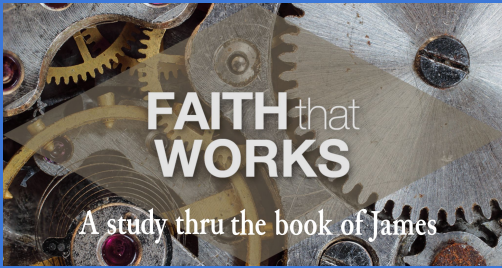


# TPC Weekly Newsletter

May 5, 2024



## FAITH THAT WORKS: Pure and Practical Devotion

*James 1:26-27*

### Religion in the World

*A Psychological Construct?*

“The Divine Being is nothing other than the being of man himself, or rather, the being of man abstracted from the limits of individual man... All determinations of the Divine Being are, therefore, determinations of the being of man.” (Ludwig Feuerbach)

*The Opiate of the Masses?*

“The wretchedness of religion is at once an expression of and a protest against real wretchedness. Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the people.” (Karl Marx)

*A Genetic Predisposition?*

“Humans are collections of atoms and molecules, and all consciousness, belief, emotions, and moral judgment must be explained by nothing more than biochemical processes within the brain. In other words, the evolutionary mind-set must reject the notion of the soul and must insist that all dimensions of consciousness are definable in purely physical terms.” (Al Mohler summarizing the argument made by Dean Hamer)

### One of Four Options

*Atheism.* Psalm 14:1

*Materialism.* Romans 1:22-23

*Spiritualism.* 2 Timothy 3:2-5

*Relationship.* John 20:31

### Relationship with God

*The Fuel for Humans (C.S. Lewis)*

“God made us: invented us as a man invents an engine. A car is made to run on petrol, and it would not run properly on anything else. Now God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits

## 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 Christian Education Committee meets on Thursday at 6 PM via Zoom.
- The Worship Committee meets on Thursday at 7 PM via Zoom.

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.

Donations are being received for this year's Operation Christmas Child initiative.

### Upcoming Events

Be sure to join us for another “Lunch on the Lawn” event on Sunday, May 19 immediately after our worship service.

### 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.

### Summer Worship Time

Beginning on the first Sunday of June (June 2), and continuing throughout the months of June, July, and August, our worship time will move from 11 AM to 10 AM each Sunday.

## Prayer Joys & Concerns

### *Thanks and Praise*

Birthdays: Charles Bemisderfer (5/5), Scott Koukola (5/6), Brad Harville (5/7)

Anniversaries:

### *Needs and Concerns*

#### Those who are grieving...

The family and friends of Larry Watts

The family and friends of Glenn Hotz (Andy Cannava's good friend)

#### Those needing help/healing...

Janet Husband - healing from surgery

Ellen (Kay Nolan's cousin)

Eddie Barker (Janet Husband's cousin) - healing

Jamie King (Lois Bringham's nephew) - healing

Carol Redd

Greta Bemisderfer

Roz Friedman (Sew 'n Sews member) - healing

Ashley (the Husband's grand daughter)

Gwen Tomblin

Madeline (Jude's former co-worker)

Monica (the Bloor-Brandt's neighbor)

Steve Conn

Sandy Koukola

Rev. Bob & Rev. Camille Williams-Neal

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 Bringham's brother)

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)

were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing.”

*A God Shaped Hole in Us (Blaise Pascal)*

“...there was once in man a true happiness of which there now remain to him only the mark and empty trace, which he in vain tries to fill from all his surroundings, seeking from things absent the help he does not obtain in things present? But these are all inadequate, because the infinite abyss can only be filled by an infinite and immutable object, that is to say, only by God Himself.”

*The Enjoyment of God (John Wesley)*

“One design you are to pursue to the end of time — the enjoyment of God in time and eternity. Desire other things, so far as they tend to this; love the creature, as it leads to the Creator. But in every step you take, be this the glorious point that terminates your view. Let every affection, and thought, and word, and action be subordinate to this. Whatever you desire or fear, whatever you seek or shun, whatever you think, speak, or do, be it in order to your happiness in God, the sole end, as well as source, of your being.”

### **Sermon Summary Statement**

*True faith in Jesus Christ produces a radical trust, a ransomed heart, and a revolutionary lifestyle.*

### **FAITH THAT WORKS: Pure and Practical Devotion**

*Control Your Mouth (v. 26)*

Do not be deceived...

Watch your words...

Resist a worthless religion...

*Demonstrate Your Devotion (v. 27)*

Conduct expressive of a converted heart.

Care for the Afflicted (v. 27a)

Show compassion to widows and orphans...

Craving for Heaven (v. 27b)

Keep yourself from worldly corruption...

Preparing yourself for heavenly glory...

Worldliness is “that system of values, in any given age, which has at its center fallen human perspective, which displaces God and his truth from the world, and which makes sin look normal and righteousness seem strange.”

(David Wells)

### **Relationship Greater than Religiousness**

Who we are in public must match who we are in private.

Colossians 3:12-17

Trinity Presbyterian  
Church

# "Lunch on the Lawn"

Sunday, May 19, 2024  
12:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.



Mark your calendars and join us for "Lunch on the Lawn".

- \* Food & Beverages provided
- \* Music
- \* Inflatable Bouncy House
- \* **And more .....**

Bring your lawn chairs or blankets!





## 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](mailto: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](mailto:loisbringhurst2@gmail.com)  
(502) 819-8936

Cathy Dawson [ccdawson47@gmail.com](mailto:ccdawson47@gmail.com)  
(502) 693-3710

Lucie Fulmore [lfulmore@twc.com](mailto: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](mailto: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  
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407 Ball Hall  
Lexington, KY 40526

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Campbellsville, KY 42718

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