



welcome!

it is a delight to have you share in this celebration. there are often people here for the first time, and we hope everyone feels welcome. a short introduction to trinity can be found on the back of this bulletin.

if you have a question, feel free to ask a staff person or someone near you who looks like they know what they are doing. they just might! you can learn more about trinity's mission and vision, or what it means to be a member of the church by contacting our pastor, rev. dr. sid hall, at sid@tumc.org.

note: please turn off or silence your phones.

envelopes

envelopes can be used to:

- provide or update your contact info;
- sign up for email updates or to volunteer;
- ensure your contribution goes to the correct fund and is credited to your giving statement.

simply put the envelope in an offering basket.

parking

help us be good neighbors! please park across speedway in either of our two lots, or in on-street spaces around trinity. avoid the lot immediately to the east of our building, bus zones, the loading zone in the front, bike lanes, or anywhere reserved for other businesses/entities. thank you!

staff

people of the congregation –
community ministers

cy albertson – <i>accompanist</i>	elyse jensen – <i>teacher</i>
tim brace – <i>music and arts director</i>	laura e. mc Morris – <i>interim administrator</i>
sid hall – <i>minister of celebration</i>	larry roberts – <i>weekend sexton</i>



“Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.” ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Inspired by the legacy of Dr. King, America's Sunday Supper invites people from diverse backgrounds to come together to share a meal, discuss issues that affect their community, and highlight the power each one of us has to make a difference. Join us at Trinity UMC on Sunday, January 18, 2015 from 6-8 pm, for **Sincere Ignorance and Conscientious Stupidity: A Conversation on Race, Privilege, and Power** – an open conversation and guided discussion on racial dynamics and how to combat racism and other forms of systemic discrimination in our community here in Central Texas. As they did last year, co-facilitators Jeremy Solomons and Dr. Kazique Prince will create a safe space and provide thought-provoking questions and activities. This is a potluck and Peace Through Pie social, so bring a pie (savory or sweet) to share! Our Community Partners include Peace Through Pie and Amigos de las Américas.

Please RSVP at bit.ly/SundaySupperEvent if you're planning to attend. Everyone's welcome and an RSVP isn't required to attend, but it helps us get a general sense of how many folks will attend.

For more details, go to www.tumc.org and click the link for the Sunday Supper.

a people with a mission



trinity united methodist church is a dynamic community of people who, through their trust in god's faithfulness, strive to provide an inclusive, joyful, loving, and caring environment. in this community, people can find spiritual nurture and growth, mutual support of individual needs, and a sense of family. reaching out through vital and creative worship, people-centered programs, and social and environmental stewardship, this congregation serves the local and global communities.

a people committed to inclusiveness

trinity is a congregation that welcomes and affirms all people inclusive of race, nationality, age, gender, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation, physical ability, mental ability, economic class, or educational class. trinity has been a reconciling congregation since 1992.

a creation-centered community

trinity supports **creation spirituality**, a movement that draws on ancient spiritual traditions and contemporary science to awaken authentic mysticism, revitalize christianity and western culture, and promote social and ecological justice.

contact us

4001 speedway | austin, tx 78751 | 512.459-5835
www.tumc.org | mail@tumc.org



“threshold dreams: breaking the vessel (the birth)”
by sid hall

christmas eve 2014 5:30 pm

befriending creation

words for centering *

(unison)

by ted loder

how silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given. i would be silent now, god, and expectant ... that i may receive the gift i need, so i may become the gifts others need.

carol *

“o come, all ye faithful”

o come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
o come ye, o come ye to bethlehem.
come and behold him, born the king of angels

chorus: o come let us adore him,
o come let us adore him,
o come let us adore him,
christ the lord.

yea, lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
jesus to thee be all glory giv'n
word of creator, now in flesh appearing.

(chorus)

litany of the christ candle

adapted from gretta vosper

one: as we find ourselves wrapped in the season of wonder and light, the astonishment that is

life ignites our spirits, and we feel, if merely for a moment, that we are as we were meant to be.

may we hold fast to this sliver of mystery, this truth upon which we set the whole of who we are. may we call ourselves back to it time and again, until we are filled with the wonder that is our life – its hope, its love, its peace, its joy. infused, then, with all that we are, may our energies be given to the transformation of this world– from despair into hope; from darkness into light; from fear into justice. may we be bold. may we be daring. may we be hope, love, peace, and joy.

(lighting of candles)

all: god lights the world this christmas.

befriending letting go

song for letting go

thomas “doc” grauzer

an intimate moment with mary & joseph

performed by krista gregory

* **standing as able**

note: please turn off or silence your phones.

befriending creativity

carol

“hark! the herald angels sing”

hark! the herald angels sing, “glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, god and sinners reconciled!”
joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic host proclaim, “christ is born in bethlehem!”

chorus: hark! the herald angels sing,
glory to the newborn king!

hail the heav’nly prince of peace! hail the son of righteousness!
light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings.
mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. **(chorus)**

special music

thomas “doc” grauzer

reading

luke 2:1-20

message

“threshold dreams: breaking the vessel (the birth)” by sid hall

befriending compassion

song for centering

“of our mother’s womb created”
11th c. latin; lyrics: sid hall

of our mother’s womb created,
she that sings the earth to be
she is birthing and sustaining,
she the life, the wisdom, she
of the things that weep, that yearn for,
and that justice now shall keep.
evermore and evermore. amen.

offering of our gifts of money for nurture and justice

please place gifts on the offering table.

wooden bowl: christmas offering

special music

thomas “doc” grauzer

earth prayer

yule, winter solstice directions by
christine kraemer

carol

“o little town of bethlehem”

o little town of bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
above thy deep and dreamless sleep,
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth,
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years,
are met in thee tonight.

how silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv’n!
so god imparts to human hearts,
the blessed peace of heav’n.
no ear may hear christ’s coming,
but in this world of pain
when meek souls will receive god, still,
a new life enters in.

o holy child of bethlehem!
enliven us, we pray;
cast out our fear and draw us near;
be born in us today.
we hear the christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
o come to us, abide with us,
our god emmanuel!

gospel reading

john 1:1-5, 14

the gospel of the incarnation

(lighting the candles)

carol

“silent night, holy night”

tim:
silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is
bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in
heavenly peace.

all:
**silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia!
christ the savior is born,
christ the savior is born!**

**silent night, holy night, son of god,
love’s pure light;
radiance beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
jesus, lord, at thy birth,
jesus, lord, at thy birth.**

we go forth to celebrate

benediction *

closing carol

(extinguishing candles)

“joy to the world”

joy to the world, the lord is come
let earth receive her king!
let ev’ry heart prepare him room.
and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n
and nature sing,
and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

love rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of god’s righteousness,
and wonders of god’s love, and wonders of
god’s love,
and wonders, and wonders of god’s love.

meditations by meister eckhart

(1260–1329)

*i once had a dream. i dreamt that i,
even though a man, was pregnant,
pregnant and full with nothingness
like a woman who is with child. and
out of this nothingness, god was born.*

~

we are all meant to be mothers of god.

~

*from all eternity, god lies on a
maternity bed giving birth. the essence
of god is birthing.*



Advent & Christmas Sermon Series by Sid Hall continues:

Dec. 28: Threshold Dreams: Turning to the Great Round (The Naming); Luke 2:22-40

Jan. 4: Threshold Dreams: Wise Women Also Came (The Shining); Matthew 2:1-12

*Trinity’s offices will be closed until Monday, January 5th, except Monday, Dec. 29th & Tuesday, Dec. 30th. Sid may be reached at (512) 423-6887 for pastoral emergencies.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Trinity Staff!

christmas offering

every year trinity dedicates our christmas offering to united methodist apportionments — the worldwide ministries of social justice and compassion that impact people in ways no one person or no one church could on their own. these ministries are consistent with the mission and values at trinity.

the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ~ john 1:5