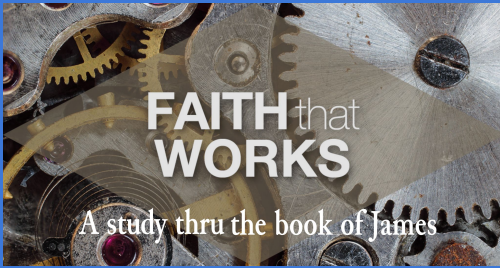


TPC Weekly Newsletter

June 30, 2024



FAITH THAT WORKS: **Don't Be Ruled by Riches** *James 5:1-6*

The Corrupting Effect of Comfortable Christianity

A few years ago, an article appeared entitled “Comfortable Christianity Is a Problem”. After only a few sentences, the danger of a weak, wimpy devotion to Christ is exposed. [Click here](#) to read it yourself...

The author’s point isn’t that being comfortable is bad. But being comfortable, living without any real sense of need, weakens and replaces our dependence on God. As a result, we are tempted to pay God only lip service with faith and dependence, relying on ourselves instead. Rather than being too heavenly minded to be of any earthly good, it might be that we are too earthly minded to be of any heavenly good.

The Allure and Trap of Materialism

Worldly comfort woos us to embrace worldly materialism. Reflecting on the dangers of materialism, Pastor Randy Alcorn once provided a list of “Ten Ways Materialism Brings Us to Ruin”. [Click here](#) to read the article. While not exhaustive, Alcorn’s list is challenging, clarifying, and corrective.

Here is Alcorn’s list: 1) Materialism erodes our spiritual life, 2) blinds us to the curse of wealth, 3) fuels unhappiness and anxiety, 4) leads to futility, 5) obscures many of the best things in life, 6) breeds independence and self-sufficiency, 7) solidifies pride and arrogance, 8) promotes injustice and exploitation, 9) fosters immorality and deteriorates the family, and 10) distracts us from our central purpose.

Worldliness Leads to an Indistinct Devotion

Materialism and self-satisfying comfort leads to a dedication to and love for this world, which clouds and displaces our longing for the world to come.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Announcements

- The start time for our Sunday worship service throughout the Summer is now 10 AM. All Sunday School classes have also decided to take a break during the Summer.
- The Digging Deeper study meets on Monday at 10 AM.
- The Deacon’s Lemonade stand is open throughout the Summer immediately following worship.
- The church office will be closed on Thursday in observance of July 4th.

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

Checkout the unique garden gloves, on display in the Parlor and available for purchase, made by our talented Sew ‘n Sews group.

TPC will be hosting a Back to School Bash on Saturday, August 3. Check out the flyer in further ahead in this weekly newsletter.

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.

We hope everyone will take a turn being this warm, welcoming presence. To serve as a Sunday morning greeter, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Prayer Joys & Concerns

Thanks and Praise

Birthdays: Sandy Koukola (7/1), Cathy Dawson (7/4), Brooklyn Hacker (7/4), Kay Hardy-Hines (7/5), Rev. Camille Williams-Neal (7/5)

Anniversaries: Seon Hwan Chu & Wonjoo Ahn (7/1)

Needs and Concerns

Those who are grieving...

The family and friends of Joe Pender (Jerry Pender's brother)

The family and friends of Pat Cropper (Cathy Dawson's brother)

Those needing help/healing...

Janet Husband - heart procedure on Wednesday

Belinda Phelps

Sandra Hollensead

The Duncan family (McCullough's daughter)

Ellen (Kay Nolan's cousin)

Mike McCoy - healing

Eddie Barker (Janet Husband's cousin) - healing

Jamie King (Lois Bringham's nephew) - healing

Carol Redd

Greta Bemisderfer

Ghyll Simoneschi

Susan Bauer

Jean Paulmann

Ashley (the Husband's grand daughter)

Gwen Tomblin

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)

Jane Kurfees

Josh Jones (Jane Kurfees nephew)

Robert (Lois Bringham's brother)

Spencer Hardin (Sheryl Yoffe's friend)

Spike Frederick (Andy's friend)

Donna Primm (Andy's friend)

Toka (Sherry Pritts' friend)

Situations and Circumstances...

The PC(USA) General Assembly (meeting 6/25-7/4)

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 during Summer break

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)

Such love for the world is often labeled "worldliness".

David Wells, in his book *Losing Our Virtue*, offered what might be the plainest statement of what worldliness is and what it does. Wells writes, "(Worldliness is) that system of values, in any given age, which has at its center our fallen human perspective, which displaces God and his truth from the world, and which makes sin look normal and righteousness seem strange." To counter the worldliness that tempts us and to correct the worldliness we wrestle with, we need an awakening by the Holy Spirit. Through the words of James, the Holy Spirit shows us that it's okay to have stuff, but it's deadly to let stuff have us.

FAITH THAT WORKS: Don't Be Ruled by Riches

The Folly of Worshiping Wealth (v. 1-3)

Materialism Brings Misery - v. 1

1 Timothy 6:10, "For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

Ease and affluence leads to agony now and damnation to come (see "the parable of the rich fool" in Luke 12:16-21).

Our Love Turns to Rust and Dust - v. 2-3a

Three types of wealth referred to: grain, fabrics, precious metals. None of these, nor any material possession can be taken with us beyond the grave.

Evidence Exposing Our Egregious Error - v. 3b

The temptation posed by wealth is to increasingly trust self and decreasingly trust God.

The Fallout from Worshiping Wealth (v. 4-6)

Judged and Condemned for Defrauding - v. 4

The cries of those treated unjustly are heard and heeded by God.

Judged and Condemned for Self-Indulgence - v. 5

The wealthy already have what they want most. (See Matthew 6:2, 21)

Judged and Condemned for Victimizing - v. 6

The power and operation of "the system" always favors the wealthy and is employed to abuse the powerless.

Love God, Steward Things, Care for Others

Our contentment, peace, and joy should not be in stuff, nor in our power or influence, and not in anything or anyone else in the world. Don't be demandingly and waveringly ruled by stuff. By faithfully ruled by the Savior.



DEACON'S LEMONADE STAND

Come gather in the narthex after the 10 o'clock worship service. Enjoy a glass of lemonade and a cookie or two as you visit with others in our Trinity family.

If you would like to contribute herbs, vegetables, fruit and/or flowers from your garden, they would be most welcome!

See You at the Stand!!

Garden Gloves from Sew 'n Sews



The Sew 'n Sews have hand-made garden gloves with sleeve protectors for your arms available in the parlor!

They are made from material with beautiful patterns! Don't let those branches scratch your arms or the bugs bite you!!

Select your pair of gloves and leave a \$20.00 donation in the parlor, or give it to Sherry. Make your check payable to TPW Sew 'n Sews.

HAPPY GARDENING!



TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BACK to school BASH

SAT. AUGUST 3RD

11 AM - 1 PM

BOUNCE HOUSE | FACE PAINTING |
SNACKS | CRAFTS

Trinity Presbyterian Church
10200 Shelbyville Rd
Louisville, KY



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!

Weekly Reminders

While Sunday School is taking a break during the Summer, consider joining one of the classes and/or small groups once this important ministry of Christian Education resumes in the Fall:

- 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 Bringham](#) 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 10 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](#).

While most of our college students are home for the Summer, please continue to pray for them.

We will share updated contact information when it becomes available.

College Students Addresses

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650 Woodland Ave.
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