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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*

## The Piggy-Bank, Disney, and What's God's

*"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' — Luke 15:8,9*

There's a piggy-bank in the boys' room. It's shaped like a green dinosaur. My mother, their Gram, gave it to Cooper when he was about two years old. The boys share it, for now. It is full. I mean, it is full to the brim. It has at least \$100 in it, most in pennies. And, every time they find a penny, they rejoice. They rejoice like the woman in the Gospel of Luke who lost the coin and employed all her neighbors and friends to help her search for it until it was found. They promptly put every coin they find in their piggy-bank for safe-keeping. From time-to-time, Josh and I purposely leave change around the house so that they can find them, study them (because that's imminently interesting for small children), and race to their dinosaur so that it can be saved.

Every now and then, the boys want to empty the bank and count the coins. Admittedly, I usually direct their attention to something else because I know that I'll have to supervise this 'work.' The piggy bank has already been broken once. The poor stegosaurus has a spike that has had to be glued already. Also, there's so much in it.....they just need help.

We have talked a little bit about what we'll do with the money. Both boys have talked about going to the toy store. Since there aren't many real toy stores left, I'm assuming they mean the toy aisle at Target. Cooper has also mentioned wanting to save his money to go to Disney World. If that's the goal, the piggy-bank must be much larger. As they brainstorm, I've carefully mentioned a few things to them.

Yes, we should spend what they've saved. They've earned it. They deserve it. They've been diligent and faithful to putting back



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## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Our country and the world** - for the family and friends of those killed or injured in recent 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 deal with transitions. Wisdom for our Trustees and Church Council. Also, specific prayer requests by and for:

For the Board of Directors of **Room in the Inn—Memphis**, wisdom as they make decisions about expansion of that ministry

**Maggi Comes'** niece, **Katie Pendleton**, diagnosed with Tumefactive MS PRAISE!! **Molly Rosson** is eating solid food, playing pat-a-cake, and saying new words now.

**Kanyan Glover**, heart transplant survivor, home now, but still needs prayer

**Donnie Glover**, ongoing chemo for leukemia

**Chip Glover**, son of **Donnie & Sandra**, fell off ladder & crushed heel

**Marico Mason's** family, as they grieve his death

**Bryce Sellers**, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

**Paige Warmath**, **Alyson Foreman's** cousin, glioblastoma recurring; in treatment at West Clinic

**Rusty Ramsey**, son of **Sally & Eddie Ramsey**, undergoing treatment for a second round of throat cancer

**Jane Manning**, friend of **Joe Hatter**, chronic health problems

**Sharon Hicks**, friend of **Beryl & Karen Willard**, now in rehab

**Grace Hayden**, daughter of **Tim & Nora**, at Methodist Hospital in rehab, now in a regular room

**Waltraud Elisabet "Wallie" Newton**, **Sandy Guntharp's** mother, died recently. Please keep the family in your prayers.

**Irene Opel** hospitalized last week with drop in blood pressure. Now home, but still weak.

**Jacob Foreman**, son of **Caley & Alyson**, breathing problems after complications following surgery; multiple problems due to scoliosis

# Upcoming

EVENTS

## UMW Day Circle

The UMW Day Circle will meet on September 3rd, the first Tuesday of the month. The meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall, after which the group will go out to lunch.

## Room in the Inn

The final summer session of RITI will take place on September 24th. Please call Lois Young at 901-359-4047 or e-mail her at [loislane.young@gmail.com](mailto:loislane.young@gmail.com) if you wish to volunteer and are not already doing so. (Article on page 7.)

## SPRC Meeting

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee will meet in the Conference Room following worship on September 15th.

## Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet in the Conference Room at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 7th.

## Manna on Monday

Manna on Monday resumed on August 26th at St. Stephen's UMC. The next meal will be served on September 23rd. HELP WANTED! Servers and clean-up volunteers are always needed.

## Holy Communion

A Service of Holy Communion is held in the Chapel each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

## Binghampton Food Pantry

Tuesdays & Fridays at 258 Merton, 8:00-11:00 a.m., fresh produce is distributed.

## Covenant Discipleship

The Covenant Discipleship group continues to gather at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

## Trinotes

The deadline for submissions for the next *Trinotes* is September 9th. Please email or deliver any articles to Debby Marston at [office@trinityumcmemphis.org](mailto: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](http://www.trinityumcmemphis.org).

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their pennies. I've told them, though, that it might also be smart to save a little of it in case something they find that they want to buy becomes available, so that they'll have the money they need when the time comes. Also, I've begun to talk to them about what it will mean to God if they put some of it in the offering plate.

It's a bit of a regret of mine that the offering happens where it does in worship. It's intentional that we take up the offering near the end so that we have the opportunity, if we think about it (and I mean really think about it), to give in such a way that it's a reflection of what we've experienced in worship. We give back to God what is God's for the sake of and work of God. Giving, then, is a part of our worship and a reflection of our faithfulness to the work of God for the sake of God's people. Many of the children aren't present for that, so my lesson at home, in the floor with the pennies strewn about, is very important.

We give so that the church can operate — so that the bulletins can be printed — so that the phones can be answered — so that the food vouchers can be funded — so that we are faithfully living out our membership vows (our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness). We give so that the building stays temperature controlled, the toilets flushed, and the salaries paid. We give so that the ministries are funded and things like the Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk-or-Treat, and Vacation Bible School happen. We give so that curriculum can be bought so that classes can be taught. We give so that our doors can be open and our building used for sheltering the homeless, protecting the addict, and welcoming the sojourner. The reality is, if we don't give, these things won't happen.

And I want the doors of the church to always be open because this is where my children want to be — because this church is making them and molding them into little world-changers for the sake of the Kingdom of God. This church would be missed if its ministries subsided and the need near this little corner at Evergreen and Galloway would grow. I want them to know what a big difference their pennies will make, and I want to remind you of the difference yours make as well.

I'll end as I do so often in written correspondence. Be blessed to be a blessing.

In Christ,  
Rev. Sara



## UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES

As always, the Trustees are working (mostly) behind the scenes on a variety of projects.

First, I'd like the congregation to be aware that Memphis Montessori School

has asked for another extension to their lease through May 2020. Their new building project has experienced additional unforeseen delays and will not be ready at the end of the year. Understanding that this lease extension will put some plans on hold for another six months, the Trustees voted to extend the lease at an increased monthly rent. These additional monies will help with the 2020 budget.

A big thanks to Bill (Mac) McConnell and his crew of many (most recently including Marc Taylor, Carey Miller, Phil Isbell, Steve Humbert, Sam Goff, Joe Hatter, and David Hopper) who have just about finished changing out all the light fixtures in the building to shed more light and save on utilities.

The roofers (finally) are able to get to us, and the flat roof replacement over the kitchen commenced the week of August 26. There may be some disruption in the kitchen area, as the skylights are coming out, so bear with us on that. They expect the project to take 5-10 days to complete (weather permitting).

Around the grounds, we're tending to the overgrown shrubbery on the north side of the playground, next to the garage, and around the perimeter of the building. Things should be looking better in the next week or so. And the parsonage is in need of tree trimming and exterior paint and minor repairs. That's the short list of some of the things the Trustees are tending to. As always, if you have any questions or see something that needs to be repaired/replaced/etc., please contact me, any of the other Trustees, or let Debby know.

Peace –

Jinx Winn

Head Trustee



September 6	Jamie Windham
September 11	Doris Webster
September 13	David Potter
September 13	Mike (Marty) Rice
September 14	Kathy Isbell
September 16	Kate Taylor
September 17	Harper Keller
September 20	Charlotte Comes
September 22	Craig Jordan
September 22	Virginia Walters
September 23	John Stuart
September 26	Nancy Rankin
September 28	Kadynce Hemingway
September 30	Joe Hatter

*[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.]*

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We need you to come and worship still — offering your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. Add to that, offering your hospitality and joy for all we're able to do as a connectional church in ministry alongside others.

5. Pray. Start praying now. Pray for those traveling from Atlanta to offer their services to these folks. Pray for the volunteers who are coming from all over Memphis to offer their time to help. Pray for Trinity as we continue to be faithful to the commands of Jesus, to love our neighbors as we have been loved and as we love one another.

Blessed to be a Blessing,  
*Rev. Sara*



## Guatemalan Consulate

It's that time once again! It's that moment when we engage the call of the Holy Spirit to be one with our neighbors and be a part — a real and tangible part — of bringing peace to our little corner of the world, and offer help and hope to those who are our immigrant neighbors.

The Guatemalan Mobile Consulate will be held at Trinity September 21st and 22nd. The consulate's office is predicting that they'll see 700+ immigrants from Mississippi, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, and Tennessee. They'll process more than 1000 legal documents (in 36 hours), including passports, for adults and children who will travel here because it's closer than the Guatemalan Consulate office in Atlanta, Georgia.

We will ask our neighbors in Evergreen to be patient and supportive, that they support us and encourage us to hold this event. Many ask how they can help and volunteer. I hope you are asking the same. The following are ways that you can help.

1. Sign up to work the event. It can be post-event clean-up. It can be playing with children downstairs. It can be canvassing the neighborhood to make sure driveways aren't blocked and trash is picked up. **Sign up here:** <http://bit.ly/GuatemalaVol>

2. Serve lunch. On Saturday, we are charged with serving lunch to the 8 consulate officers who will be present. It can be as easy as sandwiches. One year we had someone come and fix wonderful paninis in the kitchen. It doesn't have to be hard or complicated. There are no dietary restrictions. It's one meal. Can you?

3. Donate toilet paper. We have to 'man' six port-a-potties for 36 hours for 700+ people. Can you donate some Charmin? Any amount will help.

4. **Come to worship.** Worship on September 22nd will be at 1:00 in the afternoon in our usual spot. It will be a joint worship service with two area Hispanic worshipping bodies who have, for six consulate events now, partnered with us to make the mobile consulate happen. Worship will be very much like it usually is, with a few addendums to make it inclusive of our Spanish-speaking sisters and brothers. But we need you the most.

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## Honorariums & Memorials

***A memorial has been received:***

*In memory of **Wallie Newton** from Sally Ramsey*

## Binghampton United Methodist Mission

In a report to the Church Council recently, Barbara Vann shared that the Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry provided fresh fruits and vegetables to 73 households in the month of June. Emergency bags of staple items were provided to 69 households in June, as well. In the month of July, 72 households received fresh produce, while 71 homes received emergency bags of canned goods and other staples. The staple items you bring to church for the food pantry are essential contributions to this ministry.

The Really Really Free Market is held each second Saturday of the month and continues to be well attended and supplied. The next Market will be held on September 14th between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. at 258 S. Merton St.

Work in the Binghampton Land Trust continues and, as the immigration landscape continues to change, the folks at Binghampton have learned to be flexible and open in responding to the needs of the larger community. Go to the website for the Center for Transforming Communities ([ctcmidsouth.org](http://ctcmidsouth.org)) in order to learn more about how the Land Trust works.



## Where Is Trinity Financially? Financial Report as of July 31, 2019

The summary for YTD 2019 is as follows:

The income and expenses are presented by major categories.

January 1, 2019—July 31, 2019:	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Over/Under</u>
Non-Pledged	\$ 21,040	\$ 27,900	\$ ( 6,860)
Pledged	\$ 76,527	\$ 81,725	\$ ( 5,198)
Facility Use	\$ 14,839	\$ 15,290	\$ ( 451)
Total Revenue	\$121,271	\$132,595	\$ (11,324)
Expenditures			
Admin/General	\$ 73,934	\$ 73,026	\$ 907
Apportionments	\$ 10,823	\$ 12,950	\$ ( 2,127)
Mainten./Operations	\$ 50,043	\$ 51,111	\$ ( 1,068)
Program Expenses	\$ 3,842	\$ 5,421	\$ ( 1,579)
Total Expenditures	\$138,641	\$142,508	\$ ( 3,867)
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>\$(17,370)</b>	<b>\$ ( 9,913)</b>	<b>\$ ( 7,457)</b>

- Conference apportionments run 30 days behind during the year and we will make two payments in December, one for the month of November and one for the month of December.

As of July 31, we had revenue lower than originally projected (shortfall of \$11,000) and slightly lower expenditures than budgeted for the first seven months of the year. The end result is a deficit of **\$(17,370)** which is above the budgeted deficit of **\$(9,913)**. That's a difference of **\$(7,457)**.

Where is the shortfall? It is in the pledged and non-pledged giving. Both are well under budget and the two total a shortage of **\$(12,058)**. Summer months are usually lighter in income but this year has been especially so. On the other hand, we have done a good job managing our expenses.

What do all these numbers mean? Because we have had such a decrease in giving for the past two or three months, and we will longer have the \$600 per month for rent from Bluff City UMC, the new revised projected loss as of now is at **\$(7,585)** instead of the original net income projection of \$2,300.

Before everyone throws up their hands in despair, let's remember that Trinity has been blessed with generous giving over the years, and there are several restricted accounts that we could tap into if absolutely necessary. Many churches do not have such funds. Should we be able to pay our expenses out of our operating income? Of course! It nice to know, however, that there is a safety net.

How can you help with this shortfall? What can you do? If you are financially able, please consider an additional gift to the operating budget. If you have pledged funds or give regularly but haven't been in town to get the check to the church, please do so as soon as possible. Thanks!

Rosemary Potter/ Finance Chair



## RITI Winter Meal Schedule Now Open

By Lois M. Young

I recently had an email from one of our regular laundry volunteers, Beth Bradley. She wanted to choose a winter date for her group to provide one of our Room in the Inn evening meals. That first request always starts the ball rolling. The first three nights of our winter season now have meal providers. That leaves 19 dates to fill. Do you know anyone who might like to provide a meal for our unsheltered guests? We have open dates every Tuesday night from November 26 through March 31. Please give them my contact info if they would like to learn more. ([loislane.young@comcast.net](mailto:loislane.young@comcast.net), 870-559-2228)

### Volunteer Focus

Libby Streete has volunteered tirelessly with our Room in the Inn ministry in many capacities. She has been helping in the Clothes Closet since our first Trinity RITI session—November 5, 2013. If needed, Libby will stay to serve dinner and eat and talk with our guests. She also leads Movie Time every other RITI session and often more. One guest told Libby Movie Time was the only time she felt like she was doing something normal all week. The youth room, with its couches, carpet and TV, gives guests the only home-like setting in the building. Many of our guests go to sleep shortly after dinner because they are worn out from a day of walking in the heat or cold. But a few need to unwind, and the movies provide a little escape from the harsh realities they face. Libby gives her time freely to our unsheltered neighbors, and we all appreciate her sweet smile and kind disposition.



### Next Session

Our next session will be Tuesday, September 24. Let me know if you would like to volunteer ([loislane.young@comcast.net](mailto:loislane.young@comcast.net), 870-559-2228) or just stop by after 6 p.m. to meet our guests.