

According to legend on Tuesday, February 2, if the groundhog sees his shadow, we will have 6 more weeks of winter... but if he does not see his shadow... We will have an early spring! The whole idea derives from a Pennsylvania Dutch superstition and other German-speaking areas where the badger (German: Dachs) is the forecasting animal. It also appears to be an enhanced version of the folklore that clear weather on the Christian Holy Day of Candlemas forebodes a prolonged winter.



Presidents Day is a holiday celebrated the 3rd Monday in February. Presidents Day 2022 occurs Monday, February 21. Originally established in 1885

in recognition of Pres. George Washington, the holiday has become known as Presidents Day. It was moved to February as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act in an attempt to create more 3-day weekends for the nation's workers. Presidents Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents, past and present.

Thank-you...



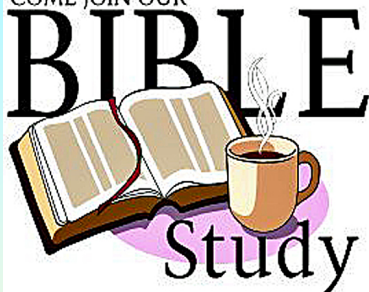
Thanks to all those who helped deliver the 18 poinsettia plants to those members who find it difficult to move about as freely as they would like! All expressed their thanks and appreciation to those who remembered them with cards and flowers!



Clothes-To-Go

On January 11, twelve of us worked on getting the winter clothes ready for the January 18th sale. Unfortunately, because of the rise in Omicron Virus cases, we were forced to restrict the sale to Narcotics Anonymous and walk-ins only. Hopefully, the sale on February 15th will allow us to be more more accommodating. Several ideas under consideration are letting NAAC see the clothes on Tuesdays after their meeting and allowing those who make appointments to see the clothes at times other than our Tuesday sale dates.

COME JOIN OUR



The Thursday morning winter Bible Study which began on January 20 is led by Rick Clark. Any and all are invited to be part of the current study focused on *The Gift of the Nutcracker* by Matt Rawle. The group gathers on Thursday mornings at 10:30 using the log-in information published each week (generally on a Wednesday evening) on Trinity's Facebook page! For more information and a copy of the book, call Rick Clark at 717-272-0350.



The Finance Committee thanks all those who continued to make regular contributions during the stressful time that was part of 2021. Your dedication to the life and ministry of Trinity makes a difference in our community. If you are planning to make changes to your Trinity donations, please let us know, so that we can adjust our yearly budget and follow through with the responsible

stewardship of the resources the Lord gives us. Your 2021 Financial Statement is now available upon request. If you need a printed copy of your statement, please send your request to our Financial Secretary, Mary Gruber (mggruber6968@gmail.com). Again... thank you for your faithfulness.

Trinity's Finance Committee

Staff Parish Needs You...

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is your connection with the Conference, District Superintendent and Bishop. It meets regularly to discuss personnel conditions and issues that affect our congregation's total ministry. They listen carefully to the issues presented by the staff and people in the congregation, while keeping a focus on the mission of the church and maintaining strict confidentiality of items discussed. Current members include Keith Earle, Chair; Leslie Dissinger; Kevin Long; & Barbara Querry. Assisting the committee and offering insight into various inquiries are Pastor Lynn Hackman; Lay Leader, George Hollich; & Lay Member to Annual Conference, Gloria Clark. There are two vacancies that need to be filled. Could one be you?

DISCRETIONARY FUND



Each month the pastor is asked to help members of Trinity or the community as they go through difficult times. The gifts that you send as a special offering on Communion Sundays designated for the "Discretionary Fund" is one way you can support this special fund. Please consider helping those in need!

HAPPENING THIS MONTH...

FEBRUARY EVENTS -- DATES & TIMES

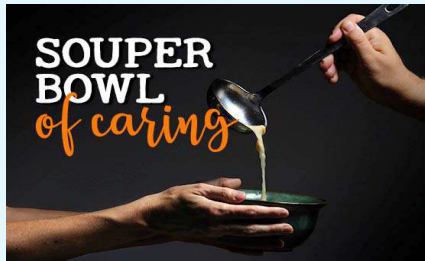
(All meetings unless otherwise indicated are via Zoom.)

Our 9:15 Sunday Worship is in-person & also available on Facebook & Zoom)



- Feb. 3 - Worship Committee (7:00)
- Feb. 6 - Worship & Communion (9:15)
- Feb. 6 - Ad Council (1:00)
- Feb. 7 - Souper Bowl Sunday (Article below)
- Feb. 8 - Ladies Luncheon (12:30) (Article, p.4)
- Feb. 15 - Clothes-To-Go - (11:00-2:00) (Article, p. 1)
- Feb. 24 - Staff Parish - (7:00) (Article, p.2)
- Feb. 27 - Transfiguration Sunday (9:15)
- Mar. 2 - Combined UMC Ash Wednesday Service
Covenant UMC (7:00)

Pastor Lynn expresses thanks & appreciation to the congregation for their Christmas gifts that she received over the holiday season!



On Sunday, February 7th, Trinity will again celebrate Souper Bowl Sunday with your donations going to LCCM. However, this year in addition to collecting cans of soup, we are asking you to consider a monetary donation since Lebanon County Christian Ministries is in need of money to purchase items that are not on their shelves.

In previous years, Trinity has generously supported our "Souper Bowl" ministry. Thank you in advance for your support again this year.

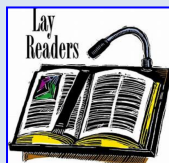


AND don't forget *Valentine's Day* is on February 14th. It is a festival of love and time to give cards, flowers or presents to friends, family and loved ones. Originating as a Christian feast day honoring one or two early saints named Valentinus... it is recognized as a cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and romantic love in many regions around the world.



There are numerous stories associated with February 14 such as one that has Saint Valentine (imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to persecuted Christians) restoring sight to the blind daughter of his judge. He wrote the judge's daughter a letter and signed it, "*Your Valentine*" as a farewell before his execution.

- | Date | Reader |
|-----------|---------------|
| Feb. 6 - | Barb Querry |
| Feb. 13 - | Dea Kishpaugh |
| Feb. 20 - | Betsy Allwein |
| Feb. 27 - | Carol Hollich |



If you are unable to serve as lay reader, please call... 717-838-2812

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 10... Gary Robson
- 15... Tina Washington
- 15... Ted Frey
- 21... Sue Robson



Continuing Ministries



UMCOR - Tornado Relief

Gloria Clark posted information on Trinity's Facebook page related to the request from UMCOR for monetary assistance in caring for the immediate needs caused by the recent tornado damage in the Kentucky and Tennessee Annual Conferences.

UMCOR (United Methodist Commission on Relief) Statement:

I am sure that by now you have learned about the tornado that decimated much of Kentucky and surrounding states. We are asking for monetary donations for the immediate need. 100% of your donation goes to the need you have chosen.

Those at Trinity interested in making a donation should make checks payable to Trinity UMC and include one of the following designations... 1) UMCOR; 2) the Kentucky Annual Conference; or 3) the Tennessee-West Kentucky Annual Conference (Memphis and Tennessee Conferences). Checks may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday morning or sent to the Church Financial Secretary, c/o Trinity UMC, 757 Willow Street, Lebanon, PA 17046.



Redner's Receipts

Don't forget to put your Redner's Receipts into the box that is provided in the Parlor! Even if you don't shop at Redner's, perhaps a friend or family member does. Those receipts add up and are an easy way to generate a little extra income for the church!

Ladies' Luncheon



*The ladies will meet at Hoss's in Annville at 12:30 for lunch and fellowship on **Tuesday, February 8th at 12:30.** All are invited to join the fun, food, & fellowship whenever you can. The men of Trinity will meet on the other side of the restaurant! Of course, it goes without saying that as we continue to deal with Omicron & Covid, we sometimes need to decide on the safety of this activity closer to the date! So if in doubt, check with the Church Office to be sure that we are gathering!*

Some thoughts...

- *Does TUMC have a handy "go-to" list of shelters or any established places we can call to help visitors?*
- *How about a sign for Clothes-to-Go that could be at the bus shelter down the street?*
- *Have we thought about having some of our home-bound members read scripture, offer Morning Prayer, or participate via Zoom?*
- *Has anyone ever heard of a "Mutt Ministry"?*

Tools for Ministry set for March 5 on Zoom



Once again it's time to open the proverbial tool box to help build and repair church ministries—to fix what's broken and improve what's working. That requires leadership development and training more than anything else.

So the Eastern PA Conference will sponsor the 2022 **Tools for Ministry** on Saturday, March 5, 9 AM to 12:30 PM. A total of twenty-six classes will be offered virtually on Zoom once again, out of an abundance of caution during the still-surging COVID pandemic.

Tools for Ministry is a half-day academy offering two sessions of diverse, dynamic learning for leaders. And it's open to all laity and clergy. Skilled instructors will provide valuable information, wise insights and helpful resources. To see or download a full list of workshops please visit...

https://www.epaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022_ToolsForMinistry_Brochure.pdf

Register today before classes fill up!

**You've Got
MAIL**

A small illustration of a white mailbox on a wooden post with a red flag, positioned to the right of the text.

Have you ever considered that a Perfect Marriage is two imperfect people who refuse to give up on each other?

from Karen Neblock

From Leslie Dissinger...

A shout out to Our Secretary, Deb for doing her best to find shelter info for a visitor on Tuesday and even staying past her office hours. During the Clothes-to-Go event, a woman came in thinking we were a shelter and stating she was homeless. (She traveled from Harrisburg via bus).

Thanks to (Deb), the Hollich's, and the Querry's , Trinity provided shelter, clothing, hot cocoa, any "food " we could find, and conversation.

Thanks to all!

Thank you to the congregation of Trinity for your continuing support over these past 21 months. Organizing the bulletin & music each week for "zoom" & now in-person services has been an exciting, often frustrating challenge that has made worship quite different than the "old" normal. Thanks to Carol, Caroline, Pastor Lynn, Deb, and George for their help in making our worship service a meaningful experience. It truly is a group effort!

Your Worship Committee



Adult Sunday School – February



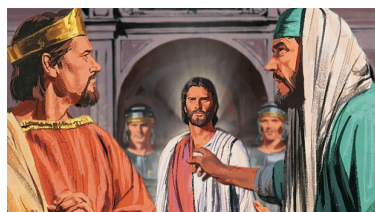
We will be considering **Justice and Adversity** in our Sunday School lessons in February. During our winter theme, **Justice, Law, History**, we looked at how God’s justice is different from the concept we humans have of justice. Revenge isn’t justice. On the other hand, restoration is a perfect expression of justice. Unfortunately, God’s justice is often perverted, miscarried, and ignored—to man’s peril. When a king strays from the path of justice, who can rebuke him? When a whole nation has forgotten—or despised—the law of God, how can the people be saved? This third unit of the quarter

explores how people who obey God can correct their pathway when injustice has become the rule of the day. Our lessons in February are entitled...

February 6	Nathan Condemns David	2 Samuel 12:1–9, 13-15
February 13	Ezra and the Law	Ezra 7:1–10, 23–26
February 20	Bildad Misspeaks God’s Justice	Job 8:1–10, 20–22
February 27	Job and the Just God	Job 42:1–6, 10–17

God’s people bear the responsibility of seeking His justice in the face of all kinds of opposition. Sometimes, as with Job’s friend Bildad, wrong doctrine about God sounds right and results in faulty condemnation of the innocent. The final lesson of the month illustrates the joy and life we can find when we return to harmony with God’s justice. Ultimately, we work toward God’s will enacted on earth as in Heaven and are hopeful because justice does not depend on us alone.

Any parent will tell you that children have an amazingly acute sense of justice. Even the smallest deviation from equal treatment is met with cries of “That’s not fair!” Of course, parents will also note that children have a powerful capacity to conveniently bend the notions of justice to self-interest. This interpretation of justice in the hands of clever human beings, becomes an amazingly threatening concept. In fact, as we get older, it comes to look more like justice can be a powerful tool for getting what one wants. Indeed, every leader of mass murder in the twentieth century (whether Hitler, Stalin, Mao, or the leaders of Rwandan génocide) used the cry for justice to justify their grotesque crimes.



2000 years ago the Gospel writers tell us about the trial of Jesus. Each writer indicates that in both Jewish and Roman courts certain legal procedures were followed. The prisoner was arrested, charged and cross-examined, and witnesses were called. The judge then reached his verdict and pronounced the sentence. Yet the Gospels also make it clear that the prisoner was not guilty of the charges laid, that the witnesses were false, and that the sentence of death was a gross miscarriage of justice. But behind this unjust verdict were fallen and fallible human beings, who were swayed by the dark passions of their own self-interests.

Justice transcends political parties, religious sects, and philosophical positions. To dispense justice means practicing kindness and compassion toward others which become a reflection of the heart of God, our Father. So, join us in February as we conclude our unit on **Justice, Law, History** and discuss how each of us responds to how we respond to **Justice and Adversity** in the 21st Century...

February 6

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Who did David kill with the sword? (Uriah the Hittite, Nathan, ewe) | <i>2 Samuel 12:9</i> |
| 2. The Lord put David to death for his sin. T/F | <i>2 Samuel 12:13</i> |

February 13

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. The king denied Ezra all the requests he made. T/F | <i>Ezra 7:6</i> |
| 2. Ezra appointed magistrates and _____. | <i>Ezra 7:25</i> |

February 20

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Bildad the Shuhite accused Job of talking like a blustering _____. | <i>Job 8:1–2</i> |
| 2. Bildad the Shuhite asserted, “Our days ... are a _____.” | <i>Job 8:9</i> |

February 27

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. The things of the Lord are too _____ to understand. | <i>Job 42:3</i> |
| 2. God gave Job twice as many blessings as before. T/F | <i>Job 42:10</i> |

Trinity United Methodist Church

757 Willow Street, Lebanon, Pa. 17046

Where "Faith, Hope and Love abide to encourage all to respond to the call of Christ."

JANUARY 30, 2022 - 4th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

(The service begins at 9:15 with the fellowship area opening at 9:00.)

To be a part of worship on the computer go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81205787915>
or join by phone by dialing 1-646-876-9923 and entering 812 0578 7915 when prompted.)

Welcome & Announcements

George Hollich, Lay Leader

Prelude

Here I Am Lord – Arr. Wagner

Organist: Caroline Jacobs

*Call to Worship

Words from Isaiah 61

Liturgist: Dave Wallett

L: The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to those who are afflicted.

P: We come to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to those who are bound, and release to those who are imprisoned.

L: Rejoice in the Lord! Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of His restoration.

P: Let us comfort those who mourn and give them a garland instead of ashes.

L: Again I say, "Rejoice"!

P: So the Lord God will cause righteousness to spring up in all nations.

*Hymn #593

Here I Am, Lord

Dan Schutte

I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save
I have made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

(Chorus) Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go Lord if You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart

(Interlude)

I the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them, they turn away
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? **(Chorus)**

I the lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? **(Chorus)**



Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Lay Leader, George Hollich

Meditation in Music

God Help the Outcasts

Menken & Schwartz

Carol Hollich, Piano

***Doxology**

***Celebration of Gifts**

Lay Leader, George Hollich

(Your offerings can be placed in the offering plate in the rear of the sanctuary or sent to Trinity UMC, 757 Willow Street, Lebanon, PA 17046)

***Hymn #549 Where Charity and Love Prevail (vs. 1, 5, & 6)**

Alexander Reinagle

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.
Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son;
As members of his body joined, we are in Him made one.
Love can exclude no race or creed, if honored be God's name;
Our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.



Epistle

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Liturgist: Dave Wallett

Gospel

Luke 4: 21-30

Sermon

You Can't Go Home Again

Lay Leader, George Hollich

***Hymn #444 O Young and Fearless Prophet (vs. 1, 2, 4, & 5)**

William Runyan

O young and fearless Prophet of ancient Galilee,
thy life is still a summons to serve humanity;
to make our thoughts and actions less prone to please the crowd,
to stand with humble courage for truth with hearts uncowed.
We marvel at the purpose that held thee to thy course
while ever on the hilltop before thee loomed the cross;
thy steadfast face set forward where love and duty shone,
while we betray so quickly and leave thee there alone.
Stir up in us a protest against our greed for wealth,
while others starve and hunger and plead for work and health;
where homes with little children cry out for lack of bread,
who live their years sore burdened beneath a gloomy dread.
O young and fearless Prophet, we need thy presence here,
amid our pride and glory to see thy face appear;
once more to hear thy challenge above our noisy day,
again to lead us forward along God's holy way.



***Benediction**

Postlude

Great Is Thy Faithfulness - Arr. Doran *Organist: Caroline Jacobs*



**Sunday School – Justice and the Marginalized
Deuteronomy 24: 10-21**

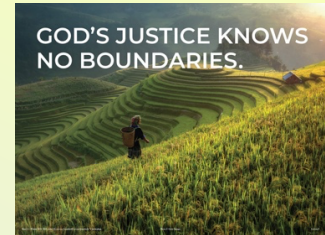
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(A discussion of this theme will follow the 9:15 Worship Service.)

Justice and the Marginalized Sunday School Handout - January 30, 2022

Study Texts: Deuteronomy 24: 10-21

KEY VERSE: Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this. — Deuteronomy 24:18



Ignorance and Want

In Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, the Ghost of Christmas Present guides Ebenezer Scrooge on a tour of various scenes around London. Some scenes highlight holiday celebrations, while others show poverty-stricken individuals, including Scrooge's own employee, Bob Cratchit. Toward the end of the tour, the ghost reveals two destitute children beneath the folds of his robe, a boy named Ignorance and a girl named Want. The ghost warns Scrooge, "Beware them both ... but most of all beware this boy."

Through these characters, Dickens drew his readers' attention to issues of ignorance and want regarding the economic challenges of his day, which was mid-19th century England. Many people of that time and place experienced want and neglect and were marginalized. Those who were better off often adopted a stance of willful ignorance toward the situation. Scrooge's next words aptly describe that attitude: "I do not wish to see them." Unfortunately, many still react this way, avoiding issues of economic justice by looking the other way.

BEWARE OF OPPORTUNISM!

During the coronavirus pandemic of 2020, an enterprising but unscrupulous couple used the demand for hand sanitizer for their own profit. They traveled to nearby towns and purchased all the hand sanitizer they could find, storing up cases of the in-demand product. They advertised their newly acquired product at vastly inflated prices. While hand sanitizer shortages were prevalent, the couple charged several times the suggested retail! People readily purchased the hand sanitizer at the grossly inflated price. Eventually, the government intervened and redistributed the product to those in need. During a crisis that necessitated a compassionate response, this couple exploited others for profit and caused an inequitable situation. God requires his people to not take advantage of others. While many people see crises as an opportunity for personal gain, God requires fairness. What can you do to ensure that you are part of the solution rather than part of the problem?

The Power of Memory

A young family, expecting their first child, recently moved in next door. One day the young husband caught my attention and hesitantly asked, "Do you have a battery charger I could borrow?" I said, "Of course," retrieving the charger from my garage. I told him to keep it as long as needed. A week later, he brought back the charger and asked why I didn't hesitate lending it to him. I answered him with a story: "When my wife and I were newly married and had our first son, we were living paycheck to paycheck. My car battery was dying, and I was desperate to get back and forth to work. I asked my neighbor, Harvey, if I could borrow his battery charger. He did not hesitate. I used the charger every night. I wanted to treat you the same way Harvey treated me. That's why I didn't hesitate." On hearing the story, the young man replied, "That was exactly my situation!"

Thoughts to Consider

1. Do you talk to people poorer than you differently than you talk to those who are wealthier?
2. What aid does our congregation offer the poor? How would it be missed if that support vanished?
3. How do memories of God's work in your life shape your behavior?

JUSTICE AND THE MARGINALIZED

Lesson 9, Deuteronomy 24:10-21, NIV

COLOR CODING

Color-code Deuteronomy 24:10-21 based on the key below:

Red—What *not* to do.

Green—What to do.

Blue—Reason for action.

- ¹⁰ When you make a loan of any kind to your neighbor, do not go into their house to get what is offered to you as a pledge. ¹¹ Stay outside and let the neighbor to whom you are making the loan bring the pledge out to you. ¹² If the neighbor is poor, do not go to sleep with their pledge in your possession. ¹³ Return their cloak by sunset so that your neighbor may sleep in it. Then they will thank you, and it will be regarded as a righteous act in the sight of the LORD your God.
- ¹⁴ Do not take advantage of a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether that worker is a fellow Israelite or a foreigner residing in one of your towns. ¹⁵ Pay them their wages each day before sunset, because they are poor and are counting on it. Otherwise they may cry to the LORD against you, and you will be guilty of sin.
- ¹⁶ Parents are not to be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their parents; each will die for their own sin.
- ¹⁷ Do not deprive the foreigner or the fatherless of justice, or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge. ¹⁸ Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this.
- ¹⁹ When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. ²⁰ When you beat the olives from your trees, do not go over the branches a second time. Leave what remains for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow. ²¹ When you harvest the grapes in your vineyard, do not go over the vines again. Leave what remains for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow.

EXAMPLES TO FOLLOW

Answer these three questions after reading each passage listed below:

1. Who was marginalized and why?
2. Who was generous and compassionate and why?
3. How can you apply the passage in becoming more compassionate?

Day 1
2 Samuel 9:1-13

Day 2
Ruth 2:1-16

Day 3
Luke 10:30-37

Day 4
Acts 9:36-43

Day 5
Ephesians 2:1-7