

## MEDITATIONS

Follow your bliss, and the universe will open doors for you where there were only walls.  
~ Joseph Campbell

There is something infantile in the presumption that somebody else has a responsibility to give your life meaning and point.... The truly adult view, by contrast, is that our life is as meaningful, as full, and as wonderful as we choose to make it.  
~ Richard Dawkins

People think a soul mate is your perfect fit, and that's what everyone wants. But a true soul mate is a mirror, the person who shows you everything that is holding you back, the person who brings you to your own attention so you can change your life.  
~ Elizabeth Gilbert

All who seek should continue seeking until they find. When they find, they will be troubled at the contemplation of truth, but when they have passed through the time of trouble, they will be astonished at the brightness of the light, for the way of truth is the pathway to the eternal godhead, and the price of the beatific vision is the wringing of the soul.  
~ Jesus of Nazareth, in the Gospel of Thomas

## 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**

 **trinity**

"the power of myth for  
our life and spirituality:  
sacrifice and bliss"

sid hall



**2/1/15 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 gonna 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 \*

imbolc/candlemas directions by richard e.  
kuykendall, adapted by sid hall &  
christine kraemer

#### 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 \*

"imbolc" by lisa thiel

blessed bridget comest thou in  
bless this house and all of our kin  
bless this house, and all of our kin  
protect this house and all within

blessed bridget come into thy bed  
with a gem at thy heart and a crown  
on thy head  
awaken the fire within our souls  
awaken the fire that makes us whole

blessed bridget, queen of the fire  
help us to manifest our desire  
may we bring forth all that's good  
and fine  
may we give birth to our dreams in  
time

blessed bridget comest thou in  
bless this house and all of our kin  
from the source of infinite light  
kindle the flame of our spirits tonight

### befriending letting go

#### call to prayer

**note:** please turn off or silence your phones.

# update

**Special 1st Sunday Potluck, Today** – Please join us after the service for a special edition of our First-Sunday Potluck. We'll gather together in conversation about the possibility of aligning with the UCC, while keeping our UMC affiliation. Our discussion will include an in-depth look at various aspects of this potential relationship.

**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/](http://www.georgetownpalace.com/).

**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.



**A New Session of Wellsprings of Wisdom Is Coming!** –Wellsprings of Wisdom (WOW) is a program designed to provide opportunities to explore, question, discuss, and grow. WOW is about fellowship, not fundraising. If you'd like to attend but are unable to pay the full amount, please talk with Sid.

We're offering 2 classes to choose from in this second Winter Session:

- ❖ Writers' Workshop with Joanne Holladay, Bob German, and Light German
- ❖ *Thank God for Evolution*, led by Russ Harper

The second spring session of Wellsprings of Wisdom will meet each Wednesday, beginning Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> through March 25<sup>th</sup> (no class on March 18<sup>th</sup>).

**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.

*“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*

(silent prayer)

### befriending creativity

#### trinity celebration choir

#### readings

selections from the gospel of thomas; joseph campbell in *the power of myth*

#### message

“the power of myth for our life and spirituality: sacrifice and bliss”  
by sid hall

#### imbolc communion (insert)

### 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

### 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 \*

“the summons” (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)

## 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](mailto: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

### pastor's discretionary fund

the pastor's discretionary fund is what sid uses to pay for business lunches, travel expenses, appreciation gifts, etc. it's also the fund he uses to help out folks in need, when those occasions arise.



### 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

- ♥ austin hardin
- ♥ grace johnson
- ♥ mike dellens
- ♥ loel graber

### greeters

- ♥ gary brown
- ♥ tom hansen

### other volunteers

- ♥ deb campbell: wow meal
- ♥ krista gregory: kitchen laundry
- ♥ jimmy alan hall: deposits
- ♥ mary lett: wow set-up & clean-up
- ♥ sunday homeless task force
- ♥ trey & linda: sanctuary clean up
- ♥ trinity leadership team

*“listen; there's a hell of a good universe next door: let's go.” ~ e. e. cummings*

\* standing as able