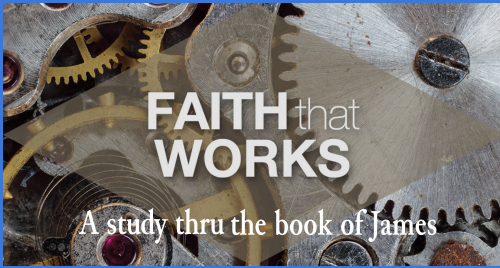


TPC Weekly Newsletter

April 7, 2024



FAITH THAT WORKS:

Earthly Tests Build Our Heavenly Trust

James 1:1-9

Devotion to Christ in the Early Days of the Church

One's heavenly family was a greater priority than one's earthly family.

Each day (i.e. priorities, pursuits, and passions) revolved around one's dependence on and dedication to Christ.

Sacrifice and surrender was characteristic of the early believers, even to the giving of one's life.

A Summary of the Message of James

A Preacher's Legacy Impact

The epistle of James summarizes the essential Christian teaching that rooted and guided the life of the first Christians, especially in the Jerusalem church, which was pastored by James, the half-brother of Jesus. This summarizes the legacy impact of James on the church.

The "Full Dimension of Faith"

Some have pitted James and Paul against one another. However, the writings and message of Paul and James are not antithetical to one another. "Together Paul and James give the full dimension of faith. Paul wrote about inner saving faith from God's perspective. James wrote about outward serving faith from man's perspective. The true seed of saving faith is verified by the tangible fruit of serving faith." (James Ronald Blue)

Faith that Works

"Faith that works" not only means that our trust in Christ is demonstrated by our "works" (by the new way of life we live as Christ's disciples), but, "faith that works" also means that our trust in Christ's redeeming work on the cross and in His resurrection "works" successfully in us. Not only is the work of Christ sufficient for our salvation, but the saving work of Christ will shine through us in our sacrificial way of life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Announcements

- Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:45 AM.
- Digging Deeper bible study meets this week at 10 AM
- The Finance Committee meets on Wednesday at 8:30 AM.
- The Women's Circle gathers on Tuesday at 10:30 AM.
- The Christian Education Committee Zoom meets on Thursday at 6 PM.
- Here are the celebration of life arrangements for Ruth French: Visitation at Ratterman Brothers in Middletown on Sunday, April 14 from Noon-4 PM, followed by the memorial service at 4 PM.
- A few items of Trinity's logo apparel are left. Check them out in the volunteers office, and if you want anything, they are yours for a donation of your choice.

To provide flowers for worship, please sign up on the Worship bulletin board or contact Sherry.

Please know that your ministry support is a valuable means by which God is reaching, teaching, & growing followers of Jesus Christ. As always, we are thankful for God's faithfulness and your financial partnership.

Mission Opportunities

Burrito making kits are available.

Upcoming Events

Sign-up for another round of our "Let's Get Together" gatherings is taking place right now. Be sure to sign up on the Fellowship Bulletin board to join us for a great time of fellowship and encouragement.

Greeter Ministry

Please look for a warm, welcoming friend to meet & greet you on Sunday mornings. In addition, the greeter will lock all the church doors by 10:15 AM, except for the glass doors to the Narthex. If you need any help, please ask our greeter. We hope everyone will take a turn being this warm, welcoming presence.

We would love to have you sign up to serve as a Sunday morning greeter. To do so, put your name on the signup sheet in the Narthex.

FAITH THAT WORKS: Earthly Tests Build Our Heavenly Trust

Introduction to the Book of James

The Author: James, the half-brother of Jesus

Their Authority: a bonded servant = the property of

God and servant of the eternal Lord who came as the Savior Jesus and rose again as the sovereign Christ.

Those Who Are Addressed: the twelve tribes of the scattering... as an evangelistic tract to the displaced Jews and as an encouraging treatise to the displaced disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Trials Build Our Trust (v. 2-4)

The Inevitability of Trials – “whenever you face trials...”

Trials are not punishment for past or present moral failures, but a process for forming, deepening, and maturing one’s faith in and likeness to Christ. These testing trials strengthen our trust in God!

Our Engagement with Trials – “consider it pure joy...”

The Opportunity Trials Present –

“testing...perseverance...maturity...”

Wisdom Gives Us Perspective (v. 5)

Seek after God’s wisdom

God’s gracious generosity

Contrasting Ways of Asking (v. 6-8)

Asking in Faith - the strength of one’s faith is in the one trusted, not in the one who trusts.

Asking in Doubt - doubt is not disbelief, but divided belief (see Matthew 14:30-33). “Blown” = influenced by an inferior force. “Tossed” = to be moved, agitated, fearful, and unstable

Put Your Behavior Where Your Belief Is

We’ve all heard the phrase, “Put your money where your mouth is.” This means, if someone makes a claim, then they should back up that claim with some skin in the game. If someone is telling the truth, then don’t just talk about it, prove it by putting some cash on the table!

In the same way, we must not simply make the bold claim that “I am a Christian”, that “Jesus is Lord of my life”, unless we are willing to prove that claim by the radical offering of our life up to Christ. This is the message of James’ letter: if you say you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, then prove it by your behavior for Christ and like Christ!

Prayer Joys & Concerns

Thanks and Praise

Birthdays: Bonnie Mullin (4/7), Doug Harville (4/9), Sydnei Hacker (4/9), Maria Hall (4/11)

Anniversaries:

Needs and Concerns

Those who are grieving...

The family and friends of Ruth French

Robyn Prestigiacomio and family - loss of her husband, Gary

The family and friends of Philip Strohmeier

Those needing help/healing...

Janet Husband - surgery on Monday

Carol Redd

Ashley (the Husband’s grand daughter)

Gwen Tomblin - severe allergies

Madeline (Jude’s former co-worker) - in hospice care

Monica (the Bloor-Brandt’s neighbor)

Steve Conn

Sandy Koukola

Rev. Bob & Rev. Camille Williams-Neal

Ellen (Kay Nolan’s cousin) - multiple myeloma

Greta Bemisderfer

Harvey (Miller’s great grandson)

Tracy (Miller’s daughter)

Ghyll Simoneschi

Susan Bauer

Jean Paulmann

Jane Kurfees

Josh Jones (Jane Kurfees nephew) - heart problems

Robert (Lois Bringhurst’s brother)

Bill (Jim McDaniel’s brother) - cancer

Jake (Jude’s brother)

Joan (Jake’s wife)

Spencer Hardin (Sheryl Yoffe’s friend)

Nella (Jude’s aunt)

Craig (Jude’s cousin)

Judy (David & Jude’s neighbor)

Spike Frederick (Andy’s friend)

Donna Primm (Andy’s friend)

Toka (Sherry Pritts’ friend)

Situations and Circumstances...

The mission and ministry of TPC

The war on Israel

Persistent societal violence

Volatile political tensions

Economic concerns

The violence/brokenness of our city and the world

Students, teachers, staff

Medical caregivers, police, elected officials

The many ministries of TPC (Burrito Riders, Faith & Art Center, OCC, Sew ‘n Sews, EACM, Maryhurst, Fellowship of Christian Athletes)

“Let’s Get Together”

April 14th – last day to sign-up



Fun, Food & Fellowship!

Take this opportunity to get better acquainted with other adults in our church family. Meet to share a meal together. It's your choice. It can be breakfast, lunch, brunch or dinner.

The sign-up sheet is posted on the Fellowship bulletin board in the hall.

Please Sign Up!



Operation Christmas Child – 2024 Quick Facts

DISCIPLESHIP:

- **The Greatest Journey** is a follow-up discipleship experience offered through local churches to many of the children who receive shoebox gifts. The **12-lesson program** introduces boys and girls to salvation through faith in Jesus and encourages them to grow as faithful followers.
- Over the past 30 years (since 1993), **more than 50 million children** have been discipled, **including 25 million children who have prayed to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior!**
- **Shoebox to Bible:** After a child completes the 12-weeks discipleship program, a **New Testament Bible** is given to each child in their language. So far, **over 36 million New Testaments** have been given to graduates through our local church partners.
- Samaritan's Purse trains over **240,500+ volunteer teachers** to lead children through The Greatest Journey program.
- In 2023, The Greatest Journey discipleship program was translated in **91 languages** and reached **98 countries!**
- In 2023, over **5.1 million children** participated in **The Greatest Journey** discipleship program and there were **nearly 2.9 million decisions for Christ**, equating to 331 children coming to faith each hour!
- Pray for over **5.5 million children** to participate in The Greatest Journey discipleship program in 2024!

Stay tuned. OCC Quick Facts regarding **to the Ends of the Earth** are coming next!



Operation Christmas Child Donation Opportunities

The Mission Committee requests your consideration in making shoebox gift donations throughout the next several months so our supplies will be plentiful for our shoebox packing event to once again be held July/August.

The items being collected are:

UNDERWEAR SOCKS T-SHIRTS FLIP-FLOPS

These items may be for boys or girls in sizes appropriate for ages 2-4, ages 5-9, or ages 10-14. We intentionally pack more boxes for ages 10-14 as statistically the least number of boxes are packed for this age group.

You may drop off your donations from now through the end of June into the bin provided in the Narthex. We will periodically gather the donations, update our inventory, and sort the items according to sex and age.

Please consider donating to this worthy ministry. And join us in praying that Trinity's 2024 Shoebox Season will be fruitful!

Christian Education Opportunities

Koinonia

The Koinonia class is a seminar-based gathering that is presently focused on an introduction to the New Testament (its formation, history, background, and content). It spends some time on the individual books but at this point doesn't make an in-depth study of a particular one. In the past, the class has studied the history of the Church and a long-term study of the book of Acts. This coming year the focus will be on the writings of Paul, other letters, and the book of Revelation. The first gatherings will consist of a review of covered material. Participants can join the class in the Parlor or via Zoom.

Resources include video lectures from Dr. Dale Martin of Yale University and presentation slides. The style is a relaxed one with much attention paid to questions, concerns, and insights of those involved.

Digging Deeper

There are two important ways we immerse ourselves in the Word of God. One way is through the sermon during our gathered times of worship. The other is through personal and corporate Bible Study. To this end, and in addition to the other Sunday school classes we offer, Pastor Steve leads this study as we dig deeper into the Bible passage for next week's sermon. We gather on Monday mornings at 10 AM in the Library.

If this study interests you, please contact Pastor Steve (stevejewell356@gmail.com).

Women's Sunday School

The Women's Sunday School class meets at 9:45 in the library. We will begin studying Max Lucado's book, *Trade Your Cares for Calm*, on April 14. In addition to seeking greater understanding, we share joys and concerns and enjoy fellowship with one another.

The leaders of this class are:

Lois Bringhurst loisbringhurst2@gmail.com
(502) 819-8936

Cathy Dawson ccdawson47@gmail.com
(502) 693-3710

Lucie Fulmore lfulmore@twc.com
(502) 802-5096

Youth Group

The Youth Sunday School class meets at 9:45 in the Youth Room downstairs, and is open to all Middle and High School students seeking to deepen their understanding of God's Word. The Youth class aims to study the Bible and apply God's Perfect Word to the lives of students as they navigate their teenage world. This fall, the class will dive into a study of the teenage battlefield. Led by Rebecca Perry, the youth will study how to shine the light of Christ—whether we are at school, out with friends, or at home. In addition to studying, the youth will also meet once a month for evenings of fellowship and fun!

Sprouts Sunday School

Kids ages five through 4th grade are invited to join this group to learn more about growing in Christ. We will study how to grow and produce the fruit of the Spirit. This Sunday School is led by Diane Jewell (djewell35@gmail.com). We welcome all young eager learners.

Nursery Care

If you have a little one (0-4 years old), nursery care is available upon request. Diane Jewell is eager to sing, play with, and entertain your children, so you can worship God without worry or distraction. Please let Diane or the Greeter know you would like to make use of our nursery care.

Weekly Reminders

Please consider joining one of the classes and/or small groups we offer:

- Koinonia Class led by [Rev. Bob Williams-Neal](#) at 9:45 AM.
- Women's Sunday School Class at 9:45 AM (please contact [Cathy Dawson](#), [Lucie Fulmore](#), or [Lois Bringhurst](#) for more information)
- Youth Sunday School Class for middle school and high school students at 10 AM (please contact [Rebecca Perry](#) for more information).
- Sprouts Sunday School Class for ages 5 thru 4th grade at 9:45 AM (please contact [Diane Jewell](#) for more information).
- Digging Deeper meets on Monday mornings at 10 AM.

If you're unable to worship with us in person, join us via [Livestream](#) on Sundays at 11 AM. Our online worship bulletin is [posted here](#).

If you have a need, a prayer request, or have information you would like to share with the rest of the Trinity family, please contact [Pastor Steve](#), [Sherry Pritts](#) (Church Secretary), [Andy Cannava](#) (Clerk of the Session), [Brenda Miller](#) (Chair of the Deacons), or your mini-flock shepherd. Please [click here](#) for the updated mini-flock list.

To view our 2024 Leadership & Committees list, please [click here](#).

If you would like to make an online gift and/or donation to support the mission and ministry of Trinity Presbyterian Church, [please click here](#).

Consider sending our college students an encouraging note or card.

College Students Addresses

Garrett Bushue
650 Woodland Ave.
407 Ball Hall
Lexington, KY 40526

Ali Elder
1909 Creason Street
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Natalie Hayden
Bowdoin College
898 Smith Union
Brunswick, ME 04011

Maggie Jewell
Campbellsville University
1 University Drive
681
Campbellsville, KY 42718

Devon Williams-Neal
300 N. Broad Street
Lexington, KY 40508