

## ***Fifth Sunday Celebration!!!***

**December 29, 2013**

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Prelude

*(As the Prelude begins, prayerfully prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)*

\*Acolyte

Lighting of the Advent Candles

\*Hymns

*"There's a Song in the Air"*

249

*"Joy to the World"*

246

*(Please register your attendance on the pew pads provided.)*

Sharing of the Joys & Concerns of the Church

Prayers of Confession & Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

895

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

*"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

95

Introduction of Jim Hogan

Introduction of Levon Stack

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*(You are invited to come to the altar during the singing of the hymn to signify your commitment or re-commitment to Christ, or for prayer, confession, or comfort, in response to God's Word)*

Blessing

Pastor Robert

\*The Congregation May Stand

## ***Leading in Worship Today***

Pastor: *Robert D. B. Reeves*

Pianist: *Christopher McCroskey*

Music Director: *Jackie McNeill*

Time Together: *Charlie Hooker; Carolyn Sox*

Ushers: *George Taylor*

Nursery: *Annette Watson*

Tellers: *Marie Stiles; Jo Ann Heiting*

Acolyte: *Dylan Edwards*

AV Assistant: *Jim Miller; Marie Stiles*

Greeter: *Jewel Pearcy*

***VISITORS ARE WELCOME*** in the service of worship! Please make use of the visitor's tags (located in the pew backs) to help us better welcome you as a visitor to Trinity this morning. We ask that you also please fill in the pew pad as it passes to register your attendance with us. **Large print hymnals** are available from the ushers. An ***INFANT AND TODDLER NURSERY*** is provided during the worship hour. Parents: please ask an usher for assistance.

You may join as a member into the life and work of this congregation by Confession of Faith or by Transfer of Membership from another church. If you would be interested in becoming a member, please speak to the pastor.

2014 Offering Envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Gathering Area. Please remember to turn in 2013 offerings and requests for reimbursement to the church office by noon on December 31st.

***The Gift of Levon Stack's presence in the service today*** is given in loving memory of ***William Craig McCarter***, 1963-1997, ***Steven Cort Muszynski***, 1977-2013, and ***Robert J. Brewer***, 1920-2013, by ***their families***.

***A Gift to Trinity*** is given to the glory of God in loving memory of ***Ann Zeigler Derrick*** by her family, ***John & Patsy Zeigler, Kathy White, Lisa Adams, Matthew Skipper and Nicole Adams***.

**AS MEMBERS OF THIS CONGREGATION, WE WILL FAITHFULLY PARTICIPATE IN ITS MINISTRIES BY OUR PRAYERS ...**

Steve Aiello	Arvan Derrick	Kathy White	Matthew Skipper
Arnold Heiting	Sara Efron	Rusty Poole	Bonnie Ramsey
Barbara Pearson	Roland Morgan	Donnie Sox	Jim Miller
Miriam Simpson			

**Shut-Ins:** Mary Brewer; Mary Comolander; Nellie Hipp; Doris Ivey; LaCrecia Taylor; Terry Pitts; Ruby Schmotzer; Claudia Sineath; Bruce & Jean Raynor; David Roberts; Irene Ward

**Family and Friends:** **Ernest Westbury** (friend of English & Jewel Percy); **Wesley Gilley** (friend of Genie Duncan; Ted & Ruth Frady); **Chris Foy** (friend of Georgeann Pace); **Janet Neblo** (Georgeann Pace's daughter-in-law's mother); **Mary Thompson** (co-worker of Christopher McCroskey); **Ryder Taylor** (great-nephew of Jo Ann Heiting); **John Kayton**; **Charles Berry** (son-in-law of Bruce & Jean Raynor); **Winslow Jumper** (brother of Nell Cooke); **Mary Nell Trussell** (niece of Nell Cooke); **Lewie Harrell** (nephew of Nell Cooke); **Kitty Sellers** (friend of John & Patsy Zeigler); **Mary Davis** (daughter of Bob & Libby Strickland); **Jan Hoover** (friend of Laurie Knapp); **Beth Ann Feimster** (sister of Christopher McCroskey); **Adam Davis** (grandson of Bob & Libby Strickland); **Matt Owen** (husband of Nell Cooke's granddaughter); **Michael Carter** (son of Esther Carter); **Ed & Lisa Barton** (Brandon Jones' coworker and his wife); **Garland Pearson** (brother of Bill Pearson); **Lyndsey Roberts** (daughter of WC Fire Marshall Danny Roberts); **Jon Kirby** (grandson of Nell Cooke); **Narcie McClendon Jeter** (daughter of Tim McClendon); **John Glaze** (brother-in-law of Shirley Butler); **Jeanne Crone** (neighbor of Jo Ann & Arnold Heiting); **Adam Lavender** (son of Phil Lavender); **Vickie Bright** (friend of Kaye Floyd); **Mike Rentz** (brother of Marty Johnson); **Walt Beck** (friend of Arnold & Jo Ann Heiting); **Linda Boatwright** (sister of George & Morris Taylor); **Vera Von Glahn** (sister-in-law of Jo Ann Heiting)

If you have a friend or family member on the Prayer List, we ask you to please keep us updated. If no word is received, we will trust that our prayers have been answered and remove the name. To update us, please call the office or e-mail us at [trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com](mailto:trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com).

**OUR PRESENCE ...**

Attendance 12/22 Sunday School: 22 Morning Worship: 57

**OUR GIFTS ...**

General Fund 12/22 \$ 1,998.00

**OUR SERVICE."**

**Church Calendar**

12/30 FH Reserved, GS Troop 1279, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

01/01 New Year's Day

Office Closed

01/04 Clean Up Day, 9:30 a.m. - noon

**Serving in January**

<b>Serving On:</b>	<b>January 5</b>	<b>January 12</b>
Ushers:	Tom Geddens	Tom Geddens
Tellers:	John Ballentine; Becky Derrick	Mary Kamoroff, Jo Ann Heiting
Flowers:	Peggy Jo Nadler	Nellie Hipp
Acolyte:	Cristen Hipp	Dylan Edwards
Lay Reader:	Tom Geddens	<b>Needed</b>
Time Together:	Jewel Percy; Pauline Wenner	Ruth Frady
AV Assistants:	Jim Miller; John Ballentine	Jim Miller; John Ballentine
Greeter:	Sue Ballentine	Hilda Edwards

**Trinity  
United  
Methodist  
Church**



**Ministers**  
**Pastor**  
**Resident Bishop**  
**District Superintendent**

**The Congregation**  
**Robert Reeves**  
**Jonathan Holston**  
**Rev. Dr. Timothy McClendon**



*I will sing to  
the LORD  
as long as I live.*

Psalm 104:33, NRSV

**The mission of Trinity United Methodist Church:  
To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

**Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform**

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Website: [www.trinityumcwc.org](http://www.trinityumcwc.org)



**First Annual Epiphany Party  
Saturday, January 18 - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

Children 3-12 are invited to come hear the Magi tell stories about their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh given to the baby Jesus and the significance and meaning of the gifts. After hearing from each wise man, refreshments will be served and every child will receive a souvenir gift. RSVP by January 13 - Marie Stiles - 463.9706 or [mstiles@sc.rr.com](mailto:mstiles@sc.rr.com) or call church office 794.7777.

**OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 01/01** New Year's Day, Office Closed
- 01/04** Clean Up Day scheduled for church
- 01/05** Lunch Bunch will meet immediately following the service
- 01/07** Women's Afternoon Group will meet at 4 p.m.  
Witness will meet at 6 p.m.
- 01/09** UMW will meet at 10 a.m.
- 01/11** UMW Columbia District Church Officers Training @ Trinity
- 01/12** UMM Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.
- 01/15** Wonderful Wednesdays start back

We trust that your Christmas celebration was not only a pleasant experience with family and friends but was also filled with the presence of GOD's grace as we have remembered CHRIST's birth into this world for our sakes. May the LORD bless the new year 2014 with HIS great purpose for each one of us and HIS plan at Trinity Church. In last week's message we gave attention to the verses found in Luke's gospel that tell us Mary was attentive to the words of GOD spoken through an angel to her, angels to shepherds, prophets to her and through her relative Elizabeth the mother of John the Baptist. Now how was Mary attentive? It was not just that she heard and listened but that she pondered those words about Christ spoken to her through the counsel of both human beings and celestial beings. When one ponders a situation it implies they deeply and thoroughly consider the issue that presents itself to them. Mary teaches us a lesson often missed and when it is unheeded in our lives and others we tend to suffer the consequences for our neglect of pondering the situation and counsel of those who advise us and know better than we. There were many things that Mary pondered in her heart regarding what she was told considering the CHRIST child and HIS purpose in this world. We don't know them all. Some of what she pondered on is only implied in how the gospel narratives unfold before us as we read and study the scriptures. We covered a few that can be detected in between the lines. One is very important to us at Christmas. Christmas does not have to end after December 25th. Too often, we treat Christmas like an event rather than a continued celebration of the living CHRIST living and active in our midst all the year through. Mary did not stop pondering the purpose of CHRIST immediately after HIS birth. Why should we then make that mistake? A second principle to ponder has always had the potential to make many a human being fail to see the purpose of CHRIST's presence in this world. The incarnation both reveals the very worse and very best in the human race. It brings the joy and hope that we can be redeemed from the curse of sin and darkness we all suffer from. But it also brings the shock and pain of seeing what happens when human beings love darkness more than light and refuse to come into the light of JESUS CHRIST! The incarnation makes us scream, "oh how terrible the world is" and makes us shout, "Oh how wonderful is our great GOD and HIS Son, our salvation, the LORD JESUS!" Some persons get stuck in this area and only emphasize one of the two in such a way that brings no balance and misses the greater ramifications of GOD with us, Emmanuel. Another way to say all this is to put it this way. The incarnation does not take away the human beings free will. It both joyfully and painfully reminds us the human being has a free will and will practice it in response to the Christmas message. Then a third thing to ponder about Christmas that needs much pondering is this. Throughout history from before the formation of the scripture up into our present age the following principle is most unfortunately true. The greater the work of GOD is in its entrance into the world and the purpose of that work the more so too many persons just simply miss the point of the work of GOD or its arrival in our midst. The messiah was born in a stable to poor Jewish peasants because GOD saw to it that it happened that way. But why? Partly because GOD just works that way in our midst. The more GOD knows His work would not be received well or honored the more GOD hides it from the lives of those too busy to bother with GOD stuff. After all, can't GOD see how busy we are, how important we are, how much stuff we are already doing even for HIS sake and then occasionally someone will come along and claim something about GOD doing something new and different.... How do we respond to these stories and claims when we hear them? Are we like the shepherds, the wise men or like Herod and his court and the religious experts? Beloved may GOD grant you His grace to have humility in your heart to ponder the gifts of Christmas and take them with you throughout the year!!! Blessings for the journey!!!!

Pastor Robert