



Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World

September 2018 Newsletter of Trinity United Methodist Church

"If the Gospel can change my dad, the Gospel can change anyone."

~Bart Millard

One evening this last summer, Margo and I, along with our girls, were sitting in the living room when we decided to watch a movie. Margo and I don't watch many movies, so this was a rare treat for us. We started looking through all of our choices. To be honest, I wanted an action movie. The three women in the room with me had a broader view of what they might like. It was in the looking that I was given the opportunity to watch the movie "I Can Only Imagine." It is the story of Bart Millard. He is now the lead singer for the Christian band Mercy Me.

It was in the watching of that movie that I knew we, as a church, should look at it too. Maybe even a sermon series. So I sat down and began to try and figure out how this might work for Trinity.

Here is the Plan:

September 2nd – One Service at 10am followed by a Potluck (Please bring a side dish), and then we are going to watch the movie "I Can Only Imagine."

September 16th – Sermon series begins based around this movie and study guide that will take us through October.

September 23rd – Adult class utilizing the Small Group Study based on the movie starts. This will happen in-between services and last four weeks.

The opening of the study material shares this with us: It's hard to imagine hope when you feel rejected, guilty, or broken. Maybe you've lost someone. Maybe you've done something that feels unforgivable. Maybe you've experienced something unthinkable.

Before he became the leader singer of *Mercy Me*, Bart Millard suffered a painful childhood. Abused by his father, Bart built walls around his heart. He couldn't see hope.

In the *I Can Only Imagine* study, Bart shares his redemptive life story, leading you on a journey to: Recall your past wounds, Reorient your present identity, and Reimagine your future.

When you're surrounded by brokenness, it's hard to imagine a loving father, complete forgiveness, and eternal restoration. Learn to see yourself through God's eyes and find rest in his approval, purpose, and eternal hope. Reveal the heart of the God who loves you . . . more than you can imagine.

Let me invite you to experience a time for worship, this movie and a meal together. I hope that not only you come, but you invite a family member or a friend to come and experience what I know will be a great Sunday, September 2nd. Then plan to come and experience a sermon series and small group experience that will lift each one of us up.

Grace and Peace
Matt

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Sunday Worship: Services @ 8:30am & 11am

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: Dr. David Galant **Media Director/Worship Leader:** Matthew Hindley **Accompanist:** Alex Lunardi
Controller: Penny Holzbauer **Facility Coordinator** Koy Potthoff **Administrative Assistant:** Vicky Segers
Building Supervisor: Judy Slavik

Mission Notes

In September, our mission team's focus will be "**Santa in September**" highlighting **YES--Youth Emergency Services** which supports youth in crisis--those who are runaways, homeless, unstable, or who are at risk of becoming homeless. The non-profit, founded in 1974, serves youth from 12 to 22 years of age. It began with a small group who saw the plight of homeless youth, and began inviting them into their homes. Initially, a house was purchased; then grants, corporate and community donations, foundation and individual monies poured in to support the programs YES offered.

Safety is the main priority and is done through programs such as emergency shelter, long term housing program, maternity and mental health services. Teens receive free meals, have access to food, clothing and toiletry pantries, use of computers, showers, washers, and may talk to a mental health therapist. The outreach center sees 30-60 teens during the day. Last year they served 1500 youth.

The past four years we have supported Samaritan's Purse at Christmas but this year we decided to support a local program that serves our youth. With all the issues that our teens face today in our community--such as abuse, drugs, bullying-- our support of them is vital.

Look for a Christmas tree in early September, and you will find tags with an item listed. Take the tag or tags and make your purchases, bring them to church unwrapped and put them in the Christmas box near the tree. We should be ready to go by September 2nd.

Pam and Stan Vaughn's work with **No Boundaries International**, which focuses on sex trafficking, went well in Sturgis where they spoke, fed, prayed with, and extended a helping hand wherever they could. They met with other ministry groups, law enforcement, and gang members. The huge number of bikers was overwhelming, but they were encouraged by the reception they received--at one point, worshipping in a bar on Sunday morning! Both Pam and Stan send their thanks for our prayers and financial support.

For those who like to plan ahead, our October through December projects will focus on collecting gently used coats, new hats and gloves, and new blankets for one of our shelters, providing Thanksgiving foods for Living Hope, and continuing our boat donations. In December, there will be a surprise for the congregation!!

Upcoming dates to remember:

- Sept 5th Mission meeting, 5:30pm
- Sept 8th Human Trafficking Education, St. Luke UMC, Lincoln, 10am-Noon
- Sept 14th **Dining for Women**--AIDS Interface Alliance in Malawi, Noon potluck

Judy Dappen
Mission Chair

Adult Sunday School

The Folkers/Dappen class will be studying *Saving Jesus from the Church: How to Stop Worshiping Christ and Start Following Jesus* by Robin Meyers. According to the book cover, "The marriage of bad theology and hypocritical behavior by the church has eroded our spiritual lives. Taking the best of biblical scholarship, Meyers recasts core Christian concepts in an effort to save Christianity from its obsession with personal salvation. Not a plea to try something brand new, but rather the recovery of something very old, this book shows us what it means to follow Jesus's teachings today."

Class begins September 9th, and you are asked to read the prologue and the first chapter. Check local bookstores, (Urban Abbey, i.e.) or on-line through Amazon for a copy of the book. We will meet in the Garden Room downstairs at 9:45am.

Education Notes

Thank you for attending our Back Pack Blessing 2018!

Students, teachers, and administrators, we are praying for you and encouraging you to remember your "7UPs."

The Pancake feed/ fundraiser for the Youth was a great success! The kids raised **\$388** towards their 2019 trip to Kentucky's Red Bird Work Camp.



September 9th is Fall Kick off for Sunday School! Please register/RSVP to Becky.M@trinityalston.org, with your child(ren)'s name, age, date of birth, and current grade. Please

meet in the children's music room downstairs for some fun teacher introductions, games, snacks and music.

From 9:45-10:45am, we will be in the children's music room. This year's Sunday School classes will include a room for Preschoolers, K-2nd, 3rd-4th, 5th-7th, and Youth (8th-12th). Please email me with any questions. Thank you!

September 12th, Wednesday Kids For Christ (KFC) will start back up with our first night! 5:30-6pm is dinner time in Fellowship Hall with gym time to follow. 6:10-7pm is class time downstairs in the Sunday School rooms. This is for K-5th graders. Please let me know if you have an interested child! We are very excited to start back up again.

September 16th, the youth will be offering **RootBeer floats** for a free-will offering. All proceeds go to the 2019 Red Bird Mission Trip.



September 23rd, Trinity will host our annual 3rd Grade Bible presentation. Details will be emailed out to specific families. If you know of a 3rd grader that we may not know about, please email me ASAP.

September 30th, tentatively, the kids will sing at both church services.

Youth will resume their Youth Group Gatherings on Sunday evenings twice a month. This will be scheduled the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. **Our first outing will be on September 23rd**. I communicate this event with youth/parents by email, but more than email, by text message. Most parents and teenagers use texting and are able to view and respond to a message more quickly than through email. If you'd like to join us and are new, please call the church or send me an email. Details of this first event will come out soon. Thank you.

Let Your Light Shine!!
Becky McClanathan

The 7 Ups Of LIFE!

1. Wake Up . . . Decide To Have A Good Day.
"This Is The Day We Have, Let's Rejoice & Be Glad In It".
2. Dress Up . . . The Best Way To Dress Up Is To Put On A Smile.
A Smile Is An Inexpensive Way To Improve Your Looks.
3. Shut Up . . . Say Nice Things & Learn To Listen
God Gave Us Two Ears & One Mouth So He Must've Meant For Us To Do Twice As Much Listen As Talking.
4. Stand Up . . . For What You Believe In. Stand For Something Or You'll Fall For AnyThing .
5. Look Up . . . To GOD
I Can Do EveryThing Through GOD Who Strengthes Me.
6. Reach Up . . . For Something Higher.
Have Trust & With All Your Heart.
7. Lift Up. . . Your Prayers
Don't Worry About AnyThing, Instead Pray About EveryThing...

Office Closed

The church office will be closed Monday, September 3rd due to Labor Day.

September Birthdays

- 9/1 Rick Derby
- 9/2 Gary Fletcher
- 9/4 Addy Bottjen
Logan Groesser
- 9/5 Kinlee Conley
Jeanne Siske
Carrie Winkelman
- 9/6 Steve Broughton
Rory O'Doherty
Cheryl Van Cleve
- 9/9 Kevin Hobson
- 9/10 Jacob Johnson
Marissa Tillman
- 9/12 Carter Lee
- 9/14 Pat Shannon
- 9/15 Jackie Hendrix
Riley Shannon
Taylor Sramek
- 9/16 Annette Dillon
Lisa Konruff
- 9/19 Virginia Hilbers
Tommy Siske
- 9/20 Gloria Pearson-Williams
Kim Whitehouse
- 9/21 Sara Dappen
- 9/22 Terry Van Cleve
- 9/23 Maddie Archer
- 9/24 Marlys Van Deusen
- 9/25 Kelsey Johnson
Dennis Kentfield
- 9/28 Anna Lyons
- 9/29 Marc Dodenhof
Bill Dwyer
Bob Kramer
Shirley Kramer
Phillip Richards
- 9/30 Debbie Dudzinski
Brenda Hindley
Christina Pearson

UMW Notes

Thurs, Sept 6th	Naomi Ruth Circle	10am
Tues, Sept 11th	Mary Circle	7pm
Thurs, Sept 13th	Esther Circle	6:30pm
Thurs, Sept 20th	Bingo @ Hillcrest Shadowlake	2pm
Tues, Sept 25th	UMW Executive Board Meeting	6:30pm

Saturday Book Club

You are invited to join us in Room 205 at 9am on Saturday, September 15th, for fellowship and discussion. This month our selection is *Dispatches from Pluto* by Richard Grant.

Trinity Methodist Men

The Trinity Men's Group will meet on Saturday, September 29th at 8am for coffee and fellowship. If you are interested in learning more about this group, then contact Steve Gage.

TUMC Daycare Update

TUMC has received several applications for the Daycare Directors position. The SPRC has been very busy reviewing applications in preparation to begin the interview process. We have applied for a grant to help with some of the start-up costs. Final planning/bidding is being completed for the sprinkler system and security system with hopes to have installation begin soon.

Regards,
Dennis and Lisa Kentfield

Ralston Archives

The Frank & Velma Johnson Ralston Archives Museum will be open Sunday, September 16th from 1-3pm. The Museum is looking for old games, old costume jewelry and jewelry art (jewelry Christmas Tree, etc.) for the next set of displays that will go in before the Holiday Magic Open House on Sunday, November 25th.

Don & Millie's Sunday

Eat at Don & Millie's on Sunday, September 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 September. 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.

