

News Update for September 22, 2022

Contents

Contents.....	1
Trinity Day Shelter Hours	1
This Week at Trinity	1
Sunday Worship at 10:15A.M	2
Worship on 9/25	2
John Wesley Quote	2
UWF News.....	3
Sermon from 9/18.....	3
Anniversaries.....	7
Birthdays	7
Trinity Times - Newsletter.....	8
Financial Statements.....	8
Food on Sunday Morning.....	8
Fall 2022 Activities and Schedule	8
Upcoming Events.....	8
Trunk or Treat.....	8
Request a song is back.....	9
New Office Manager	10
Covid Guidelines Lifted.....	10
Dick Masterson - Stained glass	11
Volunteer Signup Sheet is Back	12
Staying Connected	12
Trinity Leadership	12
Where's Ruth on 9/17/2022.....	13

Trinity Day Shelter Hours

– Closed until further notice. We are aware that church grounds are being used as a place to distribute, exchange, buy, sell, and use illegal drugs. In effort to curb this abuse, we will be discontinuing shelter services as we explore options to make it a safer space.

Our last day of operation was Monday September 12th.

This Week at Trinity

Friday (September 23rd)

- Office Closed
- Sunday (September 25th)
- Potluck before worship
- Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship on Facebook Page at 10:10a (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>)
- Fifteenth Pentecost Sunday

Monday (September 26th)

- NA Just4Today2 7:00 pm

Tuesday (September 27th)

- Cub Scouts Pack Meeting 7:00 pm
- NA Book Study 7:00

Wednesday (September 28th)

- Upper Room via Zoom 10:00 am
- Scouts meeting 7:00 pm

Sunday Worship at 10:15A.M

Fellowship Time: Potluck breakfast-9:30 – 10:00 a.m. before worship and continuing after worship. Child Care is available in the nursery every Sunday.

Children's Church -- during the Sermon time each Sunday- We hope to soon provide the activity with **volunteer support help each week.** .

Worship on 9/25

Lesson from the Christian Gospel:

Luke 16:19-31

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'



"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

"He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

"Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

"'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'" (NIV)

John Wesley Quote

We see (and who does not?) the numberless follies and miseries of our fellow creatures. We see on every side either men of no religion at all or men of a lifeless, formal religion. We are grieved at the sight, and



should greatly rejoice if, by any means, we might convince some that there is a better religion to be attained, a religion worthy of God that gave it. And this we conceive to be no other than love: the love of God and of all mankind; the loving God with our heart and soul and strength, as having first loved us, as the fountain of all the good we have received and of all we ever hope to enjoy; and the loving of every soul which God hath made, every man on earth, as our own soul.

AN EARNEST APPEAL

UWF News

Fall is here!
Leaves are
beginning to
turn, and



United
Women
in Faith

temperatures are dropping. Hooray! We celebrated apples at our meeting this past week with apple pie, apple pudding, apples with dip, and caramel apple suckers. Mary Nagle gave us an overview of the Mission U program called "Pushout". Thanks to everyone for your attendance, delicious food, and presentation. Joni Pace will present "Becoming a Witness in Kin-dom" at our next meeting on October 13. Mark it on your calendar.

UPCOMING EVENT: On October 22 the Oregon/Idaho Conference will be meeting in Boise. The guest speaker will be the national president. Be thinking about attending.

Kay Pottorff has reviewed several good books these past months. Time to check out a book from the UWFaith library in the church parlor.

Big shout out to our visiting grace ladies. I know the time you spend with people is greatly appreciated. My mom always enjoyed your visits. Thanks so much! Thanks, also, to Sherry and Don for setting up ZOOM so we could attend meetings and conferences virtually.

Sermon from 9/18

Based on Psalm 79 and Luke 16:1-13

There's a poem about managing resources by one of my favorite childhood author Shel Silverstein that recounts the misguided efforts of an enterprising kid to increase their financial holdings. As the poem progresses, we find that in all of his wheeling and dealing, the kid's pot is actually steadily decreasing despite his belief that he's making shrewd moves. A funny account of fiduciary financial failure as only Shel could tell it...



If you're familiar with his work, you might also know that Silverstein was an accomplished cartoonist, his drawings and poems often offered as compliments to one another. Another of my favorites is also published in his popular-though-controversial (banned in many libraries and schools) collection called *Where The Sidewalk Ends*. The poem's title is "Jumping Rope"

and it shares the page with a drawing of a young girl, seated on her backside, impossibly entangled in a jump rope. The poem, voiced from the girl's perspective describes how something that started out as a mechanism for fun somehow became a trap. I'm sure we've all, here, heard the quote "it doesn't matter where you start, but where you finish..." a statement that some of us, having been subjected to certain deficits or even gifted with unmatched advantages from the start would certainly be justified in raising our signs of protest and objection to. It is, we might argue, the start that often defines the ways in which we will respond to the terrain that underlays and frames the paths we are made to navigate: the support we're given, the tools we'll take, the wisdom and know-how imparted, received, accepted and rejected along the way. The start, we often find with time, is just as important, just as informative, just as definitive as any other position we encounter or occupy along the way. It primes us for how we will take in, perceive and interpret the information that will inform our next step and the many that will follow after. Where we start makes various aspects of life difficult for some, and effortless for others — whether we are considering interpersonal dynamics, social or economic stratification, or the first letter of your last name that determines how you will line up and who, exactly, you will be standing next to. Or, sticking with that scenario, the last name you have inherited might (and often has determined) whether someone will be staffed, drafted or receive a ration. Where one starts is not static. It is present in every breath we take and have taken over the course of a lifetime, steadily expanding and contracting — informing decisions made

from moment-to-moment, day-to-day: decisions that, themselves accumulate, propagate, and ultimately transmigrate in ways that define the fates of generations to come; echoing across eons, possibly as cries of a tormented people, scripted then read during Sunday service in the form of an ancient Psalm that, in turn, informs our present day lives.

"Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low."

This is the prayer of a people oppressed, led into exile that we still consult for counsel all these thousands of years later. And here we might note how their unfortunate state of beginning as presented is positioned at the very end of their rope; their lamentation expressing just how short they are on hope:



"They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth..." reads the Psalm.

"They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them. We have become a taunt to our neighbors, mocked and derided by those around us."

This is a state of agony, a situation of defeat likely set up long before many of the petitioners were born. They are now burned out, looking for a fresh start or a new beginning; be it via the destruction of their enemies, a favorable forgetting or a forgiveness of their own sins, any form of help will do. "How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire?"

"What will it take to turn the tables," they seem to be asking, all while goading their God to take action on their behalf. "Your inheritance has been taken... your resources defiled, ruined and wasted..." Talk about a shrewd move... Desperate times, they say, call for desperate measures.

Here we recall another cartoon from Silverstein. One of his most popular. It's a crude drawing of two prisoners, their arms and legs shackled and chained to a prison wall featuring a caption that has one of them saying to the other, "Now here's my plan..." According to the artist, a lot of people saw it as a testament to pessimism, but for him it was a proclamation that one can find hope even in the most hopeless of situations — hope that might lead to action — action that we can then mark as a fresh start... a new beginning. Perhaps like the situation we find in Luke? Here, encounter another figure facing, in a fashion, a future in exile. Whether we call him (as do various translations) dishonest, shrewd, unrighteous, or unjust, it is clear that the rich man's manager, in this parable has navigated his way into a sticky situation and is desperate to find a way out. He has wasted his employer's possessions and is now being relieved of his duties. And so,

with one last task to complete, he recognizes, also, that he has been gifted with one more opportunity to make a move. As such, he is determined to make a good one, one that will play in his favor: "Give an account of your management," says the rich man, "because you cannot be manager any longer..." His response, hands and feet, in a sense metaphorically shackled, tied, or tangled up: "Now here's my plan..."

Here, it might be helpful to note that if this passage from Luke troubles you even in the least, you are far from alone. It has, in our own time and times past been classified as something of a *crux interpretum* which, in plain English, essentially means it is confusing. Its meaning has been and will continue to be debated throughout the ages and I'm not going to pretend I have the answer. But, I can share with you some of the things that I read into it and what I find interesting about it, part of which is the manager's response — his chosen road of perception because... facing his own social and financial demise, he doesn't cave, he doesn't crumble, he doesn't limit his vision to seeing the loss of his job as an end to his means for living. Rather, as he stops to take stock, he also plots, plots, plots and in the process not only figures out a way to turn the situation into a means to an end, but also stumbles upon a few truths about himself. That is, in his own way, he finally starts to get honest with himself: honest about who he is and who he's been, and who he's willing to be in order to survive. Honest about the world in which he lives. "I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm too ashamed to beg..." Which means I am going to need other people if I am to survive this forced new start...



It is this honest act of accounting, his own earnest effort of internal reckoning, which allows for the next steps that facilitate correction and connection: the building of relationships in a way that sees each participant benefit in some way. The rich man collects debts he may have one day — by Jewish law — been forced to forgive. The debtors are relieved of a good portion of what they owe. The manager discovers a new form of social participation. So, despite be labeled as “shrewd,” Luke’s manager does what he can to correct some of his past selfish/wasteful behavior, winning friends and the newfound respect of his employer in the process. He uses the resources at his disposal to facilitate a relative state of renewal for all involved becoming, as it were, a Christ approved model for a modern gospel.

So here is a chance to follow suit. Can you look at your own surroundings — that is *really* look: Stop.



Take stock. Find the courage to be utterly and completely honest about where you are, where you’ve been, and where you want to end up? If you find yourself chained to a wall, coiled in a rope, weary in exile, or simply wandering around, head in the clouds trading away the gifts you’ve been given for ever diminishing returns — a dollar for two quarters, two quarters for three dimes — maybe it’s time to make a shrewd move, not only for a renewal of faith, but possibly a renewal of mind; a fresh start that recognizes God’s willingness to commend, attend to, and help those who — despite the little that they have, the uphill battles that they face — are ready and willing to hope against hope while helping themselves and others reach a new state of revival or redemption.



“For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light...” the scripture proclaims. “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much...”

As we read on we find that the scripture, here, continues to speak specifically of money or worldly wealth, but there are certainly avenue to which we can apply its message, especially now that we live in an era when those sorts of currency have been leapfrogged by other perils and pitfalls. For example, in this age of the internet, its apps, and endless funnels we are now being fleeced for our attention; robbed of our real world connections: the children of light now subject to the creep of that imperceptible blue light that keeps them up well into the night scrolling, tapping, refreshing, clicking to like. Exiles shackled and chained in digital landscapes, being led deeper and deeper down rabbit holes of distraction; primed for data extraction that leads to further social contractions while the world around us continues to devolve into a domicile of strife; our social fabrics flagging, friendships collapsing, democracies the world around in a state of decay. Children are growing ever more depressed. Parents, teachers, and other caregivers increasingly distressed.

“For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation...”

Then again, perhaps for you it’s neither money, screen time, or the digital divide that has you tangled up with fading hope, but still looking for a fresh start. Perhaps you’re finding that it’s time for a new state

of awareness, a shrewdness that recognizes the ways in which other aspects of your divine inheritance are being pilfered or wasted away: your time, your innate gifts, and other talents. Your feelings, your attention — indeed, your God given common sense, farmed out or traded daily — now minute-to-minute, second-to-second for mere cents on the dollar. It is almost certain that there is something, in our world of false starts and interruptions, that has your sense of self divided. Whatever it is that perhaps, started out as a jumping rope but now has you tethered the question now stands: What’s your plan?

Because this in no way has to be the end; the consequence of a continued trend of diminishing returns. Rather, in a moment of deep deliberation you might find the fresh start that reveals a route that will lead to a bountiful and resplendent redefinition for the children of light in this generation.

Amen.

Pastor Alphaeus

Anniversaries

September

John & Sharen Trickey	5 th
Kevin & Kelly Carney	12 th
Robin & Nancy Stewart	13 th

Birthdays

September

Kendall Denning	20 th
Rich Edwards	20 th
Gary Wilson	21 st
Ukiah Zwygart	21 st
Mary Haddad	26 th

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Trinity Times - Newsletter

Trinity times is available by email, on the church web site or by paper copies at the church. Sunday Worship live on Trinity Facebook Page every Sunday or available for viewing later.

Go to www.TUMCIF.org - for links to all information or view the large screen inside the door at TRINITY UMC.

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - August 31 2022



Income	\$92,283
Expenses	\$125,255
Net Income	<\$32,973>

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

Food on Sunday Morning

We received some comments that it would be better to have brunch after church. That gives people more time Sunday Morning. It will also help when the scouts start up the monthly pancake Breakfasts again. There will always be coffee and donuts before worship.

Schedule:

This week September 25 we will stick to before worship 9:30 to 10:00

October 2 - Potluck Brunch after church

We will keep the food warm and eat together after worship.) Donuts before worship.

October 9 - Coffee and donuts before worship, Potluck Brunch after worship.

Fall 2022 Activities and Schedule

Upcoming Events

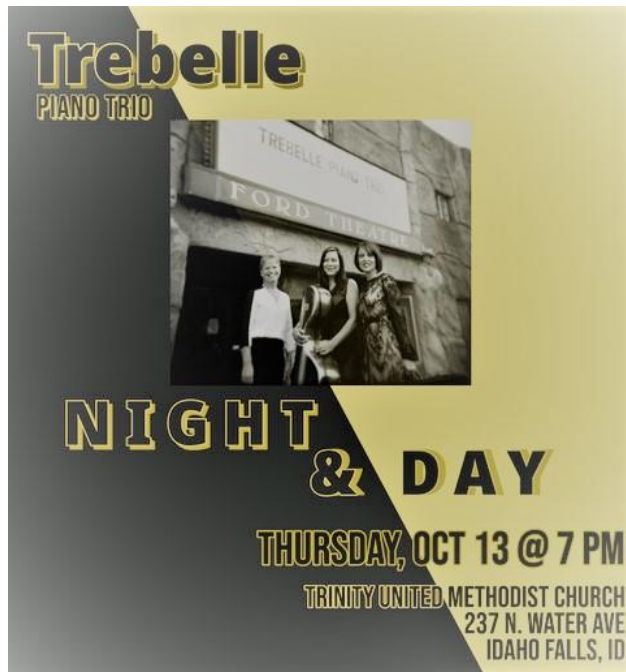
Sunday Breakfast Potlucks -

September 25 - 9:30 - 10:00. A.M -This is a return to our activities before COVID). Bring a favorite dish or just join us for fun.

Trunk or Treat

Trinity will be joining Frist Presbyterian church in a joint "Trunk or Treat" on Friday October 28th from 5:30 - 7pm. Decorate the back of your cars for Halloween, Wear a costume, Bring Candy and sit in the parking lot so kids can "Trick or Treat" from Car-To-Car. Last year included Robin (from Batman & Robin), Shepard, Werewolf and Ravenclaw (from Harry Potter)





Trebelle, Idaho's premiere piano trio, will be performing a concert at Trinity United Methodist Church, 237 N. Water Avenue in Idaho Falls on Thursday, October 13 at 7:00pm.

They will be presenting a program titled "Night and Day," which depicts the turning of the earth through a 24-hour period. Dawn, dusk, moonrise, and noon are presented in a variety of musical formats and from a wide range of musical styles. The music is diverse and exciting, with composers such as Ernest Bloch, Edward Elgar, Franz Joseph Haydn, Ottorino Respighi, Lili Boulanger, Cole Porter, and more!

Founded in 2012, Trebelle is celebrating its 10th anniversary, and is made up of violinist Jennifer Dunn, cellist Heidi Nagel, and pianist Robyn Wells.

They have performed throughout the Pacific Northwest, and have been featured artists at the Second City Chamber Series in Tacoma, WA, the College of Southern Idaho & #39;s Piano Celebration concert series,

and the McCall Second Sunday Sounds at Six recital series. Trebelle performed Beethoven's Triple Concerto with the Serenata Orchestra in Boise in 2019, and celebrated Women's Suffrage in 2020 with a program of all-female composers in Wyoming.

Thursday's concert is open to everyone.

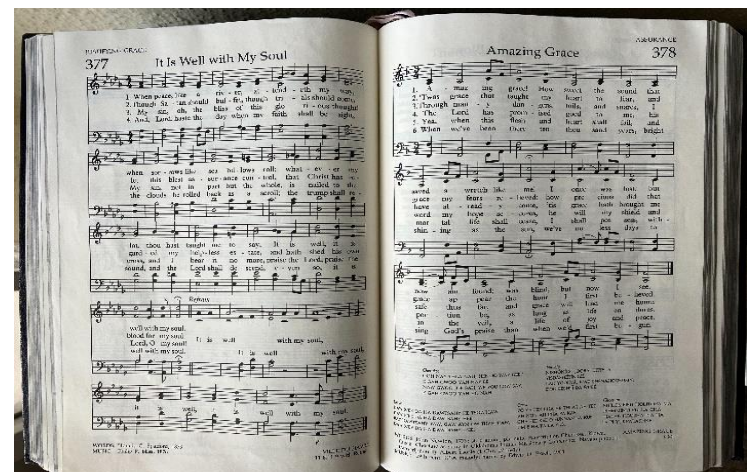
Suggested donation is: \$15/adult , \$10/students/ seniors.

Request a song is back

We are doing "Favorite Song" again. The rules are simple:

- At song time you can request your favorite song.
- It must be from the blue hymnal
- You must sing along
- We will sing 2 verses.

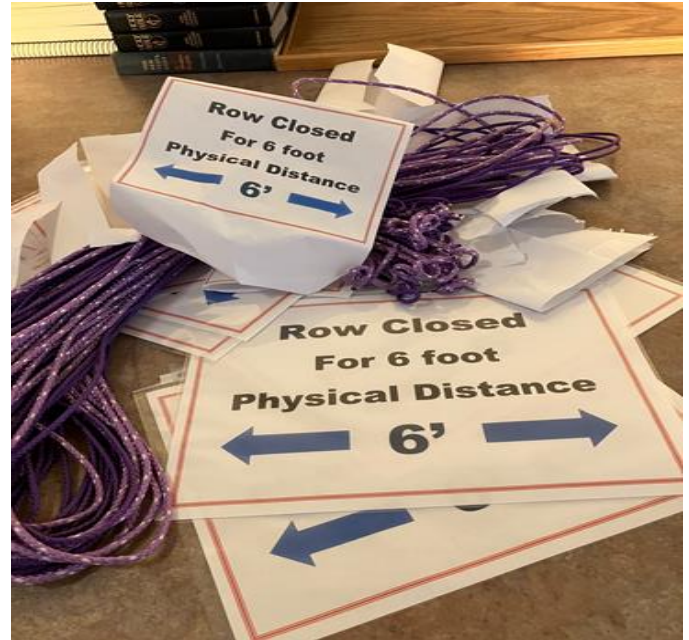
If you don't get a chance to request a song you can write your request on the bottom of the Volunteer sheet at the back of the sanctuary



New Office Manager



Michelle Chadwick has joined us as the new Office Manager at Trinity. Her hours will be Monday through Thursday from 9am to 2 pm. Michelle comes to us from her position at the Ruth house - Front desk where she did client intake interviews and testing. Before that she did medical coding for doctor offices in Utah. Michelle is excited to be with Trinity because she loves to be of service to her community.



Covid Guidelines Lifted

The Covid ropes are down.

Last night at the administrative council meeting it was voted that we remove the physical distancing ropes from the sanctuary.

This marks the end of our Covid era safety measures at Trinity for the time being. If you are being cautious please feel free to wear a mask and observe the distancing guidelines.

Everyone should continue washing their hands as a general rule as we are also entering the flu season.



DICK MASTERSON – TRINITY ALTER STAINED GLASS PROJECT

Dick Masterson took up Stained Glasswork as a hobby in 1975 to make gifts for family members and friends. He started making plant terrariums, Christmas ornaments and figurines. He soon started making custom lamps, home entryway windows and church stained glass windows.

Dick was praised for his design and perfect lead work. He quickly became very proficient in stained glasswork just like he did when he took up boat building, leatherwork and building a 4-room basement in the family home in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

He designed and donated stained glass windows to a church in California in March of 1985. Dick, wife Mary and family joined Trinity in 1955 and were very active in the MYF and other church events.

Dick designed, created and donated the Trinity Methodist Church's stained-glass panels between the alter and the choir loft in 1987.

He located similar glass to the windows locally and in California.

The Trinity Church stained-glass project represented one of his most favorite, rewarding and memorable works.



Volunteer Signup Sheet is Back

It has been so much fun to have members of the congregation participate in leading the worship. Because of the COVID restrictions for two years we had David doing all the liturgy work during worship because he could safely share the stage with Ruth. We can now all safely participate in the leading of the worship. To facilitate this, we have brought back the volunteer sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary.

Date:	9/4	9/11
Coffee Setup	Tommy & Sherry	
Greeter/Door	Sherry	
Ushers (2)	Sherry	
Song Leaders	Scott	
Call to Worship	Don	
Acolyte	Betty Sherry	
Collecting Prayers	Tommy	
Liturgy Old Testament	Tommy	
Kids Time		
Liturgy New Testament	Don	
Communion		
Benediction	Richard	
Song Request 1		
Song Request 2		

Please look ahead and sign up for where you would like to assist, (Coffee Setup, Greeter/Door, Ushers (2), Song Leaders, Call to Worship, Acolyte, Collecting Prayers, Liturgy Old Testament, Kids Time, Liturgy New Testament, Communion, Benediction)

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>

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

Where's Ruth on 9/17/2022

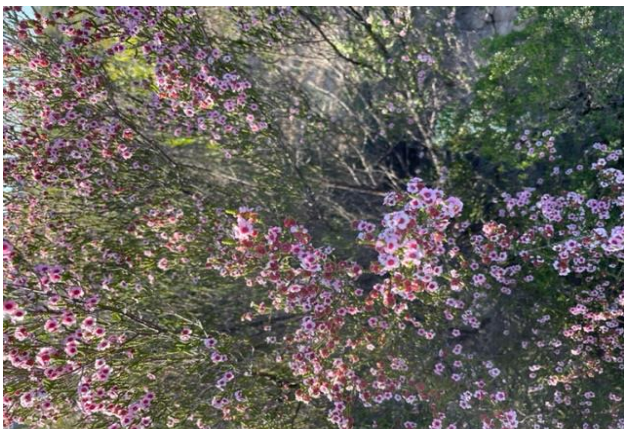
Where in the world is Reverend Ruth? -

Dear Ones

I'm on my way from Perth to Broome. It's the beginning of wildflower season in Western Australia.

Wish you were here! My next update will be about getting to the Bungle Bungles.

Reverend Ruth



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<div>September</div>			14 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 Finance Meeting via Zoom 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	15	16 Office Closed	17-
			21 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (Zoom) 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	22	23 Office Closed	24-
18 9:30 - 10:00 Breakfast Pot luck 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	19 7:00 NA Just4Today	20 6:30 Admin Council Meeting via Zoom 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	28 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 1:00pm F.I.S.H Project 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	29	30 Office Closed	1-
25 9:30 - 10:00 Breakfast Pot luck 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	26 7:00 NA Just4Today	27 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	5 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	6	7 Office Closed	8
2 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook 10:15 Breakfast Pot luck	3 7:00 NA Just4Today	4 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den				