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Pastor's Pen

A Song on Our Lips

"The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."
Exodus 15:2a



If you've ever gotten a song stuck in your head, then you can appreciate the movement from joy to nagging that sometimes happens. At first the song warms your heart; it rolls off your tongue with gladness and adds a spring to your step. Eventually, as that song rattles around in your head, you can't shake it. It consumes your every thought. Oh what you would do to get that song out of your head!



This time of year, the Christmas season, we sometimes develop this kind of nagging feeling toward Christmas carols. It's bad enough that they start playing before Thanksgiving, and they fill the background of every public place from Thanksgiving until Christmas day. And of course, there are those really bad remakes of classic Christmas songs we love. There are few things worse than a butchered Christmas carol.

But, for all this ranting, those classic Christmas carols we have sung since childhood declare the timeless message and hope of Jesus Christ who was born in a manger, who was sent to save us from our sins, and who came to be forever God with us! How can such a message become old, outdated, or a nag to our life?

The Lord has laid heavily on my heart this Christmas season the need for us to see Christmas, experience Christmas, and cherish Christmas with the eyes, heart, and life of a child. For some, acting like a child isn't much of a stretch. But I'm asking you to give it a try. I really feel we need to lean in, draw close, listen carefully, and open our hearts to the joy of our Savior's birth.

So the next time you hear one of those carols playing in the mall or on the radio, or if carolers come by your house, or if you just feel a song of Christmas well up from your heart, then sing it with gladness. Slow down over the words and let them penetrate your life in a fresh way. In this way, perhaps we can experience again Christmas like a child.

In the joy of Christmas,
Pastor Steve



Advent and Christmas events

Christmas Craft and Bake Sale
Saturday, December 3, 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Advent Services
Sunday, December 4, 11, & 18
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Dinner
Sunday, December 11, 5:00 p.m.



Christmas Eve Service
Saturday, December 24, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Service
Sunday, December 25, 11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES 2016-2017

CHILDREN...

- **Children's Sunday School** - For children in preschool - 4th grade: Meets in the preschool room downstairs in classroom #3. Currently exploring through the *Faith Alive* curriculum. For children in 5th and up: Meets downstairs in classroom #1. Currently studying through the *Feasting on the Word* curriculum under the leadership of Tim Barnum.
- **Children's Church** - A special time of worship for children during the 11:00 a.m. service. Parents with children ages 3 through 5th grade are encouraged to have your children join us for a special time of worship during the 11:00 a.m. service. Children begin with Children's time each Sunday in the sanctuary. During the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, Children Grades 1-5 are encouraged to attend the Young Explorer's Class in the Library. Nursery is available for younger children every Sunday. During this time, children will continue with praise & worship, learn about God's Word, and engage in related activities.

ADULT...

- **Adult II Sunday School** - Meets in the Library, under the leadership of Betty Muse. Studying *The Present Word*, Uniform Series published by the PCUSA. The study involves a direct Bible Study, understanding the Bible in relation to our lives and life experiences and developing an awareness of God's love through his son, Jesus Christ.
- **Koinonia Sunday School** - Meets in the parlor, under the leadership of Reverend Bob Williams-Neal. Study in *Galatians* through *Paul for Everyone: Galatians and Thessalonians* by N. T. Wright. Drawn from a spectrum of Trinity members, this class meets to discuss a certain book of the Bible and explores Scripture. This is a Seminary/Discussion formatted class.
- **Men's Sunday School** - Meets downstairs in classroom #4. This men's only class has open discussion about God's Word. This class is designed to reach out to men and to effectively help grow through the grace and knowledge of God's Word. We study the Bible to find strength and courage in supporting one another in our daily walk with God. Seeking in prayer and fellowship, we seek to pursue true Biblical principles regarding our leadership as men in the home, church, and the community. Currently, study is in R.C. Sproul's series on Interpretation Standards of the Bible.
- **Men's Study Group** - On the first and third Tuesday of each month, the men of Trinity gather together for coffee, fellowship, and an appetite for the Bible. We meet at Wild Eggs restaurant off of English Station Rd. at 8:30 a.m. Our study and time together will be a tremendous encouragement to grow as a godly man. Study is in the Life of David through 2 Samuel.
- **Women's Sunday School** - Meets downstairs in classroom #6, under the leadership of Jeanette Priebe. The purpose of this class is to bring women together to support one another in building their faith in Jesus Christ. Through our discussions and our prayer time together, we have developed a real love for each other and would love to have you join in as we journey together. This is a fun-loving group of Women who empowers and encourages each other. They will be studying Acts of the Apostles using a DVD and "Acts: The Spread of the Gospel" by John MacArthur beginning Sept. 18.



Advent Sermon Series—*It's a Wonderful Life*

I must admit, it ranks as one of my favorite movies of all time. There is a soul-searching character to it. We journey through the ups and downs, the twists and turns of George Bailey's life, often relating to the tragedies and troubles he endures. And yet, the "hidden hand" of God gently rest upon him throughout all his days.

We could benefit from this encouragement and assurance in our own lives. That's why we will explore many of the themes from *It's a Wonderful Life* throughout our worship this Advent season. Here is a foretaste for you:

- November 27thReadiness
- How do we find meaning amid the busy, chaotic demands of our lives?
- December 4thHopefulness
- What is the source of our hope when much of life does not turn out as we would like?
- December 11thFaith
- Can we really believe that all things are possible with God?
- December 18thTrust
- In what ways are we being called to trust as we play our part in God's grand story?
- December 24thTreasure
- What, or who, we treasure most is the source of strength and certainty in our lives.
- December 25thBehold
- We have been given the greatest, most enduring gift of all – God's Son – so, behold Him!

MISSIONS OF TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Faith & Art Center would like to wish everyone a very Happy Holidays.

Just a reminder that the Center will be closed until January 17th.

Ann Laird-Jones will be preaching on Sunday, January 15th. At that time, she will be bringing the large heritage edition of the Gospel/Acts volume of the St. James Bible. It will be on display that morning. For further information, visit their website at...

<http://www.montreat.org/saint-johns-bible/>

WE WANT TO BE YOUR CHURCH HOME!
PLEASE JOIN OUR CHURCH FAMILY FOR WORSHIP!

It is in the last months of each year where the work of **Trinity Presbyterian Women** is most noticeable.

It is during this time that we are feverishly finishing sewing projects and requesting we all bake some of our favorite holiday treats that will be sold during our annual **CHRISTMAS SALE** attended by many of our friends and neighbors.

And it is when we prayerfully consider how to utilize the funds we raise to assist children and families by disbursing benevolences. We cannot volunteer enough hours to meet the needs of charities in the area, yet through TPW's financial support, we are able to be the 'hands and feet of Christ' to them and the people they serve near and far.

Consider **Supplies Over Seas (SOS)**, a Louisville-based nonprofit organization. By partnering with hospitals to collect unused and 'under-used' medical supplies and equipment, these items are redirected from our landfills and sent to areas of critical need throughout the world. The shipments can be as large as 40-foot sea-going containers or as small as a suitcase. TPW cannot volunteer to ship these parcels to Peru, Uganda, or Haiti, but we can provide the dollars that will help get them to their destination. Learn more about SOS, their local and international impact, by visiting their website www.suppliesoverseas.org.

Thank you for all that you have done to assist us with our **CHRISTMAS SALE**. Because of you and friends, we will be able to support some wonderful Louisville ministries. Following is a partial list of benevolence recipients in addition to SOS:

- Lifehouse
Necole's Place
Salvation Army Angel Tree
- Louisville Seminary
Healing Place
Wayside Christian Mission

YOU'RE INVITED! Tuesday Morning Circle will be deviating from our Luke study on December 13th to hold a special **WOMEN'S ADVENT FELLOWSHIP**. Though you may not come to Circle, please join us in the parlor at 10:00 a.m. for coffee, after which we will have our Advent presentation at 10:30 a.m. A luncheon follows. You are welcome to bring those friends you might otherwise see that day too. This is one way we would like to thank you for your on-going support of TPW's ministries.

IMPORTANT DATES ON THE SCHEDULE

- Friday, December 2: Baked goods to be brought to church kitchen (9 a.m. to 7 p.m.)
- Saturday, December 3: **CHRISTMAS SALE**, 8 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join us as a volunteer and a shopper!
- Tuesday, December 13: **WOMEN'S ADVENT PROGRAM & LUNCHEON**. 10:00 a.m. coffee in the parlor, program at 10:30 a.m., luncheon about noon. All women and friends invited!
- Tuesday, January 10: **TUESDAY MORNING CIRCLE**: Navigator's LifeChange study of **Luke**. 10:30 a.m. in the parlor. Please read Lessons 8 and 9 (pages 99 – 122).

Inclement Weather Reminder: Please follow JCPS for closings or delays. If JCPS is delayed one hour, so are we; if the delay is more than one hour, Circle is cancelled.



PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATION OF
MEN'S SOCKS TO CHURCH DURING
THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

Trinity Presbyterian Church
10200 Shelbyville Road
Louisville, KY 40223
502-245-5515

Operation Warm Feet

Christmas Season

We all wear them; we change them daily. We are able to wash them when they are dirty. Homeless people are on their feet all day and they are most likely wearing the only pair of socks they own. Most will wear that one pair of socks until they are so thread bare that they no longer hold together.

Again this Christmas, we will be collecting Men's socks to donate to the **Jesus Cares @ Exit 0 Ministry** a waterfront ministry here in Louisville Area.

Advent-November 27-December 18, 2016 ~ Christmas- December 25-January 5, 2017

I am often reminded of a favorite friend from my childhood that always asked, "Can we sing Christmas Carols now?" Many of us wait all year to sing these favorite carols that we know by heart. However, as noted above the dates would suggest that we must WAIT for the Christmas carols. Waiting is one of those qualities that some of us demonstrate better than others. Waiting summons patience and with it often comes hope that what we wait for will actually come to be. Advent, a time of waiting and preparation that brings us hope. Hope that this is not all there is, that there truly is a God who will come and restore all things.

The first Sunday of Advent is not yet about the joyous celebration of the coming of Jesus. It is about hope, anticipation, and longing in the middle of the stark reality of a world dominated by injustice and oppression. Advent must begin with a deeper sense that God hears the cries of suffering and enters history to bring deliverance and reconciliation to humanity. The celebration and carols come later in the Advent Season and the 12 Days of Christmas as hope turns to possibility and anticipation dawns into the new reality of, "Joy to the World."

YOUTH

Joint Youth Worship

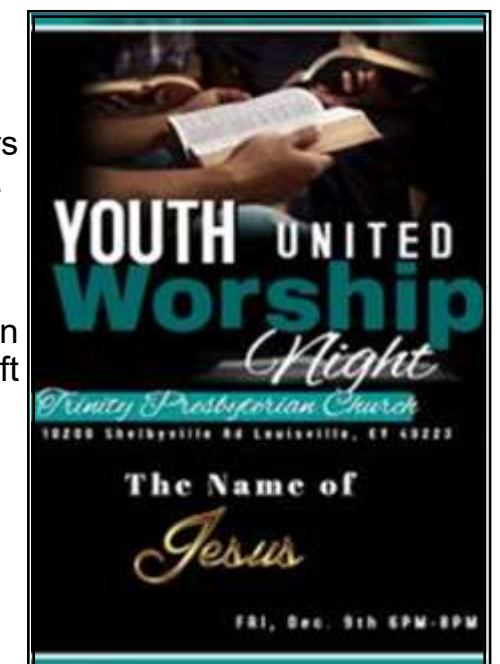
Friday, December 9, 2016 6:00 p.m.

We will have special Joint Worship with other fellow brothers and sisters from community churches. Dinner will be served.

Last Bible Study of the Year

Friday, December. 16, 2016 7:00 p.m.

Come out to our Last Bible Study and Christmas Party on Friday, **December 16th- Bible Study 7:00 p.m.** Bring a gift to exchange with a friend.



Trinity Presbyterian Church Presents



A Special Christmas



Dec. 18, 2016 5-8PM

Praise & Worship
Arts and Crafts
Games
Food
And Most Importantly:
The Hope & Love of Jesus Christ

10200 Shelbyville Rd, Louisville, KY 40223

CHILDREN

Winter VBS

Sunday, December 18, 2016 5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

We invite children to our Special Winter Christmas VBS. Come learn about the hope of Christmas through Jesus Christ.



Thank you for all those who participated in our **Chili Cook-Off**.

Congratulations to our winners:

Hottest: Lucie Fulmore
Wimpiest: Jennifer Hacker
Best: Larry Hartmann!

We appreciate your support for our Youth Group!



PET LOVERS UNITE –

Come join us for MISSION WOW
Wednesday, Jan 4th

Beth Green founder of My Dog Eats First will come & tell us about the unique Mission opportunity. We will also be doing a hands on project to support My Dog Eats First.

Supplies that the My Dog Eats First often needs:

We would love to have a supply on January 4th that we can donate:

Dog/Cat Food - Wet and Dry

Heavy Duty Storage Bins

(for our foodbank, to keep the mice out)

Zip Lock Bags

(1 or 2 Gallon and Sandwich Size Zip lock Bags)

Cat Litter

Animal Food Dishes & Water Bowls

Collars/Leashes & Harnesses of ALL sizes

New or GENTLY USED (clean) fleece blankets

December & January birthdays

12-06 Clarke Johnson
Cori Goodknight
12-08 Max Oyler
Katie MacDonald
12-09 Marc Levy
12-10 Lauren Latham
12-14 Steve Conn
12-15 Madison Cannava
12-16 Noel Weaver
12-18 Bill Husband
12-19 Judy Davids
12-22 Sheri Bushue
12-23 Nancy Graves
12-24 Anna Hayden
Herb Kallweit
12-26 Jessica Mingus
12-27 Clay Harville
12-29 Asher Kim
12-30 Troy Lankford

1-02 Barbara Cooke
1-03 Jackie Morrow
Larry Ogle
1-04 Jack Shumate
Kayla Shumate
1-06 Malcolm MacDonald
1-07 Janet Pender
1-09 Richard Bird
Marie Farris
1-14 Troy Marker
Nicole Marker
1-15 Bill Vaughn
1-22 James Kurfes
1-24 Candy Wheat
1-29 Elizabeth McDaniel
1-31 Bert Lundstrom



Christmas Sale

21st Year! 1995—2016

Saturday, December 3, 2016
8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Homemade Baked Goods
Cookies, Cakes, Breads,
Candy, Pies

Handmade Gift Items
Christmas Décor, Table Linens,
Apparel, Accessories, Baubles & More

All proceeds & contributions go to charities.

Trinity Presbyterian Church
10200 Shelbyville Road
245-5515
tpclouisville.net/Presbyterian-Women.html

Trinity Presbyterian Church
10200 Shelbyville Road
Louisville, KY 40223
Phone: 502-245-5515 Fax: 502-245-5519
Trinity Email: tpclouisville@att.net
Website: tpclouisville.net



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Trinity Presbyterian welcomes all visitors who are seeking to find Christ in their lives! Our regular Sunday morning services are at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Nursery and Children's church provided!