

**TRINITY UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
“THE TRINITY OBSERVER”
March, 2013**

5151 Lennon Rd.
Flint, Michigan 48507

e-mail: trinityunitedpc@yahoo.com

Office Phone: 810-720-5152

web-site: www.trinityunitedpc.org

newsletter: trinitynewsletter@yahoo.com

“God *in* Christ”

There is comfort in knowing that our Savior lives. There is something unique and hopeful about serving a God who is not dead, but is alive. The beloved Easter hymn reminds us of this hope and belief:

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.
(He Lives, by Alfred Ackley)

Jesus has resurrected and we celebrate his victory over sin and death on Resurrection Sunday commonly known as Easter Sunday. I wonder how many of us stop and think about the enormity of the gift which Jesus gave us that day—eternal life in Christ our Lord. It becomes a matter of importance for most believers when they have to bury a loved one. Our faith becomes a living faith because we desperately want to believe our loved ones are safe and at home with Jesus—*absent from the body and at home with the Lord* (2 Corinthians 5:8).

It becomes a matter of importance for believers when someone needs to be baptized, married or buried. My mother had a saying—“people use the church for hatching (baptisms), matching (wedding) and dispatching (funerals).” We want the eternal promise for our children, our marriages—and to know when we die, we will rise again. So are we in or are we out?

Jesus' work on the cross enables us to start new—we are new creations *in Christ*. To be *in Christ* means we are included in the household of God all the time. We belong to a community. We call this membership. To be *in Christ* means that we are one his followers and we allow him to lead. We call this discipleship. To be *in Christ* means we are to be intimately involved in the lives of fellow believers developing relationships of trust. We call this fellowship. To be in Christ means we are not alone and are not expected to go through the ups and downs of life in isolation. We are IN-cluded, we are IN-volved, we are IN-wardly being transformed, we have the IN-dwelling of the Holy Spirit of God which IN-spires us to continue moving forward on this journey of life together.

During this season of Lent and Easter, I would ask you to think and pray about people in your life that could benefit greatly from being in Christ; people who need a home on this side of life where they are valued, appreciated, accepted, welcomed—somewhere where they fit in and are needed. Jesus died for everybody, but not everybody is aware of this

fact. I believe people want to be part of a congregation and not just on those special times where they need the church; but for all the other everyday events in their life. Our part is to IN-vite others to come and join our beloved community. They need us just as much as we need them.

Happy Resurrection Sunday!

Pastor Lawson

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### **Updates from the Session**

- **Music Director Position:** The Survey Team would like to express its appreciation to all members and friends who took time to fill out the music survey. A summary of the results will be made available in next month's newsletter. The survey Team has concluded its work and has completed a draft of the job description for the new Director of Music position. The personnel team will finalize and post job description. The team hopes to be interviewing candidates in the weeks to come.

- **Youth Group:** The session has voted for our youth to attend the Alma College Youth Mix in March and the PCUSA Youth Triennium in July at Purdue University. The youth will be hosting bake sales in the months ahead to raise money to attend Triennium. Your support is greatly appreciated.

- **New Session Team Assignments:** Elders are leading the following teams:

|                     |                                   |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Waldo Bronson       | Finance                           |
| Personnel           | Gayle Kettler                     |
| Property            | Ron Shirley, Pat Rice             |
| Membership          | Denise Dixon, Jacquelyn McClellan |
| Worship             | Sharon Auger                      |
| Christian Education | Delphine Holland                  |
| Youth               | Gary Brown, Allison Bradley       |
| Nominating          | Craig Hardy                       |
| Presbyterian Women  | Sharon Auger                      |

Clerk of Session            Delphine Holland  
Clerk Pro-tem                Georgia McCall  
Newsletter                    Pat Rice

## **WORSHIP IN MARCH**

March 3, 2013            Luke 13:1-9            *Are you  
attending to your Fig Tree?*

March 10, 2013           Psalm 32            *Praise God for  
Forgiveness*

March 17, 2013           Psalm 126            *Praise God for  
Restoration*

March 24, 2013           Psalm 118            *Praise God for  
Victory*

March 28, 2013            **MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper at 6:45pm

March 29, 2013    **GOOD FRIDAY** – Combined  
Worship at Flushing Presbyterian Church  
(5010 North McKinley Road, Flushing, MI at 1:00pm)

March 31, 2013    **EASTER**            Acts 10:34-43  
*On the Third Day*

**Easter Breakfast served at 9:15am**

## **CALENDAR ITEMS MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

New Bowling League Begins – April 3 through  
May 22, 2013                    (Wednesdays at 6:30pm)

Session Meeting – April 8, 2013 at 4:00pm

Ministry Fair – Sunday, April 21, 2013 during  
Coffee Hour

Game Night – Friday, April 19, 2013 5-8pm,  
Ages 5-18 years old.

Rummage Sale – April 26-27, 2013 Set-up April  
25<sup>th</sup> , Sale hours are from 9am-5pm both Friday  
and Saturday.

## **MUSIC SURVEY**

The Committee on the Trinity Music Survey extends its thanks to members of the congregation who took time to respond thoughtfully to the music survey on January 27. The results were very helpful in directing the committee to recommend what is needed in the music program and for the position of music director.

The survey showed that:

- There is presently just the right amount of music during the worship service.
- All the choirs are equally important.
- Both the piano and organ are necessary in the services.
- Guitar and horns are good additions to the music program.
- The vast majority of the congregation sing regularly in a service.
- Hymns, traditional gospel, and contemporary Christian music are the most favored music areas.
- There is a strong desire to experience more variety of instruments and congregation's music talent.
- The congregation is interested in having Celebration Sundays and guest performers.

Thank you again for your responses and for helping the committee's work to move forward.

Craig Hardy

Pastor will be on Vacation

Pastor will be on  
Study Leave

April 14-19, 2013.

April 21-24, 2013

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ALMA YOUTH MIX

Alyssa Fleming and Monica Bradley attended the Alma Youth Mix on March 1-3, 2013. From all that we heard from them, they had a good time.

Bowling will start April 3, 2013- May 22, 2013 (8) weeks. The cost will be \$80 per person for the 8 weeks.

Acolytes for the month of April
Sydney Graham and Allison Bradley

Liturgist for March 3rd and March 10th will be Delphine Holland

Liturgist for March 17th and March 24th will be Monica Bradley

Anniversaries

Russell and Julie Auger.....	24
Matt and Sharon Burton.....	24
Harold and Linda Ryan.....	24

Birthdays

Dr. Alfred Gwillim.....	5
Karen Fischer.....	7
Margaret Tilley.....	7
Waldo Bronson.....	7
Steve Long.....	10
Jim Dixon.....	16

Sue Smith.....	16
Heather Walser.....	19
Doris Brasure.....	22
Chris Lyttle.....	22
Cynthia Lyttle.....	25
Ken Grover.....	30
Larry Generes.....	31

**DEADLINE FOR APRIL
NEWSLETTER IS
MARCH 20, 2013**

Please excuse the lateness of this
month's
Newsletter and Calendar due to the
death of my husband..
Thank You!
Editor: Pat Rice