

PATHWAYS

Monthly communications from Trinity Presbyterian

October 2016

Message From Pastor Deb

Dear Trinity family,

October is here! Don't you love the beauty of creation as the seasons change? Leaves turn gold and red against brisk blue skies. We pick apples, carve pumpkins, rake leaves, pull out woolly sweaters, and - reluctantly - turn on the furnace.

At Trinity we are also embracing the change of the seasons. Sunday school and confirmation have begun. (Thank you teachers!) Excitement is in the air as children and youth put their faith into action by serving others on Wednesday evenings. In worship and adult studies, we are journeying together through THE STORY, learning more about "the rock from which we have been hewn." (Isaiah 51:1).

Our lives are full of change. There are seasons when the Holy Spirit seems to blow through our lives calling us into new and unknown places. Such was the case when, "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going." (Hebrews 11:8)

At Trinity we are experiencing a lot of change, and it can be unsettling and scary. But God is faithful and God's promises do not change. The God who calls us to walk by faith into a new and exciting future, walks with us.

We are experiencing changes in our staff. In August we celebrated the ministry of Joyce Piper who retired as our church musician. On Sunday, October 16, Dee Lindblom, our long-time church administrator and pastoral care associate will retire as well. Dee will be preaching and afterward we will enjoy a meal and time of celebration. We are creating a "retirement recipe box" for Dee. Index cards (along with lots of embellishments for you to decorate your card) are available for you to write upon. Along with thanking Dee for her ministry, you can suggest a fun idea or activity for her retirement. Dee has given generously of her gifts to us in pastoral care and in the office. She has championed issues of mental health awareness, has brought the healing presence of Christ through guided imagery and prayer, has been a faithful visitor and holds a deep love for the seniors among us. She will be greatly missed.

Trinity is also being called into a new future. The Session and the Strategic Planning Task Force have been working hard, listening to your voices and the Spirit's prompting to discern where God is leading our congregation. Mission and vision statements have been crafted and top strategic priorities have been identified. The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has also crafted a Mission Information Form (MIF) describing the theological outlook, skills and competencies we desire in our next pastor. Trinity's membership and context as well as our mission, vision, values, and priorities are included in the MIF, which will soon be sent to potential candidates. Please continue to pray for God's leading as we hire new staff and seek to follow God's direction into the future.

There is a lot of change in our future. Change can be exciting - the future is wide open and new. But change can also feel scary, especially when it feels like a loss of control for us. While things change all around us, the love of God through Christ never changes. Trinity is God's church. And God is always faithful. We are in good hands indeed.

In Christ,
Pastor Deb

October Worship Schedule -

October 2 - THE STORY - "Creation: The Beginning of Life
as We Know It"

October 9 - THE STORY - "God Builds a Nation"

October 16 - Dee Lindblom Preaching - "Tunnel Vision"

October 23 - THE STORY - "Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh"

October 30 - THE STORY - "Deliverance"



THE STORY

This year we are embarking on an exciting journey together through the story of God. We will discover how Gods story in the Bible relates to our own faith and lives. Sermons will follow chapters in *The Story*, a book incorporating chronologically arranged passages of scripture.

The passages are connected with short transitions designed to keep the flow of events, characters, and teachings of the Bible. *The Story* will be available in the church office for a freewill donation. You may also follow along using the reading list of scripture below. We will continue the journey into the winter and spring of 2017. Adult Education and Weds Bible study will also focus on The Story this year.

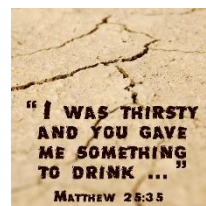
October 2	1 - Creation: The Beginning of Life as We Know	Genesis 1-4, 6-9
October 9	2 - God Builds a Nation	Genesis 12-13; 15-17; 21-22; 32-33; 35; Romans 4; Hebrews 11
October 23	3 - Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh	Genesis 37; 39; 41-48; 50
October 30	4 - Deliverance	Exodus 1-7; 10-17
November 6	5 - New Commands and a New Covenant	Exodus 19-20; 24-25; 32-34; 40
November 13	6 - Wandering	Numbers 10-14; 20-21; 25; 27; Deuteronomy 1-2; 4; 6; 8-9; 29-32; 34
November 20	7 - The Battle Begins	Joshua 1-2; 6; 8; 10-11; 23-24
November 27	8- A Few Good Men & Women	Judges 2-4; 6-8; 13-16
December 4	9 - The Faith of a Foreign Woman	Ruth 1-4

Message From Dee

During this Mental Health Awareness Week, I am reminded of the good work Trinity has done to advance peoples' awareness and understanding of mental illness - a condition that in some way affects all of us. If we or someone in our family is not actually living with a diagnosis, we encounter someone almost daily who is. As mental illness is highly treatable, it is likely that someone you work with, your child's teacher, a medical professional who treats you, or the person who takes your order at a restaurant, lives with some type of brain disorder.

As I prepare to leave Trinity, my hope is that all of you continue to support efforts to de-stigmatize mental illness, to increase research into these disorders, and to expand your hearts to recognize all people as valued members of God's family.

Blessings, Dee



Upcoming ...

Oct. 16 - After church service, meal and celebration of Dee Lindblom's retirement.

Oct. 28-29 - Youth Retreat

Nov. 12 – Lay Care Training Event - 9:30 - Noon

Christian Education

Christian Education at Trinity is off and running for this school year!

We had our kick off on Sunday, September 11th. In addition to regular programming, we have added a Wednesday evening program for pre-K to 5th graders. This Wednesday night programming is focused on making a difference in our community and beyond. If you are interested in being involved we are always looking for volunteers.

For our youth program, the focus this year is on what being a Christian is all about. We are learning how God has enabled us and asked us to be different than the culture around us, and how that is lived out in our daily lives.



Human Trafficking Task Force

Fighting Human Trafficking in Our Community
(from a May 2, 2016 Woodbury Bulletin Article)

At the beginning of 2016, the Major Crimes Unit of the Washington County Attorney's office was established to work on issues such as insurance fraud, retail crime and human sex trafficking in the county. Funded by a two-year grant from the Minnesota Office for Justice program, this three person team working out of County Attorney Pete Orput's office in Stillwater consists of Imram Ali and Siv Yurichuk, Assistant Washington County attorneys and Aimee Schroeder, Criminal Analyst.

According to research done by Schroeder, a staggering 15,742 online solicitations for sex were posted to the online classifieds site Backpage.com from January 1 through March 31, 2016. In a May 3rd workshop, Pete Orput told the Washington County Board of Commissioners that sex trafficking has become the division's main focus. In fact, the Twin Cities metro area ranks among the top 15 areas for sex trafficking in the U.S.

With the ease of using the internet, sex trafficking has increased steadily over the years, but Orput admits no one really knew how much of a problem it was in this area until the Major Crimes Unit started its work. A number of stings have been held during the past few months, to identify some of the johns who are looking to buy sex with underage girls or boys. With cooperation from the websites used to advertize these services, law enforcement is often able to dupe a would-be john and make an arrest.

Besides taking the time to do the necessary research and identify and assist victims, the Major Crimes Unit members are also being called upon to do training on human sex trafficking. Since January, they have provided training for 146 law enforcement officers, and a total of 116 people from Stillwater High School and the Stillwater Rotary Club.

Lunch Bunch - Women's Fellowship



Lunch Bunch is a time for fellowship for all women of the church. In October it will be held on Monday, October 24th.

Please check for a sign-up sheet at church in the Welcome Room by Sunday the 16th. It is a great time to be together.

Special Book Discussion Event

Do you like to read? An exceptional book has been brought to my attention and I would like to encourage you to join us as we read and discuss the book.

This book is not part of the church's regular book club offerings.

The book title is "Redeeming Love: A Novel" by Francine Rivers. Francine is a Christian book writer and this book is based loosely on the Book of Hosea from the bible. The setting for this book is the 1850 California Gold Rush.

The sign-up sheet will be in the office after Labor Day. I anticipate books will be available by the week of September 19th. We will discuss the book

October 24th at 6:30pm at church. Contact Kathie Wilkinson with questions: kaw7603@gmail.com.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY TRINITY

Check out our blog at: <http://www.holminafrika.blogspot.com/> .



You can subscribe to e-mail updates of our family blog on weekly work and life in Malawi by entering your email into the box "Follow by Email" and then confirming your e-mail.

Thank you for faithfully following our family in praises and prayers each month.

Contact Rochelle: rochelle@rochelleholm.com

Contact Tyler: tyler@tylerholm.com

To support us financially: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E200532/>

To visit our weekly family blog: <http://www.holminafrika.blogspot.com/>

Grace and Peace,

Tyler, Rochelle and Mphatso Holm

Presbyterian World Mission, Mzuzu, Malawi

TRINITY PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

Newly Organized Worship Closet



Fall Clean Up Day

