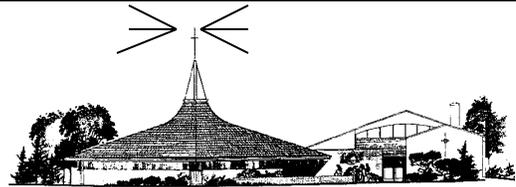


# Trinity BEAMS

the newsletter of  
Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Manhattan, Kansas  
August 2020



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



As I write this article (July 21, 2020) there is still no clarity around school openings in the fall. There are many considerations. Those charged with these decisions have to balance a great many concerns. Obviously, the health of teachers and students is paramount, but the pandemic has more revealed than created realities that further complicate this decision.

Schools educate. Schools feed. Schools provide childcare. Schools offer stability to children who live unstable home lives. The question school officials are forced to confront is not only “how shall instruction be delivered?”, but “how will the social network of services schools provide continue in a pandemic?”

Without a crisis such as this, we do not consider the ways in which schools are a social safety net. Many parents, especially now, both work outside the home. Many parents are single parents without a network of support. School becomes the affordable day care that is otherwise lacking. Without schools in session, these parents will be challenged to provide that childcare, both in terms of availability and cost. One parent may need to remain at home which could have serious implications for the economic well-being of that family.

The majority of students are on free or reduced lunch. Without school these children will become even more food insecure. Local agencies and churches often rally to the cause to provide food, but the reality is that we, as a society, have left it to schools to take care of the nutritional needs of children. Without school in session, food insecurity increases.

Given these additional burdens schools are meant to carry, it is even more discouraging that funding for schools continues to be cut. Not only are we not creating systems that make childcare and nutrition more accessible to the working poor, we continue to underfund one institution we assume will meet these needs.

These gaps in affordable childcare and food availability put added stress and pressure on schools to remain open. From a health standpoint, it appears indisputable that the best thing to do is to close buildings and structure learning remotely. Lack of funding and resources place a great burden on teachers scrambling not only to provide content but maintain connection (sometimes teachers are the most influential adult in the lives of children). Clearly a decision will need to be made for this fall that strikes the best balance possible in an impossible situation. But we cannot ignore the larger lesson the pandemic has taught us. Until we provide, as a society, quality affordable daycare and reliable solutions to food insecurity, we cannot claim that the health and welfare of children is our number one priority.

*- Rev. James 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, or semi shut-in at home

- Wayne Bailie** - Meadowlark Hills
- Ron & Dorine Bergren** - Home
- 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

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Sympathy is extended to Mary Smith on the death of Bob Smith on July 2nd. A memorial service will be held at a time to be announced. Bob was both an elder and a deacon at Trinity.

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**Trinity Presbyterian Women News**



TPW has not given up on a late summer/early fall rummage sale. We will continue to monitor the climate of the community and hope to provide this service to the community. Keep saving your donations.

In April, TPW made an \$800 donation to Go for Green Match funds for five community organizations.

TPW Board will meet in late August. The board will be informed of the date.

Plans are to begin TPW Circle meeting in September, with social distancing in the Fellowship Hall. When a date has been set, all TPW members will be contacted.



Join us by car, lawn chair, or sit in the sanctuary for our worship service on Sundays, 10:00 a.m. Rev. Jim Hawley leads worship outside and it is streamed to a TV in the sanctuary. We are also recording the service and it is posted on Trinity's Facebook page by Sunday afternoon. If you are not receiving the link to the service by email on Mondays, contact the church office with your email address.

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**Introducing our New Accompanist**

**Amanda Arrington** is thrilled to be joining the Trinity Presbyterian Family of Manhattan, KS! She is about to begin her 11th as the faculty collaborative pianist for Kansas State University's music program, where she maintains an active performing career, collaborating with faculty artists, guest artist, and students in over 100 concerts each year. Amanda completed her undergraduate degree in Music Education from K-State in 2005. She spent some time teaching in Salina, KS before moving to Warrensburg, MO to complete a master degree in Piano Pedagogy, and then returning to work at K-State. Amanda and her husband, Owen, love Manhattan and are very glad to call it their home. Amanda's first Sunday with us will be August 2nd.

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**August Birthdays**

- 4. Marci Harris
- 12. Frank Nelson
- 14. Kay Robinson
- 28. Wayne Bailie

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**Deacons' Meeting**  
**August 4, 6:30 p.m.**

**Session Meeting**  
**August 12, 6:15 p.m.**

OUR CHURCH'S  
  
**FINANCE  
 REPORT**

The Finance Committee is grateful for your contributions during this time of social-distancing due to COVID-19. Until we are worshipping together in the sanctuary, we ask that you continue to mail your contributions to the church at 1110 College Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502. As a Presbyterian Church all of our financial information is available for members. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our Treasurer, Karyl Croft, or Financial Committee Chair, Arlo Biere.

<u>June 2020</u>		<u>January-June 2020</u>	
Income	\$ 5,453.06	Income	\$59,432.35
Expenses	\$17,549.86	Expenses	\$64,501.48
Net Income	(\$12,096.80)	Net Income	(\$ 5,069.13)



### 2nd Mile Mission Giving

Trinity started its 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Giving campaign July 26 and will continue through August 30. Our goal is to raise at least \$2,000 to give \$1,000 to the Presbyterian Theological Education Fund and \$1,000 to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas General Mission Fund. Any remainder will go to local mission causes.

The Presbyterian Theological Education Fund supports our seminaries and their students. Seminaries educate and prepare current and future church elders. Beside the traditional students, today our seminaries educate mid-career students and assist in the education of ones preparing to become commissioned ruling elders. Many small, rural churches in our Presbytery are served by commissioned ruling elders.

The General Mission Fund finances missions of the Presbytery and of the General Assembly, which includes missions around the world where needs are great. In addition, the fund supports its work with churches in the Presbytery that are going through some transition such as calling a new pastor. Recall that the Presbytery was very instrumental in our search process.

Christ calls us to work to heal the world and to spread His message. With thanksgiving to God, may we give from our abundance. In July you should have received a letter by mail with an enclosed envelope to send your contribution to the church office, or you may give it to a church officer to take it to the office. May God bless and comfort you in this trying time of pandemic and social concerns.

- Arlo Biere, Chair, Stewardship and Mission Committee

### Trinity's Blessing Box



Thank you to everyone who has been suppling items for the Blessing Box located on the west side of the parking lot near the church sign. Clearly, it is enjoyed as items disappear quickly. When you add items to the box, if you find something that has been opened and left in the box, please remove the item(s) so that our box is kept clean and presentable. Suggestions for items that have been well received are: fruit or pudding snack size cups, canned items, peanut butter, cereal, pasta, tooth brushes. Do not place any over the counter medications or food in glass containers in the box, please.

Thank you again for your support

## Patient Attention, Valuable Discoveries

For many people, the coronavirus pandemic has been a test of patience — or worse. Medically vulnerable people face an anxious time of hypervigilance. Furloughed workers wait on hold or in lines for assistance. Special events have been canceled or rescheduled.

Those not impacted directly deal with assorted frustrations and inconveniences. Many people are learning the benefit of slowing down, being present (even virtually) to others and practicing patient attention.

Interestingly, scientist Isaac Newton did some of his best work when the plague forced Cambridge University to close. At home, the inquisitive student invented calculus and developed groundbreaking theories of gravity and optics. Later Newton called 1666 his *annus mirabilis* (“year of wonders”) and reportedly said, “If I have made any valuable discoveries, it [owes] more to patient attention than to any other talent.”

What have you discovered during the Covid-19 crisis? What appreciations have you developed for aspects of life you may have previously taken for granted? What has social distancing taught you about the value of neighbors, church, community volunteering?

During the pandemic, what have you learned about persistence and God’s presence? What empathy do you now feel for writers of words such as “I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope” (Psalm 130:5, NIV)?

- The Newsletter Newsletter  
August 2020



### 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

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