

**Sunday June 2
through
Sunday June 9**

Congratulations Graduates

• *Andrew Goodman*
(*Union High School, Big Stone Gap, VA*)

• *Nancy Lay*
(*Skyline High School, Front Royal, VA*)

• *Justin Stidham*
(*Union High School, Big Stone Gap, VA*)

• *Sydney Skinner Stockmoe*
(*Baylor University, Waco, TX*)



**This WEEK
at
Trinity**

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Sunday June 2

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
12:30 pm—Graduate Fellowship
Dinner
5:00 pm—UMYF

Monday June 3

11:30 am—AARP
6:30 pm—Parsonage Study Group
7:00 pm—Boy Scouts

Tuesday June 4

11:00 am—Ugly Mug Study Group
7:00 pm—NOW Team

Wednesday June 5

6:00 pm—Bible Study
7:00 pm—Choir Practice

Thursday June 6

11:00 am—Susanna Wesley/Wesleyan
Circle

Friday June 7

9:00 am—MEOC

Saturday June 8

No Schedule Activities

Sunday June 9

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
5:00 pm—UMYF
7:00 pm—Administrative Board

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Scripture teaches that God is Spirit. The human eyes cannot see Spirit. The Spirit, like the wind, cannot be seen with the human eye. We do, however, see and experience the wind's/spirit's effects.

Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Have you thought about our experiences of factions, dissension, immorality, anger, wrath...as God's call to the Be-Attitude of the "pure in heart?"

Paul clearly says, "that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God." (See Galatians 5) So why does Jesus promise the "poor in spirit" the kingdom of heaven? The key to understanding lies in repentance.

As James Bryan Smith, in **The Good and Beautiful Life**, says repentance means we change our thinking. To inherit the kingdom of heaven, we must change our thinking about factions, dissension, immorality, anger, and wrath. Jesus would have us think of these conditions as the presence of the "poor in spirit." Furthermore, when faced with "the poor in spirit" instead of thinking judgment and condemnation we must think as "The Pure in Heart."

The "pure in heart" see and experience the violent and evil effects of sin. The "pure in heart" know from experience, the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, that sin flows from a poor spirit. Therefore, like Jesus, the "pure in heart" draw near to "the poor in spirit" with empathy born of compassion. The Humble see the "poor in spirit" neighbor as self. Therefore, the Humble think about sin in a new way. The Humble approach her or his neighbor as Christ Jesus approached us. This is why the Humble are Merciful and receive mercy. The Merciful reflect Christ to the World.

We should not be surprised when "the poor in spirit" persecute and revile us. They cannot receive the Peace of Christ. They are too busy being peacekeepers. Peacekeepers love the status quo. They prefer conformity, even to the point of breaking the Ten Commandments to justify keeping them.

One in Christ,

Robert