

let's get started

The summer is quickly coming to a close and that means it's soon time to begin our church's ministry year.

Sunday School

On Sunday, September 15, Sunday School for elementary kids will start for the year. We're grateful for Erin VanderLugt taking the lead on teaching again. They will meet from 9:45-10:45 am in the large classroom downstairs.

The Sunday adult class will also begin on September 15. Led by Jasper Hall, it will be studying the book of Joshua. The class meets in the Fireside Room upstairs from 9:30-10:45.

Coffee Break

Coffee Break is a women's Bible study that has two opportunities to meet. They will be studying a portion of the Gospel of Luke.

One group meets at church on Tuesday night from 7:00-8:30 pm. Another group meets at church on Wednesday mornings from 9:45-11:00 am. The Wednesday time does offer a children's Story Hour ministry for preschoolers.

No previous Scripture knowledge is necessary, so it is a great entry level study, but also provides opportunities for deeper study for those knowledgeable about Scripture.



church events

- September 3— Tuesday Coffee Break Begins 7:00—8:30 pm
- September 4—
 Wednesday Coffee
 Break Begins
 9:45—11:00 am
- September 8— Communion & Potluck
- September 11 The Well Bible Study Begins 7:00 pm
- September 15— Sunday School Begins

council report

Council met on Thursday, August 8

Sound/AV System Upgrade

Council approved the expenditure of money for a complete upgrade of our sound/av system in the Worship Center, which will include new speakers, new amp, new sound board, new computer, new projection monitors, and a hearing assistance system.

Complete cost of the project is around \$23,000. The money will come from the \$100,000 gift from Marge Van Kooten's estate that was received last year.

The biggest change visually will be the removal of the central screen for slides. It will be replaced by two large tv monitors on the sides that will be in the spaces that the two large speakers currently occupy.

A highlight of the upgrade will be the installation of a hearing assistance system for those who struggle with hearing. Individual units will be available for people to use that tie into the sound system. We will start with eight individual units available and can purchase more if needed.

• Relationship to Crosspoint Community Church

We discussed our new role in overseeing the ministry of Crosspoint Community Church as they have reverted to unorganized status. We will be scheduling a meeting with their new leadership group to talk through this new formal relationship.

We received a written report, which mentioned the good summer attendance they've had. Weekly worship at the chapel in First Presbyterian will begin in September.



"...whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4.14

The Well started last year as an opportunity on Wednesday evenings to go deeper into the text and sermon from the previous Sunday. Each time followed a similar pattern.

1. We briefly reviewed the text and sermon.

Discussion was opened up to address questions people brought or insights that they wanted to share with the group.

3. Following the opening discussion, we would go over further study that I prepared that talked about other parts of the text or what fleshed out something in the sermon in a broader way.

I was blessed by the rich discussions we had together. I am grateful that people at Trinity are eager and ready to talk about Scripture and how it ties to their lives. I am encouraged by the desire I saw to draw deeper.

The Well will be starting up again on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:00 pm. We meet in the Fireside Room. To prepare, look for the sermon outline the Sunday before that will help you stay attentive and engaged for further discussion.

If you want to grow in God's word, give this a try. You will be challenged and encouraged as you listen to his word.

Pastor Ben

<u>prayer</u> groups

I recently had a conversation where I was struck by the need for the church to come together in fervent prayer. The conversation was around the challenge in our day of being confident in the faith. We see people who have grown up in the faith or who have confessed their faith struggling because of worldly pressure, because of information that casts doubts on their faith, because of Christian leaders who have faltered, or plenty of other reasons. Some of these people are our family members. We might also wonder how our youth will grow into the faith in such a challenging time. We need to come together as a church and pray.

With this in mind, Council is calling on the church to come together in different focused prayer groups. One group can focus on praying for our youth. Another could focus on praying for family members of our church who are not practicing their faith or who do not believe. Another could focus on those in our community who need to hear the gospel.

What we need are people willing to take the lead on starting a group. The idea is that the groups would meet at least monthly to pray together in a home or at church.

If you would like to start a group, choose your focus and talk to me and I'll give you more guidance.

May God raise up leaders to guide us as a church into greater prayer.

Pastor Ben