** Trinity Tidings**

March 2019

*“Pray without ceasing!”* 1 Thessalonians 5:17

 Soon the freshness of spring will fill the air causing shoots of green to emerge everywhere; a sure sign of hope for warmer days and, I imagine, more joyful hearts. As far as the eye can see life will spring into action as a Divine palette of color splashes on an emerald landscape. According to the Farmers’ Almanac, the “astronomical start of a season is based on the position of the Earth in relation to the Sun. The spring equinox is when the Sun passes directly over Earth’s equator. Funny how similar we are to that of the earth’s shifting axis as it revolves around the biggest and brightest star in the solar system. When we are aligned perfectly with God, our lives are refreshed and made new again. We are closest to God when our lives revolve around Him. Like the earth awakening and bringing us a new season, we, too, arise and receive God’s love and growth. It is a time for carefree and lighthearted change allowing us to let go of that which weighs us down. When we emerge through the hard layers of life, God’s abundant grace and mercy prunes us and shapes us and then takes our burdens to the cross.

 We are all affected by changing seasons and it is during those times we need to examine our hearts and consider our “God” status. I think we have to go through seasons of doubt and despair so that we can be strong enough to develop and tolerate a serious of storms. Sometimes we just have to weather the tempest and understand life is not always going to be a rose garden. So when we do not repeatedly dialogue with God, (pray without ceasing) we, with help from the dark side, fool ourselves into believing that God has abandoned us or has become too busy for our “small” prayers. We need to know that the light of God shines through every fog of futility. When we distance ourselves, then, when we are not directly in God’s light, our lives become dormant and lifeless. We forget God is faithful, always present and ever powerful as His love continuously grows seeds of hope in our hearts. So Jesus taught us how to walk through days that strangulate and leave us feeling weak and barren; barren as the winter ground. Jesus taught us how to pray. A Christian’s life cannot exist without an open line to God which allows His light to shine through. God “is like the sunrise on a cloudless day...like rain that sparkles on the grass" 2 Samuel 23:4. As you walk your 40 day journey this Lenten season may you find the energy to blossom in beautiful ways under the light of Christ.

*Pastor Cheri*