

## News Update for May 18, 2022

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### This Week at Trinity

#### Wednesday (May 18<sup>th</sup>)

- **Upper Room** via Zoom 10:00 am
- **Troop 6** Mary Dawson Hall 7:30 pm
- **Gather at the Table** Zoom 6:30 pm

#### Thursday (May 19<sup>th</sup>)

#### Friday (May 20<sup>th</sup>)

- **Office Closed**

#### Sunday (May 22<sup>nd</sup>)

- **Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship** on Facebook Page at 10:10a (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>)

#### Monday (May 23<sup>rd</sup>)

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

#### Tuesday (May 24<sup>th</sup>)

- **Cub Scout Pack Meeting** 7:00 pm
- **NA Book Study** 7:00

#### Wednesday (May 25<sup>th</sup>)

- **Upper Room** via Zoom 10:00 am
- **Troop 6** Mary Dawson Hall 7:30 pm



**This  
Sunday!!  
May 22 is**



### Graduate and Camp Sunday

We'll celebrate this year's graduates and all they've accomplished as well as interview previous camp members' experiences from Sawtooth Camp.

## Worship on 5/22

This week we will look at discerning if we can be part of the "in" crowd.

Theme: You don't have to fit the typical description!

Sermon title: "Yes, You Should Open Your Heart Too!"  
(Acts 16:9-15)

*That night Paul had a vision in which a Macedonian man was pleading with him. "Come over to Macedonia! Come help us!"*

*This vision convinced us all that God was calling us to bring the good news to that region.*

*We set sail from the port city of Troas, first stopping in Samothrace, then the next day in Neapolis, finally arriving in Philippi, a Roman colony and one of Macedonia's leading cities. We stayed in Philippi for several days. On the Sabbath day, we went outside the city walls to the nearby river, assuming that some Jewish people might be gathering for prayer. We found a group of women there, so we sat down and spoke to them. One of them, Lydia, was a business woman originally from Thyatira. She made a living buying and selling fine purple fabric. She was a true worshiper of God and listened to Paul with special interest. The Lord opened her heart to take in the message with enthusiasm. She and her whole household were ceremonially washed through baptism.*

*Then Lydia told them, "If you believe I'm truly faithful to the Lord, please, you must come and stay at my home."*

*We couldn't turn down her invitation.*

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## Today's Greatest Needs

- Coats
- Belts
- Clothing
- Boots
- Deodorant
- Kitchen Storage Containers

## John Wesley Quote

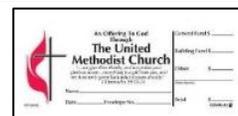
This revival of religion has spread to such a degree as neither we nor our fathers had known. How *extensive* has it been! There is scarce a considerable town in the kingdom where some have not been made witnesses of it. It has spread to every age and sex, to most orders and degrees of men; and even to abundance of those who, in time past, were accounted monsters of wickedness. Consider the *swiftness* as well as extent of it. In what age has such a number of sinners been recovered in so short a time from the error of their ways?



-Sermon at the foundation of the City Road Chapel

## Financial Statements

Our church's financial status for January 2022-to-April 30, 2022:



Income = \$ 49,543  
 Expenses = \$ 62,868  
 Difference = <math>-\\$13,325</math>

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

## 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."

## Sermon from 5/15

"Let's Eat!"

(Based on Acts 11:1-18)



As strange as it may seem, I hope that this church can be one that attracts a lot of criticism and causes a lot of controversy. I hope we will be the kind of church that is frequently denounced as irreligious, scandalous, and to be avoided at all costs. I hope there are arguments over whether we should be kicked out of the Methodist Church. I hope that Westboro Baptist Church comes to protest up and down Elm Street because Trinity has sold out to evil and is driven by demons.

Now before you think I have a death wish for myself and the church, let me explain. It is not that I like being hated, criticized and abused. It is that I have a passionate desire to see us being radically faithful followers of Jesus Christ, and if we are doing that, we will attract a lot of controversy. The Christ we follow was called blasphemous, irreligious, scandalous, demon possessed, and a threat to public order and national security. Those who will truly follow him can expect no less.



Today's epistle story is impossible to make any sense of unless you have at least a little understanding of Jewish religious history and Jewish religious customs. Peter is accused of defying important customs and thereby putting the integrity of their religion at risk, and he has to defend himself against those charges.

Let me try to briefly explain why these customs were so important to the Jewish people. In the history of Israel, going back to the most ancient times, the Jews have always been living in a multi-cultural society where their religion and culture were practiced alongside others. Frequently, they have been under the thumb of some other nation, first Egypt, then Assyria, then Babylon, then Persia, then Greece, then Rome, and recently Germany. They have had several long periods of exile from the land of Israel, yet managed to maintain their culture and religion despite that history.

When the Jews went into exile in Babylon, about six hundred years before the time of Jesus, they knew that it was a major threat to their identity so they set about putting in place some customs and social laws that would mark them off from other people and keep them distinctive to this day. These customs fell into four main categories: – Sabbath keeping— strict laws about what you can and can't do on a Saturday – Food

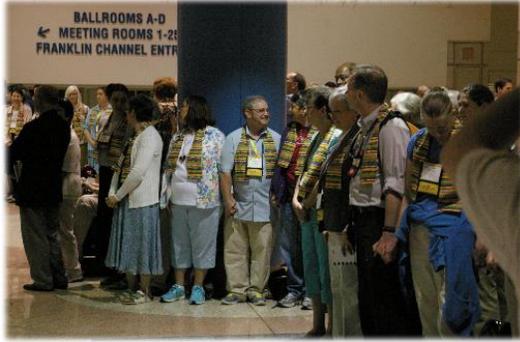
laws – you can find kosher food in most grocery stores – Circumcision, not so obvious to the outsider, but a permanent reminder to the owner of the penis – Marriage and social contact laws – who you eat with or marry.

Now all these things seem a little strange to us, but they worked. They served as the boundary markers. For Jews, these boundary marking practices became deeply ingrained in the psyche. To a good Jew, the thought of eating pork would not only be a threat to identity, but it would probably be nauseating.

So if we go back to our story, you can see why Peter was so resistant when he was told in a dream to eat unclean animals. The idea was abhorrent to the core of his being. But the voice of God tells him, "If God says it's clean, who are you to say otherwise. Don't call it profane if God says it's good." Even with instruction from God, it took three times before Peter would eat.

It is then, that Peter discovers God was preparing him for something new. It was then, that Peter was willing to accept the dinner invitation to the home of Gentile people, whose customs required that he not eat with them. Having been prepared in the dream, Peter went. However, when he returned to Jerusalem, the church council had a bad case of religious heartburn over Peter's actions. Peter was ordered to account for his outrageous, scandalous, behavior. People thought he's sold out and abandoned his faith. Peter has to explain that God is changing the rules and times are a changing.

I believe that there is a strong correlation to Peter's experience of God doing a new thing, as we, the 2022 United Methodist church, wait for a postponed General



Conference finally set for 2024. As we, in the Western Jurisdiction have to account for who we believe God is calling us to welcome into the full life and leadership within the church.

One way of describing the history of the church is as one long struggle over the boundary markers. Who's in and who's out. Pretty much every major dispute in the story of the church, and there's' been some doosies, has been about whether certain beliefs or certain behaviors meant you were un-Christian or not. Many of the earliest of those fights in the Christian church happened while the New Testament was still being written and you can see some of them being fought out in the Bible, like this morning's epistle reading.

Others were fought out in the major Church councils of the first few centuries. Things like the importance of believing the doctrine of the trinity were argued over endlessly. The protestant reformation was a major spat over who was in and who was out and how you came to get in or out. In recent centuries we've had some really big ones, like whether a slave could be accepted in the church, and then as slavery was recognized as the evil it was, there was an argument over whether a slave owner could be accepted in the church.

In the last forty years there have been some more fights over where the boundary markers are; over what sort of person would

put you inside or outside the community of faith. The ones that just to mind are whether women or gay folks should be ordained.

Let me propose to you, that as we break down barriers, we have in fact become more Christian, and that we need to be constantly vigilant that we are not putting up new barriers. We need to be constantly listening to the voices of anyone who feels alienated or excluded from us.



The Christ we have chosen to follow was, more than anything else, about inclusiveness. That's why United Methodists celebrate using an open Communion Table. Christ's message was that anyone can be close to, and accepted by God. In fact, those who had been most excluded by social and religious customs were actually most welcome. If you read the gospels, it is clear that Jesus was eventually executed because of these actions. Either he was associating with and accepting people who had been previously excluded, or he was allowing people to behave in ways that would have previously had them kicked out of the community.

Our Lord's practice of accepting people and advocating acceptance doesn't seem to have been as conditional, as we often think. Jesus was accused of partying with prostitutes and sinners, not ex-prostitutes and ex-sinners. In one particular argument with some religious leaders who were specialists in deciding who to keep out, he said that the prostitutes and tax-collectors

were going into the Kingdom of God before them. Jesus didn't say repentant ex-prostitutes, He was saying that a person who is still involved in prostitution has a better chance of being accepted by God than a pious religious leader who is too judgmental and condemning.

The gospels contain story after story of Jesus welcoming and accepting people who had been pushed aside by church and society. Prostitutes, tax collectors, publicans, the blind and disabled, the mentally ill, the foreigners. Again and again every boundary is pushed back or broken down. When women were excluded from participating in religious life, Jesus welcomes them into his circle of disciples. When those of other races were considered second rate to the "chosen" people, Jesus goes to them preaching about acceptance by God. When children were considered nobodies in the community, Jesus welcomed them, and said that the Kingdom of God belonged to them, and those like them.

If we follow Jesus in breaking down all the boundaries, how will we know who is Christian and who isn't, who is part of God's family and who's not? These are hot potatoes.

When we are male and female, black and white, rich and poor, celibate and promiscuous, perfumed and smelly, smart and dull, old and young, beautiful and disfigured, temperate and beer swilling, homo and hetero, sane and psycho, serious and joyous, dressed to the nines and dishevelled, professional and welfare dependent, clean living and drug addicted, carnivorous and vegetarian; who are we? How will people recognize what holds us together?

Jesus gives just one answer, and one only. "Love one another as I have loved you, so you should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." That's it. There is no other distinguishing feature that is not directly related to that. Yes, we are a people of justice, we are a people of mercy, and we are a people of compassion. "Love one another, by this everyone will know that you are my disciples." This is the boundary marker. Any other boundary marker that is not directly related to this, and is not Christian.

And so Peter when he reported back to the church council at Jerusalem had to say, "I know these people were supposed to be outsiders based on all we had ever known, but God was clearly at work among them, and if God accepts them and they accept God, then I reckon the rest of us better get out of the way and let God's will be done."



There is no other distinction. Jesus said, "By their fruit you will know them." If the fruit is love, then they are living in response to the Spirit of God, because God is love. By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. 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](http://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>

## UWF News

Hi, everyone!  
We had a wonderful get-together on Thursday. The



United  
Women  
in Faith

guest speaker, Julie McMurtrey from the College of Eastern Idaho's Center for New Directions, gave a very informative presentation on the programs the college offers to assist adults wishing to change or improve their education and/or employment. There are many services available that provide support and career opportunities. Thank you to Jan Karinen for inviting Ms. McMurtrey to speak.

Refreshments, provided by Joni Pace and Kay Pottorff, included a tasty springtime dessert. Yum!

There will be no unit meetings in June or July. Have a great summer!

## 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: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>.**

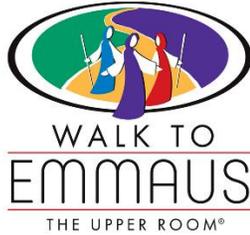
Also, donations of canned food (with pull-tops) would be greatly appreciated.

Examples of greatest needs are:

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

**Thanks** to Ann Shively, Jill Ecklesdaffer, Tricia, Nancy Copp, Cindy Woolf, Heather Rutledge, Dixie Oswald, Kay Kiefner, Kathy Harder, Bev Kemp, 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.

## Walk to Emmaus Gathering



# Walk to Emmaus Gathering

Sunday, May 22  
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Hosted at St. Paul's UMC  
1730 St. Clair Rd - Idaho Falls

Bring a finger food to share, your voice to sing,  
your arms to hug old friends or welcome new  
ones! Communion will be served.

Call Connie Dobbins 208-589-9646 or  
Joyce Miles 208-521-9937 for more information.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

	<u>May</u>
Mark Borland	20 <sup>th</sup>
Jennifer Haas	21 <sup>st</sup>
Les McCray	21 <sup>st</sup>
Lyndel Brandshaw	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Jr Gonzalez	25 <sup>th</sup>
David Oliver	25 <sup>th</sup>
Kelly Carney	26 <sup>th</sup>
Jennifer Wade	26 <sup>th</sup>
Jristine Harmon	27 <sup>th</sup>
Faith Borland	28 <sup>th</sup>
Sara Jensen	30 <sup>th</sup>
Eric Lybeck	30 <sup>th</sup>
Wesley Gates	31 <sup>st</sup>

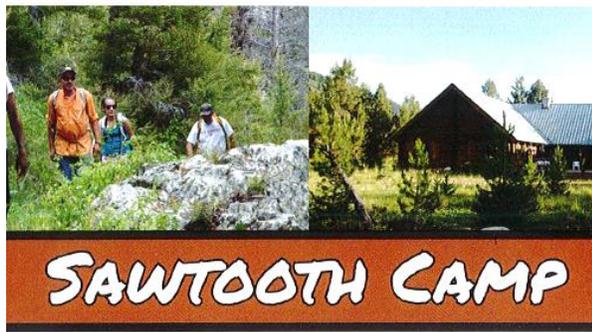
## June

Aubrey Bottcher	1 <sup>st</sup>
Jared Blank	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Brian Dickson	2 <sup>nd</sup>
McKenzi Hall	2 <sup>nd</sup>
D.J. Rhoades	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Karen Petersen	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Kirsten Allison	4 <sup>th</sup>
Richard Dickson	5 <sup>th</sup>
Tom Shanor	6 <sup>th</sup>
Connor Smith	6 <sup>th</sup>
Mary Stewart	6 <sup>th</sup>

## Campership Fund



Would you be willing to help someone get to church camp this summer? Camp costs **\$ 448** per person this year. Yes, that IS a lot, but it's a great deal for an experience that can change a person's life!!



## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CAMPING PROGRAM

Sawtooth Camp is remotely located in an alpine valley 35 miles north of Fairfield, Idaho, on the North Fork of the Boise River. This picturesque camp is a blend of mountains, meadows and a winding river that offers a wide range of wilderness experiences.

**COME** to the wonder of God's mountain creations. Hike up to a mountain lake and watch a falcon soar in the wind currents.

**CARE** to learn about relationships with others yourself and God, Sing at campfire and help a new friend make the perfect s'more.

**SEEK** to explore nature, faith, and your vision.

Watch for moose and deer, or listen to the chatter of squirrels & chipmunks.

**SHARE** fun and fellowship with your past, present and future friends.

Laugh with new friends as you share fresh baked bread.

Mountain bikes are available at the camp to use on the trails that run through the 120 acres of camp and the surrounding

National Forest. Zip lines are part of a challenge course used to develop community.

The river winding through the camp offers refreshing water activities.

**Register on-line at [gocamping.org](http://gocamping.org) or call 503-802-9210 for more information**

### Elementary

Completed Grades 3rd-6<sup>th</sup>  
7/10/2022 - 7/16/2022

### Junior High Camp

Completed Grades 6th-8th  
7/17/2022 - 7/23/2022

### Senior High Camp

Completed Grades 9th-12th  
7/24/2022 - 7/30/2022

Eastern Idaho Campers contact Betty Anderson call or text at 208-521-3039 or email [bettyellenba@gmail.com](mailto:bettyellenba@gmail.com)

You can also leave a message with the Trinity church office at 208-522-7921.

Please let Betty know if you are going to camp so she can coordinate transportation.

Scholarships are available from the conference and from Trinity United Methodist Church in Idaho Falls.

## Trinity's Windows

The trustees have received a \$10,000 grant from the Idaho Heritage Trusts to help with the restoration of two more vent windows along the north aisle of the sanctuary. This is about one-third of the cost of the project. The project includes \$13,000 for window restoration, \$14,000 for three crates of custom glass, \$1,000 for shipping and \$3,000 for a contingency. We have received contributions from church members to help kick-start our fund raising and have identified other possible sources of funding, but still need the support of Trinity members and friends to make this project a reality.

As part of the planning process, a detailed condition report was prepared for both of the vent windows. We want to share a summary of the condition report in the newsletter so you will know why the windows need to be restored, but can't provide a full report in this newsletter. A copy of the complete condition report can be requested from the church secretary or Richard Dickson.

A photo of the glass in Sash 17 is shown below.



If the cracks in a pane cannot be repaired, the pane will need to be replaced. We'll commission more glass to be made for future repairs.

1	Replaced	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	Replaced	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Large Replaced	20	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
	Replaced	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54

During the restoration, a decision will be made to either keep pane 9 or replace it with new custom-made glass.

No failed lead came was observed. During restoration, steel support bars will be installed to prevent future sagging.

We all admire and appreciate the beauty of our Trinity's stained glass windows. They represent a legacy from our past, and we need to be good stewards of this treasure. Now is the time to continue restoring the windows to their original beauty. The trustees will need the support of Trinity members and friends to raise the required funds to proceed with the restoration project.

Donations can be made to the Stained Glass Repair fund at Trinity. If you would like additional information, please contact Richard Dickson, Jo Ann Rose, Nancy Stuart or the church office.

## Scholarships

ATTENTION High School Seniors and College Students! The TUMC Endowment Committee is kicking off its scholarship process for the 2022/2023 academic year. Two scholarships are available:

1. The Hazel Skelton General Scholarship: one scholarship, up to \$1,000
2. Chesbro Music Scholarship: one scholarship, up to \$1,000, for those pursuing a college major or minor in music

The Pete Isaksen Scholarship is not available. The funds have all been awarded. Many students benefitted from his generosity and we are so thankful! Applicants will be considered for all available scholarships, with selections made based on individual scholarship criteria. Therefore, each applicant only needs to submit one application package. Completed application packages, including a brief essay, transcripts, and two letters of reference, are due no later than June 1, 2022. Completed application packages need to be type written and E-mailed to [TrinityUMCIIdahoFalls@gmail.com](mailto:TrinityUMCIIdahoFalls@gmail.com) Scholarship applications are available on the church website at [www.tumcif.org](http://www.tumcif.org) or by contacting the church office or Kathy Borland. The application has been updated as a "Form" document to assist you in completing it electronically. A scholarship checklist is also posted on the website to help you. If you have questions regarding the process, please contact Kathy Borland at [kaborland28@gmail.com](mailto:kaborland28@gmail.com)



## 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](mailto:bevmkemp@gmail.com)
- Don Rohde - Chair of Trustees  
(860)810-3227  
[donrohde@aol.com](mailto:donrohde@aol.com)
- Robin Stewart - Chair of Administrative Council  
(208)521-6358  
[robin.s.stewart@gmail.com](mailto: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>
<h1>May/June</h1>			<b>18</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom) 7:30 Troop 6	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Office Closed	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>  10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	<b>23</b> 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today2	<b>24</b> 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	<b>25</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  7:30 Troop 6	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	<b>30</b> <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today2	<b>31</b> 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	<b>1</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  6:30 pm Gather at the Table (zoom) 7:30 Troop 6	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Office Closed	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	<b>6</b> 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today2	<b>7</b> 7:00 PEO BG 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	<b>8</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  6:30 Finance Meeting  7:30 Troop 6	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Office Closed	<b>11</b>