

Continued from front

From that list you can tell that forty days has great significance in the Bible. As we enter this season of Lent, I wonder **what you and I will do with the forty days**. By the way, the Lenten Forty Days does not count Sundays because Sundays are always days to celebrate the resurrection of the Living Christ. But back to the question. **What will you and I do with our forty days?** One writer says this about Lent: "It is a time of holiness, when Christians remember the sacrifice of Christ and explore their own continuing process of sanctification, or becoming more Christ-like. Some give up a bad habit or take on a positive new practice during these 40 days. It's our way today of honoring and modeling the clear significance of 40 days and nights in the Bible, and specifically the time Jesus spent fasting and enduring temptation in the desert."

Forty Days! The same writer notes, "Forty is an interesting number. The word "quarantine" is said to derive from it, specifically the Italian word quarantina, and the Centers for Disease Control note that in old times, ships arriving in Venice from infected ports were required to sit at anchor for 40 days before landing. This would presumably give diseases time to die off. Forty is also the typical number of weeks a woman is pregnant before she gives birth to a child."

Whatever forty might mean to you and me. Let's all think about the forty days of Lent that are before us. **We end Lent with the great celebration of Easter. We will shout, "He is Risen!"** I have always thought that the forty days of Lent, before that Easter Sunday morning celebration, can be a time to turn closer to God, walk more in alignment with God's will for our lives, give up practices and thoughts that do not honor God, do practical acts of kindness in Jesus' name, and spend deeper time praying about the kind of person God wants us to be as his people. If we do that, then somehow Easter means even more. The longing to cry out, "He is Risen," reaches a crescendo. And how sweet the sound for every disciple to say and to hear, "He is Risen. He is Risen, indeed." **So, what will you do with your Forty Days?**  
~ Mike

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



# The Trinity Tribute

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

## *What Will You Do with Your 40 Days and Nights?* March 2025

On March 5, during our Wednesday evening service, we will begin the **season of Lent with a service on Ash Wednesday**. Through the years this service has become very meaningful to me and to our church. It's a time when we are asked to remember the Gospel of Jesus Christ, repent from our sinful ways and turn closer to Jesus, and recall that we are mortal and in need of God at all times. I am privileged to offer the sign of the cross, our greatest symbol of Christianity, on the hand or forehead of each who chooses. I am always so humbled by this entire experience. Part of it is the spiritual intimacy of administering the sign of the cross and calling for my church members and friends to repent, remember our mortality, and cling to the Gospel of Jesus.

This service begins a **forty-day time period called Lent**. From ancient times, this period of forty days has been a time for each Christian to seriously take stock of how their walk with Jesus is going. We take time to give up some things in order to discipline our lives and to take up spiritual practices that will allow us to be in closer communion with God.

### **Forty days has a lot of significance in the Bible. Here is a partial list to consider:**

- Genesis—rain fell for forty days and nights, the great flood, Noah's ark.
- Exodus—Moses on Mt Sinai received the Ten Commandments.
- Numbers—Hebrew spies spent forty days in the promised land of Canaan before a decision would be made to enter or not.
- I Samuel—Goliath and Philistines taunted the Israelite army for forty days.
- I Kings—Elijah ran from queen Jezebel for forty days and nights until he took shelter in a cave on Mt. Horeb and heard the still small voice of God.
- Jonah—Prophesied about God's judgment to the people of Nineveh telling them they would be destroyed in forty days, however, they repented and God forgave them to Jonah's dismay.
- Deuteronomy—A limit of forty lashes is prescribed when a guilty person receives punishment, perhaps Jesus got 39 lashes to be sure they did not break God's rule.
- Exodus—For forty years the people who escaped slavery in Egypt wandered in the wilderness as God purified the people who would eventually enter the promised land.
- Matthew—Jesus fasted and was tempted for forty days and nights in the wilderness before he began his public ministry.
- Acts—After the resurrection, and before his ascension to Heaven, Jesus remained and appeared to his disciples and followers in various ways and places for forty days and nights.

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 Ministries

One of the ways to gauge the spiritual health of a church is to observe the congregational singing. It appears that we are doing pretty well! Thank you for the strong and focused attention to what we share together in song each Sunday. Expressing our hearts and our minds during worship helps to strengthen our faith as well as our growth in knowledge. Much of our theological vocabulary is found in the songs we sing. To borrow from the Apostle Paul, "I will sing with the spirit and with the understanding also!"

Our Hymns of the Month help us to learn new songs as well as to gain a deeper appreciation for our "old" songs.

**All Praise to Thee (Hymn of the Month for February)**

The text of this hymn (F. Bland Tucker, author) is a paraphrase of Philippians 2: 5-11, a well-known passage that is not only one of the earliest Christian hymns but also an important confession of faith. The apostle Paul recorded it in his letter to the church at Philippi, using it as a call for Christ-believers to adopt a mindset of servanthood. The poet's paraphrase of this passage follows the outline of the scripture text rather closely, concluding each stanza with an "alleluia" that helps us to look forward to the final celebration of Christ's victory over sin and death.

The tune to which we sing All Praise to Thee is named SINE NOMINE and is the same tune we use for the beloved hymn "For All the Saints." It was composed by one of the greatest English composers of the 20th century, Ralph Vaughan Williams.

**Jesus Paid It All (Hymn of the Month for March)**

Noted Baptist expert on hymns, William J. Reynolds, used the phrase "Written During a Church Service" as the title for his article on the history of *Jesus Paid It All*. He tells the story of a church choir member, Elvina Hall, penning poetic words during a morning worship service and sharing them afterwards with the pastor. Unbeknownst to her, another fellow church member, John T. Grape, had written a tune to match a text he had discovered in a hymnal, and had also passed along his creation to the pastor. Together, they discovered that her words and his tune fit together perfectly! This team effort of inspiration resulted in one of our most beloved hymns, which finds its scriptural foundation in Isaiah 1:18—*Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.*

~ Billy Orton  
Interim Minister of Music and Worship

**Important dates ahead for Music Ministries at Trinity**

- \* April 13 (Palm/Passion Sunday morning)
- \* April 18 (Good Friday evening)
- \* April 20 (Easter Sunday)
- \* May 14 (Kickoff to "Music for Sacred Spaces")



**Change of Schedule!  
Wednesdays at 5:30pm through April 9**



Our attendance was so good in February on Wednesday nights that we have decided to continue that schedule for the rest of the semester. So the childrens' choirs will meet on Wednesdays nights through April 9 and will sing in worship on Sunday, April 13, for Children's Sunday/Palm Sunday.

**Egg Hunt Donations**

We are collecting candy (soft/peanut-free) and plastic eggs in the Gathering Area through March 30!



**Vacation Bible School**  
June 15-18, 2025  
6-8pm  
4yrs - 6th grade  
Registration opens May 1!

TBCKids Calendar	
April 12	Egg Hunt
April 13	Children's Sunday/Palm Sunday
May 21	Family Water Slides Night, 5-7 pm
June 15-18	Vacation Bible School, 6-8 pm

**Kids Missions Groups**



Thank you so much for supporting our Kids Missions Groups in their Race for Missions fundraiser for Global Missions! The kids really enjoy working on their cars and racing them, but they also like to talk about the missionaries that we learn about on Wednesday nights and the work they are doing around the world. Thank you for encouraging them and for giving toward our Global Missions Goal for 2025!!

**Our Mission Friends!**



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

~ Teresa

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." (Galatians 6:9-10)

Recently, I had the opportunity to preach for the first time at Trinity on a Sunday morning as we began our recent sermon on, "Not Growing Weary." For Paul – and for the church in Galatia, the idea of "not growing weary" for Paul, carried a different connotation than it might for us today.

Paul had spent a long time ministering to the church in Galatia. In the years that he spent with the many different Christians and new converts, he not only lived with them as a teacher and pastor, but as a dear friend. He knew their names, their stories, their dreams, and even their struggles. As Paul spent so much time with them, he laid the foundation for the gospel message – that Jesus Christ is Lord. That is, Jesus' death and resurrection mean that God is building a new family, a family with no divisions, no separate races, and no separation between Jews and Gentiles. All are one in Christ.

In Paul's world, the division between Jews and Gentiles was divisive. To be considered a Jew meant to adhere to the customs of the Old Testament and other practices and laws. One had to be born either into the Jewish lineage or undergo serious regimens to convert, which created a divide between the two.

And this is why the family of God, built by Jesus, is so important – because the Jews believed that when the Messiah came, he would be Lord of all the world. And that means both Jews and Gentiles would serve God together. And then, after Paul has laid the foundation of this message, he then moves on to another church to share the same message with other Christians.

But then he hears the bad news...Other teachers have come in and they're saying things like, "Oh yeah, Paul didn't really know what he was talking about. Yeah, God wants to have one family, but there's just no way you can have Jews and Gentiles in the family. Instead, there still needs to be separation between the Jews and the Gentiles."

And now, for the church in Galatia, the message was no longer about what Jesus had done, but it was about adding on to it. It was Jesus + works of the law. And to us as the reader, it seems like everything that Paul had trusted them with had disappeared away so quickly...

How do you think Paul responded when he received word that the church he had shared life with for such a long time had so quickly turned around in everything that he had left with them? Can you imagine how heartbreaking that must've been for Paul, as he's dedicated years and years of his life to this task? It's easy to imagine that in this moment that he's feeling quite weary. He's been at this for so long and invested countless hours for the gospel message that he left with them to be upheaved with some incorrect and divisive teachings.

In his loving response to the *Galatians*, Paul sets out to correct their understanding of the gospel, but then he caps it off by saying this essential word to them: "Do not grow weary in doing good." That is, "Don't grow weary in contending for the truth that I left with you."

"Not growing weary" doesn't mean asking for more energy. Instead, it's a *perspective shift*. It's a serene reminder to us as Christians to ask God to help us become more aware of His presence in *everything* that we do. It means that we're faithful in the everyday living of our lives.

It's a reminder that a key part of following Jesus is that we must continue to reorient our own lives, day-in and day-out, as we remind ourselves to not give up in doing good. *Because the truth is that without your presence and voice, the Church is missing out on something uniquely vital and powerful in the kingdom of heaven.*

For us to not grow weary in doing good, we must continue to reset our lives to experience Jesus' presence in *all* things. That means that we not only consider God's presence in moments of crisis, but also in the seemingly mundane. Not just in moments of convenience, but also in the inconvenient. And not just in the difficult seasons, but also in the moments of celebration.

On Wednesday nights in the Student Ministry, we do a recap of the previous Sunday's sermon by making it more personal to the things that our teenagers are experiencing. This past Wednesday, we asked the question – "**What makes this church (Trinity) so special to you?**"

And it's amazing and comforting to hear the honest answers that our Students provided. One of our students even said: "It's a space where I can zone out from everything and just be here. There are no commitments, no pressures, no deadlines, no grades. I can just be here."

And a testament to this, is that our Student aren't rushing to leave. After our Wednesday nights are over, they choose to stick around to talk about their days and weeks. They share infectious laughter with each other as they talk about how their week is going. **This is how church should feel and this is one of the ways that we don't grow weary in doing good.**

Because it's when we're faithful and mindful of God in the everyday, the mundane, and in our routines, it leads us to not grow weary in doing good.

~ Lane Craig

## Church Life

### MINISTRY:

#### Easter Food Bins for Madison Assistance Program:

##### February 23-March 30

- These bins will go to elderly individuals in Madison who may be homebound or a disabled veteran
- Lists of needed items are available online and bins are in the Gathering Area
- March 30 - Please return the filled bins to the modular or gathering area
- 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

#### Grounds Workday: March 29 from 9-noon

- Prepping the grounds for the Kids' Easter Egg Hunt

### MISSIONS:

#### Perry County Ramp Section building at Trinity

- March 8 from 9-noon
- We will build sections for the ramps that will be installed during the mission trip

#### Perry County Ramp Building Mission Trip

- April 3-5

#### DR Mission Trip Cookout Fundraiser

- Wednesday, April 9

#### Dominican Republic Mission Trip

- May 30-June 5

### Discipleship

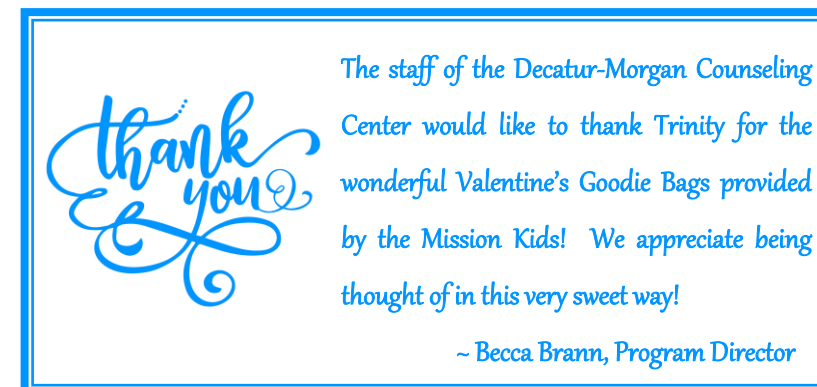
#### Trinity University: March 2, 16, 23 and 30, from 5-6pm

- Adult Discipleship group meeting in C102
- We will continue our study of the book, Good and Beautiful God, by James Bryan Smith

### FELLOWSHIP:

#### Church Picnic: May 4 after worship-Save the Date!

~ Glenn



Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on March 9

## Weekday Preschool Ministry News

Registration for the 2025 - 2026 school year is going very well. There are still a few spots in some of the classrooms and we have started waiting lists in the classrooms that are full. We are very excited to welcome families from Madison and the surrounding area.

We hope you take the opportunity to stop by and see the wonderful artwork that the children display in the preschool hall. We are very proud of our talented artists.

Even though we are busy planning for next year, we still have plenty of fun and exciting events left this school year. April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> our Older Twos, Threes, and Fours will be performing in our annual Spring Music Programs – a must see! Also, during the month of April, we will watch and wait for our caterpillars to turn into beautiful butterflies to then be released. With mixed emotions of joy, pride, and sadness the month of May brings Graduation for our Pre-K classes.

We are very blessed to have such talented women ministering to our preschool children and families. It is such a joy to be in such a loving and nurturing environment every day. Please keep us in your prayers, as always.

~ Nancy

~ March 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 11:30 DR Mission Trip Lunch  5:00 TU #2 6:30 Conversational Spanish Class	3 9:30 Ladies Bible Study	4	5 4:45 Fellowship Supper 5:30 Children's Choirs 6:00 Ash Wednesday Service, Kid's Missions Groups EL Class 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	6	7	8 9:00 Ramp Section Construction
9 Daylight Saving Time Begins 9:30 In Person & Online Sunday School 10:30 In Person & Online Worship  6:30 Conversational Spanish Class No Other Evening Activities	10	11	12 No Evening Activities	13	14 5:00 Salvation Army Canteen	15 Dollywood Trip – Student Ministry
<b>Madison City and County Schools Spring Break</b>						
16 9:30 In Person & Online Sunday School 10:30 In Person & Online Worship 11:30 Child Safety Training  5:00 TU #3 6:30 Conversational Spanish Class	17 	18 6:00 Men's Night Out at Phil Sandoval's	19 4:45 Fellowship Supper 5:30 Children's Choirs 6:00 Church Conference, Kid's Missions Groups, Youth Bible Study, EL Class 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	20 6:00 Ladies Night Out at Rosie's	21	22
23/30 9:30 In Person & Online Sunday School 10:30 In Person & Online Worship, 11:30 Visitor Lunch (23 <sup>rd</sup> ) 1:30 Colson/Wadley Wedding Shower (30 <sup>th</sup> ) 4:00 Church Council (30 <sup>th</sup> ) 5:00 TU #4 (23 <sup>rd</sup> ) TU #5 (30 <sup>th</sup> ) 5:30 Student Ministry Sunday Leaders Dinner (30 <sup>th</sup> ) 6:30 Conversational Spanish Class	24/31	25	26 4:45 Fellowship Supper 5:30 Children's Choirs 6:00 Adult Bible Study, Kid's Missions Groups, Youth Bible Study, EL Class 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	27	28	29 9:00 Grounds Workday – Egg Hunt Prep

## 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.

## January 2025 Financial Report

### Monthly Information

Target Income	\$76,991.08
Actual Income	\$57,688.41
Actual Expenses	(\$74,114.93)
Monthly Gain/ (Loss)	(\$16,426.52)

### Year-To-Date for 2025

Target Income	\$76,991.08
Actual Income	\$57,688.41
Actual Expenses	(\$74,114.93)
YTD Gain/ (Loss)	(\$16,426.52)

### Account Balances

General Fund	\$219,116.26
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3. Done! Now you will get up-to-date videos from TBC!"



Wedding Shower in Honor of

Katie Colson  
&  
Nicholas Wadley

March 30 ~ 1:30 pm  
Trinity Baptist Church  
Katie and Nicholas are registered  
at zola.com

## Happy Birthday!

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 2: Jared Dunavant                 | 21: Alice Lomax                                    |
| 4: Glenn Crocker, Graham Segraves | 22: Katie Colson                                   |
| 5: Jim Griffith                   | 24: Mark Arn, Everette Fox                         |
| 8: Denise Braswell, Jon Farr      | 25: Lynn Crumbly, Keith Woodard                    |
| 9: Andrew Dunaway                 | 26: Tessa Kenny                                    |
| 12: Elizabeth Lomax               | 28: Justin Dunavant                                |
| 19: Lane Craig, John Newquist     | 29: Melinda Melton, Jennie Prinkey, Andrew Woodard |
| 20: Shirley Webb                  | 30: Rena Clemons, Sharen Trickey                   |



If your birthday is incorrect or missing, please contact Wendy at: [wendy@trinitymadison.com](mailto:wendy@trinitymadison.com)



If you have questions about Realm, you may simply go to [www.trinitymadison.com](http://www.trinitymadison.com) and click on "Realm" on the purple banner at the top of home page. This link will take you to the main sign in page for Realm.

