

Trinotes

February 14, 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.

The United Methodist Church General Conference

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.
1 Corinthians 15:58

I am unashamedly United Methodist. You've heard me say it before. You'll probably hear me say it again. The UMC has my heart and has for a long time (much longer for some of you). I believe that we have the best organized practicing body of faith that there is. We are connectional, not just in theory, but in reality. We have agencies across the globe that make an actual difference in the world (GBHEM, GBCS, GBD, UMCOR, UMM, UWF, UMDM). We have acronyms! United Methodists have the best hymnal and best uniquely UM hymns. Charles Wesley is all ours. We know how to EAT. The joke is that wherever two or more Methodists are gathered, a chicken shall die. Our liturgies for Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Baptism are beautiful, inclusive, and inviting. Our understanding of grace and how it moves us on to perfection in love is wholly salvific and unique to our denomination. I love (love, love) the United Methodist Church.

I'm also pretty proud to be a part of it and to be a part of it, with you, in this season of life for the Church. We are not perfect, but we can love perfectly, and as a denomination we can make effective changes that will move us closer and closer to being a church that edifies a Kingdom ethic in our time across the globe.

The only body of the Church that can make denominational changes is the General Conference — a global convening of delegates from each annual conference in our denomination that gathers every four years to review legislation submitted by UM's, to pray, to worship, and to vote. For the first time in the history of the Church, we haven't convened since the called General Conference of 2019. The Covid-19 pandemic made it so that delegates could not gather in May of 2020 and the conference was postponed (more than once). Even as things looked clear to convene in the U.S., delegates from places like Africa could not travel to the conference. The conference is far too large to meet digitally and there are places in our world that are represented in person that would not have had the technology if the conference were digital. A global church, while beautiful, at times creates challenges, and this one is the most challenging our Church has ever seen. Finally, however, here — on the other side of the pandemic — we are able to gather.

The postponed General Conference of 2020 will be held this April 23rd through May 3rd in Charlotte, NC. Since this is a postponed 2020 conference, instead of a 'new' 2024 conference, the delegation elected in 2019 at the legacy Memphis Annual Conference will be your delegation at this one.

Five years ago when I was elected the second reserve delegate to Jurisdictional Conference (the very last delegation position — way down the ladder), I knew that, as a 2nd reserve to the jurisdictional gathering, it was very unlikely I'd attend General Conference. But, much has changed. Not only did we see death in our delegation due to Covid-19, we also suffered the loss of the Rev. Dr. Autura Eason-Williams. We saw loss amid our delegation due to disaffiliation. We had at least one delegate step down in order to "allow for those

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

who will inherit the church these decisions creates [younger delegates] to have more of a voice.” And, as recently as last week, we had a clergy delegate recuse herself due to family health matters. Somehow, in 5 years, I have moved from the very bottom of the delegation list, to the 3rd clergy position. Therefore, I will be attending General Conference.

What does that mean? Well, it means I’ll be gone April 22nd through May 4th and out of pocket. That means 10-12 hour days of legislative work and carrying the emotional weight of the decisions we’ll be making. That means over the next 11 weeks, I’ll be spending much of my time pouring over 400 pages of proposed legislation. That means I’ll likely witness protests/demonstrations of United Methodists for or against different matters related to human sexuality. That means our Church will be in the news. That means I’ll be a part of witnessing to the pain of what disaffiliation has done to our church globally. That means I’ll be poised and positioned to make, what I hope and pray will be, the most positive shifts necessary to see our Church continue to be, what I truly believe, is the most wonderful representation of a church that edifies the work and ministry of Jesus for our world.

I really do want to ask for your prayers. It is both an honor and a daunting task that looms, to be called to serve this way. I ask you to pray for the work of the General Conference — for the delegates that will travel from every continent to meet and work — for the delegates of the legacy Memphis and Tennessee Annual Conferences as we resurrect our old conference lines to represent you and the Church we each love. Pray for us. Pray for me as I am praying for you.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Sara

Trustees Report

The Board of Trustees met Sunday, February 11th, following worship and want to announce two welcome additions to the roster of Trustees: Adina Day and Alex Landrigan.

The church van is being put on the block to be sold and is listed on craigslist.org. If you know of anyone who would like to purchase a used van, please share this link with them: <https://memphis.craigslist.org/cto/d/memphis-1998-ford-e350-passenger-van/7711852209.html> (If you would like this link emailed to you, please call the church office with that request.) The asking price is \$8,800.00.

Further discussion during the meeting centered around increasing security for the building, and it was decided to purchase and install more security cameras. Additionally, new signage will be posted on exterior doors, in particular the main front and back entrances, which are controlled electronically.

When exiting the building, church members and tenants are encouraged to check doors to ensure that they are securely locked. Also, everyone is asked to make sure that only appropriate lights are left on when leaving the building. It has been noted that lights are left on in the hallway on the main floor and upstairs, even when there is no one in the building. Please contact a trustee or the church office if you discover any problem securing any of the exterior doors.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

DONATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF

NELDA GRAY FROM SHIRLEY FLINT
NELDA GRAY FROM DORIS PORTER

NELDA GRAY FROM
GARY & LAURA LAND

NELDA GRAY FROM
CAREY & CAROL MILLER

NELDA GRAY FROM
DELTA MATERIALS HANDLING
DIANA DuBOIS FROM SHIRLEY FLINT

AND IN HONOR OF

SUE & MARC TAYLOR FROM
LAURA & ALLEN HELMS
ALYSON & CALEY FOREMAN FROM
IRENE DYCUS



Get ready, get set, HUNT!

Mark your calendars now! The Easter Egg Hunt, one of the biggest events for the children of our church and neighborhood, is coming up on Palm Sunday afternoon, March 24th at 2:00 p.m. All children, toddlers through 5th graders, are invited to join in the fun. Every child needs to bring his/her own basket, but we will provide plastic grocery bags for those who forget to bring their baskets. The Easter Bunny will be

hopping by to join us once again, offering stuffed eggs and photo ops for the children and their families. Many thanks to the Evergreen Historic District Association for partnering with us again on this joyful event! The hunt will begin promptly at 2:00, so parents and grandparents need to get their children to the hunt early, not late! We always have extra eggs on hand to give to late arrivals, but the expression "the fun is in the hunt" most definitely applies to this affair. The event will take place rain or shine. It will happen inside the building, should we have a rainy day.

As always, there's much to be done in preparation for the big day, and we need your help! Please begin inviting family, friends, and neighbors right now. If you do Facebook, the event will be posted on the Trinity UMC Facebook page; share the good news with others through your own Facebook page. Scouts from Troop 13G and Troop 13B will hide the eggs for the hunt, along with the Trinity Youth. Cub Scouts from Pack 13 will be egg hunters, but parents from the pack will also be helping. The teachers and children of the Lab School will also be joining in the fun. As usual, there will be three different sites on the grounds for specific age groups to hunt eggs. Adults are needed to help supervise those areas. To help with the supervision of the Easter Egg Hunt or to offer to help hide eggs, please contact Irene Dycus (irenebdycus@hotmail.com or 652-1105).

We will be stuffing over two thousand plastic eggs in preparation for the Easter Egg Hunt. We are asking for **cash donations** (no candy, please) to go toward purchasing candy for the eggs. (We are trying to avoid larger, hard candies and candies with nuts of any kind in them.) Our Children's Department leaders and members of our United Women in Faith are making these purchases. Monetary donations of any size will be greatly appreciated; you can give Irene Dycus, Kathy Isbell, or Joan Smith your cash donation or make a check to Trinity UMC (designate for "Easter candy"). You may help stuff eggs at home if you like. Just let us know that you want to help; we will get the plastic eggs and candy to you, or you can pick some up at worship Sunday after next and return the filled eggs the following Sunday.

Last, but not least, we will be continuing our association with the Salvation Army's Purdue Center of Hope, which offers emergency family shelter and services for women and children who are homeless. The United Women in Faith provide Easter baskets or buckets and several hundred filled eggs for those children to have their very own on-site Easter Egg Hunt at the center. Your financial contributions will also help fund this very worthy project. The UWF Circle will be filling several hundred eggs at their luncheon meeting on Thursday, February 22nd at 12:00 noon. If anyone wants to join in the fun at this particular "hen party," feel free to bring your willing hands and a dish to share for the potluck meal.

Lots of fun ahead for lots of kids! Lots to do and lots of people needed to do it. Hop to it, folks! We need your help to make sure that these wonderful things happen!

Trinity Food Pantry Volunteer Request

According to the Memphis Food Bank, **one in six Memphians are food insecure**, primarily due to high poverty rates, limited access to healthy food, and lack of transportation to grocery stores. To meet the need of feeding our hungry neighbors, Trinity UMC is planning to open a Food Pantry soon at 1738 Galloway Avenue.

Trinity has a long history of working collaboratively with our neighbors in meeting the needs of our community. We need additional volunteers for food acquisition, storage and handling, and for food distribution. If you or someone you know would like to be a part of our **Volunteer Team** to feed hungry Memphians, **please call Amelia Strickland at 901-326-2471**.

Volunteer positions currently available are:

- ✕ Food pick-up person
- ✕ Publicity/fund-raising coordinator
- ✕ Fund-raising volunteers
- ✕ Food drive volunteers
- ✕ Storage and handling coordinator
- ✕ Distribution coordinator
- ✕ Distribution volunteer

Breaking news: We received a donation of canned goods and bags of rice from the BUMM food pantry this week. The volunteer team will be stocking shelves with these items and will decide what to put in food bags and what additional items are needed. Stay tuned for more updates!



United
Women
in Faith

Trinity UWF

Trinity's United Women of Faith will meet for our monthly potluck luncheon at noon in the Worship Center Thursday, February, 22nd, to continue the service we began in January. We donated \$300.00 to grocery vouchers and contributed to the United Methodist Neighborhood Center. We designated Golden Cross as our summer service project. The agenda for February includes:

1. Collect \$2.00 per member for Methodist Hospital Auxiliary.
2. Pay 2/3 of our annual pledge to bring our fiscal year into compliance with the District fiscal year
3. Bring our can, box, or dollar to contribute to our food pantry.
4. Stuff Easter eggs for our spring service project. See Irene if you wish to make a cash donation for candy.

Members who attended our January meeting are the following committee chairs:

Pantry Coordinator Melba; Librarian and District Liaison Mary; Praises and Prayers Coordinator Irene; Service Project Coordinators Irene and Kathy; Fundraising Coordinators Kay and Irene; Sunshine Angel Sue (all occasion cards and a cash donation would be welcome); Finance Chairman Sandy (Sandy has graciously consented to continue, but because of teaching commitments she will be unable to attend meetings on Thursdays. We will consider moving meetings to Fridays. Please consider which Friday would better suit your schedule.) Recording and Corresponding Secretary Joan. Each of these chairs welcome any of our members to join these committees.

It is not necessary to be a Trinitarian; it is not necessary to be a Methodist; it is necessary only to be a woman of faith. We welcome new members from our church and our community. Please contact the office at Trinity or any member of the UWF. Contact information is listed below:

Alyson birdwatcher59@hotmail.com
Amelia miastrick36@yahoo.com
Carol chmiller130@yahoo.com
Chris mschrisglover@gmail.com
Debby office@trinityumcmemphis.org
Doris porter2196@aol.com
Elizabeth dehopper@hotmail.com
Ila ila.mcdonald@gmail.com
Irene irenebdycus@hotmail.com
Joan Foley joanbfoley@gmail.com
Joan Smith smith.joan@hotmail.com

Kathy pcisbell@att.net
Katy katy@i-bankonline.com
Kay jordanck2@gmail.com
Mary wmccconnell3@gmail.com
Melba retired.abraham@yahoo.com
Myra myrafinch4@gmail.com
Sally grumpsmomo@aol.com
Sandy sguntharp@memphis.edu
Sara sgoffnojunk44@gmail.com
Sara Jane sjonmercury@gmail.com
Sharman sharmanccan@gmail.com



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|-----------------|-------------|
| Alex Landrigan | February 6 |
| Sally Ramsey | February 7 |
| Myra Finch | February 12 |
| Eli Witt | February 22 |
| Jacobi Hemigway | February 23 |
| Sara Corum | February 27 |
| David Hopper | February 27 |
| Amy Moritz | February 27 |



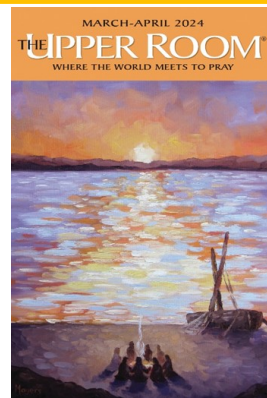
Kroger Rewards

Once a quarter, we receive an accounting from Kroger, advising us of a soon-to-be-received check reflecting a percentage of monies spent by our supporters at a Kroger store. The Kroger Company Family of Stores encourages us to ask our members to link their Kroger rewards cards to our organization, that is, Trinity UMC. *Community Rewards* is easy to use. The more you shop with Kroger, the more money Trinity will earn. If you are already a Kroger customer, take the time to check in with the customer service desk to ask how to link your card with your church. Our organization number is HC876.

FYI, we will shortly receive a check from Kroger in the amount of \$51.70 for the quarter dating from November 1, 2023 to January 31, 2023. That's 18 households that have already linked their rewards cards to Trinity. Why don't you join them?



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|-----------------------|----------|
| Heather Jacoby Keller | March 3 |
| Quinn Bauer | March 3 |
| Joe Spake | March 6 |
| Lee Ann Wilson | March 13 |
| Charles Abraham | March 19 |
| Alyson Foreman | March 19 |
| Hadley Keller | March 31 |



Upper Room Delivery Delayed

The March/April *Upper Room* has been delayed due to unavoidable delivery issues on the part of the publisher. As soon as the devotional guides are received, they will be placed on the reception desk counter just outside The Center. We will send out a mailing to those who normally receive their *Upper Room* via the U.S. Postal Service as soon as the publication is delivered to the church. We appreciate your patience in these unforeseen circumstances.

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.

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 interim District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. David Weatherly;

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:

Melba Abraham, upcoming surgery for small breast tumor on February 28th

Joan Smith's cousin, **Douglas Robbins**, aggressive cancer, and his wife **Ash**

Adam Hill, facing serious eye surgery (friend of Joan Smith)

Kaelyn Wright, wife and mother of two young children, has aggressive thyroid cancer. (Friend of Joan Smith).

Amelia Strickland's mom, **Rosemary Batorski**, has been sick for over a month

Sandy Guntharp's sister, **Diana DuBois**, passed away January 23rd; pray for Diana, Sandy, & their family.

Rosemary Potter, recovering at home following hip surgery, receiving physical therapy

Chris Glover's sister **Carol** is now in hospice care at home

Mike Baloga, encephalitis, at home with nursing care, and wife **Juli** (neighbors of Joe & Katy Spake)

Olivia Dunn, 29 year old with uterine cancer (Katy Spake's request)

Gene Archer, diagnosed with stomach cancer; **Lauren Crews**, diagnosed with ALS - both the Millers' friends

Melba Abraham's cousin, **Lydia Melton**, has cervical cancer.

Gwen Dodson, bladder cancer, COPD, and osteoporosis; IV cancer treatment ongoing every 3 weeks

Charlotte Comes, ongoing chemotherapy

Maggi Comes' niece, **Katie Pendleton**, diagnosed with Tumefactive MS

Kanyon Glover, pray for his speech therapy and the use of his left arm (due to a stroke)

Jacob Foreman, chronic back pain and nerve damage in left leg; doctors have no answer

David Harrison, Carol Miller's brother, on dialysis, paralyzed on one side after stroke, asthma, COPD; in ICU

Don Culpepper, Carol Miller's brother-in-law, has cancer in five locations; receiving radiation therapy.

Val Coates, ongoing serious health concerns

Eddie Ramsey, now in hospice care at home; **Sally**, as she prepares herself for the future; the **Ramsey family**

Seth Genes, 13 year old friend of Debby Marston; successful surgery on January 22nd to remove femur and replace with prosthetic bone; on crutches now & going back & forth to St. Jude for physical therapy

Pray for **Jonathan Goff**.

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.)