



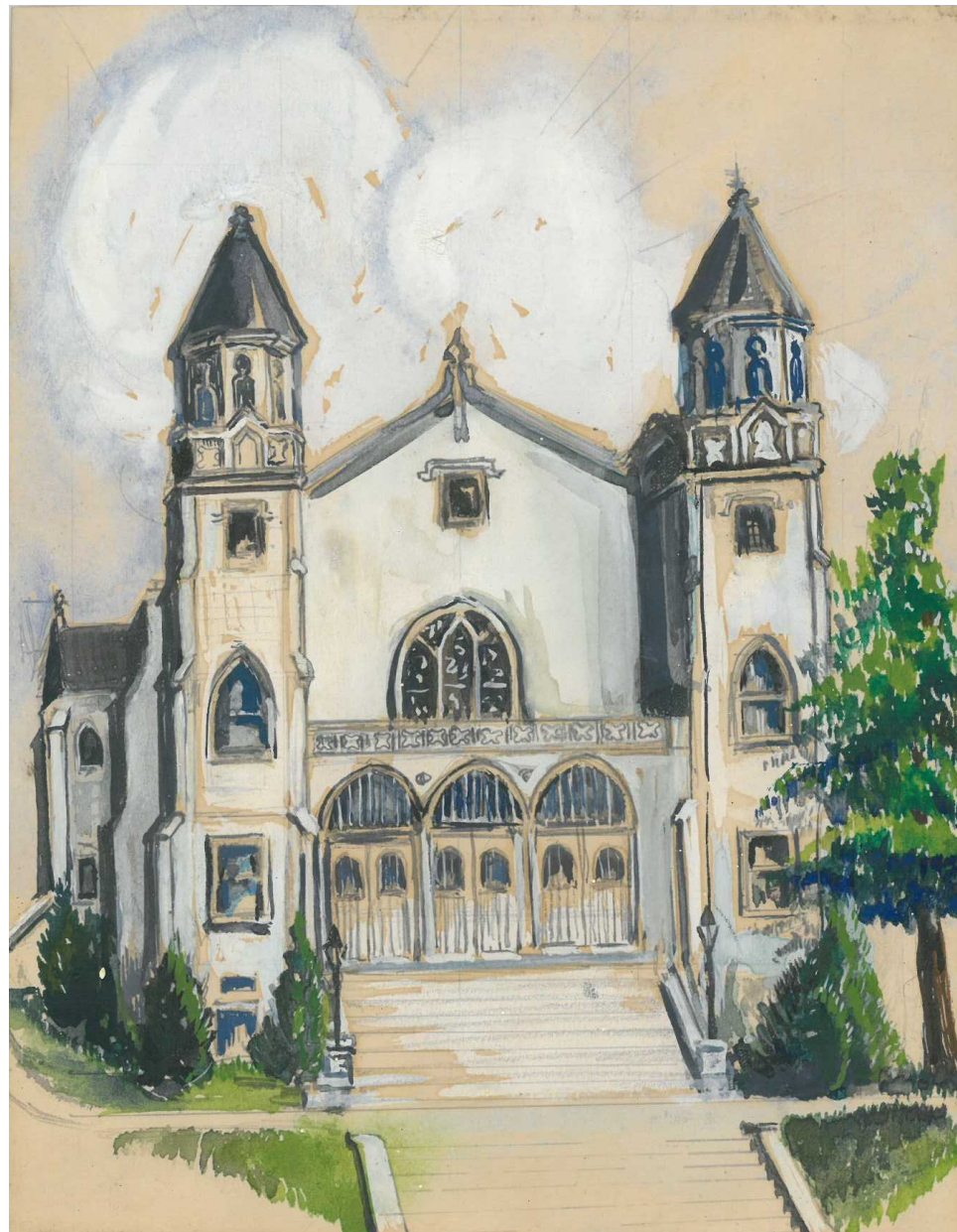
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Trinotes

January 23, 2019





Working Puzzles

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Cor. 12:7

When I was growing up, if the doors of the church were open, I was there. I knew every nook and cranny of the building. I knew how the office

staff made things work and happen. I knew that it is terribly inappropriate to climb up into the organ pipe room behind the front wall of the sanctuary and ‘play’ with the organ pipes. I was introduced, very early, to how a large church operates from the business end of things to the spiritual end.

In late high school, there was some major misconduct in my church among the clergy and related to the youth. It caused such a large ripple in the water – one of incredible hurt and distrust. For more than a decade, now, the church has worked to heal and rebuild its faith in one another and in what God has for them. But in witnessing it all as a youth, I was made aware of an alternative spiritual gift that I have – one of awareness and evaluation.

Even as a young person, I could see where something was wrong – whether it was in systems we’ve built or something more like an injustice. I was also strategic. Why can’t we do A instead of B? That might make this (whatever this was) better.

And so, of course, I became a pastor – not because of my eloquent use of words or my amazing intellect in teaching. I became a pastor

1. because it is my calling and
2. because I can see what’s wrong, what’s broken, or what isn’t working and strategize to make it better.

That’s my gift. If the others are true as well, well, that’s just a bit of an extra blessing. Isn’t it?

Sunday I preached on the gifts of the Spirit and how not one is greater to God than another but how necessary and important it is for each gift – given by God – to be used for the good of the community (both faith community and greater community). I spoke about how every gift is a puzzle piece and how disappointing it is to get through with a 10,000 piece puzzle and come up one piece short. We need all of the pieces. We need **your** piece.

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Our country and the world - for the family and friends of those killed or injured in school or workplace 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; for government employees during the current shutdown.

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 face transitions. Wisdom for our Trustees and Church Council.

Also, specific prayer requests by and for:

Joan Smith’s granddaughter **Sean’s** vision

Mary McConnell’s niece **Laura Fellin**, cancer—pray for her family.

Mac McConnell’s sister, **Peggy Sanderson**, passed away January 13th.

Please pray for her family during this time of grief.

Phil Phillips continues to battle leukemia at home.

Maggie Comes’ niece, **Katie Pendleton**, showing improvement

(Katie’s parents are Paul and Mary Yager.)

Dorothy Sue Smith as she continues to recover from injuries sustained in an auto accident.

Patricia Bladon, **Nancy Maddox’s** sister, back home with constant care.

Chris Glover’s sister, **Carol**, in crisis from heart surgery.

Joan Smith’s cousin, **Gaylon McDonald**, is recovering from surgery for colon cancer.

(Please contact the church office with any changes or additions to prayer list, or if a concern needs to be deleted.)

Upcoming

EVENTS

Youth Group Mid-Week Meeting

The youth will gather at Trinity UMC for dinner on Wednesday, January 23rd between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. On January 30th, they will meet at Global Café from 6-7 p.m.

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Sunday, January 27th, following worship. Lunch will be served by the Youth. Members of the congregation are, as always, welcome to attend.

Fellowship Breakfast

The next Fellowship Breakfast will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 10th, in the Fellowship Hall.

UMW Day Circle & Unit Meetings

The next UMW Day Circle meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 5th, in the Fellowship Hall. The Unit Meeting is scheduled for February 19 at 10:30 a.m., same location.

UMW Evening Circle Meeting

The Evening Circle of the UMW will not meet in January. Their next meeting is on February 25th in the Fellowship Hall.

Holy Communion

A Service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Room in the Inn

Trinity UMC will host our unsheltered neighbors each Tuesday evening through the end of March. (See article on page 8.)

Binghampton Food Pantry

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

Covenant Discipleship

The Wednesday evening Covenant Discipleship group continues to gather at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Trinotes

The deadline for submissions for the next Trinotes is February 11. Please email or deliver any articles to Debby Marston at 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.

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We have a 10,000 piece puzzle in front of us. When we're finished it won't look like the sanctuary building or the worship center (formerly: education building). It won't paint a picture of one thing we do as a church either. The 10,000 piece puzzle is the Kingdom of God. We've each been given a piece of it. Every single piece fits and one of my gifts is the ability to help you find where.

If you're still not sure where your piece fits, here are a few options:

1. Can you make beds, wash linens, serve a meal, hang out with guests, play board games, or camp out overnight at the church? We need your piece for Room in the Inn.
2. Can you be the second required Safe Sanctuaries trained adult for Youth Sunday School? We need your piece the 3rd and/or 4th Sunday mornings from 9:45 – 10:45 in the youth room.
3. Isn't it nice to visit a church and be welcomed and not have to look for the worship bulletin? Can you greet our Sunday morning worshippers? We need your piece from 10:45 – 11:00 in the worship center entryway.
4. Can you volunteer for recreation or science for Vacation Bible School this year? We need your piece June 10th – 14th from 8:30 – 12:00 in the TUMC Worship Center.
5. Can you hide Easter eggs, or cook breakfast, or paint faces? We need your piece for our annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Saturday, April 13th from 9:00 – 11:00.

Do you not see a place where your piece of the puzzle might fit? There are many, many other spots in the church and in the Kingdom where it will. I know that because I know we are each gifted in such a way that we have something holy, and perfect, and necessary in and for the Kingdom of God.

If you still need help discerning what God has given you, I'm here when you're ready. I'm **wonderful** at puzzles.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Sara

..... just a note

... FROM THE TRUSTEES

I have received many thanks and much praise over the past week for the work I've done to empty our former sanctuary

building, organize the move and find storage space for the things we're keeping, and organize the sale of excess items. While I truly appreciate the praise, the real thanks goes to a long list of people who answered my call for help and spent countless hours over the past couple of weeks sorting, packing, tossing, storing, moving, staging, pricing, baking, hosting, hauling, and selling! These are the people (in alpha order) who really made this process work:

Elaine Amis
Jeri Ashley
Cile Brooks
Flip Brooks
Myra Finch
Alyson Foreman
Chris Glover
Sam Goff
Joe Hatter

Kathy Isbell
Connie Johns
Kay Jordan
Carey Miller
Carol Miller
Mike Potter
Marc Taylor
Sue Taylor
Beryl Willard

(If I've omitted anyone, my sincerest apologies. And please let me know.)

Regarding the sale last Saturday: I would call the sale a success. In spite of the wind and rain and cold that moved in midday, we found new homes for a lot of things, saw old friends, and met new ones. I would say close to 200 people came through, and we collected close to \$4,000 (nearly \$500 of this from the Bake Sale - thanks bakers!). I'm still working to sell more before we pack up the remaining items for donation to various charities and organizations. The closing of the building sale is scheduled for January 31, so we have only a few more days to get everything out.

We are blessed!

- Jinx Winn / Head Trustee

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Their incredible work helps our unsheltered neighbors all around the Mid-South. This city needs RITI-Memphis to continue to flourish and grow. We will do our part each year as long as we are able.

We thank you all for your continued support. If you come to Trinity any Tuesday night, our guests will thank you, too. If you want to learn more about volunteering or donating, please email or call Lois Young at 870-559-2228 or loislane.young@gmail.com.

She was the **Mother of Methodism** who gave birth to two founders of the movement: John and Charles Wesley. Take a short quiz to test your knowledge on the history and characteristics of **Susanna Wesley**. Be sure to share the link to the webpage with friends so you can compare scores later. Go to www.trinityumcmemphis.org, click on the "About" tab & scroll down to the bottom of the page to the quiz. Enjoy!



Honorariums & Memorials

Memorials have been received:

*In memory of **Virginia Blanton** from Bonnie Erickson*

*In memory of **Evelyn Hendren** from her daughters,
Cindy, Jan, and Kerrin*

*In memory of **Peggy Sanderson** from
an anonymous donor*

*In memory of **Peggy Sanderson** from Tom Wilson*

*In memory of **Peggy Sanderson** from
Melba & Charles Abraham*

Honorariums have been received:

*In honor of **Jinx Winn** from Tom Wilson*



Sharing our blessings

By Lois M. Young

Sometimes you want to hoard all the money you have for that rainy day you know is coming. I do this, because I was taught to save and prepare. I even do this with the donations we receive for the Trinity Room in the Inn ministry. Trinity members and neighbors give donations, and I think, "We shouldn't spend too much of that, because we will need it for more supplies soon or some unknown emergency."

I spend a lot of money on RITI supplies: men's boxer shorts, women's underwear, T-shirts, bras, travel-sized antiperspirant and Gold Bond powder, toboggan hats, gloves, rain ponchos, tissue packs, and much more. It really adds up. I had been so busy last year that I did not turn in my receipts for reimbursement for many months. When I finally added it all up, it was almost \$2,000. I thought, "This is going to wipe us out." It didn't, but it left us with less than \$1,000. Rosemary and I still believed we would get more donations in the coming months that would help us through the end of the season.

My only regret was that we would not be able to help the city-wide program with an annual donation. For the past few years, we have helped support Room in the Inn-Memphis by giving a large gift of \$500 to \$1,000 each winter season. Without the city-wide program, Trinity would not be able to continue our RITI ministry. The program has grown so large in Memphis that they now need a few meagerly-paid staff members. They work tirelessly almost every day to make sure the program works perfectly, and our guests get screened and sent to the right churches each night. They also provide social work-type services, helping our guests get connected to the resources they need.

Within a day of me worrying about us not giving a donation, our Trinity RITI ministry received an unexpected \$1,000 gift from an Evergreen neighbor. Was this a coincidence? I don't know. Of course, my first thought was to keep it for our own needs, but then Rosemary and I talked about it and decided we should share it with RITI-Memphis.

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Please Feed the Pastor's Program Fund!

Believe it or not, the Grocery Voucher Fund is very healthy right now! Feeding people is really important, but sometimes folks need assistance with rent or utility bills. The Pastor's Program Fund is set up in order to have a discretionary fund that contributes to such needs. If you had intended to give to the grocery voucher fund, please, for now, redirect that money to "Pastor's Program."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February 6
February 7
February 12
February 12
February 19
February 27
February 27

Beryl Willard
Sally Ramsey
Jane Collins
Myra Finch
Paul Skjoldager
Amy Moritz
Rev. Sara Corum

March 1
March 3
March 6
March 6
March 13
March 14
March 16
March 19
March 19
March 31

Nelda Gray
Heather Jacoby-Keller
Becky Waldon
Joe Spake
Leanne Wilson
Anne Steinaway
Jane Waldrip
Alyson Foreman
Charles Abraham
Hadley Keller

(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.)



Parents Meeting for the TUMC Youth Group

Parents, we love your young people and we want to warmly invite you to attend an informational meeting next Tuesday, January 29th, from 6-7pm in the TUMC Youth Room (2nd Floor in the Fellowship Building).

[TUMC Church members - please know that you are also warmly invited to attend, especially if you are interested to further link your faith journeys with the TUMC Youth! Jump on board, it will be an adventure of fun and faith!]

We will discuss the following topics during our meeting and would love to have you there to share your thoughts and ideas that may be helpful as we strive to create and deliver a Youth Program which is meaningful to each of our amazing youth!

1. 2019 TUMC Youth Ministry Program Calendar
2. 2019 Youth Retreats and Summer Camp at Lakeshore
3. Possible 2019 Youth Summer Mission Trip
4. TUMC Safe Sanctuary Policy

Please come and help us make the TUMC Youth Ministry all it needs to be for your child, our church, and the world we seek to serve in God's name.

Grace & peace,
Brad Moritz

What's possible now?

By Amy Moritz

As a door closes in the life of Trinity UMC, we know that God is opening a new one! You are encouraged to participate in a process of discovery with other Trinity members over the next several months as we seek to discern what new thing (or things) God is calling us to. Please join the first "what's possible now?" gathering on:

Saturday, February 9, 2019

9:00am to 12:00pm

Trinity UMC



The purpose of the gathering is to take a minute to pause and observe all the gifts that God has placed in and around our church. The most important gift God has given us is each other. We will start the morning by sharing and celebrating the many gifts of individuals in our congregation. It will be a fun and interactive time to learn something new about other members and a way for us as a church to see the abundance of gifts that God has blessed us with.

We will also spend some time on Feb. 9 identifying the many gifts that God has placed around us in the neighborhood and through the community ministries and programs operating in and around the church.

This gathering will be the first step in a longer process to answer "what's possible now?" If you'd like a preview of the whole process, please attend the church council meeting on Sunday, January 28 after the worship service. Or, please feel free to call or email me at amycmoritz@gmail.com or 901-463-0983.

It is with eager anticipation that I hope to see you on Saturday, Feb. 9 as we step together with great curiosity toward the new door(s) that God is opening through Trinity UMC!