

TRINITY news

January and February 2016

From Pastor Kevin...

Has God ever asked you to do anything that seemed unusual, out of the ordinary...even wrong??

In the Old Testament we learn of a prophet named Hosea. By all accounts a godly, upright man who sought to be totally pleasing to God. He was a servant. And, he was an unmarried man. He had probably been looking for the right woman to marry, but he simply had not found her just yet. As all godly men seeking a wife, he wanted a woman who shared his spiritual convictions and desire to walk with God.

Well, one day during his prayer time, he hears God speak: "Go, take to yourself a wife..." (Hosea 1:2). Hosea says, "All right! That's what I'm talking about!" Then God finishes his sentence: "Go, take yourself a wife...of whoredom." A prostitute. A woman of the streets.

Can you imagine our prophet replying to God with something like, "Uh...Lord...did you say 'whoredom?'" Didn't you mean 'boredom,' or 'kingdom,' or something like that??" Of course, God was quite clear. God had a plan for that mismatched couple that went far beyond what Hosea could have imagined. God wanted

to send a message, through this mismatch of a marriage, to Israel that He saw the same mismatch between Himself and His people. They had been set free by His love and grace, but were choosing to run after other gods; false gods. They were choosing to ignore the One Who had saved them for gods that didn't even exist!

Sometimes, like Hosea, God chooses to call us to do the unusual. We can find no explanation, no rhyme or reason, to what He is asking us to do. Yet it is quite clear that He is calling. Our only consideration is, do we hear and obey His direction?

The year 2016 will be a year where God's people are called to do the unusual. Great and mighty things happen when God's people listen to a great and mighty God speak, and then choose to obey!

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."
Proverbs 3:5-6

It's a joy to be your pastor!

Pastor Kevin

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 5	Deacon Meeting
January 6	Women on Mission
January 8	Seasoned Single Ladies
January 11	Senior Adult Dinner
January 14	Common Threads
January 21	Ladies' Supper Gang
January 22	Seasoned Single Ladies
January 29	GA Camp Out
February 2	Deacon Meeting
February 3	Women on Mission
February 5	Seasoned Single Ladies
February 11	Common Threads
February 18	Ladies' Supper Gang
February 22	Senior Adult Dinner
February 26	Seasoned Single Ladies

The church office will be closed on:

Friday, January 1
New Years Day

Monday, January 18
Martin Luther King Jr Day

Monday, February 15
President's Day

Childhood Ministries

Happy New Year Families! I pray that you made it through the Christmas season and were able to see the blessings given to you by Him. God keeps showing himself to me in our Children's ministry. Random occurrences that fill in the missing pieces are no coincidence. It is God taking care of me and guiding me through my day. I am so thankful how He uses you all to help me and build this ministry.

Here's what's coming up this New Year! Our Kidz Choir will begin to work on new music for our spring musical called Here for the Gold. In Here for the Gold, a group of local kids write and produce a web streaming live show to spread the message of what is really important in life. Instead of worldly materials like cash in your pocket or the latest I-thing, they focus on the truths from the parables of Jesus, such as building a firm foundation, forgiving others, loving their neighbors and letting their light shine to glorify God. It is sure to be a great performance, put on by our amazing kids, all to bring God the glory He is due.

Our Mission Kidz will be busy, as well this New Year. Children's Ministry day is coming up in February. The focus of this day is to get children into our community doing work while showing the love of Jesus. We are still working out the details, but I know there will be books and reading involved! This is a great opportunity for our children to begin to learn and form a servant's heart.

Starting in January during Kidz Worship, we will begin a new series called *I'm A Christian NOW!* We will begin to ask and answer questions such as "Am I a Christian?", "What does it mean to be a Christian?", and "I asked Jesus into my heart now WHAT do I do?" This 8 week curriculum will walk children through the steps of salvation, knowing for CERTAIN that they are going to heaven, writing and sharing their personal testimony, following Jesus' example and going on mission.

Parents, we will need your help as we begin this journey of *I'm a Christian Now!* There will be HOMEWORK!! Prayerfully, I hope you see this as an opportunity to extend your child's learning and understanding of Christ. As a busy parent of 3 myself, I am looking forward to making time to do a daily Bible time with my children. The BEST part is that it is all set up. All the material is provided for your child. Beginning this habit now while our children are young will hopefully become a habit that they will continue as they grow older. A habit that I wish I would have learned LONG before I did. Thank you, in advance, for your help training our children in the way they should go.

We want your kids! Please invite and encourage your children to invite other kids to Wednesday evening and Sunday morning activities. What better place could you invite children to than Trinity? Each week our teachers are teaching biblical truths in a FUN and interactive way! Please pray for the children's ministry here at Trinity. Please pray that God will use us to share the truth with those who need it. Pray that God abundantly blesses our children and families and that He would be the focus in our homes. It is always a pleasure to serve with you all!

Raeann Johnson
Director of Childhood Ministries

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year
Everyone!

Contribution records for 2015 will be emailed by January 22, 2016, to everyone with an email address on file. You will need to open the attachment and print your record for your tax files.

For those without email addresses on file with the church, your record will be in the church on January 24, 2016 for you to pick up.

To add or update your email address, please send an email to beth@tbcapopka.org.



Worship Ministry

"But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself..."

Daniel 1:8

As the start of a new year begins, many of us reflect on the past year and decide to make changes. We call these changes "New Year's resolutions." Making resolutions at the start of each year has been commonplace for generations. These resolutions span from making a decision to eat healthier to reading our Bible more. The problem with making these resolutions, though, is that it has been just as commonplace to break these New Year's resolutions. Seeing this trend in our resolutions, we must ask ourselves, "Why do these resolutions fail?" I believe the problem starts with a bad definition of a resolution.

A resolution is defined as "a firm decision to do or not do something." This definition seems to be fine, but upon deeper study of this definition we begin to find the problem with our definition. Two synonyms, or words that mean the same thing, are found in relation to the word "resolution." The first word is "intention" and the second is "resolve."

An intention is "an aim or plan." Here is where we begin to see where our resolutions break down. Does this seem familiar? Our resolutions seem to look a lot like good intentions instead of a firm decision to do something. We like to make plans to do better every year, but in the end that is as far as it goes; a good plan. How do we improve on our definition of a resolution and begin to follow through with our plans? This is where our second synonym is important.

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TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Providing Christian Education and Childcare for Nursery - 8th Grade in Apopka, Florida

As always, the past few months have been very busy at Trinity Christian School. We are very proud of our Junior Beta Club who attended the State Beta Club convention in early December. This event includes students from both public and private schools. We took first place in wreath design (Cierra Allen), black and white photography (Abriana Lunneen), digitally enhanced photography (Lauren Sanchez), visual design (Amanda Hawkins, Aryanna Clarke, Brianna Fernandez, Carrah Allen) and second place over-all in the Arts and Crafts Sweepstakes. Lauren Sanchez was awarded second place in essay. Mrs. Bentley serves as the State sponsor and is very grateful to those who assisted her in adjudicating events. Thank you to Bill and Claudia Bradshaw, Fran Carlton, Dianne Lovett, Jennifer Gomez and Chris Bentley for giving freely of your time to help make this event run smoothly.

We are also pleased to say that TCS, with the help of TBC, delivered 344 shoeboxes to the local distribution center. Operation Christmas Child will again deliver these boxes to needy children around the world. Thank you church for your help.

In January, eighth grade student Abriana Lunneen, will participate in the FMEA All-state band. It is quite an honor to be selected as one of the best musicians in the state including public and private schools.

Beverly Smith
TCS Administrator

Senior Adult Ministry

Our next Senior Adult Covered Dish will be Monday evening, January 11, 2016 in the cafeteria of the LCLC. The evening will feature our very own Pastor of Student Ministries, Mike Ballard. Along with your special yummy covered dishes, this promises to be a fantastic evening of good food, fellowship, and inspiration. Plan now to join us at 6:30 pm in the LCLC for the January edition of the Senior Adult Covered Dish Program.

Remember our start-up of the Senior Adult Walking and Exercise meetings. This program is free of charge

and each participant proceeds at their own pace. We have a lot of fun as we meet in the gym each Monday and Thursday beginning on January 4, at 11 am. Join us as we "lose" those holiday pounds!

Coming the end of January or first of February—trip to the Cape Canaveral National Seashore Bird Watching, a brief devotional, maybe some kite-flying! And of course; ending the day at Dixie Crossroads. Stay tuned for more information.

Pastor Fred
Senior Adult Pastor

Discipleship/Outreach Ministries

I am thrilled to once again be back with such dear friends and fellow laborers for Christ here at TBC. Tina and I have been in a whirlwind state since returning and it does not seem to be slowing down right now with the holidays upon us. The membership of Trinity has been so welcoming and encouraging. We are incredibly grateful to the DRT men who came to Tampa to move us back. These great guys, bless their hearts, know the intricacies of our furniture almost as much as we do. It is an example of their love for the Lord and their love for us that they would labor to help us in this way. God bless you men!

As I make my rounds from one Small Group Bible Study Group to the next, I am really enjoying getting to know our teachers and leadership. My goal is to sit in on as many classes as I can to learn our people. It has been my privilege to substitute teach a couple of times already and please know that I am available to do that if you need me to, but I also am grateful for the subs we have in our fellowship and want to compile a list of qualified teachers who can step in when needed.

Sunday night, January 10, 2016, from 5-7 pm, I would like to have our first SGBS leadership training meeting. We will gather for a large group session at 5 pm in the chapel and then have dinner together at the conclusion of which we will have break out groups where there will be some intensive training and strategizing. My goal is to have a large meeting like this about once a quarter and then have shorter, less formal meetings, in between to help us coordinate and plan for a successful year in discipleship, outreach and church health. I am inviting all leadership for the January 10 meeting. If you are a teacher, fellowship leader, prayer leader, ministry coordinator, records keeper, substitute teacher or someone who aspires to be any of these please join us. We would like to know if you plan to attend so we know how to prepare so, please call the church office at 407-886-2966 or my cell 727-967-4893, and let me know of your intent to come.

I look forward to every Wednesday night getting to share God's Word; so, please join us in the chapel at 6 pm if you are not involved in another of our Bible studies. Our men will begin again on Wednesday night, January 13, at 6 pm in building A213 and our women will begin again on Tuesday morning, February 2 at 9 am in building A213 and Tuesday night in the same room at 6:30 pm, and again on Wednesday night, February 3 at 6 pm in A216. The men will be studying "The Man Code" by Dennis Swanberg and led by Pastor Kevin and Pastor Fred. Our ladies will be studying "The Sermon on the Mount" by Jen Wilkin. Please see Karen Goza for further details.

Plan to kick off this new year right with diving into God's Word and joining us for Small Group Bible Studies on Sunday, Tuesday or Wednesday throughout the year.

Pastor Jay
Discipleship/Equipping/Outreach

Thank you to all that provided items and/or were involved in putting together the fruit and cookie platters for Women on Mission. We were able to do 22 cookie platters and 14 fruit platters for the Apopka Police and Fire Departments. We wish you all a Merry Christmas, and look forward to having you involved with Women on Mission next year.

Worship Ministry continued...

The second synonym for a resolution is "resolve." To resolve to do something is "to decide on a firm course of action." To have resolve is to have great determination, even in the midst of opposition. No better picture for resolve is found other than in the book of Daniel.

In the first chapter, we are told that Babylon sacked Jerusalem, taking the treasures contained within. Among the spoils taken were four young boys of nobility who were "the cream of the crop." These boys were named Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. These boys were required to eat what the king ate; food that went against the law God had put in place. Even in the midst of the king's commands the boys would not eat what the king provided. In fact, scripture says that Daniel "resolved" in his heart that he would not defile himself with the king's food. Daniel stood firm in his decision to follow God's law instead of the king of Babylon. Even in the face of death, Daniel would not move on his position.

What would happen if we looked at our resolve to follow through with our decisions every year? What would happen if we purposed in our hearts to read our Bible more, be more committed to our church family, or purposed to get rid of the sins that we have held fast to for so many years? This year, let us not have many good intentions, but let us stand resolved to follow God in obedience. There are so many opportunities to serve at Trinity. If you play an instrument or like to sing and have a desire to serve the Lord, we would love to have you come sing and play with us. If you are seeking more information on how to serve through our music ministry call the church office and ask for Pastor Chad.

Pastor Chad
Worship Pastor

Student Ministry



It's hard to believe we are already moving into 2016; so much planning to do to reach out to the sick, the lost, and the suffering. We have a great group of students who attend on a regular basis. We are looking forward to digging deeper into the word of God this year. We want to grow our

roots deeper so we can bear good fruit. I am including a list of exciting events for the year. If you would like to attend, or have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. If you are not able to join us, please keep the dates handy and pray over us as we carry the Gospel of Jesus outside these walls or invite others in to hear the message. Be on the lookout for some great or favorite quotes from our staff and volunteers. You will find them on Facebook under Mike Ballard, or if you are on Instagram, it is pastormikeballard. We love you and appreciate your prayers and support!

I just want to take a moment and say thank you to the adults who have volunteered many hours this year to make our Student Ministry a huge success. Without their tireless assistance none of this would be possible: Barbara Ballard, Tyler Brabham, Caitlyn Brabham, Renae Brabham, Danny Brabham, Chandra Allen, Michael Allen, Chris Pleasants, Kathy Pleasants, Chris Erwin, Rita Erwin, Adon Erwin, Eric Richardson, Randy Thomas, Lyn Thomas, Thelor Vaneps, and Wendy Vaneps.

Until next time.....Seek Wisdom, Speak Truth, AND Share Love.

Pastor Mike
Student Pastor

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

On Saturday night, February 20th, Trinity Baptist Church will host a men's dinner with special guest speaker, John Croyle.

John played football at Alabama for Coach Bear Bryant, but chose to leave football to open Big Oak Ranch for abused children.

John will also be sharing in the Sunday morning Worship Service, February 21st.

You don't want to miss his inspiring story!



Big Oak Ranch

A Christian home for children
needing a chance

STUDENT MINISTRY DATES TO REMEMBER

January 22-23

Lift Tour- "Sacred Intent" with Propaganda. Cost is \$70.

February 7

Chili Bowl Party
6 to 10pm (or when the game is over)

February 20

John Croyle from Big Oak Ranch at 6pm

February 28

"Called 2 Duty" with Acton Bowen & "Rise" at 5pm

March 19 -21

Florida Baptist Children's Home
Mission Trip. Cost is \$100.

April 3

Student Sunday with Drama/Music

April 9

Game Night/Movie Night 4-10pm (Gym)

April 30

Golf Tournament 6:30am- 4pm
Zellwood Station

May 14

Game Night/Movie Night 4-10pm (Gym)

June 5-8

Super Week

June 13 - 17

VBS Music Camp

July 11 - 15

Super Summer Camp Lake Yale.
Cost is \$325.

July 17

Tim Hawkins in Lakeland, FL

July 25- 29

VBS Week

August 27

Back 2 School Bash

September 10

Rock the Universe

October 6 - 31

Pumpkin Patch

November 19

Game Night/Movie Night 4-10pm (Gym)

December 14

Christmas Party at 6pm

December 29th - January 2

High School Ski trip