

News Update for September 1, 2022

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Trinity Day Shelter Hours
9am to 3pm
Mon - Fri

This Week at Trinity

Friday (September 2nd)

- **Office Closed**

Sunday (September 4th)

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

Monday (September 5th)

- **NA Just4Today2** 7:00 pm
- **Theology on Tap** via Zoom 7:00 pm

Tuesday (September 6th)

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

Wednesday (September 7th)

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

Thursday (September 8th)

- **UWF Unit Meeting** in Parlor 1:00pm

Friday (September 9th)

- **Office Closed**

Saturday (September 10th)

- **UWF Meeting** via Zoom

Worship on 9/4

Lesson from Hebrew Scripture

Jeremiah 18:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

(NRSVUE).

John Wesley Quote

...you must remove the cause if you wish to remove the effect. But this cannot be done by your own strength; it can only be done by the mighty power of God. If you are convinced of this, set about trusting him, and you will surely conquer.



UWF News

Next week our meeting will be September 8th at 1:00 in the church parlor. Mary Nagel will report on Mission U.



United Women in Faith

Remember to talk to Mary or Joni Pace if you are interested in attending the Sage District annual meeting either in Nampa or in the church library on ZOOM on September 10th.

Don't forget to check out the new (and old) books in the UWF library. *Detained and Deported* and *Crazy* are a couple of the newest books.

Stay cool and see you in September!

Mary Nagel & Lyndell Bradshaw

Sermon from 8/28

Unlearning the Language of Distraction

Based on Jeremiah 2:4-13 and
Luke 14:1, 7-14



There's a line from an Alexander Pope poem that – over time – has become part of our common lexicon, so I'm sure most of not all of you have heard some version of it at some point in your lives: "To err is human," says Pope, "to forgive Divine." I've thought about this quote a lot over the past few years, operationalizing it as an anchor of compassion and grace: a reminder to lend myself and others a bit of wiggle room when mistakes are made or expectations are left unmet. I hold it, of course, a bit lightly – if you will – as I'm also all too aware that sayings like Pope's, with slight tweaks of interpretation, can easily turn

into instruments of complacency. "Well, mistakes will be made regardless," some might say, before barreling headlong into chaos making. That all-too-human tendency to disregard, push on, and push through left me thinking about about the power of pauses and practice of "question asking" as tools that aide in the fight against the reckless or lapses in awareness that often lead to mixups, misses, miscalculations: pauses like the pre-surgical time out that the joint commission implemented as a mandatory practice in hospital operating rooms back in 2004. In an effort to cut down on mistakes like, oh... operating on the wrong person... or amputating the wrong leg on the right person, surgical teams are now required to go through a battery of steps meant to insure that the correct procedure is being done on the right patient. One requirement is that the lead surgeon, before making the first incision, has to call a time-out that sees everyone in the operating room pause to re-check all pertinent information regarding the procedure. Well, it's been nearly 20 years since this process – this would-be failsafe – was put in play and still, in a very "to err is human" sort of way mistakes, for various reasons, are regularly made.

Wrong person.

Wrong limb, organ, body part.

Wrong procedure.

One site specific study found that a likely contributing cause of the continued mishaps is that of distraction: despite these time-outs only taking about a minute to complete researchers found that, far too often, at least one member of the surgical

team was distracted or preoccupied with something other than the safety of the patient at the time the final pre-incision audit was taking place.



This considered, I then took a bit of a leap, tying this practice of the “pre-surgery timeout” ritual to this week’s scriptures, thinking of the biblical texts — the wisdom within — as sort of pre-operating check

lists: measures that, if we pause to consider, might keep us out of any number of spiritual, ethical, or social miseries. So as we endeavor to trek a little bit deeper into this week’s sermon — our weekly spiritual procedure if you will — here are a couple of query’s, culled from our texts or “list,” that I’d like us to carry along:

From Jeremiah, we’ll make a concerted effort to engage “Where is the Lord?” as a pre-surgical pitfall preventing inquiry. We’ll then ask, in efforts to recognize and honor our tendency to stray toward distraction, questions centered on the driving themes of “positioning” detailed in Luke. “Where Am I in this moment...” we’ll ask, “And where should I be?”

I’ll also take pains here to point out that really, what we’re talking about in all of this is the process of communication: are we asking the right questions, using the right language so that we understand what’s going on between ourselves and

others, ourselves and The Divine, so that we’re each doing our part to ensure the success of what needs to happen: that it all happens when it needs to, in God’s time, according to God’s plan.

So we have this text from Jeremiah:

“My people have committed two sins:

They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

A breakdown in communication between God and God’s people.



I’ve been thinking about language and communication a lot this past week. One, because somewhere in the back of my head I’m always thinking about language: the way we stitch and braid these disparate sounds and symbols together into the kaleidoscopic symphonies we then call sentences that amazingly enough, through utterance or the written word transfer whatever ridiculous idea that’s been rattling around in my head directly to yours and you either get it, miss it, dig it, or couldn’t care less...

I've also been thinking about the ways in which exchanges driven by language are often aided or hampered by the natural gaps and bridges that exist between us — person to person, be they grounded in dialect, interest, culture, expertise.

And... I've been thinking about language even more so this past week in anticipation of what is happening right now, in real time, because in this moment I am, in a sense, being made to consider the language that I'm using to speak to you because now that we're a few weeks into my tenure here I've gotten a little feedback on my particular style of sermonizing and there seems to be a couple of camps gathering under their chosen pendants of parlance; two units that is, with similar observations that happen to land at and occupy opposite ends of a spectrum: on one hand there is the school of "you know, one of the things I like about your sermons is that you use big words..." Then, there is the equally as welcome (and no less constructive) "... so, I was reading your sermon... You use big words... dot-dot-dot... What are you talkin' about?!"

Now, this is important because as I'm sure you all know, there is a lot that is lost or gained in translation due to the words we choose and the ways that we say them. It's a lesson that I've had to learn and relearn throughout my life. First, as a member of a family that moved every few years across states, my siblings and I became the kids who, after spending a good chunk of our childhood say, in the Pacific Northwest, lost our status as native Midwesterners when, upon our return we were often singled out for "talkin' proper." This trend would follow me into adulthood, possibly most

pointedly evidenced when an ex, after our split, would tell me in a fit of rage that I "speak like a sphinx..." You'll be happy to know that I resisted the urge to respond with a well timed "we'll, riddle me this..."

Language as a link or a hurdle.



In

considering this, I've been thinking about the ways our interpersonal communications color and inform our social lives while also weighing the role language plays in the success or failure to launch in regard to our spiritual lives. Indeed, as the scriptures we're looking at today might suggest, the two are inextricably linked: each, essentially, describing a situation in which poor communication leads to unfortunate results. Those jockeying for position in Luke are left humiliated or trapped in an echo chamber of their own making while the descendants of Jacob described in Jeremiah — in their failure to ask a simple question — are ultimately dismissed as "broken" and "worthless."

Language or communication as an agent of parity or push toward pitfalls: it seems as though it was a tricky thing to navigate way back then, and today remains the same as it ever was if not more challenging, considering, for example, the loss of context that anchored the divine dispatches written and dispensed in ages past that are still

being read today. Take, for example, our scripture from Jeremiah with its competing images of a “spring of living water” and that of a “broken cistern” and consider the significant measure of meaning that might be gained or lost in our present context. First of all.. cistern...

dot-dot-dot...



“What are you talking about?!”

But really, in all

seriousness, on the one hand we inhabit a city that a river actually runs through: a river that not only acts as ready source of sustenance and recreation, but also provides — at least as I understand it — a significant amount of power to the entire town. So we can possibly, in some parallel measure, appreciate “spring of living water” metaphor that the writer is inviting us to consider. But, it is also true that we live in a day and time that sees potable water pour out in endless measure with the simple opening of a tap; drinkable water that we use to mop the floor, water our lawns, flush the toilet. It is a convenience that leaves me wondering how close can we truly get to the meaning of God’s lament, without having an intimate knowledge of or experience with the language and subject

matter used to illustrate the disconnect that the text is trying to express? The distress of witnessing — over and over again — the failure of one’s beneficiaries, ones children, to recognize how hard they are making it on themselves by choosing to wander off the divinely delegated path. To stray. Go their own way. Get distracted. Perpetual waste makers who, despite having been delivered from the horrors of barren landscapes, lands of deserts, ravines, droughts and utter darkness — heirs now to fertile land with rich produce — still choose to live as though the spring of living water that has, without fail, provided for them over time might one day suddenly and inexplicably run dry.



Indeed in a time of insanely powerful and efficient excavators, mining shovels, bulldozers and backhoe loaders — a day when even the most

dedicated gardeners ditch the hard work of shoveling for raised beds filled with purchased bags of soil — how can truly we understand the affront that might come from seeing one’s people — gifted with ready access to a steady source of life-giving water — instead choose the excruciating, years long work of hacking their way through bedrock with rough

hewn tools and bare hands... then waiting for the one, single season that it actually rained to collect enough water to last until the next annual pour, only to find that all that work was for naught, because the job done was a shoddy one: the cistern they spent all that time crafting is cracked and useless, unable to hold water. Hard work with no payoff. And then, instead of learning their lesson, they pick right up where they left off, repeating that whole process again, and again. This of course is all allegory for peoples penchant for putting their trust in the false gods and idols of their day: a fruitless jockeying for position that many of us still mimic in our own ways, in our own individual languages, our own time. Our own individual brands of distraction.

And so I thought, perhaps this week – throughout the week – we might all benefit from taking the time to take little pauses – making the space to ask questions that might help us each identify the broken cisterns that continually burn heavy loads of bandwidth in our ever-so- hectic lives: the projects, preoccupations, distractions that despite our best efforts never seem to payoff. Our habits of hacking away at stone and waiting for the perfect conditions to catch rain, when a living spring sits nearby, ready and willing to provide. Perhaps, in making that space, reclaiming that time, we can then ask that all important question, where is the lord in this, and as a result, that living spring can flow back into those atrophied parts of our everyday existence: God – no longer relegated to the sidelines – able, again, to render your life fertile and rich in produce.

Timeout.

Pause.

Where is the Lord? Where am I? Where should I be?

Amen.

Pastor Alphaeus

<https://youtu.be/vJG698U2Mvo>

Anniversaries

<u>September</u>	
Diane & Mike Croson	8 th

Birthdays

<u>September</u>	
Joey Ford	7 th
Elizabeth Miner	7 th
JoAnn Martin	10 th
Ed Simmons	10 th
James King	11 th
Lila Wooten	14 th
Austin Jensen	16 th
Peggy Allison	17 th
Tristan Hayes	17 th
Kathleen Taylor	18 th
Kendall Denning	20 th

Crockpot Meals Needed



Compassionate Care Need!
We need crock pot or casserole meals 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. **Next available lunch dates are: September 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th. Breakfast every week day.**

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

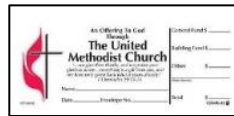
Thanks to Ann, Jill & Mary Lou, Tricia, Nancy, Cindy, Heather, Dixie, Kay, Kathy, Bev, Jo Ann & Gary, and Marcia & Tommy, Hersh, Sherry and Tammy for their preparation of food, generous donation of time, and compassion in helping with feeding the hungry.

Food on Sunday Morning

- September 4th - Labor Day Weekend - Coffee and donuts before Church 9:30 - 10
- September 11th - RALLY DAY - Cookout after Church - Coffee and donuts before
- September 18th - Potluck Breakfast before Worship 9:30 - 10

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status for January 2022 to July 31st



Income =	\$ 81,265.02
Expenses =	<u>\$109,208.95</u>
Net Loss =	(\$ 27,943.93)

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

Administrative Assistant for the church

Trinity is looking for an Administrative Assistant for the church.

This is a perfect part time "Mom Job" with school hours and Fridays off.

It would also be a good part time job for extra money.

Job description

- Moderate proficiency in MS Office, Gmail, Google Contacts, and iCloud products.
- Maintain membership lists / filing: track office and worship supplies (stamps, paper, candles, etc.), maintain address books, maintain calendar.
- Willing to learn the proprietary computer program that tracks membership and donations.
- Facilitate financial deposits and reimbursement paperwork
- Strong editing skills in order to assist with church communications: newsletter, grants, articles, send via email and post mail.
- Handle telephone calls and messages that may contain private information with compassion and in confidence.
- Answer the doorbell with appropriate greetings and instructions.
- Occasional attendance at committee meetings and conferences in person or online,
- Assist pastor and committee chairs with information meeting notices.
- Update and publish weekly announcement handouts.

- Assist in the onboarding process for new hires.
- Willing to interact with a variety of people, including, homeless, young, elderly, drug addicts, well educated or uneducated, and those lucky enough to be wealthy.
- A desire to care for the people around you.
- Job Type: Part-time
- Pay: \$15.00 per hour

If Interested Contact Bev Kemp –
Chair of Staff / Parrish Relations
208-569-6149
bevmkemp@gmail.com

Job Posting for:

Administrative Assistant

Job description

- Moderate proficiency in MS Office, Gmail, Google Contacts, and iCloud products.
- Maintain membership lists / filing: track office and worship supplies (stamps, paper, candles, etc.), maintain address books, maintain calendar.
- Willing to learn the proprietary computer program that tracks membership and donations.
- Facilitate financial deposits and reimbursement paperwork
- Strong editing skills in order to assist with church communications: newsletter, grants, articles, send via email and post mail.
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- Willing to interact with a variety of people, including, homeless, young, elderly, drug addicts, well educated or uneducated, and those lucky enough to be wealthy.
- A desire to care for the people around you.
- Job Type: Part-time
- Pay: \$15.00 per hour.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact

- Bev Kemp - Chair of Staff/Parish Relations
208-569-6149
bevmkemp@gmail.com

Job Posting for: Door Tender

The job includes:

- Greeting shelter guests at the door,
- Training guests in using shelter services,
- Assisting staff in the operation of shelter services
- Cleanup at the end of the day.

Trinity is participating in a Department of Labor Job Training program. Successful applicants will be interviewed and employed by the Idaho Department of Labor to work at Trinity as job training. The program has the following initial requirements:

Basic Eligibility for the WIOA Youth Program

- Age 16-24
- Authorized to work in the US
- Idaho Resident
- Has a barrier to employment

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact

Windy Hahn | Manager

Idaho Falls Local Office

Idaho Department of Labor

1515 East Lincoln Road | Idaho Falls, ID 83401-2129

208-557-2500 ext. 3053

Fax: 208-525-7268

Windy.Hahn@labor.idaho.gov



Rally Day

Sept. 11, 2022

**Everyone is invited:
Adults, Youth, Kids**

9:30 Coffee & Donuts

10:15 Worship

11:30 Picnic & Barbeque

**→ Games and activities for
Children & Youth ←**

Trinity United Methodist Church

237 N Water Ave Idaho Falls, ID

Fall 2022 Activities and Schedule

As a new school year begins, we are returning to a more normal schedule of events and worship for at Trinity. The Covid -19 pandemic changed or lives in so many ways. We have all missed our community connections. We invite your family to return and reconnect with each other in worship, fellowship, and study. Our Pastor, Ruth Marsh, is away now on a three month 'Sabbatical Leave'. Ruth is sharing her worldly adventures on her FACEBOOK page. The large display board just inside the door at Trinity shows some of her adventure and information about life at Trinity. The weekly "Trinity Times" Newsletter is available on the internet, email or paper copies are also available. She will return in mid-October. While she is gone, we have Alphaeus Taylor, a recent seminary graduate, and lay people helping daily with the many ways this church serves the people.

This summer we had 10 youth attend 3 different weeks of camp at the Sawtooth Methodist Camp. It is a glorious place up in the mountains above Fairfield, Idaho. Thanks to the monetary donations from many people, all the youth who attended had financial support. We had supportive parents, grandparents and friends provide transportation to and from the camp. The theme of the camps was "God's Creation". Every youth loved the experience and hopes to return again next year.

The Fall Schedule

Trinity Day Shelter - Mon-Fri - 9 am. to 3 pm. Our Services include hot food in the kitchen, showers, laundry facilities and pastoral care. **Open to all everyone.**

Sunday Worship at 10:15A.M.

Fellowship Time -9:30 - 10:00 a.m. - before worship and after worship. Coffee and donuts available. Child Care available in the Nursery every Sunday.

Up coming Events

RALLY DAY - September 11.

Cookout on the patio - This will follow worship. Everyone invited. Games and activities will be available for all ages. We will have opportunities for you to sign up to help with worship, study, and fellowship for the Fall.

Sunday Breakfast Potlucks - September 18 - 9:30 - 10:00. A.M. (This will be available each Sunday -This is a return to our activities before Covid.). Bring a favorite dish or just join us for fun and fellowship.

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

"Trinity Times"

Newsletter 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.

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 8/16/2022

Where in the world is Reverend Ruth: this week?: leaving Türkiye and heading to Oregon.

Here are a couple more pictures from Türkiye. The first one is of the small group that I worked with every day. The second is of Amed, Mamet, and Anna swimming in Pirates Cove on our last day.

I would be packing my bag for Oregon, except my luggage never arrived in Idaho Falls. The last picture is of my luggage tag - last seen in Seattle.

I love and miss you all,

Reverend Ruth



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<h1>September</h1>			31 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	1	2 Office Closed	3
4 9:30 - 10:00 Coffee and Donuts 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	5 Labor Day Office Closed 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	6 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 PEO BG Meeting Pack & Den	7 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (Zoom) 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	8 1:00 UWF Unit Meeting	9 Office Closed	10 -UWF Meeting via Zoom
11 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook Rally Day after service	12 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	13 6:30 Trustee Meeting via Zoom 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	14 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 Finance Meeting via Zoom 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	15	16 Office Closed	17 -
18 9:30 - 10:00 Breakfast Pot luck 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	19 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	20 6:30 Admin Council Meeting via Zoom 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	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 -