

News update for December 21, 2023

Contents

UPDATES..... 1
 This Week at Trinity 1
 Looking Ahead 2
Dec. 31st Joint Worship 2
 Mitten Tree 3
Nursery Services 3
 UWF News 3
 Habitat House Progress..... 4
 Sunday Morning Fellowship.....5
 Trinity Leadership5
 Financial Statements5
 Birthdays.....5
 John Wesley Quote5
 Poinsettias..... 6
 Vision of the Future Revealed 6
 Angel Wings10
 Night Lighting Replacement10
 Homeless Services10

This Week at Trinity

- Thursday** (December 21st)
- Friday** (December 22nd) *Office Closed*
- 7:00pm N.A.
 - 7:00pm Candlelight N.A.
- Saturday** (December 23rd) *Office Closed*
- Sunday** (December 24th) **Christmas Eve**
- 8:30am Donuts and coffee
 - 9:00am Sunday Worship
 - 10:30am Fellowship Potluck brunch
 - 6:00pm N.A.
 - **7:00pm Family at St Paul's**
 - **11:00pm at Trinity**
- Monday** (December 25th) **Christmas Day**
- 7:00pm N.A.
- Tuesday** (December 26th) *Office Closed*
- 7:00pm N.A.
- Wednesday** (December 27th) *Office Closed*
- 10:00am Upper Room Study
 - 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting
 - 7:30pm Scouts BSA

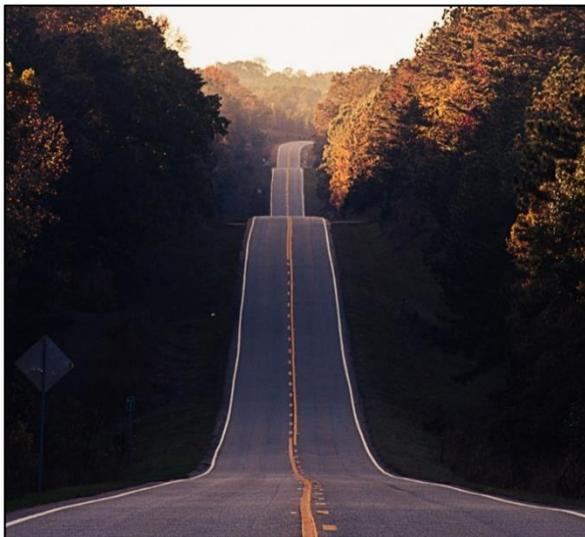
UPDATES

Church Christmas Week Hours

The church will be closed from
 Christmas through New-Year's Day.
 We will be back on January 2nd at
 9AM.

Looking Ahead

- **December 24** – 9:00 am Worship with Pastor Kathy
- **December 24** – 7:00 pm Family Christmas Eve at **St Paul’s** with Pastor Kathy
- **December 24** – 11:00 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve at **Trinity** with Pastor Kathy.
- **December 31** – **10:00 am** joint 5th Sunday service at **St. Paul’s** followed by New Year’s Eve Day party with potluck finger food.
- **January 7** – 9:00 am Worship with Don Yeager
- **January 14** - 9:00 am Worship with Pastor Kathy
- **January 21** - 9:00 am Worship with Nancy Stewart from Trinity
- **January 28** - 9:00 am Worship with Cascadia District Superintendent Tim Overton Harris
- **January 28** - 4:00 pm Workshop with Cascadia District Superintendent Tim Overton Harris at **St. Paul’s**



Dec. 31st Joint Worship

5th Sunday Joint Worship December 31st 10:00 am

Our special 5th Sunday joint worship will be at St. Paul’s at 10:00 am on December 31st. The message will be a **Wesleyan Covenant Renewal Service**.

In 1775, John Wesley introduced a covenant service as an important part of spiritual life in the Methodist Societies. This renewal service was a time for the Methodists to gather annually in a time of self-examination, reflection, and dedication, wholly giving up themselves and renewing covenant with God.

The worship will include vocal and instrumental music centered around Gospel Music with the Praise Band. Anyone wanting to participate in the Praise Band is welcome. Praise Band rehearsal is on Wednesday at 7:00pm at St. Paul’s. For more information, contact Nancy Copp.

The service will be followed by an informal New Years Eve party in the fellowship hall featuring potluck holiday hors d’oeuvres, finger foods, cookies, and holiday desserts. Please bring your favorite appetizer, cookies, or dessert to share. Coffee, Tea and Water will be served.

Start the new year off with all your friends.



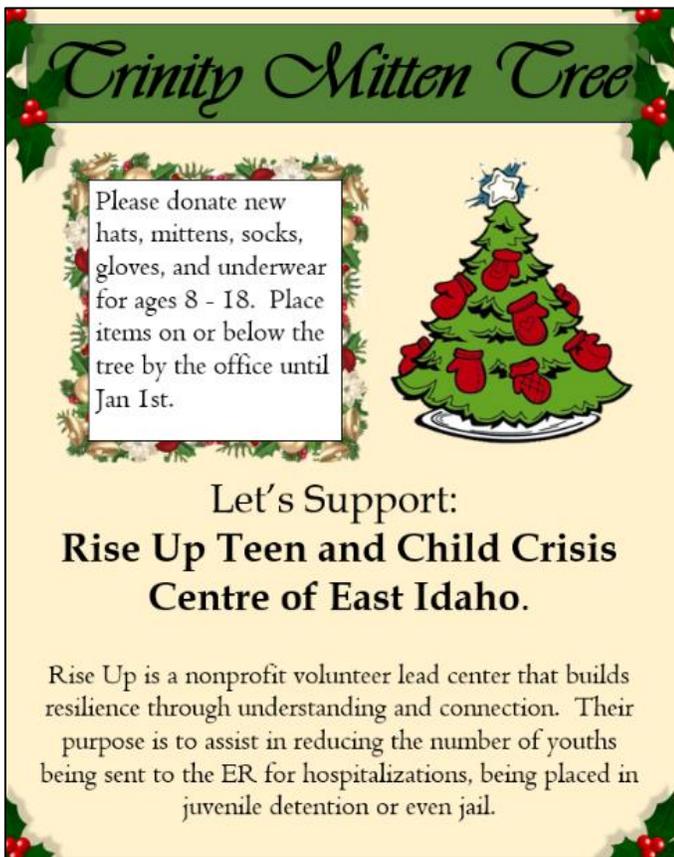
Mitten Tree

This year we are having a 'mitten tree' donation drive for the Teen and Child Crisis Centre of East Idaho. As the cold starts to set in, we are in great need of hats, mittens, socks, gloves, and underwear. (no scarves please!)

These items should fit people ages 6-18, as those are the kids we aim to help.

If this interests you, come to the church and donate today!

More info in poster below



Nursery Services

IMPORTANT

Trinity will no longer be able to provide nursery service during worship until:

we can provide two attendants during each service who are 18 or over. They must be willing to undergo a background check and have received safe sanctuary training which we will provide. This is a paid position and they need not be members of Trinity.

Please contact Bev at (208) 546-6149 if you or someone you know is interested.

UWF News



United
Women
in Faith

Hi, all. We had a great turnout for our December unit meeting. Tasty treats were provided by the Executive Committee, and Jill Lines provided the holiday decor. Rene Buchan, volunteer coordinator for the city of Idaho Falls, told about all the volunteer opportunities around our city with the Parks and Recreation Department. She is in charge of over 1000 volunteers.

"There's always room for more," she said.

A couple of the projects she oversees are the holiday lights and the flowers/plants you see around town. She explained that the planters downtown are maintained by the Downtown Development Corporation. It was a very informative presentation.

Our yearly Special Mission Recognition Award was given to Sherry Newey. She has been especially helpful with the ZOOM

meetings we have had throughout the year. Thanks, Sherry.

A special offering (social action gift) was taken for Rise Up, the teen and child crisis center. Thanks for all your donations.

Marilyn gave the devotional about faithfulness and trust in Christ. We always love to hear her inspirational messages.

If you get a chance, come and see our beautiful sanctuary decorated for the holiday season. The decorations accentuate the beauty of our church. Thank you to Maria Harrison for all your hard work. Also in the sanctuary you'll find the Angel Tree. Each angel decoration is in remembrance of a loved one who has passed. If you are interested in placing an angel on the tree, a goodwill offering is suggested.

Grace Lady visitors are needed for the coming months. Please consider volunteering. Talk to Mary if you are interested.

Our next unit meeting is **February 8**. There is no unit meeting in January.

Enjoy this holiday season.



Habitat House Progress



In the backyard of the Habitat house, the sewer and freshwater connections have been made and buried. Preparations are made for a 20' x 20' concrete pad and sidewalk going to the house. Orange tarp keeps the dirt dry and warm before the concrete. The concrete pour will include the slab, two outside stairs and replacing the front sidewalk along 18th St.



The front porch area with its gray accent color is finished and now they're working on the siding on the front of the house. Note the orange tarp covering the forms for the front steps.

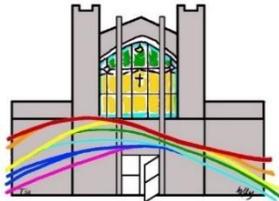
Sunday Morning Fellowship

There is always food and fellowship after church

- **Every 1st Sunday: Soup Potluck**
Bring your favorite Soup.
- **Every 2th Sunday: Regular Brunch**
Bring your favorite dish
- **Every 3rd Sunday: Scout Brunch**
This is a fundraiser for Troop 6 and a wonderful meal to share as we visit.
- **Every 4th Sunday: Regular Brunch**
Bring your favorite dish

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;**
Open Position



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

Chair of Trustee
Don Rohde (860)810-3227-
donrohde@aol.com

Chair of Finance
Scott Taylor (208)201-5593

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - November 30, 2023



Income	\$176,129
Expenses	<u>\$151,477</u>
Current net income	\$ 24,651

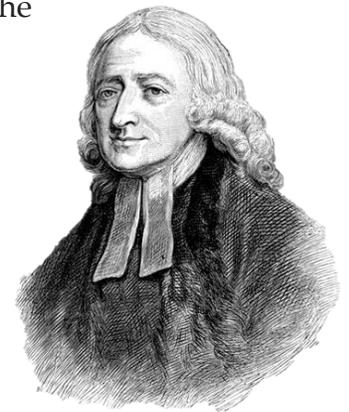
Birthdays

June

Smith, Kathy	12/23
Mullin, John	12/25
Poulter, Aaliyah	12/26
Goodrich, Everly	12/27
King, Evelyn	12/27
McClure, Rhys	12/27
Traughber, Jennifer	12/28
McCray, Joanne	12/29
Jakovac, Jason	12/30

John Wesley Quote

“I must entreat you, in the name of God, be open to conviction. Whatever prejudices you have contracted from education, custom, or example, divest yourselves of them, as far as possible. Be willing to receive light either from God or man; do not shut your eyes against it. Rather be glad to see more than you did before, to have the eyes of your understanding opened...set a better example to those that are to come...



~Advice with Regard to Dress

Poinsettias

Poinsettias

Again, this year we are offering poinsettias for sale for \$12. When you order them, please inform us if you would like to dedicate them in honor or memory of someone. They will be used to decorate the Sanctuary for Advent but will be available to pick up by December 23. Please write "Poinsettias" on your check. Thank you, ~ Nicolai 208-522-7921

Vision of the Future Revealed



The vision comes in three parts. First there are the sustainers (formerly called the saints). This vision is based around supporting and fulfilling the long-time members of the church. The next two are for the Innovators looking to get outside the church into the community. Because we have two buildings with different neighborhoods, we have two Innovator Visions. Keep in mind that everyone in both congregations is invited and welcome to participate in any or all of the visions.

These visions will serve the purpose of focusing the energies of the congregations and being a communication tool to assist DS Karen in her search for the perfect new minister(s) to support the churches starting next summer.

The final versions of the vision will be presented to DS Karen in early January. Each vision has a scribe with an email address where you can send your comments.

Vision 1 - Sustainers (inside the church)

The sustainers of our churches are the people who have served God with faith and love through the traditional ministries of our congregations. We wish to support and encourage the growth of these ministries so



POINSETTIA Order Form

It is time to order plants to prepare our sanctuary for the Christmas season. This year poinsettias are \$12.00 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 Monday, December 17, 2023. Indicate POINSETTIA in the memo portion of your check. Please note that the earliest time that plants may be taken home is after the 11:00pm service Christmas Eve.

Your Name :

Name In Memory:

Or Name In Honor of:

that all might come to know Christ through our work.

Our vision is to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ through ministries of care, discipleship growth, fellowship and fun, and service. We will develop ministries in these areas for our congregations, openly expanding these ministries beyond the walls of our churches.

The four areas of ministry (care, discipleship growth, fellowship and fun, and service,) are in answer to God's two great commandments: 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Matt. 22:37-39 NRSV

Our ministries shall inclusively serve all people with open hearts, open minds and open doors. "All" means people of all races and all ethnicities, all physical and mental, emotional challenges, all learning styles, all economic conditions, and all gender expressions. All means all.

We are dedicated to the creation of fun, loving and more importantly, safe fellowship events and safe sanctuaries for all people. We hope to help people experience the love of Christ through all our activities.

Vision: *Examples of ministries we will begin, continue, support and grow are:*

Care: We will develop a *Care Ministry Team* to connect with sustainers in our churches, retirement centers, in the hospitals/rehab, and in their homes. We will offer such services as spiritual care, communion, transportation or just a compassionate heart to listen, comfort and provide a little laughter and joy.

Discipleship growth: We will offer a variety of educational and spiritual growth

opportunities for members of all ages both on Sundays and during the week. Sunday school, study groups, Bible studies, prayer groups and Vacation Bible School will be offered.

We will open our churches to offer lay leadership classes, Spanish classes, English as a Second Language classes and provide needed tutoring when requested.

We will continue to offer our *Women's Ministries* that includes United Women in Faith (Trinity) and Women's Outreach Group (St. Paul's) These two sustainers' groups are open to *all*.

We will provide opportunities to serve within the worship services in both churches. These opportunities include serving as worship leaders, lay leaders, lay speakers, Deaconesses, Home Missioners, liturgists, acolytes, communion servers, ushers, choir members, and Praise Band members.

We will develop and present creative worship that helps all participants to encounter the love of God and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

We will improve and grow our connection with our online worshipers and be mindful of their attendance with us as they worship online.

Fellowship and fun: We will provide safe, welcoming, and inclusive fellowship for all.

We will offer opportunities to create relationships and connections to strengthen our community. We will provide such activities as potlucks, dinners, tea parties, fund raisers, concerts, movie and game nights. We will support our Men's Groups, Ladies Lunch Groups and Soup for Souls. We will encourage and support our church members to express and use their talents. We

will create an atmosphere of inclusion for people to express needs, wants and ideas for new activities and to welcome assistants/participants during our activities.

Service: We will provide opportunities for our people to serve others within our churches and community. Such as taking food to our ill congregants, ensuring we have a mailing list to mail notices to those without internet ability and providing materials and information bilingually.

We proudly serve our church families and our communities, extending ourselves wherever and whenever we are called. We will be open to God's leading us to expand our ministries to our wider community as we listen and learn about their needs.

Scribe: Melinda Ginosar at melindaginosar@gmail.com

Vision 2 Innovators - Supporting Children Supporting Children and Their Care Givers in the Foster Care System

Through the Holy Spirit and direction from our Lord, Jesus Christ, the IFCMC is focusing its Vision on the care and welfare of foster children in our community. We will focus on partnering with groups that support the foster care system to enrich both the church members' and the caretakers' spiritual growth.

This vision will lead us to two main areas of service:

1. Addressing food insecurity for children: We will partner with existing community programs to fight child hunger. Bonneville County in 2020 had a food insecure population that was 8 percent of the population and numbered 9,450. Food

insecure children made up 9 percent of all children under age 18 and numbered 3,400.(1) Even though these numbers are an improvement over previous years, the vision team believes that this issue must be addressed because no one should have to go hungry. There are several organizations in the community that are directly involved with food insecure children.

2. Supporting and advocating for children in crisis as they participate in the foster care system: We will partner with existing agencies to strengthen and improve the foster care system in Bonneville County. From October 2022 through September 2023 there were 228 children served by Foster Care in Bonneville County. The biggest issues in foster care are the shortage of homes that are available for temporary or permanent housing, support for the existing CASA program, and the support and care for foster children who "age out" of the system. The needs of the foster care system are addressed by several parties including state social workers, local police officers, and court appointed advocates (CASA) for the children. We will partner with these entities by offering to: assist in helping with our organizational skills in advertising or educating others to become foster families, show others how to become an advocate for a foster child, deal with transportation issues, and offering support for those who have daily contact with foster children and foster families. With God's help we will carefully listen to these partners to discover other avenues of support. Privacy laws prohibit some activities, but we hope to offer the support necessary to assist those helping foster children.

(1) University of Idaho Extension Office

(2) East Idaho News 11/29/2021

Scribe: Cindy Mason -
cinamason@gmail.com

Vision 3 - People Experiencing Homelessness

Ministry with People Experiencing Homelessness in Idaho Falls

Our vision for this ministry is inspired by the "Go and Do Likewise" theme of the 2023 Oregon-Idaho annual conference that centered around the story of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10:30-37. In this passage, Jesus invites his disciples to make a difference in their communities by "going and do likewise." We feel called to do the same in our church context with people experiencing homelessness in Idaho Falls.

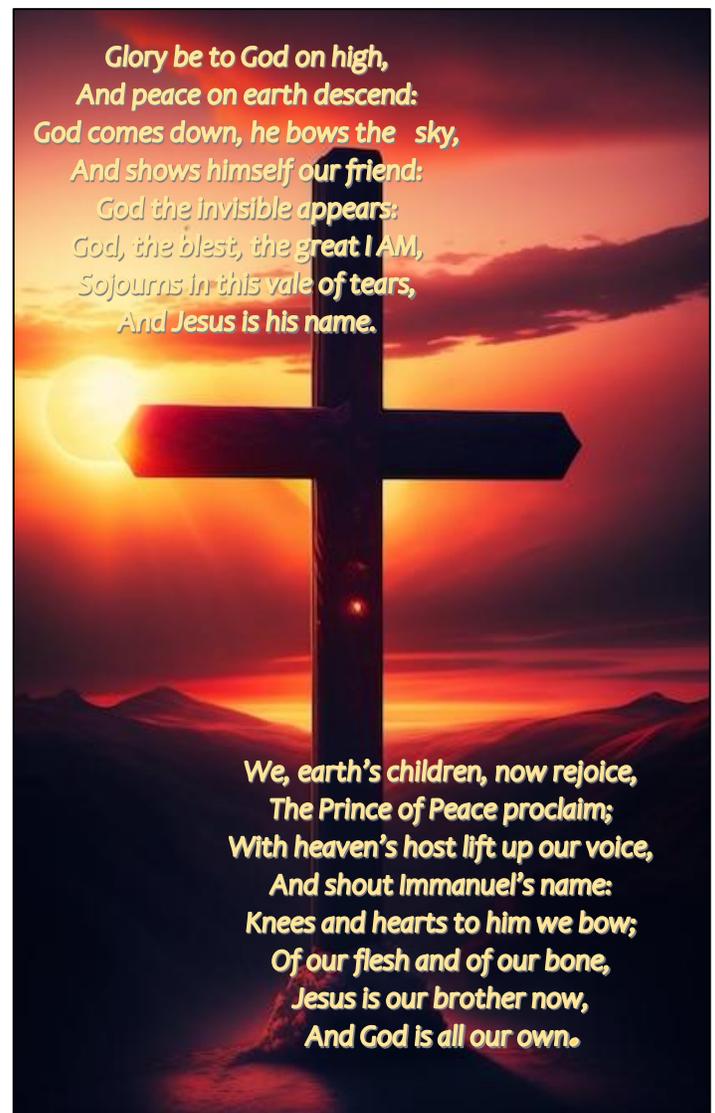
Our Homeless Vision Statement:

Sharing God's Love with persons experiencing homelessness in Idaho Falls to assist them in developing a better life through continuing the homeless services program, expanding homeless services offered, coordinating with other local homeless services resources, and resolving the root cause of homelessness in Idaho Falls.

1. We currently provide showers, laundry, documentation, sleeping bags, and light counseling services.
2. We would like to expand our ministries to include providing Food, Shelter, Medicaid signups, Acute Medical care, Medication, Fuel for heat, Drug and alcohol treatment signups, and Personal safety from Domestic abuse.
3. We will partner with other providers to expand our ministries without creating redundant efforts and to make people aware of the community-wide services.
4. We would also like to address the causes of homelessness by: Providing Low-

income housing, Supporting Job services, encouraging education & Job training, supporting living wage efforts, Preventing Domestic abuse, encouraging Alcohol and Drug abuse programs, providing a safety net for financial disasters and basic training in Financial Literacy & Budgeting.

Scribe: Don Rohde - donrohde@aol.com



Angel Wings

Angel Wings - Christmas 2023



Angel Wings are donations in loving memory of a Loved One that has passed on. They are to be put on the tree by

each of you who would like to donate to the church in this basket.

The tag will explain the story of Wings of an Angel and in Memory of a Loved One. Put their name on the wing tag and then place it on the Memory Tree of Christmas.

You may take it home on December 24th and put it on your tree at home for memories to come.

Make checks to: Trinity UMC
in Memo put: "Angel Wings"

Thank you, God Bless you all - Maria



Night Lighting Replacement

Robin has been on the roof replacing our burned out or not working sodium vapor security lights with new LED lights.



Homeless Services

In October there were 166 homeless services supplied in the 18 days we were open. This represented services to 57 unique people. The services provided included 124 showers, 53 loads of laundry, and 15 requests for supplies. The supplies included 8 sleeping bags, 2 pairs of socks, pastoral care with Ryan. Documentation, and 3 days of WIFI to study for class. The clients ranged in age from 23 to 73 with an average 46. Time in the church varied from 1 min. to 276 minutes with an average of 42 minutes. 14 visitors were new clients for us. 61% have cellphones and 91% have valid ID.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			20 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Gather at the Table 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	21	22 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	23 Office Closed
24 -8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship potluck brunch 6:00pm N.A 7:00pm Family at St. Paul's/ 11:00pm @ Trinity	25 Office Closed Christmas Day  7:00pm N.A.	26 Office Closed 7:00pm N.A.	27 Office Closed 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	28 Office Closed	29 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	30 Office Closed
31 9:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 10:00am Worship @ St. Paul's 11:30am Finger-food potluck New Year's Eve 6:00pm N.A	1 January 7:00pm N.A.	2 7:00pm PEO 7:00pm N.A.	3 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Gather at the Table 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	4	5 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	6 Office Closed
7 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am soup potluck brunch 6:00pm N.A	8 7:00pm N.A.	9 7:00pm N.A.	10 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	11	12 Office Closed 9:00pm PEO Meeting CM 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	13 Office Closed
14 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship potluck brunch 6:00pm N.A	15 7:00pm N.A.	16 7:00pm N.A.	17 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Gather at the Table 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	18	19 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	20 Office Closed