

# 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.**



From  
*the desk*  
of...  
The Rev.

## “On Wings Like Eagles”

Back in the Spring, two days before we came back to indoor, in person worship, about 15 Trinitarians and a handful of our neighbors, alongside the pastor of Evergreen Presbyterian and his spouse, gathered on the back lawn at Trinity and spent some time reflecting over the previous year. We asked questions like, “What have we lost during covid?” and, “What have we gained?” We wrote our answers down on strips of laminated paper and joined our links together, making

individual chains. At the end of our time, we connected our chains together and sang the song, “Let There Be Peace on Earth.” That chain hangs on the playground fence, now, as a reminder of our coming together. It was a holy time. It was an exciting time. All the signs were pointing in the direction of an end to the pandemic.

June came and went. So did July.

And, at the very end of July, everything took a turn again. It was like a light switch that had been off for a few months, had turned on. Covid numbers began to climb. Hospitalizations rose. Children, who’d seemed relatively immune to the virus for so long, were starting to get sick, and, with school return dates looming, our prayers of thanksgiving turned into songs of lament (again).

When we planned the event that took place in the Spring, it was never with the intent of painting a beautiful picture of hope and ultimate healing. It was simply to offer a time and space to come together with anyone in the community who wanted to attend, and reflect — to allow space for what we lost (friends, family, graduations, vacations). We gathered to lament and to breathe in and out the realities of what was, because they mattered. We also gathered in joyful anticipation of what seemed to be ahead and with gratitude for the surprising ways that we’d seen ourselves grow. At that time, none of us really thought we’d be digging out of this hole again, anxious, scared, angry, tired, weak, weary, worn...I don’t know about you, but, these days I do an awful lot of singing, “Precious Lord, take my hand. Lead me on. Let me stand. I am tired. I am weak. I am worn.”

And I think there is space for that. There certainly was in Biblical times. This is why we have the book of Lamentations. So many of the Psalms are cries to God. And crying to God is exactly what we should do. God yearns for our cries, our tears — to be a loving parent, a comforter, our peace. But, as we lament, may we also draw hope from the prophets, and do our best to recall that we will, someday, be, again, at a place where we might reflect on what was lost, what was gained, and the hope that is ahead.

*(continued on page 2)*

(continued from page 1)

Embrace, with hope, this reminder from Isaiah:

*“Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.  
He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.  
Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;  
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.” – Isaiah 40:28-31*

The peace of Christ be with you,  
*Rev. Sara*

## MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

A MEMORIAL HAS BEEN RECEIVED

IN MEMORY OF **JERI ASHLEY** FROM AN ANONYMOUS DONOR

### 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:** Please contact Debby at [office@trinityumcmemphis.org](mailto:office@trinityumcmemphis.org) or leave a message at (901) 274-6895 to ask about the next opportunity to bring staple items for Binghampton UMM's food pantry. A donation in the form of a check written to Trinity UMC, with "Fishes & Loaves" on the memo line, will also help keep the food pantry well stocked and will be very much appreciated. Hunger is an ongoing problem. Let's commit to feeding our neighbors in need!





## Reconciliation

**RECONCILIATION**, a big word with a big meaning, is our new FAITH WORD as we begin a new Sunday School year in our Children’s Class. This month we will be focusing on the spiritual practice of exploring **reconciliation** through **forgiveness**. RECONCILIATION is defined in our curriculum as follows: “to bring peace between persons who have disagreed.” What a timely subject for all of us, both children

and adults! In this unit of study, we are learning about the conflict between Joseph and his brothers and how God leads them to reconciliation.

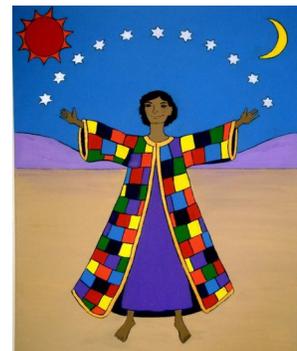
In the first Sunday’s lesson, we focused on the familiar story in Genesis 37 of Joseph and his “robe of many colors.” This special robe was a gift from his father Jacob, indicating Joseph’s status as his father’s favorite son. Seeing Joseph in this beautiful long-sleeved robe filled his brothers with jealousy and anger. Adding to the conflict was the smug way that Joseph, who had a gift for dreaming and interpreting, related his interpretation of a dream he had, indicating to his brothers that they would bow down to him. The brothers’ anger and resentment led them to sell Joseph to a slave trader on his way to Egypt. For this lesson’s art project, our children designed coats or robes of many colors for themselves; you will see some of their artwork displayed in this issue of *Trinotes* on page 5.

This coming week’s story from Genesis 39:20-40:23 is about the dreams that Joseph has while in prison in Egypt for something he did not do. Joseph uses his spiritual gift of dream interpretation, correctly predicting events that will unfold for the pharaoh’s baker and cupbearer. His success in this situation will eventually help him move into favor with Pharaoh.

Our leader’s guide tells us that “reconciliation can be a slow process, not unlike growing a plant. Joseph was treated badly, and that would have made many people angry and mad. Not Joseph. He continued to use the opportunities God provided him to grow seeds of reconciliation. Joseph continued to mature and learn from each unfortunate event.”

Our memory verse for this unit helps us focus on the essential part that forgiveness plays in the process of reconciliation. Ephesians 4:32 tells us: “Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ.” Love...forgiveness...peace...reconciliation...God’s desired pattern for Joseph’s life and ours.

Peace and love to all,  
Irene and Alyson



Trinity United Methodist Church

# CHARGE CONFERENCE 2021

October 3rd, 4:00 via Zoom

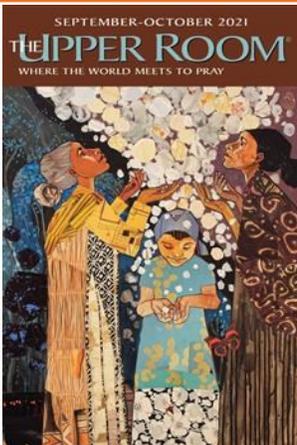
## Charge Conference 2021

Trinity folks, it's charge conference season again. This year our charge conference is October 3rd at 4:00 in the afternoon via Zoom. This is a cluster charge conference where we will gather with other churches in our close vicinity and discuss the ministry that's taken place the previous year. All of us have spent a year in ministry that has been unlike any other. We will take the time to pray for one another and bless the work that took place to prepare for our conference.

Your lay leadership has been diligently working to have leadership in place for 2022 and those committees

are already complete. Your current committee chairs have faithfully attended to their necessary reports and your pastor is currently dotting i's and crossing t's.

**You** are invited to attend the charge conference on October 3rd as representatives of Trinity. The link for the meeting will be sent out closer to the meeting date. Please mark your calendar. We hope you make every effort to be present to represent your church family.



### September/ October

The large and regular print versions of the latest issue of *The Upper Room* can be picked up from the front porch of the church building.

We can also mail you a copy if you cannot get out.

Leave a message on the church office voicemail (901-274-6895) or e-mail [office@trinityumcmemphis.org](mailto:office@trinityumcmemphis.org). Please be sure to specify the print size: regular or large print. Both can be mailed out right away.

### ENews@TrinityUMCMemphis

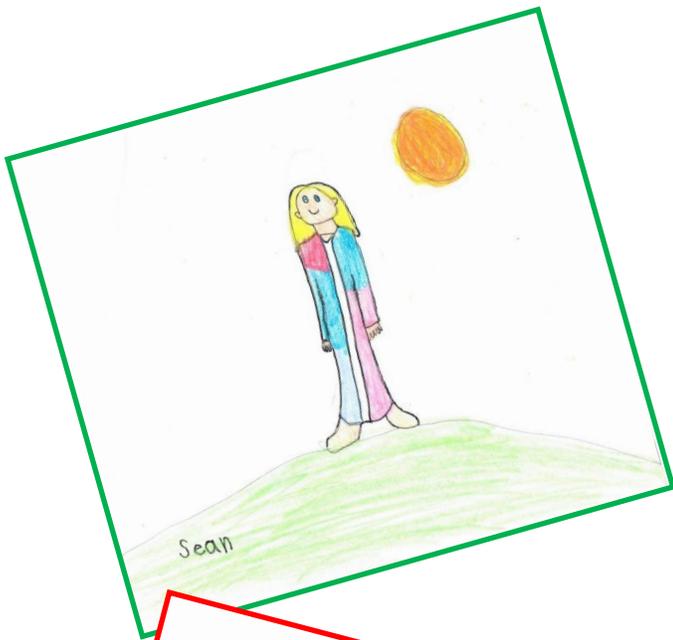
**[Editor's Note:** If you wish to receive Trinity's ENews electronic newsletter, please send your request to [office@trinityumcmemphis.org](mailto:office@trinityumcmemphis.org) so your e-mail address can be added to the list of ENews subscribers. ENews is published each Thursday, and a link to the *Trinotes* is included in the ENews the week the print newsletter is mailed out.]



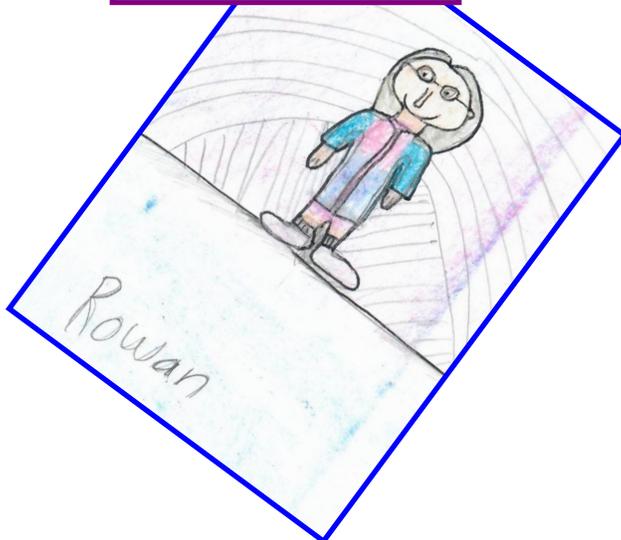
## September Birthdays

September 6	Jamie Windham
September 10	Timothy Taylor
September 13	David Potter
September 13	Marty Rice
September 14	Kathy Isbell
September 16	Kate Taylor
September 17	Harper Keller
September 17	Jan Bailey Young
September 20	Charlotte Comes
September 22	Bennett Brown
September 22	Craig Jordan
September 22	Virginia Walters
September 23	John Stuart
September 26	Nancy Rankin
September 27	Doug Miles
September 28	Kadynce Hemingway
September 29	Evelyn Windham
September 30	Joe Hatter

*If any birthdays have been omitted, please send the name and date of birth to [office@trinityumcmemphis.org](mailto:office@trinityumcmemphis.org) or call the church office at 901-274-6895 and leave a message so we can make that correction.*



Coats of Many Colors (from page 3)



## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Our country and the world** - for all those in our country and around the world still impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the Delta variant; for Haiti in the aftermath of an earthquake and hurricane; 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 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; for President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris in their first year in office—pray for their wisdom.

**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. Autura Eason-Williams

**Trinity UMC** - for members of the congregation homebound due to chronic illness or age; 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

**Gary Owens**, Alyson Foreman's father, age 85, back home & receiving antibiotics, home health nurse visits Alyson's aunt, **Judy Chapman**, recovering from multiple injuries following auto accident

**Kanyon Glover**, now 3 years old and doing well: a happy little boy, according to Chris

**Donnie Glover**, now on oral medication, as well as chemotherapy; needs blood & platelets weekly, but back to driving a truck. (You can't keep a good man down!)

**Bobby Glover**, Chris' brother, moved to assisted living: pray for his adjustment.

**Jacob Foreman**, son of **Caley & Alyson**, hip/leg/back and nerve damage issues, doing PT & showing some slow improvement

**Irene Opel** was hospitalized again, but now moved back to a nursing home in Gallaway, TN for rehab. She is very weak, although doing okay medically & mentally. **Gene** is disappointed and very anxious for her return home. Please pray, as well, for **Anita Bunn**, who is her mother's primary caregiver.

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

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

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

**Peggy Kinney**, Charlotte Comes' 95 year old cousin, now residing permanently in rehab center; had to sell home and store her possessions.

**Charles Abraham**, now at home and using his new ramp for physical therapy.

**Val Coates**, serious heart condition; still in pain after shoulder surgery

**George Marston**, still undergoing dialysis; congestive heart failure; COPD

**Nancy Rankin**, pancreatic cancer, on chemotherapy; for **Nelda Gray** as she cares for her

**John Stuart**, now living with brother **Robert**, both in poor health, but have caregivers

**Jean Moss**, now at Alan Morgan Health Center in Trezevant View Place on Highland, Room 339

**Margaret Rucker**, Irene Dycus' sister, moved to assisted living

**Phil Isbell**, fighting Parkinson's Disease, and for **Kathy** as she supports him

**Jim Schaeffer**, now in rehab following repair of a broken femur and hip

**Kay Jordan**, a total knee replacement on Thursday, September 9, and for **Craig** as he cares for her

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