

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

## News Update for July 16, 2020

*This is a large work I've called you into, but don't be overwhelmed by it. It's best to start small. Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won't lose out on a thing.”*

*(Matthew 10:41-42, The Message)*

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Since last Friday when the Trinity B & B closed for overnight stays, things have been quite different at church, and much the same. I have missed having the guys here most of the time and the community which that facilitated, however, days are still remarkably busy helping folks. Most of the guys who were B & B guests still need the services that you make possible for Trinity to provide, such as meals, showers, laundry, and the pastor's time.

In the past few days, I have spent MANY hours with someone (I'm going to call him Sam) who had been self-medicating for years with meth for Adult Attention Deficit Disorder. You might wonder how so much of my time was involved. Sam had a small window of time when he was willing to ask for help, and the clock was ticking since it was already late afternoon. I, along with a driver, took him to the Emergency Room (because that is the only place that will take out-of-state Medicaid) where we could take care of a small medical problem and get access to a social worker. Our next stop was the Crisis Center, for more time with a social worker who specializes in drug abuse and mental health issues. She wrote a map for us to follow the next day that

included how to get an Idaho Medicaid card over the phone, and which urgent care facility to visit. It was past 10:30 pm by the time my driver and I returned Sam to his tent for the night.

The next morning was filled with phone calls to Medicaid, a prospective employer, and a counselor. By 11 am we had an Idaho Medicaid number in hand, and it was time to head to an urgent care. There was a short side trip to the hand doctor to get *my* finger re-bandaged, and then it took visits to 3 different urgent care facilities before we could find someone who, took Medicaid, and was able to prescribe the drugs Sam needed. When we arrived at the pharmacy, they informed us that the drug which had been prescribed was locked in a safe which had a timer on it. We would have to return after waiting for at least an hour. Monday evening my driver and I were able to return Sam to his tent by 7 pm after picking up some dinner.

Day 3 involved a late afternoon trip to Rehabilitative Health Services for a new prescription and an additional map of steps toward sobriety for Sam now that he had access to medical care and was not illegally self-medicating. Again, you might wonder why so much of my time was involved. Sam needed to have his hand held, figuratively and literally, in order to keep things together long enough to jump through these 1,000 hoops. He needed to have someone sitting beside him who people would not just dismiss without first listening to the whole story. He needed a cheerleader and someone he could cry in front of. He needed solid pastoral care and love, not based on a judgment of worthiness but based on the teachings of Christ.

Thank you, Trinity, for being the awesome and caring congregation that you are!

Remember that I am available to you by phone or in person (with careful physical distancing and face mask) at just about any time. Please let me know if you would like to stop by for an in-person visit.

I miss you and love you.

Blessings,  
Rev. Ruth

Remember to hold  
each other tightly in  
your heart.

## **Sunday's Worship**

Sunday's worship theme will be "Growing God's love Among the Weeds" It will be about how good and evil grow side by side. The scripture lesson will be Matthew 13:24-30, if you would like to reference it before you watch the video. The video will be available on our Facebook page and on our YouTube channel. (See the last page for all the links.)



*Jesus told them another parable:*

*The kingdom of heaven is like this: Once there was a farmer who sowed good seeds in his field. While the farmer's workers were sleeping, his enemy crept into the field and sowed weeds among all the wheat seeds.*

## **Quick ZOOM Links:**

### **Sunday Prayer and Connect Time**

Jul 19, 2020 10:15 AM America/Boise

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4609079844?pwd=OGxNaTNpRFdhNHhRUUVJiczNtaE83UT09>

Meeting ID: 460 907 9844 Password: 089437

### **Theology on Tap**

Jul 20, 2020 07:00 PM America/Boise

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4609079844?pwd=OGxNaTNpRFdhNHhRUUVJiczNtaE83UT09>

Meeting ID: 460 907 9844 Password: 089437

## **Taking care of our building:**

We have been plagued by a series of floods, with water leaking into the basement utility hall and then into the boiler room, and once even into the dungeon. Rob has



identified a hole in the asphalt that was letting the rainwater enter. It flowed under the outside stairs and into the boiler room hallway. Rob has filled up the hole with asphalt patch, and built-up the area to cause the water to drain away from the building. He also sealed the cracks in the asphalt, just to be sure. Once again, Rob to the rescue.



## **Our new tree is being eaten - Don Rohde**



Who knew that baby squirrels love to eat the bark off maple trees during the winter? It is a thing. I googled it. Even during the wintertime, the bark has a bit of sugar that the squirrels find

irresistible. Our new playground tree received quite a bit of damage last winter. Rob has developed a squirrel-proof collar to discourage them from climbing the new tree. We will also use a hot pepper spray to further discourage the snacking. Please don't think that we are going to mace the squirrels (so unchurch like). The pepper spray will be applied to the tree bark to make it less appealing as a snack.



## **Hello Dear Friends at Trinity,**

*We write to let you know that Mrs. Betty Jenkins, wife of former minister Jim Jenkins will be celebrating her 96th birthday on Saturday, July 25th. Although we will be seeing her and talking to her through a window, we are saddened that we cannot be with her on that day to celebrate properly, as her retirement community is on lockdown. We thought that one way to make her day special would be for her to receive lots of birthday cards! She would love to hear from those of you who would like to participate. She has recently moved to the next level of care at Willamette View, and this adds to her need to hear from friends old and new at this time. Her new address is*  
 Mrs. Betty Jenkins  
 13145 SE River Road #212HC  
 Portland, OR 97222.

*Many thanks to those of you who would send our mom a greeting, and many thanks as well for the wonderful years that our family spent among you.*

*With love, The family of Betty Jenkins*

## FISH School Supply Program

The mission of our school supply program is simple. We provide school supplies to those families for whom their purchase would create a hardship. Over the years, with the help of over 50 volunteers, we have developed an efficient and economical way to do this. During the past school year FISH provided backpacks, filled with requested supplies, to over 740 students in Districts 91 and 93. As we are challenged by the present pandemic, we are determined to accomplish our goal in whatever new and innovative way is necessary. Our financial contributors are facing their own difficulties and the school districts are trying to determine what this next school year will look like. Could you consider a generous donation to make it possible for us to once more fulfill our mission in these trying times? Contributions may be made through your church or may be mailed directly to FISH, P.O. Box 2236, Idaho Falls, ID 83403.



Bev Kemp - FISH Chair - [bevmkemp@gmail.com](mailto:bevmkemp@gmail.com) - 208-569-6149

## UMW Update

The Fourth of July has passed and as a child I always felt summer was half over. What strange times we are living in. Some of us still feel our summer hasn't been able to start yet. However, even though we cannot meet for unit meetings and circle, we still must face the consequences of this pandemic. It is a world pandemic, which means our mission outreach is just as critical if not more so. Our pledges to mission still must go on. Please, please give to our missions. Donations can be sent to Joni Pace or to the church office. Let us all pray that our work will still carry on and make a difference. The Executive Board is making plans for our August 13<sup>th</sup> ice cream social. More information will be given at a later date. Stay well and hope to see you all soon.

Mary Nagel

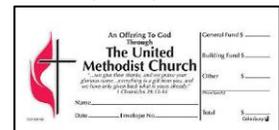


**Continuing Needs for the Homeless Drop-ins:**

- Hand Soap
- Toothpaste
- Conditioner
- Disposable Razors
- **Shaving Cream**
- Deodorant
- **Ramen Noodle Packs**
- **Vienna Sausage**
- Canned Soup (hardy)
- Beef Stew (pop top lid)
- Chili with meat

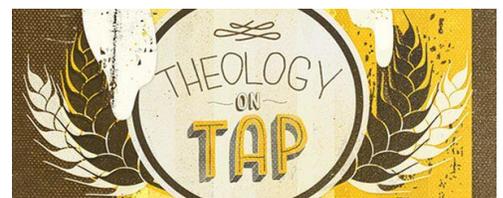
**Thank you for your continued financial support of Trinity by:**

- a. delivering your regular giving personally
- b. calling the office and give via credit card
- c. using US Postal Service to send a check
- d. going to Trinity’s website and give via credit card or PayPal
- e. or, signing up for bill-pay at your bank so they can send a check



**Theology on Tap - The Home Edition**

Theology on Tap is going strong with the weekly Zoom calls. On Monday afternoons check the Facebook page for the Zoom meeting number and password. At 7pm pour your favorite beverage, warm up an appetizer and be prepared to think deep thoughts with your Monday night community. Call or email the office if you want to be added to the Theology on Tap Facebook group.



**Monday Theology on Tap 7:00 pm ZOOM Link:**

Jul 13, 2020 07:00 PM America/Boise

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4609079844?pwd=OGxNaTNpRFdhNHhRUVJjcZntaE83UT09>

Meeting ID: 460 907 9844

Password: 089437

## Sunday Morning Gathering of Prayers by ZOOM

The Sunday morning Zoom call is a good opportunity to chat about the morning scripture lesson, share your prayer requests, to see each other and hear each other's voices.

If you are new to Zoom and would like some training and a practice a Zoom session call, text or email Don Rohde (860-810-3227 - [DonRohde@aol.com](mailto:DonRohde@aol.com)) and he will set up a practice Zoom call so you can figure out how to run the program and get all the settings right while you are at home and Don is at church. Then you will be ready for this Sundays 10:15am Zoom Meeting. Zoom is free and once you learn it you can use it to contact your family and friends.



Look for the Zoom invitation from Ruth on page 3 or the Trinity Facebook page.

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### Checkout all the Worship Videos

Each Sunday Worship videos will get posted on Trinity's Facebook page ([Trinity United Methodist Church in Idaho Falls](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityUnitedMethodistChurchIdahoFalls)). If you go to Trinity's web page ([www.TUMCIF.org](http://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>

Please know that I am holding you and the entire Trinity community in my daily prayers. - Reverend Ruth Marsh

Trinity United Methodist Church - [www.tumcif.org](http://www.tumcif.org)