

+he Trinity In-Spire

Sunday Services

Current Sermon Series- A Living Conversation

Every Sunday:

9:00 AM

Traditional Service

10:00 AM

Friendship Class "Adult Sunday School"

11:00 AM

Contemporary Service



September Events

9/3 - Women's Bible Study
9:30 AM

9/10 - Women's Bible Study
9:30 AM

9/13 - Women To Women @
Coffee and Cream

9/17 - Women's Bible Study
9:30 AM

9/21 - Block Party
4 PM - 6 PM

9/24 - Women's Bible Study
9:30 AM
Facets 6 PM



A Conversation with Matthew

hello
fall



Trinity Church

United Methodist

*A safe harbor offering God's love and hope
to all people.*

The Women's Bible Study wrapped up their food collection for the Apple Tree Center! Here's everything that was donated:

39 rolls of toilet paper-store

8 gallon cans Green Beans

8-15 oz. Cans green beans

16-15 oz. Cans of corn

2 large cans Bush baked beans

2 Family size cans baked beans

2 large Prego Sauce

1 large Ragu

3 medium jars of Ragu

1 medium butternut squash pasta sauce

6 Kraft Mac'n Cheese boxes

3 Rice a roni boxes

3 lg boxes of spaghetti

1 large Parmesan Grated Cheese

1 Russian Salad dressing

1 large ranch salad dressing

1 large vegetable oil

1 large BBQ sauce

1 Castile bar soap store

5-15 oz. Cans Veg-All

3-15 oz. Mini Ravioli -community pantry

1 large pancake mix

23-15oz cans of fruit

6 large fruit cans

4 jars of peaches

4 gallons of fruit

1 peck of peaches



Thank you for all your donations. The Apple Tree will definitely appreciate everything!

A Message From Pastor Drew

Dear Trinity Family,

I have an update to share with you all about my family that may come as a surprise to you. As of the end of August, mine and Heather's divorce has been finalized. I want to reassure you that we still consider each other family, and we are committed to supporting each other and to working together in raising our boys. Furthermore, I want to reassure you that this divorce did not result from infidelity or abuse on either side.

You may be wondering how to make sense of your pastor getting divorced. After all, Jesus had some strong words in Matthew's Gospel regarding divorce:

Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?"

"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

"Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?"

Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Matthew 19:3-9 NIV

Many Christians have interpreted these words to mean that the only acceptable circumstance for divorce is infidelity. But I would point out a few things that bring nuance to these words.

First of all, the question the Pharisees ask clearly indicates their frame of mind:

"Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for *any and every* reason?"

Matthew 19:3 NIV (emphasis added)

The Pharisees believed that that a man was justified in divorcing his wife for any reason—no matter how trivial—because Moses had included a provision in the old Law that allowed for divorce. Jesus' point, then, is clear—simply put, the decision to get divorced is not one that should be made lightly nor without significant reason. Infidelity is not the only reason, but it is an example of the type of reason that is acceptable.

In Jesus' day, women had few options for ensuring their own survival. They were typically dependent on the men in their lives: their fathers, brothers, or husbands. Divorce, in that society, was essentially the abandonment of women in a world where they did not have the same opportunities to support themselves that men had. Jesus is speaking, as he often did, from a place of compassion rather than judgment. His point is that it is not right to abandon those who depend on you unless there is a major offense involved.

Compassion rather than legalism is Jesus' standard, and Heather and I have both ensured that we have maintained our compassion for each other through this process. In fact, in our particular situation, our divorce was quite literally the most loving and compassionate thing we could do for each other.

My hope is that you will respond to our situation with grace and understanding. I hope to continue as your pastor for many years to come, and I hope that you will continue to make our family feel welcome and at home as an active part of Trinity Church.

If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with either of us. We welcome open, honest, and respectful conversation regarding our life transition.

Grace and peace to you all,

Pastor Drew



Pastor & Staff:

Rev. Drew Baker, Lead Pastor
Debbie Miller, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Randi Gross, Administrative Assistant
Maddie Pfafman, Communications Administrator
Jessica Swogger- Nursery Attendant

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Corbin, Jerry Warrenner, LouAnne Pillers, Sonja
Richards, Darlene Kandel, Mindy Hoffar

The Trinity Covenant

We at Trinity Church commit ourselves
to supporting fruitful discipleship in ourselves and each
other;
to prioritizing the well-being of people above all else as
God does;
to creating an environment where spiritual,
emotional, and relational hurts are healed;
and to breaking down the social barriers that keep people
from the unconditional love of Jesus.
Amen.

Lawn Care Team

✿ Join the Trinity Lawn Care Crew! ✿

Spring is here, and it's time to keep our church grounds looking beautiful! We're building a team where each member will be responsible for mowing one week per month. Substitute mowers are also welcome and needed!

✓ All equipment is provided by the Church

✓ A great way to serve your church!

• Sign up today! The sign-up sheet is available at the Ministry Center.

Thank you for helping us keep Trinity's grounds looking their best!