



Trinity United Methodist Church  
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# Trinotes



**The Mission of Trinity United Methodist Church is to proclaim God's love by building community and living by the example and teachings of Jesus Christ.**



## That Timeless November Attitude

It's November! I know I've said it all year long, but I cannot believe how quickly this year has gone. We

celebrated the saints yesterday in worship. Halloween was last Thursday. All of a sudden, we walk into retail stores and hear Jingle Bells. Christmas trees are popping up and folks are mapping out their holiday plans.

In November many folks begin a month of counting their blessings. They name something every day that they are thankful for. I've always giggled a little bit at that. One would think our attitude of gratitude would stretch beyond the month of November. We have so much to be thankful for!

And at Trinity we really do. Put on your 'abundance' glasses and look around at what we have. We have visitors every single week — some of whom would already call this church their home. We are in a constant state of active ministry. We are **faithful** in how we spend our resources. That. That right there. We are **faithful**.

It's the only thing we're called to be.

Except....

You know how there's a lead role in every movie? Usually there's a lead female and lead male role and then there's all of these supporting actors and actresses. At the Oscars, the best lead actor and actress receive an award and the best supporting actor and actress receive the same. Faithfulness has a supporter and it's attitude.

Jesus wants us on this mission. It spans beyond the traditional church conceptions of seeking out the lost and bringing them to Jesus. That idea has grown feet in recent days and expanded to meeting needs. It's grown beyond even that, to making real and fruitful relationships with other people. The idea is that when we make real and fruitful relationships with other people — when we work to meet the needs of others — when we are faithful to the mission — the doors will opened, and that whole finding lost people and bringing them to Jesus will naturally happen. We may not see it happen (and somehow we have to be ok with that), but we're to trust that it will.

*(continued on page 3)*

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Our country and the world** - for the family and friends of those killed or injured in recent shootings; for people of faith around the world who are experiencing persecution; for refugees seeking asylum from war and social unrest; for safe drinking water for those living in developing countries; prayers for our country, that truth and justice will prevail; for people around the world experiencing terrorist attacks; safety for children going to and from school and while at school; for the poor, homeless, and disenfranchised in our city; for the Dreamers, who seek to remain in the United States legally.

**The United Methodist Church** - for our Pastor, Rev. Sara Corum, her husband Josh McClurkan, and their five children; for our Bishop, the Rev. Bill McAlilly; and for our District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Deborah Smith.

**Trinity UMC** - For homebound members in the congregation. For children and youth ministries. For new visitors to this congregation. For all families who are grieving. For our congregation as we deal with transitions. Wisdom for our Trustees and Church Council. Also, specific prayer requests by and for:

**Maggi Comes'** niece, **Katie Pendleton**, diagnosed with Tumefactive MS PRAISE!! **Molly Rosson** is eating solid food, playing pat-a-cake, and saying new words now.

**Kanyan Glover**, heart transplant survivor, home now, but still needs prayer

**Donnie Glover**, ongoing chemo for leukemia

**Chip Glover**, son of **Donnie & Sandra**, fell off ladder & crushed heel

**Bryce Sellers**, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

**Paige Warmath**, **Alyson Foreman's** cousin, glioblastoma recurring; in treatment at West Clinic

**Jane Manning**, friend of **Joe Hatter**, lung cancer, receiving chemo & radiation

**Sharon Hicks**, friend of **Beryl & Karen Willard**, died October 29th.

**Grace Hayden**, daughter of **Tim & Nora**, receiving outpatient rehab.

**Mary McConnell's** niece, **Laura Fellin**, now receiving radiation for cancer

**Jacob Foreman**, son of **Caley & Alyson**, breathing problems after complications following surgery; multiple problems due to scoliosis

**Jane Collins** suffered a fall, resulting in a broken femur.

**Irene Opel**, doing better, to see gastroenterologist; **Gene Opel** had heart catheterization on Oct. 21st with good outcome; seeing pulmonologist for fluid on lungs.

The family of **Connie Potter** as they grieve, and as they celebrate her life.

*(Please contact the church office if you have additional prayer concerns, need a concern removed, or need to make a change or correction.)*

# Upcoming

EVENTS

## **Fellowship Breakfast**

Sunday, November 10th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Worship Center

## **UMW November Meetings in Worship Center**

There will be a UMW Unit Meeting on November 19th at 10:30 p.m.  
The Evening Circle will meet November 25th at 6:30 p.m.

**Youth Group**—Go to <https://www.trinityumcmemphis.org/weekly-childrens-programs.html> for upcoming Youth activities. (See page 9 for the November schedule.)

## **Room in the Inn**

Please call Lois Young at 901-359-4047 or e-mail her at [loislane.young@gmail.com](mailto:loislane.young@gmail.com) if you wish to volunteer for winter season tasks or meals. (See article on page 8 for details.)

## **Upcoming Committee Meetings**

The **SPRC** will meet in the Conference Room on Sunday, November 17th, following worship.

## **Manna on Monday**

The next Manna on Monday meal will be served on November 25th at St. Stephen's UMC. Servers/clean-up volunteers welcome!

## **Holy Communion**

A Service of Holy Communion is held in the Chapel each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

## **Binghampton Food Pantry**

Tuesdays & Fridays at 258 Merton, 8:00-11:00 a.m., fresh produce is distributed.

## **Covenant Discipleship**

The Covenant Discipleship group continues to gather at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

## **Church Office Closings**

The office will be closed from November 27 through 29 for Thanksgiving.

## **Trinotes**

The deadline for submissions for the next *Trinotes* is November 18th. Please email or deliver any articles to Debby Marston at [office@trinityumcmemphis.org](mailto:office@trinityumcmemphis.org). *Trinotes* is now available as an electronic file. Make a note on your Sunday attendance sheet or call Debby at 901-274-6895 if you prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail. Access it on our website at:

[www.trinityumcmemphis.org/e-newsletter.html](http://www.trinityumcmemphis.org/e-newsletter.html)

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None of that can or will happen if our attitudes aren't aligned with the heart of God.

Philippians 2:1-5 reminds us, "So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus."

The Church is not ours. It's God's. The work that we do isn't to our benefit, our praise, and our goodness, but the goodness of God. We are blessed, not by our own doing, but by God's, and the way we interact with one-another, and others — anyone in our building at Trinity and anyone we encounter in our living — ought to reflect our gratitude for God's goodness, the opportunity we have to be with others, and another moment we are afforded to be faithful.

This is the challenge that is issued to those who profess to be Jesus' disciples — gentleness, self-control, meekness, and joy. It is the call to Methodists — to embrace humility and do "good." It is the call to Trinitarians — to welcome, include, and to love — for much more than November. There are no restrictions. Always.

Many Blessings,  
Rev. Sara

## Honorariums & Memorials

***A memorial has been received:***

*In memory of Connie Potter from an anonymous donor*

***An honorarium has been received:***

*In honor of Kay & Craig Jordan from Susan M. Utley*

STRENGTHENING THE  
UMC CONNECTION

# Immigration



November 18| 6:30PM-8:30PM |  
Raleigh United Methodist Church  
3295 Powers Road  
Register Online:  
<http://bit.ly/ImmigrationUMC>

HOW CAN OUR UMC  
CONNECTION  
STRENGTHEN MEMPHIS  
IMMIGRANT  
COMMUNITIES?

Come join with others who want to discover ways to support Memphis UMC churches most challenged by the current immigration system.

### Agenda

- Stories of challenge and hope our neighbors face
- Small group conversation
- Invitation to strengthen the connection

Host Committee: Rev. Luz Campos, Rev. Sara Corum, Rev. Goyo De La Cruz, Joni Laney, Amy Moritz, Rev. Fred Morton, Morgan Stafford, Rev. Brad Thomas, Rev. Bernardo Zapata

For more information: Contact Amy Moritz at 901-463-0983 or [amycmoritz@gmail.com](mailto:amycmoritz@gmail.com)

## Join Us for the Monthly Fellowship Breakfast

Fellowship Breakfast for November will be served beginning at 9:30 AM on Sunday, November 10. Come enjoy a variety of breakfast choices and the wonderful fellowship of Trinity friends and family.



### Interested in a game of Hearts?

A group of friends get together here at Trinity once a month for a friendly game of Hearts. Everyone is welcome to join for a game once in a while or on an ongoing basis. All you have to do is show up on the 1st Friday of the month at 1:00 p.m. to gather in the Youth Room. The goal? Fun and fellowship!

## ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

November 4	Hayden Belue
November 4	Edna Hoffman
November 6	Sarah McFalls
November 7	Joan Smith
November 12	Katy Spake
November 14	Cooper Tate
November 17	Mary McConnell
November 20	Julian Cullen
November 21	George Pence
November 25	Carson Witt
November 26	Vanoma Newhart
November 27	Shirley Flint
November 27	Donna Windham
November 29	John Allmon
November 29	Jonathan Goff

[If your name or that of a loved one has been omitted from this birthday list, please contact the church office at 901-274-6895.]



Sunday School meets each Sunday at 9:45 a.m.  
TUMC Breakfast Nov. 10—no Youth Sunday School

New Study starting Nov. 17: "Everybody Always"

### November Schedule

Youth meet Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 pm  
Nov. 6—Area 51 Ice Cream  
Nov. 13—Saucy Chicken  
Nov. 20—Elemento Pizza  
Nov. 27—No Youth Group



## Holy Hospitality

### 10 Years Inn

By Lois M. Young

Last Friday the city-wide Room in the Inn-Memphis ministry began their tenth winter season. They now have about 50 partners (congregations and others) providing shelter for homeless guests. None of these partners, including Trinity, could provide this service without the support of the Room in the Inn staff. The city-wide program now has one part-time and three full-time employees and a central facility—the Carpenter's House downtown that requires maintenance. It is important to find ongoing financial support for these efforts. On this tenth anniversary, RITI-Memphis is trying to reach the goal of 733 new monthly donors giving at least \$10 per month.

I give to RITI-Memphis monthly, because I can see all the good things that happen each week at our own Room in the Inn sessions. I hope you will consider giving if you are able. To set up a monthly donation, go online to [roomintheinn-memphis.org/give](http://roomintheinn-memphis.org/give). If you do not have internet access, you can send monthly donations to Room in the Inn-Memphis, 212 N. Second Street, Memphis, TN 38105. Write Monthly Donation on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your consideration. [Editor's Note: Debby Marston is willing to help you set up an automatic monthly draft on your checking account. Call her at 901.274.6895.]

#### **Clothes Closet needs**

The most needed items in our Clothes Closet include: new white T-shirts (all sizes, but especially large and XL), sports bras, backpacks, men's winter jackets, winter gloves, reading glasses and sunglasses. Items can be dropped off in the blue RITI bin in the Trinity UMC lobby.

#### **Winter Meal Schedule**

We still have seven open dates on our winter meal schedule at Trinity – December 10, 17, 24 and 31; February 18; and March 10 and 17. If you know a group or family that might want to provide a meal for our unsheltered guests, please share these dates with them along with my contact info ([loislane.young@comcast.net](mailto:loislane.young@comcast.net), 870-559-2228). Thanks!

## A Letter from Rev. Brad Thomas

I was introduced to the work of French philosopher and Talmud theologian Emmanuel Levinas by John Kilzer. John's doctoral thesis was titled Responsibility: The Jewish Mission to the Gentiles. In it, John talks of how it is God draws our attention to those who suffer anonymously among us.

It is Levinas' understanding, drawn out of being a Jew in the predominantly Christianized culture in the Western world, and specifically the Holocaust, that Judaism remind the Christianized world of how the God we share calls God's people to, like God, know the sufferings of the oppressed: by looking into the face of the other. Levinas argues God in the book of Exodus hears the cry of the people because of the oppression of their task masters in Egypt not only by hearing it, but also by looking into their faces and seeing the consequences of their plight. Divine hearing and seeing are actually one and the same and combine to motivate action to alleviate suffering in honor of God's Holy name.

It is as we look into the face, the eyes, of those who suffer that we are connected to the divine claim placed upon those who profess allegiance to God - for Christians through Jesus - and discover our moral obligation to act as God acts when God looks into the face of human suffering - God comes near. As Michale Downey observes in Weavings with an article titled Learning How To Look, "In the face-to-face encounter, the face of the oppressed pleads (to the one with power and authority), Do not hurt me, Do not kill me, Let me live!"

One would think these observations obvious to a people who regularly claim as Lord and savior the One who looked into the face of human suffering and said, "when you have done it (responded to an other's suffering) to the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you have done it to me." What we know is to acknowledge suffering that exists around us is difficult on so many levels. On one level, we might fear what seeing and listening to the cries of the needy will require us to sacrifice. On another, we might look at the minuscule resources we have in the face of such colossal neediness - and be discouraged to inaction.

Perhaps the tonic required of any fear or excuse not to look into the face of human suffering is to keep in mind that transformation is God's responsibility - ours is to simply risk "seeing" and then acting locally with what resources God has placed in our hands to respond to the plight of the suffering people in our neighborhood - I believe that is something we can all understand.

To that end, I would like to invite you to circle Monday, November 18th for a gathering of United Methodists as we begin to discover ways we can better respond to the opportunities our divine calling to see the face of the other the current immigration crisis is presenting the Church. We will hear the stories some of our vulnerable neighbors face and conference together on any particular ways we hear God calling us to respond.

Let me ask you to prayerfully consider if God is nudging you to look into the faces of the migrant people who live among us so that God might make of you a usable instrument through which understanding- and holy action - might alleviate the suffering of these "others." I have faith the journey will widen the circle of fellowship and broaden our sense of how to be a neighbor: by showing mercy to the plight of those abandoned at life's roadside.

I hope to see you November 18th, Raleigh UMC at 6:30 in the fellowship hall.

Every Blessing, Brad

## Alternative Market 2019

Friends, thank you for all your help with our annual fair trade event, Alternative Market. The volunteers from Ten Thousand Villages' Nashville store were so impressed by the spirit of our group, both workers and shoppers, and by how well we understand the mission of this event and of Ten Thousand Villages. Huge thanks to our unpackers, table stylists, repackers, and sales help. And the shoppers loved the items we had for sale. The total sales topped \$9,000, which was an increase over last year. This money will go back into the fair trade cycle, enabling more artisan contracts, which enables more artisans to support their families. Our repackers had the sales floor cleared and packed into the Nashville cars by 3:45! Thank you for shopping, for spreading the word, for volunteering your time. As I surveyed shoppers about how they heard about the event, "from a friend" was the most common response. To me, Trinity's hosting of this fair trade sale is a work of justice. I hope it helps you feel that you are approaching the Advent season with love and justice in your heart.

With love and thanks,  
Kay Jordan



## Holiday Care Packages for Our Military

Many of you will remember the Endsley family, who were members of Trinity before they scattered in all directions away from Memphis. Suzanna Endsley (former Trinity Dinner Theater rising star!) is on her second deployment to the Middle East with the Army Medical Task Force. There are 94 at the hospital and 10 in the unit she runs (male and female soldiers). She would love to be able to share care packages with her unit over the coming holiday season.

They have all the basics, but she said 'little happies' and anything that would brighten the sand/plywood/concrete environment in which they live and work would be greatly appreciated. I'm not an expert on what's best to send, but here are some thoughts - and feel free to come up with your own:

- Current magazines/paperback books/puzzle books
- Small games/puzzles/playing cards
- Snacks: dried fruit/nuts/candy/power bars/gum/mints/chips/popcorn/slimjims, etc.
- Powdered drink mix: coffee/tea/lemonade/apple cider, etc.
- Air freshener/scented candles (no aerosols, or anything containing alcohol)
- Small personal care items: lotion/body wash/hand sanitizer/wipes/lip balm/foot powder, etc.
- Notes of encouragement/gratitude - can be addressed to Suzanna or a general note to all

\*\*Note the following items that are NOT allowed: aerosols/pressurized products, perishable foods, pork products, alcohol, adult entertainment (including the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue!).

**Please deliver items no later than Wednesday, November 20th to the marked bin in the church entry hall.** I'll compile the items and pack them for shipping.

If you prefer to send a package or note directly to Suzanna, here's her shipping address:

Suzanna Endsley  
BDSC - Task Force Medical 14  
APO, AE 09305

Thanks for supporting those who serve! - Jinx Winn