

TRINITY WORLD NEWSLETTER MARCH 2026



Trinity Church

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Trinity Tidbits

March 2026

World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer originated in the late 19th century as a U.S. and Canadian initiative by Christian women focusing on mission, peace and unity. In 1887, Mary Ellen Fairchild James from Brooklyn, New York called for a National Day of Prayer focusing on home missions. Formally recognized in 1927, this ecumenical movement expanded globally with the World Day of Prayer International Committee established in 1968 and officially adopting the first Friday in March for services.

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian lay-women's initiative. It is run under the motto "informed Prayer and Prayerful Action" and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. In 2026 it will be celebrated on March 6.

The theme for 2026 is "I will give you rest; come" based on Matthew 11:28 – 30. The program is prepared by the women of Nigeria and will be celebrated offering a message of hope, peace and spiritual solace to a world filled with anxiety and heavy burdens.

The theme is written by World Day of Prayer Committee of Nigeria with a focus addressing, through scripture and stories, burdens such as shame, systemic oppression, poverty and despair. Their service highlights stories from Nigerian Women focusing on community support, faith and God's love.

We can celebrate the World Day of Prayer by joining local, in person or virtual, community services, hosting a prayer gathering for national leaders or participating in "prayer walking" through your neighborhood. Additional ways to celebrate are making a donation to a women's and children's organization, or through the arts with painting, music or drawing.

The United Church of Christ views the World Day of Prayer and similar initiatives as essential, ecumenical and justice oriented using them to promote global solidarity peace and environmental stewardship. The UCC emphasizes these days as calls to action encouraging prayer for the marginalized and for the protection of creation.

Trinity will be celebrating World Day of Prayer 2026 during our Sunday Service.

Melody Kiepert

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES

1. In mid February the furnaces that heat the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall malfunctioned (did not kick on when needed). Luckily, Dave Brodock was able to reset them, and showed Mike Klepadlo the process to do in future instances. Also, Dave investigated the vents outside and cleared them of snow. He thinks that may have caused the problem. Thank you, Dave !!
2. Winterton Painting has given us an estimate of about \$3,000 to repair and paint match the paint cracks in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall that I mentioned last month. Council approved the work, which we feel is important as part of maintaining our property.
3. We are continuing to collect non-perishable food, as well as personal hygiene items for the Rome Rescue Mission (bin by the front door); and hats, gloves, scarves, as well as books (two clear bins in Fellowship Hall by the pew) to place in our outdoor "giving" boxes. Thank you !!
4. In June we will have 3 open seats on Council, as the terms of Sue Gatley, Sarah Barcomb, and May Klepadlo will expire, after serving two 3 year terms. Thank you to them for their dedicated service to our church!! If you would be interested in being nominated for a 3 year term, to be voted on at our Annual Meeting in June, please let us know.
5. The carpet in the sanctuary and on the stairway leading upstairs has not been professionally cleaned in quite some time. We are contracting with ABC Chem Dry, who cleaned the lounge carpet previously, to do the work in March. Their estimate is \$800 for that entire area.

As always, please contact any Council member with questions or suggestions:

Kathy Wood, Sue Gatley, Sarah Barcomb, Dick Kekis, May Klepadlo, Gerry Nelson, Danyell Coccia

Mission of the Month for March
Multiple Sclerosis Resources of CNY

March 2026

Trinity Church 215 W. Court St. Rome

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **10:00am Morning Service	2 Bible Study-10:30	3 Girl Scouts 4:30pm Beverly Matthews	4 Line Dancing 6pm Daniel Revette	5 Bible Study 6pm BIB Lenten Luncheon @ St.Peter's @ 12. Olivia Potter, Mike Klepadlo, Paul Gatley	6 World Day of Prayer	7 Robert Glur Jr.
8 Daylight Savings begin **10:00am Morning Service Speaker: Karen	9 Bible Study-10:30 Gwendolyn Clarke	10 Girl Scouts 4:30pm	11	12 Bible Study 6pm Lenten Luncheon @ Zion @ 12. BIB	13	14 Estate and Bake Sale 9-2 Heather & Scott Hewlett David Wood
15 **10:00am Morning Service Potluck: St.Patrick's Day Theme Don Packer	16 Bible Study-10:30	17 St.Patrick's Day Girl Scouts 4:30pm Eileen & Craig McCaa	18	19 Lenten Luncheon @ 1st Baptist @ 12. Bible Study 6pm BIB	20	21
22 **10:00am Morning Service History of the Church	23 Bible Study-10:30	24 Girl Scouts 4:30pm	25	26 BIB Lenten Luncheon @ Mount Cavalry @ 12 Bible Study 6pm Photo Club @ 6:30	27	28
29 Palm Sunday **10:00am Morning Service Easter Movie	30 Bible Study-10:30	31 Girl Scouts 4:30pm May Klepadlo				Services Events Birthdays Anniversary

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Admin. Hours 9:00- 1:00, M-F

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Reoccurring Events

Morning Service, every Sunday at 10:00am.

Coffee Hour: Following Morning Service on Sundays, unless there is another scheduled event.

Bible Study lead by Aaron Browka: Every Thursday evening at 6:00pm, in Lounge.

Girl Scouts: Meet every Tuesday at 4:30pm in Fellowship Hall.

Line Dancing- Wednesdays at 6:00pm, in Fellowship Hall, \$5 per class, per person

Bible Study with Pastor Karen Marshall: Mondays at 10:30am.

Special March Events

March 5th- : Lenten Luncheon @ St. Peter's Church at 12:00

March 8: Speaker during coffee hour, Pastor Karen, her family history.

March 12th- : Lenten Luncheon @ Zion Church at 12:00

March 14th: Estate and Bake Sale, from 9:00 to 2:00. Crafting items, antiques and baked goods for sale.

March 15h- Pot luck luncheon, St. Patrick's day themed.

March 19th- : Lenten Luncheon @ 1st Baptist Church at 12:00

March 22: Presentation of the church's history by Melody, during coffee hour.

March 26th- : Lenten Luncheon @ Mount Cavalry Church at 12:00

March 26th : 6:30pm Trinity Photo Club in Fellowship Hall

March 29th- : Easter movie in Lounge after service.

Pastor Karen's Korner for March 2026

It is the end of February as I write this for our newsletter. The snow continues and it seems like it has been forever with us, yet we know that Spring is coming. Currently, we are in the season of Lent, and Ann Weems has expressed in the poem below what Lent is. It is a time for reflection and a time for us to look at ourselves and at our lives in Christ.

I hope you can find in this poem a place where it hits your heart.

Lenten Poem by Ann Weems

Lent is a time to take time to let the power
of our faith story take hold of us,
a time to let the events get up
and walk around in us,
a time to intensify our living unto Christ,
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,
a time to place our feet in the streets of
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and
listen to his Word,
a time to touch his robe
and feel the healing surge through us,
a time to ponder and a time to wonder....
Lent is a time to allow
a fresh new taste of God!
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,
for thoughts come unbidden.
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future
knowing our past.
Give us courage, O God,
to hear your Word
and to read our living into it.
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven
and give us the faith
to take up our lives and walk.

I like the last line. To take up our lives and walk. I have several reasons for my opinion on this line. One is that during the time of Lent which in most places it is winter and a time when we may feel down because of the weather or we may feel closed in because it is hard to go out, different as

the spring and summer when we may spend time outdoors in the sun. It can be a time when we may dwell on the past and try to find diversions to not think about it. Diversions to keep us in our fear to look at what has gone and will not come back. So, our future may seem like something we do not want to look at. Yet from our poem we are encouraged to take up our lives, to move and stop being stagnate. To walk into the future knowing that we are forgiven and that though we cannot change the past, we can change the future. We can walk into the future with courage and to celebrate on Easter, the Risen Christ.

Well, I also wanted to add several little things from the Fish Wrapper so here is one I think is funny.

A friend of mine, and her husband, were on vacation. They visited a church on Sunday. My friend likes to sit close to the front, so they entered a pew in the second row. Shortly after settling into the pew an usher came up to them, tapped lightly on the bench and said, "This pew is saved." Her husband replied, "So are we!"

As I looked for something else, I found a piece that is so appropriate for now.

One day, a man went to visit a church. He arrived early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near him and the driver told him, "I always park there. You took my place!" The visitor went inside for Sunday school, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome but said nothing.

After Sunday school, the visitor went into the church sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!"

The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment but still said nothing. Later, as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and his sandaled feet. Someone in the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?"

The visitor replied, "I took your place."

I do not know who wrote this. It is from the Fish Wrapper.

Blessings, Pastor Karen