

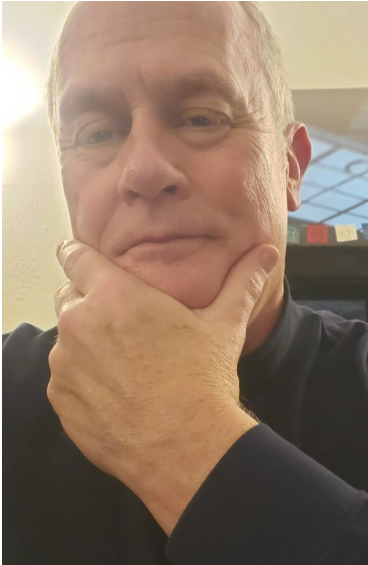
**Celebrate** God’s love

**Nurture** relationships with God and one another

**Serve** our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

*Trinity Church is a congregation of The United Methodist Church and is a Reconciling Congregation.*

**A Note from The Minister...**



**Everything to Lose, Everything to Gain**

By the time you receive this newsletter we will be a mere few days away from entering into the Lenten season. Lent has traditionally been a season of somber sentiments and penitential moods. The season of Lent observes Jesus’ 40-days of living in the wilderness as he honed his spirit in preparation for his mission and ministry. It becomes for Christians, then, a preparation for mission and ministry in our time.

Lent is also a festival, just as are all other liturgical seasons. Despite its focus on penance, passion, preparation, and the spiritual disciplines associated

with them, Lent is essentially a celebration of the paradoxical Christian lifestyle of suffering and joy. During this time, many people choose to “give something up” that they enjoy for a period of 40 days commemorating the time that Jesus spent in the wilderness.

The idea, originally, of giving something up for Lent was to share experimentally in the suffering of Christ. In medieval times, monks gave up butter and lard and fat in general for lent. They had an Ash Wednesday ceremony called “Burying the Fat” in which they would put butter in the casket, hold a funeral service, and bury the casket.

They gave up butter and lard and fat, because this made them feel constipated, and this - they felt - was their way of sharing in the suffering of Christ. Might I suggest, instead of, or in addition to, “giving something up.” that we “take something on” in our lives that is above and beyond our everyday routine for the benefit of humankind.

I am reminded of an inspirational piece by the author Bendorovich entitled, *What If ?*

“What merit has a kind heart if kept to oneself?  
What use are good intentions if not acted upon;  
What good does talent serve if left unfulfilled?  
What worth have possessions if so many are poor;  
What comfort is faith if not put into action?”

Abundant life is demanding. It requires that we give ourselves to God and to one another and to the beauty of the world. It is a paradoxical life we live as Christians. We have everything to lose, and have everything to gain. I will look for you in church this Lenten season . . .

Your minister,  
*Dr. C*



**INSIDE this issue**

<u>Minister’s Message</u>	1
<u>Prayers, Thanks, Birthdays, etc.</u>	2
<u>SPRC Note &amp; Opportunities</u>	3
<u>Youth &amp; Adult Opportunities</u>	4
<u>Adult Book Studies</u>	5
<u>Lent &amp; Rose Window</u>	6
<u>Back/Leadership Page</u>	7



*Don’t forget  
to Spring forward on  
Saturday, March 8  
before bed!*

**Looking Ahead to Holy Week**

- April 13 - 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship
- April 17 - Maundy Thursday TBD
- April 18 - Noon, Good Friday Mid-Day Service followed by a simple meal of bread & soup.
- April 18 - 7 p.m. Good Friday Evening Service
- April 20 -10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Service

**When more information is available we will let you know.**



**VISIT US ONLINE: [trinityspringfield.org](http://trinityspringfield.org)**



**Please Pray for These Members/Friends:**

Jim A, Vera B, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Natalie B, Pat C, Margaret C, Mary C, Dominick E, Mary (T) G, Courtney H, Aurie I, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Nancy M, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Catherine Ann R, Henry (Bing) S, Jane S, Thomas S, Carl S, Lynn T, Alison (Allie) W, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.



**Thank You Note**

Dear Trinity Church friends,

Thank you so very much for the lovely bouquet of flowers given for my birthday. The altar flowers are "twice blessed." First as they bring beauty to our church service and then as they are gifted to our home by our church family.

With much appreciation and love,

*Beu R*



**Congratulations**

To Sara & Bob M & family. Parker Thomas M was born January 27 weighing 8lbs. 12 oz. and 21 inches long! He joins his big brother Henry who is 16 months old with their parents, Thomas and Kristin M!!!



**New Member Orientation**

Are you new to the church and interested in learning more? Have you been attending Trinity UMC and would like to learn about its work in the community and/or about becoming a member of this dynamic congregation? You are invited to a New Member Orientation on **Saturday, April 12, 2025 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Trinity Parkside Café.** Come and enjoy a continental breakfast and have your questions answered! If you decide to join, you will be received into church membership on Sunday, April 27. If you are interested in attending, email Doreen at the church office at: [doreen@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:doreen@trinityspringfield.org) or call (413) 737-5311 Thank you.

**"Quote"**

*"March bustles in on windy feet and sweeps my doorstep and my street."*

*- Susan Reiner*

**MARCH Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Birthdays**  
*Italics Wedding Anniversaries*  
**S - Staff**

- 3/1 Brenda L
- 3/2 Shannon C, Phoebe O
- 3/3 Hannah C, Lynette V
- 3/5 Evelyn D
- 3/6 Nicole G, Caroline M, Christopher R, Jesse S
- 3/7 Heyda M, Jason M, Tyler T, Nancy W
- 3/8 Kwaku A-C, Natania I, Kamyllle S
- 3/9 Rebecca O, Kevin S
- 3/10 Marilyn A, Brian C, Sheila W
- 3/11 Susan G, Jackie O, Ndayishimiyes R
- 3/12 Claire H, Ruth H, Scott O, *Nicole & Ryan H*
- 3/14 Debbie D, Diane F, Sarah G, Carol K
- 3/15 Richard C, Grace R
- 3/16 Jeremy S
- 3/17 Robert M
- 3/18 Jacob G, Jonathan S, *Debra & Doug J*
- 3/19 Judy C, Lamis J, Jeffrey Z, *Steve & Kathy C*
- 3/20 Debra R, Sheila S, Clara Lee S
- 3/21 Andrew G, Jennifer J-M
- 3/22 Kean J, Daniel M
- 3/23 Jacob B
- 3/24 Mary A
- 3/25 Reagan A, Kiara D
- 3/27 Brendan L, Beryl N
- 3/28 Samantha G
- 3/29 Vera B, Zoe C, Jay S, *Charlotte & Daniel W*
- 3/30 Faraday S
- 3/31 A.J. C, Jeffrey S, Alison (Allie) W



*Birthdays & Anniversaries*  
**CELEBRATION**

**Please Join us in Celebrating These 75 & Every 5 years after Milestone Birthdays & Every 5 year Anniversaries.**

3/27 Beryl N

**No Milestone Anniversaries**



**A Note From SPRC**

With gratitude and appreciation, we share the news that Eileen has made the decision to step down from her role as Church Administrator. Eileen has accepted a position as Executive Director at a Senior Living Community in Springfield, a role that aligns with her passion and calling. While we are saddened to see her go, we celebrate this exciting new opportunity for her and trust that she is following the path where God is leading her.

Over the past seven months, Eileen has been a dedicated and invaluable part of our church family, bringing organization and leadership to her work. Her efforts have been instrumental in helping us navigate important administrative improvements.

Her last day with us will be Monday, March 3rd, and until then, she remains committed to ensuring a smooth transition. Please join us in thanking Eileen for her dedication, hard work, and the positive impact she has made at TUMC. We wish her all the best in this next chapter!

The Staff Parish Relationship Committee will begin a search for a replacement immediately.



**Friday, March 20, 2025**



**Arm in Arm: Artists United Against Gun Violence is Back!**

**March 22, 2025, 7p.m.**

Arm in Arm is a benefit concert that has taken place regularly since 2018 in response to mass shootings and the reality of gun violence in our own communities. Local artists are presenting an evening of artistic expression as they come together to work against gun violence. The concert is free and open to the public.

There will be several components to the evening: a visual display in Trinity's Community Gallery, featuring artwork by students from Sumner Ave Elementary School and the Trust Transfer Project; a concert featuring music, dance and original poetry; a monetary collection, proceeds of which will be split between EveryTown for Gun Safety and Springfield's own Darrell Lee Jenkins, Jr. Resource Center; and a meditation/prayer walk on the front lawn with luminarias and flags printed with the names of local victims of gun violence. The Gallery will be open from 6 -7 p.m., followed by the concert at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Local performing artists include Trinity's Dance Movement Choir; the Gospel & Liturgical Dance Choirs from Wesley United Methodist Church, Springfield; The SciTech Band; vocalists Vanessa Ford & Regina Krawiec; poets Lisa Everett & Jane Schneeloch; organist Dr Christopher White, flutist Janet Dixon-Metcalf and violinist Erin Newcomb-Moore, Steve Hays, piano.

**MARCH GALLERY EXHIBIT:**

Trinity's Missions Committee is pleased and proud to announce that we have arranged to have a special traveling exhibit, "The Sacred Ally Quilt Ministry", shown in our own Community Gallery during the month of March.

The Sacred Ally Quilt Ministry was born during the long pandemic summer of 2020. Called to respond to the injustice and horror of George Floyd's murder, members of nine New Hampshire United Church of Christ congregations collaborated to make eleven quilts, which together memorialize the last words of George Floyd.

These quilts are prayers in thread. They are a distillation of four hundred years of oppression. They express the devastating pain of America's racial wounds. In churches, schools, and other institutions, these quilts have proven to be an effective tool for provoking transformative conversations about race in the United States.

**The quilts will be shown on:**  
**Sunday, March 9, from 10am-2pm;**  
**Tuesday, Mar., 11, from 10am-2pm;**  
**Thursday, March 13, from 4-8pm;**  
**Sun., March 16, from 9am-2pm.**

In addition, there will be two special events. On Friday, March 14, from 7-8pm, there will be a film shown about the making of the quilts followed by a discussion. On Sunday, March 16, from 1-3pm, there will be an opportunity to participate in the creation of a communal sacred quilt for Trinity Church.

This sacred quilt workshop will be led by Kathy Blair, SAQM coordinator, in Asbury Hall. Together, we will use fabric art to creatively express anti-racism/ social justice emotions and reflections evoked after experiencing the Sacred Ally Quilt display. No sewing experience is needed, and all ages will be welcome.

We hope that you will choose to interact with the exhibit during the week that it will be housed at Trinity Church. If you are interested in learning more and seeing photos, go to [saqm.org](http://saqm.org).

Let's continue the tradition of...

# Pizza, Palms Crosses, and Prince of Egypt

April 12, 2025  
6:30 - Palm Cross Tutorial and Pizza  
7:00 - Prince of Egypt

THIS IS A FUN NIGHT CREATING PALM CROSSES FOR OUR PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP AND ENJOYING A FASTASTIC MOVIE- THE PRINCE OF EGYPT!

JOIN TRINITY UMC FOR  
OUR ANNUAL

# EASTER EGG HUNT

April 19, 2025  
10:00 - Easter Activities  
11:00 - Easter Egg Hunt

361 SUMNER AVENUE,  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01108

**Help Stuff  
Easter Eggs!**

Stop by Fellowship Hour during March to pick up a bag of empty eggs. Fill them with treats, then return them the following week!

Reach out to Rob with any questions!

# YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Trip dates: Aug 10-16 2025

**Informational Meeting for Parents and Youth  
Sunday, March 9, at 11:45 in Youth Room**

LENTEN  
SILENT RETREAT

*praying  
for peace*

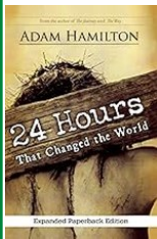
WHERE DO YOU LONG FOR PEACE IN YOUR LIFE, IN OUR WORLD? JOIN US FOR A QUIET MORNING OF PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION.

March 22, 10:00  
Grace Chapel  
Email Rob to register.

**Lenten Silent Retreat in Grace Chapel:  
Praying for Peace on March 22 from 10-12:30**  
Where do you long for peace in your life, in our world? Come spend a quiet morning as we meditate on peace and fill the space with our prayers in anticipation of the Arm in Arm concert later that night. To register, please email Rob at [directorfmandc@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:directorfmandc@trinityspringfield.org).

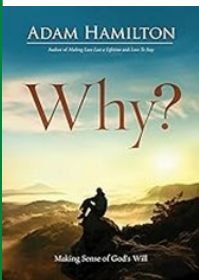
## Upcoming Book Studies with Rev. Dr. Calhoun in the Gallery & Café

These books can all be ordered on Amazon. Please email Doreen in the office at [doreen@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:doreen@trinityspringfield.org) to let her know which class(es) you will be attending. All classes are held in the Trinity Community Gallery and the Parkside Café. Thank you.



### Lenten Book Study – 24 Hours That Changed the World

No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. Join Rev. Dr. David Calhoun in this Lenten journey, as Adam Hamilton guides us through the last twenty-four hours of Jesus' life. Each chapter is designed to help the reader experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death in a way you have never done before. Whether you are a long-time Christian or simply curious about the story of Christ's crucifixion, you are invited to join this **Lenten study** in retracing the last 24 hours of Jesus' life. **Mon., Mar., 24, 31, April 7, 14, 12-1:30 p.m.**



### Why? Making Sense of God's Will

When the ground shakes, and a poor nation's economy is destroyed; when a community is wiped away by wildfires taking away a community's hopes and dreams; when a child suffers neglect and abuse; when violence tears apart nations; where is God? If God is all powerful, and if each one of us is a beloved child of God, then how can God allow tragedy and suffering to infest his creation? When we lift our prayers to God, and no answer seems to come; when we earnestly seek to know the will of God for our lives, yet can't seem to discern it; when God seems far away; where is God? Join Rev. Dr. Calhoun as we explore best-selling author Adam Hamilton's fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, we will discuss how we can comprehend God's plan for the world and ourselves. **Mondays, September 15, 22, 29 & October 6, 2025 - 12-1:30 p.m.**



### Goodbye Murphy's Law:

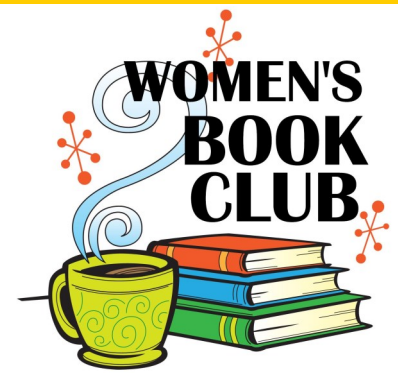
#### Whatever Can Go Wrong God Can Make Right

We live in a world where people tend to expect the worst. But God has an amazing plan for each of us, and this plan is not some elusive, mystical riddle we cannot decipher. We can move past dry spells and give up dread and fear. We can shape a vision for our life that is large and special and meaningful. Join Rev. Dr. David Calhoun as we explore this marvelous little book by Judy Pace Christie as she encourages us to seek and discover God's will in our lives through listening, discernment, prayer, and perseverance. We will discuss ten important questions to help us live a more hopeful, encouraging, engaging, caring, eloquent, practical, prayerful, devoted, Christ-centered, life. Judy Pace Christie encourages us "To do our best and trust that God will do the rest." **Mondays, November 24, December 1, 8, 15, 2025 - 12-1:30 p.m.**

### Future Studies (Dates to be Determined):

**Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses,**  
by James W. Moore

**The Undivided Soul** by Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan



### The Women's Book Club

We will discuss *A Million Little Pieces* by James Frey at their **Tuesday, March 25 meeting at 4 p.m. at Arlene M's home.**

"Originally sold as a memoir and later marketed as a semi-fictional novel following Frey's admission that many parts of the book were fabricated. It tells the story of a 23-year-old alcoholic and abuser of other drugs and how he copes with rehabilitation in a twelve steps-oriented treatment center."  
~Amazon

All women are welcome. If you have questions contact Jane S.

## "Quote"

"There is no friend as loyal as a book."

~Ernest Hemingway



# Time to Bloom!

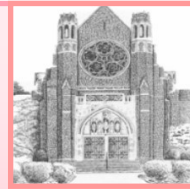


**Do You Have a Story to Tell?  
Consider Being a Speaker at One of our Lenten Services!**



Where in your life have you experienced God's grace? How has that grace grown into more and more and more grace? Tell your story at one of the Friday Lenten services!

To learn more, reach out to Rob at [directorfmandc@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:directorfmandc@trinityspringfield.org).



**March Rose Window**

**March 1**– In honor of the people who donated the lovely hats, scarves and gloves for the Mitten Tree

**March 2**– In honor of Molly & Alan Harwood for the year-round beautiful plantings outside the Sanctuary, from *The Garden Committee*

**March 4** - In loving memory of Pauline, from Judy and Paula.

**March 10** - Anonymous

**March 11** - In loving memory of David Coffin, Jr., from his mom, Barbara.

**March 15** - In honor of her granddaughter, Grace, on her 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, with much love from Deb Marden (aka Gigi).

**March 27** - In loving Ted & Jane Chmura, from Ted & Judy.

**If you would like to light the Rose Window in memory or honor of someone for \$5.00 a night, please email church office at [doreen@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:doreen@trinityspringfield.org). Thank you.**



**Friday Lenten Mid-Day Services**

Join us on Fridays for a mid-day service from 12:00 noon-12:30 p.m. from March 7- Good Friday, April 18. Our worship leaders will be using our theme for the year "Branches" to share their thoughts on "Branches, How Has God's Grace Grown in Your Life?" The services will include music and the speaker of the day.

Lenten Simple Meal



**Good Friday Only - A Simple Meal**  
On Good Friday **only**, we will have a simple meal following the noon service of soup and bread. More details to follow.



**Holy Week**

**April 13 - 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship**

**April 17 - Maundy Thursday, TBD**

**April 18 - Noon, Good Friday Mid-day service with a simple meal of soup and bread at 7 p.m. Good Friday Evening Service**

**April 20 - 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship Service**

**When more information is available we will let you know.**



**All Lenten Activities**

You can find a listing of Lenten services at Trinity UMC and activities on our website updated regularly as new information becomes available at: [www.trinityspringfield.org/lenteaster/lent/](http://www.trinityspringfield.org/lenteaster/lent/)



**Thoughts on our Theme  
"I am the vine; you are the branches."**



The seasons are changing. On March 5<sup>th</sup> Lent will begin. Spring is coming later this month. New life is preparing to blossom. Our Lenten devotional, *Cultivating and Letting Go* by A Sanctified Art encourages us to do some spiritual gardening:

***Lent is a season of spiritual gardening, of inviting God to unearth in us what lies fallow, what needs to be tended, and what needs to die for new life to emerge. This Lent, we're embracing the literal and spiritual practices of cultivating and letting go.***


We hope you already have received a copy of the devotional for your household and one coloring page for each person in it. If you are unable to get to church and would like a copy of the devotional and coloring page, please email the Worship Committee at [worship@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:worship@trinityspringfield.org). Maybe the rhythm of *Letting Go* and *Cultivating* open you to all that God is doing in your life.



**The Carillon**  
 Trinity United Methodist Church  
 361 Sumner Avenue  
 Springfield, MA 01108  
 413-737-5311  
[www.trinityspringfield.org](http://www.trinityspringfield.org)  
[info@trinityspringfield.org](mailto:info@trinityspringfield.org)



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*Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church, welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.*

