

Parson to Person by Pastor Dave

Lent has arrived again, and you can usually expect something dour and full of repentance from the pastor at this time of year. But you know how contrary I am... instead, I need to talk to you about ukuleles!

You have probably noticed that our Choir has not exactly come raging back following our long COVID hiatus. Several factors are in play, including safety (singing is absolutely one of the most effective contagious activities known to humanity), availability of singers, directors, and accompanists, the general aging of our voices, and the like. We have made some efforts and they have sung well, but it seems like right now is not the time for the Chancel Choir to buy new robes, if you catch my drift.

HOWEVER, I would like to propose an *alternative* musical experience that could include singers of varying abilities, could meet at the convenience of the group, and would require no accompanist, because we would be accompanying ourselves! I am talking, of course, about creating a Trinity Ukulele Group...

Several of us play the mighty uke already, and I am a skilled teacher of this humble instrument. It is very forgiving of arthritic hands, and seems to just call the voice out of folks. So one option would be to join up even if you don't currently play. We can probably fix that!

Another option would be the divide and conquer scheme... you could be a singer only, or a strummer only. WE are a

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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.



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very inclusive church, and this certainly applies to our music programs too! This group could also conceivably include kids (ten years or so and up) and octogenarians both!

So, let us by all means practice our Lenten disciplines, and be as somber as we care to be. But let us also consider praising God in the company of other light-hearted folks, with the ukulele lifting our joy to God. Please let me know if this is of interest to you... we will be singing in church by Easter at the latest!

BIBLE STUDY TIME AGAIN!

Pastor Dave and others will be leading a six-week bible study this spring that explores the resurrected life. We will meet on Monday evenings from 6pm till 7:30pm, and each session will begin with a light supper. The first session is on Bright Monday, April 10th, the day after Easter. This is the day when we have historically celebrated the 'greatest practical joke ever', Jesus escaping Death and Hell and all of that. I promise an uplifting and informative time where we will learn more about the scriptures and more about ourselves, too. Please join us for Resurrection!

WEDNESDAY EVENING ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERIES!

We are blessed to have the opportunity for ecumenical worship, fellowship, and food yet again this Lenten season; the overall theme is 'Making Peace'. **DIFFERENT THIS YEAR** is that the worship time will be 'dinner theatre' style, with the meal and the churchy stuff all happening around the tables. Faith Lutheran is hosting all of the events, which are Wednesday evenings at 6pm. Here is the schedule of participating churches and soup providers:

March 1st: Trinity Methodist

March 8th: First Christian

March 15th: Congregation Beth Israel

March 22nd: First Baptist

March 29th: Bethel AME

UMW NOTES

The United Women of Faith of Trinity UMC will be having a Rummage Sale on the 3rd and 4th of March. Set-Up is Thursday, March 2nd, beginning at 9AM. Traditionally, the women bring some food to share for the workers/volunteers. The sale begins on Friday @ 9AM - 2PM. Saturday's hours are 9AM - noon. From 11AM -12 noon on Saturday s \$1.00 / bag.

If you have contributions and need help getting the items to the church, Steve Edgar, Ken and Barbara's son, will pick up items to bring to the church before the sale. Call 530-342-1919. We still need volunteers on Saturday to help w/ the clean-up... Especially if you have a pick up to take left-over items to other charities. There are Sign-Up sheets available each Sunday for volunteers. If there are any questions, please call Neva Wacker at 530-592-3618. The March Rummage Sale is one of our main fundraising activities and all the proceeds go to local charities.

Submitted by Neva Wacker

THE JOSEPH BRADLEY KOEHLI MEMORIAL SCHOL- ARSHIP

The Koehly Family is soliciting applications from this year's High School seniors who wish to compete for a scholarship. This award is made each year in memory of Joseph Bradley Koehly to an outstanding high school senior who is accepted in an institution of higher learning this Fall. If the recipient attends a 2-year college, the award will be \$500, and if he/she attends a 4-year college, it will be \$1000. The applicant must be an active, participating member of Trinity United Methodist Church. The primary criteria in determining the recipient of the scholarship will be academic excellence, church activity, school activity, personal recommendations and personal goals.

The recipient will be determined by a committee of one family member and two from the church and will be notified by June 30. Applications are available in the Church Office. Deadline for submitting applications is 4:30 p.m., April 30, 2023. The completed applications are to be mailed or hand delivered to the Church Office, 285 East Fifth Street, Chico, CA 95928.

Donations to the scholarship fund may be made through the Church Treasurer at any time.

Submitted by Rich Wolff

Membership Committee

Our committee has been busy making plans for all of us. We are requesting that we start up a practice that we had many years ago. Our ushers do a wonderful job meeting everyone who walks through the door on Sunday Morning. They have their hands busy handing out bulletins and sermons. We are wanting to start having one or two persons in the narthex with them greeting those who are coming into church every Sunday. They will be handing out a card to new visitors that show our service times and web address. There will also be a brochure available for those that might be more interested in what Trinity has to offer. We will have special notices from time to time to give to everyone about upcoming events (Bible Study, Potlucks, Vacation Bible School, etc.). These greeters may be able to answer questions that newcomers and congregation may have. We are hoping to have enough that volunteer to make it possible to greet about once every two months or so. We will have a sign up in Hadley Hall after church and hope that all of you will consider this thoughtfully. A schedule will be made and sent to all participating.

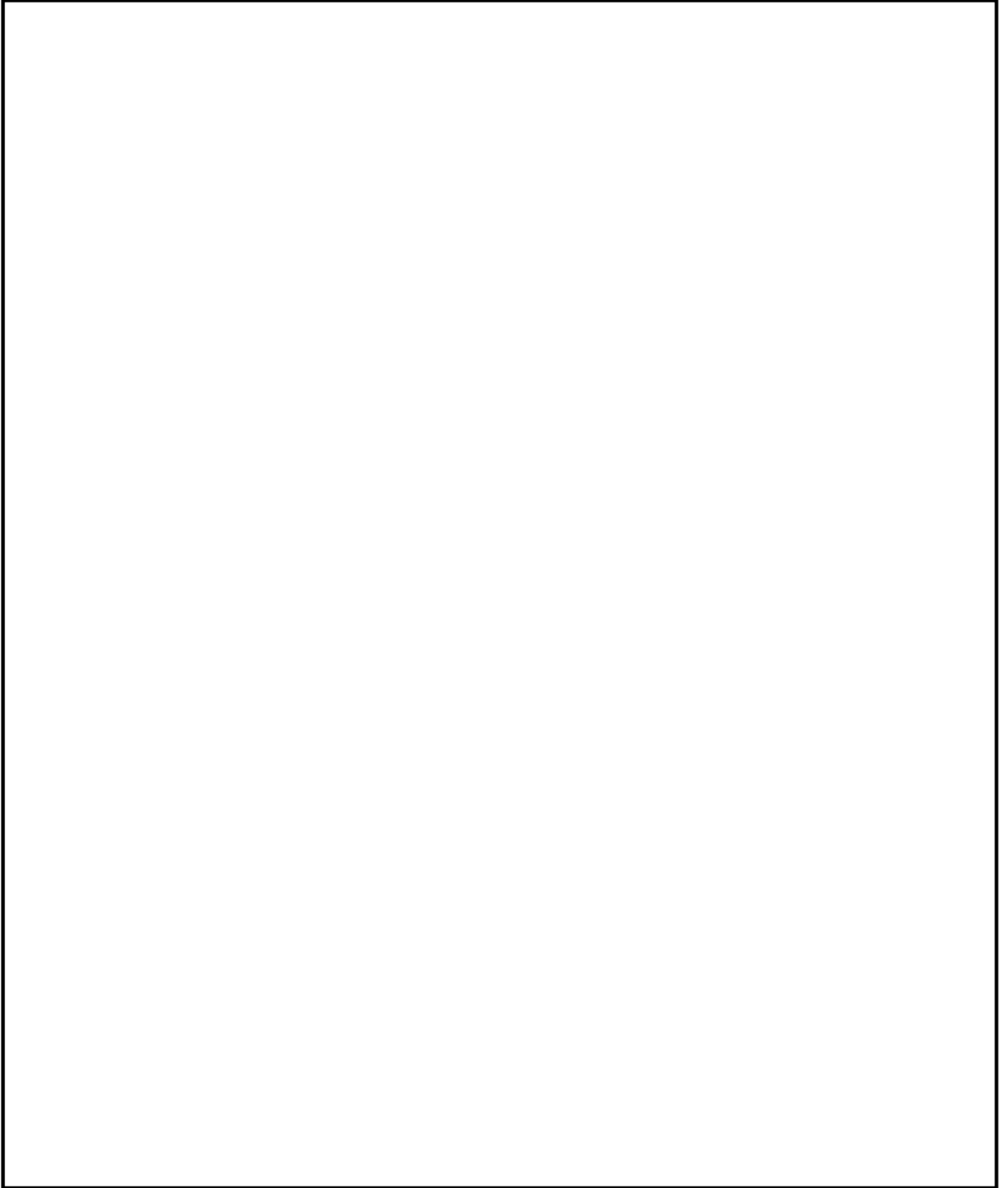
We are also asking for members who would like to visit our members who are homebound or in assisted living or other types of units to please let us know. Even a phone call or a card are always welcome by those who we do not see at church. There are not many (15 or so) and we really need to make sure we are keeping in touch with them. They have been loyal to us and now we can show our appreciation by reaching out. Please call Mary Wahl at 530-321-5218 or Pastor Dave at 530-343-1497 if you find you have extra time and a calling to help us with this endeavor.

Submitted by Mary Wahl

Iverson Center

On 8 February, the Interfaith Council visited Iverson Center. We learned that although the focus of the program is for those with mental health issues or substance recovery, it is actually a VERY low-barrier service. One does not need a diagnosis, insurance, or even an address to be seen *immediately* by a peer counselor. (Staff are not licensed professionals, but are trained and drawn from those with similar life experiences.). Group meetings are a big focus, ranging from topics such as PTSD, grief, and homelessness to karaoke and crafts - 38 were listed on the February calendar. They don't so much need donations (maybe some gift cards to give at the yearly Wellness Fair) as to Get the Word Out. ALL services are free of charge. Email: iversen@nvcss.org. Phone: 530-879-3311. Website is under Services on the North Valley Catholic Services web page (but they are not religiously affiliated). Talk Line is 855-582-5554. Hours are 9-4 weekdays and 10-2 Saturdays.

Submitted by Pamela Beeman-Rabut





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ENGAGE

GROW

SHARE



WORSHIP IN MARCH

Sunday, March 5 LENT 2

John 3:1-17 recounts the fantastic story of Nicodemus visiting Jesus at night, for fear of being seen. Great and world-changing ideas are in this little passage, and the message this morning will be called “Continuum”. Holy Communion will be served, and our Lenten journey will continue!

Sunday, March 12 LENT 3

Romans 5:1-11 leads us into the amazing theology of St. Paul. The sermon will be called “Timing is Everything”. Wonderful music will also be featured.

Sunday, March 19 LENT 4

If I had to choose my favorite preaching text ever, this might just be the one: John 9:1-41. It is a long and twisty story that reveals a lot about God and a lot about people, too. The message will be entitled “Seeing Both Sin and Salvation”. I expect to get all lathered up today...

Sunday, March 26 LENT 5

We return to the gospel of John (11:1-45) for the astonishing tale of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Jesus is absolutely not trying to slide under the radar anymore, with such a public spectacle. And so, the sermon is aptly named “The Risks of Resurrection”.