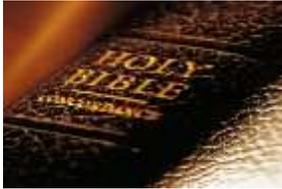


**TRINITY UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
“THE TRINITY OBSERVER”**

January 2013

5151 Lennon Rd.
Flint, Michigan 48507

Office Phone: 810-720-5152
web-site: www.trinityunitedpc.org
e-mail: trinityunitedpc@yahoo.com
newsletter: trinitynewsletter@yahoo.com



Vision from God

Proverbs 29:18 states *“Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint, but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom’s instruction.”* (New International Version). This text is usually quoted from the King James Version of the Bible; *“Where there is no vision, the people perish.”* This version has been interpreted as follows: people are in need of a vision statement or they will perish. In context, this text is referring to revelation which comes from God and if God’s people are unfamiliar with the Scriptures; if they are not obtaining their wisdom and discernment from the teachings of the Bible, then they have lost their ability to see or envision the things of God.

In Exodus 32 while Moses is still up on the mountain receiving the law from God, the Hebrews below became impatient and have turned aside from the ways of God and have casted for themselves an image of a calf. The Bible states they *“worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “these are our gods.”* (Exodus 32:8). Now we must remember that the Hebrews had been enslaved for generations and although they heard about this God of their

ancestors, they were not receiving any formal teaching about God, neither hearing any regular proclamation of the word.

There were no weekly bible meetings or prayer gatherings. For Christians today, we have countless opportunities to read, study, listen and apply the word of God to our lives. In order to stay on God's path we need to hear or be fed the Gospel regularly and each of us individually must possess the word of God in our hearts.

As we can derive from the Exodus account, having vision, outlook and a sense of direction is important for a congregation or they can easily be influenced by worldly vision, or by what makes sense to them, or by what others are doing. However, for the people of God, the vision must be God-inspired. I have seen many beautifully written mission of that particular church; and if it came about because the people determined it would be so; or if they believed that God was calling them to that vision. Was God invited into the vision process?

As we begin to position ourselves to hear from God about the next thing for us, there are a few questions we must be prepared to answer.

Why do people need Christ?

Why do people need the church?

Why do people need *this* particular church?

In 2013, Trinity United will embark on a visioning journey and will invite God contact me. I look forward to journeying with you!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Lawson

.....

**FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE BY
JANUARY 22, 2013**

Updated from the Session:

- **Interim Music Director:** On December 30, 2012, we said goodbye to Tom Huver, Music Director at both Bethany and then the newly formed Trinity United Presbyterian Church. We love and appreciate Tom for his commitment and service and will miss him. Under the guidance and direction of the Personnel Team, a sub-committee has been formed to gather data and draft a new position description. In the interim, newly elected elder Jacquelyn McClellan will take over the music director responsibilities. Many thanks to Jackie for her willingness to serve in this capacity.
- **Officer Training:** Training for newly elected officers and those currently serving has been rescheduled. The new date is **Saturday, January 5, 2013** from 10am-2:30pm.
- **Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on **Sunday, January 27, 2013** immediately following worship service.
- **Manual of Operations:** Per the Book of Order; “Each council shall develop a manual of administrative operations that will specify the form and the work of mission in that council.” For the next two months the council (a.k.a.) session) will be working diligently to complete this requirement. We may call on members of the various teams to lend assistance.

SERMONS FOR JANUARY, 2013

January 6, 2013	Isaiah 60:1-6	<i>Time to Go</i>
January 13, 2013	Isaiah 43:1-7	<i>I will Go With You</i>
January 20, 2013	Isaiah 62:1-5, 10-12	<i>A City Not Forsaken</i>
January 27, 2013	Luke 4:14-21	<i>God Has Anointed Them</i>

CALENDAR ITEMS

Office Training: January 5, 2013 from 10am-2:00pm
Taking Down the Greens: January 12, 2013 at 10:00am
Liturgist Training: January 12, 2013 from 10:00-12:00pm
Session Meeting: January 14, 2013 at 4:00pm
Annual Meeting: January 27, 2013 immediate following worship

Sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha will be with us during our worship on January 20th with a dinner to follow. Please come and join us.

The Membership committee would like to say Thank You to all the bowlers on the Church Bowling League. We had 6 teams of 3 people who bowled on Wednesday evenings at AMF Town & Country Lanes for 10 weeks. Each bowler paid \$10 per week to bowl and have a good time, getting to know fellow church members better. When our 10 weeks were over, AMF Town & Country is giving \$ 414.00 back to the church which will be giving that amount to the church general fund.

Bowling Results:

- 1st place Team #2. Anthony Lawson, Jerry Kamrath, & Waldo Bronson
- 2nd place Team #1. Christine Cook, Delphine Holland & Deandre Skelton
- 3rd place Team #6. Pam Terrell, Allison Bradley, De'andreia Randall
- 4th place Team #5. Jackie McClellan, Jodi Bradley, Monica Bradley
- 5th place Team #4. Addie Terrell, Tawanna Randell, & Me'Onica Keahey
- 6th place Team #3. Ernestine Jackson, Jim Dixon, Tom Huver (Herb
McClennan)

Substitutes: Mary Krist, Fred Tumer, Edgar Moore, Beverly Bronson, Mauice Denson, and Georgia McCall.

Anyone wishing to join the church bowling league, we will be starting up again the first of April and we bowl on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm.

Please come join the FUN, see either Denise Dixon or Jackie McClellan

FROM THE DEACONS:

The Deacons have scheduled dates for helping out at the soup kitchen during 2013. All dates are the 3rd Friday of each month. We help out from 2-5pm. Everyone is welcome to come join us. We do a variety of prep jobs, some cooking, serving and clean up. We always have a break before the guest arrive. The dates are as follows: Jan 18, Feb. 15, Mar 15, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Nov. 15 and Dec. 20.

The Deacons are sending out a big thank you to all who took a child's name off of our Christmas Angel Tree. We had 21 tags and all were taken. The gifts that were purchased were all returned by the requested date. What a blessing that was! They were all joyously delivered to the North End Soup Kitchen on December 7th.

Again, we want to thank you for your generous donations to our "Helping Hands" clothing box. It was full again, so last Sunday after church the items were sorted and then delivered to the 3 schools so they could have them before Christmas vacation. Without your generosity and prayers we would not be able to serve our community in such a blessed way.

.....



THANKS
FOR YOUR HELP!

*Birthdays
to
Celebrate*



Malvina Middleton.....8th
Marie Barry.....9th
Joe Dixon.....16th
Gary Popovits.....16th
Donna Jones.....24th
Matt Burton.....24th
Joyce Topham.....28th

Anniversaries

Michael & Karen Fischer