



Sunday July 6, 2014

A Collection of Musings
and Ideas from the Pastor

Favorite Hymns Begin Today

A special thanks to each and every one of you that took the time during June to vote for your favorite hymns. Beginning today and running through the end of August, all the hymns we sing on Sunday morning will be hymns that received the most votes. On August 31st, our Homecoming Sunday, we will sing the two hymns with the most number of votes. So, make sure you are in church on Sunday and see if one or more of the hymns you voted for get sung.

Get Tied In to Church Social Media

I have begun to utilize Twitter as a means of promoting activities and events at the church. You can find me on Twitter @RevTerryGoodman. Take the time to sign in and follow my tweets. You might want to pay special attention to the following:

#tumsworship will get you information about the worship service each week.

#tumcfellowship will get you information about fellowship opportunities at the church

#tumcservice will get you information about ways for you to get involved in serving others.

#tumprayer will get you updates on prayer concerns

In addition to Twitter, I will also be sending a Thursday or Friday email with links to items related to the upcoming Sunday worship service.

You also need to get in the habit of visiting the church web site and looking under the Media tab for the Sunday Connection page. From that page you can go to a particular Sunday and have access to a Sermon Guide, a YouTube link to that particular Sunday's sermon, a downloadable pdf of the Pastor's Ponderings and the order of worship/Trinity Tribune. You will also find audio files in which I talk about various topics. This will be the place for you to keep track of what is happening at the church.

You may be asking, "What about Facebook? Why don't you use it?" One reason is that no one seems to know the password to get us onto the site. So, I am unable to make any changes to the site and I am reticent to make that an official outlet for news and information when I can't control the content. So, if anyone knows the password, please get it to me and Facebook will also be a part of the social outreach ministry of the church.

Church Web Site: www.trinityumc-bsg.net

Email—trinityumcpastor@gmail.com (pastor only)

Email—trinityumc-bsg@gmail.com (Becky & pastor)

on the
HORIZON

A Look at Upcoming Events

Free Coffee Friday Starts This Week

We are going to need some early birds this coming Friday at the church. We will gather around 6:00 a.m. and start the coffee brewing. We'll be moving a table under the back portico, hooking up the coffee pot and getting ready to meet and greet folks on their way to work. We don't know how many will be coming through, but we are going to go until we run out of coffee or about 7:45 am. Whichever comes first. We will also need the following items: some home made muffins, apples, bananas, and a couple of cartons of orange juice. (Not everyone is a coffee drinker.) If you can supply these items, they need to be at the church by 7:00 pm on Thursday, otherwise we'll have to go out and get them.

Each person that drives through will get a drink and either fruit or a muffin. We'll also give them information about what will be happening at the church in the month of July. If you haven't noticed—there is a lot that is going to be going on. Of course each person that comes through will also be warmly greeted and invited to church. So come out and help.

Friday Night at the Movies Begins This Week

The first of four Friday night features begins this week with the showing of Despicable Me 2. This is going to be a great movie to kick off our summer movie series. We'll have popcorn, cookies, and kool-aid. Bring a chair or use one from the fellowship hall. We will be set up underneath the portico and into the alley. If weather turns bad on us, we'll move inside. The movie begins at sundown (somewhere between 9:00-9:15 pm) Be sure to tell everyone about it and invite people to come and be a part of the summer tradition.

United Methodist Men Meeting

and Meal is Just Around the Corner

ON Monday night July 14th, the United Methodist Men will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall. A meal will be provided by Kathleen Gillespie. I understand it's going to be hamburgers and appropriate sides. We will also have our monthly meeting following the meal. All the men of the church and community are invited to attend this meal and the meeting. Please let Bill Cole know if you plan to attend, so that he can give Kathleen a head count for the meal.

**There will be NO meeting of the
Administrative Board in the Month of July.
The next regularly scheduled meeting is the
second Sunday of August.**

Welcome



Let me tell you how glad we are to have you at our worship service today. We hope that you will encounter the presence of the risen Christ. Please feel free to join in any of the activities or events that you see mentioned. Please come back and worship with us again!

The Pastor's Ponderings is a weekly publication of Rev. Terry Goodman. It contains thoughts, ideas, articles, and other writings designed to inform and, hopefully, cause you to stop and ponder.

The Romans 12 Project

Kitchen Tables

The Table is a relatively new United Methodist congregation in Sacramento, California. One of its unique features is the small groups that meet weekly to help members grow in faith by watching over one another in love. They are called "Kitchen Tables."

The first Kitchen Tables were led by the pastors. As the congregation grew the number of Kitchen Tables increased. Lay women and men responded to God's call in their lives and stepped up to provide leadership. The church now has nine Kitchen Table groups meeting every week in various locations. The book, "A Blueprint for Discipleship" by Kevin Watson, helped to define the basic structure of the group.

While each group is unique, all Kitchen Tables begin with a leader reminding those gathered of John Wesley's question, "How is it with your soul?" as well as the rules for Christian living to do no harm, do good, and practice spiritual disciplines. Much of the Kitchen Table time is devoted to group members responding to Wesley's question. In addition, most Kitchen Table groups include a time of Bible study and reflection using questions provided by the pastors that help the members prepare for the coming Sunday's worship. All of the groups conclude with informal prayer.

According to co-pastor Rev. Matt Smith, "Kitchen Tables are the heartbeat of our community. Our people are learning to notice grace in their lives as they gather weekly. Individuals are learning to share their faith stories. The weekly discipline of gathering to watch over one another in love shaped the ways we root our lives in grace through worship and reach out in love."

Questions for Discussion

- What opportunities does your congregation provide to help people notice and name God's grace in their lives?
- What might you do to help people prepare for worship?
- How are lay people in your congregation equipped to nurture others in discipleship through mutual support and accountability?
- How are you encouraging those in your congregation to practice spiritual disciplines?

Steve Manskar is Director of Wesleyan Leadership at GBOD. He can be reached at smanskar@gbod.org. You can read more about The Table UMC at <http://www.thetableumc.org>.

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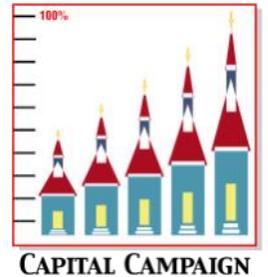
An Update on the Capital Campaign

A special thanks goes out to all the persons and groups that have responded to our Forward Trinity Capital Campaign to raise funds for needed equipment and repairs at the church. Below is where we stand to date on this campaign:

Total Received-Equipment: \$ 4,575
Equipment Goal: \$ 7,000

Total Received Maintenance: \$ 10,867
Maintenance Goal: \$15,000

Just a reminder, we ask everyone to try and have their pledges completed by September 30, 2014. This will allow us to complete the work we need to do during the summer months. Again, thanks to all that have pledged and contributed.



The Pastor's Thoughts on Discipleship



Could you state the four core processes of the local church? Most probably you could not unless you are reading the same material that I tend to read. According to Bill Tenny-Brittain and Bill Easum, there are four things that a church has to do.

The first thing is that we have bring people in—**INVITE**. We tell them about Jesus Christ and introduce him as their Lord and Savior and get them into the church.

The second thing we have to do is keep them in—**CONNECT**. Once a person comes to know Jesus and comes into the church it is important to connect them to small groups and other activities of the church so that they begin to feel as if they are a part of the body.

The third thing we have to do is to **APPRENTICE** them. We need to train them in what it means to be a follower of Christ. We need to teach them to share their faith.

The fourth thing we have to do is **SEND** them forth in Christ's name-completing the loop—so that they can tell others about Jesus and begin them on their own path of growing in faith so that they can one day tell people about Jesus.

As I look at our church, I note that we are not proficient in this four step process. While we do something in each of these categories, we do not have a strong unified and effective ministry that combines these elements in such a way that our church sees positive results in membership growth. More importantly, we are not seeing growth in discipleship, which is the core reason the church exists.

I'd love to talk with you about these ideas and maybe help to clarify these processes. I'd be even more interested in talking with you about how to more effectively implement one or more of these processes in our church. Give me a call.