Trinotes

July 10, 2024

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.

Forever Learning

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. — Romans 15:4

It has already begun, and it's hard to believe. I feel like they JUST got out yesterday. Didn't we only recently welcome in the season of summer in an official capacity? People are STILL celebrating the 4th of July into the wee hours of the morning. But it's already begun. There are aisles and aisles of supplies. Pencils. Paper. Protractors. Pens. Oh, my! It's scary how quickly it's happened this year, but we can't run or hide from it. It's somehow already time to begin preparing for back to school.

I only yesterday dropped off three of mine at Lakeshore Camp and Retreat Center for the week, and am preparing, myself, to head to Lake Junaluska tomorrow (to bring us back a new bishop!). Still, I've begun filling my online shopping carts with everything on the lists that we have already received from the schools of everything they will need to head back August 5th. It is mind-boggling. I am not ready.

I am not ready and yet, I'm not the one that will go. I'm not the 7th grader who full-on exhibits "Fear and Trembling." I am not the rising 5th grader who has a fully-formed indentation on the couch where he has become a potato for the last month. I do not have to prepare myself for the exertion that is fitting MORE information into the seemingly already-full files in the crevices of my brain.

And yet….

As they begin to consider what the next school year will mean, I am drawn to that time, where it was an exciting adventure to be learning something new. And, now especially, as I continue to add things to the shopping cart (waiting on a sale or two), I am reminded that learning does not end at graduation, nor should it.

I am always amazed at the capacity that is our cognition — that God made us in such a way that there is endless space for reason and realization. I am in awe that learning never stops. Realization never stops, and thus learning cannot either. As God chooses to continue to reveal God's-self to us, there has to be a great expanse for understanding that which God has chosen to give us. We never stop thinking. We never stop growing. The gears never stop turning and in that, the chance to see something new and embrace a new way or reality only means that, in our makeup, there is evidence of God's hope for us that we will always take more on — more reality, more thoughts, more consideration — and in that, we will never stop knowing more — more about God, more about God's people, and more about God's world.

Maybe we aren't the ones picking out the new backpack and making a list of what we might like packed in our lunchboxes this year. Maybe it isn't OUR time to resurrect the trapper-keeper and mechanical pencils. Maybe this isn't OUR season to wait, hopefully (nervously) to see which elective classes are on our class list. But it IS our season (it is ALWAYS our season) for learning something new. Undoubtedly, because we were made this way, we will find traces of God along the way.

I think that might require a few new highlighters (she says as she adds highlighters to the shopping cart).

Forever Learning,
Rev. Sara

UWF June Meeting

Sixteen United Women of Faith met at noon, 28 June, at Evergreen Grill for our first 2024 summer luncheon. Thank you to Evergreen Grill for providing delicious food, excellent service, and a welcoming atmosphere for our ladies.

As we had already completed our summer project (providing a complete resident move-in kit to Golden Cross Senior Ministries), after sharing prayer requests our meeting was purely social. We welcomed two new members, Kate and Venus.

Overachieving, as always, many of our ladies brought multiple jewelry items for our Chinese auction. Everyone left with at least one new (to them) piece of jewelry, many of which were on display Sunday at Trinity.

Our next meeting will be at noon, 26 July, at Madison Tavern (2126 Madison Avenue). We will discuss the proposed August 1 election day bake sale. July's Chinese auction will be scarves. A good time will be had by all!

Upcoming Council Meeting

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Sunday, July 14th, immediately following worship. Lunch will be served, so please contact Craig Jordan if you plan to attend. As always, members of the congregation are welcome.

Memorials & Honorariums

A donation has been received

in honor of

Sam & Sara Goff from

Sue & Marc Taylor

Seeking Your Financial Support Through the Summer Months

As we enter a typically financially slow season for Trinity and many other congregations, your ongoing support is especially important. When the budget year began in January we anticipated a deficit of $30,000 for 2024. While we have closed that gap by a few thousand dollars, our expenses continue to be greater than our income. Trinitarians do a great job of supporting outreach ministries like Food Vouchers, the Food Pantry, Tiny Pantry, Immigrant Relief, and the community Easter Egg Hunt. It is harder to get excited about support of buildings and grounds, staff salaries, and utility expenses. Yet these "bread and butter" needs undergird everything we do in and with the larger community. Would you consider an extra "bread and butter" contribution in the weeks ahead?

Thankfully,
Craig Jordan
Financial Chairperson

A reminder of this ongoing need!

SUMMER SCOUTING NEWS

by Rob Landrigan

Summer for Scouts means camp, and we had an amazing week! Our Cub Scouts families spent 4 days at Kia Kima, working with their Cubs, learning about science, outdoors skills, and delighting in a foam party and slime slide, in addition to the lake. Our Troops arrived a week later, earning badges, cooking 3 meals a day and learning how to work as a patrol, how to do everything from Aviation, Basketry and Camping to learning about X-Rays (Nuclear Science), Yodeling (Climbing), and Zoology (Mammal Study, Reptile and Amphibian Study, Bird Study, Insect Study, Nature). One of our Scouts, Alex Landrigan, taught as a staff member at camp, as director of the Tech Lodge, and River W put her Lifesaving skills to work as Lifeguard. Both troops earned Honor Troop, and our girls, founded in 2020, earned best in camp - Thunderbird, beating out units founded in 1922, 1921, and 1956, to name a few. Well done, Annie and troop 13G! (And Well Done to Lisa and Maddie for leading them!)

We have a ton of plans for the end of summer and fall, from cooking challenges in July, an excursion to Petite Jean in Arkansas, and lots of skills challenges as our youth leadership builds on lessons from camp and we enter the school year.

Last but not least, we are having a very special Celebration, and you are ALL invited: Alex's Eagle Ceremony August 11th! We'll have formal invitations real soon, but wanted to let you all know. He's grown up at Trinity, and we want you to help celebrate this milestone in his life.

Trinity Food Pantry

According to the Memphis Food Bank, one in six Memphians are food insecure, primarily due to high poverty rates, limited access to healthy food, and lack of transportation to grocery stores. Several months ago, Trinity responded to this need by distributing food bags to needy families in our community. On Memorial Day, Kay Jordan and Betsy Black, one of our close neighbors, distributed food to people from households containing a total of 50 people. All of them expressed thanks, several said specifically that we are doing good work (God's work) through this food ministry. An older gentleman gave us a donation of $2, saying he wanted to help as much as he could. In June, we distributed food to feed 58 people. This is a growing ministry that is sharing Christ's love with those in the margins.

Trinity recently became a partner in the CARES Program of Catholic Charities. Beginning July 15, they will deliver thirty 20-pound boxes of pre-packaged, non-perishable food for distribution at a cost of $5.00 per box. For large families, we will supplement a box with bags of donated food.

We now have a fully-stocked pantry. Unless the demand increases dramatically, we no longer need donations of food, but we do need donations of money to purchase food boxes.

Please consider making a gift of cash or by check to support this vital ministry. If you write a check, please note on the memo line that it is for the food pantry.

Currently, Kay and Betsy are distributing food on the fourth Monday of each month. They are requesting volunteers to serve as back-ups. **If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kay at jordanck2@gmail.com.** My late wife Rosemary used to say, "We are blessed to be a blessing." And so we are. Thank you for sharing your blessings and being a blessing to our community.

Mike Potter

July Birthdays

Sara Goff	July 6
Julie McMahan	July 7
Helena Landrigan	July 8
Joey Hopper	July 9
Laura Finch	July 11
Elizabeth Hopper	July 12
Maggie Comes	July 13
Aiden Tate	July 15
Kyle Dearen	July 18
Krissi Moore	July 22
Rod Maddox	July 23
Mike Potter	July 27
Sam Goff	July 28

The Dycus "Crazy Quilt," sewn with love

Children's Ministry: a crazy quilt of love

This is a "crazy quilt," so named because of the irregular shapes, variety of types of fabrics, and meticulous embroidery that compose unique works of this kind. It was made for me by my mother - with lots of wonderful help from several other family members and friends - and given to Joe and me and our sons in 1981. When the Dycus family lived on University Street, it resided on top of a cedar chest at the end of Joe's and my bed. I keep it tucked away now inside that same chest. It was a gift of love, one that was filled with beautiful memories of the many good people who loved, encouraged, and supported me throughout my younger years. There are pieces of fabric from different items of clothing that my mother sewed for me, my sister, and herself. Some of the other pieces of fabric are quite fine; they are remnants of gorgeous dresses that a friend who was a gifted designer had made for his clients. My mother sewed the smaller pieces together into larger shapes, and then dispersed them among family and friends, each of whom embroidered the seams and sometimes did extra embroidery. Mama then assembled all those shapes in one large piece, did some fancy embroidery of her own, and put solid blue edging and backing on the quilt. It was a tremendous project, a product of love and organization and tenacity.

Children's ministry is like a "crazy quilt" sometimes, especially when it comes to putting together a team of volunteers to work in a particular area of that ministry. The most recent example of this is the recruitment of volunteers who will help staff our church nursery on Sunday mornings. Of course, our friend Raquel is our paid staff person, but our Safe Sanctuary Policy requires a second adult to be present anytime children are involved. The nursery is very much a hands-on ministry, a time when we as the body of Christ are offering His loving hands to hold the precious little ones who have come our way.

Raquel —>

We now have quite a few volunteers who have offered to help with the Sunday nursery. The pattern of their schedules is somewhat irregular (and I may go a little crazy trying to keep things organized), but it will work. They range in age from young parents to us "oldies but goodies." On the two Sundays that members of the Trinity Singers are nursery workers, these helpers will work a split shift, beginning with the Sunday School hour. In the middle, I will be covering their time in the nursery from 10:30 a.m. until after their special music in worship is over, and two other volunteers will be covering for me in the Children's Sunday School Class/Card Factory.

Altogether, there will be at least 10 different people who will be involved in some portion of nursery care during the coming months. We also have three people who have committed to being substitutes on an occasional basis; after all, the likelihood is great of folks being sick or out of town from time to time. Our nursery caregivers extend beyond these good folks who have volunteered to be on-site helpers. As in everything we do in our ministry with children, the most important thing of all is to be in prayer for our children and their families and for all who work with them. And that's the job of everyone who's a member of our church family. Keep up the good work, my friends!

Peace and love,

Irene

Get Ready for VBS!

Vacation Bible School is getting closer and closer! The fun starts on Sunday, July 14th and goes on through Thursday, July 18th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. each evening. This action-packed week of faith-learning will include lots of fun, food, and fellowship, so our Trinity kids and friends don't want to miss it! We will be partnering with St. John's UMC once again, and all activities will take place at their facility at 1207 Peabody Avenue. This year's theme is **"Scuba: Diving into Friendship with God."** Kids who are kindergarten age through rising 5th graders, we hope you'll join us for the fun! (And youth helpers, we would love to have you with us, too!)

TO REGISTER A CHILD OR TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE:

Kindergarten - 1st Grade
1 age-appropriate backpack
12 #2 pencils, 1" 3-ring binder
2-3 boxes of 24 Crayola Crayons
Blunt tip Fiskar scissors
Package of Elmer's glue sticks
4 black dry erase markers
Several plastic pocket folders with holes
4 Kindergarten tablets
2 primary composition books with blank space at top for drawing

Middle/High School
1 age-appropriate backpack
College ruled notebook paper
3 pronged folders
#2 pencils, Pencil bag/box
Extra erasers, Ruler
Highlighters
May include colored pencils, markers, scissors, protractor, calculator, & binder

2nd - 5th Grade
1 age-appropriate backpack
12 #2 pencils & red pencil
3 boxes 24 crayons AND 1 box of colored pencils
Water-based markers
Glue, 12" ruler
2 pkgs. Wide-ruled notebook paper
Dry-erase markers
Wide-ruled writing paper
2 composition books (wide-ruled)
4 plastic pocket folders with holes
1" binder, subject dividers
Blunt tip safety scissors
Sharpies

Cut this list out of Trinotes & take it with you when you go shopping for school supplies for The Backpack Project. You CAN make a difference in a child's life by providing the tools needed for that child's education.

The 2024 campaign to collect school backpacks for Indigenous and Hispanic children is still going strong! TUMC has been asked to collect 25 loaded backpacks. This effort exists in order to encourage youngsters not to drop out of school. There are flyers available in the church lobby with details of what each backpack should contain. (See list on left.) We need to deliver the backpacks to Aldersgate/La Puerta UMC by Wednesday, July 24th, so bring your donations to Trinity's lobby no later than Sunday, July 21st.

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, Rev. 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:

Linda Stoltz, surgery July 2nd for subdural hematoma after a fall; went home Sunday, July 7th.
Chris Miller, Jackson/Madison Co. Hospital with atrial fibrillation (son of Joan Smith's friends Sue & James)
Valencia Thomas, on dialysis and receiving cancer treatment (prayer request from friend)
From Heather Jacoby-Keller: friend's husband **Eddie** just diagnosed with cancer. Heather's sister **Faith** also fighting cancer (for the past year) and facing surgery soon. Please pray for healing!
Melba Abraham's cousin **Lydia Melton**, cancer in new site
Joan Foley's daughter-in-law, **Marilynn Hawkins**
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**, weak, but some improvement
Chris Glover's sister **Carol** is in hospice care at home and heavily medicated.
Olivia Dunn, 29 year old receiving treatment for uterine cancer (Katy Spake's request)
Gene Archer, diagnosed with stomach cancer; his wife **Julia** has MS; **Lauren Crews**, diagnosed with ALS
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 had issues with his heart & continues physical therapy.
Jacob Foreman, chronic back pain and nerve damage in left leg
David Harrison, Carol Miller's brother, on dialysis; paralyzed on one side after stroke; asthma; COPD; has moved to a nursing home; having a good spell right now
Don Culpepper, Carol Miller's brother-in-law, liver cancer returned, receiving radiation and chemotherapy
Val Coates, lots of physical pain; bad reaction to some injections
Eddie Ramsey, in hospice care at home; **Sally**, macular degeneration
Pray for **Jonathan Goff**.
Lyle Klein, family member of Amelia Strickland, diagnosed with Parkinson's, cancer, and heart disease
For **Vacation Bible School** kids and adult & youth volunteers, starting July 14th at St. John's UMC
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.)