

# Trinity Presbyterian Church

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# The Good News

July/August 2009



## Biography of the Month - Donna Coumbe

◆ **Where were you born?** I was born in Seattle so I guess that makes me a native.

◆ **When did you become a Christian and who led you to the Lord?** I became a Christian at Summer Camp when I was 12 years old and it was in response to the speaker and our Pastor also counseled me.

◆ **Single or Married?** I was married for 47 years and my husband died and I am blessed to have found love again and have been married to Gene since December of 2001.

◆ **Children?** I have a son Don and a daughter Wendy who both live nearby.

◆ **Grandchildren?** I have 5 grandchildren, 3 girls and 2 boys. All but the oldest girl live in the area.

◆ **Best job you ever had?** The best paying job I ever had was at Boeing, but the job I enjoyed the most was my work as a leader in Stephen Ministry here at Trinity a few years ago. The only other jobs for pay that I have had are babysitting, the dining hall at college and at a bakery. I did not enjoy the babysitting much. After I married I was a stay-at-home Mom until my kids were in middle school when I took a job as the Wedding Hostess at University Presbyterian Church where I earned a little money.

◆ **Hobbies?** The hobbies I enjoy are reading, gardening, scrap booking and birding with Gene.

◆ **Share a turning point in your life and explain how God's hand was evident?** There have been several turning points in my life but the one I'll share is when my first husband was diagnosed with clinical depression and I had to take over all the finances and other parts of running the household for sometime.

◆ **What's the darkest valley you've been in and how did God help you through that time?** The teen years and the years my first husband was in a nursing home were both times when I had to trust the Lord to help me through. The prayers and support of my church family were so important. The verse that comes to mind is - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding and he will direct your path.

◆ **If you had 24 hours left to live, how would you spend that time?** If I had 24 hours left to live I would want to spend it with my family and with music.



### Points of Interest

◆ **All Church Barbecue**  
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◆ **Sing, Barbecue & Ice Cream Social**  
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◆ **Swim Party - Fall Kick-Off**  
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◆ **Session Highlights**  
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◆ **"Place of Prayer"**  
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May your birthday bring you all life's simple joys . . .

wrapped in God's love for you!

7/25	Robert Oswald	7/1	Nenna Iliomach
7/27	Andrew Nisco	7/2	Donna Spencer
7/27	Sam Nisco	7/6	Gene Coumbe
7/30	Maria Fagan	7/8	Doris McGregor
7/31	Frances Beam	7/10	Lois Halvorsen
8/1	K. C. Saechao	7/10	Louise Kraйна
8/1	Donna Timbrook	7/11	Sherril Officer
8/3	Nicole Ferrel	7/13	Tappy Berge
8/10	Shane Guidry	7/14	Elaine Carey
8/11	Lou Ann Mercado	7/14	Clarke Mahaffey
8/13	Leon Avakyan	7/14	Rachel McPherson
8/15	Jacob Immanuel	7/16	Midge Lindquist
8/17	Janet Kerrigan	7/22	Beverly Kay
8/17	Mel Lindquist	7/23	Nora Berge
8/26	A. J. Birdsall	7/23	Audrey Silsbee
8/26	Alex Spencer	7/24	Ivan Ellis
8/27	Monday Halvorsen	7/25	Rebecca Burroughs

JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAY CORNER

THE GOOD NEWS is a monthly publication of Trinity Presbyterian Church  
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\*\*Unsolicited, legible, signed material is gladly accepted. Articles may be submitted on computer disk (Windows 95/Word); also include a printed copy. We reserve the right to edit for content and quantity. Please leave your articles in the church office by the 15th of each month.

### NEWS & EVENTS

#### SAVE THE DATE - Sunday, August 16, 2009



Come for a time of singing, a BBQ, followed by an ice cream social, from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m on August 16th in the Fellowship Hall. The "Worship Team" is sponsoring the event. Heather Bean will be grilling for us, so we just ask that you bring salads and have a good time

#### All-Church Barbecue on July 19 at Richmond Beach 's Upper Picnic Shelter.

The entire shelter is reserved for Trinity from 4:00 p.m. until dusk. Bring drinks, a salad or dessert AND your own plate & utensils. The Sunday evening Bible study will provide hamburgers/hot dogs, buns and condiments. Contact Anne Butler if you have questions!



#### PHOTOS WANTED



The Trinity Scrapbook Team is meeting at the end of July to update our church scrapbook albums. If you have any photos from the past year (or just from the past anytime!), please give them to a member of the Scrapbook Team (Kathy Tinoco, Tessa Machle, or Kathi Hayes).

If you have any questions or would like to join us in scrap booking, please call or email Kathy Tinoco.

Food Donations

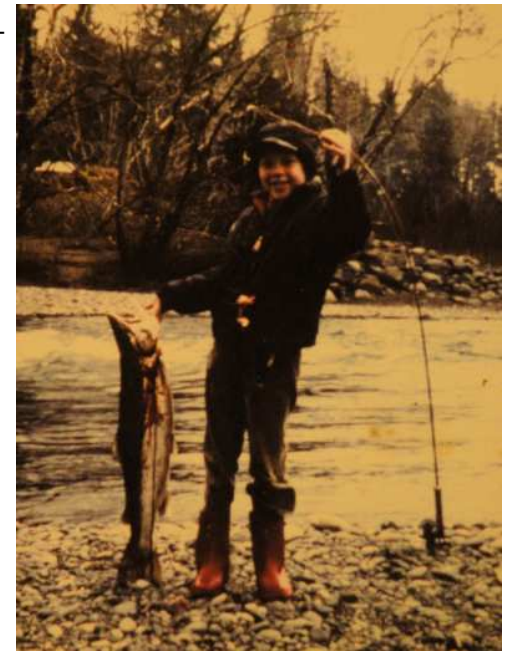


**For July and August we are collecting hot and cold cereal, fruit cocktail and Jello for Hopelink food bank. Many thanks for your contributions!**

for July & August

### Youth Ministries

All of us were told stories as we grew up. I can remember growing up hearing the same stories over and over again from my dad. Despite the fact he had already told me these stories a hundred and fifty-seven times, he would go on and tell me the hundred and fifty-eighth time. This was especially true about fishing stories. However, each of them was unique and interesting. The most memorable story I can remember is one about my dad when he was nine years old and steelhead fishing. He had this huge salmon on his line and it snapped his lure right off. Persistent as he was, he put on another lure and sure enough hooked into a big one. When he reeled it in, he was surprised to see it had his other lure in its mouth. I love looking at the picture of this steelhead as tall as my dad with two lures in it. I feel like we could all pick out one story told to us that we will always remember and pass on to our children and grandchildren (or we already have).

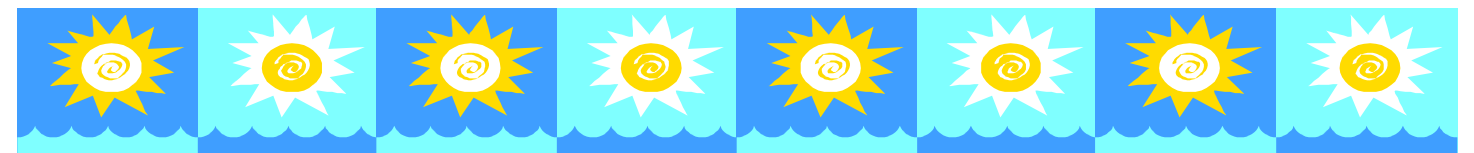
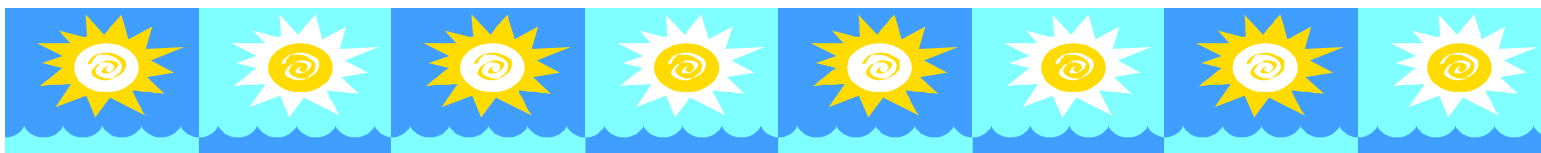


Last month Ray Reese was our guest preacher, and he shared a fascinating story. It was the story of how he came to know and follow Jesus. His story grabbed me because it was so interesting to hear the ways in which Jesus moved in his life.

The past few months I have been reading the biographies in this newsletter, and I have been inspired by them. I was so inspired, in fact, that I decided to tell the youth group my story. Some of them had heard it and some hadn't. Many of the kids told me how interesting my story was. Sean even said I should write a book on it.

All of these stories really inspire me and get me thinking about what God is trying to tell me through them. Each and every one of these stories seem to bring me into a closer understanding and relationship with the people that tell them. I realize it is outside of the norm to share our story with people in the cold town we live in where most people feel they need to be distant and "PC" (Politically Correct). However, each of our stories can change lives. When I think of my story it seems boring to me, but people find it interesting. I am a strong believer that there is a miracle in everyone's story, and if you look for God in them you will find Him. I feel it's time we break down the walls we have put between us and people around us whether they be co-workers, friends, or even family and let God's Holy Spirit spill through our stories. Each of us has a story that is book-worthy.

*Chris McLaughlin*



### Dan's Musings

Dan Shelhamer, Music Director

Recently Ray Riese and I have been doing several little concerts around the area. (Thanks to many of you who have supported us.) One of the songs I have sung in these little shindigs has been "You Raise Me Up." One of the lyrics to that song has been running through my mind - "...each restless heart beats so imperfectly..."

Our hearts are restless and prone to wander - away from God, our loved ones, our best interests. We need to constantly be aware of our own hearts - monitoring them so that they remain true to everything they know to be right. Why did God create us this way - why not just make mankind subservient and docile, always "tuned in" to God and His will? Or, on the other hand, why give us any hint of His existence at all? Why tantalize us with mere glimpses of something/someone higher, better, more perfect? It seems for every answer we come up with about the nature of the Almighty, two more questions appear.

Theologians have debated this subject for centuries, and I certainly don't pretend to have the answer. But I do know one other thing - with all the uncertainties that life throws at us, I know I need God. Here we stand on this earth, in this city, in this church, all of us "in various states of disrepair." I honestly don't know how a person could face life, death, and everything in-between, without faith and a community of like believers for support.

Even with all my doubts and questions, I know that God accepts my "restless heart that beats so uncertainly."

*In Christ, Dan*

#### PRAYER

Trinity's Session has been reading a book which has resulted in a desire to support individuals in prayer, so one of the ways to do that is to designate the sanctuary as a "Place of Prayer" after worship services on Sundays beginning the first Sunday of July. We ask that as people finish with their greetings that they exit the sanctuary and continue conversations in the narthex or in the Fellowship Hall. This will allow anyone who wants a time of quiet prayer to find that in our sanctuary. If in your conversation you would like to pray with someone, please feel free to ask them to join you in the sanctuary. The church will be closed at the usual time after the Sunday morning activities.

Starting in the fall, when we serve communion by intinction, we would like to offer people stations at the sides of the sanctuary in the front where they may stop and have a moment of prayer after receiving communion if they desire.

We hope these opportunities will be a blessing to many.

*Your Session*

### Pastor's Corner

Randy Butler

The windshield of my car is a little dirty these days because I need a new pair of wiper blades. I've been procrastinating, and it hasn't been raining much anyway, but I still need to do something about it.

In the meantime, it makes me think about an illustration I learned at the Presbyterian Big Tent Conference I attended recently. A workshop leader likened healthy ministry to driving a car. He said a healthy church looks ahead through the front windshield, occasionally looking at what's behind in the rear view mirror, and pays attention to what's going on outside through the side windows. That's a pretty good description of healthy ministry and healthy living in general.

In order to make progress we have to look ahead. The Apostle Paul says this in his letter to the Philippians: "...forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Jesus Christ." Paul knows the importance of hope for the future, and he is always looking ahead.

Paul's words, "forgetting what lies behind," don't mean that we can forget everything that has happened in the past. He knows that and so do we. But we can't get stuck in the past. A driver needs to look occasionally in the rear view mirror, but a permanent focus on the rear view mirror will likely lead to a crash. A healthy church looks occasionally at the past but we don't get stuck on it. The "glory days" of the Presbyterian Church - when we just built churches and people came - are over. We are past that. It is time to look ahead into the new future God has for us.

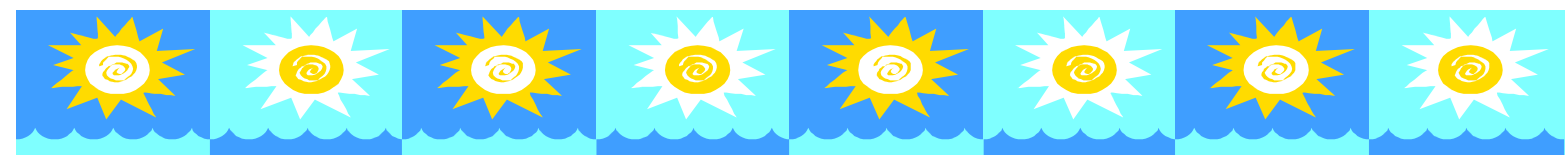
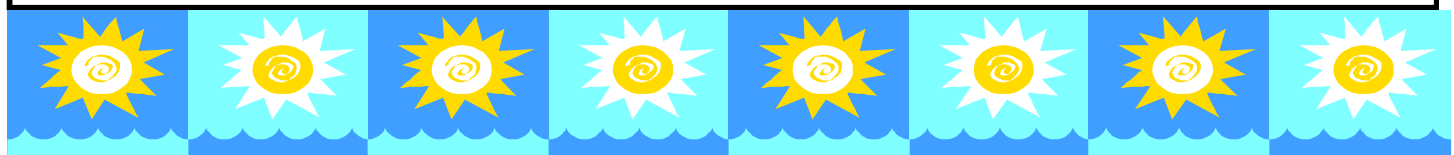
And in order to move ahead, we have to look at what is going on outside the church, in our neighborhood. We need to pay attention to what is going on by looking through the side windows. The neighborhood has changed. I have a question for you. If you don't live in the neighborhood around the church, when is the last time you got out of your car and strolled the streets? If you are not able to walk far, may I encourage you to take a slow drive through the neighborhood around the church and observe what is going on, praying as you drive.

So it's time for me to get some new wiper blades. I want to see clearly into our future together, but I want to take an occasional look in the rear view mirror. And I want to give my attention to the side windows as well.

With God's blessings on your summer,

*Randy*

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## Christian Education Notes

### Come meet my friend...

Did you ever have a friend who was so wonderful that you wanted everyone you know to meet him or her? Peter had a friend like that. His name was Jesus.

At this summer's VBS, we will get to know Peter and his best friend. We'll learn that like the Apostle Peter, we can grow in the most important relationship of all—the one we have with Jesus. Because of His love for us, He is the rock upon which we can build our lives!

As we watch Jesus call Peter away from his fishing nets, we will discover what it means to be **Accepted by Jesus**. As we witness Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah, we will learn how to be **Saved by Jesus**. From Peter's shocking denial and Jesus' forgiveness, we know that no sin is too large to be **Forgiven by Jesus**. Finally, we'll discover how Peter's faith in Jesus made a lame man walk; we'll learn about the power of **Living for Jesus**.



**July 13-16**  
**7:00-8:30 p.m.**

Every night from July 13 through the 16th we are bringing God's great outdoors indoors by transforming Trinity into an adventure site. Students K-5th grade, SonRock campers, will enjoy music, skits, games, crafts and Bible stories that will show them how their lives can be transformed by God's great love for them:



*How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! (1 John 3:1)*

Join in the fun this summer and invite a friend!

### Donna Saltzberg, CE Director



### TRINITY'S ANNUAL SWIMMING PARTY FALL KICKOFF

Circle **Sunday, September 13**, on your calendar. That is the tentative date for our annual swim party. This year we will meet at the **Mountlake Terrace Pool**. The address of the pool is 5303 228th Street SW in Mountlake Terrace.

We will book the entire pool for one hour and have the pool all to ourselves, so plan to bring a friend or two!

Once we have a confirmed time from the pool, we will notify you. Save the date so you don't miss the fun!



### WoRM this Fall

Our Workshop Rotation Model (WoRM) will begin on Sunday 9/13. Grade school students will participate in 2 workshops that begin at 11:00 a.m. and conclude at noon.



### Session Highlights – June 9, 2009

**Moment for Leadership:** Pastor Butler reported that he participated in a conference phone call with Martha Grace Reese, author of the book *Unbinding the Gospel* and several pastors from the North Puget Sound Presbytery. In connection with the above book, Session discussed (1) relationships--with God, between church members, and with people outside the church; and (2) some of the reasons people join churches and the power of prayer in transforming lives.

#### **Treasurer's Report:** (Gene Coumbe)

Adult offerings for May were \$18,786.00, putting us about \$4,139 above our five-month adult offering budget target. Capital campaign contributions to date total \$65,122.83 (building use portion, \$58,601.06; mission portion \$6,521.77). The 2009 first quarter insurance premium of \$1,031.29 has been paid. Pledged payments to General Assembly/per capita, and Wycliffe are up-to-date. Working checking account balance at the end of May is \$4,081.85. It was noted that the congregation should be commended for its faithful giving.

#### **Deacons' Report:** May 5, 2009, Board of Deacons' meeting minutes were reviewed.

- A brown-bag Sunday is scheduled: bags will be given out on June 21, to be filled with food for Hopelink, and returned to the church the following Sunday.
- The annual kitchen deep cleaning has been completed.

#### **Clerk's Report:** (Harlean Mandell)

- Session records were audited by the Seattle Presbytery on May 19 and were found to have "no exceptions." The Session commended the Clerk for excellent work.
- Memorial funds of \$204.84 were spent in 2008 to purchase an Advent candle stand and candles.

#### **Pastor's Report:** (Randy Butler)

- The Pastor reviewed his calendar for the past month. He encouraged supporting the June 27 youth carnival to raise funds for the Wapato mission project.
- Vacation Bible School door hangers will be distributed in the neighborhood on June 28.
- Ray Riese will preach on Sunday, June 14, during Randy's attendance at a Presbyterian Church Conference in Atlanta.
- There will be no July Session meeting; the next meeting will be on August 11.

**Presbytery:** Elders Tappy Berge and Donna Coumbe reported on their attendance at the May 19 meeting of Seattle Presbytery.

#### **Ministry Team Action Items:**

- **Adult Spiritual Development** (Janice Ellis)—At the team's recommendation, **it was approved for the sanctuary to be kept quiet and contemplative after each Sunday service so that people could go there for some quiet prayer.**
- **Mission and Community Outreach** (Lois Halvorsen)—**The receipt of a Christmas Offering during the month of December was authorized.**

#### **Ministry Team General Discussion:**

- **Finance** (Elaine Carey)—A contract has been signed with Sabian Glass to repair the broken sanctuary glass windows, at an approximate cost of \$900. Pending projects include repairing the patio fence and shopping for narthex furniture.
- **Fellowship Planning**-- July 19 all-church picnic at Richmond Beach Park.
- **Worship** (Donna Coumbe)—A gospel sing, barbecue and ice cream social is scheduled on Sunday, August 16, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

