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Trinotes

October 24, 2018





The Giving Tree

As a child one of my favorite books was Shel Silverstein's The Giving Tree. I lament that this classic has been replaced as "common core" reading for pre-schoolers by books like Llama Llama Red Pajama and Chicka Chicka Boom Boom – not that these aren't wonderful books, but there's just something beautiful about a book, aimed at small children, that so eloquently explains agape or unconditional love.

If you're unfamiliar with the book, the storyline follows...

There is a female apple tree and a young boy who become friends. The boy climbs the tree, and stays under the tree, and communicates with the tree. As the boy grows and the tree, who loves the boy, evolves, the boy's needs change and the tree gives the boy what he needs. In the end, the tree becomes nothing but a stump because of all the 'boy' takes from the tree and still, a stump, becomes a place for the boy, who is now an old man, to sit and rest. The tree has, for all his life, given the boy both what he wants and what he needs.

It is a story that can be read as a picture of selfless love – of endless giving and ultimate sacrifice.

One of our frequent visitors reached out to me this week with an unmet need in our community. Shelli works for Title 1 Jackson Elementary School here in Memphis. Shelli, in reflecting on all that Trinity already does to care for this community, made it a point to acknowledge just how much we care – that, that's what draws her to Trinity. It's part of our goal, in emulating servanthood and the sacrificial love of Christ, to always be searching for the unmet needs in our community. It just so happens that Shelli has brought us one.

There are 300 students at Jackson Elementary school. Many of the students receive coats through a coat donation drive to make it through the winter. But what the children don't have is hats and gloves/mittens.

I know we give so much already. We offer our space to just about anyone in the community who needs it. We gather food for Binghampton United Methodist Mission. We accept clothes for our clothes closet, provide
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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, please pray that she will eat more to sustain her growth.

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 and friends of **Gwen Stuart** as they mourn her passing.

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

The family and friends of **Roberta Henderson**, as they grieve her loss.

The family and friends of **Peggy Tate**, as they grieve her passing.

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

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.

All Saints Sunday will be observed on November 4th.

Alternative Market

This free trade Market is scheduled for November 9–11. See the article on page 7 of this issue of *Trinotes*.

Manna on Monday

Servers needed on November 19th 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. There will be no rehearsal on October 31st. As the time nears for the choir's Christmas Musical, Saturday rehearsals are scheduled for 9:00-11:00 a.m. on November 10 & 11:00–1:00 on December 1 at Ellendale UMC and 9:00-11:00 a.m. on November 17 & December 8 at Trinity.

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.

Trinotes

The deadline for submissions for the next *Trinotes* is November 12th. 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

(continued from page 2—*The Giving Tree*)

bus passes and food vouchers when they're needed (and they always are), and provide a warm place to stay once a week for Room in the Inn. We do a lot. We meet a lot of needs. We are very, very faithful.

Now what?

Trinity is in a “now what” season. As we prepare to “right size” with our physical plant, we often talk about being freed for joyful obedience in Christ – directly from our communion liturgy. But, free for what?

We are free to address the *next* need because the poor will always be with us. The need right now is as simple as a hat and mittens for a student at a nearby school. This Sunday you'll notice a tree in the entryway of the fellowship hall. It's a familiar tree that made an appearance first last Advent, on which children hung messages of their hopes for the coming of the season of Christmas. This Sunday our tree will become the Giving Tree and it will stay in the entryway through the month of November. On it you will be encouraged to hang (new) hats and mittens or gloves for the students at Jackson. Our goal is small – 100. What a world of difference 100 hats or gloves and/or mittens will make for these students as the weather gets colder this season. Josh and I will commit to 10 of the 100. Will you commit to matching us?

Help me with what's next. Help me decorate our Giving Tree. Help me love our neighbors.

Many Blessings,

Rev. Sara



Honorariums & Memorials

Memorials have been received:

- In memory of **Snookie Mason** from Jeri Ashley*
*In memory of **Snookie Mason** from Betty Lou Brooks*
*In memory of **Snookie Mason** from Edna Hoffman*
*In memory of **Gwen Stuart** from Elaine Amis*
*In memory of **Gwen Stuart** from Jeri Ashley*
*In memory of **Gwen Stuart** from Eddie & Sally Ramsey*
*In memory of **Gwen Stuart** from Melba & Charles Abraham*
*In memory of **Gwen Stuart** from Mike & Rosemary Potter*
*In memory of **Gwen Stuart** from Edna Hoffman*
*In memory of **Roberta Henderson** from
Melba & Charles Abraham*
*In memory of **Roberta Henderson** from
Rosemary & Mike Potter*
*In memory of **Roberta Henderson** from Elaine Amis*
*In memory of **Jo Hughes** from Betty Lou Brooks*
*In memory of **Peggy Tate** from Elaine Amis*
*In memory of **Peggy Tate** from Melba & Charles Abraham*
*In memory of **Peggy Tate** from Rosemary & Mike Potter*
*In memory of **Peggy Tate** from Shirley Flint*

Honorariums have been received:

- In honor of **Charlotte Comes** from Betty Lou Brooks*
*In honor of **Bertha Ching** from Betty Lou Brooks*



Throughout October, Room in the Inn-Memphis is celebrating a “Month of Making Room.” The city-wide program coordinates nearly 50 faith and non-profit partners across Shelby County, spanning 14 denominations, to provide safe shelter for men and women seven nights a week all winter. The program also offered more than 100 days of shelter for homeless women this summer.

Trinity United Methodist Church could not be involved in this program without the support and guest coordination by the Room in the Inn-Memphis staff. Help us keep this ministry going by becoming a monthly donor. We call monthly donors **Innkeepers**, because they provide financial support for RITI services. That support allows us to offer Holy Hospitality to our unsheltered neighbors.

Text INNKEEPER to 44321 to receive a link to make a secure, tax-deductible donation of your choosing. You can also go to www.roomintheinn-memphis.com and click on the green “Donate” button at the top of the page. Thanks for helping us make room in the inn.



CHRISTMAS MUSICAL COMING!

by John Holtzman

Christmas is on its way, and our wonderful choir is working very diligently on our Christmas musical, "Home for Christmas." As you are aware, we are doing this in conjunction with the Ellendale UMC choir. John Lane, Choir Director at Ellendale has met with our choir for a rehearsal and complimented our choir on how well they are learning this musical.

Please mark your calendars and "save the date" for Sunday, December 9th, at 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to hear the combined voices of the Trinity and Ellendale choirs as they sing this musical. With our combined choirs we will have around 35 choir members. If you wish to participate please join us during choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. I will share more about the musical in upcoming issues of the Trinotes.

Please invite your family, friends, and maybe church members who have not attended in a while. This is something you will not want to miss.

Order Your Poinsettias for Advent & Christmas!

It's time to start thinking about ordering your Poinsettias for the Advent season and Christmas. Bayless Greenhouse is offering red poinsettias in 6.5" pots for \$7.00 each. We will make order forms available to you beginning November 4th. This is one of the ways we make our worship space beautiful for the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas. We will have the flowers delivered just prior to December 2nd, the first Sunday in Advent, in time for the Christmas musical.



November 1	Jay Allmon
November 4	Hayden Belue
November 4	Edna Hoffman
November 6	Sarah McFalls
November 7	Joan Smith
November 14	Cooper Tate
November 17	Mary McConnell
November 18	Jae Hechinger
November 21	George Pence
November 25	Carson Witt
November 26	Vanoma Newhart
November 27	Shirley Flint
November 27	Donna Windham
November 29	Cara Hechinger
November 29	John Allmon
November 29	Jonathan Goff

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(See Genesis 6-8)

10-06-1998

IT WAS ONLY AFTER NOAH FINISHED HIS ARK PROTOTYPE THAT HE FINALLY ADMITTED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT A CUBIT WAS



BAKE SALE

UPDATE

Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, is only two weeks away! It will also be BAKE SALE DAY at Trinity Church! We need lots of baked goodies for our sale. 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. Remember, label the item, but there is no need to price them; we take care of that. All sale items need to be delivered to Trinity Church no later than 3:00 p.m. on Monday afternoon, November 5. Smaller baked items such as cookies and brownies should be packed in zip-lock bags, four to a package if large ones and six to a package if smaller.

We still need helpers at the sales table, located in the hallway outside the voting area in Trinity’s Education Building. We need two volunteers on duty at all times; at present only the 9-11 am slot is full. 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.

Reminder: Alternative Market is coming!

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 will 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.

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

- 1) Publicists (put up posters, distribute fliers, get articles in newsletters and the newspaper). Ideas for other ways to publicize are much needed!
- 2) Salespersons/attendants for the sales area—keep displays neat; especially on Saturday, any hours between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- 3) Cleanup people and repackers 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 do have enough volunteers for unpacking/set-up; thank you if you have volunteered there! Spread the word to your friends to come and shop!

How Fair Trade Works:

