

March, 2022

Volume 32 Issue 3

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Dr. Mack's Lenten Class

This hybrid class will be held in the Fellowship Hall and online from 9:00 am– 9:45 am for six consecutive Sundays, beginning March 6 (first Sunday in Lent) and ending April 10 (Palm Sunday) featuring Adam Hamilton's study series, "Words of Life-Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today." More information on this study is on our website <http://trinitytucson.org/words-of-life-a-lenten-study-with-dr-mack/>



In Person & Online Lenten Services

- ◆ Palm Sunday, April 10 at 10:20 am Join us as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with the Trinity Choir either in person or online at trinitytucson.org/watch-live.
- ◆ Maundy Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 pm will be observed with the Sacrament of Communion and 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 in person or online at trinitytucson.org/watch-live.
- ◆ Easter Sunday April 17 at 6:30 am & 10:20 am Our Sunrise Service will be at 6:30 am in the courtyard. The Sanctuary service begins at 10:20 a.m. & includes the "The Passion and the Promise" a dramatic account of the Passion of Jesus and the Promise of our salvation. Communion is included in this cantata featuring the Trinity Choir, Mack and Cheyenne Williams as narrators, and a 16-member orchestra. Join us in person or online to celebrate that Christ is risen at trinitytucson.org/watch-live.

PASTORAL LETTER

In my final sermon for February my message, titled “From Cloudy to Clear,” focused on the clear understanding of God’s loving and grace-filled presence that Jesus presented to the world. At the time I preached this sermon, the invasion of Ukraine was well underway. As I write this to you this morning on the cusp of the Lenten season, a terrible slaughter of innocents is taking place in the Ukrainian border city of Kharkiv.

Because of the digital technology of smartphones and other devices, the world is receiving an unprecedented look at the horror of war in real time. Yet, like all wars, there is a deficit of truth and understanding as to what is taking place. Any soldier is familiar with “the fog of war.” “The fog of war” is the lack of knowledge about what is happening in any aspect of a situation – from battles, to tactics and strategies, to negotiations.

If you have been following the Ukraine-Russian war online on real-time sites such as Twitter or YouTube, it is almost impossible to separate fact from fiction, rumor from reality. The Navy calls the flow of unvetted information “scuttlebutt,” and in the Ukrainian conflict there is scuttlebutt everywhere. The fog of war is one of the most frightening aspects of human conflict, because it is within this cloud of misinformation that major mistakes are made between sides. You may have read some of the stories of how close the world has come to nuclear annihilation over the past 75 years due to a fog of knowledge. If you haven’t read them, don’t – you will lose sleep at night.

The reason I mention the phenomenon known as “the fog of war” is because, in any human endeavor, the truth can become shrouded or concealed by our own fallacies – this is normal. What is not normal is the way we can react to things before the truth emerges. This is what happened to Jesus of Nazareth throughout his three-year journey. If we read the gospels carefully, we discover two things – what Je-

sus said, and what others said about what Jesus said. Jesus’ detractors used our reactive natures to get him to the cross. How else could Jesus have moved from “Hosannas” and “Halleluiahs” at the beginning of a week, to the cries of “crucify him” at the end of the week? Sometimes we lose the ability to feel the astonishment of how the events of Holy Week so quickly unfolded.

After it was discovered that the tomb in which Jesus had been placed was empty, the conspirators of his crucifixion immediately gathered to create another fog of information, spreading the lie that Jesus’ body had been stolen by his followers (a ridiculous rumor, considering how the tomb had been left so carefully guarded.) Once again, the sinful hearts of humanity were creating a “fog of conflict” in order to hide the truth.

Their plan to conceal Jesus’ death completely failed for one reason – he was truly risen. But how did this belief become so dominant in the world, even after 2000 years? Because it is the risen Christ himself who dissipates the fog and grants the clarity of his loving presence to our hearts. Countless billions of people have not believed in the resurrection of Christ because they read it in an ancient book, but because they have encountered the living Christ in their own lives. This is why you will hear me preach, over and over again, that faith in Christ is not a religion, but a relationship.

Our relationship with Christ is perhaps the only one in our lives where everything is clear, because the facts of this relationship are simple – Jesus loves us; Jesus saves us; Jesus gives life purpose and meaning, even in its darkest moments. Do you think that the Christians of Ukraine have given up their relationship with Christ because of their terrible suffering? Just the opposite is true. We have seen them reaching out in prayer and fellowship, caring for each other and those whose lives and hearts are broken.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

YOUTH CLASSES

GOD'S TRAILBLAZERS (children ages 4-8)

Teacher: Kathy Moser

In the Beginning

We are having in-person Sunday School, meeting downstairs in Room 7 following the children's sermon.

We will continue using "Top 50 Instant Bible Lessons" as our Bible story lessons continue with Baby Moses; Moses Talks to Pharaoh; Moses & the Red Sea and Israelites in the Desert.

THE CRUSADERS

(children 8 through 12)

Teacher: Debbie Hobbs & Bonnie Stull

Last Things

The first Sunday in March, we'll learn about a woman and a girl who Jesus heals. During the rest of March into April, we'll explore Last Things, five lessons about Jesus' journey leading to the Cross. The class is meeting in-person for Sunday School for those attending worship following the children's moment. These lessons will be emailed to our families, as well.

Mar. 6 Jesus Heals a Woman and a Girl, Luke 8:40-56; Mar. 13 Jesus Visits Jerusalem, Luke 19:29-40; Mar. 20 Remember to Love!, Matthew 22:36-40; Mar. 27 Seeing Jesus, Matthew 25:31-46;

ANCHOR TRINITY

(Junior High School through College)

Teacher: Rona Kreamer

TikTok Evangelizing

Anchor Trinity is working on evangelizing- through TikTok! Students are brainstorming ideas for short videos with sounds/duets/dances to spread the word of Christ & introduce others to Trinity Presbyterian on the social media site! Follow us @anchortrinity on the TikTok platform!

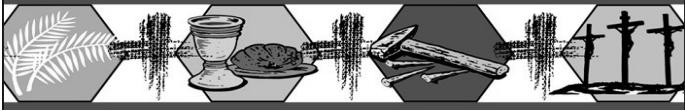
PASTORAL LETTER

We have seen the Christians in Russia praying for their Ukrainian brethren, even as they courageously protest the actions of their leaders. Their witness reminds us that the presence of Christ is one of comfort, hope, and perseverance in the midst of human calamity.

We don't have to see what the Christians in that conflict are doing, because we already know – they are worshipping, following, and leaning on the everlasting arms of the Son of God, just as we are. Whatever we do not see or cannot see, we can always see him clearly.

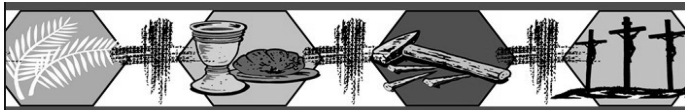
Dr. Mack

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).



Wednesday Evening Vespers

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



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.



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.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

WHO'S IN YOUR VIRTUAL PEW

Meet Rosalie Goll

What did you do for a living?

Education (teaching)

Where is your hometown?

Boone, Iowa

What do you like to do in your leisure time?

Any kind of recreational art work also cross-word puzzles; I love to watch the U of A win at basketball and football

What is your favorite food? *Mexican Food, especially homemade tacos*

What is your favorite scripture? *Romans 9: 38 and 39*

What does this church mean to you? *Trinity touches my heart in so many ways: Its works, its music, its teachings, its people, its fellowship, its architecture & so much more.*



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

NAMIWalks 'Your Way' Southern AZ will be on Saturday, April 2, 2022, at Kennedy Park Fiesta Area 3359 S La Cholla Blvd at Ajo Way. The park gates open at 7:00 am, entertainment starts at 8:00 am and the walk starts at 9:00 am. The Walk is held to erase stigma about mental illness & raise funds for our no-cost services of education, advocacy & support. Please join Tom & Derry Dean's team, "For Recovery." Contact Derry at guerrodean@gmail.com.

MISSION NEWS

TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

Trinity's Food Pantry is open **Sunday from 12:00 to 2:00 pm and Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 to 4:00 pm** in the Education Building Room 14. Thanks for your food and monetary donations.

We are always in need of cases of water and fresh fruits and vegetables.

RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is open **Tuesday and Thursday 12:00 to 2:00 pm** in the Education Building Room 13 to help clients with Department of Economic Security (DES) applications, vouchers for duplicate Arizona ID cards, birth certificates for adults and notarizing documents.



Just Coffee For Sale

The Mission Committee **Thanks You** for the great response to the re-introduction of Just Coffee sales. The Just Coffee display is near the stained glass window in Fellowship Hall with volunteers handling the sales before and after church on Sunday. You may pay by cash or check. Coffee will be \$10 or \$11 and the proceeds benefit Café Justo, a Grower owned Coffee Cooperative based in southern Chiapas Mexico, formed to address the poverty & migration from Mexico to the U.S.A. More information about the cooperative, the coffee process & the different types of coffee they sell are available at justcoffee.org.

MAKING SANDWICHES

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



Session Notes

Session is still Zooming! Using Zoom seems to spur our Session to finish its business in record time. Every committee chair is providing minutes and highlights for the docket & Session consideration in a timely manner and doing so helps Session speed through the business at hand. Elder leadership at Trinity is in good hands. The Worship Restoration Group meets soon to evaluate the status of the pandemic & make recommendations for when the choir can return and mask wearing can be adjusted. Maybe March will herald hybrid meetings for the Session. Following are the decisions and discussion topics considered by Session in February:

- Session approved the Annual Statistical report that is submitted to General Assembly each year. Most of the data is like that contained in the printed annual report all of you received around February 13, 2022 at the congregational meeting.
- Session approved moving the March Session meeting to the fourth Tuesday to accommodate committees that meet on Mondays and need more time to consolidate their business. It's a bummer when a month begins with a Tuesday!
- Rick Wickizer and Tom Roof were approved as members-at-large for the Property Committee while Janet Jones was approved as member-at-large for the Stewardship & Finance Committee.
- Session approved moving Communion service from April 3, 2022 to Easter, April 17, 2022.
- Session discussed expanding our footprint at the 4th Avenue Street events by highlighting our church to the public eye. For example, the Worship Committee may have the Trinity Ringers and/or the Jazz Ensemble perform for a short time. Also, Mission Committee is planning to highlight and inform the passers-by about some of our mission projects such as the Food Bank, Just Coffee and others.
- Administration & Personnel reports that Gerry Pearson will remain as our bookkeeper awhile longer as she can do the work from home – a relief as she has skills that will be hard to replace.
- The Development Group has leased the remaining two floors of the Phase I building and is seeking bids to build for Phase II. This year may see the sale of the Education Wing

completed. When the Trinity footprint shrinks after the sale we will need to prepare for our programs and the programs using the Education Wing area to have a space to continue to operate. Adjustments and sharing are in order.

- Stewardship & Finance is studying ways to improve our Trinity stewardship program. Perhaps we will begin to think about stewardship in a new way.
- Worship Committee has big plans for the Lenten season and for Easter. The committee is discussing having guest preachers so Mack can have a well-deserved vacation.
- Presbytery de Cristo Moderator the Rev. Steve Melde sent a letter of gratitude to Trinity for Trinity support of the Presbytery missions and ministry.
- Session members prayed for those in our congregation in need of special care and concern, for our leadership and for our staff.

Janet Hooper
Clerk of Session



Lenten Calendars

In preparation for the observance of Lent, "Tread Lightly for Lent" calendars from the Presbyterian Mission Agency were distributed at the Sunday service on February 27 and mailed the following week. The calendars offer day by day activities to help us examine our faith and create mindful behaviors for each of the forty days, building in ways that can guide us through the year. We hope that individuals and families alike will find the calendar to be a helpful resource to promote actions beneficial to us and to our world, actions that we will resolve to continue in a sustainable way.

Your Stewardship Committee



Trinity Milestones

HONORING & MEMORIALS

In Memory of Jeanette Ryan by Trinity Ringers
In Memory of Jeanette Ryan by Debbie Hobbs
In Memory of Jeanette Ryan by Lori Gaither
In Memory of Jeanette Ryan by Melissa Bird

TRINITY WOMEN

The Horizon's Bible Study meets **Tuesday, March 8 at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall.**

Dr. Mack leads the study, "What My Grandmother Taught Me - Learning from the women in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus by Merryl Blair. See Leone for a study book. The women's business meeting is held first.

Ryan's Bears meets **Tuesday, March 22 at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall.** Please note the day change in March and contact Ruth Myers to either help there in person or at home. Despite the pandemic bear making continues. We hope to have at least 50-60 bears made by December for 2022 Christmas gifts at Primavera, Our Family Social Services & the Arizona Children's Assoc. Your donations of fabric, stuffing & buttons are always welcome.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1	Harriet Marsh – 93	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



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

21 Kuman Tenge and Latre Lawson



MARCH SCRIPTURE READINGS

March 6 Deut. 26:1-11 & Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Rom. 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

March 13 Gen. 15:1-12, 17-18 and Psalm 27; Phil. 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

March 20 Isa. 55:1-9 and Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

March 27 Josh. 5:9-12 and Psalm 32; 2 Cor. 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32





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



Deadline for the April 2022 *VISION* is
Thursday, March 24, 2022
Please submit typewritten articles to the
church office or to: office@trinitytucson.org