



Trinity United Methodist Church
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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.

Trinotes



Church in the Sand

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” John 4:21-24

A little over a week ago, at the end of a long and wonderful family vacation, we found ourselves on the beach in Gulf Shores. It



was a chilly day but the sun was coming out from behind the clouds and it was warming up beautifully. The water was chilly, but the boys refused to use that as an excuse not to get in up to their chins. I shivered, thinking what that must feel like. I stood at what felt like the edge of the world, digging my toes in the sand and letting the icy water brush against my ankles, breathing a sigh of relief that our trip, months in the making, was a flawless

adventure. I let my mind wander past the stress of it all — the traffic, the expense, and what it means to leave one’s congregation behind for a week. I gave thanks for the personal permissions I was able to give myself to go away and play — to be “mom” and “wife” for awhile and little else. My heart was full. As the waves brushed upon the sand, little seashells became exposed. The boys quickly discovered this and engaged in an hour-long treasure hunt for all the fragments of shells we ended up toting, covered in sand,

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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 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.

Phil Phillips, undergoing transfusions; low blood count and very weak

Maggi Comes’ niece, **Katie Pendleton**, diagnosed with Tumefactive MS

Dorothy Sue Smith, on the loss of her sister, **Annabelle Chumney**

Kanyan Glover, **Chris Glover’s** great-nephew, waiting on heart transplant; on artificial heart in ICU at Le Bonheur.

Marico Mason, needs lung transplant; trying to get back on transplant list

Bryce Sellers, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Doris Webster, recovering at home & receiving in-home nursing care

Dick Faulk, **Charlotte Comes’** cousin, moving to nursing facility from rehab

Joan Foley, recovering from back surgery & doing well

Family and friends of **Donald Taylor**, who died March 9th of a stroke

Family and friends of **Chuck Comes**, who died of cancer March 26th

(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 Elemento Neapolitan Pizza on Wednesday, April 3rd, between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. On April 10th, they will gather at Area 51 Ice Cream at 6:00 p.m.

UMW Meetings

The UMW Day Circle meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3rd, at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The UMW Unit Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16th at 10:30 a.m., same location. The Evening Circle will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 22nd in the Fellowship Hall.

Community Connections Churchwide Gathering

Saturday, April 6th from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Worship Center.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny—April 13th, 9:30 am—Noon at the Worship Center

Manna on Monday

Servers needed on April 18th 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.

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 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Guatemalan Consulate—Save the Dates!

The Consulate will be on site at TUMC on May 18-19 and September 21-22. (See article on page 8 about other important upcoming events.)

Trinotes

The deadline for submissions for the next *Trinotes* is April 8th. 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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home to Memphis. Their wonder, and excitement, and utter joy made me grin a tired grin.

I found a spot close enough to the water that I could keep an eye on the boys — not yet ‘real’ swimmers. I watched the gulls fly over and the boats pulling parasailers in the distance. And in a moment of clarity I realized, “It’s Sunday.” For a moment guilt washed over me. This wasn’t a pulpit. It wasn’t even a pew. We weren’t in church. I was wearing a raggedy t-shirt and stretchy capri pants with flip flops. My hair was wind-blown and make-up was carelessly thrown on my face. I didn’t even know what time it was. I hadn’t much thought of what my appearance was or what time it was for days. More importantly, I wasn’t with people — people of faith — other Christians. I was mostly alone on a beach with my family and it was Sunday.

But the guilt, as quickly as it came, left. I’d spent the better part of two hours, already, worshipping. I’d given thanks to God for the peace-filled moments — for the sounds of the ocean and it’s beauty — for the laughter of my children and their joy — for the faithfulness of my husband and his love for us — for the goodness of a congregation that joined me in the joy of taking time away. The sun in the sky and the birds singing their flight songs, had brought me to tears of happiness as I’d felt a renewal of life and perspective that could only be achieved in the “break.”

These moments reminded me that worship can happen anywhere and also that no one needs to create a worship space for us. God is in every beautiful thing that we experience and yearns for our praise and our joy. God calls us to a holy sense of rest and peace called sabbath, knowing that in that sabbath rest we will hear so clearly what God has to share. The church has no walls. John Wesley is known for saying, “The world is my parish,” and so it is. And, whether it be Sunday morning, Wednesday afternoon, or late Friday night, God hopes that we’ll search for ways to be in communion, not only with God, but also those whom God loves.

I suppose that moment of guilt was helpful. It reminded me of the holiness of that time — that time away from the pulpit — away from the pews, where God still was and is and will forever be.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Sara

CONNECTION IS IN OUR DNA

By Amy Moritz

I am fascinated by our early Methodist history. I believe that origin stories have a lot to teach us. You may have heard the term “class meeting” from the Methodist origin story. Every person was required to be part of a class or small group that met weekly. Did you also know that each small group reached deep into the community caring for many different types of needs and alongside many kinds of partners? There were connections to health clinics, schools, charity missions such as the Strangers’ Friend Society, and prisons.

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley, was clear that God is known through means of grace. I believe that God’s grace flows through our connections to each other within the walls of the church and beyond. I think it is fascinating to think about how our connection and partnership with the Boy Scouts, Snowden Elementary, Rhodes College, or Evergreen Neighborhood Association is a means of grace, a vehicle through which God becomes more deeply known by others.

At our next Community Connections Gathering, we will take some time to inventory all of Trinity UMC’s current partnerships and connections. We will celebrate what God has done through these partnerships and begin to imagine what else could be done. How else could our connections into the community and partnerships with other organizations be a catalyst for others to more deeply know God and know themselves as God’s beloved children?

I love the way the power of connection in the early Methodist movement is captured by Theodore Runyan’s book, The New Creation: John Wesley’s Theology Today. He writes that by these connections into the community “the spirit of the movement extended into the community an evangelism based, not on the hard sell, but by the inherent attractiveness of a holistic concern for persons at the point of their need.”

What an amazing origin story we have! What a faithful witness to that heritage TUMC has been! I can’t wait to see what else God has in store for TUMC in our little corner of Memphis! Let’s keep discovering and discerning together on April 6.

Community Connections Church-wide Gathering
Saturday, April 6, 2019
TUMC Worship Center
9:00am – 12:00pm

Our time together on April 6 will be very interactive and include conversation around the distinction of “doing ministry for” and “doing ministry with” as well as the distinction between ministries of charity and ministries that transform communities. We will also spend time in small groups looking at all the ways we partner with the community and begin to ask what more might God be inviting us to do.

Honorariums & Memorials

Memorials have been received:

*In memory of **Marie Park** from Katy Spake*

*In memory of **Annabelle Chumney** from an anonymous donor*

*In memory of **Donald Taylor** from an anonymous donor*

Honorariums have been received:

*In honor of **Craig & Kay Jordan** from Irene Dycus*

Please Feed the Pastor’s Program Fund!

Believe it or not, the Grocery Voucher Fund is still extremely healthy! (Praise God!) 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.”



(Another “Save the Date”)

The 2019 Memphis Annual Conference will be held at Collierville United Methodist Church on June 2—5. You can go to the Conference website for details: <https://www.memphis-umc.net/>.

SAVE THE DATE!

We Want YOU There!

Here are some dates we hope you'll put on your calendar. There's a lot happening in the next few months at TUMC!

- Community Connections Gathering no. 2: Saturday, April 6th, 9:00-12:00 (the Worship Center) [See article on page 4]
- Trinity EGGstravaganza!: Saturday, April 13th, 9:30 until whenever all the eggs are found! (TUMC) [See article on page 5.]
- Maundy Thursday, 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Center
- Good Friday - Binghampton UMM, 258 N. Merton St.
Stations of the Cross, 11:00 a.m.—12:00 noon
Worship, 12:30—1:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross (continued) 1:30—2:30 p.m.
- Easter Sunday: Sunday, April 21st
- Guatemalan Mobile Consulate Visit no. 1: May 18th-19th (TUMC)
- TUMC Vacation Bible School 2019: June 10th-14th, 8:30-12:00 (TUMC)

Do you already see some things you want to volunteer for? We have many spots to fill and your gifts are needed, from leading crafts at the Easter egg hunt, to donating funds for Vacation Bible School. We need prayers for everything that's coming up. Please look and see where you can jump in and serve and, if you need help deciding, give the church a ring and we'll help you discover just where your gifts are needed most.



It's almost here! BUT we need **you**!

Our second annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny is right around the corner — April 13th (9:30 - 12:00) — and we still need lots of hands to make this event a success. Last year we were wonderfully over-run with folks who joined us for breakfast, participated in simple Easter-themed crafts, and hunted eggs. We ran out of space. We ran out of food. Every egg was found. And, it was wonderful!

This year we plan to serve breakfast from 9:30 until 10:30. Our bunny isn't in a big suit because that often scares small kiddos. We will have crafts, and pancakes, a spot to take photos, and loads of fun!

If this year is anything like last, we need your help. The kitchen (breakfast) is covered, set, and ready to go, with fewer items being cooked but larger quantities being prepared, thanks to Flip Brooks and his team of kitchen experts.

The eggs and candy have already been bought and are stuffed and ready to go, thanks to Alyson Foreman and Joan Smith.

What we still need is YOU. We need folks to greet (make relationships with) our visitors and neighbors. We need folks to hide eggs. We need willing hands to give simple directions at craft tables. We need folks to hang around and do some clean-up duty after all is said and done.

We are all in this together. This is one of those events where we have to be to make it work. Take a second and think of what your gifts might be for this event and then give the church office a call or shoot me an email at bechrist77@gmail.com.

Hoping you'll hop on over,
Rev. Sara



April Calendar of Youth Activities

Sunday School—Youth Room
9:45-10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings

NOTE: No Sunday School for Youth on April 14th (Fellowship Breakfast) or April 21st (Easter Sunday)

Schedule for Wednesdays (6:00 to 7:00 p.m.)

April 3rd—Elemento Neapolitan Pizza

April 10th—Area 51 Ice Cream

April 17th—Global Café

April 24th—Dinner at TUMC (Youth Room)

★ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** ★

April 2 Richard Ashley
April 10 Rita Allmon
April 19 Mary Alice Taylor
April 20 Bob Binkley
April 24 Karen Willard
April 25 Rachel Adkins
April 27 Jeff Potter

[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.]



BINGHAMPTON UMM
&
TRINITY UMC
ESTACIONES DEL
CAMINO A LA CRUZ
[STATIONS OF THE CROSS]
258 N. MERTON ST.
GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 19, 11 AM–2:30 PM
[SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS]



Summer sessions for women experiencing homelessness

By Lois M. Young

For the second summer Trinity United Methodist Church will be one of about 17 Memphis congregations providing emergency shelter for women one night a month from May through September. Our night will be the fourth Tuesday of these months.

We still have three open spots needing meal providers. Our current meal schedule:

- May 28
- June 25
- July 23: Food for the Hungry Ministry (Paula Dickson)
- August 27
- September 24: Crosstown HS Culinary (Ginger Spickler, Jacob Weaver)

Of course, we will still need plenty of other volunteers for these sessions. If you want to get involved, please contact me at 870-559-2228 or loislane.young@gmail.com.

During the winter, Room in the Inn-Memphis provides about a fourth of the available beds for homeless women in the city. The hope is that we can get other congregations involved, so the city-wide program can continue to provide at least 12 beds each night during the summer. Any break that we can provide these women will be welcome and helpful.

Current Clothes Closet Needs

- Women's gently-worn SUMMER clothes (no winter clothes at this time)
- Women's new underwear (all sizes)
- Women's bras (all sizes)
- Women's tank tops (all sizes)
- Small packs of baby wipes
- Travel-sized Kleenex packs