

## MEDITATIONS

I put no stock in religion. By the word "Religion," I have seen the lunacy of fanatics of every denomination be called the "Will of God." Holiness is in right action, and courage on behalf of those who cannot defend themselves, and goodness. What God desires is here... (points to head) and here... (points to heart) and by what you decide to do every day, you will be a good [person]. Or not.

~The character of Hospitaller in the movie, *The Kingdom of Heaven*

You must live in the present, launch yourself on every wave, find your eternity in each moment.

~Henry David Thoreau

Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergy or lay; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on Earth.

~John Wesley

You can look to the stars in search of the answers  
Look for God and life on distant planets  
Have your faith in the ever after  
While each of us holds inside the map to the labyrinth

And heaven's here on earth

~Tracy Chapman

Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, [Jesus] answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs that can be observed, nor will they say 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!' for the kingdom of God is within you."

~Luke 17:20-21

## 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

**erica molina** –  
teacher  
**larry roberts** –  
weekend sexton  
**amee villaret** –  
children's teacher  
**shelley walters** –  
director 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

4001 speedway | austin, tx 78751 | 512-459-5835 | [www.tumc.org](http://www.tumc.org) | [mail@tumc.org](mailto:mail@tumc.org)

### FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

APRIL 12 & 19, 2015

April 12		April 19	
Pledge	\$3,435	Pledge	\$2,020
Loose Plate	\$1,146	Loose Plate	\$556
<i>Special Offering</i>		<i>Special Offering</i>	
Swan Songs	\$529.75	Hill Country Ride for AIDS	\$227
Total Donated to Jim Kvale Pipe Organ Fund (April 6 – 20)		\$415	

### "The Gospel of Thomas as a Doubters' Guide to Living the Questions"

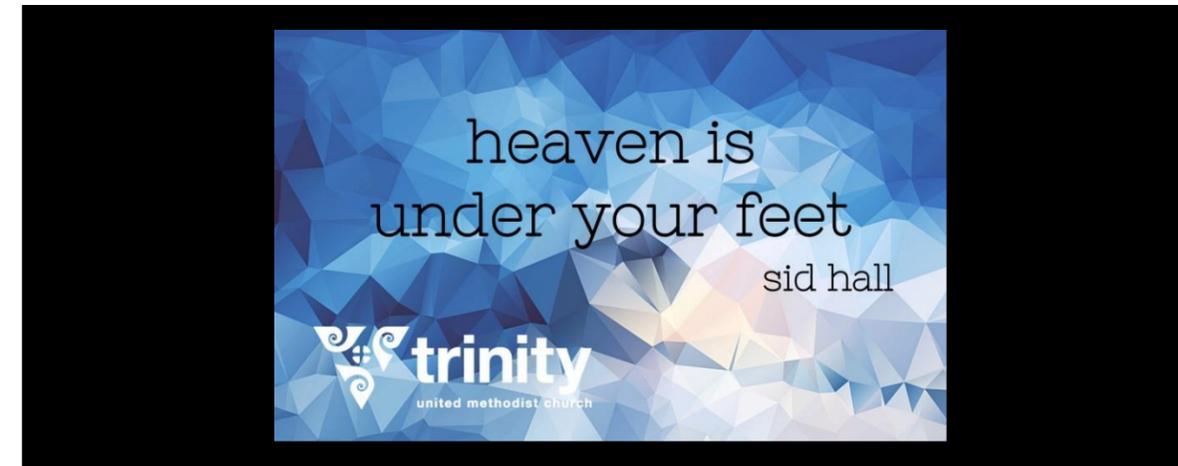
Sid's 6-week sermon series on the Gospel of Thomas continues. The dates and titles in this series include:

April 5th: Being Is Believing | April 12th: What Lies Beneath |

April 19th: Who Do You Say You Are? | April 26th: Heaven Is Under Your Feet |

May 3rd: Our Beginning Is Our Ending | May 10th: Don't Follow Me

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



4/26/15 order of service 10:30 – 11:45 am

### befriending creation

#### musical prelude

#### song of preparation \*

"get on board"  
*african-american spiritual*

#### chorus:

get on board, little children (x 3)  
there's room for many a more  
get on board, little children (x 3)  
there's room for many a more

the train of light's a-coming  
i hear it just at hand  
i hear the car wheels rumblin'  
and rollin' through the land

#### chorus

the fare is cheap and all can go  
the rich and poor are there  
no second class aboard this train  
no difference in the fare

#### chorus

#### call to celebration \*

*adapted from alice smith*

one: the spirit lives in the vast emptiness,  
in silence, in formlessness, in open space.

**all: the spirit is secret, invisible,  
and totally powerful.**

one: rest in the spirited nothing to  
prepare for something to come.

**all: we open our empty spaces to  
receive what is already within, but  
simply have not noticed. amen.**

### 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 \*

"we are thankful for a greeting"  
*(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

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

#### the jesus prayer *(together)*

adapted by jean crane

our father and mother, who dwells  
within – all in all,

# UPDAT

**Austin RMN Group Seeks Donations for “Gather at the River” Scholarships** – The Reconciling Ministries Network and Methodist Foundation for Social Action are co-sponsoring the 2015 Convocation, “Gather at the River,” in San Antonio from August 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. Austin RMN leaders have set up a special account to collect funds for scholarships. As part of their efforts to promote diversity and inclusiveness, the group is seeking to pay the registration and housing for attendees who might otherwise be unable to afford to go. To donate, please visit [www.gofundme.com/riotexasgather15](http://www.gofundme.com/riotexasgather15). Your support allows a young person or low-income individual to participate in this exciting event. You can also donate to this fund through Trinity, with a check or cash. Just place your donation in an offering envelope and note that the funds are for RMN Scholarships. Thank you!

## Three Mystics Walk Into a Tavern

by Sid Hall & Jim Harrington

A few copies of Sid’s new book are still available. You can buy it for \$25 (authors’ cost). If you’d like, Sid will sign it with a personalized message. Cash and checks are accepted; make checks payable to Sid Hall. Visit Shelley in the office to nab a book while they’re still hot off the presses!

## Welcome to Our New Community Members!

Trinity is excited to open our doors (and several rooms) to St. Hildegard’s, a peace-&-justice-loving, contemplative faith community with about 30 members whose roots began at St. George’s Episcopal Church. Viewing themselves as “radically compassionate,” they’re intentionally small so that they may encourage each other as they receive the gifts and the courage, the vulnerability and the boldness to embrace the challenges of life and live mindfully as God’s people.

St. Hildegard’s strives to be a community that offers nurture and support for those seeking to bring new life to their own Episcopal parish or other Christian congregations. They also welcome those who are not Christian but who find strength for your own spiritual journey in the St. Hildegard’s community. They celebrate the beauty of creation and honor ancient traditions and sacred scriptures along with new ideas for spiritual awakening.

Their priest, Judith Liro, states: “At the heart of being a faith community is story. Stories are for all ages, for children as well as adults. They aren’t abstract but invite engagement and participation. When we experience them, they nurture our souls and keep us on track. Story carries common memory, holds a vision, and gives us our identity.”

When they have their new schedule available of events taking place here at Trinity, we’ll be sure to post the details. They’d love to share their vision with Trinity folks!

## order of service, cont.

in you we live and move and have our being.

wholeness is your name — your kin-dom is here and now.

give us this day our daily bread —

and help us let go of all grievances — as we extend our love to others.

lead us not into illusions of separation as you help us transcend our ego thoughts.

surround us with your healing light — for you are eternal truth and love.

forever. amen.

## befriending creativity

### trinity celebration choir

#### readings

gospel of thomas, logions 3, 51, & 113; “jesus’ kingdom program” by john dominic crossan on [www.beliefnet.com](http://www.beliefnet.com)

#### message

“heaven is under your feet” by sid hall

#### witness in art

“heaven’s here on earth” by tracy chapman

rolando perez & tim brace

## befriending compassion

### song for centering

“out beyond ideas” words by rumi; music by wilcox & pettit

[chorus] out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing there is a field. i’ll meet you there.

[repeat chorus]

when the soul lies down in the grass, the world is too full to talk about. ideas, language, even the phrase “each other” doesn’t make any sense.

[chorus]

## 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

## earth prayer

directions from the american indian united methodist church, umc book of worship

## 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

revised lyrics 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 \*

“touch the earth lightly” (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](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

### capital district causes

capital district causes are part of trinity’s commitment to the greater united methodist church through apportionments: “a portion meant for others.” some apportionments funds go to support global efforts, but the capital district fund supports local organizations like hope food pantry of austin, montopolis friendship community center, and new life institute counseling center. your giving directly benefits programs in the austin area.

### 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

- ♥ sharon lancaster
- ♥ barb lightheart

### counters

- ♥ mary pratt
- ♥ leeann tacchi

### greeters

- ♥ mary pratt
- ♥ leeann tacchi

### other volunteers

- ♥ emily albrecht: bulletins
- ♥ paula buls & phaedra chandler: sunday set-up
- ♥ jimmy alan hall: deposits
- ♥ sunday homeless task force
- ♥ trey & linda: sanctuary clean up

“every happening, great and small, is a parable whereby god speaks to us, and the art of life is to get the message.” ~malcolm muggeridge