



"Looking Ahead"

In the last days of the Easter season, I want to consider the shift from the witness and work of God the Son – Jesus – to the witness and work of God the Spirit. As Jesus departs he blesses his friends with the gift of the Spirit, a person who has been promised as a guide and source of power. We are to understand the Spirit as we understand Jesus, for they are One: the Spirit is Emmanuel, God with us. But how will we understand the work of the Spirit as a continuation of the work of the Son?

It seems to me that if Jesus reveals the redemptive heart of the Divine and the full stature of the human creature, the Spirit reveals our capacity to be like him. Isn't it odd, however, that the Spirit is the One who will teach us how to be embodied? Why must Jesus ascend to the Father (John 20:17)? Why can't we hold on to him; faith would be so much easier. Why won't he continue to show up like he does for Thomas and say to each one of us, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe" (John 20:27)? I think the mysterious answer comes in the next couple verses: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe" (John 20:29). Somehow, those who transcend the human need for tangible proof experience a blessing that is more powerful and transformative than simple assurance.

In a recent sermon I talked about the history of the word "believe." it descends from the German word *geliebte*, which means "beloved." Perhaps we begin to understand Jesus' promise at the end of John's Gospel when we substitute this meaning for the ordinary intellectual connotations of "belief": *Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to love*. And so, at the close of Eastertide, I want to let one question linger in our hearts and minds: Are we in love with the Creator? Perhaps it is the witness and work of the Spirit to teach us how to love like Jesus. Maybe our glory is and will be revealed in the act of blessing God and blessing the Creation, just as Jesus is revealed in his glory in the act of blessing (Luke 24:51). As I look ahead to my second year of ministry at Trinity United Methodist Church I have one prayer: Gracious God, Creator-Son-Spirit, make our love more perfect, day by day. May it be so, in the pentecostal power of the Spirit of Life.

Jonathan Bratt Carle

Pastor

MANNA ON MONDAY MINISTRY COOKING DAY

Every third Monday of the month, Trinity provides a nutritious noon-time meal at Highland Heights UMC for the homeless and highly marginalized people living in the Highland Heights community. We prepare about 90 meals of spaghetti, green beans, salad and bread with fruit for dessert. The guests look forward to “spaghetti” day from Trinity!

Recently, Highland Heights has had some stove issues.....so this coming Sunday, May 15th, at 2 P.M., several folks will be cooking the spaghetti in advance of Monday’s trip to Highland Heights. This is an opportunity to serve in this ministry even if you can’t be there on Mondays. Tracy Crenshaw is in charge of the spaghetti sauce and pasta cooking extravaganza, so get out your apron and join us this Sunday. Volunteers are welcome (and needed)!

Midtown MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Midtown Montessori School is looking for a new administrative assistant.

Responsibilities:

Handling telephone and email inquiries
creating and maintain filing system

scheduling and arranging appointments

using content management system to keep track of internal information

Entering payments into officer’s spreadsheets and organizing/preparing deposits

creating and distributing emails/flyers. notes home to inform parents of school events

Skills:

Strong organizational skills

Proficient in both Microsoft and Excel

Presentation skills and attention to detail

The ability to plan your own work, work on your own initiative and meet deadlines.

The ability to manage pressure and conflicting demands and prioritize tasks and workload

Oral and written communication skills

Task, discretion and respect of confidentiality

A pleasant, confident telephone manner

Team player

Reliable and honest

Project management skills

Please submit resume to school office after 2:30 p.m.



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](http://cokesburyvbs.com/trinityumcmemphis)

www.trinityumcmemphis.org

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





We currently have four campers who wish to attend Lakeshore summer camps. Thanks to all of you have donated to our Lakeshore Scholarship Fund. Trinity hopes to help defray the cost of the camps for the children in our congregation, and we are still a little short of our goal. If you would like to help, donations may be placed in the offering plate (be sure to designate it for Lakeshore), or may be sent to the office. Any amount will be appreciated. Contact the office or me if you have any questions.

Upcoming EVENTS

- ◆ UMW meets the first and third Tuesday's in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m.
- ◆ Prayer and Holy Communion are held in the chapel every Tuesday morning at 8:30
- ◆ Wednesday 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.

UMW UPDATE:

The Unit meeting will be on Tuesday, May 17th at 10:00 a.m., instead of May 24th. Martha Parks, Marie's granddaughter, will be our speaker.

UMW Evening Circle

The Evening Circle will meet on Monday, April 18th 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.

The Joy of a Visit

Most of us think of visiting our homebound members as an opportunity to bring them joy. I am writing today to tell you that these visits are bringing me joy too. There is joy in re-connecting with someone I knew when she was able to be present at many church activities. And there is joy in getting to know members whom I did not know as well. Kathy Isbell and I have shared laughs with Mrs. Maynell Horton over memories of music and of her time in the Fellowship Class. We have laughed as Miss Jane Jones gave one of her quick comebacks to my casual greeting. We have enjoyed seeing Mrs. Frances Skinner creating paper flowers. We have rejoiced to see Ms. Roberta Henderson become stronger and return to Bible Study and Sunday services.

The Pastoral Care and Visitation Team invites you to join us and share these joys. If you feel hesitant, we meet every two weeks to support each other, under the leadership of Pastor Jonathan and of my husband, retired hospital chaplain Craig Jordan. Many of us visit in pairs, and a new team member can be paired with someone who has some experience. Please contact Jeri Ashley at 901-483-1860 to let us know you want to join us!

Trinity's Transportation Ministry is now available.

We 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, we can't provide transportation for those who aren't able to get into/out of cars with minimal assistance.)

If you need this help, please notify Katie in the church office (274-6895). She will let Kathy Isbell or Kay Jordan know, and that person will call a volunteer to assist you.

We are still adding 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

✠ *Prayer List* ✠

Pat Lovington
Marie Park & Family
George Guntharp
Nancy Scott
Frances Lloyd
Gwen Stuart
Carol Raiford

Peggy Tate
Frances Skinner
Laura Hartmann
Pam Santirojprapai
Shirley Skjoldager
Randy Bruce
Nancy & Rod Maddox

loss of \$3,262, which is less than the budgeted year-to-date deficit by \$7,496. This has been a really strong first quarter for Trinity, and we have reason to celebrate! The summary projection of Unrestricted Cash Balance as of March 31, 2016 shows that for the remaining nine months of 2016, Trinity has more than enough unrestricted cash available to cover the originally projected annual deficit of \$21,541.

Katy Spake provided the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Miller

Addendum

By email, Jeanne Napoli made a motion on May 4, 2016 to allow Pastor Jonathan, in cooperation with St. John's UMC and the Reconnecting Ministries Network of the United Methodist Church, to organize a screening of "Acts of Love" in the Fellowship Hall of Trinity. The screening date is yet to be determined. Rosemary Potter seconded the motion, and voting was done by email. The motion carried.

Life Line Screening

June 24th in the Trinity UMC Fellowship Hall

Life Line will be offering cardiovascular health screenings. Life Line screenings go beyond regular checkups to provide a more thorough look at your health. No co-pay under Medicare part B.

Schedule your annual wellness visit today by calling

1-866-579-5069

The Outreach report was provided by Flip Brooks. He shared that he feels that Project Transformation will be a tremendous Outreach opportunity for Trinity during the summer. He reported that Room in the Inn has just finished its third successful season. A luncheon was held on Sunday April 24th to celebrate and to reflect on the season. This ministry still functions in the off-season in preparation for the following year. Trinity volunteers provided a hot, healthy meal for Manna on Monday on April 18th at Highland Heights UMC. Some planning for the future of this ministry is in the works. Flip has connected with the Evergreen Historic District to regularly host local Memphis precinct police officers at our monthly Fellowship Breakfasts through its Cop Stop program.

Katy Spake reported for the Witness Committee. She and Pastor Jonathan are working on flyers to place outside the church and on a booklet to be distributed at the Spring Bazaar on June 4th. In order to offset the costs of the booklets, Katy is seeking sponsors. Sponsorships will cost \$25.00-\$50.00 each, and Joe Spake has already signed up to be a sponsor. Katy thanked Rosemary Potter for the great job she does of identifying our visitors. Katy continues to write welcome notes to all visitors. A welcome pamphlet for the sanctuary pews is ready and will be distributed starting May 1st.

Kathy Isbell provided the Congregational Care report. This past month, Trinity has had two opportunities to use the Take Them A Meal program. We provided meals for Marie Park and Gwen Stuart. The new transportation ministry is up and running. Several members have already been provided transportation for various appointments, and we will continue to have volunteers that are ready to be of service to any member that may need this kind of assistance.

Rosemary Potter mentioned that the UMW and Circle 1 have changed their meeting times due to the asbestos removal process in the Fellowship Hall. They will meet on Tuesday May 10th and Thursday May 24th. Carol Miller stated that Circle 2 continues to collect items for Kathy Isbell's sister's mission trip to Honduras. The Daytime Circle and the Evening Circle will meet jointly on June 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Charlotte read Lisa Machen's Music Ministry report. Choir continues to meet on Wednesdays for rehearsals. A choir retreat has been planned for May 7th to be led by Alicia Butler and Pastor Jonathan. Lisa turned in her two-weeks notice, and will move to St. Paul UMC. She has shared her talents with Trinity for ten years, and she is grateful for all of her friends at Trinity and will miss them very much.

Rosemary Potter presented the Finance report. As of March 31st, the balance sheet shows a cash balance total of \$300,143 for all accounts. There is \$62,069 (a \$10,449 decrease) in the checking account; \$82,066 in the Endowment Fund; \$12,670 in the Ken Merritt Fund; \$10,353 in the Mission Endowment Fund; \$14,573 in the Insurance Reserve Fund and \$118,409 in the Holmquist Fund. Liabilities total \$31,069, which includes all Special Purpose Revolving Funds, Reimbursables, and current liabilities. The Reimbursables Funds and the Special Purpose Revolving Funds totals are INCLUDED in the checking account balance of \$62,069. We ended March with a net loss of only \$1,428. In March, our total expenses were \$27,883, only \$1,280 more than projected. Program expenses are way under budget by \$1,427, which helped reduce the total expenses. Total income generated in March totals \$25,455. Pledged and non-pledged giving is under the projected number by \$3,027, and this is something we will monitor going forward. For the first quarter ending March 31, 2016, revenue is above the budget projections thanks to a very generous Easter offering of \$5,000. Total year-to-date expenses are under budget by \$2,249. Apportionments are being paid at 100%. Year-to-date numbers show a net

The poster features a light green background with a subtle pattern of white and orange flowers and leaves. The text is written in a warm, orange, serif font. The title 'Trinity' is at the top, followed by 'United Methodist Church', 'Spring Market & Bazaar', and the date 'Saturday, June 4th, 2016'. Below that is the time '9 a.m. - 3 p.m.', the location 'Education Building Parking Lot', and the booth rental cost '\$25 Booth Rental'. The admission is stated as 'Admission is FREE to shop'. A call to action says 'Call Katie in the church office to reserve your spot!'. At the bottom, the contact information 'M-F, 9:30-3. 901-274-6895' is provided.

Trinity
United Methodist Church
Spring Market & Bazaar
Saturday, June 4th, 2016
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Education Building Parking Lot
\$25 Booth Rental
Admission is FREE to shop
Call Katie in the church office
to reserve your spot!
M-F, 9:30-3. 901-274-6895



04.25.16

Charlotte Comes, Chairperson, opened the meeting with a devotional. Carol Miller presented the minutes of the last meeting for approval. Sally Ramsey moved to approve the minutes and Pastor Jonathan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Pastor Jonathan read Irene Dycus's report for the Staff Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC). Our Director of Music Ministries, Lisa Machen, will be leaving Trinity on May 1st to take a position with St. Paul UMC. Lisa has shared her talents with us for many years, and she will be sorely missed. A reception in her honor will be held following the worship service on May 1st. The SPPRC is recommending that the church hire a staff accompanist for the current needs of the church. This will not be a permanent position. After researching remuneration rates for this type of position, Pastor Jonathan estimates that a range of \$150- \$200 per week would be appropriate. The committee continues to work on the Safe Sanctuaries Policies. The annual review of the parsonage will be scheduled soon. (On Sunday May 1, 2016, the Church Council met in the Nowlin Classroom. Pastor Jonathan moved that Trinity UMC hire a staff accompanist on a temporary basis for weekly rehearsals and services in order to provide for the current ministry needs of the music program. Flip Brooks seconded it, and the motion was approved.)

Trustees Chairperson, Tom Wilson, reported that the church must replace two of our HVAC units in the Education Building. It can no longer be repaired. The estimate from Martin and White comes to approximately \$25,000. The cost for the replacement of the new system will come from the Holmquist Fund. Additionally, Dance INC is going to move on after several years in our space. This will allow us to develop the upstairs portion of the Education Building for our own ministries, and will allow the Montessori School to expand.

Daisy Cleaves presented the Worship Committee report. A new protocol for communion has been established. Directions will be printed in the bulletin, and the new protocol will go into effect on May 1st. Rosemary Potter volunteered to provide a gluten-free alternative to the communion bread for those who need it. In order to boost participation in the Tuesday morning prayer group, the Worship Committee will post information on the church sign, in the Evergreen Email and the VECA newsletter, and will better communicate the purpose and content of the ministry. The committee continues to work on establishing a Thursday night alternative worship service. Plans include dinner, music, fellowship, and a variety of interesting speakers. Childcare will be available. Pastor Jonathan is working on Mother's Day worship service plans. Daisy presented the new schedule for Sunday morning worship as follows. The Fellowship Breakfast will replace Sunday School and Coffee Time on the first Sunday of each month.

8:30-9:20	Centering Prayer (Mike Potter and Pastor Jonathan)
9:30-10:25	Sunday School
10:30-10:50	Choir Rehearsal, Coffee Time (lower level)
10:55-12:05	Morning Worship

Pastor Jonathan conveyed his gratitude for the welcome, hard work, faithful discernment, and good will with which the congregation received his personality and gifts. He shared the strides we have made in the last year, and admitted that there is much yet to be done. However, he is pleased that his prayers were answered, and that we have achieved a sense of consensus as a church family. After our Visioning Process we are moving into the phase of implementing those ministries to which God has called us, and Pastor Jonathan is excited about our exploring these opportunities together. He reported that he has successfully completed his first year in the "Residency in Ministry Program", a requirement for Provisional Elders. He was also happy to report that he has received official notice of his reappointment to the Trinity-Memphis Charge for the 2016-2017 conference year.

Pastor Jonathan shared his plans for projected time off in the coming months. He will provide for emergency pastoral care while he is away. Craig Jordan and Mike Potter will serve as in Jonathan's stead in May and June; a guest preacher for August 7th has yet to be determined. Pastor Jonathan also reported that the Education Building is moving closer toward being a facility prepared for ministry. When everything is clean and well organized, we will implement new ministries with children and youth and programming on Thursday nights oriented toward young families in Midtown and North Memphis. He is also working on implementing a Communications Team and a Thursday Night Team, and working with the SPPRC to discern how best to apportion our staff spending.

Pastor Jonathan presented a proposal from Trinity UMC in Rome, Georgia to have their youth group and chaperones spend the night at Trinity as they pass through Memphis on their mission trip in June. There will be approximately 50 people in the group. Trinity would provide a meal, and the group would present their show, "Chain Reaction". The show includes songs and skits authored by the youth, and it explores how our lives are changed by Jesus. Katy Spake made a motion that we allow them to use our facilities on Friday, June 17th. Mike Potter seconded it, and the motion carried.

Pastor Jonathan also shared more information about Project Transformation. Trinity has signed up to provide supper at Christian Brothers University for the interns on May 27th and May 28th and lunch on May 28th. Trinity's week to read with the children is June 27th-June 30th. We will also lend special support to Oksana Schwack, an intern in the program from Bethel, Connecticut, and we will use the May communion offering to support Project Transformation. Pastor Jonathan will provide a volunteer sign-up sheet on May 1st.

Before providing his report on Spiritual Formation, Mike Potter led the group in Centering Prayer. He reminded everyone about Pastor Jonathan's sermons on the value of silence and solitude in support of one's prayer life. With that in mind, Mike proposed a prelude to forming covenant disciple groups. He and Pastor Jonathan will offer instruction and guided practice each Sunday morning from 8:30-9:20 a.m. on silent prayer and praying the scriptures. This will include Centering Prayer and praying the Gospel for that Sunday (Lectio Divina). They will begin on May 8th. (According to Mike Potter, the starting date for this class has subsequently been changed to May 29, 2016 due to scheduling conflicts.) Mike explained that this would prepare the participants for a deeper experience in Sunday school and Worship. This will provide people with the tools to begin a daily prayer life as they begin to be formed for their daily walk with Christ. As the participants become more comfortable with these practices, covenant disciple groups can be formed to deepen their journey of discipleship.