

*Vision Statement*

Our vision is to be more than a refuge; it is to be a revitalizing community where all may be saved, healed, strengthened, and equipped to go into the world on active mission for our Lord Jesus Christ.

# THE CARILLON

Published by Trinity Baptist Church



*By Dr. Ryan Wilson*

## *The Month of Love*

February has often been called the month of love as we celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14. The late comedian Red Skelton offered some funny thoughts behind a happy marriage. Here is what he said:

1. Two times a week we go to a nice restaurant for good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesday and I go on Friday.
2. We sleep in separate beds. Hers is in Ontario and mine is in California.
3. I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back.
4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time," she said. So I suggested the kitchen.
5. When we go to the shopping mall, we always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.
6. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because she thought there was water in the carburetor. I asked where the car was. She said, "In the lake."
7. Before you take the leap into matrimony, remember this: Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.
8. If fact, statistically, 100 percent of all divorces start with marriage.
9. As for myself, I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was Always.
10. I haven't spoken to my wife in almost a year. I don't like to interrupt her.
11. I'll admit the last fuss we had was my fault. My wife asked, "What's on the T.V.?" I answered, "Dust!"

All marriages and close relationships need commitment, love, and laughter to last. I hope that February will be full of all three.

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No. 2

*Mrs. Susan Brock*, Food Service Director  
*Mrs. Jamie Crum*, Administrative Secretary  
*Mr. Brandon Gambrell*, Co-Youth Minister  
*Miss Annie Gambrell*, Co-Youth Minister  
*Ms. Diane McFarlane*, Pianist  
*Mr. Stelan Martin*, College & Career Minister  
Church website: [trinitybaptistsc.org](http://trinitybaptistsc.org)

*Mr. John Moore*, Custodian  
*Mr. Bill Morrow*, Organist  
*Rev. Rebecca Sires*, Preschool Director, Children's Minister  
*Rev. Tony Vincent*, Associate Minister (cell no: 864-888-7535)  
*Dr. Ryan Wilson*, Pastor (cell no: 864-723-0865)

Church phone no: 864-882-9396

### WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

#### DEACONS

2-Steve Grogan  
16-John McRoberts

9-Chris Kiker  
23-Stephen Scruggs

#### USHERS

2-Sandra Borgstedt, Pat Cromer, Jim Foster, Ben Kroeger, Gene Meason, Jeff Nix, Steve & Gayle Grogan, Bill Sandifer, Lee Thomas  
9-Barry Duvall, Tim Hydrick, Tucker Hydrick, Chuck Middleton, Kent Norman, Buddy Poole, Matt Powell, Stephen Scruggs, Bill Thompson, Tony Williams  
16-Josh Barker, Junior Bearden, Eddie Burkett, Robert Davis, Wendy Evans, Debby Howard, Tommy Shaver, Mike Smith, Charlie Thompson  
23-Jason Crawford, Nick Groomes, David Jeffcoat, Michael Martin, Stelan Martin, Cortni Nations, Lane & Jamie Price, Jackie Sheriff, John Thompson

#### FLOWERS

2-Tommy & Brenda Shaver  
16-Sabrina Glenn & Family

9-Phil & Becky Buckhiester  
23-Bill & Nancy Thompson

#### GREETERS

2-SS Side Door- Charlie Thompson; SS Fellowship Hall Door -David & Brenda Howle; Worship Side Door-Madi Duvall, Debby Howard; Worship Sanctuary Door-Andy & Kris Frady  
9-SS Side Door-Ron & Carla Gambrell; SS Fellowship Hall Door-John & Nan Thompson; Worship Side Door- Pete & Aubrey Giacobelli; Worship Sanctuary Door-Jeff Nix  
16-SS Side Door-Nick & Wendy Groomes; SS Fellowship Hall Door-Pat & Brenda Cromer; Worship Side Door- Jamie Price, Leon Scott; Worship Sanctuary Door-Keith & Debra Hart  
23- Empty Nesters Sunday School Class

#### SOUND TECHNICIANS

2- Stephen Scruggs & David Bryant  
9- Al LeRoy & Leon Scott  
16- Pete Giacobelli & Stephen Scruggs  
23- Leon Scott & Pete Giacobelli

### SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

2-Joe Robinson  
16-Gerald Foster

9-Wallace Peebles  
23-Tony Williams

### NURSERY LIST FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

2-Ashley Ellison  
16-Kristen Vincent

9-Susan Williams  
23-Matt & Sydney Howle

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS

2-Rebecca Sires  
16-Lydia Patteson

9-Keaton Plyler  
23-Ashley Ellison

### NURSERY LIST FOR WORSHIP

2-Keaton Plyler, Andrew & Valerie Holliday  
9-Ben & Ashley Ellison, Heather & Clay Vassey  
16-Tracey Crawford, Harris & Brittany Martin  
23-Tina Middleton, Matt & Sydney Howle, David & Heather Land

### COUNTING COMMITTEE

2-Kent Norman, Buddy Poole, Ben Nix  
9-Martin Hemphill, Greg Towe  
16-Pat Cromer, Jeff Nix  
23-Doug Dyson, Ben Kroeger

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

5-Chili Beans, Cornbread, Baked Potato Bar, Dessert  
12-Baked Ziti, Salad, French Bread, No Bake Cheesecake  
19-Mississippi Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Dessert  
26-Breakfast Casserole, Grits, Eggs, Cinnamon Rolls, Fruit

**If you are not able to fulfill your monthly assignment, please contact the committee and the church office.**

Rebecca Sires

Children's Corner

903-1303/Siresfamily5@gmail.com

We are very excited to be back on Sunday nights for musical practice with our 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders. We have 40 kids participating this year which is a huge God sighting for us. It is so important that we continue to feed the spiritual needs of our children as they are our future disciples. This year's Musical is **Holy Moses**. We are studying the life of Moses and can't wait to share our performance with our church family on Saturday, April 5 at 7pm and Sunday, April 6 during our 10:30 worship time.

All of our children will be singing on April 20 for Easter Sunday as we head into Holy Week. We will also hold our April Family Night Event at 4pm. More information to come.

Thank you to all the Sunday School Teachers, nursery, children's church, and Wednesday night volunteers. Your dedication is a huge blessing to our families and a very important part of our children's ministry.

Train a child up in the way they should go. When they are old, they will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

#### Upcoming Dates

Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Festival, Wednesday, April 16 at 6pm

Vacation Bible School, Sunday, June 22 - Thursday, June 26

Camp Prism, Tuesday, July 15 - Friday, July 18

**Annie Goss**

*Youth News*

**884-7334**

**Brandon Gambrell**

**617-3667**

Happy February everyone! The youth are coming down from a very busy and exciting January: the holiday season, a long break from school, our annual lock-in, and recently returning from our annual ski trip. The youth have had several opportunities to gather together and fellowship through many fun activities that we hope will continue to strengthen their relationships with each other and with Christ. We want to thank everyone who has supported us, prayed for us, and volunteered in various ways to support the youth. We want to give a special thanks to Krissy Boggs for being our "trip mom" on the ski trip this year! She was a wonderful addition and did a wonderful job making sure everyone was taken care of!

For the month of February, we hope it will be a slower, more relaxed time for us to really spend time together in God's word. On the ski trip, Brandon taught on how the enemy works to separate us from God. He likened it to a game of dodgeball; the enemy wants to take us out when we are a threat to him; but when we have God on our team, we will never lose. This month we hope to continue to explore what this relationship looks like with God on our team, or more accurately with us being on God's team.

We want to thank you all for your continued prayers and support for the youth! If anyone feels led to support through giving of your time in any way, we always welcome anyone who wants to pour into our students! Please reach out to Annie or Brandon if you have any questions or have any interest in spending time with the youth! We love each one of you!

**February is a Missions Month (Every Month is a Missions Month!)**

*God is at work through Trinity on Mission! How can you join in?*

Thank you for the generous support you gave, over \$25,000, to the CBF Offering for Global Missions. Thank you also for praying for and supporting our mission teams that traveled to Mexico City and Immokalee, Florida, in January. Be in prayer for our Guatemala team as they make final preparations for their trip, March 15-22 and for other mission opportunities coming up throughout the remainder of 2025!

Mark your calendars for April 27 when CBF Global Missions Coordinator, Rev. Laura Alaya, will preach in our morning worship service. Also that day, we will host a Missions Breakfast led by CBF Director of Missional Engagement, Rev. Ellen Sechrest, and our Encourager Church partners, Scarlette Jasper and Rick Burnette, will join us, too!

**Trinity Choral Scholars Program, Spring 2025**

*Our worship continues to be blessed by the presence of three outstanding Choral Scholars. These singers commit to rehearsing and singing with our choir, adding so much to our worship experience; and they receive some support for their on-going studies. Madelyn LeRoy is a sophomore at Clemson studying Horticulture. This is her second year with us. Dalton Land is a sophomore at Southern Wesleyan University studying Music Education. Our newest Choral Scholar is Shawn Ropp, a freshman at Southern Wesleyan University studying Music Education. All three are products of Oconee County choral programs! Dalton and Shawn are both half scholarship recipients, and Madelyn is receiving a full scholarship. We are grateful for these students and their willingness to use their voices to glorify God!*



Dalton Land



Madelyn LeRoy



Shawn Ropp

**LLL (Living Longer & Loving It) Trinity's Senior Adult Ministry**

Thursday, February 27, 9:30 am

We will visit the historic McGowan Barksdale Bundy House in Abbeville for a guided tour and lunch on our own in Abbeville. Cost: \$10 plus lunch



Greetings from the preschool!

February is an exciting month as we hold Registration for the 2025-2026 school year. If you know of anyone looking for a preschool, please send them our way Wednesday, February 12 at 8am. We will be taking registration forms for our 3 and 4 years old classes and Kindergarten. Our 2 year old classes are full. We will hold registration in the Gathering Area. Spots are given on a first come, first serve basis. Summer Fun Registration will take place in April.

Reaching new heights. Leading children to be confident followers of Jesus.

Rebecca Sires



**Thankful Hearts  
February 6 at 10:45 am  
Meet at Trinity Baptist  
For Sunnyside Café.**

**For any questions, please  
call Cherry Bell at 864-203-2260.**



**STAFF BIRTHDAYS  
Susan Brock—February 22**



**Brotherhood Meal & Meeting  
February 24 @ 6:00 pm**



**Salvation Army of Oconee County  
Bell Ringing Thank You**

A big thank you to Trinity Baptist for ringing the bell again this year for the Salvation Army of Oconee County. This makes 7 straight years we have rung the bell! We raised \$5,109 this year ringing every Friday at Belk to help those in need in Oconee County. This brings the total raised by Trinity Baptist since we began ringing in 2018 to \$19,088. Great job fellow worshipers!

Doug Dyson

Deacons Present: Curtis Brock, Chris Kiker, Steve Grogan, Stephen Scruggs, Michael Martin, Jamie Price, Caroline Davis, David Nations, and Phil Corn; Ex-officio: Ryan Wilson, Tony Vincent

### **Prayer and Devotion**

Dr. Wilson shared a devotion based on a poem from Judge Clay Land from Columbus, GA about the meaning of Christmas.

### **Minutes from the November 18, 2024 meeting**

The minutes of the November 18, 2024, meeting were discussed and then accepted unanimously.

### **Senior Minister's Report**

Dr. Wilson shared the following:

The concerns of the Trinity family and community.

Fruit baskets were delivered to the homebound.

The Youth lock in was a great time.

The Christmas Eve candlelight and communion service is at 6 PM and the staff will be serving the communion.

The Children's musical kickoff is January 5.

Wednesday nights start back on January 8.

The youth ski trip is January 17-20.

Preschool is going well, there has been some sickness but hopefully the holiday break will give that time to improve.

Holiday staff schedules were discussed.

March 5 is Ash Wednesday. Trinity will likely host the first of the Lenten services which are at Noon.

A group is going to Immokalee, FL in January.

The Guatemala trip is March 15-22.

The Children's musical presentations will be April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

Easter is April 20.

The CBF meeting is in Greenville on April 25.

The group going to Romania will tentatively leave on June 6.

Passport is June 15-20.

VBS is June 22-26.

Camp Prism is July 15-18.

Staff reviews were being completed.

The Nominating Committee report and budget were passed by the congregation.

Dr. Wilson prayed for the concerns that had been mentioned.

### **Deacon Family Ministry**

Chairman Brock encouraged the Deacons to review the guidelines and suggestions in our Deacon packet and to be proactive with our contact. In addition to contacting current members, we want to focus on friends of the congregation and prospective members.

The Pastors offered to visit with Deacons if they would like them to.

### **Old Business**

Those who contributed to the Advent devotional were thanked.

### **Building and Grounds Update**

The bells will not be repaired by Christmas. It is recommended that an attorney send a demand letter requesting action or a refund. A motion to accept the Committee's recommendation was passed unanimously.

The updated internet service with Upcountry Fiber is being scheduled. Once it is in the phone system with Technology Solutions will be implemented. The phones have been ordered.

The parking lot has been completed.

The website is being worked on.

We will discuss Janitorial issues at the next meeting.

The estimate for the steeple repair has been received. If there are any other projects that the lift can be used for the day of the steeple repair, those will be explored.

### **New Business**

Deacon committee liaison roles were discussed. Committee night is suggested to be January 12, 2025, at 6 PM. The chairs of the committees will be elected at the meeting. We need to let the chairperson know we are their liaison.

### **Missions**

A group of 12 will be going to Immokalee, FL in January. Part of the team will work on the church building in Labelle and the others will work with Rick Burnette at Cultivate Abundance.

The mission committee voted to fund the cost of the materials for the building work.

The KY trip to take the gift boxes to Scarlette Jasper and assist in the distribution was a success. We hope to make this a long-term ministry.

14 people are going to Guatemala on March 15, 2025.

The Romania trip is in June.

Susan Brock was going to do a cooking demonstration at The Way Youth House.

The Mission Committee is supporting 4 teachers going back to Mexico City in January.

Soup Kitchen volunteers are needed.

The 200<sup>th</sup> bed from Sleep in Heavenly Peace was delivered on December 21, 2024.

There is a request for 350 more beds.

Yoders donated the lumber for 40+ beds.

There were 99 volunteers at the last build.

Deacon Caroline Davis volunteered and commented how organized this ministry is. Chairman Brock encouraged the Deacons to participate.

CBF cleanups: Union, SC on President's Day; Lake Lure, NC January 14-17, 2025

The church has received multiple thank you notes from many that have been impacted by missions.

There have been preliminary discussions about contribution to the Mission committee from the investment return from the investment account.

### **Devotion Assignment and Prayer**

The Deacons are going to share in doing the meeting devotions and prayers. Chairman Brock will take January and Caroline Davis volunteered for February.

### **Outreach Goals**

The Deacons were asked to focus on Trinity's vision statement.

### **Financial Report**

The October financial report was approved.

Dr. Wilson was able to shop around and get an \$8000 reduction in health insurance premium.

It is expected that the parking lot item will be zeroed out in 2025 by undesignated funds.

The following information is from the financial reports for November 2024.

### **Undesignated**

Receipts for the month of November were \$67,518. Our total budget expenses in October were \$66,123. That left a surplus of \$1395 for the month.

Our Year-to-date budget receipts (as of November 30, 2024) were \$725,847, and our budget needs (as of November 30, 2024) were \$704,426. Our Budget expenses Year-to-date (as of November 30, 2024) were \$655,145. The net overage for budgeting needs is \$21,422; additionally, we have a \$70,702 surplus of receipts versus budget expenses year-to-date.

Total Cash and Investments for Trinity Baptist Church, as of November 30, 2024, was \$1,376,897.

The Total Undesignated Balance ending November 30, 2024, was \$849,340.

### **Designated**

The total, ending balance of the Trinity Baptist Foundation (Jolly Scholarship) for November 30, 2024, was \$407,169.

The balance of our Designated Account, excluding the Trinity Baptist Foundation (Jolly Scholarship) for November 30, 2024, was \$120,388.

Stephen Scruggs adjourned the meeting in prayer.

The Deacons Meeting Minutes are presented to the church for information prior to its acceptance by the deacons in their next meeting on January 26, 2025.

Respectfully submitted and yours in Christ, Jamie Price