

News Update for March 31, 2022

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Save the date!
May 8th at 4pm
Spring hand bells concert

This Week at Trinity

Thursday (March 31th)

Friday (April 1st)

Saturday (April 2nd)

Sunday (April 3rd) Lent 5

- **Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship** on Facebook Page at 10:15 am Do church in person or from the comfort of your couch!
[\(https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/\)](https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/)
- **Hand bells play in worship**
- **Lenten Book Study** 11:30am

Monday (April 4th)

- **Theology on Tap** 7:00 pm Zoom
- **NA Just 4 Today 2**

Tuesday (April 5th)

- **Cub Scout Pack Meeting** 7:00 pm

Wednesday (April 6th)

- **Upper Room** via zoom 10:00 a
- **Gather at the Table** via zoom 6:30pm
- **Troop 6** 7:30 pm

Holy Week at Trinity 2022



Trinity During Holy Week (April 10 to 17)

Palm Sunday: 10:10 on Sunday the 10th – Experience the Palms and the Passion of Christ as Jesus walks through the final week of his life. In-person worship or livestream on FaceBook.

Maundy Thursday: 7pm on the 14th – Worship to remember Jesus in the breaking of bread, drinking of the fruit of the vine, and through the commandment to love others. in the Sanctuary.

Good Friday: Noon to 3pm on the 15th – 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 Sunday:
6:30am on the 17th – Sunrise Worship at the Snake River Landing Pier (901 Pier View Dr)

9a to 10a Enjoy a breakfast fixed by Trinity’s Scouts in Mary Dawson Hall.

10:10a Easter Worship in the Sanctuary

I’m looking forward to spending this blessed time with you.

Blessings, Rev. Ruth

Worship on 4/3

This Sunday, Reverend Ruth’s sermon will be: “When the World Is Looming”

The Theme for the day will be: “Ways to be Immersed in God's Beauty and Love”

LESSON FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE

(John 12:1-8)

Six days before Passover, Jesus entered Bethany where Lazarus, so recently raised from the dead, was living. Lazarus and his sisters invited Jesus to dinner at their home. Martha served. Lazarus was one of those sitting at the table with them. Mary came in with a jar of very expensive aromatic oils, anointed and massaged Jesus’ feet, and then wiped them with her hair. The fragrance of the oils filled the house.

Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, even then getting ready to betray him, said, “Why wasn’t this oil sold and the money given to the poor? It would have easily brought three hundred silver pieces.” He said this not because he cared two cents about the poor but because he was a thief. He was in charge of their common funds, but also embezzled them.

Jesus said, “Let her alone. She’s anticipating and honoring the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you. You don’t always have me.”

© The Message

John Wesley Quote

I do not believe the doctrine of absolute predestination.



Remarks on Mr. Hill’s Review

Global Ministries/UMCOR

To provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the



Russian invasion of their country you may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

Check to Trinity UMC with "UMCOR # 982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line. We will get it to them.

Online: <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>

One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause.

The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine."

UWF News

Hi, All! Our next meeting will be April 14 at 1:00 in the church parlor.



United
Women
in Faith

Marilyn Taylor and Mary Nagle will present the program. Refreshments will be provided by Pam Prince and Kathy Gaskill.

United Methodist Women has a new "name" – United Women in Faith. We remain the official women's organization of The United Methodist Church; thus, we will maintain the legal name United Methodist Women. Therefore, when making an offering, all checks should be written to UMW.

Our new mission statement is: *United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.*

Our new logo features our new name next to a Christian cross in muted yellow, blue, orange, and green to reflect our forward-looking faith and the diversity of the organization and God's world.

Hope to see you all on April 14th

<https://uwfaith.org/press/2022/united-methodist-women-is-now-united-women-in-faith/>

Crockpot Meals Needed



Compassionate Care Need!
We need crock pot or casserole lunches for the homeless people that stop by the Day Shelter.

We will provide the cooking container and the ingredients, as necessary. Please help with all the love in your heart. Contact Don in the office. **The next available dates are: April 3rd, 4th & 5th.**

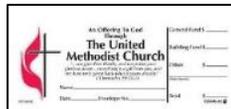
Also, donations of canned food (with pull-tops) would be greatly appreciated. Examples of greatest needs are:

- Instant Ramen Noodles
- Pasta (E.g. : Chef Boyardee)
- Corn, Green Beans, & Mixed Vegetables
- Meats
- Soups
- Spaghetti Sauce

Thanks to Ann Shively, Jill Ecklesdaffer, Nancy Copp, Joe Goyen, Cindy Woolf, Heather Rutledge, Dixie Oswald, Kay Kiefner, Kathy Harder, Bev Kemp, Pam Mayes, Jo Ann & Gary Rose, and Marcia & Tommy Lew for their preparation of food, generous donation of time, and compassion in helping with feeding the hungry.

Today's Greatest Needs

- Coats
- Clothing
- Boots
- Deodorant
- Kitchen Storage Containers
- Easter Candy



Birthdays & Anniversaries

<u>Beloved</u>	<u>March</u>
Whitney Wade	31 st
<u>April</u>	
Marline Crites	1 st
Richard Kunter	1 st
Christy Southwick	1 st
Dawson Smith	4 th
Amy Southwick	4 th
Scott Taylor	6 th
John Harder	7 th
Beth Brochu	8 th
Casey Eikelberger	9 th
Marilyn Taylor	10 th
William Osteen	12 th
Debbie Hochhalter	13 th
Amie Rhoades	13 th
Eliana Castillo	14 th
Frankie Calder	15 th
P. J. Piper	16 th
Yvonne Taylor	16 th
Amy Dickson	17 th
Ryan Atwood	19 th
Deborah Bean	20 th
Barry O'Brien	21 st
Amanda & Nathan McLure	8 th
Les & Joanne McCray	11 th

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status for year-to-date March 16, 2022:

Pledges & Regular Giving	\$22,647.86
Loose Plate Giving	\$ 94.15
Schaumleffel Foundation	\$ 1,533.34
Donations of Stock	\$11,923.10
Unrealized Gain/Loss on Stock Held	<-368.20>



Income = \$ 35,830.25
 Expenses = \$ 36,374.06
 Difference = <-\$543.81>

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

Easter Candy

Easter is coming! Would you like to help make it a fun morning for the kids? Please, donate candy to fill plastic Easter eggs for the big hunt!

**Easter Egg Hunts for
 all Ages
 After Easter Worship
 April 17th
 11:30am**



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.

Sunday Worship - each week 10:15 a.m. In person and on the internet

“Kid’s Time” is back in Worship

- 11:15 a.m. Parlor - Coffee & Fellowship
- 11:30 a.m. Lenten book study

- Childcare Available from 10 - 12:30 p.m.

*See you at
 Trinity United Methodist Church!*

Parking Lot Landscaping

We thought we were going to be able to start the parking lot landscaping this week



BUT there was a concern about the price. Jo Ann Rose went back to the contractor and got the price reduced by reducing the rock from 4” to 3” thick. Also, in the process we found some private donations to offset the cost. We hope to restart the project next week.

Just as a reminder the project includes removing the spreading juniper plants around the parking lot and replacing them with large decorative gravel like we have done at the front of the church. This is intended to be “Zero Scaping” to reduce the water usage and maintenance required.

Sermon from 3/27

Sermon: "The Good, the Bad, and Those Covered With 'Fertilizer'"

Beware, you are about to hear from a farm girl who grew up sometimes walking barefoot in manure.



Probably all of us have cried out at some time or another, "What have I done to deserve this?" Some times the consequences match the action, and you pay for doing a stupid thing. Yet still we cry out, "What have I done to deserve this?"

Why would we think that? Because we have all soaked up the view of the old covenant of Moses, "If you obey the commands of the Lord your God, then you will prosper and God will bless you, but if you disobey and refuse to listen then you will be destroyed." Then we turn it round so it says, "I am not prospering, I am being destroyed, therefore I have displeased God and I am being punished."

It almost makes sense. But we are a people who say that in Jesus Christ we have seen the true face of God, and Jesus disputed that doctrine. Jesus calls us to another way of looking at things, and so it is for that way that we go searching this morning.

The people who approached Jesus to tell him of the murder of the Galilean worshippers were, apparently assuming that the only way such a thing could happen, was that the victims were evil people who deserved God's punishment. Yet I doubt that anyone here today believes that the people of Ukraine deserve the horror of war that Putin has inflicted on them!



They were not the only people to ever come to Jesus with such a question. The disciples once saw a man who had been blind since birth and asked Jesus, "Whose sin caused his blindness, his own or his parents'?" On that occasion, Jesus said, "It was nobody's sin," and on this occasion he says, "Do you think that this horrible event proves they were worse sinners than anybody else? I tell you No!"

Not only does Jesus deny the doctrine, not only does he refute the suggestion that God causes human misery to punish us, but he turns the question back on the askers and says, "But I tell you that unless you repent, you'll endure a similar fate." Now logically speaking, that doesn't actually make any sense. But I think what Jesus is trying to do is to shift their focus. He's saying that if you spend your time searching for the way

that God is playing “Gotcha” you will find it.



And then Jesus goes on to tell a parable about God’s mercy. The imagery of the parable would have been well known to his listeners. There were many vineyard parables in the Hebrew Bible. The vineyard always stood for the people of Israel, and a fig tree in the vineyard always stood for the leadership of the people of Israel. So when Jesus says the fig tree in the vineyard is not bearing any fruit, everybody would have known what he meant. He’s saying, “If you want to talk about who needs to repent, take a look at your own role in the community. What sort of fruit are you bearing?”

Yet in typical “Jesus” style, he does not make this just a parable of God’s judgment. Jesus doesn’t just write off the unfruitful leadership, He says that judgment would certainly call for the tree to be chopped down, but that mercy pleads for it to have another chance. God’s mercy asks for a reprieve and promises to redouble the efforts at nurturing the tree so as to give it every opportunity of producing fruit.

Jesus is doing two very interesting things here. First, he emphasizes the priority of God’s mercy over judgment. He doesn’t deny the possibility of judgment, of the tree being eventually chopped down, but says

that it will be given every opportunity to avoid it, including the best of nurture and care.

Secondly he is redefining repentance. Now, what do we usually understand by the word “repent”? What else could it mean??



Repentance means turning around, and we tend to focus on the life we turn away from. The New Testament word translated as repentance is *metanoia* which is the root of our word *metamorphosis* which means something like transformation. It is what happens to a caterpillar when it becomes a butterfly, and just like a butterfly, the emphasis is on what it turns into, not what it turned from. So when Jesus says “Repent,” he is not so much saying, “Turn away from sin,” he’s saying, “Turn toward God.”

Jesus is describing a God who is not really interested in doing an accounting of each sinful action, but who calls us to fulfill our role as co-creators with God. And if that is who God is then repentance is a decision to join God in producing love and peace and justice, in actively bringing about the reign of God in the world. The focus is not on

what we break, but on what we make. We live up to what we were created for when we become co-creators of the new world with God.



How many of you have seen the movie "Forrest Gump"? There was a brief scene about the origin of a bumper sticker. You may remember the bumper sticker even if you haven't seen the movie. It was very simple; it just said "Shit Happens." It's a good slogan in a way; a bit crass, but clear and simple. I can imagine Jesus saying it when those people came asking him about why the Galileans got killed. In fact he does talk about manure. Same thing. Shit happens. It's a philosophical shrug of the shoulders in the face of meaningless tragedy. It says, "don't try to explain it or understand it. There is no rhyme or reason sometimes. Shit happens. It doesn't mean anything, it just happens."

The tower of Siloam fell down and killed eighteen people. You can't make any sense out of these things. Shit happens. You lost your job and can't get another. You got cancer and didn't find out till too late. Your child was born disabled. These are horrible things, but you can't explain them. There is no reason why it happened to you and not someone else. Shit happens. You'll only drive yourself nuts if you try to work out how you deserved it or why God wanted it to happen to you. God didn't want it to happen to you or anybody. It just happened. The question is what now?



What Jesus says to those trying to come to terms with these tragic situations is "Repent," which certainly takes me by surprise, until I remind myself that he is not so much saying, "Turn from sin," but, "Turn to God."

And that can make sense in the midst of tragedy and suffering. God did not cause this, it just happened, but God can make something out of it. God can turn any death into the basis of a resurrection. But if we are to find that resurrection it is up to us to repent, that is to turn ourselves around and follow Jesus on the path that leads through suffering to new life. As we have already said in this season of Lent, the path that Jesus leads us on is not one that avoids suffering, but it is one that comes out on the other side of it.



Tragedy happens. God doesn't cause it, but God's goodness is not thwarted by it. God is not going to let it prevent you from

experiencing the love and goodness of God. However, God does understand when you are barren and unproductive because of what has been going on in your life. God's mercy will not allow the fig tree to be cut down just because it hasn't borne any fruit lately. God's mercy says, "Hey, maybe this tree needs a bit more love and care before we can expect much of it." There are going to be times in anyone's life when they have very little to give and they need a lot of care and nurture. And at those times the economic rationalists of this world will often call for the axe because there are no figs on the tree, and productivity is the only measure of worth that they can see. But God is not a rationalist. A bit of a futures speculator maybe, but not an economic rationalist.



God is unbelievably good to us. God's goodness and love go far beyond any rational limits. God repeatedly pours out love and opportunity on those who appear to be lost causes. But it must be said, in fairness to the parable that Jesus told, that the possibility of the axe eventually getting the go ahead is still there. God's love is unconditional in that there are no requirements for eligibility, everyone receives God's love. But it is conditional in that there is a required response. We are required to respond to God's goodness by stepping onto the road and following Jesus,

working with him to create a world of love and peace. As I have said, and I stress again, God knows whether you're able to put much into that task at present or not, and if not God will happily wait and give you all the care and nurture you require, but if you squander it all away and never grow, this parable is not an of an open ended promise.

God has been good to us and we have to take that goodness seriously. It's up to us to turn around and follow Jesus into the future.

Amen.

Blessings,

Reverend Ruth

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>

Lenten Study

20) Lover, Runner, Fighter

- a. John 2:14-16 – Jesus drives the money changers and merchants out of the temple.
- b. Anger and goodness are not mutually exclusive it just shouldn't be the default setting.
- c. Are you putting your daily quota of energy into fighting or loving or running?
- d. Think about your resource allotment and your energy orientation today. Spend some time fighting, sometime loving, and, when you're tired, some time running from it all.

21) A Worrisome Sin

- a. Luke 12:22-26 – Therefore I tell you do not worry about your life...
- b. He isn't gently suggesting we avoid worry if we can manage it, or that it would be great if we could make an attempt at a quieted mind. It is more of a spiritual hazard to worry because we will be missing the peace that we deserve and are designed to have.
- c. Jesus is essentially saying, "If God is God and you are created by and connected to God, you should breathe easy in this life." And if we can believe this is true in the waking light of the morning – that we are held and cared for and deserving of a joyous exhale – then we should claim it in the dark hours, too. Peace is obedience.

22) Things To Let Go Of

- a. Luke 12:16-20 – The rich man builds a bigger barn to store his surplus grain.

b. All of the storage lockers popping up where people put their possessions surplus of their needs and even future use. Material things are seductive and persistent, but they will not validate us or declare our lives meaningful or give us permanent respite from our nagging restlessness. Our primary resources are time, money and space in our heart. Excess possessions will cost you time and money.

c. The advantage of not continually upsizing is we will have more financial resources to honor God and we will have more of our very finite time with invaluable people.

23) Steps and Sinking

a. Matthew 14:22-33 – Jesus and Peter walk on the water. "You of little faith" as Peter sinks.

b. I recognize myself in that disconnect, the cavernous gap between what I intend to do and what I often end up doing. I know that I can be wildly inconsistent and still be on my way.

c. Today, rest in your inconsistency, make peace with your failures, and treasure the steps upon the water when you get them.

24) Seen and Set Free

a. John 4:28-30 – The women at the well meets Jesus

b. God knows me but that knowledge isn't weaponized against me. Being seen by God gives me a sense of home, of being found, of acceptance that makes me feel that I had an ally in Jesus and not an adversary.

c. The God I know now is not cataloging my actions in order to scare me into belief or acceptable behavior, but

giving me a place to live fully known and fully loved.

25) Carried People

a. Luke 5:17-20 – They lowered a paralyzed man on a stretcher through a hole in the roof to be right next to Jesus.

b. I want to be the kind of friend who carries someone when they need to be carried.

c. “We get to carry each other.” Be a carrier when you can, but allow yourself the blessing of being carried, too. (U2, “One,” track 3 on Achtung Baby, Island Records, 1991, CD.)

26) Free Meals

a. Luke 14:12-14 - But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed.

b. WIIFM “What's in it for me?” vs. LOVE “Unconditional love of others”

c. Today, check your motives and challenge yourself not to worry about the upside of a kind act, but to see the kindness as the upside.

Plastic Bag Update

Last September Claudia Pine from Happyville Farm spoke to the UMW about collecting plastic bags to be recycled into park benches for Happyville Farm.



This is a picture of Claudia and one of the many park benches that have been awarded to Happyville farms due to the community effort to collect and recycle plastic bags. If we can collect 500 pounds of plastic bags in 6 months, we can earn a park bench for Trinity. If we collect less than 500 pounds in 6 month our plastic gets combined with other community donations and the bench



is awarded to Happyville Farm where visitors to the farm can sit and relax. Our collection box is at the top of the stairs going into the sanctuary across from the drinking fountain.

How to Watch on Facebook

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

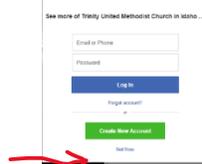
Yes, you can watch Trinity Sunday morning worship video without a Facebook account.

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.



Trinity Leadership

Below are 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

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
March/April		29	30 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 7:30 Troop 6	31	1 Office Closed	2
		7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	6 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom) 7:30 Troop 6	7	8 Office Closed	9
3 Lent 5 10:15 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook -Hand bells play in worship! 11:30 Lenten Book Study and Coffee hour 4:00 Handbell Practice	4 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today2	5 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	6 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom) 7:30 Troop 6	7	8 Office Closed	9
10 Passion Sunday 10:15 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Lenten Book Study and Coffee hour 4:00 Handbell Practice	11 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today2	12 6:30 Trustees Meeting 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	13 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 Finance Meeting 7:30 Troop 6	14 Maunday Thursday 1:00 pm UWF meeting 7:00 pm worship	15 Office Closed Good Friday 12:00 - 3:00 Drop-in Prayer Vigil & Palm crosses in sanctuary	16
17 Easter 6:30 Sunrise worship 10:15 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Lenten Book Study and Coffee hour 4:00 Handbell Practice	18 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today2	19 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	20 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom) 7:30 Troop 6	21	22 Office Closed	23