
May 2016 **Trinity Press**



Communion Sunday

Sunday, May 1

Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 8

Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, May 15

Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm

Sundays at 11:15 am

Sunday Worship Services

10:00 am English

12:00 pm Spanish

Child care at all Worship Services

Nursery & Preschool

Room 7

Sunday School Classes

Grades K—6 Room 3

Out-of-the-Box Food Packing

Sunday, May 15, begins at 11:45 am

Out-of-the-Box Food Distribution

Thursday, May 19, begins at 6:30 pm

Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Friday, May 20, begins at 5:30 pm



BE GOOD FOR NOTHING

When we are good, we want to be rewarded. Work extra hours at the office? Then you deserve a raise. Work long hours on that essay? You should get a good grade for trying so hard. Take good care of your yard? Those neighbors ought to notice and say how nice it looks! Find a bag full of money and return it to the rightful owner? You should be rewarded for being so honorable and selfless.

That's what happened to three city workers of Tulsa, OK. They were working on a water line when they found an abandoned safe stolen from a nearby bank. Inside were several bags of blank traveler's checks, watches, credit cards and \$11,000. The men contacted local authorities to have the property returned.

The men never asked to receive a reward but were more than surprised when they weren't even recognized. "We did the right thing", said one. "No one even knew that we were out there, and we (still) kept the money secure," he added, "I feel a little under appreciated. That's the way I feel and my men feel...A whole lot of people have done less and got more recognition." Another added, "We did the right thing, but are the other people doing the right thing? That's my question to the bank." Both men interviewed said the same thing, "We did the right thing." Both men thought they should be rewarded. Eventually they were rewarded by the bank and the city.

Do we need to be rewarded for doing the right thing? If we are doing the right thing because we think we are going to be rewarded for it, then are we really good? By our human nature, we strive to be good for something. It has been said that every human act has a selfish motive.

Take another example re: Abraham Lincoln. No question he is one of our most beloved presidents and known as a selfless, honest man. Once, while riding in a stage from Springfield, Illinois, to a neighboring town, Lincoln, then a lawyer, was discussing this very topic of selfishness with another passenger. During the trip the two men saw a small pig caught in some mud, squealing and struggling to free himself. Lincoln asked the driver to stop. He leapt from the stage, walked to the pig and picked up the little animal and set it on solid ground.

"Now look here," said the passenger with whom he had been talking, "you cannot say that was a selfish act."

"Extremely selfish," said Mr. Lincoln. "If I had left that little fellow in there, the memory of his squealing would have made me uncomfortable all day. That is why I freed him."

We are all good for something,

God, on the other hand, does not need a reason to be good. He seeks no reward. He freely gives himself to us. He is compassionate, He is kind, He is Love (1 John 4:8) Psalm 145:9 says, "The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made." In other words, God is good for nothing. This month, focus on being good for no reason other than being good. Be good because it makes the world a better place. Don't be good to be rewarded for it. Be good because God is good. Be good for nothing. Something to think about!

Pastor Eric

Day of Pentecost



On the Day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the

church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.)

The notion of Easter as a season of 50 days ending at Pentecost is patterned after the ancient Jewish festival of seven weeks that extended from the beginning of the barley harvest (on the second day after the beginning of Passover) to the end of the wheat harvest at the Festival of Weeks or *Shavuot* (see Deuteronomy 16:9-12). The Festival of Weeks later came to be called Pentecost ("50th day") by Greek speaking Jews. In Jewish tradition, Shavuot also marks the giving of the law to Moses at Sinai; this liturgical link may inform Paul's discussions of the law and the Spirit (see Romans 8, 2 Corinthians 3 and Galatians 3).

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/pentecost/>

Mother's Day: A History Lesson

Mother's Day is a holiday honoring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. The American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday's commercialization and spent the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar. While dates and celebrations vary, Mother's Day most commonly falls on the second Sunday in May and traditionally involves presenting mothers with flowers, cards and other gifts.

Mother's Day: Historical Precursors

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday." Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their "mother church"—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service. Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation.

This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother's Day in the 1930s and 1940s.

<http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day>

E-Give

Did you know that you can set up an account via our website that will make giving easier for you? It is our E-Give Program. Visit our website, www.trinitywestsac.org, and click on the *Make a Donation* button; it looks just like the photo in this article. Once you click on the button you will be taken to the E-Give website and prompted to log in. You can either *Register for an Account* or *Make a Gift without an account.* With either selection you will complete an online form to set up your giving, or make a one-time gift.

You are always welcome to give cash or write a check, but if you no longer carry cash or a checkbook, this is a great way to give.



May Birthdays



Matthew Richardson	15
Jill Thom	22
Cathy Davis	27
Dave Bolach	29

When It Rains It Snows

On Thursday, April 7th, Toni got a phone call about a donation. The lady had some clothes and shoes...

She arranged to get them to Toni's house, where Toni discovered the donation was 55 tall white kitchen garbage bags full of clothes. What a donation! It's supposed to be mostly men's clothes, which are rarely donated.

The lady's name was Rebecca. Thanks Rebecca for your wonderful donation! Rebecca is a member of CSA (the Center for Spiritual Awareness here in West Sacramento).

Deacons Report May 2016

Here is your update on Trinity's Board of Deacons...

We have joyfully welcomed three new Deacons to the Board...Morgan Schultz, Vi Taylor, and Ann Watson...hooray!

Since our last meeting, the Deacons...

- Attended officer training with Session, led by Pastor Eric.
- Distributed "postcards" to parishioners with their Deacon's contact information on them.
- Participated in a training session at Faith Presbyterian Church about interacting with homeless people.
- Prepared and served Communion the first Sunday of the month and on Maundy Thursday.
- Assigned a Deacon to the Nominating Committee.
- Finalized a new reimbursement process for the Deacon Fund.
- Sent a "goodie box" to Christian Barrett, who is in the military.

- Continued to provide a brief church service to residents of **Riverbend on the 4th Sunday of the month at 2:00 pm.** You are invited to join us in this wonderful ministry. You don't have to be a Deacon, just join us for a service that includes a message, music, prayer, praise, and visiting with the residents.

Our current project is a Military Goodie Box. A basket is located on the Welcome Table with a complete list of acceptable items. Please look it over to see if you can provide a few things to include in a box we will send as thank yous to Military personnel at the end of April. (We hope to do this on a regular basis.)

Please call your Deacon if you have prayer requests or questions.

Blessings, Glenda Dahms

Faith Family Night at the River Cats Game



Are you ready for baseball? Grab your loved ones, and your glove, as Trinity Presbyterian Church (Trinity) enjoys a night out at the River Cats Faith Family Night.

Date: Friday July 8th

Cost: Our discounted rate is \$16 per person with full payment due Friday, June 1st, by 2:00 pm to the church office. If you are paying by check, please make the check payable to *Trinity Presbyterian Church*. On the memo line write: *River Cats Game*. If you cannot go, but want to sponsor someone else, please let the church office know, and we will be happy to accommodate your request.

Time: 5:00 pm

Where: Meet at the Trinity front parking lot to carpool there. Carpools are defined as 4 or more persons per car, and parking is free. All other parking is \$10 per car.

The event begins at 4:30 pm, at Raley Field. Program festivities include a Christian band. The game begins at 7:05 pm.

Save the Dates: Kids' Fun Day and Vacation Bible School

Coming Soon

Kids' Fun Day Saturday, June 4th



Vacation Bible School



The Olympics are coming to Trinity! Forget Rio, the Summer Games that really count will be right here at Trinity this summer! We will be hosting our own Olympics Vacation Bible School from June 20 – June 24. It will be in the evenings each night from 6 to 8 pm. All kids entering kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome to participate, and big kids can sign up to be helpers. Adult volunteers are also needed. Mark your calendars and invite your friends. It will be a fun week of songs, Bible stories, crafts, and some friendly competition, Olympics-style!



GOD BLESS

Mothers

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

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~~Miriam Osorio & Maria Beth Holzer~~

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Pianist: Andre Andrievskiy

Jane Gentry, Office Admin

Carol Onalfo, Office Volunteer

Trinity Press Co-Editors:

Kathy Trott & Jane Gentry

Copy Editor: Debra Johnston

And Many, Many Volunteers

Trinity's Mission Statement:

The mission of Trinity Presbyterian Church is to invite people into the family of God to share the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

