Pastor's Desk

Ash Wednesday arrives on Wednesday, February 10, the beginning of Lent. Dating to the early church, Lent was a time of baptismal preparation for adults. For forty days (calling to mind the forty years of desert wanderings of the Children of Israel and Jesus' forty days in the wilderness) adults were immersed in the scriptures, shared the fellowship of other Christians and learned the lifestyle of the faith. The emphasis of this instruction was their radical transformation from their previous life to Christianity. Pagans would begin to worship the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Yahweh). Jews came to know the long-expected Savior, Jesus. The student's old ways, often characterized by all manner of immoral acts and idol worship, would be put to death with the baptismal act of dying to their old life and rising to the new life in Christ.

We Christians of the 21st century, raised in a land steeped in historically Christian institutions and cultural supports, cannot imagine the tremendous change for these early believers. The change was dramatic...as dramatic as night and day. We cannot begin to comprehend the transition. Before baptism, many of these pagans were part of the abusive and destructive Roman power structure and repressive institutions of the day that persecuted the Christian faithful. After their conversion and baptism, they moved from being the persecutors to the persecuted.

Each Lent, I often think of these early Christians. I think we need a transformation as dramatic as theirs. Too often we are so uncritically immersed in the culture around us that we are indistinguishable **from** the culture. We seem to buy into the dominant themes of power, materialism, sexual exploitation, and violence which flow over and around us all the time. I know that last sentence sounds trite and timeworn but I could "unpack" each of these four "themes" with multiple illustrations from television, movies, and observations of people in shopping centers, on the highways and public gatherings.

A major Lenten theme is repentance....an old, alienating word to today's ears which means stopping dead in our tracks, taking a good look at our behavior and attitudes, assessing them over against the faith we profess, then making a one-hundred-eighty degree about face when we realize that our behavior and attitudes do not reflect that faith. I make no apology for the word or the reality of the need for repentance in our private and public life. I do not think the use of that word needs to conjure up images of sour faced people with curmudgeonly attitudes about having fun or living the full life. I think we need repentance precisely in order to live a full and Godfilled life.

If these ramblings at all intrigue you, be part of worship and Sunday school this Lent. Listen attentively as scripture engages us with a different vision of being fully human, a vision established on the bedrock of Jesus' person, his ministry, death and resurrection. Who knows, maybe we, like the catechumates of the early church, may also experience a transformation.

All my love, Joe

TRINITY HI-LITES "ABOUT US"

First Edition February 2016

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The Rev. Joseph I. Donovan Mr. Ross Cunningham



The following members and friends of Trinity were included in our prayer list during January:

Emily Saylor Karen Saylor Linda Lescaleet April Ellis

Elouise Himes Lorraine & Don Hair

Jean Carr Esther Semler
Reese Burdette Jean Lefler
Lisa Lewis William Hopkins
Steve Riddle Lucy Eshelman
Dorothy Prussuto Joan Durand

Sarah Ellis

ATTENTION

Announcements for the bulletin must be submitted to the church office NO LATER than 9:00 Friday morning.

Newsletter articles should be submitted into the church office **NO LATER** than the **15th of the month.**



February Birthdays

Februa	ary Birt	hdays		
Feb.	1	Karen Cunningham		
	3	William Dellinger		
	6	Robert Glausier		
	6	Amy Landsman Elaine Scrivener		
	6			
	7	Joseph Donovan		
	10	Douglas May		
	10	Jason McElroy		
	10	Joseph O'Brien		
	11	Matthew Bikle Larry Dalton Kenneth Hoffman Peggy Beeler		
	12			
	13			
	14			
	14	Laura McElroy		
	16	Lucy Eshelman		
	17	Jean Bridges		
	17	Stephanie Holder		
	17	Julie Seabright		
	18	Klaire Williams		
	19	Margaret Bidle		
	21	Tuba Greenfield		
	21	Laurie Metz		
	22	John Talley		
	24	John Everline		
	26	J. Gilbert Everline		
	26	Jacob Rockwell		
	26	Lisa Talley		

SECRETARY AND PASTOR OFFICE HOURS:

Wednesday 9:00 AM – Noon Friday 9:00 AM – Noon



We express our deepest sympathies to Kristy Smith at the death of her cousin, Susi Shaver. We pray that God would bless Kristy and her extended family with His peace.

We express our deepest sympathies to Susan Brown at the death of her mother, Joan Durand. We pray that God would bless Susan and her extended family with His peace.



FEBRUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

Feb. 7 Cunningham
Feb. 14 Burkett
Feb. 21 Burkett

Feb. 28

The above dates are open for flowers to be placed on the altar in honor or memory of a loved one. Flowers and appropriate greenery add a great deal to the beauty of our church.



The Men's Bible Study meets in the social room at 8:00 AM each month on the first and third Sundays. We meet on February 7 & 21. We always have room around the table for a few more men. Join us as we gather over pastries and coffee to discuss scripture.



NURSERY SCHEDULE FOR 10:15 WORSHIP

Feb 7 Julie Williams
Feb 14 Karen Cunningham
Feb 21 Jennifer Poffenberger
Feb 28 Theresa Foster

Please be considerate to others when placing your children in the nursery during worship time. The nursery is for children age infant to 4 years old. Older children 5 and older should not be in the nursery. Thank you for your cooperation to ensure our little ones are properly well cared for.



Our Children's Church Program at Trinity is a wonderful ministry to our young people ages 4 through grade 3. Children's church is offered the 3rd and 4th Sunday's of the month as part of our 10:15 A.M. worship service. Below are listed the leaders for January through April:

Feb. Karen Tribett Mar. Julie Williams Apr. Jen Poffenberger



Joyful Noise Choir

Children ages 3 and older are encouraged to participate in the Joyful Noise choir. We practice the last 15 minutes of Sunday school and sing to the congregation on the 4th Sunday of each month. If you have any questions, please call Jen Poffenberger at 301-432-0456.



This is an invitation to anyone in the congregation to share their talents with us by offering to play and/or sing during the church year, not just for special services. Just let me know when you might like to present your prepared music as a part of the service and we will give you the opportunity to shine. You will have a rewarding experience as part of our worship. Thank you, Mike Beeler.

NEW BIBLE STODY

Pastor Donovan is offering a weekly Tuesday Bible study at 9:15 a.m. in the church lounge in the education wing. This study is for women only. The Bible study topics will vary depending upon the topics the group suggests. Please feel free to bring your Bible and join us!



FEBRUARY FIRST FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

Get out of the house! Come join us for First Friday Fellowship on **Friday, February 5th**. Doors open at 5:30 PM and dinner will be served at 5:45 PM. Enjoy a dinner of lasagna and salad and some conversation with friends new and old. A free will offering will help with costs.

RSVP to kristyathome@hotmail.com, or call Kristy Smith at 240-285-8894.

The Gift of Water - Bookmark



Dear Lord of all creation:

In the beginning, you tamed the dark, chaotic waters of creation. You gave birth to the land on which we live and the world on which we depend.

During Jesus' life, He commanded the stormy seas to obey him. He walked on water. He showed the disciples that God is more powerful than anything that may threaten us.

When we face personal difficulties such as temptation, sorrow, pain - other storms in life - help us trust you to get us through.

We depend on you each day to give us the things we need. Thank you for the gift of water, which is more necessary to our life then all of our earthly riches, and yet is given to us in such abundance.

Wendy Zimmerman

Water Challenge during Advent

Congratulations to all who took part in the water/fluid challenge during Advent:
Kristy, Mary Francis, Karen, Kimmarie,
Theresa, Barb, Jean, Chip, Beth, JJ, Karen,
Melissa, Chuck, Jane, Elaine, Edda, Woody,
Martha, Joe, and Susan

Infused Water Recipes

Choose one of the following flavors and mix the ingredients with 8 to 12 cups of water, refrigerate for at least 1 hour and then enjoy

Vanilla Orange -

1 thinly sliced orange and 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Apple Cinnamon -

1 thinly sliced apple and 1cinnnamon stick

Cucumber Mint -

1 small thinly sliced cucumber and 5 mint leaves

Strawberry Basil -

 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of sliced strawberries and 5 basil leaves



The February Prime Timers gathering is scheduled for 12 noon in **Trinity's social room** on **Wednesday**, **February 17**. The group will enjoy a lunch of soup, bread and dessert

followed by a speaker who will present interesting information about a little community in southern Washington County. Come join us if you are available that day!

Amen



Gaggle Gathers to Giggle

If you are on Facebook and would like to be added to the Gaggle page, please let Kristy know. We would not want you to miss any scoop!



The South County Food Pantry is again hosting a PaintNite event to benefit the Micah's Backpack program on Saturday, February 6, 2016 at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 64 South Main Street, Boonsboro, MD. It will begin at 2:00 pm. The price per ticket is \$45.00. Micah's Backpack of Washington County is currently serving 98 students at 5 elementary schools and, with the uncertainty of the operations at the Maryland Food Bank-Western Branch, this fundraiser will help us continue to provide nutritious meals over the weekends. Please register at http://paintnite.com/pages/events/view/norther nmd/932755. You may contact Lisha Bikle at 301-667-2406 or goldenlover@myactv.net if you have questions about this fun event. Thank you for your support!



Join us on **Tuesday, February 9** as we observe Shrove Tuesday with our annual all-you-can-eat pancake and sausage supper from **5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.** A free will offering helps defray the expenses. If you can help with the supper, please call **Mark Poffenberger at 301-988-6629.**



On Wednesday, February 10, we begin Lent with our Ash Wednesday service of Holy Communion and the imposition of ashes. The service begins at 7:00 PM. Please join us!



Trinity Youth Group
Spaghetti Dinner
Sat. February 20th 5 – 7 pm
In Trinity's Social Room

\$7.00 per person, family rate of \$25 Reservations encouraged by contacting Cindy Hutchinson, cinhutch@aol.com or 301-432-2602

Dinner includes a delicious entrée of spaghetti with homemade sauce, crisp green salad with a choice of dressing, fresh bread, coffee, punch and a variety of cakes.



Annual Meeting held on February 28

Trinity's Annual Congregational Meeting and luncheon follows the 10:15 worship service on Sunday, February 28. The Council will provide fried chicken for the luncheon. We ask you to bring a salad, vegetable or dessert to share when you come to church that morning. We will receive a free- will offering to help defray the cost of the chicken. This meeting, which follows the luncheon, is an opportunity to review the treasurer's reports and committee reports for 2015 and to discuss program ideas for this calendar year. Please come and be involved!



The Boonsboro Cemetery Association will hold its yearly meeting in the Social Room at **3:00 PM on Sunday, February 28**. The members of Trinity's Congregation Council are members of the Association and asked to make every effort to attend this important meeting.



Our annual chili cook off is slated for Saturday, March 5th at 5:30 PM in the social room. We need to know how you will participate. Let Kristy or Tom Smith know if you will be entering a chili recipe, or if you would like to do one of the following: Open mic/talent show dessert or bread provider set up, clean up, ticket table Don't miss the fun!

Cooking Class Take 2

On Tuesdays, beginning March 8th, a series of 4 weekly classes will focus on fast and furious family friendly meals. Up your culinary game with some new dishes, shopping hints and idea exchanges. The cost is \$75 and includes a tasting of the dishes, and nearly all of the ingredients to take home and make them yourself. Space is limited to 12, so register today. See Kristy Smith for more information.



MAR-LU-RIDGE SUMMER CAMP

Come and join us this upcoming summer for a wonderful week of camp! The summer camp brochure with a full schedule and camp descriptions is available here at the church as well as online at www.Mar-Lu-Ridge.org. Mar-Lu-Ridge offers:

- a fun, small group, Christ-centered week in the woods
- affordable pricing starting at \$405 per week for overnight and \$165 for day camp
- friendships and memories that stay with your child
- camperships to ensure that all children can attend camp
- a wide variety of unique specialty programs for all ages!
- ACA certification means MLR meets the highest safety standards

Interested families may consider joining us at one of our open houses from 2:00 to 4:30 PM on Sundays March 20, April 24 and May 22.

If you have any questions, please contact MLR by e-mail at MLR@Mar-Lu-Ridge.org or by phone at 301–874–5544.

Registration opens January 1, 2016!



CANCELLATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may learn of the cancellation of Sunday school and/or worship services due to snow or ice by calling the church office (301-432-2226) and listening to the outgoing message, by checking your email for an email blast or by tuning to the following local radio stations:

WCRH (90.5 FM) WJEJ (1240 AM)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	9:15 AM Bible Study	3 6:30 PM Support Grp 7 PM Contemporary Choir	4 1-3 PM Food Pantry & Micah's Backpack 6 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM AA Meeting	5 5:30 – 7:00 pm First Friday Gathering	6 2PM PaintNite
7 8 AM Men's Bible Study 9 AM SCS 10:15 AM Worship w/Communion	8	9 9:15 AM Bible Study 5 PM Sausage & Pancake Supper 7 PM Church Council	10 6:30 Support Grp 3 PM Girl Scouts Ash Wednesday Service 7PM	11 1-3 PM Food Pantry & Micah's Backpack 7 PM AA Meeting	12	13
14 9 AM SCS 10:15 AM Contemporary Worship	15	16 9:15 AM Bible Study	17 11:30AM Prime Timers 6:30 PM Support Grp 7 PM Chancel Choir	18 1-3 PM Food Pantry & Micah's Backpack 6 PM Girl Scouts 7 PM AA Meeting	19	20 5PM Spaghetti Supper
21 8 AM Men's Bible study 9 AM SCS 10:15 AM worship Children's Church. 11:30 AM Blood Pressure screening	22	23 9:15 AM Bible Study	24 3 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Support Grp 7 PM Chancel Choir	25 1-3 PM Food Pantry & Micah's Backpack 7 PM AA Meeting	26	27
28 9 AM SCS - 10:15 AM worship Children's Church/ Joyful Noise Choir - Children's Church Congregational Meeting following Worship 3 PM Boonsboro Cemetery Assoc	29					