March 26, 2025

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.

From the desk of... The Rev.

Time

For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation!
2 Corinthians 6:2

There's a beautiful clock that hangs in my living room. It's a circa 1960's atomic clock by the Welby Company. The center parts are brass and the larger, longer spokes are a cherry-stained teak wood. It's a lovely piece from the atomic age, where everything in design seemed to be about space travel — a time I don't know first-hand (as I was not born until the mid-1980's), but one I find very interesting, hence the vast collection of midcentury-modern memorabilia we have.

The clock hangs on the wall in the living room, and bothers the stew out of the 3 neurodivergent men (ages 10 to 44) that I live with, because the clock ticks loudly on the wall. It is steady, like a metronome. It is the tiniest bit slow. Once a year I have to adjust it about 4 minutes. Though it bothers the other members of my family, because its ticking is sometimes the only thing they hear, it is a comfort to me.

The days can become a blur of comings and goings that often get messy and stressful, and in moments where I am most overwhelmed, either by the stressful nature of an ordinary day, or by the happenings of the world around me, moments where the house is empty, and I am not frantically working to accomplish something else — times when the TV is off and the news isn't screaming gloom and doom in my ears, I can sit and breathe, in time, with the ticking clock on the wall. Yes, in some ways it is a reminder of time wasted. Minutes do tick along, as I breathe in peace and out stress (tick* tock*, tick* tock*), but it is also a reminder of the gift that is time.

The season just changed from Winter to Spring. We set our clocks forward, in time with our most terrible tradition that is Daylight Savings. We are looking ahead to blooming flowers (and sneezing allergy-sufferers). Soon the birds will begin to sing as new life springs forth on the earth. The constant is time, but may we not lose the other constant, that is the Gift-Giver of time.

Winter fades away to the newness of life. Where moments ago we were reminded that the earth dies to itself every year, we are privileged, in these moments, to witness life as it begins to spring forth on the earth, and find, again, that in death, there is resurrection. We do that best during Holy Week. In Holy Week we walk with Jesus through the last days of his life, coming to the table in the Upper Room, washing the feet of the disciples, going to the Garden and being confronted by the soldiers, standing trial, carrying his cross and bearing the weight of the crown of thorns on his brow. Finally, he is crucified. Though time ticks on and

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moves us forward, Holy Week takes us back to the coldness of winter, where death is imminent, the sun refuses to shine, and we lament, in sorrow, the coldness of the world.

But friends, that isn't where the story ends. The clock continues to tick, by the grace of God, and there is something on the other side of the stone that is rolled away. Time will bring us there — strong and steady, it will carry us to the other side of the cross, the other side of the hill of Calvary, the other side of what will become an empty tomb — a place and time where, not only will the earth in her majesty be resurrected once more, and not only will Jesus be too, but so will we.

Holy Week is nearly upon us. Will you take the time to go on that journey with me?

With resurrection hope in mind,
Rev. Sara

March UWF News

The next potluck meeting of the UWF will be held on 28 March 2025 at noon in the Worship Center.

Our program will be on Matthew and Thomas: The Publican (tax collector) and the Pessimist (doubter). If you are willing to lead the discussion, pick up the book from Sue and the workbook from Joan S. Relevant Scriptures are: Psalm 8:2; Isaiah 26:5-6; Ezekiel 21:26; Zephaniah 3:12; Matthew 21:31-32; 22:21; Luke 4:28-29; 5:29-32; 7:29; 15:1; 18:10-14; 19:2-10; John 11:1-16; 20:24-28; and Romans 13:7.

We have enough candy to stuff 3,000 eggs for our spring missions, eggs for Trinity's hunt and for the Salvation Army Purdue Center. Our meeting activity will be stuffing as many of those eggs as possible. Egg stuffing will continue after 9:30 a.m. breakfast on Singspiration Sunday, 30 March.

Metro District is sponsoring "Love in Action, Helping Children in the Memphis Metro Area" Saturday, 29 March, at 10:00 a.m. at Colonial Park United Methodist Church. Women attending are invited to bring a food donation to be used in Mid-South Food Bank's children's programs. Pre-register at uwfmetro@gmail.com.

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities. You need not be a Trinitarian; you need not even be a Methodist; you need only be a woman of faith. Join us and be welcome.

Joan Smith, UWF President

The Stewardship/Finance Committee will meet in the Conference Room Sunday, March 30th, after worship .

Tiny Pantry

The tiny pantry is doing well. Many neighbors contribute to supplement our SpaghettiOs, Vienna Sausage, cheese and peanut butter crackers, and fruit cups. The UWF supports it with monetary donations. Thank you to all who help our friends who rely on the tiny pantry.

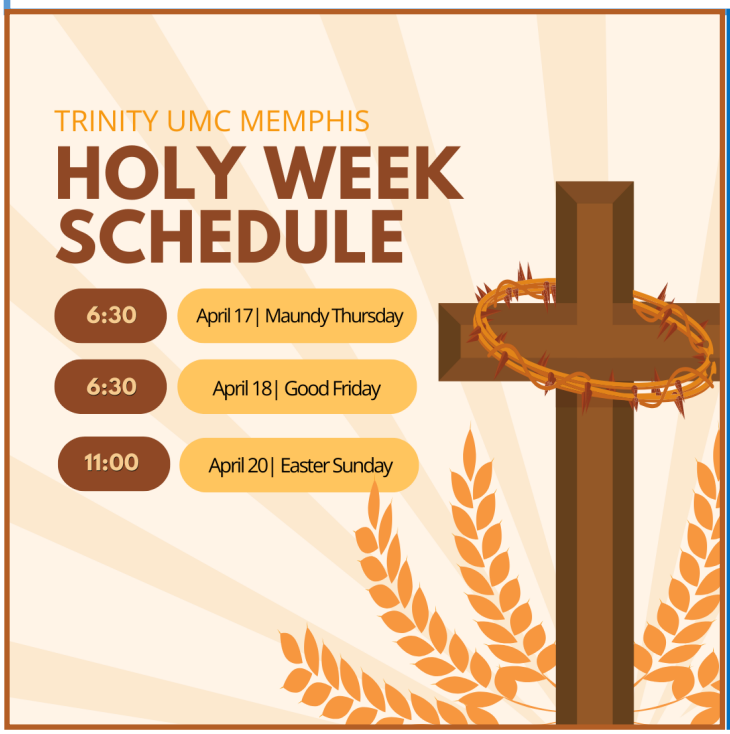
A future with hope...The Children's Council

"*I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."* (Jeremiah 29:11) This was the highlighted scripture from ***The Upper Room*** for Monday, March 24, 2025, the day that I'm writing this article. Whenever I encounter these words, I am reminded of the many times that my husband Joe and I saw them on the walls of hospital rooms and doctors' offices and in printed materials throughout his three-year battle with pancreatic cancer. They always showed up right when we needed them. When I went to my college roommate's funeral, they were written in massive letters on the wall behind the choir loft in her church's sanctuary, and they helped soothe my broken heart. I cannot help but draw hope from these words whenever and wherever I encounter them. So here they were again, on this day when I was to share news about Children's Ministries.

This time, they brought to mind the Children's Council meeting that took place two Sundays ago. It was our first face-to-face meeting with this group in five years. Of course, ministry with children has been going on during that time. But this was the first convening of parents and teachers for the specific purpose of planning upcoming events. It was a heartening experience for me and I hope for the parents and other leaders as well. Volunteers emerged for the fast-approaching Easter Egg Hunt, and some new ideas (and volunteers) were presented when we began plans for a Vacation Bible School to be held on-site once again at Trinity Church. There was even an idea – along with a leader – for an Advent Craft event to coincide with the "Santa Stop" in the December holiday season. Suddenly, plans for Children's Ministries were charging right along, and it wasn't Ms. Irene doing all the pushing and pulling. And my heart was filled with the deep and abiding sense that the Lord does indeed have plans for us and that He will continue to give us a future with hope. Praise the Lord!

Peace and love,

Irene



A big "Thanks!" to Evergreen Historic District Association for their monetary contribution to this year's egg hunt.

April Birthdays

Marissa Montgomery	April 1
Andy Gienapp	April 10
Daniel Gienapp	April 16
Rachel Adkins	April 25
Judi Hoffman	April 28

March Birthdays

Heather Jacoby-Keller	March 3
Quinn Bauer	March 3
Joe Spake	March 6
Charles Abraham	March 19
Alyson Foreman	March 19
Hadley Keller	March 31

Easter Egg Hunt April 13th

The big **EASTER EGG HUNT** will take place on the Trinity grounds on the afternoon of **Palm Sunday, April 13th, at 2:00 p.m.** All kids, **toddlers through 5th graders**, are encouraged to bring their Easter baskets and join in the fun! (We have extra Easter buckets on hand, should they forget.) The hunt will take place, **rain or shine**. In the event of rain, eggs will be hidden at various sites in the building. **The hunt will begin at 2:00 sharp, so kids need to be on time!** The Easter Bunny, along with his lovely assistant, Ms. Sandy, will also be hopping around to join us once again, providing photo ops for kids and their families. There will be lots of other games and activities going on before and after the hunt. It will be an afternoon filled with fun, fun, fun, fun, fun!

BUT BEFORE THIS CAN TAKE PLACE...

Egg-stuffing parties (and solo commitments) are in our future, Trinity Church! Plastic eggs and candy have been divided into bags of 50 each, waiting for helpful hands to combine them. Our United Women in Faith will have a "hen party" for that purpose at our noon meeting this Friday, March 28th. Participants at the 5th Sunday Breakfast on March 30th will also be preparing eggs. Altogether, we will be stuffing around 3,000 eggs! Two-thirds of these will be for our Easter Egg Hunt, and one-third will go to the Salvation Army's Purdue Center, for children of homeless families who are housed there to have their very own Easter Egg Hunt. It's a big job, but it's one that blesses so many children in our neighborhood and in the community at large.

A **pizza lunch for helpers** will take place after worship **on the 13th**. (Please donate toward the cost of this meal, friends.) Scouts and leaders from both Troops 13-G and 13-B will arrive home from a camping trip just in time to help set up the hunt areas and hide Easter eggs on the grounds. Other adult and youth helpers will be setting up multiple games and special activities, and a Bounce House will be arriving for this afternoon of fun. We already have a good number of volunteers who have offered to supervise the hunt areas and to man the games, but more will be appreciated. One of the most important jobs for all of the Trinity church family is to offer friendly faces and gracious hospitality.

Many thanks go once again to our friends at the Evergreen Historic District Association for their very generous financial support of this event. Neighborhood children, the Lab School, Cub Scout Pack 13, and NA children are all invited to participate. We hope you will help us get the word out to friends and neighbors and kids everywhere. Spread the news on social media, invite face-to-face, text, and call! And then…come and play with us on the afternoon of April 13th! You will find that you are greatly blessed when you do so.

First Aid Training for Scouts

Troops 13B and 13G are holding a Wilderness First Aid class for their adults and older Scouts on April 4th and 5th. The training will be facilitated by Red Cross staff.

MEMPHIS PRIDE 50

Trinity Plans for Pridefest 2025

We are registered for our booth at Pridefest 2025! The date is Saturday, June 7. We will convene a planning team soon to decide on details such as what to display, how to engage visitors, giveaways, whether to also march in the parade, who will staff our booth, and whatever other dreams we come up with. YOU can be a part of the planning. Please contact Kay Jordan by email (jordanck2@gmail.com) or text (901-299-2624) to become a part of the planning team. Date for planning will be set by the team members. Later we will be recruiting other helpers. But if you are bursting with ideas, or are good at details, the planning team is the place for you.

Kay Jordan

LENTEN GIVING CONTEST

(A Contest Where Everyone Wins!)

Trinity's Children invite you to join them in giving to our **FOOD PANTRIES** today.

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SOMEONE IN MEMPHIS IS HUNGRY TODAY!

In fact, one in six Memphians is food insecure. Through our Food Pantries at Trinity UMC, we seek to help meet the needs of our hungry neighbors. We encourage you to practice the Lenten discipline of giving by donating either canned goods or financial support to our Food Pantries. Checks need to be designated for "Food Pantry." As you bring canned goods in the coming weeks, please keep in mind that our big Food Pantry especially needs canned fruits and vegetables right now. Thank you for your help!

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 Donald Trump and Vice President J.D. Vance—pray for their wisdom and that of all political leaders.

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:

Sally Ramsey's son-in-law, **Keith Green**, husband of Sandi, died in his sleep March 17th. Pray for the Ramsey family as they deal with their grief.

Bobby Glover, Chris's brother, in care for early Alzheimer's

Faye McLendon passed away on March 6th. Please pray for her friends and family as they grieve.

Joan Smith, battling chronic pain, especially in her back

Venoma Newhart passed away on December 24th. Pray for her family and friends.

Kate Ostenrude, in rehab at Kings Daughters and Sons

Pam Stafford, battling liver disease, and husband **Jim Stafford**, dementia (request from Sandy Guntharp)

Bo Poppelreiter, step-grandson of Debby Marston, received his kidney transplant March 5th & is doing well.

Katy Spake's cousin, **Deb Roark**, had to stop radiation/chemo after becoming very sick; restarted therapies, but reactions recurred, putting her back in the hospital. Pray that she is able to tolerate her treatments.

Seth Norton, Raquel's son, biopsy revealed gastroparesis; benign liver mass requires meds; nausea treatment

Nicole Salisbury Nelson, Joan Smith's cousin, in late 30s, stroke, no oxygen 15 minutes: blind, partial paralysis

Adam Hill, serious vein ruptures in legs, much pain (friend of Joan Smith)

Gwen Dodson, bladder cancer, COPD, osteoporosis; cancer treatment

Joan Smith's cousin, **Doug Robbins**, aggressive kidney cancer, facing 5th surgery; high medical bills

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

Kanyon Glover, heart received as baby checks out okay; receives PT for arm damaged by stroke

Jacob Foreman, for new part time job to go well; nerve damage & back pain continues

Gene Archer, diagnosed with stomach cancer, last test report was good! His wife **Julia** has MS (friends of Millers)

Lauren Crews, diagnosed with ALS (friend of Millers)

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

Val Coates, medical concerns

Jonathan Goff, back injury; **James Goff**, Sam's brother, abdominal issues; **Karen Barker**, Sara's sister, lung issues; **Laura Carruthers**, Sam's friend, has cancer.

Pray for **JoAnn James** and **Lisa Martin**

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