

# Tidings



A Monthly Publication from Trinity United Methodist Church, Tallahassee, FL

In This Issue

## Lent Issue

# We're All Biscuits Here

**Biscuit ingredients are pretty ordinary: flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, sugar, butter, and buttermilk. Biscuit recipes don't vary much. So what makes one biscuit better than another? It's how you treat the ingredients.**

*by Rev. Neal Avirett, Associate Pastor*

I wouldn't call myself a good cook, but I enjoy it. In seventh grade, I looked into culinary schools following graduation. I love reading cookbooks. There's an adventure in trying new recipes. In a way, when you cook for someone else, it feels like you give a piece of yourself away. I remember an interview when a chef at the United Nations said, "When I slice into this dish, I'm carving through 2,000 years of my country's culture and history." I've heard some of my favorite home cooks say they put love in their food. I get it. When I bring the meal to the table, it feels like I'm offering something to bring people together that I'm influencing a moment that could tip the scales in favor of love and community. (cont'd on page 2)



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## "WE'RE ALL BISCUITS HERE," CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Recently, I've started making biscuits. The ingredients are pretty ordinary: flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, sugar, butter, and buttermilk. Biscuit recipes don't vary much. No wonder generations in rural America made them. So what makes one biscuit better than another? It's how you treat the ingredients. It's got me thinking... we're all biscuits here.

Solomon summed up his wisdom saying, "When all has been heard, the end of the matter is fear God [worship Him with awe-filled reverence, knowing that He is almighty God] and keep His commandments, for this applies to every person." – Ecclesiastes 12:13. To Solomon these simple ingredients of hearing, awe-filled reverence and keeping God's commands are the ordinary ingredients we have on hand to follow God. Jesus would sift the all-purpose commandments down to two: love God and love people. Without these two, it doesn't matter how much jelly you put on it; our faith will taste like it's from a can.

I reached out recently in hopes to mend an old friendship—a person I haven't spoken to in years. I was surprised he returned my call. He did accept my apology, but just as important he gave me perspective. He spoke about that time in our lives, the influences that surrounded us, and circumstances that existed before we ever met. To tell you the truth, I couldn't see it then or now without him. It's helped me realize how much our spiritual journey must remain simple. Like my first batch of biscuits, I realized that I overworked it.

This Ash Wednesday begins our season of Lent. It's a time to slow down, embrace our cross, mend what needs mending, and grow in our love for Christ. It can be a time of canned religion or a refreshed expression of our faith. It can be solely my perspective, or it can include those around me. The journey to Good Friday is not a cute Easy-Bake oven sort; Lent should challenge and sift us. Sifting separates the good ingredients from the clumps. We end up with a better biscuit, and not a mouth full of flour. In the words of the old hymn [Take Time To Be Holy](#), this Lent "Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul, each thought and each motive beneath his control. Thus led by his spirit to fountains of love, thou soon shalt be fitted for service above. "

# SAVIOR: Sermon Series & Book Study for Lent

**A**s we begin the Lenten season, join us in worship for a new sermon series entitled *SAVIOR!* We will study and learn about the power of the Cross and what it means to live for Jesus. We will explore the call to **Righteousness, Forgiveness, and Victory** over our circumstances. Be sure to sign up for a small group study this week and join us in this adventure of following Jesus. Come and experience the power of the resurrection in our lives.

March 6 – ***Jesus and the Cross***

– 1 Peter 2:20-24; Romans 3:23-26

March 13 – ***Jesus and Freedom***

– Luke 4:16-30; Acts 16:16-29

March 20 – ***Living for Jesus***

– 1 John 3:11-24; Matthew 5:1-11

March 27 – ***Jesus and Righteousness***

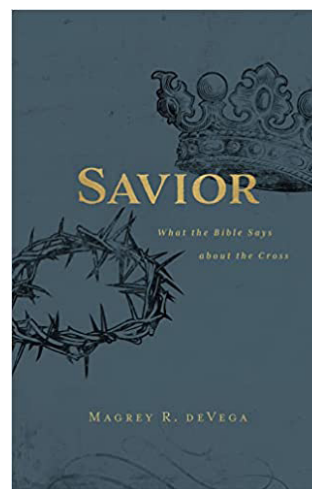
– Acts 22:1-21; Ephesians 3:13-14

April 3 – ***Jesus Cleans Us Up!***

– Psalm 51; Leviticus 16:11-16

April 10 – (Palm Sunday) ***Victory in Jesus***

– Colossians 2:6-15; Matthew 28: 1-20

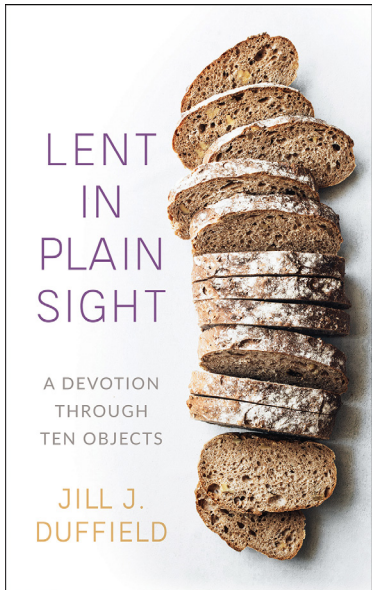


We will be studying *Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross* by Magrey deVega. Order your copy at [Cokesbury](#) or [Amazon](#).

There will be many small groups meeting throughout the week in online, in-person, and hybrid formats, starting after Ash Wednesday (3/2) until Easter (4/17). To see the full list of meeting times and register, click [here](#). We will also be resuming our Wednesday night dinners at 5:30 p.m. in Moor Hall; [reservation required](#).



# Books To Read During Lent



by Gloria Colvin, Church Librarian

The forty days of Lent are a time for meditation and preparation for Easter. Trinity's McKenzie Library has a number of books with devotions, prayers, and other materials to enrich your Lenten journey. The library is open on Sunday mornings, and a staff member can provide access to it during the week.

- **Wondrous Encounters: Scripture for Lent** by Richard Rohr 242.34 Roh
- **A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent** by Walter Brueggemann 242.34 Bru
- **Meditations on the Cross** by Dietrich Bonhoeffer 232.96 Bon
- **Prayers for Lent, Easter, and Pentecost** by Donna Schaper 264.13 Sch
- **Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess** by Tom Berlin 263.93 Ber
- **Faces at the Cross: A Lent and Easter Collection of Poetry and Prose** by J. Barrie Shepherd 811.54 She
- **Preparing for Easter: Fifty Devotional Readings from C.S. Lewis** by C.S. Lewis 242.36 Lew
- **Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion Through Ten Objects** by Jill Duffield 242.34 Duf
- **Pauses for Lent: 40 Words for 40 Days** by Trevor Hudson 242.34 Hud

## New Members

**On Sunday, February 13, we welcomed 15 new members to Trinity!**

Please extend a warm welcome to Jill, Raleigh, and Kirkland Fidrych; Pat and Lyn Bevis; Warren Cave; Alicia Jeong; Riley Miller; James Mogle; Beth Perdue; Richard and Dr. Amy Jo Wilson; Brayden and Langston Chason; and Cooper Bodiford.



James Mogle



Richard & Dr. Amy Jo Wilson



Alicia Jeong



Pat & Lyn Bevis



Riley Miller



Brayden Chason, Cooper Bodiford, & Langston Chason

not pictured: Warren Cave, Beth Perdue, and Jill, Raleigh, and Kirkland Fidrych

# Honoring Chip Huggins, Trinity Usher

by Rev. Dr. Wayne Wiatt, Lead Pastor

In 1998, Chip Huggins was asked to serve as a Trinity usher by Walter Funderburk (1961-2016). Chip recalls he was one of those persons who "fidgeted" too much in church, and he believes that is why Walter asked him to serve as an usher! Chip has been an usher for almost 25 years, and he recently decided to retire at the end of last year.



Head Usher Chip Huggins in the Narthex

Chip's greatest joy has been helping the Trinity membership out of their cars and up the steps to attend worship. "I am a people person," Chip said. "I enjoy being outside to be the first to greet those attending worship. Ushering from the street to the steps has been my greatest joy!"

He added that he has also learned about who is consistent in their church attendance and who is not. But Chip treats everyone the same, whether they are C&E (Christmas and Easter attendees) or every Sunday in their worship attendance. With a twinkle in his eye, Chip added, "You can also get a pretty good idea of who tips and who tithes when you're an usher!"

When asked what his duties were as a head usher, Chip said, "It was my job to schedule and train the ushers to look for extra ushers when someone didn't show up for their Sunday shift, and I often take care of security on Sundays to make sure the congregation was always safe." He added that being an usher is a great way to meet new people and stay in touch with what's going on in the life of the church. "People tell you just about everything when you're an usher, from the bathroom

needing toilet paper to the lightbulbs that need to be replaced, you hear it all in the narthex when you're an usher."

## When Chip Met Sally...

Chip's history runs deep at Trinity. He met his wife Sally Nash Huggins in 1987 when they were both helping with UMYF Program. They started dating in 1991, married in 1994, and he started ushering in 1998. Just last month, Chip's first grandson, Jordan Donald Sullivan, Jr. (JJ), was baptized from the Baptismal Font given by family members Tom and Birdie Bailey, the same font from where Chip himself was baptized. Tom was the former Florida state school system superintendent, a title prior to today's commissioner of education title.

Chip reminds us all that Trinity always needs more ushers. Hopefully, God is calling you to serve your church in this way soon.

Thank you, Chip, for serving us so well as our head usher at Trinity for all these years!

**If you're interested in serving as an usher at any of our worship services, let one of the pastors know or contact the church office at 850-222-1120.**



Former Head Usher Chip Huggins



Chip Huggins as a child at Baptismal Font



Chip Huggins Serving as Acolyte

## Gifts to Trinity

Trinity received the following gifts from January 11 to February 10:

In memory of Susan Garnett from Mary Ann and Duncan Moore.  
In memory of Susan Garnett from Nell Morse.  
In memory of Kay Jefferies from Selwyn Edwards.



# Trinity Has Gone Green and Is Going for the Gold!

by Brett Ingram, Facilities Director

**S**ustainabiliz. What is Sustainabiliz? The Leon County's Sustainable Business Recognition Program. It is a program which acknowledges local businesses and organizations that have made substantial efforts in implementing sustainability practices in areas like energy, water, waste, community and employee engagement, and local economy. In other words, it is a program that recognizes businesses for their efforts in "going green." Trinity is in the Silver level now, but after I implement and submit documentation on a couple more areas on the criteria list we will be in the Gold level standing! Trinity is the first church in Leon County to make the cut! Thank you to Trinity member Cindy Donelan for urging me in getting Trinity involved with this program.



Brett Ingram, Gabriela Denton (communications coordinator), and two Leon County Sustainabiliz representatives pose with the certificate



## BFC: Join Us in 2022

Over thirteen years BFC Ministry has made a **\$64,000 difference** using participant donations for:

*Nims Middle School, Refuge House, Hope Community, Allen House, Trinity Community Garden, Trinity Medical Missions Team, Trinity Hats for Friends, HEO, Veterans Village, UMCOR, Madison Youth Ranch, Ronald McDonald House, Second Harvest, Socks, Sacks & Supper, Capital City Youth Services, Merritt Brown Middle School, Kearney Center, Tallahassee Memorial Health Care Heroes, Capital Regional Health Care Heroes, assistance to local families in time of need and to our sister church in Cuba, FSU student mission trip scholarships, gift cards for families and children, Turkeys at Thanksgiving, teacher appreciation, and hurricane and earthquake relief.*

### BFC INSTRUCTOR TEAM:

- Share years of health, fitness, & nutrition experience with participants
- Create safe, fun, non-intimidating classes modified for all levels
- All volunteer time to lead classes

### BFC & BFO PARTICIPANTS:

- Improve our health, fitness, strength, & balance
- Meet new friends & share in good fellowship
- All make a donation for each class

### TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

- By becoming fit at church and becoming better physically prepared to serve
- By contributing all daytime donations to help local and global community service projects
- By using evening donations to purchase equipment and fund BFC program costs

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BFC EXERCISE CLASSES OR BFO WALKING/ HIKING EMAIL [BFCSERIES@YAHOO.COM](mailto:BFCSERIES@YAHOO.COM) OR GO TO [HTTPS://WWW.TUMCT.ORG/SERVE/BFC-BECOMING-FIT-AT-CHURCH/](https://www.tumct.org/serve/bfc-becoming-fit-at-church/)**

# A Note From Lisa

by Lisa Prasse, Youth Director

After a wonderful cold and rainy February, your Trinity youth are ready for some springtime. The Youth doors have been wide open for a year now, and we're cautiously optimistic as we move forward. As I write this article, the youth and I have just returned from a fantastic trip to Orlando for a wonderful time of worship and fellowship at Rock the Universe. I confess to having been anxious being in such crowds of people, and I spent a lot of time talking to God about making that trip. We stepped out in faith and were blessed by it.



*Youth Heading to Rock the Universe in Orlando*

The confirmation class has been busy these past few months as well. We took a field trip to Temple Israel at the end of January. That evening we shared a meal, attended a service together, and had a time of Q & A after with the Rabbi. In February we visited St. Thomas More on our second confirmation field trip and learned a bit about Catholicism. We're having a great time learning how different denominations do things and why. This month we'll head to Warren Willis for our annual Confirmation Retreat, and I can't wait! This is a terrific time of growth for our confirmands, and I love being able to watch.



*Confirmand Field Trip to Temple Israel*

We shared a fun time of celebration and fellowship on Super Bowl Sunday, and we are preparing for our upcoming summer plans and everything between now and then. This June we'll head to North Carolina to work alongside the Appalachian Service Project to help those in need. Please pray for our travels, good health, and servants' hearts while we're away. Between now and then, we're definitely staying busy!

Please pray during March for the many upcoming events headed our way, and please come get involved. Our Spaghetti Dinner at Springtime Tallahassee is a big fundraiser that helps support our summer mission trip. You can help there by donating spaghetti noodles and sauce. There will be a collection bin in the Welcome Center all through the month of March. Tickets will also be for sale—\$5 for adults and \$3 for kids buys you a delicious spaghetti lunch at Springtime Tallahassee. We have our annual 30-Hour Famine in April, and then it's Easter! It's a busy time, but a wonderful time and we'd love to have you. Remember to check out our [Facebook page](#) and our [Instagram](#) as well to stay in the know.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Mar. 4-6: Confirmation Retreat at Warren Willis
- Mar. 13 & 20: No Youth programming—Spring Break
- Apr. 2: Spaghetti Fundraiser during Springtime Tallahassee
- Apr. 8-9: 30-Hour Famine
- Apr. 10: Palm Sunday—Youth Choir will sing at 11:00 worship service (date subject to change)
- Apr. 16: Trinity's annual Easter Egg Hunt
- Apr. 17: Easter Sunday (No UMYF)



# Altar Guild Reflections

by Dot Hayward, Altar Guild Member

What an honor to be a member of the Altar Guild of a 200-year-old church. Perhaps early members of Trinity gathered roadside flowers to decorate the altar as they walked or rode on wagons to their simple place of worship.

In our beautiful sanctuary, flowers still adorn the altar to welcome new babies, celebrate marriages, special holidays, and weekly church services. Members of the Altar Guild work tirelessly year round to create lovely floral designs to honor the living and the dead.

Early Altar Guild Saints were Lucy Collins and Beth Moor. Those following after, to name a few, are Bobbie Williams, Oberley Brown, and Nancy Petrandis.

Arranging flowers on Saturday morning in the sacristy or the sanctuary can be a time of deep reflection as we thoughtfully arrange God's handiwork.

In a rare moment of solitude and peace in the Trinity sanctuary, you may be treated to an unexpected organ recital by our very own Victor Billa!

## Altar Guild Luncheon & Floral Demonstrations Sunday, March 6, at 12 noon | The Parlor

All gardeners and floral lovers are invited to attend! RSVP to Dot Hayward at [dmh1140@comcast.net](mailto:dmh1140@comcast.net); Mary Ann Moore at [mmoore1018@aol.com](mailto:mmoore1018@aol.com); or Cynthia Smith at [cfs1530@aol.com](mailto:cfs1530@aol.com)

Please join us for an

## Altar Guild Luncheon and Floral Demonstrations

Sunday, March 6, 2022

12:00 noon

The Parlor

Trinity United Methodist Church

RSVP

Dot Hayward

[dmh1140@comcast.net](mailto:dmh1140@comcast.net)

Mary Ann Moore

[mmoore1018@aol.com](mailto:mmoore1018@aol.com)

Cynthia Smith

[cfs1530@aol.com](mailto:cfs1530@aol.com)

## Wednesday Night Dinners

Wednesday night dinners are resuming, beginning on March 9th. Dinners will be catered by Fran Doxsee, of Lively Cafe, with the following safety precautions:

- Hand sanitizer and gloves available in the serving line
- Tables set up in the Prayer Garden for those who wish to eat outside (weather permitting)

Cost: \$8 for adults, \$5 for kids 5-10, \$30 max per family. Reservation required; visit our website or [sign up genius](#) to register.

## Capital Area Justice Ministry Pep Rally

March 8, 2022 | 6 p.m. | Faith Presbyterian Church

Momentum is building for the Nehemiah Action Assembly in April! The Pep Rally is the last large assembly before we make our official asks to public officials at the Nehemiah Action. Last fall, the two issues of affordable housing and gun violence were identified as the key areas to focus on this year. Since then, research teams have been meeting with local and national organizations to collect information and form solutions. At the Pep Rally, research teams will present the specific asks that have been developed out of our collective stories and research. This will also be a time of training to prepare us to engage with public officials at the Nehemiah Action.

## CPR/AED certification offered Thursday March 24, 2022, at Trinity

Would you know how to respond if someone stopped breathing? Do you know where the AEDs are at Trinity or how to use one? Join the BFC (Becoming Fit at Church) Ministry on Thursday March 24, 2022, from 9:30 -11:30 a.m. at Trinity for a hands-on American Heart Saver CPR/AED class presented by Southeastern School of Health Sciences. Come learn this life saving skill! Cost is \$45 per person, which will provide a two-year certification. **Registration and payment deadline is no later than March 15.** Please email [BFCSeries@yahoo.com](mailto:BFCSeries@yahoo.com) for details, questions, or to register.





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### WORSHIP SERVICES

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Early Service: 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary  
SUN Service (contemporary worship): 9:45 a.m. in Moor Hall  
Traditional Service: 11 a.m. in the sanctuary

SUN Service and 11 a.m. Service are live streamed  
Please visit [www.tumct.org](http://www.tumct.org) for viewing links

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### PASTORAL STAFF

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Rev. Dr. Wayne D. Wiatt, *Lead Pastor*  
Rev. Neal Avirett, *Associate Pastor*  
Dr. Nick Quinton, *Director of Discipleship and Adult Ministries*  
Rev. Wayne Curry, *Minister of Pastoral Care*

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### MINISTRY STAFF

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Dawn Adams, *Congregational Administrator*  
Laurie Atteberry, *Business Administrator*  
Ben Armstead, *Sexton*  
Viktor Billa, *Organist*  
Lisa Boyd, *Programs Assistant*  
Allison Corrigan, *Director of Children's Ministries*  
Gabriela Denton, *Communications Coordinator*  
Stacey Duggar, *Preschool Director*  
Melanie Gonzalez, *Office Administrator*

Brett Ingram, *Facility Director*  
Mike Kasper, *Live Stream Coordinator*  
Patti Groh, *Sexton*  
Amy Leach, *Programs Assistant*  
Charlotte Mathews, *Sexton*  
Hannah Prasse, *Contemporary Worship Leader*  
Lisa Prasse, *Youth Director*  
Chris Titko, *Director of Music*

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### TIDINGS TEAM

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Gabriela Denton, *Editor*

Pamela C. Crosby, *Technical Editor*

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