

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

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Why Lent? by Dr. Ryan Wilson

Many of you who grew up in other mainline denominational churches practiced the observance of Lent, while folks who grew up in Baptist churches may or may not have observed Lent. At Trinity, we take part in many of the Lenten practices, and by doing so, we acknowledge and claim our part in the larger family of God.

Lent has been observed by Christians since the fourth century and consists of the forty days before Easter, excluding Sundays. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, where often Christians place ashes on their forehead, Christians use this outward symbol as a sign of an inner commitment. The ashes remind us of our mortality, that from dust we came and to dust we'll return, and they also help us to recall how ashes were used in the Old Testament as signs of repentance, remorse, prayer, and fasting.

Just as Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness preparing for His ministry, so too, our focus for Lent is to prepare us for the most momentous event in the life of the church—the resurrection of Jesus. We too, enter the wilderness where we are often tempted, but the goal is that we emerge stronger in our faith and with a deeper relationship with God.

This year, we've asked everyone to give up some of his/her time and take on listening to the Bible each day for around 20-30 minutes (if you still need a mp-3 disc, just call the church office). Hopefully, we will hear God's voice during this time of focus and adopt some practices that do not last merely forty days but become a permanent part of our walks with God.

Just as Jesus came through the wilderness with purpose and focus for the ministry ahead of Him, so may our Lenten journey give us renewed purpose and focus as we grow in our relationship with God and others.

Ryan

During this month we will continue to prepare our hearts, ears and voices for this season of Lent. As you listen to your "You've Got the Time" CD you will hear scriptures you will remember from your childhood or in our worship . You may even remember hymns or anthems that have been written based on these scriptures. Our Sanctuary Choir will present anthems to encourage us to worship as we look toward the cross and are reminded of Christ's love for us as He went to the cross.

We have several members of our youth choir participating in Youth Festival-by-the-Sea at Myrtle Beach, March 5-7. I am excited for them to have this opportunity. I am thankful for Karon Nation's dedication to our youth and to Wendy Evans for helping Karon chaperone. Youth choir rehearsals resume on March 14th at 5:00 p.m.

All of our children's choirs will sing on Palm Sunday morning. They will bring the palm branches in during our worship service and bless our hearts with their sweet voices. The older children are in rehearsals for their spring musical to be presented on April 24 and 25. Thank you, music leaders, for your time and preparation in helping our children learn more about the Bible and to worship through music. Thank you, parents, for bringing your children to the various opportunities they have here at Trinity. You are teaching them what is important in their lives and yours.

I am excited that our handbells have been serviced and are ready to be used again for worship. Our schedule has not been determined at this time, but we look forward to ringing soon.

Keep a song in your heart! Jo

Tony Vincent	Minister of Christian Education	888-7535
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“You’ve Got the Time!”

If you haven’t begun our Lenten Audio Devotional, there’s still time for you to join us as we listen to the entire New Testament during Lent. The series is designed to be listened to for approximately 30 minutes each day (excluding Sundays) so that from Ash Wednesday to Easter you can hear the entire New Testament story. You will be blessed by hearing God’s word in a new way, and the dramatic readings breathe life into the most familiar and more obscure parts of our Scripture. You really do have the time! Use the Lenten season as a time to commit to listening each day and discover how God’s story opens up to you in new ways!

Online Lenten Devotionals

If you cannot use the mp3 disc provided by the church, consider going to Trinity’s website, www.trinitybaptistsc.com, and following the link to listen online each day. There is also a tremendous daily devotional called “Journey to the Cross” that can be found at www.journeytothecross.com.

Upcoming Opportunities for Growth and Service

Take note of the Biblical Studies being offered through Sunday School, Sunday Evening Discussions, Wednesday nights following Prayer Time, and the Tuesday morning Men’s Breakfast. As we journey together to the cross, consider taking on a closer walk with God through discipleship. *Also, be on the lookout for an announcement about a summer missions opportunity similar to the Washington DC trips!* Find your place of growth and service at Trinity!

The children's ministry at Trinity Baptist is having our own version of March Madness on Sunday nights. Our 1st-5th graders will continue rehearsing for *The Rock Slinger*. On March 21, the children will not have rehearsal due to a long weekend in the Oconee County Schools calendar. We know you parents will not want to miss your parenting seminar, "Proactive Parenting," so we have a fun evening planned for those 1st-5th graders!

Our 3Ks, 4Ks, and 5Ks dive into their own Bible study with *Big Big God*. For our preschoolers and kindergartners, they will hear a Bible story, make a craft, eat a yummy snack that goes along with our lesson, play games, pray, and sing. They will learn that "God knows us," "God helps us," "Jesus is our leader," and "God is strong."

On Wednesday nights, our kids will hear how CBF missionaries respond to poverty in Arkansas. One Wednesday evening this month, we will leave the church campus for a mission trip. I'll have a sign-up sheet on the children's bulletin board for parent chaperones and drivers. Please make sure that your children are here on Wednesday nights as we get ready to sing in the morning worship service on Palm Sunday.

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 27, 12 noon- 2:00 pm. Everyone is invited to bring a picnic lunch. Please bring your candy-filled eggs to church by March 17. Just make sure that the candy is not meltable. We will have the egg hunt and a scavenger hunt for the older kids following the picnic! All are invited to bring friends. My friend the Easter Bunny will be here. Just in case of rainy or extremely cold weather, April 3 is the make-up date.

An end of the school year pool party will be June 6. Vacation Bible School will be June 28- July 2 in the evening hours and we're going to Egypt this year. Please see me to reserve your favorite spot on our VBS team! We will be having a VBS Team meeting on March 14 at 5:00 PM. Please see Tracey Crawford or me for more information. For children who have completed grades 3, 4 and 5 save the dates of July 13-16 for our summer camp, Camp Prism. As always, you can find these dates and more on our church website.

Finally, thank you for the cards, messages, calls, hugs, and prayers that continue to give me comfort during the passing of my grandmother.

Grace and peace, Jessica

March is a time of new beginnings. The 2010 Ski Retreat was a fantastic trip that allowed us to ski to our heart's content and freeze our fingers off, but hopefully March will be a time to get warmed back up. There are several opportunities for youth of all ages to be involved:

Sunday Night Discipleship

Sunday nights are a great time for high school students to hang out and grow in their relationship with Christ. Although all students are welcome to attend, Sunday nights will focus on topics and lessons that are more applicable to high school students. Each night will begin with a game that allows everyone to get to know everyone else. The missions focus for Sunday nights in March will be Trafficking Awareness. For discipleship lessons we will continue viewing the NOOMA videos with follow-up discussions.

Youth Choir

Youth Choir rehearsal begins on March 14 at 5:00 in the choir room. Both middle school and high school students are encouraged to participate. Rehearsal schedules are available on the youth bulletin board and on the church website youth page. See Karon Nation for further details.

Youth Lock-In and March Mission Madness, March 19

By popular demand, the youth will have a lock-in on Friday, March 19. The night will begin at 7:00 in the youth room. For part of the night we will play the Amazing Race. On Saturday we are planning a couple of different mission opportunities to help out local agencies. More details will be available in the March Parent Newsletter and on the church website.

