

THE PRESIDENT'S



Circle

TRINITY COLLEGE OF FLORIDA

Something New for Something Refreshing Part 2

If you remember last month's devotional, we were stressing that when God does something **NEW** for His people, it brings refreshing! Isaiah 40-66 demonstrates that when God performs something new - *new things, new secrets - and speaks new words* (Isaiah 48:6-8 NLT), He challenges you, changes you, and then He commissions you! You are on a 'New Path' of Promise! You cannot remain 'idle.' You are changed to challenge others with the 'Good News!' There is a 'calling' to this. It is a 'commission.' It is authority granted to proclaim and to act.

Sense this calling in your life:

"The Lord will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength. ***You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring.*** Some of you will rebuild the deserted ruins of your cities. Then you will be known as a **rebuilder** of walls and a **restorer** of homes." Isaiah 58:11-12 NLT

Herein is the Refreshing: God will guide you! He will be your pilot! He will be your leader! He will go first! He will give 'water' to restore your strength. Then you will have the Divine appointment as a **Rebuilder and Restorer!** What a high and noble calling!

A **Rebuilder** of protection, security, and safety (walls) is *so needed today*. A **Restorer** of relationships, fellowship, and intimacy (home) is *so needed today*. What a high calling! What an awesome responsibility and position!

Doing God's Will for His Pleasure, Honor, and Glory will result in the following:

1. A Peacefulness/Restfulness

There is so much stress and strain today! *Stress and strain are part of life, but stress and strain cannot reign. Peace must reign!!* Take one step at a time in desiring and doing God's will. That step will result in peace ... real, tangible peace that generates restfulness. There is too much 'pulling of hair' today, wringing of hands, and muttering of regrets.

2. Freshness/Newness

God's 'water' and enablement brings 'freshness.' There is nothing quite like fresh bread, fresh salad, fresh baked goods, fresh fish and fresh meat! Working with and for God is exhilarating and exciting. *The same is always new!*

3. Richness

There will be a sense of 'wealth, understanding, wisdom, and gain' in doing His Will. It will be experienced richly. It is simply enrichment of body soul and spirit. It is gain for you and gain for Him.

4. Joyfulness

The Scripture is very clear: Ps 21:6 refers to 'exceeding gladness' and Ps 16:11 refers to 'fullness of Joy' ... *in His Presence, doing His Will!* More joy is needed in believers today!

Your affections tell the tale!

Perform a personal diagnostic study on yourself. What are your 'symptoms or markers?'

God is calling you to be a **Rebuilder** and **Restorer**. This is hard work but so 'refreshing' as you are led and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Sign up today! You will not be disappointed!

The Latest Happenings:

- ✦ The fall semester has begun! The L.L. Speer Hall has been dedicated and Open House was held last month. All three floors of this beautiful facility received Certificates of Occupancy. All resident students are living on campus for the first time in decades. New washers and dryers are available on all three floors, along with common areas to watch TV, rest, talk, study and enjoy food. This is "Home Away from Home!"



- ✦ Our **85th Birthday Celebration** continues with opportunities provided for anyone, any group, any organization, church, or business to **give a Birthday Gift** to Trinity in celebration of 85 years of higher Biblical education. Ed Allen, Ph.D, Chairman of this stewardship drive, and Mr. Ed Brandt, Vice Chairman of the Trinity College of Florida Board of Trustees, and President of E. W. Brandt & Associates, (a nationwide not-for-profit foundation development group) have headed up a committee that is making contacts with individuals and other organizations. Birthday gifts received will be used for:

- *Life Change* Scholarships [for students who cannot financially afford to attend after completing their FASFA, utilizing government funding, and gifts]
- Strengthening our faculty & staff
- Enhancing the ambiance of the College for student encouragement and learning

On the College website, there is a special "Give" tab for you to click and make your gift.
www.trinitycollege.edu. Every gift makes a difference!

New Semester News ...

...Over \$105,000 has been given to furnish the residence hall. Opportunities for 'naming,' dedicating rooms and general giving are still available. No matter what level the gift, you and your family will be recognized in the new residence hall. Contact Mrs. Billie O'Farrell at bskinner@trinitycollege.edu for details.



... Our **Ladies Basketball Team** was honored at our first chapel this new semester. They won the national championship in their division last year. **Congratulations to Coach Tom Clark and the team!**



Coach Tom Clark and the victory rings!

... We had great pizza for the new students at orientation!



... Changes have been made to our **Student Learning Center** (see below)!



... Our **soccer team** is looking forward to being able to practice and play on campus in the future. With this in mind, we have recently moved an unused sidewalk to make room.



... **Convocation** on August 24 helped kick off the fall semester of 2018. The President spoke on the importance of being nurtured in, building on, and living for the Lord Jesus (Colossians 2).

... **Enrollment** has increased by 8% over Fall 2017.

... Positive feedback was received from those attending the **Faculty and Staff Retreat** in August. All three plenary speakers were deeply appreciated: Dr. Tonjua Williams, president of St. Petersburg State College, Ms. JoAnn

DiBlasio, Director of Financial Aid, Bene's Career Academy, and Mr. Greg Mitchell, Vice President for Business and Finance, Trinity College of Florida. The speakers were blessed and enriched by our faculty and staff. The President emphasized "His Excellence for Our Service ... our Best for His Honor." Areas of motivation, passion, skills/knowledge, and fulfillment were touched upon.



Trinity's 2018 Faculty and Staff

Your Prayers are needed for ...

- ✦ ... the **Student Body** – their spiritual needs, aspirations, and desires.
- ✦ ... our **Faculty and Staff** that they will serve with excellence and commitment.
- ✦ ... our **new Admission Team**: John Keller, David DeLisle, and Giselle Rodriguez, along with a student worker, Sarah Pardue. Mrs. Rachel Noble and Dr. John Zuch give leadership along with Mr. Steve Hunter, Assistant to the President for Enrollment and Marketing.
- ✦ ... the **operational needs** of the College, our 85th Birthday Celebration Committee, and donors who will invest in the students of Trinity College of Florida.
- ✦ ... **greater influence**, contacts, and counsel with the surrounding counties, businesses, organizations, and churches.

In one of the recent articles in *The Chronicles of Higher Education* dealing with retention and admissions, Brian Dewsbury, a professor at the University of Rhode Island, was interviewed regarding the art of connecting with students, especially freshmen. He said:

“Freshmen are Souls that want to be awakened. In class they are not students, they are Souls.”

I believe he has tapped into the essence of students and their pursuit of a college education. **The students are Souls.** *They need to be treasured and valued! They possess incalculable wealth. And think of this: God has entrusted the students of Trinity into our care! What a Privilege! What a Responsibility! What a Task! What a Calling!*

We need your prayer support! We cannot do this alone!

Serving with you,



MARK T. O'FARRELL
PRESIDENT