

Parson to Person by Pastor Dave

There has been a bright thread – sometimes more like a rope, frankly - weaving through our lives for the last handful of years. I am talking about the apparent degradation of the world, the country, the way of life we enjoy or endure, these kind of things. I know, I'm just a whippersnapper and did not live through the Great Depression or either of the World Wars, but it sure seems like things are getting progressively less uplifting and more challenging both here in America and around the globe.

Sadly, nothing new to report there. The great Seneca the Younger, a Roman leader and statesman born just a few years before Jesus of Nazareth and outlived him by thirty-odd years, tried to help run the Empire during the Caligula and Nero eras, which were pretty dicey times, too. He said: *Sometimes even to*

live is an act of courage.

That is the feeling I am getting around town and state and country, that *just living* takes more guts, more determination, and more stamina than it used to.

Which brings me at long last to the point of this writing... to lift up the universally prized, Biblical-ly-endorsed, time-tested coping mechanism known as ***persistence***. Over and over, in venues both sacred and secular, it is this habit that saves the day until the storms of life calm down a bit. And so it is this trait that I want to recommend for you and yours, for me and mine, for all of us, because the universal truth is clear: this too shall pass, it really is darkest before the dawn, and, like Winston Churchill said, *If you are going through Hell, keep going!*

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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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I seem to be favoring world leaders more than Bible authors here, but our guys have plenty to say, too. Paul, especially, warns us again and again to persevere, to finish the race, and to remember that greater things await *if we do not give up*. Most of us are too old to appreciate the racing metaphor, but you know it is true, and that Life is not a sprint, but a marathon. And even the longest race is run, of course, one step at a time.

How do we overcome the feelings that want to overwhelm and smother us in despondency? Of the many ways, they all have at least one factor in common. Jesus talks about how even small faith can move mountains, and his 'brother' Confucius added to that idea: *The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones*. So starting small, starting where we are, doing something that advances the plot *even a smidgen*, these are the ways forward. Mother Theresa is famous for claiming that she did no great things; rather, she did numerous small things, but with great love.

One of the pastor's jobs is to encourage the tired and flagging, to uplift and inspire and help us all keep on keeping on. To that end, I close with this charming, yet challenging thought from America's well of inspiration, the immortal [Will Rogers](#) : [The](#)

[road to success is dotted with many tempting parking spaces](#). It's summer in Chico, and this old world surely wears us down, but let's not park just yet, friends. Keep on travelin'! Because God is still the cartographer of our lives...

MOSS FAMILY CONTACT

As many of you know, Kabir Moss, the son of David Moss (former Trinity pastor) and Cedar Moss, passed away recently. If anyone desires to send a message to the family, their mailing address is:

2602 Arbor Dr.
Apt. 235
Madison, WI 53711

Submitted by Rich Wolff

UWF (United Women in Faith)

We do not meet in August, but we'll be getting together on September 20th at 10 am. More about this in the September Trinity Times!!

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HEALTHBRIDGE GLOBAL REPORT

Healthbridge Global's collaboration with Romania's RISE TOGETHER project is helping to bring their new facility to completion! The mission and work of RISE TOGETHER is to empower vulnerable children by helping them rise as strong followers of Christ, heal from trauma, and have a lasting and positive impact on society as adults.

In their Quarter 2 Report, Healthbridge Global shares that Rise Together is just weeks away from opening! Furniture is arriving, window coverings are up, grass is planted, and final papers have been filed with authorities.



Gathering Space

In addition, the architectural plans are being finalized for ProVita Foundation of Romania's Life Medical Center, and they are gathering preliminary construction bids. This is Healthbridge Global's 2nd partnership with the ProVita Foundation of Romania. It will be the first non-abortive maternity hospital in one of the historic abortion capitals of the world, creating a totally new paradigm for maternal health and the sanctity of human life.



Healthbridge Global is very grateful for Trinity's support of their programs!!

Submitted by Katya Yarosevich

Fall Rummage Sale?

In years past, Trinity has had 2 rummage sales – one in spring organized and spearheaded by the UWF women, the other in the fall organized by other members of the church. The question is whether the church will continue with the fall rummage sale. It could be held in September or October. Since the women put so much effort into the Christmas Bazaar, I am hesitant to offer their services to organize and spearhead the fall rummage sale. Is there anyone else out there interested in taking on this effort? Many of the women will help, I am sure – we just need someone to take charge.

If you are interested in doing this, please contact the church office.

Submitted by Katya Yarosevich

Trinity United Methodist Church

285 East Fifth Street
Chico, CA 95928

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

ENGAGE

GROW

SHARE



WORSHIP IN AUGUST

Sunday, AUGUST 3

“People of Grace” week 1

“AN INTRODUCTION TO GRACE”

We begin our exploration of grace with St. Paul’s writing to the church in Philippi. The message today will be called “Everything You Need to Know About Grace” which is of course a bit of an exaggeration, but I will try for a comprehensive primer! The text will be drawn from Philippians 1. 3-11, selected verses, and we will also enjoy Holy Communion today.

Sunday, AUGUST 10

“People of Grace” week 2

“PREVENIENT GRACE”

We continue with St. Paul’s writings to the church at Ephesus as we delve into “The Story Before Our Stories”. The service will be rooted in Ephesians 1. 4-10, one of the true gems from the pen of the Apostle.

Sunday, AUGUST 17

“People of Grace” week 3

“JUSTIFYING GRACE”

“Hard to Explain Without A Typewriter...” is the provocative title for a provocative text. The church in Rome was one of the most challenging for St. Paul, and his most profound writing is directly to them. Today we will explore Romans 3. 19-26.

Sunday, AUGUST 24

“People of Grace” week 4

“SANCTIFYING GRACE”

The church at Thessaloniki was much beloved of St. Paul, a people of deep devotion and courage. Thessalonians 2. 13-17 will be the rooting soil for the message “Healthy Holiness”.

Sunday, AUGUST 31

“People of Grace” week 5

“LIVING THE GRACE FILLED LIFE”

We go back to Ephesus for one final piece of timeless advice as our sermon series concludes. Ephesians 4, selected verses, and an uplifting homily entitled “Life The Way It Was Designed to Be”. Please join us for another of our very satisfying Sundays.