

The ACORN

Vol. 2 Trinity United Methodist Church, Sarasota, FL February 2025

February EVENTS



Saturday, February 15 9am - 10:30am



Howard Thurman Workshop

February 22 See page 2

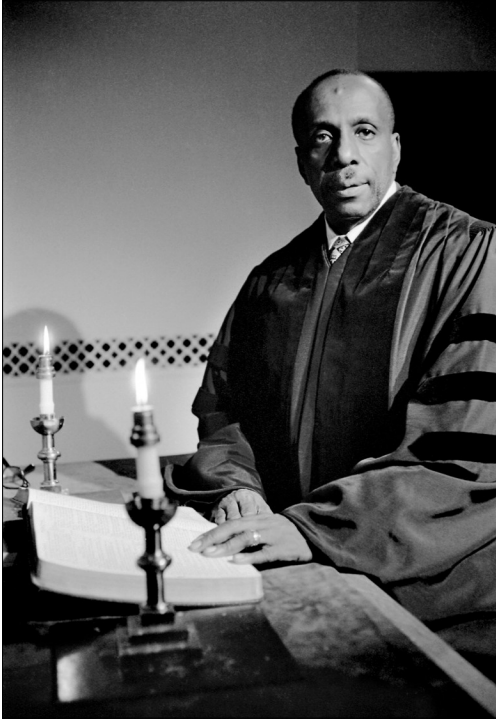


Sandwiches &
Strawberry Shortcake Sundaes
Sunday, February 23



February 16, See page 3 for details

Workshop



In Observance of Black History Month
The "Inhabit the Garden"
Centering Prayer Group
and Trinity United Methodist Church
4150 South Shade Ave, Sarasota 34231

Invite You to a Workshop on
Dr Howard Thurman (1899-1981)
Florida born and raised Mystic and Prophet

Saturday 22 February 9 AM to Noon

He was born the grandson of slaves. Thurman became a "spiritual foundation" for the Civil Rights movement. He inspired many, including Martin Luther King, Jr. He was the first Black American invited to meet Mahatma Gandhi. Thurman accepted Gandhi's challenge to translate his principles of non-violence into his African American experience.

Our morning will include learning about his life and ongoing significance. We will use his voice to lead us in praying in silence, interacting with a sample of his meditations.

Thurman writes:

"Don't ask what the world needs.
Ask what makes you come alive
and go do it. Because what
the world needs is people
who have come alive."

Registration and Questions: Stephen and Christine Hoffman
Stephen_palmetto@earthlink.net or 941-773-7008

Pecans

Pecans still available. This fundraiser supports our Community Connection Events and needs everyone's help: sell to your friends, family, and neighbors.

Mammoth Halves (1 lb bags) and Pieces (1 lb bags) are \$15 per bag.
Chocolate covered or cinnamon glazed in a gift bag are \$12.

Get yours on Sundays or in the Church office during the week.



Pastor's Reflections

Happy February everyone!

As many of you know, I had my second knee replacement surgery on January 7th. Most of January is a blur as I have been in recovery mode. I am glad I only have two knees because I am not doing this again! I look forward to be back in person with all of you in worship in February. I am very appreciative of everyone who works so hard each week to make online worship possible for those who can't be there. It is a wonderful ministry we provide that I enjoyed while I was out.

The time away has reminded me of a couple important aspects of the faith journey that we travel together.

1. **We are all part of a team.** Each of us has a role in God's team. We are not effective alone. I am so grateful for everyone who helped in extra ways while I was out - to preach, make visits, lead groups or many other aspects of ministry. Our team is always at work, but time away highlighted the importance of all of us working together to bring glory to God's kingdom. The success of God's team is not in one person, but in the whole of a community focused on God's word at work in the world. Each of you is an important part of God's team here at Trinity!

2. **Don't Forget to Exercise.** Not only is daily exercise part of knee surgery recovery, but it is also part of the strength of our faith. No matter how painful it was to start an exercise, the more I did it, the easier it got and the better my knee as a whole functioned. The same is true with our faith. Sometimes it is hard to get started in new prayer or devotion habits but once we get going it gets easier and our faith is stronger. Sometimes new types of exercise helps us stay consistent and invested. Is there a new faith exercise that would motivate you to grow stronger in your faith right now?

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and support in January. I feel blessed by each of you and look forward to doing God's work together here at Trinity as we move into February.

Blessings,
Linda

Community Connection

Do YOU HAVE IDEAS?

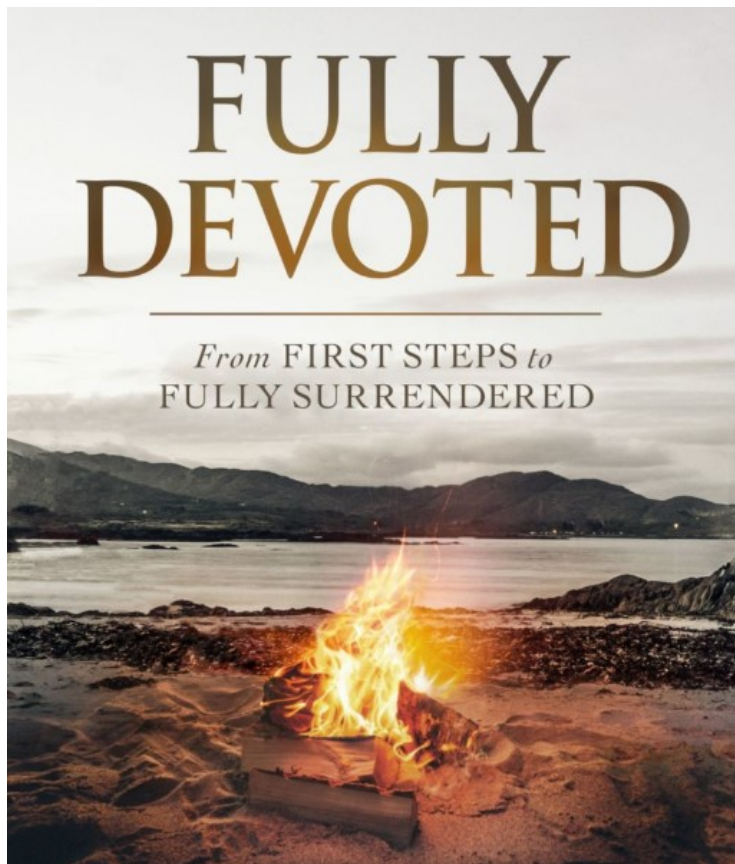
Do you believe in the importance of the church's involvement in our community?

Do you have ideas of how Trinity can connect to our neighbors?

Do you have ideas of activities for our church family?

THEN your thoughts are needed at our next Community Connection meeting on Saturday 2/15 at 10:30 in Haley Hall. Pastor Linda will be leading discussion in these areas as we look at new ways to be the church in the coming year. Everyone and your ideas are welcome!

Men's Bible Study



Fully Devoted Men's Bible Study

Trinity is offering an eight-week small group study for men wanting to take their faith to the next level – *to go from believing to following*. The course includes a study guide, video teaching from the Kendrick brothers, and a small group discussion with snacks and refreshments once a week at Trinity. There is no cost to join. The starting day, including the time and day of the week, will be set once we reach a consensus from all the men who sign up. This Bible Study will be life-changing so don't miss out!

Email Russ@trinity.org to sign up or ask a question.

United Women in Faith



**Sandwiches & Strawberry
Shortcake Sundaes**

Sunday, February 23rd

10 am to 12:30 pm

Haley Hall

Everyone Welcome

Donations accepted to benefit Residing Hope
(Florida United Methodist Children's Home)

Looking Ahead to March 2025



Stir – March 1st 9:30-3 pm
Grace UMC, 400 E. Field Ave, Venice

All church leaders and volunteers are invited to a one-day training offered by the Southwest UMC district on March 1st. This will be a time of discussion within our Trinity group to help identify Trinity's unique identity. What are God's dreams for Trinity?

Registration is online.

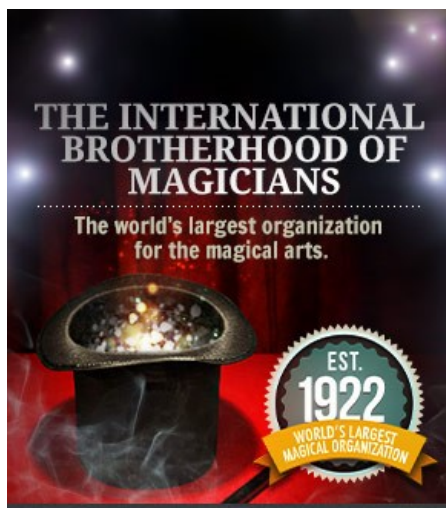
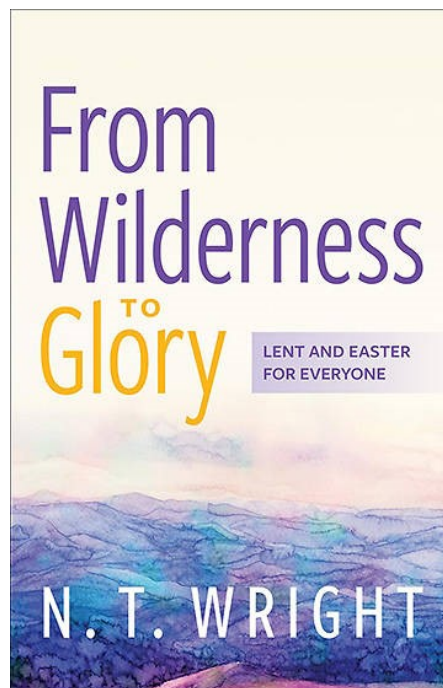
Let Pastor Linda or Karen know you are interested and we will send you the link. Lunch is provided for registration fee of \$10.

Lent is coming.

Ash Wednesday service – Wednesday, March 5th

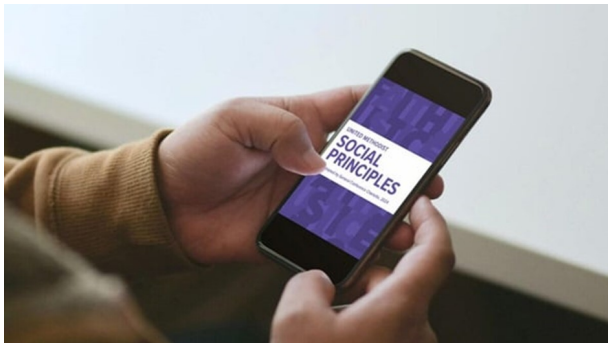
-This Lent there will be an emphasis on getting to know Jesus better. What is significant about Jesus' actions, teachings and relationships that truly makes a difference in our world?

The book From Wilderness to Glory by NT Wright will be used for group and individual devotion and study during Lent. Pastor Linda will be center her Lent sermons around this material as well. Everyone is urged to be a part of a small group reading and discussing this material together. Let Pastor Linda know if you would like to be part of a group or help lead one. Books are \$15 and will be ordered by 2/16. Let us know if you want one! The book is also available on Kindle.



The Sarasota Chapter of this Group has been meeting in our Haley Hall once a month. They have offered to put on a show of their talents to our congregation and neighborhood. Date will be Saturday, March 22, details soon.

Creation Care Ministry



The **United Methodist Social Principles** as adopted by the General Council in 2024, has been published. The Social Principles serve as the United Methodist Church's official summary of stated convictions on social issues of the day. First adopted by the 1972 General Conference, the Social Principles document stands in the Wesleyan tradition of forthright moral witness and ethical action. If you would like a pdf file of the document:

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/united-methodist-social-principles-as-adopted-by-general-conference>

I was especially interested in the Creation Care portion of the Social Principles (5 pages of the 43 total). Please allow me to share with you a few of the passages regarding **COMMUNITY OF ALL CREATION**.

We affirm our sacred calling to be responsible stewards and to lovingly tend all that God has wrought. We recognize the inherent worth of God's creation, celebrate earth's abundance and diversity, and, along with the entirety of the cosmos, give praise to its Creator. We recognize we are interconnected members of complex ecosystems, intricate webs of life, all of which have their origins in God's gracious act of creation.

CREATION IN PERIL We acknowledge that unsustainable human activities have placed the entirety of God's creation in peril. Overconsumption, shortsighted policies, poor management of natural resources, and other unsustainable practices have severely impacted the fragile, natural ecosystems on which all of life depends. Too often, humankind has treated the rest of the created world as if it were disposable and allowed the destruction of other living organisms and their natural habitats to go unchecked.

Climate Change Global warming is already creating extreme conditions that threaten the entirety of life on earth. Over industrialization, widespread deforestation, and overreliance on fossil fuels are but some of the human activities that have contributed to the buildup of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in the earth's atmosphere. A sharp upsurge in greenhouse gases over past decades already has resulted in a steady rise in sea levels, growing acidification of the world's oceans, increased droughts and famines, and the intensification of extreme weather events. Climate scientists warn that the window of opportunity for reversing the negative effects of global warming and climate change is rapidly closing. Without concerted action by individuals, churches, communities, shareholders, businesses, governments, and international organizations, the negative effects will become irreversible.

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION In Genesis 1, we read that God declares creation good (Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 25, 31), and we read in Genesis 2 that God "took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it" (Gen. 2:15). The goodness of God's creation, and the value given to every part of it, call people to respect, protect, and care for the creation and all interrelated aspects of it.

-submitted by Karen Remfrey

Prayers

What an honor it is to lift up our church family in prayer. One of the greatest privileges of Christian life is the opportunity to pray. If you would like to be a part of the Prayer Team, please let the Church office know.

Please lift extra prayers for:

Kay Anthofer, Lucy Athas, Becki Creighton, Barb Ellsworth, Karyn Eubanks, David Hardenburgh, Brenda Lee Hickman, Revella Lee, Elle Lyons, Bev Packer, Marie Piraino, Troy Poulin, Phyllis Pritchett, Rhonda Puhaly, Mary Raymond, Jan Robertson, Ken Smith, Dorothy Summers, Carol Swart, Chuck Swart, Joan Utter, Kara Voyles, Christy Wilhelm, Marilyn Williams, Miriam Williams, Owen Woodyard, Pat Woodyard.

A Life Celebration Service for Ray Garriott will be held at Trinity on Sat., February 1st at 1 pm in Haley Hall.

Also please pray for our military family: Gunnar Kral, Joshua Marsh, Dylan Mitchell, Brandon Oberkamp, Audrey Santana, Craig Scott, Devin Voyles, Dylan Youngblood.

Note: please let us know if any of the above are no longer in the military service.

Did you know?

Every Sunday a group meets at 10:10 to pray for prayer requests, for the church, for our country. The 10:10 prayer time is a vital undergirding of all ministry at this church. Anyone can be part of this prayer time on Sunday mornings. If you would like prayer for yourself or a loved one come share in this prayer time. If you feel strongly about God at work in this community through the ministries of Trinity, come pray for God's continued guidance. Meet in the courtyard outside the side sanctuary door. All welcome!

February sermons: Holy Feast

This month we will be exploring what communion really means through a look at the United Methodist Hymnal Communion liturgy (UMH #8-14) and Scripture. How does Communion change us? Why should we participate?

2/2 – Communion

Sermon – Wash Your Hands

Scripture – Gen 3:1-13

Shame vs Confession

2/9 –

Sermon – God is Great, God is Good

Scripture – Ex: 14:10-14, 21-22

Power vs relational

2/16 –

Sermon – Sweet Potato Casserole

Scripture – Luke 22:14-23

God's presence in past or now?

2/23

Sermon – Messy Table

Scripture – Rom 12:1-8

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us! Then what?



Thank you Note

To say Thank you does not do enough to express my gratitude. The outpouring of prayers, support, love have been so wonderful and amazing (I needed that).

So many have done a great job providing a service to suit John's wishes. He would have been pleased and grateful. The surprise at the reception—Cincinnati Chili—would have really delighted John. How thoughtful!!!

Several events not mentioned gave John much pleasure. He was appointed to two State Boards. One Board concerned pool safety and the second was for the International Swimming Hall of Fame. That Board was very special to John since his coach has been in the Hall Of Fame for many years. He participated in meetings for both Boards and was a past president of the local swim chapter.

Again, my gratitude has no bounds. Thank you to many who made the memorial service so special.

Love and Gratitude,

Barbara Ellsworth

Community Food Drive

Monthly Community Food Drive Thru will be on Saturday, February 15th, 9am to 10:30am in Trinity parking lot.

Come by to help sort and pack or to drop off nonperishables. You can also drop off donations on Sunday mornings or in Haley Kitchen during the week.

February Birthdays



Sue Zahn	2/1
Cindy Jorgensen	2/2
Melody Fitzsimmons	2/2
Jordan Means	2/4
Rebecca Hicks	2/5
Anne Riviere	2/5
Amanda Wagler	2/5
Kayla Wagler	2/5
Joan Zickel	2/5
Sherrill Carr	2/9
Maren Schwied	2/13
Mary Weaver	2/13
Curt Eskew Jr.	2/15
Bill Elam	2/17
Colleen Logan	2/17
Bev Packer	2/17
Gunnar Kral	2/21
Zachariah Liller	2/21
Marla Wagler	2/22
Diane Freestone	2/22
Marg MacLaughlan	2/24

Anniversaries

Henry & Marla Wagler	2/1
George & Gail Thornton	2/7



**Trinity
United Methodist Church**



Trinity – Sarasota
a United Methodist Church

4150 S. Shade Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34231

Tel: 941-924-7756

Email: trinity@iTrinity.org

www.iTrinity.org

Join us Sunday at 9:00am or 10:30am for In-Person Worship or Live-streaming
Worship on Facebook.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TrinityUMCSarasota/>

Or watch the recording anytime on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCu8ri4OChHWMbbJt3rgfRLg>

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Linda Tice
Traditional Worship Director: LaTerry Butler
Director of Children/Youth Ministry: Russell Towery
Sound/Projections Board: Sebastian Girstl

Business Administration: Jack Hundley
Secretary: Karen Remfrey
Preschool :Glenna Schrock, Wanda Butler;
Abigail Gonzalez

The Mission of Trinity United Methodist Church: Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World