

February, 2023

Volume 33, Issue 2

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- ◆ Please join us for worship this month with Special Music being provided by the Trinity's Choir, the Trinity Jazz Ensemble, the Monsoon Brass and the Trinity Ringers!
- ◆ Mack's Lenten study for this year will be from Adam Hamilton's 6-session series titled "Creed – What Christians Believe and Why". This in person class will be held in the Chapel from 9:00 am– 9:45 am February 12 through March 26. Each class will begin with one of Rev. Hamilton's videos, followed by a discussion. An informational video introducing the class is at <https://trinitytucson.org/creed-what-christians-believe-and-why/>. All classes will be recorded and posted there.
- ◆ The Annual Congregational meeting will be February 12 immediately following the Sanctuary service.
- ◆ The observance of Lent begins February 22 with the Ash Wednesday worship service. This contemplative service of Scripture and music invites us to search our hearts, confess our sinfulness, and reflect on Christ's great love that compelled him to journey to the cross. There will be a simple soup/bread supper at 5:30 p.m., followed by the worship service in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. Join us in person or online at [trinitytucson.org/watch-live](https://trinitytucson.org/watch-live).
- ◆ Dr. Mack hosts "Wednesday Evening Vespers" each Wednesday, at 6:30 pm. This is a brief time of prayer and sharing with scripture, a Devotional, prayer concerns, and prayer. Join him online at <http://trinitytucson.org/wednesday-evening-vespers/>.

# PASTORAL LETTER

It is hard to believe that the season of Lent is only a few weeks away, but Ash Wednesday is February 22, and the first Sunday of Lent follows on the 26<sup>th</sup>. There are some significant differences between the Advent season and the Lenten season that are worth remembering for every Christian. Advent is a reminder to all believers that Jesus will return as he promised. Advent is only connected to Christmas in that it precedes the remembrance of Christ's birth. At Advent, our discipleship is focused on our spiritual preparation for Christ's return, and our faith that the world does not have the final say and life does not end at the grave.

During the season of Lent, our discipleship is focused inward. Lent is a time of remembering the crucifixion of Christ and the reason for it. Lent does not let blame Jesus's sacrifice on those in the gospels who betrayed, denied, tormented, judged, and executed the Son of God. Rather, Lent is like a mirror that forces us to see ourselves as the objects of Christ's words from the cross – "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

There is a popular internet meme based upon a sketch from a British comedy show. In the sketch, two German officers, fighting loyally in the field during World War 2, sit together around a campfire. One of them, having a moment of epiphany, turns to the other and asks the question, "Are we the baddies?" The question from that scene has been used countless times on the social network as a provocative question for many issues.

The season of Lent provides we who are believers in Christ a definite answer to that question – "Yes. We are the baddies." Lent reminds us that faith in Christ does not make us good, like some magician saying "abracadabra" at the moment of the reveal. Rather, Lent reminds us that faith in Christ humbles us, and reminds us that we are entirely dependent on God's grace. Lent declares in bold letters that we are loved by the one who created us – not "because of" but "in spite of."

If Advent prompts us to prepare for Christ's promise, Lent prompts us to reflect upon Christ's purpose for taking on his loving sacrifice. Out of that reflection,

we are to seek forgiveness for our sins that we know, and those sins known only to God. In doing this, we reaffirm our need to continually strive to make our lives a reflection of the grace that we have received. Once we have done this, we need not dwell upon the sins of the past, but seek to show the love of God for the present and the future.

Have a wonderful, safe, and peaceful February, filled with God's ever-present and overwhelming love.

*Dr. Mack*

## YEAR ROUND DEVOTIONS

The Christian Education committee recommends the D365 devotional for use during Lent (and year round). Visit <https://d365.org> or download the free D365 app from your app store. It has 5 steps of "pause, listen, think, pray, go" which includes scripture and music each day.

## LENT DEVOTIONS

If you prefer a book, Rev. Rachel M Srubas of Mountain Shadows has written a new book called "The Desert of Compassion: Devotions for the Lenten Journey". The book is available for purchase from Westminster John Knox & Amazon (including Kindle).

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

**February 5** Isaiah 58:1-9 and Psalm 112:1-9;  
1 Cor. 2:1-12; Matt. 5:13-20

**February 12** Deut. 30:15-20 and Psalm 119:1-8;  
1 Cor. 3:1-9; Matt. 5:21-37

**February 19** Ex. 24:12-18 and Psalm 2 or 19;  
2 Peter 1:16-21; Matt. 17:1-9

**February 26** Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7 and Psalm 32;  
Rom. 5:12-19; Matt. 4:1-11



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## YOUTH CLASSES

### GOD'S TRAILBLAZERS (preschool - 2nd grade)

*Teacher: Kathy Moser*

#### Topics: Fruit of the Spirit, and Lent

We will be having in-person Sunday School downstairs in Room 7 following the children's message. We will begin the month with a Kindness Project and then continue using a Christian video series called "Douglas Talks, The Fruit of the Spirit for Kids" as well as Living out the Fruit of the Spirit: A Devotional for Kids and Families (GOODNESS). We will then begin using the booklet "We Can Learn About Lent!"

### CRUSADERS (3rd - 5th grade) & FAITH ENCOUNTERS (6th grade & older)

*Teachers: Debbie Hobbs & Bonnie Stull*

**Crusaders:** 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will use lessons from "Growing In God's Love", and videos from the crew at Konnect HQ as they focus on real-life kid challenges, searching for biblical truth, and modeling spiritual growth. Check out at Konnect HQ - YouTube.

**Faith Encounters:** Graders 6 and older will explore The New Testament, The Lord's Prayer, and The Apostles' Creed as we journey towards deeper faith development.

**Both these groups will be held in Room 1.** The children/youth will meet at the back of the sanctuary after the children's message.

## ADULT CLASS

### DR. MACK'S LENTEN STUDY BEGINS IN PERSON ONLY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 AT 9:00 AM IN THE CHAPEL

Dr. Mack begins his Lenten Devotional class in the Chapel at 9:00 am on Sunday, February 12, 2023. We will be studying Adam Hamilton's 6-session series titled "Creed – What Christians Believe and Why." This is a chance for us to explore the basics of our Christianity based upon the Apostles Creed. The Adam Hamilton video series is available for free on YouTube. The class will be recorded each week and made available on our website. Here is a schedule of the classes, with one break in between.

Remember that the classes will be in the Chapel, but will not be streamed live. You do not need a student

February 12 – God

February 19 – Jesus Christ

February 26 – The Holy Spirit

March 5 – NO CLASS

March 12 – The Church & the Communion of the Saints

March 19 – The Forgiveness of Sins

March 26 – The Resurrection of the Body.

book, but one is available on Amazon or from Cokesbury. I look forward to sharing this Lenten study with you as we focus on the foundation of what we believe. More information and an introductory video are available at <https://trinitytucson.org/creed-what-christians-believe-and-why/>.

# MISSION NEWS

## 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 and monetary donations.

## RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is open Wednesday 12:00 to 3:00 pm in basement of the Sanctuary building to help clients with Department of Economic Security (DES) applications, vouchers for duplicate Arizona ID cards, birth certificates for adults and notarizing documents.

Casa Maria  
sandwich making  
Every second Sunday  
in Fellowship Hall after  
the Sanctuary service.

The next one is  
February 12, 2023

## Just Coffee For Sale

The Mission Committee sells Just Coffee before and after church each Sunday in Fellowship Hall . The display is near the stained glass window manned by volunteers. You may pay by cash or check. Coffee will be \$10 or \$11 and the proceeds benefit Café Justo which is a Grower-owned Coffee Cooperative based in southern Chiapas Mexico, formed to address the poverty and migration from Mexico to the U.S.A. For info visit [justcoffee.org](http://justcoffee.org).



Do you have sweaters or jackets that you no longer need? We are collecting those items to be given to Casa Maria for distribution to their clients. You may bring them to the office Monday - Thursday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm or Sunday morning.

SHARING  
GOD'S  
GIFTS

**Special Mission Offering** Twice a year the Mission Committee has a special offering that reaches out to the community. February's offering will be given to **Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona**. To give your gift please click on the Donate button on Trinity's website and designate your gift for SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING or mail a check to the office. This special offering may be made throughout the month of February.

# WORSHIP NEWS

CHOIR REHEARSAL is **Thursdays at 7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. Join the Trinity Choir as they participate weekly in the service and prepare for the Easter Cantata.

HANDBELL REHEARSAL is **Thursdays at 5:30 pm** in the Bell Room upstairs. Please see Lynn Moser if you are interested in participating.

# SESSION NOTES

New beginnings! By the time you read these notes the Elder Class of 2025 – Elliott Koeppen, Leone Mohny, Allen Coffin and Tom Roof – will be installed and already hard at work on their committee. Most of the business for January was annual housekeeping for the Session. Many of the routine actions taken at this meeting are a requirement from the Book of Order and Presbytery de Cristo. So, here goes:

- ◆ Leone Mohny was elected Treasurer and Janet Hooper was elected Clerk of Session.
- ◆ John Hill, Leone Mohny and Carolyn Maycher agreed to be our Presbytery de Cristo commissioners for year 2023. Presbytery meetings are hybrid so our commissioners may attend in person or online.
- ◆ The following committee assignments were approved: Administration & Personnel are Roberta Westergaard as Chair and Barbara Callaway Pollack; Christian Education is John Hill as Chair; Growth & Outreach are Karen Wilkison as Chair and Tom Roof; Mission are Carolyn Maycher as Chair and Steve Barlow; Property are Chuck Sosna as Chair and Carolyn Maycher; Stewardship & Finance are Al Coffin as Chair and Leone Mohny and Elliott Koeppen; Worship is Janet Jones as Chair. Though not currently serving on the Session, Elder Bucky Lovejoy remains Chair of the Long Range Development Team as his working relationship with the Development Group is stellar.
- ◆ Janet Jones and Barbara Callaway Pollack will be the two elders serving on the Congregational Nominating Committee.
- ◆ February 12, 2023 will be the date for the Annual Congregational meeting that occurs after the 10:30 worship service.
- ◆ Session approved all the micro changes for the 2023 budget.
- ◆ Session will also present Dr. Mack's compensation package to the congregation at the annual meeting. The bottom line remains unchanged this year, but minor adjustments and changes required by the Board of Pensions were acknowledged.

- ◆ "Resting elders" often serve as members-at-large on their previous committees. Liz Strong will continue serving with Administration & Personnel and Ruth Russell will serve on Stewardship & Finance. Continuity counts. Tom Roof was approved as member-at-large for the Property Committee.
- ◆ During the Leading Together portion of the meeting Dr. Mack encouraged each committee to discuss their priorities and vision for 2023. Upcoming events involve our adapting to our smaller footprint, coping with the projected building process by the Development Group and celebrating a milestone birthday of Trinity.
- ◆ Session members prayed for those in need of special care and concern.

If you would like to serve on a committee, don't hesitate to volunteer. Talk to the chair of the committees or Dr. Mack. You won't regret it. Committee work drives all the activity, service and mission of Trinity PC.

Janet Hooper  
Clerk of Session

## TRINITY WOMEN

*The Horizon's Bible Study* Dr. Mack leads the 2022–2023 Presbyterian Women Bible study, "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight." The group meets in person in the Library Tuesday, February 14 at 10:00 am and everyone is welcome. Study guides are available from Leone Mohny.

*Ryan's Bears* meets Tuesday, February 21 at 9:30 am in the Lower Lounge. We are off to a good start with 10 bears in the process of being stuffed and stitched. More bears were cut out and will be ready to be stuffed. Every one is welcome to help. Any questions, please call Ruth Myers 520 326 6888

# TRINITY MILESTONES

## HONORING & MEMORIALS

*In Honor of Ruth Myers by Jill O'Rourke*  
*In Memory of James Bauersachs by Leone Mohney*  
*In Memory of Carolyn Stull by Leone Mohney*  
*In Memory of Nadine Walker by Leone Mohney*  
*In Memory of James Walker by Leone Mohney*  
*In Honor of James Hooper by Leone Mohney*

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 Betty Lu Holland	18 Bill Goodhue
8 Emmanuelle Seddo	19 Ida Medina
15 Precious Mukadesa	20 Kathy Moser
16 Georgia Bach	28 Shirley Wilka

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS (1-10)

1 Harriet Marsh	4 Ed Hawley
2 Truman Spillers	7 Holly Clark
3 Riley De Pizzo	



BLESSINGS  
ON YOUR  
BIRTHDAY



## ANNIVERSARIES

1 Liz & Steve Barlow

### WHO'S IN YOUR VIRTUAL PEW

#### Meet Helen Greer

##### **What do you do for a living?**

Except for a little freelancing, I'm retired.

##### **Where is your hometown?**

I am a San Diego Navy Brat

##### **What do you like to do with your leisure time?**

Explore nature on foot, bicycle, trails and back roads. Music. Various arts & crafts type things. Gardening. Reading and writing. Travel and museums, lifelong learning. Gardening. Chilling at home with my cats Pixie and Rory.

##### **What is your favorite food?**

Dark Chocolate

##### **What is your favorite hymn or Bible verse?**

My favorite hymn is "How Great Thou Art"

##### **What does this church mean to you?**

Family and respite from a crazy world.

##### **What is something that many people would not know about you?**

I'm the oldest child



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

We are "LIVE" streaming the Sunday morning service beginning at 10:20 am. Watch it on our website at [trinitytucson.org/watch-live](http://trinitytucson.org/watch-live)

Visit our website at [www.trinitytucson.org](http://www.trinitytucson.org) for all the information and events you are looking for.

**Deadline for the March 2023 VISION is  
 Monday, February 20**

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