

From Rev Bob Appleby, former Youth Pastor (1/67 – 5/70)

For Trinity's 65th Anniversary September 10, 2017

So good of you to think about me. Trinity Church of the Nazarene will always be a highlight of my Ministry. It was Trinity that put up with me, as well as gave me an opportunity to attend Nazarene Bible College.

It was Trinity that stood by me after the pastor left and the district superintendent was not happy with the church having a staff member that didn't resign. The board stood by me and the result was that Ron Rodes came and took the pastorate. This began some of the best years. Ron and I worked together in a beautiful relationship. The Church responded too and it's never failed in its quest for reaching out to others in need. Only God knows the many Men and Families touched during those special days in Trinity's history. May God bless the church and it's continuing mission. I am humbled to have been a part of a growing Dynamic Church that caught the vision and was faithful to follow in it. God bless you on this special occasion.

Bob Appleby

Gerard served as Professor at Point Loma Nazarene University, Mid America Nazarene University and Assistant Professor at Southern Nazarene University

We've been dealing with a flooded lower level of our home here in TX, so I was not really attentive to Facebook matters. Nevertheless, I saw your request and will briefly respond:

During my high school years, Trinity Church of the Nazarene was quite important to me. The pastoral ministry of Eugene Verbeek helped solidify my faith. The members of our young group--Dawn Dube *et al.*—provided camaraderie and fellowship. Adults in the congregation--the Dubes, the Murrays, Meyers, the Wests, *et al.*--proved as mature examples for us teenagers. Along with my home, my church in Colorado Springs--Trinity—made my years there most wonderful.

Congratulations for bearing witness, for 65 years, to the redeeming power of the Lord Jesus.

Gerard Reed

Greetings to the wonderful people of Trinity Church of the Nazarene on the celebration of your 65th anniversary.

As the first pastor of your church, I have fond memories of those beginning days. My wife and I came as newlyweds, and we will be celebrating our 65th wedding anniversary this year also! I remember well the days of constructing the first church building on Royer Street, the fund raising for the building project, meeting with the bank, etc. It is a joy to know that Trinity Church is alive and well and still in the business of advancing the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. Congratulations on this special day! ----- Marvin and Velva Powers

65th Anniversary Trinity Church

We moved to Colo. Springs in 1963 and joined the Trinity Church in 1964. Our children were 6, 4, and 2. We started attending Trinity at Madison & Royer where my sister Lavona and her husband Charles Madsen were Charter Members and the Paster was Marvin and Velva Powers (which was the 1st paster of Trinity) and is the parents of Paula Church. We were welcomed into the church family and now 53 years later, we still attend and love our Trinity Church.

Thank you for all your prayers down through all these years for our family, we love and appreciate all of you.

Ruby and Von Wilson

Bill and I moved here in 1964 we looked for the nearest Nazarene church which was Trinity. We moved here for my health I only weighed 84 pounds. After several years I was so bad and was in the hospital the Doctor said they had tried three different antibiotics and my lungs were in the same condition as when I had come in to the hospital. He said you will never live to see your children raised. Our pastor at that time was Ron Rodes. He came to our house to pray for me. The ladies were having Bible Study that morning and they were praying for me also. I knew that God promised to heal me, it was not instant but over several months. But we have 4 grown children and 8 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. I thank our Lord every day for His blessing on our family.

Shirley Rucker

I came to Trinity in 2008 when I moved from Pennsylvania. I was broken and hurt. Before I even moved here, Pastor Alan started counseling me by phone. Trisha used to go here so he knew her and the situation. I treasure that caring that i felt by Pastor. When I moved here that continued in person. The people were loving and caring to me and took me and my children in. I love all the people here as well as well I know they love me and my family. My son and his family continue to go here and very involved. I am proud of that involvement they have in the church and of their commitment to God and their family. Even though I don't attend this church any longer, I still feel a part of the church and feel the love of the people and of God with these people. God is using you all here in the community and in the country. God brings people into the church that you love and get to know and allow them to be a part of your family here. I pray blessings on each of you and the church.

Love you all,
Marilyn Ryman

Fifteen years ago, I walked into Trinity Church for the first time. I was too late for Sunday School, and too early for church. I had just moved to Colorado Springs after 18 years on a small Pacific island, and I was overwhelmed with stress and change. I was welcomed by warm and friendly greeters. I sat in the back of the empty sanctuary and cried with relief and joy. I felt the presence of the Lord.

Now Trinity is such an important part of my life. Through the Upper Room Sunday School class (which meets in the Cathedral Room), I have learned so much and grown much closer to the Lord. I have met amazing mentors and friends there. I feel that we are a family. I still need to learn more, and I look forward to the next Women's Ministry Bible study. The Women's Bible studies always help me focus deeply in the precious Bible, and I gain so many dear sisters from our sharing and prayer times. What I have learned from these Tuesday mornings has made a profound difference in my life.

I am enormously proud of many different ministries of our church: the Trinity Cares food ministry, the feeding of the children who come for Sunday School, the clothing and toy give-aways, the neighborhood outreach, our Latino ministry, our wonderful teens and their workers, our Sunday School classes for all ages, prayer teams, the greeting team, and so many more.

Now we have a wonderful new music pastor who is an answer to prayer. I have heard many stories about his coming to our church as an answer to prayer, but I want to add mine. When I heard we had a need for a worship leader, I began praying. I was temporarily living in California, where we had an amazing Grammy-winning music pastor. I wanted someone of his caliber for Trinity, and that is what I prayed for. God showed me a mental picture of a man, but I did not understand what I had seen, until I returned to Trinity, and saw the new worship leader. The Lord had showed me his face as I was praying in California.

Finally, my favorite part of Trinity, beside the Lord's presence, is the membership. So many wonderful people in Trinity have taught me, welcomed me, counseled me, prayed with me, smiled at me, forgiven me, reached out to me, and loved me. I am so glad I am part of the family.

Sandy Frander

My Story at Trinity Church of the Nazarene

My story begins when my children were toddlers. Dr. Borger was the pastor at Trinity at the time my children began coming to church with their grandparents, Gene and Donna Kesterson. My husband at the time and I did not attend church so they would come on Sunday mornings and pick our children up and take them to church. After a few months, Gene and Donna became the teachers of the kindergarten Sunday School class and they asked me to help them. I agreed to help them and it was during this time of helping with the kindergarten class that I began to learn about God's love and began learning about the Bible along with the kids. My background was in the Catholic Church so all I remember hearing about is God's wrath and the legalities of the church. After a few months of helping Gene and Donna, they decided teaching kindergartners was not for them and Lois Herbaugh asked me if I would help her in the first grade class room. I became her assistant and I learned so much about the Bible and even how to look up scriptures. It was while helping Lois that I learned the children's song, "Jesus Loves Me" and to this day, it is still one of my favorite songs and brings tears to my eyes. I was 30 years old at the time I was helping Lois and she is really the one that began discipling me. It was during this time that I fell in love with this church and became a member. Shortly after that, my son Josh decided to be baptized and I decided to be baptized at that same time. I became more involved in the church and became the 3rd grade Sunday School teacher and a Caravan leader as well. After that, my husband decided to leave us and I became a single mother with 2 children. It was during those difficult times that Trinity really stepped up and became a huge help to us. I cannot begin to list all of the people that came long side us and helped us through some very dark days in our lives, I cannot thank Trinity enough for all that they did for us and it still brings tears to my eyes when I think about it. I went on to become an Evangelism Explosion leader. All of the many hours that so many people there poured into my life and the life of my kids will never be forgotten and I will never have anything but fond memories of Trinity. There are just too many to list but I cannot say thank you enough for all that you have done.

Thanks Trinity,

Cynthia Kesterson-Grigg

Stan is now Dr. Stan Rodes. He is now Administrative Director for Global Clergy Development for the Nazarene Church.

I was part of Trinity from 5th grade through 11th grade, while my father, Ron Rodes, served as pastor (1967-1974). So, my memories of Trinity are from the season of its history when the church building was located on the corner of Royer and Madison. I remember the sanctuary being full most Sunday mornings and evenings, and the worship being so alive in spirit and in its sound (in that facility, the sound of the congregation's singing was captivating!). During those years, I remember feeling deeply cared for by people like Bill Rucker who led Caravans and Pat Smith teaching us about model rocket design, and other lay leaders (so many come to mind) who modeled servanthood and loved me like their own son (a special thanks to Dean and Norma Thoman, and so many Sunday School teachers), and youth leaders (for me, Cowdreys and Geron Coale) who gave us great opportunities (who could forget the "Coffee house" next door to the church, or the summer VBS programs held in Rockvale, CO). These were really good years for me, spiritually and otherwise. Thank you, Trinity!

Stan Rodes

I can't remember if it was the same year or not, but typically, David's retreats, led by youth Pastor, Thomas Harmon, were life changing for not only the teens, but the youth volunteers as well! I remember two events from David's retreats that were life changing for me. First, on the last day of one retreat, the youth volunteers (mostly parents) were in the large yellow and white tent that served as the meeting room and sanctuary. We were praying diligently that the Lord would move among the teens to change lives and hearts during the morning meeting. As time for the service neared, Ryan Scott wandered into the tent. Sensing a moving of the spirit of God, he removed his shoes and knelt to pray with us. One by one, as the teens entered the tent for the morning service, they removed their shoes and joined Ryan and began to pray with us. The Lord met all of us that morning as we spent the majority of the service praying together. When asked why he removed his shoes, Ryan replied, "when I walked in I could sense that I was standing on Holy Ground and I had to remove my shoes to enter in God's presence." Many of us felt like Moses, that day, as he approached the burning bush and God told him to remove his shoes, because where he was standing was Holy Ground.

Another time, as teens were registering for David's retreat inside the large yellow and white striped tent, some kind of a whirlwind moved up through the valley and struck the big tent, lifting the stakes from the ground, raising the tent, causing the large supporting pole to topple, and the tent collapsed on the teens and adults inside. Several teens and adults were taken to the hospital with minor injuries, but the Lord protected all of us. Tarps that were used to cover other equipment, etc, were later found high on the hillside surrounding the camp. That year, the movement of God was as strong as always, and most of us at the retreat felt that the Evil One didn't like what God was doing through these wonderful retreats, and gave a good effort to try and destroy what God wanted to do, but in the end, lives were changed and the Lord had the victory and the glory. ~Candy Yost

Dave Brown's Story

We came to Trinity in 1978 when Pastor Freese was the pastor. We soon became members and I was elected to serve on the Board. The church needed to expand as they were short Sunday School rooms. The Adult Sunday School class was meeting at Fremont School. The Board started discussing building a balcony in the sanctuary. They had a bid from a contractor from Texas but he was very expensive.

I was a general contractor and knew that I could build the balcony far cheaper. The reason was that God had blessed my business so much and I had record earnings that year. I told the Board I would not charge for any of my time. The cost to the Church for the balcony was about \$100,000, which was far less than the Church had anticipated. It took about 3 months time to build and was completed in November 1981. God continued to bless Marion and I during this time and we were able to donate all the pews in the balcony at no cost to the church.

The day after the balcony was completed, Trinity hosted the Blackwood Brothers Concert with 1,250 people attending. I believe this is the largest gathering Trinity has ever had.

As soon as the balcony was finished, the Adult Sunday School class that had been meeting at Fremont School, now had a new meeting place in the balcony. They named their new classroom "The Upper Room."

In appreciation, the Church presented Marion and I with a beautiful grandfather clock which we will always treasure. It is a reminder to us of God's Blessings.