



Cloverleaf

Trinity United Methodist Church

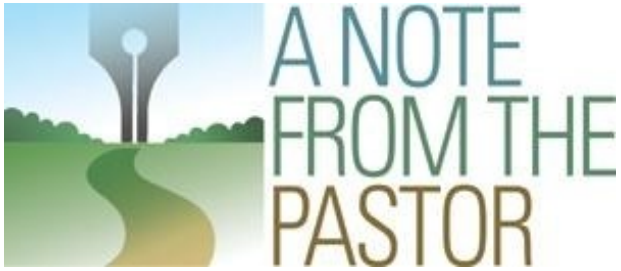
August 2020

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LET'S GROW TOGETHER

You don't have to do this alone.





The Scripture says: “Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Mat. 5:48). This is a passage that inspires and guides the meaning of holy living in the teaching of Jesus. Those who are called to follow Jesus are certainly called to a life of holiness. However, we in the Christian Church have turned holiness into something so unattainable that it is as if God really does not want us to live in holiness. For some believers it is as if this is what God desires but it is not something that can be achieved in life.

Certainly we cannot achieve perfection in this life, but according to Jesus we can certainly live a holy life. How, you may ask? Well, I am glad you ask. When we explore Jesus’ words in Matthew we get the first clue as to what it means to live a sanctified, holy life. In chapter 5 of Matthew Jesus tells us that to be like God, the Father, we must love like God loves. So Jesus describes for His audience how it is that God loves:

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ [This must sound very familiar because it is what we hear all the time in our culture] But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [Here we start to break with the values of the dominant culture] so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. [God treats the righteous and the unrighteous people in this world with the same care, mercy, justice, and compassion] For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? [Jesus uses the worst sinners in Jewish religious culture to illustrate that if we treat our friends well we are not better than the tax collectors and gentiles. We have a higher calling] (43-47).

This call of Jesus reminded me of the story of a Congressman who, although not perfect, sought to live a life of holiness. Congressman John Lewis was not only a public servant but he came to serve in public office out of his sense of service to his Lord and to God’s people. Clearly he is not the only one but he helps us illustrate the point.

Lewis was an ordained Baptist minister who graduated from the American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tennessee. Later he received a bachelor's degree in religion and philosophy from Fisk University. In 1955, Lewis first heard Martin Luther King Jr. (another servant of God) on the radio, and he closely followed King's Montgomery bus boycott later that year. At age 15, Lewis preached his first public sermon. Lewis met Rosa Parks (another woman of faith) when he was 17, and met King for the first time when he was 18.

While a student, Lewis was invited to Clark Memorial United Methodist Church in Nashville, TN, where the Rev. James Lawson (a United Methodist Minister) and the Rev. Kelly Miller Smith (a Baptist Minister) were teaching about the power of nonviolence resistance, as a strategy that will transform the Civil Rights struggle of the 60’s. There, Lewis and other students, out of their sense of call would utilize nonviolence resistance as a way to demand equality and justice for our black brothers and sisters, and other oppressed communities in the USA. He practiced this method for the rest of his life.



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Trinity Youth Group LOL Calendar



For more info, check out the youth page on our website, www.trinityfrederick.org.

Join Aaron on Sunday's at 11:30am for Middle/High Sunday School via zoom.

Please email tumc@trinityfrederick.org if you would like to join.

August

- 16 Sunday, 6:30pm Waterpalooza
- 23 Sunday, 12:00pm Cunningham Falls
- 29 Saturday, 8:00pm Movie Night



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Statement from Operation Christmas Child:

"The COVID-19 global pandemic has disrupted everyday life in some way for nearly everyone on the planet. Yet, Samaritan's Purse continues to share the eternal hope of the Gospel and to serve in Jesus' Name. We want boys and girls around the world to know that God loves them and has not forgotten them during this time of fear and uncertainty. We are trusting God as we make plans to traditionally collect Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes during National Collection Week November 16-23, 2020, and our staff is already preparing for any adjustments that need to be made in light of the current health crisis."

The Trinity Missions Team is moving forward with collecting gift filled shoeboxes from our congregation and packing shoeboxes this year. As always, we are collecting items for our packing party. School supplies, hygiene items, toys, and clothing are needed. If you have donations, we are willing to come by your home and pick them up. If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation (clearly marked for OCC) that will go towards purchasing needed items in bulk. Obviously, our "packing party" will look different this year as we carefully plan safe ways to fill the shoeboxes with your donated items and send them to children all over the world.

We are still exploring the best way to safely collect shoeboxes from churches, groups and individuals during National Collection Week in November. OCC will be providing gloves, sanitizer, and masks for our drop off location. Collection options range from a traditional looking drop off site, a drive by drop off, or something in between. Much will depend on the local restrictions in November and what protocol Trinity has in place at that time.

If you have items you would like to donate and have picked up, or if you have any questions please contact Laura Welker: 301 788-0048 or yardwelk@aol.com.

... Pastor's Page continued from page 2

As a Christian, he advocated for the civil and human rights of all people, especially African Americans. His faith led him to organize sit-ins at segregated lunch counters in Nashville and took part in many other activities pursuing civil rights for all as part of the Nashville Student Movement. Because of his faith, these sit-ins in Nashville were responsible for the desegregation of lunch counters in downtown Nashville. His actions caused him to be arrested and jailed many times (as Jesus mentioned at the beginning of the sermon it would happen when people followed him – see Matthew 5:3-12). He was also instrumental in organizing bus boycotts and other nonviolent protests in the fight for voter and racial equality, feats which today we celebrate as part of our heritage as a great country.

It was during this time that he first expressed the need to engage in "good trouble, necessary trouble" to achieve change.

The words that came from that old negro spiritual: "Wade in the Water."

Wade in the water, wade in the water children

Wade in the water,

God's gonna trouble the water

When God troubles the waters are we willing to follow along? Are we willing to engage in "necessary trouble" for the sake of our fellow human beings?

Congressman John Lewis was not a perfect man but he was a man who sought to live a holy life wherever he was. For me he was another member of the great cloud of witnesses who testify to God in the way he sought to live his life. He was there when God was troubling the waters, he was there when love was required to make changes in this country to recognize that black, brown, and all people's lives matter because they are loved by God, and so should we.

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Eliezer

ZOOM Forward & Be Intentional About Your Faith Development

Please note that all studies, classes, and learning opportunities are currently happening via Zoom.

Call the church office at 301 662 2895 if we can help you get "Zooming."



On Racism

Open Dialogue

August 12th 7:00 pm

look for Zoom specifics coming soon

Mondays with Mark

good to
great
IN GOD'S EYES

A Ten Session Study from Chip Ingram

Date: Mondays in August

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 6:30pm to watch the Video &
7pm for the Study & Discussion

To join in or ask questions, please email
pastormark@trinityfrederick.org or call
240-367-9931.

The OPEN DOOR Grow Time Class
is convening on Zoom at 7pm on
Sunday evenings. The current
study is MAX ON LIFE. READ ON TO
LEARN MORE...



Why Me? *Why am I here?* Why did this happen? Can you help me understand? *Where's the lifeline?* Where can I turn? Is there any hope?

We have questions. Real, important and challenging questions. Questions about family, finances, and forgiveness. Unsettling questions regarding illness, death and eternity. Don't we crave answers to these questions that tug on the deepest parts of our hearts?

Max Lucado has received thousands of questions and wrestled with plenty of his own. In these eight Bible study sessions, one of today's most trusted pastors takes on life's most important questions.

Tuesdays at 8:30am via Zoom

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

BE ENCOURAGED GROW IN GOD'S WORD



Watch for more details on:

Dave Ramsey's

Financial Peace University starting in September

RACISM 101

4 Sessions

Wednesdays September 2- 23 at 6:00 pm

A Part of Trinity Women's Ministry...

women's
bible study

growing deeper, together

Wednesdays @ 9:30am and 7pm

Next Session starting Wed., Sept. 9

CHRISTIAN MATURITY

By Wanda and Jasmine Osborne

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: "We question 'why' when something happens and we get stuck on trying to figure it out. We're not supposed to worry about the 'why.' We should turn to God."

- Anonymous Grow Time Class Member

BIBLE VERSES:

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

"Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you." 1 Peter 3:7

Since the fall of 2017, my family and I have had the privilege and pleasure of facilitating the Contemporary Issues Grow Time class which has morphed into a Journey of Faith class. As members of the class fellowship and discuss their faith, several of them have often made a statement that resonated with the class. We started documenting the quotes and often would cite the quotes during a later class, usually putting them up on the board. As we are now unable to meet in person, we wanted to share some of these quotes with other members of Trinity to spark conversation.

We all experience difficulties in life. Sometimes, we become so focused on trying to understand why it happened as if somehow that gives us the illusion of controlling the situation. Instead of wasting so much energy on trying to understand "why" we should use that time in prayer.

We cannot always know or understand God's plan for our lives but we must remember to have faith and trust in God to be with us, to guide us, provide comfort, strength and above all else, surround us in his everlasting love. God is love, faithful, constant, merciful, forgiving, just, holy, the healer, the creator and the list continues. John 3:16 shows us the depth of his love for us. He wants us to call on Him in our time of need. We can bring our pain and grief to God and trust in Him. Faith and trust are key. In the book of Job, we are reminded about the importance of faith. Job's faith was deeply rooted and he trusted in God's providence.

Don't ever let life dissuade you from the certainty that God is with you and God loves you. When we become so focused on the "whys" or trying to control our circumstances, we can lose sight of this fact. Instead, spend your time in prayer. Prayer is essential to a great spiritual life, to our spiritual growth and ultimately will provide comfort in difficult times. Many things occur in life and often the answer cannot be known by us. There is an old expression "Let go and Let God"! So let go, pray and Let God!

ADDITIONAL BIBLE VERSES:

Psalms 55:22, Psalm 46:1, Psalm 27:1, 2 Thessalonians 3:16, Isaiah 41:10, John 16:33

Register
for **VIRTUAL**
VBS

Due to this year's restrictions on meetings, we are unable to have a live in-person VBS. Yes, Ms. Chris and the rest of the team are sad not to see all of our friends who join us every year. *This year we are doing something a little different.*

Along with resources on our **Growing Our Faith** tab on this site (<https://sites.google.com/view/tumcchildrensministry/home>), we are offering a week long VBS that was created by the North Texas Conference of the UMC and we are grateful for their willingness to share this program.

You will need to sign up on the website but the program is **FREE**.



**TRINITY PASTORAL
COUNSELING CENTER**


Transition and stability are our two paired words for August.

August is a time when most people are getting ready for school and the routines of the cooler months. At the time of this writing, it is unclear what that means for most people. Whether it is work or school or play, our community and the world is coping with how to keep each other safe and to create a routine that keeps us focused on what needs to be done.

Routines and rituals help keep order and stability in life. What are yours? Do you have sayings or scripture that support the changes going on in your life? How does this help you cope with transition and change?

The counseling center continues to provide stability and support to our clients coping with various kinds of change. *This is something that the center has been doing for 35 years.* It's hard to believe, but Trinity's pastoral counseling center has been offering pastoral counseling in the Frederick area since 1985. While we can't celebrate in person right now, we want to make sure to highlight this achievement.

Thank you to all who have supported and encouraged the pastoral counseling center over these past 35 years.

Throughout all the transitions, we are grateful for the stable support the church has provided to anyone seeking help. We have been blessed to offer care to anyone regardless of ability to pay since we have opened. What a powerful ministry.

Blessings,
Diane Younkins, LCPC, NCC
TPCC Director

*Psalm 62:2 He only is my rock and my salvation,
My stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken.*



Are you actively involved in the ministry of your church? If not, we have many ministries that might be the perfect fit for you! Here are just a few ways you can serve:

- Missions ● Trustees ● Youth ● Church & Society
- Hospitality ● Music ● Women's ● Member Care
- Worship ● Children ● Education ● Stewardship & Finance

For more information, please contact Heather Throckmorton at 301-662-2895 or heatherthrockmorton@trinityfrederick.org.



To My Trinity Family, I wish to thank you all for the outpouring of love, support, cards and prayers for the recent passing of my dear sister, Chris.

You have both touched and help soothe my wounded heart.

Gratefully, Denise U. Blasewitz

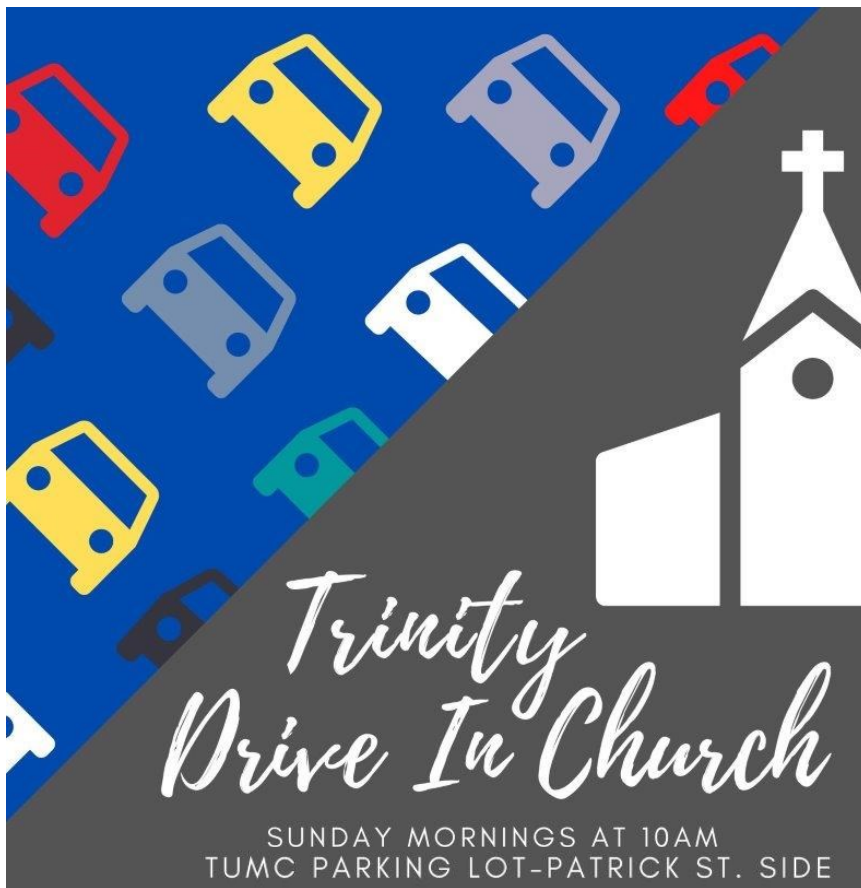


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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



a great way
to be together
without actually
being together



Please Note: There will be no Drive-In Service if raining. Cancellations will be posted by 8am at www.trinityfrederick.org, sent via email to those on our mailing list, and available by phone recording at 301-662-2895.