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Trinotes

March 9th, 2016

The Season of Lent
A. D. 2016



The Journey to Jerusalem

The Journey to the Heart.

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

*Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?*

*Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?*

*Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"*

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*

Micah 6:6-8

Dear Friends of Jesus,

This past Sunday we began a three-week series based on the passage above. What kind of justice is God's justice? What kind of mercy is God's mercy? And what is the difference between an obsequious or oppressive servility and the humility that God seeks in the human creature? For those who would claim the name "Christian," it is the person of Jesus Christ who reveals the answers to these questions. God's justice is revealed when we look up from the pig pen of our sinful lives and find that God is running towards us with arms outstretched (Luke 15:11-32). God's mercy is a story of rehabilitation as we are set free from the prison of sin and death (John 8:1-11). And finally we begin to understand humility as Jesus comes to Jerusalem, city of Kings, facing the corruption of the Temple Elite, facing the Evil of Empire, knowing what it will cost him, and loving the world through his tears:

As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God." Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there; and he said, "It is written,

*'My house shall be a house of prayer';
but you have made it a den of robbers."*

Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him; but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

Luke 19:41-48

We begin to understand the prophetic witness from the faithfulness of Jesus. Both Micah and Jesus reiterate the core of Israel's spirituality: that outward sacrifice means nothing if we do not turn our hearts to the Creator, the LORD. God is not interested in the trappings of religion, "but a humble and contrite heart, [God] will not despise" (Ps. 51:17). Jesus comes to the Holy Hill, Zion, the City of David, the Temple of the Almighty, and I would say to you that this place is the human heart. Are we prepared for Jesus to clean out our hearts? Will we praise him as he comes to us? Or will we deride him as an impostor, a blasphemous know-it-all, and someone to be got rid of as soon as possible because he condemns our privilege, our profiteering, and our forgetfulness of the Creator and the neighbor?

We have our Sunday School classes, well and good; we have our study bibles, well and good; we have our dresses and our suits and ties, well and good; we have a rich and glorious tradition on Sunday mornings, well and good... Yes... we have all the religious paraphernalia one may acquire, but unless our hearts are sensitive and open to the justice, mercy, and humility of God – "the things that make for peace" – our religion is banal and lifeless.

I will leave you to search out for yourself the depths of your own heart, as I search mine. Let us go to Jerusalem with Jesus, knowing that the Cross lies in our path, knowing that the God we know as Mother, as Father, will eternally continue to be the LORD, the Giver of Life.

Let us pray:

A broken ALTAR, Lord, thy servant rears,
Made of a heart and cemented with tears;
Whose parts are as thy hand did frame;
No workman's tool hath touch'd the same.

A HEART alone
Is such a stone,
As nothing but
Thy pow'r doth cut.
Wherefore each part
Of my hard heart
Meets in this frame
To praise thy name.

That if I chance to hold my peace,
These stones to praise thee may not cease.
Oh, let thy blessed SACRIFICE be mine,
And sanctify this ALTAR to be thine.

the Rev. George Herbert, 1593-1633
Priest of the Church of England

Order Today!

Lilies & Begonias

The flowers will be ordered for placement in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday, March 27th. The price per plant is \$10 for lilies and \$15 for the begonias.

Please place order by Sunday March 20th

Ordered by (Give name as you want it printed on bulletin.)

Phone _____

Lilies ordered _____ Total paid \$ _____ CK# _____ CASH

Begonias ordered _____ Total paid \$ _____ CK# _____ CASH

Given in **HONOR** of: (Give name as you want it printed.)

Given in **MEMORY** of: (Give name as you want it printed on bulletin)

enough volunteers.

John Stuart, Lay Leader, provided his report. He plans to meet regularly with Pastor Jonathan to discuss the state of the church and the needs for ministry. At their first meeting, they discussed the ways we could promote a better understanding of Wesleyan theology to help our Methodist members and others have a deeper and more passionate understanding of our beliefs. They thought in terms of presentations that would be simple and entertaining. Pastor Jonathan explained that they envisioned having church members act out skits that explained Wesleyan beliefs in a fun way. John asked that we pray for him and the pastor as they continue to meet.

Chris Glover and Susan Hall presented their ideas about a parking lot yard sale at the church. The plan is to rent spaces to the public and make it a fun event. Flip commented that it could also be an outreach program as well. Several ideas were discussed to make the day successful, and a tentative date was set for June 4th with June 11th as a rain date. Marc Taylor moved that we add it to the church calendar and Flip Brooks seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Chris also reminded everyone about the Election Day bake sale on March 1st and encouraged everyone to bring baked goods or crafts to be sold.

Lisa Machen said that the choir is now in rehearsals for the Lenten Cantata to be held on Palm Sunday. She also said the choir needs hand bell ringers and they always welcome having new members in the choir.

Pastor Jonathan demonstrated how the three core areas of the Church Council's ministries work together. He explained that Nurture asks how we are caring for each other and maturing in our worship, that Outreach asks how we are caring for those who are not a part of the family at Trinity, and that Evangelism asks how we are bringing people to recognition, acceptance, and trust in Jesus Christ. He provided a chart that demonstrated how every ministry of the church fits into one of these core areas, and the person responsible for each one. By seeing how all of these components fit together, we can prioritize our efforts and this focus will energize us for what we need to do. Plans were made to share this organizational chart with the congregation.

Carol Miller reported that registration for Lakeshore summer camps is now open. In the past, Trinity has provided partial scholarships for the children and grandchildren of church members, and Carol asked if we could continue this tradition. Marc Taylor moved that the church collect donations and use any collected monies for the scholarships. Katy Spake seconded the motion and it carried. Carol Miller will post information about the camps in the Trinotes along with a plea for donations and the Communion Offering for one month will be designated for Lakeshore scholarships.

Charlotte Comes thanked everyone for their presence and their participation and Tom Wilson closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned.

UMW UPDATE:

DAYTIME UMW UNIT MEETING--MARCH 15TH--10:30 AM--
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Devotional--Gwen Owen
Response Magazine and books --Mary McConnell
Program--Sara Jane Goodman
Dessert--Snookie Mason

Remember to:

Bring a sandwich
A Can! A Box! Or a dollar!

UMW Evening Circle

The Evening Circle will meet on Monday, March 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share, and a can, a box, or a dollar for the UMNC. We'd be delighted to have some visitors.

Extending Our Congregational Care Ministry

Our Take Them a Meal ministry and the Shepherd's meals for families after a funeral/memorial service are ways Trinity members show care for each. Now we want to expand these services to include a new way to help each other: Transportation Ministry. We will offer errand-running and transportation for situations of short-term need. After a hospital stay or during illness at home, or in other kinds of emergencies, members may need prescriptions picked up, grocery shopping done, etc. For those who don't have special mobility needs, a ride to a doctor's appointment might be needed. (Since our volunteers will not have medical training, it won't be possible to provide transportation to medical appointments for those who aren't able to get into/out of cars with minimal assistance.)

Our first step is to recruit volunteers for this ministry. If you are willing to provide services of this type on an occasional basis, please contact the coordinators:

Kathy Isbell pcisbell@att.net phone 901-458-0367

Kay Jordan jordanck2@gmail.com phone 901-299-2624

After a couple of weeks to build our list of volunteers, we will be ready to provide the service. If you have a need, please call the church office (901-274-6895). The coordinators will be informed, and a volunteer will be assigned. Thank you for considering participating in this ministry.

Mark Your Calendars!

Trinity Spring Market and Bazaar, Saturday
June 4th on the grounds of the Education
Building. Get your stuff together!
For information call Chris Glover at 358-7201
or
Susan Hall at 491-1791

Upcoming EVENTS

- ◆ Sunday March 13th, Daylight Savings. Spring your clocks forward.
- ◆ Palm Sunday March 20th.
- ◆ Maundy Thursday March 24th. Service at 7 p.m.
- ◆ Good Friday March 25th.
- ◆ Easter Sunday March 27th. Service coming soon.
- ◆ Room In The Inn on Tuesday nights in the Education Building. Set up starts at 4:30 p.m. Contact Lois Young if you would like to help.
- ◆ Tuesday mornings Prayer and Communion in Chapel, 8:00 a.m.
- ◆ Wednesday's Bible Study in Conference Room, 12:00 noon in the Edu. Building.
- ◆ The first Monday of each month is reserved for Trustee Meeting in the Conference Room of the Education Building at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ The second Monday of each month is reserved for SPPRC meeting in the Conference Room of the Education Building at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ The third Monday of each month is reserved for the Evening Circle to meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30p.m.
- ◆ Highland Heights Luncheon is on every 3rd Monday of each month, at Highland Heights UMC. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at HHUMC to help.
- ◆ The fourth Monday of each month is reserved for Church Council Meeting in the fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Flip Brooks provided the Outreach report. Project Transformation is an 8-week summer day camp program that is provided at two United Methodist Churches in Memphis – Centenary and Longstreet. Covington First UMC is looking for a partner church to participate with them. They would provide a \$1,500 stipend for a college intern working with the program, and the other church would provide some meals for the interns, and provide 10-12 volunteers to read to the children for one week (9:15 a.m.-12:15 a.m.) during the summer. There will be a Project Transformation Partner Church meeting at St. Luke's UMC on April 5th at 6:30 p.m. Sally Ramsey moved to have the church find out more information and to consider partnering with Covington UMC. Katy Spake seconded the motion and the motion carried. Additionally, Trinity will solicit books for the project from church members and the neighborhood. Evergreen Historic District is participating in a meal program called Cop Stop. Residents invite Memphis City police officers in the precinct to join them for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. The church has invited up to 10 officers to attend our regular Fellowship Breakfast on Sunday, March 6th. Katy Spake recommended that we advertise the Cop Stop program in our flyer box. Flip also mentioned having the church send out a weekly email newsletter. He suggested that we eventually develop a communications committee. The Council agreed that this was an excellent idea. Manna on Mondays continues to be one of the vital ministries of the church. Flip noticed that they were short on volunteers in February and called for us to step up and provide enough volunteers for March. Room in the Inn (RITI) is still going strong as we head into our last month of providing care to our unsheltered neighbors. Flip is beginning to assemble an Outreach Committee. He hopes to hold the first meeting before the end of the first quarter.

Mike Potter provided the Spiritual Formation report. After conferring with pastor Jonathan, he proposed three plans for spiritual formation at Trinity. The first plan, a Discovery Class, would be a four-session introductory course for Christian Discipleship led by Pastor Jonathan. It is designed as a new member class, but would be open to anyone. The second plan, Companions in Christ, is a 28-week series in which participants would meet weekly for two hours, preceded by daily readings and exercises. Volunteers will be needed to serve as small group facilitators. The third plan would be the formation of Covenant Disciple Groups patterned after John Wesley's Class Meetings. Mike has volunteered to serve as the coordinator for the groups and to work with group leaders. Mike also stated that there would be an expectation that each member of our church participate in one of these groups if we are to take seriously the call to discipleship. After discussion, these plans were tabled for further consideration.

Katy Spake, Witness Chairperson, showed the Council some pew tracts that we had previously used. She plans to update them and place the revised cards in the church pews soon.

Daisy Cleaves asked the Council to consider reinstating First Light, an early morning contemporary service that was previously provided at Trinity. After discussion, Carol Miller moved to send this request to the Worship Committee for consideration. Katy Spake seconded the motion and it carried.

Kathy Isbell, reported for the Nurture Committee. The committee met last week with Pastor Jonathan to discuss a new way to help our members in their time of need. In addition to Take Them a Meal, the committee would like to start a Transportation Ministry. This ministry would offer errand running and transportation for situations of short-term need following a hospital stay or illness at home. They will place an article in the Trinotes to recruit volunteers. Volunteers will contact Kathy or Kay Jordan to sign up, and the transportation ministry will begin as soon as we have

Council Minutes
02.22.16

Chairperson, Charlotte Comes, opened the meeting with a devotional from 1 Corinthians about love. Carol Miller presented the minutes, and Tom Wilson moved to approve the minutes as amended. Flip Brooks seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Irene Dycus provided the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC) report. The SPPRC has completed and approved the new employee policy, and Pastor Jonathan is ensuring that all staff members receive a copy and that they are aware that they may contact Irene if they have any questions. Personnel files will be set up to document their signed disclosure statements, ethics statements, and confidentiality pledges. The committee and Pastor Jonathan will be updating staff job descriptions and setting priorities based on ministry goals which have come out of the visioning process. The committee also recommends updating our Safe Sanctuary Policy and ensuring that all paid staff and any volunteers who work with children or youth undergo background checks. Pastor Jonathan is checking with the District Office for Safe Sanctuaries recommendations. Irene shared the three options for the proposed changes in the Memphis Conference Clergy Health Insurance Plan. At the Clergy Wellness Meeting on February 23rd, a recommendation will be chosen to present to the Annual Conference in June. Bertha Ching has resigned from the SPPRC. Irene moved to accept Donna Windham to replace Bertha on the committee. Flip Brooks seconded, and the motion carried.

Tom Wilson presented the Trustees report. The Sanctuary Building has been treated for termites and a bait system will be put into place soon. The HVAC in the choir loft has been repaired. The awning over the door that faces Evergreen has also been repaired. Lights near the inside front stairway will be replaced for better illumination. Painting is now completed in the Youth Room and the Young Professionals Room. Martin and White have submitted a \$10,322 bid to replace the HVAC in the Youth Room. The electrical panel outside the Fellowship Hall continues to have circuitry problems, and the Trustees are deciding whether vintage breakers or a complete replacement will be the best option. The Trustees approved removing the toilet in the kitchen closet and installing a mop sink. Floor tiles have been purchased to replace those missing in the basement. This will allow professionals to strip and double coat the floors. Other pending projects include asbestos on pipes, fallen fascia boards, and pooling water.

Charlotte provided the Finance report for Rosemary Potter. The balance sheet ending 01.31.16 shows a cash balance of \$303,630 (checking-71,676, endowments-82,016, Ken Merritt Fund-12,668, Mission Endowment Fund-10,352, Insurance Reserve Fund-8,571, and Holmquist Fund-118,341). Liabilities total \$21,305. The profit and loss statement for January indicates that we ended the month with a net profit of \$6,033. Income generated in January was over budget and expenses were under budget, but we only had one pay period that month. We will have three pay periods in February. Pledged giving exceeded budget by \$4,226, but non-pledged giving was below budget by \$2,045. We received late Christmas offerings of \$1,200. Maintenance and operations expenses were close to budget. Apportionments are being paid at 100%. Overall, January was a good month. The church can anticipate some large capital expenses for the air handler in the Education Building and some asbestos removal, but those expenses will be taken from the Holmquist Fund. The summary projection of the Unrestricted Cash Balance shows that for the remaining 11 months of 2016, Trinity has enough unrestricted cash available to cover the projected annual deficit of \$21,541 provided that giving and other income remain consistent with what is budgeted.



Heather Jacoby-Keller March 3	Charles Abraham March 19
Nathan Berry March 5	Benjamin Ashley March 19
Rachel Moore March 5	Alyson Foreman March 19
Becky Waldon March 6	Mary Curry March 20
Leanne Wilson March 13	Timothy Endsley March 21
Bess Key March 14	Aaron Craig March 24
Jane Waldrip March 16	Carey Wright March 24
Alicia Butler March 18	Jack Bearup March 27
Patton Dycus March 18	Suzanna Endsley March 28
Carol Raiford March 18	Hadley Love Jacoby Keller March 31

✝ *Prayer List* ✝

Pat Lovington	Frances Skinner
Marie Park & Family	Laura Hartmann
George Guntharp	Pam Santirojprapai
Nancy Scott	Shirley Skjoldager
Rod & Nancy Maddox	Randy Bruce
Frances Lloyd	Nancy Rankin
Gwen Stuart	June & Bill Scudder
Carol Raiford	Ken & Laurel Bratt
Peggy Tate	

Memorials & Honorariums



In honor of Gwen Owen from Doris Webster

In honor of Jane Jones from Sally Ramsey

In memory of Fred Carrey from Doris Carney

CHOIR NEWS: A Music Note

Dear Choir,

We're back to rehearsals at 6:30pm each week again. Be thinking about folks you know who'd like to join us and invite them to sing with us.

Please see the following for some important dates to put in your calendars. This is a very short season until Easter!!!

Blessings,
Lisa

IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday, Mar 16--Final Cantata rehearsal

Saturday, Mar 19--DRESS REHEARSAL with instrumentalists & narrators
(time TBA)

Sunday, Mar 20--PALM SUNDAY -- CANTATA at 2:30pm

Thursday, Mar 24--Maundy Thursday (Choir will sing) 7pm

Sunday, Mar 27--EASTER SERVICE

Lakeshore Summer Camps 2016

Lakeshore's summer camp program is filled with dynamic leadership, meaningful worships, lots of outdoor play and opportunities to build relationships that last throughout a lifetime. As Uncle Ben Neal, a former camp director, described it, "Lakeshore is not so much somewhere we go or something we do as it is something we become. The love and spirit of Lakeshore become a part of us and we become a part of it."

If you are interested in providing this wonderful experience for your child, registration forms may be obtained in the church office for children and youth ages 7-17. There is even a Mom/Dad Overnight camp for ages 5-9. For more information, go to lakeshoreuma.com or speak to Carol Miller or Pastor Jonathan.

Dear Trinity Family,

In the past, our church has provided partial scholarships to help defray the cost of attending Lakeshore Summer Camp for the children and grandchildren of our members. Registration costs run from \$198 to \$420, so you can see how families would appreciate any financial help they can get. If you would like to make a donation to this very worthy cause, please contact me for details.

Thank you,
Carol Miller
901.647.1329



VBS at Trinity
June 13th-17th
from 9a.m.-12 noon

For more information, call the church office at:
(901)274-6895

or visit our website

cokesburyvbs.com/trinityumcmemphis
www.trinityumcmemphis.org

Scan me with your smart
phone to go right to our
registration page.

