



A Way forward

I know that in the last few months we have been talking about what our denomination has been struggling with for the past 40 years: what ought to be our position regarding the LGBTQ population in our midst. Last month I shared a brief summary of where we are and the up-coming General Conference.

This month, as we approach the General Conference on February 23-26 in St. Louis, MO, I would like to share with you an update of what our General Conference delegates will be discussing. These are some of the issues for come forward for our denominational leaders to consider:

Main plans submitted to GC2019

The plan that the Commission on the Way Forward recommended to the Council of Bishops, which the Bishops voted in support (by over 80% of the Council), the same proposal they are bringing to the Special Session of the General Conference is:

The One Church Plan would shift to churches and conferences decisions regarding ministry with or by LGBTQ persons rather than maintaining a single standard that operates throughout the worldwide church. It would also remove some of the language in the Book of Discipline that limit LGBTQ people's involvement as United Methodists.

Other proposals that will most likely be considered by the special session are:

The Connectional Conference Plan would create three connectional conferences based on perspective on LGBTQ issues. The three connectional conferences would function throughout the worldwide church and the five existing U.S. jurisdictions would be abolished.

The Simple Plan would remove all language from the Book of Discipline that excludes LGBTQ people from full participation in the church.

The Traditional Plan would affirm the current language about homosexuality in the Book of Discipline and seek to strengthen enforcement for violations.

The Modified Traditional Plan would add to the Traditional Plan a committee with authority to hold bishops accountable to the sexuality standards in the Book of Discipline. It would offer a \$200,000 grant to annual conferences that want to leave the denomination because of disagreement over LGBTQ issues.

As our church approaches challenging decisions, let us be in prayer for the entire delegation, let us be in prayer that the Holy Spirit guide the people making decisions, let us pray that the Holy Spirit leads our leaders to strengthen our resolve to be the people that God has called us to be: followers of Jesus, loving like Jesus loved, and being willing to do everything in our power to reconcile the world to God, and with each other.

Please contact me if you have any questions. This is a difficult time for our entire church and we can only weather the storm by staying together, working together, and loving each other.

Your servant in Christ, *Pastor Eliezer*

CREATIVE ARTS IN WORSHIP

by Vincent Osborne



The power of a message is found in both its content and in how it is delivered. Imagine a song, a movie or even a book that spoke deeply to you and moved you. A story that even years later you still remember because of the

profound impact it had on you. There is an authenticity in every medium of storytelling, and a direct spiritual connection in every message that is told. The blessings of these stories should be allowed to achieve their full potential, reaching and touching the hearts of as many as they possibly can.

Musicians have been known to have deep spiritual experiences when performing pieces that they have a deep connection to. Novels allow so many to experience amazing journeys through the vivid imagery of the words on each page. Movies take ideas and transform them into beautiful creations, full of immersion and creating dreams of one day living that reality. This is the beauty of the creative arts. Not only do those creations tell powerful stories, but those stories can also touch the hearts of others in a way that nothing else can.

Worship is a place where the power of God reaches the lives of many. It is a place where one can grow mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and faithfully. In times of turmoil, it is God that helps us through, reminding us constantly of the power and blessings that he bestows upon us when we call on Him. These testimonies of God's love should be able to blossom and grow, just as we do through our faith. The expression of God's love through the creative arts is such an important method of reaching out to others. Music can tell a story that resonates in the hearts of many, using words that everyone can relate to from personal experience. The

music creates a tone that emphasizes the emotion of the message, amplifying it and empowering it. Video helps to solidify these stories in a permanent format. A format that is easily shared and spread so that others can also hear that message. Whether it's someone who has never been exposed to the faith or someone who loves God deeply but is not healthy enough to travel, video is a medium through which so many people can be exposed to and enjoy each message at any time, from anywhere. Video is also able to be used to announce church events, create greetings from the pastor, show interviews where people express their faith or share ideas on various topics. Some churches even use this medium to allow its different ministries to talk about all of the things they're working on. Many people know the joy of loving God and experiencing his many blessings. It is a joy that many take and form into a physical expression of gratitude, in the form of dance. Dance can portray joy, sadness, growth, love, elegance and beauty, all of which are experiences that any individual can understand.

The power of God's love is one so profound that no single medium of expression could fully convey how beautiful it is. Worship is a place where God's message can touch the hearts of all, and there are so many ways of doing so, and spreading that message in meaningful ways for others to see. By using music, dance, writing, video, and other creative means of spreading God's word, we can make up for all of the shortcomings in any given medium and truly create a message that anyone can enjoy and relate to. God doesn't ask us to stay the same, stagnating in our faith, doing what we have always done. He asks us to grow and learn. Let's not stop at simply growing our faith, let us also grow in our expression of that faith to others, so that they might also come to love God the way we do.

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WORK AS WORSHIP RETREAT

SPEAKERS



FRANCIS CHAN
Church Planter and
Bestselling Author



MEGAN ALEXANDER
Correspondent at
Inside Edition



JON ACUFF
New York Times
Bestselling Author



JEFFREY WRIGHT
Esq., MBA
CEO, UMI



HELEN MITCHELL
Director for Faith,
Work, and Economics
at Biola University



STEVE GREEN
President of
Hobby Lobby



ANDREW WEXLER
CEO, Herschend
Family Entertainment



CHRIS PATTON
CEO, His Way At
Work & Partner, Mike
Patton Auto Family

LEARN MORE AT WORKASWORSHIPRETREAT.ORG

Friday, February 22

8:30am - 3:30pm

Trinity UMC

BLASEBOY PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Trinity's 7th Annual TALENT SHOW

Saturday, March 16

7:00 - 9:00pm

doors open at 6:15 pm

Trinity United Methodist Church
705 West Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701

*This year's free will offering will support
one of our own Trinity family in need*

Our star studded line up includes:

- **Kathy Bowman** - director of National Christian Choir
- **The Clustered Spires Chorus** - Women's a cappella group
- **Take Note** - Trinity's own "Dynamic Duo"
- **The Hombach Boys**
- **The Niedringhaus Family & Friends**
- **Up Lift** - Community performers of sacred music
- **The Trinity Nuns** - featuring Sister Mary Clarence
- **And More... Much More**

Second Sunday Soup for \$7 a quart



Second Sunday Soups

The Women's Ministry team will have homemade soups for sale on February 10 and March 10. All proceeds will go to International Justice Ministry (IJM).

Soup makers needed!

If you would like to make soup, we will provide empty containers for you to fill. You can pick up the empty containers from Carol Romer or Laura Welker on any Sunday. Please bring the soup-filled containers back to the church kitchen on Saturday, 2/9 or Saturday, 3/9 from 10am – 12pm. Please bring a list of ingredients when you drop off your soup (for allergies).

Contact Carol Romer 240-575-9958 if you have any questions or can provide soup.



On Sunday, February 3 the Rams will be battling the Patriots in the Super Bowl. It's also an opportunity to help feed hungry people in Frederick. If you're going to watch the game, please plan to donate at least \$1 to the Souper Bowl of Caring during worship that day.

JOIN US for an AREA-WIDE
WOMEN'S EVENT



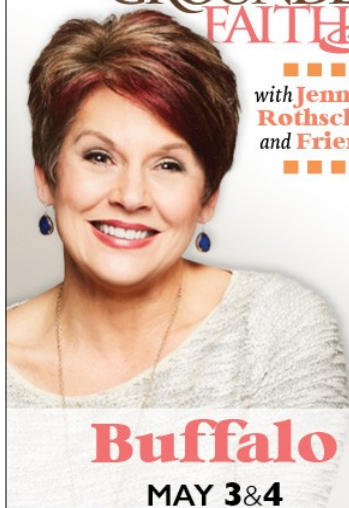
LAURA STORY
Guest Speaker
& Recording Artist

ANN VOSKAMP
Best-selling Author
& Speaker

SHAUN GROVES
Worship Leader

FRESH
GROUNDED
FAITH

with Jennifer
Rothschild
and Friends



Buffalo

MAY 3&4

FRESHGROUNDEDFAITH.com

Women's Road Trip!

Friday May 3rd - Saturday 4th

Join us for an overnight adventure to the "Fresh Grounded Faith" women's conference in Buffalo, NY. Inspirational speakers include **Ann Voskamp**: author of NYT best seller "One Thousand Gifts" and named by *Christianity Today* as one of the 50 leading women most shaping culture and the church today, **Laura Story**: song writer, worship leader and author, **Jennifer Rothschild**: speaker, author of over 11 books and bible studies and accomplished song writer, and **Shaun Groves**: Christian singer and song writer.

A word from Jennifer:

"If you are deep in the trenches of life and looking for biblical wisdom and hope filled encouragement to freshen up your faith and ground you more deeply in God's love, this event is for you!"

Single Room Fee: \$245 Double Room Fee: \$180

Cost includes: ticket to the event, transportation, and hotel accommodations. Breakfast at the hotel is included. You will be responsible for dinner Friday night, and lunch and dinner on Saturday.

We will leave from Trinity on Friday morning, May 3 and return Saturday evening, May 4. Space is limited so please send in your \$35 non-refundable deposit by February 24. Balance is due by March 31.

Questions? Contact: Carol Romer 301-275-0681 or Laura Welker 301-788-0048

Fresh Grounded Faith – Women's Event

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Room mate preference: _____

Please place this form and your check in the offering plate or mail to the church office.

☐ Single room \$245

☐ Double Room \$180

Non-refundable \$35 dollars due by 2/24. Balance is due on 3/31. Make checks out to TUMC and memo "Women's Event"

BLACK HISTORY MONTH**AARCH & Trinity United Methodist Church****Presents for your listening pleasure*****The Emerging Voices of
African American Writers of Frederick***

*Featuring public reading of selected works by
Valerie Jean, Damita Drayton Green & Elayne Bond Hyman
Questions & answers to follow*

**Saturday, February 23, 2019****6:00 - 8:00 p.m.****Trinity United Methodist Church****703 W Patrick St, Frederick, MD****aarchsociety@gmail.com****www.aarchsociety.org**

Spaghetti

Dinner
and Silent Auction

**Saturday,
February 23**
5:30-7:30 pm
(auction bidding ends at 7pm)

Come support our youth ASP summer mission
trip by eating some yummy

All-U-Can-Eat Spaghetti
and bidding on our **Silent Auction** items!

Adults \$10.00

Kids (10 and under) \$ 5.00

maximum \$30 per family of 6

Name : _____

Adults _____

Phone : _____

Kids _____

Email: _____

Total Cost _____

Please preorder and prepay by Sunday, 2/15. Questions? Contact Wendy Huff at youth@trinityfrederick.org.

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

Date	Drivers	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters
2/3	Matt Stegle 301-694-2649	Matt Stegle	8:45 - Tony Driebelbies 11:10 - Larry Boyer, Glenna Green, Pam Lesperance, and Adrian Winpigler	8:45 - Jennie Sue Pearson and Sue Rowland 11:10 - Sue & Morris Rice
2/10	Lars DeSalvio 301-471-7466	Denise Berry	8:45 - Ernell Graham 11:10 - Larry Boyer, Mikayla McNamee, and Judy & Michele Pickens	8:45 - Dick & Kim Gessner 11:10 - Tom & Alyce Gregoire
2/17	Bill Etzler 301-798-3469	Wayne Buckingham	8:45 - Sue Rowland 11:10 - Larry Boyer, Barb Ellis, and Bill & Kay Etzler	8:45 - Pat Glass and Brenda Martz 11:10 - Barbara Maxwell and Pati Redmond
2/24	David Eisentraut 301-371-3534	Don Hott	8:45 - Wayne Buckingham 11:10 - Larry Boyer, Jerry Ryan, and Doug & Mary Wallick.	8:45 - Ernell Graham and Peggy Stagg 11:10 - Bill & Kay Etzler



**SAVE THE DATES!
SAVE A LIFE!**

Thursday, May 30

Thursday, October 10

NEWSLETTER COLLATING DATES

<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>February 26</i>	<i>1 pm</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>March 27</i>	<i>1pm</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>April 25</i>	<i>1pm</i>

These dates are subject to change. We are always looking for more volunteers. If you can help, please call Ruby Fine at 301-371-5617.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please submit your information or article for the monthly Newsletter in one of the following ways :

- mail or deliver to the church office
- email to TUMC@trinityfrederick.org.

Information for the March 2019 Newsletter will be due the second Sunday of February – February 10.



The church office hours are 9am - 4pm, Monday through Friday.

Pastor Eliezer's day off is Friday. He is normally in the office Monday through Thursday. Your pastor is ALWAYS available by phone.

Eliezer: 301-662-2895(work) and 301-620-8885(home)



**Trinity United Methodist Church
703 West Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701**

301-662-2895
tumc@trinityfrederick.org
www.trinityfrederick.org

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

