Trinotes

October 9, 2024

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.

From the desk of... The Rev.

It's Not Always Calm After the Storm

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!' And he said to them, 'Why are you afraid, you of little faith?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, 'What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?'— Matthew 8:23-27

There are a few things in my life that I fear I'll never forget. I'll never forget answering the phone and it being my brother, who then handed the phone to my father and his words: "Sara, mom's dead." I'll never forget my mother calling me 2 weeks after I'd moved to Atlanta for seminary, my first time away from home, and her saying, "Dad's got cancer." I'll never forget my dad driving to Reelfoot Rural ministries where I was stationed with my youth group, peeling seven layers of old shingles off the roof of a house in the early July heat. He'd come to pick me up and began with, "Sara, the house burned down."

The last one has been on my mind a lot for the last two weeks. At 15 I didn't yet know how to compartmentalize well. All of life, its hardships overshadowing its joys, poured into the grief of that moment, when dad began to explain that everything was just gone. In a matter of minutes, all of it, every bit of what we had — what my father and mother had worked so hard for, for us — was just gone.

We still talk about things as though the fire is the timeline marker for everything. Did we have that pre-fire or post-fire? There are still things we miss and lament losing. There are still moments my family, all of whom were home and asleep when the fire happened, re-live that in ways I cannot understand because I wasn't home. The trauma is real and alive and I think the worst part may be that trauma never really dies. It only changes.

Thousands of families lost everything during Hurricane Helene's stint on land. Many of them lost people they love, beloved family pets, baby pictures and baptismal gowns. There is trauma there, in a way that most of us cannot fathom. And, just as my brother still shudders when we pass by a farmer burning the chaff in a field, I imagine the blowing wind and pouring rain will mean something new for those who survived the storm, for many years to come.

What can we do? We cannot replace what was lost. Trying to is likely fruitless. We can certainly pray for peace for our sisters and brothers who've lost it all. We can give God thanks for the helpers who are 'boots on the ground' already. We can remember that trauma will live on for years to come and continue to remember these communities in our prayers in the days to come. We can give.

Sunday in worship we took up a communion offering that will be given to United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR is always among the first to be present in the wake of natural and human-made disasters, and they are usually the last to leave. Our UM apportionments pay for UMCOR's staff so that 100% of what we give goes directly to the cause we designate. If you can give, consider UMCOR.

In a church that is connectional like ours, our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness stretch beyond our local community. In that way, you are already making a difference for those east of us. We are United Methodists and being the Church is much bigger than what takes place at 1738 Galloway Ave. As it has always been at Trinity, our faithfulness is in loving our neighbors. Thank you for the ways you love.

With You in it All

Rev. Sara

New Online Giving Option

Trinity is now offering an upgraded Online Giving Platform as an option to PayPal. The Servant Keeper Online Giving Page fully integrates with our Servant Keeper Membership and Contribution Manager program making record keeping faster and simpler.

This giving page offers donors clearer choices about the Trinity funds to which one may give. It allows a donor to see one's giving records at any time. Donors' gifts are deposited to Trinity's checking account more quickly than PayPal contributions. If you are interested in learning more about Servant Keeper Online Giving see a video at: https://connect.servantkeeper.com/rRuDZnEQ

Written instructions for opening an account are found at https://scribehow.com/shared/Creating_your_Member_Account_and_Giving_for_the_First_Time_B4TEefaDSGiU03NhMKFPYQ

Once you complete your giving account, you can immediately use it. You can access the Giving Page with this link: https://giving.servantkeeper.com/trinityumcmemphis/

or the "Donate via Servant Keeper" button on the homepage of Trinity's website:
www.trinityumcmemphis.org

Feel free to contract Craig Jordan at 901 412 1893 or jordanck2@gmail.com for further information.

United Women in Faith

UWF Report to October 2024 Council Meeting

Our Prayer Warriors have been exceptionally busy this quarter with both intercessional prayers and praises for answered prayers.

Treasurer Sandy Guntharp presented her report of the Finance Committee meeting. Quarterly projects include approximately $250.00 to the following: Winter—Sista2Sista, Spring—Easter baskets, Summer—Golden Cross, and Fall—Neighbors Feeding Neighbors. Other distributions will include: $100 to Reelfoot Rural Ministries; $100.00 to Trinity UMC Food Pantries; $150.00 to Trinity UMC Food Vouchers (6 cards); $250.00 to Trinity Nursery (Raquel); $300.00 to UMCOR; and $300.00 to Room in the Inn Family Center. In order to come into compliance with the District UWF, our fiscal year will begin in September. Also in order to come into compliance, an account will be established at Orion FCU by the Finance Committee. Signators on the account will be Treasurer Sandy Guntharp, President Joan Smith, and Benevolence Chairman Sue Taylor. Signatures of any two of the three will be required to disburse funds. Pledge cards and dues reports were distributed to attendees at the first 2024-2025 fiscal year meeting on 27 September. Ladies unable to attend this meeting should see Sandy for their pledge cards. All pledges received are required to be sent to UMCOR; all dues are to be used for our annual benevolence distributions and such other expenses incurred by our local UWF. The Treasurer's Report was approved by acclamation.

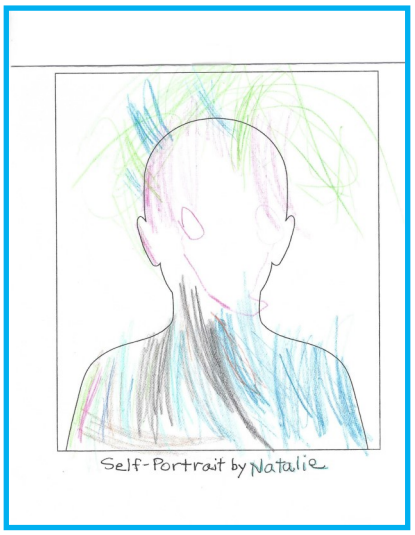
Ladies of the UWF once again rose to the occasion to extend gracious hospitality to our neighbors in Evergreen Garden Club's meeting with arborist Wes Hopper. The reaction to the reception goodies was overwhelmingly positive with several attendees suggesting that we offer catering for other organizations. We politely declined!

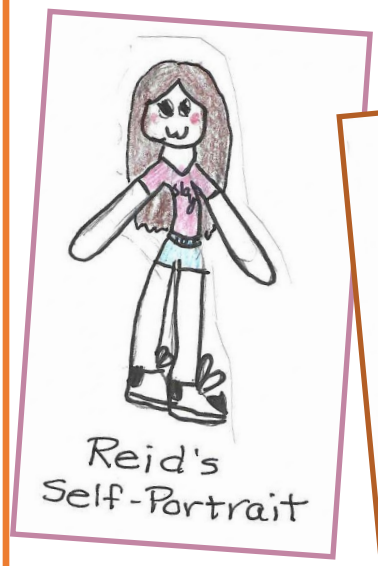
Summer vacation meetings at restaurants and with fun auctions have ended. We are back to work with potluck lunches in the Worship Center, resuming our study of 12 Ordinary Men, and preparing to fund our annual benevolences. Our next (and largest) project and fund raiser of the year is the election day bake sale. Election officials have told us that the voter turnout at Trinity is the largest in the city and attribute that in large part to our long-running bake sale. We will need all hands on deck to both bake and serve at the bake sale itself. A sign-up sheet will be distributed at the next meeting and circulated through email. Bakers roll up your sleeves and start baking already in preparation.

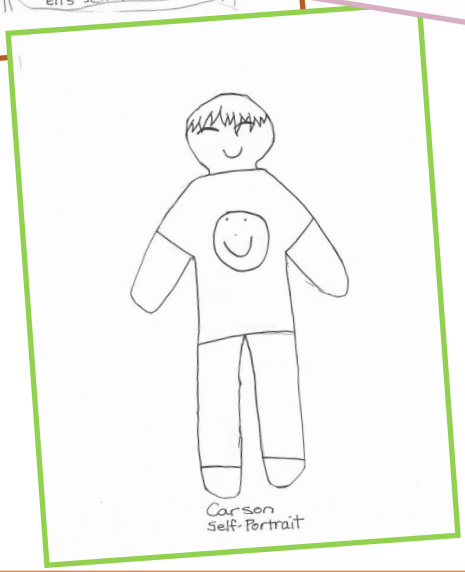
UWF stands ready to support Trinity and our Evergreen neighbors.

God is creative

Trinity's young artists in the Children's Sunday School Class produced portraits of themselves and their classmates during our September study of **MASTERPIECE: GOD IS CREATIVE**. We participated in lots of fun activities that reminded us of the beauty and magnitude of God's creation. While doing our portraits, we celebrated God's creation of each of us in His image.

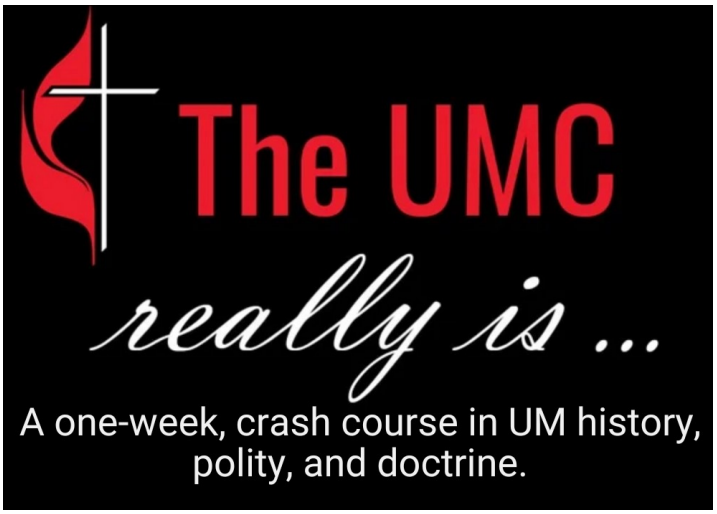






Church Council Meeting

The Trinity Church Council will meet Sunday, October 13th following worship. Lunch will be included. Any Trinity participant is welcome to join Council members for our discussions. Please let Craig Jordan know if you plan to come through email at jordanck2@gmail.com or by calling 662 429 0158.



Sunday, October 13th, Rev. Sara is offering a one-time crash course Sunday School class on United Methodism for those new to the UMC and curious about our history, doctrine, and polity at 9:30 a.m. in the TUMC Conference Room.

October Birthdays

Clara Farabee	October 2
Nora Dycus	October 8
Sonnet Booth	October 26
Natalie Stanton	October 27

One Bare Foot Square —>—>

The globe traveling art exhibit, 'One Bare Foot Square' is coming to Memphis. The exhibit opens October 12th at Colonial Park UMC, 5:00-8:00 p.m., with the show running through October 18th. The theme is Life's Journey. For more info: #uncookedculture #onesquarefoot FB—Pam Santi

Friends of the Tiny Pantry, Unite!

Do you donate foodstuffs to the Tiny Pantry? There's more than one way to go about it:

- You can go to the grocery story and purchase one-serving cans or containers of things like Vienna sausages, diced peaches or other canned fruits, crackers, tuna, chicken, etc.
- Or you can donate money to the Tiny Pantry fund.
- Or….something else (use your imagination).

Sue Taylor (with her trusty sidekick, Marc) has taken on the task of ensuring that the Tiny Pantry stays stocked. Sue checks the little red pantry on Trinity's front lawn on a regular basis. Sometimes she removes things that aren't a good fit, like big cans of vegetables or packages of pasta, and moves them to our big Food Pantry. More often, she re-stocks with items purchased online, where we can find bargains on food items that are popular with folks who are struggling with food insecurity.

Sue and I sat in my office one day not so long ago and ordered things from Amazon like this:

- 4 12-packs of Spaghettios
- 2 cases of Vienna sausage
- 2 cases of Lance crackers
- 2 cases of Cherry fruit cups (mixed fruit, aka fruit cocktail)
- 1 case of applesauce cups
- 1 package of 4 cups of diced peaches

That's a lot of food for very little expenditure. And that's when she introduced me to the concept of "subscribe and save." You can set up repeat orders of items that have proven to be the most popular with the folks who frequent the Tiny Pantry. How cool is that? All the food is delivered to Sue and Marc's house, ("Where are we going to put all this stuff, Sue!?") and she brings only what she plans to use to fill the little red house on the front lawn. Sure, their house probably looks like a warehouse by now, but what a great ministry!

Those of you who have donated money to the Tiny Pantry fund are making a big difference in the lives of people living with food poverty. Others, if you prefer to do the shopping yourself because of the hands-on experience, that's fine, too. Just keep in mind that we need single serving cans or containers. The folks who need this food the most are often experiencing homelessness. They have no place to store extras, and must choose just those items that will fit in a backpack. Thank you for your generosity and for caring for "the least of these."

Prayer Concerns

Our country and the world - for all those endangered by the war between Israel and Hamas and for families on both sides who have lost loved ones; for victims of natural disasters; for those families and communities who have fallen victim to the horror of gun violence in our country; for the people of Ukraine who are imperiled by the invasion of Russian troops, shelling of residential areas, and the terror being experienced by the civilian population; for all those in our country and around the world still impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and variants; 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; for people around the world experiencing terrorist attacks; for the poor, homeless, and disenfranchised in our city; for immigrants who still struggle 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 race related violence; for President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris—pray for their wisdom and that of all political leaders; pray for civility during upcoming Presidential campaigns.

The United Methodist Church - for our Pastor, Rev. Sara Corum, her husband, Rev. Josh McClurkan, and their five children; for our Bishop, the Rev. David Graves; for our interim District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Deborah Smith

Trinity UMC - for members of the congregation homebound due to chronic illness or age; for new visitors joining us as we worship in person and online; for all families who are grieving; for our congregation as we deal with transitions; and wisdom for our Trustees and Church Council. Also, specific prayer requests by and for:

Sharman's brother, **Chuck Murley**, on radiation/chemo for throat cancer
Kathy Isbell's brother **Jeff**'s wife passed away unexpectedly. Please pray for Jeff and family as they grieve.
Carol Miller, fell on bleachers & fractured femur; recovering at home
Myra Finch's sisters-in-law **Margaret Beasley & Jo Ann Sumpter**
Kate Ostenrude asks for prayers for **Marshall**'s health concerns.
Katy Spake's son **Sean Berry**: medical tests for digestive issues
Seth Norton, Raquel's son, ongoing gastrointestinal problems; endoscopy scheduled
Adam Hill, serious vein ruptures in legs, much pain (friend of Joan Smith)
From Heather Jacoby-Keller: friend's husband **Eddie** diagnosed with cancer. Heather's sister **Faith** also fighting cancer (for the past year). Please pray for healing!
Joan Foley's daughter-in-law, **Marilynn Hawkins**
Gwen Dodson, bladder cancer, COPD, osteoporosis; cancer treatment
Joan Smith's cousin, **Douglas Robbins**, aggressive cancer, and his wife **Ash**
Kaelyn Wright, wife and mother of two young children, has aggressive thyroid cancer. (Friend of Joan Smith)
Olivia Dunn, 29 year old receiving treatment for uterine cancer (Katy Spake's request)
Gene Archer, diagnosed with stomach cancer; his wife **Julia** has MS; **Lauren Crews**, diagnosed with ALS
Maggi Comes' niece, **Katie Pendleton**, diagnosed with Tumefactive MS
Kanyon Glover has had issues with his heart & continues physical therapy.
Jacob Foreman, ongoing health problems & job search
David Harrison, Carol Miller's brother, on dialysis; paralyzed on one side after stroke; asthma; COPD; now has pneumonia. Carol's step-mother, **Barbara Womack**, in rehab for hip replacement; fell & broke femur.
Don Culpepper, Carol Miller's brother-in-law, liver cancer returned, receiving radiation and chemotherapy
Val Coates, lots of physical pain
Eddie Ramsey, in hospice care at home; **Sally**, macular degeneration; son **Rusty Ramsey**, torn kneecap tendon
Jonathan Goff, lost half of right index finger due to injury and resulting infection
Lyle Klein, family member of Amelia Strickland, diagnosed with Parkinson's, cancer, and heart disease
For **Living Word Christian Church;** for **The Lab School**; for all our Scouts and leaders of **Pack 13**, **Troop 13G**, and **Troop 13B**; and for those in the **NA** groups who meet at Trinity

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