

**News update for January 5, 2023**

**Contents**

News update for January 4, 2023 ..... 1  
 Contents ..... 1  
 This Week at Trinity ..... 1  
 UWF News ..... 2  
 John Wesley Quote ..... 1  
 Sunday Morning Fellowship ..... 2  
 Last Week’s Sermon 1-1 ..... 2  
 POINSETTIA .....5  
 Anniversaries .....5  
 Birthdays .....5  
 Staying Connected ..... 6  
 Trinity Leadership ..... 6  
 Financial Statements ..... 6  
 Big Sky Hand Bell Festival..... 6  
 Northwest Leadership Institute .....7

**John Wesley Quote**

Without zeal it is impossible either to make any considerable progress in religion ourselves or to do any considerable service to our neighbor.



**This Week at Trinity**

**Thursday** (January 5<sup>th</sup>)

**Friday** (January 6<sup>th</sup>)

- Office Closed
- 7:00pm N.A.

**Saturday** (January 7<sup>th</sup>)

- 

**Sunday** (January 8<sup>th</sup>)

- 9:30am Donuts before worship
- 10:10am Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship on Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF>
- 11:30 Fellowship Potluck
- 7:00pm N.A.

**Monday** January 9<sup>th</sup>)

- 10:00am F.I.S.H.
- 7:00pm NA Just4Today2

**Tuesday** (January 10<sup>th</sup>)

- 6:30pm Trustee Meeting Zoom
- 7:00pm NA Book Study

**Wednesday** (January 11<sup>th</sup>)

- 6:30pm Finance Meeting Zoom
- 10:00am Upper Room via Zoom

## UWF News

Hi, all!  
Happy 2023 to you!



United  
Women  
in Faith

Just a reminder that there will not be a get-together this month.

Our next meeting will be February 9. The program will be given by Kathy Gaskill concerning membership outreach. Lyndell and Jill will be our hostesses.

**Good time to invite a friend or 2.  
New members are always welcome.**

## Sunday Morning Fellowship

We are expanding our Sunday food to add some variety.

- **January 8<sup>th</sup>** - Potluck Brunch bring your favorite dish to share
- **January 15<sup>th</sup>** Scouts Brunch  
Scouts make brunch after church (3rd Sunday) - This is a fundraiser for our own Troop 6 and a wonderful meal to share as we visit



## Last Week's Sermon 1-1

Theme: "Listening to God"

Sermon: "What's That You Say?" based on Matthew 2:13-23

After the scholars were gone, God's angel showed up again in Joseph's dream and commanded, "Get up. Take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt. Stay until further notice. Herod is on the hunt for this child, and wants to kill him."

Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother under cover of darkness. They were out of town and well on their way by daylight. They lived in Egypt until Herod's death. This Egyptian exile fulfilled what Hosea had preached: "I called my son out of Egypt."

Herod, when he realized that the scholars had tricked him, flew into a rage. He commanded the murder of every little boy two years old and under who lived in Bethlehem and its surrounding hills. (He determined that age from information he'd gotten from the scholars.) That's when Jeremiah's revelation was fulfilled:

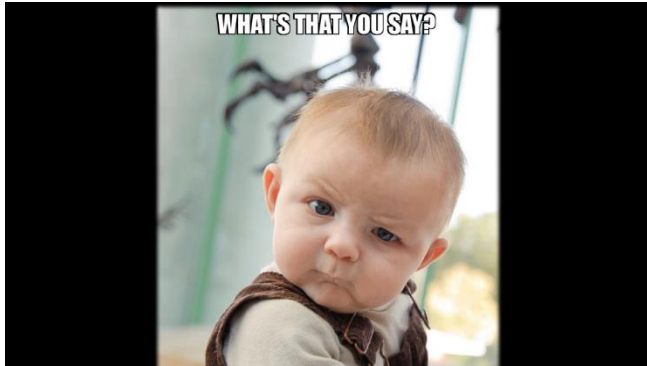
A sound was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and much lament.  
Rachel weeping for her children,  
Rachel refusing all solace,  
Her children gone,  
dead and buried.

Later, when Herod died, God's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt: "Up, take the child and his mother and return to Israel. All those out to murder the child are dead."

Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother, and reentered Israel. When he heard, though, that Archelaus had succeeded his father, Herod, as king in Judea, he was afraid to go there. But then Joseph was

directed in a dream to go to the hills of Galilee. On arrival, he settled in the village of Nazareth. This move was a fulfillment of the prophetic words, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

© The Message



I think there are a couple lessons for be learned from today's Gospel lesson. 1) When an angel shows up in your dreams with instructions, you should heed their advice! 2) Jesus has been an outsider who was protected by God's love of the oppressed and down-trodden from the very beginning.

This lectionary year, year A, we will journey together through the Gospel of Matthew. One of the major motifs of this book is Jesus as the new Moses, so let's take a few minutes to connect those dots which will help us be better prepared as we encounter them over the course of the next few months.



Joseph is the central character in most of Matthew's account of the first Christmas. In Matthew's account the angel announces the birth, not to Mary but in a dream to Joseph. It is Joseph who is told what to name the baby, thereby legally accepting him as his own child. The angel appears to Joseph three more times, all in this morning's eleven verses, to tell Joseph to take his wife and baby to Egypt, to tell him to bring them back again, and then to tell them not to settle back in Judea but to move north to Galilee where they settled in Nazareth. For a listener who is fluent in Hebrew folklore memories are being evoked. This is not the first man named Joseph who has taken his family to Egypt to avoid death. More than a thousand years earlier a man named Joseph had taken his aging father, Jacob, and his eleven brothers and their families to Egypt to avoid death in a terrible famine. — If you want to know more about that Joseph you can read about him in Genesis.

Matthew deliberately evokes the memory of a significant event in the history of God's action with the people to heighten his Jewish readers certainty that there will be another such event. You see, Egypt had, and still has, a central defining place in Jewish self-understanding. To the Jewish mind, Egypt evoked images of slavery, of oppression, of captivity, of displacement and dispossession. The coming out of Egypt was, to the Jewish mind, the birth of the nation, the great liberation, the defining event of God's decisive action for his chosen people, bringing them out of captivity and leading them to a new hope, a new future, a promised land.



That ancient story had a central hero. A hero who legend suggests was specially protected from birth. For when this central hero was only a baby, a wicked king decreed that all the male Hebrew babies under the age of two were to be killed, and it was only the covert actions of this baby's parents that enabled him to survive the slaughter and live to lead the people out of Egypt into the promised land.

The story of the flight to Egypt and the return from there were more than a fulfilling of a very obscure prophecy about calling a son out of Egypt, and the story of the slaughter of the infants was more than a fulfillment of Jeremiah's picture of grieving mothers. These stories tap straight into the most treasured and self-defining stories in Hebrew folklore. Every Jewish family recited the stories of the escape from Egypt every year at Passover. It was as familiar to them as the Christmas stories are to us. Every Hebrew kid grew up on stories of Moses floating in the bulrushes to avoid the slaughter of the infants, and of the grown Moses coming out of hiding after the death of the Pharaoh who had sought to kill him. Matthew's readers and listeners were not going to miss his blatant cross referencing to stories of the central figure in the great liberation of God's people and now perhaps we won't either as

we work our way through Matthew's Good News.



Any story about a baby, born of the line of David in the city of David, who somehow escapes the slaughter of every male Hebrew child under the age of two, who is hidden till the death of a vengeful king, and who symbolically come out of Egypt into the promised land, is a story which is going to quickly capture the imagination of Jewish listeners. Perhaps this is him! All the signs are there! The one like Moses! The chosen one of Yahweh! The promised Messiah of God! The one who will bring freedom to the prisoners and liberty to the captives! The one who will break us free from the shackles of oppression and lead us to a new hope and a new future, a promised land!

Yet it is only in facing up to the horrors that humans are prone to inflict on each other that we can be liberated from them. Only when we face up to the ugliness of the sin and brokenness in our own hearts and minds that we can finish being part of the problem and start being part of the solution. The baby who fled repression in Bethlehem and died confronting it in Jerusalem, lived and died and is with us always so that we can be liberated from the brokenness that is within us and and be healed so that we can confront the brokenness in the world outside us and

bring freedom to a suffering world. That is the message of Christmas. His name is Emmanuel, God is with us, suffering with us, struggling with us, fleeing with us, hiding with us, hurting with us, confronting sin with us, overcoming hatred with us, achieving freedom with us, living with us, loving with us, celebrating with us, and he is with us always, even to the end of the age.

Today's sermon is admittedly short on marching orders, but contains an important reminder that our liberating messiah, Jesus the Christ was born as a refugee who's family escaped a cruel government by fleeing to a foreign country. May our eyes and hearts be opened wide in 2023.

Amen.

*Reverend Ruth Marsh (she, her)*  
 (208) 419-7870  
 Trinity United Methodist Church

**POINSETTIA**

If you sponsored a Christmas poinsettia please remember to take your home with you after church on Sunday.



**Anniversaries**

Rose, Gary & Jo Ann	01/11
Bean, Deborah & Mike	01/25

**Birthdays**

Bean, Mike	01/01
Goodrich, Eryx	01/01
Knapp, Nina	01/03
Griffith, Roslyn	01/04
Kennedy, Sharon	01/06
Sene, Cameron	01/06
Burr, Tom	01/08
Harder, Kathy	01/12
Blank, Bethany	01/13
Cole, Angel	01/14
Mandiloff, Dean	01/14
Wackerli, Steve	01/14
Simmons, Jane	01/16
Beckman, Jeannine	01/18
Carney, Kevin	01/19
Bailey, Donna	01/20
Bryan, Keenan	01/20
Miller, Les	01/20
Gonzalez, Akeelah	01/21
Miller, Kathy	01/21
Tibbetts, Penny	01/21
Brown, Irene	01/23
Nagel, Mary	01/24
Marsh, Ruth	01/25
Denning, Jeff	01/26
Denning, Trudy	01/26
Ford, Ellie	01/26
Schaffer, Laura	01/28
French, Betty	01/29
French, Theo	01/29
Zwygart, Maddix	01/30
Griffith, Leo	01/31

## Staying Connected

Each Sunday Worship videos will be posted on Trinity's Facebook page

(<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>).

If you go to Trinity's web page

([www.TUMCIF.org](http://www.TUMCIF.org))

You can find a link to the Facebook page.

Be sure to "like" and "follow" Trinity's Facebook page if you want our content to show up in your personal Facebook feed.

Please call Ruth at 208-419-7870 if you have difficulties finding the videos.

Check Trinity's YouTube channel for videos of weekly worship at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZz1YGrdRCH6HIND2LpVCgg>

## Trinity Leadership

Below are the leadership positions for the next leader year. Please let the appropriate person know how you are willing to serve:

Chair of Admin Council

Robin Stewart (208)521-6358  
[robin.s.stewart@gmail.com](mailto:robin.s.stewart@gmail.com)

Chair of Staff/Parish Relations

Bev Kemp-(208)569-6149  
[bevmkemp@gmail.com](mailto:bevmkemp@gmail.com)

Chair of Trustee

Don Rohde (860)810-3227-  
[donrohde@aol.com](mailto:donrohde@aol.com)

Chair of Finance

Scott Taylor (208)201-5593

## Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - December 31, 2022



Income \$163,816

Expenses \$178,156

Net Income <\$14,340>

Thank you for your continued generosity. More than ever, the world needs what our church offers!

## Big Sky Hand Bell Festival

**Interested in ringing in the Big Sky hand bell Festival?**

The First Presbyterian Church is creating a hand bell choir for this festival with any neighbor Churches interested in joining. We will meet once a week (TBD) to practice for the festival. To sign up or ask questions contact:

Leah Zumberge- [leahzumberge@gmail.com](mailto:leahzumberge@gmail.com)

Big Sky Hand bell Festival  
2023

April 28-29- Kalispell, MT

Clinician: Ellie Hodder



## Northwest Leadership Institute

The Northwest Leadership Institute's (NLI) is scheduled for Apr 26-27, 2023. It will be held at the Downtown Campus of Cathedral of the Rockies (717 N. 11th St. Boise, ID 83702).

NLI is a two day training to gather leaders to think, dream, worship and connect as we together find the path forward in the post-pandemic church.

Come to Boise and join our three newest Bishops in the Western Jurisdiction for a time of dreaming, visioning, and strategizing as we write the next chapter together.

### In-Person

Early Bird Special (Until 1/31)	\$129
Regular Conference (2/1 to 4/26)	\$159
Student	\$79

**Online Streaming** \$99

<https://cathedraloftherockies.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1546392>

**NORTHWEST LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2023**

**FEATURING**

**APRIL 26 & 27**

REGULAR CONFERENCE IN-PERSON \$159  
 ONLINE STREAMING \$99  
 STUDENT IN-PERSON \$79  
 CATHEDRAL OF THE ROCKIES MEMBER \$40

BISHOP DOTTIE ESCOBEDO-FRANK  
 BISHOP GERICA BRIDGEFORTH  
 BISHOP CARLO RAPANUT  
 BISHOP JES THARAKAN  
 REV. DR. DIANE ANDERS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>January 2023</b> 1</p>	2 7:pm N.A.	3 7:00pm PEO BG 7:00pm N.A.	4 10:00am Upper Room Via Zoom 6:30pm Gather at the table	5	6 <b>Epiphany</b> Office Closed	7
8 9:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 10:10 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Potluck Bruch 7:00pm N.A.	9 10:00am F.I.S.H. 6:00pm Girl Scout Leadership 7:00pm N.A.	10 6:30pm <b>Trustee Meeting</b> 7:00pm N.A.	11 10:00pm Upper Room Via Zoom 6:30pm <b>Finance Meeting</b> 6:30pm Pack 6 Scouts 7:30pm Troop 6 Scouts	12	13 Office Closed 8:30am PEO CM 7:00pm N.A.	14
15 9:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 10:10am Worship 11:30am Fellowship - Scouts make Pancake Brunch 7:00pm N.A.	16 Office Closed <b>Martin Luther King Day</b> 7:00pm N.A.	17 6:30pm <b>Admin Meeting</b> 7:00pm N.A.	18 10:00pm Upper Room Via Zoom 6:30pm Gather at the table 6:30pm Pack 6 Scouts 7:30pm Troop 6 Scouts	19 6:30pm <b>Charge Conference Zoom</b>	20 Office Closed 7:00pm N.A.	21
22 9:30 AM Coffee & Donuts 10:10am Worship 11:30am Fellowship 11:30 am Fellowship Potluck Bruch 7:00pm N.A.	23 7:00pm N.A.	24 7:00pm N.A.	25 10:00pm Upper Room Via Zoom 6:30pm Pack 6 Scouts 7:30pm Troop 6 Scouts	26	27 Office Closed 7:00pm N.A.	28
29 9:30 AM Coffee & Donuts 10:10am Worship 11:30am Fellowship 11:30 am Fellowship Potluck Soup & Bread 7:00pm N.A.	30 7:00pm N.A.	31 7:00pm N.A.	<p><b>FEBRUARY</b> 1</p> <p>10:00pm Upper Room Via Zoom 6:30pm Gather at the table 6:30pm Pack 6 Scouts 7:30pm Troop 6 Scouts</p>	2	3 Office Closed 7:00pm N.A.	4