

News update for March 23, 2023

Contents

Trinity Homeless Services 1
 This Week at Trinity 1
 ! NEW KEYS ! 1
 Worship Plans for 3/26 2
 Last Week’s Sermon 3/16 3
 Lent 2023 6
 John Wesley Quote 6
 “Meet up with Jesus” 6
 Birthdays 7
 Financial Statements 7
 Sunday Morning Fellowship 7
 Trinity Leadership 7
 New Keys for the Church 7
 UMCOR Sunday 8
 Treasure Trove of Music 8
 Northwest Leadership Institute 8
 Stained-Glass Restoration 8
 UWF NEWS 9
 Holy Week Activities 9

Trinity Homeless Services

Homeless Services are available during office hours: Monday - Thursday 9 am -2pm, for laundry, showers, and compassionate care services that are authorized by Rev. Ruth.

This Week at Trinity

Thursday (March 23d)

- 6:30-8:30am Meetup With Jesus

Friday (March 24th)

- 7:00pm N.A

Saturday (March 25th)

Sunday (March 26th)

- 9:30-10:10am Donuts and coffee hour
- 10:10-11:10am Worship in the sanctuary
- 11:15am-12:15pm Brunch Potluck in Parlor
- 6:00pm N.A

Monday (March 27th)

- 7:00pm N.A

Tuesday (March 28th)

- 7:00pm N.A

Wednesday (March 29th)

- 10:00-11:00am Upper room study, Zoom
- 6:30-7:30pm Cub Scout meeting
- 7:30-8:30pm Scouts BSA

! NEW KEYS !

The Church got re-keyed this past Friday. If you need a new key, go to page 7 for more information.

Worship Plans for 3/26

Theme: "Tapping Into the Power"

Sermon: "To Overcome Death"

Focus Scripture: (John 11:1-45)

There was a certain man who was very ill. He was known as Lazarus from Bethany, which is the hometown of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary had done a beautiful thing for Jesus when she anointed the Lord with a pleasant-smelling oil and wiped his feet with her hair. Her brother Lazarus became deathly ill, so the sisters immediately sent a message to Jesus which said, "Lord, the one you love is very ill."



When Jesus heard the message, he told the disciples that his sickness will not end in his death but will bring great glory to God. As these events unfold, the Son of God will be exalted. Jesus dearly loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, however, after receiving this news, Jesus waited two more days where he was before telling the disciples, it is time to return to Judea. The disciples objected: Teacher, the last time you were there, some Jews attempted to execute you by crushing you with stones. Why would you go back?

Jesus said: There are 12 hours of daylight, correct? If anyone walks in the day, that person does not stumble because he or she sees the light of the world. If anyone walks at night, he will trip and fall because he does not have the light within. After a brief pause, Jesus said, our friend Lazarus has gone to sleep, so I will go to awaken

him. Lord, if he is sleeping, then he will be all right.

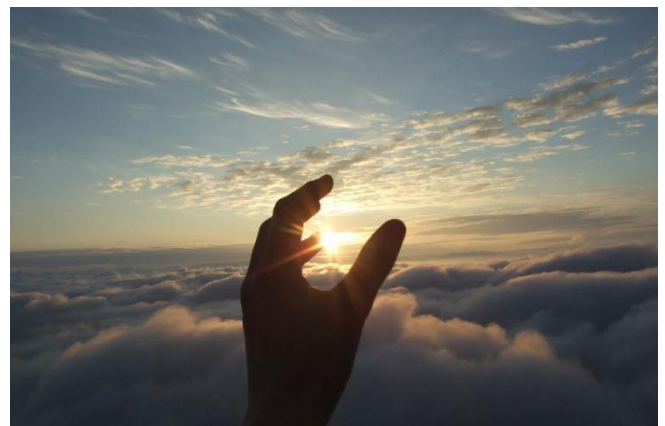
Jesus had used "sleep" as a metaphor for death, but the disciples took him literally and did not understand. Then Jesus spoke plainly. Lazarus is dead, and I am grateful for your sakes that I was not there when he died. Now you will see and believe. Gather yourselves, and let's go to him.

Thomas, the Twin exclaimed, "Let's go so we can die with Him."

As Jesus was approaching Bethany (which is about two miles east of Jerusalem), he heard that Lazarus had been in the tomb four days. Many people had come to comfort Mary and Martha as they mourned the loss of their brother. Martha went to meet Jesus when word arrived that he was approaching Bethany, while Mary stayed behind at the house.

Martha told Jesus, "Lord, if You had been with us, my brother would not have died. Even so I still believe that anything You ask of God will be done."

Jesus replied, "Your brother will rise to life."



Martha said, "I know. He will rise again when everyone is resurrected on the last day."

That's when Jesus told her: I am the resurrection and the source of all life; those who believe in me will live even in death. Everyone who lives and

believes in me will never truly die. Do you believe this?

“Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Anointed, the Liberating King, God’s own Son who we have heard is coming into the world.”

After this Martha ran home to Mary. Upon reaching the house, Martha whispered to Mary: Come with me. The Teacher is here, and He has asked for you.

Mary did not waste a minute. She got up and went to the same spot where Martha had found Jesus outside the village.

The people who had gathered in her home offering support and comfort assumed she was going back to the tomb to cry and mourn, so they followed her. Upon reaching Jesus, Mary crumpled at His feet saying, “Lord, if only You had been here, my brother would still be alive.” When Jesus saw Mary’s profound grief and the moaning and weeping of her companions, he was deeply moved by their pain in his spirit and was intensely troubled.

Jesus asked: Where have you laid his body? The mourners said, “Come and see, Lord.” As they walked, Jesus wept; and everyone noticed how much Jesus must have loved Lazarus. But others were skeptical and mumbled about, “If this man can give sight to the blind, he could have kept him from dying.

Then Jesus, who was intensely troubled by all of this, approached the tomb, (a small cave covered by a massive stone) and instructed the mourners to remove the stone.

Martha protested: “Lord, he has been dead four days; the stench will be unbearable.” Jesus replied, “Remember, I told you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God.” They removed the stone and Jesus lifted his eyes toward heaven, “God, I am grateful that You have heard me. I know that You are always listening, but I proclaim it loudly so that everyone here will believe You have sent me.

After these words, Jesus called in a thunderous voice, “Lazarus, come out!”



Then, the man who was dead walked out of his tomb bound from head to toe in a burial shroud. Jesus ordered them to unbind Lazarus, and let him go.

As a result, many of the Jews who had come with Mary saw what happened and believed in Jesus.

© The Voice

--

Reverend Ruth Marsh (she, her)
(208) 419-7870
Trinity United Methodist Church
(208) 522-7971
www.tumcif.org

Last Week’s Sermon 3/16



“I’ve Changed, But Nobody Sees It”

Let me start with the most important thing in this sermon in case you drift off and miss some stuff later on in the message. If you either have changed, or are working on changing to make your life more whole, more fulfilling, more

healthy, more loving, God sees you. It's important for you to hear that God sees your effort, because maybe the people around you *don't see* the new you, or at least it doesn't *feel* like they do.



OK, back to the scripture; besides all of the deep theology and metaphor which invite profound learning opportunities, today's gospel lesson is simply a great story. It contains tragedy, humor, surprises, and plot-twists galore. Because this miracle story, or variations of it, appears in multiple gospels, scholars believe that it really happened, and was clearly used as a teaching tool not just by Jesus, but by later evangelists as well. In other words, this is significant biblical material.

Right at the beginning of the reading Jesus tells us that there is a lesson to be learned from this story. It seems very important to Jesus for people to understand that God would never use pain or affliction to punish someone.

In fact, Jesus flatly rejects the idea that sin is to blame for the man's blindness. Instead, this blindness is an opportunity for God's creative work to continue. Rather than seeing the blindness as something that has gone wrong, Jesus sees it as a sign that something good – namely the creation of a whole human being – hasn't been completed yet. So Jesus completes this creative work and the man is whole and able to be included fully into the community.

This story, like the Jesus story as a whole, doesn't stop with dismissing a primitive view of sin. It goes on to outline a new understanding of

sin. And it does this by exploring what happens when the man is ready to be fully included into the community. What happens, of course, is that he is not included into the community. In fact, he ends up being expelled from the synagogue. No one wants to see the way his life has been transformed. This is exactly when Jesus, the Good Shepherd goes to find this precious sheep whom others have rejected.



It shouldn't surprise us. Upon returning from those 40 days of temptation in the desert, the first thing Jesus does is to publicly proclaim in the synagogue that his mission was to open the eyes of the blind and to set free those who were held captive in the darkness. The religious leaders were unhappy with Jesus that day and it doesn't get any better throughout Christ's ministry. In this gospel story we see what the people in power will do when folks start to have their eyes opened so that they can see the truth. Immediately there was a vicious smear campaign. They tried to discredit the man whose eyes had been opened. He was a liar and a fake they said, he was a sinner and he knew nothing. They tried to threaten his parents in order to get them to pressure the man to renounce the prophet who had healed him, and of course they tried to discredit Jesus as well. He was not from God, he is a lawbreaker, a sinner, a deceiver. But the man born blind, had his eyes opened, and when people have really seen the light for themselves, it is almost impossible to get them to shut up and go back to sitting in the darkness. Life in the light is too beautiful and more than makes up for the hostility it provokes.



A couple of weeks ago I preached about being born again. Nicodemus showed up in the gospel lesson that Sunday. The man born blind would have made good example for that day. In some respects, the born again experience, or what John Wesley called justifying grace, is at the very heart of being a Christian. It is that aha moment when you realize that God really loves you underneath all of the stuff the the world heaps upon you, or all of the times and ways that you sabotage yourself.

But it's so hard, and the price is sometimes so high.

Recently I went to an N.A. meeting so I could cheer wildly as someone received their 2 years of sobriety chip. This person had lied to me, stole from me, and betrayed my trust when I tried to befriend them. The damage inflicted to themselves and people around them was enormous. I watched first hand, so I know, at least from the outside, that the journey to reclaim their life from the death-grip of addiction has been difficult. Although a whole new life of opportunity, wholeness, health, and joy has been gained, this person also had to loose so much. They had to leave friends, and sometimes even family, behind, because those were often the people and situations that put them in proximity of self-destruction. The smile brought about by the day to day hard efforts of addiction recovery is a sure sign that something good – namely the creation of a whole human being – hasn't been completed yet, but is in the works.

When people go on a Christian retreat like Walk to Emmaus, or to church camp, it's common to

have what is often characterized as a mountaintop experience. They have been immersed in God's grace and surrounded by loving community for several days and their life is forever changed for the better. In both of these situations a topic of conversation on the last night is that while your heart and mind are chock full of God's love, so full that your very being is transformed, the "outside" world has been chugging along in the same old ways. Your friends, family, co-workers and acquaintances will likely be completely unaware of the profound change in you, and you will likely be at a loss to put that change into words. There is a very real danger that people will not accept the new you, and if you hang around those people who inadvertently (or purposefully) numbed you to God's love, your new life could slip back into the old ways.

Why would we do that? Because we are human and that is often the easiest path – because we are human and crave to be seen by the people around us. We want them to see the new person we have become by leaving a broken past behind.



The only advice I have today for helping the people around you see the new person that you have become is to keep keeping on. Live fully as that new creation. Be a beacon of light for people whose eyes are still obscured until they see the light for themselves.

But being made of dust, like the Adam, the first human, may we see that Jesus is ready to use dust and spit to complete the beautiful work that God has begun in us.

Reverend Ruth Marsh (she, her)
 (208) 419-7870
 Trinity United Methodist
 Church
 (208) 522-7971
www.tumcif.org

Lent 2023



Dear Siblings in Christ,
 Lent is a time when Christians prepare for the joy of Easter when we celebrate Christ's victory over death by rising from the grave on the third day. One of the ways we do this is by taking on a Lenten Discipline.
 Lent is 40 days long, excluding Sundays, which are considered "little Easters" and you are released from your Lenten discipline? Traditionally, fasting was the preferred Lenten discipline, but in the United Methodist Church, Lenten disciplines are aimed at growing closer to Christ and each other rather than focusing on penitence through suffering. Six weeks is long enough to begin forming a new habit, but not so long that it seems like forever if you can't abide by the discipline that seemed like a really good idea until you started doing it! One last note, it can be helpful to use the buddy system when you practice a discipline. I will be keeping you in my prayers.

John Wesley Quote

"Come, and let us magnify the lord together, and labour to promote his kingdom upon earth. Let us join hearts and hands in this blessed work, in striving to bring glory to God in the highest, by establishing peace and goodwill among men, to the uttermost of our power..."



"Meet up with Jesus"

We held our 2nd Meet Up with Jesus dinner last week. We are exploring biblical cooking in our weekly meetings. Last time we made 18-minute kosher Matzo unleavened bread which is like they would have made in Common Era biblical times. With dinner we had not so biblical fried chicken and fruit pizza. While we cooked Ruth described life in biblical times.



Ruth and Jennifer mixed the flour and water to make the dough. They then rolled it out flat.

David and Logan poked holes in the bread to prevent bubbles



Heather and Eliana prepped the fruit for the desert.

Becky with a fruit pizza made with a large sugar cookie, icing and fruit.



Birthdays

March

Crosen, Mike	03/15
Brown, Scott	03/16
Sene, Jared	03/16
Castillo, Giovanni	03/19
Newey, Sherry	03/19
Miles, Marcie	03/20
Empey, Heidi	03/21
Hruska, Analea	03/21
Summers, Gene	03/25
Gates, Dianne	03/27
Anderson, Jim	03/28
Perez, Leslie	03/28
Clemons, Bill	03/30
Trickey, Sharen	03/30
Wade, Whitney	03/31

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - February 28, 2023.



Income	\$19,371.56
Expenses	\$29,918.57
Net Income	<\$10,547.01

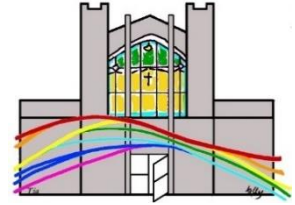
Sunday Morning Fellowship

There is always food and fellowship after church

- **Every 1st Sunday: Soup Potluck**
Bring your favorite Soup.
- **Every 2th Sunday: Regular Brunch**
Bring your favorite dish
- **Every 3rd Sunday: Scout Brunch**
This is a fundraiser for Troop 6 and a wonderful meal to share as we visit.
- **Every 4th Sunday: Regular Brunch**
Bring your favorite dish

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;**
Open Position



Chair of Staff/Parish Relations

Bev Kemp-(208)569-6149
bevmkemp@gmail.com

Chair of Trustee

Don Rohde (860)810-3227-
donrohde@aol.com

Chair of Finance

Scott Taylor (208)201-5593

New Keys for the Church

We have re-keyed the outside church doors. There were 55 keys to the church signed out and many of the people were no longer involved with the church and had not returned their keys. As a security precaution we have changed the locks on the outside doors.

If you currently have a "B#" key to the church please bring it into the office between 9 and 2 Monday through Thursday and we will sign you out a new key. The new keys will have a "C#". Please plan ahead so you don't find yourself locked out when you arrive for our next activity. - Don Rohde



UMCOR Sunday

We will be passing out Envelopes again this week.



Treasure Trove of Music



On Saturday, April 22, there will be a **free** concert held at the Community Orchestra in Firth, ID.

Shawn Satterthwaite will be conducting, and Jared Allen is featuring as the special guest vocalist.

Save the date! It will be held in the Firth Middle School Gymnasium, and all are welcome.

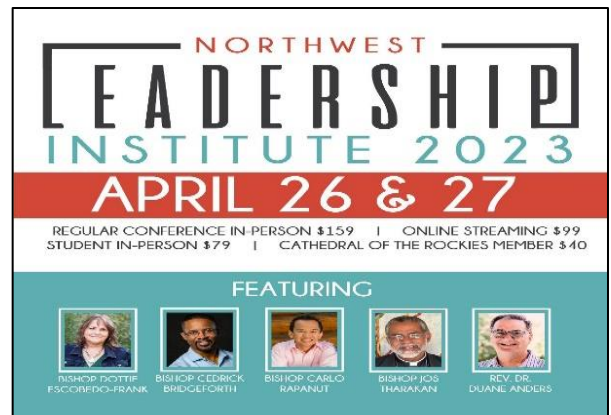
Songs to be played are:

- "Pirates of the Caribbean"
- "Bugler's Holiday"
- "Radetzky March"
- "God Bless America"
- "Moon River"
- "God's Country"
- "Caravan"
- "American Folk Rhapsody #3"
- "Nessun Dorma"

Northwest Leadership Institute

Once again the Downtown Campus of Cathedral of the Rockies (717 N. 11th St. Boise, ID 83702). Will host the NLI that 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

Regular Conference (2/1 to 4/26) \$159

Student \$79

Online Streaming \$99

Stained-Glass Restoration

The window shipping crate arrived at Nzilani Glass in Oakland California on March 6. The shipping container was opened on March 10 and the windows were found to be in good condition. Nzilani will now start the restoration process.



UWF NEWS



United
Women
in Faith

Greetings! Weather is turning warmer at last. Hip hip hooray! We celebrated St. Patrick's Day on Thursday with green shamrock decorations and frozen ambrosia dessert provided by Bev Kemp and Kay Pottorff. Lyndell Bradshaw gave a program on social justice with the offering going to support the ongoing racial justice work of United Women in Faith.

Betty Anderson told us about two important Methodist women from the mid-1800s who weren't afraid to "step out of their place" and act to help others—Frances Willard and Ida Wells-Barnett. This is another "Moment" in the history of Methodist Women provided monthly by Betty. Thanks for your efforts to educate us.

Kay Pottorff gave a report on the book Daughter of Caan. It's a rather comical story about a brother and sister from the time of Jesus who are wedding planners. Hmm...even back then.

Mary Nagel told us about the EMEE (Every Member Enrichment Event) meeting held at the church on Saturday. Several members attended. The theme was Water Justice.

This year's "Day of Giving" is on March 23. The theme is "The Future is Now". If you are interested, you may mail your donation to

United Women in Faith, Attn: Legacy

475 Riverside Drive, St. 1500

New York, NY 10115

Write "Day of Giving" in the memo section on your check

Mission U will be July 13-15 and July 28-30. The theme is Living the Kingdom: Exploring the

Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation. It will be available on ZOOM at the church. Mark your calendar.

See you April 13th at 1:00 for our next UWF unit meeting.

Holy Week Activities

Palm Sunday: 10:10 on Sunday the 2nd — Experience the Palms and the Passion of Christ as Jesus walks through the final week of his life.

Maundy Thursday: 7pm on Thursday the 6th — Remember Jesus in the breaking of bread, drinking of the fruit of the vine, and through the commandment to love others.






Good Friday: Noon to 3pm on Friday the 7th — Drop-in prayer vigil with time to talk to God, and to listen to God. Reverend Ruth will be available to pray with you, and make palm crosses together.

Easter Day: April 9th — 6:45am Sunrise Worship celebrates the rising of the Son with the rising of the sun!
Snake River Landing Pier (901 Pier View Dr.)
(Across from Love at First Bite)
Be sure to wear warm clothing!

9:30 Hot Cross Buns in the Parlor
10:10 Worship in Trinity's Sanctuary
11:15 Kids Easter Egg Hunt (please bring a basket)

We would be grateful for donations of individually wrapped candy for the youth to hide.
Please bring it to the office by April 6th —



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
<p>26 Lent 5 9:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 10:10 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Potluck Bruch 7:00pm N.A.</p>	<p>27 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>28 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>22 6:30pm Cub Scout meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA 10:00pm Upper Room Study</p> <p>29 10:00pm Upper Room 6:30pm Pack 6 Scouts 7:30pm Troop 6 Scouts</p>	<p>23 6:30pm "Meet up with Jesus"</p> <p>30 6:30pm "Meet up with Jesus"</p>	<p>24 Office Closed</p> <p>31 Office Closed 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>25 Office Closed</p> <p>April 1  Next Week </p>
<p>2 Palm Sunday  HOLY WEEK 9:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 10:10 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Soup & Bread Bruch 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>3 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>4 7:00pm PEO BG 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>5 6:30pm Gather at the Table via Zoom 6:30pm Pack 6 Scouts 7:30pm Troop 6 Scouts 10:00pm Upper Room</p>	<p>6 Maundy Thursday 6:30pm "Meet up with Jesus" 7:00pm Worship</p>	<p>7 Good Friday Office Closed 7:00pm N.A 12:00-3:00pm Prayer Vigil & Palm Crosses</p>	<p>8 Office Closed</p>
<p>9 HAPPY EASTER  <u>Easter Sunday, April 9th</u> 6:45am Sunrise worship celebrates the rising of the Son with the rising of the Sun! Snake River Pier (901 Pier View Dr.) (Across from Love at First Bite) Be sure to wear warm clothing!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30am- Hot cross buns if the Parlor • 10:10am- Worship in the Sanctuary • 11:15am- Kids Easter Egg hunt (Please bring a basket) <p style="text-align: right;">We would be grateful for donations of individually-wrapped candy for the youth to hide. (Please be sure to bring it by April 6th)</p>						
	<p>10 6:30pm Girl Scouts Leadership meeting 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>11 7:00pm N.A</p>	<p>12 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA</p>	<p>13 1:00-3:00pm UWF Unit Meeting 6:30-8:30pm Meetup With Jesus</p>	<p>14 Office Closed</p>	<p>15 Office Closed</p>