

MEDITATIONS

*The Valley spirit never dies;
It is the woman, primal mother.
Her gateway is the root of heaven and earth.
It is like a veil barely seen.
Use it; it will never fail.
~Lao Tzu*

*I am the Queen, source of thought, Knowledge itself.
You do not know Me, yet you dwell in me.
~Devi Sukta in the Rig Veda*

*As truly as God is our Father, so truly is God our
Mother...to the property of Motherhood belong
nature, love, wisdom, and knowledge, and this is
God.*

~Julian of Norwich

*I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning or
ever the earth was.*

*When there were no depths, I was brought forth,
When there were no fountains abounding with
water,*

*before the mountains were settled, was I brought
forth...*

When God prepared the heavens, I was there.

When God set a compass upon the face of the depth—

When God established the clouds above—

When God strengthened the fountains of the deep—

When God gave to the sea a decree, that the waters

*should not pass the Divine One's
commandment—*

*Then I was by God, as one brought up with God,
and I was daily God's delight, rejoicing always
before God.*

~Song of Sophia, Proverbs 23-25, 27-30

staff

people of the congregation – community ministers

cy albertson –
accompanist

laura e. mc Morris –
business administrator

tim brace –

larry roberts –

music and arts director

weekend sexton

sid hall –

shelley walters –

minister of celebration

dir. of community life

elyse jensen –

teacher

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 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

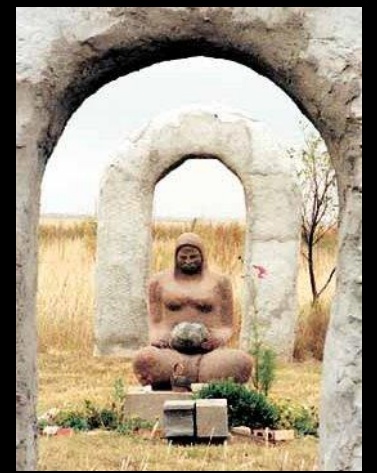
February 8: The Hero's Adventure // February 15: The Gift of the Goddess

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:
the gift of
the goddess"
rick ricker**



2/15/15 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 *

the four sisters of everlasting beauty
directions, adapted from a poem by nancy
wood by 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 *

*"womb of life, source of being"
(insert; tune: "ode to joy")*

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*

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

befriending creativity

trinity celebration choir

readings

wisdom of solomon 7:21-8:1
joseph campbell in *the power of
myth*

note: please turn off or silence your phones.

UPDAT



A New Session of Wellsprings of Wisdom Starts This Wednesday! – 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 of WOW:

- ❖ "Writers' Workshop: *Writing Down the Bones*" led by Bob & Light German and Joanne Holladay.
- ❖ "Thank God for Evolution Book Discussion" led by Russ Harper.

You can register by completing the WOW form (see insert) or by sending your request to Shelley at mail@tumc.org.



Hildegard's Sisters Are Meeting Today – The women's spirituality group at Trinity, Hildegard's Sisters, will meet in the Community Hall today after the service. They'll discuss the great American novel, *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck. The book contains beautiful writing with themes of poverty and social justice, set in the Dust Bowl era. Cathy Moore will lead the book discussion, focusing on chapters 1, 3, 19, 21, 26, 28, and 30.

Special 1st Sunday Potluck, Sunday, March 1st – Please join us in 2 weeks after the service for another special edition of our First-Sunday Potluck. We'll be continuing our discussion about the possibility of aligning with the UCC. Trinity would maintain its UMC affiliation but also develop a UCC affiliation. The discussion on March 1st will include plenty

of time for questions and comments from those in attendance. Trinity's Leadership Team wants to be sure that we fully consider the benefits and concerns that could accompany this potential relationship. Remember to bring a yummy dish to share!

UCC Open & Affirming Conference, Feb. 28th – As Trinity explores the possibility of becoming a union church, united with both the UMC and the UCC, this upcoming conference on Saturday, Feb. 28th is a unique opportunity to learn more about the UCC. The UCC Open & Affirming Coalition is similar to the UMC's Reconciling Ministries Network. For more info, please email Shelley at mail@tumc.org or call her at 512-459-5835.

order of service, cont.

message

"the power of myth for our life and spirituality: the gift of the goddess"
by roy c. "rick" ricker

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 *

"mothering god, you gave me birth"
(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)

special guest



Trinity welcomes Rick Ricker as our guest preacher today. Rick is no stranger to Trinity and has preached here more than any other guest preacher over the years. That's because Rick is one of us. For many years, he and his family—wife Patti and daughter Cassidy—were very active at Trinity before they moved to the San Antonio area, where Rick is a hospital chaplain. While in Austin, Patti was the director of New Life Institute and Cassidy was a part of Trinity's children's and youth programs.

Rick grew up in Irving and has his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from SMU. He's an ordained elder in the Rio TX Conference and has served churches in the North TX and Southwest TX Conferences. In Austin, Rick served at University UMC and Berkeley UMC. After moving to San Antonio, Rick was a chaplain at Methodist Hospital for 19 years. He's currently a chaplain for the Baptist Healthcare system in San Antonio. In addition to his work as a board-certified chaplain, Dr. Ricker is a psychotherapist and Licensed Professional Counselor.

Welcome home, Rick! We love you and are so happy to have you with us today.

* **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 us 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

montopolis friendship community center

the montopolis friendship community center began in january 1956. mfcc is a nonprofit organization formed as a response by local united methodist women to help meet some of the needs in the montopolis area of austin. mfcc provides and enables a range of services, including mothers' day out, senior activities, and a scholarship fund.

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

- ♥ kathleen davis
- ♥ jimmy alan hall
- ♥ paula buls
- ♥ mary pratt

greeters

- ♥ aimee ayers
- ♥ kate carlson

other volunteers

- ♥ emily albrecht: bulletins
- ♥ jimmy alan hall: deposits
- ♥ sunday homeless task force
- ♥ susie tachi: kitchen laundry
- ♥ trey & linda: sanctuary clean up
- ♥ trinity finance, leadership, & grants teams

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