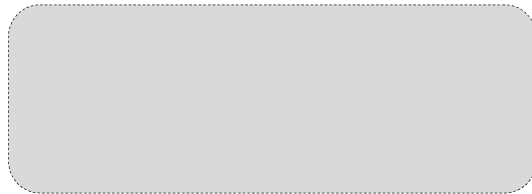


Trinity United Methodist Church  
 237 N. Water Ave  
 Idaho Falls, ID 83402-4003  
 208-522-7921  
 office@tumcif.org

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 Idaho Falls, ID  
 Permit No. 1491

Return Service Requested



**Christmas Eve Services 12/24**

5:00 Family Christmas Eve  
 6:00 Christmas Eve Potluck  
 7:00 Choral Service  
 11:00 Candle Light Service

**Christmas Day Service 12/25**

10:15 Worship for Everyone  
 (includes a blessing of the toys)  
 11:30 Potluck Lunch

You are welcome each Sunday at:  
 9:00 am Sunday School for all ages  
 10:15 am Worship for Everyone

**Special Happenings this Month...**

Dec 3 - 3:30 pm - "Ring in the Season" Handbell Christmas concert  
 Dec 4 - 11:30 am - UMW Holiday Treat Sale on Sunday, after church  
 Dec 4 - 4:30 & 7:00 - "Ring in the Season" Handbell Christmas concerts  
 Dec 8 & 9 - 7:30 - Performances of Miracle on 34th street radio show  
 Dec 10 - 2:00 & 7:30 - Performances of Miracle on 34th street radio show  
 Dec 17 - 7:00 pm - Flute Choir Concert

December 2016



Trinity United Methodist Church

**Pastor's Perspective**

*We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. (Romans 8:22-23)*

The Season of Advent is here! Traditionally this is a season of preparation, kind of like the way Lent prepares us for Easter. The words even sound a little bit alike. Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on Christmas eve. A special opportunity awaits

you on the Sundays of November 27, and December 4, 11 and 18!

I am delighted to announce an Advent dinner series. Each Sunday at 5:30, there will be a light meal with a guest speaker teaching us about different aspects of climate change. Then, at 6:15, we will spend 30 to 40 minutes in contemplative worship and prayer. For those of you who struggle with the frantic pace of the weeks leading up to Christmas, this may be just the right medicine for your frenzied life.

Blessings,  
 Reverend Ruth

## Stewardship Notes

This afternoon had been long, and since it is the day before surgery, I am tempted to just say "SEND MONEY" but instead, let me give you a more gentle reminder that Trinity UMC is able to provide ministry in the community because of your generosity. Although the 2017 budget has not yet been approved by the church Administrative Council, I expect that number to be \$209,584. This figure is nearly the same as 2016 and it is yet to be seen if this year's income will cover the current budget.

As I have alluded to in worship, and you can see in the Trustee notes in this newsletter, Trinity will be embarking

on a Capital Campaign as we celebrate our 100th year in this beautiful building. You will be hearing plenty of pitches for restoration money in the months to come, so for now I just want to thank you for faithfully making sure that the church can continue to serve this community by keeping the lights on and the staff paid.

Please find below a "pledge" form. Use it in any way that is helpful to you. That might mean filling it out and then returning it to the church office, or it may mean having it at home as a reminder of your personal financial commitment to this worshiping community.

Thank you from Reverend Ruth and the Finance Committee.

## Trinity United Methodist Church - Pledge sheet for 2017

With the financial resources that God entrusts to me/us, I/we desire to join with my/our fellow sisters and brothers in Christ at Trinity UMC to be a blessing to this world that hungers for God's grace.

I/we would like to share these resources by:

(1) Offering \$\_\_\_\_\_ per week/month (circle one).

OR

(2) Offering \_\_\_\_\_% of my/our income,  
which currently equals about \$\_\_\_\_ per week/month (circle one).

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(If, at any time, you wish to increase, decrease, or cancel your estimate of financial support, please notify our church's Financial Secretary in the church office at 522-7921.)

## Trinity United Methodist Church Leadership for 2017

### CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair: Robin Stewart

Church Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

Lay leader: Tia Durrant

Alt. Lay Member to AC: Tia Durrant

SPR rep.: Kay Kiefner

Education Coordinator: Betty Anderson

Finance rep.: Nanci Cutler

Trustees rep.: Nancy Stewart

Membership Sec.: Pam Traughber

Treasurer: Janice Boggs

Memorial Secretary: Linda Milam

Lay Member to AC: Ron Ayers

Financial Secretary: Pam Traughber

UMM rep.: Gene Summers

Church Historian: \_\_\_\_\_

UMW rep.: Marilyn Taylor

Camping Ministry: Betty Anderson

Youth Rep. : \_\_\_\_\_

Endowment Chair: Diane Croson

Pastor: Reverend Ruth Marsh

Youth Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Recording Secretary: Marilyn Taylor

### COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP

Co-Chairs: Reverend Ruth

Lay Leader: Tia Durrant

2017: Robin Stewart

2018: Nanci Cutler, Ron Ayers

2019: Kay Kiefner

Thank you to those who answered the call to leadership at trinity UMC for the calendar year of 2017. — Rev. Ruth Marsh

### STAFF PARISH RELATIONS

#### COMMITTEE (SPR)

Chair: Kay Kiefner

2017: Cordy Koelsch

2018: Kay Kiefner, Roger Haga

2019: Ryan Atwood, Kelly Carney

Also: Lay Leader, Lay Member to Annual Conference

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair: Nancy Stewart

Treasurer: Janice Boggs

2017: Vince Esparza, Lynn Seymor

2018: Richard Dickson, Linda Milam

2019: Don Rohde, Nancy Stewart

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Nanci Cutler

2017: David Armstrong, Scott Taylor

2018: Nanci Cutler

2019: Mike Bean

Also: Lay Member to Annual Conference, Church Treasure, Financial secretary, Ad Council Chair, Pastor, Representatives from SPR & Trustees

#### MISSIONS TASK FORCE

Chair: Marilyn Taylor

Members to be called and appointed as needed and gifted for particular projects by chairperson

## United Methodist Women

At the November unit meeting, Kathy McDermott shared information about the foster children and adoption program in the nine counties from Bonneville County and north and west. The program helps find foster homes as well as place children and work with the families. The statistics are staggering about how many children in "our" area are abused in too many ways.

On Sunday, December 4, after the worship service, the annual Holiday Treat Sale will be held. Everyone is encouraged to donate any kind of



food item and/or purchase treats to share and enjoy.

At the Unit meeting on Thursday, December 8th, there will be delicious refreshments, the 2017 officers will be installed, traditions of Christmas will be highlighted, the offering will go toward UMCOR flood buckets, and there will be a memorial for the members who have passed away during the year. All women are welcome to attend and enjoy the fellowship as well as the program.

By: Marilyn Taylor

## Trinity in Local Mission

During December there will be a tree in the narthex for gloves, mittens, hats, socks, scarves, underwear, and any items that would help keep people warm and comfortable in the winter weather. There is also still a need for diapers, wipes and pullups; these can be placed in the basket in the parlor, and will be distributed where needed.

Money received for the produce "sales" was sent to UMCOR, designated for the flood buckets.- Marilyn Taylor



## Welcoming Statement for Trinity United Methodist Church

As was mentioned in last month's newsletter, on January 1st Trinity UMC will start the process of developing a Welcoming Statement. A Welcoming Statement is the church equivalent of the non-discrimination statement all employers must have. You have likely seen it: *"we do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, ..."* Employers have it easy because we have passed laws on how they must behave. Congregations on the other hand, must look into their hearts, consider their purposes in the community, and then come up with Welcoming Statements that represent how they all really feel.

At Trinity we want to approach this task with as much education and discernment as possible. In order to do that we have proposed a 6-step process that will take place over several months.

1. Starting January 1st, ten welcoming statements from other churches will be on display in the parlor and the back of the sanctuary. These will be available throughout Epiphany so that all the members of the congregation can read and compare them to get familiar with the concept.

2. Beginning in January, Rev. Ruth will teach a 6 part series called "For the Bible Tells Me So."
3. During the 6 weeks of Lent, which begins March 1st, a task force composed of a cross-section of the congregation will craft a Welcoming Statement.
4. In April Trinity UMC will host the "Called to Love" workshop to explore some of the issues involved when there is not acceptance.
5. The new Welcoming Statement will be made available to the congregation in the newsletter and on posters in parlor for several weeks for discussion.
6. In May, at the conclusion of the process, the congregation will have an opportunity to vote to accept the new Welcoming Statement.

Hopefully this process will assure that Trinity UMC is known in the community as the loving congregation I know you to be.

If you would like to serve on the task force please contact me, Rev. Ruth Marsh, or Tia Durrant.

- by Rev Ruth Marsh

## Building Preservation - Board of Trustees

The National Fund for Sacred Places (NFSP) has awarded Trinity a spot in their matching grant process. Their grant process includes support and training to develop the plan, and training for a successful capital funds campaign.

Activities through February include:

- ⇒ Development of a more detailed building assessment to allow donors to see our vision.
- ⇒ Entering into an agreement with Myers-Anderson, an architectural firm, to complete the assessment.

⇒ Attending training for a Capital Funds Campaign 101 course in late January (Rev. Ruth, Nancy Stewart, and Mike Bean who will spearhead the Capital Campaign).

The exciting portion of this phase is that the NFSP includes a planning grant of \$5,000.00 which will allow us to start right away in these activities.

Trinity will be 100 years old in 2017. The Trinity restoration is a prayerful and purposeful effort to restore the masonry, roof, and bathrooms to 21st century needs. Our founders believed in our ability to care for the beautiful building they completed 100 years ago.

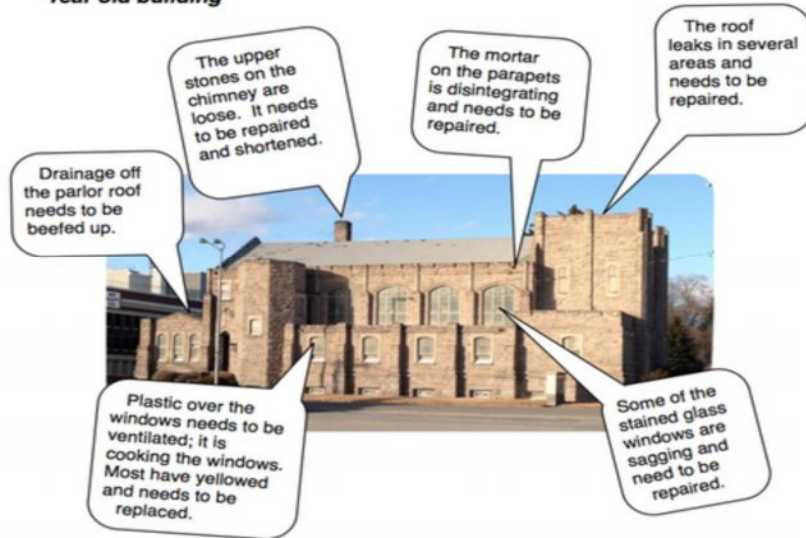
We are eager to follow in our founder's footsteps with the Lord as our guide.

Yours in Christ,  
Nancy Stewart

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**Caring for a 100 Year old building**



## Regional Council for Christian Ministry

### RCCM Committee Reports:

- FISH provided school supplies for 829 students during the current school year. Generous community support enabled FISH to help many adults and children with school supplies, hygiene kits, and newborn and infant needs.
- Community Food Basket served 775 households during October. This season there are 14 food drives occurring in the community.
- Little Church in the Pines is planning its annual Christmas Eve service.

### Community News:

- Soup Kitchen served 4234 meals to 3350 individuals during October.
- The Alternate Giving Fair was held November 12 and 13 at EITC. Thirty non-profit organizations participated and raised over \$14,000.

### December community events of interest:

- AIDS Dedication of Quilts: December 3, 5:30 PM, at the Elks Lodge, a memorial worship service.
- Old Fashioned Christmas: December 15 - January 2; the annual Christmas and Winter Festival

event at the Museum of Idaho.

- Christmas Eve at Little Church in the Pines, December 24, 7 PM, Island Park. In addition, special Advent and Christmas Eve services will be held at many of our member churches.



### Planning for the Future of the Community Food Basket:





As the Community Food Basket has grown and become supported by an increasing number of community organizations and businesses, the Regional

Council of Christian Ministry has begun the process of 'spinning off' the organization.

During the coming months, the RCCM, through its Executive Board, will develop a schedule for transitioning the Food Basket to a new faith-based, non-profit corporation with its own board of directors.

An interim director will be hired to serve until the transfer is complete, including the recognition of the Community Food Basket as an independent 501(c)(3) organization.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			30 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room  6:30 Venture Crew 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	1  9:30 UMW Executive Committee Meeting  6:45 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir Practice	2 Church Office Closed  9:00 Community Partners  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	3 8:00 Scout – Capote Making  3:30 <b>Handbell Concert</b>  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
4 8:30 Venture Crew Breakfast! 9:00 <b>Sunday School</b> 9:15 <b>UMW Holiday Treats</b> 10:15 <b>Worship</b> 11:30 <b>Holiday Treat Sale</b> 4:30 <b>Handbell Concert</b> 5:30 <b>Advent Dinner Series</b> 6:15 <b>Evening Worship</b> 7:00 <b>Handbell Concert</b>	5  11:00 Soup Kitchen Mission  6:00 Beginning Handbells 6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	6 9:30 UMW Executive Board Planning Meeting  <b>7:00 Trustee Meeting – 108</b> 7:00 PEO Dinner – Parlor 7:00 Cub Scout Den Meeting 7:00 Daisy / Brownie	7 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room  6:30 Venture Crew 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	8  1:00 UMW Unit Meeting Christmas program  6:45 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Miracle on 34th Street	9 Church Office Closed  9:00 Handcrafters  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:30 Miracle on 34th Street	10  2:00 Miracle on 34th Street  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 Miracle on 34th Street
11 9:00 <b>Sunday School</b> 10:15 <b>Worship</b> 5:30 <b>Advent Dinner Series</b> 6:15 <b>Evening Worship</b>	12  10:00 F.I.S.H.  6:00 Beginning Handbells 6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	13  1:00 Prayer Group  <b>6:30 Finance Committee</b> 7:00 Daisy / Brownie 7:00 Cub Scout Dens	14 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room  6:30 Venture Crew 7:30 Marnie Circle 7:30 Boy Scouts	15 <del>News Letter</del> <b>Articles Due</b> 1:00 Ethel Clark Circle  6:45 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Cub Scout Parent/Comm. Meeting	16 Church Office Closed  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	17  7:00 Flute choir 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
18  9:00 <b>Sunday School</b> 10:15 <b>Worship</b>  5:30 <b>Advent Dinner Series</b> 6:15 <b>Evening Worship</b>	19  11:00 Soup Kitchen Mission  6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	20  1:00 RCCM Meeting 7:00 Cub Scout Dens 7:00 Daisy / Brownie <b>7:30 Admin Council Meeting</b>	21 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room  6:30 Venture Crew 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	22  10:00 <b>Newsletter Crew</b>  7:00 Choir Practice	23 Church Office Closed  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	24 CHRISTMAS EVE  5:00 Family Christmas Eve 6:00 Christmas Eve Potluck 7:00 Choral Service 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 11:00 Candle Light Service
25 <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 10:15 <b>Worship</b> 11:30 <b>Potluck Lunch</b> 	26 Church Office Closed  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	27 Church Office Closed  1:00 Prayer Group 6:30 ADAH - Aging, Dementia, Alzheimer's, Help 7:00 Daisy / Brownie	28 Church Office Closed 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room 6:30 Venture Crew 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	29 Church Office Closed  7:00 Choir Practice	30 Church Office Closed  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	31 New Years Eve  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous
Rev. Ruth on Vacation						

# DECEMBER

Please have your articles for the January newsletter submitted to: [office@tuncif.org](mailto:office@tuncif.org) no later than Thursday, December 15th, so we can get the newsletter out in a timely manner. Thank you!  
Don Rohde - Editor-[donrohde@aol.com](mailto:donrohde@aol.com)

## Christmas Eve Schedule


Christmas Eve at Trinity UMC is always a time of beauty, music, laughter and holy awe. This year we hope to again awaken all of those places in your soul. Here is the schedule for Christmas Eve:

5pm: Family worship built around the nativity story using a kids of all ages program called "What Can I Give?"


6pm: Potluck dinner

7pm: Music-filled celebration of Jesus entering the world will feature choral music and lighting of candles.

11pm: As the day of Christmas draws near, we share communion and the lighting of candles.



# POINSETTIA



# ORDER FORM

It is time to order plants to prepare our sanctuary for the Christmas season.

This year poinsettias are \$8.00 each. Use this order form to indicate if the flowers are in memory or honor of someone and return the form and payment to the church office by Tuesday, December 15, 2016. Indicate POINSETTIA in the memo portion of your check. Please note that the earliest that plants can be taken home is after the 11:00 PM service Christmas Eve.

Your Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Name In Memory: \_\_\_\_\_

Or Name In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



*The Wesley Handbell Choir*  
*presents*

*"Resounding Joy"*

*the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual*  
*Ring in the Season*  
*Concert*

*Saturday, December 3, 2016*  
*at 3:30 PM*

*Sunday, December 4, 2016*  
*at 4:30 and 7:00 PM*

*Trinity United Methodist Church*  
*237 North Water Avenue, Idaho Falls*

*Free Admission, Donations Gratefully Accepted*  
*Nursery Care Available*

*For more information: TrinityBellsIF@gmail.com*

## The UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

Sunday Fest – Nov. 13, 2016

What a great day when Trinity and St. Paul's U. Methodist Churches joined together in worship, fellowship, and learning about how the Disaster Response division of UMCOR works to "Relieve Suffering a Hurting World."

How special it was to have Rev. Brian Diggs, Director of the UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City come and be our guest preacher and speaker to help us better understand the work of UMCOR!

It began in 1940 and has grown to be one of the largest humanitarian organizations in the world. The work of UMCOR begins in the local churches. We can assist with the work of

UMCOR right here in our local communities. It is wonderful to have the West Depot in Salt Lake City which gives us the opportunity to be more involved and see the needs of UMCOR.



We thank all who participated by attending, bringing food for the lunch, setting up and cleaning up, and helping pack school bag kits. Brian took about 200 school bags and lots of school supplies back to UMCOR West. All the bags were sewn by people right here in our community. It was a fun day.

Thank you to all who participated!

By Coordinators - Betty Anderson and Jill Ecklesdafer



Health Kit



School Bag and Supplies



Cleanup Bucket

## Miracle on 34th Street

Snake River Radio Theater will present "Miracle on 34th Street" as a live radio play at Trinity.

This old-time radio show is an event for the whole family and a great way to kick off the Christmas season. The cast includes: Shawn Thurber, Anne Marie Poirier, Steven Butler, Mike and Elana Belgard, Terri Zora, Kinsley Lewis, Rick Butler, with Tyler Peterson and Cherstin Rigby as the Foley artists.

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church, 237 N. Water Ave. Idaho Falls – 208-522-7921

Show Times: December 8, 9, and 10th at 7:30 pm. Matinee on December 10th at 2:00 pm

The show is free to the public, and we are welcoming donations for the Trinity United Methodist Church Building Restoration Fund.

*Miracle On 34th Street*  
Presented as a live Radio-Broadcast

*Free to the public*

Donations welcome to benefit The Trinity United Methodist Church Building Project

LOCATION: TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
237 N. Water Ave, Idaho Falls

DECEMBER 8-10TH  
7:30 PM  
MATINEE ON THE 10TH  
AT 2PM

For more information contact Tasha at Bere.Theater@yahoo.com

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Ruth & Mike Oar	12/1	Jo Ann Rose	12/25
Dylan Empey	12/2	Rhys McClure	12/27
Margaret Jobe	12/8	Jim & Sheryl Schaffer	12/28
Alyce Gonzalez	12/12	Jennifer Robinson	12/28
Elaine Flatland	12/14	Joanne McCray	12/29
Kamiko Norris	12/15		
Davis Taylor	12/16		
Ellen Schuman (100!)	12/17		

For additions or corrections in birthdays please contact Pam in the church office.

## Scouting News

### Boy Scout Troop 6



Congratulations to Josh Archibald for completing all the training necessary for Troop 6 Scout Master. This training requires two long classes, one on outdoor skills and one on administration and troop operations. Thanks for caring enough to be the best Scout Master you can be, Josh!!!

### Girl Scout Troop 60 /62



Girl Scouts

Troop 60 Older Girl Scout troop had great November camping in Newdale at Green Canyon Hot Springs, a great place to soak in hot pools on Friday night and Saturday. They also worked hard making lifesaver candy trains to donate to the Developmental Workshop Festival of Trees (all thirty were sold by Thursday night) and cute Santa pop-top pins. They are cooking dishes from around the world to earn the New Cuisines Badge, making chili, corn bread, and a peanut butter chocolate treat. Their last meeting was a visit to the Festival of Trees where they enjoyed the evening together and great entertainment.

Plans for December include ice fishing at Henry's Lake (may be hiking instead due to warm weather), a Christmas party with annual gift exchange, and completion of the New Cuisines Badge.

### Venture Crew 6



VENTURING BSA

The Venture Crew is almost done with their capotes, just in time to help the traditional troops in Idaho Falls with their capotes on the upcoming December Capote Building which is the first Saturday in December.

The crew is working on preparing a breakfast before Sunday School starting on December 4th. They are trying to figure out the new schedule at church and what will work for the congregation. The initial Sunday will see a breakfast buffet, along with a "Grab and Go" burrito for folks heading to Sunday School, and brunch after worship.

They are building their bank accounts for a trip to the Olympic Peninsula this upcoming summer.

The crew is planning on racing in the "Race to Feed the Hungry" this Thanksgiving day.

## Cub Scout Pack 6

On November 15th, Pack 6 held their annual Bake Sale/ Auction for their monthly Pack meeting. Because of the support we receive from Popcorn Sales, we are able to donate all the funds we receive from the bake sale to the Pastoral Compassionate Care Fund at Trinity. This year, we were able to donate \$851.25 to the fund. The top cake auctioned for \$100. We also had small items that all the kids could get for \$1. – Bill O'Steen



THANK YOU to the Cub Scout Pack for their generosity. - Rev. Ruth

### Beginning Bell Choir



The beginning bell choir started rehearsals on Oct 17. The choir meets each Monday from 6:00 to 6:45 in the parlor. We are practicing songs like "O Come, All Ye Faithful." We have room for more ringers. If you would like to join us contact Shelly at [TrinityBellsIF@gmail.com](mailto:TrinityBellsIF@gmail.com).

## Aging, Dementia, Alzheimer's, Help (ADAH)

ADAH is Trinity's support group that identifies resources, and brings information on aging and help to the community. In December there are 3 support groups available in Idaho Falls that you could attend:

### **Alzheimer's Caregivers Support:**

#### **Dec 8th – Morningstar Senior Living**

4000 S. 25th E  
2nd Thursday, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm  
Contact Jana at 208-529-0800

#### **Dec 15th – Foothills Therapy**

3715 Woodking Drive  
3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
Contact Lisa at 208-521-3253

### **December 27th – Trinity ADAH**

ADAH will present a discussion on how to create a support group when taking care of seniors with dementia, and how to get family and community support. The meeting will be Tuesday Dec. 27 at 6:30 pm in the Parlor. To get on the email list contact Don Rohde at [donrohde@aol.com](mailto:donrohde@aol.com) - (860) 810-3227