



The people of The United Methodist Church

October 2018

There was once a United Methodist pastor and a Presbyterian seminary scholar who were walking near a bar. The bar was known around the neighborhood as Bloody Pete's, a rough bar in a not-great part of town. As they got closer to the bar, the pastor and the scholar saw a man on the ground, groaning in the alley. He had been beaten, robbed of his valuables, stripped of his clothing and left in the alley without the wherewithal to care for himself.

The priest looked at the theologian and said, "This scares me. I'm walking to the other side of the street." The scholar responded by saying, "I've heard this neighborhood is a trap. I'm not taking any chances." He too crossed the street to the safety of the other side.

It was then that a third man approached the alley. He was a Muslim Mexican-American in town to see family. Seeing the man in the alley, his heart went out to him. He went into the alley, applied what little first aid he knew, put the man in his car and drove him to urgent care. After the man was stitched up and care for, the man took him to a hotel. Before he left, he promised he'd be back.

If you think the story sounds familiar, that's because it is my version of Jesus' parable known as the Good Samaritan. There are people in every society who we don't like and with whom we don't like to associate. For the Jewish community of Jesus' day, the Samaritans were hated. The only good Samaritan was a dead one, it was commonly thought.

But who turned out to be the good neighbor to the man in the alley? In my story it was the Muslim Mexican-American. In Jesus' story it was the Samaritan. They were the good neighbors, looking beyond divisions and seeing the common humanity of the one they saw hurting.

What kind of neighbor does God call us to be in our world today? What kind of notions do we need to surrender in order to see the humanity in others? Jesus would have us think about that.

Pastor John



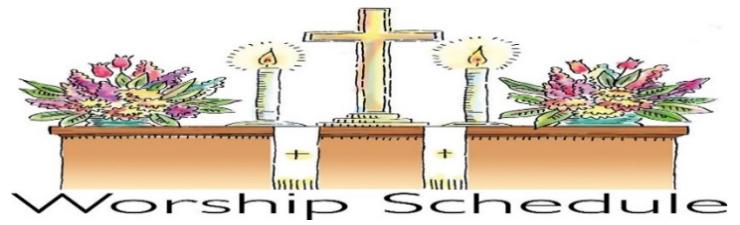
October 7 (World Communion Sunday)

Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Sermon: "The Printing Press, the Phone

and the Savior"

October 14 (Tammy Culp to bring the message)

October 21 (Cheryl Querry to bring the Message)



Worship Schedule

October 28
Scripture: Mark 10:17-31
Sermon: "The 100% Rule"



Hello everyone! I am so excited to be coming back "home" to Trinity to work

alongside some of my favorite people! I look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new ones. We had a great kick-off last week with 83 people in attendance (and that was just the skaters)! Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make that happen and to those who've been working behind the scenes! I can't wait to see everyone again, and I'm ready for all the great things this season has in store for Trinity and SEEK!

Dannielle



Sing Unto the Lord & Make a Joyful Noise

The Trinity Music Ministry Team (Choir) will have rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. They would welcome new voices to the choir. Please join us! We will sing for Sunday services on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month.

Janice Malchow & Kevin Norman are co-directing.

Voices are needed. Come and join us!
God is worthy of our honor and praise!

OLD FASHION HYMN SING

Trinity United Methodist Church will be holding an Old Fashion Hymn Sing on Sunday, October 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Come join us in singing your favorite hymns from the hymnal. We will also have ice cream sundaes afterward in the Fellowship Hall. We want to sing your favorites - so let us know what they are!



ENDOWMENT FUND REQUESTS

Endowment Fund has income to disburse for church projects. Request forms are available in the church office and should be returned to the church office. Our purpose is to give away money and fund worthy projects!

The Endowment Fund

HELP NEEDED

We are looking for a volunteer that would listen to the CD's that are recorded on Sunday mornings. See Rita Barnett (219-863-7692) for instructions. Thank you!



Jasper-Newton Senior Expo



Wednesday, October 3rd from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. is the first Jasper-Newton Senior Expo at the Jasper County Fairgrounds. All area

residents 55 and over are encouraged to attend. There will be a free health fair, free flu shot with your Medicare card and a variety of educational booths and classes. Plan now to attend!



Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Sunday, November 4th.



ALL SAINTS DAY November 4, 2018

We will be remembering and honoring those in our congregation (and families) who have died in the last year (since October of 2017). If you want to

be sure your loved one is named, please call the church office (866-7271) and share that information with us.



VETERANS RECOGNITION

November 11, 2018

We will be honoring our Veterans this year during both the 8:00 & 10:30 worship services. If you want to be sure your veteran is listed, please call the church office. Thank

you!

"A WAY FORWARD"

Northwest District Meeting on Sunday, November 11, at 2:17 p.m. (CT) at Monticello UMC, 200 S. Main Street



+ A time to hear about proposed changes to language in UM Church Discipline regarding human sexuality.

+ A time to pray together as a church.



First Presbyterian Church of Rensselaer is holding a series of four free adult classes where you can learn helpful tips on how to support your friends and community members with words

of comfort.

The sessions will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. (CST) on the first three Sundays in November, using the book, "Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart." (The final session during Thanksgiving week will be determined by the participants.) Pastor Jeff Cover will be the teacher.

Each study session ends with a free simple meal. The church is located at 220 N. Cullen Street. Call 219-866-7005 for more information or to reserve a spot.



Annual Charge Conference

Trinity will host our Annual Charge Conference this year on Sunday, November 18th from 3-5 p.m. (CST). All church council members are encouraged to attend.

Thank you!

Thank you so much for the thoughtful gift! It will be very helpful as I attend college this fall!

Alex Stevens

Dear Pastor John and Trinity family,



Thank you everyone for time visiting, praying, food, and the quilt ladies for the gorgeous quilt – loving it, it's so pretty.

Special thanks to Pastor John for the trips and prayers and more.

It's such a blessing to be a part of a loving, caring church. God bless all of you.

Barbara Olson



United Methodist Women,

God bless you! We are so grateful to you all for your kind support of us and your monetary donation. Thank you! Your thoughtfulness will help so many.

Birthright of Rensselaer



Trinity UMC Blanket Ministry,

Thank you for the beautiful lap blanket that you gave to Kenny. Thank you also to Ron & Vicki for the visit and delivering it! It was so very thoughtful for the gift. He is doing better and would like to thank everyone.

Kenny & Peg Howard



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Wade & Tiffani Gibson on the birth of a daughter, Quincy Elizabeth Gibson, who was born September 14, 2018. Congratulations!



Sympathy is expressed to the family and friends of the following:

† Sympathy to the family and friends of Donald M. VanHouten.

† Sympathy to the family and friends of James Adamson who died September 17, 2018.

† Sympathy to Mike & Diane Lyons and family at the death of Mike's mother, Beth J. Lyons.

The Serenity Prayer

*by Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)
Complete, Unabridged, Original Version.*

*God, give us grace to accept with serenity
the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things
which should be changed,
and the Wisdom to distinguish
the one from the other.*

*Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,
Taking, as Jesus did,
This sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it,
Trusting that You will make all things right,
If I surrender to Your will,
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with You forever in the
next.
Amen.*