

# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

## May, 2013

5151 Lennon Rd.

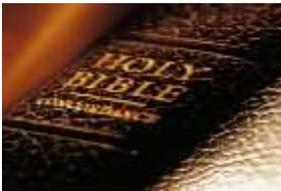
Office Phone: 810-720-5152

Flint, Michigan 48507

web-site: [www.trinityunitedpc.org](http://www.trinityunitedpc.org)

e-mail: [trinityunitedpc@yahoo.com](mailto:trinityunitedpc@yahoo.com)

newsletter: [trinitynewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:trinitynewsletter@yahoo.com)



### **“How well do you know yourself?”**

The average person rarely takes time out for self reflection. We are not in the habit of sitting still at the end of the day and reflecting on what we did, who we saw, how we behaved, why we struggled or why it happened to be a particularly good day. What was good about the day and what didn't go so well? Why did that remark upset me or what made this event so successful? Where was God in my day? Reflection is a powerful tool which assists us in self-knowledge. Psalm 139 reminds us to make time for this. It states in verses 23-24; *“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”* On any given day, we are all searching for something. We are searching for answers, for love and acceptance, for healing and wholeness, for knowledge and wisdom and for understanding and to be understood. This scripture suggests that the search begins with us and God.

We can't possibly begin to know our selves without a deeper understanding of our creator God and how God sees us. On most days, we are unable to see what God sees because we are too busy and have a tendency to believe what others tell us. We generally see ourselves through the eyes of others, or based on our successes and failures. If we practice law, then we might begin to answer the question of who we are as... “I am a lawyer.” We might go on to say, “I am a good student and I have a successful law

practice.” These are positive statements which are important to acknowledge. However, according to Saint Teresa of Avila, the awareness of our sinfulness or brokenness also speaks to us of God, for paradoxically, our sinfulness is also a gift. In referring to the practice of self-reflection with God as a path to self-knowledge, Teresa said, “*The thought of one’s sins is the bread with which all palates must be fed.*”<sup>1</sup> All of life is a gift and therefore all must be useful in helping us arrive at a greater understanding of the total self. In a mysterious way, we can gain much from our evil ways if we accept that evil as part of the truth about ourselves and offer that truth to the Lord. In other words, “I may have a successful law practice, but I have been selfish and have not focused on my family as I should.” Now that may be closer to the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth—so help me God!

None of us are without flaw and knowing and naming both our strengths and weaknesses will serve us well on this journey called life. In our broken places, we come to know God’s love and acceptance. In our places of strength, we grasp more fully how blessed we are and this should cause us to pause and praise God. The process of knowing your truth requires time and commitment. It is a worthwhile journey and I pray that you consider carving out some time to reflect on your days.

<sup>1</sup> The Collected Works of St. Teresa of Avila, Washington, DC: ICS Publications, 1976, pg. 94

Blessings on the Journey,

Pastor Lawson

## Updates from the Session

**Music Director Position:** The session is pleased to announce our new music director, Robbie Grier, who will begin on May 1, 2013.

## WORSHIP IN MAY

May 5, 2013	John 5:1-9	<i>It Will Require Some Effort On Our Part!</i>
May 12, 2013	Acts 16:16-34	<i>Do not Delay</i>
May 19, 2013	Guest Preacher	
May 26, 2013	Romans 5:1-5	<i>The Process</i>

## CALENDAR ITEMS

- Session Meeting – May 6, 2013
- Mother/Daughter Banquet – May 8, 2013 at 6:00pm
- Pastor Lawson Away at Preaching Conference in Nashville from May 13-17; and on Vacation from May 18 through 24.
  
- **Trinity United has a new Music Director: Robbie Grier**
- We welcome Robbie Grier as Music Director of Trinity United Presbyterian Church. Music has been in Robbie's area of activity since she was 4 years old. She has experience at local, state, and national levels – from serving as guest organist with the Flint Symphony Orchestra to playing keyboards at The National Baptist Convention. She has performed for denominations from Catholic to Apostolic, Lutheran to Baptist.
- She is the widow of the late George Grier. Her children: Roy and Rhea Greer, Jeff and Audra Moore, Isaac Grier. Her Grandchildren: Robert, Jasmine and Alexandria. When asked why she applied for the position at Trinity, she replied, "The opportunity and honor of producing music for all of God's children, in one place, no matter their background."
- Members and friends, please take a moment to welcome Robbie to Trinity United.

- **2013 Youth Mission Project**
- The young adults and children are ready to spring into action and take part in mission work. We decided to begin this project with our very own members and friends. As the spring approaches, maybe you have a light home improvement project, some yard work or a spring cleaning project which requires extra hands. If you need help de-cluttering, or some assistance around the house, sign up for Trinity United's 2013 Youth Mission Project (from June through August). You can do so by sending your request to Elder Gary Brown: [mastergb5@yahoo.com](mailto:mastergb5@yahoo.com) or call the church office and leave your request with Denise Clay. This is a wonderful way for us to fellowship together while helping each other at the same time!

## **Youth Night**

The youth had a fun night on Aril 18<sup>th</sup>. They cleared the tables out of the multi-purpose room and had fun playing basketball and other games. Thank you all for coming out for the even

## **Health Fair**

The Health Fairs are coming to Lake Huron Presbytery in July 2013. Health kits are needed. Please place the following items in a 1 gallon Zip-Comb, Shampoo, Deodorant (either men or women's), soap, hand towel, wash cloth, toothpaste and dental floss.

I will pick them up and make sure they get to Presbytery.

Thank you! Sue Smith.

May is always the time of the year to think of Mother's Day.

The following is a few of the items that I have been saving for this very purpose. I hope you enjoy them.

## Old Mothers

I love old mothers—mothers with white hair, and kindly eyes, and lips grown softly sweet, with murmured blessing over sleeping babes. There is something in their quiet grace that speaks the calm of Sabbath afternoons; a knowledge in their deep, unfaltering eyes that far outreaches philosophy. Time, with caressing touch, about them weaves the silver-threaded fairy-shawl of age; while all the echoes of forgotten songs seem joined to lend a sweetness to their speech. Old mothers! As they pass, with slow-timed step, their trembling hand clings gently to youth's strength. Sweet mothers! As they pass, one sees again old garden walks, old roses, and old loves.

Author unknown

## MOTHERS

Real Mothers don't eat quiche; they don't have time to make it.

Real Mothers know that their kitchen utensils are probably in the sandbox.

Real Mothers often have sticky floors, filthy ovens and happy kids.

Real Mothers know that dried play dough doesn't come out of carpets.

Real Mothers don't want to know what the vacuum just sucked up.

Real Mothers sometimes ask "Why me?" and get their answer when a little voice says, "Because I love you best."

Real Mothers know that a child's growth is not measured by height or years or grade...It is marked by the progression of Mommy to Mom to Mother.

## **The Images of Mother**

4 YEARS OF AGE—My Mommy can do anything!

8 YEARS OF AGE—My Mommy knows a lot! A whole lot!

12 YEARS OF AGE—My Mother doesn't really know quite everything.

14 YEARS OF AGE—Naturally, Mother doesn't know that, either.

16 YEARS OF AGE—Mother? She's hopelessly old-fashioned.

18 YEARS OF AGE—That old woman? She's way out of date!

25 YEARS OF AGE—Well, she might know a little bit about it.

35 YEARS OF AGE—Before we decide, let's get Mom's opinion.

45 YEARS OF AGE—Wonder what Mom would have thought about it.

65 YEARS OF AGE—Wish I could talk it over with Mom.

The beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears, the figure that she carries, or the way she combs her hair...The beauty of a woman must be seen from in her eyes, because that is the doorway to her heart. The beauty of a woman is not in a facial mole, but true beauty in to woman is reflected in her soul...It is the caring that she lovingly gives, the passion that she shows, and the beauty of a woman with passing years only grows!



## **For May**

Shawntera Fischer & Kenadee Brown

---

### **Liturgist for May**

May 5<sup>th</sup>—Monica Bradley

May 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> –Waldo Bronson

May 26<sup>th</sup>—Greg Bolduc

---

### **Sermons for May**

May 5<sup>th</sup>     John 5:1-9     “It Will Require Some Effort on Our Part!”

May 12<sup>th</sup>     Acts 16:16-34     “Do Not Delay”

May 19<sup>th</sup>     **Guest Pastor**

May 26<sup>th</sup>     Romans 5:1-5     “The Process”



Waldo & Beverly Bronson.....	1 <sup>st</sup>
Jerome & Sharon Auger.....	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Tim & Lisa Graham.....	21 <sup>st</sup>
Eddie & Gwen Barney.....	28 <sup>th</sup>

Gary Brown.....	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Jerry Needham.....	2 <sup>nd</sup>
George Granberry.....	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Desiree Fischer .....	7 <sup>th</sup>
Dominique Fischer.....	7 <sup>th</sup>
Darrell Stiltz.....	8 <sup>th</sup>
Sharron Alexander.....	12 <sup>th</sup>
Janyce Kamrath .....	13 <sup>th</sup>
Katie Bradley.....	14 <sup>th</sup>
Funmi Adigun.....	14 <sup>th</sup>
Charles White .....	15 <sup>th</sup>
Ruby Fizer.....	18 <sup>th</sup>
Sally Howard.....	20 <sup>th</sup>
Linda Ryan.....	20 <sup>th</sup>
Margaret Bausack.....	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Margaret Bond.....	24 <sup>th</sup>
Michael Fischer.....	27 <sup>th</sup>
Carolyn Terrell.....	30 <sup>th</sup>