

May, 2024

Volume 34 Issue 5

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Easter Brunch in
Fellowship Hall

Easter Story in the
Library



After the Egg Hunt in the
Courtyard



Pentecost Sunday, May 19

We encourage you to wear RED that day as we celebrate with special music and readings. We will take the Pentecost Offering which benefits children at risk, youth & young adults. It can be given by mail or online.

PASTORAL LETTER

May is the month of the Christian year when we move from our celebration of Easter to the celebration of Pentecost. Each Sunday of May anticipates Pentecost Sunday, when we will remember the events in Acts 2 as told us by Luke. Jesus promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples at least a year before his crucifixion. Later, on Maundy Thursday, Jesus once again gave assurance to his apostles that they would not be left alone. We can understand why the disciples needed this assurance. From the beginning of their discipleship and in the three years that followed, the disciples were never apart from Jesus except for brief periods. Jesus sent his disciples to go in pairs and begin the work of declaring the kingdom of God as he had taught them. This work focused on preaching and healing. Jesus also told the disciples to stay in the homes of whoever invited them or to leave any village or town that requested them to do so. When the disciples returned, they excitedly reported to Jesus the results of their journeys. The disciples were excited because it was their first experience of doing the work of the Kingdom of God as Jesus had directed them. In doing this, the disciples experienced the presence and the work of the Holy Spirit. For this first time the disciples felt the constant companionship of the Spirit, and they rejoiced in its presence.

But in Jerusalem the disciples' trepidation was evident from the moment Jesus separated himself from them after the Passover meal. The gospel of John remembered the emotions of those days as Jesus's followers waited in the upper room to see what would happen next. When Jesus appeared to them, he made sure that his followers did not only look at the wounds of his crucifixion but touch them. In John (unlike Matthew, Mark, and Luke) Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples on the evening of his resurrection. John's gospel was affirming the Trinity, which had become the church's way of understanding God. Once again Jesus assures them that, after his ascension, they will not be alone.

It is only in Acts that we see the events of the Day of Pentecost. Like Passover, Pentecost was a Jewish Holy Day. Also, like Passover, there was a separation between the meaning of the Jewish observance and the way Christians would experience Pentecost. Luke's depiction of the gift of the Holy Spirit was very different from John. In John, the gift of the Holy Spirit was to affirm the three persons of the Trinity and to prepare the apostles for Jesus's ascension. In Luke, the Holy Spirit became the driving force of the mission of Christ's church. The gift of tongues was clearly the gift of languages, empowering the followers of Jesus to continue their mission beyond both the religious confines of Judaism & beyond the geographical boundaries of Israel.

To help us make a distinction between John and Luke's depictions of the Holy Spirit, think of it this way: John's depiction of the Holy Spirit is connected to conversion, faith, and baptism; Luke's depiction of the Holy Spirit is connected to the command of Christ to carry the good news of God's love into the world. Both understandings of the work of Holy Spirit are still essential to our faith today. We can think of the sacraments as "the breath of God" upon our lives. We can think of Pentecost Sunday as a reminder of why we have received the gift of the Holy Spirit. As Christians, we cannot separate the worship of the church from the work of the church. The Holy Spirit equips us to do both, that Christ may continue to be present in our hearts and for the world. I look forward to sharing Pentecost Sunday with you in May as we celebrate God's amazing love in three persons.

Dr. Mack



Let's Celebrate
Birthday & Anniversary
Celebration Sunday, May 19
in Fellowship Hall after worship

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

YOUTH CLASSES

GOD'S TRAILBLAZERS (Preschool - 2nd Grade) *Teacher: Kathy Moser*

Jesus' Appearances after Easter and Pentecost

We will be having Sunday School downstairs in **Room 8** following the children's message. We will learn about Jesus appearing to his disciples, Jesus going up to Heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost). Each lesson includes coloring pages, crafts, other activities, and music.

Please note we will not have class on May 26 or June 2.

THE CRUSADERS (3rd - 5th Grade) & **FAITH ENCOUNTERS** (6th Grade & Older)

Teacher: Debbie Hobbs & Bonnie Stull

GRAB YOUR WORSHIP BAG

We encourage children and youth grades 4th and above to pick up activity sheets and supplies for worship-based activities from the Kids Korner in the narthex and to sit with their families during worship.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our featured themes during the month of May are music and worship. Come and "check out" the wonderful selection of books on stories behind many of our hymns, our hymn writers, classical composers, and worship. Cecil Alexander and her husband, William, a parish minister in Londonderry, Ireland, served in a rural area. She visited the poor families and gathered the children around her for instruction in the Bible, the catechism and the Apostles' Creed. When she published a collection of her songs, almost all for children, she donated the profits to support disabled children in her area. "All Things Bright and Beautiful" was written to help children understand the phrase, "I believe in God the Father, Maker of Heaven and earth." Often when we think of God the Creator, we consider the vast galaxies of space and the mighty billowing oceans, but this hymn, written for boys and girls, talks of little flowers with glowing colors, little birds with tiny wings, purple-headed mountains, ripe fruits in the garden, and meadows where we play. (The One Year GREAT SONGS OF FAITH, May 5 devotion, page 132). The books will be in Fellowship Hall. Instructions for checking out books and the "check out" card basket will be in Fellowship Hall. When returning books, please leave them on the desk in the library. The library is open before and after the worship service. Please contact Kathy Moser, your librarian, if you have any questions. Thank you!

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Trinity Presbyterian Women contribute to the Fellowship of the Least Coin at their monthly meetings. The fellowship was started in 1956 by Shanti Solomon, an Indian woman, as a coalition of support between women worldwide working towards "peace". It is a global, ecumenical prayer movement that women anywhere could have a sense of being a part of a worldwide family of faith. Her vision was that connectedness would come from women praying for peace and giving the least coin of their country as a symbol of that prayer. The movement is focused on prayer and reconciliation rather than money. The coins are sent to the Fellowship of the Least Coin Fund. Annually the total sum is announced & is distributed each year for peace and justice causes. More information is at <https://www.fellowshipoftheleastcoin.org/>

SESSION NOTES

Still Zooming along! We are grateful that Barbara C. Pollack can join us on Zoom even with her health issues – she is a blessing and example for us all. And we are also blessed that Lynn Moser, our Organist and Director of Handbells, joined us during our Leading Together time. Lynn is a gift. He makes our aging organ sound perfect. His choices of hymns and preludes and postludes are meant to make God feel present & real for our congregation. Besides teaching 16-18 students a week in his studio, he spends 3-4 hours a day practicing. He is always thinking ahead, prepares in advance especially if he chooses a piece that is harder than he thought. He makes sure our instruments are maintained and is currently leading a group of Trinity people who will make decisions about what to do about repairs/replacement for our organ and its pipes. Session thinks that we all agree that we love Lynn and appreciate all he does for Trinity and for his faith. Here are the highlights of the April Session meeting:

- Administration & Personnel Committee along with Stewardship & Finance Committee has hired Heather Ruhter and her firm Harmony Accounting to provide bookkeeping services for Trinity. The firm is in Omaha, NE and has extensive experience with non-profits and churches and the ShelbyNext software that Trinity uses.
- Gerry Pearson, our former bookkeeper, worked from home in Green Valley and retired on April 15th. Administration & Personnel is planning a celebration to thank her for her many years of faithful and steadfast service for Trinity.
- After lots of research Billie Holbrook brought a motion from Mission Committee to Session. Stewardship & Finance supports this motion. And Session approved that \$5,700 from the Special Mission Fund is paid to the Arizona School of Nursing for Angela Seddo's tuition during her clinicals. The rigor of clinicals means that Angela would not have the time to work as she has done during other semesters to help pay her tuition. We are so proud to help Angela achieve her nursing degree and her dream to help people.

- Stewardship & Finance has elected Eileen Lamse as an assistant to Treasurer Ruth Russell.
- Property Committee contracted with Comfort systems USA Southwest to complete the duct work in Trinity Hall. If you attended the recent Rose and Iris Show, you would know that Trinity Hall is now the coolest spot in our church.
- Session approved that the Rev. Bart Smith preach on April 21, 2024. Those who attended church that day found Mr. Smith to be an excellent preacher and we all learned a lot about sheep and shepherds.
- Worship Committee is considering advertising some of our special Sunday services. The ads for the Easter Cantata produced an attendance of 226 and 15 children.
- Session members and Pastor Mack prayed for our church and the challenges we face.

Janet Hooper
Clerk of Session



TRINITY WOMEN

The Horizon's Bible Study meets **Tuesday, May 9 at 10:00 am in the Library.** This is the final class that Dr. Mack leads of the 2023–2024 Presbyterian Women Bible study, “Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts” by Olive Mahabir until the new class next Fall.

Ryan's Bears meets **Tuesday, May 16 at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall.** Contact Ruth Myers to either help there in person or at home. Your donations of fabric, stuffing & buttons are welcome & appreciated.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

WHO'S IN YOUR PEW

Meet Rose Emery

What did you do for a living? I was a practicing RN and professional nurse educator/researcher since 1958; the last 23 years as an Associate Professor in the U of A College of Nursing. Adult medical, surgical and gerontological care were my preferred clinical areas.

Where is your hometown? I grew up in Kidron, Ohio, a rural crossroad town 60 miles south of Cleveland, surrounded by the larger Sonnenberg community of Swiss Mennonite immigrants. After college, I moved to Tucson in 1971 & consider it my "almost hometown".

What do you like to do in your leisure time? Travel (domestic and international) and being outdoors in the beauty our natural environment, plus hobbies such as photography. Also taking time to stay in touch with friends and families (Gerber, Emery & Coffin)

What is your favorite food? When I have a preference, I avoid seafood. Otherwise, I like almost anything that is spicy, sweet or salty in moderation.

What is your favorite Hymn and Bible verse? "Take My Life & Let It Be" and "Open My Eyes That I May See" and all Bible verses that speak of God's love, especially John 3:16

What does this church mean to you? Ever since joining Trinity in 1988, this congregation has been a very important community of inspiring & caring individuals.

What is one thing people don't know about you? In 2000 and 2003, the People to People Ambassador Programs invited me to serve as the professional leader for delegations of AZ nurses to go to the Republic of China for 10 day exchange programs. The focus was on Traditional Chinese Medicine and on nursing in urban and rural settings, plus opportunities for many cross cultural experiences.



WHO'S IN YOUR PEW

Meet Al Coffin

What did you do for a living? My last paying job was with Control Data Corporation, a computer products, peripherals, services and super computer manufacturer. I held about 20 different jobs in 30 years.

Where is your hometown? I grew up (not matured) in Storm Lake, Iowa.

What do you like to do in your leisure time?

Travel

What is your favorite food? Mexican

What is your favorite Hymn or Bible verse?

"All is Well With My Soul" (When Peace Like a River)

What does this church mean to you?

Our family, not relatives

What is one thing people don't know about you?

Our income is from crop sharing with the operators of our Iowa farm ground (corn & soybeans)

Don and Ruth Myers will be celebrating 70 years of marriage on June 6. On **Sunday, June 9** we invite our church family to share in the celebration at a luncheon in Fellowship Hall following the worship service. Reservations would be appreciated by May 29. Cards are welcome but no gifts. Please join us! For reservations please call 520-326-6888, email myers@math.math.arizona.edu or text 520-468-9193.

The Mission & Stewardship & Finance committees along with Session members approved a check to the Arizona College of Nursing for Angela Seddo to complete her final semester and clinicals to become a nurse. We are extremely proud of her & are glad to support her dreams. Billie Holbrook presented the check to the school's office.



Sunday,
May 12



TRINITY MILESTONES

HONORING & MEMORIALS

In Memory of Ignacio Medina by Ida Medina

In Memory of Evelyn Medina by Ida Medina

In Memory of Helen Forbes by Ida Wickizer

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

5 Tom & Vade Henderson

29 Errol & Catherine Dimenstein

31 Will Tilley & Janet Munson



MAY BIRTHDAYS

3	Jessica Roggow	16	Carl Sosna
6	Celeste Dzakpa	19	Peace Tenge
9	Susan Chambers-Casteloes	21	Lynn Moser
9	Turner Miller	29	Liz Strong
		31	James Madson
14	Steve Barlow		

JUNE BIRTHDAYS (1-10)

2	Barbara Ball
8	Thomas Dean
10	Carolynn Carter

MAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 5 Acts 10:44-48 & Psalm 98 or Gen. 35:9-15 & Psalm 101; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

May 12 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 & Psalm 1 or Jer. 10:1-10a & Psalm 108; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

May 19 Acts 2:1-21 & Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Rom. 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 26 Isa. 6:1-8 & Psalm 29; Rom. 8:12-17; John 3:1-17



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. If a volunteer is not available put the money in the lockbox. Coffee will be \$10 or \$11. Proceeds benefit Café Justo, a grower-owned Coffee Cooperative in southern Chiapas Mexico. For more information visit justcoffee.org.

TRINITY FOOD PANTRY

Trinity's Food Pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 to 3:00 pm in basement of the Sanctuary building. Thanks for your food & monetary donations.

CASA MARIA SANDWICH MAKING

May's sandwich making in Fellowship Hall is after the Sanctuary service on **May 12**. Come at 9:00 am that day to help setup.




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- ⇒ We are "LIVE" streaming the Sunday morning service beginning at 10:20 am. Watch on our website trinitytucson.org/watch-live
 - ⇒ Join us in the Sanctuary for In Person Worship at 10:20 am.
 - ⇒ Visit our website at www.trinitytucson.org for all the latest information and events you are looking for.

Deadline for the **June/July 2024**
VISION is Thursday, May 23

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

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