

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.



[Rev. Sara is at General Conference in Charlotte, NC this week. In her absence, your editor is filling in with some trivial and some not-so-trivial Mother's Day information.]

Mother's Day

You can find most of the information I'm sharing in any encyclopedia or by checking out Google online. Mother's Day is observed in the United States as an annual holiday on the second Sunday in May. This year, it's on May 12th. (Only 17 shopping days left to find something awesome for the mothers in your life.) The first Mother's Day was established by a Methodist woman in 1908. (See question 9 on page 2 of our "Are you smarter than the average United Methodist?" quiz - Mother's Edition.)

Interestingly enough, the woman who started the Mother's Day tradition insisted that "Mother's" should be "a singular possessive, for each family to honor its own mother, not a plural possessive commemorating all mothers in the world." When President Woodrow Wilson in his 1914 presidential proclamation confirmed Mother's Day as an official holiday, he used that singular possessive form.

There are traditions that go along with Mother's Day celebrations, including churchgoing, family dinners, the distribution of carnations (the official Mother's Day flower), and wearing a carnation on that special day. The color of the flower depends on whether one's mother is living (pink or red) or deceased (white). Nowadays, roses are often substituted.

Mother's Day has become the most popular day of the year to dine out at a restaurant in the U.S. Americans are said to spend approximately \$2.6 billion on flowers, \$1.53 billion on pampering gifts—like spa treatments—and another \$68 million on greeting cards. The founder of the holiday objected so strongly to the rampant commercialization that she became a prominent opponent of what the holiday had become. One of her objections was the laziness implicit in the purchase of a greeting card rather than writing a personal letter. She was even arrested in 1948 for disturbing the peace while protesting the commercialization of Mother's Day and finally said that she wished she had never started the day because it became so out of control. *Wow.*

My experiences of Mother's Day during my childhood always included the wearing of a red rosebud by each child and a white rose by our mom when we went to church. Her mother died when our mom was only six years old, so she didn't have the same memories I enjoyed: a mother who doctored skinned knees and bee stings; played card games and board games with us; baked all sorts of yummy desserts; welcomed all the neighborhood kids into both the back yard and our house; hovered over us as we did our homework; and taught us how to cook and do chores to give us a sense of responsibility and worth.

Since my children are grown and live hours away, I don't normally get to see them on Mother's Day. They usually send me a card and call me that day, but we're not together. What makes the holiday a treasure are the memories that are stirred when the Mother's Day cards arrive in the mailbox. Both my kids have the same skewed sense of humor I inherited from my mom, so the cards are never sentimental. The sentiment is in the shared memories, the laughter during the obligatory phone calls, and the joy and pride I feel in being their mother. I hope you enjoy your Mother's Day memories.

Happy Mother's Day!
Debby



Are you smarter than the average United Methodist? Mothers edition

[Answers on page 5]

1. She was the first wife of Abraham and the matriarch of the Hebrew people. What does her name, Sarah, mean?
 Chosen Princess Pure
2. True or false, the longest interval between the births of two children was 41 years. True False
3. This historic United Methodist congregation in Philadelphia got its name because at least five churches grew from it. Mother Emmanuel Mother Wesley Mother Zoar
4. Her sons started the Methodist movement. What is the matriarch Mrs. Wesley's name?
 Susanna Eleanor Jane
5. Who is known as the Mother of American Methodism?
 Frances Willard Georgia Harkness Barbara Heck
6. This 4-foot-11-inch grandmother was the first woman elected bishop of any mainline Christian church.
 Joyce M. Bennett Marjorie Matthews Sandra Roberts
7. Who said, "When I put on one of these sweaters, it helps me think about my mother."
 TV host Fred Rogers Golfer Jack Nicklaus Fashion designer Ralph Lauren
8. Francis Asbury's mother, _____, had hoped he would become the Archbishop of Canterbury.
 Elizabeth Anna Mary
9. This Methodist mom from West Virginia first had the idea for a Mother's Day holiday in the U.S.
 Harriett Hallmark Ann Jarvis Susan Gilbert
10. This mother and grandmother is the first African-American woman elected bishop in The United Methodist Church. Leontine Kelly Beverly Shamana Linda Lee
11. Called "a living legend in the church's history of mission," Eunice Jones Mathews was:
 Daughter of an evangelist Wife of a bishop Author, who co-wrote "The Divine Yes" Early supporter of United Methodist Africa University All of the above
12. This United Methodist mother of three is president of Liberia and won a Nobel peace prize.
 Winnie Mandela Jody Williams Ellen Johnson Sirleaf



Upcoming UWF Activities

The UWF Circle will meet Friday, April 26th at noon in the Worship Center. There will also be a free "Metro District Spiritual Growth Event" Saturday, April 27th. If you wish to represent Trinity UWF, email Lauren Boswell, Metro District Vice President, at laurenboswell@icloud.com or phone/text her at 901.848.0373 to reserve your chair.



Communal Living, Communal Giving

“The community of believers was one in heart and mind. None of them would say, ‘This is mine!’ about any of their possessions but held everything in common. The apostles continued to bear powerful witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and an abundance of grace was at work among them all. There were no needy persons among them.” (Acts 4:32-34a)

What a powerful passage! This is how things were done in the very beginning of the Christian church in Jerusalem. The newly formed group of believers had experienced such a radical change of heart that they were of “one heart and mind” – or “one heart and soul” - resulting in a common mind uniting the church at the deepest human level. There was an abandonment of self-interest, which showed itself in outward behavior that reflected a collectively transformed heart. It’s what we read throughout the Bible as God’s desire for all his children, a heart that beats in love for Him and for our neighbor.

We studied this scripture in this past Sunday’s lesson in our Children’s Sunday School Class. We talked about it in relation to our Giving Contest, through which we are supporting Trinity’s food pantries. We talked about how our food pantries involve our giving out of love for our neighbors who are less fortunate than we are. We give because we love. We give because we care. We give because God has greatly blessed us, and with thankful hearts we want to bless others.

Earlier this week, I came across a quote that led me immediately to another quote. Both quotes have bearing on our food pantries. In fact, both have bearing on the overall life and ministry of this church. The second quote to which I was led after reading the first was this: “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.” This comes from Acts 2:17 and is itself a quote from the Old Testament prophet Joel.

Guess what, folks! Old Testament and New Testament quotes have become a current reality at Trinity Church. Over a year ago, Troop 13 scout Alex Landrigan surprised us when, as his proposed Eagle project, he envisioned turning a seldom-used chapel into a life-giving ministry: a food pantry at Trinity. I cited this Acts/Joel quote in a *Trinotes* article that I wrote last April about Alex’s vision for a food pantry. I also wrote the following: “Carrying out this ministry will require commitment, not only from this church, but from the surrounding community in ways similar to the Room in the Inn program that we operated in the past. May God give the Trinity Church Family the passion, the wisdom, and the strength to make this vision a reality.” Ever since that time, however, I have worried about how we were going to do this, thinking, “We’re too small; we’re too OLD!” Then I encountered this quote by Annie Downs, a Christian writer: “[God] knows we need dreams in pieces because we would be too scared of the whole puzzle.” The young people provide the vision; we “old geezers” (as well as younger ones) must overcome our fears to make those dreams a reality. How do we do that? We break it down into smaller pieces that don’t overwhelm us (one can at a time, one dollar at a time). We invite others to help. And we just keep going from there.

Now, here's an update on the food pantry Giving Contest. As of this past Monday, the balance on hand for the food pantry was \$531.50; that included donations specifically to the children’s Giving Contest, as well as general contributions to the food pantry. In addition, 134 canned and boxed food items were placed in our Giving Contest box during the month of April. Keep up the good giving, folks!

Peace in Christ,
Irene



Frank Cantrell	April 5
Rita Allmon	April 10
Rachel Adkins	April 25
Judi Hoffman	April 28



Bill McConnell	May 10
Mike Dodson	May 27
Jenna McClurkan	May 27
Josh McClurkan	May 27
Chris Glover	May 27

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

DONATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED

IN MEMORY OF

CHARLOTTE COMES FROM CALEY & ALYSON FOREMAN
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM CALEY & ALYSON FOREMAN
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM MARC & SUE TAYLOR
 RON RAYBUCK FROM MARC & SUE TAYLOR
 NELDA GRAY FROM MARC & SUE TAYLOR
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM DEBRA RAMSEY
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM MARGARET S. SPAIN
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM MARK & PATRICIA SMITH
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM HUGH & MARCIA BLACKARD
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM GERMANTOWN EXCHANGE CLUB
 ROSEMARY POTTER FROM MYRA FINCH
 NELDA GRAY FROM MYRA FINCH
 CHARLOTTE COMES FROM MYRA FINCH

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Support the Lakeshore Scholarship Fund

Lakeshore is a camp and retreat center located on the shores of the Tennessee River, providing Christian hospitality, rest, and reflection for guests of all ages and backgrounds since 1948.

Programming at Lakeshore includes summer camps, parent/child weekends, special needs camps, retreats, work weekends, banquets, and a variety of other events.

Historically, Trinity has maintained a scholarship fund for our children and youth, allowing kids to attend camps who otherwise would not be able to afford the experience. **The fund balance is still low.** We invite you to contribute to the Lakeshore Scholarship Fund in order to allow our children to enjoy the camping experience offered by Lakeshore. Simply write a check to Trinity UMC and note "Lakeshore" on the memo line.



LAKESHORE
 united methodist camp & retreat center

Trinity Food Ministry News

We now have three parts to our food ministry: The Tiny Pantry on the front lawn, Food Vouchers/Kroger Cards (available when we have the money to purchase said grocery cards), and a full-sized food pantry housed in our former chapel adjacent to the main lobby.



Sue Taylor has agreed to manage the Tiny Pantry, and is now looking for bargains. That's where you, the membership and supporters of Trinity UMC, come in. If you clip coupons every week, you already have the mindset we need. When you hear of a sale of "canned" food items such as Vienna sausages, tuna, fruit cups, or the like, contact Sue or the church office. For the Tiny Pantry, we especially need cans with pop-tops or containers of fruit with peel-off films or lids. Remember: not everyone owns a can opener!

Money that has been donated specifically to fund the Tiny Pantry and the Food Pantry can be used to fill some of the empty shelves: those foodstuffs not normally donated in any quantity, such as proteins. We want to be good stewards of those monies by finding the best prices.

The Food Pantry committee has people checking with Gordon's and Cash Saver about both donations and possible purchases. If you know anyone in management at your favorite grocery store, ask that individual for support in the form of donations of staple items. If you can't handle the pick-up, we'll find someone who can.



This is a group effort, Trinitarians. The children have already led the way by launching a contest. Read what Irene Dycus has to say on page 3 of this issue of *Trinotes*. It'll inspire you to greater efforts to share the bounty with which God has blessed us.

SUGGESTED ITEMS TO DONATE TO THE FOOD PANTRY

Granola bars	Peanut butter	Canned tuna
Oatmeal packets	Canned vegetables	Snacks
Cereal	Mac & cheese boxes	Gift certificates for grocery stores
Canned fruit	Canned chicken	Monetary donations
Pasta	Jelly	[No more plastic grocery bags needed for the present.]
Soup	Spam	
Pasta sauce	Minute rice	

No cheating! Here are the answers to the quiz on page 2.

Detailed explanations of each answer can be found on the UMC website at:
<https://www.umc.org/en/content/are-you-smarter-than-the-average-united-methodist-mothers-edition>

1. Princess
2. True
3. Mother Zoar
4. Susanna
5. Barbara Heck
6. Marjorie Matthews
7. TV host Fred Rogers
8. Elizabeth
9. Ann Jarvis
10. Leontine Kelly
11. All of the above
12. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

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, 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:

Arthur Le Graffreid, Clara Farabee's brother, passed away recently.

Pat Plotkin, friend of Melba Abraham, Stage 4 lung cancer, in hospice

Joan Foley's daughter-in-law, **Marilynn Hawkins**

The family and friends of **Rosemary Potter** as we grieve her loss

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).

Amelia Strickland's mom, **Rosemary Batorski**, has been sick for over a month; weak, but some improvement

Chris Glover's sister **Carol** is in hospice care at home and heavily medicated.

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

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

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

Kanyon Glover has recovered from pneumonia, but has had issues with his heart & continues physical therapy.

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

David Harrison, Carol Miller's brother, has moved to a nursing home; torn ligaments in shoulder; upbeat despite recent hospitalization.

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

Val Coates, ongoing serious health concerns; struggling with depression

Eddie Ramsey, in hospice care at home; **Sally**, macular degeneration

Seth Genes, 14 year old friend of Debby Marston; PT is ongoing; being treated for pain as his leg heals; down to 90 pounds, as pain meds cause appetite loss; feeding tube has been implanted.

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.)