Children’s Ministry News

It’s been about a year and a half since Trinity has had an active children’s ministry team. Life simply became so busy that we couldn’t commit to meeting regularly. Our peninsula culture is changing how we do ministry at Trinity!

The topic of changing ministry is on the minds of leaders throughout the nation. At the end of April I’ll attend a gathering of thousands of family ministry leaders from over 50 denominations. The theme for this conference is the inevitability of change and how we adjust our sails when the winds shift.

To try to get a better understanding of these shifts, I’ve been meeting individually with as many families as possible to hear what life is like for them. What are their hopes and dreams for their involvement at Trinity? What excites them and what disappoints them? What stands in their way of experiencing the blessing of a Christian community? How can we come alongside them?

A day in the life of a 2-parent working family involves early mornings, daycare stresses, commuting, scheduling around job requirements or travel, finding a healthy family routine in the evening, getting adequate sleep and then doing it all again the next day. Parents have a desire to grow in their spiritual life, but can’t imagine how or when to fit it in. They desire connection to the greater church community for them and for their children, but admit that simply getting here is a production! Weekday activities are almost impossible and there’s no time for added volunteer roles. They want to feel welcomed, loved and understood, not judged and pressured.

What does all this mean for Trinity? That’s a conversation for the whole church! I’m learning how to reach out with encouragement and looking for new ways to live out our Children’s Ministry goal of partnering with families as we follow Jesus. I hope you’ll join me!

By Kristan Verveniotis
Mexico Prayer Partners Dinner March 8

The Deacons are hosting a dinner for Trinity prayer partners on Sunday, March 8th at 6:00pm to meet the high schoolers who are going on the Youth Mexico Mission trip.

Jane Brinson remembered her prayer partner being very shy. It was her first time going to Mexico, and when Jane said “she would pray for her,” she was very grateful for that. Your love and prayers make a difference!

Making Connections at Trinity

The best part of Trinity is connecting with others, both inside and outside of the church. Trinity's softball team is a great way to get outside, stay active and make new friends! We're celebrating our tenth anniversary playing in the co-ed league of the San Carlos Park & Rec. Games are on Sunday afternoons and there are three separate seasons that run from March to May (spring), June to August (summer) and September to November (fall). If you're interested in joining us on the field, please contact Sabine at sabinedwon@yahoo.com. Let's play ball!

Small Social Groups

Are you interested in forming deeper friendships and connections at Trinity that go beyond Sunday mornings and/or small group bible study? Then our Small Social Groups are for you! We have seven amazing groups who have enjoyed dinners, volunteering, wine and cheese, boating, and other great outings. A lot of fun happening in our amazing community!

Rosters are being updated this month. If you would like to join a group or meet new people in a different group, please contact Carol Raisner at carolraisner@gmail.com so the Connections Team can find the group that’s right for you.
All-Church Great Getaway (GGA)
May 1 - 3, 2020
Redwood Glen Conference Center
Register online at trinity-pres.org/connect or in Fellowship Hall

Memorial

God’s Love in Helen Dodds
By Pastor Mary

Most of us thought we knew Helen pretty well, until her memorial service! Who knew that this teacher who never married or had children of her own had four daughters who called her mom, eight young adults who called her grandma, two great-grandchildren, and many others who were taken into her home who considered her family. Early on it was through the Foster Care program, but more recently it was through hanging out at Starbucks. I’m not even sure how many of the staff there found a room and a home at Helen’s, but a bunch of them were at her service, and one stood up and with tears in his eyes told how she had changed his life forever. “God entered into our experience and showed us love in Jesus Christ... meeting us where we are with immeasurable grace...” That is from the “God’s Love” theme in our Spiritual Goal material, and it is also from the tributes to Helen Dodds’ 83 years of life.
Session Liaisons

Buildings & Grounds: Jim Boso
Stewardship & Finance: Jim Gernand
Trinity Foundation: Margie Barkhau
Leadership & Nominating: Sabine Won
Personnel: Mark Gerhardt
Spiritual Formation: Margie Barkhau
Worship: Kelly Richards
Connections: Karen Gernand
Preschool: Kim Nave
Children’s Ministry: Erin Vitus
Sticky Faith: Mark Gerhardt
Community Outreach: Pat Brown
Global Outreach: Pat Brown

2020 Session Priorities

Practice Stewardship
Foster personal stewardship of time, talent, and treasure as a spiritual practice.

Family Ministries (Children’s Ministry)
How will we partner with families while we follow Jesus given the intensity of life on the Peninsula.

Bible Literacy
Learning the essentials of biblical literacy for an emerging life of faith.

The Why Statement
To know and humbly share the love, justice, and compassion of Jesus in community, so that people encounter God’s love and follow the spirits call.

Top Row (Left to Right): Kurt Heineman, Kim Nave, Mark Gerhardt, Jim Gernand, Jim Boso
Bottom Row: Pat Brown, Erin Vitus, Sabine Won, Deborah Kemper, Mary Graves, Margie Barkhau, Kelly Richards
Deacons

(Left to Right): Christian Halden, Pat Muller, Senta Colombo, Mary Graves, Laurie Donovan, Christine Luna, Jane Brinson, Suzanne Wilsey, Elsa Gernand, Carol Dudick-Nicholas, Victoria Lee, Ryan Lee, Anderson Goodwin

Deacons Ministry

Sandwiches on Sunday: Jane Brinson & Anderson Goodwin
Holiday Sharing: Christine Luna & Ryan Lee
Street Church Coordinator: Suzanne Wilsey
Memorial Service Coordinator: Senta Colombo
Meals & Cards Coordinator: Victoria Lee
Flowers & Visitation: Elsa Gernand & Laurie Donovan
Home Communion: Pat Muller

Executive Board

Co-Moderator: Carol Dudick-Nicholas
Co-Moderator: Christian Halden
Secretary & Treasurer: Victoria Lee
Pastor: Mary Graves

Greek: diakonos    One who serves

The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example Jesus Christ.

It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith.

At the time of their ordination and/or installation, deacons are asked a deacon-specific question that also serves well to summarize their calling:

Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people’s help to the friendless and those in need?
Community Outreach
Redwood High School

By Cathy Lehr

Trinity lovingly wraps its arms around Redwood High School as students struggle to earn graduation credits amid huge life obstacles. So is the case with Jake and Lisa (not their real names). Jake was homeless and lived in a van with his mom, but yet he was a very bright and promising student who, last fall, was just a few months away from earning the credits he needed to graduate. When Jake stopped coming to school, Redwood’s Vice-Principal discovered it was because he and his mom couldn’t afford gas money. A few gas gift cards were purchased and given to Jake. After that, each morning Jake and his mom were waiting in their van, in the school’s parking lot, when the Vice-Principal arrived. Within weeks, Jake had completed his courses and had the credits he needed to graduate. All that was in his way was less than $100 of gas money.

Lisa was skipping school a lot. It was then discovered she was embarrassed by her clothing, and couldn’t afford to replace her old ragged jeans, Redwood’s Vice Principal handed her a few $25 Target gift cards in an envelope. She opened the envelope in class, swelled with emotion when she realized the value of the gift, and had to step outside the classroom to cry with overflowing gratitude. With just some very basic clothing, Lisa is back on track, attending school, and heading for graduation.

Those life changing gift cards were provided by Trinity's Community Outreach Team and your Alternative Gift Opportunity donations. Praise be to God as your generosity is changing the lives, and direction, of Redwood High School’s youth.

World Vision
Every child free from fear

Global Outreach

Do you sponsor a child through World Vision?

By Mindy Pearce

Trinity has had a long-standing relationship with Romania and World Vision as one of our supported global missions. Global Missions Outreach Team is interested in knowing how many Romanian children are sponsored by the Trinity community. We are also interested in sponsorship of children in other countries through World Vision.

If you are currently sponsoring a child, will you kindly email Mindy Pearce at mindy682@yahoo.com. Please include how many children you currently sponsor and the name of their home country.

Thank you for helping to change lives!

Children’s Ministry

Family Communion Class Wednesday, March 11th, 6:30-7:45

Is your child ready to participate in Communion? We’d like to help you have a conversation about this meaningful sacrament. Join us for our Communion Class as we walk through three hands-on activity stations that will help you and your child understand it more fully. From there, you will be able to assess your child’s readiness to participate. Please RSVP to Kristan at Kverv@trinity-pres.org if you’ll be attending!
Music & Worship

Music Ministry

Rehearsals are beginning and we’re on our way preparing for Lent, Palm Sunday and Easter. Both Choir and Hand Bells will meet for the specified time period below to learn songs for this liturgical season. There’s no long-term commitment. Simply try it out for the season! There’s a seat just for you!

- Choir meets Thursdays from 7-9pm beginning February 27 - April 9 (7 rehearsals)
- Hand Bells meet Sundays, 11:30-12:30 beginning March 1 - April 5 (6 rehearsals)

Journey through Lent

Trinity worshippers will have a time each week for Tenebrae reflection as we journey toward Easter in the season of Lent (March 1-April 11). Tenebrae is the Latin word for darkness and is expressed by Scripture reading and the extinguishing of another candle each week as we approach the darkness of Good Friday. On these Sundays, the choir anthem will be a companion to the reading to help move us deeper into the Lenten journey to the cross. Each week, there will be time during the anthem to tie a ribbon on a cross, symbolizing the giving of our anxieties, burdens, and prayers to Jesus. We hope this will be a time for you to walk with Jesus toward spiritual discovery.

Youth Ministry/Sticky Faith

Did you know the youth ministry program at Trinity (also known as Sticky Faith) is not only growing, but it’s thriving!

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Our middle schoolers are connecting and having fun with one another, Kurt, and other adults from our congregation on Thursday evenings during Middle School Fun Nights. In January, our youth and their families had an opportunity to serve through SOS, not only making sandwiches, but also serving those in need at the Fair Oaks Community Center. The middle schoolers are already looking forward to their 2nd annual camping trip in August. All of this bonding time together is translating into an enjoyable and meaningful time on Sunday mornings during Phish Phood (Sunday school) as they wrestle with thought provoking questions and delve into the Bible for guidance.

HIGH SCHOOL: This Spring, the high schoolers are gearing up for another trip to build houses in Mexico. In the Fall, as the current 8th graders transition into high school, the number of high schoolers in our church will double. With this critical mass, we have already begun brainstorming with the kids, ways to connect with one another and with God. Ideas that are bubbling up are a once a month Sunday class during worship and sprinkling in some Fun Nights as well.

THE CONGREGATION: One of the 3 pillars of the Sticky Faith model (how to get faith to Stick beyond high school graduation) is surrounding these kids with adult relationships. If you have an interest in helping to ensure the best possible faith formation for your youth, and would like to be involved, please contact Kurt Heineman, kheineman@trinity-pres.org or Julie Pope, thepopes.ca@gmail.com.
Holy Week

Palm Sunday
April 5 - 10:00 am

Maundy Thursday
April 9 - 6:30 pm

Easter Worship
April 12 - 9:30 & 11:00 am