

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

News Update for January 18, 2021

The sermon from Sunday 1/17/21 by Logan Pickens:

You hear of many people going out in the world to “make a name for themselves”, but that seemed to only apply to myths of old, to the people of yesteryear, before they built their corporate empires that are Walmart or McDonalds. They were given a name by their parents, just like all of us, mine no different than any of yours. I remember growing up in elementary school, every child doing a project based on the meaning of their name. I always resented mine. Logan meant “little hollow” or “hallowed servant.”

Little?! Servant!?

Such a name couldn't have been mine! My character was that of an adventurer! A dreamer! One who would be called down for generations to come. Why did I have to be stuck with such a name? What good could come from Logan?

Many said the same about Christ. After all, “What good could come from Nazareth?” Which, many scholars note- was something of a slur. Not too different to calling me a “hick” because I'm from Missouri. But that doesn't come close to the level of disdain that a Roman would have had for someone coming from Nazareth; or the level of disdain I had for my own name.

So just what good can come out of our name?

As many of the congregation and my friends know, I made a name for myself. Qüæçk I was to be called. Now I know that's hardly a name, but after finding an obsession with ducks while working in Island Park, it was a name I took pride because it was something I had chosen for myself. Working in kitchens, I

would call an order out and always listen for a callback, a confirmation call reaffirming you had been heard and the order was to be executed.

I got to the point where I would plainly introduce myself as Qüæçk to the passerby, hoping to escape my namesake, by any means necessary.

I grew up in a religiously rigid household and had a fairly good grasp on the words of the Lord as written in First Samuel. During my upbringing I heard the name, 'Logan' and ran away. I thought I was from my rocky relationship with my parents, not unlike Samuel hearing the voice of the Lord, thinking it to be Eli, his father. Thrice he heard the voice of the Lord, and upon the third time he finally answered the call saying "Speak, for your servant is listening." Just like a callback in a kitchen.

I had run away from my upbringing and the knowledge that my name was called to a ministry of service to my fellows. I had started to kind of warm up to my name when I heard the call again. This time I couldn't bear it to the point that I started the process to change my name to the most opposite thing I could think of, Qüæçk. I used drugs to run away from myself, from the loss I experienced with divorce, from the heartbreak of losing a child I looked forward to parenting, and from the pain of my blood turning their back on me.

After all, if I no longer had the name given to me, I couldn't be called into service. I wouldn't have to give of myself and be condemned to servitude. Who wants to grow up knowing that all they had to look forward to is to live a life of what a child would perceive as practical slavery!

But, as we all do, I grew up. By the grace of God and the blood, sweat, and tears of Ruth, many of you, and myself of course, I clawed my way out of my addiction. Many of you remember the Bed and Breakfast Shelter days this last summer. What some of you may not have known is that I was the prototype for what that program could eventually look like.

Ruth knew "what good could come from Logan."

God knows "what good could come from Nazareth," and exactly what good can come from each of us.

God always knew what they had planned for me. God always knows the plan that they have for us. Jesus knew the plan that he would have to enact:

working with a whole nation that would eventually kill him. Yet, he still traversed onward. He called his apostles, including, Peter (the apostle who would eventually deny him) and even Judas (the apostle who would come to betray him.) I like to think Christ knew that this would always happen. Even knowing the pain he would endure, he knew his sacrifice would be the foundation of faith for not only the apostles, but eventually the entire world. God spoke, and Christ called back, "Speak for your servant is listening."

What good comes out of Nazareth? - as much as we put into it. God is that other chef working the line in a kitchen calling out orders. The orders come out nonstop: to love one another, to love ourselves, to marry so and so, or to work this job in that particular place.

What will our callback be? Will we be like Jonas, going so far as to run to a different nation to run away from God. Or will we do as Qüæçk did; going so far as to change their name to run away from a life they were convinced was indentured servitude? The life they thought of as condemnation?

Or will we call back to the Lord, "Speak, for your servant is listening," knowing that God will always give us orders that are not only for our benefit, but for the benefit of those around us.

For me, it was realizing the full potential of my name, and living in service to those around me. Even while I was still lost in my ego, addiction, insanity, and in agonizing depravity, I found ways to help those around me. I could clean my friend's kitchens when I couldn't stand the emotional burden of doing my own self-care. I could be a shoulder to cry on and offer advice to those who asked. I could even serve you with the gift of music I had been given so many years ago. Now, behind the camera during worship I work to make online worship feel as close to the real thing as possible.

Quack was, and will always be, a part of who I am. I believe that quack served a purpose, to preserve the "Logan" God needed me to be while I was living in fear of past pain and an unknown future. I have truly found a treasure I may never fully appreciate: my name. It not only represents what I have worked for and overcome, but the infinite potential of service to those I don't even know yet. Now I can honestly say that I have an ambition like I never had before, to work and love as God would have me love, letting everyone I come

across feel what I felt when I walked through these doors: true, genuine, unconditional, Christlike love.

Members of Trinity- God placed an order to love and care for those less fortunate in your community, and you have responded with such a resounding and sincere callback.

Your willingness to serve those around you and do something some of you may never have done before has been apparent. I have seen some of you on a weekly basis dropping off some sort of food or bathroom essential so that those less fortunate than you could feel just a little bit more human. Even during this time of pandemic and social distancing, you have called back to God with such fervor and gusto that I have no doubt of your faith; every day increasing mine and my love for you in turn.

God knows us all, where we come from, and what we are able to do best to glorify God's love to those around us.

I'll summarize portions of Psalm 139, as it might best paint the picture of praise:

"You know when I sit down and when I rise up, you discern my thoughts from far away. Even before a word is on my tongue, oh Lord, you know it completely. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works, that I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance-when nothing else existed ---and in the end, I am still with you."

Siblings in Christ, God knows us all, and what we are capable of. When we show just what good can come out of our own names, we also show what can come from the pain and sorrows of day-to-day human trials and perils, to love and to care for one another just as Christ did, and does this very day. May we all share with our neighbors just exactly what can come out of Nazareth, and just exactly what can come from our own, lovingly given name.

Amen.

Do you have plans for your stimulus check? – Ruth Marsh

The second round of stimulus money from the federal government is beginning to arrive. I would ask you to prayerfully consider if you can afford to give this "found money" to the church. Clearly your loved ones are a first level priority but supporting Trinity's ministries and building is a way for you and your money to make a difference in this community.

Thank you for your continued financial support of Trinity by:

- a. delivering your regular giving personally
- b. calling the office and give via credit card
- c. using US Postal Service to send a check
- d. going to Trinity's website and give via credit card or PayPal
- e. or, signing up for bill-pay at your bank so they can send a check



Trinity United Methodist Church

This form is to help you remember the amount that you and God have agreed upon as your financial support towards ministry at Trinity in 2021. You may return this form to the church office to be recorded with our financial secretary who can help you keep track of your progress, or you may keep the pledge card at home to remind you of your commitment to participating in ministry at Trinity.

Trinity United Methodist Church - Pledge sheet for 2021

With the financial resources that God entrusts to this household, I/we desire to join with my/our siblings in Christ at Trinity UMC to be a blessing to this world that hungers for God's grace by sharing the following resources:

(1) Offering \$_____ per week/month/year (circle one).

OR

(2) Offering _____% of my/our income,
which currently equals about \$_____ per week/month/year (circle one).

Name(s): _____

If at any time you wish to increase, decrease, or cancel your estimate of financial support, please notify our church's Financial Secretary at 208-522-7921.

Contributions may be by cash, check, credit card,
PayPal, or online BillPay from your bank.

Thought for the Day: - Don Rohde

My brother in Connecticut, who got to hear of all the challenges faced by Trinity in the last year as we struggled to remain a relevant church during COVID rather than a closed building, sent me this quote:

When a great ship is in harbor and moored, it is safe, there can be no doubt. But that is not what great ships are built for. - 1928 John A. Shedd

**United Methodist Women** - Mary Nagel

Previously we gave the names of circles up until 1998. Then we had five circles: Ethel Clark, Ethel Linger, Morning Glory, Rebecca Ruth and Susannah. In 2001 Ethel Linger and Rebecca Ruth combined to form the Mary Martha Circle. Then in 2009 Mary Martha Circle combined with Ethel Clark Circle. In 2020 the Ethel Clark and Susannah Circles combined to form the new afternoon circle - The Sunshine Circle.



The United Methodist Women is a national organization with its own executive board. Under the national organization are formed conferences each with their own executive board. Trinity UMW belongs to the Oregon-Idaho Conference. Each conference is divided into districts with their own executive board. Our district is the Sage District. Then each district is divided into units with their own executive boards. And units are divided into circles with each circle having an executive board. A UMW unit can exist without a circle. Many churches in our conference are this way. Members not belonging to a circle are considered "general" members of the unit. Under this huge umbrella, the United Methodist Women are very active in local, national and international mission work.



Children's' Artwork

This Christmas several of the children of Trinity created artwork for us to use in the services and newsletters.

This interpretation of the manger scene was provided by Sophia Griffith.

Gather at the Table for January!

Join us to reconnect during this time of COVID isolation. It would be wonderful see you on screen, and socialize with you, as we continue our faith journey. A brief deep-thought question and time for prayers will be available. Looking forward to seeing and visiting with everyone Wednesday, January 20th at 6:30.



New guests, please call the office if you would like an invitation to this zoom.

John Wesley Quote

“Good people avoid sin because they love goodness, wicked people avoid sin because they fear punishment.”



Donating your Minimum Required Distribution (MRD)

We did have a comment on the article last week about donating RMD:

“Even though RMD’s are not now required until age 72, apparently non-taxability of qualified charitable deductions still applies if you are over 70 ½. Consult your tax preparer for advice on this.”

Last Sunday's Worship (1/10)

Last Sunday was the third week for the preaching series "New Skills for New Times." The sermon was "What Good Can Come from Our Name?" and follows the theme for the day: "New Words to Make New Meanings in Our Lives."

You can read the scripture lesson below before you watch the livestream on Trinity's Facebook page. Use this link for the worship video:

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

A Lesson from The Hebrew Scriptures - (1 Samuel 3:1-11)

Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if you are called, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.

A Lesson from The Christian Scriptures - (John 1:43-51)

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth. Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Continuing Needs for the Homeless Drop-ins:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Top Needs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves & Mittens • Thermal Underwear • Winter Coats • Pillows • Snowmobile Suits • Cold Cereal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body Wash (large) • Vienna Sausage & Ramen Noodles • Men's Underwear - Large • Women's Underwear - Small & Med. |
|---|--|

We appreciate your donations!

Last Sunday's Worship Streaming



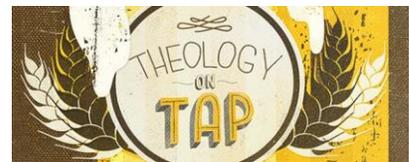
Last Sunday Logan gave the sermon on his journey from drug addiction to being called to ministry. We had great music by Mark Borland. It has already been viewed 151 times on the Facebook page. Please "like" and "share" the worship videos so they become more visible on Facebook.

Remember that you can watch Trinity worship from your couch on livestream on our Facebook page, or you can watch the recording anytime during the week also on the Facebook page. Just click here:

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

Theology on Tap - The Home Edition

Theology on Tap is going strong with the weekly Zoom calls. On Monday afternoons check the Facebook page for the Zoom meeting number and password. At 7pm pour your favorite beverage, warm up an appetizer and be prepared to think deep thoughts with your Monday night community. Call or email the office if you want to be added to the Theology on Tap Facebook group.



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4609079844?pwd=OGxNaTNpRFdhNHhRUUVjczNtaE83UT09>
Meeting ID: 460 907 9844 Password: 089437

Prayer Group



Trinity has a prayer group that originates from the office at Trinity. Please call 208-522-7921 or email TrinityUMCIIdahoFalls@gmail.com with requests.

If the prayer request is for a specific person, it must be approved by the person named and they must okay the reason. Prayer requests will be sent out anytime there is a new one. Email the office to be put on the contact list of pray-ers.

Things are Happening at Trinity this Week!

Monday (Jan. 18) Martin Luther King Jr. Day - **Office Closed**

- **Newsletter Input** due every Monday by 10 am
- **Theology on Tap** 7pm (Zoom) meet with your church buddies and think heavy thoughts while partaking of your favorite spirits.

Tuesday (Jan. 19)

- **Admin Council Meeting** 6:30 (Zoom)

Wednesday (Jan. 20)

- **Upper Room** 10:00 am (Zoom - Contact Kathy Harder for an invitation)

Thursday (Jan 21)

- ~~**ReOpening Committee 6:30 (Zoom) Postponed to 1/28**~~

Friday (Jan. 22)

Saturday (Jan. 23)

Sunday (Jan. 24)

- **Video Worship** on Facebook Page 10:15 am Do church from the comfort of your couch! (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>)
- **Virtual Coffee Hour** - 11:30 am to meet with Ruth and your church friends on Zoom.

Upcoming:

- February 2nd - **Trustees Meeting** 6:30 (Zoom)
- February 14th - **Transfiguration Sunday & Valentine's Day**
- February 17th - **Ash Wednesday**

After Church Virtual Zoom Coffee Hour



Have you been missing potlucks and coffee hour after church?

If you have, then show up at Virtual Coffee Hour” on Sunday morning at 11:30 on zoom. Stay in touch with your church family. The zoom invite will be posted on the Trinity Facebook page.

[\(https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/\)](https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4609079844?pwd=OGxNaTNpRFdhNHhRUUVJczNtaE83UT09>
Meeting ID: 460 907 9844 Password: 089437

You are welcome to visit the church

You can **always** drop by the church from 9 – 3 to visit with Ruth or just sit in the sanctuary to soak in the beauty and the good spirit.

If you would like to have a small meeting or worship in the sanctuary, that can be arranged by calling Pam in the office (208-522-7921).



Some of the guidelines for groups include:

1. Up to 10 persons may meet in the sanctuary at the same time.
2. Your group needs to call ahead to schedule a time when it is not being used by other groups, or Rob is not in the middle of ripping down the ceiling, and so we can turn the heat on for you.
3. You will need to sign the contact tracing log when you arrive.
4. Masks must be worn inside the church.

We are in Phase 2

1. Face masks are required in the building.
2. Sign the Contact Tracing Log.
3. 6-foot physical distancing is required.
4. High risk population please stay home.
5. Small groups allowed in the Sanctuary
6. Meetings limited to 10 people.

Updated 10/10/2020 Don Rohde

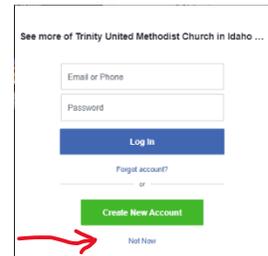
The Trinity COVID policy is consistent with Governor Little’s return to Stage 2 with the group limit of 10 or less, encouragement of mask use and physical distancing of 6 feet.

Watching Trinity Worship Video Without a F.B. Account.

Yes, you can watch Trinity Sunday morning worship video without a Facebook account.

ON THE LAPTOP:

1. go to GOOGLE CHROME web browser and type in:
2. <https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>
3. The Trinity Facebook page comes up and you can see the video.
4. Then a Facebook "sign on" window comes up
5. At the bottom of the Sign on Window there was a "NOT NOW" button
6. Push that button and you are free to watch the live stream on a laptop without a Facebook account.



ON THE APPLE CELL PHONE:

1. go to GOOGLE CHROME web browser and type in:
2. <https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>
3. The Trinity Facebook page comes up and you can see the video.
4. Then a Facebook sign on window came up
5. Using your finger scroll down the screen
6. A second Facebook sign on window comes up
7. Close that 2nd window by pressing the "X" box up in the top right corner
8. You can see the video on the screen and play it by pressing the play triangle
9. It only shows the latest videos.
10. If you press SHOW ALL you can see all the videos back to March.
11. You are free to watch the live stream on an iPhone without a Facebook account.

Checkout all the Worship Videos

Each Sunday Worship videos will get posted on Trinity's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>). If you go to Trinity's web page (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 listed the names and contacts for the leadership positions for the next year. Please let the appropriate leader know how you are willing to serve.

- Bev Kemp, Chair of Staff/Parish Relations
208-569-6149 bevmkemp@gmail.com
- Don Rohde, Chair of Trustees
860-810-3227 donrohde@aol.com
- Robin Stewart, Chair of Administrative Council
208-521-6358 robin.s.stewart@gmail.com
- Scott Taylor, Chair of Finance
208-201-5593 auditpatroller@yahoo.com

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
January		12	13 10:00 Upper Room (Zoom) 6:30 Finance Committee (Zoom)	14 6:30 ReOpening Mtg (Zoom)	15 Office Closed	16
	17 <u>Human Relations Day</u> 10:15 - Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Virtual Coffee Hr.	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day <i>Idaho Human Rights Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)	19 6:30 Admin Committee (Zoom)	20 10:00 Upper Room (Zoom)	21	22 Office Closed
24 <u>Epiphany 3</u> 10:15 - Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Virtual Coffee Hr.	25 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)	26	27 10:00 Upper Room (Zoom)	28 6:30 ReOpening Mtg (Zoom)	29 Office Closed	30
31 <u>Epiphany 4</u> 10:15 - Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Virtual Coffee Hr.						
February	1 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)	2 <u>6:30 Trustee Meeting (Zoom)</u>	3 10:00 Upper Room (Zoom)	4 6:30 ReOpening Mtg (Zoom)	5 Office Closed	6
	7 <u>Epiphany 5</u> 10:15 - Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Virtual Coffee Hr.	8 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)	9	10 10:00 Upper Room (Zoom) <u>6:30 Finance Meeting (Zoom)</u>	11 6:30 ReOpening Mtg (Zoom)	12 Office Closed