

MEDITATIONS

Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it. The river was cut by the world's great flood and runs over rocks from the basement of time. On some of the rocks are timeless raindrops. Under the rocks are the words, and some of the words are theirs. I am haunted by waters.

~Norman Maclean

The Christian life is not about pleasing God, the finger-shaker and judge. It is not about believing now or being good now for the sake of heaven later. It is about entering a relationship in the present that begins to change everything now. Spirituality is about this process: the opening of the heart to the God who is already here.

~Marcus Borg

All water has a perfect memory and is forever trying to get back to where it was.

~Toni Morrison

If we don't learn to mythologize our lives, inevitably we will pathologize them.

~Richard Rohr

staff

people of the congregation – community ministers

cy albertson –
accompanist
tim brace –
music and arts director
sid hall –
minister of celebration
elyse jensen –
teacher

laura e. mc Morris –
business administrator
larry roberts –
weekend sexton
shelley walters –
dir. of community life

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 education level. 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

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**The Power of Myth For Our Life and Spirituality:
A Winter Sermon Series by Sid Hall**

In the early 1980s, I found myself in an unprecedented (for me) crisis of faith. I no longer felt that my long-held, conventional beliefs were tenable. Was this the time to step away from seminary, faith in general, and Christianity in particular? After confiding in my professor of Jewish Studies, Rabbi Jack Bemporad, he suggested that I explore the world of myth and archetypes before I abandon my faith altogether. The books he recommended were C. G. Jung's *Memories, Dreams, Reflections*; Mircea Eliade's *The Sacred and the Profane*; and Joseph Campbell's *Myths to Live By*. The ideas in these texts changed my life and my understanding of spirituality. And, I stayed the course of seminary, faith, and Christianity—but differently than before.

Shortly after arriving at Trinity in 1988, I learned that Joseph Campbell, who had died the year before, had collaborated with Bill Moyers and Austin's Betty Sue Flowers, in a new PBS series, "The Power of Myth." In the fall of 1988, Betty Sue presented an 8-evening preview of the series for the Austin community before its premier on PBS. Mary Uherek from Trinity attended the series with me. Since then, "The Power of Myth" has become one of the most popular PBS series ever to appear on television. Campbell had struck a chord.

For 9 weeks this winter, I will explore Campbell's themes and conclude with one of my own in relation to our spiritual journeys. I will bring into each sermon a discussion of biblical myths, as well as other mythological frameworks, to unpack each theme. The Sunday themes are:

January 11: Myth and the Modern World // January 18: The Journey Inward
January 25: The First Storytellers // February 1: Sacrifice and Bliss
February 8: The Hero's Adventure // February 15: The Gift of the Goddess
February 22: Tales of Love and Marriage // March 1: Masks of Eternity
March 8: Thinking Mythologically as a Christian



"the power of myth for
our life and spirituality:
the first storytellers"

sid hall



1/25/15 order of service 10:30 – 11:45 am

befriending creation

song of preparation *

"ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round"
african-american spiritual

ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round.
ain't gonna let nobody, turn me 'round.
i'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a-
talkin',
marchin' on to freedom land
ain't gonna let no hatred turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round.
ain't gonna let no hatred, turn me 'round.
i'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a-
talkin',
marchin' on to freedom land
ain't let injustice turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round.
ain't gonna let injustice turn me 'round,
i'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a-
talkin'.
marchin' on to freedom land
i'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a-
talkin'.
marchin' on to freedom land

call to celebration *

"the breeze at dawn" by rumi
adapted by polly moore

one: the breeze at dawn has secrets to tell
you.

all: don't go back to sleep.

one: you must ask for what you really
want.

all: don't go back to sleep.

one: people are going back and forth

across the doorsill where the two
worlds touch.

**all: the door is round and
open.**

one: don't go back to sleep.

all: don't go back to sleep.

gathering song *

"for the beauty of the earth" arr. rutter

for the beauty of the earth, for the
glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies, over and
around us lies;

chorus:

lord of all, to thee we raise this our
joyful hymn of praise.

for the beauty of each hour, of the
day and of the night
hill and vale, and tree and flower
sun and moon, and stars of light, sun
and moon, and stars of light.

chorus x 2

song *

"lead me up" (insert)

befriending letting go

call to prayer

"prayer is not asking. it is a longing
of the soul. it is daily admission of
one's weakness.... it is better in prayer
to have a heart without words, than
words without a heart." ~gandhi

note: please turn off or silence your phones.

update

THANK YOU!

We Love Our Volunteers! – Last week’s Sunday Supper & Peace Through Pie Social was a great success, and we owe the outcome to our many helpful volunteers. We appreciate all of you who showed up early to get everything ready and stayed after to clean up the kitchen and Community Hall. Many thanks and blessings to our hard-working volunteers!

Special 1st Sunday Potluck, Sunday, Feb. 1 – Please join us next week after the service for a special edition of our First-Sunday Potluck. The Leadership Team will be presenting a Q&A session about the possibility of aligning with the UCC. We’d maintain our UMC affiliation but also develop a UCC affiliation. The discussion next Sunday will include an in-depth look at various aspects of this potential relationship. Check your email early this week for a list of questions to consider

before the potluck. And make sure to bring a yummy dish to share!

Jesus Christ Superstar in Georgetown – Phoebe Moore, daughter of longtime Trinity members John and Catherine Moore, is starring in the hit musical *Jesus Christ Superstar*, running now through Feb. 15, at the Georgetown Palace Theatre. The performance has won rave reviews! For more info, visit www.georgetownpalace.com/.



The Red Bench

Interfaith Conversations that Matter

Red Bench Conversation, Tuesday, Jan. 27 – University UMC hosts the next Red Bench, a multifaith dialogue and meal sponsored by iACT, this Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 6:30 pm. The topic is “Intention.” University UMC is located at 2409 Guadalupe. See interfaithtexas.org/events/red-bench-intention/ for more info and to RSVP.

Charity Garage Sale for Hope Food Pantry & Trinity’s Homeless Task Force, Sunday, Feb. 8 – From 12 pm to 4 pm on Sunday, Feb. 8, be sure to stop by the Community Hall and check out the fabulous items for sale at the Charity Garage Sale. Expect to find lots of treasures! They’ll have new and slightly used household items donated from local stores. Bring cash or your checkbook and plan to grab some great deals. All proceeds benefit Hope Food Pantry and Trinity’s Sunday morning Homeless Task Force.

The Whys and Wherefores of Texas Public School Finance, Sunday, Feb. 8 – The League of Women Voters is sponsoring a talk by Judge John Dietz on Sunday, Feb. 8, from 2pm to 4pm here at Trinity. Judge Dietz will discuss issues related to school finance and take questions from the audience. With the Texas Legislature in session for the next 4 months, school finance will be on the agenda. Find out how to make sure your voice is heard on this topic.

order of service, cont.

after each sharing, the leader will say, “healing and joyful spirit...” and the people respond, “receive our prayer.”

prayer of jesus (together)

our mother and father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
thy kingdom come.
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
give us this day our daily bread.
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
for thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. amen.

befriending creativity

witness in art

martin swinger

readings

genesis 32:22-32;
joseph campbell in *the power of myth*

message

“the power of myth for our life and spirituality: the first storytellers”
by sid hall

befriending compassion

song for centering

“spirit of life” by carolyn mcdade
spirit of life, come unto me. sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion,
blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
roots hold me close; wings set me free:
spirit of life, come to me, come to me.

offering of our gifts of money for nurture and justice

please place gifts on the offering table.

wooden bowl: regular offering
basket: special offering & coffee fund
glass jar: loose change

trinity celebration choir

we go forth to celebrate

announcements

passing of the peace *

you’re invited to greet those around you by saying “peace be with you” or other words of welcome.

welcoming of the children song

(new words by debby loomis)

jesus loves the little children,
all the children of the world,
big or little, short or tall, jesus loves them one and all,
jesus loves the little children of the world.

song of thanksgiving *

“god, you spin the whirling planets”
(insert)

benediction *

benedictory response *

“trees of the field”
adapted from isaiah 55:12

you shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there’ll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.

and all the trees of the field will clap their hands, <clap clap>
the trees of the field will clap their hands, <clap clap>
the trees of the field will clap their hands, <clap clap>
while you go out with joy. (repeat)

* standing as able

welcome!



it is a delight to have you share in this celebration. there are often people here for the first time, 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, dr. sid hall, at sid@tumc.org.

visitors

if you are visiting trinity for the first time, would like to update your member information, or want to volunteer, please use one of our envelopes on the chair backs. you may leave the envelopes in the basket during the offertory. thank you!

greetings

join sid by the north doors of the sanctuary for greetings after the celebration.

better than the a-list...

you can get on our e-list at <http://bit.ly/1614whY>!

- **trinity news and events list:** subscribers currently receive a weekly update and special announcements.
- **children’s corner and youth news lists:** subscribers will soon begin receiving periodic newsletters and announcements.

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!

special offering

ethnic ministries

this is an apportionment fund that supports ethnic ministries within the united methodist church. the fund supports programs that strive for unity within diversity and that expand the ministry of the united methodist church in a way that doesn’t compromise the ethnic and cultural context of each of the communities they serve.



fair trade coffee fund

just write “coffee fund” on your donation and place it in the special offering basket. your donation allows us to serve fair trade coffee on sundays and at other church events.

we love our

readers counters

- ♥ paula buls
- ♥ deb campbell
- ♥ paula buls
- ♥ leeann tacchi

greeters

- ♥ aimee ayers
- ♥ kate carlson

other volunteers

- ♥ paula buls & phaedra chandler: sunday set-up
- ♥ kathleen davis: sunday set-up
- ♥ krista gregory: kitchen laundry
- ♥ jimmy alan hall: deposits
- ♥ sunday homeless task force
- ♥ bernie tiede: sunday kitchen clean-up
- ♥ trey & linda: sanctuary clean up

“the time is always right to do what is right.”
~dr. martin luther king, jr.