

Trinity Testimony

SEPTEMBER 2020

Thank you!

Dear Church Family, My family and I are so blessed to be loved by such wonderful people. We want to thank you for the food, cards, texts, calls and flowers we received during the difficult time of losing my father. We have been shown an overwhelming love that God has provided through his people. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts!

All Christ's Love, The families of Alfred Ramsey and Rocky and Traci Price

May your kindness return to you in the same beautiful way it was offered, Thank you from the bottom of my heart. The prayer shawl is beautiful. God bless you all!

Love, Carol Abel

To My Church Family: There is no way I can express my thanks for all the cards, books, food, flowers, phone calls, and especially the prayers you bestowed on Richard and me during my illness. It has been a long road, but I finally see the light at the end of the tunnel now. You never really know how much a card saying you all are praying for someone can mean until you are the one who is sick. It uplifts your spirit. So thanks again and we hope to see you soon at Church.

Richard & Jeannie Smith

Memorials

Building Fund

Pete and Bonnie Kilbourne in memory of Rebecca Ingram

Rocky and Tracy Price in memory of Tracy's father, Alfred Ramsey

George and Pat Carpenter in memory of Pat's parents, Bill and Doris Carver



DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER IS SEPTEMBER 15th.

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:30-5:00

Closed 12:00-1:00PM for lunch

Staff Meeting Tuesdays 12:30 pm

TEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

SCHEDULE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Sunday
Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.
Second Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.
Third Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

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Permit No. 67

Dr. Mark Harrod, Senior Pastor

Nathan Moore, Associate Pastor/Minister to Adults

Chris McDonald, Worship Minister

Michael Bates, Student Minister

Amy Herington, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Tony Maden, Church Administrator

Kim Denton, Administrative Assistant

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www.trinity3e.org



Trinity exists to: •Exalt •Equip •Evangelize

Deuteronomy 29:29 (ESV)

29 "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law."

When I was a little boy, I never heard my parents discuss their finances. All I knew is that my needs were provided and even a few of my 'wants.' Even if mom and dad had discussed finances with me, I wouldn't have understood because I was too young. As I grew older, however, dad would talk with me about finances. He would discuss what I needed to know and ask me to trust him about the rest.

There are many questions swirling around the pandemic. How long will this last? When will a vaccine be available? What will we do? Why is this happening? The why question is the most difficult one. We want to know why so we can be assured that there is a purpose in the pain. I have come to realize that we may never know 'why' and even if we did, I am not sure we would be satisfied. After all, God is God and can accomplish his plan anyway He chooses. Frankly, even if we knew why, we may respond to God by saying, "You are God. You could have accomplished your plan any way you wanted yet you choose this way with all of the disruptions, pain and suffering."

Rather than being frustrated by our lack of understanding, we should do what we know to do. That is the point of Deuteronomy 29:29. In Deuteronomy 29, the Lord is renewing His covenant with Israel. In doing so, He reminds them of the blessings of obedience and the dangers of disobedience. In all these things, God is working His will which is not always clear to us. God is not obligated to reveal His purposes to us. Deuteronomy 29:29 teaches us that He has revealed to us what we need to know and do. Our responsibilities are to trust God and do what He has told us. The Lord is our good father who knows what we need to know when we need to know it. One day the pandemic will be over (let it be soon O Lord!) and we will develop our new normal. Until that day, let us be found faithful in loving Him, loving our neighbor and sharing the gospel.

ABSENCE MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER

Nathan Moore, Associate Pastor

I think memes are the best part of the internet. There's been a funny COVID meme going around that shows a graph of the relative importance of various items in 2020. Your car for example, began as pretty important but declined dramatically during stay-at-home orders. Toilet paper on the other hand, skyrocketed in importance back in March and has only slowly begun to decline. The importance of the internet and a comfy pair of sweats have also increased while the importance of shaving has fallen off a cliff (where I suggest it remains). Coffee, of course, has remained unchanged. It is essential.

COVID-living has rearranged our lives in ways we couldn't have imagined a year ago and I don't think the dust has settled yet. But like the meme describes, one of the effects COVID has had is that it has caused us to reassess what is valuable or *essential to us*. (Side note: A few months ago I jokingly confessed on my SS class Zoom call that I had caught myself daydreaming about toilet paper. This prompted one friend to perform one of the greatest of acts of Christlikeness—He gave me a pack of TP).

Just as COVID has helped us see what is really essential, the effect of that is that it has also helped us clarify what is non-essential. I bet there are things about your pre-COVID life you don't even miss that much. For me, I was surprised that I don't miss eating out that much. Apparently it isn't that important to me. Toilet paper—essential. Eating out—not essential.

The Bible describes corporate worship as an *essential part of the Christian life, rife with benefits for our spiritual health. It is where we go to hear God's Word preached, to pray, to sing, to fellowship, and to observe the Lord's ordinances, all with other believers who are filled with God's Spirit. It is a place where our souls are renewed, our hearts rekindled, our consciences pierced, and our courage recharged. I don't think it's an understatement to say corporate worship is the most essential way to experience God's ongoing grace in your life.*

So the question becomes, when we as a church were unable to gather, *did you miss it? Or for those of you who are still unable to return DO you miss it? If so, how much? Are you getting used to life without it? It's a question we would all be wise to ask from time to time: where is corporate worship on the scale of relative importance for us? And what does that say about our hearts?*

I'm thankful for technologies like Zoom and live streaming, but it's just not the same. God made us to be incarnational, relational, people inhabiting physical spaces where we enact love. Technology can aid in this for sure, but it's not the same. Jesus didn't FaceTime... "he dwelt among us." I'm looking forward to the day when we are *all able to gather together again. So while we are apart, let's long for that day together.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Sept. 1:

Rhonda Kelly, 116 Hartman Dr., J/B 37659

Sept. 4:

Lisa Bennett, 211 Ralph Hoss Rd., J/B 37659
Pat Carpenter, 55 E. Ridges Ct., Chuckey, 37641

Sept. 5:

Abby Anderson, 227 Green Pond Dr., J/City 37604

Sept. 6:

Carol Abel, 286 Upper Sand Valley Rd., J/B 37659
Jeep Dye, 1378 Martin's Glen Ln., Gray 373615
Kenneth Jamerson, 3006 Old State Rt. 34, Limestone 37681

Sept. 7:

Kevin Deford, 20 Mia Gracie Ct., J/City 37615
Emily Legg, 1150 Country Rd 455, Lanett, AL 36863
Katie Million, 1111 Heritage Ln, East, J/B 37659

Sept. 8:

Jackie Bates, 1501 Oak St., Kingsport 37660
Jamie Hurley, 445 Hidden Acres Rd., Kingsport 37664
Joey Smith, 1018 Justus Dr., Johnson City 37604

Sept. 9:

Jerry Brewer, 366 Telford Rd., Telford, TN 37690

Sept. 10:

Rachel Allen, 1050 Mill Springs Rd., J/B 37659
Sarah Katherine Lowe, 184 Moody Ln, Gray 37615
Julien Overstreet, 3000 Rheatown Rd., Chuckey 37641

Sept. 11:

Luke Boyle, 130 Jenny Lane, J/B 37659
Mark Davis, 424 Ridgecrest Rd., J/B 37659
Brittany Dillon, 219 Ridgeview Dr., Gray 37615
Becky Laws, 620 Willow Ct., Piney Flats, 37686

Sept. 12:

Morgan Sell, 323 Claude Simmons Rd., J/City 37604

Sept. 13:

Chris Cooper, 106 Jason Ln., J/B 37659
Andy Pharris, 126 New Salem Dr., Limestone 37681

Sept. 14:

Tina Kromoff, 228 Chimney Top Ln., J/B 37659
Stephen Oliver, 106 C.W. Galloway Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 15:

Kathy McKee, 1054 Waterbrooke Ln, J/City 37604
Pam Pritchard, 171 Popular Dr., J/B 37659
Austin Sproles, 381 Sliger Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 15:

Palmer Tipton, 146 Oklahoma Rd., Telford 37690

Sept. 16:

Kayla Cross, 149 Laurel View Rd., J/B 37659
Bonnie Simmerman, 348 Upper Sand Valley, J/B 37659
Anna Young, 206 Berry Ridge Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 17:

Brandon Curtis, 251 Matson Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 18:

Cherish Hughes, 3917 Old Jonesborough Rd., J/B 37659
Richard Sauls, 135 Hall Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 19:

J.D. Kilbourne, 990 Old Boones Creek Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 20:

Tasha Davis, 715 Sugarhollow Rd., Telford 37690

Sept. 21:

Missy Brown, 248 Washington College Station, Limestone, TN 37681
Aldon Broyles, 118 Sunny Acres Rd., J/B 37659
Hannah Shelton, 511 N. Cherokee St., J/B 37659

Sept. 22:

Susie Brewer, 366 Telford Rd., Telford, TN 37690

Sept. 23:

Bill McConnell, 301 Upper Sand Valley Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 24:

Joshua Gilbert, 304 New Ave., Erwin 37650
Steven Masters, 325 Headtown Rd., J/B 37659

Sept. 25:

Rusty Denton, 108 Honey Hollow Rd., J/City 37604

Sept. 26:

Jim Good, 614 Pactolas Rd., J/City 37604
Kylee Milliken, 333 Overlook Dr., Blountville 37617
Elton O'Hara, 134 Town & Country Dr., J/B 37659

Sept. 27:

Marsha Boyle, 130 Jenny Lane, J/B 37659
Dane Denton, 112 Honey Hollow Rd., J/City 37604
Brittany Meadows, 1160 Huffine Rd., Lot 15 J/City 37604

Sept. 28:

Diann Earhart, 213 North 3rd Ave., J/B 37659

Sept. 30:

Patricia Bowling, 125 Hartman Dr., J/B 37659

**DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL HAS BEEN CANCELED FOR 2020.**

STEWARDSHIP REPORT



Here are the July YTD results:

Budget Required	\$553,464.30
Budget Received	\$520,920.28
Under Budget	\$32,524.02
Disbursed	\$472,711.82
Receipts over expenses	\$48,228.46

Even though we are under budget, receipts are still ahead of expenses.

Date	July 19	July 26	Aug. 2	Aug. 9	Year To Date
Budget Required	18,448.81	18,448.81	18,448.81	18,448.81	\$590,361.92
Budget Received	11,237.00	16,183.05	14,880.00	12,288.00	\$548,108.28
Over/Under Budget					(\$42,253.64)
DESIGNATED					
Building Fund			1,100.00	50.00	
Challenger's Class					
Discipleship Training			10.00		
Explorer's Class					
Men's Ministry (Pastor's Masters)	50.00				
Miscellaneous			105.00		
Missions (JAMA)			1,000.00		
Missions (Golden State)					
Missions (School Supplies)		30.00			
Missions (Meals Ministry)			1,000.00		
Recreation (Mtn.Glen Golf)					
Recreation (Pastor's Master's)					
Senior Men's Prayer Breakfast					
Senior Adults		50.00			
Social Ministries		500.00			
Women on Mission	45.00				

Hello Trinity Baptist Church! It is an honor to be the next worship pastor here. My wife, Hope, and I are settling in very well in Jonesborough and have already talked about how much it feels like home already. We have gotten to meet several of you and can't wait to meet everyone and to get to know you all as well as how God has gifted each of you to serve Him.

Let me say thank you – first, for seeking God's will in calling me as your worship pastor, and second, for praying for me and my family during this transition period. The Lord has answered many prayers of ours and of yours, and we have felt those answered prayers daily: prayers for good health, for a smooth transition from our previous church family to here, and prayers for peace and knowing we are in God's will.

I am looking forward to the coming days and weeks of learning who Trinity Baptist is and of leading you all in worship each week. Pray for me now that the Lord would guide my planning and my prioritization in these initial weeks. Pray for Trinity's future and for us as a staff to have wisdom as we seek to be faithful and safe in our decision amidst the current pandemic. And pray that the Lord would continue to strengthen you and to lead you to serve Him at Trinity somewhere if you are not already doing so. He has a place for us all!

God's Word tells us plainly to *"let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."* As we seek to hide God's Word in our hearts daily, to teach faithfully, encourage one another, sing, pray, and give thanks to God in it all, let's remember there is one place where all of these happen at the same time – corporate worship. Worship matters. It matters to God, and I know it matters here at Trinity. May the Lord bless our worship with His presence and power through the Holy Spirit, and may He receive all the glory.

In Christ alone,

Chris
cmcdonald@trinity3e.org

Seniors On The Road

Isaiah 41:10

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

We love our Seniors and thank you for your faithful witness and wisdom. God Bless!



Dear Church Family,

I am so excited to be able to tell you that our renovations to the children's area downstairs are well underway! The painters have been here this week, the flooring installation should begin next week, and as I walked through the classrooms yesterday I felt such a sense of renewal and peace. I can't wait to see how the Lord continues to use this space, and the discipleship opportunities that will take place in it, to minister to the smallest members of our congregation.

Watching this renovation process unfold, my heart has been reminded of how God's Word tells us He is constantly at work to shape the hearts of His children, conforming them more and more to His image. Just as floors have to be ripped out before new ones can be laid, and walls must be primed to cover marks of wear and tear, the Holy Spirit is faithful to reveal our self-centeredness, pride and hard-heartedness to expose our need for the grace of Christ. He intentionally strips us of our old desires and habits and idols, making room for thoughts and actions that glorify Him and not ourselves. Then He patiently rebuilds our understanding of ourselves and those around us in light of the gospel and the example of Christ. He teaches us to be servants. He gives us strength and wisdom to put on the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self-control to replace the worn and faded character we had before demolition started. The middle of the renovation process isn't pretty...in fact, it often looks chaotic and dirty. It hurts to have things stripped away. But the promise of what is to come, and the small victories of 'rooms' being completed along the way help us look toward the future of new spaces and circumstances in which to worship and grow. He is so faithful to us!

As we near the finish of the renovations in our Children's Area, I want you to know that we as a staff are working on a re-entry plan for Children's Worship for our nursery, toddler and preschool aged children. We recognize that there is risk involved in restarting age-specific activities, but as we look toward a more long-term approach to this COVID-19 crisis, we believe the spiritual formation of our children is worth that risk. With this in mind, we plan to move forward to providing an opportunity for children to hear the gospel in an age-appropriate way on Sunday mornings starting in September. We recognize that safety precautions and measures will look different in a gathering of children than they do for our church family in the service, but we are committed to a careful and thoughtful approach to the development and implementation of safety policies to lessen the risk involved. More information on specific policies and precautions will be coming soon.

Please pray for wisdom as we begin to implement these plans. I cannot wait to see all the joyful, smiling faces of the kids on our first Sunday back in Children's Worship!

Love, Ms. Amy



The Golden Offering for **Tennessee Missions** is the annual state missions offering that provides invaluable financial support for ministries that help reach Tennesseans for Christ. The offering is named after W.C. & Mildred Golden, who suggested the week of prayer for state missions and a state missions offering in 1902. This offering will be emphasized during the month of September. Offering envelopes will be available at the Information Desk. Information as to how this offering is allocated is on the downstairs bulletin board.

Meals Ministry Needs

Drivers for the Meals Ministry need to meet at the church by 9:30am on Saturday, September 26

ATTENDANCE

	July 19	July 26	Aug. 2	Aug. 9	Aug 16
Morning Worship:	121	130	135	151	181
Evening Worship:	25	25	20	13	0



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Chris & Hope McDonald
882 Ashley Meadows
Jonesborough, TN 37659

DEACON OF THE WEEK SCHEDULE	September 6	Kevin DeFord
	September 13	Luke Denton
	September 20	Rusty Denton
	September 27	Mike Hensley