

Parson to Person by Pastor Dave

If I were king, my first official act would be to severely limit the length of political campaigns! I am *certain* that dragging each other through the mud for months and sometimes years is not good for our mental and/or spiritual health, but my opinion was not requested in this case. Even so, there *is* something I can do about it...

What I can do is provide us some perspective between now and Election Day, and I am going to do that in the form of a sermon series. **All You Need to Know about Christianity, a Drama in Eight Acts** is my way of taking a look at the early Christians and the obstacles they faced, comparing and contrasting them with our own, and discovering hope and challenge along the way.

The Book of Acts is an oft-neglected book, a

neglect which cheats us of its riches. I think it is most often skipped because a large portion of it is historical, detailing the missionary work of St. Paul as he sailed all over the Mediterranean coast and spread the faith like no one ever has. But we will confine ourselves to the first nine chapters, where we hear of a fledgling church, persecuted, misunderstood, trying to assert its moral center in a society that is morally bankrupt, and basically inventing itself while re-inventing the society around it. If anything biblical can keep us centered in the next several weeks of our national life, my vote is for the opening chapters of the Book of Acts.

We Methodists are a mixed group when it comes to the scriptures. Some of you read, devo-

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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tionally or studiously on your own, every day. Some of us use a devotional source that dispenses little bites of scripture every day, so we don't get overwhelmed. Some of us haven't opened a bible in years or decades, relying on the 'Sunday snippet' to get us through. But whatever your Bible habits, I would like you to take some time to read the first nine chapters of the Book of Acts. All at once, one chapter at a time, makes no difference, but *read it*, more than once if you have the time. 'Marinating in the scripture' is the best preparation for Sunday togetherness that I can think of!

So, The Book of Acts, September and October. November 3rd, All Saints Day, a lovely, touching, solemn time of togetherness, and then... November 5th. We are not a congregation who tells each other how to vote, but we do like to lift up the voice of Scripture and let folks come to their own conclusions. I am excited to be sharing ***All You Need to Know about Christianity, a Drama in Eight Acts*** with you all. The curtain rises on Sunday, September 8th.

Rally Day

Rally Day is coming soon, so mark your calendar. The potluck and kickoff celebration of the new church year will be September 8 following the 10:30 service. Please bring a dish to share. In addition to the potluck, there will be several other activities. There will be an ice cream social courtesy of the membership team. The always popular cake/plant walk will also return. Please participate by donating a plant or edible item. And there will be a water slide on the front lawn for the kids. Rally Day is always a fun event for all ages. So, please plan to attend.

Submitted by Rich Wolff

Movie Opportunity

Have you seen any of the movie series of *The Chosen*? It is a very realistic and moving portrayal of the life of Jesus and his disciples. Now, is your opportunity to watch the series starting from Season 1, Episode 1 at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Cohasset Rd. **6pm, Friday October 4.** An episode will be shown every first Friday of the month.

There will be popcorn and water available, or bring your own soda and a friend. Call Suellen if you need a ride, 530-897-0226.

Submitted by Suellen Rowilson

Sewing Group

Ladies - We need to meet in September for our "BRING IT TOGETHER & TIE UP LOOSE ENDS MEETING. We need to bring all the towels - finished or unfinished, to the meeting. I am available September 23rd, 24th, and 25th. That's the fourth week of September, Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday... The problem is that we all have busy lives and we can't always agree on a "best day" for our meeting. I am going to make phone calls to remind all SEWING GROUP people. If you can't come to the meeting, just bring your tea towels, finished or unfinished, to church on any Sunday in September. Lorna Humpries, Jan Morris or myself, to begin the job of edging the finished towels...Unfinished towels can be collected by Lorna or me and stored for next year.

I would also like to hear from the knitters, crocheters, sewers, and quilters (if we have any)... How are you doing? Does anyone need more yarn or embroidery thread? (Ask me before you buy more),...

We are looking forward to an awesome Bazaar in December. September is Harvest Time. Any questions?? Call Neva Wacker @ 530-592-3618 or email - nmwacker42@gmail.com.

Submitted by Neva Wacker

UWF (United Women in Faith) News

September UWF Meeting

Ladies, please join us for our fall "reunion" on September 18th at 10 am! We will spend some time sharing news about our summer activities, discuss our plans for the fall and of course enjoy some goodies together. The Bazaar will be here before we know it, and we will be starting our planning for that event! We hope to also have a guest speaker, Please join us!!

Healthbridge Global Prayer Opportunity

The end of the 80's brought sweeping change across the face of Eastern Europe. As dictatorships crumbled and borders open, the nation of Romania emerged out of one of the most passionate and blood stained Revolutions of the decade to a new and potentially bright future as a free Nation. While communism's effects are pervasive, they are rarely found more striking and shocking than in Romania's medical system.

One of Healthbridge Global's ministries is to women in Romania. 50% Percent of pregnancies in Romania end in abortion. The most recent World Health Organization study reveals a significant driving force behind abortions in Romania - income generation for gynecologists. The average woman in Romania will have 4 abortions during her lifetime. It is the belief of Healthbridge Global that to create a culture of love, care, compassion and dignity, these attributes must first be shown and that is exactly what LIFE Medical Center will be focused on during each women's visit. LIFE Medical Center will provide no abortive ser-

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vices, no bribes will be allowed, and fathers and family will be prepared and encouraged to participate in the process. Every person who passes through the doors of LIFE Medical Center will be shown the love and care of Jesus Christ - since He is the motivation for all we do. The way women are treated and new life valued will be like no other experience in Romania. The birth of every baby will be a joyful celebration. Once completed, LIFE Medical Center will be financially self-sustaining, providing necessary resources to continue the critical work in Romania.

This project is at an exciting and critical juncture. As such, Healthbridge Global wants to invite you to pray with them about these next steps. **Please join Dr. David Ille and members of the Healthbridge Global team LIVE on September 5th at 8 am, as we come together for 30 minutes of prayer for this project.**

ZOOM LINK: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89909545430>

Submitted by Katya Yarosevich

CHAT MAKES PROGRESS TOWARD ENDING HOMELESSNESS

by Leslie Johnson (Trinity Member/CHAT Board President)

Chico Housing Action Team (CHAT) has really grown since we rented our first house in 2015 and began subletting bedrooms to people who were homeless. You are overdue to receive an update from me, and a big "Thank You" as well. Trinity has been among CHAT's earliest and most faithful partners. I well remember our early days running the Safe Space program in our social hall, and how we sheltered and fed people through the rainy seasons. That was an important and formative time for CHAT, as we became personally acquainted with many of our homeless community, learning their personal stories and coming to better understand their individual wants and needs.

It's hard to believe, but CHAT now operates 72 houses and apartments scattered throughout Chico! We house families with children, college students, disabled people, people with mental illness, homeless youth, and thanks to the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, we are able to serve a substantial number of our veterans as well. Our CHAT residents receive both housing and social services.

In February, CHAT was finally able to open our 20 cabin emergency shelter, "Everhart Village," operated in partnership with Butte County Behavioral Health. This project had been in the works for nearly 10 years, and we are so happy to finally be providing safe, secure, and caring shelter to men and women suffering under the combined burdens of homelessness and mental illness. I'm proud to say that Trinity was a part of creating Everhart Village through our generous donations.

Currently, CHAT is planning a brand new housing complex specially designed to accommodate 66 low income people living with disabilities. This is our most ambitious project yet.

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Slater and Son will be lead contractor, and the project will be located on Highway 32, about a mile past East Ave going toward Hamilton City. Although CHAT was awarded a very substantial grant to build this project, an additional \$192,000 is still needed to reach our goal and launch construction of this unique facility.

There are many ways to support CHAT's ongoing work. Becoming a monthly donor is one of the best ways to help, since it enables CHAT to budget for our programs and projects. A number of Trinity members are already monthly donors, and several are regular CHAT volunteers as well. CHAT has many volunteer opportunities, including making dinner once a month for Everhart Village, helping in the office, and working with people at one of the CHAT-houses. You might also like to consider including CHAT in your estate planning, to help make a difference far into the future. If you are interested in learning more, or have any questions, please call me, Leslie, at 530-518-9992, or take a look at CHAT's website. Thank you!

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ENGAGE

GROW

SHARE



WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 1st LABOR DAY WEEKEND

The ever-practical James lends his wisdom to our gathering today, as we hear the scriptures found in James 1:17-27, sing and pray and enjoy Holy Communion, and receive the homily “That Old-Time Religion”.

*Sermon Series: **All You Need to Know about Christianity, a Drama in Eight Acts***

(Please see Pastor Dave’s article in this newsletter for details about this exciting eight-week bible exploration)

Sunday, September 8th RALLY DAY

We welcome one another back from our summer travels and excitements with Rally Day, our annual re-gathering and launching of another church year. In this challenging social time, I want to spend September and October preaching from the Book of Acts, where our forbears had to manage social, religious, and economic troubles, just like us! So we start at the beginning with Acts 1, selected verses, and the sermon “Backstory”. And after church? Waterslides, cakewalk, potluck lunch, a whole lotta fun and fellowship...

Sunday, September 15th

We continue our series, skipping the familiar Pentecost story entirely and moving ahead Acts 3, selected verses... a wonderful healing story that ends poorly for the healers, but a homily called “Actions Speak Louder Than Words...” should be quite helpful.

Sunday, September 22nd

Our progress continues... Acts 4 outlines many of the obstacles and persecutions of the early church leaders, and their fearless, faith-filled responses to those challenges. “The Usual Suspects” is the sermon today.

Sunday, September 29th

We finish our exploration of Acts 4, selected verses, and encounter the steep uphill climb to holiness that the early church was willing to engage, but modern folks... not so much! The message, full of both controversy and hope, is entitled “You Say That Like It’s a Bad Thing...”.