



News Update for September 15, 2022

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Trinity Day Shelter Hours

– Closed until further notice. We are aware that church grounds are being used as a place to distribute, exchange, buy, sell, and use illegal drugs. In effort to curb this abuse, we will be discontinuing shelter services as we explore options to make it a safer space.

Our last day of operation was Monday September 12th.

This Week at Trinity

Friday (September 16nd)

- Office Closed

Sunday (September 18th)

- Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship on Facebook Page at 10:10a (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>)
- Fifteenth Pentecost Sunday

Monday (September 19th)

- NA Just4Today2 7:00 pm
- Theology on Tap via Zoom 7:00 pm

Tuesday (September 20th)

- RCCM 10:00
- Cub Scouts Pack Meeting 7:00 pm
- NA Book Study 7:00

Wednesday (September 21th)

- Upper Room via Zoom 10:00 am
- Gather at the table 6:30 pm
- Scouts meeting 7:00 pm

Worship on 9/18

Lesson from the Christian Gospel:

Luke 16:1 - 13

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'



"The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg — I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'

"So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

"'Nine hundred gallons[a] of olive oil,' he replied.

"The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.'

"Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?'

"'A thousand bushels[b] of wheat,' he replied.

"He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'

"The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." (NIV)

John Wesley Quote

From the time that power, riches and honour of all kinds were heaped upon the Christians, vice of all kinds came in like a flood, both on the clergy and laity. From the time that the Church and State, the kingdoms of Christ and the world, were so strangely and unnaturally blended together, Christianity and heathenism were so thoroughly incorporated with each other, that they will hardly ever be divided till Christ comes to reign upon earth.



FORMER TIMES

UWF News

Fall is here!
Leaves are
beginning to
turn, and



United
Women
in Faith

temperatures are dropping. Hooray! We celebrated apples at our meeting this past week with apple pie, apple pudding, apples with dip, and caramel apple suckers. Mary Nagle gave us an overview of the Mission U program called "Pushout". Thanks to everyone for your attendance, delicious food, and presentation. Joni Pace will present "Becoming a Witness in Kin-dom" at our next meeting on October 13. Mark it on your calendar.

UPCOMING EVENT: On October 22 the Oregon/Idaho Conference will be meeting in Boise. The guest speaker will be the national president. Be thinking about attending.

Kay Pottorff has reviewed several good books these past months. Time to check out a book from the UWFaith library in the church parlor.

Big shout out to our visiting grace ladies. I know the time you spend with people is greatly appreciated. My mom always enjoyed your visits. Thanks so much! Thanks, also, to Sherry and Don for setting up ZOOM so we could attend meetings and conferences virtually.

Sermon from 9/11

Lost and Found

Based on Luke 15:1-10 and Psalm 14

As some of you know I worked, for a spell, as a chaplain in a sprawling hospital in a sprawling city, places each that make it far too easy to find yourself lost without a clue as to where to turn next. The hospital, like many modern complexes is itself a real life labyrinth comprised of an older original structure that has been expanded again and again over the years with added wings and annexes. Over time, those additions have been linked to even newer buildings: each connected by a series of bridges and enclosed, floating walkways. It is a place so difficult to navigate that, as an established part of orientation, new hires are sent on a scavenger hunt to familiarize themselves with the hospital layout. I can tell you now, that that particular practice is for the most part (at least as it's intended) a waste of time as many participants, overwhelmed by the newness of it all, find themselves wandering around in scattered packs — dazed, confused, and ultimately distracted by the on campus Starbucks when they

finally find it, under the auspices of striking it off their list. So instead of actually getting a workable lay of the land, this time given in orientation to find your way around the grounds often devolves into sort of mobile meet and greet, with participants being more intent on finding allies with whom to navigate this new stage of life than knowing, say, how to actually get to nuclear medicine in a timely manner. Which isn't really a problem until, days later, your pager goes off calling you to nuclear medicine, and you have no idea where to even start until someone finds you stumped, in the middle of an empty corridor, spinning in circles like you're prepping for a game of pin the tale on the donkey. It is an utterly confusing undertaking, which makes it incredibly helpful to have an understanding supervisor who has been through it and so, then, insists that during the training phase of your new gig you take additional time to go out on your own, scavenger list in hand, to tick off various the locations one by one, with no one else tagging along to take you off task. I say it helps but, mind you, it is in no way foolproof as it is also certain that you'll still, in the weeks and months ahead, find yourself running to a code with no idea where you're actually going; something you'll do again and again until one day it just clicks and you realize, in your own joyous way, that you've made your way from the Heart and Vascular Unit, up to Neurology, back down to the ER, and over to Labor and delivery without getting turned around twice: that is, you only happened to get a bit disoriented that one time, but you caught and corrected yourself pretty quickly... so it doesn't really count, does it? And that is a cause for celebration.



Getting lost and found.

I found myself, in considering this week's scripture, thinking about the way in which creative processes often play out over a similar sort of twisting, meandering path with scattered points of punctuation, stops, starts, and confused pauses. Let's go back to sometime around the late 60's early 70's, singer-songwriter Carly Simon is working on a song called "Bless You, Ben" but she's gotten to a point where she is at a loss for where to go with it. She has a melody but the lyrics just aren't quite right, so she puts the song down for a while and moves on to the next. That is until one night, while at a party, a famous guy walks in — as a friend later reports to Simon — like he was "walking onto a yacht." Carly takes that poetic description back to her piano (thank you very much), sings it to the established melody of "Bless You, Ben" and in the process pens the song that would, arguably, become her most recognizable, "You're so Vain," which itself is arguably most readily recognized by the pointed question that ends its chorus: "I bet you think this song is about you, don't you, don't you, don't you?" Simon, lost in her creative process finds the answer she's been looking for at an unexpected time, in an unexpected place and in the process, sets off a firestorm of interest that persists until

this day with fans and friends alike wondering exactly who the song is referring to. And the writer, in a most genius way has continued to stoke the flames over the course of decades, revealing tidbits of information here and there to keep people guessing: establishing, like she did in a collaborative remake with Janet Jackson in the early aughts, who it's not about (that is, Mick Jagger is off the hook) before alternately floating a clue like "his name includes that letter E," or letting a famous friend in on the secret — who then let's it be known that they know who it is but will never tell — which then stirs up public curiosity yet again...

Who, exactly is Carly Simon singing about?

The only thing we can say for sure is that it isn't about us...

But that's not the case with scripture is it? While it's a very human trait to see ourselves implicated in the stories we read, the epics we digest, biblical texts seem to amp that tendency up to the next level, and we often treat scripture like that its sole purpose. And, more often than not — as is our tendency — we are more than willing to cast ourselves as the hero of its parables and other tales — the one of which Jesus or the prophets speak about sweetly. But how often, in doing so, do we actually lose what could be the message meant for us, the lyrical offhand comment or tidbit that points us in the right direction, leads to completion, wholeness, or fruition by identifying with the role that casts us in the most forgiving light? Luke chapter 15 gives us a passage populated by Scribes, Pharisee's, Sinners, Tax Collectors, a housewife, a shepherd... Jesus. I bet you

think this scripture's about you, don't you, don't you? So the question now stands, in reading this narrative, who would you be most likely to choose as your avatar if we agree that yes, in all likelihood, in some form or fashion, some way or another this scripture is about you? And once you have identified that one-to-one depiction, the next question that lands is, have you taken the time to really investigate how it is about you? That is, I'm asking you to question whose story in the the tale most closely aligns with how you see yourself while subsequently asking what interpretive lens you're bringing to each reading: is it a lens that can and will accurately inform your own spiritual journey so that you land at the destination each storyteller, both Jesus and Luke, intended? For example it is not unheard of that, in some Christian circles this text is taken as a call to action — a directive for the unfettered and enlightened to set off as shepherds in search of that lone, lost sheep — the converted sinner who will send the heavens into a felicitous frenzy: all on the heels, of course, of our pious, sacrificial, dare we say modest efforts to rescue, care for, carry them back home. "Oh, it was nothing Lord, really. I'd do it again and again." I bet you think the song is about you...

But is that what Jesus is really getting at in telling these two parables to the Scribes, Pharisees and others surrounding him? Is that what Luke is, in turn, encouraging by giving us the wider angle view? Are either of these storytellers asking us to run off in search of sinners and loose change? Is this really about us rounding up "the other" for the glory of God or are they slyly getting at something else? Well, I'm glad you asked because I,

unlike Carly will tell you: yes this text is about you and, yes, you are the shepherd, you the sweeper, you are the sinner and you are the sheep simply because these parables are not about what exists apart from us but are rather spiritual advertisements that invite us to fire up, ignite and employ our inner gaze — to turn inward and find, for ourselves, that missing piece of that might actually free us from the every pressing need to seek out, identify, and rectify what is wrong, bruised, or broken in others. And here's how we know:



Notice, now, which characters are active in these stories and how they come to life in the tale. The tax collectors and sinners come near to Jesus. They are the ones in search of something. They are the active seekers who have taken stock and found that something significant is missing in their lives. They are the ones who demonstrate the effort that Jesus extols. The seeking. The sweeping. Now, take notice of the possessive nature of what is lost as Jesus speaks. He doesn't cast other people as belongings, does he? Rather it is a sheep; a coin, something that can be claimed, individually owned. And then let's look at the type of social and religious attitude that Luke casts Jesus in opposition to — the Scribes and Pharisees who judge and debunk the righteousness of others; casting themselves apart from those they

deem uncouth. They are looking to fix or correct something that's broken in someone else: "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." And this is the attitude that sets Jesus off and so he takes pains to explain to them, in simply plotted parables, the insanity of their vanity. "You're so vain..." he seems to say, "I bet you think this song is about you..." You think it's about the way you see others: assessing and judging their personalized search for God. You think it's about you: the way others see and are impressed by all your pious (self) righteousness. You think it's all about you and your adherence to appearance when really the focus of salvation has shifted: it isn't at all about how you see others or how others see you. Rather, it's about your own active, inward spiritual search of self. Your diligent effort to find those missing pieces that have been passively misplaced in your day-to-day comings and goings: your peace, your joy, your patience, or compassion; a reclamation of those spiritual gifts that render us complete in the eyes of all the host of heaven. And much like shepherding sheep, this is an ongoing, daily undertaking. A job never quite done.

Our Psalm, this week, talks about God looking down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God. A God seeking those who seek.

So, yes, perhaps this week's scripture is all about you... That is, if you're willing to admit the ways in which you're at a loss; if you're willing to seek out and find that next piece of your spiritual puzzle that will, in turn, bring you even closer to God, closer to completion. This, if you will allow, can be a moment to step toward an inward

spiritual inquest as if you were stepping onto a yacht, and the song or story you're writing in concert with the divine can, essentially, finish itself — your own joyous chorus to sing in the presence of the angels of God.

Amen.

Pastor Alphaeus

Anniversaries

October

John & Sharen Trickey	5 th
Kevin & Kelly Carney	12 th
Robin & Nancy Stewart	13 th

Birthdays

September

Austin Jensen	16 th
Peggy Allison	17 th
Tristan Hayes	17 th
Kathleen Taylor	18 th
Kendall Denning	20 th

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - August 31 2022



Income	\$92,283
Expenses	\$125,255
Net Income	(\$32,973)

Thank you for your continued generosity. More than ever, the world needs what our church offers!

Rally Day Pictures

Rally Day was very successful and here are the following pictures.





Job Posting for:

Administrative Assistant

Job description

- Moderate proficiency in MS Office, Gmail, Google Contacts, and iCloud products.
- Maintain membership lists / filing: track office and worship supplies (stamps, paper, candles, etc.), maintain address books, maintain calendar.
- Willing to learn the proprietary computer program that tracks membership and donations.
- Facilitate financial deposits and reimbursement paperwork
- Strong editing skills in order to assist with church communications: newsletter, grants, articles, send via email and post mail.
- Handle telephone calls and messages that may contain private information with compassion and in confidence.
- Answer the doorbell with appropriate greetings and instructions.
- Occasional attendance at committee meetings and conferences in person or online,
- Assist pastor and committee chairs with information meeting notices.
- Update and publish weekly announcement handouts.
- Assist in the onboarding process for new hires.
- Willing to interact with a variety of people, including, homeless, young, elderly, drug addicts, well educated or uneducated, and those lucky enough to be wealthy.
- A desire to care for the people around you.
- Job Type: Part-time
- Pay: \$15.00 per hour.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact

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

Job Posting for: Door Tender

The job includes:

- Greeting shelter guests at the door,
- Training guests in using shelter services,
- Assisting staff in the operation of shelter services
- Cleanup at the end of the day.

Trinity is participating in a Department of Labor Job Training program. Successful applicants will be interviewed and employed by the Idaho Department of Labor to work at Trinity as job training. The program has the following initial requirements:

Basic Eligibility for the WIOA Youth Program

- Age 16-24
- Authorized to work in the US
- Idaho Resident
- Has a barrier to employment

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact

Windy Hahn | Manager

Idaho Falls Local Office

Idaho Department of Labor

1515 East Lincoln Road | Idaho Falls, ID 83401-2129

208-557-2500 ext. 3053

Fax: 208-525-7268

Windy.Hahn@labor.idaho.gov

Food on Sunday Morning

- September 18th - Potluck Breakfast before Worship 9:30 – 10:00

Fall 2022 Activities and Schedule

The Fall Schedule

Trinity Day Shelter – Closed until further notice. We are aware that church grounds are being used as a place to distribute, exchange, buy, sell, and use illegal drugs. In effort to curb this abuse, we will be discontinuing shelter services as we explore options to make it a safer space. Our last day of operation was Monday September 12th.

Sunday Worship at 10:15A.M.

Fellowship Time and Potluck breakfast- 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. before worship and continuing after worship. Child Care available in the Nursery every Sunday

Upcoming Events

Sunday Breakfast Potlucks – September 25 – 9:30 – 10:00. A.M. (This will be available each Sunday – This is a return to our activities before COVID). Bring a favorite dish or just join us for fun and fellowship.

Children's Church -- during the Sermon time each Sunday- We hope to soon provide the activity with **volunteer support help each week.**

"Trinity Times"

Newsletter available by email, on the church web site or by paper copies at the church. Sunday Worship live on Trinity Facebook Page every Sunday or available for viewing later. Go to www.TUMCIF.org – for links to all information or view the large screen inside the door at TRINITY UMC.

Staying Connected

Each Sunday Worship videos will be posted on Trinity's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>). If you go to Trinity's web page (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>

Trinity Leadership

Below are the names and contacts for the leadership positions for the next year. Please let the appropriate leader know how you are willing to serve.

- Bev Kemp - Chair of Staff/Parish Relations
(208)569-6149
bevmkemp@gmail.com
- Don Rohde - Chair of Trustees
(860)810-3227
donrohde@aol.com

- Robin Stewart - Chair of Administrative Council
(208)521-6358
robin.s.stewart@gmail.com
- Scott Taylor, Chair of Finance
(208)201-5593

Where's Ruth on 9/11/2022

Where in the world is Reverend Ruth? - still in the Kimberly west Australia.

The Gibb River Road is famous for how rugged, and therefore sometimes dangerous, but luckily our bus waited a half hour down the road to break down. We were able to limp to a roadhouse (convenience store/gas station). We waited there while our bus driver hitched a ride to the town 100+ miles away to get another bus!

Here's a picture of Doon Doon where we spent much of the day and cleaned out the small stock of ice cream that the store had 😊 and a picture of the Gibb River Road sign where we had just left.

I love and miss you all,
Reverend Ruth

My next update will be about getting to the Bungle Bungles.



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<div>September</div>			14 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 Finance Meeting via Zoom 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	15	16 Office Closed	17-
			21 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (Zoom) 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	22	23 Office Closed	24-
18 9:30 – 10:00 Breakfast Pot luck 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	19 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	20 6:30 Admin Council Meeting via Zoom 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	28 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom 6:30 pm Gather at the Table (Zoom) 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	29	30 Office Closed	1-
25 9:30 – 10:00 Breakfast Pot luck 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	26 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	27 6:30 Admin Council Meeting via Zoom 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	5	6	7	8
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