



Trinity United Methodist Church Newsletter

“Live by Faith, Be Known by Love, Be A Voice of Hope”

April 2025

Volume III, No. 4

Worthy Is the Lamb!

The Trinity Drama Team and Trinity Choir invite you to join us as we depict the amazing story of our Lord’s crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension into Heaven. Written by Lloyd Larson, *Worthy Is the Lamb!* is a remarkable accounting of our Lord’s last days on earth as a Revered King, Rejected Messiah, and Risen Savior. You will witness the Baptism of Jesus and His Disciples at the Jordan River and behold the astounding joy of those who were miraculously healed of their infirmities by the power of Jesus’ touch. You will be blessed as you observe the Last Supper where Jesus breaks the bread and shares the cup symbolizing his body and blood given for you. You will see how His announcement that He would experience death but rise again caused the Disciples much consternation and grief, but their grief transformed into jubilation when Jesus’ prophetic statement came to pass, and He rose from that grave and ascended into Heaven on the third day.



Worthy Is the Lamb! is the compelling story of God’s plan to deliver all people from the clutches of sin and death. It is the dramatic narrative that reminds us that He who knew no sin took on the sin and darkness of this world so that we might one day experience eternal life in a “promised land” where there is no pain or sorrow. This is a telling reminder that Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled in Jesus. *Surely He has borne our grief and carried our sorrows. He was pierced for our transgressions; crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and by His wounds we are healed* (Isaiah 53:4–5).

Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus, we who believe shall one day join the heavenly hosts in a never-ending hymn of praise: *Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!* (Revelation 5:12).

Please mark your calendars and join us in the Trinity Sanctuary on Saturday, April 12th at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday, April 13th for a matinee at 3:00 p.m. You will be blessed!

Terry Henderson, Trinity Drama Director



Pastor's Corner

So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them. And they said nothing to anyone for they were afraid.—Mark 16:8

According to scholars, the earliest versions of the Gospel According to Mark ends here. There are, of course, longer endings added on that include Jesus' reappearance to Mary Magdalene and the Disciples, and His Great Commission, but honestly, faithful readers can enjoy these endings in other Gospels. I like the shorter ending in Mark!



I like this ending in Mark because it leaves us in mystery! The tomb is empty, an unknown messenger announces Jesus' next move, and the eyewitnesses stand speechless. What will happen next? This story begs for a sequel! A continuation! A "Gospel: Part Two," even three, four, all the way to episode 2000!

Mark's shorter ending opens the possibility for *all* of us to have roles in the Gospel's continuing story. How we play those roles is how the story continues to unfold! The *Good News* does not end at what's written: it continues through our faithful living!

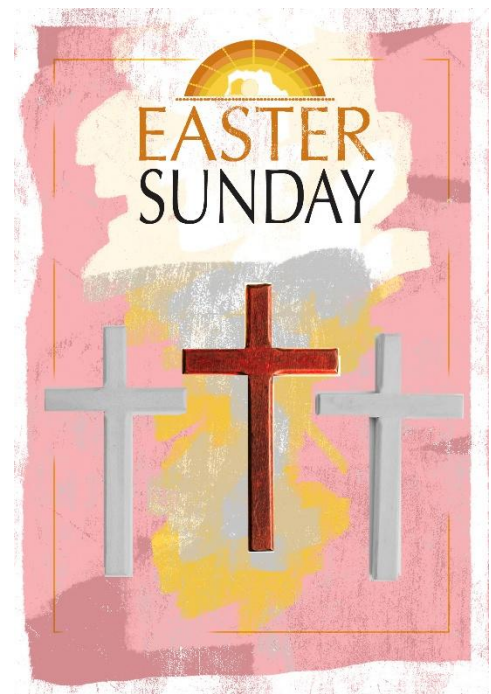
Knowing that we now carry the *Good News* should fill us with joy. But our responsibility should also give us pause: Some with whom we share the message of Salvation from Sin in Christ Jesus will receive this news with relief, but others may receive it with indifference, skepticism, or even hostility. Though the reactions of others are not entirely in our control, we can control how *we* offer the Good News. We help to write God's ongoing drama in Jesus Christ! How awesome is that?

Understanding all this, let's share the Good News of Christ our Lord in an inviting, welcoming, caring, and forgiving manner so that everyone we encounter might sense God's love.

God's grand story of Salvation in Christ goes on—through us!

Blessings,

Anil



The Art of Stewardship – Talents



Last November we had the opportunity to read in our newsletter and worship bulletins several articles about stewardship. The five T's of stewardship: our time, talents, treasure, temple and testimony. We were briefly introduced to The Stewardship Tree along with its parts: roots (time), trunk (talents and temple), branches (treasure), leaves and flowers (testimony) and soil (growth).

During 2025 we will explore in more detail each of the parts of The Stewardship Tree. Each month we will dig a little deeper into each part of the tree. In March we looked at TIME. This month we will look at TALENTS. We will look at other parts of the tree in coming months.

The first step in effective stewardship of talents is identification. This involves a deep self-awareness and an honest assessment of one's strengths and weaknesses. Talents can manifest in various forms – from artistic and creative abilities to analytical and technical skills. They may be evident from an early age or discovered later in life through experiences and opportunities.

Self-reflection is a crucial tool in identifying talents. Taking time to reflect on activities that bring joy, fulfillment, and a sense of accomplishment can provide insights into one's natural inclinations and abilities. Additionally, seeking feedback from mentors, peers, and family members can offer valuable perspectives on areas where one excels.

The stewardship of talents extends beyond individual benefits; it has a profound collective impact. When individuals effectively steward their talents, they contribute to the betterment of their communities, organizations, and society as a whole. Talents, when shared and utilized for the common good, create a ripple effect that inspires and uplifts others.

Effective stewardship often leads to leadership and mentorship roles. Individuals who have successfully harnessed and nurtured their talents are in a unique position to guide and support others on their journey. Sharing knowledge, experiences, and insights fosters a culture of growth and development, creating a legacy of stewardship.

Nurturing talents is an ongoing process that requires patience, persistence, and a supportive environment. It is about creating conditions that allow talents to flourish and evolve over time. Nurturing involves providing the right resources, guidance, and encouragement to sustain and enhance talents.

Stewardship of talents is a multifaceted and dynamic process that involves identification, harnessing, and nurturing. It requires self-awareness, dedication, and a commitment to continuous growth. By effectively stewarding our talents, we not only achieve personal fulfillment but also contribute to the greater good. Talents are gifts that, when responsibly managed and shared, have the power to create a positive and lasting impact on the world.

TUMC Finance Committee

“Live by Faith, Be Known by Love, Be a Voice of Hope”

From Trinity's Sound & Media Department

Change..... What is it?..... Can it be scary?

These are just some of the questions to ask yourself when faced with *change*. In fact, these are some of the questions we even asked ourselves just eight short months ago when we took over the Sound & Media Department at Trinity.

The change for us was sometimes scary and uncertain, even though we had been volunteers back there for years. But we took a step back, analyzed everything, and decided to embrace the uncertainty. We told ourselves that we were going to bring change. While some may have felt the uncertainty themselves with the change we brought, we try to keep things fresh and new. After all, we did have big shoes to fill....

Tiffanie brings her knack for design when creating the slide show presentations, always trying to utilize eye catching backgrounds to draw the viewer in.

This brings us to our yearly tradition out on Turtle Beach, Easter Sunrise Service 2025. This yearly event brings over 1,000 people out to experience the service on the beach, from all parts of the area. Many are weekly visitors to Trinity, many are not.



Mike and Tiffanie Fields



This year is our first Sunrise Service as the leaders of the Media Department. And just like our weekly services, we wanted to bring change to this event as well. To showcase our abilities to keep things new and exciting, and to help broaden our outreach.

So.... We are happy to announce that for the first time in the 58-year history of holding this yearly service, it will be recorded *live*! The ability to record this service will allow us to post the service on Trinity's YouTube® channel, allowing more audiences to experience what we have to offer at Trinity. This is a groundbreaking time for us here at Trinity United Methodist Church of Jensen Beach and just one more step of change that we are trying to bring.

So, I go back to the word "Change." Yes, it can be scary. Yes, it can hold uncertainty. But you will never know what Change will bring if you don't take the leap and embrace it. To quote a line from one of our favorite shows.

"Change is Inevitable, nothing stays the same Forever"

Easter, the Holiday that Keeps on Moving!

Well, it's my turn to complain about a time-related issue! Why doesn't Easter fall on the same date every year, just like Christmas or at least the same Sunday every year. How about the 4th Sunday of March every year. Wouldn't that be a lot easier to remember than depending on the Spring full moon. I mean, March has a full moon too! Well after researching the date issue, I discovered that it was established way back in 325 AD by the Council of Nicaea. It also depends on which calendar is being followed, the Gregorian or the Julian, we follow the Gregorian calendar. Back to the Council of Nicaea, they established that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first Full Moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. I am not going to get into the astronomical explanation. You can do some Easter research of your own. 😊



In 1997, the World Council of Churches proposed a reform of the Easter calculation to replace an equation-based method of calculating Easter with direct astronomical observation. That would not have given a set date for Easter, just coordinated by the Gregorian and Julian calendars, it was never adopted. In 1928 England passed the Easter Act which would have fixed Easter to the first Sunday after the second Saturday in April. I like the sound of that even though it's later in the year, at least it's a fixed date....Alas, it was never implemented. One thing that I also learned is that the earliest Easter would be March 22, and the latest one will be April 25, (which should occur in 2038) based on a calendar of Easter dates from 1753–2400. So, after that bit of research, I guess I will just have to learn to live with my frustration over the date of the ever-moving holiday!

Rick



Trinity United Methodist Church of Jensen Beach

2221 NE Savannah Road, Jensen Beach, FL 34957

+1.772.234.3404

office@trintyjb.org

www.trinityjb.org

<https://www.facebook.com/tumc.jb/>

<https://www.youtube.com/@tumc.jensenbeach>

Pastor: Rev. Anil K. Singh

Congregational Care: Rick Decker

Office: Anne Pappas

Communications: Randi Schwartz

Nursery: Sandi Mulvaney

Music: Cynthia Beam

Organist: Dr. MJ Montague

Choir Accompanist: Carol Paul

Facilities: Doug Evans

Media: Michael & Tiffanie Fields

HOSEA | 28 OT



God told Hosea to marry a woman who would never be faithful, because the marriage is like God and Israel. Hosea obeyed God and married a woman who would not be faithful to him. He thus was able to prophesy with great passion about how God felt about all Israel's unfaithfulness.

The book contains warnings of the coming Assyrian invasion on the northern kingdom and the Babylonian invasion of the southern kingdom. The northern invasion was right around the corner, occurring in 722 BC. The invasion of the southern kingdom by the Babylonians, would happen 150 years later. Nobody listened to Hosea.



BREAKDOWNS

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES SUBJECT

<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 1	Background: Hosea's Wife and Children
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 2	Background: Israel's Sins, God's Promises
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 3	Hosea Told to Reconcile with His Wife
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 4	God's Charge Against Israel
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 5	God's Judgment Against His People
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 6-7	Israel Refuses to Repent
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 8	Judgment and Sins Described
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 9-10	Israel, Other Nations, Great Crimes
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 11-12	God's Love in Spite of Sins
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 13	Final Charges
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 14	Call to Repent

Most Popular Verses

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES RANK

<input type="checkbox"/> Hosea 4:6	Hosea Rank: 1, Overall: 469
------------------------------------	-----------------------------



Holy Week Activities & Services

Easter Cantata

April 12th, 7:00 p.m., 13th, 3:00 p.m.

Lenten Class: Mark

April 9th, 16th, 4:30 p.m.

Lenten Dinner

April 16th, 6:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday

April 13th Easter Concert @ 3:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

April 17th Communion Service @ 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday

April 18th Service @ 8:00 p.m. w/choir

Easter Sunday

April 23rd Sunrise Service @ 6:45 a.m. Jensen Beach Park

Services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt, between 9 and 11:00 services



"Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore,
which cannot be measured or counted. ...
they will be called 'children of the living God.'"

Hosea 1:10 NIV

March 15th Pancake Breakfast



These Busy Days...

Next week will calm down. Oh, after this event, it will be quiet! This is the last of this celebration—Snowbirds are heading out... Things will be slowing down...

I don't think so!

With all the astronomical activity, launches, planes-trains-and automobiles... quantum computing...not to mention actual time and priority work and life demands.

If you're going to choose to live in society the way it is now, you will have to get pretty creative when addressing stress reduction. The only way to make it is to keep calm.

How can you keep calm in this calamitous world?

LOL!

Choose to choose your own priorities.

- Recognize the difference between important and life or death.
- Most crucial—*know*—the peace lies in the Faith.
- The “Peace that Passes All Understanding” really, literally, is at our fingertips.
- Start with your Bible! So much to read.

Philippians 4:7 *And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

This verse is about contentment in any circumstances, even if those circumstances include hardship.

How do you get peace that surpasses all understanding?

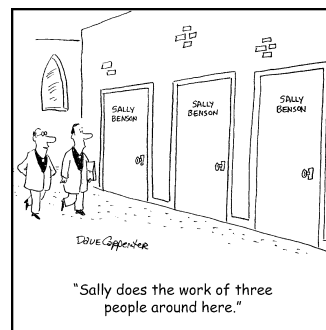
Do not be anxious about anything. Instead, tell your requests to God in every situation with prayer and petition with thanksgiving. And, the peace that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Sounds like a bunch of verbiage. The *truth* is, if you have faith and can hand your burdens over to God—if you can see the lack of significance of your stressors in the big picture—your daily irritations and inconveniences will be reduced. If you can really feel the idea of patience and grace in all situations, *you* may really achieve the peace so strongly coveted by many!

And when that happens, it will be all you can do to share this *Good News* with everyone you meet. How can you keep calm in this calamitous world?

Sounds corny but Depend on God. Trust Him and faithfully serve. This will result in an internal peace most of us are searching to find. And then, *you* will be excited to share that with others. Now, you are a Peaceful Evangelist. Something to think about!

Randi



HOSEA

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

28 14

PROPHECY, MINOR



OVERVIEW

Hosea was the only prophet from the northern kingdom of Israel to have a written record. The Lord commanded Hosea to marry a harlot, and God used this as a symbol of His relationship with His covenant people. This fueled the prophet to understand God's feelings about Israel's unfaithfulness and His promise of redemption.



WRITTEN

750-710 BC



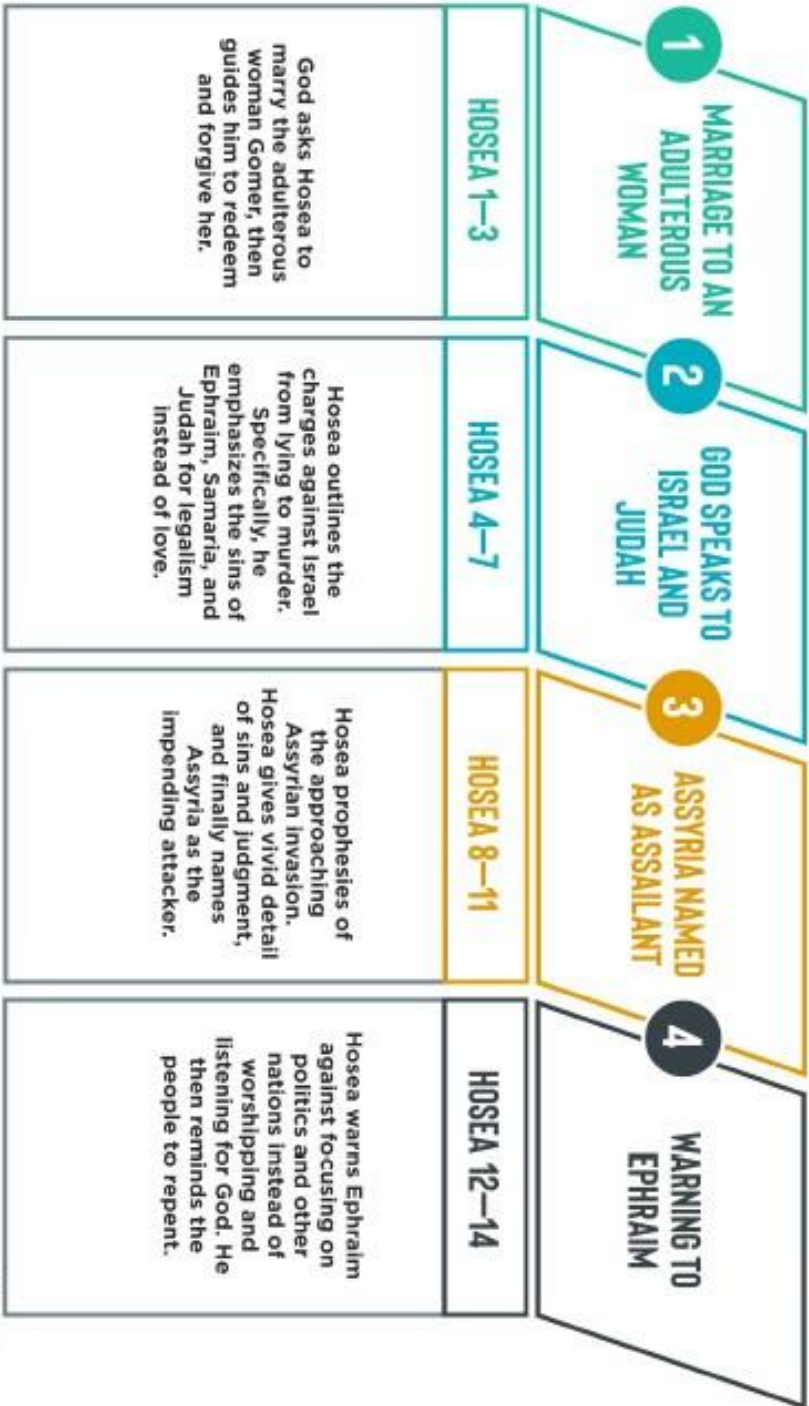
TIME PERIOD COVERED

750-6 BC



AUTHOR

Hosea the Prophet



The Question is “What Would You Do?”

The challenge came without warning. Jeremiah was at his prayers one day when he became aware of a presence. He looked around. He saw no one; he heard nothing. But he knew that someone was there. Then the voice came: “Before I formed you...I knew you. Before you were born...I blessed you. Now I have made you a prophet to the nations”.

Jeremiah knew as vividly as he had heard the words that it was the voice of God. But he was terrified when he realized what God was asking of him. His old shyness returned, his lack of confidence, his uncertainty. He tried to speak, but the words caught in his throat. Finally, they tumbled out. “O Lord, see how I cannot speak. I am only a youth”. The voice said: “Do not say, ‘I am only a youth,’ anywhere I shall send you, you will go, and whatever I command you to speak. Don’t be afraid of others, for I am with you to protect you”. Then Jeremiah felt a touch upon his lips, and the voice said, “Behold, I have put my words into your mouth. I have this day set you above nations and over kingdoms, to root up and to pull down, to waste and to destroy, to build and to plant”.

Jeremiah was afraid. From his studies he knew that prophets almost always had a difficult time. God used prophets as his messengers when He wanted to get a warning to the people that their conduct was displeasing to Him, and people did not like to be told that. As a result, prophets were often punished by the people they were trying to help. They were rejected, imprisoned, and sometimes even killed.

Jeremiah wondered if this was the future awaiting him. Yet he knew he must obey God. It would be wrong for him to refuse the mission God had assigned to him. Now my question is, if you were walking in Jeremiah’s shoes, *what would you do?*

Don Frye



United Methodist's Men's Group

Trinity's Methodist Men's Group met for its monthly breakfast meeting on March 1st. Seventeen men attended, and breakfast was enjoyed by all. Don Frye called the meeting together at 8:15 a.m. and invited Lowell Kafer to present his devotion on 1st Timothy (1–13), to help others understand the Bible better. He then gave the opening prayer.

Jim Williams presented the Treasurer's report, noting that the current bank balance was at \$4,083. The results of the February Pancake Breakfast were discussed; 120 people were served, with 13 second servings, and proceeds were reported at \$1,143. It was noted that volunteers from both the Methodist Men and Priscilla Circle helped make the event move smoothly. For the March 15th Pancake Breakfast at least four more tables will be added.

The Chili Cookoff results were announced and a discussion about continuing the cookoff in the future or altering it towards a chili dinner without competition.

Levi Miller then talked about the April 20th Easter Sunrise Service and asked for volunteers to help with traffic and other things before, during, and after the Service. He asked that all volunteers be available before 6:00 a.m.

The proposed June 1st free picnic after the 11:00 service was discussed, and volunteers were asked for the picnic.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned.



DISCERNMENT / WISDOM

AT-A-GLANCE

FIRST

First time the subject appears in the Bible:

Deuteronomy 4:6: Observe [the laws] carefully, for this will show your **wisdom** and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a **wise** and understanding people."

LAST

Last time the subject appears in the Bible:

Revelation 17:9: "This calls for a mind with **wisdom**. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits."

THREE VERY IMPORTANT OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON THIS SUBJECT:

- **1 Kings 3:9:** Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"
- **Proverbs 2:3-5:** indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, 4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, 5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.
- **Proverbs 18:15:** The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out.

THREE VERY IMPORTANT NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON THIS SUBJECT:

- **Hebrews 4:12:** For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.
- **Matthew 10:16:** "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves."
- **James 1:5:** If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.



God's Important Messages about Discernment/Wisdom:

Discernment means being able to tell good from bad. Children should be practicing discernment in choosing friends, following others, and making life choices. Children do not often consider consequences of actions. Prayers for discernment will help build strong conscience.



BIBLE STORIES SHOWING DISCERNMENT/WISDOM:

- Solomon prays for wisdom above money and long life (1 Kings 3:5-15)
- Solomon discerns who the mother of the baby really is (1 Kings 3:16-28)
- Eve fails to discern that the serpent is not a friend (Genesis 3)



HOSEA



ORDER IN THE BIBLE
OT: #28



WRITTEN BY:
Hosea
the Prophet



TIME PERIOD COVERED:
750 BC to 6 BC

OVERVIEW

Hosea directed his early prophecies to Jeroboam II, the 13th king of the northern kingdom around 750 BC. Israel was full of idolatry, and God planned to allow Assyria to invade if people didn't repent (they didn't).

He prophesied early, around the same time as Isaiah and Jonah. Hosea obeyed God and married an unfaithful. He was thus able to relate to God's feelings of betrayal by Israel.



Circle the **BOLD** words in the puzzle.

Hosea's family was an example of Israel being **UNFAITHFUL** to the Lord. **GOMER** was the wife of **HOSEA** (1:3).

Israel is charged with **CURSING, LYING, MURDER, STEALING** and **ADULTERY** (4:2).

God's people are destroyed by their lack of **KNOWLEDGE** (4:6).

God desired **MERCY** even more than he desires **SACRIFICES** (6:6).

Israel is described like **GRAPES** and a fig tree (9:10).

This famous prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus' family fled to **EGYPT** (11:1).

EPHRAIM is one of the **TRIBES** of Israel that has surrounded God with lies (11:12).

U	N	F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	E	E
S	A	X	E	C	X	M	J	R	A	G	E
A	V	A	O	P	U	G	E	X	E	Y	E
C	A	R	D	L	H	R	X	R	K	P	I
R	R	K	K	U	Y	R	S	Q	C	T	S
I	M	Q	E	M	L	I	A	I	E	Y	T
F	H	O	S	E	A	T	N	I	N	R	E
I	H	H	R	O	G	E	E	G	M	G	A
C	B	G	R	A	P	E	S	R	I	D	L
E	T	R	I	B	E	S	X	Z	Y	U	I
S	J	K	N	O	W	L	E	D	G	E	N
G	S	P	N	M	U	R	D	E	R	G	G

What Do Trustees Do?

Trustees have a special role to play in the daily life of Trinity United Methodist Church. They oversee the TUMC campus, reviewing routine planning on projects that maintain and improve the campus and make decisions regarding funding for upcoming projects, as well as planning for future projects. I had the opportunity to observe the Trustees in action at their March 16th meeting.

The Trustees were called to order by Levi Miller at 12:30 p.m. and an opening prayer was given by the pastor. Meeting around three tables were 15 people, of whom four were current Trustees (Levi Miller, Brent Rasmussen, Christin Ritter, Nancy Burnett), one (Tom Cooper) attended by phone, and one was absent (Darryl Baker). Other attendees were TUMC members who were observing the meeting (all meetings are open to TUMC members unless personnel decisions and issues are being discussed). The first order of business was introduced by Levi and dealt with a review of recently completed projects and the status of existing projects.

As might be expected, much of the review at this time dealt with issues relating to building and grounds upkeep. Doug Evans reported on door replacements that were being planned and their costs, roofing issues that had been investigated and found to be air conditioning related rather than flashing related. He also reported working on adding a parking lot light for an area that is dark, adding other parking lot lighting, and working on replacing the front sign. The Trustees, in conjunction with the Finance Committee (Jim Williams, chair), then approved funding for the door and roof projects. A second issue regarding irrigation and burned grass and shrubs was discussed, and Trustees approved funding the first of several property site plans. Levi also informed the group that recent parking lot lighting updates were saving TUMC about half of their current FPL bill monthly, the Memorial Garden fence and gate had been repaired, and that hearing assistance was in place in the Sanctuary.

The reporting and discussion then turned on two new projects. First it was announced that the Sanctuary stage problem for the Easter Cantata had been resolved. Nancy Burnett then led a discussion on ten active and proposed projects that focused on property management and beautification of the Sanctuary and front of the building.

After the discussion ended, the pastor closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.



Trustees in action at their March 16th meeting.

Don Stacks



Fire Pit on Campus for Ash Wednesday Ashes

Church Council

Trinity's Church Council met on Sunday afternoon, March 16th, to discuss matters of concern to the church, hear committee reports and recommendations, and act on motions brought before it. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Singh at 1:43 p.m., a clarification of speaking order was announced by Barry Brunner, and the February 2025 meeting minutes were accepted.

Trustees: Levi Miller and Doug Evans reviewed a list of projects that the Trustees have been working on (see article on Trustees on page 15).

Finance: Jim Williams and Dale Forbes reported that Trinity's finances were healthy and announced receiving a trust fund check of \$1800 from the Morris and Dolores Bank Trust, which will be received annually. Jim reported that stewardship was off to a good start and that stewardship tree reminders would be introduced over the next six months in both the Sunday program and *Newsletter*. Dale covered the balance sheet, noting that finances are up, with online giving up 26%, and that we are on budget.

Lay Leader: Roz Miller reported that attendance at the Men's Pancake Breakfast was good and that it was good seeing people coming back.

Council Chair: Barry discussed volunteering and the importance of volunteers using the March 15th Pancake Breakfast as an example. A volunteer luncheon is being planned for March 22nd, but signups are low. He asked that volunteers RSVP to Rick Decker for a head count.

Pastor's Report: The Pastor reported that Trinity's vital signs were encouraging and that social media viewing continues to increase. The Council will be getting yearly planning updates in their meeting materials from now on.

Music Ministry: Cynthia Beam noted her sixth month milestone and discussed some changes for the Lent/Holy Week season. She reported that Music would be doing three concerts over a 20-day period.

Media Ministry: Mike Fields that TUMC's social media platforms were doing well. The Ebony Concert had 73 in the seats, 61 online with 319 views afterwords, and YouTube[®] had 42 views. He also reported that Easter Sunrise Service would be online and with three cameras. He reported on a way to increase media efficiency by purchasing some equipment for remote media for \$900. Finance noted that the purchase was in the media budget and was approved for purchase.

Priscilla Circle: Pat Williams informed the Council that Priscilla Circle had 17 members attend their last meeting. The Heiffer Project raised over \$700 in January and February and 122 pounds of food had been donated to the House of Hope. Priscilla Circle continues to support Trinity's Blessings in a Bag ministry, and that the Circle had prepared and handed out hundreds of "hug me" bags for Valentine's Day. The Circle will be handing out crosses on Palm Sunday and several shawls and quilts would be available for use during Sunday services. Finally, she noted that 8-9 women helped with Men's Pancake Breakfast.

Men's Ministry: Don Frye reported the Men's 2025 Pancake Breakfast broke all records with \$3,226 raised and an additional \$135 for the Heifer Project. He noted that we were drawing well from the local community. Levi Miller is organizing the Sunrise Service and that the Men are organizing a free picnic after the June 1st second service. Inquiries were made about a second picnic in July tied to a concert. Don announced that he had talked with the people in Jensen Beach about setting up a TUMC table for

(Cont'd. on page 17)



Church Council Meeting

Jensen Beach's Jumping Thursday. He reported also that we could participate in several Jensen Beach parades.

Newsletter: Don Stacks reported that the March *Newsletter* had been sent via email as a PDF to approximately 180 people. He took the email addresses from the TUMC Directory, found a few errors, and several bounce back. The *Newsletter* is an "opt-out" distribution and thus far only one person had asked to opt-out. He also reported that Don Frye's March article received several complements and that the Pastor had a thank you for sending the *Newsletter* out via email.

Administration: Anne Pappas she had undertaken several classes and will be sending out leadership guidelines for 2025 committee members. She is planning to update our disaster plans by adding a todrnado response section for Trustee review and integration.

There being no other new business, Pastor Singh closed the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

Easter in the Early Church

Though Easter isn't mentioned in the Bible, historical records show that Christians were celebrating Pascha (derived from the Hebrew word for "Passover") as early as the second century. A well-known liturgical document from the third century describes how Christians fasted on the Friday and Saturday before Easter, finishing with an all-night vigil on Saturday night. During the vigil, new Christians were baptized, anointed with oil, and received their first Communion. This may have been the only time of year when baptisms occurred.

Saint John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople in the late fourth and early fifth centuries, preached a famous Easter sermon that gives clues about both the length of the vigil service and its meaning. He told those who had waited to join the vigil until the third hour, the sixth hour, the ninth hour, and even the eleventh hour not to be afraid because of their delay, "for the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first." Saint John preached that both those who had joined in the fast and those who hadn't should "rejoice today for the Table is richly laden!" Worshipers were told that no one should fear death because "our Savior . . . has destroyed it by enduring it. He destroyed Hell when He descended into it."

The Easter vigil began in the dark of night and ended in the light of day, powerfully symbolizing how Christ's death and resurrection moves us from darkness into light. There was also a practical reason for this time frame. Before Christianity became the religion of the empire, there was no weekend, so believers had to finish their celebrations before the workday began.

By the fourth century, Easter rituals had expanded to something similar to our modern Holy Week. The "Great Fifty Days," the season of Easter joy lasting until Pentecost, emerged during this time. Saint Augustine wrote, "These days after the Lord's resurrection form a period, not of labor, but of peace and joy. That is why there is no fasting and we pray standing, which is a sign of resurrection."

From this time period up until the Middle Ages, the main aspects of the Easter vigil remained the same (and are very similar to how the Easter vigil is observed by Catholics and some Protestants today). "New fire" was kindled to light the Paschal candle, which would burn throughout the Easter season. A series of Scripture readings told God's history of salvation, from the Creation and Exodus stories through the Gospels and Epistles. "New water" was blessed, and baptisms were celebrated. The service ended with all the community celebrating the Eucharist together.

Though Easter vigils aren't widely held among United Methodists, the service is recommended in *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 369–376. United Methodist worship consultant Marcia McFee writes that the service "can be a rich time of re-lighting the fires of resurrection, proclaiming the Good News, remembering the waters of our baptism and communing at the Table, just as the newly baptized did when they officially became members of the Christian community."

(Source: <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8103/easter-traditions>)

Music Ministry

Trinity Choir is so very blessed to have many talented singers, and I'd like to take a moment to introduce two such people. Bob and Marge Bailey lend their voices and talents to help us praise God with our music ministry.

Having gotten together at their 25th high school reunion, Bob and Marge have been married for 30 years. They moved to Savanna Club in Port St. Lucie from upper New York state 12 years ago. They joined the Trinity choir in the fall of 2019 after leaving another local church choir and became members of the church a couple of years later. Music has always been an important part of their lives. They both grew up singing in church and school choirs, college choruses, and community choruses. They also played instruments, Bob clarinet and bass clarinet and Marge alto and tenor sax, in the high school band and orchestra and a community band in New York state. Marge also took piano lessons in her youth years.

Bob has a vocal music degree and taught music for 7 years. He also owned a jewelry store in Mansfield, Pennsylvania, for 22 years. Marge was a computer programmer and worked for various companies in Rochester and Corning, New York. Bob directed a church choir in his hometown in Pennsylvania and sang in and directed a men's chorus. In addition to both singing in the Trinity choir, Bob directs the Savanna Club community chorus and Marge sings in the chorus. Both also sing in the Treasure Coast Community Singers (TCCS), which rehearses here at Trinity.

It is a joy having Bob and Marge Bailey both as a part of the Trinity Choir and as members of Trinity.

Shalom,

Cynthia
Music Director



Ebony Chorale Musical Presentation March 9th

Priscilla Circle

Over the last few months, we have told you about some of the ways that Priscilla Circle is involved in Trinity's Outreach Programs. Today let's talk about House of Hope.

Members of Trinity congregation bring non-perishable items to Church on the first Sunday of each month. On the first Monday, it is loaded into a car trunk and delivered to the House of Hope. This is easier than it sounds. We have a routine to bring the basket to a car and fill up the trunk. It is driven to House of Hope, and someone there brings out a basket and helps empty my trunk. We usually deliver about 150 pounds. One Monday there were 210 pounds! What a blessing!

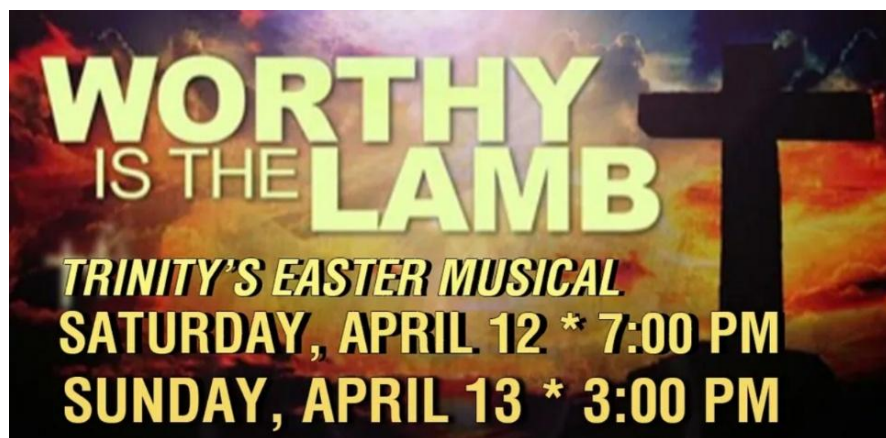
In January we received only 72 pounds and in February, two bags that together only weighed 14 pounds! However, during each week more showed up in the basket and we delivered additional 48 and 58 pounds. We discussed this at the Priscilla Circle meeting, and someone asked if they could bring it in on another day. I checked with House of Hope, and they will be happy to take it any day. So, if you should miss the First Sunday, anything that is the basket on Thursday will be taken to House of Hope then. Remember that the hallway must be kept for "foot traffic".

Another question during our discussion was, "Can we take a tour?" We asked and they even have a brochure about their tours. I am certain we will be discussing this at a future meeting.

There are many other Outreach Programs that Priscilla Circle is involved in, and I hope you will hear about them in future months. *But*, don't forget the Christian fellowship and prayers that go on during our meetings, too. They are so good for each of us.

A thought: Did you know that we once had two circles? A daytime one and in the evening for those who worked or could not come in the daytime. The evening one was called "Daughters of Sarah". We only had about four "regulars" and a few others who could show up occasionally. But we prayed, studied, and enjoyed fellowship together!

M.T. Rathgeber



April 2025 Happenings

Sundays

- Celebration Service (9:00 a.m.)
- Fellowship Hour (10:00 a.m.)
- Traditional Service (11:00 a.m.)
- Children's Sunday School (9:00 a.m.)
- Adult Bible Studies (9:30 a.m.)
- Prayer Time (10:30 a.m., Bob Engle Room)
- 1st Sunday:
 - Communion
 - House of Hope Donations
- 3rd Sunday: ~~Easter~~
 - Sunrise Service (6:45 a.m.)
 - Easter Egg Hunt (between 9:00 & 11:00 services)
- 4th Sunday: New Member Sunday
- Trustees (17th, 12:30 p.m.)
- Finance (17th, 1:30 p.m.)
- Church Council (17th, 3:00 p.m.)
- Easter Cantata (13th, 3:00 p.m.)

Mondays

- Priscilla Circle (10th, 10:00 a.m.)
- Line Dancers (1:00–3:00 p.m.)

Tuesdays

- Line Dancers (1:00–3:00 p.m.)
- Lunch Bunch (11:30 a.m.)
- Trinity Ringers (5:30 p.m.)
- David Worthington Lecture (18th, 6:30 p.m.)

Wednesdays

- Hooks & Needles (2nd, 30th, 10:00 a.m.)
- Blessings-in-a-Bag (12:30 p.m.)
- Line Dancers (1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.)
- Lenten Class: Mark (9th, 16th, 4:30 p.m.)
- Last Lenten Dinner (16th, 6:00 p.m.)

Thursdays

- Line Dancers (1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.)
- Praise Team Rehearsal (3rd, 10th, 24th, 6:00 p.m.)
- Choir Rehearsal (3rd, 2nd, 7:00 p.m.)
- Chicken Soup for the Soul (17th, 10:00 a.m.)
- ~~Maundy Thursday~~ Service (17th, 6:30 p.m.)

Fridays

- Family Movie Night (11th, 7:00 p.m.)
- ~~Good Friday~~ Service & Music (18th, Noon, 8:00 p.m.)

Saturdays

- Men's Meeting (1st, 8:00 a.m.)
- Easter Cantata (12th, 7:00 p.m.)

Trinity United Methodist Church

2221 NE Savannah Rd.
Jensen Beach, FL 34957