

The Chimes

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"In the heart of the city, sharing the heart of Christ."

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from Pastor Megan

As we began the season of Lent this year, I was struck by my typical decision of what to "give up" for Lent. My usual go to has been Mountain Dew- although having switched to Mountain Dew Zero sugar last year that didn't seem as impactful. I had thought about various unhealthy foods, television habits or social media as I have found that the discipline of Lent has traditionally helped me recognize that our relationship with God impacts all areas of our lives so fasting from things that get in the way of my wholistic health allows me to refocus on my connection to God. And yet, nothing really jumped out at me as the "thing" to give up... everything I thought of I either rarely did it or I thought of a reason that it wouldn't make sense (it's hard to give up social media when you use it for online devotions and church). I have recently also promoted the idea that although Lent is a time of self denial/fasting, it is also a time that we are called to reconnect with God by adding spiritual disciplines or acts of mercy to our lives. The daily devotions and challenges that I put together for our "Lent in a bag" would certainly be ways to "add" something for Lent, but I still usually try to give something up as well.

Then I read a blog post titled "Lent for Pastors who have given up everything already". In the post it listed a variety of things pastors have "given up" this year... hospital/nursing home visits, in person worship, potlucks, hugs and handshakes, the common cup in communion, etc. And this doesn't just apply to pastors, we all have given up much this year. Eating out, trips, normal work life, visits with family... and even if we didn't give them up completely, the ease and familiarity with which we used to be able to do life was suddenly changed. The blogger then asked the question, "So what does this Lent look like for pastors who have given up so much?"

I thought I'd rephrase her question and answer for a broader audience... What does Lent look like for people who have given up so much?

Maybe it looks like embracing the gift of recognizing that we are not in control. Maybe it looks like the early church, where awe came upon everyone because so many incredible things were being done in the name of God. Maybe we see and believe in the things we as the Body of Christ share in common and help each other as we have need. Maybe we spend much time in prayer, having glad and generous hearts, and praising God. Maybe this Lent we are called to be a part of a new awakening to the presence of God.

My prayer for all of us this season and always is that we remember again & again that no matter where we are or what we've done, God meets us where we are and opens the door for us to be formed, changed, molded and transformed into beloved children we are called to be. May you find ways to embrace your belovedness in God, rest in the grace of Christ and be inspired to embrace the new life God is calling us to.

Pastor Megan

IN PERSON UPDATE....

With the decrease in COVID cases in our area and the increase in people who have been vaccinated it feels like the right time to safely bring more people back into the church building. We will continue to keep our focus on living out our call to love our neighbor as ourselves and follow the scriptural command to protect the most vulnerable while recognizing that for our spiritual and emotional health we also need to find safe ways to reengage with one another. Beginning March 1st we will begin to reopen for worship and small groups who are willing to agree to follow and enforce our safety protocols. Masks, temperature checks, distancing and taking attendance are some of those expectations, but if you have a group that is interested in coming back to in person meeting, please contact Beth or Pastor Megan for the full list of guidelines.

That means on March 7th we will have our first in-person worship at 10:30 a.m. We will begin with the 10:30 a.m. worship service only and ask that everyone uses the main entrance off the parking lot. This service will also continue to be live streamed so that those not ready or unable to attend in person can continue to worship with the faith community from wherever you are. We will re-evaluate regularly and keep you informed as to when we may add additional services or alter our procedures.



Youth Group has started back up every Sunday from 4:30-6:00 p.m. We will be meeting at Trinity and not Shawnee for the time being. Masks are required. To be put on our text message notifications, please contact Kyle at kyle.ley87@gmail.com.

FREE STORE NEWS

The free store is still closed until we can once again open safely. We are not accepting donations yet, but keep us in mind as you begin your Spring cleaning...we will be in need of towels, sheets, and household items(if you can hold on to them for us)! Thank you to all who donated hats, gloves, sweatshirts and blankets in the past few months .Our breakfast folks really appreciated the generosity!
Blessings!

Congratulations to Sharon Wildermuth, who has been elected to the District U.M.W. office of Social Action. Sharon will serve from 2021-2023.

Trinity Family News & Notes . . .

March Anniversaries 50 years +

Bob & Fran Johns ~ March 30 ~ 59 years

Hospitalized since last Chimes

Greg Armentrout, Budd Harrod, Larry Hone, Dorothy Randall

Trinity expresses our deepest sympathy to...

To Marilyn Bryant and family on the death of her father, Dr. Sterling Cauble. Dr. Cauble died on February 14.

To the family and friends of Velma Allen. Velma died on February 18.

To the family and friends of Dorothy Randall. Dorothy died on February 21.

To the family and friends of Ruth Metzger. Ruth died on February 21.

Trinity United Methodist Church Calendar - March 2021

All events and activities listed are subject to change.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 7:30 AM To Go Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship Service - Online 12:00 PM Radio Broadcast 4:30 PM Youth Group	1	2	3 Wednesday Devotions Online	4	5	6
7 7:30 AM To Go Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Radio Broadcast 4:30 PM Youth Group	8	9 6:30 PM CCCC Board	10 Wednesday Devotions Online	11	12	13
14 7:30 AM To Go Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Radio Broadcast 4:30 PM Youth Group	15	16	17 Wednesday Devotions Online 6:30 PM Servant Leadership Board	18	19 10:00 AM Literary Ladies	20
21 7:30 AM To Go Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Radio Broadcast 4:30 PM Youth Group	22	23	24 Wednesday Devotions Online	25	26	27
28 7:30 AM To Go Breakfast 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Radio Broadcast 4:30 PM Youth Group	29	30	31 Wednesday Devotions Online	1	2	3





EASTER FLOWERS

Due to the offering of several choices and supply available, **DEADLINE TO ORDER WILL BE MARCH 10. NO ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE.**

We are pleased to offer the following choices:

_____ Easter Lilies - \$15.00 _____ Tulips - \$15.00 _____ Daffodils - \$15.00

Please take your flower(s) after church on Easter Sunday. Be sure to take the type of flower(s) you ordered.

Total number of flowers _____ at \$15.00 each = \$ _____

Make check payable to Trinity United Methodist Church. PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED WITH THE ORDER.

Given by: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Church Budget Status

	<i>Monthly</i>		<i>Year to Date</i>	
January 2021	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>
<i>Income</i>	\$ 26,793.00	\$ 30,799.22	\$ 26,793.00	\$ 30,799.22
<i>Expenses</i>	\$ 30447.00	\$ 30,285.04	\$ 30447.00	\$ 30,285.04
<i>Difference +/-</i>	- \$ 3,654.00	\$ 514.18	- \$ 3,654.00	\$ 514.18

LENT2021

You are invited into a deeper awareness of God, self and one another. Each day we hope you will find some time to choose a devotional card as well as a rotation between inward and outward challenges to grow as disciples called to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God. Our inward challenges will focus on our relationship with God and our outward challenges will focus on giving, serving and deepening relationships with others. Coins can be given to our Easter offering for CUP food pantry.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			17	18	19	20
			Inward: Ash Wednesday worship at home or at Trinity.	Outward: Give a coin for every lamp in your home.	Inward: Go on a prayer walk while holding stone to remind you of God's grace.	Read Mark: 1-9
	21	22	23	24	25	26
Inward: Worship with Trinity online at 10:30am or Noon on radio.	Outward: give a coin for every coat you have.	Inward: Reflect on and color "In our Hands" artwork	Outward: Send a note or gift to someone you appreciate	Inward: Go on a prayer walk. Pray for those who work where you walk.	Outward: Give a coin for every room in your home.	Read Mark 8:31-9:8
	28	01	02	03	04	05
Inward: Worship with Trinity online at 10:30am or Noon on radio.	Outward: Do a favor for a neighbor.	Inward: Pray to God while holding palm cross. Listen for God's direction.	Outward: Give a coin for every electrical outlet in your home.	Inward: Go on a prayer walk. Listen to where God is calling you to be.	Outward: Listen to someone's story from a different culture.	Read John 2:13-22
	07	08	09	10	11	12
Inward: Worship at Trinity in person or online at 10:30am or radio at noon.	Outward: Give a coin for every chair in your house.	Inward: Draw a symbol on the burlap square to represent "God's way".	Outward: Write a letter of support for an important issue of justice.	Inward: Go on a prayer walk. Let God's nudges guide your path.	Outward: Give a coin for every pair of shoes you have.	Read John 3:14-21
	14	15	16	17	18	19
Inward: Worship at Trinity in person or online at 10:30am or radio at noon.	Outward: Send a teacher a note of appreciation or encouragement.	Inward: Reflect on and color "Prevenient" while reflecting on God's grace.	Outward: Give a coin for every canned good in your pantry.	Inward: Go on a prayer walk. Thank God for those who have shown you love.	Outward: Call someone who has been recently ill or lost a loved one.	Read John 12:20-33
	21	22	23	24	25	26
Inward: Worship at Trinity in person or online at 10:30am or radio at noon.	Outward: Give a coin for every board or card game in your home.	Inward: Look at your reflection in the metal square. Pray for forgiveness.	Outward: Write a letter of apology to someone who you have hurt.	Inward: Go on a prayer walk. Notice signs of changing seasons.	Outward: Give a coin for every television and phone that you own.	Read John 12:1-19
	28	29	30	31	01	02
Inward: Worship at Trinity in person or online at 10:30am or radio at noon.	Outward: Bake cookies or muffins for a health care worker.	Inward: Use a hammer and nail to make a cross on the metal square. Pray for forgiveness.	Outward: Give a coin for every cross in your home.	Inward: Receive communion for Maundy Thursday.	Outward: Pick up litter in your neighborhood.	Read John 19:1-30
						03

Easter Sunday: Celebrate your new life in Christ!



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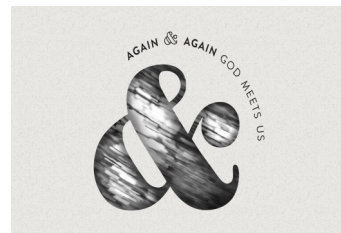
Worship Plan for March

March 7 ~ Again & Again, We Are Shown the Way

March 14 ~ Again & Again, God Loves First

March 21 ~ Again & Again, We Are Reformed

Palm Sunday, March 28 ~ Again & Again, We Draw on Courage



WEEKLY WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONS

During the season of Lent our ministry staff wanted to try something a little different and offer an online weekly devotional experience of scripture, prayer, meditation and music. This can be accessed on our web-site under the "worship online" tab or at: <https://www.limatrinityumc.org/lent-devotionals>