

The Trinity Bell

Rector's Reflections

A Kingdom Road Map

The Vestry and I read an article about six characteristics of thriving churches. The first characteristic spoke about the importance of having a "Kingdom Road Map." What this means is having a *clear and specific sense of mission*. How we are working to build God's kingdom of equity and love in the world. How we are working to impact people *beyond* our church membership. How, specifically, we are fulfilling God's calling "to love your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).

Trinity does do a lot to touch lives beyond our walls--soup kitchens, assisted living services, food pantry donations, winter outfits for kids who need them, premie quilts, summer camp, etc.

At the same time, we haven't yet discovered a major ministry that is having a marked impact on our community. In fact, our struggle may be that we are spread too thin--each small group tied to its particular ministry, and not enough aligned around a bigger goal. If we were to close tomorrow, who besides our members would truly miss us?

To be honest, I'm not sure how we might move to a point where the community around us takes notice of our work *because we are actually changing people's lives*. When I started here, I thought that our mentoring program might flourish into such a ministry. That didn't work out. Well, not everything does, but what can be learned from this? It occurs to me that before launching something else, we might need to engage more in conversation with our neighbors. What are the felt needs of our area? What are the primary concerns of locals and civic leaders? Where are the opportunities to make a difference?

That's partly why I hope you will make an effort to come to our Wednesday Lenten program, especially on March 8, when the organizer for a regional church group will talk to us about how to conduct conversations that get to real hopes and needs--of one another, and of the wider community too.

I believe that discerning a "Kingdom Road Map" for ourselves is the most essential task before us right now. It is the key to our thriving as a church. And, truthfully, there are selfish reasons to engage in it--*because it is also the key to our own spiritual growth*. When we truly commit ourselves to serving others in a sustained, impactful way, it may have a transformative effect on them. It will definitely have a transformative effect on us.

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More on this subject next month.

Peace,
Ian



Children's Ministries

March 2017

Lenten Challenge

Each week in Children's Worship, we watch a video which pertains to the lesson we are working on and then read the scripture from either an illustrated or NRSV bible. We usually have time for the opening activity, but rarely have time for the follow up game and activity. But, we do our best in the time we have.

Those activity sheets come up to church with your child, as well as, a children's bulletin with quiet activities to do while attending the service.

My Lenten challenge to you involves the back page of the activity sheet we use in children's worship. On this page are activities to do at home that reinforce the les-



son we have learned that week. I am challenging each family to do at least 1-2 of these activities per week.

Upcoming Lessons

Glory on the Mountain	2/26
Adam & Eve	3/5
Jesus & Nicodemus	3/12
Woman at the Well	3/19
Samuel Anoints David	3/26
Jesus Raises Lazarus	4/2
Matthew's Holy Week	4/9

Heifer Project



your expertise would be greatly appreciated.

Now, for a confession, I am not a gardener. I have no idea what I am doing in the garden. For the last several years, I have had Barb Watson, who did know how to garden. Since she has moved, I am in search of a gardener who is willing to help me plan, plant, harvest and care for the garden over the summer. If you love to garden, and would be willing to spend part of your summer helping with the Heifer project,



Youth Ministries

March 2017

Confirm not Conform (CNC)

This year we have consolidated all the Junior High and High school students into Confirm not Conform. Over the last couple weeks, we made our first church visit to a more evangelical style church in Northville, MI. The youth who were able to attend enjoyed the vibrant praise and the sermon. However, they were a bit surprised by the different way in which communion was offered. We have also spent a bit of time with our mentors and began looking at scriptures that are of personal import to them. As part of a youth Sabbath later in the year, the youth will be sharing these scriptures.



We also took a few weeks to talk about how we can help with bigger world problems and meet local needs. The youth are currently exploring ways in which they can help the community as a group. As a part of this class, they will be planning a service project to do as a group. I am always amazed at what socially aware and giving youth we have.

Wild Game Dinner

Plans are beginning for the third annual wild game dinner. Please contact Jeff and Mary Hill, or Erica and Eddy Fulton if you would be willing to help make this event possible. This one night goes a long way in helping the youth attend pilgrimage. The committee works on planning, gathering raffle prizes and supplies. Jeff has had a successful hunting season and has already set aside venison, and squirrel for some favorite recipes.

I was really unsure about trying wild game the first dinner, but have found that I really enjoyed a few of the recipes. This is a great way to support our youth and try something new in the process.

Pancake Breakfast

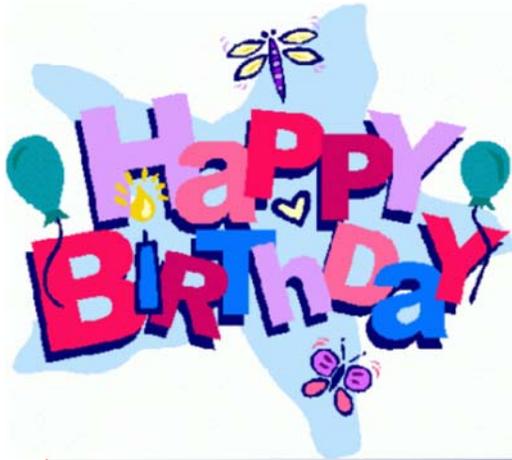
February 26, the youth will host the annual Pancake Breakfast. Please plan to stay after the 10:30 service for pancakes, sausage, milk, juice or coffee. This is a wonderful time of fellowship before we move into the Lenten season.

This breakfast will be by donation and also helps the youth attend pilgrimage.

Important Dates

Pancake Break-fast	2/26
Wild Game Dinner	3/4
Class at 9:00am	3/5
World Sabbath, leave Trinity at 3:15pm	3/5
Class or Church Visit	3/12
Class at 9:00am	3/19
Class at 9:00am	3/26

- **Please watch the bell notes for scheduled outings. We will be visiting some other churches in the next few months.**



March Birthdays

3-3	Ginny Gearns	3-10	Morris Altizer Jr.	3-24	Daniel (D.J.) Miller
3-5	Carrie Lynn DeJonghe	3-10	Elizabeth Anderson	3-25	Erica Fulton
3-6	Emma Garcia	3-10	Paige Harris	3-29	Sue Carpenter
3-7	Ethan Locke	3-11	Sally MacMullan	3-30	Darryl Conliffe
3-8	Teresa Moore	3-16	Pamela Graham		
3-9	Kacee Harris	3-17	Patrice Anderson		
		3-18	Pat Mussin		
		3-18	Jeanne Power		
		3-21	Joseph Mussin		
		3-21	Gerald B. Zywicki		
		3-23	John Oliver		



3-6- Bill & Judy Settles

March 2017

- ◆ AA meets every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m and every Tuesday at 12 noon.
- ◆ Boot Camp meets 5:45 am on Wednesday and Fridays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ash Wed see pg 7 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	2 Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm	3	4 8:00 am Altar Guild Wild Game Dinner 4:00 pm
5 Regular worship Services Cedar Woods 2:00 pm	6	7 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	8 Lenten Program see pg.7 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	9 Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm	10	11 8:00 am Altar Guild Soup Kitchen Rides (Leave at 10:30 am)
12 Regular worship Services Vestry 12:00 pm	13	14 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	15 Lenten Program see pg.7 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	16 Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm	17	18 8:00 am Altar Guild Eagle Scout Honor Celebration 2:30 pm
19 Regular worship Services	20	21 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	22 Lenten Program see pg.7 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	23 Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm	24	25 8:00 am Altar Guild
26 Regular worship Services	27	28 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	29 Lenten Program see pg.7 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	30 Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm	31	

March	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
8 am EM	Randy Hotton	Jim Pederson	Susan Armstrong	
10:30 am EM Bread	Erica Fulton	Bev Jenkins	Deacon Richard	
10:30 am EM 1	Jamie Owen	Dennis Bramigk	Eddie Fulton	
10:30 am EM 2	Adesuwa Obaseki	Darryl Conliffe	Erica Fulton	
10:30 am Acolytes	Colin Fulton Ethan Fulton Cajsa Melms	Joel Hill Kendyl Sikorski Araina Altizer	Kenedee Morse Bradley Eziuka Benjamin Eziuka	Taylor Penhorwood Ellie Russell Kathrine Russell
Welcomer	Charlotte Drake	Eric a Fulton	Deb Green	<i>Dave Anderson</i>
Welcomer	Sara Eziuka	Eddy Fulton	Sue Carpentar	Judy Anderson
Giftbearer	Maria Conliffe	Dave Anderson	Sean Hanoian	Charlotte Drake
Giftbearer	Darryl Conliffe	Judy Anderson	Mary Hill	Sharon Peters
Lector	Judy Anderson	Cyndi Hernandez	Brenda Thom	
Altar Guild	Erica Fulton Bev Thom Paula Brown Barb Smith (on call)			
Counter	Kraig W	Sean	Bonnie M	Julie T
Counter	Jeff H	Julie T	Pat G	Jeff H
Coffee Hour Host	Jeanne Power Vance Power	Emme Keene Nancy Copeland	Jeff Hill	Sara Eziuka
Bread Mak- ers				

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1st– Ash Wednesday
Ashes to go 7-8 am or 5:30 –6:30 pm
Services at 9:00 am and at 7:00 pm

Wednesday Lenten Program

This program is open to Trinity members, friends, and the public. Bring a guest!

General Schedule

6:30-7:00: Soup Supper

7:00-8:00: Program

8:00-8:20: Prayers

March 8: Deepening our Relationships at Trinity

Bill O'Brien, longtime facilitator of church community conversations and leader of Detroit Regional Interfaith Voice for Equity (DRIVE), will show us a technique for coming to know one another and finding common ground through conversation.

March 15: Appreciating Diversity

Doctor Ivy Forsythe-Brown, Professor of Sociology at U-M Dearborn, will help us to examine how a host of different kinds of diversity (racial, economic, educational, gender, sexuality, etc.) intersect in our lives to make us who we are and to confer privileges and disadvantages. There will be a Q and A, and an activity that will help us to appreciate the complexities of our similarities and differences.

March 22: What Matters in the End Part 1 -- Hospice and Dying Well

What kind of legacy do you want to leave behind you? What do people care about most in their waning days? What regrets can we try to avoid? How do we set ourselves up to have a "good death"? Pam VerDuin from Hospice will talk a bit about these matters, as well as how and when to call Hospice and any other questions we may have.

March 29: What Matters in the End Part 2 -- A Gift for the Future

This session will provide us with an opportunity to do our loved ones a huge favor. There are often *so* many decisions that family has to make when someone dies--leaving them with a basic plan for your memorial service is a great blessing. Pastor Ian will lead us in filling out such a plan and then make copies for the church to keep on file.

**SOUP KITCHEN—MARCH 11TH**

SERVING MEAL 11:-00 TO 1:30,

RIDE SHARE LEAVES TRINITY

AT 10:30 AM



March 2017

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VESTRY

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Mary Hill	734-777-2845	Charlotte Drake	218-0529
Debra Williams	368-1138	Jerry Rimmer	313-272-2898
Youth Rep Arianna Hernandez			

Rector – The Rev Ian Reed Twiss

Deacon – The Rev. Richard O. Boulter

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