

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

News Update for February 23, 2022

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SHROVE TUESDAY



March 2 at 6:30pm

The word shrove is a form of the English word shrive, which means to obtain absolution for one's sins by way of Confession and doing penance. Thus Shrove Tuesday was named after the custom of Christians to be "shriven" before

the start of Lent. Pancakes are associated with Shrove Tuesday, the day preceding Lent, because they are a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent. The liturgical fasting emphasizes eating simpler food, and refraining from food that would give undue pleasure: in many cultures, this means no meat, dairy products, or eggs.

While Catholic tradition may involve “giving up” something, we Methodists are more likely to add something like: more prayer, more study, more compassion for ourselves and others.

Please come join us for yummy pancakes and a ton of fun as we share a “Fat Tuesday” meal together and then participate in pancake races.

Bring your favorite pancake topping to share. Let your creativity shine through! Bring your favorite pancake turner for racing.

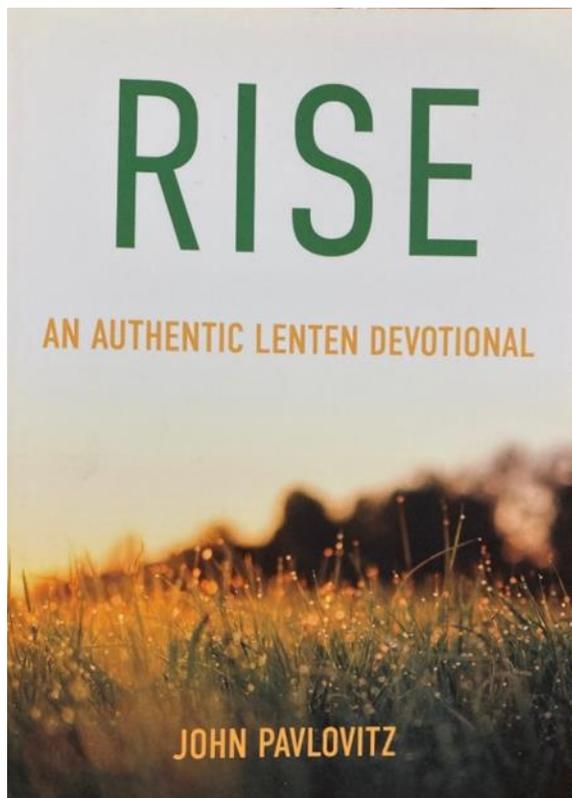


"Rise," Lenten Devotional

The books are here! This year's after-worship Lenten Study will be based on John Pavlovitz's book "Rise." You may pick your copy in the church office! I'm looking forward to seeing you in-person in the Parlor during Coffee Hour, or via Zoom, Sundays at 11:30am, beginning March 6th.

Blessings,

Rev. Ruth



Sermon from 2/20

"For Those Willing to Listen"

based on Luke 6:27-38

(Jesus' Sermon on the Plain)

Today we pick up the scriptures in the Gospel of Luke right where we left off last week. You might remember that Jesus was proclaiming that God's blessings rest upon those who are poor, hungry, and grieving, while warning people who had plenty, that what they had in this world was all they would ever get.

Wait just a minute! Isn't the word of Christ supposed to be good news? Well, last week's good news turned out to be that those who weep now are blessed because they are the ones who are in touch with the real world. They are the ones who are freed to experience hope at monumental level that resurrection brings. And that is Good News!

Not only is Jesus preaching plenty of hope in the Sermon on the Plain, but he is also giving solid advice that will be useful to those poor and exploited people who are listening. The scholar Walter Wink, in his book, *Engaging the Powers: Discernment and Resistance in a World of Domination*, interprets the passage as ways to help the oppressed subvert the power structures of the day.

At the time of Jesus, says Wink, striking a person deemed to be of lower socioeconomic class backhand was a means of asserting authority and dominance. If the persecuted person "turned the other cheek," the discipliner was faced with a dilemma: The left hand was used for "unclean" purposes, so a back-hand strike

on the opposite cheek would not be performed because you would have to use your “clean” hand for impure work. An alternative would be a slap with the open hand as a challenge or to punch the person, but this was seen as a statement of equality. Thus, by turning the other cheek, the persecuted was demanding equality.

Wink continues with an interpretation of handing over one's shirt in addition to one's tunic. The debtor has given the shirt off his back, a situation forbidden by Hebrew law as stated in Deuteronomy. By giving the lender the shirt as well, the debtor was reduced to nakedness. Wink notes that public nudity was viewed as bringing shame on the viewer, and not just to the naked person.

Much of this boils down to Jesus' advice, “Do for others what you want them to do for you.”

Joseph, whom we heard about in the Hebrew Scripture lesson this morning had every reason to hate his brothers and to treat them cruelly. They had sold him into slavery and then broken their father's heart by lying to him, saying that Joseph had been killed by a wild animal.

What does all of this soft, doormat stuff have to do with you or with me? Maybe Jesus is giving us advice for how to live a powerful life; one not ruled by, or crashing out of control, because of hate.

Perhaps you can even begin to see that Jesus is not calling for a passivity that allows violence and abuse to go unchallenged. Rather he is calling for it to be subverted with love and mercy instead of it being escalated and returned in kind. He is calling us to make sure that the evil done to us or the hurts inflicted on us do

not define us and dictate our responses. It is a call to embrace freedom instead of allowing others to control us.

Most of us are carrying various grudges and resentments that we cling onto and allow to dictate how we feel and behave around those who have wronged us in one way or another. Instead of setting ourselves free, we allow those who have hurt us to live in our heads and keep pulling the strings of our hearts and minds. As long as we are clinging to a need to see them exposed and made to pay for what they have done to us, we remain chained to them and unable to go free.

So this little set of bizarre suggestions that Jesus gives us begins to make sense when you see how they refuse to let the aggressor dictate our reactions.

If somebody steals your coat, you could respond by getting angry and allowing a sense of grievance to get its claws into you and take control of you. And as likely as not, the thief will be delighted to have become so much the center of your attention. But what if instead of allowing them to “steal” it, you turned around and said, “Hey, I meant to give you this shirt too, not just that coat. Please take them both as my gift.” Now who's in control of the situation? Your act of reckless generosity has set you free, deprived the would-be thief of a reaction, and probably embarrassed them. And most importantly, you've become a little more loving and generous like Jesus at the precise moment when someone was trying to maneuver you in the opposite direction.

Not just in this case, but in so many situations, no amount of retribution can change the past or undo the damage. It's

done. And if my resentment continues to fester, the only person who's really being burned by my resentment is me. The perpetrators got off scott free, and poisoning myself with bitterness is not going to hurt them, only me.

As Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Hate ... is a cancer that gnaws away at the very vital center of your life and your existence. It is like eroding acid that eats away the best and the objective centre of your life. So Jesus says love, because hate destroys the hater as well as the hated."

When once we taste the love of God, broken open and poured out for us at this table, why would we settle for the moldy crumbs of what we have carried too long? Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you, not because they deserve it, not because you like them or like the way they have behaved, but because you will no longer allow them to drag you away from the joyous party that is the culture of God, where love conquers all and sets us free to grow into all the love we were created and destined for. Amen.

Blessings,
Reverend Ruth

John Wesley Quote

The dangers of prosperity are great; and you seem aware of them. If poverty contracts and depresses the mind, riches sap its fortitude, destroy its vigour, and nourish its caprices.



To Dr. Wrangel, 1770

Today's Greatest Needs:

- Winter coats, clothing
- Boots
- Warm Gloves
- Kitchen Storage Containers

UMW News

At our February 10th meeting, we welcomed new members Pam Prince and Sharon Stickley. Kathy Gaskill gave a program on Membership Nurture and Outreach.



A big "Thank you!" to Rob for setting up tables and chairs and providing Valentine decorations.

Our next meeting will be March 10 at 1:00 in the church parlor. Marilyn Taylor will present a program on Prayer and Self-denial (spiritual growth). Mary Nagel will hostess. We invite all women to join us.

Gather at the Table

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, March 2nd at 6:30.**



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

Worship on 2/27

This Sunday Ruth’s sermon will be:
 “What’s Waiting For Us at the Bottom of the Hill” The theme for the day is: “An Outline For Our Lenten Journey”

Lesson from the Christian Gospel
 (Luke 9:28-43a)

...They climbed a mountainside and came to a place of solitude.

Jesus began to pray and the disciples tried to stay awake, but their eyes grew heavier and heavier and finally they all fell asleep. When they awakened, they looked over at Jesus and saw something inexplicable happening. Jesus was changing before their eyes, beginning with His face. It seemed to glow. The glow spread, and even His clothing took on a blinding whiteness. Then, two figures appeared in the glorious radiance emanating from Jesus. The three disciples somehow knew that these figures were Moses and Elijah...

©The Voice

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) 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>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Rose, Gary	2/2
Esparza, Trudy	2/3
Croson, Diane	2/11
Haga, Roger	2/13
Norris Jr., David	2/13
Jensen, Savannah	2/14
Campbell, Kristy	2/15
Halgas Jr., Frank E	2/15
Byron, Ruth	2/16
Meyer, Leroy	2/17
Oar, Ruth	2/22
French, Tim	2/23
Mcburney-Rebol, Jesse T.	2/25
Mower, Savon	2/25
Pickens, Logan	2/25
Borland, Kathy	2/28
Stewart, Don	2/28
Tuckett, Jake	2/29

Sunday Activities 2022

We are happy to report that we have resumed some opportunities for families, adults, children, and youth to participate in meaningful worship, study, and fellowship. Everyone must wear masks inside the building, except when eating or drinking. Here are some of the activities:

Sunday Worship – each week

- 10:15 a.m. In person and on the internet
 - 11:15 a.m. Parlor – Coffee & Fellowship
 - Adults, Youth, Children (grade school)
 - Childcare Available from 10 – 12:30 p.m.
 - “Kid’s Time” is back in Worship too.
- Come in and enjoy the beautiful Sanctuary.

*See you at
 Trinity United Methodist Church!*

How to Watch on Facebook

Watching Trinity Worship Video Without a F.B. Account. ^(P)

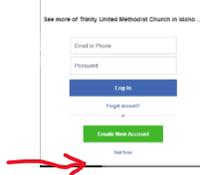
Yes, you can watch Trinity Sunday morning worship video without a Facebook account.

ON THE COMPUTER:

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 CELL PHONE:

1. go to 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.



This Week at Trinity

Thursday (February 24th)

Friday (February 25th)

Saturday (February 26th)

Sunday (February 27th)

- **Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship** on Facebook Page at 10:15am.

Do church in person or from the comfort of your couch!

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

Monday (February 28th)

- **Theology on Tap** 7:00 pm Zoom

Tuesday (March 1st) **Shrove Tuesday**

- **Pancake Dinner & Races** 7:00 pm

Wednesday (March 2nd) **Ash Wednesday**

- **Upper Room** by zoom 10:00 am
- **Ashes-to-Go** at the Broadway Bridge 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
- **Ashes in the Sanctuary** drop-in anytime 4 pm – 6 pm
- **Gather at the Table** 6:30 pm

Upcoming:

Mar 6 - Lenten book study, "Rise" begins after worship, during coffee hour

Mar 10 - UMW Unit Meeting 1:00

Mar 15 - Admin Meeting 6:30 by Zoom

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<p>February/ March</p>		<p>22 Office Closed</p> <p>7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00 Upper Room by Zoom</p> <p>7:30 Troop 6</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>
		<p>27 Transfiguration</p> <p>10:15 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook</p> <p>Handbells play</p> <p>11:30 Coffee hour</p> <p>4:00 Handbell Practice</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)</p>	<p>1 March</p> <p>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper & Races 7pm</p> <p>7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den</p>	<p>2 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>10a Upper Room by Zoom</p> <p>11a to 2p Ashes-to-Go at the Broadway Bridge</p> <p>2p to 4p Drop in for Ashes in the Sanctuary</p> <p>6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom)</p> <p>7:30 Troop 6</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>6 Lent 1</p> <p>10:15 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook</p> <p>11:30 Lenten Book Study and Coffee hour</p> <p>4:00 Handbell Practice</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00 Book club</p> <p>7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 Trustee Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00 Upper Room by Zoom</p> <p>6:30 Finance Meeting</p> <p>7:30 Troop 6</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1:00 UMW Unit meeting in Parlor</p>	<p>11 Office Closed</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 Lent 2</p> <p>10:15 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook</p> <p>11:30 Lenten Book Study and Coffee hour</p> <p>4:00 Handbell Practice</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 Ad Council</p> <p>7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 Upper Room by Zoom</p> <p>6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom)</p> <p>7:30 Troop 6</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Office Closed</p>	<p>19</p>