

May, 2022

Volume 32 Issue 5

*Inside
 this
 Issue:*

<i>Highlights</i>	1
<i>Pastor's Letter</i>	2
<i>Christian Educ.</i>	3
<i>Congregational News & Milestones</i>	4
<i>Session Notes Trinity Women</i>	5
<i>Mission (Back Cover)</i>	



PASTORAL LETTER

As we enter the month of May, it seems that things are returning to a pre-pandemic normal. On the other hand, we cannot deny that we are returning to a “new normal.” Things have changed in our culture that cannot be unchanged. For example, we will probably see some people wearing masks in public for different reasons. I remember seeing Asian university students wearing masks around Tucson when I first arrived, and while I did not question the reason, I thought about the fact that this was a cultural phenomenon alien to our country – but not anymore.

There is also the fact that Covid is with us as an endemic illness, and that there will be variations – and medicines to answer those variations – in the future. In these things and more it is obvious that when confronted with change, we either adapt to it or we fight it – and fighting change can be difficult, exhausting, dangerous, and costly. Not all change is good, and not all change is bad, but change happens, and it will take us into new places and new ways of thinking about life and relationships.

Everything in human history pales in comparison to the change brought about in the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, and this is amazing to think about. How did humanity change in such a definitive way based upon a story shared by a few obscure individuals in an obscure place and an obscure time? From the secular perspective, it is the things that Jesus said that matter most, even though some challenge the idea that Jesus of Nazareth even existed. Still, most do not challenge the ideas that he represented. To

this day no one has said the things that Jesus said – words that cross cultural and religious boundaries; words that embody wisdom and truths that resonate in the human heart.

For the billions of believers who have placed Jesus at the center of their lives, he is the Christ – the Son of God. We just experienced the profound joy of celebrating the resurrection, with all the hope that it represents. I think the power of our faith is that it grants our lives a transcendent purpose, and while our faith does not prevent us from suffering with the rest of humanity, it does give life a greater meaning beyond the grave. The power of this belief is what changed cultures and brought ideas that stood in the face of humanity’s power to hate and destroy.

Have we ever stopped and asked ourselves what the world would be like without Christianity or the teaching, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ? But that is something we never need to fear, because our faith is empowered by the Holy Spirit. This means that our faith exists not just “because of” our spiritual relationship with Christ, but “in spite of” the fallen humanity around us and inside of us. Where else is there such hope in the endeavor of being human?

Through May let us remind ourselves each day of that hope, whatever may come. Whatever we are facing, we are never alone. God has wrapped our lives in the love of the Messiah, and God keeps us well. Have a blessed month.

Dr. Mack

MAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 1 Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)& Psalm 30; Rev. 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

May 8 Acts 9:36-43 & Psalm 23; Rev. 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

May 15 Acts 11:1-18 & Psalm 148; Rev. 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

May 22 Acts 16:9-15 & Psalm 67; Rev. 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

May 29 Acts 16:16-34 & Psalm 97; Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26



SESSION NOTES

Zooming right along, Session conducted their stated April meeting in record time. Along with live streaming our worship services being a permanent feature in Trinity's future, it seems hybrid meetings may also become the norm. Several Session members don't enjoy night-driving, and everyone likes saving their gas with one less trip to church. Luckily, church leaders are taking care of Trinity business with care and aplomb. Kudos to Sheila Croteau for making sure everyone has copies of reports and minutes online so all Session members are on the same page. Here are the meeting highlights:

- The Deacons arranged delivery of Easter lilies to those without allergies and unable to attend worship in person.
- Because of our streaming services the Easter sunrise service had a record turnout with six people in person and twenty-one online.
- Session voted to have Deacon and Elders Classes 2023 and 2024 installed and or ordained on April 24th allowing some to remain online for their installation or ordination. Though things are easing with COVID infections and hospitalizations we remain vigilant about the continuing endemic pandemic.
- Administration & Personnel is learning about the evolution of the job of Trinity Treasurer and evaluating how to move forward in the future. It seems that the responsibilities of the Treasurer have grown over the years. Leone Mohny has a difficult job that takes more and more of her time.
- Christian Education thinks future adult classes can move the meeting Owl to the Upper Room once we purchase another television screen. This will allow other uses for Fellowship Hall at the 9:00 AM hour.
- Growth & Outreach evaluated the 4th Avenue Street Fair participation and have plans for improvement. Apparently, the Trinity Ringers were a big success.
- Trinity received a check for \$100,000 from the Developers for the extension of their purchase for Phase II.
- Session approved Mission Committee's request to have sandwich making on second Sundays after worship. They have worked out how to distance everyone making sandwiches for safety. One more step toward "normality."
- Property continues to monitor church maintenance. Right now, it looks as if Trinity's roof may need some repair so the strange leaks can be mitigated.
- Worship Committee thanks Will Tilley and Janet Munson for their palm decoration under the pulpit for Palm Sunday.

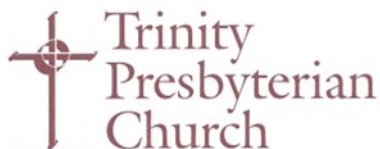
Janet Hooper
Clerk of Session



TRINITY WOMEN

The Horizon's Bible Study meets Tuesday, May 10 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. This month's class was prerecorded. TPW may meet in June, stay tuned!

Ryan's Bears meets Tuesday, May 24 at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Please note the date change and contact Ruth Myers to either help there in person or at home. Your donations of fabric, stuffing & buttons are welcome & appreciated.



400 East University Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona 85705

Phone: (520) 623-2579

Fax: (520) 624-7115

Email: office@trinitytucson.org

MISSION NEWS

Just Coffee For Sale

The 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 in southern Chiapas Mexico. More information about Café Justo is at justcoffee.org.

Trinity Presbyterian Church
400 E. University Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85705

520-623-2579
Office 10:00 am-3:00 pm Monday-Thursday

Trinity Website
www.trinitytucson.org

Email Address
office@trinitytucson.org

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.

We always need of cases of water, fresh fruits & 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.



Deadline for the June/July 2022 VISION is
Monday, May 23, 2022

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