

Trinity Times

February 2026



But be doers of the word,
and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.
James 1:22

The sexton of a church was a good and pious man. Since he had served long and well, was trusted and liked, he was allowed considerable freedom in posting announcements on the outside bulletin board. Occasionally he would supplement them with short spiritual sayings, such as "Praise the Lord" or "God is Love" or "Prayer changes things," etc.

When the pastor, Reverend Smith, became ill, the sexton assumed the task of providing day-to-day condition reports, which were appreciated by the congregation. One day this appeared on the bulletin board:

GOD IS GOOD
REVEREND SMITH IS BETTER

That mind-boggling pronouncement needs little comment, except to say that sometimes by assuming arrogant attitudes, careless talk, and a selfish manner of living, we fall into the trap of thinking that we are "better than God." To say that is, of course, absurd. Nevertheless, when we choose our own way, rather than God's, we are proclaiming, in effect, that we know more than God, that our way is better.

The epistle writer James challenges his readers to consider whether they are seeking to live by God's word or are deceiving themselves by trying to live with a consciousness divided between God's way and the world's way. He calls his readers from doublemindedness to the purity of heart which is to will one thing: God's way.

James' challenge is the very same one that lies at the heart of Lent, the season of self-examination and self-denial that begins on Ash Wednesday (February 18th). So, let us consider, carefully and prayerfully, whose way we have been following – our own or God's.

Pastor Eileen

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

*=sermon text



February 1 4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Holy Communion

Scriptures Micah 6:1-8
*Matthew 5:1-12
Sermon How Best to Live?



February 8th 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Scriptures Psalm 112:1-9
*Matthew 5:13-16
Sermon What One Candle Can Do



February 15 Transfiguration Sunday

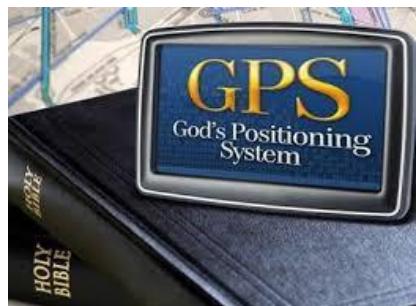
Scriptures 2 Peter 1:16-21
*Matthew 17:1-9
Sermon The Tactility of Grace



February 18 Ash Wednesday

6:00 Soup & Bread Supper in Fellowship Hall

7:00 Traditional Service in the sanctuary
with imposition of ashes



February 22 1st Sunday in Lent

Scriptures Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
*Matthew 4:1-11
Sermon S.P.S. (Spiritual Positioning System)

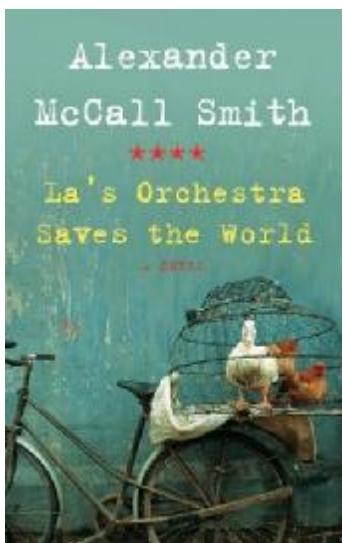
BOOK CORNER

By Pastor Eileen

Alexander McCall Smith is best known for his beloved and bestselling **No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency** series, featuring Mma Precious Ramotswe, Botswana's first female private investigator, known for its gentle humor and focus on community issues, but he's also famous for other series like **44 Scotland Street, Corduroy Mansions, Isabel Dalhousie/Sunday Philosophy Club**, and a vast range of children's books, academic works, and standalone novels.

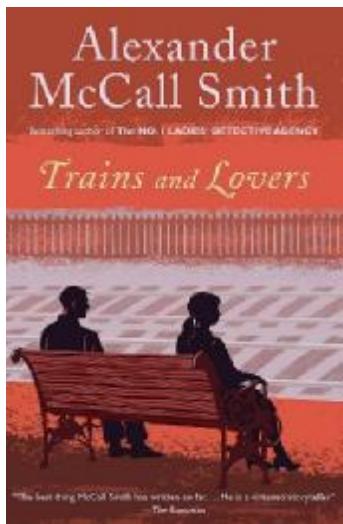
The following two novels are uplifting and heart-warming – perfect for cold, dark winter days.

A copy of each can be found on the lending book shelves in the church office.



La's Orchestra Saves the World

When Lavender – La to her friends – moves to the Suffolk countryside, it's not just to escape the London Blitz but also to flee the wreckage of a disastrous marriage. But as she starts to become a part of the community, she detects a sense of isolation. Her deep love of music and her desire to bring people together inspire her to start an orchestra. Little did she know that through this orchestra she would not only give hope and courage to the people of the community, but also that she would meet a man, Feliks, a shy upright Pole, who would change her life forever.



Trains and Lovers

As they journey by rail from Edinburgh to London, four strangers pass the time by sharing tales of travel that have changed their lives: the workplace romance that grows out of an incongruity in an eighteenth-century painting; the long, love-filled marriage that blooms at a whistle stop in the remote Australian Outback; the surprising dinner date that results from a simple mistake; and the youthful crush that was never fulfilled.

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

- If you have been worshiping at Trinity UMC and desire to formalize your ties to the church by becoming a member, please speak to Pastor Eileen.
- If you're interested but uncertain about membership because you have questions about The United Methodist Church or Trinity UMC, please speak to her as well.
- New members will be formally received and welcomed in the next few weeks.

Storm Notices:

This winter has presented some challenges due to extreme cold and several snow storms.

In the event that Trinity has to cancel or alter the Sunday church services, notices will be sent out between 8:00 and 8:30 am via: email and Facebook. The church's web page will also be updated.



Report on the TUMC Church Archives!

Establishing an archives in the church takes time and the efforts of the church membership. Establishing an archives can be called -- a ***Ministry of Memory***

Why this project? To be an advocate for the archives and history of the church.

- To locate and identify the records in various formats.
- To protect and preserve the records.
- To make the records easily accessible for reference and research.
- To enable the practice of records management for the future.

At the present time:

Archival boxes for storage of the records were ordered and delivered.
Thanks to the Fox family for assembling!

Current work is on the Church bulletins and Church newsletters. Arlene Dezendorf has given wonderful assistance. I hope others in the Church will drop in to help out - even for an hour. There's plenty to do.

I am at the Church Office on Wednesdays from 1 PM to 3:30 PM.
Please drop by and see what's going on!

Margaret Cornell
TUMC Archives Project

Trustee Corner

Members: Mike Tucci, Royal Ricci, Ralph La Casio, Chris Freeman, Ann Sherer, Bob & Patsy Boisvert, Mike Bangert, Ron Lemar

Church furnace: The trustees are working to resolve the heating problems.

Fellowship Hall stove: We need to understand the church's usage needs in regards to a possible new stove.

A/V System: Options are being discussed for moving the A/V System from the Chancel.

Some February Facts:

Name Origin: From the Latin "Februarius," meaning "purification".

- Early History: Added to the Roman calendar by Numa Pompilius, originally as the last month, later moved to second.
- Groundhog Day (Feb 2): Originates from a German superstition using badgers, adapted to groundhogs in America.
- Black History Month: Celebrated in February in the U.S.
- Symbols: Birthstone is Amethyst; flowers are Violet and Iris; Zodiac signs are Aquarius (early Feb) and Pisces (late Feb).
- Lunar Uniqueness: It's the only month that can pass without a full moon.

Frank and Ernest by Thaves

January 3, 2026



Adult Bible Study

Join us via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm for this weekly adult Bible study with a time of prayer and praise. Contact Clay Beattie at (845) 223-5584 for reading materials.

Trinity United Methodist Church

Webpage: <https://trinityumclagrange.org>

Worship Recordings

Use this link to see the worship recordings on the Trinity YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeNePmj0UUjXh3c0aXixbVO>

The Food Pantry

Food Pantry Dates for February: (Assuming the weather cooperates!)

Bagging: Tuesday, February 24 at 10 am in the Parish Hall

Distribution: Thursday, February 26 from 7-8 pm. Volunteers should arrive by 6:30 pm.

Recently several bags of donated clothes have been dropped off outside the Parish Hall. Unfortunately, we do not have the space to accommodate such things, so we do not want clothes dropped off here. Drop boxes for clothing can be found in the parking lot of the Poughquag United Methodist Church on Route 55 in Beekman, in the parking lot of Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church on Route 55 in LaGrange, and in the shopping center off Route 82 behind St. Columba's Church in Hopewell Junction. Please use these instead of our church. Thank you.

Craig & Marcia Grant

Round Table Discussions

2/3/2026 Have you made plans for your death? Burial plot, service etc? – Leslie

2/17/2026 Finding tiny miracles everyday - Jessica

Please email Patsy Boisvert at pmboisvert22@gmail.com to join the group

Yoga

Beginner/All Levels "Align & Refine"

RajaHatha Yoga

Trinity United Methodist Church

Tuesday Class 5:30 - 6:45 pm

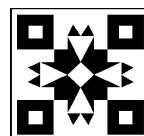
Thursday Class 6:00 - 7:15 pm

Saturday Class 9:00 - 10:15 am



Please arrive 10 minutes prior to start of class.

Class cost: \$5 (20% donated to church)



Trinity
Piecemakers

The Trinity Piecemakers will meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm. Meeting dates will be posted during church. Please contact Debbie Beattie at: 845-223-5584 for more information.

Trinity United Methodist Church
6 South Cross Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540



Happy
Valentine's Day



DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 1 st	4 th Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Communion
Feb 8 th	5 th Sunday after the Epiphany
Feb 14 th	Valentine's Day
Feb 15 th	Transfiguration Sunday
Feb 16 th	President's Day
Feb 18 th	Ash Wednesday 6:00 pm Soup & Bread Supper 7:00 pm Traditional Service
Feb 22 th	1 st Sunday in Lent
Feb 24 th	Food Pantry Bagging
Feb 26 th	Food Pantry Distribution

The Trinity Times

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