



WEDNESDAY, 5 AUGUST 2026

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"We would see Jesus and be transformed into His Likeness"

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday in worship we explored healing. I spoke about compassion being the basis from which we reach out to others and how Jesus reaches out to us with healing. I spoke about healing being more than cure, it is about wholeness – shalom. I spoke about reaching into brokenness and broken places and how healing is also about the restoration and well-being within community and relationships. There was an opportunity for people to come forward during worship and to be prayed for. We will be continuing our exploration of healing this Sunday in worship and offer another opportunity for prayer for healing.

In preparation for the worship, I read a book called "The Jesus Priorities: 8 Essential habits" and used some of the authors insights. One of the insights which the author offered is that we can do what is within our power to heal others. There is a story which he used to illustrate his point, and I share it with you here:

A Japanese folk tale gives us some insight about recognizing our power. There once was a stonecutter. While working at the bench in front of his shop, he saw the emperor approaching, carried in a sedan chair by four servants. As the emperor passed, each citizen had to bow down. When the emperor reached the stonecutter, he bowed respectfully. As he did, he thought, Now, that's power. The emperor is the most powerful man in the world. He can have anything he wants. I wish I could be the emperor. And he magically became the emperor. He gave orders, and they were followed. He demanded things, and they were given him. One day he passed through the city in a sedan chair carried by four servants. The sun beat down upon him; the sweat ran down the sides of his face. He looked up and thought, "Now that is power. The sun is the most powerful thing in all the heavens. Nothing can surpass the power of the sun. I wish I could be the sun."

This pattern of wish fulfillment continued. Each time he became what he believed to be the most powerful force, the former stonecutter confronted another power he perceived as superior. As the sun, he is surprised that a storm cloud can block his warming rays. As a storm cloud, he is stunned that his torrential rains can be displaced by the wind. As the wind, he marvels that a stone is immune to his efforts. Finally he became a stone. He was steadfast and unyielding. He could not be moved because of his great size, and he was unaffected by sun, rain, wind, or even time, for a stone is ageless. He remained so until the day when he felt his very substance being altered, shaped by external forces he could not prevent. He looked up and saw a stonecutter. He who can fashion the very stones according to his will is mighty indeed. That is power. I wish I could be a stonecutter.

Like the stonecutter, each of us has power. The challenge is identifying what power we possess and then exercising it in a responsible way. How can we use our power to contribute to the mission that Jesus gave us-extending God's compassion to others?

Each of us has the power to be a source of healing because we are each created in God's image and God is love. Love is always within our power to give. What we choose to do with our power is the measure of our willingness to serve God by sharing God's love.

Caryn shared a lovely thing with me last night. Caryn has been visiting the Edenvale Care Centre each Friday for the past few weeks. A member of the social concern committee asked her about what it is that she does there. She shared some of the ways she has used her experience as an Occupational Therapist in assisting the patients and the nurses caring for them. She not only uses her skills, she also does a lot of listening to their stories. The remark after she shared was an enthusiastic link to the exploration of healing as part of our worship on Sunday and noticing how this was one way of bringing healing over a period of time.

May you be blessed to be a blessing as you exercise compassion in your space as you reflect the compassion you have received from Christ.

With love,

Iain



(Pip Masterson)

This magnificently produced song conveys to me the possibilities of God's presence in our living.

"God is here" – Lara Martin – <https://youtu.be/G37Te12NpNA?si=n4myspKJ668-WASs>



“Our Purpose is to GROW DEEPER! Grow deeper with God, in Relationships with each other, by creating Opportunities for ministry and as Witnesses.”

Friday night Youth – Junior and Senior Youth on Fridays

Sunday School on Sundays at 09h00

Check out the WhatsApp group or contact Ross for more information

What's coming up....

NEW MEMBER'S MEETING

- **When: Saturday, 8 August**
- **Where: Trinity Boardroom**
- **Time: 09h00 - 12h00**

Find out more about Trinity and the Presbyterian Church.

Please confirm with the office if you would like to attend, for catering purposes



Trinity Seniors Social - 13 August at 09:30

**A delightful morning
with delicious treats
and a cup of coffee or
tea**

**Chair exercises
with Viv and
beautiful background
music by Ian**



“Creating lasting friendships, one day at a time”

Presbytery meeting

Saturday, 15 August

09h00 -13h00

**If anyone is willing to assist with
serving tea and lunch please
would you let Felicity in the
office know**

6 Thinking Hats: Brewed for Better Thinking

Putting Thinking on The Table



Facts



Benefits



Feelings



Creativity



Caution



Process

Join us as we explore six ways of looking at Scripture.

Date:

19 September 2026

Time:

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Venue:

Trinity

Open to all teens and young adults

In line with the POPI Act, if you do not wish for your photo or information to be shared on church platforms, please contact Felicity at office@trinitychurch.co.za or 011 453 7729

Giving

Please take note:

EFT Payments

We would like to ensure that the payments made to Trinity towards tithing, retiring offerings, food bags etc are allocated correctly. In order to do this, please would you ensure that the reference shown on your payment has the correct beneficiary.

For Tithing, please use the following methods:

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
STANDARD BANK
CURRENT ACCOUNT
NUMBER: 42 448 2088,
BRANCH: 016 342

Zapper QR Code

