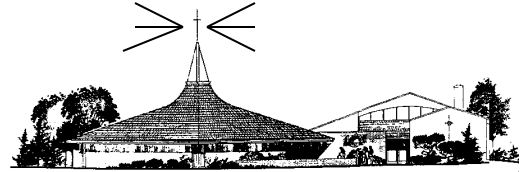


Trinity BEAMS

the newsletter of
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Manhattan, Kansas
February 2021



*People of God... seeking, growing,
and serving through Christ.*



It is a commonly observed fact that not everyone is happy at Christmas time. There are many reasons for this. For some Christmas brings up sad memories, perhaps of Christmas not observed in childhood or the loss of a loved one in the middle of the Christmas season. For others, Christmas can be a lonely time because so much of the emphasis is placed upon family and friends for the holidays and a great many people just do not have family and friends with whom to celebrate. But whatever the reason, it is clear that the Christmas season is not experienced the same by everyone.

So what about Lent? Is Lent experienced by all in the same way? Like Christmas, Lent is a season in the liturgical year. But unlike Christmas, Lent is intended to be a somber time, a penitential time. We think of the wilderness, the burden of sin. We sing hymns that remind us of Jesus' sacrifice which is made necessary by our deficiencies.

But what if that is not how we feel? Just as there are many who are depressed by Christmas, are there not those who are joyful in Lent? Is it wrong to be joyful in Lent? When someone is sad at Christmas, perhaps we think they are being inappropriate, but more likely we feel sorry for them, have sympathy for them. But what of the one whistling through Lent? We are more likely to feel that he or she is doing it wrong, that they are not being respectful of the season.

This question came to my mind several years ago. It was a dark and difficult time in my life. This time coincided with an invitation from the Presbyterian Church to attend a Credo conference. The Credo conference is offered to ministers in mid-career as an opportunity for reflection and renewal. It was a valuable time for me. I was able to clarify certain truths for myself. I began to be lifted out of my dark time.

My return from this conference happened to come as Lent was beginning and I found myself in an odd place. As Lent—a time of penitence and introspection—was about to begin—I was strangely happy. Happy as I had not been in a long time. I was whistling through Lent and it seemed wrong somehow.

The liturgical seasons are a reflection of our journeys, not the cause. The liturgical seasons do not precede our experience, directing us how and when to feel. They rise up first and foremost from the biblical narratives that are in turn the reflection of the human experience in relationship with God. Together they express a movement—from letting go, to naming God's presence, to taking hold of grace. This movement—from letting go, to naming God's presence, to taking hold—does not happen once and for all, and it does not happen on a schedule. They are like the tide which is both high and low, flowing in and out, in rhythm with other forces in our lives.

So, if you find yourself whistling through Lent, then that's fine. If you are grieving through Christmas, that is ok, too. Or maybe your spirit is in tune with the season that we are in. The point is this: the liturgical year is a recognition of our recurring experiences of wilderness and promised land, death and resurrection, longing and fulfillment. Each season offers us an opportunity, if we are not actively living the experience, to remember the experience from another time. And in the remembering we become mindful of the goodness and grace of God which has seen us through such times as well as God's current care for us in our present condition.

- Jim Hawley



Each month we publish a listing of members and their immediate families, and guests of Trinity who are living in health care, assisted living facilities, semi shut-in at home, hospitalized, or recuperating from surgery or illness. We encourage you to pray for these friends, send them a note, call or visit them. Addresses and phone numbers can be obtained from the church office.

Those in nursing centers, assisted living,

Wayne Bailie - Meadowlark Hills

Bernice Brighton - Meadowlark Hills

Mary Lou Kenworthy

- Presbyterian Manor, Wichita, KS

Erma McManis - Stoneybrook

Joe Ann Wood Moore - Meadowlark Hills

Delores Nash - Home

Mary Smith - Meadowlark Hills

February Birthdays

7. Glenda Schweitzer

11. Jan Byars

25. Jim Hawley

25. Ruth Lignitz

27. Bill Schapaugh

Trinity Custodian Named as Distinguished Professor in Community Health

Dr. Elaine Johannes who, along with her husband Steve, performs light custodial work for Trinity, will serve as the Kanas Health Foundation Distinguished Professor in Community Health. The professorship will allow Johannes to focus on working with networks, systems, and teams to address community health issues related to health disparities, unequal access to health care and social determinants of health accentuated by the global pandemic. The award comes from the Kansas State Research and Extension Foundation. Johannes was previously appointed in April of 1019 by Governor Laura Kelly to the Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the Kansas Department of Corrections.

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, February 2, 6:30 p.m.

Session Meeting

Wednesday, February 10, 6:00 p.m.

Trinity Presbyterian Women's Circle

Thursday, February 4, 10:00 a.m.

Meet in the sanctuary.

Pastor Jim leads the study.

TPW Coordinating Meeting

February 15, 1:00 p.m.

Trinity Receives Leadership Grant

Trinity has received a \$3,000 grant from the Kansas Leadership Center as part of their *Kansas Beats the Virus* campaign. KLC invited Kansas organizations to devise a project designed to aid in the fight against COVID-19. Members of the church responded with a plan to fund and expand upon the Blessing Box administered by the Trinity Presbyterian Women (TPW). The money will be used to fund stocking the Blessing Box as well as other essential needs for those experiencing difficulties as a result of COVID-19 influenced economic distress. The grant will be administrated by the TPW and the Board of Deacons.



The deadline for the March BEAMS is Monday, February 15. Call, email, or bring information to the church office.

Trinity is Collecting Canned Food and Funds for our SOUPER BOWL Drive January 31-February 7!



On February 7, the Super Bowl will be held in Tampa Bay, Florida. In spite of the pandemic, many people around our community will gather with family to enjoy the game. Many will celebrate with food and drink, yet in our own community, hunger will remain.

Hunger is an invisible tragedy in most communities and as you will know, Manhattan is not isolated from this. Last year, the Flint Hills Breadbasket served over 22,000 individuals. More than 25% of our community lives at, or below the poverty level. The need is perhaps more pressing than ever before with the pandemic that has impacted our country for almost the last year.

Recognizing that donations to the Flint Hills Breadbasket tend to decline after the holiday season and hunger remains in our own community, Souper Bowl Weekend was created to help raise awareness of those who go hungry and to raise food and cash donations for the Breadbasket. In 2020, across the city of Manhattan, over 15,000 pounds of food and \$2,193 were collected. The community goal for *2021 Souper Bowl Food & Fund Drive* is to raise 17,000 pounds of food and \$3,000 community wide to support the Flint Hills Breadbasket.

Trinity's Stewardship & Mission Committee is inviting Trinity's members and friends to participate in collecting food and funds between now and February 7 for Flint Hills Breadbasket. All are welcome to participate as every little bit helps. Kettles are set up in the foyer to collect your canned items or cash donations. Vote for your favorite Super Bowl team (Chiefs!) by dropping your donations in the kettles! If you do not wish to shop for items due to COVID19, you may place cash or a check in the kettles, or send your donation to the church. Make checks payable to TPC and indicate "Souper Bowl" in the memo. If you would like credit for a cash donation, place it in an envelope with your name on. If you are voting for your favorite football team, mark it on your envelope.

Note: In 2020 Trinity collected 97 pounds of food and \$320! You are a generous congregation!

OUR CHURCH'S **FINANCE REPORT**

The Finance Committee is grateful for the contributions and the positive end of the 2020 finance report. Good news! Through very generous contributions and everyone watching expenses, our income exceeded expenses! Thank you for all of your contributions in 2020! As a Presbyterian Church all of our financial information is available for members, if you have any questions, or would like more information, please talk with our Treasurer Karyl Croft or Finance Committee Chair Arlo Biere.

January-December 2020

Income -	\$146,523.06
Expenses -	\$141,455.63
Net Income - \$	5,067.43

- February Church Events -

3 - Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Communion Souper Bowl of Caring collection of food/cash donations
2 - Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Board of Deacons Meeting
4 - Thursday	9:30 a.m.	TPW Circle/Bible Study in sanctuary
7 - Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship
10 - Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Session Meeting.
14 - Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship
17 - Monday	1:00 p.m.	TPW Coordinating Team Meeting
21 - Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship—1st Sunday in Lent
28 - Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship—2nd Sunday in Lent

Affectionately Yours

St. Valentine, a Roman priest, was martyred in 270 A.D. for loving Jesus. Some sources say he performed weddings after the emperor banned them; others say he rescued Christians from Roman prisons. Two centuries later, the pope declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day.

According to legend, the priest signed his letters "Your Valentine." Later, Christians followed suit to honor him. By the mid-1700s, friends and sweethearts exchanged heart-shaped trinkets or sent handwritten notes of affection on February 14.



PSALM 116:16



"Like" Trinity Presbyterian Church on Facebook to get the latest announcements, worship services, and other items of interest throughout the week.

Church Staff/Strategic Personnel

Pastor - Rev. James Hawley - 785-577-9330 (cell)
 Secretary - Berneda Jewell
 Music Director - Susan Tolley
 Accompanist - Amanda Arrington
 Custodians - Steve & Elaine Johannes
 Treasurer - Karyl Croft
 KSU Campus Pastor - Rev. Christian Watkins

This winter when we cancel worship service due to inclement weather, the information on the radio and TV stations will have Trinity listed as "Manhattan Trinity Presbyterian."

Church office closing policy for inclement weather is as follows: If USD#383 closes schools due to inclement weather, the church office will also close. This will be for ice and snow only, not due to extreme cold temperatures.

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