



Trinity United Methodist Church  
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**MEMPHIS, TN**  
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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 Invitation

*“But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” — Luke 14:13-14*

Not long ago, we gathered in worship. It was the first Sunday in September. We gathered expectant and ready to worship — ready to gather at the table for communion — and ready to receive what God had to offer. We gathered expectant, as we should.

That morning we discussed the parable of the wedding banquet. You know the one. It was the banquet to which the well-liked, upstanding society members were invited, and began to position themselves for the places of honor at the table, rather than waiting and being called to the seats of honor. Jesus reminded those listening to humble themselves, first, but then to extend themselves to those who are least likely to be invited to the banquet at all. The most meaningful thing I took away in my studying and in my writing was this: Invite the unlikely, unexpected guests. Invite. Because why would they come without an invitation?

I’ve mulled this over again and again for a few weeks now. Perhaps you have, as well. I hope you have. I hope you, in hearing those words, or in reading them now, can say with confidence, “We do that!” or, “I do that!” That is something great to celebrate because, at the very least, well, that’s what Jesus said to do and being a disciple means living after his words and examples.

On September 29th, Trinity will be participating in Memphis PRIDE. This isn’t the first time. Two years ago we had a table and many of you came and worked it throughout the day. Our music director, John Holtzman, was pro-active in setting up our booth and introducing us to the many folks in his circle who attend PRIDE. The experience was beautiful in that it put us in the middle of a group of folks who, in our age, would be unlikely, unexpected guests in Christian worship spaces. This particular community, the LGBT+ community, has, at times, been

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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

**Bryce Sellers**, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

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

Prayers of thanksgiving for **Rusty Ramsey**, whose cancer treatments are complete

**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 home now, receiving out patient rehab.

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

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

*(Please contact the church office if you have additional prayer concerns, need a concern removed, or need to make a change or correction.)*

# Upcoming

EVENTS

## UMW Meetings

The UMW Unit meeting will be held on September 18th at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Evening Circle will meet on Monday, September 23rd, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

## 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 10:30 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 23rd. 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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admonished by the Church, rather than loved by it. And so, being *intentional* about developing these relationships works to heal a wound that otherwise is ignored, and we all know what happens to ignored wounds. Our table was an example of the church being the church Jesus said should go and invite. In inviting, we emulate the love of Jesus and in loving we are answering our call to do all we are called to do.

This is the value of being present and of being intentional — connecting with the unlikely and unexpected, because why would they come if they're never invited?

If you'd like to work our table for PRIDE, please let me know. It will touch your heart in a way you may not expect. And remember, all we are ever called to be is faithful.

See page 8 for photos from previous PRIDE event.

Blessed to be a Blessing,  
Rev. Sara

## Save the Date: Children's Council

Sunday September 29th, following worship, the Children's Council will gather in the Worship Center for lunch and planning around children's ministry through the end of the year. Children's ministry does not include youth ministry. This committee will discuss those in pre-k up to those in transition between children's and youth (so, our 6th graders). Anyone and everyone who's interested in being a part of this planning or participating in Children's Ministry through the end of the year, is encouraged to attend the meeting. Please let me know if you'll be coming so that we can plan accordingly with lunch.

Thank you in advance for committing to teach, love, and care for the smallest disciples.

Blessings,  
Rev. Sara



## Guatemalan Consulate

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 (Atlanta, GA).

We have asked our neighbors in Evergreen to be patient and supportive. They support us and encourage us to hold this event.

The following are ways that **you** can help:

- 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>
- 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?  
**(No one has volunteered yet. Can you?)**
- Donate toilet paper. We have to 'man' 6 port-a-potties for 36 hours for 700+ people. Can you donate some Charmin? Any amount will help.
- **Come to worship.** Sunday worship 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 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. 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.
- **Pray.** 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.



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
October 1	Davis Hopper
October 7	Tom Edwards
October 8	Nora Dycus
October 13	Sullivan Potter
October 17	Flip Brooks
October 18	Gracie McClurkan
October 19	Jacob Foreman
October 27	Wade Humbert
October 31	Phil Waldon

*[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.]*





Memphis PRIDE  
September 29th



Location:  
Robert Church Park  
near the  
FedEx Forum



## Honorariums & Memorials

### **Memorials have been received:**

*In memory of **Wallie Newton** from Sally Ramsey*  
*In memory of **Wallie Newton** from Alyson & Caley Foreman*  
*In memory of **Wallie Newton** from Rosemary & Mike Potter*  
*In memory of **Wallie Newton** from an anonymous donor*  
*In memory of **Orville "Phil" Phillips** from Tom Wilson*  
*In memory of **James Taylor, Jr.** from Tom Wilson*

### **An honorarium has been received:**

*In honor of **Craig Jordan** from his Aging/End of Life class students*

## Trinity: a generous people

Every so often, I have to take a look at the funds available for Trinity's ministries to our neighbors who are struggling with empty pantries, empty refrigerators, and empty wallets. When Jesus said that the poor would be with us always, it was prophetic. He never said it was right or just, he was just stating a fact. He also told us to feed them, to give them water, to clothe them ... for in doing so, we are helping Jesus.

My volunteers and I take calls every day from folks who just don't have enough on which to get by. They call—every day—to ask for help with utilities, rent, and, most of all, groceries. So far in 2019, we have handed out 434 vouchers, each of which allows the recipient to purchase \$25 worth of food or personal items at the Cash Savers on Madison at Avalon. For each individual, that's not a lot of money, but it buys enough for them to get by on for a little while. Consider how much we spend on groceries, and you will admit \$25 doesn't go very far. But also consider the gratitude of 40 people each month who receive food vouchers from this congregation. You are doing a good work here, Trinity. Please accept my personal "Thank You!" Because of you, we don't always have to turn away "the least of these." And know this: there are larger congregations and aid organizations who no longer offer assistance to these desperate people. I know, because I've called a lot of churches and service organizations, looking for referral sources. I'm proud to know you, Trinitarians. ~ Gratefully, Debby M.



## Third Gathering for Discovery and Discernment

On August 24, many Trinity members and friends gathered to continue our Discovery and Discernment process, under the leadership of Amy Moritz. We began our morning with a Gallery Walk: We moved around the Worship Center, looking at what we had learned during our previous meetings. This included the gifts individuals had identified in themselves, the asset maps and social network maps that show us what resources are in our neighborhood, the Give-a-Fish activity of current Trinity ministries, the “If Others Would Join Me” bulletin board, and results of personal interviews done by some of our members with neighborhood partners. Next, we considered What (what we had noticed), So What (what patterns are emerging), What if (responses to what we’ve learned), and Now What (actions). We clustered related Now What’s, and six areas of ministry emerged. (Want to know what they are? Look forward to another article in the next TriNotes.) After a closing prayer, we stepped forward to add our names to the clusters we were eager to work on personally. It was an inspirational and moving morning. At the next day’s Church Council, Amy asked the Council to approve making the Community Connections Steering Committee a regular part of the church structure. It will function like our Mission and Outreach group used to but go further, as we pursue this new way of connecting to our community. The Council approved this change, and members were invited to join the committee. You are invited too! If you want to be a part of this exciting work of connecting Trinity to its neighbors, contact Amy Moritz at [amycmoritz@gmail.com](mailto:amycmoritz@gmail.com).

Kay Jordan

## Interested in a game of Hearts?

A group of friends will soon be getting together here at Trinity for a friendly game of Hearts. Everyone is welcome to join for a game once in a while or on an ongoing basis. All you have to do is show up on the 1st Friday of the month at 1:00 p.m. (Room to be announced.) The goal? Fun and fellowship!



## RITI Summer Moving into Fall

By Lois M. Young

During our August Room in the Inn session, one of our guests had tons of mosquito bites. She said she had spent the night before outside. Her itching was miserable. She requested a Benadryl, which we keep on hand for guests who might need them. What I wish we could have offered our guests were those bug repellent wipes. They still have many more buggy nights to contend with. We will have some of those wipes ready for our guests at the next session.

Our September meal provider fell through last month, but thankfully, some of our newest volunteers decided to fill that slot. These young ladies will represent the women’s cross-country track team from Rhodes College. They are young, energetic, and wonderful with our guests. We are so thankful for their enthusiasm and willingness to take on this new level of volunteering.

### Winter Meal Schedule

Speaking of empty meal provider dates: We still have 17 open dates on our winter meal schedule – November 26; December 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31; January 7, 21 and 28; February 4, 18 and 25; and March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. If you know a group who might want to provide a meal for our guests, please share these dates with them along with my contact info:

*loislane.young@comcast.net, 870-559-2228*

### Volunteer focus

Elizabeth and Joey Hopper have been helping with our Room in the Inn sessions since 2013. At first they would help set up beds, but as some point they took over setting up the dining room and preparing the drinks for our evening meals. They also help purchase tablecloths and decorations to make our evening meals more festive. As a family, the Hoppers have also provided many evening meals for our guests. These wonderful Trinity volunteers have been super reliable. Elizabeth always lets me know if they are going to be out of town during a RITI session, so I can find volunteers to take their place. Many thanks to Elizabeth, Joey, and David for their dedicated support of our unsheltered neighbors.

### Next Session

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