

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

February 2015

Volume MMXV, No. 2

trinitypresby@att.net

"Diverse in Background, United in Faith"



Friends,

Saturday nights at home are quite typical for your average pastor. Sure enough, I was home the Saturday before our Chili Cook Off – we had two pots of chili simmering on the stove, a third pot with soup for dinner, bread baking in the oven, Netflix playing on the TV, the laptop fired up and refining the next day's sermon, and the cat purring happily on the couch between his two people. All in all, a fairly comfortable and average evening in my house.

But, for whatever reason, I was overwhelmed with a feeling of gratitude for the love I experience from so many people. Our soups were cooking in pots that were given to us as wedding gifts, being stirred by spoons given at my wedding shower at Trinity. I was kept warm by a blanket that had been knitted by a dear friend, able to keep up with family who were willing to text with me over their free time, typing on a laptop borrowed from my dad when mine bit the dust, and able to get a lot of work done because Charlie was willing to tend to everything happening in the kitchen.

These are all things I routinely take for granted. But that evening, I was aware of how much love and dedication it takes to get me there. My everyday life is woven out of gifts, acts of thoughtfulness, communication, and sacrifice from others. I suspect if you look around your own life, you will see evidence of people's love for you – drawers with old birthday cards, a squeaky door made silent by a family member's quick attention, keepsakes handed down by grandmothers, crayon masterpieces from children and grandchildren on your refrigerator (or walls!), a thoughtfully cooked meal – I could go on. Even those of us with the least amount of "stuff" can look around and see love and kindness in the everyday workings of our lives.

This month, our world will have a lot to say about love. There will be presents you "must" buy, things you "must" say, relationships you "must" have, even colors you "must" wear. Those things are wonderful when they are life-giving to you and those whom you love. I encourage you, though, in the frenzy of trying to make sure that you get love "just right," that you pause, breathe, and appreciate the evidence of love around you that exists all year long. I encourage you to remember the love that it takes to weave together the everyday workings of your life, and I encourage you to remind your brothers and sisters in Christ of how much you notice and appreciate that love.

Jesus tells us that "as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35). As we journey in discipleship together, my prayer is that we notice love in the little things, remember to show love every day, and celebrate the love we have in our Trinity family all year long!

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.

From the Women's Morning Circle . .

Thank you, Trinity, for saving the Best Choice Bar Codes. We have already collected 2824 for 2014. Please keep saving!



Many thanks to everyone who donated hats and gloves for Hope House. We collected 33 pairs of gloves and 9 hats from the "Mitten Tree".

Jan Privett

Friends at Trinity,

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. I appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Wishing everyone a joyous New Year.

Diana Miller

Thank you to our Trinity family for all the prayers, cards & food. Your support has been greatly appreciated. God bless you all.

Thank you,

Becky, Tim & TJ Layman



The Annual Meeting of the Corporation has been postponed until **Sunday, February 22** following worship.



Feb. 1	Cathy Ruppert
3	Julie Atkins
7	Don Combs
14	Steven Shineman
18	Jewel Lawson
23	Bob Cooper
24	Frances Buck
25	Donna Coffel
26	Crystal Brock



WEATHER CLOSINGS

When the weather is bad do you wonder if Trinity is open? 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.



In Our Prayers

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. 1: Bob & Jane Cooper
Billie Cross
Joe & Mary Daniel

Feb. 8: Angela Drew
Shelby Eagan
Margaret Edwards

Feb. 15: Mike, Kerry, Elijah, &
Emmalyn Ellis
Betty Goetz

Joe Gordon

Feb. 22: Steven Gordon
Katie Griffith
Tom Haggard



Feb. 1 11:30 a.m. Lunch provided!

Feb. 15 11:30 a.m. Lunch provided!

The TIGERS enjoyed a wonderful day of fun & great weather, 60 degrees, of snow tubing at Snow Creek on January 19. Which was proceeded with a fun morning of worship & fellowship, coordinated by Heartland Presbytery Youth Council.



HEARTLAND YOUTH
TUBING
SNOW CREEK
JANUARY 19, 2015



The Christian Alternative to Yoga

PraiseMoves® Gold is for all with limited physical mobility using a chair. It combines deep stretching, gentle movement, and strong scripture – to lose weight, relieve stress, and gain flexibility and strength.

GET IN SHAPE – in a kinder, gentler way *and*
PRAISE THE LORD!

Classes at Trinity Presbyterian Church
led by certified PraiseMoves® instructor Renee
Grainger



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

On Sunday, February 1, 2015, 160 million Americans will tune in to the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship, and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal. Please join people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the **Souper Bowl of Caring**. It's a simple yet significant act of caring for others. Please bring cans of soup that Sunday or drop \$1.00 (or more) in the soup pot as you leave worship on February first.



Congratulations to Erick Shireman as this year's winner of the Chili Cook-Off. We had a delicious entry and Erick's chili collected the most money. Erick gets to proudly display the trophy for one year at his home. Start working on your chili recipes for the contest next year.

We collected \$199.00 in the voting cans which will go to our "Souper bowl of Caring" offering.

Everyone had lots of fun (especially Zoey at the snowball fight).

Thanks to all who participated!

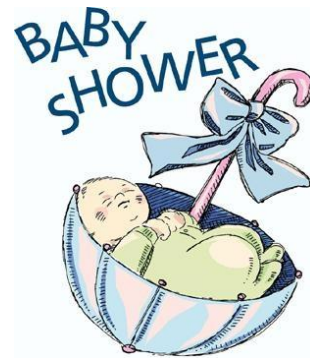
Jan



Hot Diggity Dog!
Michaela is
turning ONE!

Keith and Stacia
Martin would
like to invite the
congregation to
celebrate
Michaela's First
Birthday on
Saturday,

**February 28, 2015 from 12:00-2:00pm in
Founder's Hall.**



There will be a baby shower for Sara & Chris Williams on Sunday, February 22, at 2 p.m. The congregation is invited.

2015 PER CAPITA

As a new year unfolds, it's time for us to remember to each pay our 2015 Per Capita. This is similar to a membership fee for the PC(USA) which goes to fund Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly ministries (including local and international missions, education, worship resources, and staff support). This year, the per capital fee is \$38.70 per official member, including teenagers who have completed confirmation. This is a fee in addition to your pledge to Trinity's ministries, and we ask each active member to pay in order to ease the burden of this cost on our church budget. You may pay by cash or check, either by placing an envelope in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office – just be sure to mark it as your per capita offering!

EMBRACING HOPE NEWS



Morning Session

Embracing Hope was INCREDIBLE!!! I want to let you know from Presbytery staff to participants only kind, genuine words were spoken about our hospitality, facility, and purple shirts. I heard many compliments and comments throughout the day from “I’m so glad your church was in purple so we knew who to ask for help” from a participant to “Words can’t express the thanks

for all your hard work to make this day go smooth” from Presbytery staff. Friends you outdid yourselves and proved that even a small church could work together for an event of this magnitude.



Lunch for 200+!



“Thank you” seems so inadequate to say to you, my church family. Thank you to all for coming to work days to help clean our building, volunteering a Saturday to host some 170 people, our bakers for the tasty cookies and muffins, and most of all for all the prayer you as a family gave us during this entire process.

Thank you to our Scouts for all the hard work in Fellowship Hall and working the parking lot on a chilly morning. This event wouldn’t have

happened without each and every one of you and your part. Thank you to the Task Force, who, for 11 months worked hard to accomplish a tedious and somewhat daunting task.

In Christ, Lucy Berry



Gradye Parsons, Keynote Speaker



Breakout Session



Closing Session

A DOSE of HUMOR



Saluting Our Scouts

- Feb. 6 & 7 Scout Lock-In
- Feb. 7 Scout Waffle Breakfast
- Feb. 8 Scout Sunday



LENTEN LIVING

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18 this year. Christians have observed this season of the church year since the fourth century. It's traditionally a time of reflection, penitence and spiritual renewal before Easter.

During Lent, some Christians give up something that hinders their relationship with God. Others do something extra for their spiritual growth or make a special sacrifice. The key is to make Lent a memorable season of sincere spiritual growth—a time that can set the tone for the rest of the year.



Christian Education News

It's hard to believe that Lent is almost here, didn't we just finish Advent? Wednesday, February 18 is Ash Wednesday the day the season of Lent begins. Watch for materials from our committee to help you prepare for Holy Week and the Resurrection of our Lord.

Please join our Sunday morning classes. Adults in the Conference Room led by Evelyn Richards, Youth in the Youth Sunday School room led by Susan Matthews, and Nursery led by Diana Miller.



SNAPSHOTS FROM LAST MONTH



Epiphany Pageant on January 4



Ordination and Installation of Elders Ron Nodwell, Cathy Ruppert, and Erick Shireman on January 18,
and of Elder Kyle Palmer on January 25



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

Worship Services:

Jan. 4:	.....	44
Jan. 11	.....	79
Jan. 18	.....	91
Jan. 25	.....	85

“and the people gave . . .

Jan. 4:	.....	\$1,798.00
Jan. 11	.....	6,935.50
Jan. 18	.....	1,356.00
Jan. 25	.....	2,200.00
Souper Bowl Offering	.....	199.00
Total	.....	12,488.50

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

*Sylvia Livingston
 Kathryn A. Thayer
 Connie Workman*



JUST FOR FUN . . .

A girl asked a boy if her loved her, and he replied, “Yes, of course.”
 “Would you die for me?” the girl wondered.
 After a brief pause, the honest lad said, “No, mine is an undying love.”

Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.

mercy and "And what To act humbly with does the LORD
 Micah 6:8, NIV justly and to love to walk require of you? your God."

" _____
 _____ ? _____

 _____ " _____ 6:8 , _____

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV





Shireman Chili Recipe

Ingredients:

1 lb. Ground Hamburger
2 pks. McCormick's Chili Spice
2 Cans of Brooks Hot Chili Beans
1 Large Can of Diced Tomatoes
1 Small Can of Tomato Sauce
1 Chopped Garlic Clove
1 Green Bell Pepper
1 Red Bell Pepper
3 Large Jalapeno Peppers
1 Large Green Chili Pepper
1 Habanero Pepper
1 Large White Onion
2 oz. of Cayenne Pepper Sauce
Garlic Salt to Taste
Salt to Taste
Pepper to Taste

Directions:

Brown Hamburger and Drain Grease. Add Beans and Chili Spice. Stir. Add Tomatoes and Tomato Sauce. Stir. Dice Peppers and Onions (do not use food processor.) Stir. Add Pepper Sauce and Garlic. Stir. Add Salt, Pepper, and Garlic Salt to taste. Add Catsup if the chili is too hot. Let Simmer on medium low heat for two hours to cook in Peppers, Onion, and Garlic. Ready to Eat!!!

HONEY CARROT PUFFS

From Bev Thieme

2 cups all-purpose flour
½ cup sugar
1 ½ cups (3 medium) shredded carrots
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
½ cup LAND O LAKES Butter, melted
¾ cup milk
2 eggs, slightly beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla

¼ cup honey
2 tablespoons LAND O LAKES Butter

Heat oven to 350°. In large bowl combine flour, sugar, carrots, baking powder and salt. Stir in ½ cup butter, milk, eggs and vanilla just until moistened. Spoon into paper lined or greased muffin pans. Bake for 25 -30 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. In 1-quart saucepan melt honey and 2 tablespoons butter (3 to 4 minuses). While still warm, dip tops of puffs into honey mixture.

Yield: 1 dozen.



I PRAY
THAT YOU
MAY...KNOW
THE LOVE
OF CHRIST
THAT
SURPASSES
KNOWLEDGE.

EPHESIANS 3:18-19, NRSV