

Continued from front

through without taking advantage of the resources and company that Jesus' church can offer. Be open and seek the support so many would offer you if they only knew what you needed.

Finally, do not grow weary in doing good, as Galatians says, for we know that nothing we do for God is wasted. Every prayer you offer for someone, every act of kindness, every time you point out God's work to another person, every time you come alongside someone to bless them in Jesus' name, every time you try, know that your work is not in vain. It matters. Sometimes we will plant a seed, offer nourishing water, or even reap the harvest. But everything we do alongside Jesus in his name matters. Let us not grow weary in doing good.

May God bless us all as we travel through this life. One day at a time, together, and with purpose. ~ Mike



Family
Craft
Day



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The Trinity Tribute

Your Story, Our Story, God's Story
Coming Together at Trinity

Do Not Grow Weary

February 2025

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9.

During January and early February, I will be preaching a sermon series on the hard work of Christian discipleship. This includes the work of the church to make disciples just as Jesus commanded us in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). But it is hard work. And where to begin? How do we work alongside families to help their children and teens and adult children become more like Christ? How do we help guide new Christians or people who have been in church many years? How do we assist those in a crisis of faith? What is a clear discipleship path that might be unique to each person's own spiritual journey? Whew. The questions keep coming. It's hard work. But it is also necessary work, and in many ways a joyful work.

The series that follows after Discipleship will begin mid-February and it is called, "Do Not Grow Weary." I take that quote from the verse in Galatians 6:9. Because so much of Christian ministry is hard and long work, it seems good for us to remember the words expressed in various ways in the Bible—"Do Not Grow Weary."

Sometimes we can feel like we are getting nowhere. Like we are not making a difference or even that we are slipping behind the curve. Then, beyond the calling to work alongside Jesus in ministry is just that actual living of our lives with all its ups and downs. So many of us are stressed, busy, maybe frightened that the other shoe will soon drop. We have enough to handle just getting through each week.

I want to ask us to consider how deeply God's Word beckons us to not give up, to not grow weary. I think of Jesus recognizing our plight and saying in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me all you who are weary and I will give you rest." Isaiah 40 reminds us that when we wait upon the Lord our strength will be renewed, among other things we can walk that path of life and not grow weary. Many more like this speak to our lives when we feel worn and weary.

Here are some things I hope we will remember. First, God sees you. He recognizes all you do, and he blesses you and loves you. Second, God is with you. He is right beside you as you serve, as you try to make a difference, as you figure out a way to get through what you must face. We are never alone. Third, God offers us company along the way in the friends and family that are part of our lives. Many of these are fellow travelers, strugglers, workers in the way of Jesus Christ. They are part of your life so that you can lean on them, seek their prayers, listen to their perspectives, and find a listening ear. So many times we struggle

Continued on back



Dr. Mike Oliver
Senior Pastor



Rev. Glenn Bowers
Associate Pastor



Rev. Billy Orton
Interim Minister of Music and Worship



Rev. Teresa Bowers
Minister to Families



Rev. Lane Craig
Minister to Students

Music and Worship Ministries

A New Year of Ministry

The music groups at Trinity have begun a new year! There are opportunities for all ages (preschool, elementary, youth, and adult), with most rehearsals occurring on a Sunday or Wednesday evening. The offerings include various genres and music styles (choirs, bands, vocal ensembles, handbells, etc.), along with opportunities for training and skill development.

Trinity music groups find their central focus in preparing for and helping to lead worship. Bringing their best to God is a guiding principle.

The music in their packets is great, and the fellowship is warm and inviting. Find YOUR place of service in a music ministry group this Spring!

Sanctuary Choir Saturday Morning Retreat

Our Sanctuary Choir will enjoy a Saturday morning retreat on **February 8** as preparations begin for the incredible music of Holy Week and the Easter season. New members are invited to come and sing. No audition required, just a desire to share time, talent and energy through the choir. There is indeed a very special experience awaiting anyone who wants to sing inspired music in an inspiring fashion through a choir. Worship.....fellowship.....ministry.....you can find all of these in Trinity's Sanctuary Choir.

Hymn of the Month

Frances Ridley Havergal penned the text of our first Hymn of the Month this year. Her poetry expresses the heart desires of Christian disciples--

*Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of Thy tone....
 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things Thou dost impart....
 O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord, until my very heart overflows....
 O use me, Lord, use even me, just as Thou wilt, and when, and where....*

~ Billy Orton
 Interim Minister of Music and Worship

OUR SANCTUARY CHOIR ENJOYED A NIGHT OF DELICIOUS FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP AT THEIR 'WINTER BANQUET.'



Mission Kids Groups
 Wednesdays at 6pm



Valentine Project



We are putting together Valentine goodie bags for the mental health workers at Decatur/Morgan Counseling Center and preparing race cars for the Race for Missions this month!



Wednesdays at 5:30pm during February

The childrens' choirs will meet mostly on Wednesdays during February as they prepare to sing in worship on Sunday, February 23:

- Wednesday, Feb. 5 5:30-6pm
- Wednesday, Feb. 12 5:30-6pm
- Wednesday, Feb. 19 5:30-6pm

Sunday, February 23

- 10:30am, Children sing in worship
- 5-6pm, Children's choirs rehearse

TBCKids Calendar

- February 26 Race for Missions
- April 12 Egg Hunt
- April 13 Children's Sunday/Palm Sunday
- June 15-18 Vacation Bible School, 6-8pm
- July 13-16 Passport Kids Camp - Rock Eagle, GA

Race for Missions
 Wednesday, February 26
 5:30-7pm in the Fellowship Hall



The Mission Kids will be working on their race cars this month for the Race for Missions! They will help serve supper and clean up and invite people to donate to Global Missions as well as race their cars for prizes:)

Kids Camp
July 13-18, 2025
Rock Eagle Camp, Eatonton, GA
 For 3-6th grades (completed)
 Cost: \$Cost: \$425/\$375 2nd child



PASSPORTkids is a 4-day, 3-night children's camp filled with fun faith-building programming and hands-on missions education. At camp, kids will discover God's love and practice being followers of Jesus through an active schedule of Bible studies, missions education, recreation, and worship. Group leaders be able to focus on engaging with your kids without taking on the burden of planning and logistics. Contact teresa@trinitymadison.com for more info or scholarship availability. We hope your child can join us for camp this summer!!

~ Teresa



On a study abroad trip I took to Israel some years ago; I learned that there is the common greeting that a lot of the Jewish people and some Christians will say to each other in their conversation: "Shabot Shalom." Which literally means from Hebrew to English: "Sabbath Peace."

The Scriptures refer to the "Sabbath" as a commandment given by God to the people of God to obey and take seriously because, well...we're bad at learning to rest in our lives. Not only is Sabbath the fourth commandment, but it's also inconvenient. If we don't make time to rest, it's not ever going to come our way.

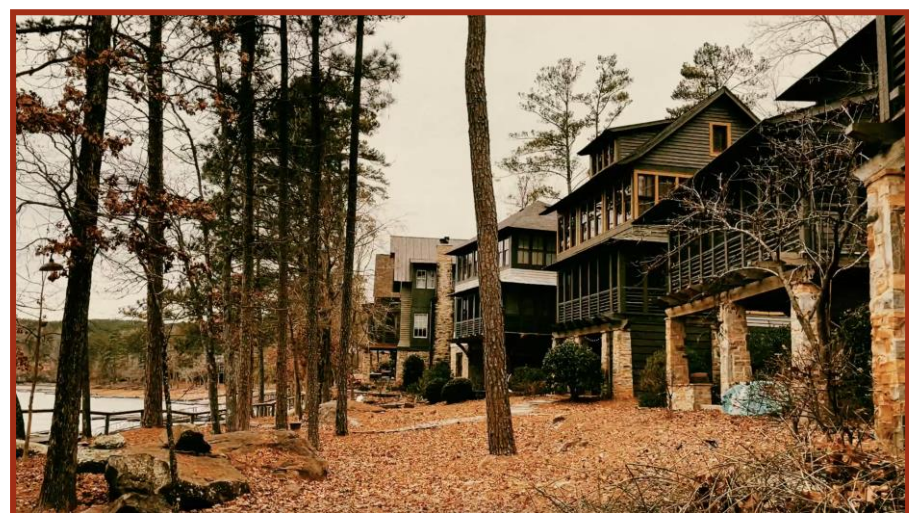
And on the other hand, "Shalom" or "Peace" literally means to make something *complete* or *restore*. So, if you combine these two concepts that are found in the Scripture (as the people of God were *required* to do them), you get what is known as rest or respite.

And this is why we as Christians should continually practice the spiritual discipline of *rest* or *retreat*. This is why, at the very beginning of the year, we took some of our college students to a cabin down at Smith Lake where we intentionally spent the weekend discussing and learning *how* to rest.

More than just catching up on sleep or being "lazy", Biblical rest is done between oneself and God and their relationships. It's a reset of *all things* in your life for the sole purpose of becoming *more human* – *more of what God has called us to be*. As the Church, we have this amazing and pivotal opportunity to shine as people who embody rest and value it deeply in an overstressed and anxious world.

O God, show us what keeps us from practicing rest. You continue to invite all of us to come to you and that you will give us rest. Holy Spirit, we ask that you break our routine and lead us to be people who embody "Shabot Shalom."

~ Lane Craig



Church Life

MINISTRY:

Easter Food Bins for Madison Assistance Program: February 23-March 30

- Feb. 23 - Lists of needed items and bins to be donated to elderly individuals in Madison may be found online and in the Gathering Area
- March 30 - Please return the filled bins to the Modular or Gathering Area
- These bins will go to elderly individuals in Madison who may be homebound or a disabled veteran
- The goal for Easter is 30 bins!

Community Neighborhood Blitz:

Sunday, April 27, 11-3pm

- Lunch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall for everyone participating in the Blitz. Participants may leave for their project site after they finish lunch.
- Ministry Projects for all ages and skill levels
- Sign-up in your Sunday School Rooms or in the Gathering Area

EDUCATION:

Trinity University:

Begins Sunday, February 23, 5-6pm

- Adult Discipleship group meeting in C102
- Feb. 23, March 2, March 16, March 23, and March 30
- We will be studying the book, Good and Beautiful God, by James Bryan Smith

Ladies' Bible Study: Began January 27

- Mondays at 9:30am in C-105/07
- Ray Vander Lann Discipleship video series
- Hallie Kenny will facilitate the study



CHURCH COUNCIL:

- For all Committee Chairpersons on February 23 at 4:00pm

MISSIONS:

Dominican Republic Mission Trip: Our mission team listed the many ways church members are involved in the 2025 DR Mission Trip:

- Donations (Trinity hasn't had to buy any supplies for pencil packs or crafts)
- Cutting out crafts for VBS
- Sewing hygiene kits for girls
- Trinity youth girls packing and praying over the hygiene kits
- Trinity kids packing pencil packs
- Missions Fundraiser Supper on April 9
- Sign up to be a prayer partner
- Packing crafts at our spring blitz
- Spanish class on Sundays at 6:30pm

Everyone can find a way to participate in the DR Mission Trip!

Perry County Ramp Building Mission Trip

- Rescheduled to February 6-8
- Sign-up in the Gathering Area

~ Glenn



Weekday Preschool Ministry News

Registration for next fall has begun. We are excited about welcoming new children and parents into our preschool family! Feel free to stop by the preschool anytime between 9:30am - 12:00 pm when we are open to take a tour, meet teachers, or simply ask questions. Also feel free to call us at 256-837-9891 or send me an email at nancy@trinitymadison.com and I can answer your questions.

If you get the chance walk down the preschool hall while you're here for church on Sunday and Wednesday nights to see the children's artwork. We hope you enjoy the magnificent work of our future Picassos.

Our hearts melt when we look at the sweet cherub faces of the children we care for and spend time with each and every day. We are blessed to have a job that is filled with lots of children's hugs, fun, and laughter. We are always looking for people to substitute. If you are interested, please call or come by the office.

~ Nancy

~ February 2025 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30 In Person & Online Sunday School, Faith Conversations 10:30 In Person & Online Worship, Sharing of the Keys 5:00 Valentine's Banquet	3 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Conversational Spanish Class	4	5 9:00 Volunteer Group 4:45 Fellowship Supper 5:30 Children's Choirs 6:00 Kid's Missions Groups, Youth Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, EL Class 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	6	7	8 9:00 Sanctuary Choir Retreat
Ramp Building Mission Trip in Perry County						
9 9:30 In Person & Online Sunday School, Faith Conversations 10:30 In Person & Online Worship 11:30 Mission Kids Racecar Workday No Evening Activities	10 9:30 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Conversational Spanish Class	11	12 9:00 Volunteer Group 4:45 Fellowship Supper 5:30 Children's Choirs 6:00 Kid's Missions Groups, Youth Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, EL Class 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	13	14 5:00 Salvation Army Canteen	15
16 9:30 In Person & Online Sunday School 10:30 In Person & Online Worship 1:30 Colson Wedding Shower 6:30 Conversational Spanish Class No Other Evening Activities	17	18	19 9:00 Volunteer Group 4:45 Fellowship Supper 5:30 Children's Choirs 6:00 Kid's Missions Groups, Youth Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, EL Class 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	20	21	22
Student Ministry Lock-in						
23 9:30 In Person & Online Sunday School, Faith Conversations 10:30 In Person & Online Worship 4:00 Church Council 5:00 Children's Choirs 5:00 Trinity University (TU) 6:30 Conversational Spanish Class	24 9:30 Ladies Bible Study	25	26 9:00 Volunteer Group 4:45 Fellowship Supper 5:30 Race for Missions 6:00 Youth, EL Class 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	27	28	

Weekly Events

Sunday	
Online & In Person Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Online & In Person Worship	10:30 a.m.
Wednesday	
Fellowship Supper	4:45 p.m.
Trinity Carillon (handbell choir)	5:00 p.m.
Youth Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
Kids Mission Groups	6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting in Sanctuary	6:00 p.m.
EL Class	6:00 p.m.
Vocal Ensembles	6:15 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.

December 2024 Financial Report

Monthly Information

Target Income	\$71,138.50
Actual Income	\$116,188.69
Actual Expenses	(\$74,378.43)
Monthly Gain/ (Loss)	\$41,810.26

Year-To-Date for 2024

Target Income	\$891,662.00
Actual Income	\$896,614.13
Actual Expenses	(\$905,991.74)
YTD Gain/ (Loss)	(\$9,377.61)

Account Balances

General Fund	\$235,644.54
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Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1: Kim Farkas, Baylor Paschal | 16: Myers Ellis, Gene Hetherington |
| 5: Bob Humphrey, Lilly LouAllen | 17: Lilly Segraves |
| 6: Judy McIntosh | 21: Nancy Cobb |
| 7: Cameron Phillips, Mike Rogers, Melody Tew | 22: Rich Dunaway |
| 8: Bodie Keefer, Young Ryder | 23: Mike Fletcher |
| 9: Troy Koler | 24: Dan Champion, Sadie Pate |
| 11: Bridget Odom | 25: Peter Bernstein |
| 12: Mattie Farr, Katelynn Tucker | 26: Tina Crull |
| 13: Peyton Odom | 28: Pat Bolton, Toni Watkins |
| | 29: Jamie Langston |



If your birthday is incorrect or missing, please contact Wendy at: wendy@trinitymadison.com



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