

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.



For all WE Saints

Back at the beginning of the pandemic, so mid-March, if you'll remember, I lost my grandmother. She was my last living grandparent. In fact, since I've been with you, I've lost both grandmothers. This one felt different — not necessarily because of who she was, though that's probably a part of it — but because she was the last.

Growing up I thought I was very special because I had all of my grandparents and for the longest time I did. My mother's father died on New Year's Day of 2009 from bone cancer. We had about 2 months from the diagnosis until he died. Granddaddy was an amazing man — a business man — who was very, very supportive of my call to ministry, despite push back from some of the more evangelical members of our family. I lost Bigdaddy, my father's father, in May of 2011. He, too, was an amazing man — instrumental in helping write the legislation that brought Special Education to Tennessee — legislation that's still used on a national level today. He played an important role in founding the West Tennessee School for the Deaf, and he was a POW in WWII. He did amazing things, but never talked about them. He was the humblest man I've ever known.

I had them most of my life and thought myself very lucky. We grew up two blocks south of my mom's parents and two blocks north of my dad's parents. Any given afternoon we'd jump on bikes and head to one or the other just to be with them. It was wonderful and I am thankful. Each one of them has played a very important and necessary part in who I am and each had such an important role in the lives of so many.

I think we can say that about those who have gone before us. Their lives meant something. We are forever who we are because of them. They are never gone, as they live on in us and we, inevitably, pass their traits on to those who come after us. That's the circle of life. That's the purpose of tradition. That's history. That is how we honor the saints.

When scripture references the saints, it's a bit different than how we see it. Psalms 30:4 says, "Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name." Revelation 14:12 says, "Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus." Acts 9:32 says, "Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda." And Romans 8:27 says, "And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." The implication in each of these is that the saints aren't yet those who've died but those who live — those who live, and do, and serve in such a way that they will be remembered when they do die — that, perhaps, we are the saints in our living so that we can be the saints who are remembered.

We're approaching All Saints Day — the time on the church calendar where we commemorate and remember and give thanks for those who've gone on before us to their eternal glory and their lasting impact on our lives. Each year we gather, inviting the families of those who've, in our midst,

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died since the last All Saints Day. We read their names, ring the bell, light a candle in remembrance, sing “For All the Saints,” and celebrate (for the time of mourning has usually passed).

This year is different. If I had a dollar for every time I’ve said that since March I’d be very wealthy. It’s different. It has to be different. In Shelby County we’re back to that very scary place concerning our numbers of cases of COVID-19 and the test and case positivity rates. It’s the third surge we’ve seen, with scientists and medical professionals not expecting things to peak until February. Gathering in person isn’t a possibility — not a safe and responsible one, at least.

And so this year we’ll live-stream our All Saints service, as we have been. We’ll still light the candles. We’ll still ring the bell. Next year we will remember the people we lost both this year and last, so that we can invite the families of those who’ve gone to come and be with us as we celebrate. It may take us a while to catch up. It may be doubly wonderful in that we’ll celebrate the friends we lost this year even longer (in a formal sense).

I hope you’ll join us as we remember our saints this year and as we claim what it means to live as a saint in the years to come. As always, worship is at 11:00.

Stay Well. Be Blessed.

Rev. Sara

A “Drive-By” Halloween

On Sunday afternoon, October 25th, our Children’s Ministry offered “Trick or Treat on Wheels” as an alternative Halloween activity. Driven in cars by their parents, about one hundred children took advantage of this special Halloween activity. Many came dressed in their Halloween costumes. A special word of thanks goes out to our hardy helpers who endured the misty weather for over two hours to hand out bags of candy to the children who came. Alyson Foreman did a beautiful job of coordinating the event. Our wonderful “Candy Carhops” were Joey Hopper, Elizabeth Hopper, Sandy and Tim Guntharp (our Easter Bunny, wishing everyone a “Hoppy Halloween” and taking pictures of attendees) and James Webster, who created our wonderful “Hoppy Halloween” posters. Attendees received a disclaimer flyer, letting them know that their candy was Halloween candy masquerading as Easter candy (from our Easter Egg Hunt that never happened, due to COVID-19 hitting town at that time). This candy (yes, the dates were still good on it) was repackaged by masked and gloved helpers, who also provided quality control by taste-testing all the candy. Sighted among the children who attended were Trinity Sunday School kids, Cub Scouts from Pack 13, children from Midtown Montessori School, and children from the neighborhood. We will also be delivering candy treats to the Salvation Army Purdue Center for the children in the family residence center there later this week. What a busy Sunday it was for those of us who work in Trinity’s Children’s Ministries! It was busy, stressful, tiring, and filled with joy! Praise God for continuing to send children our way, and praise Him for another wonderful day!





Creativity

By Irene Dycus

Our **FAITH WORD** for the month of October in our Children's Sunday School Class has been **CREATIVITY**. In the final session of the unit on God's creation of the world, our lesson focused on "God Creates Helpers," based on the second account of Creation in Genesis 2:10-23. Each Sunday in October the children personally engaged in acts of creativity, defined by our curriculum as "the process of imagining and making something, just like God imagined and created the world." During the month our children used their imaginations and artistic abilities - drawing scenes of the creation, designing imaginary "critters" on paper, and then creating three-dimensional "critters." In this last session, they drew skyscapes, depicting clouds, sunrises, sunsets, and rainbows. This week's **SPIRITUAL PRACTICE** for our children is to observe the skies, looking for cloud formations and using their



Sean & Rowan's Critters

God-given imaginations and creativity to see images in those clouds and then to tell stories about the images seen. They were reminded that whenever they see a cloud, they can remember that God gave them the gift of imagination so they can be creative and that they can create so many beautiful things in their minds.



Carson's Idea Bird

Alternative Market 2020

Since Trinity UMC's building is closed due to our love for our neighbors and our desire to keep everyone safe from COVID-19, our annual Fair Trade shopping experience will be virtual this year. In cooperation with our friends at the Ten Thousand Villages Store in Nashville, TN, we present this opportunity to shop safely and support artisans around the world. Just like our in-person event, this shopping opportunity features beautiful and unusual items from small cooperatives of craftspeople. The craftspeople are paid a fair price for their work, the environment is protected, working conditions are safe and respectful, and the artisans have control over the process.

Here's how it will work:

Anyone that would like to participate can go on-line to tenthousandvillages.com and place an order and designate Ten Thousand Villages Nashville as your support store. Additionally, if you shop between November 12 - November 15, you will get **25%** off your entire order.

Thank you to all our friends and neighbors who have made Alternative Market such a joyful experience over the years!

Kay Jordan, Chairperson
Trinity UMC Alternative Market



Earrings



Birdhouse



Plaid face masks



November 4	Hayden Belue
November 4	Edna Hoffman
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



Spiritual Formation Opportunity on Zoom

For the past ten years, a large group of people have gathered at Church of the Holy Communion on the first Saturday of each month to pray together in silence and prayerfully meditate on the Sunday gospel reading. These gatherings are now available online. I invite you to join us the first Saturday of November at 9:00 a.m. for a morning of silent prayer and reflection using the ancient contemplative practices of Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina (Praying with Scripture).

Please email Eileen Olewinski to register at eileen.olewinski@gmail.com with your name so that the Zoom link can be sent to you.

-- Rev. Mike Potter

BINGHAMPTON FOOD PANTRY

Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry at Binghampton UMM, 258 N. Merton St., is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables....people can come as often as they want for these.

Once a month, persons can request an emergency food bag (canned goods, peanut butter, cereal, rice, dried beans, soup, etc). Neither of these options require any proof of residency or need.....you ask, you receive. Individuals and families who need an emergency food bag can call Michael Anderson at (901) 503-2748.

Trinity members: please contact Debby Marston at office@trinityumcmemphis.org or leave a message at (901) 274-6895 to ask about the next opportunity to bring staple items for Binghampton UMM's food pantry. We can wear masks and practice social distancing while still partnering in this vital ministry to the poor. A donation in the form of a check written to Trinity UMC, with "Fishes & Loaves" on the memo line, will also help keep the food pantry well stocked and will be very much appreciated.

Memorials & Honorariums

A Memorial has been received

In memory of Doris Webster from Tom & Leanne Wilson

Honorariums have been received

In honor of Irene Dycus from Elaine Amis and

In honor of Alyson Foreman from Elaine Amis

for the wonderful work they do with children and the joy they share.



Charge Conference is November 1st from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. via Zoom. All church leadership is asked to attend. All church members are encouraged to.



Trinity UMC's Tiny Pantry is more often empty than it is full. As soon as someone fills it with canned goods and various staple items, someone else comes by and empties it. This is urban ministry in action! It's a big success story, so keep bringing food to share with those in need.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our country and the world - for all those in our country and around the world who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; 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; for the poor, homeless, and disenfranchised in our city; for immigrants who are struggling due to lost jobs and lack of resources; for persons of color who are speaking out against racial profiling and injustice, and for families who have lost loved ones due to violence.

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 members in the congregation homebound due to chronic illness or age; for children and youth as they go back to school, whether virtually or in person; for new visitors joining us as we worship online; 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

Donnie Glover, Chris's brother, still battling leukemia

Jacob Foreman, son of **Caley & Alyson**, diagnosis is ENS; please pray for him.

Gene Opel, in good spirits despite being confined to their home; **Irene Opel**, physically frail with ongoing health concerns, but strong in her faith; **Anita Bunn** as she cares for them

A PRAISE! **Nancy Rankin** is cancer free, recovering at home, & being followed by a pulmonary specialist.

Maggi Comes, experiencing back pain

Elwood Oliver, husband of one of Maggi Comes' co-workers, recovering from his strokes

Jeri Ashley, multiple health concerns

David Harrison, Carol Miller's brother, is suffering from a broken hip, many other critical health issues.

Don Culpepper, Carol Miller's brother-in-law, has lung cancer.

Sally Ramsey, out of her back brace and having physical therapy

Joan Smith's cousin/mom, **Gigi**, aka **Kathryn Ellis**, at Encompass for rehab after surgery for a broken hip

Prayers for healing of Elaine Amis' son-in-law, **Robert Lawson**, who is very ill; and for daughter **Diane Lawson** and Elaine as they worry about his recovery.

Carol Bruce, Chris Glover's sister, living alone & grieving the death of her last companion, a talking bird

For all members and friends of **Trinity UMC** as they shelter at home, as they work from home, and as they look forward to a time when they can see — in person — the faces of their church family

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