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Trinotes



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.



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Lent, the Wilderness, and What I'm Surrendering

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet

I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor

was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Matthew 6:28-34

When I was a teenager, this was easier. It was fun, and cute, and simple. I'm going to give up chocolate for Lent. And, as much as I enjoyed chocolate, that was a breeze. I didn't eat chocolate every day. I wasn't consistently faced with the temptation to eat it. And by the time Easter rolled around, I'd have accrued a pretty nice collection of Cadbury Eggs and then had the freedom to "go at it." It was simple, as a teen.

But it didn't take too long for me to realize that I didn't feel any different when I gave up chocolate for Lent. Even as a young person, I knew that this sacrifice – this surrendering – was supposed to make me feel like I was closer to God or like God was more present in the way that I lived my life. And that's what this is about. This season is about entering into a wilderness place – a place where we have surrendered – a place where we allow Jesus to proverbially 'take the wheel,' and watch as our life evolves into something new – something of a chrysalis experience. In Lent we endure the pain that is surrendering and change, with great anticipation of something new on the other side of it all.

You've read before, time and again (actually), of my confession that I am someone who struggles with anxiety. Anxiety is much more than worry, however, embracing worry sure does enhance anxiety. And that's not an amazing place to be as someone who is bound to the covenant of itineracy. It's also that season – the one where Josh and I twiddle our thumbs wondering if the phone will ring and we'll need to drag down the

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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:

Maggi Comes' niece, **Katie Pendleton**, diagnosed with Tumefactive MS

Bryce Sellers, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Paige Warmath, **Alyson Foreman's** cousin, continuing treatment for brain tumor

Kanyon Glover, heart transplant survivor; in and out of hospital

Katie, young mother of an infant & toddler, in abusive relationship and suffering from major depression (concern shared by **Chris Glover**)

Jacob Foreman, son of **Caley & Alyson**, diagnosed with ENS & undergoing treatment; prayers still appreciated

Gene Opel, very weak, but in good spirits; **Irene Opel**, physically frail with ongoing health concerns; **Anita Bunn** as she cares for them

Nancy Rankin's sister, **Betty Bell**, as she recovers from abdominal surgery & undergoes rehab; Betty's son **Matthew** as he cares for her in Florida

Nancy's sister, **Mary Ellen Koehler**, in hospice in New Jersey

Rev. Sara's grandmother, **Kathleen Corum**, now home—please pray for her and Rev. Sara's father, **Tilman Corum**.

Jeri Ashley's health concerns

Jane Waldrip, recovering well following heart valve surgery

Vivien Allen, sister of **Elaine Amis**, recovering from a heart attack

The family of **Dennis Brown**, a military veteran and **Rita Allmon's** cousin, who died recently in Phoenix, AR

The family and friends of **Jane Collins**, who died February 22nd at age 95

(Please contact the church office if you have additional prayer concerns, need a concern removed, or

Upcoming

EVENTS

Presidential Primary Election

Trinity will again serve as a polling place for the upcoming election on **March 3rd**. The Worship Center & lobby will be set aside for the use of poll workers and voters. (See article on page 6 about our **Election Day Bake Sale**.)

Upcoming UMW Meetings

UMW Day Circle: Room 201, Tuesday, March 3rd, 10:30 a.m.

UMW Unit Meeting: Tuesday, March 17th Worship Center, 10:30a.m.

UMW Evening Circle: Monday, March 23rd Worship Center, 6:30 p.m.

Cub Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet

Pack 13 will host their annual banquet in the Worship Center on Sunday, March 8th, 5:00 p.m.

March Committee Meetings

Board of Trustees—Conference Room, March 8th following worship

SPRC—Conference Room, March 15th following worship

Church Council—Worship Center, March 22 following worship

Congregational Care—Conference Room, March 24th at noon

Room in the Inn

Please e-mail Lois Young at loislane.young@gmail.com or call her at 901-359-4047 if you wish to volunteer for winter season tasks. (See article on page 7.)

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 March 9th. Please email or deliver any articles to Debby Marston 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/e-newsletter.html

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quite impressive collection of Amazon Prime boxes from the attic to begin packing – our chrysalis – knowing that it's time for our hearts to change and every facet of our lives along with it. It's not for the faint of heart; nor is it the most amazing place for the anxiety-ridden pastormom.

I can't control these things – this life that I'm fully committed to. I can't. I have a little say, and I can adequately express the hopes and desires of my heart, but this – this whole life change – is far out of the realm of my control, and this same story is read every Spring.

For Lent, I wonder what it might be like, not to surrender the anxiety, but to surrender the myth that I could ever have control – to surrender the desires of my heart. And maybe even surrender the small moments of control that I seemingly have, from the day my children have at school (how they're treated, how well they do), to how the chairs are arranged in the Worship Center. I wonder how hard it might be, and on the other side, how freeing it might be – how open and receptive I might be to the will of God if I stop trying so hard to insert my own will in every little facet of the day. I wonder how this practice might benefit my relationship with the Redeemer since this is the point of surrendering in Lent.

Maybe you'll join me in this practice. I won't lie; I think this is a universal struggle and that it would benefit the whole if we'd covenant to let go together. Maybe you see a greater place of surrender that's necessary in your life for this season. Whatever it is, I covenant to walk alongside you in your Lenten journey, and pray that you'll walk with me as well.

From the Wilderness,
Rev. Sara



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School flyers are now ready for Trinity members to share with family, friends, and neighbors. The week of June 1-5, from 9 a.m. to 12:00 daily, will be such an exciting one, as our VBS participants at Trinity Church become **Knights of North Castle** in a **Quest for the King's Armor**. As brave Knights, they will learn how to **"be strong in the Lord and the strength of God's power."** The time is NOW to start inviting children to join us for this fun and faith-filled week! Make a phone call, knock on a door, mail a flyer, or share the news through your Facebook page. That personal invitation is an essential part of the gracious hospitality that God calls each and every one of us to extend to others.



It takes a whole church to do a VBS! The time is NOW to volunteer your time and talents as an adult or youth helper at this year's VBS. We still have several vital leadership positions that need to be filled. Susan Childress and Irene Dycus, co-directors, are looking for leaders/helpers for:

- Activity Centers (Art/Crafts, Science, Recreation, Music, Snack)
- Preschool Class
- Group Guides
- Decorations
- Registrations
- Publicity

The time is NOW! Where will you serve?

Interested in a game of Hearts?

A group of friends gets together here at Trinity once a month 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. to gather in the Youth Room. The goal? Fun and fellowship!



(continued from page 8—Breakfast with the Easter Bunny)

We will be stuffing over two thousand plastic eggs in preparation for the Easter Egg Hunt. This year we are doing things a little differently by asking for **cash donations** (no candy, please) to go toward purchasing candy for the eggs. (We are trying to avoid larger, hard candies and candies with nuts of any kind.) Alyson Foreman and Irene Dycus will be making these purchases; monetary donations of any size will be greatly appreciated; you may give Alyson or Irene your cash donation or make a check to Trinity UMC (designate for Easter candy). We will have an Egg-Stuffing Party at the March Fellowship Breakfast.

Last but not least, we will be continuing our association with the Salvation Army's Purdue Center. For many years, the Children's Department, with the help of many others, provided Easter baskets for the children of the center, which offers emergency family shelter from abusive situations. Last year, we began a new tradition of providing stuffed eggs for an on-site hunt at the center. We will do that once again this year, donating several hundred eggs filled with candy, as well as an Easter bucket for each child, so the children at the Purdue Center can enjoy their very own Easter Egg Hunt. Your financial contributions will also help fund this very worthy project.

Lots to do and lots of people needed to do it. Hop to it, folks! We need your help to make sure that all these things happen!

Scout News

The Cub Scouts of Pack 13 have enjoyed a busy year so far, recently running their Pinewood Derby and planning their annual Blue and Gold Banquet on March 8th. Boy Scouts of Troop 13 returned from Winter Camp and are training for a backpack trek through Land between the Lakes.

Soon, instead of Troop, we can say Troops, as we are excited that Troop 13 for girls is starting now! They are planning to attend Camporee in April and will be meeting Sunday evenings at 4:30 p.m. Lisa Wong will be the first Scoutmaster. She can be reached at info@scouts13.org with any questions.

It's always a great time to start in Scouting. If you know of any child who might be interested, please reach out.

—Rob Landrigan, (901) 849-1453

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Mark your calendars now! One of the biggest events for the children of our church and neighborhood is coming up on the morning of Saturday, April 4th. The fun will begin at 9:00 a.m. with Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, a wonderful time for the whole family to enjoy a delicious meal and lots of enjoyable activities. Our capable chef, Sam Goff, will be leading the Trinity Breakfast Bunch in cooking a passel of food for a passel of folks. Also on the agenda during the breakfast hour are lots of fun crafts and time to visit (and take pictures) with the Easter Bunny.



The Easter Egg Hunt will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. on the grounds of the church. If it's a rainy day, the hunt will take place inside the building. The hunt is open to toddlers through

5th graders. Children are asked to bring their own baskets for the egg hunt. Many thanks go to the Evergreen Historic District Association for partnering with us once again on this event.

There is much to be done in preparation for this big day, and we need your help! Please begin inviting family, friends, and neighbors right now. If you do Facebook, the event is live on the Trinity UMC Facebook page; share the good news with others through your own Facebook page. Contact Sam Goff if you can help set up tables in the Worship Center prior to the event or if you are willing to help cook the meal. Beryl and Karen Willard will be decorating the tables; talk to them to volunteer your services in this area. To offer to help with crafts, please contact Joan Smith. Scouts from Troop 13, led by Rob Landrigan, and our Trinity Youth, led by Brad Moritz, will hide the eggs for the hunt. To help with the supervision of the Easter Egg Hunt or to offer to help hide eggs, see Irene Dycus.

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March 1	Nelda Gray
March 3	Heather Jacoby-Keller
March 6	Becky Waldon
March 6	Joe Spake
March 13	Leanne Wilson
March 14	Anne Steinaway
March 16	Jane Waldrip
March 19	Alyson Foreman
March 19	Charles Abraham
March 31	Hadley Keller



Wednesday, March 4 at
Area 51 Ice Cream
5:30-6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11 at the
Saucy Chicken, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18
No Youth Group—Spring Break

Thursday, March 26 at Global
Café, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Save the Dates!

There's so much coming up at Trinity UMC!
We want to give you lots of advance notice. Mark your calendars.

- April 4th: Breakfast with the Easter Bunny: Breakfast 9:00. Egg hunt: 10:00
- April 5th: Palm Sunday
- April 9th: Maundy Thursday: Service TBD
- April 10th: Good Friday: Service TBD
- April 12th: Easter Sunday
- April 19th: Scout Sunday — Celebrating its 100th year
- May 10th: Mother's Day and Children's Sabbath
- June 1st - 5th: Vacation Bible School, 9:00 - 12:00 daily
- June 15th - 19th: New Spark Performing Arts Theater Camp
- June 22th - 26th: New Spark Performing Arts Theater Camp
- July 6th - 10th: New Spark Performing Arts Theater Camp
- July 13th - 17th: New Spark Performing Arts Theater Camp

Election Day Bake Sale

It's time once again for an Election Day Bake Sale at Trinity! The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd. Those who have served at the sales table in the past know that it is no exaggeration to say that the bake sale is a popular event with the neighborhood. We have many neighbors who actually forgo early voting in order to be here for our bake sale. Our delectable food items truly are that well-known, as well as the familiar faces that greet them each time! So, the invitation to you includes baking for the sale and also being a friendly salesperson, if that will fit into your schedule.

As always, we are asking each family in the church to bake one or more items to sell. An "item" is a cake, a batch of cookies, a pie, a loaf of bread, a



batch of muffins or cupcakes, etc. All baked goods need to be delivered to Trinity Church no later than 6 p.m. on Monday, March 2nd. Smaller items such as cookies and brownies should be packed in zip-lock bags, 4 to a package for large ones and 6 to a package for smaller ones. We will price all bake sale items after you bring them to the church; please do not put prices on your baked goods ahead of time.

On the day of the bake sale, we need helpers at the sales table, which will be located in the lobby outside the voting area. We will need two volunteers on duty at all times, from 7:00 a.m. until about 4:00 p.m. We also need two early-bird helpers (6:00 a.m.) to help prepare complimentary coffee for voters and to get baked goods onto the tables before the doors open for the voters. If you can bake and/or help at the sales table, please contact Irene Dycus at irenebdycus@hotmail.com or call her at 901-652-1105. All proceeds from the bake sale will go towards the support of missions and ministries of Trinity Church. With your help, we will have another successful bake sale!

Honorariums & Memorials

***An Honorarium has been received:
In honor of Betty Bell from Nancy Rankin***



New type of
Coordination:
flexible hospitality

By Lois M. Young

Room in the Inn for 2019-2020 is winding down. We have five sessions left for this winter season. Since I am leaving the coordinator role at the end of March, we are trying to figure out a good way to keep this ministry going. Finding someone who wants to take on the full coordinator role is difficult, but finding individuals who are willing to be team captains for specific volunteer roles might be the better way to go. We have a few people who are willing to act as captains. Those captains would stay in touch with all the people who volunteer in their same role and make sure that volunteer duty is covered each week. The program would still need someone to send weekly emails to make sure everyone is on the same page – sort of a communications coordinator. If you might be interested in this role, please talk to me (loislane.young@comcast.net) or Rosemary Potter (rosemary.potter@att.net).

Flexible hospitality

Over the past seven years, we have learned that sometimes we have to be flexible to make sure we can provide the best service for our guests. We used to take both men and women guests for each session, but we never knew how many of each group we would have until about 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday nights. That meant we often had to move beds around to different rooms at the last minute to have the correct number of beds for each gender. Sometimes at the last minute we have been told we have a family coming, so our volunteers start moving beds and setting up an area just for that family.

A few times we have had national elections on Room in the Inn nights. A couple of times we had to cancel a November session for a big election. Once when we still had a big room upstairs with tables, we had the dinner upstairs, since the fellowship hall is the polling place, and it is open until 7 p.m.

A week ago we realized that Super Tuesday (the national primary election) would coincide with our RITI session. We did not want to cancel and leave 13 guests without a bed for the night. For serving dinner, we decided we could use two rooms upstairs that have some tables in them – the youth room and the Sunday school room across the hall. It won't be that same dining experience where everyone is together in the same room, but it will allow us offer overnight hospitality to 13 guests who would otherwise be outside for the night. My guess is that we will have "fun" trying to navigate the hallways with all the extra voters lined up.

It will be worth it in the morning when several guests tell us they slept well and feel better.

Join us

If you have not been involved in Room in the Inn at Trinity, please stop by any Tuesday evening and check it out. We are happy to show you around and introduce you to our guests.