

THE BRIDGE

Trinity Presbyterian Church
1400 Sheley Road
Independence, MO 64052
816-252-5893
Fax # 252-5024



Rev. Elizabeth M. Strobel
www.trinityofindependence.org

February, 2017

Volume MMXVI, No.2
trinitypresby@att.net

"Diverse in Backgrounds, United in Faith"

Dear Friends,

It was about January 2nd this year when I walked into the first store covered in hearts and cupid's bows. Within the week, most stores had displays of red and pink merchandise at least, if not actual Valentine's Day themed items. Restaurants have been advertising the "perfect evenings" you can spend at their establishments, and the jewelry store where we purchased our wedding rings has been sending me regular emails assuring me that they have diamonds for *everyone* on my shopping list. Friends, I barely remember to buy cards for the right people; there is pretty much no chance that I will ever live up to the great (and, honestly, unrealistic) expectations the world has for expressing love this month.

I also receive a lot of emails and letters telling me how to make my ministry more Valentiny. How to write a sermon series on love. How to teach children about the real Saint Valentine. How to better counsel couples. How to be more loving as a pastor. How to better care for those in our neighborhoods who no one seems to love. I can't say that I worry much about being the perfect Valentine, but I confess that I sometimes worry a great deal about being the perfect Christian. I turn on the news these days and wonder how on earth I am supposed to take on the enormous task of bearing God's love to the world. I know from our conversations that many of you join me in that concern. We have some fairly great (and, perhaps, unrealistic) expectations of ourselves.

There is a saying attributed to Mother Teresa that goes something like "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." I think about the ministry of Jesus and remember that even he did small things with great love in his ministry: He wept with his friends when they were sad (John 11:33-35), he made breakfast (John 21:9-12), he took naps (Mark 4:38; self-care is an act of love), he told stories (which we call parables). Then, I think about the ministry we have here at Trinity and think of all of your small things done with great love: the many \$1 bills donated at the Chili Cookoff, the tiny communion cups filled with juice, the carefully arranged flowers, the weekly building repairs, the neatly stacked bulletins and brochures, the casseroles, the hugs, and – yes – even the Valentine's cards that some of you will send to each other. These may not always be great acts of faith – but they are small things done with great love that add up.

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

When I remember those things – when I remember all the acts of great love that I see from you every week – the world's problems seem much more manageable. The daily walk of faith becomes great (even realistic) when we let our daily discipleship chip away at the world's needs. I look at all the love you as a congregation have to give and I remember the great things you have already accomplished. When I look at the world's needs through the lens of our ministry together, God's love through God's people seems far greater than any need the world may face. What good news that is this month!

Blessings, Elizabeth



In Our Hearts & Prayers



WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

This list of members at Trinity has been organized for the purpose of being lifted up in prayer during the week. We look forward to God's blessings as we pray for one another. During the month please pray for these:

- Feb. 5:** Carol Chartrand
Donna Chavez
Ellen Chrisman
- Feb. 12:** Larry Clark
Donna Coffel
Don & Ana Mae Combs
- Feb. 19:** Bob & Jane Cooper
Billie Cross
Ben, Heidi, Aspen & Alexa
Daniel
- Feb. 26:** Joe & Mary Daniel
Dennis & Felicidad DeLong
Kay Dickinson



DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Trinity extends its deepest sympathies to our former pastor, Rev. Allison Seed, at the passing of her mother, Florence Krahlung, on January 14, 2017. Our prayers are with Allison and Bob.



SEW 'N SO'S



Thank you Trinity, for saving the Best Choice Bar Codes for us.

We have received a check from Associated Wholesale Grocers for \$120.00 for the bar codes that you saved for us to use for the purchase of fabrics to be used in the making of quilts and lap robes which we donate to Salvation Army. Please keep saving those bar codes.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Feb. 1** Cathy Ruppert
3 Julie Atkins
6 Don Combs
10 Sumanth Washburn
14 Steven Shineman
22 Jacob Washburn
23 Bob Cooper
24 Frances Buck
Emmett Rice
25 Donna Coffel
26 Crystal Brock
28 Michaela Martin



On the first Day of the Week

"The people came together..."

Worship Services:

Jan .	1.....	66
Jan.	8.....	90
Jan .	15	Unavailable - Ice
Jan.	22	93
Jan.	29	73

"and the people gave . . . "

Dec.	18	\$ 45.00
Dec.	25	9,833.00
Dec.	Year End Deposit	620.00
Jan.	1.....	3,289.50
Jan.	8.....	6,023.25
Jan.	15	Unavailable
Jan.	22.....	2,645.12
Jan.	29.....	1,516.00
Total.....		23,971.87

A heartfelt thank you to those who have so lovingly and generously contributed to Trinity's memorial funds:

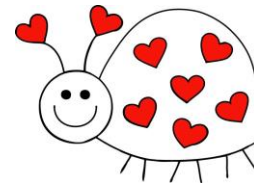
Ms. Jan Privett

2017 PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT

Trinity will again be paying our assigned per capita assessment in 2017 by asking members of the congregation to donate their own **\$41.96** per active member. This will help to ease our budget.



Each year, Trinity donates a portion of our proceeds from Santa-Cali-Gon back into our community. This year, we donated \$1,569.00 – 10% of our proceeds – to the Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA) of Independence.



VALENTINE'S LUNCHEON & BINGO

Sunday, February 19, following worship

Come be our sweetheart and enjoy a delicious lasagna lunch served by our own Men of Trinity. You will enjoy lasagna, salad, garlic bread and banana splits all prepared and served by our wonderful men. After lunch, we will play Bingo for some great prizes. To help the men with the luncheon, please call Dan Washburn, 836-0662 (home) or 392-0535 (cell).



Congratulations to Tim Miller for being this year's winner of the annual Chili Cook-Off. Tim gets to proudly display the trophy at his house for the next year. There were 8 pots of chili that were judged and it wasn't easy to pick a favorite. We also raised \$145.00 which will be given to the Salvation Army with the Souper Bowl of Caring offering. Thanks to everyone who participated in the Chili Cook-Off.

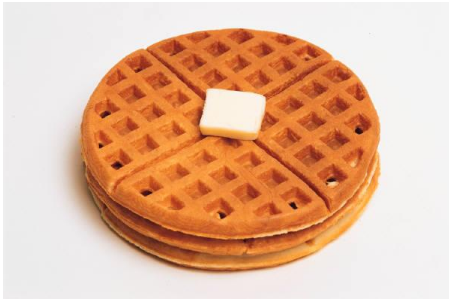


WHO'S WHO?

Can you guess the church member who

- 1.....Was baptized in a Presbyterian church, was confirmed in a different Presbyterian church, was married in yet a different Presbyterian church?
- 2.....Was a Youth Advisory delegate to Synod?
- 3.....Was the first youth to serve on a Presbytery committee?

Answer on the last page



BOY SCOUT WAFFLE BREAKFAST

February 11
7:00 a.m. – Noon
\$5 for Adults, \$3 for Children



SCOUT SUNDAY

February 12
10:30 a.m.



T.I.G.E.R.s CORNER

February 5: 11:30 a.m. - T.I.G.E.R.'s
February 19: 11:30 a.m. - T.I.G.E.R.'s


Last month the TIGER's enjoyed a showing of the "God's Not Dead 2" movie. We want to thank Tim Miller again for joining us

T.I.G.E.R.s questions call
Becky Layman at 830-4066

Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love.
How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12th letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

(1) You really like ice cream! _____ 

(16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. _____

(21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. _____

(4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. _____

(11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. _____

(17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. _____

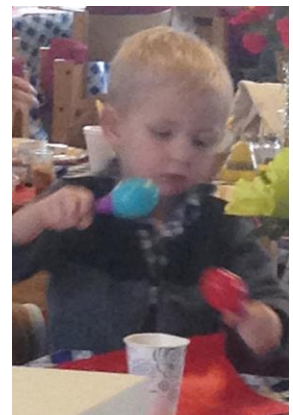
(6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. _____

♥ "Honor _____ and _____
_____, and _____ your _____"

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV

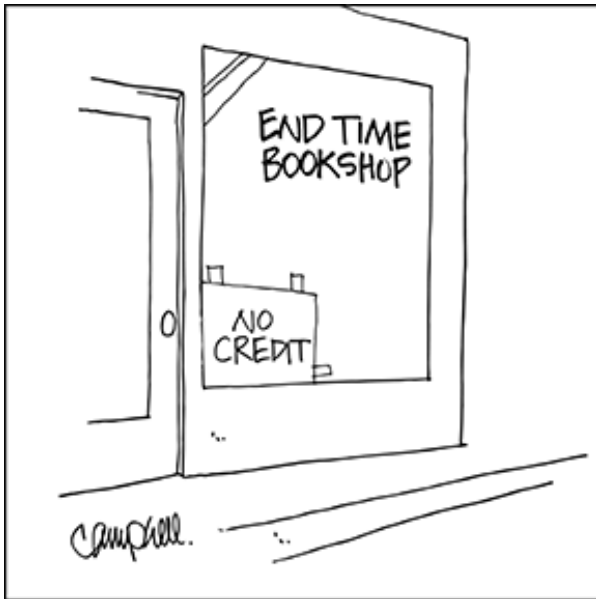
IT'S GOOD TO BE A KID AT TRINITY





When the weather is bad do you wonder if Trinity is opened? Now you can turn to your local television stations to find out. We will be listed on WDAF Channel 4, KMBC Channel 9 and KSHB Channel 41. We will NOT be listed on KCTV Channel 5.

A DOSE of HUMOR



From a worship bulletin:

Our visitor center has an updated beverage menu. Stop by for some coffee or sweat tea. We look forward to meeting you!

This doesn't sound like a very *sweet* offer!

Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.



What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir.
6. Wash and cut the mint. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!



**TROOP 226 AT THE BLUE ELK DISTRICT
KLONDIKE DERBY IN BLUE SPRINGS**



**Wednesday, March 1
7:00 p.m.**



WHO'S WHO?

You guessed it! The answer is
Lucy Berry!

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

The deadline for items submitted to the
February Bridge is
Friday, February 24.

Information for the weekly News Sheet
is due each week on Wednesday by 1:00 p.m.