

September, 2023

Volume 33, Issue 9

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Rally Sunday September 10

The Christian Education Committee will showcase the fall plans for classes with two short presentations during worship. September youth class information is on page 3.



World Communion Sunday October 1

World Communion Sunday offers our congregation a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. We remember that we are part of the whole body of believers and that the Lord's table unites Christians from every nation and culture. We will share Communion at four

areas in the sanctuary, representing God's love reaching to all the corners of the earth. We'll sing and hear some global music, and we invite those attending to wear clothing that is representative of their culture or travels. Join us at 10:20 am in person or online at trinitytucson.org/watch-live & facebook.com/tpctucson. You can also watch with the BoxCast app, on Roku TV, Apple TV & Fire TV.

All Saints Day Wednesday, November 1



A Candlelight Concert for All Saints Day: Music of Remembrance and Hope will be offered in Trinity's chapel **Wednesday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m.** with music for organ, piano, voice, flute, and Handbells. This free program of meditative and peaceful music will be presented by Lynn Moser (keyboard),

Christine Harper (flute), several soloists from the Trinity Choir, and handbell players from the Trinity Ringers.

Join us in person or online at trinitytucson.org/watch-live & facebook.com/tpctucson. You can also watch with the BoxCast app, on Roku TV, Apple TV & Fire TV.

PASTORAL LETTER

As schools have opened, and children and teachers have returned to their classrooms, I want to take a few moments in the September newsletter to write about how much we - as Christians of the Reformed and Presbyterian tradition - value Christian education. I can begin from the starting point of Jesus himself, whose message was a combination of proclamation and education. Jesus proclaimed from his first sermon that with the Messiah's arrival, the kingdom of God had drawn near. Christ made this proclamation over the three years of his work, but he also educated his listeners on the meaning of the kingdom through many memorable parables, metaphors, and instructions.

The Apostle Paul, an extremely educated individual, carried on Jesus' work through his letters, which were primarily instructional and theological. Because of Pentecost, Paul knew that his readers acknowledged Christ as Lord and Savior, but as the early faith communities struggled with the working out of their confession, Paul offered clarity through his vast religious, historical, and theological knowledge enabled by his spiritual relationship with Christ.

This combination of spirit and knowledge established the pattern that would continue to inform Christianity through its 2000-year history. After Paul, that pattern emerges in the writings of the early church fathers and mothers, monastics, and scholars. During the age of Roman Catholic Christendom, when the church was a vast political entity, voices began to emerge that called for the church to return to its spiritual and Biblical roots. The earliest voices called for the word of God to be translated into the common languages of the people. This idea met with so much resistance from Christendom that a new movement began – the Reformation.

The Reformation was driven by a desire for believers to understand their faith so they could share it and live it with others. This desire demanded two things – the translation of the Bible and a literate popula-

tion to read it. The Reformation had spiritual, social, and political ramifications from which we continue to benefit today. The value of literacy was no longer taken for granted; the freedom of believers to express and live out their faith within their particular communities was no longer prohibited; the politics of the church no longer defined or dominated the government, and a renewed value for science, technology, and education drove the vast social revolution known as The Enlightenment.

Reformed Christianity still teaches that our faith tradition is a partnership between the Triune God and the human mind. That is why we educate our children and our adults on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, that education never stops, because it is spirit-driven, and the Holy Spirit adapts our discipleship to the time in which we live. Imagine if our schools were using the same methods and teaching the same topics in the same way as schools taught two hundred years ago. Education is always a matter of applying the past to the present, and the practical application of our faith in Jesus makes the same demand upon Christian Education. September is the month of Rally Day, when our church recognizes the gift of Christian Education as we return to the post-summer task of teaching and learning about what we believe, why we believe, and how we express our beliefs in our daily lives. We will be using some of our new technology to not only reach our congregation, but beyond the walls of Trinity and into the human community. I hope you will join us and help us in that task.

Dr. Mack



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

GOD'S TRAILBLAZERS (preschool - 2nd grade)

Teacher: Kathy Moser

Topic: Old Testament Heroes

We are having in-person Sunday School, meeting downstairs in **Room 8** following the children's sermon. We will celebrate and learn about Moses and David through stories, sticker books, matching games, puzzles, music, and other activities.

CRUSADERS & FAITH ENCOUNTERS (3rd grade & older)

Teacher: Debbie Hobbs & Bonnie Stull

Crusaders (3rd, 4th and 5th graders) Each week we will link our class lessons, activities and songs to the scriptures read in worship. By connecting lessons with the Children's message and scriptures from worship, this will enable families to share insights and reflect upon a common Biblical theme each week.

Faith Encounters (grades 6 and older) This group will be encouraged to bring their faith questions as we "dissect and discuss" the scripture passages and sermon topics presented in worship for that day.

Sept 10 Malachi 4: 1-2, Luke 5: 27-32 & "Doctor on Call"

Sept 17 II Corinthians 5:11-21 & "Ministry of Reconciliation in a Divided World"

Sept 24 Hosea 1: 10-11, 1 Peter 2: 1-5, 7-10 & "A People Person"

Both Crusaders and Faith Encounters classes are led by Debbie Hobbs and Bonnie Stull and meet downstairs in **Room 1**.


COLLEGE AGE STUDENTS


Join in the fellowship with Presbyterian Campus Ministry, meeting Bible study & dinner

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm for at Our Savior Lutheran Church (Campbell north of Speedway).

For more information, check the website pcmarizona.org or contact them at pastor.lcmuofa@gmail.com

WORSHIP

Bell Choir  **The Trinity Ringers** handbell choir will resume weekly rehearsals on **Thursday, September 7, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** in the bell rehearsal room. We look forward to preparing music for the Fall and Christmas seasons! If you are interested in ringing, please speak with Lynn Moser at the organ after the worship service on Sunday morning.

 **The Trinity Choir** will resume its regular rehearsal/worship schedule on **Thursday, September 7 at 7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. Exciting worship coordinated anthems and the annual Christmas cantata are fully planned. We hope that interested singers would join us for this vital ministry of Trinity Presbyterian Church. The Worship Restoration Committee recommends that the COVID protocol of vaccination expectation remain in place to safeguard against infection and reinfection for all members.

MISSION NEWS

An Interview with Elmarie Parker

In 2017, Elmarie and Scott Parker came to Trinity to tell us about their mission work in the Middle East. Elmarie is the PCUSA Regional Liaison for Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. Scott was Associate to Ecumenical Partnerships at that time. The Mission Committee Zoomed with Elmarie this year on Friday, August 17. We wanted to know how Presbyterian mission work is going in the area that has suffered from the port explosion in Beirut, the earthquake in Turkey/Syria, the financial collapse in Lebanon, and the status of surviving refugees, Christian congregations and schools after wars in Iraq and Syria. Elmarie is in the US for a few months. She tuned us in from Oregon. After a little update about what Trinity has been up to recently, she asked us to hear stories from the agencies she works with.

There is the story of a Christian church in Aleppo (I didn't know Aleppo was Nineveh in Jesus' time) that was taken over by Isis during the war in Syria. It was damaged by bombing but is now an active church and school (1800 students) that cares for many congregants who are widows and orphans of the war. In this community the church is more than a place of worship, it is a gathering place for medical aid, food security and counseling.

In August 2020, an explosion in the port of Beirut destroyed the homes of 300,000 families. Businesses in the area lost everything. The Middle Eastern Council of Churches began a Community Resilience Program to help the families and businesses. Prior to the explosion, in 2019, there was a financial collapse that exists today in Lebanon. Inflation is at 200-500%! There is no middle class. The Community Resilience Program (run by the MECC) gives out vouchers to families to help with some income (not lire but dollars). Gasoline is so costly and families must decide between rent and gas to drive to work.

In February, 2023, there was a devastating earthquake in Turkey that affected Syria as well. The Presbyterian Disaster Relief plan and so many agencies that Elmarie represents responded with aid immediately. We saw a movie about blankets and food being distributed to the earthquake victims.

The last story was of the building of a Contact and Resonance Center near Byblos where the beautiful mountains of Lebanon meet the sea. This center will be a farm, housing, a restaurant/shop and a guest house for the disabled. The center will take 3 years to build and is now in its second year of construction.

There are over 20 separate Christian agencies (NGO's) that Elmarie networks with. I asked her what she would like to do with the donations we will send her from Trinity. Is there one overwhelming need? She said donations go to provide grants and she would prefer we choose the targeted program. She will send us the link to which the check will be made out and we can stipulate the program in the memo. It was news to me that U S sanctions put on Syria and Lebanon don't only hurt the rich. The Syria-Lebanon Partnership Network (of the Presbyterian Church) will be meeting with the U S Treasury and the State Department at a conference in Washington D.C., September 26-28th. Elmarie invited us to register for the conference (hybrid). It is called Loosening the Chains: Advocating for Sanction Relief for Syria and Lebanon. I marvel at the work of the Presbyterian Church and the active power of God to bring justice and mercy to The Middle East through mission workers like Elmarie Parker.

Casa Alitas Program

Churches in Tucson are preparing travel snack bags that contain five packaged snacks given to the migrants who are getting on planes & buses here in Tucson. Volunteers meet at Trinity Presbyterian Church every other Wednesday to pack the brown bags. Each time we have packed over 500 bags. **To help please contact Billie Holbrook or Steve Barlow.**

Sandwich Making for Casa Maria

Sunday, September 10
in Fellowship Hall
after church.

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 and notarizing documents.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

WHO'S IN YOUR VIRTUAL PEW Meet Rick Wickizer

What did you do for a living? I earned a degree from Arizona State University in Electrical Engineering. After 2 years in the Army, I started working for Hughes Aircraft Company here in Tucson. Later in life, I did a lot of handyman jobs for the church & for members of the church. That was my most enjoyable type of employment.

Where is your hometown? I was born in California but my family moved to Scottsdale, Arizona when I was 3. I have been a resident of Arizona since then.

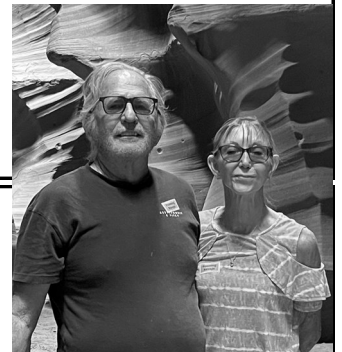
What do you like to do in your leisure time? I like to spend time with my family and friends. I restored a 1958 Triumph TR3 which I brought home in boxes. I enjoy watching Baseball and am currently sharing the love of the game with my grandson.

What is your favorite food? Desserts. Every meal needs to end with something sweet

What is your favorite hymn? "Amazing Grace"

What does this church mean to you? I enjoy hearing the message and hoping that I can continue to live a better life. The music always makes me smile.

What is something people don't know about you? I like looking at antiques and to repurpose old things.



WHO'S IN YOUR VIRTUAL PEW Meet Ida Wickizer

What did you do for a living? I worked for Tucson Unified School District for over 40 years as a Speech & Language Pathologist. We have three children and two grandchildren.

Where is your hometown? I was born and raised in a small mining town in Arizona – Morenci. I earned my bachelors and masters from "that other school" Arizona State University. I moved to Tucson after Rick and I were married and I have been here for 48 years.

What do you like to do in your leisure time? I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, traveling especially with my family and doing outdoor activities.

What is your favorite food? My maternal grandparents were from Scotland. My favorite food is Scottish shortbread. I have not been able to duplicate my grandma's recipe but I keep trying.

What is your favorite hymn? "The Old Rugged Cross". My Mom or Grandma would either play it on the piano or sing it at special occasions.

What does this church mean to you? I have attended a Presbyterian Church my entire life. My Dad was Catholic so I was influenced by both churches. Church brings me a time for reflections & also the people are so friendly & uplifting.

What is something people don't know about you? I accidentally left our plane tickets for our honeymoon to Hawaii on my father-in-law's kitchen counter. I was almost married and divorced within 24 hours. Luckily my father-in-law was able to retrieve the tickets just in time. That was before everything was done electronically.

SESSION NOTES

Session returned to work after a July hiatus. There was one piece of business in July that was resolved with a quick electronic meeting, so no one missed a minute of their summer break. Session updated Trinity's Corporate Resolutions so that our newly elected Treasurer Ruth Russell will be allowed to conduct our investment and banking needs. Otherwise, the August meeting was routine as you will be able to see from the business highlights that follow.

- The clerk reported to Session that the Minutes Books review from Presbytery de Cristo showed only one or two discrepancies for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 while there were no discrepancies for the year 2022.
- The Deacons and the Growth & Outreach Team have looked over the membership rolls to update them and have suggested several persons for removal as they are out of state or their whereabouts are unknown. Right now, our membership number rests at 166 members and that number will decrease after the next Session meeting when those names will be suggested for roll removal.
- Administration & Personnel Committee held their annual pastor review with Dr. Mack and wished him well during his two-week vacation at the end of August.
- Session approved Growth & Outreach Team's suggestion that Trinity have a booth along the route during the October 29, 2023 Cyclovia event. This year Cyclovia will be turning the corner outside Trinity church at 4th Avenue and University Blvd.
- Mission Committee approved giving Scott and Elmarie Parker \$1,000 from the Special Mission Fund. Scott and Elmarie Parker have spoken at Trinity several years ago and are Presbyterian Mission Partners for Iraq, Syria and Lebanon.
- Mission also approved giving \$386.40 from the Pentecost Offering to Southern AZ Aids Foundation for use at the Thornhill Lopez site on 4th Avenue for LGBTQ youth.
- The new Trinity Hall air handler is being installed! Thank you, Property Committee and anonymous donor!
- Worship Committee is proposing an All Saints concert in the Trinity Chapel for Wednesday evening, November 1, 2023 with musical presen-

tations and candlelight. Something new to look forward to!

- Lynn Moser is in the early stages of researching ways, people and companies to restore the Trinity organ. The possibilities are myriad.
- The program committees – Worship, Christian Ed, Mission, Growth & Outreach, Stewardship & Finance and the Deacons – are being tasked to present ideas for the next five years or so to move Trinity PC into the future. For example, what can we determine for the future use of the Trinity Hall kitchen? Time for some discernment and vision.

Session members prayed for those in need of special care and concern and, in particular, those suffering from weather-related storm damages.

Janet Hooper, Clerk of Session

TRINITY WOMEN

The Horizon's Bible Study will meet **Tuesday, September 12 at 10:00 am in the Library.** Dr. Mack leads a new study "*Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts*" by Olive Mahabir. Study books are available for purchase in the church office for \$10.00.

Ryan's Bears resumes **Tuesday, September 19, 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall** to stuff and cut out more bears. We have 58 bears in progress and should be able to make 30 more by the end of November. The bears are distributed to Arizona Children's Association, Primavera, Gospel Rescue Mission and Our Family Social Services If you have questions call Ruth Myers 520-326-6888

Some good news to share! Charity Everitt's poetry chapbook "Translation from the Ordinary," poems gathered around two slightly different renderings of a verse from the Book of Psalms, will be published at the end of November from Finishing Line Press. You can preorder from them now!

TRINITY MILESTONES

HONORING & MEMORIALS

In Memory of Bob Letson by John Brenzel
In Memory of Bob Letson by Joseph & Carlie Zaroff
In Memory of Bob Letson by Peggy Bartlett
In Memory of Bob Letson by Melinda Arnold
In Memory of Bob Letson & Leone Mohney by
Don & Ruth Myers
In Honor of Larry & Janet Jones wedding anniversary
by Carolyn Maycher

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----|----------------|----|-----------------|
| 3 | Wayne Steele | 15 | Pat Hardy |
| 4 | Rona Kreamer | 15 | Daphne Madson |
| 5 | David Croteau | 16 | Stephen Russell |
| 6 | Janet Goodhue | 17 | Amy Sigmon |
| 8 | Jim Croxen | 19 | Janet Hooper |
| 8 | Bucky Lovejoy | 20 | Anthony Corona |
| 9 | Madeline Lind | 21 | Bill Voigt |
| 12 | Jackson Barlow | 30 | Jennifer Carter |

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Janet & Jim Hooper
- 14 Bill & Jere Voigt
- 22 Rona & Matt Kreamer
- 26 Dr. Mack & Amy Sigmon
- 30 Randi Windsor & Tom Roof

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS (1-10)

- 4 Emelia Maycher
- 7 Debbie Hobbs

Last Call for Bruce's Celebration

This year marks the **20th year** that Bruce has been creating music and inspiring Trinity! We will celebrate on **Sunday, September 17** in Trinity Hall following worship, with a catered lunch, a gift & a program that will include the Trinity Choir & the Chamberlain family. Bruce will be interviewed & answer questions. If you have questions you would like him to answer, email Daphne Madson at madsond@aol.com.

Everyone is encouraged to bring cards of gratitude & delight and join us to thank Bruce with a big HOORAY! for his dedication & valuable expertise to Trinity's music program.

If you plan to attend, **RSVP to the Trinity office by September 10**. If you would like to contribute to the celebration and gift, send it to the Trinity office or donate online at trinitytucson.org with the Donate button with memo Bruce's party.

Deadline for the October 2023
VISION is

Thursday, September 21, 2023

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

September 3 Jer. 15:15-21 & Psalm
26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matt.
16:21-28

September 10 Ezek. 33:7-11 & Psalm
119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matt.
18:15-20

September 17 Gen. 50:15-21 & Psalm
103:1-7, 8-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matt.
18:21-35

September 24 Jonah 3:10-4:11 &
Psalm 145:1-8; Phil. 1:21-30; Matt.
20:1-16



400 East University Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona 85705

Phone: (520) 623-2579
Fax: (520) 624-7115
Email: office@trinitytucson.org

- ⇒ 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.
- ⇒ Wednesday Evening Vespers online at 6:30 pm at <http://trinitytucson.org/wednesday-evening-vespers/>.
- ⇒ Visit our website at www.trinitytucson.org for all the latest information and events

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 Addresses
office@trinitytucson.org

Just Coffee For Sale

The display is near the stained glass window in Fellowship Hall. Coffee is sold before and after church Sunday. Coffee will be \$10 or \$11 (cash or check) with the proceeds benefiting Café Justo, a Grower owned Coffee Cooperative in southern Chiapas Mexico. Information about Café Justo is at justcoffee.org.