



TIDINGS

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 2020

VOL. 54 NO. 10

ALL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS PUBLISHED IN THIS ISSUE OF TIDINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND/OR CANCELLATION.



OUR DAILY BREAD

*Earth's crammed with heaven, And every common bush
afire with God, But only he who sees takes off his shoes;
The rest sit round and pluck blackberries.*

– Elizabeth Barrett Browning

One of the most important transitions in the life of the Israelites is when their daily bread becomes a daily bore. At first, the manna falling from heaven looks like a miracle, God's good and abundant provision, but then, after years and years of standing in the cafeteria line, only to discover that the menu has not changed, the miraculous becomes mundane.

And they are not the only ones prone to miss the miracles around them. There is a fundamental tendency in us human beings to take things for granted, especially when things are going well. We assume that some things will never change, our expectations for others and for what each day will bring become detached from reality, and we begin to believe that somehow the universe owes us something. Beyond the obvious problems with this way of seeing the world, that kind of thinking leaves us completely devoid of gratitude. We miss the ordinary miracles that fill every day, the blessings of one another and especially the amazing grace of our God.

That's one of the reasons I think that Jesus tells us to pray for daily bread. It would be one thing for him to tell us simply to pray for bread — bread is regularly understood in the scriptures as a symbol for sustenance itself, and it makes sense for us to pray for sustenance, to have enough to be okay. But by specifying that we are to pray for "daily" bread, Jesus is inviting us towards a day-by-day acknowledgement of God's presence and provision. If God were to give us a week's worth of bread on Sunday, we might not think about Him on Thursday, but if the work of faith is a daily recognition of God's presence in our lives, everything changes.

For all the things the pandemic has wrought in us — fear, anger, weariness, grief, division — it has also slowed down our days, sometimes painfully so. And the blessing of having so many things undone is that we can now see, maybe for the first time, how our lives were littered with daily blessings that we neglected — shaking hands with a neighbor, worshipping together in church, a meal with friends, a visit with a loved one in the nursing home — it turns out these very ordinary occurrences were much more sacred than we knew.

Genuine gratitude is never getting exactly what you want, but knowing what you have. As we make our way through our stewardship campaign in an upside down world, where none of us can say what's coming next or what tomorrow will hold, perhaps the lesson we're meant to take from the wilderness of 2020 is that every single day is brimming with opportunities to seek and see the blessings of God. And our work, today and everyday, is to receive the ordinary manna as a miracle, and pledge that we will never take it for granted again.

Blessings.

Pastor Brian Erickson

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE INFO ON STEWARDSHIP IN OCTOBER



GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

MATTHEW 6:11



OCTOBER 4

GIVE US OUR EPIOUSIAN BREAD

Luke 11:1-4

- World Communion Sunday

OCTOBER 11

BREAKING BREAD IN A SHIPWRECK

Acts 27:21-38

OCTOBER 18

THE BREAD OF LIFE

John 6:35-40

- 2-3 PM **Celebration Sunday I**
TrinityKids Drive Through Event
Oxmoor campus

OCTOBER 25

ENOUGH FOR A MIRACLE

1 Kings 17:8-16

- 12-1 PM **Celebration Sunday II**
Drive Through with Communion
Oxmoor campus & TWH campus

OCTOBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH AT TRINITY

Of all the things Jesus tells his disciples to pray for, Jesus says we should simply ask for “enough.” For daily bread. Enough for this day, knowing that God will also be faithful tomorrow, just like God was faithful yesterday. During the month of October, we will focus on the Lord’s Prayer, specifically on “Our Daily Bread.” As we pray over our financial tithes and offerings for this coming year, you are encouraged to do so with a heart grounded in God’s goodness and provision, giving thanks for daily bread. For when our hearts are open to Him, there will always be enough.

WHY WE GIVE

In our membership covenant we make a vow to uphold The United Methodist Church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. You have the opportunity to honor that covenant by making a commitment of your financial gifts to Trinity.

All gifts pledged and given to the general budget support our program ministries, our ongoing building and operational costs, our staff and our connectional ministries.

TRINITYBIRMINGHAM.COM/PLEDGE

Questions? Contact Laura Ellis in the Finance Office at 205-879-1737 or lellis@trinitybirmingham.com.

WAYS TO GIVE

Automatic Bank Draft:

Set up a monthly recurring ACH gift with the church office or use services provided by your bank for automated giving.

Online Giving:

Use our website or church app to set up a one-time or recurring payment from your bank account, credit card or debit card.

Cash or Check:

Place your cash or check in the secured giving boxes located outside the sanctuary or mail to the church office.

Alternative Gifts:

Make a gift of stock, real estate, life insurance or other asset. Contact the church office for more information.



**OUR DAILY
BREAD**

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Share Our Daily Bread...

While we can't break bread together due to COVID, we can still share a meal with our Trinity family and neighbors. During the month of October as part of our stewardship focus, we will be collecting food to share with our Trinity family who could use some encouragement, as well as with our neighbors in the Birmingham area who are living with food insecurity.

We will have three ways to serve in this Stewardship Outreach Project, so we can all serve together even while we are apart:

1) Bake and share a homemade casserole with someone you know who could use some extra encouragement. Love to cook, but do not know of someone to bring a dish to? Bring your dish of choice to the freezer located in the Oxmoor campus Welcome Center during the work week.

2) Drop off canned goods and other shelf stable items for the Firehouse Shelter, First Light, Trinity's Food Share program or Backpack Ministry at the Oxmoor campus Welcome Center. See list below...

3) Volunteer to deliver meals to our Trinity members, or to transport the food donations to local ministries.

Here is a list of needed nonperishable items for area ministries! Choose whatever speaks to your heart - every gesture is so appreciated!

ITEMS NEEDED:

Snacks - chips, cookies, etc.

Granola or Breakfast Bars

Individual packets of grits, oatmeal or cereal

Large and small cans of vegetables & beans

Individually packaged or cans of fruit

Salad dressings

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Mac & Cheese

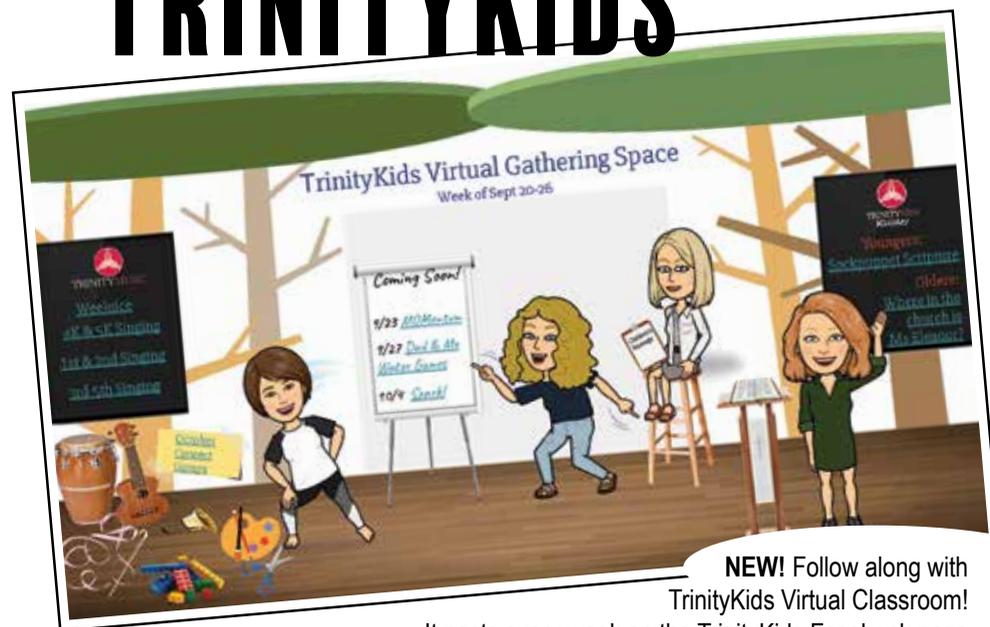
Drink mixes



Questions about Missions & Outreach
Contact Kristan Walker at 205-879-1737 | kwalker@trinitybirmingham.com

To volunteer with Missions & Outreach
Contact Mary Liz Ingram at 205-879-1737 | m Ingram@trinitybirmingham.com

TRINITYKIDS



NEW! Follow along with TrinityKids Virtual Classroom! It posts every week on the TrinityKids Facebook page and on www.trinitybirmingham.com/kids.

SPARK! RETURNS, OCT. 4

Spark! is a ministry for students in 4th and 5th grade, and we will have a lot of fun during the 2020-2021 school year! We meet outdoors at Trinity West Homewood – MASKS REQUIRED. Reservation required.

4th graders: 4-4:45 PM / 5th graders: 5-5:45 PM

Sign up at www.trinitybirmingham.com/sunday-nights/

OCTOBER CONNECT GROUPS, BEGIN OCT. 6 & 8

New Connect Small Groups for kids are launching October 6! Crafts & Faith, Lego Bible Challenge, Creative Movement, Ukulele, Drums & Orff, You've Got the Beat, Handchimes, Handbells. Spots are limited, register today: <https://buff.ly/301x0xN>

MOMENTUM, OCT. 7

MOMentum is a group for Moms of all ages. It returns to the Trinity Oxmoor campus at 9:30 AM on WEDNESDAY, October 7. Gather in the Prayer Garden. (Max. 20 persons including those leading) Reservations are required. Childcare will NOT be provided this season. For the registration link, please email Heather Gordon at gordon.heatheranne@gmail.com.

SPOOKY SING-A-LONG, OCT. 23

PRE-K EVENT! Bring your picnic blanket and wear your costumes. Come and sing spooky songs with Ms. Theresa and Mr. Norton, and do Halloween crafts! It will be held on the front lawn of Trinity West Homewood. Registration info is coming soon.

***Note: all in-person events require registration.**

Questions about TrinityKids?
Contact Eleanor Christiansen at 205-879-1737 or echristiansen@trinitybirmingham.com

Our offices are NOW OPEN and following strict health and safety guidelines.

If you need to contact the church, please do so by calling 205.879.1737 or by emailing trinity@trinitybirmingham.com.

To see a staff member, please make an appointment. Our pastors are also available for you and may be reached by either the Care Line #: 205-868-9709 or by the PASTOR on call #: 205-538-3682.

DILL PICKERS

IN CONCERT

vocal, strings & bluegrass



Family Promise of Birmingham and Trinity United Methodist Church invite you to our annual Greater Birmingham United Methodist United Appeal Fundraiser.

enjoy a night of outdoor music & fun

THURS., OCTOBER 15

TRINITY WEST HOMEWOOD

914 Oak Grove Road, Homewood

6 PM bring a lawn chair & mask

TICKETS \$12.00

Seating is
LIMITED!

PURCHASE TICKETS TODAY! • ONLINE - www.trinitybirmingham.com
• MAIL IN - Contact Julie Wright at jwright@trinitybirmingham.com

WORSHIP ONLINE

Join us for ONLINE Sunday worship services.

- Traditional Worship at 8:30 AM
- Contact Worship at 10:45 AM



Services are live-streamed on the Trinity Facebook page located at:
www.facebook.com/trinityumcbirmingham
Click on the Videos tab. (Facebook account not required)



Services may also be found on the Trinity YouTube channel located at:
www.youtube.com/trinityumcbirmingham

Note: All services are archived on both Facebook and YouTube – allowing you to watch at any time that is convenient.

RADIO BROADCAST

Another Sunday worship option is through our radio broadcast. Our service airs weekly on Sunday morning beginning at 9 AM on stations 1070AM and 99.5FM. We hope you will tune in and worship with us.

Let us know you are in attendance!

Whether worshipping via radio or live stream, please remember to use the online attendance & giving form found at: <http://bit.ly/1400attendance>

join us!

October 11

WELCOME AND MEET

October 18

BELIEVE AND BELONG

10 AM each Sunday

Informative ZOOM sessions for all guests interested in becoming a Trinity member. Email Julie Wright for the Zoom link at jwright@trinitybirmingham.com.

 **NEXT
STEPS**



**LITURGY
ON THE
LAWN**

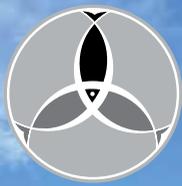


Bring a chair, wear a mask and join us for outdoor worship.

SUNDAYS | 6pm

Trinity West Homewood front lawn, 914 Oak Grove Road

Reservations Required: www.trinitybirmingham.com



TRINITY WEST HOMEWOOD



Outdoor worship on the front lawn.

New Time for Outdoor Worship

Due to the cooler temperatures, outdoor worship is now at 9:30 AM on Sundays. Join us for this brief, safe service on our front lawn by RSVP'ing at trinitywesthomewood.com.

40 Days of Prayer

As a part of our "Our Daily Bread" stewardship month, Trinity West members will be devoted in prayer for their congregation, its leaders, and its witness to the West Homewood community. Be on the lookout each day of October for our members' written prayers on social media.

Musicians for Worship Band

Looking for a way to use your musical talents? If you or someone you know is interested in singing or playing an instrument in our worship band, please contact swingo@trinitybirmingham.com.

Monthly Curbside Communion

On October 4 from 11:15 AM to Noon, simply pull into one of the front parking spots (with mask on) and safely receive the sacrament from Pastor Matt. All are welcome!

Spooky Sing-A-Along

On Friday, October 23 from 5-6 PM on our front lawn, PreK/K Families are invited to a pumpkin-tastic night with music led by Ms. Theresa and Mr. Norton, pumpkin painting, and games! Bring your picnic dinner, face masks, and blankets to enjoy a socially distant night with friends. Dress in your favorite Halloween costume! Older friends are always invited, too. Registration information coming soon!

Commitment Sunday Drive-thru Drop Off

On October 25, the final Sunday of "Our Daily Bread" stewardship month, Trinity West will celebrate God's generosity by turning in commitment cards for the 2021 year. Cards will be turned in either during the outdoor worship service or via a drive-thru drop off from 12 PM-1 PM. At the drop off, Matt will be there to greet you and lead you in a special time of communion and prayer. Ms. Cristin will also be there to offer a special bread starter to our kids.

914 Oak Grove Road, Homewood
Rev. Matt Andrews | mandrews@trinitybirmingham.com
www.trinitywesthomewood.com

50⁺ UPCOMING EVENTS MINISTRIES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 • WRITING YOUR FAMILY STORIES

Zoom at 12:00 Noon – Author Audrey Atkins will share how to turn your life's stories into works of art. Creative nonfiction is defined as "true stories, well told," and in this Zoom session you'll learn about the art of writing your true stories as well as the craft of establishing voice, theme, mood, character, and place. For nearly 20 years, Audrey has been a freelance writer and has had her stories and articles published in magazines such as Birmingham Magazine and Mobile Bay Monthly, online through Alabama Media Group's popular It's a Southern Thing, and as part of The Bitter Southerner's Folklore Project. Email Julie for the link to this fun and informative session, jwright@trinitybirmingham.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 • ALDRIDGE GARDENS GUIDED TOUR

10:00-11:00 AM – Aldridge Gardens is a 30-acre woodland garden featuring hydrangeas nestled in the heart of Hoover. In fact, for many years the property was the home of noted nurseryman Eddie Aldridge who discovered and patented the Snowflake Hydrangea. He and his wife Kay conveyed the property to the city of Hoover in 1997. Complete with a six-acre lake and walking trail, Aldridge Gardens is laden with many varieties of hydrangeas, camellias and other native Alabama plants. Come walk the gardens with us. Reservation required. 20-person max. Meet at the Gardens. For more information contact Julie Wright at 205-768-6089 or jwright@trinitybirmingham.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 • HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Zoom at 11:30 AM – Have you ever wondered how the church began? How did the denominations come to be? Who were the major players in the historical evolution of what we now call church? Zoom in to hear our very own Senior Pastor, Brian Erickson, discuss church history. For the Zoom link, email Julie at jwright@trinitybirmingham.com.

Questions about 50+ Ministries or to RSVP for an event, contact Julie Wright at 205-879-1737, jwright@trinitybirmingham.com

DRIVE-THRU TRUNK OR TREAT @ TWH • OCTOBER 25

Save the date! We are hosting a Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat for our TWH Families on Sunday, October 25 from 3-4 PM. Here are a few ways to participate:

1. Drive through in your favorite Halloween costume with your family and receive candy in your cars! Prize for the best car-costume theme!
2. Volunteer to park your car (safely distanced), decorate your trunk, and pass out candy to kids in cars. Prize for the best decorated trunk!

To register to join us or decorate your trunk, please contact Cristin Dedmon at cdedmon@trinitybirmingham.com.





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Oxmoor Campus: 1400 Oxmoor Road, Homewood • 205.879.1737 | **Trinity West Homewood:** 914 Oak Grove Road, Homewood • 205.942.4622
CARE LINE: 205.868.9709

www.trinitybirmingham.com

ON CALL #: 205.538.3682

YOUNG ADULTS Tuesday Evenings at the Park



Are you in your 20's or early 30's? Not married? Out of college?
If so, YOU are invited to join us on Tuesday nights outside from 7:00-8:00 PM.
Bring your own chair, mask, and dinner! For more info and location details, contact Lisa Elliott at lelliott@trinitybirmingham.com.

Wednesday Night Meals to Go!

Chef Bert and staff are here to help make dinner easier for you. Place your orders by Monday at midnight and pick up at Trinity on Wednesday between 4:30-5:30 PM (pick up Rain or Shine). Pay online at time of order or bring a check with you to pick up. No cash please. Ordering options: Feeds 2 - \$15 / Feeds 4-6 - \$30

Order online

www.trinitybirmingham.com

Questions? Email hospitality@trinitybirmingham.com

October Menus

- 10/07 – Greek Chicken, Greek Green Beans, Rice Pilaf, Roll, Cookie
- 10/14 – Baked Spaghetti, Garden Salad, Garlic Bread Stick, Cookie
- 10/21 – Chicken Tortilla Soup, Mexican Rice, Guacamole Salad, Cookie
- 10/28 – Beef Pot Roast, Au Gratin Potatoes, Carrot Souffle, Roll, Apple Crisp