

Trinotes

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.



Holy Momentum

“So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.” — 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

I was sitting in front of my computer Sunday morning before we left to go livestream worship from the Worship Center at the church. John and I meet every Sunday at 10:30 to troubleshoot technology and run the hymns. It was 10:00 and time for Coffee in Community — named for how it began, but not necessarily how it is now. We originally gathered, coffee cups in hand, with a story about our cups as an ice-breaker for a budding group beginning to gather virtually. I truly encourage you to participate in this, if you haven't already and are able. It's as easy as clicking on a link that we send out in our weekly e-news. Feel free to connect with me if you want any more guidance.

Yesterday morning, as usual, I'd already finished my coffee and was sitting for a few minutes talking to a few lovely faces on my screen, watching the time, because I know I have to run. We broke off into small, virtual, groups to answer some questions that would guide us into reflection. One of them had to do with a project (or projects) 'you' didn't want to finish and had put off.

There were some great examples — some of which were pretty funny. Some of us are absolutely epic procrastinators. It got me thinking, though.

It's commonly accepted that worship attendance is usually 'down' in the summer. Even though it's usually the safer time of year to venture out (in years where we're not fighting a global pandemic), attendance is down. Folks are traveling. We get into great habits of sleeping in on Sunday. We seize the opportunity to turn off responsibility where we can. Pastors are generally used to seeing empty seats on Sundays in the summer. Then, we make a big push to get back to church in the fall. Back to school = back to church. It's the yearly push — the yearly trend. It's harder than you think because regaining and reclaiming that holy momentum is more than coming back to church.

And, of course, this year is different. Like those of us who've put a plug in our diet and exercise regimens because, “Corona made me do it,” lots of us have become comfortable with putting a plug in other parts of our lives as well.

I think today, overall, I want to encourage you not to abandon the practices of our faith, as best you can. One small part of our life as the community of faith and family of God, is gathering for worship. And, no, we cannot gather together in the Worship Center right now — at least not carefully *enough*. But, for a lot of us, it's never been easier to attend worship. In fact, our service on Facebook averages about 230 people a week. But there's more. There's Coffee in Community, where we check in with one another because part of being in this community of faith is mutual accountability and

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love. Our children gather in a Zoom meeting every single Wednesday where they do a craft and sing their songs of faith together — where they pray and study a Bible lesson. Every week they do this together! Covenant Discipleship never missed a beat in all of this. Every first Sunday, you can participate in “Drive By” communion, if you do feel comfortable driving by the church. There’s still a pantry to fill — still needs we are trying to meet in our community and, in the weeks to come, we’re going to explore more of what that might mean.

Don’t lose your momentum. God is in these things — these practices — and so much more! Do you need an Upper Room? Let the church office know. Do you know of someone who needs some extra encouragement? I’m positive we can find a way.

It might be different — It IS different — but we may just have more opportunity now than we ever have to be a family of faith — to do the work of the people of God — with our prayers, our [virtual] presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

Like me, you may find it tough to pick something back up when you’ve already dropped the ball. So, friends, beloved, let’s keep on instead. I pray for you every single day — for your holy momentum — for your health — for your work and love as the people of God.

Stay Well; Be Blessed,

Rev. Sara



TUMC Re-Entry Task Force

Sunday worship will continue to be online for the foreseeable future and staff and volunteers are continuing to work remotely. Our re-entry task force is monitoring the situation with COVID-19 in Shelby County. Stay tuned for more opportunities to worship in different ways in the coming weeks and feel free to reach out to any member of the task force to offer additional input. Those members are:

Mike Potter	(901) 230-4997
Craig Jordan	(662) 429-0158 or (901) 412-1893
Kay Jordan	(662) 429-0158 or (901)
Charlotte Comes	(901) 489-8222
Sam Goff	(901) 233-4474
Brad Moritz	(901) 530-0015
Amy Moritz	(901) 463-0983
Krissi Moore	(228) 860-1733
Sara Corum	(731) 616-2474



by Irene Dycus

Jesus often spoke of the kingdom of God, something that we tend to think of as being a time and place in the future. However, Jesus spoke of God's kingdom as being present on earth right now. The kingdom of God is present anytime and anywhere God's followers are doing God's work and living in community the way God wants us to live.

As we continue our series of lessons on the faith community, the lesson title for this week's Trinity Kids' Zoom meeting was "Communities Grow." We studied two of the parables that Jesus used to illustrate how the kingdom of God grows: The Parable of the Mustard Seed and The Parable of the Yeast. During our lesson, we demonstrated how very quickly yeast can grow from something small to something much larger in volume. Toward the end of our session, we did something that we seldom do with our children; we let them play with their food! We produced edible art projects, using slices of bread (yeast being an important ingredient) and various toppings. We made some interesting pictures of faces, flowers, etc. on our bread "canvasses." And then...we ate our art projects!

Jesus said, "To what can I compare God's kingdom? It's like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through the whole." God's kingdom is present all around us. Jesus taught us in the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast that even small things (and, yes, young children) can have a large effect, that God's kingdom is often evidenced in ordinary happenings. God's kingdom is abundant and is so often very surprising! Thanks be to God!

Memorials & Honorariums

Memorials have been received

In memory of Eddie Walton from Elaine Amis

In memory of Mary Ellen Koehler from Mike & Rosemary Potter

In memory of Bill Brown from Mike & Rosemary Potter

In memory of Eddie Walton from Sally Ramsey

Quotable Quotes for a Pandemic ...

... some frivolous, some profound

"Keep calm and carry on." — posted by British government during WWII

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." — Franklin D. Roosevelt

"A life lived in fear is a life half lived." — attributed to film director Baz Luhrmann

Query: **"Aren't you worried?"** Response: **"Would that help?"**

— from Steven Spielberg's "Bridge of Spies"

"Worry is like a rocking chair: it gives you something to do but never gets you anywhere." — humorist Erma Bombeck

"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." — physicist Marie Curie

"Don't worry, be happy." — singer Bobby McFerrin

"Things could always be better, but things could always be worse." — actress Marla Gibbs (in her role as housekeeper to "The Jeffersons")

"I like to think of life as an adventure, like a roller coaster. It helps with the ups and downs." — comedian Eddie Izzard

"Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else." — Fred Rogers

"Better to be busy than to be busy worrying." — actress Angela Lansbury

"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning how to dance in the rain." — author Vivian Greene

"Let everyone sweep in front of his own door and the whole world will be clean."
— German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"That which does not kill us, makes us stronger."
— philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche

"I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now." — Quaker missionary Etienne de Grellet

"This too shall pass." — old Persian saying

"I know what I have to do now, I've got to keep breathing because tomorrow the sun will rise. Who knows what the tide could bring?" — Tom Hank's character Chuck Noland in "Cast Away"

"Everything will be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end."
— John Lennon

AUGUST

Sunday, August 2—Adult Sunday School
@ 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

Coffee in Community @ 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Sunday School from 10:30—10:55 a.m.

Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 a.m.

Come & Go Communion on Galloway side of Trinity
from 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 5—Children's Sunday School
@ 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Group from 5:30—6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 9—Adult Sunday School
@ 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

Coffee in Community @ 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Sunday School from 10:30—10:55 a.m.

Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 12—Children's Sunday School
@ 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Group from 5:30—6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 16—Adult Sunday School
@ 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

Coffee in Community @ 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Sunday School from 10:30—10:55 a.m.

Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 19—Children's Sunday School
@ 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Group from 5:30—6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 23—Adult Sunday School
@ 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

Coffee in Community @ 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Sunday School from 10:30—10:55 a.m.

Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 26—Children's Sunday School
@ 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Group from 5:30—6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 30—Adult Sunday School
@ 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

Coffee in Community @ 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Virtual Youth Sunday School from 10:30—10:55 a.m.



July 22 Krissi Moore

July 23 Rod Maddox

July 25 Richard Ashley

July 26 Madeleine Edwards

July 26 Steve Humbert

July 27 Mike Potter

July 28 Sam Goff

Don't forget! If you want to receive our weekly ENews electronic newsletter, send your email address to:
office@trinityumcmemphis.org.



August 4 Lee Johns

August 16 Rowan Booth

August 16 Sean Booth

August 18 Chris Comes

August 19 Fred Martin

August 28 Reid McClurkan

August 30 Sharon Amis

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our country and the world - for all those in our country and around the world who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; 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; prayers for our country, that truth and justice will prevail; for people around the world experiencing terrorist attacks; for the poor, homeless, and disenfranchised in our city; for immigrants who are struggling 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 violence.

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 District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Deborah Smith.

Trinity UMC - for members in the congregation homebound due to chronic illness or age; for children and youth and for their peace of mind during the current crisis; for new visitors joining us as we worship 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:

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

Bryce Sellers, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Paige Warmath, Alyson Foreman's cousin, continuing treatment for brain tumor

Kanyon Glover, heart transplant survivor; in and out of hospital

Katie, young mother of an infant & toddler, now out of abusive relationship and doing well
(concern shared by **Chris Glover**)

Jacob Foreman, son of **Caley & Alyson**, diagnosed with ENS & undergoing treatment; prayers still appreciated

Gene Opel, in good spirits despite being confined to their home; **Irene Opel**, physically frail with ongoing health concerns, but strong in her faith; **Anita Bunn** as she cares for them

Nancy Rankin, having biopsy on July 23rd

Maggi Comes, diagnosed with pneumonia earlier and recovering at home

Elwood Oliver, husband of one of Maggi Comes' co-workers, has improved enough to be moved to rehab

Valerie Coats, shoulder replacement surgery on July 2nd, in pain, but recovering at home and undergoing physical therapy; for **Chris Glover**, as she cares for her

Tom Machen, former TUMC choir director, underwent heart surgery July 1st but is now home and recovering.

Laura Fellin (niece of Mary McConnell), whose cancer has spread

David Harrison, Carol Miller's brother, is suffering from a broken hip and many other critical health issues.

Sally Ramsey suffered a fall recently and fractured at least one vertebra. Please pray for her recovery and relief from her pain.

For all members and friends of **Trinity UMC** as they shelter at home, as they work from home, and as they look forward to a time when they can see — in person — the faces of their church family

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