



Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World

April 2017 Newsletter of Trinity United Methodist Church

At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared. They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn't find the body of the Master Jesus.

-Luke 24:1 (The Message Bible)

Easter creates in me deep feelings of emotions. When I place myself where Jesus was, knowing what was being asked of him and the price he would pay for all of us, I am overwhelmed. Or God, and the love found in the act of giving of a son for everyone's salvation. There is a very real sense of human fear and anxiety that finds its way into my heart. That is why I often say "That is why God is God and I am not." Because this season is about GRACE. The promise of salvation for all eternity. And not just for some, but for all of us. That creates an excitement in me.

This year we have several things going on in April as we move to the Cross, the Grave, and the Resurrection that I want us all to be aware of:

April 9th: Palm Sunday and the Choir Cantata

April 13th: Maundy Thursday service at 7pm (Communion will be served)

April 14th: Good Friday service at 7pm

April 15th: Easter Egg Hunt at 1pm

April 16th: Easter Services at 8:30 and 11am

I believe that we will truly have an amazing Lent, Holy Week and Easter. I hope that you will not only plan to join us for all the events, activities, and worship experiences, but also invite your friends, co-workers and family to join with us in this greatest of all gifts, that of RESURRECTION.

APRIL, HOWEVER, OFFERS US ONE OTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR GATHERING. Confirmation Sunday is going to be on April 30th. We have two young men, Riley Pearson and Joey Tyner being confirmed this year. I hope you will plan to join with us in the celebration of these two individuals becoming a part of the membership of our church.

Grace and Peace
Matt



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Phone: 402-331-4054 <http://www.trinityralston.org> [facebook.com/TrinityRalstonUMC](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityRalstonUMC)

Sunday Worship: Services @ 8:30am & 11am, Sunday School @ 9:45am

Pastor: Rev Dr. Matt Fowler **Associate Pastor:** Rev Curt Copple **Pastor of Congregational Development:** Rev Dr. Bob Folkers
Executive Pastor: Rev Dr. Cole Fowler **Children /Youth Director:** Becky McClanathan
Choir Director: David Galant **Media Director/Worship Leader:** Matthew Hindley **Accompanist:** Vicki Buras
Facilities Coordinator: Jon Lindhjem **Administrative Assistant:** Vicky Segers **Building Supervisor:** Judy Slavik

Mission Notes

Spring has arrived and **Project Prom** is under way with the guidance of Diane Demarais. The prom is April 8th and we are helping ten girls participate in Ralston High School's prom. It is an exciting time for the students, and the mission team is grateful for the generosity of our Trinity members in helping make this project possible.

The **boat** is always happy when it is full. Our participation in helping to feed those who are in need has been a long standing part of our mission to be the church. Donations such as pasta, cereal, peanut butter, rice, soup and paper products are always welcome.

In May we will highlight **One Great Hour of Sharing**. This is our opportunity to support UMCOR, or United Methodist Committee on Relief, which is the ministry of the Board of Global Ministries. This committee supports people around the world (serving 80 countries including the US) who are in desperate need. UMCOR provides humanitarian relief in the case of famine, war, natural disasters or any other crisis that merits our support. 100% of your donations to UMCOR go directly to those in need.

Dining for Women is always a learning experience and for those of you who have never enjoyed one of our meetings, think about attending. Because Good Friday falls on the second Friday, we will not meet in April. The next program will be May 12th.

Judy Dappen
Mission Chair

Lost and Found Clothing Center

Our Lost and Found Clothing Center touches upon the lives of many, not just those seeking assistance, but those staffing it as well. The following story is one related to us by one of those helpers who wishes to remain anonymous:

One Sunday afternoon, I was working in the Lost and Found room when a woman and her little girl came in looking for a winter coat for the girl (both were wearing light-weight jackets). Diane Adams made it her mission to find the perfect coat for this little girl. After finding the right size and color winter coat (pink was the favorite color), Diane did not stop and found matching gloves and cap. The little one looked adorable.

As a thank you, the girl colored a picture for Diane, which she immediately put on the Lost and Found's refrigerator door. As the mother and daughter were leaving, I heard the little girl say to her mother, "It is so fun to be spoiled!"

Easter Cantata

The Choir invites you to join them on Palm Sunday, April 9th at either the 8:30 or 11am service as they share the message of Jesus' life and ministry through the music of *In His Hands*.

Holy Week Services

Remember to attend our special Holy Week Services on Thursday, April 13th and Friday, April 14th at 7pm each night as we reflect on the final days of Jesus Christ's life.

Past Sermons

For those of you who cannot always make it to church on a given Sunday, please note that on our website (trinityralston.org) you can find audio recordings of past sermons.

Education Notes



April 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th: **KFC meets**

April 15th: **Trinity Easter Egg Hunt!** 1-3pm

April 16th: **No Confirmation class**

April 23rd: **Youth will share** about their upcoming Mission Trip during service.

April 26th: Will be the **last night of KFC** for the school year. We will be having a pot luck.

Please get ahold of me if you plan to bring a dish, dessert, side item or drink. I will keep track of items to better prepare.

April 30th: **Confirmation Sunday**, we have two confirmands this year. Service time TBD.

The youth at our church always have a lot of fun together. This month we let Skyler Lyons choose our activity due to him turning 16! He thought it would be fun to try laser tag together, so we did just that. We created a big group of ten kids to go! We had fun eating dinner together, playing some arcade games, and trying our hand at laser tag. We visited Family Fun Center. Laser tag was a lot of fun and a great way to release energy. Everyone was respectful, happy, excited and super appreciative. April 9th and 23rd are our next scheduled nights for Youth Group.



Our group from left to right included: Abbi Lyons, Madi Lyons, Sarah Woelfel (Becky's sister), Becky, Riley Pearson, Aubrey Jenson (behind), Joey Tyner, Ryan Pearson, Emory (friend of the boys) and Skyler Lyons (hiding behind).

What a great group!!

Future dates to keep in mind:

May 5th & 6th: **Box City** at First United Methodist Church

May 7th: **Teacher appreciation** & recognition at Trinity

How blessed are we here at the church!?! Very blessed!! I'm so excited for April and the events we have planned. Easter is just around the corner with Jesus' resurrection and new life. May will bring a time where we can recognize teachers and show our appreciation for all their hard work building our children's faith in Christ. Our mission trip in June, the Independence Day Ralston parade, and Vacation Bible School are going to be so fun for the kids and our whole congregation. Thank you for the continued support in all that we do! It is recognized and appreciated.

Becky McClanathan
Director of children & youth

(picture on this page courtesy of Becky McClanathan.)

Spring Cleanup

The Trustees have scheduled Saturday, April 8th as the date for this year's Spring Cleanup. With the addition of the new parking lot and the yellow house, there is quite a bit more property to get looking good for the Easter season. Any additional help you are willing to provide will be greatly appreciated. Cleanup begins at 8am.

April

Birthdays

- 4/1 Bev Konruff
- 4/2 Carolyn Elledge
- 4/5 Kevin Johnson
Joyce Sramek
- 4/7 Sandy Johnson
- 4/8 Autumn Evers
Suzanne Shannon
- 4/12 Jan Gorman
- 4/13 Marian Iversen
Jeff Lott
Matthew Winkelman
- 4/14 Nancy Gage
- 4/16 Bill Daugherty
Joshua Hambright
- 4/18 Jayden McClanathan
Dolores Weber
- 4/19 Madeleine Gregalunas
McKenna Zeller
- 4/20 Luke Wilson-Stepan
- 4/21 Cathy Bordwell
Nina Henry
- 4/23 Eldon Gustafson
- 4/25 Duane Boruff
Carl Dudzinski
John Fletcher
Ronnie Powell
Doug Rutherford
- 4/26 Evelyn Henderson
Ron Jack
Rodney Polivka
Judy Startzer
- 4/27 Nathan Shannon
- 4/28 Richard Hurtig
- 4/30 Harry Weichel

Thurs, Apr 6th

Thurs, Apr 6th

Tues, Apr 11th

Thurs, Apr 20th

Sat, Apr 22nd

Tues, Apr 25th

Sat, Apr 29th

Naomi Ruth Circle

Esther Circle

Mary Circle

Bingo @ Hillcrest Shadowlake

Spring Salad Luncheon

UMW Executive Board

UMW Sunday Planning Meeting

10am

6:30pm

7pm

2pm

11:30am

6:30pm

9:30am

Mary Circle is scheduled to clean the kitchen in April.

Spring Salad Luncheon

The UMW Spring Salad Luncheon, featuring “Helen’s Musical Hats”, will be held Saturday, April 22nd at 11:30am. The price will be \$10 per ticket; seating is limited. Tickets will be sold April 2nd through April 18th.

Saturday Book Club

Saturday Sisters Book Club will meet on Saturday, April 15th at 9am in Room 205.

This month we will be discussing *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed. You are invited to join us at any time, even if you have not read the book.

Trinity Methodist Men

The Trinity Men’s Group meets the last Saturday of each month at 8am in the Fellowship Hall. Join them on April 29th for coffee, breakfast, and guest speakers as they build their faith together. For more information, please contact Steve Gage.

Ralston Archives

The Frank & Velma Johnson Ralston Archives Museum will not be open on April 16th in accordance with the Easter holiday. The museum is asking the community to loan miniatures this month for the next set of displays.

Don & Millie’s Sunday

Eat at Don & Millie’s on Sunday, April 23rd from 11am – 5pm and the church receives 20% of your purchase.



Calendar insert

You will find inserted in this month’s Beacon a copy of the current calendar for April. Please check the website (trinityralston.org) for the most up-to-date calendar available. Call the church office at 402-331-4054 for more information, or to schedule your event today.