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Pastor's Pen

Life Together

*"And they devoted themselves to the fellowship."
(Acts 2:42)*

Have you ever been part of a group of friends who loved one another, who looked after one another, who shared all they are for the sake of larger ideals, loftier goals, and a legacy that would outlive everyone? This would be some circle of friends! A community like this would foster support, comfort, encouragement, and motivation to keep on and press on and pass on the joy of life. Who has experienced such community?



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, pastoring during the rise of Nazism in Germany, was moved by two foundational ideals: 1) faithfulness to the Good News of Jesus Christ, and 2) fostering a community who was faithful to the Good News of Jesus Christ. To this end, he formed a small community of believers who shared their lives together. In his book, *Life Together*, he wrote of how their lives were shared, lived, supported, and deepened for greater love of God and love for one another.

Bonhoeffer wrote, "Christian community is not an ideal we have to (create), but rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we participate." (Life Together, p. 38). In other words, God creates this community, not us. And as God's creation, we are invited to experience it, enjoy it, and expand it as we share our lives with one another.

Amid the rush and demands of our day, we can easily be consumed by the burdens of life. Similarly, the isolation of independence and individualism often hinders us from the joy and support that friendship offers. Our condition becomes one of unbearable stress and unavoidable separation. God has an answer and an antidote to this load we carry and the loneliness we experience. The answer is the church.

God's people, from the very beginning, were uniquely different and distinct in the way they shared life together. In the verse above (Acts 2:42), we are told that the early Christians "devoted themselves to the fellowship..." Fellowship was not something they occasionally did; fellowship was who they were. Their shared life together was the center and anchor of their every day. They looked after one another, cared for one another, shared with one another. They understood that giving themselves for the sake of others in this community (the church) was the means by which they gained the peace and strength to endure the storms of life.



We would like to invite you to this kind of community at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Through our growing love for Jesus, through Sunday school and small groups, through missional living and loving, we share life together as God's people. And we would love to share our lives with you. Come, and let us share life together in Jesus.

Loved in Christ,
Pastor Steve



Tuesday Morning Circle is winding down for the school year. Yet during the summer we will be as busy as ever. If you want to help keep your kids, grandkids or yourself occupied during the summer months, consider doing some crafting for fundraising opportunities we will have starting in September, with the Middletown Festival, TPC's Fall Festival, and TPW's annual Christmas Sale. It's never too early!

We have two fundraising opportunities this month (through early June).

BIRTHDAY OFFERING – The denomination's women have been meeting yearly since 1922 to celebrate the blessings in our lives, and determine how we can extend that to others. The result: the Birthday Offering. Each year projects are selected to receive a grant -- based on our giving. Folks at Trinity are familiar with TPW's long-standing celebrations: an all-church dinner or a ladies' tea. Because of an already overloaded calendar, this year we are bypassing any actual event. (Sorry, no extra birthday cake or singing!)

But we know that some of you will still want to support the Birthday Offering with a donation. Here is how you can do that. Yellow "Birthday Offering" envelopes will be in the narthex Sundays in April and May. Place it with your gift in the Sunday offering plate or in TPW mail slot. Those who will be attending Tuesday Morning Circle in May can give their offering then.

There are three grant recipients this year. In no particular order, they are:

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER, SOUTH CAROLINA. They provide a safe haven for victims of domestic violence in the counties of Georgetown and Horry, but are limited to helping only 11 people at a time. The grant would allow them to expand their capacity.

NAVAJO WATER PROJECT, NEW MEXICO. Many homes in the Smith Lake Navajo Reservation rely on storing water in vessels like pots. The grant will provide a running water system for 40 families, including a cistern, pump, sink, shower and pipes for each household.

FIRST HAND AID, CUBA. A rural clinic development initiative, this grant will help build, fund, stock and staff medical clinics in six established Presbyterian Churches in rural Cuba. Those outside of urban centers like Havana often have no other means to get medical care.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN – Yes, it sounds a bit odd, but like the above, this practice is now woven into the fabric of church women's groups around the world. Begun in the 1950s by a woman in India, the "Least Coin" is where we dig the smallest coins from the bottom of our purses or pockets, then together link with our Christian sisters, regardless of country or economic status, to express our solidarity and pray for peace and reconciliation. (International offices are now in Philippians, www.flc.net.ph, with the USA coordinator being Church Women United, www.churchwomen.org.) If you'd like to contribute, please put your gift into the Sunday offering plate with a notation, or put it in the TPW mail slot. Tuesday Morning Circle will be collecting the spring contributions for Least Coin at our May 9th meeting.

TUESDAY MORNING CIRCLE, May 9 at 10:30 AM in the parlor. Navigator's LifeChange study of Luke, pages 167-178 (disregard lesson numbers!). Deb Kelly, facilitating. Hostess Group 3 (RoseMary's team).

Minute for mission

MISSION



Mission Committee would like to thank our Trinity family for these recent donations.

- 120 Presbyterian Disaster Assistance kits assembled by our WOW kids!
- Dog and cat food, leashes, collars, dog treats, storage containers, delivered to My Dog Eats First organization
- Hundreds of plastic bags collected and delivered to Fed with Faith at Beargrass Christian Church .
- Participation in a workshop on how to weave bags to make mattresses for the homeless
- 100 plus breakfast burritos made and given to The Burrito Riders for their stock pantry
- The on-going food collection for EACM is great

We are planning many mission opportunities for the summer months.
Please check out Mission Bulletin Board for the "coming attractions."

MISSIONS OF TRINITY

Faith & art ~Candy Wheat



Peace & Grace to all from Trinity Center for Faith & Art.

The Center is staying busy making spring pottery with their students. Lots of fairy gardens and Derby pottery.

We look forward to helping with Vacation Bible School in June.



Trinity Presbyterian Church Presents

YOUTH SUNDAY

MAY 21ST AT 11AM

Come experience Worship by our Youth!

10200 Shelbyville Rd. 40223
■ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/502581476615701/>
PosterMyWall.com

**WORSHIP
LAUGH
DANCE**

**GAMES
MOVE
PLAY**

**ARTS
CRAFT
MISSION
PROJECT**

**COME JOIN OUR
VBS
Go Fish
VICTORY**

**DATE: JUNE 4-7
TIME: 6-8:30PM**

**WHERE: TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10200 SHELBYVILLE RD,
LOUISVILLE, KY 40223**

Praise & Worship, Games, Arts & Craft, Mission Project, Story Telling, Inflatable, Adult Hand-Building sessions, and many more exciting filled time

April has been a busy month in the yellow room. We continue to learn our letters, numbers, shapes and colors all while having fun. Many of our friends are now four, and the changes we have seen since September are huge. They are a lively, fun bunch.

We had our Easter egg hunt in the courtyard before our Easter party. The children love finding some eggs. We did a lot of fun activities in the month of April with the plastic eggs, like matching letters, sorting by color, and playing with them in a sensory bin.

Hopefully the weather will continue to be nice, so we can burn off some of that energy and be outside. Our next big event is our preschool derby festival. The learning and fun never stop!

Ms. Amy and Ms. Susan

der by Recipe OF THE MONTH

Recipe courtesy of Southern Living...

- 1/2 (14.1-ounce) package refrigerated piecrusts or homemade piecrust
- 1 1/2 cups chopped toasted pecans
- 1 cup (6 ounces) semisweet chocolate morsels
- 1 cup dark corn syrup
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup bourbon or water
- 4 large eggs
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 2 teaspoons plain white cornmeal
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon table salt



1) Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Fit piecrust into a 9-inch deep-dish pie plate according to package directions; fold edges under, and crimp. Sprinkle pecans and chocolate evenly onto bottom of piecrust.

2) Stir together corn syrup and next 3 ingredients in a large saucepan, and bring to a boil over medium heat. Cook, stirring constantly, 3 minutes. Remove from heat.

3) Whisk together eggs and next 4 ingredients. Gradually whisk one-fourth of hot corn syrup mixture into egg mixture; add to remaining hot corn syrup mixture, whisking constantly. Pour filling into prepared piecrust.

4) Bake at 325° for 55 minutes or until set; cool pie completely on a wire rack (about one hour).



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.

WHY AM I GETTING THIS NEWSLETTER?

We are sending you our Newsletter because we are your neighborhood church. We hope you will enjoy getting to know us better, and invite you to join us for worship so we can get to know you! We are a mid-sized, friendly and caring church with much to offer for people seeking deeper spiritual meaning in their lives through Jesus Christ. Please come visit us and see what we are all about!

INTERESTED IN COMING TO TRINITY? CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH?
WATCH OUR 11:00 AM SERVICES ON OUR LIVESTREAM CHANNEL:
[HTTP://LIVESTREAM.COM/TPCLOUISVILLE](http://livestream.com/tpclouisville)



May
birthdays

5/3 Maricela Sarmiento
5/6 Scott Koukola
5/7 Brad Harville
Henry Meyer
5/8 Dorothy Amundsen
Beth Bloss
5/10 Janice Kim
5/11 Dorothy Southard
5/12 Bill Lewis



5/13 Scheffler Meyer
5/15 Abraham Joseph
5/16 Ed Gayhart
Rachel Shumate
5/17 Richard Ross
5/19 Harry Frye
5/24 Patrick Hayden
5/26 Collette Sangster
5/ 31 Alex Barnum

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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!