

THE BRIDGE

Trinity Presbyterian Church

1400 W. Sheley Road

Independence, MO 64052

Phone: 816-252-5893

Fax: 816-252-5024

Rev. Elizabeth Meador Strobel

www.trinityofindependence.org

May 2015

Volume MMXV, No. 5

trinitypresby@att.net



“Diverse in Background, United in Faith”

Friends,

The week after Easter, I went on a study retreat. It was wonderful! Most of my time was spent planning worship and reading. I read many non-fiction books on ministry and church life, as well as some novels that I would consider “sermon fodder” – those books that either give great sermon illustrations or that are so well crafted that they make me a better writer and preacher. As such, I re-read *Home* by one of my favorite authors, Marilynne Robinson. Searching for others of her works, I found that even though she is in her 70s and is a lifelong author, she has only published four novels: *Housekeeping* (1980), Pulitzer winner *Gilead* (2004), *Home* (2008), and *Lila* (2014).

It occurs to me how far apart these were published and how much time she must spend on them. The novels are paced slowly, too. I don’t mean that they’re laborious to get through, but that reading them feels more like a Sunday afternoon than a Monday morning. They are also some of the most beautifully thoughtful books I’ve read. (If you haven’t read *Gilead*, you should go get a copy right now. I think I have at least two copies you can borrow. I’m serious.)

Sometimes in the church, we try make big statements as often and as quickly as possible. We want fantastic things to happen now, not later. That can work well when all the pieces come together! Other times, the going is a little slower, but just as worthwhile. It can take years to build up ministries, friendships, and new directions – just as it can take years to write Pulitzer winning novels.

At Trinity, I occasionally hear worries that we’re not accomplishing enough fast enough. I lovingly disagree. Sometimes we *must* take our time – to read a book, to create something new, to study, to pray. Good things take time to build, and I see us building up momentum and Christian love for each other as we look toward God’s long term plans for us. Wonderful things are on our horizon! Big ideas and new energy are discovered by members every week! Our best days are ahead of us, so let us all bless the time it takes to build ministry intentionally and prayerfully. When we move at the pace God has set for us, we are never behind – and beautiful things will surely happen!

Blessings,
Elizabeth





From the Sew & So's

The sewing group needs used bed sheets to use as filling for their quilts. If you have extra to donate, they would be very grateful.

would be very grateful.

From the Women's Morning Circle

Thank you, Trinity, for saving the Best Choice Bar Codes for us. We have already collected 908 for 2015. Please keep saving!



- | | |
|-------|-------------------|
| May 4 | Julie Wildscheutz |
| 7 | John Chapman |
| 8 | Grant Allen |
| 11 | Cheryl Rose |
| 14 | Emmalyn Ellis |
| | Diane Norman |
| 15 | Wilma Chambers |
| 19 | Rick Norman |
| 23 | Sara Williams |
| 30 | Erick Shireman |



Meeting Dates

- | | |
|--------|------------|
| May 3 | 11:30 a.m. |
| May 17 | 11:30 a.m. |



- | | |
|-------|------------------------|
| May 6 | Michael & Kerry Ellis |
| 13 | Paul & Mirian Carr |
| 25 | Scott & Susan Matthews |



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:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| May 3: | Jennifer Piper
Leslie & Bonnie Piper
Keith & Barbara Ploeger |
| May 10: | Jason, Terri, Bailie, Alexis, &
Lanie Prier
Jan Privett
Laurie Rasmussen |
| May 17: | Bill & Martha Reynolds
Ann Rich
Howard & Joyce Rich |
| May 24: | Patrick Rich
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Rich
Mike & Evelyn Richards |
| May 31: | Steve & Jennie, Jordan & Kellan
Richards
Alan Riddle
Caleb Riddle |



Congratulation to Dennis & Jewel Lawson following the birth of their granddaughter, Paige Louise. Paige was born on March 30th weighing in at 8 lbs. 5 oz. Her Proud parents are Brent and April.



Trinity sends its sympathy to the family of Mary Chartrand, Carol's sister, following her death on April 22 in Boston.

Trinity also sends its love and sympathy to Frances Buck and her family following the death of her dear husband, Charles. Visitation will be held on Thursday evening, April 30, at Speaks Suburban from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Graveside services will be held on Friday, May 1, in Marshall, MO at 2:00 p.m.



Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, visits, calls, thoughts and prayers during my rotator cuff surgery and recovery. Your love and care means a lot to me and my family. I am progressing in physical therapy but still not allowed any movement on my own with it. So prayers for patience are still a need. :) It will be a long journey, but you all are making it an easier one.

May God continue to hold each of you close in his loving care!

Mari Shineman

Thank you for the gorgeous lily – I am honored to have such great friends like you. Thanks to all of the congregation and a big hug.

Thank you all,

Katie Griffith



Remember Our Homebound Members

“Whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith” (Galatians 6:10).

As your family makes plans for this summer, consider scheduling a visit to one or more of our homebound members! Many of our members who are homebound would love to receive a card or brief visit from other Trinity folks. Please contact the church office for our homebound list, which is filled with opportunities for visitation! If hospital visits are more your style, let the church office know and we will add you to our list of members to call when hospital visitation is needed.

SPRING AT TRINITY



*For now the winter is past...The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come.
Song of Songs 2:11-12*





**May 10, 2015
CELEBRATION OF MOTHERS**

We will be collecting items to help struggling mothers. See the list below for ideas and consider donating one or more items to be given to the Salvation Army.

Items Needed

- Combs
- Deodorant
- Q-Tips
- Dental Floss
- Hair Shampoo & Conditioner
- Soft Bristle Hair Brushes
- Women's Socks & Underwear
- Regular Pads & Tampons
- Nail Polish & Remover
- Emery Boards
- Kleenex
- Nail Clippers
- Cotton Balls

There will be a tub in the entryway to collect these items.

Please bring them by Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10. Thanks for your help. Any questions, please call Jan Privett at 419-9405

REMEMBER YOUR MOTHER

Whoever you are, wherever you are, on Mother's Day, remember your mother. Without her and your father, you would only have been a dream and hope, never a reality. No wonder God gave us the commandment: "Honor your father and your mother . . .(Exodus 20:12, NRSV). God gave us life through them.

-Charles Ferrell



**COME CELEBRATE
CINCO DE MAYO**

Everyone is invited to a Mexican Fiesta on Tuesday evening, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. Our Boy Scouts and their families will be our guests as we say "Thank You" for all the hard work they did to help us get ready for Embracing Hope. Many of the Scouts also worked the day of the event out in the cold helping to park cars. We will be serving tacos and other Mexican dishes to them before their meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Sign-Up sheets are located in the tower room to let us know what you can bring that evening.

Any questions, please call Jan Privett at 419-9405.

First Annual



May 2, 9am-11am

Bring your cleaning supplies or just yourself! Let's make our building sparkle before summer begins!



Trinity's 2015 Graduates

We have two students slated for high school graduation from the class of 2015 this year. They are Madelyn Hansen and T.J. Layman.



T.J. Layman, son of Tim and Becky Layman and grandson of Jack and Jess Layman, graduates from Blue Springs High School on May 24th. He will be attending UMKC's Engineering program this fall. Along with being active in Trinity's Youth group helping with numerous events and attending Youth Mission trips, T.J. has also been part of Trinity's Scouting program for several years. He has earned the Eagle Scout Award which will be recognized at the Eagle Court of Honor held at Trinity on May 2nd.



Madelyn Hansen, daughter of Bill and Lynda Hansen, graduates from Blue Springs High School on May 24th. She is a member of Trinity's Youth Group and younger sister of Reid Hansen. Being a dancer through high school and taking weekly vocal lessons prepared Maddie for performances with the school's A Cappella choir and theatrical and musical productions. She took some early college level class credits for transfer to school this fall. Maddie plans on attending Missouri State University in Springfield, MO with an interest in Business/Business Law.

Best wishes for Trinity's 2015 graduates as they begin their new life's journey!

ADVICE FOR GRADS

The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



C.E. COMMITTEE SEEKING DONATIONS FOR NEW STUDY BIBLES

Since we do not have the funds in our budget, the Christian Education Committee is asking for your help! Session has given us approval to request monetary donations from the congregation. We need to purchase 20 new NRSV student Bibles for our youth and adult Sunday school classes. Each Bible costs \$24.99 which includes free shipping. Checks can be made payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church with "Bible donation" noted in the memo space. Your name will appear on the inside bookplate as donor. The committee asks that you give this matter prayerful consideration.

I would like to make a donation of \$_____ to help purchase study Bibles for our classes.

Donor: _____



Sunday, June 7, 3-5pm

Come and bring your friends to enjoy fresh strawberries and all kinds of delicious strawberry desserts.

Sign up sheets will be available beginning in May. Any questions, please contact Jan Privett, 419-9405.

SNAPSHOTS FROM LAST MONTH



Easter Egg Hunt
on April 4, 2015



Sonrise Service on
April 5, 2015





Easter Sunday
Traditional Service,
including Baptism
and Confirmation,
on April 5, 2015



Send
Us
Your
Photos!

Have some great photos you'd like to share? Please email them to trinitypresby@att.net to submit to the monthly Bridge! Special thanks to David Lyons, Jr., for this month's photo features.



May 25, 2015

Office closed on Friday, May 22 & Monday, May 25 .



Mr. & Mrs. Tim Layman
And Boy Scout Troop 226
Cordially invite you to attend the
Eagle Scout Court of Honor for

J. J. Layman

Saturday, May 2, 2015

1:00 pm

Founders Hall

Trinity Presbyterian Church
Reception following ceremony

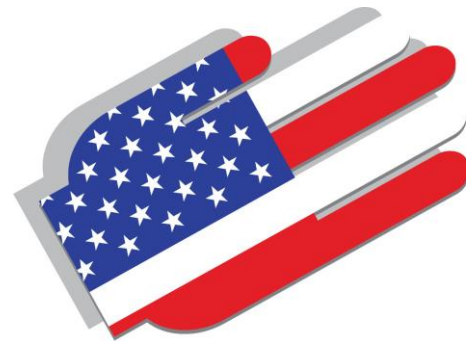
“Memorial Day”

Is it enough to think today
Of all our brave, then put
away
The thought until a year has
sped?
Is this full honor for our
dead?

Is it enough to sing a song
And deck a grave; and all
year long
Forget the brave who died
that we
Might keep our great land
proud and free?

Full service needs a greater toll,
That we who live give heart and soul
To keep the land they died to save,
And be ourselves, in turn, the brave!

—Annette Wynne



PRAY
for our
NATION



*On the first Day of the Week
“The people came together . . .*

Worship Services:

Apr. 5:	123
Apr. 12	56
Apr. 19	81
Apr. 26	78

“and the people gave . . .

Apr. 5	\$4,644.28
Apr. 12	1,903.56
Apr. 19	2,540.76
Apr. 26	<u>Not Available</u>
Total	\$ 9,088.60

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

- Marilyn Burkett*
- Billie Cross*
- Getty Goetz*
- Jim & Beth McPike*
- Betty Miller*
- Mary Zoe Shelley*
- Paul & Sondra Tivis*
- Rich & Donna White*
- Bob & Jane Cooper*
- Jack & Jess Layman*
- Jack Palmer*
- Susan Wysocki*
- Jan Privett*
- Claire Ann Sprick*
- Mari Shineman*
- Nancy & Mark Keelean*
- Harold Curry*



David, Lucy, Kevin, & Troy Berry
7105 Willow Avenue
Raytown, MO 64133

(Megan’s address remains in Springfield)



Be on the lookout for upcoming information for this year’s VBS, Crocodile Dock, June 28th-July 1st from 6-8pm. If you’d like to volunteer, please see Stacia Martin or Jan Privett.



**May 24, 2015
PENTECOST SUNDAY**

On Pentecost Sunday, May 24, when the Church celebrates the birth or beginning of the Church as recorded in Acts, you are encouraged to wear **red** which symbolizes the Pentecost flames of fire which descended on the disciples when they received the Holy Spirit. Come and worship as we celebrate the birthday of the Church.

A DOSE of HUMOR



~~oops!~~

From a newsletter in Syracuse, New York:
we need your help:

Work day tasks include widow washing,
new cleaning, weed pulling.

What an interesting *window* into this church's social outreach.



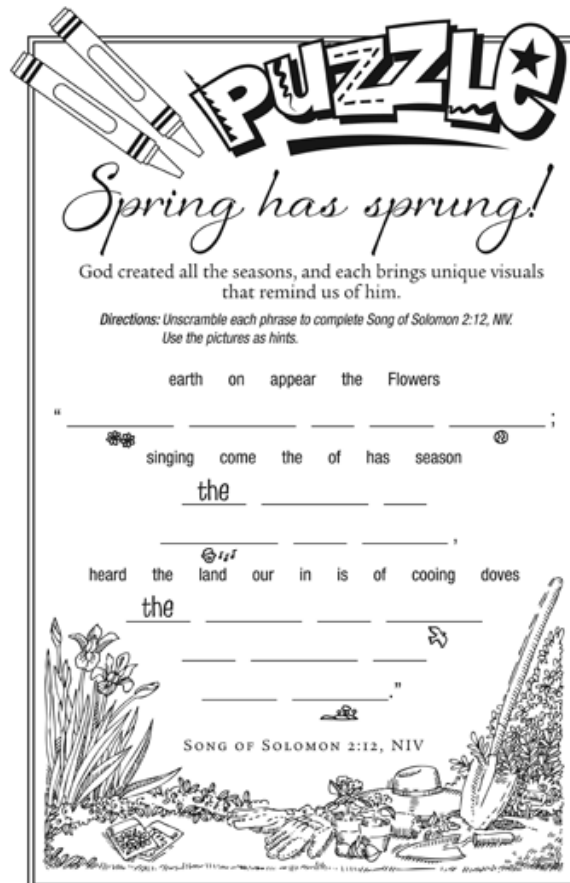
😊 "If at first you don't succeed, do it like your mother told you."

-Author unknown

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL



Vine – A vine symbolizes Christ, the foundation of life and nourishment of all people, who, in turn, are like branches. When separated from the vine, we branches can't survive – at least not spiritually. "Apart from me," says Jesus, "you can do nothing" (John 15:5, NIV). But as God the gardener tends this relationship, we branches grow stronger and more mature in Jesus and alongside one another.



Answers: "Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land."



If you have an insert or item for the News Sheet on Sunday, please get it to the office **no later than the previous Wednesday morning**. Usually, the "newsy" portions of our bulletin are printed Wednesday afternoon so that we can turn our full attention to the order of worship on Thursday and Friday. Your cooperation is much appreciated – thank you!



All submissions for the
May Bridge are due on
Friday
May 22, 2015