

# TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 2025 Newsletter

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### A Simple Irish Prayer

May God give you...  
For every storm, a rainbow,  
For every tear, a smile,  
For every care, a promise,  
And a blessing in each trial.  
For every problem life sends,  
A faithful friend to share,  
For every sigh, a sweet song,  
And an answer for every prayer.



**March Comes in  
like a Lion...**



## From the Pastor

### Serving Others

There is an oft-quoted story that tells of a rumor which spread through a certain village that the Master is coming. That he is going to come on a particular day; so the women of the neighborhood began working diligently to prepare their homes, hoping that the Master would come to their house. One woman, in particular, busied herself in preparation for the Master to come. And while she was thus engaged, there was a knock at the door. There stood a small neighbor's boy—who had injured his finger while playing—and he wished her to bind it up and to dress the wound. And she said, "Sonny, you go home and get your mother to help you. I am too busy cleaning for the Master." A little later there was a knock on the back door, and she went to the back door to find a beggar seeking bread. But she said, "No, the food that I have I'm saving it for the Master. I can't share with you. So she sent him away. Continued on Page 2



# From the Pastor

continued

Then, toward evening, there came a traveler who knocked on the door and ask for shelter for the evening. And she said, "No, I only have one bed left; and if the Master comes, it's for Him."

Then at last, with everything ready, she sat down and waited for the Master to come. And she waited... waited... waited. But the Master never came.

The poor woman never understood that three times that day she had her chance to serve him. That three times He had come to her door and that three times she had turned him away.

Jesus said, "In as much as you have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, you have done unto me."

There are the neighbor's children. There are the people who work in your office, the service station attendants, and the store clerks. There are a multitude of people whose paths you cross—there is your chance to serve the Lord. Deny yourself! Take up your cross and follow Jesus. Only then do we find meaning and purpose in life. "If you lose your life for my sake, you will find it." (Mark 8:35)

Pastor Dass

## Top 10 Ways to Serve Others as a Christian

### 1. Share a Compassionate Listening Ear

A great way to serve is simply being there for someone who needs to talk. By giving undivided attention and Christlike empathy, you help carry their struggles and lighten their burden.

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## Lenten Devotionals

In the Narthex at church are Lenten Devotionals entitled "The Sanctuary for Lent 2025" by Justin LaRosa. There is a daily Scripture passage, a short devotional and a brief prayer. Through his thoughtful meditations, Justin LaRosa helps you to open yourself to God as we journey through the season of Lent.

## Why are shamrocks a symbol of St. Patrick?

St. Patrick is known for teaching the Irish about the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. He used a three-leaved shamrock to illustrate the three-in-one God. For this reason, shamrocks are a central symbol for St. Patrick's Day.



# Top 10 Ways to Serve Others as Christian



## **2. Extend Practical Help**

Your actions can speak louder than words when someone has a real need. Generous acts—like offering a meal or helping with errands—go a long way in showing true care.

## **3. Pray with and for Others**

Spending a few moments in prayer can uplift someone's spirit more than you might realize. Sharing prayer requests and interceding for someone can be a beautiful gift of support.

## **4. Offer Words of Encouragement**

Everyone can use a good word from time to time. Whether it's a thoughtful note, a heartening text, or a friendly call, small gestures of encouragement can make a big difference.

## **5. Give Generously of Your Resources**

Offering resources—like time, money, or skills—demonstrates genuine concern. Generosity opens doors for deeper fellowship and shared joy.

## **6. Practice Warm Hospitality**

Welcoming people into your home or sharing a meal can create sweet moments of connection. Offering a cup of coffee, a cozy seat, or a listening ear can make others feel valued and cared for.

## **7. Volunteer in Your Community**

Serving in local charities, ministries, or outreach events allows you to share the love of Christ with people where they are. Stepping into the community as a helper reflects the heart of Jesus.

## **8. Use Your Spiritual Gifts**

Each person has unique talents designed for lifting others up. Whether through teaching, helping, or encouragement, your gifts can inspire hope and strengthen the faith of those around you.

## **9. Speak Words that Build Up**

A well-chosen word can redirect someone's day for the better. Tailoring your words to benefit others uplifts them and honors God.

## **10. Forgive and Reconcile**

Serving others also means letting go of grudges and mending broken relationships. Extending mercy reflects Christ's saving grace, bringing healing and unity wherever it is practiced.



# Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Its roots lie in the ancient Jewish festival of Yom Kipper, the day of Atonement. It means "at-one-ment." If we are to be one with God, with creation, with each other, then we must face who we are, make our confession, and open ourselves to the supportive power of God as we journey towards new life.

So, Ash Wednesday is a day of confession and commitment to the Lenten journey. Ash Wednesday worship service on Wednesday, March 5, 7:00pm.

## About Lent

Lent is probably the oldest season of the Church calendar because Easter was the first day remembered by the early Church.

The word "Lent" comes from an Anglo-Saxon word "Lencten" which means spring. The season has forty six calendar days from which from which subtracted the 6 Sundays, making it forty days.

The number 40 suggests itself from the pages of the scripture. It is a number symbolic of personal preparation and confession of sins. Remember the 40 days and nights that it rained in the day of Noah, the 40 years Israelites spent in the wilderness, the 40 days the spies spent in the land of Canaan, the 40 days the people of Nineveh had to repent, and the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness. Anyway, we have 40 days in which to our influence for God.

How will your 40 days be spent? They are yours to spend as you see fit. Will they be days used in preparation for eternity? I hope you spend these days in prayer, meditating, scripture, and serving others. Bring your family to worship and fellowship. Have a blessed Lent season!

## Christ Like Actions for Lent

To help you experience the meaning of Lent, here is a list of actions you could do in the Spirit of Christ:

- Write a letter to someone who longs to hear from you
- Offer to baby-sit for a few hours
- Pray for someone who has no one to pray for
- Be patient with someone when you don't feel like it
- Apologize to someone whom you have hurt
- Fast on Good Friday.



# Easter Lilies

The Easter Lily has long been a symbol of Christ's resurrection. For as the bulb dies before springing forth to new life, so Jesus died before being raised to new life. If you wish to donate Lilies for the Easter season, please complete this form and turn it into the church office or place it in the offering plates.

Consider sharing the beauty of flowers this holy season and recognize or memorialize a loved one with an Easter Lily.

( ) in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Recognition of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_



## Reminders

### Sacrament of Holy Communion

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, March 2. Come and celebrate the sacrament with your church family and begin the Lenten season.

### Day Light Saving Time

Daylight saving time starts Sunday, March 9. Do not forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

### Brown Bag Sunday

Help those in need by bringing a bag of groceries to the church on the third Sunday, March 20. Non-perishable food items will be donated to Clothing Closet. Thank you for your generosity.





# NOW Committee Notes

Thank you to all who signed up to help at the Clothes Pantry and with the Pancake Breakfast this past month. A big THANK YOU to Martha Brown for coordinating the Clothes Pantry volunteers.

- Did You Know Sunday – March 9th Recap of all NOW Projects/Events.
- The NOW Committee is hosting our Annual March Madness/St. Patrick's Day Breakfast on March 9th. Wear your green or team colors.
- Noisy Offering to Benefit Heifer Project – Sunday, March 16th We have met our goal with our current project "Sending a Girl to School". Our new project is an Animal Health Worker Kit and a Goat. This is also Brown Bag Sunday.
- Our Mission Focus for March will be personal hygiene products. See list below.
- On-going projects: Pop tab collection for Ronald McDonald House, plastic bag collection for sleeping mats, school supplies, and stuffed animals.
- The next Social Dinner is being planned for March 27th. Location to be announced.
- April's TUM Fun event will be on April 13th. We will be celebrating Easter and Spring, more to come.
- Plans are being made to host a garage sale on May 10 that will include lunch and a bake sale. Good time to clean closets and basement again.
- Personal care items needed at the Ballard Clothing Pantry include:
  - Shampoo/Conditioner
  - Bodywash
  - Bar Soap
  - Comb/Brush
  - Shaving cream
  - Deodorant
  - Lotion
  - Washcloth/loofah sponge
  - Toothbrush/Toothpaste
  - Tampons/Pads

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the NOW Committee projects and events.





# Mardi Gras Trivia Quiz

**1. What does Mardi Gras Mean?**

- a. Welcoming spring   b. New Grass   c. Fat Tuesday

**2. New Orleans and Mardi Gras are often associated with this type of music**

- a. Spanish Songs   b. Jazz   c. French folk songs

**3. What day comes after Mardi Gras?**

- a. Lundi Gras   b. Ash Wednesday   c. Martedì Grasso

**4. What is the signature Mardi Gras dessert?**

- a. King Cake   b. Trifle   c. New Orleans-Style Beignets

**5. Bacchus is the Roman god of what?**

- a. Rain   b. Wine   c. Dance

**6. What time does New Orleans law require masks to be removed on Mardi Gras?**

- a. 11 am   b. 12 pm   c. 6 pm

**7. What does purple signify during Mardi Gras?**

- a. Impartiality   b. Faith   c. Justice

**8. What does green signify during Mardi Gras?**

- a. Growth   b. Grass   c. Faith

**9. What does gold signify during Mardi Gras?**

- a. Kingdom   b. Power   c. Magic

**10. On average, how many people typically visit New Orleans for Mardi Gras every year?**

- a. 1.4 million   b. 3.1 million   c. 4.7 million

**11. New Orleans canceled Mardi Gras parades in the 1870s due to the outbreak of what disease?**

- a. Influenza   b. Smallpox   c. Yellow Fever

**12. What do they call Mardi Gras in Italy?**

- a. Giovedì Grasso   b. Martedì Grasso   c. Carnevale



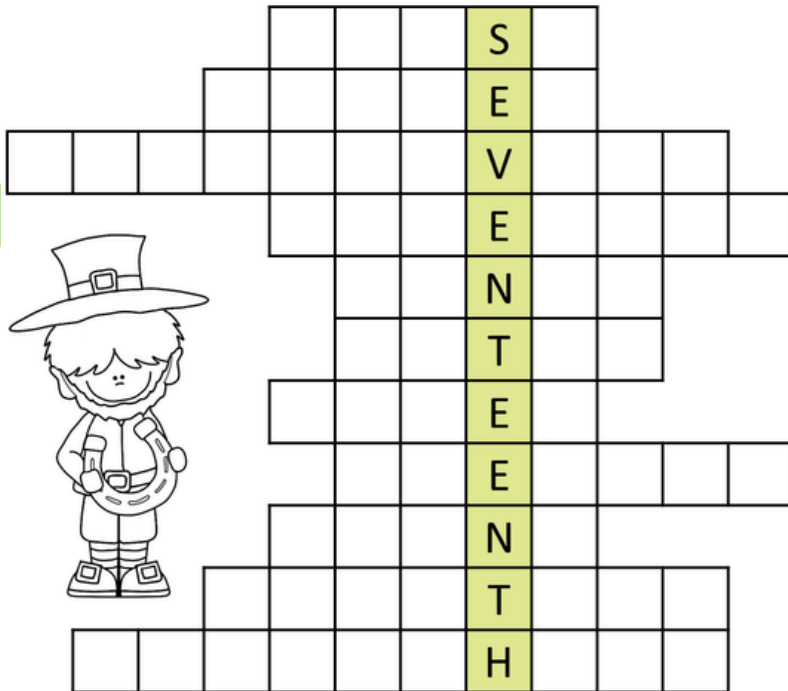
[www.MyPartyGames.com](http://www.MyPartyGames.com)

Answers: 1 c, 2 b, 3 b, 4 a, 5 a, 6 c, 7 c, 8 c, 9 b, 10 a, 11 c, 12 b



Complete the puzzle with the words from the box

catch Irish green heritage dance leprechaun  
Limerick hidden Saint mischievous Ireland



## Word Scramble

1. dneca \_\_\_\_\_
2. ath \_\_\_\_\_
3. fdoo \_\_\_\_\_
4. parh \_\_\_\_\_
5. alneg \_\_\_\_\_
6. socsr \_\_\_\_\_
7. sakm \_\_\_\_\_
8. etsb \_\_\_\_\_
9. gba \_\_\_\_\_
10. ldog \_\_\_\_\_
11. kapcirt \_\_\_\_\_
12. hrcma \_\_\_\_\_
13. orlecv \_\_\_\_\_
14. rengen \_\_\_\_\_
15. iirhs \_\_\_\_\_
16. yklcu \_\_\_\_\_
17. tisna \_\_\_\_\_
18. hlnaecepru \_\_\_\_\_

## Word Bank

cross food harp gab hat  
angel dance mask best gold  
Patrick march leprechaun green  
clover saint Irish lucky

... And goes out like a Lamb.



Blarney  
Celtic  
Clover  
Cross  
Gold  
Green

Hat  
Ireland  
Irish  
Jig  
Leprechaun  
Limerick

Luck  
March  
Patrick  
Pot  
Rainbow  
Saint

Shamrock  
Shillelagh  
Snakes

