

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.



Letting Justice Roll

*But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. — Amos 5:24*

Back in January, over the weekend that we remember and celebrate the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we had a guest preacher come. J.J. Warren hails from the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. He is a seminary student at Boston Theological Seminary. J.J. is a young, outspoken, eloquent exhorter of the Gospel. That morning, J.J. shared a message about unity and the current and ever-moving work of the Holy Spirit among the people called Methodist and those who do the real work of Jesus in the current time. He was faithful to the words of the Gospel, and came without an agenda other than to offer to us words of encouragement, challenge, and hope.

Isn't that what we need?

Little did we know then how much we'd need it this year. And we **have** shared words of hope. We have offered signs of encouragement and peace.

But is there peace?

Perhaps.

For some of us, there is peace. The pandemic has left us mostly unscathed. We've kept our jobs, we've figured out Kroger grocery pick-up, we've hunkered down and binge-watched every season of NCIS on Netflix. The most we've had to worry about is whether or not we remembered our mask as we head to Target.

But if we glance back to that Sunday in January, and I think we should, we might be able, if we're willing to "go there," to label the above as our privilege.

As we have worked to keep our heads above water regarding the pandemic, to stay safe and well, and to care for one-another — doing what we can to love our neighbors as ourselves, there's been something rumbling through our cities, through our hospitals, the job-loss statistics, and the systems of our country that, for many years, have been largely unaddressed by seemingly (or in theory) the most unifying body that exists in our culture — the Church — and that is the staunch and painful reminder of the continued brokenness of humanity when it comes to racism. During, of all times, a global pandemic, thousands have taken to the streets to protest racial injustice and we feel all sorts of ways about that — we do. It feels reckless and wrong. Can't we table this until it's safe? Why are people so angry — angry enough to do harm to buildings and businesses? This isn't right. It's not peaceful. It's not what MLK had in mind.

We ask. We ask these questions and make these statements and it seems like the Church is silent. Our culture has politicized racism and the Church shouldn't dabble in politics. Right?

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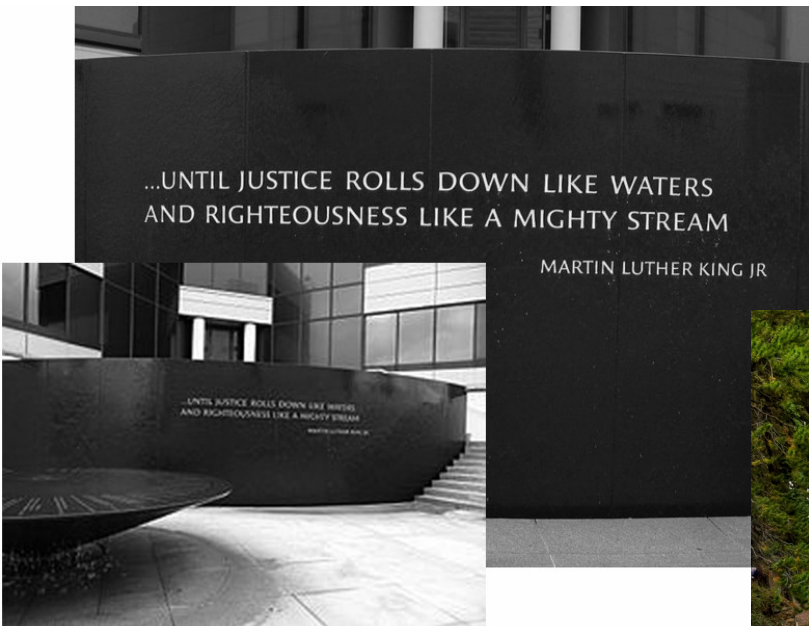
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But is it a political issue? No. It's a moral issue. It's an issue of our humanness. It's an issue of ethics and, at its heart, an issue of faith. It is such an issue of faith that it has become again and again a part of our corporate prayers of confession. It is such an issue of faith that it is a part of our baptismal vows. And, the continued presence of racism in our culture is a responsibility of ours, as people of faith who understand God to have created all of humanity in God's image, to dispel, to push against, and to eliminate — not because we don't have questions — but more because we who are largely unaffected by racism will never understand, completely, what it means to be judged not by the content of our character but by the color of our skin.

Church, racism might not directly affect us, like a pandemic does, but it is toxic enough to end the lives of others in such a way that it saddens the heart of God. In the weeks and months and years to come, let's work to find ways to bring this to the table — to make the work of the Church more responsible for eliminating evil and injustice in whatever forms they present themselves — to be an active vessel of God's work of unity for creation. Let us be the means through which justice and righteousness roll down like an ever-flowing stream.

Keep an eye out for spaces where we can have these conversations in the weeks to come.

With Hope,
Rev. Sara



COVID-19 Bulletin

We learned Monday, November 9th, that one of the Montessori families has tested positive for covid-19. All staff members were tested, and only one tested positive. Families of MMS students have been encouraged to seek testing, as well. The school is closed temporarily, with virtual learning being implemented. They hope to resume in-person classes on Tuesday, November 17th. In the interim, please do not enter the church building. Raquel Norton, our custodian, has sanitized much of the common spaces, but will not return to the building until her covid-19 test results are back. Please be in prayer for all the families impacted, and for Raquel.





1738 Galloway Ave
Memphis, TN.

Seussical Jr.

DRIVE - IN

November
13th & 14th

Parking Opens- 5:45pm
Showtime- 6:30pm

Tickets:
\$20 per car

WWW.NEWSPARK901.ORG

Trinity's resident youth theatre group has been working since mid-August to create a video performance of "Seussical Jr." while complying with all CDC safety guidelines. Please join us for the only two performances in the north parking lot at Trinity where the video will be projected on a 25' x 40' screen. Please visit their website at <https://www.newspark901.org> to purchase tickets if you can attend, and consider donating if you can't make it, to reward these kids for their resilience and discipline during this pandemic.

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 tentousandvillages.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 7	Joan Smith
November 12	Katy Spake
November 14	Cooper Tate
November 17	Mary McConnell
November 20	Julian Cullen
November 25	Carson Witt
November 26	Vanoma Newhart
November 27	Shirley Flint
November 27	Donna Windham
November 29	John Allmon
November 29	Jonathan Goff



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.



FEED THE HUNGRY

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

Memorials have been received

*In memory of **Doris Webster** from Diana & Thomas Veazey*

*In memory of **Doris Webster** from
Presbyterian Women Hope Circle Friends*

*In memory of **Doris Webster** from Jo Lynn Jones*



Our Faith Word

by Irene Dycus

This morning's devotion from **The Upper Room** was a very timely one for me. I have been filled with anxiety, much of it related to "computer issues" and other difficulties in both Sunday School and virtual schooling with my granddaughter Lila. In fact, I have been waking up in the middle of the night, obsessing about all sorts of problems, things that loom

overwhelmingly large in the sleeplessness and darkness of night. The scripture for this devotion was Psalm 23:1-3, and the author pointed out: "Verses two and three do not begin with the pronoun I but with the pronoun he, meaning God. While I had been wrestling with all the things that I had not been doing, the psalm was showing me that God is the one who is in charge of the doing... It is God who does the guiding, providing, restoring, and all other good things. I had been struggling needlessly with burdens that were not mine to carry." For a Type A perfectionist like me, this reminder that the Good Shepherd is the one who is in charge was certainly very well-timed good news. It also reminded me of the importance of my being more intentional about doing my daily devotions, a practice that has slid considerably in the past two months as the busyness of my life has increased significantly. When I seriously engage in this vital spiritual discipline, the problems do not go away, but I am better able to keep them in proper perspective.

I would have done well to remember the memory verse in our Children's Sunday School for our current study. This scripture reassures us of God's faithfulness: "The Lord carried out just what he had promised" (Genesis 21:1). Our FAITH WORD for this unit is the word "faith" itself. As we continue our study of Abraham and Sarah, we are discovering that Abraham models doubt and questions at the same time he shows a strong and committed faith. We are learning that there is nothing wrong in having questions about God's desires for our lives. In this past week's lesson, "God's Promise to Abraham," based on Genesis 15:1-6, we also learned that God always keeps his promises. And very often his answers are not what we expect; in fact, they may be quite different from anything we could possibly imagine. Both children and we who are adults need to hear this important message. We all can find comfort and inspiration in the midst of a wondrous and often complicated faith. I, as a teacher in Sunday School and as a kindergarten virtual learning assistant, need very much to remember this.

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; 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; for President-Elect Joe Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris as they prepare to take office; and for the outgoing President and Vice President and their families.

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:

The family of **Allane Demetrio**, who passed away on November 4th—she reached the great age of 105.

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

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.

Carol & Carey Miller tested positive for COVID-19. Carey is well now, Carol still has a cough & fever.

Sally Ramsey, out of her back brace and having physical therapy, still using a walker

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

A PRAISE! Elaine Amis' son-in-law, **Robert Lawson**, who has been very ill, has shown improvement

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.)*