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Pastor's Pen

***The Ending Gives Value to the Beginning***  
*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you  
will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*  
*(Philippians 1:6)*



There's a saying I've heard among the running culture for the last thirty years. It's aimed at motivating a runner. It's designed to give perspective on the training one does. And it reveals where the true work begins and the ultimate benefit lies. Here's the saying:

*"Work the first two-thirds for the reward of the last one-third."*

In other words, while a whole workout is of value, the early portion fatigues us for the fitness achieved in the latter portion. The real strength and growth comes as we persevere through the end. It's the ending that gives value to the beginning.

This is the meaning of the verse above. The Apostle Paul, writing to the church in the city of Philippi, encouraged God's people with this message of hope and this assurance of God's faithfulness. As a matter of fact, Paul expressed this as a truth in which he was absolutely confident. To him, this was a done deal and a finished fact. Paul knew that God always finishes what he starts, completes what he commences, delivers on what he declares.



Notice, also, what God does in those who know and love him is called "a good work." God is the fountain of all things good. God is the giver of all good gifts. God's own character is described as goodness itself, in which there is no shifting shadow or guile or maliciousness. God is good! Therefore, what God does in us as followers of Christ is also good. No matter the trials and challenges of the earlier stages of life, in the end good is the result all God does in us.



Perhaps you need no reminding, but summer ends this month. School is back in session. Schedules settle back into a predictable rhythm and routine. Life plods on. Too easily, the refreshing and renewal of summer begins to fade, giving way to the later seasons of the year. Weariness in the latter seasons of the year, and the latter seasons of life, can settle over us. We need to be reminded and renewed in the assurance of the hope God offers us in Christ. Remember the promise stated above. God always finishes what he starts. For this reason, we can be assured that the end of things will always give value to the beginning.

Confidently in Christ,  
Pastor Steve



September 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Join us for **Fall Kick-Off Sunday!** Learn about the different ministries and serving opportunities that are offered through the body of Christ at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

On Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m., get to know the leaders and explore the different programs and small groups offered. If you have any questions, feel free to call the church office at (502) 245-5515, or email at [tpclouisville@att.net](mailto:tpclouisville@att.net). We look forward to meeting with you and growing our faith together in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Children

**Children's Sunday School** – This class is designed for young children ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and our youth grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>. Children are invited and welcomed to Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. downstairs in classroom # 3. We explore God's word through a guided curriculum, engage in God's word through studying and reflection of the message, and further explore through stimulating activities. We are currently studying through *Faith Alive*.

**Children's Church** - A special time of worship for children during the 11:00 a.m. service. Parents with children ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Youth Group**- Youth ministry is more than programs and events. Our purpose and goal is to reach out to the young people of our church and community to know the grace and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We meet every Friday at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. The youth will be encouraged to have a greater sense of their community by engaging in community service activities. We will also plan to have weekly studies and application of God's Word, monthly youth outings, lock-ins, and other activities that will drive our youth to come closer with one another and most importantly closer to our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Adult

Sunday School

**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. Drawn from a spectrum of Trinity members, this class offers you a lively, in-depth exploration of Scripture. In the past we have studied *Acts*, *Galatians*, *Daniel* and now we are engaging *Ezra*, *Nehemiah*, and *Esther*. The class is an open gathering of people with different perspectives and insights and you are invited to join in. *Koinonia* makes use of one or two resource books and information for other sources. Of course, the class is more than just study. "Koinonia" means community and that is what you are invited to be a part of: a gathering of people who study, pray, and grow together. Come in. There is always a seat open.

**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 *What We Hold in Common as Presbyterians* and *What Are the Essential Doctrines of Christians*.

**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 *Prayer* by Phillip Yancy.

Small Groups

**Men's Small 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*.

**The Quest**- Our goal is to empower the younger generations to seek Christ in their lives through the study of God's Word and Biblical truth. We invite all young adults and those young at heart who earnestly seek to grow in Christ. We offer a time to deeply encounter God and some fun and fellowship. Come join us in an interactive time to learn about God in a personal way! We are currently studying *A Quest for More, Living for Something Bigger than You* by Paul Tripp. We gather downstairs in classroom #3 on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m..



## Calling all youth ~ Janice Kim



Youth Group meetings will start up again **every Friday** from **7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.** Our first meeting will begin **August 25<sup>th</sup>** and will meet in the parlor. Please attend if you are in middle school or high school. All youth are called to worship together and to be embodied in Christ to learn and share about the love of Jesus Christ. Our goal for the youth group is to know our identity as God has created us to be. We will express our individual identity through Christ in relation to the world and discover who we are through the study of God's Word. Come join us. Snacks, Fun, Fellowship, and most importantly, the Love of Christ will be provided.

## Wow Wednesdays ~ Janice Kim



*WoW is every Wednesday except the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday for Committee Meetings*

September 13<sup>th</sup> WOW Worship  
September 27<sup>th</sup> WOW Worship

October 4<sup>th</sup> WOW Mission  
October 11<sup>th</sup> WOW Worship  
October 25<sup>th</sup> WOW Worship

November 1<sup>st</sup> WOW Worship  
November 8<sup>th</sup> WOW Mission  
November 29<sup>th</sup> Final WoW Worship:  
Advent Kick-Off

## tpw ~ Virginia Kozak

*"How I spent my summer vacation"...* For **Trinity Presbyterian Women**, there is a lot that could be said as we start back into our usual schedule. Many of us traveled or hosted visitors, gardened, and simply enjoyed a few less responsibilities.

In earlier Trinity Times articles, you have heard how our Sew 'n Sews have been keeping busy crafting items for the busy autumn and winter seasons. The immediate event where we will display our creations will be at the **Middletown Family Fun Festival**. Our objective is to share how we minister within our community through our sewing and benevolence fundraising. We will also have fall-oriented gifts for sale (Halloween and Thanksgiving totes, table runners, pillowcases, etc.)

Our TPW Board is excited as we prepare for our **Tuesday Morning Circle** where we will be studying Zechariah. Study books are now available. If you plan to participate, please sign-up on the hallway bulletin board so Jan Larsen can get a book to you, or call the church office to get your name on the list.

In late August, TPW was tickled to hear that one of our most gifted crafters, Martha Warrick, earned two ribbons at the Kentucky State Fair! A 1<sup>st</sup> place blue ribbon was given to Martha for a pillowcase with a hand-crocheted edge, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> place red ribbon for handmade doll clothes. Fantastic!

Though they didn't enter their award winners into the State Fair this year as they have in the past, Betty and Skip Wilborn have been sharing their beautiful dahlia blossoms with our congregation in the narthex most Sunday mornings. For an exceptional treat, call them to arrange a visit to their incredible garden not far from Trinity. Betty has held many roles in TPW over the years and remains faithful to our missions, for which we are grateful.

In TPW, we often find ourselves so joyful and thankful as we experience our Lord's goodness, whether it is through the beauty of His creation seen in our gardens; personal talents exemplified by sewing, knitting, baking, leading studies; our ability to raise funds for those in need. Maybe the best is the gratefulness we have for each woman at Trinity and in Circle, where we support each other in deeds, with encouraging words, through prayer. When your schedule permits, please join us at one of our events. Dates and times are listed in the Sunday bulletin, or call the church office.

**TUESDAY MORNING CIRCLE**, September 12th at 10:30 a.m. in the parlor. *Zechariah: On That Day*, Study 1. Jan Larsen, facilitating. Brown bag lunch with dessert to follow.

**SEW 'N SEWS**, Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. downstairs classroom.

## Middletown festival and craft show



**Please plan on visiting Trinity's Booth at the Middletown Family Fun Festival and Craft Show!**

Autumn-themed hand crafts, pottery, & information about our ministries will be on display.

**Friday, September 8th: 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, September 9th: 10:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.**  
**Fireworks to follow!**



## TRINITY'S FALL FESTIVAL



**You're invited to the Trinity Presbyterian Church FALL FESTIVAL!**

**Enjoy Free Hot Dogs, Chips, Popcorn, Cotton Candy, Dilly Bars, Music, Games, Inflatable, Cornhole Tournament, Pottery & Bake Sale, & much more!**

**Children are encouraged to wear costumes!**

**Where:** Trinity Presbyterian Church  
10200 Shelbyville Road  
**When:** Sunday, October 22nd  
**Time:** 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

## 2017 Tpc softball I team



The Trinity Presbyterian Softball team wrapped up another season in July. The season ran about 8 weeks long and we competed against other churches in the area. The games were held at Watkins Memorial Methodist Church. The team enjoyed the friendly competition and fellowship with other believers. We truly appreciate all of the support from our faithful fans that showed up to every game to cheer us on. If you did not play this year, you are missing out on a very fun time

We hope to see everyone next year.

## Apparel featuring tpc logo

The Evangelism Committee will be taking orders for TPC apparel on September 10th during the Fall Kickoff and before the 11:00 a.m. service that day. Orders will also be taken on September 24th and October 8th after the 9:00 a.m. service and before the 11:00 a.m. service. Orders will be taken during the October 22nd Fall Festival as well. The clothing will include crew-neck sweatshirts, hooded sweatshirts, men's and women's polos, and short- and long-sleeve t-shirts. Items will be available in both adult and youth sizes in either red or blue and will feature Trinity's logo. Totes and ball caps will be available for sale as well. Wear and share the spirit of Trinity!



## MISSIONS OF TRINITY

### Faith & art

~ Candy Wheat

Things are up and running in the Art Center.

It is not too late to sign-up for Craft Week in Montreat. If you are interested, please call Candy.

Be sure to check out new pottery from the Center at the Treehouse Artisans & Merchants store at 10302 Shelbyville Rd in Middletown.

### MINUTE FOR MISSION

## MISSION **On the move!**

**WOW Mission** is gearing up for a new round of programs on the first wednesday of the month.

We would love your input on what programs you would like to know more about; so please let us know what you would like featured.

**OCT 4, 2017:** The long awaited program from **My Dog Eats First** will be featured. As well as a speaker we will be doing a hands-on project of making fleece blankets. We will also be collecting pet supplies to donate to My Dog Eats First.

**Items Needed:** 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

**NOV 1, 2017:** Will be our annual **Operation Christmas Child** packing party. Please plan to come and help pack a shoebox gift for God's children around the world.

We need your help; supplies are low and we need donations of items to make the packing party a huge success as it has been in the past: **Items Needed:** **Toys** (for all ages 2-14): **Clothing items:** t-shirts, dresses, shorts, underwear, socks & shoes. **Hygiene items:** toothbrushes, deodorant, reusable sanitary pads (for the older girls): **School Supplies:** Pencils, pens, colored pencils, crayons, coloring books, scissors, and solar calculators. **Miscellaneous items:** Plastic cups, small bowls & plates.

### Eastern Area Community Ministries

Seeking women to serve as mentors for two wonderful and highly motivated Helping Hands Partnership (HHP) participants. They are ready to begin working with a mentor today!

Benefits include:

- Ability to serve on your schedule.
- The great feeling that comes with helping someone in need.
- Opportunity to share your gifts and experiences.

Requirements:

- Must be able to meet with mentee once weekly by phone and once monthly in person.
- Completion of application and \$20 background check.
- Completion of HHP Mentor Training (one day).

Contact Bert Lundstrom or call Rebekah Davis at 426-2824, x301 for details.

### Minute for mission

## Stand Down/Project Homeless Connect (10/4)



The Coalition for the Homeless, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Metro Louisville invite you to join us at Stand Down/Project Homeless Connect on Wednesday, 10/4/17, at Salvation Army (located at the old Male High School, [911 S. Brook Street](#)).

Stand Down/Project Homeless Connect is an annual one-day resource fair that connects 600 homeless veterans and others with services they need, including healthcare, housing assistance, official IDs, clothing, food, job resources, and more.

Again this year, we are looking for volunteers and donors to help us serve the less fortunate.

Hold a donation drive for towels, socks, backpacks, and washcloths: contact Melissa at [mkratzer@louhomeless.org](mailto:mkratzer@louhomeless.org).

Volunteer to wash feet: contact Natalie at [nharris@louhomeless.org](mailto:nharris@louhomeless.org).

Volunteer to guide homeless clients to available services: contact Melinda Collett at (502) 287-4175.

Thanks so much for your compassion.



Once again we are teaming up with our preschool for their Back-To-School Service Project, turning used and unwanted shoes into fresh water.

So clean-out your closets of all your old shoes, drop them off in the container in the narthex at Trinity **September 3th –24th**

Once collected, the useable shoes get a second life through sale to exporters. Those shoes you think are ready for the **Trash-Heap** are torn-apart and the recyclable parts are sold. Money from the sale of the shoes purchases well drilling rigs, water purification systems, and other supplies to bring clean, fresh water to those in need.

**YOU CAN DONATE ALL TYPES OF SHOES** (flip-flops, sandals, athletic, dress)

## Worship music

~ Melissa Weaver

Hymns and their meaning in our lives today.

I have thoroughly enjoyed receiving and singing your summer hymn selections. I am reminded every time I get one of your requests how meaningful these songs of our faith are to us. Not only are these songs meaningful to each of us but they are like a personal possession that we hold very dear.

We discover that many of our favorites come from several centuries ago and some even from ancient times. We learn the stories of those who wrote the words and/or the tunes and often times the interesting tales of how words and tunes met many years after their creation.

What do these “old” words mean and what do they reveal about God’s character?

My husband’s grandmother lived well into her 90’s and was very vital until her last year. We would often visit her on Sunday afternoons at her nursing home. We would find her, head bent, sitting in her wheel chair in the common area but very unaware of anything going on around her. We would wheel her near to the piano and I would play and Noel and our 5 children would sing hymns. It only took a minute or two of listening until Grandma Mamie was singing along.....seemingly her old self. The hymns deeply imbedded in her mind and heart and the melodies so familiar brought her back for a few moments. I can’t explain it and neurologists attempt to explain it but often fall short. I have read many articles about music and the brain but one study of Alzheimer’s patient’s states, “that God calls to us to remember Him in the midst of our difficulties”. We have discovered that many of the stories of the hymn writers reveal that their words came to them in moments of extreme difficulty and struggle.

In God’s infinite wisdom He gives us music and the word, together, in the songs of our faith to forever remind us that, “Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.”

My favorite, Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Words written by Robert Robinson- C. Michael Hawn writes of Robinson-“Perhaps all hymns are to some extent autobiographical in that they reveal something of the author’s spiritual experience. Such is the case with British Baptist hymn writer Robert Robinson (1735-1790) who as a barber’s apprentice, fell under the powerful influence of George Whitefield’s preaching.”

Robinson had lost his father at a very young age and was later sent to London to be an apprentice. It was during this time that he fell in with some unsavory characters until he heard George Whitefield preach. He came to repentance after listening to Whitefield and became a pastor. Robinson first preached at a Calvinistic Methodist chapel but was re-baptized in 1759 after taking up Baptist Theological perspectives.

From 1761-1790 he was pastor of Stone Yard Baptist Church in Cambridge where despite his lack of formal education he rose to great prominence as a preacher and a scholar.

I encourage you to listen to a recording of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir singing Mack Wilberg’s arrangement of this wonderful hymn, Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing. The tune is Nettleton by John Wyeth written in 1757. You can find it easily on YouTube.

Blessings.

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

## september birthdays

Happy Birthday

9/1 Brandon Hacker  
Avery Koukola  
9/5 Tom Dawson  
9/10 Nick Schuler  
9/15 Becky Douglas  
9/16 Maggie Jewell  
9/18 Tim Barnum  
9/20 Aileen Lucas

9/21 Annalise Kim  
9/22 William Bird  
Linda Strohmeier  
9/23 Emily Mullin  
9/26 Vito Simoneschi  
9/27 Ben Bird  
Chris Niemann  
Steve Nolan



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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!