

What is our greatest human need?

I grew up in Presbyterian tradition. The longer I remain Presbyterian, the more I understand how diverse our beliefs and spiritual practices are from church to church, presbytery to presbytery and region to region. Each particular church has its own culture and personality. The church I came up in was a largely African American congregation with a percentage of Caribbean Americans, Latino/ Americans, and a small population of African immigrants. Because of the diversity of cultures, we had to create an atmosphere of worship and fellowship that incorporated a wealth of spiritual practices. These practices reflected the best parts of us. One of those practices included giving special attention to the Lenten season.

The season of Lent is traditionally a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter.

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It is a period of 40 days — like Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. It is my belief that some traditions are worth holding on to; especially those that cause us to spend time with God, draw closer to God and in the end, liberates us to do the thing we most desire—focus on our Creator. Lent is an opportunity provided for us by God to rejuvenate and to finally stop procrastinating about making time for God.

The following is an excerpt from an article written by Ruth Haley Brown, entitled “The Transforming Leader: Giving the Best I’ve Got.”

*“One of the more sobering truths about life in leadership is that we can be very busy and look very important, yet be **out of touch** with that place in the center of our being where we know who we are in God and what he has called us to do—that place where we are responsive to the voice of God above all others. When this happens we are at the mercy of all manner of external and internal forces, tossed and turned by other’s expectations and our own inner compulsions. These **inner lacks** then become the source of frenetic activity that*

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*is completely **disconnected** from true wisdom and insight.*

*Solitude and silence are disciplines that provide us with a place to **regularly rest** in the One who calls us his beloved in quiet, sure tones.” “In such times, we rest in God by **simply being with God** with what is and allow God to love us in that place. The experience of God’s unconditional love even (and perhaps most especially!) during those times when we are not doing anything, is our **greatest human need**. Such love then becomes the bed-rock of our being, the foundation of our true identity.”*

I have emphasized those phrases that speak to me: out of touch; inner lacks; disconnected; regularly rest; simply being with God; and, greatest human need. What do you see? What jumps out at you? Maybe it’s something you might consider talking with God about. Many of us are leading busy lives with a great deal of responsibility and have a great many *to-do* lists. Even in those times we have set aside to rest, we find it difficult to slow down and relax without being bombarded by thoughts and overwhelmed with things we ought to be doing.

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Again, Lent is an opportunity for us to connect with our Savior and journey with Jesus as he is being prepared to be a disciplined person in the face of life's temptations. He is learning how to remain consistent with his spiritual disciplines while in a season of testing.

In general when we are tested; when life gets stressful and difficult to deal with, we turn and return to unhealthy and sometimes damaging habits and the last place we turn to might be God. Wouldn't it be nice to have a spiritual practice in place that could help us cope and cause us to remain consistent and disciplined in those practices in the face of trials and testing? If you answered yes, then please join me in the next 40 days of reconnecting, resting and simply just being with God and allow God to tend to us and meet our greatest need. Carving out time for God means that you must literally cut something out of your life and replace that time with God. Look at your schedules and see where you can fit in your greatest need. Whatever time you decide, know that God is waiting for you.

Blessings &
Love,
Pastor Lawson





Special Care Members & Friends

Ron Auger
Peggy Brack
Celestine Bronson
Betty Elford
Violet Flaming
June Foltz
Dr. Alfred Gwillim
Connie Hutchins
Helen Johnson
Ann Lomax
Roy Olson
Marjorie Rutherford
Phyllis Scales
Larry Shoup
Joan Shirey
Larry Tilley
and
Charlie White

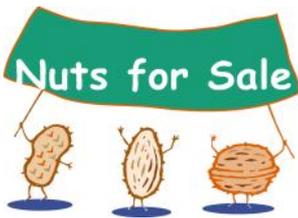
***Please Keep our Special
Care People in Your Prayers.***

Nuts & Candies

Don't forget that the finance team still has different nuts and candies for sale during the coffee hour each Sunday. They have some that are in short supply, so hurry before your favorite ones are gone.

All the proceeds will be going to the general fund of the church. This is a church sponsored affair, so please support your church in this way.

Thank You! The Finance Team



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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR THE  
APRIL NEWSLETTER, IS MARCH 21,  
2012. PAT RICE**



## **SUPPORT OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM**

Iran, Afghanistan, Germany, Korea, or right here in the United States, young men and women have put their lives on hold, so that we can be protected from the evils in the world. We need to support the troops wherever they are serving. We can make their lives a little more like home, by sending them some small items from home. Check out the list that is available and please make a donation. Thank you!!



## **OUR MILITARY MEN AND WOMEN**



**Lake Huron Presbyterian Women  
Of  
Trinity United Presbyterian Church**

**5151 Lennon Road  
Flint, Mi. 48507  
810-720-5152**

**Cordially invite you to a luncheon (free)**

**To**

**“Celebrate the Gifts of Women”**

**Saturday, March 10, 2012**

**At**

**12:00pm noon**

**We are eager to meet and greet Sisters in Christ  
Please RSVP by Saturday, March 3, 2012 to:**

**Denise Clay, Church Secretary at the  
above telephone number**

**Or**

**For further information contact:**

**Sharon Auger 810-653-8735**

**Or**

**Ernestine Jackson 810-742-4409**

# The Newsletter is going Electronically

Starting with the March newsletter, you will be able to go to our web-site: [www.trinityunitedpc.org](http://www.trinityunitedpc.org) to receive the newsletter. Then click on the newsletter button. For the people who do not have a computer, they will still be able to get a copy of the newsletter at church on the first Sunday of the month. Your newsletter will still have a mailing address with your name on it, and will be on the coffee bar in the narthex. Shut-ins will still be sent a copy.

The reason for the change is the technology of putting it out to you and the cost of the mailing which is always going up in price. If you are not able to receive the newsletter and still wish to get it, please notify me at: [patmade2437@comcast.net](mailto:patmade2437@comcast.net).

Also if you have anything to put in the newsletter, please send it to Pat Rice at the above e-mail Address.



Newsletter  
On Line

# DEACONS' CHILDREN'S CLOTHING DRIVE

The Deacons want to thank all the people that have donated to their clothing drive this past year. As winter approaches, the Deacons are stepping up their Children's Clothing Drive, with emphasis on the special needs of our children. Jackets, sweatpants, sweatshirts, underwear, socks, hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves, sizes 5-6 through 12-14 for both boys and girls are needed. Please bring your donations to the church and place them in the School House box, located in the multi-purpose room. Monetary donations can also be made to this cause by marking your check or envelope. Thank You from the Deacons.



Coat Drive for  
School Kids

# **2012 AUDITORS**

Ernestine Jackson, Joan Shirey,  
& Maxine Storey

## **NOMINATING TEAM**

Representative from the congregation:

Rosaline Brown, Craig Hardy, Kathryn Henderson  
and Margaret Tilley

Representatives from Session:

Georgia McCall and Ronald Shirley

Representatives from the Deacons:

Peggy Brack

## **ELDERS AS OF January 2012**

- Class of 2012: Delphine Holland, Mary Krist,  
Georgia McCall, Barbara Wesley
- Class of 2013: Allison Bradley, Waldo Bronson,  
Denise Dixon, Ron Shirley
- Class of 2014: Sharon Auger, Gary Brown,  
Patricia Rice, & Robert Shaw

## **DEACONS AS OF JANUARY**

- Class of 2012: Karen Fischer, Shirley Hale,  
Alice Shirley, Sue Smith,
- Class of 2013: Margaret Bausack, Peggy Brack,  
Jerry Kamrath, & Levi Smith
- Class of 2014: Sharon Bonney, Desiree Fischer,  
Mary Miller & Phyllis Scales

## UPDATES FOR THE SESSION

- **Committee Chairs Names for 2012:**
  - Clerk of Session-Delphine Holland
  - Chair of Finance-Waldo Bronson
  - Chair of Personnel-Barbara Wesley
  - Chair of Property-Ron Shirley & Par Rice
  - Chair of Technology-Bob Shaw
  - Chair of Evangelism & Mission– Georgia McCall & Rosaline Brown
  - Chair of Membership-Mary Krist & Denise Dixon
  - Chair of Worship-Sharon Auger
  - Chair of Christian Education-Delphine Holland
  - Chair of Youth Programs-Allison Bradley & Gary Brown
  - Chair of Nominating-Georgia McCall & Pat Rice
  - Chair of Presbyterian Women-Sharon Auger
- **Margaret Bausack has been named Moderator of the Deacons**
- **Session has approved *The Blessing of The Bikes*** which is a fundraiser sponsored by the Genesee County Literacy Coalition scheduled for Sunday May 6, 2012 at 2pm at Trinity United.

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- **The Trinity United Bowling League** will resume for a six-week league beginning on Wednesday, April 18, 2012. Please contact Denise Dixon.
- **Wednesday Lenten Services** will be led by a different group of the church each week. The Session will lead week 1 followed by the choir, the deacons, the youth and finally Presbyterian Women. Please come out and join us.
- **Elder Georgia McCall will chair the upcoming Capital Campaign.** A co-chair will be named soon.
- **Several members of the youth group** have been approved to attend the Alma College Youth Mix from March 9-11, 2012.
- **Pastor Lawson and Elder Waldo Bronson** will attend a stewardship conference from March 12-14, 2012 in Charlotte, North Carolina.



**stewardship**

## **Wednesday Light Meal and Lenten Services**

**Meal at 5:15pm—Service at 6:00pm**

February 29, 2012—Session has the service

March 7, 2012—The Choir has the service

March 14, 2012—The Deacons have the  
service

March 21, 2012—The Youth have the service

March 28, 2012—Presbyterian Women have the  
service

April 1, 2012—**Palm Sunday-Celebration of  
The Lord's Supper**

April 5, 2012 at 6:00pm—**Maundy Thursday-  
Celebration Of the Lord's Supper**  
*(by intinction)*

April 8, 2012am at 10:30am —**Easter Sunday**

# One Didn't

Three men were tried for crimes against humanity. Two committed, one didn't.

Three men were given trials. Two were given fair trials. One wasn't.

Three men were whipped and beaten. Two had it coming. One didn't

Three men were given a cross to carry. Two earned their crosses. One didn't.

Three men were mocked and spit at along the way. Two cursed and spit back. One didn't.

Three men were nailed to the crosses. Two deserved it. One didn't.

Three men agonized over their abandonment. Two had reason to be abandoned. One didn't.

Three men knew death was coming. Two resisted. One didn't.

One, Two, Three men died on the crosses. Three days later, two remained in their graves. One didn't.

Author Unknown

# LECTIONARY

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**March 4, 2012**

*Mark 1:9-15*

**“You Are My Son”**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**

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**March 11, 2012**

*Mark 8:31-38*

**“Follow the Son**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**

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**March 18, 2012**

*John 2:13-22*

**“In Three Days”**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**

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**March 25, 2012**

*John 3:14-21*

**“Believe Me Now?”**

**Rev. Desiree Lawson**