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TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN AUG Tidings



There & BACK AGAIN...



transitional pastor's letter...

Hi Trinity,

By the time you read this, the 5 1/2 month mission study phase of this transitional time between pastors will have come to an end.

Special thanks to the 91 members and staff who participated in the one-on-one conversations and the 77 who participated in the small focus groups.

The Session approved the mission study in July, and a Town Hall meeting was held on July 27 to present highlights of the study to anyone in the congregation who wanted to come and learn.

Here is a link to access a copy of the written 2025 Mission Study Report:

Mission Study Report

We are now awaiting the approval of the mission study by Presbytery's **Commission on Ministry** (COM) on August 5, along with permission to elect a **Pastor Nominating Committee** (PNC). Depending on COM's workload for the August meeting, we may or may not get approval in August. There is a chance it will have to be put off until the September meeting because of the sheer volume of work COM is sometimes called to take on.

Depending on when COM approves the mission study and gives us permission to elect a PNC, our Session will call a congregational meeting for either a Sunday in August or a Sunday in September to elect a PNC.

You should know that the Presbyterian Book of Order offers just one guideline for the nomination and election of the PNC: the committee must be representative of the whole church (G-2.0801). In accordance with the Book of Order, Trinity's Nominating Committee will make sure we have a representative PNC.

In my experience, it typically takes a full year from the time a PNC is elected to the time a new pastor begins work at the church.

The first big task of the PNC is to write up (what is called these days) the **Ministry Discernment Profile** (MDP) which advertises the open pastor position with **Church Leadership Connection** (CLC), a nationwide denominational online system that matches up congregations looking for a church professional with church professionals who are looking for a new position. This MDP document has to be approved both by our Session and by COM before we can post it online, so it will take a few months before we can start advertising for the next pastor.

David Garnett

Transitional Pastor



MANY MANY THANKS (and aspirin!) to Wayne Youngdahl who has made a beautiful dry river bed to repair the erosion between the two front parking lots. – Jim Kisner

note from the associate pastor...

IN J. R. R. TOLKIEN'S THE LORD OF THE RINGS, THE HOBBIT BILBO BAGGINS WRITES A BOOK ABOUT HIS ADVENTURES, AND HE CALLS IT THERE AND BACK AGAIN. WITH APOLOGIES TO BILBO AND PROFESSOR TOLKIEN, I'D LIKE TO BORROW THAT TITLE AS A THEME FOR THIS SUMMER:

SPECIFICALLY, YOUR IONA PILGRIMAGE GROUP MADE IT THERE AND BACK AGAIN, AND WE THANK YOU FOR JOINING US AS WE SHARED OUR EXPERIENCES WITH YOU IN A SPECIAL PRESENTATION AFTER WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 (AT 11:15 IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL).

WE THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR PRAYERFUL SUPPORT. YOU CAN FIND A FEW OF OUR PICTURES IN THIS ISSUE OF TIDINGS.

peace,  night



2025-08 Baile Mor

Approaching the Isle of Iona on the ferry, with the village – known as Baile Mor in Gaelic, which means “big town” – in the foreground and Iona Abbey in the distance.

2025-08 Barb T

Barb T. tells a story during the ceilidh (pronounced “kay-lee”), which traditionally is a social gathering with Irish or Scottish music, dancing, and story-telling.

2025-08 Carole in the Band

Carole Garrison plays in the band during an evening worship service in the Abbey church.

2025-08 Dean and Brandon

Dean Christenbury and Brandon Haskins explore the Hill of the Abbot.

2025-08 Dean Emma Patty Jan Dwight

Dean Christenbury, Emma Persigehl, Patty Gruen, Jan Furr, and Dwight Christenbury on the trail to Columba's Bay, with the Machair and the North Atlantic Ocean in the distance.

2025-08 Iona Abbey Church

A Celtic high cross casts a late afternoon shadow on the Iona Abbey church. (see *Tidings'* cover)

2025-08 Phil Lorraine Jan

The only truly nasty weather we experienced was on the day of our departure; here, a soggy Phil and Lorraine Talbot and Jan Furr enjoy a rocking ferry ride across the Sound of Iona.

2025-08 Philip

Phil Talbot recites an original poem during the ceilidh.

2025-08 Susan Birthday

New and old friends help Susan Mangrum celebrate her birthday on the Craignure-to-Oban ferry.



PHOTOS CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE



August Birthdays

2 Dwight Christenbury

8 Emily Bridges Corn

9 Jim Norris

11 Harold Nicholls

12 Barbara Pickwood

18 Harry Hankla

19 Jane Strange

21 Catherine Langsdorf

24 Neena Haskins
Tim Kuykendall

28 Nancy Williard

Sept Previews

1 Edie Clark

3 Tom Bridges
Kathy Madigan

4 Barbara Dawson

5 Leia Burnham

6 Pat Donovan
David Haskins

2025 Stewardship "Snapshot"

Contributions: pledged amounts, amounts more than pledged, & other contributions

<u>June '25</u> <u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>YTD</u>	<u>June '24</u> <u>YTD</u>
\$265,667	\$235,900	\$246,599

Stewardship Ministry

Here is an update on contributions to Trinity from members, friends and visitors, to fund Trinity's annual budget for operating costs, staffing, ministries and missions.

Thank you for your support!

Stewardship Ministry

GOD ENDURES AND WELCOMES OUR RESPONSE

It is summertime; a good season for considering ways to reset our lives for the coming busier fall season. Consider how wide and deep and enduring is the love of our great God. God's love endures regardless of what we may or may not do. We can never have enough "good works" to earn our way to eternal heaven. We can only receive God's grace and then respond with our service and attempts to become more like Christ each day.

Whether or not we "like" our worship service, consider how our worship may be pleasing to God. Whether or not we think we have "enough" time to be involved with the ministries of the church, how will the use of our time be pleasing to God? Whether or not we think we are giving "enough" to the church, what will be pleasing to our God? God desires our prayer, worship, and giving.

God delights when we use the gifts we have been given to the glory of God and to spread God's love. There are so many ways to do this every day. What wondrous love is this!

Barb T.



INTERFAITH
ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

**Current
Pantry Needs:**

Pantry items can be dropped off at our facility located at 310 Freeman Street, Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. and 3 p.m (Closed for donations on Fridays.) For more information, please contact our Food Assistance Department Manager, at 828- 697-7029. Thank you!

Our offices are located directly behind Tequila's Mexican Restaurant and beside the Blue Ridge Mall off Four Seasons Boulevard.
THANK YOU!

Personal Care Items

- Diaper sizes 4,6,7 (no pull-ups)
- Men's Stick Deodorant
- Razors
- Dish soap
- Individual Toothbrushes
- Laundry Detergent Sheets



Library Notes

The library has received books for the 2025-26 Trinity Book Club. They are:

- September
All the Colors of The Dark
by Chris Whitaker
- October
James
by Percival Everett
- November or December
Old Books, Rare Friends
by Rostenberg & Stern
- January
The God of the Woods
by Liz Moore
- February
The Frozen River
by Ariel Lawhon
- March
The Authenticity Project
by Clare Pooley
- April
How We Learn to Be Brave
by Marion Budde
The Day After His Crucifixion
by Merikay McLeod
- May
The Boys of Riverside
by Thomas Fuller

These books are in the library cabinet in the Atrium in a specially marked section.

If you don't see a title, feel free to let us know by leaving a note on the library desk or email us at library5154@att.net and we will put a hold on it for you.

Barry & Linda Stokes



Local Missions Ministry



The 43rd annual Hunger Walk is coming soon! It will begin and end at Lennox Station on Whited Street near the railroad tracks on Saturday, September 20th. There are posters on each side of the partition wall in the narthex with more information, including how to register for the walk. Be sure to indicate you are part of the Trinity team on the drop down menu.

Registration for those who do not register online at hendersoncountyhungercoalition.org or via the QR code on the poster can register at the walk beginning at 8:00. The walk will begin after a prayer at 8:30. Trinity folks should pose for a group picture before we begin.

Beginning on August 31st, a table will be in the narthex with walk info and envelopes for both those who will walk and those who will not walk but want to support the walkers.

In an effort to increase awareness and participation, we have some additions to our campaign this year---

- We will host a musical performance by Joel Helfand on Sunday, Sept. 14th at 3:00.
- All of the free will offering will go to the 12 agencies supported by the Hunger Coalition.
- The 12th agency added this year is the Food Connection, which has been active in Buncombe County for years and has now begun operations in Henderson County.

Also new is that we plan to arrange a group tour for members who may want to learn more about the Storehouse, Calvary Episcopal's Food Pantry, or the Community Food Pantry. We selected these three smaller agencies because people may not be as familiar with them as they are of larger agencies such as IAM or the Rescue Mission. Jocelyn Tolleson, Esther Hider, or I will lead these three visits in early September. Stay tuned for more information during the coming weeks.

Tom Karvonen

Worship Ministry

What a joy it was to gather with fellow musicians on the beautiful Montreat Campus for the Presbyterian Association of Musicians Conference. The theme of the conference was "Compassion, Kindness, Humility, Meekness and Patience." The worship services, led by Margaret Aymer, were inspirational and reflected a different virtue of the theme each day. Everyday as part of the worship service, groups performed. The handbells, as well as the drumming group were favorites of mine. At the closing concert, however, all levels, Children, Middles, Senior High, and Adult, all came together. The music was breathtaking. Besides the majesty of hearing 500 adult voices sing in a wonderful hall, the Children's and Middle's choruses were awesome. The excitement was palpable.

As an adult attendee, I chose to delve into choral offerings, such as Adult Choir, Vocal Skills for Choral Singers, Conducting the Choir, and Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs. I had knowledgeable instructors and enjoyed the curriculum. It was an enriching week, and I want to thank all those who were involved in sending me to the conference. I hope that my experience can benefit our music here at Trinity as we prepare for a new beginning to our music program.

Claire Crook



Matthew 25 Ministry - "Go"

David Garnet's sermon on July 13th reminded us of the commandment from Jesus to "Go." Phrases from the Prayer of Confession that day can guide us if we ask, "Where do we go and why?"

We remain silent in the presence of evil and are content to live in separation. We are called to seek the good of all, but fail to resist the powers of oppression. We are called to fight injustice, but sit idly by. Give us courage and strength to act.

The Matthew 25 Ministry met after the service to decide on steps to respond to the commandment as we seek to involve the congregation in discussing social justice issues and proceed with a sense of mission that is deepened by our worship together.

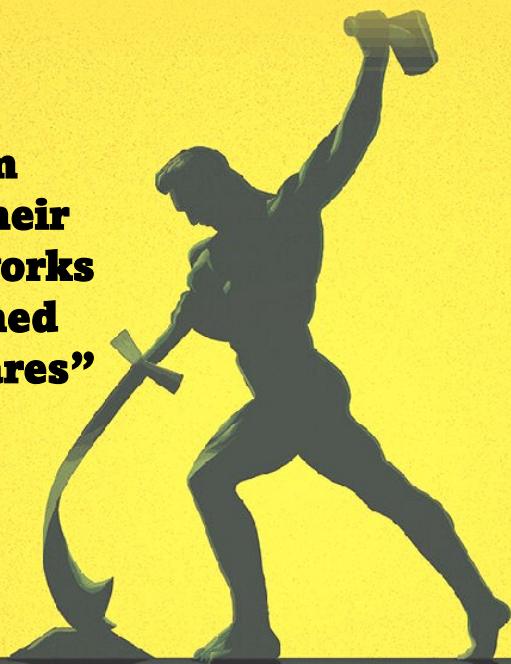
We are asking other congregations to support financially and with volunteers the CirclesUSA program to reduce poverty. We will continue sounding the alarm about the toll of gun violence by co-hosting the Guns

to Gardens program with Moms Demand Action on August 16th when pieces of fire-arms will be pounded into implements and ornaments. We started planning a day on October 11th to read from books that have been banned. After hearing a statement about the alarming isolation among the elderly, several members agreed to begin addressing the issue. The statement, information about other social justice issues, a list of programs in the community, and names of ministry members to answer questions will be available on our table in the narthex.

Church members may sign up to participate in these programs at our table. As always, you may contact me on Sundays or at rmiles6514@sbcglobal.net about the ministry and the Henderson County Social Justice Network, which is improving communication among congregations about social justice issues.

In peace, *Bob Miles*

Saturday, Aug 16 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
"Raw Tools - South" demonstrates their skill creating practical and artistic works out of the remnants of decommissioned guns. A sort of "swords into plowshares" project! Join us in the Trinity front parking lots for art demonstrations, kids' crafts, the "Cactus Rainbow" food truck, and more.



**Guns to
Gardens**

RAWTOOLS

**DISARM HEARTS
FORGE PEACE
CULTIVATE JUSTICE**

Matthew 25 Ministry cont.

CIRCLES USA

The Circles paradigm that we talk so much about ending poverty starts out with the notion of 'Building Community'. I used to think that community had to do only with how many shopping or sports venues, hospitals, schools or art galleries are in the area. These are valued amenities, but think with me about community and the power of community in a fractured world.

We are constantly bombarded with news of conflict and division. It can feel like we're more polarized than ever, with people retreating into their own echo chambers and shutting out opposing viewpoints. But amidst all this discord, the cultivation of community stands out as a beacon of hope.

At its core, community is about connection and understanding. It's about people coming together, sharing their experiences, and finding common ground. Whether it's a neighborhood initiative, a local charity, or a community organization like Henderson Circles of Care, these groups remind us that we're not alone and that our actions can have a positive impact on those around us.

One of the most significant benefits of community is its ability to bridge gaps between people from different backgrounds and perspectives. When we engage with others who may not share our views, we're forced to listen, to understand, and to find ways to work together. This doesn't mean we have to agree on everything, but it does mean we can develop empathy and respect for one another. This mindset might require some change on our part. In addition to intentional friendship, the Circles mission statement says that personal transformation is necessary to build community. For me, I had to allow myself to be confronted with some prejudice...I used to think that people in poverty were there because they are lazy, or that on some level they are 'less than', me and 'my people'. That was a spiritual problem with which I had to come to grips, and...yes,

change; that's just the transformation I needed. Simply said, sitting with someone in poverty meant being willing to step outside, and sit outside, of my comfort zone.

Community also provides a sense of belonging and purpose. In a world that can often feel overwhelming and isolating, being part of a community gives us a sense of identity and meaning. We're reminded that our lives are connected to others, and that together, we can achieve far more than we could alone.

In these divisive times, community is more important than ever. It shows us that even in the midst of disagreement and conflict, we can still find common ground and work towards a shared goal. By embracing community, we can build stronger, more resilient relationships and create a more compassionate society.

Ultimately, community is about people, and people are what make it so powerful. When we invest in our community, we're investing in each other, and that's why investing in Circles is worth making.

Paul Hugger

Circles USA - Our Mission

**Building community to end poverty
Through...**

- **Intentional friendships**
- **Personal transformation**
- **Systemic change**

...led by the people closest to the challenge.



Earth Care Ministry

RESULTS - PLASTIC FREE JULY

Each week in July, the Earth Care ministry celebrated worldwide plastic-reduction initiative "Plastic-Free July". With the help of our church family, we collected your plastic "problems" (i.e. situations where it is just so difficult to reduce single-use plastics) and your plastic "solutions" (i.e. ways you've personally succeeded in reducing single-use plastics in our own lifestyles). Finally, we had a vote and you chose your favorite/most useful/most likely to implement SOLUTIONS.

The #1 fav solution, with 18% of the votes was:

- **GROCERY SHOPPING**
Keep reusable grocery bags in your car (mesh, woven, baskets, etc.)

The #2 fav solution, with 10% of the votes (each) was...a four way tie!

EATING OUT

Bring your own food container (metal or re-used plastic) to take home leftovers at restaurants

- **EATING OUT**
Renounce the straw! Don't bring your own glass or metal straw. Just get out of the habit of using one.
- **HOME MAINTENANCE**
Switch to laundry detergent "sheets" instead of liquid in big bottles
- **GROCERY SHOPPING**
Put a Post-It note on your dashboard to remind you to bring your bags/containers inside

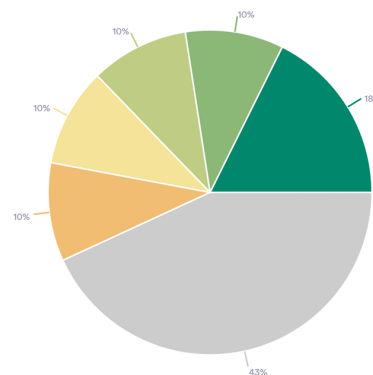
Congratulations to our winners who proposed YOUR FAVORITE **Plastic Solutions...**

1. Anne Fennell (1st Prize)
2. Molly Garnett (1st Prize)
3. Linda Morris (2nd Prize)
4. Mark Johnson (2nd Prize)
5. Billie Hicklin (2nd Prize)

Thank you all for helping us celebrate fun ways to protect our planet! Stay tuned for the **Season of Creation** next month!

Katie Cilluffo

CHOOSE TO REFUSE SINGLE USE PLASTIC PLASTICFREEJULY.ORG



Leave Grocery Bags in the Car (18%)

BYO Leftover Food Containers (10%)

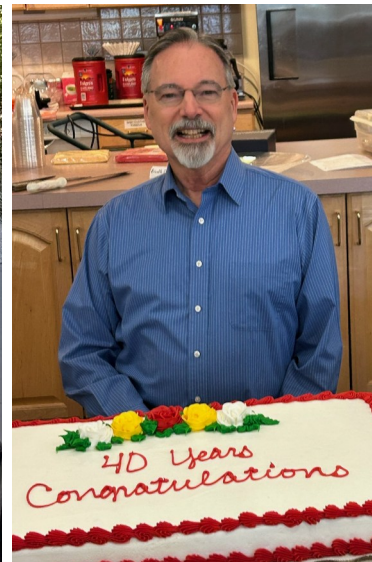
Renounce the Straw (10%)

Use Laundry Detergent Sheets (10%)

Post-It Note on Dashboard (10%)

KEEP UP THE HABIT - Reduce Plastic all Year Long! (learn more below)

- [Plastic Free July – Be Part of the Plastic Pollution Solution](#)
- [What Is Plastic Free July® 2025 \(And Why It's Easier Than You Think\) - Thriving Sustainably](#)
- [Could you give up plastic for a month? An expert shares her tips : NPR](#)



CELEBRATION! Millie Tolleson and Jake officially welcome baby Sammy into his "forever family; The Persighel family welcomes baby Alan Phillip; We celebrate 42 years of service, kindness, and beautiful music as Stephen Klein retires.



HAVING FUN! The Naomi Circle lunch at "A Day in the Country"; Marty Zigovsky prepares quilt bindings for blanket donations



ADVENTURE! Trinity's Pilgrimage Group in front of the Iona Abbey Church.



PISGAH
LEGAL SERVICES

Justice Matters Tour

Tuesday, August 19th

11:30 am – 1 pm

Trinity Presbyterian Church

900 Blythe Street

Hendersonville, NC 28791

Join us for a Justice Matters Tour — an inside look at Pisgah Legal's work in our community. You'll hear powerful stories, meet Executive Director Jackie Kiger and our dedicated attorneys, and learn how you can stand with us to protect access to justice for all.

Register today!



This free event includes a boxed lunch; advance registration is required.

Register online:

pisgahlegal.org/hendojmt

Email Daniel Carey with questions or for more information at daniel.carey@pisgahlegal.org.



DEATH CAFÉ

CONSCIOUS LIVING, CONSCIOUS DYING

EVERY FOURTH MONDAY, 4:00 - 5:30 P.M.

Death Café is an opportunity to talk about death, dying, grief, and loss with caring listeners. Join us to tell your stories and listen to others. Share sacred memories and expand your heart with other gentle souls. Light refreshments are served.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
DIANE SWIFT @ 828.595.9063



Building & Grounds Ministry

GARDEN ANGELS NEEDED!

If you have an hour or two to spend weeding at church every week or two, we urgently need your help. Please contact Wayne Youngdahl at 828-891-2069 for further information. Thank you!

Wayne Youngdahl

ALUMINUM CANS

FOR GUATEMALA (rinsed, soda and beer cans) We still collect the first Sunday (*other days if necessary*) of each month. Deposit them behind the church (near the playground) in the cage in front of the storage shed. Money collected is used for the children's scholarship program. Thank you for your support.

Carole Ball



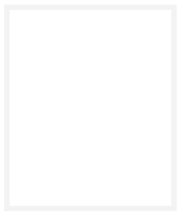
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 8:00 Toastmasters 10:00 Building & Grounds	2 11:00 Memorial Service - Sandra Dwork
3 - COMMUNION 9:15 Youth Learning Hour 10:00 Worship 11:15 Hebridean Journeys 4:00 Cub Scout Leaders 5:00 ManKind Project	4 9:00 Finance Team 10:00 Care Portal Mtg. 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai chi	5 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee Group 4:00 Global Missions 6:00 Zoom: Music Director Search Mtg.	6 - PRESBYTERY YOUTH COUNCIL RETREAT 10:30 Friends in Christ 4:00 Wise Women Network	7 - PRESBYTERY YOUTH COUNCIL RETREAT 1:00 Technology Mtg. 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai Chi 4:00 Zoom: Finance & Stewardship Ministry	8 8:00 Toastmasters	9
10 9:00 Issues & Concerns 9:15 Youth Learning Hour 10:00 Worship 11:15 Matthew 25 Ministry 5:00 ManKind Project	11 9:00 Finance Team 10:30 New Member Mtg. 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai chi 5:30 Local Missions Mtg. 6:30 Session Mtg.	12 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee Group 3:00 Origami Group 3:30 Deacons' Mtg.	13 10:30 Friends in Christ	14 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai Chi	15 8:00 Toastmasters 4:30 Postcard Party (Trailside)	16 GUNS TO GARDENS 9:30 Swing Band Rehearse 11:00 Guns to Gardens
17 9:15 Youth Learning Hour 10:00 Worship 5:00 ManKind Project	18 9:00 Finance Team 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai chi	19 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee Group 11:30 Pisgah Legal Lunch & Learn "Justice Matters" 6:00 Zoom: Worship Mtg.	20 - TIDINGS DEADLINE 10:30 Friends in Christ 3:00 Zoom: Earth Care	21 1:00 Circles Guiding Coalition 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai Chi 6:30 Cub Scouts	22 8:00 Toastmasters	23 9:30 Swing Band Rehearse
24 9:15 Youth Learning Hour 10:00 Worship 5:00 ManKind Project	25 9:00 Finance Team 2:00 Personnel Ministry Mtg 2:00 PW Coord. Team 4:00 Death Café 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai chi	26 9:30 Staff Meeting 10:00 Coffee Group 11:30 Naomi Circle Lunch 3:00 Origami Group	27 10:30 Friends in Christ	28 3:30 Tai Chi - beginners 4:00 Tai Chi 6:30 Cub Scouts	29 8:00 Toastmasters	30
31 - 5 CENTS A MEAL 10:00 Worship 11:15 Retirement Celebra- tion for Stephen Klein 5:00 ManKind Project						

August 2025



900 Blythe Street
Hendersonville, NC 28791
828.692.6114 office
828.699.1218 church cell

Rev. David Garnett • Transitional Pastor
Rev. Dwight Christenbury • Associate Pastor
Sally Beghtol CLP • Minister of Visitation
Stephen Klein • Organist/Choir Director
Katie Cilluffo • Office/Graphic Designer
Jim Kisner • Maintenance
Sandy Weeks • Photographer



www.trinitypresnc.org - www.facebook.com/trinitypresnc - office@trinitypresnc.org

Trinity Presbyterian Church welcomes **you** without regard to race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, education, economic circumstance, your place of origin or any other issue that divides God's Family.

We are Christ's people and this is Christ's place
with its doors wide open.

Welcome!

tidings

august

... the month of apples and falling stars

Viktor Někrasov

