

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.



Promises



"...do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my victorious right hand." — Isaiah 41:10

I was baptized in the United Methodist Church when I was four months old. Clearly I don't remember that. That may be the only challenging thing about infant baptism for me. I want to remember.

I want to remember the words my parents said when they promised to raise me in the community of faith so that, someday, I could understand my baptism and being born of water and Spirit. I want to remember the responses of the congregation at Jackson First United Methodist Church when they made vows to help my family raise me to know Jesus. I want to remember the prayers they said and the words the pastor spoke when he baptized me in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

I was confirmed in the same church 12 years later. That I remember clearly. Confirmation, then, was a terrible class. The driest persons in the church taught it. Dr. Paul Clayton, whom you may know, was one of them. I promise I grew to love Paul and eventually vowed to follow in his footsteps when I left Jackson for Emory for seminary. The class seemed to last forever but, in the end, I'm very thankful for it.

Confirmation helped me remember. No, it didn't help me look back to the white gown and bonnet. It didn't help me recall everyone who put their hands on me. It didn't help me recall the cool water or the prayers. However, it did help me recall the promises.

At our baptism we make promises or, as in my case, promises are made for us. They are that we will grow in faith and life, in the Spirit of God. When we are an infant, those who bring us to baptism make promises to raise us in a family of faith who will walk alongside us as we grow in faith and life, in the Spirit of God. They are no small thing. They are everything.

Promises.

When you are baptized as an infant, you are placed on the preparatory roll of the church. You are preparing for church membership. You are preparing to make promises yourself, this time to the church. When you join the church you make more promises — more "no small thing" promises. You promise to uphold your family of faith with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. The church needs our prayers. We need prayers of discernment and spiritual growth. The church needs your presence. If you are not here, who will walk alongside our children as they grow in faith and life? The church needs your gifts. Yes, it needs your tithe, but equally, if not more importantly, it needs the you that you are — fearfully and wonderfully made — the hands and feet that serve God and neighbor in our church's mission field. The church needs your witness, "For how will they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?" (Romans 10:14)

We will make a lot of promises in our lives. We'll make them to our spouse on our wedding day. We'll make them to our children when they are born. We'll make them as our lives in this place begin to end. We'll make promises to God — vows (holy promises) and we will forever be blessed, that as we make them, God, too, makes them to us — vows to never leave or forsake us — vows that nothing will separate us from the Divine's love — vows to give us a future and hope.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

As summer ticks on, I know the ‘great dispersant’ will occur, as it usually does. We’ll all go in different directions, celebrate holidays, go visit family, and vacation. I pray our promises will bring us back together, bind us in unity of faith, and live in the Spirit of God, and draw us, again (perhaps continually) to one-another and the God who is with us. Always.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Sara

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

MEMORIALS WERE RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF
JANE WALDRIP FROM SHIRLEY FLINT

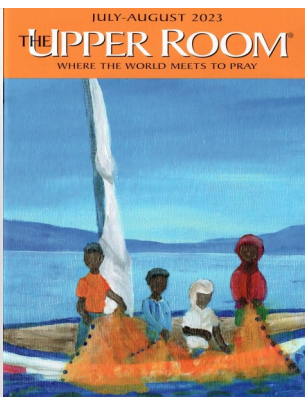
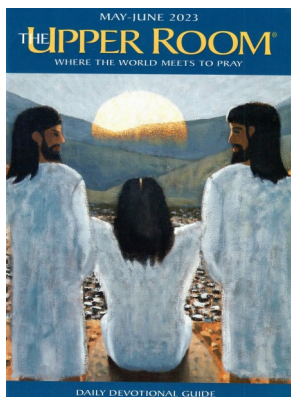
JANE WALDRIP FROM
CHARLES & MELBA ABRAHAM

CAROLINE D. CANTRELL
FROM FRANK CANTRELL

THE UPPER ROOM

The July/August *Upper Rooms* are now on display at the reception desk just outside The Center. Feel free to pick up a copy when you come for worship on Sunday. If you need to have one mailed to you (or a friend or neighbor) and aren’t on the regular *Upper Room* mailing list, send an email to Debby Marston at office@trinityumcmemphis.org or call the church office at 901-274-6895 with your request. Be sure to specify the font size: large or regular.

NOTE: The May/June issue of *The Upper Room* is also available at the front desk for a limited time.



backpacks
for Memphis-area indigenous students
Due to the church by July 19th.

K-1
#2 Pencils, 2-3 boxes of 24 Crayola crayons, blunt-tipped Fiskar scissors, Elmer's glue sticks, 4 black dry erase markers, 1" ring binder, plastic folders with holes, 4 kindergarten writing tablets, 2 primary composition books.

2-5
#2 Pencils, 3 boxes of 24 Crayola crayons, colored pencils, water-based (washable) markers, glue, 2 pkgs of wide-ruled notebook paper, 12" ruler, dry-erase markers, 2 wide-ruled composition books, plastic folders with holes, 1" binder, blunt-tipped safety scissors, sharpies, subject dividers, red checking pencil.

Middle School
College-ruled notebook paper, 3-pronged folders, #2 pencils, extra erasers, ruler, pencil bag/box, highlighters, colored pencils, markers, scissors, protractor, calculator, binder.

Trinity UMC



Identity: know you are a child of God

Our **FAITH WORD** for the current unit of study in our Children's Sunday School Class is **IDENTITY: to know you are a child of God**. On the first two Sundays of this month, we focused on two of the names by which God is identified in scripture: **I AM** and the **GOOD SHEPHERD**.

We began our study in the Book of Exodus with the familiar story of Moses and the burning bush (Exodus 3:1-15). In this story God's revelation of His name reminds us of His constancy and His faithfulness to us, despite our willful and wayward inclinations. Insecure and unsure of himself in the face of God's call to lead God's chosen people out of Egyptian bondage, Moses asks, "Who do I say sent me?" God's powerful response is "I AM WHO I AM," which can also be translated "I WILL BE WHO I WILL BE." This is God's promise to Moses and the Israelites, and it remains His reassuring promise to us as His children here and now and on into the future, whatever that future might hold for us. "Who I am," He says to us, "is a God that is always with you."

On the second Sunday in June, we talked about God as the Good Shepherd as we studied Psalm 23. Of course, this is the most familiar psalm in the Bible and one that many of us memorized as children. In fact, we teachers sent home the New King James Bible version of this scripture in the hope that our children's families might help them learn this beautiful psalm. Psalm 23 is a part of many funeral services, but as our teacher's guide reminds us, "it is also a psalm about living. This psalm puts ordinary activities like eating and drinking in a God-centered perspective." This takes us back to the idea of a God who is always with us. Our all-powerful God is identified throughout both the Old and New Testaments by quite a few other names that focus on different aspects of His identity: Lord, Creator, Father, Abba, Alpha and Omega, Jehovah, Yahweh, Elohim, Rock, Wonderful Counselor, Ancient of Days, El-Shaddai, and many more. Included in this issue of the **Trinotes** are some of those names, with colorful backgrounds painted by our Sunday School children.

Our Children's Class will take a short hiatus for the remainder of June. Our next class session will be held on Sunday, July 2nd. Some of our children will be going on vacation with their families in June; we ask for your prayers for safe journeys for them as they travel.

Peace and love,
Irene and Alyson

Household Goods Needed

A disabled veteran has contacted Trinity asking for help obtaining some basic household goods. If you are able to help, we will work on delivering the requested items to him.

- Pots & pans
- Dishes
- Coffee table
- 2 end tables, 3 lamps
- Men's pants size 44 waist, extra long
- Shirts XXXL, extra long
- Food - we will help with grocery gift cards or grocery vouchers—cash donations appreciated



"Creator" by
Cooper

"I AM" by
Nora



Scout Update

Our Scouts wrapped up the school year with an all unit Court of Honor, celebrating all the achievements and hard work they've done over the last year, with several Cubs crossing over to their troops.

Both troops have been growing! In addition to crossovers scouts from our own pack, we had several packs reach out to 13G for their girls. Add in scouts pulling their buddies in, we have 19 girls and 28 boys currently in the Troops, with 45 cubs before we recruit in the fall.

Almost one hundred families have a community because of Trinity.

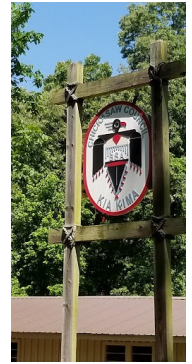
Our Cub Scouts attended resident camp this year with their families in Hardy, Arkansas. They got a chance to swim, play copious amounts of gaga ball, work towards their rank advancements, and enjoy being out in nature in sharp contrast to last year's 100° temperatures.

Our Scout Troops 13 B and 13 G will be at camp as you read this from June 11-17. This year we have 20 boys and 14 girls headed off to Kia Kima, participating in over 54 merit badge classes. The Cottonmouth and Cappybara patrols for the boys and the Goats of Chaos and Stone Orchid patrols for the girls, will be cooking and managing their schedules as patrols, giving our scouts a chance at hands-on leadership for an entire week.

Later in July our rugged crews from both troops are headed out west to the Philmont Scout



Reservation in Cimarron, New Mexico. Philmont is the crown of the BSA camps - true high adventure with base camp at 7,800 feet with treks that will take them over 11,000 feet as they climb Mount Phillips, summiting the Tooth of Time on their way back to camp. This is the culmination of almost 2 years of training for the scouts, and they are very excited for their journey. Pray for good trail food for Lisa and Alex!



Lastly, Alex's Eagle Project is moving along. Alex is learning firsthand about supply chain issues, order fulfillment errors, budgeting, and that managing groups of people can be...challenging. A perfect Project! He will be finalizing the room and getting shelving (after finding a new vendor) and is deeply grateful for the support from the Trinity community as well as for their patience.

—Rob Landrigan

Distribution of RITI Clothes Closet & Toiletries

The Clothes Closet on the second floor of Trinity's building has not been in use since the pandemic, and, without a viable program for hosting Room in the Inn guests for over three years, the decision was made to find new homes for the clothing and toiletries. Thanks to the diligence of Sue Taylor, much has been accomplished. Men's clothing has been sent to St. Matthew's UMC. Calvary Episcopal picked up men's shoes and clothes. Women's clothes and shoes went to Catholic Charities. Toiletries were provided to Golden Cross. The new TUMC Food Pantry on the main floor will also distribute toiletries and underwear (hopefully soon, thanks to Alex Landrigan and his Eagle Project). Finally, the last of the Bombas socks will be taken to Room in the Inn-Memphis.

With the growth of The Lab School and their expansion into upstairs rooms, it was decided to swap out the Youth Room with the Clothes Closet, giving the school the room adjacent to the space they are already using. All the Youth Room furnishings have been moved down the hall and, since the rooms are pretty much the same size, no one is the loser!

Others helped with the organization and disbursement of the Clothes Closet contents, notably Carol and Carey Miller, who were key to the operation of the RITI Clothes Closet. Thanks to all who helped!



Nancy Maddox	June 8
Marc Taylor	June 12
Audrey Webster	June 18
James Webster	June 18
Sam Comes	June 19
Sandy Guntharp	June 21
Eddie Ramsey	June 30

BINGHAMPTON FOOD PANTRY

Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry at Binghampton UMM, 258 N. Merton St., is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables....people can come as often as they want for these.

Once a month, folks can request an emergency food bag (canned goods, peanut butter, cereal, rice, dried beans, soup, etc). Neither of these options require any proof of residency or need.....you ask, you receive. Individuals and families who need an emergency food bag can call Michael Anderson at (901) 503-2748.

Trinity members: You can bring canned goods or other non-perishable items for BUMM's food pantry. A box for donated foodstuffs has been placed in the lobby in front of the reception desk. A donation in the form of a check written to Trinity UMC, with "Fishes & Loaves" on the memo line, will help keep the food pantry well stocked and will be very much appreciated. Hunger is a very real problem in our community. Help our neighbors in need!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our country and the world - for earthquake & tornado victims; 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; wisdom for our Trustees and Church Council. Also, specific prayer requests by and for:

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

Jane Waldrip died on May 22nd at age 95.

George Gray, Rita Allmon's brother, passed away. Please pray for his family.

Kathryn Gilbert Craig, stepmother to Debby Marston's children, died unexpectedly June 10th.

Doris Porter, recovering at home

Charlotte Comes, at home recovering from surgery; chemotherapy planned

Sydney Elliott, friend of Irene Dycus, in hospice care; pray for his wife **Mary**, as well.

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, hip/leg/back and nerve damage issues, doing PT & showing some slow improvement

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

Don Culpepper, Carol Miller's brother-in-law, has lung cancer

Joan Smith's cousin/mom, **Gigi**, aka **Kathryn Ellis**, receiving in-home hospice care

Peggy Kinney, Charlotte Comes' 97 year old cousin, now residing permanently in a rehab center

Val Coates, multiple health problems

Lori Brown has aggressive HER2 breast cancer and is receiving gene therapy.

Eddie Ramsey, multiple health concerns, and for **Sally**, as she cares for him; both receiving physical therapy

Edward Thigpen, ongoing cancer treatment; financial difficulties due to medical expenses

Pray for Joan Foley's daughter-in-law, **Marilyn Hawkins**.

Raquel Norton, our custodian, sustained injuries to back and neck when her vehicle was rear-ended.

Pray for **Jonathan Goff**.

Lyle Klein, family member of Amelia Strickland, diagnosed with Parkinson's, cancer, and heart disease

Sandra Poole, medical concerns, needs employment; her daughter **Amanda** missing for seven years

For **Living Word Christian Church** and their pastor, **Rev. Kyle Dearen**, as they worship and do ministry here on the campus of Trinity UMC

For **The Lab School**, as their students learn, grow, and develop, and for their adult Guides

For all our Scouts in **Pack 13**, **Troop 13G**, and **Troop 13B**, and for all their leaders

For those in the **NA** groups who meet at Trinity and for their continued determination to succeed

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