



Because of God's love for us through Jesus Christ, we exist to worship, grow, and serve.

World Communion Sunday

*Wayne Wiatt
Lead Pastor*

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday. United Methodist congregations join many Christian churches across the globe for this celebration of unity among churches across denominations.

World Communion Sunday actually began at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1933. The Rev. Hugh Thompson Kerr and his congregation sought to demonstrate the interconnectedness of Christian churches, regardless of their denomination.

Rev. Kerr appropriately chose the sacrament of Holy Communion to symbolize this unity.

In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, which included all of the predecessor denominations of The United Methodist Church, adopted World-Wide Communion Sunday.

United Methodists believe in an open table, meaning that anyone may receive communion.

Our Book of Worship says, "All who intend to lead a Christian life, together with their children, are invited to receive the bread and cup."

In United Methodist Churches around the world, a special offering is collected on World Communion Sunday to fund scholarships for seminarians. One half of the proceeds is for World Communion Sunday Scholars administered by the General Board of Global Ministries. The remaining one half is for the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program, which are administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Recent pastors from Trinity who have benefited from scholarship and educational funding through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry include The Reverends Jonathan Brewster and Neal Avirett, along with Certified Candidate, Nick Quinton (studying now to be a Deacon in the United Methodist Church), and most recently, Hannah Prasse who is a Declared Candidate for Ministry and seeking certification through our District Committee on Ministry this coming year.

We encourage you to make a special gift this month to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. You may support our students through a gift to Trinity earmarked for the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.



Helping Each Other, one of Trinity's outstanding missions, has returned back to its original concept—taking care of our congregation.

Judith Levy

As we come out of the isolation created by COVID-19, it will give us a fresh start and a new phase of HEO. Needless to say, we definitely need someone to organize volunteers to care for our church family. There are many aspects of the needs—funeral receptions, prayers and squares/shawls, visitation (including newborn family), greeting cards, and food for the ailing/needy homebound (temporary and permanent). HEO is also starting Handy Helpers—a team of trained disaster response volunteers that are able to do the heavy work/specialized work of natural disasters.

Funerals

When a funeral is happening at Trinity, the funeral/reception committee springs into full gear. TUMC furnishes the punch, with volunteers bringing food to serve. Using previous receptions experience, we set a plan appropriate for the person being honored and the time of day. If the member was a participant of a small group activity in church, we contact them to see if they might want to assist with donation of food. The committee is responsible for making sure the family has food/drinks during the gathering before the funeral and the reception. We also provide leftover food for the family if they want to take some home. The contact for the funeral/reception committee is: Earline Adkison (leadkison@comcast.net).

Prayers and Squares

The Prayers and Squares is a group of women willing to create a quilt or shawl for members of the church

that need a physical support going through tough times. Prayers and Squares is an international program and TUMC has a registered chapter. Once created, the quilt with ties is placed at the altar for the congregation to tie a knot representing the prayer they said over the quilt specifically for the member in need. It is then sent to the thankful member receiving this blessing usually via a friend. To request a quilt call the church office at 850-222-1120, and they can send you a form to fill out. The contact for this group is: Beth Perry (bethellenperry@gmail.com).

Visitation

The visitation committee is the basis of HEO. It is our pleasure to assist any member of the congregation who needs help from a Heart to Heart group that checks in on our older adults and especially anyone homebound. Volunteers can deliver flowers, make calls, mail *Upper Room* magazines to them, provide food and find help for any specific needs. The contact for visitation committee is: Wayne Curry (waynecurry@tumct.org).

Cards

There is a special committee that mails cards to members. The contact person is Leslee Handcock (ldhandcock@outlook.com).

The idea behind the "Over 70" birthday card ministry is that sending a hardcopy birthday card is a special way to recognize the "seasoned citizens" of the church. Some folks will get lots of cards and recognition and some may get nothing. At least all will get a card from Trinity.



Cards are donated by church members, so please think of this if one is cleaning house and needs to dispose of birthday and holiday cards."

Trinity Chefs

Trinity Chefs is a committee that meets quarterly to prepare food for the HEO freezer which is available for any member who needs a meal. We prepare an entrée, frozen salad, vegetables and cookies during our gathering. It goes into the freezer labeled with the date and directions for use. Anyone can open the freezer and sign out a meal or two to deliver to someone in need of a boost. All food is prepared fresh and homemade for the freezer. The lovingly prepared food has been delivered to families who have loved ones who are ill, those who have a new member of the family, or someone who needs a little care. Contact for the Trinity Chefs is: Judy Levy (judithlevy@embarqmail.com)

Helping (Continued)

Helping Hands

I love how existing ministries at Trinity evolve into something even better! A couple of years ago when Hurricane Michael devastated the Florida Panhandle, Trinity quickly put together a Disaster Response Team with nearly 100 Trinity folks volunteering. After several training sessions this team went to work cleaning up debris, doing minor repairs, sorting through tons of donated clothing and giving spiritual comfort to many people who were affected both within our congregation and well beyond. We did this for about six months. When some of the work went beyond

our team's ability to help (large trees that needed professionals to remove; homes full of mold, etc.) the Disaster Response Team evolved into Trinity's Helping Hands Ministry. Under this umbrella, we reach out to members of our congregation who have special needs and try to respond as quickly as possible. This is nothing really new for Trinity...we're just trying to be more intentional and, with everyone's help, staying more aware of needs as they arise.

Of course, the hurricane season is upon us once again and it looks like it's going to be another busy one, so with our Disaster Response Team and Helping Hands Ministry working together we should be ready to go!

If you would like to be a part of either of these Ministry Teams or have any questions about them, please contact me at 850-222-1120 Ext. 111 or waynecurry@tumct.org.

Now that you have been introduced to the HEO aspects, please check out the website tumct.org to find more information about all of Trinity's ways of helping and being helped. You can also email any of the committees' contacts for more information or call the office 850-222-1120.

Trinity Music Updates

Chris Titko
Music Director

Worship and Music

Musicians share their gifts in worship. One of our goals as musicians is to prepare in such a way that our offering is focused on God and not on us. We do our best to represent the song of the entire congregation. Preparing the way of the Lord is our mission; music is the vehicle.

As you listen we want you to know where our hearts are. We try to choose music that fits the message of the day. Sometimes we succeed, sometimes we don't. We pray that God blesses our efforts and that those efforts inspire and are meaningful to you.

More Music News:

The Chancel Choir will be singing in late October in worship. The group would be reduced to 16 singers who will wear a special singers mask. Pray for us. Also know that you are always welcome to be a part of our community either online or in person.

Handbell groups have started rehearsing again. If you would like to play there is a place for you at Trinity. Contact Chris Titko for more information at ctitko@tumct.org. Children's and youth music is also gearing up. Encourage your youth to share their gifts. We will be doing skits, music and playing boom whackers and chimes.

Thanks to Brett and his team for their continued renovation of the choir room.



Sabbath: A New Day Rising

Neal Avirett
Associate Pastor

What do you think of when you hear the word Sabbath? Rules? No decent restaurants to choose from on a Sunday afternoon. Maybe your grandparents, like mine, didn't let you listen to Gulf 104 on that day.

Much of what a Sabbath could be is experienced throughout the life of Moses. The first glimpse of a future Sabbath appears when God says to Moses, "Take off your work boots, no one is going to watch your father-in-law's money (sheep), quit being afraid of who and what you don't understand, and begin to turn all of your heart, mind, soul, and strength in my direction" (Ex. 3:5). It's fascinating to me how the Israelites would later draw the connection between the fourth commandment for a Sabbath's rest to the moment the world was declared very good. A revelation for widespread rest for every strata of human existence was entrusted to former Egyptian slaves, now free to control their own lives and how they spent their time. Henry Ward Beecher said, "A world without a Sabbath would be like a person without a smile, like a summer without flowers, and like a homestead without a garden."

The more I explore it, the more conscious I am of time, not 24 hour days, but how short life is. I probably have 15 more good years of public ministry. I will probably have 8 more summers with my daughters. Through the lens of one day, I believe God is helping me make the most of all my days.

After the fall of Adam and Eve, they can still hear the sound of God walking in the cool of the garden, calling out to them (Gen. 3:8-9). It reminds me that even in the midst of fractured relationships, whether between me and God or myself and other people, it is still possible to sense the faithful presence of God walking in the garden of our lives, calling. There God asks questions. I begin to listen to my needs and distinguish them from obligations. My mind that doesn't know how to stop working finds a peace that dates back to Eden.

Matthew Sleeth, author of the book *24/6: A Prescription for a Happy and Healthy Life* reminds us that "Jesus, not rules, sets the tone for a Sabbath." Jesus spends his time restoring lives on the Sabbath. He puts the rest in restoration.

This has had an effect on me. I have begun to practice a deeper listening for what I need on that day. I give of myself to chores, play, and prayers. Like the song lyrics, "God lets me into a conversation, a conversation only we could make. He's breaking into my imagination. Whatever's in there it's God's to take."

I've found myself picking up the phone to reach out to persons I haven't spoken to in years to apologize for my side of things. I read special books and try a new recipe. I now make it a point to wave and smile to a former stepfather of mine in the neighborhood. And when it comes to Gulf 104, I roll down the windows, and crank it up.

Now when Pastor Wayne quotes Moses in his benediction, "May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace," there at the very end, I hear the power of a Sabbath. It's that moment of restoration as He brings peace to my soul.



You Can Always Find a Way to Help...

*Paula Smith
Vice Chair of Church Council*

On August 18, 2020, Trinity volunteers embarked on yet another project to improve a home for a friend in need. Just one month has passed. The results are truly amazing!

Our donors: Chris and JR Barnard of Flooring America donated the flooring, carpeting and labor to completely redo the home's flooring. John and Bart of Metro Electric updated and addressed all electrical needs. Lance Maxwell Plumbing improved the plumbing for the home. Alex Littlefield of General Lee painters donated the paint and labor to completely repaint the exterior of the home. Candy Coates, Gary and Barbara Ware, Marilyn Dean, Ann Jenkins, Julie Dodson, Paula Smith and many wonderful Trinity members and friends teamed up to contribute, paint, complete many tasks, and acquire the items needed to furnish and prepare the home.

We are almost finished! Only a few furnishings are still needed. If you have a desk, dresser or chest of drawers, vacuum, coffee table, lawn mower, queen mattress, ironing board, cash contribution or grocery gift cards you would like to donate, please contact Paula Smith, 850-545-8471, 1005psmith@gmail.com

You can always find a way to help!
Thank you, Trinity family.

As is said, a picture is worth a thousand words. Here are a few to tell the story:



Annual Tradition

Stacey Duggar
Preschool Director



Mary Blackburn and Claire Nash organized the first preschool at Trinity back in 1973. Mary became the first director and went on to work here for 23 years. The year after Mary retired, she volunteered to help out in my classroom by teaching chapel each week. (I started my employment here teaching in a two-year-old classroom.) In 1998, she presented each child in my class with a Christmas Nativity cross stitch ornament, exactly like the one shown here. Mary passed away shortly thereafter, and we have kept this tradition alive in her memory.

Throughout the years, we have had preschool staff members, members of the congregation, as well as Mary's sister help us make these cross-stitch ornaments for children in the two-year-old classes. I am looking for volunteers who would be willing to help us out; if you know how to cross-stitch, we will provide you with all of the materials that are needed.

It gives us all great pleasure to honor Mary, who was so important in our preschool history. If you can help, please contact me at sduggar@tumct.org.

Kate Sullivan Supply Drive

Sam Rogers, Sr.

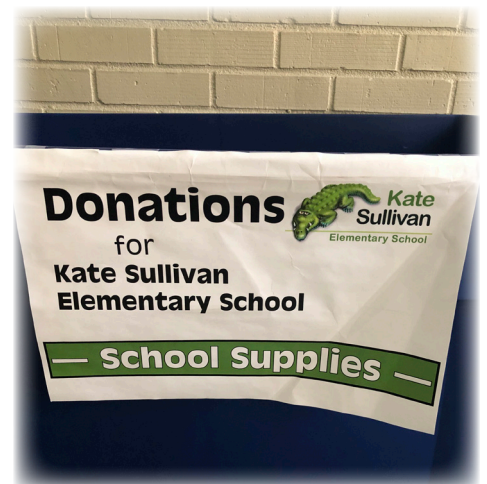
Since its beginning in 1845, our church, Trinity United Methodist Church has remained in the vanguard of service for those in our community in need of help in times of crisis like the current COVID-19 pandemic. One such case is our 20+ year partnership with Kate Sullivan Elementary School to help families of children in need.

When it was announced that Leon public schools would commence limited classes early in September, Trinity members immediately reached out to Kate Sullivan Principal, Michael Bryan, to offer assistance. In addition to the usual supplies for some children in need, plus sanitary supplies (hand soap, wipes. etc.), Principal Bryan said the most critical and immediate need is drinking water. All of the school's water fountains have been turned off and need to be replaced with bottled drinking water. While many parents

send their children to school with a supply of bottled water some do not.

In less than 30 days since the original call for assistance individual Trinity members responded with cash contributions of almost \$1,000 in addition to needed cleaning supplies and many other items delivered from Amazon. Principal Mike Bryan wrote as follows in response, "I can't begin to say how much Kate Sullivan appreciates Trinity's continued support year after year. This most generous donation has made it possible to keep water bottles on hand for students since water fountains are currently off limits. We are also able to purchase additional hand sanitizer as well. Kate Sullivan is blessed...for the continued partnership we have with Trinity UMC."

The critical need for maintaining an ongoing supply of bottled water and wipes is going to remain throughout the existence of the pandemic. Those Trinity members wanting to help with this effort are encouraged to make contributions direct to Trinity UMC with a notation "for Kate Sullivan pandemic assistance."



Advent Study

Wayne Wiatt
Lead Pastor

Ramona and I just completed an Intergenerational Bible Study for use during our Advent Season at Trinity. It's entitled *Sharing the Gifts of Christmas: An Interactive Bible Study for All Ages*. During these unique times, we wanted to create a way for our congregation to be able to share together throughout the holidays. Similar to our Lenten Study last spring, our vision is that Sunday School Classes and other small groups, in addition to extended families, might utilize this study to grow closer in their faith and have fun learning about the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.

For years our family has centered its worship at home around the Advent Wreath and continued that celebration and worship through Epiphany. In fact, at our home, the Christmas decorations don't begin to come down until after New Year's and the celebration of the coming of the Magi on Epiphany. Trinity has a wonderful gift of being an intergenerational church with active members from birth to 100 years of age.

This study allows everyone to enjoy the holiday season together, even via the internet. We envision families separated by distance to be able to gather through Zoom or other online visual platforms to share in the stories, activities, and outreach associated with each chapter of our book. The stories are relevant to all ages and have been birthed out of my ministry and life experiences over the years.

Study books will be available in November and we encourage you to already be thinking about how you might gather weekly with your Sunday School Class, small group, or extended family to focus on "Sharing the Gifts of Christmas" that are near to your hearts.

Our study is actually being "beta tested" for Abingdon Press, our United Methodist Publishing House, for an online curriculum for extended families in the Church. Our hope is that our United Methodist Publishing House will accept this study for their 2022 Advent Series.

All proceeds will benefit our Foreign Mission Commitment to ZOE Empowers, our ministry to help orphans in Africa and beyond.

Here is the outline for our Study:

Sharing the Gifts of Christmas is a six-week study grounded in original Christmas stories that focus on the themes of HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE, LIGHT, and DISCOVERY. Each chapter is sequenced with an Introduction, Opening Activity, Prayer, Scripture of the Week, Original Story, Reflection Journal, Action Plan, and Song of the Season.

Chapters

Chapter One:
HOPE – "A Mother's Prayer"

Chapter Two:
LOVE – "A Christmas Gift"

Chapter Three:
JOY – "The Christmas Bell"

Chapter Four:
PEACE – "The Nativity Poodle"

Chapter Five:
LIGHT – "The Guiding Star"

Chapter Six:
DISCOVERY – "The Missing Kings"

Sharing the Gifts of Christmas



AN INTERACTIVE BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL AGES

Written by
Wayne & Ramona Wiatt



We hope you will join us in this exciting Advent Adventure as we make our journey together to the Manger in Bethlehem.

In His Love and Ours,
Wayne and Ramona Wiatt

Gifts to Trinity

In Loving Memory -of-

August 11 – September 10

In memory of Wayne Mixson from UMW Circle One.

In honor of Mart Hill from UMW Circle One.

In honor of Nancy Waugh for HEO from Larry and Earline Adkison.

In honor of Judy Levy for HEO from Larry and Earline Adkison.

Repasky Plaque

Warren May

As Mark Repasky announced his retirement as Director of Music Ministries last spring, the Music Committee looked for a suitable way to honor his and Cindy's roughly 25 years of ministry. Their leadership not only expanded participation in the various music ministries at Trinity,

but they helped to add new musical groups and activities as well.

In recognition of their many contributions to the music ministries of the church, the Music Committee requested and the Trustees of Trinity approved the naming of the handbell

rehearsal room the "Mark and Cindy Repasky Bell Room."

The plaque pictured here will stand as a tribute to their years of service and prayer of thanks from Trinity United Methodist Church. Well done, Good and Faithful servants!



Sign Up Link for Attending In-Person Services
<https://www.tumct.org/sign-up-for-in-person-worship/>

