

Parson to Person by Pastor Dave

I have a distinct joy to share with you this month; it is not a mysterious kind of joy, and not remotely a secret. The joy I am discussing is the one that all of us have experienced throughout our lives, and hopefully continue to experience as long as we are able. The Church, when faithfully engaged in its counter-cultural ways, just blossoms with this joy; but when we default to 'the ways of the world', we languish and suffer. Ready for me to let the cat out of the bag?

I want to discuss with you all the joy of sharing our gifts, our graces, our leadership, and our time. The secular world uses dry words like 'volunteerism' and 'taking one for the team' to describe what spiritual people experience as the kind of blessing that gives shape to the Church and meaning to our lives. And I bring this up a month in advance of our annual Church Conference, a sa-

cred time of charting our course for the coming year, because the time for assuming leadership and sharing of ourselves is upon us.

Let me be specific – we have a number of wonderful leaders who have been serving for many years. We hesitate to replace them; they do really well, and we relax in their competence. But hear the truth, friends: they are *exhausted!* And it is with their blessing that we invite the next set of leaders to offer their insights, their spiritual gifts, and a portion of their time in service to the congregation. There are three larger roles that we would love to invigorate with new folks this season; the **Lay Leader**, the **Trustees Chairperson**, and the **Finance Chairperson**.

The role of **Lay Leader** can be realized fully or minimally at the discretion

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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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of the office holder. The Lay Leader is like a pastoral assistant sometimes; like a cheerleader sometimes; and modeling the open, inclusive faith we represent in Chico all the time. The Lay Leader is the public face of Trinity in addition to the pastor. They chair the monthly meeting of the Church Council and are generally useful in assisting the flow of life at Trinity. We have had David Haynes as our lay leader for many years and he endorses a replacement. Might it be you?

The **Trustees Chairperson** oversees the physical needs of our church buildings, assessing and authorizing repairs and improvements. It can be a good job for either a delegator or a hands-on, let's-fix-it-ourselves kind of person. There are other elected Trustees to share the decisions, and sometimes the work itself, but the coordination and maintenance of our wonderful spaces fall to this one significant volunteer. We have enjoyed Nancy Mayr in this role for well over a decade and she also endorses a replacement. Might it be you?

The **Finance Chairperson** is another overseer, working with the Treasurer to manage and faithfully disperse our funds into the world. A comfort with business practice and good people skills are needed for this task. There is also a Finance Team to help out and a Financial Secretary to account for our giving and other income, so this person is not sailing the ship alone by a long

shot. Our last Finance Chair was Bill Borrer, who served willingly until family medical needs took him where he was most needed. We have not had a Finance Chairperson for a few years now... might you be the new one?

Those are the major leadership roles we are seeking to elect, but there are also plenty of less demanding tasks to go around... Sunday School teachers, money counters, ushers, Coffee Hour hosts and hostesses... we have a lot of cooks in the Trinity kitchen!

So, the harvest time is upon us, and I am suggesting that some of our folks have been overly long at their labors, having given year after year of abundant service. With their blessing, we need to raise up new cultivators and reapers here at Trinity. So... might you be a leader waiting to be discovered, waiting to make a difference, waiting to share the gifts with which God has blessed you? Please reach out and share your interest, and I will be reaching your way as well. Thanks and blessings as we travel forward together!

United Women in Faith (UWF)

Even though the fall rummage sale is “officially” a function of Trinity UMC overall, it is generally the women who have taken charge of it. To all those who donated their precious time to this effort – THANK YOU!!! Preparing for these rummage sales, especially the process of thoughtfully laying out the items for sale, takes a great deal of effort! By all reports, this was a very successful rummage sale, bringing in over \$3200! It was well attended (especially the first morning), and there was only a little over one truck-full of goods left over at the end! Special thanks to Nancy Mayr and Jody Gordon for heading the effort; and, again, **many thanks to all who contributed their efforts!**

UWF will have their next regular meeting Wednesday, October 21st, at 10 am in Hadley Hall. We are hoping to bring in a special speaker – so stay tuned for more information about that! We will also begin final planning for our Christmas Bazaar!

Speaking of which – several of our most dedicated ladies have reached a point in their lives, or have temporary issues, which prevents them from helping out with the Bazaar as they have in the past.

For the Bazaar we could really

use:

Additional cashiers

A person to take charge of the “Next to New” section – this is not a hard job! Tablecloths are placed and items are laid out for easy viewing. Talk to Leatha King for more insights into this job!

A person to take charge of the Candy sales. This entails pricing and (in some cases) packaging candy to prepare it for sale.

Let me know if you are willing to help out!! -- Katya Yarosevich

Trick or Trunk

The annual Trick or Trunk event will be held on November 1 in the church parking lot following the 10:30 worship service. There are two ways to participate in this event. You can decorate the trunk of your vehicle and distribute goodies to the participating youngsters. Or, you can bring young family members or friends to the event to trick or treat. This event is always fun; so, mark November 1 on your calendar.

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ENGAGE

GROW

SHARE



WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

Sunday, OCTOBER 4 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

The concept of abundance through faith has acquired a sour taste in the last thirty years or so, but this was not always the way of things. On this World Communion Sunday, we explore the gospel story found in Matthew 21:33-46, and hear the corresponding sermon, “The Architecture of Abundance”. Holy Communion will, of course, be served!

Sunday, OCTOBER 11

“A Divine Chinois” is the message that will be extracted from the wonderful, helpful, familiar passage found in Philippians 4:1-9. Some version of lovely music appropriate to this great text will be offered!

Sunday, OCTOBER 18

Matthew 22:15-22 outlines the escalating aggression aimed at Jesus and his world-changing preaching. They begin to try and trap him in his words, but they are seriously out-matched. The sermon title will be “Divide Et Impera”.

Sunday, OCTOBER 25

The testing of Jesus continues, quite unsuccessfully, in Matthew 22:34-40. History’s most famous preacher meets America’s most famous showman in the sermon entitled “Elephants, Clowns, and the Gospel of Matthew”. Our wonderful pianist Shari Summers is scheduled to return today.