

Deepen The Ties That Bind

Dr. Jeff Roberts, Senior Pastor • jroberts@tbcraleigh.com • Twitter: @Jeff_Roberts

I am always reminded that the Christmas story is really not a sweet and mild "children's story." It is a story of a pregnant mother whose pregnancy has become a scandal. It is the story of a homeless family who finds no hospitality. It is a story of outsiders and outcasts getting the good news first. It is a story of a jealous king who lies and hunts down the family in an attempt to murder the child. This same king commits infanticide of the innocent in an attempt to kill Jesus. This is a story of a family who become refugees in Egypt as they flee this murderous tyrant. Yet through it all, God has servants who are faithful. Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Wise Men and others remain faithful to God even in the midst of this difficult story. That is the gospel story of the birth of Jesus. It was about turning the world upside down when it happened, and this story still turns the world "upside right."

The good news of Christmas is God comes to us. God comes to us when our family is in disarray. God comes to us when empires and people of power commit unthinkable acts against the powerless. God comes to us when our lives are filled with fear and anxiety. God comes to us when we are simply going about our daily work without any thought that today could be a day that our world changes. This is the story of the manger.

What God needs today is exactly what God needed in the story of Jesus' birth: God is calling men and women to be faithful in the midst of everyday life. It does not matter your "station" in life, because people of every strata of society are found in the nativity stories. God calls all to be faithful and to join in the work of the Kingdom of God.

The story of the birth of Jesus is good news not because it serves as an escape from the real world but because it occurs in the real world. John reminds us of this great truth when he writes, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we have beheld His glory." The One who is eternal entered into our temporal existence. God could have chosen to be distant from us but instead chose to come to us. This is the good news. This is why we celebrate. This is why, surely, it is a "Merry Christmas."

Join us for the Trinity Family Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, December 13

Make reservations by going online to tbcraleigh.com or calling the church office by Monday, December 11. Join your church family for this time of fellowship.

THIS SUNDAY AT TRINITY

8:45am	Worship (ROC)
9:45	Live Nativity (Church Office Lobby)
	Sunday School (Bible Study for all ages)
10:55	Worship (ROC)
12:15pm	Cantata Rehearsal & Lunch (ROC & FH)
5:00	Bells Of Praise (Choir Rm)
6:00	Preschool & Children's Choirs Christmas Concert (ROC)

Grief Through the Holidays

Blue Christmas Service Wednesday, December 6 • 6:30pm • Chapel

Experiencing grief for the first time or for the fortieth time during the holiday season can be overwhelming and unpredictable. On Wednesday, December 6th, we will be sharing in a meaningful worship service that honors those we love who are no longer with us. This is a wonderful way to offer comfort to our friends, neighbors, and family, so be sure to let them know!

CONGRATULATIONS

Steve & Laura Avent (and big sister **Madelyn**) on the arrival of Emily Virginia Avent born December 1st.

Check out this online devotion for Advent.

Go to www.d365.org and find scripture, prayer, and meditative thoughts, accompanied by gentle music, which can be accessed every day. Once Advent begins the devotions become geared toward the Nativity.

igoplusNORTH RALEIGH MINISTRIES

• Paper Products

Canned Pasta Jelly

TBC Family Christmas Party

December 13 • 5:00-7:00pm • FH Dinner is \$5 for all

Come celebrate Christmas with your entire Trinity Family! We will share an Old-Fashioned Christmas Feast, share our favorite Christmas treats as our potluck dessert, sing carols, make Christmas ornaments, hear the Christmas story told, and have family photo scenes.

If attending dinner, please RSVP in the church office or online at tbcraleigh.com before December 11 at 4:00pm

Be sure to plan to bring your family's treasured Christmas dessert to share!

World Missions Support For Career Missionaries

Special December Offering TBC Goal: \$50,000 Given to Date: \$19,035.48

Each December, Trinity Members give a special offering to support career Baptist missionaries and their families throughout the world. These believers are called by God and sent out through the Southern Baptist Convention and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship to places where there are people do not know about Jesus.

They and their families go through rigorous preparation including language training before they are commissioned. Then they go out in Jesus' name to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit".

At TBC we are involved in missions in North Raleigh, Wake County, NC, the US and Internationally. But we do so on a short-term basis. This is a major extension of our mission.

100% of your gift will be used to sustain the long-term presence of these missionaries serving around the world. Use one of the Special Envelopes for this World Missions Offering. Make checks out to "TBC" and designate "World Missions Offering". Thanks!

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Holly Hering has been a member of Trinity since 1991 and is a native of Virginia Beach, VA. She and her husband, Dean, have three children, Hope,



Lane and Carter. Holly is a Controller with Carolina Behavioral Care. She serves as 10th Grade Sunday School Teacher and serves on the 11th Grade Girls D-team. She works with the Dimmock SS class. Holly also works with deacons Melinda Cook and Debbie Thomas.

Women's Ministry "Christmas Unwrapped"

Thank you to the 115 ladies who took time out of their busy schedules to attend the "Christmas Unwrapped" dinner and program sponsored by the Women's Ministry. Our sincere gratitude goes to the lead team for planning a beautiful and meaningful event for Trinity's women, and especially to our presenter, Dale Lewis, for helping prepare our hearts to focus on celebrating the gift of Jesus Christ this Christmas.

It is our prayer that women will be prayerful and intentional when celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ this year.

Serving as your church historian, my next emphasis will be preparing "Memory Books" from the beginning of Trinity through 2017. If you, as a member of our church family, would be willing to share items to be included, such as photos or printed news clippings, please bring them or mail them to the church office in a envelope marked "Church Historian", along with your name and phone number. Deadline for receiving items is January 15, 2018. I treasure every moment of our history and am very excited about this project. If you have any questions please call me at (919) 786-4880. I will be grateful for your help!

- Dorthy Drew, TBC Historian

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

THEME NIGHT: TRINITY FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 13

Old-Fashioned Christmas Dinner

Make your reservations ONLINE at www. tbcraleigh.com and "Wed Night Supper Reservations", or phone the church office at 919-787-3740. Either method has to be done by 4:00pm on Monday. Hot fresh meals are \$5 per person.

TBC 2017 ADVENT Devotional Books

This year, many of our church members have already been in the Advent mood as they have studied the Scriptures, prayed, and written a devotional thought for us in our Advent devotional books entitled *Emmanuel: God With Us, In Us, and Through Us.* Be sure to pick one up in the ROC lobby or in the Church Office.

Year-End Contributions

Any contributions that you want to be on your 2017 tax statement, must be turned into the Financial Administrator by December 31st. The ONLY exception to this rule is an envelope postmarked by December 31st. Please remember that the church office will be closed: Monday, December 25th; Tuesday, December 26th; Wednesday, December 27th; Monday, January 1st.

Any stock contributions for 2017 must be received by Trinity or in Trinity's account by December 31st to be counted as a 2017 contribution. If you have any questions, please call Jan Brown BEFORE the first of the year at 919-787-3740. Thank you for your support of Trinity!

Senior Adult Ministries...the Better Half of Life

Rev. Hal Melton, hmelton@tbcraleigh.com

Nursing Homes & Homebound Visits

Wednesday, December 20 • 10:00am • Fellowship Hall



Lancaster, PA Show Trip

September 24 - 28, 2018

This is the senior trip you've been waiting on! Sign-Up Sheets will be on the ROC Bulletin Board in January. Current cost being offered for this fantastic 4 night, 5 day adventure with four breakfasts and four dinners is (double occupancy) \$515 plus \$45 for insurance; (single occupancy) \$665 plus \$59 for insurance. We have not yet booked this tour, so prices may vary slightly. We want to gage interest before making the commitment.

This top-quality motorcoach trip is full of shows including the "Jesus" Show at the Sight & Sound Millenium Theatre, "Songs of the Silver Screen" at the American Music Theater, and "The Amish Experience & Jacob's Choice" at the F/X Theater. It also includes a historical tour of Philadelphia and a guided tour of Lancaster County including a visit to Kitchen Kettle Village, and Rockvale Square Outlets.

Sign up early so we can get the best rates possible!

This would make a great Christmas present!

Adult Ministry & Missions

Rev. Hal Melton, hmelton@tbcraleigh.com

2018 Marriage Retreat

February 23-25 Beach Cove Resort, N. Myrtle Beach Cost: \$245 Per Couple

This year's retreat theme will be "Stepping Stones or Stumbling Blocks" and will deal with effective communication to help couples through times of Adversity. The retreat will be led by Hal and Roberta Melton.

Folks have already started calling and signing up – so don't wait – we only have 20 condos reserved. A \$100 deposit is due at sign up, and the balance of \$145 is due on Sunday, January 21st. This covers everything but meals.

Simply write your check to "TBC" and put a note for "Marriage Retreat". Bring or mail it to the church (Hal's attention), and you are signed up! Please don't put this check in the offering plate.

BAPTIST BUILD • SPRING 2018 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

TBC will again join other Baptist Churches in Raleigh to build a Habitat House in the spring. Jen Hall, our TBC Habitat Coordinator, has met with the planning team to secure three Saturdays that TBC will supply 15 construction volunteers and lunch for 25. **Please mark these Saturdays on your calendar now!** March 10, March 24 and April 21 (OIAM). Closer to time, each volunteer will be asked to follow a link on the TBC Website to register with Habitat for the Saturday you choose.

Operation Inasmuch

Saturday, April 21

If you are interested in helping plan this local missions blitz please contact Kathy Younger: kathyjyounger@gmail.com or 703-350-6857.

OCC Processing Center Trip

Thursday, December 14 • Charlotte

Come experience what happens to the Shoeboxes after they leave TBC. It will be a day of great fun and excitement, as we work alongside each other preparing the OCC shoeboxes for shipping.

We will be meeting at TBC's FH at 8:30 am. After having lunch at the Processing Center, our shift will be from 1 pm to 5 pm. On the way home, we will stop for supper. We should be back at TBC around 9:30 pm.

If you have any questions, please call Brenda Lowrance at 919 605-1609 or email bhlowrance@gmail.com.

Belize Mission VBS

June 21 - 29 Santa Elena Baptist Primary School

Trinity and several other NC CBF churches have spent 8 years building this school which is in full use with 160+ children and 6 teachers. This final mission team in our partnership with Santa Elena Baptist Church will attend the first graduation ceremony of the school and do a 5 day (3 hour a day) VBS for the school children as a part of their last week of school. Rhonda Gubbins has agreed to serve as VBS Director and work hand in hand with the School Principal, Anna to make this the best week ever at the school.

It is time to pull a team together! We are looking for 18 people (college & adults) – VBS teachers, recreation leaders, craft leaders, and musicians who play and sing with guitar. The cost for the trip will be around \$1475 +/- based on airfare when we purchase tickets. Partial assistance is available through the Shaw Missions Fund.

To find out more information or volunteer, contact Hal Melton at hmelton@tbcraleigh. com. Don't wait – this will fill up fast!

Music Ministry

Rev. Steve Byers, slbyers@tbcraleigh.com

Music Notes

Special thanks to Jessica Isaacs for singing in both morning worship services, and to Living Praise, New Covenant, and the Trinity Orchestra for a wonderful night of music celebrating Christ's birth. The amount of work our ensembles have done was this season was evident in their musical presentations. All of the musicians are to be commended for their undying commitment to music making through music ministry and for creating a great place to belong and to grow in Christ. An extra-special thank you to Jessica Isaacs and Joy Blashaw for directing our vocal ensembles!

Preschool & Children's Choirs Concert

December 10 • 6:00pm • ROC

Our preschoolers and graded choirs have been busy preparing their music for worship and will present their seasonal music. Make this a part of your Christmas planning and bring your family!

This Wednesday, December 6 Double Choir Night • 6:00-7:30 pm

Make sure you are here to receive all the information for concert night!

If you have singing or instrumental abilities, WE NEED YOU.

We are always looking for more musicians to add to our worship leading ministries at Trinity. Consider getting involved in music ministry and being a part of an exciting place of ministry!

MUSIC CALENDAR

Take notice of the music calendar to stay up to date with choir rehearsals and upcoming music events!

December 13

No Music Programming

December 20 No Music Programming

December 27 No Music Programming

January 7 Sunday Night Program Resumes

January 10 Wednesday Night Program Resumes

Children's Christmas Cantata Choir

Parents, please refer to the text message system and the newsletter for instructions.

Required Rehearsal Sunday, December 10 • 12:15pm

> **Cantata** • December 17 Both Morning Services

TBC Sanctuary Choir *presents* **The Sound and**

The Sound and The Silence

December 17 8:45 and 10:55 am Services

You will not want to miss this great message in song! Come join us!

Student Ministry

Christian Davis, cdavis@tbcraleigh.com



2018

Middle School and High School Students

January 19-21 • Registration Deadline: January 7

I know it is tough to look past this Christmas season and all the excitement that comes with it. However, I wanted to remind everyone that on **January 19-21st** we will be having our **Youth Ski Retreat**! This retreat is open to both High School Students and Middle School Students and the cost is \$240 per student*. **The Registration Deadline is January 7th.**

Ski Trip

*Price is cheaper if tubing (\$180) or if neither skiing, snowboarding, nor tubing (\$150). We do have church members that contribute scholarships to allow students to participate in trips. Therefore, if there is need, please do not hesitate to ask about financial assistance for the ski trip.

Skiing/Snowboarding/Tubing:

- We will spend the majority of the day on Saturday, Jan 20th out on the slopes at Winterplace Ski Resort. Students have the opportunity to ski, snowboard, or tube. If they have never skied or snowboarded before **free lessons will be offered**.
- If students would like to participate in the trip, but do not want to ski, snowboard, or tube, we will have games and chaperones in the lodge the entire day.

Lodging:

• We will stay in 3 Manor houses that are side by side. The floors of each house will be divided by Grade and Gender. **There** will be NO Middle School Students sharing rooms with High School students and NO floors with different genders on the same floor.

Leadership:

• In addition to our adult chaperones, we will also have several College Students that will help lead our trip. They will lead our times of worship, small group Bible studies, supervision on the slopes, and some cooking as well!

Transportation:

• We will meet at the church at 3:30pm on Friday, January 19th to head up to West Virginia. If you are unable to meet at that time and would need to ride on the **late bus**, (will leave later that night) please let us know ASAP! We plan to return to TBC around 4pm on Sunday, January 21st.

While ski trips are packed with fun on the slopes, we also want to ensure that the weekend is a time of spiritual and relational growth for our students; one that they won't want to miss! So, please do not hesitate to ask any questions in preparation. You can contact me via call/text: 910.612.6547 or email: cdavis@tbcraleigh.com

Education & Families

Rev. Karen Metcalf Eickhoff, kmetcalf@tbcraleigh.com

Advent Items for Families

Advent materials for children and their families are available in various areas of our church. Plan to make this Advent special as you share together the meaning and hope of the season. We are providing something different on the grade-school hallway this year. Posters will be displayed each week during Advent for children to color as they walk down the hall. Family Devotion packets are available for families as well. In the packet you will find devotions, an Advent calendar and an Advent wreath to color and assemble for your family's worship time.

Advent is a time of reflection, hope and waiting. As we wait and anticipate the holidays, my prayer is that each family will find Nativity in the season and a place to bow at the manger. Love came down at Christmas. Rejoice!

RAGA Offering for Global Missions

You can still bring your Global Mission offering to church. You can give to the wishing well out in the lobby for a fun way to give.

твс **FAMILY** Christmas Tree

The Tree is up! We would love more ornaments from you and your family.

All you have to do is find an ornament relating to the Nativity, write your family name on it with the current year –2017 and bring it to the tree in the Fellowship Hall. If you cannot make it to the Fellowship Hall—bring it to the office and we will get it to the tree.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY DATES

December 6

Double hours of Choir Practice (for grade school choirs)

December 10

Live Nativity • Sunday School

Children's Choir Concert Evening Service

GA & RA Solo Mission Projects

GA and RA boys and girls may begin to work on Mission Projects. All grade school children are encouraged to do an individual mission project and can choose to race in the RA car race in February. Plan now and begin serving in a special way. Start during the Holidays and spread the Christmas spirit.

Children's Day

February 28, 2018

Children will be participating in all aspects of the morning worship services. If you are a grade school child that plays an instrument or has a special talent and you are willing to share with us in the service, please contact me. Also, begin to let me know if you would like to have a speaking part. We may not be able to use everyone but we would like to try to use you if possible. Mark the date!

I will also need parent and adult volunteers for the children's day lead team. Contact me.

2018 Summer Dates

Vacation Bible School • June 13-16 Passportkids Camp • July 2-5 Montreat, NC Katie Medlin, kmedlin@tbcraleigh.com

Family Traditions that Point Toward Christ

Singing Christmas carols, lighting the Christmas Tree, putting out the Christmas decorations, lighting the Advent candles, giving and receiving gifts, rejoicing in the birth of our Lord and Savior... These are some of the many many things we do during the Christmas Season.

Christmas is such a special and magical time of year; filled with family traditions and warm memories. But, it is also a busy and full time, where we can easily get swept up by all that we "have" to do, and miss out on truly celebrating the reason that we celebrate at all.

The Nativity: My family had a nativity scene growing up. My parents had several around the house there were some that my brother and I could play with! This was one of Matt and I's favorite things to do during Christmas. We would take turns playing with the different characters, and instead of just being

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 10 Children's Choir Concert

Live Nativity

December 13

Church-wide Christmas Party Fellowship Hall (Join your Trinity Family for this Fun Night!)

December 17

Church-wide Caroling Event (great for families with children)

December 24

Christmas Eve Services 10:55am Service and 5:00pm Service (Childcare for children through age four available for both services)

Merry Christmas!

a decoration, the nativity was a special toy for us to play with.

Our children can have the same experience, to be able to play and interact with a nativity scene so that it can become real to them, and not just something that just sits up on a shelf or the mantel. We celebrate Christmas because Jesus came to us, to be where we are, to interact with people on a close and intimate level, and the figures can represent His birth to symbolize that for my children.

The Christmas Story: Before we could open presents on Christmas morning, my family would always read the account of Jesus' birth from the Bible. Looking back I treasure these early morning memories almost more than any other Christmas tradition.

Of all of our traditions, I think that this one was the most important; reading and being involved in the Biblical account of Christ's birth helped to keep us focused on Him.

These are just two ideas out of many things we can do to keep Christ at the center of the season through creating family traditions in our homes.

Ultimately, as families, we want to glorify God in all that we say and do, and this is just as true at Christmas time. Look for ways as a family you can keep and incorporate family traditions that focus on Christ as the reason for Christmas, and create traditions that will add to your children's experience of Christmas as Jesus' Birthday.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP CARE Volunteer Needed

(Preschool Age)

Christmas Eve, December 24 • 5:00pm Care needed from 4:30pm - 6:20pm

Please Contact Katie by calling the church office or by email at kmedlin@tbcraleigh.com if you are willing and able to help!

Recreation Outreach Center

Rev. Spencer Good, sgood@rocraleigh.com 🔺 (919) 787-4991

ROC HOURS

Monday • Tuesday • Thursday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm • 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm

> **Wednesday** 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

> **Friday** 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

> > Saturday *Closed*

• **ROC Closed** • Saturdays in December

ROC ACTIVITIES December 10 - December 16

GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

W • 7:00-8:00am • ROC Floor Dance-It Group Fitness

W, F • 9:15-10:15am • ROC Floor Stroller Strides

T • 8:45am - 9:45am • Multi-Purpose Senior Strength & Stretch

T, Th • 5:30-6:30am • ROC Floor Fit for Mom

T, Th • 8:00-9:00am • ROC Floor Dance-It Group Fitness

ROC CALENDAR

14th Annual ROC'n Golf Tournament May 21, 2018

> **12th Annual North Hills 5K** September 8, 2018

ROC Volunteers

The volunteers' schedule is subject to change. If no volunteer is available, the ROC may close, even during regular hours.

Monday, December 11

8am-11am	Charles & Ronda Swindell
11am-2pm	Billy Joyner
3рт-брт	Rhonda Davis
6pm-9pm	Jenny Beal

Tuesday, December 12

8am-11am	Glenn & Sylvia Wellborn
11am-2pm	Marcel Beaudreau
3pm-6pm	Volunteers Needed
6pm-9pm	Volunteers Needed

Wednesday, December 13

8am-11am	Andy Ammons
11am-2pm	Marcel Beaudreau
7:45pm-9pm	Volunteers Needed

Thursday, December 14

8am-11am	Joyce Warren
11am-2pm	Suzie Short
3pm-6pm	Donna Munley
6pm-9pm	Ron & Apryl Bullock

Friday, December 15

8am-11am	Johnny Teal
11am-2pm	Jackie Mizelle

Saturday, December 16

9am - 12pm Closed

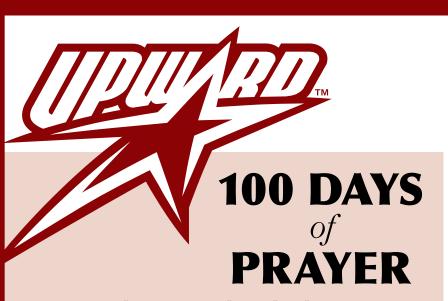
Volunteers Needed

2nd Tuesday • 6:00pm - 9:00pm 2nd Wednesday • 7:45pm - 9:00pm 3rd Monday • 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Contact Michelle: 919-787-3740 or mkranz@tbcraleigh.com if you can sub short term or know of anyone interested in taking on a regular spot.

Recreation Outreach Center

Rev. Spencer Good, sgood@rocraleigh.com 🔺 (919) 787-4991



November 20, 2017 through February 27, 2018

Practices

December 11& 12 • 18 & 19

January 8 & 9 • 15 & 16 • 22 & 23 • 29 & 30

> February 5 & 6 • 12 & 13 • 19 & 20

Games

January Saturdays: 6, 13, 20, 27

February Saturdays: 3, 10, 17, 24

Celebration Night

Tuesday, February 27

For more information go the www.TBCUpward.com

ETC VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, December 10

Hostess: Stephanie Avent Asst Hostess: Karen Bell

8:45 am Worship Service

Sara Rooker, Lauren Thompson, Kelli & Ben Wood, Victoria Price, Matt West, Molly Kovacs

10:55 am Worship Service

0-4 mos	Ann Berry, Vickie Hall
5-10 mos	JoAnne Herrmann, Heather DeVault
11-14 mos	Angela Stahl, Amanda Cash
15-19 mos	Jan Mills
20-24 mos	Tim Avent
2 yrs	Bradley Cash, Holly Hering
3 yrs	Dean Hering, Craig DeVault, Krystal Good
4 yrs	Chris Herrmann, Lisa Dale, Peggy Pegram

Special Needs Care

Holly Shaw (Hostess), Brooke Babb, Mandy Wilson

Wednesday, December 13

No Child Care

VISION FOR GROWTH 12-3-17

Growing through Bible Study...

Growing unough bible olday					
Members	_	New			
Age Group	Present	Members	Visitors		
Adults	530	0	11		
Students	117	0	7		
Children	71	0	1		
Preschool	<u>71</u>	$\frac{0}{0}$	$\frac{1}{20}$		
Totals	789	0	20		
Sunday School		To	otal 809		
Growing throug	h Worshi	р			
8:45am Worship	Attendanc	e	242		
10:55am Worship	Attendan	ce	558		
Total Worship Attendance 800					
Growing through Stewardship					
(YTD totals throu	(YTD totals through 10/31/2017)				
YTD General	-				
Fund Needs (Bud	lget)	\$2,468	3,400.00		
YTD Operating Receipts \$2,153,012			,012.50		
YTD Operating Expenses \$2,220,			,144.50		
Capital Campaign					
Capital Campaign		\$4 162	6,680.00		
Pledged Money H			9.917.39		
Total Received	acciveu		.668.68		
iotai necciveu		φ5,951	,000.00		

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

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Rev. Wayne Rogers, Organist

Ramona Green, Barbara Bowen • Pianists

E-mail newsletter articles no later than Noon Fridays to: info@tbcraleigh.com.

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