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Newsletter

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Joy that is out of this world

In the book upon which the just released movie “The Martian” is based, the main character reflects upon human behavior and decides that “every human being has an instinct to help each other out”. He is reflecting upon the incredible level of sacrifice offered to try and save him, a lonely astronaut stranded on the red planet. I won’t spoil the ending, but as I read each twist and turn in this retelling of the ‘stranded on a desert island’ story, I found them all the different attempts to save him plausible. As the entire planet watches and roots for his survival, we would go to extreme, international lengths to save just this one guy.

This fun book that I read over the summer drew two connections for me to the Christian life. One connection is with the story of the Good Shepherd. The gospels tell us that God would abandon the 99 to go seek the lost 1 sheep. We always preach that story like it is vastly different than human beings, who would think strategically and not risk the 99. Yet deep in us there is an instinct to help, to risk a lot when we see someone in great danger. We may be afraid, and there

may be a few poor souls who would scoff cold-heartedly, but our mass instinct is to risk it, pitch in our resources if it might help save that one person. Humans are not all bad! We can be irrational in a good way sometimes.

But then another thought strikes me. Many of the characters in The Martian decide to make sacrifices in order to save the main character out of mixed emotions. Loyalty, shame, intellectual challenge, international politics, and other motives emerge in many characters as they contemplate and ultimately act in an effort to save the lonely astronaut.

Jesus calls us to make sacrifices for one another, too, but he also challenges us to see such giving in a remarkable way. Jesus calls us to give out of a sense of joy. We might give to a charity for third world poverty because we feel guilt and shame over what we have and what they lack. Jesus says, rejoice because you have the ability to give to them! How wonderful that God has blessed you with some resources that a fellow human being can use! It is as if Jesus wants us, every day, to reach into our pocket, pull out whatever is in there, and act as if we had no idea it was there. Wow! Look, I found money in my pocket! Who needs it? “When you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing” (Matt 6:3).

Similarly, if we find ourselves helping our neighbor out for an hour or so with a project, Christ would have us do it not calculating what we will get him to do for us next week, but out

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of the joy of discovering we had an hour to give. Wow, I got to spend an hour helping my neighbor move furniture!

Maybe I'm just preaching to myself here. After all, moving furniture does not sound like joy. Sounds like Jesus sees things a bit different,

though, and that's why I keep following him and trying to learn from him. With him there is more joy. With him there is abundant life. Life in Christ sounds like something worth risking everything.

Matthew

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Altar Guild Annual Meeting



CELEBRATE

All members of the Altar Guild are invited to the Annual Meeting and Brunch on Sunday, November 8th at the Holiday Inn following our worship service.

We will be reflecting on and celebrating the past year's work and praying for this coming year's ministry.

New members are most welcome, men or women. Please advise Dee Stewart if you will be in attendance.

All Saints' Day, November 1st

All Saints' Day is one opportunity given to remember those who have gone before us.

Please submit names of those you would like remembered by filling out the form available on the table in entryway and returning it by October 28th by placing in the offering plate any of the remaining Sundays in October or by mail. An insert will be included in the bulletin November 1.

You may also remember loved ones throughout the year through placing flowers on the altar. An Altar Flower schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway or you may call the office.

Begin with the End in Mind

GROW

Our Fall Education program, “Begin with the End in Mind: A Christian path through death and dying”, begins Wednesday, October 14th at 7PM at Trinity. Participants will engage in presentations, conversations, and Q&A sessions each Wednesday night for 6 weeks. The classes will focus on the many practical decisions that surround death and dying, as well as the many theological and ethical concerns that come with being mortal. To help us engage more deeply, presenters including attorney Andrea Stapleford, funeral director Mike Lewis, and hospice workers Lisa To and Ellen Scalise will join us during sessions that focus on their specialties.

If you are interested in attending any or all of the programs, please add your name to our sign-up list so we can prepare materials for you. Call the office at 723-9360 or add your name to the list in the entryway.

Schedule

October 14th *What our faith says about death and dying*

A discussion of how the Christian faith, one centered in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and ultimately in all humanity’s resurrection, offers us a unique and powerfully strong position from which to understand and prepare for dying.

October 21st *Current realities, controversies, and some history*

From what kills us to how we mourn, from medical miracles to ethically perplexing situations, dying is and always has been a very complex passage. We will highlight parts of that history, identify current issues, and consider how we can plan for our future with the best of information and intention.

October 28th *The path of dying: Hospice and end of life care.*



Guests Ms. Lisa To and Ms. Ellen Scalise, staff members of Warren Hospice, will cover the history of the Hospice movement, Warren’s program, and what one should consider when the topic of Hospice is raised as one approaches dying.

November 4th *The Funeral Home and Funeral Director*

Mr. Lewis, director of the Donald Lewis Funeral Home here in Warren, will discuss his role and what a funeral director can and should offer a family that has experienced a death.

November 11th *Legal and Financial: the business of dying.*

Guest. Ms. Andrea Stapleford, esq.



For many families, legal affairs are foreign and confusing topics. Yet legal arrangements are so often crucial for families as they cope with the dying and death of a loved one. Ms. Stapleford will discuss wills, powers of attorney, and the legal procedures an estate moves through after some one dies.

November 18th *Planning an Episcopal Funeral*

While this session will draw on the resources and guidelines of the host church, members of all denominations can learn much about what goes into putting together a formal service of Burial and what one can do while they are still alive to help their family find a fitting way to celebrate one’s life after they die.

SHARE

Holiday Hot Meals

Trinity, along with partner churches throughout Warren County, will once again feed hundreds of shut-ins and elderly around Warren and Forest County on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and Holy Saturday. If you have taken part in the past, get ready to enjoy cooking, packing, driving, and cleaning as we spread the love of God with a hot holiday meal. If you have not participated in the past, consider testing it out this year either by signing up for a shift at the kitchen or partnering with a seasoned driver to deliver meals. This activity is good for all ages and has lead to some of the most meaningful spiritual experiences for congregants.

Sign up sheets for Thanksgiving will be out November 1, so make sure to stop by and add your name.



Share the love of Jesus, through the power of a simple gift, with children around the world.

Since 1993, more than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoe-box gifts from Operation Christmas Child.

Working with local churches and other ministry partners, Samaritan's Purse delivers the shoe box gifts and shares the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ.

Plastic shoe boxes along with packing instructions and labels can be found in the entryway. Any questions, please see Addy Landrio.



Please return your Shoe Box by Sunday, November 15th.

Thank You!!



Our food pantry shelves need restocking. Items most in need at this time include: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Cereal, Complete Meals,,

Pasta & Sauce, Spaghetti-O's, Ravoli, Mac & Cheese, canned fruit and vegetables.

Your donations are greatly appreciated by those needing our emergency food pantry. Thank you for sharing the Love of Christ with others.

Coffee Hour

Thanks to *Betsy & Jerry Bowersox, Jenn Campbell & Orca, and Addy & Gary Landrio* for hosting coffee hour the month of September.



Would you like to host a coffee hour, but think you can't bake? Store bought treats are always welcome, but now there's another way to participate. Simply designate a contribution as "coffee hour treats." Someone will do the shopping for you, and you will be the VIRTUAL HOST or HOSTESS! We've had two virtual hosts this year! See Dee Stewart if you have questions.

Communion during the cold and flu season

Fall brings us into the cold and flu season,. As a church that practices Communion with a common cup of wine, here a few things to think about so that we all can engage Christ fully and safely in our sacraments.



Several medical studies have shown that when using a common cup for communion, the safest way is to drink from the chalice and then have the chalice bearer wipe the cup with a clean portion of purificator (the white cloth they carry). You might think the different forms of intinction (dipping) would be safer, but the evidence is clear that whenever any hand enters the cup, whether it be the chalice bearer or the communicant, the risk of infection spreading is far greater. Fingernails are not our friends! Please avoid intinction during the cold and flu season.

Altar servers and clergy will begin using sanitizer on their hands during the offertory to prepare for their work.

Our faith teaches that communion is either form, bread and/or wine, is complete communion. Hence it is completely acceptable to not drink from the cup at all when receiving. A common practice held by alcoholics is to touch the base of the cup when it is offered as a way of symbolically accepting the gift without actually drinking. Please consider that option if you are concerned.

It is the philosophy of Trinity's leadership not to ban any form of taking communion, but we hope that all will consider their brothers and sisters and utilize safe methods of sharing the common cup as we travel through the winter together.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November

- 2 - Jane & Pat Hesch
- 3 - Rachel Robertson
- 4 - Ashley Cunningham
- 5 - Stella Curry
- 6 - Peter Landrio
- 8 - Carolyn Lake
- 10 - Lana Creal
- 13 - Jane Hesch
- 16 - Andrew Pollard
- 17 - Maggie Bailey
- 18 - Katherine Bowley
- 19 - Teddy Whaley
Heather & Scott Madigan
- 20 - Halle Watson
Jill Lasecki
- 21 - Mickey Ettinger
- 21—Judy Brown
- 23 - Rose Mary Landon
- 27- Rose Barney
Darlene & John John
- 28 - Karen Hoffman
- 30 - Janet Ely
- 30—Jane Ball



December

- 3 - Nancy Hahn
Anne & Tony Creal
- 10 - Barry Cunningham
- 14 - Tyler Madigan
- 16 - Lynda & Jim McCollough
- 18 - Bev Carlberg
- 23 - Marisa & Kurt Smith
- 31 - Diane Groszek



Income & Expense, Operating Fund to September 30, 2015

	Actual to 9/30/15	Budget to 9/30/15	2015 Budget
Member Contributions	\$70,285	\$65,118	\$86,824
Other Income	\$16,097	\$6,612	\$9,200
Plate Income	\$1,035	\$750	\$1,000
Sub Total Income	\$87,417	\$72,480	\$97,024
Endowment	\$75,251	\$75,251	\$99,979
Total Income	\$162,668	\$147,731	\$197,003
Expenses	\$168,981	\$160,713	\$200,976
Difference	\$-6,313		



Prayer Requests

Prayers

Illness/ Surgery/ Other Needs: Ryan, Ed Collins, Angie Jones, Simon de la Guerra, Amy, Ann, Hannah, Gabriel, Trinity, Eden, Bill, Beth, Lynn, Tammy Hagg, Dick Zimmerman, Justin, victims of gun violence, all victims of violence & their families, Rick Casey, Roger, Doug, Suzie & Lexi, Bill, Lynn, Beth, Abbey Schmader, Cara, refugees

Thanksgiving for Konnor Eck as my birthday present, Joan, for music, Jora's continued recovery, Pat, Dick - for remission of cancer, family, especially Kellie on her birthday

Serving in the Armed Services: Curtis Delattre, Grant Brown, Parker Hahn, Cody, Toby, & Jeremy Williams, Jackie Shaw, Nathan Lake, Jed in Afghanistan, HT2 Jesse Sternberg in the Persian Gulf, Robert Barrett, Dan Schantz, Jonathon Fox, Andrew Horner, Stephen Miller, Patrick Schantz Abe Vansile, Bill Wencil, Bill Horner, Stephen Miller, Sondra Dew, T.J. Fera, Pete Ochucki, Stephen Battko, Rob Umbaugh, Adam Decker, Corey Traut, Troy Spencer, Pete Scobell, Jason Sweet, Natalie Neidrick Julin, Jolene Nobles, Aaron Heliker, Arick Heliker Matthew Wright, Matthew Lambert, Sean Jenkins, Krista Traut, Matthew Easterly Alaxis Brink Smith, Julie Sveda

The Clergy: Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop; Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop Elect, Sean Rowe, our Bishop; Matthew Scott, our priest, Tim Dyer, our clergy associate

Prayer for the Diocese

O God, by your grace you have called us in this diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop, Sean, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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