

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

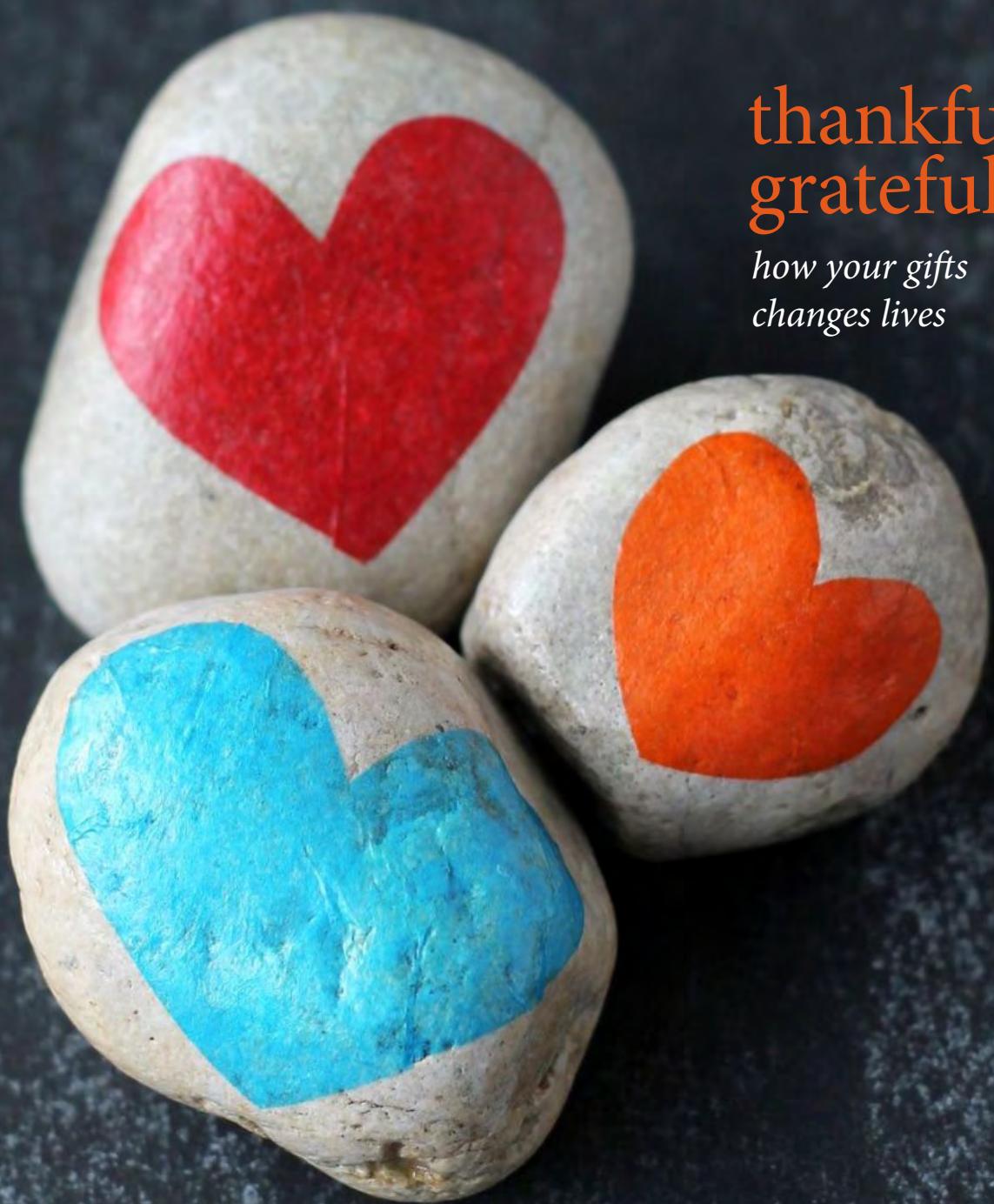
trinityatlanta.org

NOVEMBER 2021

TRINITY TIMES

thankful &
grateful

*how your gifts
changes lives*



RECONNECT

in new ways



By Rev. Dr. Richard Floyd
Senior Associate Pastor

I read an article a few weeks ago with a title designed to strike fear in the hearts of church leaders: “They’re Not Coming Back.” It reflects on the reality so many congregations are experiencing, that people are not coming back to church in the same numbers as before the pandemic.

But it’s not just descriptive. It’s also predictive: people haven’t been coming back, and they won’t be coming back, at least not in the ways they used to. In many ways the pandemic accelerated trends that were already underway, and now congregations find themselves having to adapt creatively to a landscape that feels like it changed overnight, while we were all locked in our houses on Zoom.

Of course, the reality is, people are coming back, they’re just coming back differently. Almost half of the participants in our Adult Education programs right now are participating via Zoom. And we get significantly more views of our worship services online than we have people in the pews on a given Sunday. People are finding their way back, just in new ways.

One thing is clear, even in this changed landscape: we still hunger to reconnect. That’s the theme of our Commitment Campaign: Reconnect. We’ve done a remarkable job of finding creative ways to stay in touch in the midst of a pandemic, but now is the time to take the next step, to reconnect and recommit. Now is the time to take hold of those touchstones that have sustained us and inspired us through the years, to ground ourselves once again in community, tradition, hope, and gratitude.

That last touchstone, gratitude, is the theme of this issue of Trinity Times. I have a group text with my

wife and daughters, and every week we do a gratitude check, where each of us texts one thing, big or small, that we are grateful for. (Last week it was: texting, health, mom and dad, and an on-campus meal plan!) Sometimes it’s easier than others, but we stick with it. It’s a way of reconnecting with each other, remembering and celebrating all the blessings of our lives, all the things we’re grateful for.

Two ways to reconnect and share gratitude in the coming weeks. First, on October 31 at 10am, we had a Reconnection Breakfast in Williams Hall. (Someone suggested calling it “Reconnect-fast”!) Trinity members and friends gathered for a boxed breakfast and listened to brief presentations by our Way Forward team, the Pastor Nominating Committee, and the Commitment Campaign chairs. This was a celebration of where we have been, where we’re going, and how we’re going to get there.

Second, on November 18, Trinity is pleased to host journalist, author, and entrepreneur Krista Tippett, in the first Rosemary Kittrell Memorial Lecture Series. Rosemary Kittrell was a deeply thoughtful and devoted member of Trinity, and her generosity makes this lecture possible. Krista Tippett’s topic is “Remaking the World,” and is hopefully just the beginning of a grand and necessary conversation about the new world we find ourselves in.

That article said, “they’re not coming back.” I beg to differ. They – we – are coming back, perhaps in new ways. But we are still longing for reconnection, to community, tradition, hope, and gratitude -- to God and to one another. Thanks in large part to your generosity and commitment, Trinity continues to be a place where we can find these connections. And that’s something to be grateful for!



BEYOND TRIPS AND RETREATS

This Summer our middle school and high school students participated in a number of mission trips and retreats where they learned, laughed, and served along side one another. Here are a few thoughts from some of our students on the impact these trips have on them.

MAX POWER

My name is Max Powers, and I am 11 years old and in the 6th grade at the Lovett School. Earlier this summer I went on a trip to the Montreat Youth Conference. While I was there I felt connected to God in a way that was new to me. I had all my friends there but not my parents. Every night we had recreation full of fun ways to help feel connected to everyone else through games and energizers. Then after we had “back-home” time where we all got together and talked about our day and how it went. I really liked the trip and can’t wait to go next summer! Thank You.

CANNON ADAMS

My name is Cannon Adams, and I'm in the sixth grade at Sutton Middle School.

I've looked forward to being in Trinity's youth group for a long time because my older sisters have always talked about how much fun they had on youth trips.

I got to go on my first Trinity youth trips this summer: the Middle School Mission Trip to Memphis, Tennessee, and the Middle School Montreat trip.

If you had told me that I'd have a 6-hour drive in a van packed with kids (I was in the middle), to then sleep on the tile floor of a church, in a not-so-great part of town, with an airport right next to us, and planes flying by at 4 am, and that every morning we'd have to wake up at 5:50 to make it to breakfast, but that I was going to have fun....HA, I would've thought you were crazy!

But actually, the Middle school mission trip to Memphis was a blast. I got to make new friends and connect better with old friends like Caroline Saxon. Caroline and I have been at Trinity together for years, but during the Mission trip, we really connected, and now we're best friends and see each other almost every day.

On the Mission trip, I loved that we got to help people who needed it and that we also got to know another group of kids staying at the same church. The other group was in high school, and we became friends with some of them, which was fun.

One of my favorite things on the trip was a competition between that high-school group and our middle school group to see who could pick up the most trash in that area of Memphis. So we split up into four groups and went on our way searching for trash, which was not hard to find. My group ended up with our giant trash can overflowing (shout out to Cole, who had to push the enormous trash can cart around) and all of us carrying a tire (some people were carrying



two). Even with all that hard work, we still came in second! But we were proud because we lost to a group of high-school boys and beat some other high schoolers, even though we were little middle schoolers.

I have to say, I had an amazing time on my first Trinity Youth trip! Between building stronger friendships, meeting new people, and working hard to help others, there were many ways that I felt closer to God. Thank you, I can't wait for the next one!

HELEN SLAWSON

Hi, I'm Helen Slawson, and I'm a sophomore at Westminster. This past summer, I went to Montreat for the first time. I was nervous about not knowing most of the older kids at church and unsure if I would like it or not. It took me half the bus ride to realize that this was about to be the best week of my life. I ended up making so many friends and getting super close with everyone on the trip, whether they were about to be freshmen in high school or freshmen in college. Because of Montreat, I now choose to do every youth activity at church possible just because I want to spend



more time with the people I met at Montreat. I couldn't imagine going from being with these people every moment for a week straight to not seeing them until youth group in September, so I signed up to be a Vacation Bible School Energizer the following Monday on the bus ride home. I also begged my parents to let me go to the mission week in July, where we stayed at church and did different mission projects around Atlanta, even though I'd be missing a family beach trip. Not only did Montreat gift me with so many new friendships, but it also gave me a new relationship with God that I've never had. After seeing how much God brings people together, whether it be through listening to sermons, eating meals in the dining hall, discussing our faith, or singing songs with Andrew's guitar, I realized that God had so much in store for me and all I needed to do was trust in His path. It turns out that putting my busy life of sports, school work, and socializing on hold was all I needed to realize that God had been there looking out for me all along, and all I needed to do was let go and trust Him.

CATHERINE QUILLIAN

Hey, my name is Catherine Quillian, and I am a sophomore at Westminster. So this summer, I was lucky enough to go to both Montreat and on the Mission trip. This was my first year going to Montreat because Covid canceled the trip last summer, so I had no idea what to expect. All I knew was that everyone who had gone said it was the best week of their summer, and I just had to go. I made so many friends there, from incoming freshmen who I get to wave to in the hallways at school to current freshmen in college. Not only did I make new friends, but being able to get away from Atlanta, really helped me to focus on getting closer to the people around me and God. I totally get what the hype is all about. Honestly, if you ever get a chance to go to Montreat, take it. After going to Montreat, I couldn't just stop hanging out with everyone I'd met, so immediately after getting home, I signed up to volunteer at Vacation Bible School the following week. I wanted to do anything I could to bring a little piece of the Montreat experience back home. Then I got to do the mission trip, which was just incredible at again helping me to feel God's presence in our crazy world. And now, after going to Montreat and on the mission trip, Youth Group is so much more fun because I get to reconnect with the people I spent a week with up in the mountains and doing service work in Atlanta. If I ever have a rough day, I always think back to how I felt on those trips, and I like listening to the songs we sang. It never fails to remind me that God is always there for us, even when it's hard to see him. Sometimes I've found, you have to give up your preconceived notions of what God looks like, and you'll realize he's been there all along, just not in the way you expected.

MASON MAYNARD

Hi, I'm Mason Maynard, and I am in 10th grade at Atlanta Classical Academy. This summer, I went to high school Montreat and some of the mission trips. Going on those trips was something to be thankful for already, but the experiences I had on the trips were beyond amazing. Since



it was my first time at Montreat, I was a little nervous because so many people from so many other grades and schools were going and I wasn't close with most of them. This fear seemed unreasonable at the end of Montreat. Everyone had the chance and did connect the whole time, whether during the sermons, the small groups, or even the free time. While Covid changed the dynamic of the entire retreat, it gave everyone the chance to connect with the people inside your church if you hadn't already. Spending time with other high schoolers from Trinity was an unforgettable experience, and I can't wait to go back. The mission trip, while it was in Atlanta, was also wonderful. I could only go for two days, but I could reconnect with the friends I hadn't seen in a while, and I could rekindle the memories from Montreat and previous mission trips. These trips were not like the usual Trinity Youth trips, but they made me realize how God allows us to connect. Being alone time to pray on both of these trips allowed me to reflect on how God gave us the opportunity to be where we are today and have the people we have. One thing I tend to forget is that God is there for me always, and on these trips, being able to open up about

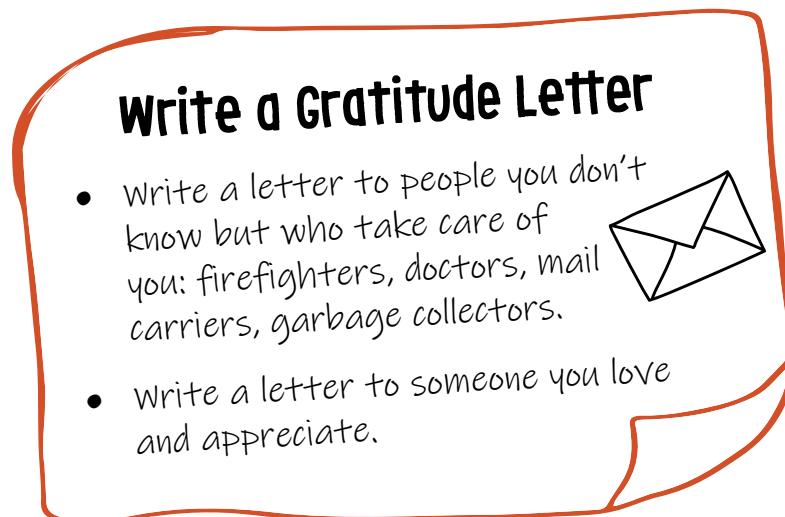
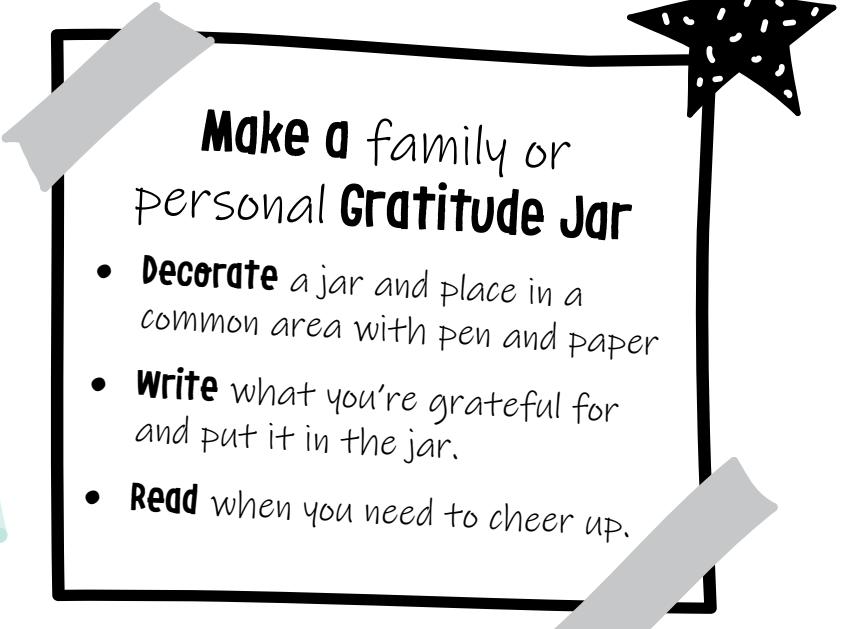
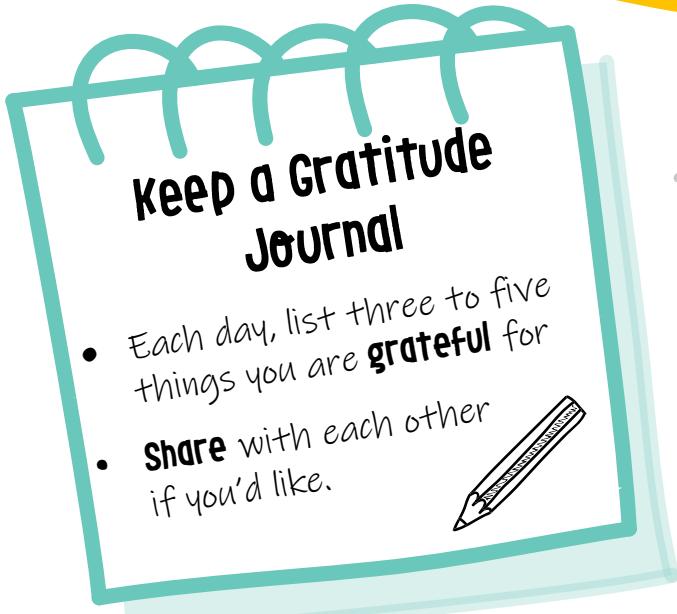


some problems to people, I felt like God was there for me, and without him, I wouldn't have been able to receive support from other amazing people that he is with too. Words can't describe how grateful I am for these experiences and for having a loving God and community.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always,
pray without ceasing
give thanks
in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God
in Christ Jesus
for you.

How to practice GRATITUDE



congregational care

**THANKS
YOU**



"I have experienced the Trinity Church Body of Christ through Stephen Ministry's training and subsequent caregiving by extending intentional listening ears along with a heart full of compassion and the love of Christ."

—Lizzie Hickman,
Stephen Minister

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BECOMING A STEPHEN MINISTER?

We are grateful for the more than 30 Stephen Ministers who serve our congregation. Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-on-one Christian care and a confidential, listening ear to individuals who need someone to walk alongside them through life's challenges, such as family situations, job stresses, health issues, isolation, etc.

The next Stephen Ministry training will begin in January 2022. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, its training, and/or what it's like to serve as a Stephen Minister at Trinity Presbyterian Church, please email us at stephenminister@trinityatlanta.org or reach out to a current Stephen Leader listed below. You can also find additional information on the national website at www.stephenministries.org.

Cindy Stancil – cindy.stancil@comast.net – (678) 613-6487

Scott Calhoun – sdc@hpsslaw.com – (404) 277-3654

Paul Marston – paul.marston@richmondsterling.com – (404) 493-3644

Carlton Segrest – carlton@atlantacomunities.com – (706) 362-3961

Miranda Segrest – mirandasegrest@gmail.com – (501) 230-0436



ROY SIMPSON RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S AWARD

"I am deeply grateful to God for all his guidance. Sometimes you just don't know who is guiding you until you look back years later."

—Roy Simpson

Congratulations to Trinity member Roy L. Simpson, who received the President's Award from the American Academy of Nursing.

Dr. Roy L. Simpson, DNP, RN, DPNAP, FAAN, FACMI, is an appointed Professor and Assistant Dean of Technology Management Services at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Emory University. He provides leadership and support for information services and educational technologies. A faculty member since 2014, Dr. Simpson was instrumental in the development of the School of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program.

Dr. Simpson's expertise in developing and deploying global health care information technology systems spans more than 40 years. He has supported the development of computer applications that shaped nursing administration, education, research, and clinical practice. He is nationally recognized for his pioneering work to develop the framework and secure funding to create what would become the Werley and Lang Nursing Minimum Data Set (NMDS).

Dr. Simpson co-wrote the scope of practice guidelines to officially establish nursing informatics as a specialty and championed the petition for American Nurses Association certification (awarded in 1992). From 1999 to 2004, he served as treasurer of the Academy during its formation as a 501c3 organization. In 2008-2010, Dr. Simpson served as chair of the Expert Panel on Nursing Informatics and serves on the Edge Runner's National Advisory Council.

Dr. Simpson previously served as Chair of the Industry Nursing Board for HIMSS in his capacity as Vice President of Nursing for the Cerner Corporation. Additionally, he served as Vice President McKesson along with Chief Nurse Executive for McKesson/HBOC and as Corporate Nurse for HCA during his 40 years of tenure in informatics and executive leadership.

A prolific author with more than 600 published articles from technology to strategy to leadership at the board and senior executive levels, Dr. Simpson is an internationally known speaker and member of six leading publications' Editorial Review boards.

Dr. Simpson is recognized as a fellow in the American Academy of Medical Informatics, the American Academy of Nursing and The National Academies of Practice. He has served on the boards of National League for Nursing, Georgia Nurses Association and American Organization of Nurse Executives, now AONL. He established funded scholarships in perpetuity in Informatics at Excelsior University.

In 2017, he was appointed by Secretaries Tom Price and Sylvia Burwell to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services' committee on Nursing Education and Practice. For his groundbreaking role in nursing informatics, Dr. Simpson received the distinguished National Library of Medicine's Nursing Informatics Award and Sigma Theta Tau's Virginia K. Saba Award.

mission

THANKS YOU



THANK YOU, TRINITY

for bringing food to the tables of those in need in Atlanta. Trinity delivered 932.8 lbs of food to Intown Collaborative Ministries (ICM) in early October. Thank you to all the church members who purchased, dropped off at Trinity, sorted and organized, and transported the food goods to ICM's Food Pantry. The mission of Intown Collaborative Ministries is to prevent and reverse homelessness and hunger in Intown Atlanta.

intowncm.org

THANK YOU, TRINITY!

Trinity is serving our neighbors and responding to those in need. (Thank you to all the donors and volunteers for Trinity's Blood Drive on Sunday, October 3rd. We loaded 38 units onto the American Red Cross truck for hospitals in our community. Each unit of blood will help two to three patients in Georgia. Trinity will partner again with the American Red Cross for another blood drive in March 2022.





In gratitude and hope, you can serve and respond with compassion for our neighbors, our community, and our world.

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Mark your calendars for the return of Trinity's in-person Christmas Market on Sunday, December 5! It may seem early to think about anything Christmas, but we need your help now so Trinity will be ready for this annual holiday tradition in early December. Proceeds from Trinity's Christmas Market benefit global missions in Haiti, Cuba, and refugee resettlement in Atlanta.

We need volunteers to sign up for a shift to set up, help on the day of the event, and clean up afterwards. We also need church members to donate items for sale at the Market, such as baked goods, casseroles, handmade goods, arts, and crafts. To volunteer, sign up online at trinityatlanta.org/christmasmarket.

Contact: Julie Hope at julie.hope@yahoo.com





AGAPE GIVING TREE

Life's challenges can sometimes leave families with little to no resources to provide for their children during the holiday season. Give a gift to an Agape student, senior, or family. Together, we fill the gap when families are unable to make holiday wishes come true.

This year, our Agape Giving Tree bulletin board is an online sign up. Agape distributes the Trinity Christmas gifts in early December – the deadline for dropping off Agape Giving Tree gifts is Sunday, November 28.

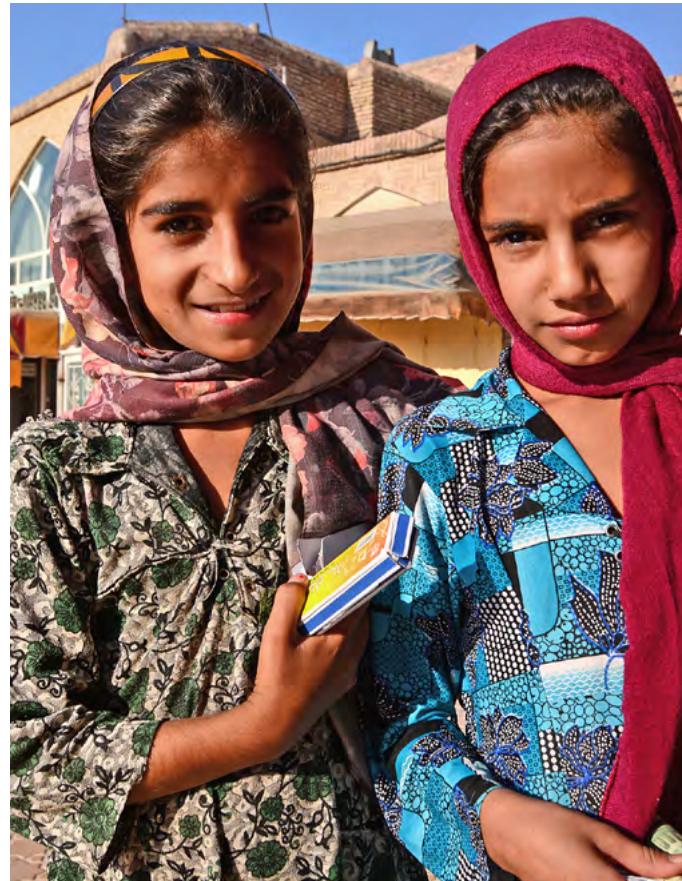
Sign up online for a student, a family or a senior,
trinityatlanta.org/givingtree.

AFGHAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

Thank you, Trinity, for your financial gifts to the Afghan Refugee Resettlement Special Offering last month. Those funds will help recently arrived Afghan refugees find welcome, stability, and hope as they settle in metro-Atlanta communities. Through the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and other not-for-profits on the ground, Trinity is supporting Afghan refugees, providing them with housing, healthcare, food, and support as they begin a new life. The Special Offering has concluded; however, there are other ways to support and volunteer for refugee families as they acclimate and work towards self-sufficiency.

Household items and furniture are needed as families gain housing. Move in dates and number of family members are still in process. You will be contacted as specific logistics become available. To see the list of needed items and to sign up to donate, visit trinityatlanta.org/responds.

Go to the Trinity Responds webpage and find out how you can respond.
trinityatlanta.org/responds



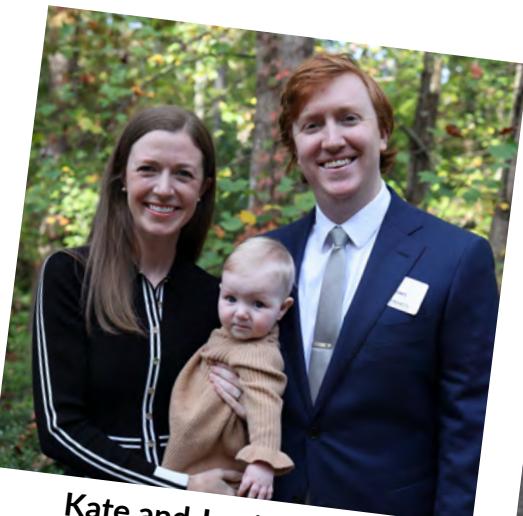
International Rescue Committee in Atlanta, our partner in mission, will welcome 800 Afghan humanitarian parolees in fiscal year 2022—which began October 1, 2021.

Consider making a household item donation (see list) or becoming a volunteer mentor





Courtney and Patrick Deveau
Joined August 15, 2021

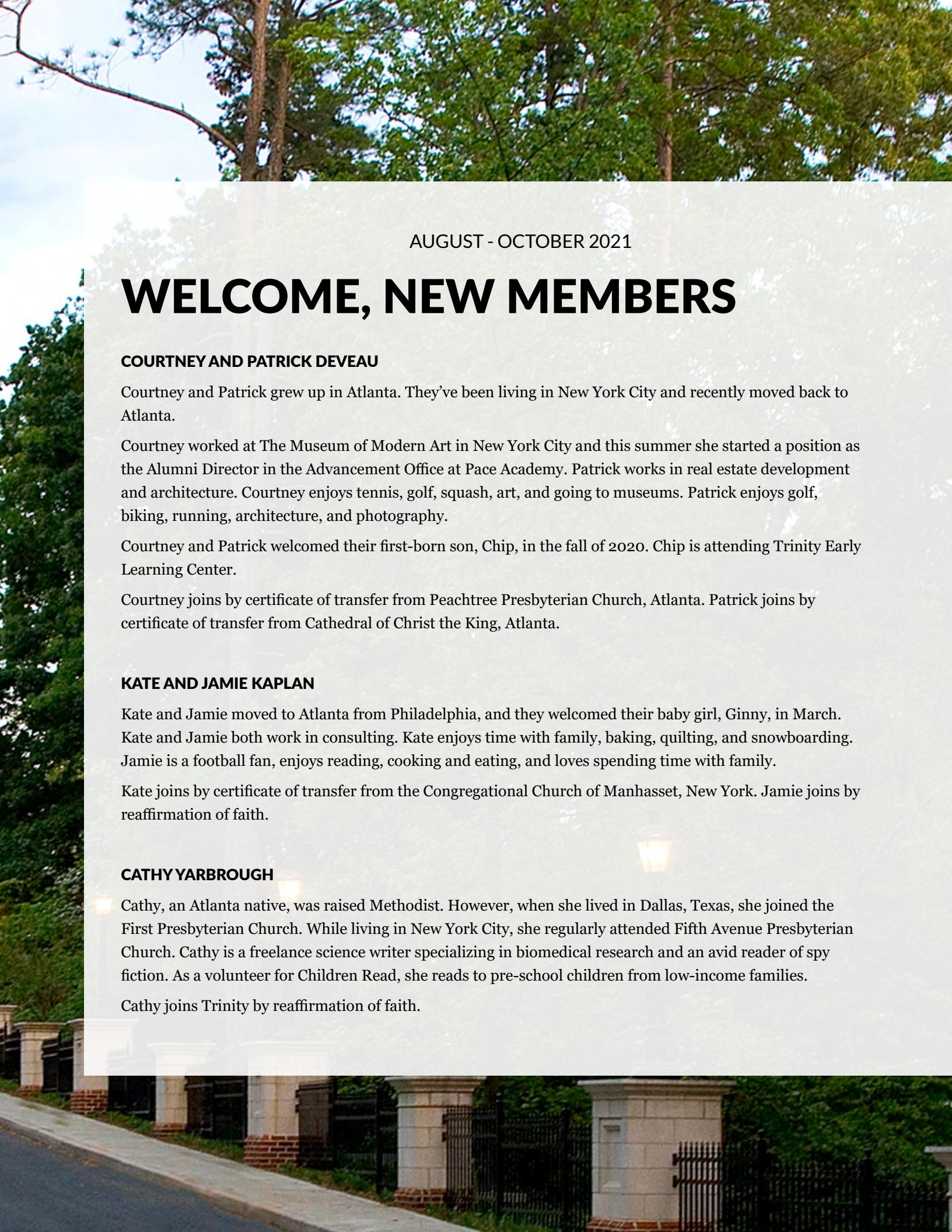


Kate and Jamie Kaplan
Joined October 24, 2021



Cathy Yarbrough
Joined October 24, 2021





AUGUST - OCTOBER 2021

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

COURTNEY AND PATRICK DEVEAU

Courtney and Patrick grew up in Atlanta. They've been living in New York City and recently moved back to Atlanta.

Courtney worked at The Museum of Modern Art in New York City and this summer she started a position as the Alumni Director in the Advancement Office at Pace Academy. Patrick works in real estate development and architecture. Courtney enjoys tennis, golf, squash, art, and going to museums. Patrick enjoys golf, biking, running, architecture, and photography.

Courtney and Patrick welcomed their first-born son, Chip, in the fall of 2020. Chip is attending Trinity Early Learning Center.

Courtney joins by certificate of transfer from Peachtree Presbyterian Church, Atlanta. Patrick joins by certificate of transfer from Cathedral of Christ the King, Atlanta.

KATE AND JAMIE KAPLAN

Kate and Jamie moved to Atlanta from Philadelphia, and they welcomed their baby girl, Ginny, in March. Kate and Jamie both work in consulting. Kate enjoys time with family, baking, quilting, and snowboarding. Jamie is a football fan, enjoys reading, cooking and eating, and loves spending time with family.

Kate joins by certificate of transfer from the Congregational Church of Manhasset, New York. Jamie joins by reaffirmation of faith.

CATHY YARBROUGH

Cathy, an Atlanta native, was raised Methodist. However, when she lived in Dallas, Texas, she joined the First Presbyterian Church. While living in New York City, she regularly attended Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Cathy is a freelance science writer specializing in biomedical research and an avid reader of spy fiction. As a volunteer for Children Read, she reads to pre-school children from low-income families.

Cathy joins Trinity by reaffirmation of faith.

adult education

**THANKS
YOU**



PRELUDE TO KRISTA TIPPETT LECTURE

Nov. 4 & 11

Thursday evenings | 7 - 8 pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 865 3876 2706

Passcode: 3003

This November, Trinity is pleased to present journalist, author, and entrepreneur, Krista Tippett in the first Rosemary Kittrell Memorial Lecture. In anticipation of her arrival on November 18, Trinity's adult education committee will host a "prelude" that will introduce you to more of Krista Tippett's work.



This November

THE ROSEMARY KITTRELL MEMORIAL LECTURE PRESENTS

KRISTA TIPPETT

On Nov. 18, 2021 at 7 pm Trinity welcomes Krista Tippett, bestselling author and host of *On Being*, as our first Rosemary Kittrell Memorial Lecture speaker. Her lecture “Remaking The World - The Callings Ahead for Inner Life and Life Together,” is open to all, and tickets are required.

Journalist, National Humanities Medalist, and bestselling author, Krista Tippett founded and leads the *On Being* Project—a groundbreaking media and public life initiative pursuing “deep thinking and moral imagination, social courage and joy, to renew inner life, outer life, and life together.” As the creator and host of the Peabody Award-winning *On Being* radio show, heard on public radio stations across the US, Tippett takes up the great animating questions of human life: What does it mean to be human, how do we want to live, and who will we be to each other?

Tippett is also the author of three highly regarded books exploring spirituality and meaning, including the New York Times bestseller *Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living*, *Einstein’s God: Conversations about Science and the Human Spirit*, and *Speaking of Faith: Why Religion Matters and How to Talk About It*. She received the National Humanities Medal from President Obama in 2014 for “thoughtfully delving into the mysteries of human existence” and she is a 2019 recipient of the Four Freedoms Award from the Roosevelt Institute. She is currently at work on a new book about the human challenges and promise of this young century.

Through the Rosemary Kittrell Memorial Lecture, Trinity Presbyterian Church offers compelling talks featuring high-profile theologians and other religious scholars and thinkers. The Lecture is made possible through the endowed fund established by the estate of Rosemary Kittrell. Rosemary was a well-regarded Atlanta civil rights attorney and a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church for 43 years.

We are grateful for Rosemary’s gift that funds this lecture series, and hope you’ll join us for this thought-provoking event. To learn more about Krista Tippett, visit the *On Being* Project at onbeing.org.

Should you decide you are no longer able to make the lecture, we would very much appreciate your emailing Esther Patrick at epatrick@trinityatlanta.org to release your ticket in order to allow others to attend. Thank you.



NOV
18



**THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU IN
ADULT EDUCATION**

Classes through December

Classes are offered in a hybrid setting allowing participants to join in person or online on Sunday mornings at 10 am. Thursday evening classes will meet on Zoom.

Registration is not required for class participation.

Because of your generosity, Trinity is able to provide an educational program designed to provide a context where people of all ages may find a meaningful, challenging, and exciting continuing education that prepares us to live as faithful people in God's world. Trinity also seeks to embody a generous, welcoming spirit in each learning space, and hopes that you will come and be a part of these places of growth!

SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 10 AM

The Intergenerational Church [IN-PERSON CLASS]

Class	Leader	Description
Nov. 7 - 21 <i>Sunday mornings</i> 10 - 10:50 am Williams Hall	Rev. Andrew Esqueda <i>Associate Pastor for Family Ministries</i>	Come one, come all for this three-week series as Andrew addresses the importance of bringing generations together and how.
11/7/21 What is the Intergenerational Church?		We will look at the history of churches and intergenerational ministry, and what it means to be truly intergenerational.
11/14/21 Why the Intergenerational Church?		We will explore research and personal stories of how intergenerational churches and relationships have transformed the Church and the faith life of young people and adults.
11/21/21 How to be the Intergenerational Church?		We will look at both the Church-at-large and Trinity, and how the intergenerational church will impact the future of the Church.

An Adults Only Bible: The Stories of Dinah and Tamar [HYBRID CLASS]

Class	Leader	Description
Nov. 7 & 14 <i>Sunday mornings</i> 10 - 10:50 am B104-106	Rabbi William L. Rothschild	Guided by Rabbi Bill Rothschild, participants in this class will analyze the contrasting and salacious stories of Dinah and Tamar from the Book of Genesis. We'll place the stories in context, reviewing the background on rules of property and inheritance that the original audiences would have known. Then, following the two texts line by line, we will question whether both tales are truly about men, money, and control.

Unselfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All-About-Me World [IN-PERSON CLASS]

Class	Leader	
Dec. 5-19 <i>Sunday mornings</i> 10 - 10:50 am Williams Hall C	Ellen Carrington	In this class geared towards parents of youth, college students, and young adults (but open to anyone who would like to attend!), Ellen Carrington will discuss the book <i>Unselfie</i> by Dr. Michele Borba, which explains what parents and educators can do to counter the growing empathy crisis among children today. Carrington will unpack Dr. Borba's writing on the causes of the empathy crisis and Borba's researched-based, nine-step plan for reversing it. <i>UnSelfie</i> is described as "a blueprint for parents and educators who want kids to shift their focus from I, me, and mine to we, us, and ours."

Foundations [IN-PERSON CLASS]

Class	Leader	Description
Dec. 5-19 <i>Sunday mornings</i> 10 - 10:50 am Williams Hall A	Bonnie Holliday Tom Owens Erin Kendall	Join us as we explore stories from the Bible in an interactive, discussion-oriented setting. Not an expert? Not a problem. This class is for individuals hoping to fellowship with other Trinity members while growing their faith by reading the Bible, reflecting on its meaning, asking questions, and applying the teachings of Jesus to their lives. Bring your Bible (and a sense of humor), and let's grow together.

Carrying a Tune [HYBRID CLASS]

Class	Leader	Description
December 5-19 <i>Sunday mornings</i> 10 - 10:50 am B112	Adult Education Committee & Special Guests	Let's warm up our voices in preparation for Christmas pageants, Lessons and Carols services, and our beloved annual Congregational Carol Sing by gathering together to sing some of our favorite sacred carols, hymns, and secular Christmas songs. We'll explore the stories behind some of these songs and lift our voices with joy and thanksgiving (all while fully masked) as we celebrate the Advent season.

THURSDAY EVENINGS @ 7 PM

Prelude to Krista Tippett Lecture [ONLINE CLASS]

Class	Leader	Description
Oct. 21 - Nov. 11 <i>Thursday evenings</i> 7 - 8 pm <i>Zoom Meeting ID:</i> 865 3876 2706 <i>Passcode:</i> 3003	Adult Education Committee Members	This November, Trinity is pleased to present journalist, author, and entrepreneur, Krista Tippett in the first Rosemary Kittrell Memorial Lecture. In anticipation of her arrival on November 18, join us as we explore selections from Tippett's conversations over the years with such luminaries as Mary Oliver and John Lewis. The Rosemary Kittrell memorial Lecture is made possible through an endowed fund established by the estate of Rosemary Kittrell, a beloved Trinity member for 43 years. Both the lecture and prelude series are free and open to the public.



CLERK'S CORNER

By Amy Krause
Clerk of Session

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). There are many instances in which we are called to show and share our gratitude. I hope as a congregation, we continue to send notes, make calls, and express our gratitude in person and in many of the other familiar ways that we have become accustomed to. Furthermore, I hope we will also explore new ways to let those we know and those we do not know so well feel and receive our gratitude. I know that I am thankful, as are many of you, for the pastors who give of their time and service to us and the work of the church; for our many members

who continue to practice their faith in many new and varied ways; for our children and youth who brighten our services, daily lives, and remind us of what it means to grow; for our committee chairs who direct our ministries and help us to live out our faith; for the elders who previously served and for those currently serving to make decisions to guide us along the path; and for our newest members who have chosen over the last several months to walk with us on our faith journey. These are all signs of movement and growth, for which I am thankful as we pursue a new senior pastor and discern our way forward.

Our October Session meeting brought updates and motions that support these steps forward in the life of the church. As I reviewed the agenda and motions, the actions seem to be aspects of how we, as Christians, express our gratitude to God and each other. See if you agree?

- Trey Reese provided the devotion and shared how feedback, early in the beginning steps of his career, caught him off-guard and unexpectedly propelled him forward.
- In the Clerk's Report, it was easy to weave in gratitude for the elders and their leadership and to recognize the gifts of the congregation and our church leaders by reviewing the final numbers of the Infrastructure Campaign (\$2,082,755). We also heard the latest decisions made regarding the priorities for the Infrastructure Fund and the list of tasks to complete.
- The statistical report indicated two baptisms and three new members for August and September. In addition, two more Called Session Meetings are planned to receive more new members. Currently, we have 1,583 active members.
- Selected elders will represent Trinity at the Presbytery Meeting on November 9, and bring back information to keep us abreast of denominational happenings.
- We have more than 400 reservations for the Rosemary Kitrell Lecture Series with guest speaker Krista Tippett on November 18.
- Finance reviewed the importance and the quality of our annual review and shared the monthly financial summary statement. Although our pledges are

slightly behind, we are ahead of budget, and we typically see an uptick in contributions near the holidays. Of course, the end-of-year contributions play an essential role, too.

- Congregational Life updated their committee's purpose, latest efforts, and expenditures as part of our ongoing monthly committee updates.
- The Commitment Chairs reviewed the details of our upcoming kick-off and Re-Connect-Fast (breakfast) to be held on October 31 and mentioned the three presentations that will occur.
- The Property Committee shared the latest actions and the upcoming asphalt project to take place in November.
- Worship and Music brought forth two motions. One was to approve a revised wedding fee structure that will include non-members for a trial period. This suggestion came out of the Church and Budget Workgroup on ways to increase the use of the building and revenue. This committee also brought a list of members who will serve on the review of the 9 AM Worship Service Task Force that will be assessing whether we met our intended goals and what suggested changes might be made. Both motions were approved.
- The Personnel Committee shared a revised reporting structure that will have all associate pastors reporting to the Senior Pastor (currently the Interim Senior Pastor) to correspond to the Ministry Information Form (MIF) used in the current search, to enhance the pastoral staff working as a more effective team, and to prepare the way for a new Senior Pastor.
- Elders engaged in small group discussions around two articles related to attendance (in-person and online) and returning to worship and noted that Trinity is experiencing similar responses to other churches. In addition, elders found the six compelling reasons mentioned in one article for why people may not be coming back to church insightful.

Please see the Session Packet and Session Minutes posted to the Session web page for more details about these actions. Minutes are typically approved at the next month's meeting and then posted.

We closed out the October Session meeting with prayer and a reminder of the upcoming interfaith Thanksgiving service, which has long been a Trinity tradition. This year's service will be held at Trinity on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. If you have not attended previously, it is a memorable experience that helps us as a church express our gratitude within our community.

I trust that November will bring you opportunities to express your gratitude and thankfulness for family, friends, and even foes.

commitment

**THANKS
YOU**

TRINITY TRUST FUNDS A GIFT AND AN OPPORTUNITY

by Margaret Reiser

Since I started a three-year term as Chair of the Trinity Trustees in January, many of you have expressed interest in Trinity's trust funds and their purpose. So it occurred to the Trustees that an occasional column in the Trinity Times might help demystify the Trust funds and be an opportunity to share news about new gifts and help us all learn more about the funds and exciting ways they are being used.

Let's start with a bit of history. The Trinity Trust Fund was incorporated in 1960, with by-laws approved by the congregation. Quoting from the by-laws, "The Trinity Presbyterian Trust Fund is established and operated for religious causes and the advancement of Christianity in conjunction with the work and ministry of Trinity Presbyterian Church... The purpose of the Trust is to encourage gifts and bequests which are to be administered on a sound basis and in such manner as to enhance and broaden the development, expansion, causes, and work, including benevolences and charities, of Trinity Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA)."

Since then, over a dozen trust funds with unique Statements of Intent have been established as part of the Trinity Trust. Some were established at the death of a Trinity member, some by the congregation with funds raised in Trinity's 2001 Generation to Generation capital campaign, and some by current members of Trinity who made a gift for a particular designated purpose. I've chosen a few of the Trust

funds to tell you about in more detail and will talk about others in future articles.

There are seven Trustees, with a new Trustee elected by the Session each year for a seven-year term. Currently, the Trustees are Mickey Benn, Scott Wolle, Ann Speer, Bonnie Harris, Margaret Reiser, Tom Jones, and Frank Fuerst.

The Trustees' role is to oversee the Trust Funds, ensuring they are invested wisely and that requests meet the donor's intent. The Trustees also encourage planned giving at Trinity and bring a deep commitment to the ongoing success of Trinity and its mission. Requests for disbursements from a trust fund typically come from a Session committee which the Trustees review to confirm the request meets the donor's intent, and then vote to recommend to the Session, which must give final approval of all withdrawals from the Trust.

November Trust Fund Highlights: This month, I want to highlight three funds - the two that were established most recently, The Rosemary Kittrell Memorial Lectureship Fund and the Trust Fund for Major Maintenance; and the General Trust Fund.

The Rosemary Kittrell Memorial Lectureship Fund was established by Rosemary herself, to be funded through her estate at her death which occurred in 2018.

Rosemary was an accomplished attorney and an

active member of Trinity for over 40 years. As it says in her obituary, “She served as an Elder on the Session and participated in many groups both in and outside of the church. She lived joyfully.”

Rosemary envisioned a fund that would allow Trinity to recruit and bring esteemed theologians and other religious scholars and speakers to speak at Trinity, with the participation of the broader Atlanta community and Trinity members encouraged. The first lecture funded by the Kittrell Fund will be held on Thursday, November 18th at 7:00 p.m., with Krista Tippett, host of *On Being*, as the speaker.

The Trust Fund for Major Maintenance was created in 2020 at the request of the Session and certain long-time Trinity members to establish a permanent trust fund for Trinity’s significant building and ground repair and maintenance needs. The donors made an initial gift of \$250,000. It is envisioned that the Fund will grow in size and impact over time through appreciation and subsequent gifts from the donors and other faithful Trinity members. The Statement of Intent outlined that an annual distribution would begin in 2021 from the Fund to the Church’s Property Reserve Fund based on a percent to be determined by the Trustees (the spending rate for 2021 is 4% and the first distribution to the Property Reserve was \$10,000). This is a wonderful new fund for something that Trinity has very much needed – an endowment restricted to help look after the major maintenance and repair needs of Trinity’s buildings and grounds. We hope many others will make gifts to this Fund over time.

Finally, the General Trust Fund consists of gifts given over the years by many Trinity members, often through their estates at their death or in memory of members who loved Trinity and wanted to help the church continue to thrive. These funds are unrestricted, and the Trustees currently have adopted a policy of making an annual distribution of 4% (based on a 12 quarter average of the principal balance), which goes into Trinity’s annual operating budget. So, for example, in 2020, a distribution of \$101,505 was made from the General Fund into Trinity’s operating account, helping to cover the church’s operating costs in all areas.

In closing, the Trustees are pleased to note two special gifts received into the General Trust Fund from 2021 to date. First, in April, a gift was received in memory of Trinity member Charlie Bedford, who died in January of this year. His wife Nancy Bedford shared that Charlie greatly appreciated being a member at Trinity and enjoyed serving as an Elder as well as regular participation in the Men’s Breakfast and the church’s education classes. In May, a gift was received at the death of former Trinity member Cynthia Grinnell. She and her husband “Deke” were active Trinity members from the 1960s until they moved to Chicago in the last decade to be nearer their children.

I’ve been in touch with her daughter, Sally Sharp, who grew up at Trinity and remembered the church fondly. Cynthia and Deke were actively involved with Lifespan Ministries at Trinity, and I’m sure many in the congregation will remember them.

REPORT FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

9/30/2021

Operating Pledge Budget	\$3,247,509
Year to date Contributions	(\$2,217,421)
Remaining pledges to be collected	\$1,030,088

As you can see at the end of September, Trinity has over a million dollars of pledges to be collected which is more than \$330,000 per month for October through December. While pledge receipts are generally heavier during the fourth quarter of the year, members are encouraged to remember to pay their pledge.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

thanks



LET'S GIVE

Please join Trinity Presbyterian Church for
the Community Thanksgiving Service.

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 21
4 PM | TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN
3003 Howell Mill Road NW, Atlanta

A reception will follow in Williams Hall.

PARTICIPATING CONGREGATIONS

Ahavath Achim Synagogue | Christ Covenant Church | New Hope A.M.E Church | Northside Drive Baptist Church
Northside United Methodist Church | St. Anne's Episcopal Church | Trinity Presbyterian Church

The service will be livestreamed - **WWW.YOUTUBE/C/TRINITYATLANTA**

THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU AT TRINITY

sunday @ trinity

WORSHIP

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM

**9:00 AM | THE LOFT
11:00 AM | SANCTUARY**

Registration is not required for in-person worship.
Both services are live streamed on [Vimeo](#), [YouTube](#), and [Facebook](#).

CHURCH SCHOOL

9:45 AM | CHILDREN | BUILDING D

10:00 AM | YOUTH | BUILDING D

10:00 AM | ADULTS | BUILDING B, WILLIAMS HALL, & ZOOM

Church school classes are offered for all ages.

YOUTH GROUP

6:00 - 7:30 PM | THE LOFT

Please bring \$10 for dinner each Sunday.