



You are invited to join us for

LUNCH

on **Celebration Sunday**



Sunday, October 26

Two seatings available:
11 AM & 12 Noon

Served in the GYM



Make a reservation @ www.trinitybirmingham.com

complimentary • Catered by Full Moon BBQ

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Tag your posts **#everygift**

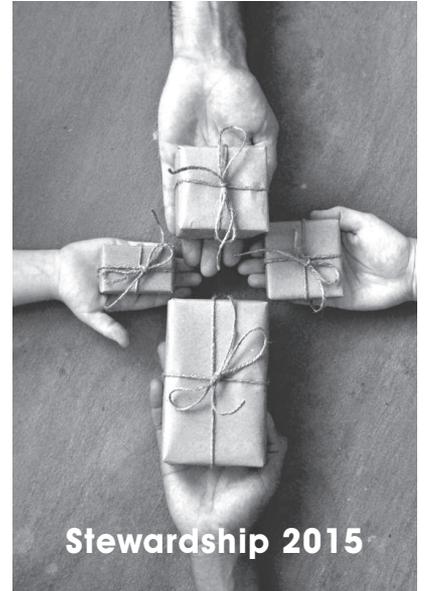
This year's stewardship theme is **#everygift** - every gift counts!
We need your help to build a **SOCIAL MEDIA SCRAPBOOK**.

During October, we invite you to be on the lookout for God's gifts. Where do you see God at work in the church? Where do you see Christ-like generosity around you? We are building a social media scrapbook around these holy moments. Tag your posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with **#everygift** as a way of sharing stories of generosity with other Trinity folks and our community.

Find us on Facebook • Trinity United Methodist Church, Homewood

Follow us on Twitter • @TrinityBHM & @everygiftcounts

#everygift



Stewardship 2015

"Every good and perfect gift is from above."

- James 1:17a



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2014

8:45 & 11:00 AM • Sanctuary

The 8:45 AM worship service is broadcast via 15-minute delay from 9-10 AM Sundays on WAPI-1070 AM.

SERMON

Dr. Andrew Wolfe

MUSIC

8:45 AM

William A. Gardner Handbell Choir,
Men's Chorus

11:00 AM

William A. Gardner Handbell Choir,
Sanctuary Choir

MINISTER ON CALL

Andrew Wolfe, 871-1309



8:45 & 11:00 AM

WESLEY HALL, Rev. Nathan Carden

OCTOBER 5 - ATTENDANCE

1,110 • Total Worship Attendance
624 • Traditional | 486 • Contact
688 • Sunday School

PERSONAL WORD

Worry is the great enemy of generosity. Anxiety about what tomorrow holds leads us to tighten our grip on our resources, concerned that there won't be enough. There's something in our wiring as human beings that predisposes us to caution, even though we often guise it in the form of responsibility and prudence. But worry keeps us from being generous.

This is probably why scripture spends so much time dealing with worry. While wandering through the wilderness for forty years, the Israelites are treated to a daily buffet of manna. When the more responsible among them try and gather a spare stash "just in case," they are always disappointed to find it spoiled the next day. The lesson is clear, God wants them to learn how to trust in Him, and depend on his provision.

When a crowd of thousands sits through one of Jesus' longer sermons and misses the dinner break, Jesus turns to his disciples and asks what they're serving for dinner. Those cautious men of God try and explain the math to Jesus, saying, "We don't have enough. Send them away." But you know what happens – they are eating leftovers for days.

At its heart, worry is a spiritual issue. That's why Jesus tells his followers that life is more than meeting your next need – Christians ought to take fashion cues from the lilies of the field, and learn stewardship from the sparrows. The first thing any of us must do is seek the kingdom of God, and then all our other priorities will sort themselves out. We first believe in the goodness of God to provide, and only then we will find that we have enough. In scripture, faith always precedes the miracle, not the other way around.

This is not our natural way of doing things, of course. I would like all risk removed before I participate in the things of God. Give me the blessing first, and then I will exercise the trust necessary. When I was growing up, I tried to use this logic on my parents. This seems to be a genetic trait that has been passed to my children in a form of really unfortunate karmic justice.

"You know what would really motivate me to clean up my room? You going ahead and giving me a six weeks advance on my allowance. I think if I could see the money, I would become a more responsible child, the kind you really want me to be." Take out all the wait, all the wonder, all the mystery, and then I'm on board.

But a worldview like that leaves little room for the presence of God, and it's therefore little wonder that so often it's the people with the most resources who have the hardest time learning to depend on the grace of God.

During these next three weeks in worship, we are going to talk about giving. Not just giving to the church, but the ways God provides, and the ways we are called to lead generous lives. I want you to hear loud and clear that this is more than a campaign to raise funds for the church's ministry, it is a campaign to raise the generosity quotient in each of our hearts as followers of Christ. What would it mean for your family, your work, your spiritual life, if you were to become less worrisome, and more generous?

Let's find out together.

INFORMATION FOR GUESTS & NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to Trinity United Methodist Church!

Our mission is to *Gather* people to Christ, *Grow* people in Christ, *Go* to serve Christ in the world and *Glorify* Christ.

Sunday Worship Opportunities:

- 8:45 & 11:00 AM – TRADITIONAL services in the sanctuary, offering same sermon and a variety of music.
- 8:45 & 11:00 AM – CONTACT – a relaxed, informal, service in Wesley Hall featuring music from the CONTACT Band, children are encouraged to attend.

- 10:00 AM – Sunday School – Ages 2 yrs. and up.
- Nursery is provided during all services.

Interested in Membership?

Please join us the first Sunday of every month in the large parlor for "Coffee with the Pastor." This is a time to meet the pastoral staff, ask questions and learn more about the core values and mission of Trinity. We also encourage you to attend "Membership 101," a basic orientation prior to joining Trinity. It is offered on the second Sunday of each month. Questions? Call 879-1737.

Andrew Wolfe - Senior Minister
 Brian Erickson - Senior Minister Designate
 Nathan Carden - Minister of Outreach, Contact
 Suzanne Pruitt - Minister of Christian Formation
 Bobby Scales - Minister of Pastoral Care
 David Thompson - Minister of Students

- Church Office: 879-1737 / Fax: 868-9714
- Care Line: 868-9709
- Child Development Center: 879-1749



“Every good and perfect gift is from above.”

- James 1:17a

A note from the Stewardship Chair

There’s an ad currently running on TV for retirement planning. In the ad, a narrator is standing in a large park with dominoes of assorted sizes, representing various investment amounts. The smallest dollar amount starts the chain reaction. In the end, a huge, monolithic domino representing a large and happy retirement fund is presented. The point of the ad is that you have to start somewhere and those small amounts add up. The same can be said for annual pledging. Every gift counts. We all have gifts of varying sizes – and they are all critical to the larger purpose.

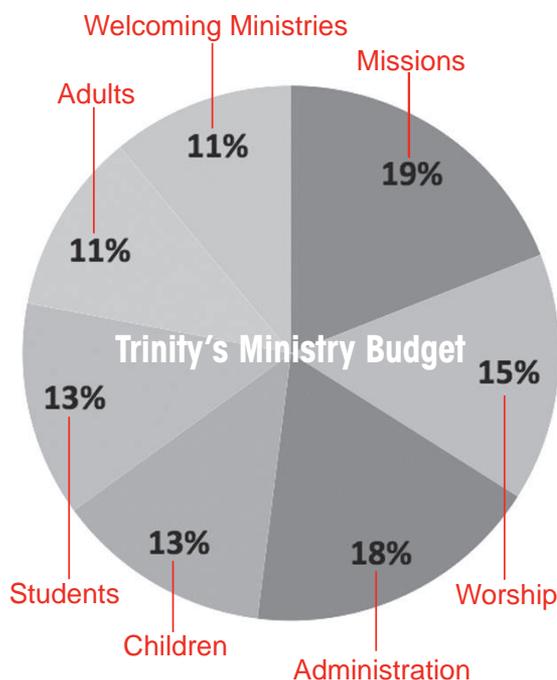
As members of the body of Christ, we are EACH called to give back a portion of our gifts to the Glory of God – to advance His kingdom, to do His work, and to do the critical task of establishing a budget for the church’s many ministries. (See *the Ministry Budget chart below*) We must do this as an act of love, obedience and discipleship.

In recent years, I have changed the way I think about my giving. In the past, I approached my giving from the backside. When it came time to complete my pledge card, I would come up with an annual amount that seemed reasonable – and then hoped that

before year end, some windfall in the form of a commission or bonus or tax refund would come in to help me meet my pledge. It rarely did. I was left feeling inadequate and thinking that my gift paled in comparison to the many ways God had blessed me. And then, a couple of years ago, during our stewardship emphasis, I saw Andy Wolfe leave a spent apple core on the altar and I realized that’s exactly what I was doing – giving God the leftovers. So now I come at pledging from the frontside – first fruits. Each pay period, I put a portion into my pledge and the remainder goes into my household operating budget. What I have discovered is that I am actually able to give more than I had previously. And most importantly, God is not a budget item – He’s first.

Over the next few weeks, you will hear church members’ stories about God’s abundant gifts and the ways they have been moved to bless others with their gifts. I hope that these stories will be an inspiration to you and that you will give prayerful thought to your financial commitment for 2015. Sunday, October 26, will truly be a celebration of God’s many gifts at work in and through the life of Trinity and its members.

Vivian Terry



every gift counts

Student Ministry - Did you know?

- Discovery Weekend Resources - \$20 per student (515 students participated in Discovery, 2014)
- 14 Fusion Bible Study Groups - \$10 per week, per group
- Tuesday Morning Prayer Breakfast - \$57 per week
- Confirmation Resources - \$140 per student
- Element Sunday Night Ministry Resources - \$134 per week



See page 5 for a special note from one of Trinity’s youth.

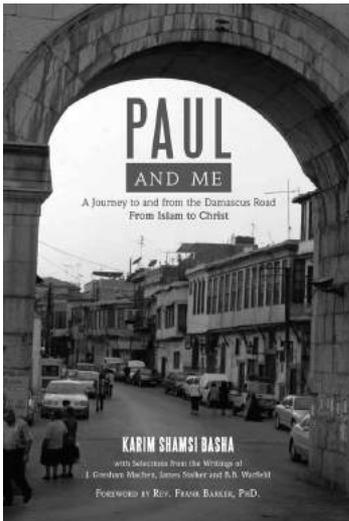
Looking for a project this weekend?
B.E.A.T. Needs Trinity's help to work on projects cancelled during Magic City Miracle

Because of the anticipated rain on the Sunday of Magic City Miracle, B.E.A.T. cancelled the exterior painting projects. It has been rescheduled for **Saturday, October 11, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm.**

Address: 1517 Avenue D, Birmingham, AL 35218
 Directions from Homewood area: Go 65 North then take I-20 /59 toward Tuscaloosa. Take exit 120 and merge right onto AL 269/20th Street Ensley, Turn right onto Avenue D. Office is across from the AME church.

Please bring ladders if possible. For more information, contact Paulette West at paulette_west@umvim.org or call 453-9480 (office) / 601-0464 (cell).

Thank you for your willingness to serve with B.E.A.T.



Paul and Me - A Journey to and from the Damascus Road

Karim Shamsi-Basha is a Trinity member and an award winning writer and a photographer whose work has appeared in National Geographic Traveler, Sports Illustrated, People, Time, The Washington Post, and the New York Times. Karim recently released his fourth book, ***Paul and Me - A Journey to and from the Damascus Road.*** This new book illustrates Karim's story, which includes a near-death brain injury and years of tumultuous search for the truth. It also includes sections about the Apostle Paul written by 19th and 20th century giants James Stalker, B.B. Warfield, and J. Gresham Machen.

The story of the Apostle Paul and Karim's story intersect at several junctures, making this book a must read. Karim humbly suggests that all of us can parallel our journeys to the Apostle's, learning much along the way.

Paul and Me was the number four best seller spot on Amazon in religion books. The international hit has been featured on the 700 Club, National Public Radio, Fox News, The Huffington Post, The Christian Post, the Associated Press, Premiere Radio in Europe and more.

For more details on the book, please visit www.paulandme.com.



LISTEN TO SERMONS ONLINE.

Weekly sermons from both Traditional and Contact worship services are available at: www.trinitybirmingham.com/worship/sermons/

food & fellowship

Wednesday Supper



4:30-6:15 pm
 fellowship hall

\$20.00 Family Maximum (or)

- \$6.00 per adult
- \$3.00 per child (9 and under)
- \$5.00 per senior adult
- \$5.00 Salad Bar option

Please let us know you are coming!

Make a reservation online at www.trinitybirmingham.com

menu - October 8

- ADULTS: Chicken fingers, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, cookie
- KIDS: Same as adults

menu - October 15

- ADULTS: Meatloaf, macaroni and cheese, okra, cookie
- KIDS: Grilled cheese, tomato soup, fruit, cookie, milk

menu - October 22

- ADULTS: Chicken divan, steamed rice, green beans, small salad, cookie
- KIDS: Hamburgers, cheese tater tots, fruit, cookie, milk

* Menu subject to change.

Make a reservation & find menus at: www.trinitybirmingham.com

Here is what is happening at Element this week:

LOVE DOES, DEUCES 10/12 - I am so excited about this Sunday night, October 12 from 6-8 PM because we will have the New York Times author of Love Does, Bob Goff, sharing with our youth group. We will be skypping Bob in for the night to talk just to our group. Bob is an incredible speaker and usually talks to groups of 5,000+, so we are pumped to have him to ourselves on this special night. Please encourage your student to show up and take part in Deuces. You are welcome to come, too, and hang out to hear what Bob has to say. If you have never heard of Bob Goff or his book Love Does, I encourage you to Google him and purchase the book.

SERVE SATURDAY, 10/11 - On Saturday, October 11, Element Student Ministry is going to be sending a group out with BEAT Ministry to help with the house painting projects that were cancelled because of the weather during Magic City Miracle. We would love it if your student is able to help with this mission opportunity. We will be leaving Trinity at 9am, and we will return at 12 Noon. Please wear closed-toed shoes. For more information, please contact Tori Tenniswood at ttenniswood@trinitybirmingham.com. We are still looking for parent volunteers. Sign up online at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a49a9aa28a5fd0-serve>.

AFTER FOOTBALL GAME PARTY, 10/10 - Trinity is partnering with the Homewood Coalition again this year to host an after the game party this Friday, October 10 from 9-11:30 PM for Homewood High School students only. The goal of this event is to provide a safe place for students to be after a football game. If you are interested in helping with this event, please let me know. We are going to need a lot of help!

FAN CLUB - Element will have our first fan club event for the new school year. We would love any and all students to join us at the Homewood Middle School football game on Thursday, October 9 at 5:00pm to cheer on all of our students participating. Fan club events are super fun, and we hope your student will attend.

SOS REGISTRATION IS OPEN - It is already that time of year to reserve your student's spot for SOS. Go ahead and mark your calendars for July 5 -11 and register your spot at <http://elementstudentministry.com/sos/> As always, there is limited space on this mission trip so please sign up today!

ELEMENT CAFÉ MEETS THIS WEEK - Element Cafe is open only on Tuesday THIS WEEK from 3-5:30 PM. This is a wonderful alternative to going home and being bored. Come hang out with us, grab a snack, play some games and hang out with our staff and friends. All candy, chips and drinks are only 50 cents! We will be selling popcorn during the month of October with 7 different seasonings to choose from. Element Cafe is always a fun time. We hope your student will join us this week!

PRAYER BREAKFAST MEETS TUESDAY MORNINGS - 6:30 AM in the Youth Center. All middle school and high school students are invited. Prayer Breakfast is the perfect way to start a new day. The cost is \$3 for breakfast and middle school students will walk to HMS following the breakfast.

As always, if there is anything that we can do to better support your student, then please do not hesitate to ask.

In Christ,
David Thompson - dthompson@trinitybirmingham.com

A Memorable Discovery



Dear Youth Staff,
I wanted to take some time to thank you for all the work you put in to making High School Discovery so memorable. This was one of the best Discovery Weekends I have been part

of. I came away from the weekend feeling challenged, motivated and encouraged to really look at my life and figure out how I can put love into action and live the life of the Samaritan.

This was my last High School Discovery and during the lantern service I was overwhelmed to the point of tears. Element Student Ministries has changed my life in so many ways and looking back at my years at Trinity I have seen how. I've grown and changed through my involvement with Element. Element has given me a home away from home and the relationships I have formed here mean the world to me. My relationship with Christ has strengthened more than you know and I can't wait to see how it will continue to grow during my last year here.

Thank you so much for everything you've done for me.

Sincerely,
Savannah Wright

#everygif 
Stewardship 2015

PACESETTERS

• OCTOBER 15 - DAY TRIP TO HUNTSVILLE

There should be some fall color in North Alabama, as we extend our Hallelujah Trail experience to include Historic Churches of Huntsville. Our guided tour * will include the Twickenham Historic District and Old Town Historic District, where we will view many antebellum homes. We will learn about the background of some of the more interesting homes. The Historic Church Tour includes: First Presbyterian Church, Episcopal Church of the Nativity, Methodist-Episcopal Church, Temple B'nai Shalom. Our lunch stop will be at one of the wonderful local restaurants. If time permits, we will stop in a quirky shopping venue known as Harrison Brothers Hardware Store. (*Our tour guide, Jacque Reeves of Avalon Tours, is the author of 12 books on local history and true crime. Jacque is the president of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society, and she is the co-founder of Huntsville Ghost Walk, Madison Ghost Walk, and Mischief and Mayhem Tours. She is past editor of Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society's Valley Leaves and Huntsville/Madison County's Historical Review. She is Associate Editor of Old Tennessee Valley Magazine.) Deluxe Motorcoach to Huntsville. Leave from Trinity at 8:00 AM.

DECEMBER 17-18 - CALLOWAY GARDENS CHRISTMAS TOUR

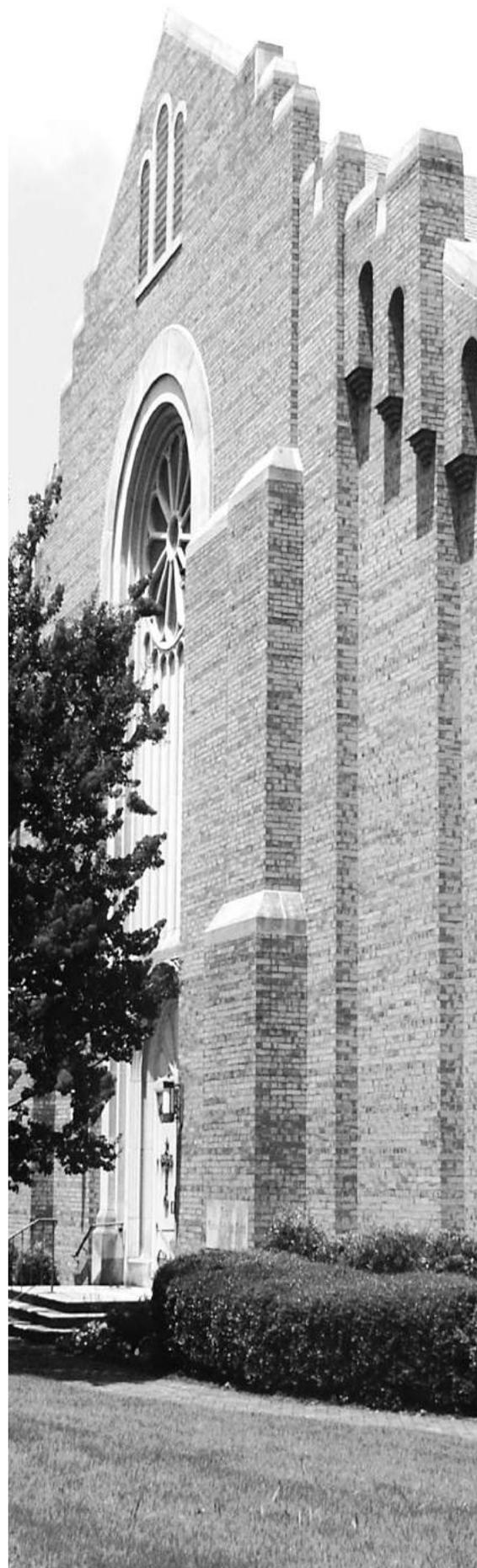
Make plans to join us for a Christmas trip to Callaway Gardens and Warm Springs, GA. It includes a daytime tour of the Gardens, Fantasy in Lights, buffet dinner and breakfast at Mountain Creek Inn, and admission to Little White House in Warm Springs. Our guided tour of beautiful Callaway Gardens includes the Ida Cason Calloway Memorial Chapel, the Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center, and the Virginia Hand Calloway Discovery Center. That evening we will enjoy eight million lights in the beautiful Christmas displays of Fantasy in Lights. The second day of our tour we will visit The Little White House at Warm Springs, built by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932 while he was still governor of NY. Here he found the strength to resume his political career and a positive outlet for his own personal struggle with polio through the creation of the Warm Springs Foundation. Roosevelt returned to use the therapeutic waters at Warm Springs every year, except 1942, from his first visit in 1924 until his death there in 1945. We will visit his home and museum. Join us for this special two-day Christmas trip.

SAVE THESE DATES!

- December 2: UAB Symphonic Band Christmas Concert, 2 PM
- December 11: Annual Senior Adult Christmas Tea, 2-4 PM
- December 13: Mooresville Progressive Christmas Dinner and Tour

For more info on any Senior Adult event, please contact Amy Lewis at 879-1737 or alewis@trinitybirmingham.com.

PARKING NOTICE: Trinity members and guests should **NOT** park in the All Saints' lot near Oxmoor Rd. Also, please do not block the dumpsters or areas that are marked as NO PARKING zones. Note that the small parking lot is reserved for handicapped, elderly and families with small children on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. **Do not park in marked handicap spaces if you do not have an official handicap permit.** Thank you.



HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday - October 12

8:45 AM Traditional Worship - SANC
 8:45 AM Contact Worship - WHALL
 10:00 AM Membership 101 - LP
 10:00 AM Sunday School - various
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship - SANC
 11:00 AM Contact Worship - WHALL
 4:00 PM Youth Handbells - Rm. 225
 5:00 PM Youth Choir - MS
 5:00 PM Confirmation - various
 6:00 PM Element Youth - Haven
 6:00 PM Adult Handbells - Rm. 225
 6:00 PM Small Group Studies - various
 8:00 PM Pick-up Basketball - GYM

Monday - October 13

6:30 AM Men's Ministry Group - SDR
 6:30 PM Leadership Dinner - FHALL

Tuesday - October 14

6:30 AM Element Prayer B'fast - Haven
 8:00 AM Senior Adult Activities - various
 8:00 AM Sr. Exercise Class - FHALL
 10:00 AM Trinity Singers - MS

11:00 AM Trinity Singers Lunch - SDR

3:00 PM Element Cafe - Haven & GYM

6:30 PM Young Adults (20's) - NAT

6:30 PM Young Adults (30's) - SDR

Wednesday - October 15

9:15 AM Yoga - Rm. 315

4:30 PM Wednesday Supper - FHALL

5:00 PM Kids Bells & Chimes - Rm. 225

5:30 PM Music in Motion - various

6:00 PM Children's Choirs - various

6:00 PM Adult Studies - various

6:00 PM Men's Bible Studies - various

6:00 PM Trinity Book Group - SP

6:00 PM Boy Scouts - various

7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - MS

7:00 PM Contact Music Rehearsal - WHALL

Thursday - October 16

8:00 AM Senior Exercise Class - FHALL

9:15 AM Adult Studies - various

3:00 PM Element Cafe - Haven & GYM

Friday - October 17

8:00 AM Sr. Exercise Class - FHALL

Note: Trinity will host Birmingham Family Promise (formerly BHN) families this week beginning October 12 through October 19.

October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

CFT	Craft Room-143	LIB	Library-218	CHAPEL	Mouat Chapel
FSR	Fireside Room-145	NAT	Not at Trinity	MS	Music Suite-132
CONF	Conference Room-220	LP	Large Parlor	WHALL	Wesley Hall
SANC	Sanctuary	SP	Small Parlor-105	SDR	Small Dining Room
FHALL	Fellowship Hall	HAVEN	Youth Auditorium	FLC	Family Life Center

TAKE NOTE

Nursery Volunteers - October 12
Caroline Davis, Kimee Duck, Laura Fleming & Merrick Wilson

Nursery Volunteers - October 19
Morgan & Matt Allen, Carrie Garrette, Lucy & Gene Gilmore

To volunteer, please contact Barry Smith at 879-1737,
 email nurseryvolunteers@trinitybirmingham.com.

IN THE HOSPITAL

BROOKWOOD: Carole McIntyre
ST. VINCENT'S: Gary Jackson

CONGRATULATIONS

• to **Mitchell and Gigi Whaley** on the adoption of their son, Kai Mitchell Whaley, on September 16, 2014. He was born on September 19, 2012. Big sister is **Anna Holt Whaley** and grandparents are **Malcolm and Gail Youngblood**.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of September 30, 2014

Regular reporting:

GENERAL BUDGET:	MONTH
Month to Date Revenue	\$218,026
Monthly Needs to Date	\$285,890
Balance/Shortage	\$(67,864)

Capital Debt Retirement / month	\$13,125
Capital Debt Retirement / to date	\$75,021

Note from the Treasurer:

Questions about church finances, income or expenses? If you wonder how funds are received or expensed, the financial books of Trinity are open to any member. Contact Ann Neptune at 879-1737 or aneptune@trinitybirmingham.com.

PLEASE NOTE: *Tidings* publishes each week on Tuesday (except for the week of Christmas). The deadline for submitting information to be included is on Thursday, the week prior to the publish date. Please submit info via email to Haley Smith at hsmith@trinitybirmingham.com. *Tidings* is delivered to the printing company each Monday at Noon. It is printed and mailed on Tuesday afternoon. Should you not receive your copy in a timely manner, please contact your postal carrier. The online version of *Tidings* is available each week on Tuesday at: www.trinitybirmingham.com/news/tidings

#everygif



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SUNDAYS at Trinity: Worship 8:45 & 11:00 AM • Sunday School 10:00 AM • Youth Activities 6:00 PM

Serving Greater Birmingham from Homewood • **Our Mission:** To Gather...To Grow...To Go...To Glorify
1400 Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209 • 205.879.1737 • Careline: 205.868.9709

www.trinitybirmingham.com

Interested in joining Trinity? Join us...

membership 101

Sunday, October 12

10 AM • LARGE PARLOR

This class is strongly suggested for visitors who are considering membership at Trinity. During this hour, prospective members and those interested will review the membership covenant one makes when joining the Trinity Family. Ask a Greeter to direct you!



Enjoy Coffee on Sundays

Complimentary Coffee Served
Please enjoy complimentary coffee served on the 3rd floor (in two areas) during the Sunday School hour. Additional coffee bar areas include the Fellowship Hall and the Family Life Center hallway on 1st floor. Questions? Contact Laura Eanes at 879-1737 or leanes@trinitybirmingham.com.

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