

***We are a growing multicultural congregation where everybody is somebody.
We worship at 10am on Sundays followed by Sunday school.***

- Pastor *Rev. Desiree Lawson*
- Music Director *Dr. Eleanor Goodman*
- Clerk of Session *Elder Georgia McCall*
- Treasurer *Janet Hartzell*
- Secretary *Idella Roland*
- Editor *Rev. Desiree Lawson*

VISION STATEMENT

*We are a diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ **GROWING** together. With the always present power of the Holy Spirit, we share our lives, care for one another, worship, pray, study God's word, and serve both inside and outside the walls of the church.*

*We invite you to come and **GROW** with us.*

TRINITY TIMES – A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FLINT

**TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
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810-720-5152 Sundays @ 10am

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018, VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

EXPERIENCE LENT

Season of Lent

Have you given any thought to Lent this year? Do you have a plan? Lent is a special time for meditation and prayer, increased understanding of Christ's sacrifice and Resurrection. Lent helps us to realize that a commitment to God is more than just going to church – it involves carrying out God's will daily.

Lent is a time of **self-denial** and this should be a positive act. You may choose to forego some secular activities and make time for reading, studying, helping others, watching less television, give up social events. Self-denial strengthens self-discipline and self-control.

Lent is a time of **prayer and reflection**. The goal of reflection is to examine your life seriously and thoughtfully. In prayer, we learn more about God and ourselves. We learn to rely on God and our own inner resources and we receive spiritual strength.



Lent is a time of **special studies and services**. Christian Bible Study increases our understanding of the Bible and our Faith. Studying Christ's life and death can bring new meaning and relevance to events in the world. Coming together as a community enhances our sense of fellowship and hope. It is an opportunity for us to share insights and to clarify thoughts and ideas about our faith.

Approach Lent joyfully. Think of it as a time of opportunity rather than sacrifice. Be loving toward others and open to God's will. Choose Lenten practices that will help you become a stronger and better Christian.

NEWS FROM THE SESSION

Per Capita: If you have not done so already, please make your 2018 per capita payment. The amount is \$26.94 per member. Thank you to all of you who have already made your payment. By contributing your portion of per capita, you have freed up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community.

Presbytery Meeting: The next meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Huron is scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 9:30am at Linden Presbyterian Church, 119 West Broad Street, Linden, Michigan. Rev. Dr. Dan Saperstein will preach and our equipping time will include 3 workshops: one on disaster preparedness led by Elder Georgia McCall and Dr. Ernestine Jackson; one on diversity; and one on stewardship/mission resources and planning. All are welcome to attend.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the holy season of Lent. Come out on Wednesday, **February 14, 2018** at 6pm and begin your journey with Jesus to the cross.



Wednesdays in Lent – Beginning on Wednesday February 21st through Wednesday, March 21st we will gather for a meal and Bible Study at 5:30pm. The focus of the Lenten study is: Experiencing the Forgiveness of Jesus Christ.

- **February 21 – Consider the Cost:** Forgiveness could come only at a great price.
- **February 28 – His Choice:** The blood of Jesus has blotted out the list of our sins.
- **March 7 – Our Choice:** No matter how many bad choices we have made in the past, they are redeemed by one good choice—to follow Jesus.
- **March 14th – Clothed in Christ:** Jesus was robed in humility and righteousness.

- **March 21st – What will you leave at the cross?** Jesus invites you to leave your sins and worries at the cross.



Holy Week

Holy Week is the week leading up to the important Christian festival of Easter, beginning on Palm Sunday, including Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018, is the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified.



Maundy Thursday

On this night Christians commemorate the supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Join us

for service on **Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 6pm.**

What is Your Plan for Lent?



Tips for Creating a Plan for Lent

Fast: An empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer.

Pray: Pray for your family and friends, for those who suffer, and for the church and the world.

Do Good Works: Help those in need. Pray for them and be ready to serve them in their time of need. Look for ways to help your neighbors like running errands or taking them to an appointment.

Abstain: Give up meat or other desirable foods. Choose simpler, more healthful meals. Do without in-between meal snacks. Eliminate wasteful habits and expensive excesses.

Do Meditative Reading: Nourish your faith by spending time in quiet reading and reflection. Prayerful reading of God's word will open your heart to the Spirit, and let God's thoughts and ways influence yours.

Control desire for Possessions: Cut down on material possessions, eliminate frills, lessen wants, and share yourself, your time and talents with others.

Control your desire for entertainment: Too much entertainment and other distractions can lead to less or no time for the works of the Lord.

Carry out duties in Life: Serve God by living out your vocation in love each day. God is calling each of us to be a living sacrifice.

Participate: actively participate in regular and special worship services, and special studies.

Behavior/Attitude: think about attitudes and behavior patterns that you need to change. Pray for help in changing them.

PRAYERS NEEDED

- For comfort and peace: Joyce Pascal, Willie & Ann Lomax, George & Katie Granberry, Delores Generes, Rev. Bert and Lorraine Clark
- Healing prayers for Betty Shaw, Gwen Barney, Beverly Bronson, Karen Fischer, Donna Jones, Alice Shirley, Terry Bausack, Pam Pascal, Todd Alexander
- For caregivers and those who lend support and presence
- For the Chang-Lopez family; our mission co-workers in the Philippines
- For our nation, president, and all government leaders
- For our military and veterans

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Amen.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- Feb 2 Grief Support at 11:30am
- Feb 3 Worship Team at Noon
- Feb 4 Deacons Meeting
- Feb 5 Membership Team at 4pm
- Feb 12 Personnel Team at 11am
- Feb 12 Finance Team at 1pm
- Feb 13 Sarah Circle at 6pm
- Feb 13 Girl Scouts at 6pm
- Feb 14 ASH WEDNESDAY at 6pm
- Feb 16 Soup Kitchen 2-5pm
- Feb 18 1st Sunday in Lent
- Feb 19 Session Meeting at 3pm
- Feb 21 Grandparents Group @ 10am
- Feb 21 Lenten Meal/Study @5:30pm
- Feb 25 2nd Sunday in Lent
- Feb 27 Game Day at 1pm
- Feb 28 Naomi Circle at 10:30am
- Feb 28 Lenten Meal/Study @5:30pm

MARCH

- Mar 2 Grief Support at 11:30am
- Mar 4 3rd Sunday in Lent
- Mar 5 Membership Team at 4pm
- Mar 6 PLH Mtg./Linden @9:30am
- Mar 11 4th Sunday in Lent
- Mar 12 Personnel Team at 11am
- Mar 12 Finance Team at 1pm
- Mar 13 Sarah Circle at 6pm
- Mar 13 Girl Scouts at 6pm
- Mar 16 Soup Kitchen 2-5pm
- Mar 18 5th Sunday in Lent
- Mar 19 Session Meeting at 3pm
- Mar 21 Grandparents Group @ 10am
- Mar 21 Lenten Meal/Study @5:30pm
- Mar 25 PALM SUNDAY
- Mar 27 Game Day at 1pm
- Mar 28 Naomi Circle at 10:30am
- Mar 29 MAUNDY THURSDAY @6PM

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

February Birthdays

- 1 Pat Rice
- 5 Fred Tumer
- 6 Joyce Pascal
- 8 Helen Sanders
- 8 Amiliyah McSwain
- 8 Sesamilyah McSwain
- 12 Eddie Barney
- 12 Oluseyi Adigun
- 12 Willie Lomax
- 15 Annie Lomax
- 29 Donna Jones

February Anniversaries

- 10 Barb & Don Wesley

March Birthdays

- 3 Mark Bolduc
- 7 Waldo Bronson, Jr.
- 7 Karen Fischer
- 22 Chris Lyttle
- 25 Cyndi Lyttle
- 27 Margaret Tilley
- 30 Ken Grover

March Anniversaries

- 24 Matt & Sharon Burton
- 24 Russ & Julie Auger
- 24 Harold & Linda Ryan

If you have a submission for the April/May *Trinity Times*, please send your article or information to Pastor Lawson at revlawsond@yahoo.com by no later than March 21, 2018. Thank you.