

As the winter's blues may be setting in we have various upcoming Lenten activities to keep everyone busy during this winter's season. Join us as we enter into the Lenten Season. See available offerings further in this newsletter.

If your electronic copy is still not coming through... Be sure to add us to your contacts list and/or check your spam folder for our email from **TRINITYTRIBUNE.RC@GMAIL.COM**. Should, it is still not be coming through, contact our Editor to be added to our listings.

May we continue to be the people that God wants us to be in the sharing His word in the Rose City area... and to shine Jesus' light throughout the entire year!

A Word From our Pastor

Love is in the Air or Are Those Ashes?

Valentine's Day is on its way, as we are made well aware of by the end of December, as Christmas gets moved out and the red hearts and glitter gets moved in! This year, Ash Wednesday falls upon Valentine's Day, February 14th. Some clergy have light-heartedly mentioned doing the ashes in the shape of a heart instead of a cross. This caused some conversation among the group as some thought that was a terrible idea and that we should only celebrate Ash Wednesday and totally ignore the "Hallmark holiday". While others remarked that doing a heart on the forehead is not far off-base, as we Christians are supposed to be known by our love. I found this conversation interesting. First, Valentine's Day was not originally a "Hallmark holiday" but was once based on an actual Saint Valentine. Some of us may remember when it was called St. Valentine's Day. However, St. Valentine is no longer recognized in the Catholic church, due to a lack of historical evidence to point to the accuracy of why they were canonized, and which Valentine (there were two) was THE actual saint. And, yes, I really did dig into the research about the validity of the Feast of Saint Valentine, recorded in the Gelasian Sacramentary all the way back in the 8th century, but was established in AD 496. Unfortunately, *spoiler alert* none of it actually leads to any of the Valentines' (it was a common name) being involved in love in any way, as all the evidence points to the romantic stories contributed to them as untrue. It is true that Valentine was martyred in Rome in AD 269, but, he was not martyred for marrying couples, or delivering love letters to those imprisoned, nor did he find love with his jailer's daughter and sign his final note to her with love, your Valentine. He was taken to the gallows, though (both that were immortalized).

Now that we got that out of the way.....

While I will be using a cross as the symbol for Ash Wednesday, I must say that doing a heart is not offensive to me. Why? Because God is love. His love for us is shown in his creation of us, where he placed his love. His love is shown through the gift of his son, Jesus Christ, and by the actions of his son. If it weren't for the love of God, we would not be here. If it were not for the love of God, we would not know of love, be able to be loved, or to give love to others. It is only because of God that we have the ability to comprehend (albeit minutely) the meaning of love. And even then, we muck it up. We take it for granted. We put limitations and

conditions on what we think love is or should be. But that is not God's way. God's love is AGAPE love. Agape love is the highest form of love; the kind of love and action that shows empathy and care for others without needing anything in return. It is unconditional and even sacrificial. It is intended for everyone. It goes beyond philia love, which is brotherly love, or the kind one has for a friend or family member. And it is higher than the passionate type of eros love that is shown to our significant others. We are called to love God above all, and next to love our neighbors, but both are done in agape love. This type of love is explained best in 1 Corinthians 13:1-10 (NIV)

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. 12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Indeed, the greatest is love. This is the kind of love God created. This is the kind of love he expects us to give our all to being and doing. This is why a heart would be totally appropriate on Ash Wednesday as we recall the one who created us and what he created us for. What will it be for you? A cross or a heart?

In the Love of Christ,

Pastor Helen



CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION: TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

125 W. MAIN STREET, PO BOX 130, ROSE CITY, MI 48654

PHONE: 989-685-2350

CHURCH'S EMAIL: trinityumcrg@gmail.com

OUR CHURCH'S WEB ADDRESS IS: www.rosecitytrinityumc.org

Worship service are on Sunday Mornings at **9:30 a.m.** in person and live stream on Facebook.

Church Staff Contact Information:

PASTOR: HELEN ALFORD **PHONE:** 989-390-1835

LAY LEADER: TERRILYNN HIBEN

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Please remember to contact **Lee** to book the usage of any church facilities (Family Center, Church and/or Basement) for any reason (whether church-related or not). **ALL** facility users **MUST** check with Lee to ensure that the building space is available.

Our New SCS Team Leaders

Our Leadership Team began to meet in January 2024. Should you, as parishioners, have any questions and/or suggestions for where our congregation members should be sharing God's word within our living community... please share them with our new leadership team.

Team members are: **SHARON ALDERTON, EVELYN DELANEY, LINDA GRAHAM, MARVA HARTMAN, PAUL HIBEN, CINDY LEE, ROD MASON, AND DORIS ROBERTSON.**

Please pray for our new church leaders as they prayerfully lead us as a congregation in the ways we want to live and grow in Christ.

**CHECK OUT OUR
CHANNEL.**



Go to YouTube, log into your Gmail account, type in "trinity united methodist church of rose city" and our home page will appear under a list to choose from. Be sure to **SUBSCRIBE**, and share our services on your social media accounts! The more that see us online, the more that may join us in person! Sharing online is **FREE**!

Plus new church members can be gained into our congregation this way!

Upcoming Community Event

On March 4th and 5th (Monday and Tuesday) at Trinity's Family Center, a **FREE** training will be offered to the community. AuSable Valley CMH will be presenting the 2-day **LivingWorks ASIST** (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) Interactive Workshop. It is 8:30am-4pm. participants must be **PRE-REGISTERED BY FEBRUARY 29TH** to diane.gorney@avcmh.org. The flyer is currently available in the Family Center for any who are interested.

JUDE'S JEMS:

How many lessons of faith and beauty we should lose if there were no winter in our year!



FEBRUARY WORSHIP TEAM

4

GREETER: Marva Hartman & Linda Graham

LITURGIST: Sharon Alderton

CHILDREN'S WORD: Deb Pennell

COFFEE HOUR: Polly Mason

18

GREETER: Bill & Ramona Ridalls

LITURGIST: Mike Brick

CHILDREN'S WORD: Linda Wend

COFFEE HOUR: Linda Graham

25

GREETER: Nick & Dorothy Teeples

LITURGIST: Doris Robertson

CHILDREN'S WORD: Abbey Reimer

COFFEE HOUR: Evelyn Delaney

11

GREETER: Mike & Glenda Brick

LITURGIST: Evelyn Delaney

CHILDREN'S WORD: Judy Asel

COFFEE HOUR: Johanne Otteson

ACOLYTE: JAMES CLARK

USHERS: FRED DELANEY & JAY PENNELL

FEBRUARY'S COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL – EVERY SUNDAY at 10:45 to 11:45 for ages three through 12th grade.

CHOIR PRACTICE– TUESDAYS at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary.

CHAIR YOGA Every Thursday at 10 am. All are welcome to come exercise with us!

ABBEY'S BIBLE STUDY– Most Thursdays at 6 pm in the Family Center.

NO UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH–in January or February. We will next meet in March! Stay safe during the winter months.

14 ASH WEDNESDAY – Ashes will be shared at noon in the sanctuary. If you have a homebound person who would like to receive ashes please let Pastor Helen know so she can make arrangements to visit with them.

21 & 28 LENTEN BIBLE STUDY, AT 12:00 PM. ON WEDNESDAYS, at our Family Center with a lunch at Trinity. Books will be available to purchase. All are encouraged to attend.

29 APPLICATION for **ASIST** training due.

UPCOMING MARCH EVENT

4 & 5 LivingWorks ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) Interactive Workshop. Both day 8:30am-4pm. See page 2 for more information.

OUR BLESSING BOX

Provides staple foods and other supplies, 24 hours a day, for anybody in our community who is in need. Baby supplies, cereals, boxed items, rice, canned goods, etc. keep best. Laundry soap, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste/brushes, toilet paper, deodorant, cleaning supplies, and the like, are needed, too.

You may donate items at any time by placing in them in the Blessing Box or contacting 989-390-1835 to set up a delivery time, as overflow is kept inside the Family Center, and put out daily as needed. If you don't want to shop but want to donate cash, you may do so.

Plus the **BLESSING BOX** has a brand new Facebook page with a link to Walmart for anyone to place orders and that will be directly delivered to us. Check it out!!

Contact **MIKE BRICK** or **PASTOR HELEN** for more information.

DAYS FOR GIRLS

We are changing our DFG meeting time to the last **THURSDAY** of the month instead of the last Tuesday. We will continue to get together and work on the kits right through winter if the weather allows. Bring \$2 for lunch at the senior center, \$3 if you are under 60 years of age. It is amazing what our wonderful little group has accomplished.

Come join us at 10AM and enjoy the company of some amazing women while doing rewarding work. We usually call it a day by 2PM or 3PM.

Contact Cora Killinger for additional information.

**REACH OUT with a card and/or
a visit...**

JENNEL FIELDS
(JONATHAN McLAREN'S MOM)
1268 S. Sage Lake Road
Hale, MI 48739

MICKEY SAMMONS
361 E. Houghton Creek Rd.
Rose City, MI 48654

JOHN & DIXIE NUGENT
966 Lighthouse
Marysville, MI 48040

And looking ahead...

MARCH 2024

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

LENTEN STUDY

HOLY WEEK &

EASTER IS MARCH 31ST

APRIL 2024

MAY 2024

JUNE 2024

5TH SUNDAY SERVICE

JULY 2024

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

**SEEKING SCRIPTURE -
Forgiveness (NKJV)**

There are many Scripture references that talk about forgiveness: forgiving those who have hurt or offended us, asking others to forgive us for hurtful and offensive sins against them and asking God to forgive the sin in our lives. Jesus example of love and forgiveness is shown by His prayer in Matthew 6:8-13.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Continuing with Matthew 6:14, Jesus said, "If you

forgive men their trespasses, you heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses".

If you don't have a study Bible, I highly recommend that you get one. The footnotes explain Scripture in much more detail. I remember how Bob Wiseley treasured his as he grew in his understanding of God's Word.

Please open your Bible to the following verses:

Ephesians 4:32

Mark 11:25

Colossians 3:12-13

Matthew 18:21-22

Matthew 6:14-15

Luke 6:37

These are just a few verses – look for others in God's Word.

BLESSINGS,

Sharon Elderton

ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

PLEASE CONTACT our EDITOR:

- If you know of others who, should be added and/or removed or, if you are listed below, and wish to be removed from our prayer concern list

CHURCH FAMILY

NEW BABY

- ♥ Dec 28, 2023- Nicholas Walter Howard

CONCERNS

- ♥ Pastor Helen Alford & Family
 - ♥ Harper (6 years old)
 - ♥ Krystal
 - ♥ Natalie (2 years old)
 - ♥ Chuck Beehler
 - ♥ Dean Clark
 - ♥ Mae Delaney
 - ♥ Jennel Fields
 - ♥ Denny Lamb
 - ♥ Jonathan McLaren's Family
 - ♥ Lee O'Connor
 - ♥ Johanne Otteson
 - ♥ John Nugent
 - ♥ Doris Robertson
 - ♥ Roger Robertson
 - ♥ George Savage (3 years old)
 - ♥ Dorothy Teeple
 - ♥ Don Tryba

FAMILIES IN MOURNING

MILITARY

- Jayden Clark
- Izzy DeCosta
- Noah Hartman
- Will Kerley
- Nathaniel Perry

MISSION GROUPS

- ♥ Lydia's Gate
- ♥ His Love Family Resources
- ♥ Rayola

EMTS, FIREFIGHTERS, & POLICE

SEARCH & RESCUE

- ♥ Abbey Reimer, Lily & Robin

NATURAL DISASTERS

- ♥ All communities dealing with weather related issues

February Birthdays

Mickey	Sammons	12
Linda	Wend	26

February Wedding Anniversary

Fred & Evelyn	Delaney	1
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We are missing birthdays and/or wedding anniversaries for many of our months. Please assist us to keep this information up to date! Email information to:

TrinityTribune.RC@gmail.com

To add your information into our membership roll information bank, look for the slips on the back table in the sanctuary. Please let the **EDITOR** know if you would rather not have your personal information shared in our newsletter. **THANK YOU!**

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM CHAIR YOGA (FC) • 6 PM BIBLE STUDY (FC) 	2	3
4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 A.M.- WORSHIP Services in person or on Facebook online • 10:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (FC) 	5	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) • 6:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE (S) 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM LENTEN BIBLE STUDY (FC) • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM CHAIR YOGA (FC) • 6 PM BIBLE STUDY (FC) 	9	10
11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 A.M.- WORSHIP Services in person or on Facebook online • 10:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (FC) 	12	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) • 6:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE (S) 	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM LENTEN BIBLE STUDY (FC) • 12 NOON - ASH WEDNESDAY Ashes to be shared. (S) • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM CHAIR YOGA (FC) • 6 PM BIBLE STUDY (FC) 	16	17
18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 A.M.- WORSHIP Services in person or on Facebook online • 10:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (FC) 	19	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) • 6:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE (S) 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 NOON- LENTEN BIBLE STUDY (FC) • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM CHAIR YOGA (FC) • 6 PM BIBLE STUDY (FC) 	23	24
25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 A.M.- WORSHIP Services in person or on Facebook online • 10:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (FC) 	26	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 PM SAS MEETING • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) • 6:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE (S) 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 NOON- LENTEN BIBLE STUDY (FC) • 5:30 - 9 PM CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS CHEER-LEADING (FC) 	29 <i>Leap Year Day!</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 AM CHAIR YOGA (FC) • 5 PM SAS MEETING (FC) • 6 PM BIBLE STUDY (FC) 		