



Signal Light - February 2021

Trinity United Church of Christ - Quincy, Illinois

Online Worship & Social
Media

YouTube

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCOouMxMe0NoaHeogkg5zAXg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOouMxMe0NoaHeogkg5zAXg)

Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/trinity-
churchquincy/](https://www.facebook.com/trinity-churchquincy/)

Web Site

www.trinitychurchquincy.com

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Pastors' Message

Dear Friends,

As we prepare for the season of Lent, the words of Ann Weems seem to strike the right tone for where we are in the world today.

“The Lamb has been slain,
And the sheep have scattered.
Now is the time for kneeling.
The time for believers
To kneel and call upon his name.
to kneel
and to rise again,
the community of the resurrection.”

-Ann Weems

Ash Wednesday solemnly activates the reflective, introspective season of Lent. Colored in the hues of purple, grey and black, Lent invites us to draw closer to God and encounter the deeply unsettling suffering Jesus endured in the name of love. Lent is a time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us and walk with us through the brokenness of our wilderness. Lent is a time to pull back from the world and make space for the Lord to be our traveling companion.

After a year of isolation and limited social contact, a year without singing Easter alleluias, and Christmas carols, a year without warm hugs, and a year with smiles hidden by facemasks, it hardly seems fair to be asked to walk into the wilderness in search of the divine. We are ready for the sun to shine, the mourning to end, and the church bells to joyfully call us together to worship. Yet our mysterious, merciful God beckons us to walk in the shadows, visiting the lost and broken places of our wilderness.

We join with the Israelites who wandered in the wilderness for more years than they thought they could bear. We journey with the exiles longing to kneel in Jerusalem again, fearing they will never get there. We long to be the community of the resurrection yet again. If we listen in this holy season, we hear the whisper of the divine one; the wounded healer urging us not to look away, imploring us to come closer and feel the love. In the dark wood of the cross, we find healing that the world offers us but cannot give us.

Come with me, children of the faith, let us journey together. Let us timidly tip toe to the cross where sorrow and love mingle and flow, tenderly binding up our broken hearts. Let us learn again that the way of the cross leads us home.

Faithfully,

Tim

February Consistory Meeting

To begin the meeting, we met in the sanctuary to get an update and overview of the new digital upgrade. We await two things, the arrival of the digital DVD recorder and training to operate the equipment. Sound and video quality will be greatly improved with the upgrade.

Financial overview was presented. Trinity finished the year of 2020 with a deficit of \$35,000. Line items over budget include the worship budget due to paying for videography, insurance which increased in rate, and a decrease in revenue contributed to the final number.

A review of the Christmas and Advent services showed us that the special services of Lessons and Carols and The Blue Christmas online services were well received. Christmas Eve service was down in attendance. Two factors playing into that were that it was a very cold night and some members reported driving in the dark was a concern.

Worship Committee and Tim have been working on plans for the Lenten and Easter Services. Ash Wednesday services will be posted online with drive through Communion held at noon and 5:30pm. No distribution of ashes will take place. Crosses made out of nails and copper wire will be distributed instead. More to be posted on Easter services.

Tim is in the process of interviewing replacements for Marty as she is retiring. Personnel Committee will also interview the candidates. Marty has agreed to help train the secretary as needed.

The Consistory voted to approve the use of the Fellowship Hall as a polling place for the upcoming elections in 2021. Tim reported that the elections officials were diligent in keeping masks and social distancing measures in place.

Congregational reports and financials for 2020 will be sent to all members. Members with questions or concerns are asked to call either the church or Consistory members. Contribution statements for 2020 will be available upon request.

The Consistory voted to retain the same officers as were already in place in 2020.

Next Consistory meeting is scheduled for February 22 at 6:30 pm.

Humbly,

Lenten Worship Series
Blessings of the Dark Wood

Sunday, February 21, 2021
Temptation - Matthew 22:34-40

Sunday, February 28, 2021
Lost - Matthew 14:10-23

Sunday, March 7, 2021
Emptiness - Philippians 2:5-11

Sunday, March 14, 2021
Uncertainty - Matthew 26:36-46

Sunday, March 21, 2021
Disappearing - John 18:28-40

Sunday, March 28, 2021
Thunderstruck- Luke 19:28-44



Ash Wednesday Drive-Through Communion

Wednesday, February 17th marks the beginning of Lent. We will post a special worship service online and offer drive through communion from noon to 1:00 p.m. and 5:30- 6:30. Worship will include special music and Lenten Communion liturgy. The imposition of ashes will not be offered due to COVID safety concerns.



Annual Report

Because we are not yet meeting in-person for worship, there will not be a winter congregational meeting in-person. The 2020 report book will be available February 12th. Stop by and pick up a booklet if you would like a paper copy. An electronic version will be emailed the week of February 12th. Please address any questions to the Consistory or the Pastor.



Easter Flower Fund

Our plan is to purchase some Easter Lilies for our online worship experience. We will purchase fewer than we usually do. To fund this project, we will accept Easter Flower offering gifts throughout lent. Because of the cost of Easter Lilies, we are not asking individuals to purchase entire plants. Some may wish to contribute a few dollars, which is not enough to purchase a plant. Others may wish to donate toward the cost of two or three plant. The flexibility of this offering allows everyone an opportunity to give toward the beauty of our Easter celebration.

We will not publish a list of donors; however, your giving record will reflect a "special contribution." Following Easter, our Elders will deliver the lilies to shut ins. This offering also pays for altar flowers for the altar for Holy Week as well as our Palms for Palm Sunday. Thank you for your faithful and generous response to this opportunity.

2020 Contribution Statements Available

Contribution statements for 2020 are available upon request. Call the church office 217.222.1499 to have your contribution statement printed. Unfortunately, we are not able to email these financial records. Your record can be picked up or we will mail it when requested. Please contact the church office before February 24th with any questions or corrections to your giving statement. Thank you for your regular and faithful giving in 2020.

Food Ingathering Report

We will continue with filling our grocery cart. There is a cart by the west door for you to drop them off. There is a big need. Please help us feed the hungry. 341 food items were given in January. Thank you!

Air Conditioning Update

Envelopes will be at the west door table or in the foyer and periodically in the Signal Light until our goal has been reached. If you are sending a gift in the mail be sure to specify Air Conditioning Fund in the memo area of your check.

Thank you! 2019 - 2020 Gifts Received: \$15,862.17

Deaths At Trinity *“Blessed are the Dead who Die in the Lord”*

J.B. Weston

April 21, 1924 - January 28, 2021

Memorials

LOVE GIFT FUND

To: Ginny Tobin

From: Pat Rischar; Bob Dittmer; Jeff & Marty Burns

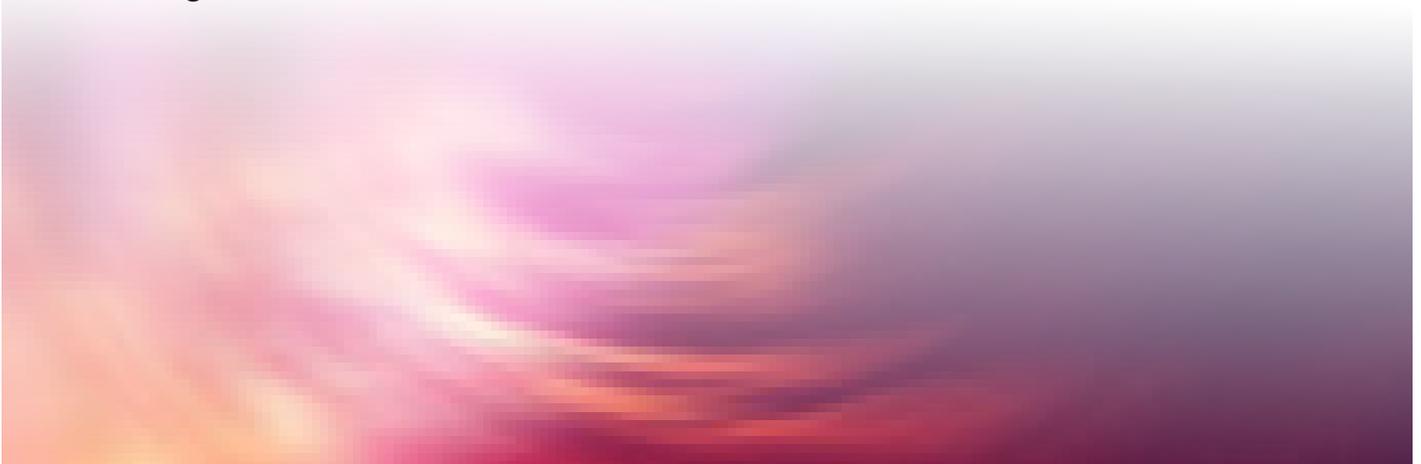
Greenmount Cemetery Clean-up

The Greenmount Cemetery will have their 2021 SPRING CLEAN-UP of the cemetery grounds from March 15-19. They ask families to remove all items by March 14 and not to replace them until March 20. This is a complete clean up everything must be removed except shepherd hooks/staffs but please remove items on them.



Prayer List

Mike Otten, Lou Ann Goheen, Linda Meyer, Jane Altheide, Myron Koch, Frances Houston, Norma Moore, Jodie Knight, Ann Mitchell, Steve Homan, Carolyn Ellerman, Mary Boyer, Donna Nell, Shirley Kroner, Steve Cole, Mavis VanCamp, Glen Hollyman, Dick & Georgia Tournear, Marilyn Griffin, Katie Durk, Judith Stoermer, Carlene Davis, Andy Knight, Christian Caley, Steve Lock and Mike Jackson, Leo Henning, Beka Zwirtz, Mary Jones, Ray Southard, Mildred Crane, Jimmy and Caitlin Garcia, Beth Harscher, Tim Miller, Jim Foster, Mary Feeny, Ken Herman, Bob Standbridge, Glenn Cox, Russell Orr, Sarah Shelley, Donna Braden, Kim Meyer, Phil Worrell, Donna McClelland, Sondi Miller, Mary Dyer, Bill Lahrman, Conner Redington, Ron Gaus, Linda Vandiver, John Rudicil, Marty Ohnemus, Brian Cox, Dr. Kent Palmer, Marilyn VanBlair, Max Miller, Teresa Sweet, Mike Rokita, Lisa Gengenbacher, Dave Holtschlag, Tim Axton, Jeff Bates, Imogene Weston, Cindy Trower, Bob Bizer, Kim Stratman, Bill Gilbert, Eli Campos, Sammy Adcox, Alan & Rosemary Fries, Jimmy Steinkamp, Tim Dittmer, Alexandra & Isabelle Durk, Marcia Moss, David Travis, Lori Gordon, Lisa Wood, Briley & Grayson Zibilski, Nancy McCarty, Lori Kraus, Richard Brown, Vicki McColez, Mike & Sandy Schmid, Penny Norton, Kyle Benson, Vickie Fischer, Colin Little, Hayden Wheatley, Jan Lee Wansley, Colette Gaston, Linda Atkins, Vickie Schoffmit, Liam Combs, Steve Withers, Mary Frasch, Prudence McKenadey, Bob McCleary, Ty Sharify, Beverly Hurt, Pauline Poppe, Sydney Jean Meade, Sue Foster, Kristopher Schreacke, Hayden Pegues, Conner Smith, Shirley Martin, Gary Glover, Hannah McVeigh, Evan Mencer, Julie Hamilton, Dustin Humphrey, Carolyn Lauder, Yvonne & David Stone, Millie & Bob Meyer, Mary Loos, Ella Cain, Pauline Willbanks, Mary Chamberlain, Pat Hillerts, Kim Tryon, Carol Holbrook, Allison Weibring, Barbara Savell, Sue Mann, Edna Walker, Al Rankin, Lee Koch, Bennett Dredge, Jeremy & family, Blaine, Jamie, Mike, Toby, Ashley, Stephanie & family, Calvin, Annie, Ella, Rebekah, Carla, Isabella, Katie, Alisha, Tonya, Valerie, Jake, David, Leslie, Alex, Don, Amanda, Philip and the Armed Forces. Please pray for the families and friends of J.B. Weston, Dr. Bill Koch, Kevin Rockhold, Ginny Tobin and Randy Winget, in this time of grief and those who are recipients of our Love Gift offerings.



Financial Update

In this time when it is not safe for us to meet in person, the church continues to be supported by your gifts. Though our expenses are exceeding income we are grateful for all who continue to mail checks, drop off gifts or use our online giving platform on the website.

We are blessed to have the capability to give to the church through our website. There is a giving tab in the top right corner of the screen. Gifts can be made to general fund giving as well as memorials. The following giving options are available:

- Online giving through the website <https://trinitychurchquincy.com/giving/>

Thank you for your continued financial support. We continue to only make bank deposits every two weeks and it may take a little longer for your check to clear the bank.

Trinity Members Hospitalized

Trinity members hospitalized since the December 2020 Signal Light: Mike Otten

Thank You

56 Calendars were donated for Good Samaritan Home residents to use for their appointments. Thank you to all that brought in their extra ones into the office.





February Birthdays

1	Parke Piper 99!	18	Zeke Remington
2	Karen Watson		Kelsy Haider
4	Loren Farr	19	Riley Cameron
5	Maria Spalt	20	Steven Moore
6	Nick Gault		Laura Grenda
8	Laura Snelling	21	Imogene Weston
9	Dan Trower 22		Katelyn Reynolds
11	Betsy Schild		Jeffrey Stephenson
	Lindsey Kiraly		Janet Scobee
	Drake Moore 23		Henry Voss
12	Terry McAllister	24	Conner Smith
13	Wanda Dix 27		Katie Clark
	Debra O'Hara	28	Mark Mester
	Leroy Loepp 29		Robert Niehoff
14	Beverly Hurt		
15	Rachel Cox		
	Kristin Nichols		
17	Angie Kemp		
15	JoAnn Mester		
15	Janie Ellerman		



February Anniversaries

- 10 Jake & Jamie Petri
- 14 Randy & Debra Rossmiller
- 14 John & Vera Bickhaus
- 14 Timothy & Andrea Baker
- 28 David & Jo Ann Hawkins

Trinity United Church of Christ

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