WHY DO WE GO TO CHURCH?

While on vacation, I had a some conversations that got me to thinking about why we go to worship. For some, it is duty. For others, it is habit and custom. For others still, it is to be fortified to make it through another week in the world.

Why, though, do we go to worship? I would suggest four reasons why we should, and one we should be cautious about.

Let’s begin with what we should be cautious about. We live in a consumer culture, and that mindset does impact how we see God and worship. Many people treat God as though His greatest desire for our lives is to make us happy, healthy, successful, you name it. In other words, God serves us. Most of us don’t consciously say that, but the mindset does creep in, and when it does, worship, too, becomes a consumer product. We go to worship because of what it gives us, how it makes us feel. While we are definitely blessed in worship, what we get out of worship is not meant to be the primary reason we engage in it. Blessing is secondary, a by-product, if you will, of meeting with God.

So what should be our primary reasons for worshiping?

First, we should go to worship because God is worthy of it. That’s where the English word comes from: worth-ship. We should worship God because of how incredible He is! To know the One True God, the Almighty One, Love Himself, should result in wanting to honor Him and joyfully offer ourselves to Him.

Second, we should go because we need Him. We often live as though we don’t really need God, but the reality is that we are creatures who need our Creator. We are created to rely upon Him for instruction, correction, direction, and power as we seek to live according to His ways. A key aspect of worship, then, is acknowledging our dependence upon God. That’s why historic forms of worship, drawing upon Jewish roots, always include:

- hearing God speak in Scripture, with direction and instruction
- responding with faith, confession, and repentance
- receiving grace and strength from God in order to do His work

We gather in worship because we need what only God can give us.

Third, we go because we need one another. We are not meant to live our lives of faith in isolation from other people. When we gather together, we are encouraged and strengthened by those around us even as we offer the same to them. Like an ember in a fire, we go dark when alone, but surrounded by other coals we burn bright. It is true that our whole lives are meant to be lives of worship, but when we gather together, the Holy Spirit tends to move in our midst in a special way. I am convinced that one reason why this is so is because the Spirit works in and through the fellowship He knows we need.

Finally, we gather in worship because we are blessed when we do so. At its heart, worship is a time of meeting with God, and you simply cannot leave God’s presence without being blessed. There is, then, a proper blessing that we get out of worship, but it comes by keeping first things first. When we come together in the fellowship of worship God for who He is and offer ourselves, He will bless us with peace, joy, and the deep knowledge that we are called and loved by Him.

See you in worship!

Blessings,
As we begin our journey into what the Bible shows us about family, we must find our way with the creation of the first family, Adam and Eve. In Genesis 2, we see the creation of Adam out of the dust of the ground. He is given charge to tend the garden of Eden and is set to work. But the Lord looks at the man Adam, stops, and says that it is not good for him to be alone.

All of God’s creation has been given the pronouncement of “good” up to this point. But the fact that Adam is alone, is not good! In fact, he is contrary to the intended design of humanity, as an image bearer of God. You see, it is impossible for Adam—a lone man—to image God, who is Himself three persons in perfect union as One being.

Adam is lacking communion with another. So God sets about to make him the perfect companion, one who may share in personal and relational unity with Adam. Enter Eve into this story…

Adam, after desperately searching through all of the animals in creation for the suitable companion, sees Eve and… immediately bursts into song…? Because the way to a woman’s heart is through singing…? Take a look at Genesis 2:23 if you don’t believe me.

While the jury is still out on that one, what we can see here the completion of the, not just “good,” but “very good” creation that God had pronounced in the previous chapter. The image of God is made complete in the creation of male and female.

As male and female, they may now be the reflection of our triune God. Their temporal and finite union as man and woman is a reflection of the eternal union and communion between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. - Gen 2:24

Ever since the union was made by the first man and first woman, each of us has shared in the union between a man and a woman, our very existence depends upon it. So even if we do not personally share in marital union as a husband or a wife, we have been created out of the union between man and woman and share in the image of God, fully embodying that image. We are created out of marital union and thus reflect the union between the persons of the Trinity.

Humanity as male and female stands at the heart of what it means for us to image God and it is out of the union between man and woman that a new creation is brought forth; what we like to call, family.

Blessings

Cody Ganger

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group team is thrilled to be coming back in September after a long summer break! All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome and encouraged to join us! Each Sunday from 5:30-7:00pm we will be meeting at Trinity for fellowship, games, worship, prayer, and study of the Bible. This September, we are excited to be studying the Youth Alpha series, which covers fundamentals of the Christian faith. We will also be having our annual Photo Scavenger Hunt and Dewar's Ice Cream night on September 29! You won’t want to miss it! If you would like more information on a weekly basis, email cody.ganger@gmail.com to be added to the email list. Blessings as we embark on a new year! - Cody Ganger
Trinity Preschool’s third school year has officially started!

We have a full house, and a waiting list, and we are very excited to have another successful year. Lot’s of new and returning friends fill the classrooms and our outside play yard.

As this school new year is starting, we are preparing for our Grandparents celebration. We love our grandmas and grandpas, and we can’t wait for the children to do an arts and crafts project and celebrate their special day!

The Preschool is scheduled to do more field trips at the Alzheimer’s Disease Association Kern County. We love when we see our senior friends and make new memories. Its special for us all! We are also planning to continue to offer the best preschool program in Bakersfield to all our Amazing Trinity Preschool students and families!

Our summer reptile presentation was a huge hit with the children, the teachers and Steve Braun! Father Karl could not be found near the reptiles, but watched from afar!

Reptiles! Turtles! Snakes! Spiders! Frogs! Oh my!

Thank you to our wonderful parishioners, who stopped by with fun donations for our preschoolers! You are all so generous! Our preschoolers are loving everything!

Congratulations to all our pre-k graduates, who officially left Trinity Preschool this week to start Kindergarten. We are so proud of you all!

Thank you again for your continued prayers and support you give to Trinity Preschool. We appreciate it!

Love,
Jennifer Coburn
Director

Fall Family Feast
Friday, October 4th

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Sunday Mornings
9:15-9:45
Christian Ed
Room #117
In The Parish Family

In Sympathy to...
The Bagwell family on the recent death of Woody, on August 12th.

Thank you to...
all those who participated in the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Campaign. Your generosity raised $1,297.14 to support their ministry.

DOWNLOAD THE NEW TRINITY PHONE APP
Go to your App Store and download the TRINITY ANGLICAN BAKERSFIELD Smartphone app.

It is a great way to keep up on what’s going

LOVE TO SING?
Don’t just confine your singing to the shower! Do think about joining the Trinity Choir. We would love to have you join us for our first practice on Wednesday, September 4th, at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. You may enter through the glass doors, by the bathrooms.
For more information, please contact Sue Wagner at 304-6878

HEALING CONFERENCE AND SERVICE
Sponsored by Trinity Anglican Church and the Bakersfield chapter of the healing ministry of the Order of St. Luke

Features Mike Evans and Timothy Berry

Mike Evans, the founder of Wholeness Ministries, has been known for over twenty years for being passionate about one thing above all other things: teaching followers of Jesus how to make healing prayer a normal part of their daily life. To know how to pray for the sick at the grocery store, the mall, where we pick up our morning coffee. Through his book, Learning To Do What Jesus Did, you will learn that this can become normal for all believers.

Timothy Berry, at the age of 19, experienced an encounter with the Lord that launched him into a pursuit of experiencing and understanding God’s love, presence and power. He traveled with Randy Clark to conferences, renewal meetings and crusades here in the U.S. and in other countries throughout the world where he has seen dozens of deaf ears healed, blind eyes restored and multiple diseases and conditions healed. Timothy also preaches a strong message about the love of God, resulting in many receiving breakthroughs in their lives and ministries through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Most people know a little bit about the disciples Peter, James, and John, but what about the rest of the disciples Jesus chose? Clearly, as those chosen by Jesus, their lives can teach us about what Jesus is looking for in, and from, His disciples. Join us for this seven week sermon-based small group teaching series as we explore the lives of the twelve ordinary men Jesus chose and learn how He transforms ordinary people to do extraordinary things. The series begins the week of September 29 and runs through the week of November 10.

A SERMON-BASED SMALL GROUP STUDY
Series Begins the Week of September 29

ARE YOU IN A SMALL GROUP?

We believe that followers of Jesus grow best in fellowship and community with other disciples where we can help one another grow and can discern how God is working in one another’s lives (Eph. 4:16). That’s why Small Groups are at the heart of how we grow here at Trinity! Each year we engage in three sermon-based small group series (Epiphany/Winter, Easter/Spring, and Late Pentecost/Fall). Our Late Pentecost/Fall series runs for seven weeks beginning the week of Sunday, September 29 and concluding the week of Sunday, November 10.

What kind of time commitment do I make to a group?
We are mindful that we live in a busy culture and that certain times of year, like the holiday season, are particularly busy. Small groups meet for three series each year, varying in length from five to eight weeks, depending on the calendar.

What if I join a group that doesn’t “fit” with me?
Because we are convinced that we grow best in fellowship with one another, it is important to find the right group for you. We ask people to commit to their group for the length of the series. At the end of the series, people are free to continue with that group, try another group, or take a break until a later series.

How do I join a group?
That’s the easiest part! You can fill out the small group registration form on our website (http://trinitybakersfield.com/sermons-small-groups/join-a-small-group) or call the church office (665-7713) and we will get you plugged in!
The Blessing of the Animals

Join us on the patio at Trinity Anglican Church on Sunday, October 6th at 5:00 p.m.

as we honor St. Francis of Assisi with a service asking God’s blessing upon the animals who so bless us.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Ministry</td>
<td>September 4th at 6:15 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>September 4th at 7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday Bible Study</td>
<td>September 5th at 11:15 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>September 8th at 10 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Group</td>
<td>September 8th at 5:30 p.m.</td>
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FALL CRAFT FAIR

October 19 – 9am-1pm

Vendors & Food      Kids Zone Petting Zoo
Raffles every half-hour

A great opportunity to invite your friends to experience Trinity

Total Pledged: $1,832,926
Total Collected (7/31/19): $1,167,910.66

Insulation and drywall have been installed. The HVAC units are on the roof. Stucco will begin shortly. It is applied in several coats that have to cure in between applications. After the stucco is done, the interior will be painted and the exterior brick veneer will be put on. The project is currently expected to be done in early November.

TRINITY STATS

Attendance

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 4th</td>
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<td>August 18th</td>
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<td>August 11th</td>
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Financial

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</tbody>
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Our Vision is to be followers of Jesus in the Anglican tradition, connected through discipleship groups, with every member engaged in traditional Worship, in-depth Bible Study, Parish Ministry, and local and global Mission Outreach.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Morning
8 a.m. Holy Communion
10 a.m. Holy Communion

Thursday Morning
10 a.m. Healing Service

SEPTMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mary Wakefield
Richard Young
Sarah Thomas
Liz Brown
Finn McEnulty
Lori Pflugh
Matthew Chaffee
Lynn Deats
Dick Giles
Marie Ramsland
Judy Schreiber
Donna Chaffee
Laurie Landucci
Norma Jackson
AL Cartmell
Elle Adams
Marshall Lewis
Patti Young
Pam Knight
Greg Smith
Maddalena Lewis
Sarah Webber
Katie Lewis
Lucien Carroll
Steve McCalley
Sandy Kesler
Sharon Sundstrom-Giboney
Joyce Quilling

If a birthday is missing, please call the church office and Tara will put it in our system.

USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of three ushers for our 10 a.m. Sunday Service. If you are interested, please call the church office and speak with Tara - at 665-7713.

OFFICE HOURS

Labor Day is on September 2nd, and after that day, our church office will once again be open all day on Fridays. Our hours are: Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the lunch hour is 12 noon.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ed Taylor  Treasurer
Paul Wagner  Senior Warden
Larry Bright  Junior Warden
Kaye Camp  Clerk
Jerry Starr
Lynne Hall
Will Adams
Liz Kinney
Chris Thomas
Angelo Haddad
Chris Miller
Garrett Ming
Mary Jo Sawyer