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Trinotes

May 23, 2018





On Ordination

Christ chose some of us to be apostles, prophets, missionaries, pastors, and teachers, so that his people would learn to serve and his body would grow strong. This will continue until we are united by our faith and by our understanding of the Son of God.

Then we will be mature, just as Christ is, and we will be completely like him.

~Ephesians 4:11-13~

I was standing in Debby's office this morning reflecting on the last few weeks. The Pentecost party was WONDERFUL! I am so thankful for Beryl and Connie and their gift in throwing amazing get-togethers. I'm thankful for everyone who cooked for the potluck. I'm thankful for the sea of red in worship and for everyone who came to remember our being filled with God's Spirit and the work and life that calls us to be a part of. I am so thankful for you!

Two weeks ago I got married. There were six of us present as it sprinkled at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens. We all went out to eat and back to the parsonage for board games afterward. It was small, quiet, unconventional, and lovely. Again, I am thankful. Thank you for your kind words, prayers, continued prayers (I hope), and words of encouragement.

With all that's going on, I've nearly forgotten that Annual Conference 2018, in Paducah KY, is two weeks away! How on earth could I forget THIS one?!

Annual Conference isn't always fun. It's actually a lot of work. The days are long – filled with different studies and business sessions and (thankfully) fantastic worship. Some of the sessions involve legislation that provokes contentious conversation and keeping our "holiness of heart and life" in check isn't always at the forefront. After all, we're only human beings involved in God's 'thing.' With that, without a doubt, comes our fallibilities.

No, it's not always fun but it's necessary and this year, for me and Mike Potter and a few others scattered across the conference, it's worth it.

Annual Conference begins June 3rd – a Sunday afternoon. That

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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, her new husband Josh McClurkan, and their 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 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 and doing well.

Qahtan, Dalia Alnaaman's uncle passed away—pray for the family.

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.

Chris Glover's nephew's unborn child who needs heart surgery.

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

Vickie, Edna Hoffman's daughter-in-law, recovering well after eye surgery.

Charles Abraham, recovering from surgery.

Marie Park, now at Signature Health Care on Dovecrest after a fall.

Chuck Wood, Rosemary Potter's brother, undergoing treatment for MRSA.

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



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 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.

UMW Meetings

The UMW Day Circle meets on the first Tuesday of each month, with the exception of July and August. A UMW Unit Meeting is scheduled for June 25th in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. The Day Circle will provide dinner and dessert. The UMW Evening Circle will conduct the program.

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 June 11th. Please email or deliver any articles to Debby Marston, our administrator, 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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afternoon, the clergy executive session will meet and vote, one last time, to affirm the Board of Ordained Ministry's approval of our ordination. The next evening, June 4th, at Broadway United Methodist Church in downtown Paducah, we will process, robed in black, with the entire covenant community of clergy from across the conference. We will make vows before the Bishop and congregation who are gathered to covenant with us. We will kneel and pray and receive our stoles. It will be, as it always is, a very Spirit-filled moment. It is holy.

I've been a delegate to Annual Conference since I was 14 years old. One could say I was reared amongst this family of faith. I've been to 17 ordination services, and I left every one crying— not because I was sad — because I was so moved.

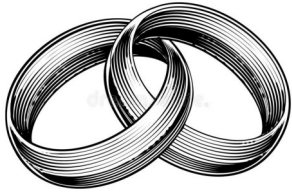
Being ordained is no small thing — at least, it's not to me. It is saying "Yes" to God and "Yes" to the church and, also "Yes" to the connection of the greater community of faith that is the United Methodist Church. It is professing to honor God in ministry and in life, and honor one-another as we work together to do God's Kingdom work in the communities to which we are appointed to serve. It is to uphold and care for one-another, as clergy are just as fallible and often just as broken as anyone else.

For the last year, you've been a part of my story and part of my journey to ordination. You have taught me, encouraged me, and supported me — completely and always. In so doing, you have collaborated with me in this covenant — this promise — to be in relationship and in ministry with Midtown Memphis. We have housed the homeless together. We have fed hungry families together. We have kept folks lights on, thrown parties, worshipped, VBS'd, mourned loss, and celebrated new members together. YOU are a part of this amazing thing that's about to happen because you have been a part of shaping and forming me into who I am.

So, again, I am thankful. You have my heart, Trinitarians, and I can't wait to see what's next.

Love, love, love,
Your Thankful Pastor,
Rev. Sara

WEDDING SHOWER PLANNED



On Sunday, June 24th following the worship service, from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, Trinity will have a wedding shower for Pastor Sara and her new husband, Josh. A love offering will be taken for the happy couple so as you feel led, please send your donations to Trinity and mark your check "Sara and Josh Shower." Additionally, please bring a card with your expressions of congratulations for them as well as your best advice for a happy marriage, happy family as they will become a family of seven, or your best advice for encouraging happy and healthy relationships. Light refreshments will be provided with thanks to Connie Johns and Beryl Willard for making these arrangements. If you have any questions, please call Jeri Ashley at 901-483-1860. What a great event for the life of our church!



LAKESHORE
united methodist camp & retreat center

Lakeshore is a camp and retreat center on the shores of the Tennessee River, providing Christian hospitality, rest, and reflection for guests of all ages and backgrounds. The mission of Lakeshore UMA is to offer ways for all to experience life, love, and the God of Grace.

Summer Camp - Lakeshore's summer camp program is filled with dynamic leadership, meaningful worship, lots of outdoor play, and opportunities to build relationships that last throughout a lifetime. Elementary, Junior High, and Senior High camps are available along with several specialty camps. For additional information and for online registration, go to lakeshoreuma.com.

Trinity has a limited number of partial scholarships available for members. If you are interested in a camp scholarship, please contact the church office or Carol Miller.

We count on member donations for these camp scholarships. Will you please donate to this wonderful program for our children? You may contact the church office or place your donation in the offering plate on Sundays. Please mark your donation for Lakeshore.

Blessings,
Carol Miller



Rolling River Rampage, our 2018 Vacation Bible School, is fast approaching! This exciting adventure will take place at Trinity Church July 16-20, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon daily. Adult leaders, youth helpers, and kids are encouraged to get ready to jump on board! At this year's VBS, children will participate in an interactive, energizing, Bible-based program that will give them an opportunity to experience the ride of a lifetime with God.

Each day of this fun and Spirit-filled week, our children will become Rafters who explore how to serve God and how to discover God's mission for their lives. After a high-energy Opening Assembly that introduces each day's Bible story, the Rafters will make their way to different stations: Science, Art, Recreation, and Snack. Each activity will further their understanding of that day's Bible story and its implications for their lives.

Our station leaders are already busily preparing their activities for VBS! But **we still need additional volunteers** who will be willing to serve as **decoration helpers, registration personnel, crew leaders, and snack helpers!** We're in the process right now of cutting out decorations and preparing learning activities, and we could use a hand with this (actually several pairs of hands). We will also accept donations toward the cost of snacks or to benefit this year's mission projects which will be supported by our VBS, the Binghampton Food Pantry and Room in the Inn. Feel free to be generous in any way the Spirit moves you! To offer your time, talents, or services of any kind, contact either of our VBS Co-Directors, Irene Dycus (phone 652-1105 or email at irenebdycus@hotmail.com) or Joan Smith (phone 218-8978 or email at smith.joan@hotmail.com).

We are asking everyone to pray for us as we prepare to share the Good News of God's love through Jesus Christ with the children of our church and community. Invite all the children you know who are family, friends, and neighbors to join us for this wonderful week of faith, fun, and fellowship! Better yet, take advantage of this great opportunity to make a new friend as you extend a gracious invitation to a child you haven't yet met!

To Register: Go to www.trinityumcmemphis.org and click on the Registration button under "Upcoming Events." You may also call the church office at (901) 274-6895 or fill out a registration form at the front desk.

Memorials & Honorariums

A memorial has been received:

In memory of Jeanne Napoli from the Nowlin Class

Can you help with decorations for this year's VBS? We need:

- ⇒ Empty, clean 2-liter plastic bottles (total of 45 needed)
- ⇒ Yellow plastic tarp
- ⇒ Rubber rafts (yes, real ones!)
- ⇒ Rafting paddles
- ⇒ Large brown paper grocery bags

Bags of Grace

A number of years ago, Sue Taylor and Rosemary Potter put their heads together in an effort to start a ministry of some sort that would benefit the homeless community in Memphis and also create a connection. The outcome was "Bags of Grace," a ministry that encourages interaction between the "haves" and the "have nots." A typical bag contains a bottle of water, a couple of snacks (such as vienna sausages or peanut butter crackers), a handmade card from the children's department, a small towel, and a 55 gallon leaf bag to use as a ground cloth or emergency poncho. Members of the congregation are encouraged to pick up a "Bag of Grace" from the bin in the back of the fellowship hall worship space. Keep the bag in your car in case you see someone on a street corner who seems to need help. Hand him/her the bag and a blessing to let them know that God loves them (and so do we). Please see Marc or Sue Taylor if you wish to contribute to this ministry.



Room in the Inn guests

by Lois M. Young

In the last Community Alliance for the Homeless point-in-time count, 451 women were living on the streets. That's more than a third of the homeless population in Memphis. As you might guess, women are one of the most vulnerable populations experiencing homelessness, so Room in the Inn-Memphis gives them first priority for shelter.

When we first started hosting Room in the Inn sessions, we only saw one to five women a week during the first three seasons. During the past two years that number has grown significantly.

In Memphis, having women as a third of the homeless population is a big problem. During the winter months, there are only 80 emergency shelter beds available in the city for women, and many of those require women to meet certain criteria. Some are for women fleeing domestic violence. Others are for women with children. Still others require women to sit through religious services in exchange for shelter.

During the winter months, Room in the Inn-Memphis hosts at least 20 women each night. And now 19 congregations have pledged to hold a Room in the Inn session at least once a month during the off season specifically to help some of these women get off the streets.

Trinity is one of those congregations.

We will host 12 women on the fourth Tuesday of each month from May through September. These are dates when some of our regular volunteers will be on vacation or have other plans. If you have an interest in helping our unsheltered neighbors, please consider coming out and volunteering for one of these sessions. To learn more, email or call me at loislane.young@gmail.com or 870-559-2228.

Current Room in the Inn Needs

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





CHOIR NEWS: A Music Note



by John Holtzman



With summer soon upon us, the choir will be taking a break for the months of June and July. I am so proud of our choir and the hard work each person is willing to put in each week to be a blessing to you, the Trinity congregation. For a song that takes 2 ½ to 3 minutes to sing, there are literally hours of preparation that take place to make that happen. That gives you

a little idea about some of the work that goes on behind the scenes. It is my hope that during this break, choir members will have the opportunity to relax, travel, or do anything that brings refreshment to them: soul, mind and spirit.

However, come August 1, 2018, we will be back rehearsing and preparing to bring you more great music. Although it is May, we have already been discussing Christmas. I like to plan ahead and we have something great in store for the Advent season. It will be something different that we have not done before, and I am looking forward to it.

So what will happen while the choir is on break? It is my hope that various people who have spoken to me about participating musically in the service will take advantage of this opportunity. If you are interested in singing a solo or playing an instrumental piece, please contact me after the service, email me: jkholtzman@yahoo.com or give me a call at 901-481-2474. It would be my pleasure to work with you and have you become an engaged participant in our worship services.

I would be remiss to not mention all the wonderful responses I heard concerning our last Singspiration Sunday. I hope everyone went away refreshed and blessed from the ministry of the music from that service.

As always, I trust the music ministry of Trinity is a source of inspiration, blessing, and enjoyment.



Upcoming UMW Meetings

The United Methodist Women's Unit Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 25th at 6:00 p.m. The Day Circle will provide dinner and dessert, and the Evening Circle will have the program. As usual, the UMW will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

The Daytime UMW will gather on June 5th for their last meeting of the spring/summer. Meetings will resume on September 4th.



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, 51 individuals have received vouchers, and another 10 people will receive vouchers on June 6th. 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."