Pastor’s Perspective

An understanding mind gains knowledge; the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

(Proverbs 18:15 NRSV)

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The last few months of the Pastor’s Perspective have covered serious subjects. To change things up, this month please enjoy this quiz that was handed out at the Louisiana Annual Conference 2003.

Here are the questions. Answers can be found on page — — .

John Wesley Trivia Quiz Questions

1. What was John Wesley’s middle name?
2. Who was “Old Jeffery?”
3. What did Wesley’s parents call him?
4. What traumatic event in his childhood made his mother think his life had a special calling?
5. When did Wesley dedicate his life to God because he said it was impossible to be “half Christian”?
6. Who started the group nicknamed the Holy Club, or Bible Moths, or Methodists?
7. Why did Wesley go to America?
8. What was the name of the ship that brought Wesley to America?
9. Where did Wesley live during his two years in America?
10. Why did Wesley start preaching outdoors?
11. What issue caused the separation of George Whitefield and Wesley?
12. What musical instrument did John Wesley play?
13. Where did Wesley deliver a sermon when his father’s church refused to let him preach?
14. To whom did he marry and when?
15. What was Wesley’s suggested cure for baldness?
16. What was the physical appearance of this great man?
17. What was the subject of Wesley’s final letter (2/24/1791)?
18. What were Wesley’s final words?

Blessings,
Reverend Ruth
The Community Food Basket assisted 1,217 families in January.
The Soup Kitchen continued to meet the need for a hot meal at noon seven days a week.
FISH has seen a drop in assistance for the Community Family Clinic since expanded Medicaid started on January First and as a result, assistance with gas was the greatest need filled this month.

Please focus on boxed macaroni and cheese this month as the Food Basket is having to buy it since they are out. Place your donations in the grocery cart at the top of the stairs.

The Lenten Lunch series begins soon. Please see the schedule below. What a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and worship together as we observe this holy time of Lent!

#### 2020 Regional Council for Christian Ministry Lenten Series
Schedule for each Friday:
11:30 Lunch – Noon to 12:30 Worship – 12:30 Lunch

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<td>First Presbyterian</td>
<td>325 Elm St.</td>
<td>Patrick Jones</td>
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<td>March 13</td>
<td>First Lutheran</td>
<td>455 W Sunnyside</td>
<td>Phil Hagen</td>
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<td>March 20</td>
<td>St. Paul UMC</td>
<td>1730 St. Clair Rd.</td>
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<td>Trinity UMC</td>
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Free Meals: One of our mission activities is to provide a free meal for everyone each Sunday. Since many of our guests at meals after worship are not able to bring food to share it is important that those that can, do.

If people don’t sign up in advance to provide soup it makes planning this meal difficult.

Hot Showers: With the renovation we are now able to offer hot showers to people without adequate shelter, who may have spent the night out in the cold. There were 18 showers in January.

Cold Weather Supplies: You have been marvelously responsive to the call for blankets, sleeping bags, boots, coats, propane and other cold weather needs. These items are literally life saving!

Clean Clothes: The new washer and dryer are busy most days.

Feeling the Warmth: Everyday during office hours Trinity is open to those looking for a warm place to be, have a cup of coffee and a cookie, and charge their cell phones.

#### United Methodist Women
The new year started off great with our first circle meeting in January. Bev Kemp gave the program about “New Beginnings” for our Sunshine Circle. At the February Unit Meeting, we welcomed Jan Karinen, Jill Lines, and Deb Smith as new UMW members.
The Sunshine Circle met February 27th at 1:00 in the Parlor. Kelly Carney lead us in the Prayer and Self Denial program.

In addition to our usual offerings, a special offering for world wide UMW Missions was taken. Thanks for your participation.

#### Bible Sunday
On Transfiguration Sunday, Trinity presented Bibles to the following third graders:
- Razdyn Bottcher
- Eliana Castillo
- Evelyn King
- Sage Robertson
- Zoe Stevenson (Received her bible at her previous church in Texas.)

**Beginning Bible Class 9:15 am**
Reverend Ruth is teaching an “Introduction to the Bible” class for all who have received a Bible over the past few years and their parents and anyone else who wants to attend.

The class will be Sundays, March 1, 8 & 15 from 9:15 to 10:00 in Room L3 (Library).

#### March Birthdays & Anniversaries

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For additions to or corrections on birthdays please contact Pam in the church office 208-522-7921.
"What type of personality requires an uncompromising stand on principle? It would have to be someone who was completely rigid, completely inflexible, and often has some sort of megalomania: I believe this is the only truth, and it is the only truth because I believe it." – William Shatner.

In my line of work, the wrong answer can lead to loss of quality, followed by loss of hardware, safety, and reputation. The right answer allows you to start the nuclear reactor, everyone goes home safely, experiments get irradiated, allows you to start the nuclear reactor, everyone goes home safely, experiments get irradiated, sometimes we get recognized. There is compromise, but it is different from the Cub Scouting motto, “Do your best.”

Any kind of success that I have had required compromise between my own expectations, and sometimes we get recognized. There is compromise, but it is different from the Cub Scouting motto, “Do your best.”

This month, Pack 6 participated at Winteree, had a Uniform Inspection with Troop 6, learned about reverences to God and Country, had a flag retirement ceremony, learned about Bernoulli’s Principle, and participated in Scout Sunday and brunch. Sam Bays 208-520-8883.

Trinity has been hosting scouts for the last 100 years. To celebrate the centennial the church held our annual Scout Sunday. More than fifteen scouts were on hand to participate.

The Cub Scouts were in the Sanctuary helping with worship, being liturgists and ushers. They also handed out Valentine’s Day cards.

The older scouts were outside and downstairs preparing the Dutch oven lunch for the congregation.

In September of 2019 a small group of people from Trinity met, and by the end of the gathering it was clear that we should form a group at Trinity to focus on welcoming marginalized people in the Idaho Falls area. Over the next three months the group picked a name, wrote a welcoming statement, and the “Trinity Reconciling Methodist Group” was officially established when they voted to affiliate with the Reconciling Ministries Network. It should be noted that the group does not officially speak for the Trinity Congregation but is a group that meets at the church.

The welcoming statement for the “Trinity Reconciling Methodist Group”:

“We are a welcoming community with open hearts, open minds, open doors on a journey of life and faith together. Our Reconciling Group is centered to love God, our neighbors and to serve the community. We do this through worship, celebration, acts of giving, caring and prayer.

We welcome you just as you are. Together we will ask questions about God, share joys, laughter, concerns and tears. We welcome and affirm people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and racial and ethnic heritages.

Whether you are young or old, queer or straight, single or married, full or empty, dressed up or dressed down, who you are and where you are on life’s journey matters to us.”

We Do Meals!!

• March 1st, 8th & 29th are Soup Sundays: March’s Soup Sundays are the 1st, 8th and the 29th. Please sign up to bring a crock pot of soup or stew to feed the crowd; sign the list at the back of the sanctuary, or call the office at 208-522-7921.

• March 15th is Scout Brunch: On March 15th the Scouts will cook (and clean up) brunch for us. Donations to this worthy cause help to support scout activities. (See the scouting news on page 8 of this newsletter to find out what they have been working on.)

• March 29th – 4th Sunday Pot Luck Lunch: Everyone shares bringing and eating at the pot luck on the 22nd of March. One never knows what deliciousness awaits in the kitchen on these special Sundays!

Membership Notes:

Sue O’Steen passed away on Sunday, Feb. 16. She always had a day that was blessed, and passed that blessing on to others. She and God are going to have a great time! Memorials given to Trinity in Sue’s name will go the children’s Bible fund.

Lillian Weinberg passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 18. She had been living near her daughter in Colorado for the past several years. Her name brings up many fond memories for members of our congregation.
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Ruth at Escalante Bike with Scouts

Ruth at Order of Elders Gathering

Ruth at Northwest Leadership Institute

Please have your articles for the April newsletter submitted to: donrohde@aol.com no later than Sunday, March 15th, so we can get the April newsletter out in a timely manner. Thank you! Don Rohde-Editor donrohde@aol.com
The Troop celebrated 2020 Scout Month with our annual Dutch Oven Brunch. Although I could not attend due to some camping with Nancy, a few seasoned scouts, lots of parents, and scouts from both Troop 6 and Pack 6 were primed and ready to go.

The next outing for the troop will be a snow camping catapult on Pine Creek Pass where we’ll spend Saturday practicing our new skills in building T-Huts or Igloos (for the more experienced), and discovering the comfort of staying out of the cold and weather in a snow shelter. It’s always a hit.

The School Districts #91 and #93 Spring Breaks are aligned this year. We’ll spend a portion of the month with our annual Dutch Oven Brunch. Although I could not attend due to some camping with Nancy, a few seasoned scouters, lots of parents, and scouts from both Troop 6 and Pack 6 were primed and ready to go.

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Our largest fund raiser is coming up. During the April Yard Cleanup the scouts will de-thatch, aerate and perform general yard work for a fee which will enable them to scout for the rest of the year. Look for a flyer soon with prices and contact information for scheduling your yard.

Troop 6 is looking forward to bridging a new crop of cub scouts into the troop in March. In addition to the boys of Troop 6, we’re expecting to welcome a few girls into the troop. Initially we are planning to meet together and share scoutmasters and SPL’s, but will remain fast and flexible. We’re all looking forward to girls having the same opportunity in scouting our boys have had for 100 years. It’s going to be great. They will form a new patrol or two and start the journey towards 1st Class and maybe even the Eagle Scout rank.

You may have heard that the national office of the Boy Scouts filed for bankruptcy. I do want our Trinity Scouting family and church family to know that this will have minimal impact to our Trinity Scout family and church family. Prayers for the talented national staff who are affected by this re-organization, please.

The long awaited peace pole arrived. Unfortunately the garden is still under a foot of snow so planting the pole will be a spring project.

It was an exciting month in the Trustee world.

- **Bequest Funding:** The church received a $40,000 bequest from the Farkas estate. Paul let us know that Steve and Ruth intended their gift to be used for capital improvements around the church.

- **Grant Funding:** Trinity received a $5,000 matching grant from the Idaho Heritage Foundation to restore the blue and white stained-glass window and repair 2 ventilator stained glass windows in the Sanctuary. We have already identified the $5,000 that will be the Trinity part of the match.

- **Security Cameras:** Robin has installed cameras at the front door and in the nursery as part of the new video security system. We have already identified the $5,000 that will be the Trinity part of the match.

- **Shower Mission:** In January we had 18 people use the showers. The February number will exceed that. We provide towels and soap items.

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- **Recovery Groups:** We have picked up another AA group that meets on Thursdays at 7pm. That makes a total of five NA meetings, two AA meetings and one SAA meeting each week.

- **Home-Schooling:** We now have a home-schooling group that rents space at the church each Wednesday. They provide about 50 home-schooled students with an active time of art, science and visits from zoo animals.

- **Major Projects:** The trustees are contemplating several major projects around the church that require some research and major planning:
  1. Installing a fire escape for the main floor of the education wing.
  2. Replacing the roof water downspouts inside the walls of the parlor and sanctuary.
  3. Replacing the sidewalk along water street and including more loading zones with curb cuts.
The ship was the Simmonds.

7. The parsonage where he lived was on the southeast side of Savannah. He did travel to other areas of Georgia such as Ft. Frederica on St. Simons Island, but he resided in Savannah.

8. Although Wesley’s heart was warmed in 1738, it was back in 1725 that he declared that he would remember and seek, finding it on May 24, 1738.

9. The parsonage where he lived was on the southeast side of Savannah. He did travel to other areas of Georgia such as Ft. Frederica on St. Simons Island, but he resided in Savannah.

10. Soon after Wesley returned from Georgia, he found that the churches didn’t agree with his preaching on holiness and they began banning him from their pulpits. Upon visiting Bristol, George Whitefield introduced him to the idea of outdoor preaching. Although un- sure at first, he started and continued to preach in this fashion for decades to come.

11. Whitefield believed in the election, or the predestination of those who are going to heaven have been predetermined. Wesley believed in free will (Arminianism), that anyone could accept salvation and be assured of God’s grace.

12. He learned to play the flute as a youth.

13. He went outside of the church and stood up on his father’s tomb.

14. Although he was friendly with a couple of ladies in his college years, he became serious about Sophy Hopkey in Georgia. He was unsure if he should marry because it might be detrimental to his ministry, so he procrastinated and she married another. He fell for one of the Methodist converts in England about 1748-49, Grace Murray, but Charles was concerned that a marriage might harm the ministry and he made sure she married someone else. Finally, John ignored his brother and married Mary Vazeille in 1751.

15. Wesley produced a book of cures in a book entitled Primitive Physic (1747) that was widely circulated in the 1700s. It contained hundreds of cures on a number of ills. To cure baldness he suggested rubbing the head with onions and honey. Feeling lethargic? His remedy for that was ‘strong vinegar up the nose.’ Hoarse throat? Try bruised garlic applied to the soles of the feet; it also cured his humpback. What was Wesley’s choice for something approximating a universal medicine? Electricity.

16. He was almost 5’6” tall, average for his day. He weighed about 120-130 pounds and was muscular and strong. He kept his black hair (which turned white with age) long because he didn’t want to waste money on haircuts.

17. His final letter (Feb. 24, 1791) was to William Wilberforce. It spoke of Wesley’s opposition to slavery and urged Wilberforce to take action against it.

18. It is typically recorded as “The best of all, God is with us.” The next morning, just before 10 am, several people were gathered around his bed. As Joseph Bradford was praying, they heard Wesley say “Farewell” and he passed.

The Trinity Youth Group had a lock-in on Friday, Feb. 21st. Nine youths participated in the activities that included karaoke, an epic scavenger hunt, the traditional lock-in game of sardines, and lots of board games. The midnight snack was pizza and cheese puffs. The final round of Telestrations ended at 2am. There was a brief period of sleep, and then a breakfast of French toast and sausage was served to the somewhat groggy crew by Robin Stewart.

As you can see in the pictures, an appropriate amount of exhaustion took place.

To set the tone for the overnighter our group made a covenant together to ask themselves these questions before they took an action:

1. Is it Safe?
2. Is it Kind?
3. Is it fun for everyone?
4. Is it praiseworthy?