Trinity Times

November 2023

Pastor David Vallelunga

Parson to Person by Pastor Dave

November is upon us, and the Church universal girds its collective loins as we lean together towards Advent, prepare ourselves for yet another Christmas season, and, most often, also celebrate our faithfulness through an annual Financial Campaign.

I am 100% certain that the fall financial campaign is not the highlight of anybody's church year, and yet... it provides us a short, devoted time to assess our relationships with God and one another, and determine how we may give of ourselves and our resources to the enrichment of all. It might seem very cut and dried, but it certainly can be spiritual, and to that end, we at Trinity employ some inviolable principles:

> The campaign is short – no more than three Sun

days. We devote a small amount of time each of those days to sharing and disseminating important data, but it's not too taxing.

There is a complete absence of guilt, arm-twisting, manipulation, and other similar tactics. Your Finance Team and I feel that the body of Christ ought to be above such things.

Finally, our annual askings have a holistic bent to them; it's not just all about money. It is about encouraging whatever giftedness will enhance the health and welfare of the body.

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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So, in the next few weeks all of this will be taking place, but there is one area of our stewardship that I want to discuss with you right now for a few paragraphs. This is one of the often-overlooked tributaries of our communal health; I am talking now about *volunteerism*.

Our open-hearted, voluntary leadership is what allows the Church to continue. Our financial giving keeps our staff and our building and our community obligations flush, but no church in the land can pay for everything, can hire out all of its work. A core part of our church experience is the sharing of leadership and odd jobs, both big and small. We are all aging, we are all getting tired, we are all overextended in some areas of our personal lives, and our Sunday together times are designed, not just to glorify God, but to refresh us. Believe it or not, our faithful 'helping out around the house' can be refreshing, too.

Inviolable Principle Number 2 above absolutely applies to what I am about to write: I intend no guilt, arm-twisting, or manipulation, but rather a simple, factual, accurate description of the needs of our various ministries. As you are likely aware, some tasks are rather enormous, but most are quite manageable and require not much time. Can you count to eleven with-

out removing your shoes? We need money counters on Sunday mornings! Can you write a card or two to send encouragement and love to our despondent brothers and sisters? The Membership Team can use that skill. Can you use your voice to enrich the corporate experience in the Choir? Are you outgoing and friendly? We have a job for that personality. Are you shy and quiet? We have a job for that personality, too. Are you elderly and health-compromised? Part of your healing is likely to be found in doing something good for another. We are all part of the body, friends, and we each have different functions. We learned that in Bible School, right?

So, three weeks to focus a bit on our gifts and how we might best share them. Before Thanksgiving, I suspect we will have more to be thankful for than we are currently aware of! Please join me in giving volunteerism at Trinity some thought and prayer. We need each other!

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UMWF Notes

After opening the meeting with an inspirational message from Isaiah 14 by Lucille Wanee, Pres. Neva began the meeting while the ladies enjoyed refreshments prepared by Marian Ware.

The members listened attentively to Amber St. Clare of the Butte County Food Network who spoke about small community gardens between Paradise and Durham that the county is establishing on one thousand acres of donated land so more fresh produce can be grown by participants. She emphasized composting and permaculture and sharing surplus at food stands at various locations.

Carolyn Clayton contacted Ms. St Clare to share her knowledge of the program, which most attendees were not aware of.

Pam Beeman said during her volunteer stint raising funds for KZFR 90.1 FM on Nov. 1st, she will announce the upcoming Bazaar to apprise listeners of the event.

Carol Riley announced special dish towels imprinted with a design of a typical church will be embroidered to raise funds for the Lahaina UMC of Maui that was destroyed during the fire in August.

After adjournment of the meeting, the bazaar committees headed by Mary Wahl met to plan for the annual fundraiser on Dec. 1-2.

Next UMWF meeting is on Nov. 15th at 10:00.

Submitted by Lily Loughlin

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Membership Committee

Our committee has been busy making plans for all of us. We will be having a Meeting November 16th, Thursday at 1:00 pm in the Church office. Anyone is welcome to help plan where we are going with membership.

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 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. If you know of a church person who needs extra care, please let us know their names, phone numbers and/or addresses. 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

Trinity Family From Your Bazaar Team

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you!! This is a reminder of our upcoming UMWIF 71st Annual Bazaar on December 1st and 2nd, Friday and Saturday.. We are open on Friday at 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with lunch served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be soup, salad, pie and Coffee. Bring friends and family for fellowship and to help support the 15 Charities that the UMWIF gives to annually. Saturday the doors will be open from 9:00 a.m. to noon for those of you who cannot make it Friday or who need a second visit. We will also be opening Thursday Evening from 5 pm to 7 pm for the congregation to come and see our wares as well as buy before opening to the public on Friday. We still need items for the different booths. They are listed below and include what kind of things we are looking to sell. WE WILL BE HAVING SIGN-UPS IN HADLEY HALL EVERY SUNDAY IN NO-VEMBER FOR YOU TO LET US KNOW WHAT ITEMS YOU CAN OFFER TO OUR BOOTHS. Bring these on Thurs morning NOVMEBER 30TH to church for set up. 1. Candy Booth - Any homemade candy you think you might like to contribute is

- needed.
- 2. Handcraft Booth Any handmade items, (knitted/crocheted things, table runners, Journals, note cards, headbands, washcloths, scrubbies, baby items, guilts, hats, scarves or anything you might like to contribute.)

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- 3. Tea Towel Booth Our members have been working all year on wonderful designs to have these ready for you (Our most popular item)
- 4. Country Store Booth We need and sell homemade breads, jams, jellies, plants, fruits, vegetables, wreaths, nuts, mistletoe and other things you might like to donate.
- 5. Cookie Walk Booth Tins to fill with homemade cookies. (You will be picking out your own assortment, again, this year.) Needed: Any kind of cookie is wanted to make the assortment you choose varied and wonderful.
- 6. Next- to- New Booth and Jewelry Booth You will find many treasures here that you cannot live without. If you have things that you feel need a new home, please bring for this booth, especially Christmas decorations. Complete sets of dishes do not sell well, but occasional pieces are always popular. Be sure to go through your Jewelry and bring those items that you seldom wear and need to be worn to be shown off by someone new.

We will see you November 30th, December1st, and 2nd for 71th Annual Bazaar!! THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND LOVE.

Submitted by Mary Wahl

Request For Donations

The UMWF, formerly UMW, would appreciate any contributions of jewelry for the Next To New area at the Annual Bazaar to be held December 1 and 2. Contributions may be brought to the church office. Office hours are M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by Coleen Schloman

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ENGAGE

GROW

SHARE



WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 5th ALL SAINTS DAY, HOLY COMMUNION

A solemn yet festive day is planned as we honor our dear departed saints, gather at the Lord's Table, and hear the famous Beatitudes as recorded in St. Matthew 5:1-12. Uplifting organ music, delightful violin offerings, and the homily "A Nine-Fold Tutorial" will all be included.

Sunday, November 12

"Oh, Rapture!" is the title of the sermon today, and so the text must be

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, with its invigorating description of the last days. This long overdue learning Sunday about this controversial tenet of the faith will be enriched by a lovely anthem from our Choir.

Sunday, November 19 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

We continue learning from the letter to the church at Thessaloniki, hearing the recitation of 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, and receiving the message, "Together 24/7". Our hearts will be full when we are finished today!

Sunday, November 26 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

The closing of a liturgical year is traditionally given over to a celebration of the cosmic and personal authority of Christ. Our vigorous text is Ephesians 1:15-23, and our shared word will be called "Above It All, Yet Within It All..." Our Choir will be leading us in song again today, and a Special Offering for United Methodist Student Day will be taken.