus is More Powerful Than Death), Symbols of Easter, Jesus Died for Our Sins (Jesus Paid the Price for Our Sins) & The Resurrection (Jesus is More Powerful Than Death).

KREAMER'S CRUSADERS

(children 8 through 12)

Teacher: Matt Kreamer

We will be exploring questions of faith using the Be Bold Curriculum. Each week, Matt will email a lesson plan containing questions that will be discussed using scripture. This curriculum is meant to allow students to ask questions followed by a discussion. There will always be a bible exploration and a core bible truth.

<https://www.group.com/category/ministry-resources/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/be-bold.do>

ANCHOR TRINITY

(Junior High School through College)

Teacher: Rona Kreamer

Anchor Trinity is going to SEE THE WORLD! This Fall, we will (virtually) travel around the world with the Presbyterian Church! We will be watching services from churches around the USA and the World, as well as learn more about Presbyterian Mission Partners around the globe. Please send your contact information and preferred way of receiving the virtual lessons to rona.nichols@gmail.com - Links/Lessons can be emailed, sent via text message, Facebook Messenger or WhatsApp.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



Even though we are not meeting in person for worship we are planning to decorate the Sanctuary with lilies for Easter. If you would like to purchase an Easter lily in honor or memory of someone special please use the enclosed form and mail it along with your payment to 400 E. University Blvd Tucson, AZ 85705. You may also pay at www.trinitytucson.org. Please enter the information in the memo.

Peter Alley was in the Newspaper

Peter Alley plays for Catalina High School's soccer team and they were in the newspaper recently. 'All we got, all we need': Catalina's High School's short-handed soccer team embraces underdog role is the name of the article published in the Tucson Citizen on February 23, 2021. The article can be found at https://tucson.com/sports/high-school/all-we-got-all-we-need-catalinas-high-schools-short-handed-soccer-team-embraces-underdog/article_ea731699-7a6c-5d01-acfb-5445d2e0fa05.html.

Congratulation Peter, we are proud of you!

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



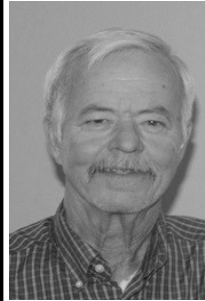
LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Trinity's Christian Education Committee is recommending daily personal devotions for the Lenten season produced by Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. They are traditional devotions with a scripture, a one paragraph meditation and a prayer written by faculty and friends of the seminary. We are not going to distribute paper copies except by request. You can load the free app on your phone (search for "PTS Devotions" in your favorite app store), or download PDFs or audio files, or view them online at <https://www.pts.edu/devotional> 1, or subscribe to an email list. If you have issues, contact John Hill (jhill@as.arizona.edu).



WHO'S IN YOUR VIRTUAL PEW

Meet Jerry Rowe



What did you do for a living?

I was a floor covering installer

Where is your hometown?

Valdosta, Georgia

What do you like to do in your

leisure time? *I like gardening,*

woodworking, and traveling

(though I haven't been able to

recently). I have also written two books; a biography and a novel – both of which are in the Trinity Library. I am working on a third book; a novel based on a true story about my wife Zoe, titled "Woman on the Move"

What is your favorite food? *Chimichangas!*

What is your favorite hymn? *Rock of Ages*

What does this church mean to you? *For me*

it is a place of reflection and prayer – an

opportunity to sit and think, and say a prayer

DONATING IRA ASSETS TO CHARITY

Turn your required distribution into charitable donations.

IRS rules mandate that individuals ages 70 ½ and older take RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions) from their IRA each year, regardless of whether the income is needed. These annual withdrawals are subject to ordinary income taxes. By making a contribution from your IRA to a charity you can satisfy your RMD amount without reporting additional income. This provision may be especially attractive to retirees who don't need all the income from their IRA to meet current living expenses. By donating the money to a charity, you can enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing to a worthy cause while effectively lowering your tax bill.

How it works

The provision allows retirees 70 ½ and older to donate up to \$100,000 tax free from their IRA each year. Generally when you take a distribution from your IRA, it is treated as taxable income. Under this provision, made permanent in the 2015 federal spending and tax package, those assets are excluded from income if the distribution is made directly to the charity.

Talk to your financial representative

It's important to consider your tax situation before deciding whether to make a charitable contribution from your IRA. Be sure to work closely with your financial advisor to determine whether this tax provision is right for you.

This information is not meant as tax or legal advice. Tax laws are complex and subject to change. Please consult a professional tax advisor to determine how this tax law affects your situation.

MISSION NEWS

TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

Trinity's Food Pantry is open **Sundays 12:00 to 2:00 pm & Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 to 4:00 pm**. It is located in the Education Building Room 15 near the corner of 4th Avenue and 4th Street.

RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is closed until further notice. **AZ DMV Vouchers to pay for duplicate Arizona ID cards are given out at the Food Pantry during its open hours on Tuesday and Sunday.**



YAV is now SWERV

A SERVICE PROGRAM FOR YOUNG ADULTS AGES 18-35,
HOSTED BY THE PRESBYTERY DE CRISTO IN TUCSON, ARIZONA.

Three volunteers arrived in January 2021 to be a part of the Southwest Emergent Response Volunteers. You might not know but due to travel bans and changing leadership at the national office of the YAV program, Alison Wood and our local board developed the SWERV program. Basically it is a rebranding of the successful YAV program and it is being hosted by the Presbytery de Cristo, while the national program goes on a virtual-only program hiatus.

Courageously, this very diverse group of three volunteers is settled in & working at CHRPA, Community Home Repair, Keep Tucson Together, and the Community Food Bank. The SWERV volunteers, and the board, are also participating in anti-racism, anti-oppression studies and actively seeking out opportunities to communicate & practice these values. They are hoping to plug-in to our church communities through Zoom gatherings or pre-recorded video updates and introductions. SWERV is also looking to add leadership to the board, if you or anyone you know has a passion for serving in that capacity please contact Debbie Hobbs. Information about the SWERV volunteers can be found at southwesterv.weebly.com/.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

TRINITY BOOK CLUB

On March 22 at **4:00 pm** we will be discussing on Zoom "*Under the White Sky: The Nature of the Future*" by Elizabeth Kolbert. The author of *The Sixth Extinction* returns to humanity's transformative impact on the environment, now asking: after doing so much damage, can we change nature this time to save it? If you are interested in joining the group get your Zoom invitation from Billie Holbrook at billie.holbrook@cox.net. **(Note the time change for March's meeting).**

MAKING SANDWICHES

A small group of volunteers meet regularly to make sandwiches for Casa Maria. Contact DeDe at 982-3787 or ddmarkin@yahoo.com to help.

Wednesday Evening Vespers

Dr. Mack hosts a weekly devotional on Zoom each **Wednesday, at 6:30 pm** for about 30 minutes. The invitation is at <http://trinitytucson.org/wednesday-evening-vespers/>.

Session Notes

Second meeting of 2021! This time Bucky Lovejoy, Chair of the Long Range Development Team, joined Session to discuss the latest from our R+R Developers, Randi Dorman and Rob Paulus. Bucky reminded everyone that it was 12 years ago that Trinity engaged in Clearness Conversations about selling some of our property. In May 2018 we closed on Phase I and you can see the new building next to Time Market. Now for the old Education wing. The Developers asked for another extension until April 2022 to include paying Trinity non-refundable fees – \$75,000 earnest money and \$25,000 non-earnest money. Session approved this transaction. Following are other highlights of the February meeting.

- Session approved the Annual Statistical Report sent to General Assembly by the Clerk of Session.
- Session approved Dr. Mack's terms of call. Now those go to the congregation for approval. Somehow we will have an Annual Congregational meeting. Mack's terms of call are unchanged from 2020.
- Our Presbytery Commissioners, Leone Mohny and John Hill, attended the January 30, 2021 joint Presbytery meeting along with 191 others on Zoom. They provided detailed reports about all the Presbytery activities.
- The Deacons executed a Valentine blitz for congregants and it was well received. They have added pocket prayers – small crocheted pieces that have an appropriate scripture attached – to their efforts to stay connected with our Trinity family. The pocket prayers are given to those who grieve.
- Upon the recommendation of the Mission Committee, Session approved allowing the Trinity Resource Center Site Administrator to accept and distribute material donations on behalf of the Resource Center. This includes clothing, household items and durable medical equipment.
- Property Committee continues to oversee necessary repairs on Trinity property and is shutting down unused water heaters and turning off the boiler for several days in the week in order to save money.
- Stewardship & Finance is researching new avenues for investments. They plan to have workshops about bequests. Session approved accepting an anonymous gift from a donor who wants the gift placed in the Vanguard Index Fund.
- Worship Committee is planning Lenten services. They are working with Presbytery Pastor Brad Munroe about a possible Covid-19 memorial service. Choir intern Sunny Lee has departed for a prestigious position of Assistant Conductor of the Korean National Choir. Gabriella Carrillo accepted the soprano intern position for the next four weeks and possibly longer.
- Administration & Personnel Committee is editing Trinity's entire Personnel Policies manual for Session to approve next month. They are also working to bring Child Protection & Sexual Misconduct Prevention training up to date for the new elected leaders.
- Christian Education reports an adult class for the Lenten season called "Seven Words" and to be taught by Mack on Sundays at 9:00 AM via Zoom. Youth teachers continue to connect with their students using mail and other social media.
- Growth & Outreach Team has asked Sheila Croteau to help them with media communication and advertisements.
- Session prayed for those in need of special care and concern.

Janet Hooper
Clerk of Session

NAMI SA (NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS- So AZ)

NAMI is holding its annual fundraiser to end the stigma & raise awareness & funds. "NAMIWalks Your Way" is the new name and we invite you to join our team, "Recovery for Now," Saturday, April 10, 2021. This will be "virtual" walk as it was last year. Please email Derry Dean at guerrodean@gmail.com for further information. Thank you, Derry & Tom Dean

Trinity Milestones

HONORING & MEMORIALS

In Memory of Jo Campbell by Leone Mohny
In Memory of George Banghart by Leone Mohny
In Honor of Alice Smedley by DeDe Markin
In Memory of Jo Campbell by Bonnie Stull
In Memory of George Banghart by Bonnie Stull
In Memory of Jo Campbell by Imogene Moser
In Memory of George Banghart by Imogene Moser



TRINITY WOMEN

The Horizon's Bible Study "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament" by P. Lynn Miller taught by Dr. Mack continues **Tuesday March 9 at 10:00 am** in Fellowship Hall with masks and social distancing. The monthly business meeting will be held after the Bible study class.

Ryan's Bears Despite the pandemic the making of bears has continued. We are meeting in person occasionally & mostly working at home to create these bears for giving. Fabric contributions (fleece, flannel or cotton can be used). We can also use buttons (nickel sized with two holes are best). If you would like to help in any way please contact Ruth Myers for the schedule and to volunteer. Thank you for your contributions & support for this valuable mission of the Trinity Presbyterian Women.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1	Harriet Marsh – 92	15	Jean Dalke
2	Truman Spillers	15	George Zellar, Jr.
3	Riley De Pizzo	18	Edgar Buck
4	Ed Hawley	18	Jerry Rowe
7	Holly Clark	22	Roberta Crawford
11	MacKenzie DePizzo	23	Emalie Wilka
11	Asa Moyer	25	Bunny Mallams

APRIL BIRTHDAYS (1–10)

8 Helen Greer



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

21 Kuman Tenge and Latre Lawson

MARCH SCRIPTURE READINGS

March 7 Exodus 10:1-17 and Psalm 19; 1 Cor. 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

March 14 Numbers 21:4-9 and Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; 1 Eph. 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 21 Jer. 31:31-34 and Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16; Heb. 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

March 28 Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:2-16 and Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isa. 50:4-9 and Psalm 31:9-16, Phil. 2:5-11; Mark 4:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)



Visit our website at www.trinitytucson.org for all the information and events you are looking for.



Email Addresses
office@trinitytucson.org

Deadline for the April 2021 VISION is
Thursday, March 25, 2021

Please submit typewritten articles to the
church office or to: office@trinitytucson.org