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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

Glancing Back and Moving Forward

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last." — Rev. 1:17

Recalling and revering the past is something we've discussed a lot during my tenure. We've spent an appropriate amount of time and energy looking back. We've done so for a number of reasons. If we don't adequately remember the past, we'll repeat it. Sometimes that's great. Sometimes.....not so much. We've looked back to rejoice in Trinity's history — memorable services (weddings, baptisms, even funerals), in the sanctuary — our financial history where, on paper, we can catch glimpses of God's provision at prominent and much-needed moments — moments "in life, in death, in life beyond death," where we could recount and claim that, "God is with us. We are not alone." (A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada, UMH, 883)

Looking back is important, but only so that what was may propel us forward — only so that we may recall important lessons, that we may use them in what is and what is to come.

When I was about 8-years-old, I spent a week or two of my summer at a riding stable in Cedar Grove TN. I loved horses, and still do. I wanted to learn to ride. One afternoon, I was leading a huge (17 hand) Tennessee Walking Horse out of the saddling area into the riding ring. He was a sight to see and I imagine that watching an 8-year-old lead this gigantic steed out of the stable, was quite interesting. I was overcome by his beauty. Horses are poetry in motion — magical to watch. As I was leading him, I was looking at his long, beautiful, face when all of the sudden he stopped. He dug his stubborn hooves into the ground and wouldn't budge. He had a bit of a

reputation for doing as he pleased and so I wrote it off as his personality. I tugged on his line. He wouldn't budge. I pulled harder — likely harder than I should've, but he wasn't moving.

Finally, after the tug-of-war went on for a moment or two he took one step, after which I turned (thinking His Majesty was ready to move on with the lesson), and

walked straight into a pole that divided the saddling area. The horse
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"IF WE DON'T ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN WIDENING THE BREADTH OF GOD'S LOVE IN THIS WORLD, THEN WE, LIKE THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HAVE OVERLOOKED THE POINT OF FAITH."

SARA CORUM

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

Jane Manning, friend of **Joe Hatter**, lung cancer, receiving chemo & radiation

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

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**, breathing problems after complications following surgery; multiple problems due to scoliosis

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

Irene Opel, doing better, to see gastroenterologist; **Gene Opel** to have heart catheterization on Oct. 21st; to see pulmonologist for fluid on lungs

(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 October Meeting in Worship Center

The Evening Circle will meet October 28th at 6:30 p.m.

Youth Group—Go to <https://www.trinityumcmemphis.org/weekly-childrens-programs.html> for upcoming Youth activities. (See page 9 for October/November schedule.)

Room in the Inn

Please call Lois Young at 901-359-4047 or e-mail her at loislane.young@gmail.com if you wish to volunteer for winter season tasks or meals. (See article on page 4 for details.)

Upcoming Committee Meetings

The **SPRC** will meet in the Conference Room on Sunday, October 20th, following worship. The **Church Council** will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 27th, immediately after worship. Members of the congregation are welcome to attend.

Manna on Monday

The next Manna on Monday meal will be served on October 28th at St. Stephen's UMC. Servers/clean-up volunteers welcome!

Alternative Market

November 1-3 in the Fellowship Hall. (See article on pages 6 & 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 November 11th. 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

knew (from the get-go) that I was headed for trouble and had tried with all his might to save me from the distress. I nearly knocked myself out as I learned a very important lesson.

We can't continue to look back because we're not going that direction. We only look back so that what was may propel us forward.

Over the last two months, I've made a great effort to increase our social media presence so that the nearly 350 people who pay attention to what we're doing on Facebook, can know what's going on here. Every Monday (ok, sometimes it's Tuesday), I post a one-line reflection from Sunday — one line from the sermon — a glance back — hoping that it'll propel us forward.

What happens on Sunday is wonderful. We 'do' worship well. Worship's goal is to help those present cultivate their discipleship so that when we leave, we're encouraged to see the world as Christ sees it and make a difference. Worship should effect how we do Monday, and Tuesday, and the rest of the week, and life itself. In essence, worship should change us. Change cannot happen if we leave worship (and all we've experienced) on the corner of N. Evergreen and Galloway.

Some of the "one-liners" over the past two months are:

- "Invite the unlikely, unexpected guests. Invite. Because why would they come without an invitation?"
- "Be reminded that you are the clay — not the Potter — and this particular Artist is diligent to work the piece until it is finished."
- "If we are the church in the midst of war with each other, for any reason, we fail. If we become content with living in dysfunction I'm not sure God is able to do with us what God desires the most."
- "God compels us to hear the poor — to know them, to give them a seat at the table and ownership of it — to bridge the gap to the gate so that it's less crowded there — to be faithful."
- "Faith is not our knowledge of things scriptural. Faith is figuring out what God is still saying through the text and using it (in physical and tangible ways) to make a difference."
- "Our place, as people of faith, is on the side of those whom Jesus hears, because that is where faith sets us free."

So, maybe they're not all "one-liners," but you see what I mean. These snippets of worship, or a conversation you had with the person sitting next to you, or a prayer concern that was lifted, or an epiphany (Holy Spirit moment) you felt when singing a hymn — those are all intentional works of God, in you (in me), that should propel us forward into what is next — the mission field — the doors God has opened for us to move into each other's lives and the lives of the poor and the marginalized — to make the world better.

There is value in gathering for worship. And, if only for a moment (and perhaps it should only be a moment), there is value in glancing back. God has something for us to use in what was, for all that is ahead.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Sara



Preparing for a new winter RITI season

By Lois M. Young

It is almost time to begin our seventh Room in the Inn Winter Season. Our first session will be Tuesday, November 5. Before this season begins, I want to remind everyone that we do something special with Room in the Inn – we touch people's lives when they are struggling to survive. No one wants to be homeless. In the six years we have been working with our unsheltered guests, I've only met one man who said he preferred to sleep outside. But even he could not withstand sleeping outdoors when it was too cold, so we saw him many times as a RITI guest.

I also think it is important to note that we have seen many of our guests find permanent shelter and jobs. Unfortunately as with any group of people, we have also seen tragedies—illnesses without adequate health care resources, chronic homelessness and some deaths.

During one of our first RITI sessions, we had a couple visit us together. She needed an outfit for a job interview. Although our clothes closet was much smaller than it is now, she found an outfit that worked perfectly for her interview. She and her boyfriend were smiling and joking at dinner. I have wonderful pictures of their smiles. Months later they were able to find housing, and over the years they married and had three beautiful children together. But even when I thought we could rejoice in the success of this couple, I found out the man had cancer. He died in September. This was a good, sweet man who was dedicated to his wife and children. I hope he can rest in peace, but I also hope his wife and children will have the support they need to carry on. Please pray for this family.

We knew when we started this ministry that we could not solve the many problems that our guests were facing, but we can share hospitality in a way that helps them feel the love of God. I hope you will consider joining us on a Tuesday night this fall.

Winter Meal Schedule

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). Thanks!

Financial Update through 9/30/2019

From January 1, 2019 through September 30th, here's where we are financially:

Revenue:

Received: \$177,245 Budgeted: \$187,215 (\$9,970) under budget—bad

Expenses:

Paid Out: \$179,124 Budgeted: \$187,519 \$8,394 under budget—good

Net Loss: (\$1,879) Budgeted: (\$304) \$1,576 over projected deficit

We are still under budget in pledged and non-pledged giving by \$9,704 as well as \$1,345 under budget in facility use fees (loss of Bluff City UMC rent at \$600 per month and lower income from Fellowship Hall rental.). Luckily, we are also under budget on the expense side by almost an equivalent amount so the bottom line looks good through September.

Thanks to those of you who made additional donations in the past two months. Your contributions have made a big difference and have given Trinity a chance to finish the year with a small amount of net income and not a net loss!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October 17	Flip Brooks
October 18	Gracie McClurkan
October 19	Jacob Foreman
October 27	Wade Humbert
October 31	Phil Waldon
November 4	Hayden Belue
November 4	Edna Hoffman
November 6	Sarah McFalls
November 7	Joan Smith
November 12	Katy Spake
November 14	Cooper Tate
November 17	Mary McConnell
November 20	Julian Cullen
November 21	George Pence
November 25	Carson Witt
November 26	Vanoma Newhart
November 27	Shirley Flint
November 27	Donna Windham
November 29	John Allmon
November 29	Jonathan Goff

[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.]



October Schedule

Youth meet 6:00-7:00 pm

Oct. 17—Saucy Chicken

Oct. 23—Elemento Pizza

Oct. 29—Global Café

[Sunday School meets every Sunday at 9:45 am]

November Schedule

Youth meet 6:00-7:00 pm

Nov. 6—Area 51 Ice Cream

Nov. 13—Saucy Chicken

Nov. 20—Elemento Pizzeria

Nov. 27—No Youth Group

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE 2019

Leadership Institute is an educational offering by the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, whose lead pastor is Adam Hamilton. It is two-and-a-half days of prayer, worship, fellowship, learning, and working together. The 2019 session was focused on human sexuality and how our church will move forward with the aim of full inclusion for all. It was an intense two-and-a-half days, and, as I reviewed the material upon arriving home and what I would share in this article, I chose to leave you with the same questions with which the global church and Trinity UMC must grapple.

1. How can we make the church the safest place in the world where participants have equal worth and equal power?
2. Jesus went to the margins and to the people who were not included. Are we willing to follow his example and do the same?
3. There are approximately 11.3 million persons in the U. S. (4.5% of U.S. adults) who identify as LGBTQ+. Do you want Trinity's doors open or closed to them?

As you may have already guessed, these questions and the subsequent answers will result in division and the possibility that the United Methodist Church, worldwide, will divide with this issue.

I ask that, if you are in favor of inclusion, you will yearn for it with all your heart and pray daily for its coming. If you are not in favor of inclusion, then yearn for the church to split peacefully and pray daily for that to happen.

As we figure out who we are, what we believe, and what we value, let us move forward in peace and respect and love for each other. Pray that we may join in "courageous conversations" where each one of us can understand the other's opinions and to agree to disagree respectfully.

—Jeri Ashley

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!



TRUNK-OR-TREAT!!!

MOVIE ON THE LAWN!!!

S'MORES!!!

OCTOBER 26TH

Trunk-or-Treat: 5:00-6:00

"Coco" on the lawn: 6:00-7:30

Bring a blanket or lawn chair.

Join us for Fall family fun at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1738 Galloway Ave.

ALTERNATIVE MARKET IS COMING! Our 20th Fair Trade Sale!

November 1-3

Nov. 1 (4—7 pm) • Nov. 2 (9 am—5 pm) • Nov. 3 (noon—3 pm)

How we spend our money does make a difference. Shopping Fair Trade means buying crafts, clothing, and foods that are made in accordance with these principles:

- Form honest relationships—workers are partners.
- Create opportunity—help craftspeople produce things that appeal to US market.
- Promote community investment—schools, sources of clean water, medical clinics.
- Expand market access through long term relationships with craftspeople/farmers.
- Pay fairly and promptly.
- Respect the rights of women and children.
- Promote safe working conditions.
- Promote sustainability—for example, products made from recycled materials.
- Operate in a climate of mutual respect.

Here in Memphis, there are not a lot of places to shop fair trade. The Market will feature handcrafted home décor and gifts made by fairly paid artisans in more than 30 countries. Jewelry from India, textiles and pottery from Vietnam, musical instruments from Africa, Nativity sets from many Third World nations, toys from the Philippines, handcrafts from Guatemala, home and garden items, Fair Trade coffee, tea, and chocolate, and many other treasures are among the unique items offered for sale.

Shoppers will be able to get gifts that celebrate all the special times when we want to give something unique and fairly traded. All proceeds go back to the Ten Thousand Villages store in Nashville for their fair trade work. This event is not a fund-raiser for the church. Rather, it is a ministry to the craftspeople and to the shoppers.

Why do we host this market each year?

- We demonstrate concern for and respect for craftspeople/small farmers.
- We get unique items.
- We give those who make/grow the items a way to support their families, not charity.
- We promote peace.

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- We make a small dent in the question of immigration, making it possible for some craftspeople and small farmers to remain at home rather than being forced to disrupt their lives by traveling thousands of miles to an uncertain future in another country.

Ten Thousand Villages is the largest fair trade retailer in North America. A nonprofit organization, Ten Thousand Villages approaches retail business in a different way: they create an international marketplace where the well-being of suppliers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America is just as important as that of their North American customers. Ten Thousand Villages offers fair prices to artisans for their work (mostly done in co-ops run by the artisans), enabling them to provide for their basic needs and plan for their future. They provide up-front funds and product development advice where it is needed.

We need volunteers to help with one or more of the following activities:

1. Publicists (put up posters, distribute fliers, get articles in newsletters and the newspaper). Ideas for other ways to publicize are much needed!
2. Unpackers: Help unbox items, check their price, and arrange displays
3. Salespersons/attendants for the sales area—keep displays neat; especially on Saturday, any hours between 9 and 5.
4. Cleanup people and re-packers for crafts not sold (Sunday after 3 pm)

If you are able to volunteer in one of these areas, please contact Kay Jordan at 901-299-2624 or the church office. **Spread the word to your friends to come and shop!**

