



Trinity United Methodist Church
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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



Of Hope and a Future

I've never had seasonal affective disorder (SAD). At least I don't think so. However, as the days appear to be shorter — as it's dark outside earlier, and damp, and chilly, I appreciate my morning vitamin D gummy more and

more. The trees are less yellow and orange now. They're beginning to look more brown or even bare. It's that slow death that begins every fall.

And of course the TV is laced with Christmas commercials, coaxing us to shop — spurring us to pull out the decorations dangerously early, not opting to pay the turkey his homage. It's funny. We're approaching a season of waiting — of quiet — of hopeful anticipation. And yet, the dreary, dank, soppy, cold, wetness of the season, drags us into a very blue place — a place where hope seems far away.

I've felt that a lot this year, but quite noticeably now. In February, the Church I love (The United Methodist Church) elected to continue a doctrinal argument that would further enforce ostracism and separation, rather than inclusion and unity. The decision has been a clanging cymbal throughout the entire denomination since. People have slowly, but surely, left the Church I love in mass exodus — some for very valid “other” reasons, and some because the Church they loved no longer seemed to harness hope for them or for those whom they love.

I have held out hope, remembering that everything that is resurrected must first die. Of course, that doesn't make it easy. The Church as I know it is in hospice care. Many of its cells are dying painful defeated deaths and that is torment for the hopeful. That the dankness, and darkness, and coldness of this season — exacerbated by the shadow of gloom and doom that seems to loom over a once unified body — persists through to a season of resurrection, seems impossible. But, as we approach Advent, I'm reminded to not neglect Easter in my peripheral.

As I sit here at my desk in my office worrying about church finances — worrying about the church I serve within the Church I'm trying to love still, before me is a 20-year financial history of Trinity. In it there are dips into deep valleys — places of great hopelessness — hopelessness for the members and for the 400+ people the church serves. In it, too, are places where our Finance

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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 PRAISE!! **Molly Rosson** is eating solid food, playing pat-a-cake, and saying new words now.

Kanyan Glover, heart transplant survivor, in and out of hospital

Donnie Glover, chemo for leukemia continues, but doing well

Bryce Sellers, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

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

Jane Manning, friend of **Joe Hatter**, lung cancer, now home on hospice; and Joe, as he cares for Jane at home

Grace Hayden, daughter of **Tim & Nora**, receiving outpatient rehab.

Mary McConnell's niece, **Laura Fellin**, now receiving radiation for cancer

Jacob Foreman, son of **Caley & Alyson**, diagnosed with ENS & undergoing treatment

Jane Collins suffered a fall, resulting in a broken femur; in rehab.

Irene Opel's endoscopy went well; awaiting biopsy results.

Gene Opel entered the hospital on November 18th with congestive heart failure; returned home Nov. 21st feeling & breathing better.

The family of **Connie Potter** as they grieve, and as they celebrate her life.

Dan Hoffman, Jr., recovering from November 20th heart bypass surgery

(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

Church Office Closings

The office will be closed from November 27 through 29 for Thanksgiving.

Upcoming UMW Meetings in Worship Center

The Evening Circle will meet November 25th at 6:30 p.m. The Day Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 3rd, at 10:30 a.m.

Youth Group—Go to <https://www.trinityumcmemphis.org/weekly-childrens-programs.html> for upcoming Youth activities.

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 or meals. (See article on page 8 for Clothes Closet needs.)

Upcoming Committee Meetings

The **Church Council** will meet in the Worship Center on Sunday, November 24th, following worship.

Manna on Monday

The next Manna on Monday meal will be served on November 25th at St. Stephen's UMC. Servers/clean-up volunteers welcome! Plan to arrive by 11:50 a.m.

Holy Communion

A Service of Holy Communion is held in the Chapel each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. (Communion will not be served on November 27th.)

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 December 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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Chair has noted the presence of the Holy Spirit making perfect and timely provisions. I can see dips and dings in membership numbers and then flights north — not always on the roster, but exceedingly involved. Beside the finance packet is my Bible — an old beat up Bible from seminary, filled sky high with notes from Luke Timothy Johnson's New Testament class — my favorite texts underlined. I flip it open for a moment and catch, highlighted in blue, Jeremiah 29:11 — just in time — always in time. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"

And I breathe it in — the *ruach* — the breath — the Spirit that is of God and is God, and I am filled, yes, with fear (I am an anxious person), and also with hope. It comes in spurts as God, in a very God-like way, reveals again and again glimpses of the Divine. And I treasure the moments when all we have to fear dissipates and the ever-present God — Emmanuel — is with us.

Church, breathe it in with me — the Holy Spirit — and be reminded that there are plans that have already been made — plans of *hope and a future*.

With Hope,
Rev. Sara

Honorariums & Memorials

Memorials have been received:

*In memory of **Connie Potter** from Sally & Eddie Ramsey*

*In memory of **Connie Potter** from the Nowlin Class*

*In memory of **Connie Potter** from Alyson & Caley Foreman*

*In memory of **Connie Potter** from Mark & Pat Smith*

*In memory of **John Bonson** from Phil & Becky Waldon*

*In memory of **Marvin Ching** from Phil & Becky Waldon*

Children's Ministries to Host Holiday Party

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and soon after that will be the Christmas holidays! This holiday season our Children's Ministries will be hosting a Holiday Party on the afternoon of Sunday, December 15th for the Cub Scouts of Pack 13 and the carolers from the Evergreen Historic District Association (EHDA). This will be a two-part affair, due to there being two separate events taking place at different times that afternoon. The first will follow Pack 13's Court of Honor in our Worship Center; we will be providing cookies and brownies for the reception honoring the Cubs who have received awards.

The EHDA carolers will also be meeting at some point that afternoon in the front of our building to board a float and cruise the neighborhood to brighten the lives of neighbors with joyous songs of the season. Following this, they will also congregate in Trinity's Worship Center, at which time we will be providing refreshments for this group as well.



We need lots of volunteers to provide cookies and brownies for this fun afternoon!

Our Advent/ Christmas events of the past several years have been filled with delicious snacks and fun activities. The kids and parents of both these groups will come anticipating the same gracious hospitality they have enjoyed in the

past, and we don't want to disappoint them. If you can provide a batch of cookies or brownies, please contact Irene Dycus at 652-1105 or irenebdycus@hotmail.com. Please bring your treats on dishes that do not have to be returned to you. We also need hosts and hostesses who will help serve the treats and greet our neighbors who attend these events.

Our Children's Ministries leaders are looking forward to another delightful time of food, fun, and fellowship with our scouting and neighborhood families! We hope you are, too!



A few photos from
"Trunk or Treat."
(Article on page 6)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



November 25	Carson Witt
November 26	Vanoma Newhart
November 27	Shirley Flint
November 27	Donna Windham
November 29	John Allmon
November 29	Jonathan Goff
December 1	Lori Brown
December 3	Libby Streete
December 5	Jean Moss
December 6	Tucker Shaw
December 9	Rosemary Potter
December 16	Sue Taylor
December 17	Daniel Hoffman, Jr.
December 18	Bill Berry
December 18	Phil Isbell
December 21	Melba Abraham
December 21	Stephanie Potter
December 25	Carey Miller
December 28	Leslie Potter

[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.]



ROOM
IN THE INN
MEMPHIS

Meeting the needs, one person at a time

By Lois M. Young

Our first two Room in the Inn sessions for this season have gone well. We had all men the first night and all women the second. This works well for our location. We can focus on the needs of each group, and they can all sleep in the same space downstairs, since we have limited rooms for beds.

We have many dedicated volunteers who know exactly what to do in their volunteer roles. They greet guests with dignity and respect and help them find their way in the building. They listen to the guests while sharing a meal. They perform all the background duties that make that meal and the overnight stay possible. We average about 35 volunteers for each Room in the Inn session. Each volunteer brings with them skills and a willingness to help, so our guests can enjoy the evening in a warm, welcoming environment.

Join us to see faith in action

You are always welcome to join us for Room in the Inn sessions to find out more about what we are doing. Stop by on a Tuesday night and meet our unsheltered guests and volunteers. Guests arrive at about 6 p.m. If you have questions or want to learn more about this ministry contact me at lois-lane.young@comcast.net or call 870-559-2228. Thanks.

Clothes Closet needs

The most needed items in our Clothes Closet include:

- Men's winter jackets,
- New white T-shirts (all sizes, but especially large and XL),
- Men's boxers and boxer briefs (sizes Large, XL, 2XL and 3XL),
- Sports bras in all sizes,
- Backpacks,
- Winter gloves, and
- Reading glasses and sunglasses.

(Items can be dropped off in the blue RIT bin in the Trinity UMC lobby.)



Interested in a game of Hearts?

A group of friends get 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!

Holiday Joy and Congregational Care

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.

Romans 15:1-2

It's beginning to look and feel a lot like the holiday season. The children are starting to spread that contagious, anxious, excited joy. We are preparing to enter the Advent season and are invited, again, to fully engage in a time of joyful anticipation as we welcome the Christ child into our midst. We give God thanks.

For some, the holiday season is harder. Family is separated by miles and for some, age, illness, and any number of other matters, make it harder to celebrate.

And so, it's time again to take an extra moment and remember those who need to be reminded, in this season especially, that they are loved. Our members who are homebound are not homebound by choice, and many of the memories that they share, that bring them joy, are memories of their church and of you. One of the ways that Trinity has traditionally shown extra love to our Special Care family members is by sending Christmas cards.

If you wish to participate, please bring your cards to the church before December 15th, with the recipient's name only written on each envelope. At the end of the service on the 15th, the cards will be on the tables in the back of the fellowship hall. If you feel led to deliver cards to one of our Special Care members, you'll have an opportunity to take those cards with you that day and make a special visit. Both you and your Special Care member will be blessed.

Jan Baker

Allane Demetrio

Julie McMahan

Ron Raybuck

Doris Webster

Jane Collins

Roscoe Dodson

Jean Moss

Hugh Stuart

Pat Lovington

John Curry

Richard Hackleman

Vanoma Newhart

John Stuart

Virginia Walters



Compassion Market 2019

No need to wonder where you'll eat after church on December 1st! Trinity and Binghampton United Methodist Mission are joining with Binghampton artists, craftspeople, and chefs to present our first "Compassion Market" that day from noon to 3 at Trinity UMC.

Neighbors are invited to come enjoy a meal prepared by immigrant chef Flor of Kaleidoscope Kitchens, then shop arts and crafts from several Binghampton individuals and groups: Refugee Empowerment Project; Rachel's Kids, Inc.; shalom, b (in support of Mariposas Collective); Lisieux Community, jeweler Beverly Dorsey; and others. All proceeds go to the artists and/or the groups they are sponsoring. This Market grew out of our Saturday morning Visioning events. We envisioned being in a closer mission work relationship with the immigrant neighbors in Binghampton. At this event, we'll be doing just that.

Trunk-or-Treat 2019

Trunk-or-Treat was nearly a month ago now, and I've been remiss to not reflect.

We had a WONDERFUL time! The weather was cold and wet and so the faithful trunksters moved their goodies inside the Worship Center for a time of celebration with the children who came. We had kids come from different arenas of the ministries of this church (Scouts, Midtown Montessori, etc.) and some children just from the neighborhood — our neighbors. There were games and treats and an opportunity to mix and mingle.

When the time for goodies and games came to an end, everyone was invited to stay and watch the Pixar movie Coco — a children's movie centered around the traditions of Dia de los Muertos — the Mexican Day of the Dead. Rosemary and Mike Potter ordered pizza for everyone. Rob Langridan set up an inflatable movie screen and projector to show the movie and effectively turned the Worship Center into a movie theater. It was so neat!

You showed up — many of you. Despite the weather, you came. You came to be with some of the least of these, and it was wonderful. Thank you. As a pastor, I'm immensely proud. As a mother, I am thankful for you — for your showing my children that Church — even church — can be a place to always be who they are.

Let's do this again next year!

With Gratitude,
Rev. Sara

(see page 9 for photos)



Compassion Market

at Trinity United Methodist Church
1738 Galloway Avenue in Midtown
in cooperation with artists and
craftspeople in Binghampton

Sunday, December, noon to 3 p.m.

Come enjoy a lunch prepared by immigrant women from **Kaleidoscope Catering**.

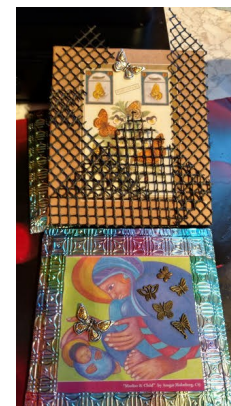
Then shop from these and other artisans:



Floral Centerpiece
by
Rachel's Kids, Inc.
Wooden crosses &
trees also available

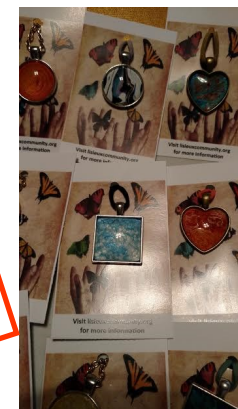


Jewelry by
artist Beverly
Dorsey



Religious Icons by
shalom, b
Proceeds from
sale go to
Mariposas
Collective

**MARIPOSAS
COLLECTIVE**



Pendant necklaces,
books, & cards to
support the Lisieux

**Support our
neighbors in
Binghampton!**

**Preferred
payment is by
cash or check.**