

May, 2023

Volume 33 Issue 5

*Inside
this
Issue:*

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



Thank you to everyone that helped and participated in the Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunrise service, Easter Breakfast, Story Time and Egg Hunt and the Cantata service.



Pentecost Sunday, May 28

PASTORAL LETTER

The month of May ends with the celebration of Pentecost Sunday – the event from the Book of Acts in which the Holy Spirit transforms the “Jesus movement” into a church. After Pentecost, followers of Christ have a purpose-centered life, that purpose being to bring the good news of Christ’s love and salvation to all the world. The wind of the Spirit that filled the house in which the Apostles and disciples were gathered was greater than any tornado or hurricane we can imagine. But unlike the powerful storms of nature, the wind the Spirit breathed upon humanity was constructive – a force for good. It is hard to explain the radical change that the church of Jesus Christ brought to the world as it gathered believers and formed communities of faith, but let me give you one example.

The Roman Empire was known for its circuses – not just the gladiator spectacles, but the cruel killing of animals by the thousands for sport and the public execution of Roman prisoners (which for many decades included Christians, depending on the emperor.) Anything you might have seen in the movies or on television regarding the Roman circus does not do justice to the utter depravity and cruelty of these spectacles. The worst horrors that one can imagine were inflicted upon men, women, and children, along with an animal slaughter so great that it drove some of the species, such as the Syrian lion population, to extinction.

The beginning of the end for the Roman circus arrived with Emperor Constantine in 325 CE – the first Christian emperor. By the end of the 4th century the games had ended throughout the Roman Empire. The reason is given by historian Fik Meijer

in his fascinating book called “The Gladiators” (which will dispel Hollywood’s idea of the Roman circuses forever): “The number of people converting to Christianity grew rapidly and with every year that passed the emperors had less need to secure the people’s loyalty by putting on ambitious shows... (the emperors) did not need to introduce a strict ban on gladiatorial combat. Their Christian subjects took the initiative by ensuring that the supply of spectators declined of its own accord.”

The broad reach of the Roman Empire created the pathway for the Holy Spirit to the people of the world as the church moved east, west, north, and south, into cities, towns, hamlets, and the tiniest of villages. Has the church of Jesus Christ ended the cruelty and destructiveness of humanity? Of course not – in fact, there have been times when the church exacerbated the worst traits of humankind. But after Pentecost, the world received a new vision of how life on earth could be lived with love in place of butchery and service in place of suffering.

That is why Christians must never stop gathering in communities of faith that pray, fellowship, worship, and serve. While we are often bent by the winds of human events, the breath of the Holy Spirit ensures that we are never broken. Let us give thanks to God for Pentecost – not as it is remembered, but as we live it in our hearts, minds, & hands each day.

Dr. Mack



MAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

May 7 Acts 7:55-60 & Psalm 31:1-5; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 14 Acts 17:22-31 & Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 21 Acts 1:6-14 & Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 28 Acts 2:1-21 & Psalm 104:24-34; 1 Corinthians 12:3-13; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

YOUTH CLASSES

GOD'S TRAILBLAZERS (Preschool - 2nd Grade)

Teacher: Kathy Moser

Fruit of the Spirit

We will be having in-person Sunday School downstairs in **Room 7** following the children's message. This month, we will continue our learning on the Fruit of the Spirit (Gentleness and Self-Control). We will be using a variety of activities and games. We will also be reading together two books "9 Fruits Alive Discover the Fruit of the Spirit" and "You Can Shine So Bright!"

Summer classes for children preschool to 2nd grade will begin on Sunday, June 4, 2023.

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

Teacher: Debbie Hobbs & Bonnie Stull

Crusaders: 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will learn more about the events in the lives of the apostles between Easter and Pentecost including scripture passages, songs and interactive activities.

Faith Encounters: Graders 6 and older will explore the events in the lives of the apostles between Easter and Pentecost as we journey towards deeper faith development. Lessons will include scripture passages, songs and interactive activities.

Both of these groups meet in **Room 1**. The children/youth will meet at the back of the sanctuary after the children's message. Summer activities are being planned, stay tuned for more information!

Montlure Presbyterian Camp

Check www.montlure.org for details. Registration is open now. **Scholarships are available to all children and youth interested in going to camp this summer.** Speak to Bonnie Stull, Debbie Hobbs, Kathy Moser, or John Hill for more information.

DAY CAMP: at Christ Presbyterian Church, Tucson, June 19 - June 23, 9am-3pm Monday -Friday
Grades 1-6 (Fall 2023) Registration cost: \$125

OVERNIGHT CAMPS at Camp Raymond, west of Flagstaff, Registration Costs range from \$500 to \$1100
Senior High 9th - 12th Grade June 20 - 25 (Tuesday - Sunday)
Junior High 6th - 8th Grade June 27 - July 2 (Tuesday - Sunday)
Juniors 4th - 6th Grade July 5 - 9 (Wednesday - Sunday)

Chat with an Astronomer

Save the date for **Sunday May 21**. After worship we will have a "Chat with an Astronomer" **ALL AGES** event in Fellowship Hall. We will learn about recent astronomy happenings and what you can see in the summer night sky. Bring all your night sky questions as this is an informal presentation. This session will be lead by Dr. John Hill from the Large Binocular Telescope. We'll have light snacks to hold you over. This is part of a new quarterly series being organized by the Christian Education committee with a theme of "Science for the Church". Let us know if you have ideas for future events.

SESSION NOTES

What, oh what is Session up to now? Well, mostly business as usual, but there are some new ideas brewing. All reports were received as each committee attends to their assigned tasks. After the pandemic years hiatus from having the Minutes Books and church Register of the Rolls checked by Presbytery de Cristo, those church records will be checked in April. Trinity is hosting the space for what is called “reading the red books” and so this clerk of Session will not have to travel far to show that our minutes, business records and church membership rolls are kept in good and decent order. Here are the highlights of the April Session stated meeting:

- According to Administration & Personnel, staff evaluations are nearly complete. We can all agree that Trinity staff are hard workers and achieve excellence.
- Upon recommendation from Christian Education, Session approved partnering with Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary to offer an assistance/scholarship fund of \$1,000 in 2023 for unexpected needs of seminary students. The money will come from the Trinity Triennium Scholarship Fund and will be awarded in small amounts.
- Also, upon recommendation from Christian Education, Session approved exploring how Trinity can become a host congregation for the Austin Seminary Post-Graduate Pastoral Residency Program during the 2024-25 academic year. Post-Graduate Pastoral Residency is a fancy name for an internship.
- Growth & Outreach Team needs another member-at-large! Many thanks to Heather Mace for her years serving on this committee, but she now needs to step down for a while.
- Growth & Outreach, with help from Sheila Croteau, is working on welcome packets for the pews and other areas that will contain brochures about various Trinity programs and opportunities for church participation supporting our mission in the heart of Tucson.
- There's more for Growth & Outreach as they are undertaking the planning for a Trinity 125-year anniversary celebration and for a future mission study to vision what the future should be like for

our church.

- Mission Committee will be selling Café Justo y Mas mugs and t-shirts and are discussing adjustments for the Resource Center after deciding to stop paying for birth certificates on June 1, 2023.
- Mission voted to give \$500 to Malam's Hope in Action in Cameroon to build elementary school latrines.
- Property Committee voted to install an induction cook top in the Fellowship Hall kitchen.
- Stewardship & Finance has resolved issues with our Church Mutual Insurance Company after being no longer responsible for the Phase II property.
- Worship Committee is planning a special Lord's Prayer reading for Pentecost.
- Session continued studying the current Book of Order learning about membership rolls, congregational meetings, presbyters and freedom of conscience.

Session prayed for congregants in need of special care and concern.

Janet Hooper
Clerk of Session



TRINITY WOMEN

The Horizon's Bible Study meets Tuesday, May 9 at 10:00 am in the Library. Dr. Mack leads the 2022–2023 Presbyterian Women Bible study, “Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight.”

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 VIRTUAL PEW **Meet Karen Wilkison**

What did you do for a living?

I have been a teacher, community developer and financial consultant.

Where is your hometown?

I lived my first eight years in West Virginia,

but, I claim

Tucson as my hometown.

What do you like to do in your leisure time?

As a retired person, I love desert gardening, reading & exploring the desert.

What is your favorite food?

I live on Greek quinoa salad with extra protein such as salmon, chicken or shrimp, but, my favorite food is dark chocolate.

What is your favorite Bible verse?

"It is by grace that you are saved, through faith, not by anything you have achieved. You are God's work of art." Ephesians 2:8.

What does this church mean to you?

Trinity was my church in the 1950's and I returned to it when I relocated to Tucson. It's my home.

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

I have a pilot's license.



The family of Imogene Moser would like to thank everyone for their love, prayers and cards during our mom's declining health and following her passing. The support of our Trinity family was a great encouragement to us and was a tangible expression of Christ's presence and love.

CASA MARIA SANDWICH MAKING

May's sandwich making in Fellowship Hall is after the Sanctuary service on **May 14**

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 you may 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. More information about Café Justo is at 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.

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.

TRINITY MILESTONES

HONORING & MEMORIALS

In Memory of Imogene Moser by Melinda Arnold
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Errol & Catherine Dimenstein
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Joan Kingan
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Ida Wickizer
In Memory of Betty Lu Holland by Ida Wickizer
In Memory of Mary Wong by Bonnie Stull
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Daphne Madson
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Edmund Loew, Jr.
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Marion Pickens
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Charles & Danelda Kolsrud
In Memory of Imogene Moser by Mark & Theresa Seekatz
In Memory of Imogene Moser, Betty Lu Holland, Mary Wong & Sandy Hand by Don & Ruth Myers
In Memory of Betty Lu Holland by Melinda Arnold

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

5 Tom & Vade Henderson
29 Errol & Catherine Dimenstein
31 Will Tilley & Janet Munson

JUNE BIRTHDAYS (1–10)

2 Barbara Ball
8 Thomas Dean
10 Carolynn Carter

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 Jessica Roggow	16 Carl Sosna
6 Celeste Dzakpa	18 Allyn Spence
8 DeDe Markin	19 Peace Tenge
9 Susan Chambers-Casteloes	21 Lynn Moser
9 Turner Miller	29 Leone Mohny
14 Steve Barlow	29 Liz Strong
	31 James Madson



Deadline for the June/July 2023 VISION
is **Monday, May 22, 2023**
Please submit articles to the church office or
to: office@trinitytucson.org

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