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Trinotes

July 11, 2018



From
the desk
of...
The Rev.

Thanking my God for You

Last week marked the one-year anniversary of my coming to Trinity. What a year its been! From Cooper starting kindergarten (and falling in love with Snowden), to ordination, oh,

and getting married, I couldn't have dreamt that all that's happened in a year would happen and these things are just the tip of the incredible iceberg of all Trinity has accomplished — all the fruit we've harvested.

I will NEVER forget moving day. It started around 5:00 a.m. — moving boxes and vacuuming floors, packing pets and plants into vehicles, and pulling out around noon. The trek to Memphis seemed to take forever, but Josh and I got here quickly. However, the moving guys got lost and didn't find the house until the sun was setting — about the same hour we discovered that the electricity and water had been cut off in the parsonage. It was certainly like an episode of the Three Stooges. After a night of sleep at the Brooks', the real work began.

You have always welcomed me to do something that churches do not always do for their pastors. You have taken such good care of your parsonage — such pride in it. The best thing for me is how you've welcomed me to make YOUR house MY home. Thank you.

The boys settled in quickly and so did I. Then the work of the church began. Names. Faces. Stories. The committees met and I was delighted to find that the right spiritual gifts and passions were in the right places. Oh, to serve with committees that accomplish things!

We hit the ground running and every time I've looked back at the last year, I've recalled the words of Paul in Philippians chapter 1 (verses 3 and 4): "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you." And, I do.

It is a gift, really. Not every pastor is given the chance to go serve a church into which they are welcomed as a "member." It has always meant that the ministry that happens isn't MY ministry; it's ours! It's meant that as you share your life with me, I have been

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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 new 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 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, celebrated her four-month birthday on June 20th. Please pray for her weight gain.

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

Phil Phillips continues to battle leukemia at home.

Chris Glover's nephew's baby. Kanyon, needing surgery

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

Dennis Vann, recovering from a serious on-the-job injury.

Micah Soard, 2 year old son of United Methodist missionaries, **Eric & Liz Soard**, in Tanzania with unexplained rare disease. Now in the U.S. for treatment at LeBonheur. (Friends of Rev. Sara.)

Kathryn "Gigi" Ellis, serious health problems.

Marico Mason, may be facing lung transplant.

Jay Allmon's fiancée, **Elizabeth Loggins**, completed surgery with good outcome. Continue to pray for her healing.

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

Upcoming

EVENTS

(See pages 4 & 5 of this issue for a complete list of upcoming events.)

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

The SPRC will meet in the Conference Room on Sunday, July 15th, following worship.

Vacation Bible School

July 16-20, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Holy Communion

Wednesday communion will not be served on the 18th or 25th of July.

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.

Covenant Discipleship

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

Church Council

The Church Council will meet in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, July 29th, following worship. Members of the congregation are welcome.

Trinotes

The deadline for submissions for the next Trinotes is July 23rd. 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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welcomed to share my life with you, and that is a gift. It is a gift, and it's one of grace because you offered me that gift from the very moment you met me — I didn't earn it — I didn't ask for it — I surely wasn't 'entitled' to it. You simply gave it to me and I've watched you again and again offer that same gift to every visitor that's come through our doors.

Thank you for welcoming me into your family, for doing ministry with me, and for being the church. Thank you for coming to the boys' birthday parties, for flowers on my wedding day, and for taking me (single mother) to the grocery store when all of Memphis was covered in ice. Thank you for the gift of our reception a few weeks ago and for the gifts you gave us that have allowed us to make the parsonage "home" for our new blended family. Thank you for being patient as we're working to figure out what that means — juggling the lives of seven. Thank you for your advice on marriage. You wrote some powerful notes that we've taken to heart. Thank you with all my heart for welcoming our children — for loving them not only during church hours, but always. This church — this is where they want to be. For your words of love, your genuine care, your affirmation, the lessons you teach, your notes, and your hugs — thank you.

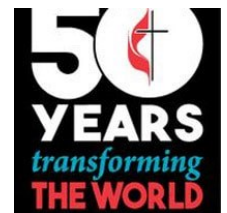
Thank you for this year. I cannot wait to see what the next holds.

With sincere gratitude,
Rev. Sara

UMC QUIZ TIME!

Interested in learning more about the
United Methodist Church and its history?

Go to www.trinityumcmemphis.org and click on the "About" tab. Scroll down the page, which has the TUMC mission and vision statements at the top, and click on the "Take a Quiz!" button at the bottom. From there, you will be linked to the quiz of the week. Right now, it's about **Holy Communion**, but you can follow links to other quizzes on the UMC website. Enjoy!



Save the Dates!

(Important Information Follows...)

July 16th – 20th: TUMC's Rolling River Rampa, Vacation Bible School.

(9:00 – noon, daily)

Please be in prayer for the children and youth we are blessed to serve this week. Be in prayer for all the leaders, decorators, scientists, artists, game-masters, snack-givers, and so many others who are volunteering their time and talents to serve our students and community.

July 29th: A 'called' Church Council Meeting (immediately following worship)

This is not a regularly-scheduled church council meeting and will not involve reports from all members of church leadership. This is a meeting to discuss a few important 'church happenings' that are time-sensitive and cannot wait until the next church council meeting which will take place in September. Please remember that these meetings are 'open' meetings, meaning that anyone in the church can attend and discuss the business. You are WELCOME and ENCOURAGED to attend.

August 4th: Back to School Bash (4:00 – 6:00)

Trinity is hosting their second annual back to school bash on the grounds. Our scouts are grilling hot dogs and we will have blow up games and water slides. You may not be able to attend, but you can help by inviting any young families you know in the Evergreen community.

August 5th: Blessing of the Backpacks (11:00)

Calling all students, administrators, and educators! We want to send you back to school with our support and prayer. Please bring your backpack, tote, or briefcase to 11:00 worship on the 5th, so that we can pray over it and you as you begin the school year.

August 5th: Town Hall Meeting (immediately following worship)

The entire congregation is invited to stay after worship for one last opportunity to discuss the vote for or against the sale of the sanctuary building. This will allow us an opportunity to bring up anything that hasn't already been discussed (if there is anything), to recall our calling and purpose in the proposal written by the sanctuary sale taskforce last Fall, look at numbers and budgets, and ask questions. If this is something that would be helpful to you or something you need, PLEASE make every attempt to be present.

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Of Spider-Man and Responsibility

by Lois M. Young

Steve Ditko, the co-creator of Spider-Man, died this past weekend. Why is that important? Well, I'm not a big comic book reader, but I loved Spider-Man. I especially love the classic line by Peter Parker's Uncle Ben, "With great power comes great responsibility." I was trying to figure out all weekend why I have a hard time getting this line out of my head. Then, Sunday morning, Pastor Sara quoted a Bible passage that cleared it all up, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be required." Luke 12:48

We are all given great power. The power to speak kindly, or not. The power to help others, or not. I don't always make the right decision when using these powers, but as a person of faith, I always know what is required of me.

After five years of coordinating Room in the Inn at Trinity, I've had several people ask me if I'm getting burned out. The true answer is "sometimes," but the correct answer is, "I know what is required of me." I think we are all called by God to do some things for others that make us uncomfortable. I don't really like giving up my money to help others, because that money gives me a sense of personal security. Even so, I will give some of it away, because I know what is required of me.

Our Room in the Inn guests often have nothing more than the clothes on their backs and a few possessions that they carry in backpacks or garbage bags. We don't give them money. Instead we offer them hospitality, food, a safe place to sleep, clothes, underwear, hygiene products, rain ponchos, bottles of water, and sometimes bus passes. The next time you are feeling comfortable giving a donation, please consider our Room in the Inn ministry at Trinity.

Our guests need help, and you have the power to give it to them.

Memorials & Honorariums

Memorials have been received:

In memory of Tristan Gansman from Doris Porter

In memory of Tristan Gansman from Chris Glover

In memory of Pat Allen from Dorothy Sue Smith

Honorariums have been received:

In honor of Elaine Amis from Dorothy Sue Smith

STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND

by Kay Jordan

What one word summarizes for you the teachings of Jesus? For me, it is "Love." As I worshiped at Trinity last Sunday, I was troubled about the fate of so many Central Americans who have to leave their homes and travel thousands of miles to find safety, and I prayed for them. How can we show love to them, as Jesus wants us to do? They would not make the dangerous journey, leaving everything that is "home" to them, if they were not desperate.

I have chosen to take these actions: First, I pray for them daily. Second, I write my senators and my representative several times a week, by e-mail, US postal service, or fax, saying something like this: "Please vote for reforms to our immigration laws that show us to be the compassionate nation we are meant to be. And let's begin by immediately reuniting the families that were separated from their children at the border. Follow this by releasing families to sponsors until their cases can be decided by immigration judges. They do not belong in detention; seeking asylum is not a crime. Increase the number of immigration judges so that cases can be heard promptly. I pray for you and other public officials daily, that you will be compassionate." Third, I have participated in a rally outside my senator's local office, letting others in my town know how important this issue is to me.

Each of us will make different decisions, but I hope each of us is holding these human beings in our hearts, and considering how we can show love, as Jesus asks us to do.

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August 18th – 19th: Guatemalan Mobil Consulate (all day)

Trinity is, again, hosting the consulate office out of Atlanta for our Guatemalan brothers and sisters. We are hosting a global ministry opportunity out of our education building! What an amazing way to be a part of the Kingdom of God. Our worship the morning of the 19th will be in a location TBD. Do you want to help with the consulate? Ask Rev. Sara how you can.

August 26th: Called Charge Conference (immediately following worship)

For many, this is the day you've been waiting for. We will host the Metro District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Deborah Smith. Deborah will worship with us and then preside over a special called charge conference. This will be an opportunity for all members in good standing of Trinity United Methodist Church to vote on the sale of the church's sanctuary building. This meeting is for a vote. The Town Hall meeting on August 5th is for any last discussion. Absentee votes will not be accepted, per the United Methodist Book of Discipline, so please **make every effort to be present Sunday, August 26th.**



Come join us for Vacation Bible School

July 16—20, 2018

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

at Trinity United Methodist Church

1738 Galloway Avenue

Register online at

www.trinityumcmemphis.org

E-mail: office@trinityumcmemphis.org

Phone: 901.274.6895

Trinity VBS is a Safe Sanctuary

Interested in Helping Kids?

If you want to make a difference in children's school experiences in northwest Tennessee, contribute school supplies chosen from the list below. Bring them to Trinity UMC. A box next to the kitchen door is provided to collect supplies.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTION REELFOOT RURAL MINISTRIES

JULY 11-AUGUST 10, 2017

Backpacks
 Notebook Binders (1.5, 2, & 3 inch)
 Expo Dry-Erase Markers (Fine Point)
 Expo Dry-Erase Erasers
 Flash Drive (2 GB or larger)
 Plastic Folders with Pockets & Brads
 Plastic Folders with Pockets
 (all colors)
 Dividers (5 & 8 Tabs w/Pockets)
 Wide/College Ruled Loose Leaf Paper
 Composition Notebook
 Coloring Pencils
 Pencils #2
 Pencil Boxes
 Pencil Top Erasers
 Big Pink Erasers
 Pencil pouch zippered w/3 holes
 Multi Colored Pens
 Ticonderoga Pencils
 Glue (bottles & sticks)
 Fiskar Scissors
 Compass
 Stapler
 Baby Wipes
 Kleenex
 Nap Mat
 Headphones
 Scientific Calculator
 Highlighters (all colors)
 Washable Markers
 Index Cards (4X6 and 3X5 lined)
 Page Protectors
 Graph Paper
 Small Bottles of Hand Sanitizer



BAKE SALE

Election Day, Thursday, August 2, is only three weeks away! It will also be 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. For summer appetites, you might consider "lighter" foods such as citrus flavors. Savory items such as trail mix would also be well-received. 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 Wednesday afternoon, August 1. 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 Kay Jordan at jordanck2@gmail.com or call her at 901 299-2624.

Extra Mile Giving??

I knew we could count on you! Already, after my plea in the last issue of Trinotes for donations to our computer upgrade, \$900 has been raised. That's pretty amazing. It's not enough, unfortunately, so I'm again asking that you remember our IT needs in the event you have a little extra cash this month. Please pray about this specific need and, if you feel led to make a contribution, write a check to Trinity UMC, put "Computers" on the memo line, and drop it in the offering basket on Sunday.

Wishing you enough,
 Debby Marston