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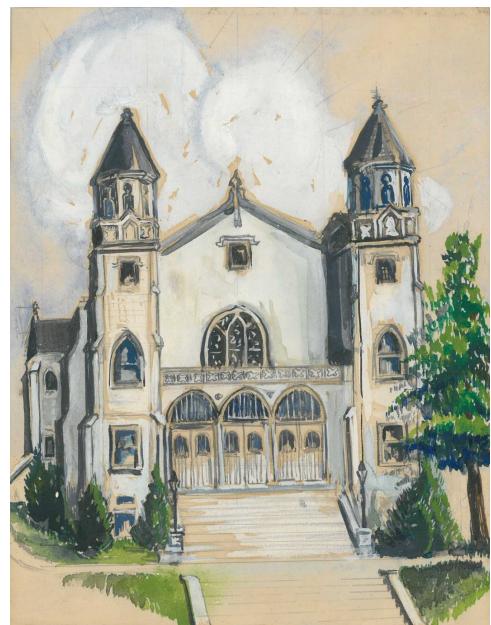
Trinity United Methodist Church

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### What's in a Name?

"What's in a name?
That which we call a rose
By any other name would smell as sweet."

– Juliet, William Shakespere (Romeo and Juliet)

It was Juliet who asked the question in William Shakespere's

classic tragedy, *Romeo and Juliet*. In the play, Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet meet and fall in love. They are doomed from the start as members of two warring families. In this scene Juliet tells Romeo that a name is an artificial and meaningless convention, and that she loves the person who is called "Montague" -- not the Montague name and not the Montague family. Romeo, out of his passion for Juliet, rejects his family name and vows, as Juliet asks, to "deny (his) father" and instead be "new baptized" as Juliet's love because, well, "what's in a name?"

In ancient Israel, names were extremely important. Then, someone's name not only designated who the person was, but suggested the traits of the person. For instance, the Hebrew name Adam means human or earthling and comes from the word that means earth or ground --suggesting there was some correlation (like maybe being made from dust?). The word *adam* is used throughout chapters two and three as a designation of "the human" and isn't used as a name until Genesis 4. Thus, the name Adam was used not only as a title, but also as a description of the person.

Knowing someone's name also carried with it a familiar aspect that implied that not only did you know who the person was, but that you had some power over the person. For instance, in the New Testament, Jesus asked a demon what his name was, and the demon was compelled to answer, "My name is Legion, for we are many" (Mark 5.9). Jesus' interest in the name likely reflects the tradition that names are important, and they carry power over the person as well.

My name carries much weight. I'm named Sara after my great-grandmother on my mother's side. My middle name is Katherine – similar to my father's mother, Kathleen. Corum is my surname and one I am very thankful to have. The Corums were educators – my grandfather and father both passionate about Special Education and at the forefront of writing state-wide and (even) national legislation so that every child has an appropriate opportunity to learn. In Biblical times, then, I would be (until I

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### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Our country and the world - for the family and friends of those killed or injured in school 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 and her sons, Cooper and Aiden; 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 facing difficult decisions.

Also, specific prayer requests by and for:

Joan Smith's granddaughter Sean's vision

**Molly Rosson**, baby born with serious health problems and not expected to survive, is now at home. (See article on page 5.)

Qahtan, Dalia Alnaaman's uncle with metastatic cancer

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

Phil Phillips continues to battle leukemia at home.

Sue Taylor's brother-in-law, Allen Helms, receiving treatment for cancer Chris Glover's brothers, Bill, Don, and Bob, have ongoing health concerns.

**Robert Lawson,** son-in-law of **Elaine Amis** and husband of **Diane**, ongoing treatment for throat and tongue cancer; now has feeding tube.

**Elizabeth Hopper** requests prayer for the **White Family** as the father undergoes treatment for cancer

Maxine Guerry, friend of Jim Schaeffer, diagnosed with abdominal cancer

**Elise Davis**, **Nelda Gray**'s great-niece, recovering at home **Edna Hoffman**, wrist broken in three places

Vickie, Edna Hoffman's daughter-in-law, recovering from eye surgery;

prosthetic eye to be implanted in the next few weeks. **Charlotte Comes,** ongoing health issues

(Please contact the church office with any changes to prayer list.)



Landscaping clean-up May 5th from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Church Council Meeting May 6th at 12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Board of Trustees May 7th at 6:30 p.m., Conference Room.

Manna on Monday

Food preparation will occur on Sunday, May 13th, at 2:00 p.m., with meal delivery to Highland Heights UMC at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, May 14th.

Holy Communion

Served every Wednesday morning at 10:00 in the Chapel.

Binghampton Food Pantry

Tuesdays & Fridays at 258 Merton, 8:00-11:00 a.m. In case of emergency, food can be obtained by calling Michael Anderson at (901) 503-2748.

Room in the Inn-Emergency Summer Housing

On the fourth Tuesday of each month from May 22nd through September 25th, Trinity will provide overnight housing, a meal, and clothes closet access on an emergency basis. Housing will be limited to women without shelter.

<u>SPPRC Meeting</u> May 20th at 12:30 p.m., Conference Room

**UMW** Meetings

The UMW Day Circle meets on the first Tuesday of each month. The monthly UMW Unit Meeting is scheduled for May 15th in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. The UMW Evening Circle normally meets the fourth Monday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. The Evening Circle will meet on May 22nd to serve the RITI meal.

Covenant Discipleship

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

**Scouts** 

Cub Scout pack meetings are held Sunday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. Boy Scouts meet Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

**Trinotes** 

The deadline for submissions for the next Trinotes is May 7th. Please email or deliver any articles to Debby Marston, our administrative officer, at: office@trinityumcmemphis.org. Trinotes is now available as an electronic file. 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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was married) Sara the daughter of Tilman, the teacher (if anyone chose to know my name).

When I got married I became a Tate. As a somewhat feminist millennial, many thought it very interesting that I opted to take my husband's name, but I did that for several reasons. I knew in many ways that the two shall leave their families and become one. In-so-doing, would commit to writing our own story and "Tate" was okay with me. And the other reason was really that I considered it a gift to my husband to take his name.

Over the last three years, then, it's been a challenge to re-discover who I am because, "What's in a name?" -- well, everything. I was a Tate but no longer yoked to one. Reclaiming my identity as a Corum, at the forefront, was impossible. The struggle was real....

...until the day I remembered that, though I could not figure out who exactly I was, God knew. God knew me in my knitting, in my mother's womb. God knows the number of hairs on my head. God knows my thoughts, my heart, and the jargon that spills from my mouth before I ever share it. Why God chooses to not stop it from spilling out, I'll never know. Maybe I couldn't know me, but the One who never left me did and walked alongside me until I figured it out again.

Many of you know that I am getting married in two weeks. I don't really know what it means to be married a second time. I didn't come from divorce and so re-engaging in marriage is uncharted territory for me. I do know one thing, however. I know, now—thanks to God's faithfulness, patience with myself, and persistence—my name. It's not McClurkan (Josh's name). It can't be. It can't be Tate anymore. It's Corum.

It'll take some getting used to. There will be many conversations to have. But, this is where God has led me (dragged me.....coaxed me....) I am Sara Katherine Corum, the daughter of teachers, a devout "Pinterest mom" whose children will always come first, doting hopefully in love fiancée, and fearlessly passionate proclaimer of the Gospel. I am your pastor and love you much more than you can know.

The coming months are exciting and filled with change for me. I hope you, like the One who's always been faithful – never leaving my side (never leaving yours) – will walk alongside me in the change.

Because of the Love of Christ, Rev. Sara (K. Corum)

### PRACTICING HOSPITALITY

(Alyson Foreman shared this story with me about a conversation she had with someone whom she met at the recent Easter Egg Hunt.)

After the egg hunt, an older, bearded gentleman approached Alyson and said, "I wanted to give a donation to your food pantry, but they said they weren't accepting cash donations." Alyson assured him that we were indeed taking donations for the Binghampton Food Pantry, so he went back inside to try again.

When he came back out a short time later, he told her he had made a \$20 donation. Alyson began to tell him about the other ministries at Trinity, including the provision of meeting space to Narcotics Anonymous. He then told her how very much he appreciated Trinity Church and most especially Narcotics Anonymous. He said that NA has been a great help and source of hope to his daughter, who is battling drug addiction. In fact, she had picked up a flyer about the egg hunt at an NA meeting, and that's how their family came to be in attendance that day – she, her dad, her mom, and her little boy, all enjoying a fun and wholesome family activity hosted by our church. Her dad had given his donation to the food pantry out of a grateful heart.

Whether we are hosting neighbors at the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and the Easter Egg Hunt or opening our facilities on a regular basis to groups such as NA and SRVS, we are practicing gracious hospitality as the body of Christ. We do it with those who are our guests through our Room in the Inn program. We also do it on an ongoing basis with other partners in ministry, such as those who are working with children and their families through Boy Scout Troop 13 and Cub Scout Pack 13 and through the wonderful educational opportunities offered by Midtown Montessori School.

Practicing gracious hospitality is not always easy, nor is it always convenient. It can be costly, straining our financial, emotional, and physical resources, and sometimes we suffer from ministry fatigue. But every once in a while we hear a story like this that reminds us that persisting in our efforts as gracious hosts on behalf of our Lord can and will make a difference in the lives of many who are counted among the most vulnerable of God's children. I am so thankful to be in this ministry with you.



Peace in Christ, Irene Dycus

# **Landscape Committee Needs You!**



Are we yet alive? Why do we advertise on our sign on the corner and post on Facebook? Perception is everything. Let's claim alive!! What about our Trinity landscape? Is it yet alive? There are piles of dead leaves against the building, overgrown and

dead shrubs, and invasive plants like monkey and Johnson grasses. Join our landscape committee!

E-mail office@trinityumcmemphis.org or sign up at the reception desk outside the fellowship hall if you want to work on May 5th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Make our campus come alive!

Landscaping/Gardening Work Day May 5, 2018—9:00 a.m. to Noon

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#### Happy May Birthdays! May 4 Gwen Stuart May 7 Allane Demetrio May 10 Mac McConnell May 11 Peggy Tate Daniel Hoffman III May 13 May 14 Jeri Ashley May 15 Bertha Ching May 19 Jacob Wilkerson May 20 Snookie Mason May 27 Mike Dodson

Chris Glover

# Memorials & Honorariums Memorials have been received:

In memory of **Marcia Wissbaum** from Shirley Flint
In memory of **Horace Phelan** from Shirley Flint

In honor of Mike Potter from David & Bette Walker

# BAKE SALE TIME!

Election Day, Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, is also BAKE SALE DAY at Trinity Church! We need lots of baked goodies for our sale on that day. 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 ministries and missions of the church.

We are asking every family in the church to bake one or more items to sell at our bake sale. An "item" is a cake, a batch of cookies, a pie, a loaf of bread, a batch of muffins or cupcakes, etc. Please identify what each baked 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, April 30<sup>th</sup>. 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, which will be 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 Irene Dycus at <a href="mailto:irenebdycus@hotmail.com">irenebdycus@hotmail.com</a> or call her at (901) 652-1105.



# CHOIR NEWS: A Music Note



by John Holtzman

Sunday, May 6, 2018, will be Singspiration Sunday. We had a great Singspiration Sunday last fall and I am expecting this to be another great Sunday worship experience. I have invited Kenny Prestage and Renee Burford from Ellendale UMC to be with us that day. Kenny and Renee are good friends of mine and their duets are always a blessing. They will be sharing songs that I know you will enjoy. Of course we will have "Cokesbury Hymn Sing Time" during the service, where you can pick out your favorite song for us to sing from the Cokesbury Hymnal. I love to play the songs you select; however, if it is something with which I am unfamiliar, we may have to choose another selection.

If you would like to sing a solo, play an instrument, or share in any way, please contact me so I can add this to our service.

# Answered Prayers

On February 20, 2018, Molly Rosson was born in Mena, Arkansas, bringing with her both joy and worry. As soon as she was born, Molly was taken to the hospital nursery before her parents could even hold her. She was having difficulty breathing, and the concern was great enough that she was airlifted to the children's hospital in Little Rock. The diagnosis was Persistent Pulmonary Hypertension, and, even with a ventilator, there was fear that she would not survive to go home. Some extreme medical



interventions were attempted, including surgery in the NICU, to put her on life support. Once adequate oxygen was getting to her body, she started to heal. Molly is the daughter of Joan Smith's cousin, Dianne Rosson. Dianne and her husband sent out requests for prayer to everyone they could think of, including Trinity UMC, and their prayers were answered. Dianne now jokes that "it took God six days to make heaven and earth. God rested, then got started on Molly." This little girl is a miracle and truly the answer to prayer. We rejoice with the Rosson family that Mighty Miss Molly is home and doing well. Thank you for your prayerful intercession on her behalf.



## Room in the Inn guests

by Lois M. Young

If you don't come to Room in the Inn sessions, you might wonder who our

quests are. These two pictures show a few of our friends. But if you want to learn more about them, please ask me or one of our volunteers, or better vet come visit with them Tuesday evening, May 22, during our first off-season session.

#### **Current Room in the Inn Needs**

Men's Large T-shirts Travel-sized Gold Bond Powder Travel-sized women's deodorant Small packs of baby wipes Women's tank tops (all sizes) Reading glasses (all pow-

ers) **Booklights** Paperback novels



#### **Vacation Bible School**

During this summer's Vacation Bible School at Trinity Church, we will be embarking on a "Rolling River Rampage," in which participants will be experiencing the ride of a lifetime with God. This exciting adventure will take place July 16-20, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon daily. The week will be filled with an abundance of fun, fellowship, and learning for children, adult leaders, and youth helpers.

You don't want to miss out on the fun! Lots of volunteers are needed decoration helpers, registration helpers, crew leaders, center leaders, snack coordinators, the list goes on! To offer to help, contact Irene Dycus or Joan Smith, co-directors for this year's VBS. More details about this mid-summer fun event will follow in future editions of the *Trinotes*. so stay tuned...



Easter has come, we have celebrated God's amazing grace, and Spring is upon us – new life abounds! It is with this in mind that I seek the congregation's support for our Youth Ministry and the Program we are seeking to establish for our youth and the entire church.

We are looking for Prayer Partners, adult co-leaders for Sunday School and other wonderful activities, and numerous other forms of support for what we know God will be doing in our Youth Ministry during the days, weeks, and months ahead.

If you have ever felt the nudge to share your faith journey with our youth, or you have wondered what it would be like to take a step out of your comfort zone to be inspired by our amazing youth, or you are just wanting to be spiritually uplifted while you serve our church in a new way, I urge you to consider talking with Rev. Sara Corum or myself! Our youth deserve our very best and we know that our church is richly blessed with so many gifts and talents just waiting to be unleashed.

Please consider joining the Youth Ministry Team – the journey will be one of abundant joy as we chase after God together!

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-Brad Moritz

#### BENEVOLENCE GIVING UPDATE

Again, we say, "Thank you!" to all of you who have given to the Grocery Voucher Program.

Thanks to YOU, we were able to start up the Grocery Voucher program again on March 7th. Since that time, 37 individuals have received vouchers, and another 10 people will receive

vouchers on May 2nd. As before, we are limiting distribution of vouchers to the first and third Wednesdays of each month, and give out ten each time. When unable to fulfill a particular need, we refer folks to the Binghampton Food Pantry, where they can receive emergency help. Our partnership with Binghampton allows us to assist more families than we would be able to do otherwise.

The need for assistance in acquiring the essentials of life is ongoing among the poor in our community. We hope that you will continue your contributions to our grocery voucher fund so we can, in a small way, meet the needs of "the least of these."