

News Update for January 20, 2022

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Sermon from 1/16

Sermon: “What does this have to do with me?”

Today’s Gospel lesson was another one of those “on the 3rd day” scriptures. Once again that is a heads up that we are about to hear a story, and that something really important or impressive will be happening as the plot unfolds. That certainly proves to be the case today as the first public miracle that Jesus performs is revealed.

As a side bar note, the 3rd day was popular for weddings. Tuesdays gave the guests time to get there after the Sabbath and remain for the multiple days of the wedding feast, rest on the Sabbath, and then return home.

The wedding in Cana as recorded in the Gospel of John was probably the nuptial ceremony for a relative of Jesus, since he, and his mother had been invited. It was likely a large wedding since Jesus’ disciples were allowed to tag along. Perhaps that was one of the reasons that Mary was so worried about the host running out of wine... after all, her son and his twelve buddies were there drinking! Never-the-



less, the host was about to be embarrassed, and Mary knew that Jesus had the power to prevent that from happening. (Oh how I would love to have a conversation with Mary to find out what she had seen Jesus do while growing up.)

When Jesus responds to Mary's suggestion that he should "do something" it is with a pretty sharp tongue! Today's translation from "the Voice" renders the words "Dear woman, is it our problem?" while another translation I read this week renders the phrase as "Oh, Mother!" I can still see Jesus' eyeballs rolling 2,000 years later!

It turns out that this interaction is an Aramaic idiom meaning, "What do we have in common if I do this?" For Mary, it would change very little, but for Jesus, this would be his first public miracle and would dramatically change his ministry from that moment on because the crowds would see the power that he possessed. Jesus knew his ministry of changing lives through love and miracles would "come out of hiding" by performing this fairly small act of compassion. Yet with Mary's encouragement, Jesus proceeded to do just that.

The large jars, which the servants at the wedding filled with water, were used for Jewish ceremonial cleansing— or Baptism. Remember last week's sermon when I talked about how the people coming to John the Baptist were there to be ritually cleansed by immersion in the river, but when Jesus came, it was not to be cleansed from sin, but to be claimed by God.

Last week's Good News was that God does not stop with merely healing us from sin, a bit like launching us into a new and better

life, but God desires to enter into permanent, intimate, relationship with us. Today's Good News is that the same ceremonial waters of cleansing that were transformed into a relationship with God, have now been turned into an invitation to the eternal banquet where everyone, no matter what, is God's guest!

What does all of this have to do with you or me? Today, in the midst of a worldwide pandemic, when the world is experiencing dramatic climate change, and the days may seem hopeless, each of us is invited to proclaim, to be, the best wine, inexplicably saved for last, which encourages all of humanity to embrace hope and wholeness and eternal life through the God of Love!

Amen.

Blessings,

Reverend Ruth

Book Study

We are participating in a book Study in the Parlor after church at 11:30 each Sunday. It is suitable for adults, youth, and children.

If you have young children, the nursery will be available during church and the study. The study will be held in the parlor immediately after the worship and coffee time.

Sunday's Worship 1/23

Mary Nagel, current United Methodist Women's president for the Trinity and St. Paul's UMW Unit, will lead worship and share some information about United Methodist Women.

LESSON FROM THE CHRISTIAN GOSPEL

(Matthew 28:16-20)

The eleven disciples, having spoken to the Marys, headed to Galilee, to the mountain where they were to meet Jesus. When the disciples saw Jesus there, many of them fell down and worshiped, as Mary and the other Mary had done. But a few hung back. They were not sure (and who can blame them?). Jesus came forward and addressed his beloved disciples.

I am here speaking with all the authority of God, who has commanded me to give you this commission: Go out and make disciples in all the nations. Ceremonially wash them through baptism in the name of the triune God: Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then disciple them. Form them in the practices and manner that I have taught you and show them how to follow the commands I have laid down for you. And I will be with you, day after day, to the end of the age.

© The Voice

Free COVID-19 Tests

You can get free at-home COVID-19 tests. Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days.

Order your tests now so you have them when you need them.

Order Free At-Home Tests
(<https://usps.com/covidtests>)

If you need a COVID-19 test now, please see other testing resources for free testing locations in your area.

The tests available for order:

- Are rapid antigen at-home tests, not PCR
- Can be taken anywhere
- Give results within 30 minutes (no lab drop-off required)
- Work whether or not you have COVID-19 symptoms
- Work whether or not you are up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines
- Are also referred to self-tests or over the counter (OTC) tests

mission. Each week the children collect change at 1st Lutheran church in Idaho Falls and were able to purchase 5 containers of Tide Laundry Pods as a gift to the shelter.



New Laundry Facilities

The new laundry room is progressing. Robin has both washing machines and one of the dryers hooked up. We are waiting on the electrician to wire up the second dryer. The upgrade to the laundry facilities was made possible by a grant from the CHC Foundation.



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 the sanctuary and on the internet
- 11:15 a.m. Parlor - Coffee, Snacks and Fellowship
- 11:30 a.m. Parlor - Book Study –
- 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 with all the decorations.

*See you at
Trinity United Methodist Church!*

UMW News

January 23, 2022, is United Methodist Women’s Sunday. These ladies will serve as greeters, ushers, and coffee servers. Mary Nagle will be the liturgist.

There will be no unit meeting in January. Our next meeting is February 10, 2022, in the church parlor. The program will be presented by Kathy Gaskill. We would like to extend an invitation to all women to come and join us for fellowship, food, and fun.

Last year was very successful in spite of all the Covid challenges. We paid our pledge to missions of \$1350.00. For our local community we gave \$100 each to FISH, CASA, Community Food Basket, the Soup Kitchen and the Haven GED program. Our special mission collection at the Unit meeting was \$375.22 for the Hospice of Eastern Idaho. (\$20.00 was given from the Sunshine Circle treasury.) Gift to mission cards were given to the Trinity staff and we met our goal of \$500.00 for the Trinity Shelter fund. Way to go ladies!!!! As Lynda Montgomery stated at the meeting, we should all be proud of the work we do. The Executive Board thanks you all for your support in reaching our goals. Have a happy, healthy 2022!



COVID Graphs

Bonneville County Covid Graphs

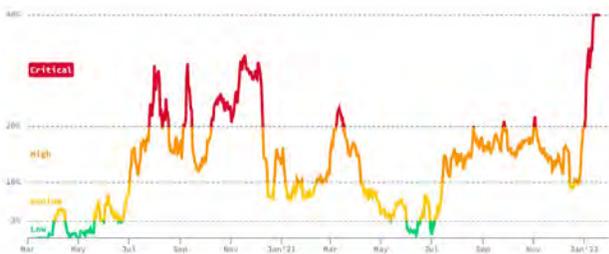
Daily New Cases:

NOT AVAILABLE - Idaho has not been able to keep up with the reporting of new cases.

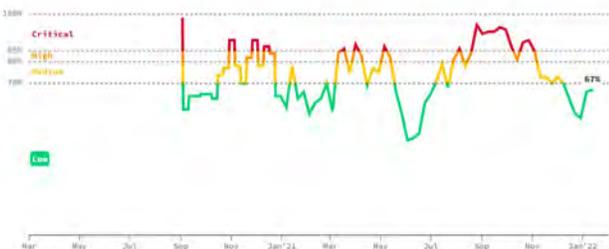
Infection Rate:

NOT AVAILABLE - Idaho has not been able to keep up with the reporting of new cases.

Positive Test Rate: 54.2%



Percent of ICU Used: 67%



2 Covid Deaths in the last 7days

Note: Because deaths have approached zero and case count is too high to count in a timely fashion, Trinity has switched to **Precent Of ICU Used** as the indicator for if we should conduct in person church. If the **% ICU Used** gets above 80% we will reconsider having In-Person church.

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>

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, February 2nd at 6:30.**



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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mike Bean	01/01
Eryx Goodrich	01/01
Nina Knapp	01/03
Roslyn Griffith	01/04
Sharon Kennedy	01/06
Cameron Sene	01/06
Tom Burr	01/08
Gary & Jo Ann Rose	01/11
Kathy Harder	01/12
Bethany Blank	01/13
Angel Cole	01/14
Dean Mandiloff	01/14
Steve Wackerli	01/14
Jane Simmons	01/16
Jeannine Beckman	01/18
Kevin Carney	01/19
Donna Bailey	01/20
Keenan Bryan	01/20
Les Miller	01/20
Akeelah Gonzalez	01/21
Kathy Miller	01/21
Penny Tibbetts	01/21
Irene Brown	01/23
Mary Nagel	01/24
Ruth Marsh	01/25
Mike & Deborah Bean	01/25
Jeff Denning	01/26
Trudy Denning	01/26
Ellie Ford	01/26
Laura Schaffer	01/28
Betty French	01/29
Theo French	01/29
Maddix Zwiygart	01/30
Leo Griffith	01/31

John Wesley Quote

“ Bear up the hands that hang down, by faith and prayer; support the tottering knees. Have you any days of fasting and prayer? Storm the throne of grace and persevere therein, and mercy will come down.”

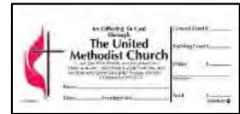


“The works of the rev. John Wesley” (1830).

Finance & Giving

Thank you for your continued financial support of Trinity by:

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



Our church’s financial status for year-to-date December 31, 2021:



Income = \$174,533

Expenses = \$174,533

Difference = \$ 0

Apportionment \$8,971

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

Crockpot Lunches 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 Pam in the office.

The next available dates are January 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th.

Also, donations of canned food would be greatly appreciated. Examples of greatest needs are:

- Ramen Noodles
- Pasta (for example Chef Boyardee)
- Corn, Green Beans, & Mixed Vegetables
- Meats
- Soups
- Spaghetti Sauce

Thanks to 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:

- **Winter coats, clothing, boots, gloves**
- Laundry Baskets
- Kitchen Storage Containers
- Gloves and Mittens
- Women's small underwear

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

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 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 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 (January 20th)

Friday (January 21st)

Saturday (January 22nd)

- Pinewood Derby - Mary Dawson Hall

Sunday (January 23rd) UMW Sunday

- **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/)

- **Book study** - 11:30 am in Parlor

Monday (January 24th)

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

Tuesday (January 25th)

Wednesday (January 26th)

- **Upper Room** 10:00 am by Zoom

Upcoming:

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<h1>January</h1>		11 6:30 Trustees meeting zoom 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	12 10:00 Upper Room 6:30 Finance Meeting Zoom 7:30 Troop 6	13	14 Office Closed	15
		16 10:15 Indoor Church with Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Scouts Brunch for all	17 Martin Luther King Day Office closed 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)	18 6:30 Admin Meeting (Zoom) 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	19 10:00 Upper Room 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom)	20
23 UMW Sunday 10:15 Indoor Church with Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Coffee hour & Book Study	24 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)	25 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	26 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 7:30 Troop 6	27	28 Office Closed	29
30 10:15 Indoor Church with Live stream on Facebook 11:30 Coffee hour	31 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom)	1 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	2 10:00 Upper Room 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom) 7:30 Troop 6	3	4 Office Closed	5