

Parson to Person by Pastor Dave

Today, as I write to you, it is January 1st, a day of new beginnings. And although I have no crystal ball about *what* will unfold in 2023, I know *how* I want it to unfold because of my mom, and this thing she said that has always stuck with me... *The only difference between ordinary and extraordinary is... extra!* This was probably voiced during one of our frequent discussions about how I could get so much better grades with just a little more effort, but it nevertheless has survived that icky setting and has become a guiding factor in my life, when I remember, and when I have the stamina and devotion to extend myself more fully into the world.

This kind of thinking is extremely valuable *individually*, but even more so in a larger setting, like, oh, I don't know... like maybe in a church? For there are plenty of ordinary church-

es in the world, churches that leave no visible marks on your heart or your mind, churches that just keep dragging along, not really advancing the gospel, but not hurting it much, either. Ordinary, plain, uninspired churches. Every area has plenty of those... but as you can well imagine, they are not the kind of churches most of us would desire to attend, or the kind that I desire to serve. And as you can also well imagine, as the New Year turns and resolutions abound, being an ordinary church is not Trinity's destiny, as far as I can tell and influence. We are meant to be extraordinary!

Which, of course, means that what we provide, and what we produce, should be more than other places... we create 'extra' on a regular basis. How is that for a guiding

(Continued on page 2)

Our Purpose
To ENGAGE people in joyful relationships with God and with each other, so we will GROW in Christ-like compassion, and SHARE the blessings of the Holy Spirit.



Inside this issue:

UMW Notes	3
Christmas Giving	4
November Finance Report	5
January Birthdays	6
Prayer List	7
Worship in January	8

(Continued from page 1)

principle – that whenever anyone comes to Trinity, the experience they have here will be more than they expected. Fuller, more profound, more inspiring, every time. That is one serious mandate, my friends.

We certainly have a history of being extraordinary in some arenas; friendliness, local outreach, excellence of music or preaching or some other worship-connected form. But the scriptural challenge is to be nothing less than ‘all things to all people’, which seems nigh unto impossible, but isn’t, really. It just means aligning our leadership and vision and energy towards being more than a church that survives; we want to be a church that thrives.

You are probably waiting for the other shoe to drop, and expect me to make a big plea any moment now for more giving or more service or more outreach. I am thrilled to disappoint you in that regard. Because at the end of the day, it isn’t about giving, or serving, or reaching out... those are all *natural outcomes* that flow like water downhill from a mindset and balanced heart whose focus is beyond mediocre. The thinking must precede the action, always.

So, here is my wish for 2023 and beyond; that we stop thinking of ourselves as poor, limited, tired, old, or any other negative descriptors you care to insert. We have been improving a lot in this regard, by-the-way. I am not suggesting some Pollyanna approach to artificial living; I am simply suggesting that we embrace the truth, that we are part of a limitless universe energized by a boundless God who knows no limitation, no death, no poverty, and no lack. We are not guttersnipes scraping sadly by, unnoticed in this world; we are heirs to the eternal, and more than gifted enough to elevate one another and those around us if we simply have the presence of mind and heart to make habits out of excellence and passion. If the United States Army encourages its recruits to “be all that you can be”, should the church do any less? Enough for now... I am going forth to have an extraordinary day, and I hope you do just that, too! And may 2023 be your best year ever!

UMW Notes

Months of preparation, the organization of Chairperson Mary Wahl, assisted by Neva Wacker and Coleen Schloman and the labor and efforts of many volunteers too numerous to name individually, brought the long-awaited Bazaar to successful fruition Dec. 2-3.

Many women pitched in to set up the booths on Thursday, Dec. 1st, assisted by men who can always be counted on to help. Ken Edgar, Bob Ediger and Larry Wahl directed the parking and carried in items from cars to locations in Hadley Hall, the hallway, library and lounge where various booths were set up. During the Friday luncheon they were joined by Mark Morlock and seen pouring coffee and busing dishes. They helped with clean up, too, when the event closed on Saturday afternoon. KUDOs to them!

Marian Ware, Laura Wells and assistants decorated the tables with seasonal fruits and leaves and arranged the table settings for the Friday luncheon.

Chairpersons of the different booths were: Candy: Kristine Bussee-Dohm; Cookies: Jan Morris; Country Store: Pat Ediger; Crafts: Mary Wahl; crocheted, knitted and sewn items: Carol Riley; Jewelry: Lupe Jones; Next to New: Leitha King; Luncheon and rolls: Nancy Mayer and her TBAs; Pie cutters: Selma Lippincott and ladies from Paradise.

Priscilla Hanford provided the hearty meat and vegetarian lasagnas for the volunteers 'at Thursday lunch.

When the Bazaar opened Friday morning eager shoppers rushed in to survey the many different home crafted and baked items for sale. Shoppers accustomed to the Bazaar from past attendance went directly to look for wanted items, while others browsed and contemplated what to buy.

Early arriving customers came to have lunch before the announced time, waited patiently for the rolls to finish baking so they'd be first in line for the minestrone, rolls, coleslaw, and pie of choice. One woman was ecstatic she could buy 15 pieces of pie from the assortment of donated homemade pie for various family members without having to buy whole ones at a bakery to satisfy individual preferences.

The dining area was crowded at times as guests in groups lunched together on the tasty fare. Pastor played his accordion and Christina sang carols to his accompaniment ala trouba-

dours to enhance the dining experience.

All the booths reported good sales; the pomegranate jelly cooked by a team in November sold out quickly. With nearly everything donated and sales exceeding expectations, Treasurer Coleen Schloman expects only a few expenses for luncheon ingredients and reported an early gross of \$8873!

All who participated in any way thru donation of goods, volunteering time and labor on one, two or all three days of the Bazaar can pat themselves on their backs and be proud of accomplishing a valuable and worthwhile fundraiser!

The money earned will, along with that of the Rummage Sale, be donated to the local charities and to national and international causes that UMW supports.

It was disappointing the local newspaper did not come to cover the event, but the Bazaar still enjoys the power of person-to-person advertising that is more important.

At the unit meeting held on Dec. 14th, the usual business meeting was highlighted by discussions of the Bazaar and a cookie exchange. Those attending had been asked to bring 3 dozen cookies and a cookie tin to take home what they'd chosen so an assortment could be enjoyed without more baking.

President Carol Riley asked that anyone wishing to hold office in 2023 indicate by turning in a slip or telling her they'd like to serve. The election will be held at the January 18th meeting.

Submitted by Lily Loughlin

ALTERNATIVE GIVING**Christmas 2022****Undesignated****In Loving Memory of:**

Our Parents

Given by:

Pamela & Paul Beeman-Rabut

Jesus Center**In Honor of**

Dale Hoggins

Given by:

Vicki Hoggins

In Loving Memory of:

Donna Hoggins

Given by:

Vicki Hoggins

Torres Shelter**In Honor of:**Stirling Jude DeMartini
My Family**Given by:**Maggie Banes
Lily Loughlin**In Loving Memory of:**

Larry, Loved Ones

Given by:

Lily Loughlin

Shalom Free Clinic**In Honor of:**

Osen Family

Given by:

Tom & Paula Goslin

CHAT/Tiny Houses**In Honor of:**

Leslie Johnson

Given by:

Suellen Rowilson

UMCOR-UkraineRay & Christy Hurt, Suellen Rowilson, Neil & Marcia
Schwertman**Heifer Project**

Suellen Rowilson

In Honor of:

Whitney Massae

Given by:

Vicki Hoggins

ALTERNATIVE GIVING**Christmas 2022****Missionary Support: Katherine Parker, Nepal****In Honor of:**

Joe & Katya Yarosevich

Given by:

Suellen Rowilson

In Loving Memory of:

Carl & Merlon Fanno

Given by:

Larry & Mary Wahl

Trinity Music Program

Carol & Urban Kern

POINSETTIA GIVING**Christmas 2022**

Thank you to those who gave poinsettias to decorate and beautify our church for the Christmas Season.

In Loving Memory of:

Maureen (Ediger) Carpenter, Our Parents

Placed by:

Bob & Pat Ediger

Corbett Mouser, Jerry Summers

Priscilla Hanford

Bob Hoggins, Donna Hoggins

Vicki Hoggins

Dr. & Mrs Felch, Bill Felch, Anita Blake
John & Sue KaiserJoyce Felch
Kaiser Family

Larry Loughlin

Lily Loughlin

Fenton & Peggy Smith

Candy Murphy

Dorothy Westlund, Russ & Mabel Morris

Jim Morris & Family

Barbara MacAndrew, Gerald Schloman, My Parents

Coleen Schloman


Dick & Jeanne Sorenson

Sorenson Family

Les & Ethel Wahl

Larry & Mary Wahl

NA
ON
TH
TO
UD
ON
XPR

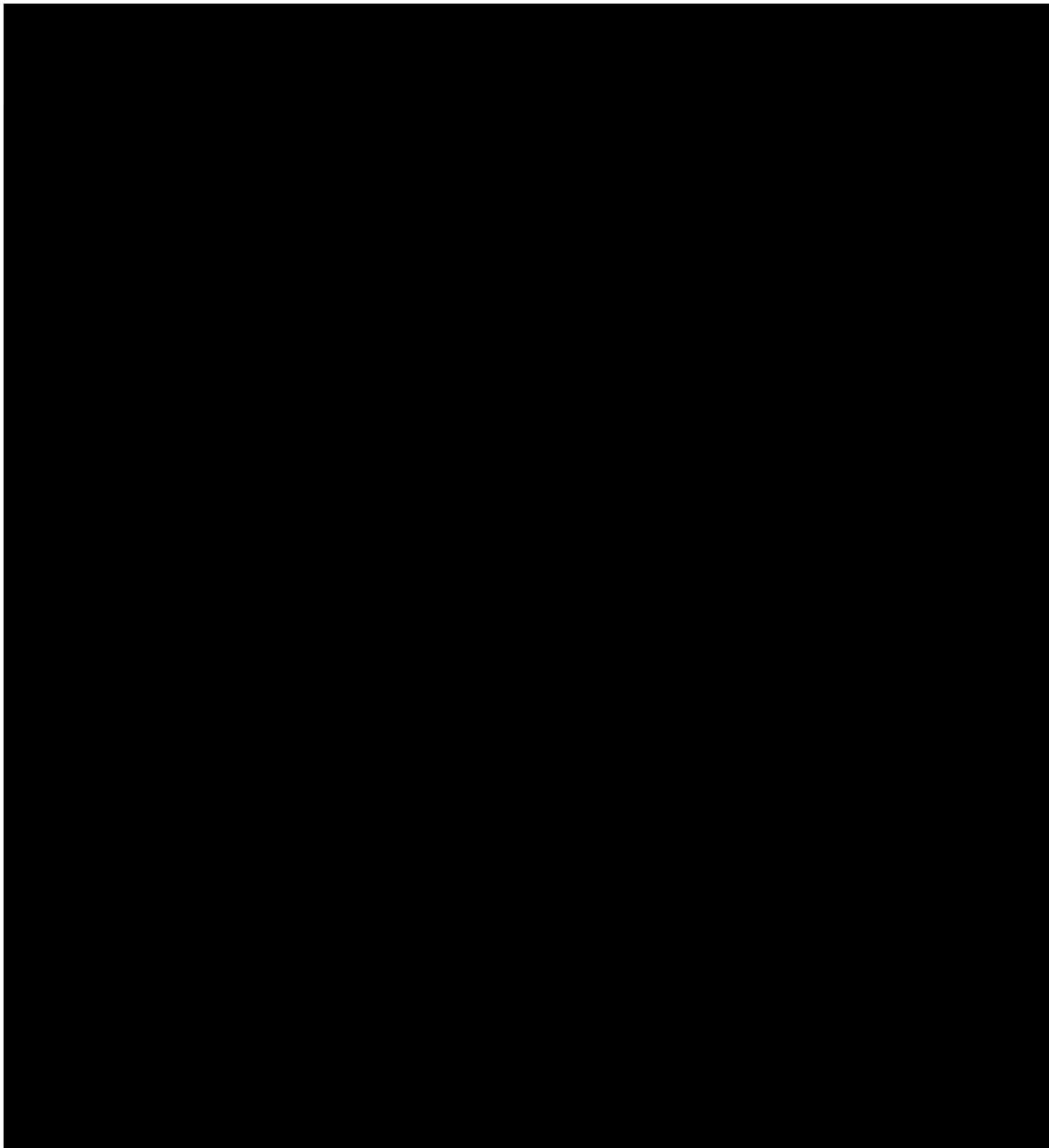


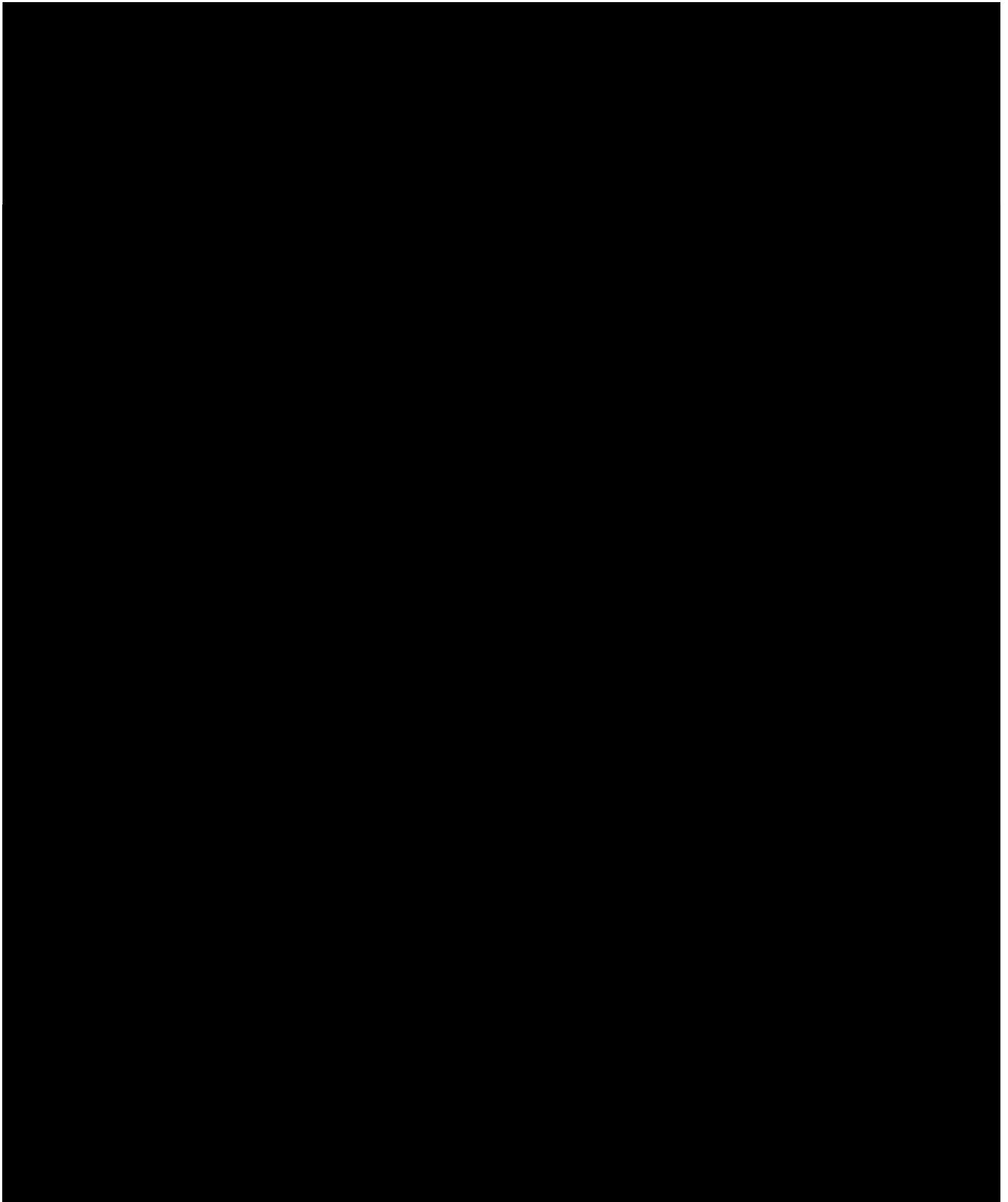


January Birthdays and Anniversaries

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY





Trinity United Methodist Church

285 East Fifth Street
Chico, CA 95928

Phone: 530-343-1497
Email: chicotrinity@yahoo.com

ENGAGE

GROW

SHARE



WORSHIP IN JANUARY

Sunday, January 8th EPIPHANY

Today we celebrate the arrival of the Magi with gifts and messages for our infant Lord, and we also commemorate his baptism. The last of the festive carols will be sung for the season, and the sermon “Magi and Manifesting”, based on Matthew 2:1-12 and 3:13-17 will be offered.

Sunday, JANUARY 15TH

The intriguing words of John 1:29-42 lead us this weekend into one of the variant stories of how people learn to follow Jesus and become disciples. The services will be led by a guest speaker while the pastor is away.

Sunday, January 22nd

The returning of the light causes changes in our shadows, both literally and metaphorically. “Seaside Shadow-Shifters” explores the ideas presented in Matthew 4:12-23, and yet another version of the calling of the disciples is presented.

Sunday, January 29th

“It’s Your Lucky Day!” is the message derived from Matthew 5:1-12, the famous section known as the Beatitudes. These scriptures of comfort and challenge provide us today with much food for thought and heart.