



Trinity United Methodist Church
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 U.S. POSTAGE
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 MEMPHIS, TN
 PERMIT number 817



Trinotes

October 10, 2018





The God Who is Seen

I'm a visual learner. Or, well, I'm a visual learner but also a hands-on learner. I have to see it or do it to understand it. This is why, at 33 years old, I cannot tell you that I could successfully change a tire if I had to.

It's not because I haven't been taught (several times). It's because I've more-or-less been told how to do it and have never seen it done or done it myself. I have to see it to know it.

I'll admit that I struggle with God sometimes for these same reasons. I want to see God. I want to put my hands-on God. I find myself envying the earliest of disciples who were privy to the wonders of God in Jesus Christ – in the flesh – in the presence – right there. And at times, when I'm reading the Gospels, I get terribly frustrated with the disciples because they just don't get it. They don't see how utterly blessed they are to be chosen as they are, to be there, in the presence of God Almighty.

And scripture doesn't help us too much. In Jesus we have a God who we can touch, but poor Moses – all he got was a burning bush without a definite name. Jacob got a stranger by the riverside who knocked his hip joint out of socket. Adam and Eve got something of God as God was walking through the Garden of Eden. Others witnessed theophanies (miraculous signs that could only be explained by God's omnipotence) – pillars of salt and fire, mighty clouds, divided seas, etc., and still, STILL, some didn't believe. I stand in awe when I read the stories of God's mightiness and then I shrink back in my questions, wondering if my imagination isn't painting grand enough pictures of who God is and who God would be if I could just reach out and touch and believe.

We have a bigger challenge than the few who in ancient Israel were privy to theophanies and Jesus himself. We are to remember that now God manifests in different ways. God is in the kindness of a stranger or in our consciousness that drives us to “do no harm and do good.” It's a challenge to find God, or at least remember that God is there, in the created order – in the changing colors of the leaves or the peaceful calm after a storm. It's a challenge to find God in one-another when we're so often exposed only to the brokenness of humanity and aren't as exposed to those who devote

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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.

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 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 .

Molly Rosson, doing well at 6 months of age. In physical, occupational, & speech therapies with a complex care clinic.

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

Mac McConnell's sister, **Peggy Sanderson**, cancer.

Phil Phillips continues to battle leukemia at home.

Kathryn “Gigi” Ellis, now back at home; wisdom on part of her caregivers.

Amanda Rozinski, 16 year old with muscular dystrophy & scoliosis.

The family and friends of **Snookie Mason**, in their grief at her passing.

Sara Grace Mathis, 16 year old friend of **Melba Abraham**, having outpatient chemotherapy at St. Jude.

The family of **Gwen Stuart**, who died Saturday, October 6th, after a long illness. Pray for the **Stuart Family** as they grieve this loss.

Sara Jane Goodman, whose sister, **Sallyanne Naile**, died unexpectedly. Be in prayer for the family.

The family of **Bobbie Smith Blevins (Joan Smith's cousin)**, now on hospice.

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

Upcoming

EVENTS

Fellowship Breakfast

Come Sunday, October 14th, at 9:30 a.m. for food and fellowship. Bring a friend or neighbor! We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall.

Manna on Monday

Servers needed on October 15th at Highland Heights UMC between 11:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Clean-up workers needed from 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

The chancel choir's regular rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Holy Communion

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

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.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

The SPRC will meet Sunday, October 21st, immediately following worship.

Trunk-or-Treat!

Join us for Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot of the Education Building on October 27 from 4:00–6:00 p.m. Candy! A bonfire!, S'mores! Bring your friends. (Rain date: October 28, same time)

Church Council

The Church Council will meet Sunday, October 28th, following worship. Members of the congregation are invited to attend.

Trinotes

The deadline for submissions for the next Trinotes is October 22nd. 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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themselves to helping others. And it's a struggle to not want what they had – to not covet the experience of being in the reach-out-and-touch-his-robos presence of Jesus.

Discipleship begins first with belief. We are to be disciplined in making whatever time and space we need to discover God in things that are far different from what we read in scripture. Maybe we find God in worship (I hope you do), but what about Monday? Do we see God when we look in the mirror, disheveled and consumed by the day ahead, and give thanks that what's reflected is God's image? Do we proverbially take time to stop and smell the roses – stop and notice God in the created order? How about in our close relationships? Do we see how the grace of God manifests itself in what we receive from those who become a part of our daily ins-and-outs? Do you want to join me in making this a part of your daily discipline? Will you pray with and for me?

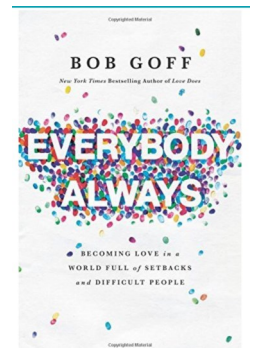
God of Wonders, you set the stars in their place and the earth in orbit. The grandness of the universe is due to your magnificence and still, still, still, you made us too. You created us with reason and ambition, with the capacity to love and to keep the world as you created it. Though we fail at times, your mercy remains and lives and dwells in each of us. Though we cannot always see your face, help us to see you in ours and to only magnify your goodness with our existence. In the name of the Creator, Sustainer, and Motivator, amen.

Prayers, Love, and Blessings,

Rev. Sara

Next Generation Class

Come join the Next Generation class as we begin the study of Bob Goff's book, *Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*. Our class meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 in the Conference Room: first door on the left past the elevator on the first floor. We look forward to a lively discussion with you on Sunday!





October 1	Davis Hopper
October 3	Marie Park
October 7	Tom Edwards
October 8	Nora Dycus
October 12	Evan Webster
October 13	Sullivan Potter
October 17	Flip Brooks
October 19	Jacob Foreman
October 27	Wade Humbert
October 31	Phil Waldon



One month and counting

by Lois M. Young

We are now one month away from the opening night of our sixth season with Room in the Inn-Memphis. I hope you will consider joining us in this ministry. We offer holy hospitality to those experiencing homelessness in Memphis.

Volunteer Training

We provide volunteer training on an ongoing basis, but each year we also hold a volunteer training session right before the season starts. This year Volunteer Training is Tuesday, October 30, from 6 to 7 p.m. This volunteer training session is not mandatory but it is helpful, especially for new volunteers. If you want to learn more about Room in the Inn and possibly take part as a volunteer this fall, please consider attending this session. This might also be a good refresher course for current volunteers. To sign up, email or call Lois Young, coordinator (loislane.young@comcast.net, 870-559-2228).

Meal Schedule

We already have meals pledged for 13 of the 20 nights this season. At Room in the Inn, the evening meal is a fellowship meal where our volunteers sit down with the guests, and everyone eats together. So, our meal providers offer enough food to fill 30 to 50 plates depending on how many volunteers they bring with them to eat with the guests. Currently, the open dates are November 20, December 11 and 18, January 22, February 12 and 26 and March 26. If you know a group that might be interested in this ministry, please send them my way: (loislane.young@comcast.net or 870-559-2228).

Donations

Our clothes closet is very full of gently worn clothes, and we currently don't have storage room for more. We will always take donations of backpacks, women's underwear (all sizes) and travel-sized antiperspirant. We also need funds to buy the weekly breakfast supplies and other supplies that are needed to care for our guests. If you would like to donate to the Trinity Room in the Inn ministry, please make your checks out to Trinity United Methodist Church and then put **Room in the Inn** on the memo line. We are grateful for your support and so are our guests.

Honorariums & Memorials

Memorials have been received:

In memory of Snookie Flint Mason from Betty J. Duncan

In memory of Snookie Mason from Chris Glover

In memory of Snookie Mason from the UMW Evening Circle

In memory of Sallyanne B. Naile from Shirley Flint

Honorariums have been received:

In honor of Joe Hatter on his birthday from

Melba and Charles Abraham

In honor of Joe Hatter on his birthday from Chris Glover

OCTOBER 27, 4:00-6:00
(RAIN DATE -
OCTOBER 28, 4:00-6:00)



JOIN US FOR

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

TRINITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
1738 GALLOWAY AVE.

CANDY, AND BONFIRE, AND S'MORES!!

COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

MANNA ON MONDAY MINISTRY NEEDS HELP!

As you may know, our Manna on Monday ministry occurs on the third Monday of every month to feed the homeless and highly marginalized folks in the Highland Heights area. Lunch is provided and served by Trinity at Highland Heights UMC (NW corner of Highland and Summer) at noon. We are looking for a few more volunteers to help in this outreach ministry, specifically as servers from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and to help with clean up from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.. No prior experience required—just willing hearts, hands and feet!! Please contact either Rosemary Potter at (901) 493-6744 or Myra Finch at (901) 653-8061. You'll be glad you did... and so will we!



BINGHAMPTON FOOD PANTRY



Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry at Binghampton UMM, 258 N. Merton St., is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables....people can come as often as they want for these.

Once a month, persons can request an emergency food bag (canned goods, peanut butter, cereal, rice, dried beans, soup, etc). Neither of these options require any proof of residency or need....you ask, you receive. Individuals and families who need an emergency food bag can call Michael Anderson at (901) 503-2748.

Trinity members: please continue to bring staple items for the food pantry each Sunday—one item per household member—as we partner in this vital ministry to the poor. A basket has been placed on the counter at the front desk if you prefer to give a cash donation.

November 6 is Election Day



BAKE SALE

Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, is only 3 weeks away! It will also be BAKE SALE DAY at Trinity Church! We need lots of baked goodies for our sale. Many of Trinity's neighbors look forward to our bake sales on election days, and often they come very early, ready to purchase those delicious baked goods. Proceeds will go toward support of the benevolence ministries of the church, including the food voucher program.

We are asking every family in the church to bake one or more items to sell. An "item" is a cake, batch of cookies, pie, loaf of bread, batch of muffins or cupcakes, etc. Please identify what each item is, such as "Banana Nut Bread," etc. If you want to leave a special note, such as "made from scratch," feel free to do so. However, do NOT put prices on your baked goods ahead of time; we will price everything at the food table.

All sale items need to be delivered to Trinity Church no later than 3 p.m. on Monday afternoon, November 5. Smaller baked items such as cookies and brownies should be packed in zip-lock bags, 4 to a package if large ones and 6 to a package if smaller.

We need everyone to help out with this project by baking items for sale. We also need helpers at the sales table, located in the hallway outside the voting area in Trinity's Education Building. We will need two volunteers on duty at all times, from 7:00 a.m. until about 4:00 p.m. To offer your services as a baker or a salesperson, please e-mail Kay Jordan at jordanck2@gmail.com or call her at 901 299-2624.

ALTERNATIVE MARKET IS COMING!

- ⇒ Do you like to shop?
- ⇒ Do you like to find unusual, one-of-a-kind gifts?
- ⇒ Do you shop with concern for the people who make the items you purchase?
- ⇒ Then Alternative Market is the place for you!

Our annual Alternative Market will be **November 9-11**. We will again be working with our friends from Ten Thousand Villages Nashville, and our event will be an off-site sale for that store. Credit cards will be accepted, and we won't have to run the funds through the church bank account. We'll be selling fair trade coffee and chocolate, as well as crafts. Profits go back to the work of fair trade. This is not a fund-raiser for the church. It is a ministry.

If you've been involved in this event in the past (as volunteer and as shopper), you remember its purposes:

- ⇒ to offer socially responsible options for the purchase of gifts
- ⇒ to simplify the holiday season, reclaiming the focus from gifts we give people to the gift God has given us in Jesus

We need volunteers to help with one or more of the following activities:

- ⇒ Publicists (put up posters, distribute fliers, get articles in newsletters and the newspaper). Ideas for other ways to publicize are much needed!
- ⇒ Salespersons/attendants for the sales area—keep displays neat.
- ⇒ Unpackers and display people to arrange crafts for sale (Set-up is Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)
- ⇒ Cleanup people and re-packers for crafts not sold (Sunday after 3:00 p.m.)

If you are able to volunteer in one of these areas, please contact Kay Jordan at 901-299-2624, or call the church office. We will also have sign-up sheets.

