

March 2017



Volume 24 No. 7

A ministry of the Reformed Church in America

The Commitment

Newsletter of TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH

Seeking *HIS* Light... Reflecting *HIS* Love

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Deadline for April Issue: March 15

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March
1
7:00
p.m.

Lent

B E G I N S

Lent is a time of meditation and repentance, a time to examine our inner and outer spiritual life. The spirit of Lent is penitential and devotional. It is all about preparation—during the season of Lent we reflect on the road that Jesus walked leading up to his crucifixion.

Three actions traditionally associated with Lent are prayer, fasting, and charitable giving. Jesus knew that his path led to the cross, yet he remained in conversation with his Father and continued to help those in need. He continued to live a life that was pleasing to God the Father.

What does that mean for us? We should follow Jesus' example and focus on prayer, Scripture, helping those in need, and social justice. During Lent, we should be preparing to die to ourselves as Christ died for us.

[from www.rca.org]



I will be leading a Lenten discussion group in my home on Tuesday afternoons starting on 3/7 from 2--3:30pm guided by the Sunday lectionary texts during Lent. Anyone interested in attending, please let me know. [585-820-7257]

Christine Perec

On **Sunday, March 12**, you don't want to come into the sanctuary just in time for the benediction, so be sure to set your clocks ahead for the beginning of daylight saving time. Don't worry you will get that lost hour of sleep back in the Fall.



SET YOUR CLOCKS
Ahead!



From the Pastor

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many (I Corinthians 12:12-14).

With these words, Paul describes the church as a body. And just as bodies do not have only one part — an ear, for instance, or an eye — so too does the Church consist of many parts. The diversity of parts that Paul noticed and celebrated was a diversity of ethnicity and position: Jews and Greeks, slaves and free. Whereas some in his day might have seen such diversity as an embarrassment, something to be hidden away, stifled, or born as a burden, Paul saw it as the very work of God.

I believe that the Church of Jesus Christ is still characterized by that amazing, even maddening, diversity. The Church is the body of Christ. It still is marked by God’s bringing together of people who would otherwise have nothing to do with each other. God makes one out of the many. God miraculously builds the body of Christ in such a way that the diverse are joined yet retain their diversity. We would do well to

celebrate, just as Paul did, that diversity.

One way of celebrating it is in the hymns we sing. The music of the church richly reflects the body of Christ: “Jews or Greeks, slaves or free,” American and European and African and Asian and ... you get the idea. We do well as the church when we acknowledge the amazing work of God in building the body of Christ. Even in our hymns.

That is why I sometimes choose hymns that may be new to some of you. I don’t do this to mix things up. I don’t do this to make worship “interesting.” I don’t do this to keep you “on your toes.” That would be manipulative. Rather, I choose new hymns on occasion for two reasons: because they fit, and because they help us understand and confess our faith in deeper and fresh ways.

Hymn choice is often one of those “no win” situations for a worship planner. You cannot please all of the people all of the time. There are some of you who would like all contemporary praise choruses (or at least more of them). Some of you instead want nothing but your old favorites. Clearly, there is no way I can completely satisfy both. Yet I believe that I am, and must be, pastor to both kinds of people.

Even more, I believe in the body of Christ, as the amazingly diverse work of the Holy Spirit, which in every age bears witness to our risen Lord.

I ask you to join me in striving to sing in a way that honors Christ and acknowledges the diversity of His body.

Christ’s peace,

Pastor Dan

dgriswol@rochester.rr.com



1 Corinthians 12:13, NRSV

2017 Consistory

Minister of Word & Sacrament:

The Rev. Dr. Dan Griswold

Elders:

Ed Allatt, VP
Evelyn Ghyzel
Yi-Fen Lee
Pat Peters
John Stratton

Deacons:

Kelly Bradshaw, Clerk
Jeannetta Kinmond
Bonnie Magin
Mary Robinson
Larry Scheerens

~ ~ ~

Treasurer: Marge Magans

Benevolence Secr’y: Steve Letter

Financial Secr’y: Greg Halsey

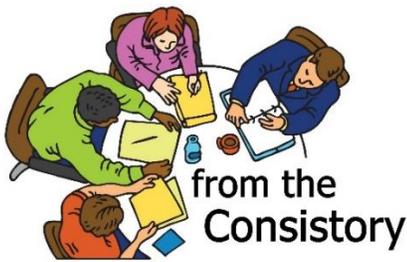
Consistory Member for the Week of

March 5 John Stratton

March 12 Bonnie Magin &
Mary Robinson

March 19 TBD

March 26 TBD



Consistory met on Valentine's Day with love in our hearts! Pastor Dan opened our meeting reading from Colossians chapter 3, verses 12-17. We had an active discussion about what those words meant to us. We invite all to read that scripture and reflect upon it, especially with the divisions we are experiencing right now in our country.

We welcome Ben Cooper, who was elected Assistant Treasurer. Thank you Ben for your willingness to serve in this role!

Elders continue to visit, pray with and pray for the members of this congregation.

Deacons reported pledge collection is about \$500 under. Also, groundwork is being laid for a spring rejuvenation campaign to fund building improvements.

We are excited to be offering confirmation class! Candidates and curriculum are in place. We began a discussion about how we can better serve our children and offer a solid youth program. This discussion will be continued at our next meeting.

We look forward to Lent, beginning the season with a service on Ash Wednesday, March 1, at 7pm.

Kelly Bradshaw, Clerk

Getting to Know TRC's Consistory

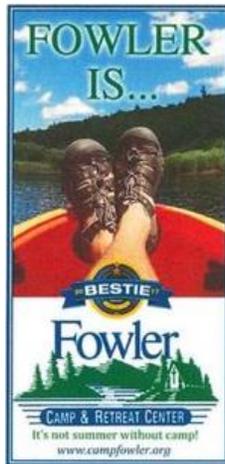
I moved to Rochester in 1997 after completion of graduate study at University of Wisconsin - Madison, a year later Joseph joined me in Rochester, and we became members at BRC in 2001 and members at TRC in 2014.

I originally come from Taichung, Taiwan. I grew up in Christian family and regularly attended Sunday school, youth group, and campus church activity through my childhood to adulthood. My life is going as smoothly as it can be, same as my faith-- I thought. But, actually I was still an infant in Christ. In 2013, Joseph and I participated in the human trafficking mission trip to Cambodia. This mission trip was an eye-opening event--we witnessed the courage, sacrifice and commitment from those young disciples and missionaries, but at same time felt so helpless for those innocent kids who were struggling for life every day. God works have not yet done, and we have a lot need to do.

Currently, I work at University of Rochester – as a teacher and researcher. My lab is studying how cancer cells communicate with microenvironment to sustain their growth and we hope to find ways to trace cancer cells and stop them from spreading. Joseph works for Pfizer at Pearl River, NY and comminutes by bus biweekly. Both of us are die-hard Packers fan (oops! Sorry for Bills fan) and like to wear the Badger T-shirt during NCAA basketball season.

Yu-Fen Lee, Elder

Camp Fowler



Are you thinking about summer? Are you thinking about where your kids might be able to spend a great week living in God's beautiful world? Look no further! Camp Fowler is the place. Our beautiful camp located in the Adirondack Mountains is waiting for your children who have finished 3rd grade right up to 12th grade. They are cared for and nourished by a wonderful staff and learn and play in one of God's truly special places. Go to the Fowler websire www.campfowler.org to register. Scholarships are available from Trinity to help defray the cost. See Jana DiPiazza for more information. She is going to camp the week of July 30th and would love to see some Trinity kids there!

Church World Service

Keep the donations coming for **Church World Service Hygiene kits**. We are still looking for more wide tooth combs, finger or toenail clippers, single wrapped toothbrushes and band aids. They will be shipped out in April, so let's finish filling our kits today!



From Missionary Friends ~

(David Ford is a Wycliffe Bible Translator in Ethiopia and son of Peter and Patty Ford, our missionaries at the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon. The following is excerpted from David's February 2017 newsletter)

As usual, I was with my parents in Beirut, Lebanon for Christmas break. This was the first Christmas that my brother Andrew was not with either parent for the holidays; he stayed in the U.S. but enjoyed a few days on a Rochester NY farm with a friend and former roommate from university. Lots of board games and family time for the three of us in Beirut, along with our annual "Cookies & Carols" Christmas party—we calculated that this is #20, which means that the number of cookie varieties mom bakes (21 this year) still outweigh the number of years! ☐

Praise and Prayer Requests:

PRAISES

- A recent government review of the work of SIL has affirmed our contribution to Ethiopian society, and the changes that have been requested are appropriate and manageable.
- That Phase 1 of my archiving work (archiving all publications in our Publications Database, over 1,400 entries) has essentially been completed.
- For another great Christmas break spent with my parents in Beirut.

PRAYERS

- For my work on this year's retreat committee, that we can plan a retreat which will be refreshing and enjoyable for all our staff, regardless of personality or nationality.
- For furlough planning to continue to go well.
- My work permit renewal is again due this coming June, and due to recent government regulations, there are potential complications with the timing of my furlough this year. Pray that the local office staff who deal with such things will have wisdom in how to handle the process with integrity.

David's new mailing address:

David Ford
SIL Ethiopia
P.O. Box 313/1033
Ayer Tena
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

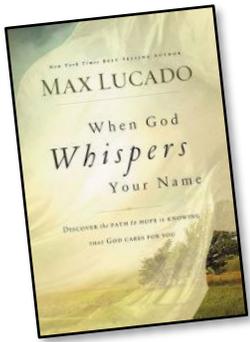


Please help me in the fight to end pediatric cancer. I will be a shave for St. Baldrick's "Shave for the Brave" event on May 7 at Mickey Finn's in Victor, New York. Cash donations or checks made out to St. Baldrick's can be given to me and I will forward to the organization which funds critical research and trials into numerous types of childhood cancer. I am participating in honor of my granddaughter, Kailee, who has been battling rhabdomyosarcoma since she turned 2 years old. She is now 5 and is in treatment now for her third recurrence. Worldwide, a child is diagnosed with cancer every 2 minutes, and 1 in 285 children in the U.S. are diagnosed with cancer before the age of 20. Cancer is the leading threat to children in the U.S. Funding for pediatric cancer is often overlooked. St. Baldrick's is dedicated to finding cures for all forms of childhood cancer. www.stbaldricks.org
Thank you.

Sam Manuele



On February 1, we gathered to remember the remarkable life of **Jane Wilson** who died on January 1 at the age of 104. Thanks to the Bricaults for the display of mementos of Jane's interests and accomplishments and sharing highlights from her prolific journaling.



CHRISTIAN BOOK REVIEW

by Marion Crump Spencer

One of my favorite stories from Children and Worship is *The Good Shepherd*. We tell a few variations of the story to illustrate the love and devotion of Jesus. The most profound concept, in my opinion, is that The Good Shepherd knows His sheep by name and they know the sound of His voice. Our relationship with Him enables us

to recognize His voice over any competing messages we may encounter. This guidance gives us purpose and joy. This is the overriding concept in Max Lucado's When God Whispers Your Name.

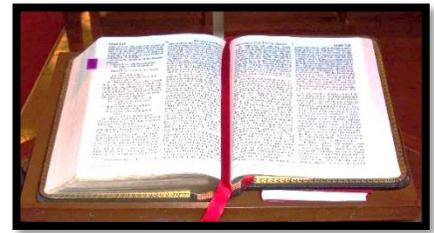
Written in a near poetic cadence, this book is filled with anecdotes of modern day life experiences juxtaposed with Biblical events. Lucado brings the Word to life in offering challenges and responses of the people he pastors. Lucado illustrates that just as God was present and responsive to the Biblical characters, He is an ever-present Help in the lives of people today. He offers numerous passages from scripture to authenticate his claims.

For music lovers, Lucado utilizes the concept of sound to introduce each of the three sections and twenty-eight mini chapters. As in all his works, Lucado's lyrical writing style draws the reader and entices interest in reading the entire volume.

In the introduction of the first section, Lucado presents a story of his daughter joyfully playing a player piano. How much could we enjoy life if we acknowledged that even though we are unskilled, God is playing all the right notes? In the mini chapters Lucado addresses how the Biblical saints readily embraced God's blessings while we receive them without awareness of their significance. In the second section's introduction, Lucado shares how Beethoven continually played a broken harpsichord hearing the sound the instrument should make. Our Master continues to work with us to tune us into what we are destined to become. How different would our lives be if we approached life and others the way God does? To become better disciples, Lucado admonishes believers to dig into God's truth themselves rather than just ingesting the "pre-chewed food" of someone else. (That illustration will have a lasting impact on you. You will run to read your Bible!) In the final section, Lucado shares how God is the Maestro and we are invited to walk onto His stage though we don't deserve to be there. Lucado shares how we long for that communion with God and nothing else can fulfill that longing.

When God Whispers Your Name offers unique insights and powerful analogies. One statement Lucado makes is as follows: "...you will find the inspiration to believe that God has bought the ticket-with your name on it. He will keep you headed in the right direction...You have a flight home you don't want to miss..." This book offers believers hope.

"The sheep listen to the voice of the shepherd. He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out." John 10: 3



Readings from the Revised Common Lectionary - YEAR A

Ash Wednesday, March 1:

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 **or** Isaiah 58:1-12;

Psalm 51:1-17;

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10;

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21



First Sunday in Lent, March 5:

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7;

Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19;

Matthew 4:1-11

Second Sunday in Lent, March 12:

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121;

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17;

John 3:1-17 **or** Matthew 17:1-9

Third Sunday in Lent, March 19:

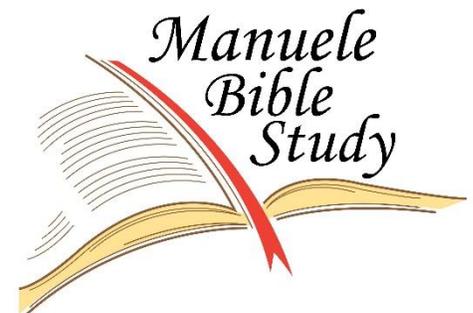
Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95;

Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 26:

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23;

Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41



March 10 & 31

News of the Trinity Church Family



- 3/2 Kelly Bradshaw
- 3/5 Joyce Marston
- 3/7 Jason Cottrill
- 3/10 Mark Chandler
- 3/14 Ida Hsu
- 3/16 Patrick McGarvey
- 3/18 Kim Gallina
- 3/23 Fred Laitenberger
- 3/24 Will Midavaine
- 3/25 Richard Greene
- 3/26 Catherine Kwiecien
- 3/28 Helen LaGasse
- 3/29 Jim Stoops
- 3/31 Amanda Letter



- 3/9 Curtis & Denise Cardoza
- 1990

CONGRATULATIONS



Herbert and Marion Spencer welcomed a new grandson, **Michael Kent Pierce III (Tre')**, born to daughter **Desiree'** and **Michael Kent Pierce, Jr.** on **February 3, 2017**. They are overwhelmed by this precious blessing!



On **Friday, March 10, 2017**, **TRWM** will meet in the lounge at **1:00 PM**.

We shall have a brief business meeting, devotions and prayer time.

Following, our program led by **Cathy Almekinder**, will be from a book entitled "**The Frugal Gourmet Keeps The Feast**" which is written by Jeff Smith, an ordained Methodist Minister and Chef. We shall learn about meals from both the Old and New Testaments.

Our hostesses for this meeting are **Marge Dangler** and **Norma Koper**.

Ladies, please come and join with us for this time of learning, refreshments and fellowship.

Liz Dalton

Breast Cancer Appeal

Help put an end to breast cancer. I, along with my daughter Kristin, will be walking in the Avon 39 Walk to End Breast Cancer, in Chicago on June 3-4. Yes, the walk is 39 miles over 2 days! If you wish to support my walk, go to <http://info.avon39.org/goto/BarbaraStoops> to donate. If you prefer not to donate on line, you can give me cash or a check. Thank you in advance for your support.



Barbara Stoops

Friends in Fellowship

It's time to make plans for some future activities again. We invite everyone to share their ideas for fun ways to share fellowship together. Please join us for a **pizza planning meeting luncheon after church on Sun. March 12**. Cost will be \$4.00 per person. We will have pizza, salad and dessert. Please sign up on the bulletin so we know how much pizza to order.

Please call **Meg Therkildsen** (545-4262) if you need further information.



Breakfast Club

Wednesdays at 8 AM, usually done by 9 AM or so.



March 2017:

1 – Morningstar (Ash Wed.)
Merchants at Fallstaff Rd. This is a low cement block building.

8- East Ridge & Steakhouse –
765 East Ridge next to Pep Boys

15-Morningstar

22- Georges – Panorama Plaza to the right of Tops.

29-Morningstar

(Leave Atlantic, Golden Boys and Mama Lor's for April)

Submitted by John Stratton

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1</p> <p>Senior Breakfast 8 Bible Study 10 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 am</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Quilt Group 6:00 pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am CAYA 6:00 pm</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:15 am Discipleship 6:30 pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Finance 6:00 PM Deacons 7:00 PM Outreach 7:00 PM</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Senior Breakfast 8 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Choir 7:00 pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>TRWM 1:00 pm Manuele Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am Dahlia Society 12-4 pm CAYA 6:00 pm</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:15 am F in F Planning Lunch 12:00 pm Discipleship 6:30 pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Consistory 7:00 pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Senior Breakfast 8 Bible Study 10 am Mission 6:00 pm Bell Choir 6:15 pm Choir 7:00 pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am CAYA 6:00 pm</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:15 am Discipleship 6:30 pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Men's Lunch 12:00 pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Senior Breakfast 8 Bible Study 10 am Bell Choir 6:15 pm Choir 7:00 pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Come to Dinner 6:00 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Crafts for a Cause 10:00 am CAYA 6:00 pm</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:15 pm Discipleship 6:30 pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Senior Breakfast 8 Bible Study 10 am Worship & Music 5:45 pm Bell Choir 6:15 pm Choir 7:00 pm</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Manuele Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	