

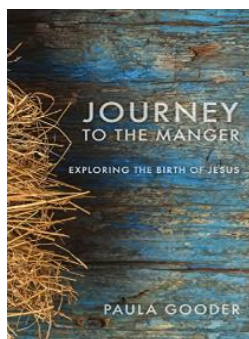
News update for December 8 2022

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Advent Study

Rev. Ruth will be teaching out of this book AND sharing about her journeys during her recent renewal leave. We still have books if you want one!



This Week at Trinity

Thursday (December 8th)

- 1:00pm UMF Meeting
- 7:00pm Radio Players Christmas Show

Friday (December 9th)

- Office Closed
- 7:00pm Radio Players Christmas Show
- 7:00pm N.A.

Saturday (December 10th)

- 2:00pm Radio Players Christmas Show
- 7:00 pm Radio Players Christmas Show

Sunday (December 11th) **Advent week 3**

- 9:30am Donuts before worship
- 10:10am Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship on Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF>
- 11:30am Potluck Brunch
- Advent Study & Ruth's Journey

Monday (December 12th)

- 10:00am F.I.S.H
- 6:00pm Girl Scout Leadership
- 7:00pm NA Just4Today2

Tuesday (December 13th)

- 7:00pm Trustee Meeting
- 7:00pm NA Book Study

Wednesday (December 14th)

- 10:00am Upper Room via Zoom
- 6:30 pm Pack 6 Meeting
- 7:30pm Troop 6 Meeting

Worship on 12/11

Theme: "Patience"

Sermon Title: "Are We There Yet?"

Lesson from the Christian Epistles
(James 5:7-10)

For this reason, beloveds, be patient as you wait for the return of the Lord. Look! The farmer knows how to wait patiently for the land to produce vegetables and fruits. He cannot harvest a freshly planted seed.

Instead, he waits for the early and the late showers to nourish the soil. You need this same kind of patience, so in the meantime, strengthen your resolve because the Lord will be coming soon.

Beloveds, don't waste your breath complaining about one another. If you judge others, you will be judged yourself. Be very careful! You will face the one true Judge who is right outside the door. The prophets who declared the word of the Lord are your role models, beloveds, for what it means to live patiently in the face of suffering

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UWF News

Friends,
you are
invited to a
Christmas
celebration
at our unit



United
Women
in Faith

meeting on December 8th at 1:00 in the church parlor. Bring a friend for yummy food, fun, and caroling. A special offering will be taken for Promise Ridge, a transitional family shelter in Idaho Falls.

Books have been ordered for the 2023 United Women in Faith reading program. Be sure to

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check them out at our next unit meeting on February 9th. **There is no unit meeting in January.**

UWF Sunday will be January 22nd. Mary will present a "UWF Moment" during the church service. Be sure to mark your 2023 calendar so you can attend.

See you on the December 8th

John Wesley Quote

Trust not in visions or dreams; in sudden impressions or strong impulses of any kind. Remember, it is not by these you are to know what is the will of God on any particular occasion, but by applying the plain scripture, with the help of experience and reason, and the ordinary assistance of the Spirit of God.



The Nature of Enthusiasm

Sunday Morning Fellowship

We are expanding our Sunday food to add some variety.

- **December 11th**- Potluck Brunch bring you favorite dish to share.
- **December 18th** Scouts make Brunch Scouts make brunch after church (3rd Sunday) - This is a fundraiser for our own Troop 6 and a wonderful meal to share as we visit
- **December 25th** -No Potluck
- **January 1st**- Soup & Bread Potluck Brunch (Chili is considered a soup)
- **January 8th** - Potluck Brunch bring your favorite dish to share

Last Week's Sermon 12/04

We Have the:



Even though both of our scriptures today have clear instructions in them that should lead to great hope, I have to admit that I have been having trouble feeling hopeful of late. There seems to be so much turmoil in our country and in the larger Methodist church. Even at the local level, we struggle to meet the needs of both the insiders and the outsiders. So today's sermon is as much for me as for you.

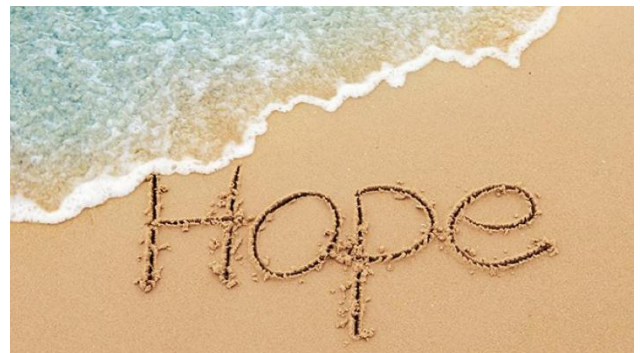
Since we have instructions, perhaps it's time to reframe either the questions being asked, or the assumptions concluded based on the definitions used.



Hope is a major theme in this season of Advent, in fact, it's probably the dominant image of the church's proclamation and prayer at this time of the year; but it is not an easy idea to pin down. You see, the word "hope" also gets used a lot.

"I hope there won't be too much snow this week." "I hope someone gives me socks for Christmas." "I hope there won't be any fights when the family gets together this year." When we use the word "hope" that way, it is basically the same as saying "I wish," and I'm pretty sure that that is not what the Apostle Paul had in mind when, in the reading we heard earlier. He said that the unchanging and inspiring message of scripture fills us with hope, or when he prayed that we would abound in hope. I don't think he was saying that we should just be a bunch of wishful thinkers or just have a more optimistic outlook on things than everyone else.

While the hope which Paul is calling us to does involve a measure of optimism and wishful thinking, the previous phrases don't hit the mark.



The next way we commonly use the word hope is a bit closer, but not spot on:

"I hope to do well in my exams at the end of the term."

"I hope to be in shape to run a marathon by March." "I hope to read all of the Christian scriptures during the next year."

When we use the word "hope" in those ways, it means something more than "I wish." It is more like "I intend" or "I am working towards" or even "I commit myself to" This kind of hope has very definite

implications for the way you live. If you hope for such things you have to set about determining strategies to achieve the goals, and following through on them. Yet when the word hope is used in this way, it is primarily about things that we can make happen by our own determined effort.

The Christian hope that Paul is calling us to seems to include components of both of these common kinds of hope, yet still be something bigger than both. Yes, it does have something to do with optimism or even wishful thinking. We are called to imagine a day when things will be different and much better than they are now. We are called to wish for it, to yearn for it, to hunger for it.

We are called to imagine a new heaven and a new earth where Christ is the all in all and Christ's ways of love, mercy, peace, and justice shape the reality which everybody lives in. This could be called wishful thinking because we set ourselves to thinking about that which we wish to see fulfilled. It could be called wishful thinking because we express a belief that something which presently looks impossible, will in fact come to be.



Yes, this Christian hope that Paul is calling us to does have something to do with committing ourselves to a goal and acting towards its realization. We are called to

“prepare the way of the Lord.” We are called to live by the values of God's coming reign in the here and now. We are called to reshape our lives in light of that which is to come. We are called to do whatever is within our control to make the reign of God a present reality rather than just a vague vision of a utopian future like Isaiah offers.

You see, that for which we Christians hope is neither simply a vague future desire, nor something we can in any way control and create. Christian hope is not so much to hope for something, as to put our hope in something, namely God. When we hope in God and in God's future, we are opening ourselves to something which is radically out of our control.

We are called to commit ourselves — body, soul, and act — to radical openness and obedience to a God who we cannot comprehend, predict or control. To others, it may look like wild trust and reckless courage, or perhaps just naive stupidity. But to those who have experienced the joyous freedom of abandoning one's fate into the loving care of the Spirit of Christ, a Spirit which like the wind blows who knows where, it is the only path to the true freedom of a life worth living.



It is to such a hope that Christ calls us. And it is such a hope that Paul says is nourished as we listen to the witness of those whose

writings have been passed down to us in scripture. It is to such a hope that we commit ourselves again in our worship at this time of year, as we immerse ourselves in wild visions and utopian dreamings and pray over and over, "Come, Lord Jesus, Come."

Amen.

Reverend Ruth Marsh (she, her)
(208) 419-7870
Trinity United Methodist Church

Anniversaries

December

Bill & Vanessa Clemons 20th
James & Sheryl Schaffer 28th

Birthdays

December

Nancy Bergman 12th
Alyce Gonzalez 12th
Davis Taylor 16th
Micheal Benson 18th
Christina Godfrey 18th
Kathy Smith 23rd
John Mullin 25th
Jo Ann Rose 25th
Aaliyah Poulter 26th
Everyly Goodrich 27th
Evelyn King 27th
Rhys, McClure 27th
Jennifer Traughber 28th
Joanne McCray 29th
Jason Jakovac 30th

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - November 30, 2022



Income	\$129,913
Expenses	\$167,889
Net Income	<\$37,976>

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

The Mitten Tree is up

The weather outside is frightfully cold, so lets warm some hands and hearts this holiday season.



Advent & Christmas

Come and join us in our Christmas activities and volunteer: - In worship or with the children and youth activities each Sunday and for Christmas Eve.

Advent is here and that means we need kids of all ages to help read liturgy and light the candles!



The kids are working on an Advent wreath craft project in the nursery. It's a multi-week activity that we hope to use on Christmas Eve.



The kids are invited to be part of the congregational choir that will be practicing during worship. This Sunday, Camille will reveal which 2 Christmas hymns the choir will sing on Christmas Eve at the 6:30 family worship.

To volunteer please contact one of these 3 persons by phone or in person:

Betty Anderson – 208-521-3039

Rev. Ruth Marsh -208-419-7870

Nancy Stewart – 208-521-7247

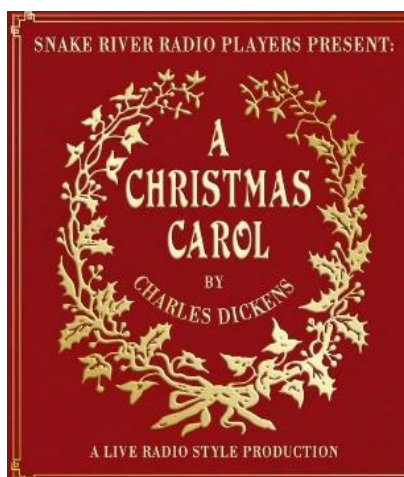
A Christmas Carol

You won't want to miss A Christmas Carol put on by the Snake River Radio Players

Thursday
December 8th
7:00 pm

Friday
December 9th
7:00 pm

Saturday
December 10th
2:00 pm
and
7:00 pm



Is it a Blue Christmas?

Are you depressed? Feeling hopeless, lost, or grieving this holiday season?

Service on December
22 @ 7:00pm
Is just for you.

Sometimes we don't feel very jolly at Christmas. If we are mourning the loss of a loved one. If our heart is broken for other reasons. Or if we just can't bear the short days and long dark nights. Let's get together where there will be love and even some hope.



Flute Choir by June Canon

December 18th at 5:00 pm



June Canon's flute and piano students will be having a public recital in the sanctuary at 5pm, Sunday the 18th. They will be playing piccolos and bass flutes *plus* everything in between!

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 leadership positions for the next leader year. Please let the appropriate person know how you are willing to serve:

Chair of Admin Council

Robin Stewart (208)521-6358

robin.s.stewart@gmail.com

Chair of Staff/Parish Relations

Bev Kemp-(208)569-6149

bevmkemp@gmail.com

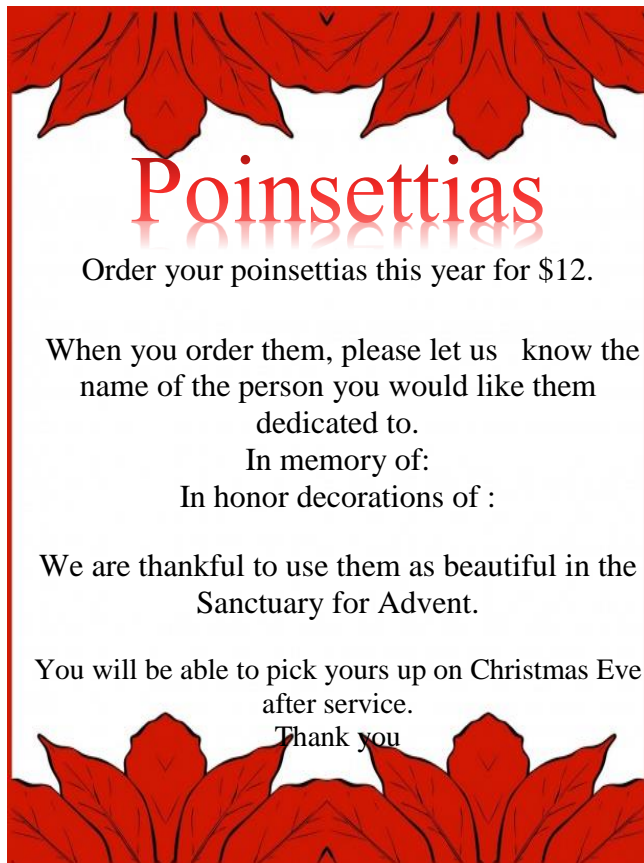
Chair of Trustee

Don Rhode (860)810-3227-

donrhode@aol.com

Chair of Finance

Scott Taylor (208)201-5593



Poinsettias

Order your poinsettias this year for \$12.

When you order them, please let us know the name of the person you would like them dedicated to.

In memory of:

In honor decorations of :

We are thankful to use them as beautiful in the Sanctuary for Advent.

You will be able to pick yours up on Christmas Eve after service.

Thank you

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6	7	8 1:00 PM UWF Meeting 7:00pm Radio Players Christmas Show	9 Office Closed 7:00pm N.A. 7:00pm Radio Players Christmas Show	10 2:00 PM – PM Radio Players Christmas Show 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Radio Players Christmas Show
Advent 3 11 9:30 AM Coffee & Donuts 10:10 Worship 11:30 AM Brunch Potluck – Advent book study & Ruth's Journey	12 10:00AM F.I.S.H 6:00PM Girl Scout leadership 7:00 PM Book Club 7:00PM N.A.	13 7:00PM Trustee meeting 7:00PM N.A.	14 10:00am Upper Room Meeting via Zoom 6:30 PM Pack 6 Scout 7:30 PM Troop 6 Scouts	15	16 Office Closed 7:00 PM N.A.	17
Advent 4 18 9:30 AM Coffee & Donuts 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Fellowship Scouts Brunch Advent book study & Ruth's Journey 5:00 PM Flute Choir	19 7:00 PM N.A.	20 6:30 PM Admin Council Meeting 7:00 PM - N.A.	21 10:00am Upper Room Meeting via Zoom 6:30pm Gather at the table 6:30 PM Pack 6 Scouts 7:30 PM Troop 6 Scouts	22 7:00pm Blue Christmas	23 Office Closed 7:00 PM N.A.	24 Christmas Eve 6:30 PM Family Service 11:30 PM Candle light Service
Christmas Day 25 9:30 AM Donuts & Coffee 10:10 AM Worship No Fellowship today Enjoy your Holiday	26 Office Closed 7:00 PM N.A.	27 Office Closed 7:00 PM N.A.	28 Office Closed 10:00 AM Upper Room 6:30 PM Pack 6 Scouts 7:30 PM Troop 6 Scouts	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed 7:00 PM N.A.	31 Happy New Years! 
January 2023 1 Happy New Year! 9:30 AM Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 10:10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Fellowship Soup & breads	2 7:00 PM N.A.	3 7:00 PM PEO BG 7:00 PM N.A.	4 10:00 AM Upper Room 6:30 PM Gather at the table 6:30 PM Pack 6 Scouts 7:30 PM Troop 6 Scouts	5	6 Office Closed 7:00 PM N.A.	7