

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TRINITY

Thursday (1/21) 5:00 Community Table.  
6:30 Education Comm. Meeting.  
6:30 Cub Scouts.  
7:00 Trinity Foundation Meeting.

Friday (1/22) 11:00 Funeral service for Kim Bontrager.  
6:00 A.A.

Saturday (1/09)7:00 Meth. Anonymous.

### Carolyn Veit

Carolyn Veit, a Missionary in Haiti that Trinity Church supports is safe following the earthquake that devastated Haiti on Tuesday morning.

### Children's Worship Bags

Children's Worship Bags are available from the ushers on Sunday mornings. Each bag contains crayons, paper, and a play item plus the children's bulletin. The bags with the crayons are to be returned to the ushers after the church service. The children may keep the other items.

### 2010 Offering Envelopes

Your church envelopes for 2010 are available on a table in the Narthex. To help us be better stewards, we ask that you pick up your envelopes either after the worship service on Sunday mornings or anytime during the week when the church office is open. We have ordered fewer envelopes this year so some envelope numbers have been changed.

Pastor: G. Scott Pattison -- Pastor of Caring & connections: Steve Brittenham  
Director of Children & Families: Sonja Richards -- Youth Director: Jon Zinnel -- Church Secretary: Hazel Mapes



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# THE TRINITY SPIRE

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OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT: Trinity Church is a people exalting God, growing in discipleship, reaching our community while caring and serving as Jesus did.

Volume 36, Issue 02

January 20, 2010

## Sundays at Trinity

8:30 WORSHIP

9:30 FELLOWSHIP IN THE

NARTHEX

9:35 SMALL GROUPS

10:30 WORSHIP

4:30 YOUTH

4:30 SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

6:30 AL-A-NON

7:00 AA MEETING

The Upper Room devotional for Tuesday, January 19, 2010 was titled "Helping Hands?" and was based upon Psalm 63:1-8. There was an additional Scripture from Revelation 3:20 that says, "The Son says, 'Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.'" (NIV)

Jacquelin Deatcher (New York, USA), the devotional writer wrote:

"I had broken my ankle and was using crutches for the first time in my life. This posed some challenges as I live alone, have no family nearby, and have stairs to climb inside my home. Friends from church stepped in to help, taking me to doctor appointments and bringing me groceries or meals.



I was grateful for their help, but I observed that doing something for me seemed easier for them than spending time with me. Sometimes what I needed most was for someone to stay a while, to share a meal, or to listen to my thoughts and concerns. Of course I realized that with my usual busy schedule, I might have helped someone quickly but not spent time with them.

That's when it dawned on me: *Don't I do the same with God?* For me to do one more act of kindness or one more task in the church is easier than to stop and spend time with God, the one in whose name I do them. This episode helped me hear more clearly the Lord's knocking on the door of my heart.

### Prayer

O lover of my soul, forgive me for neglecting relationship with you while I'm busy doing things for you. Help me to spend more time with you each day; in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Thought for the day** - Am I doing so much for God that I do not spend time with God?

**Prayer Focus** - Those in Christian ministry"

When I read this during my devotions, it seemed like a good one to copy and offer to you as we enter the new year. If you read it Tuesday for you devotions, it will be a good reminder. If you did not have your devotions Tuesday or you used another devotional, I thought it was a good reminder as we seek to grow closer to God. It is easy to do God's work, and miss the God of the work. As we make our commitments this year, let us be intentional about staying connected to the Lord of the Work, as we do The Lord's work.

Growing closer to God with you!  
Pastor Scott



Terina Abel, Phil Alexander, Gertrude Arnold, The Family of Julia Atz, Anna Bailey, Eden Banks, Charlotte Bedson, Maxine Berhalter, Jean Bonecutter, The Family of Kim Bontrager, Sandra Boulby, Floyd Burnworth, Kitty Burnworth, Virginia Buttermore, Jim Chaffins, Diane Claybaugh, Jan Corbin, Fred Cornett, Del & Mary Cortner's son, Eleanor Davis, Diehl Family, Ben Earley, Marvin Fager, Donni Frain, Beth Friskney, Jason Gienger, Oryan Gipson, Todd Gipson, Sarah Grismore, Mac and Helen Grossman, Doug Haddock, Beth Hager, Wayne Hartigan, David Haskins, Raven Hensley, Brad Huff, Kathy James, Mike Johnson, Phil Johnson, The Family of Bart Kile, Virginia Kirschner, Todd Kline, The Family of Ben Kreigh, Lois Kruger, Evan Lash, Kara Lilly, Kenneth Marks, Luella McClish, Austin McCormick, Cindy Mercer, Peggy Messer, Marceille Mitchell, Phil Ogden, Annie Pratt, Patricia Faye Pulis, Mary Pyle, Ashley Rhinehart, Evelyn Rice, Martha Ringler, Betty Rinker, Adam Ross, Nanette Russell, The family of Bernard Savoie, Justin Scher, Kim Shatto, Joan Shippy, The Family of Bettie Smith, Karen Steelman, Sean Tarney, Tina Terry, Bob Vale, Deena Vale, Betty VanWinkle, The Family of Edwin Winstrom, Becky & Emily Winstrom, Vi Woujas, Sharon Woods, Cousin, Jerry, with Colon Cancer, Brother who has cancer; Grandson who has brain cancer, Mom who is in hospital with heart problems, Sister who fractured her shoulder, Myself, Son and Daughter, my Mother-in-law with Parkinson's, My Family, Tammy, Father-in-law, Someone going through many changes in their life, Friend going through tough situations, A Job for my Sons and all in need of work, My Mom, Sister—Jean—In Indianapolis who has lost job and is currently unemployed, The people affected by the Earthquake in Haiti.

### **Carolyn Veit**

Carolyn Veit, a Missionary in Haiti that Trinity Church supports is safe following the earthquake that devastated Haiti on Tuesday morning.

### **Earned Income Tax Credit Information**

Last year, Community Table, an initiative of United Way of Noble County, had one volunteer who was able to help low-income individuals file for their Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). That volunteer helped several people file for money they didn't even realize they qualified for...which amounted to several thousand dollars brought back into the Noble County community. In Indiana in 2009 - for tax year 2008 - the average credit was \$1991 per person/family.

The IRS estimates that 20 to 25 percent of qualifying workers miss out on thousands of dollars every year because they fail to claim their EITC. This includes workers who are:

- \* Living in rural areas
- \* Self-employed
- \* Disabled
- \* Childless
- \* Not proficient in English
- \* Older (grandparents)
- \* Recently divorced, unemployed, have experienced other changes to their marital, financial or parental status.

Can you imagine the impact we could have on people living here in Noble County if every person who qualified actually applied for and received their tax credit??? Helping people to put food on the table, keep their homes heated, and so much more! Not only that, but if we could help just 100 eligible people in Noble County file for their credit this year, that would bring in about \$200,000 to Noble County to stir the local economy. So, why am I contacting YOU? This year, we want to help as many people as possible who are eligible get the tax credit they deserve. We have computers available to do the work, and we have access to quality training for those who need it. What we don't have are volunteers.

Do you or someone you know have tax knowledge and time to volunteer? Would you or your organization be willing to partner on some level to make this dream a reality (recruiting volunteers, sponsoring an EITC training workshop, etc.)? Would you like more information on the Earned Income Tax Credit? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please call the United Way of Noble County (260) 636-8929! Together we CAN make a difference!!!

**3<sup>RD</sup> Annual  
Ash Wednesday Pretzel Baking  
Wednesday, February 17, 2010  
from 6:00-7:00 P.M.  
Children K-6 Grade**



### **“Rescue, Relief, and Recovery”**

#### **An Epistle from Bishop Mike**

The terrible aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Haiti has reminded us once again of the wonderful capacity of humanity to respond to the needs of others. It also reminds us that we need to be clear about the various ways we can help, along with the “phases” of assistance which will be required.

What I learned from working with UMCOR during the floods and emergencies in the Dakotas was that there are three distinct phases to Disaster Response, each one usually taking about ten times as long as the preceding phase. As I best understand it, these are the phases:

1. **Rescue** – this is the time when emergency response focuses upon finding survivors, getting them to emergency help, and assessing the size and scope of the tragedy. This Rescue phase is best done by police, fire departments, EMS teams, and in the case of large-scale emergencies, the National Guard and other military. This Rescue phase is what is happening right now in Haiti, and it is limited by the absence of a support system to provide even the most basic of human needs.
2. **Relief** – this phase begins during the later part of the Rescue phase, and it usually lasts about 10 times as long as the Rescue phase. This phase is all about helping people to be “safe, secure, and sanitary.” In the US, by federal law, this task is given primarily to the Red Cross, and that is also true in international situations with the International Red Cross. We can already see this phase beginning as the Rescue phase continues in Haiti, and the military is helping since the infrastructure is so damaged in Haiti. We can expect this Relief phase to last at least 10 times as long as the Rescue phase (which is itself still on-going, so I imagine that the Relief phase will last many months).
3. **Recovery** – this phase, which often lasts 10 times as long as the Relief phase, is the longest and most demanding phase of Disaster Response. It often is led by church groups, faith groups, and other NGO's (non-governmental organizations). UMCOR, our United Methodist Committee on Relief, often begins its work during the Relief phase and continues through the Recovery phase long after the Red Cross and other emergency and relief groups have left the disaster. In the Dakotas, for example, our recovery response to the flood of 1996 continued well into 1998, and the last VIM team (Volunteer in Mission) worked the recovery about 2 ½ years after the original flood. The goal of Recovery is simply to help people get back to somewhere near their original condition before the disaster.

I share this understanding of the phases of Disaster Response to remind us that the situation in Haiti will require years of relief and recovery. Long after CNN and other news groups have grown weary of reporting the situation, we will need lots of faith

groups and other caring persons to help Haiti return to normalcy, or perhaps even to improve its prior situation.

I also share this understanding of Disaster Response as a tribute to the two UMCOR staff persons (Sam Dixon and Clinton Rabb) who died in the recent earthquake. They were in Haiti supervising the on-going Recovery from the floods and hurricanes of two years ago. Their presence is a testimony to how long, hard, and faithfully UMCOR works on these long-term recovery issues. We can be proud of our part in their work, since we all support the basic underlying structures of UMCOR and our other mission work through our United Methodist apportionments, which in Indiana are included in the Tithe budget of the Annual Conference.

Please join me in praying for all who were victims of the Haiti earthquake, and please join me in honoring the memory of Sam Dixon and Clinton Rabb by continuing to support the work of UMCOR.

There are lots of ways to give and help in Haiti, including the immediate ways of supporting the Red Cross. For the long-term recovery, our support of UMCOR will be essential, and it will be a fitting tribute to those who died serving in our name. Thank you.

Bishop Michael J. Coyner, Indiana Area of The United Methodist Church

## **HELP FOR HAITI**

### **VOLUNTEERS AND HEALTH KITS**

According to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), there will be a great need for volunteers to help rebuild once the initial crisis is past, but it is not safe or possible for volunteers to go to Haiti at the present. However, UMCOR's two relief supply warehouses are asking United Methodists to provide health kits that will be sent to Haiti.

### **DONATIONS**

We are grateful that donations continue to come in online. Donors may also contribute by placing a check in the offering plate at a local church or by mailing it to UMCOR, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087. Checks should indicate “Advance #418325” in the memo line.

### **EXCEL MISSION**

Also if you want to donate to help the mission that came to Trinity and that Anita went on a mission trip please write your check to Trinity Church with Excel Mission on the memo line.

