

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

Patsy Zeigler Becky Derrick Cristen Hipp Dale Wells Patsy Shuler Christopher McCroskey
Jimmy Grahl Latson Lewis Kaye Floyd John Ballentine Dan Greshel Jack Stevens

Shut-Ins: Shirley Butler; Esther Carter; Gillett Hipp; Linda Maloch; Jean Raynor; Claudia Sineath; George Taylor

Family and Friends: **Lauren Edwards** (granddaughter of Hilda Edwards); **Andrea Johnson, Gary Spence** (former members); **Gloria Erd** (friend of Lynn Martin); **Pearl Geddens** (mother of Tom Geddens); **Beverly Lipscomb** (sister-in-law of John Jordan); **Ross Deal** (grandson of Mary Kamoroff); **David Williamson, Nancy Wilson, Jimmy Dawkins** (friends of Jeanette Hornsby); **David Turner** (brother of Pam Turner); **Chip Mixon** (friend of Tommy Gleaton); **Ron Walker** (friend of Tommy & Chris Gleaton); **Merit Takach** (friend of Joyce and Brent Robinson); **Frankie Hendrix** (cousin of Billy Pearson); **James Boggs** (father of Claire Boggs); **Stacy Coggins** (daughter of Steve Aiello); **Dan & Leslie White** (brother & sister-in-law of Steve White); **Mary Ann Rentz** (stepmother of Marty Johnson); **Alva Humphries** (friend of Marty Johnson); **Bill Areheart** (friend of Bonnie Ramsey); **Hayley Beaudoin** (niece of Edwa Meek); **Addie Kinard** (cousin of coworker of Edwa Meek); **Chip Hooker** (Wayne Hooker's father); **Robert Bradley** (Business Associate of Simon Ross); **Gary Becton** (friend of Mark Branham); **Florence Lee Carter, Monnie Tiller** (friends of Chris Derrick); **Adrin & Linda Hargett** (stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey); **Alexa Lookingbill, Lynn Presley** (wives of coworkers of Kathy White); **Teddy Derrick** (uncle of Arvan Derrick); **Haidee Baehr** (friends of Ruth Frady); **Denise Paul, Scott & Karen Nelson** (cousins of Gale Frady); **Dan Conner, Max Johnson** (friends of Gale Frady); **Wayne Blair** (son of Dot Johnson); **Walt & Janet Beck** (friends of Jo Ann Heiting); **Adam Lavender** (son of Phil Lavender)

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.

OUR PRESENCE ...

In-Person Attendance 04/16 SS: 12 Worship: 35

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 04/16 \$ 1,062.10

OUR SERVICE ...

OUR WITNESS.”

Upcoming Events

TODAY Taste of Trinity following Worship

04/24 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

04/26 T.a.G., 7 p.m.

04/27 Exercise, 10:30 a.m.

Readings for April 30

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10



Ministers
Pastor
Resident Bishop
District Superintendent

The Congregation
John D. Jordan
Jonathan Holston
Rev. Fran M. Elrod

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform



**THE ROAD TO
EMMAUS**

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COLUMBIA COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND'S SPRING CONCERT
APRIL 30, 2023, 4:00 PM
AIRPORT HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

As we conclude our 42nd season, I'd like to thank everyone who has supported us through your attendance at our concerts. It means so very much to our group and to me personally that you take time out of your busy schedule to hear us perform. The music for this concert is listed on the flyer located on the round table in the Gathering Area. I'd also like to especially thank Chris Derrick who graciously agreed to drive the church bus for our last three concerts. He has a prior commitment and won't be able to drive the bus to this concert, and I know everyone will miss having him as their chauffeur. We'll strike up the band at 4 pm on Sunday, April 30, and we hope to see you there!



Centering Prayer is a form of prayer to increase awareness of God's presence. It involves opening one's heart and mind to God's presence, deepening one's relationship with God, and freeing one from attachments that prevent this relationship. To learn more and practice Centering Prayer, join John Tuesday, May 2, at 11:00 am or Wednesday, May 3, at 5:45 pm.

EPWORTH MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING
SUNDAY, MAY 14

EPWORTH IS OUR MINISTRY! Did you know that in the last year Epworth Children's Home served over 1,000 children and families through our statewide programs? Each of these children had this opportunity because of United Methodist churches in South Carolina who embrace and provide for this ministry in support of the children and families in our state. We will participate in the annual Mother's Day Offering on Sunday, May 14th, 2023, to benefit the children who call Epworth home, as well as each child and family touched by Epworth's ministries. Please be in prayerful consideration of what God is calling you to give to this valuable and life changing ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit them online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.



May 6, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Gifts and the remaining inventory from Jewel's Pink House will be at Trinity's Spring Gift Sale on Saturday, May 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served. All proceeds will benefit God's Helping Hands.

Also included at the sale will be tables of slightly used items such as glassware, jewelry, scarves, flower pots, picture frames and miscellaneous household items.

Donations for the Second Time Around Sale can be left on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. The deadline for donations is April 30. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Jordan (803-315-0673). All sales will be by cash or check.



You are cordially invited to a

Bridal Shower

Honoring

Kelsey Tolliver

May 20th 2:00 p.m.

Trinity UMC Fellowship Hall

Please RSVP to Tina by May 1st, 2023 by calling or texting (803) 460-6166. They are registered at Amazon or asking for donations for their honeymoon fund.

Luke 24: 13-35

A father and his young son were walking home from church one bright spring Sunday. The father noticed that the son kept looking around as they walked. The boy looked to the left, right, back, and even up and down. Curious, the man asked, "Son, what are you looking for?"

"Andy," the little boy replied.

The dad wracked his brain but couldn't remember that any of his son's friends were named Andy. So, he asked, "Andy, who?"

"Andy at church," came the response.

The father couldn't think of anyone named Andy or Andrew at church. He thought it might be a new kid or a visitor, so he asked, "Was Andy a visitor today?"

Exasperated, the little boy put his hands on his hips and said, "No, Dad, you know the Andy we sing about in church. Andy walks with me. Andy talks with me."

The disciples walking to Emmaus did not have an unseen Andy walking with them on the road; it was a living, breathing person. This living, breathing person was Jesus, even though they did not recognize him.

We do not know why the disciples did not recognize Jesus. Jesus just walked with them to Emmaus. Jesus asked what the disciples were discussing. Jesus took the role of one who is ignorant of the events in Jerusalem, by doing this Jesus got a glimpse into the disciples understanding of the events. Did they believe what Jesus had told them on the way to Jerusalem? Did they have faith now the resurrection had occurred?

Though they were confused and did not understand the events in Jerusalem, Jesus continued to walk with them. Jesus did not reject them because of their lack of faith and understanding. Jesus walked with them and talked with them. Jesus explained the meaning of the events according to the scriptures and prophets.

As Jesus walked with them, something stirred in the disciples' hearts. They wanted to hear more. They wanted to understand those horrible events. They begged Jesus to stay the night with them even as he appeared to be going ahead.

Jesus entered their house. Then in the simple, ordinary act of breaking bread, Jesus revealed himself to them. The disciples recognized Jesus in that simple act. Even though Jesus vanished, they knew Jesus was with them. Jesus walked with them.

They had walked with Jesus throughout Galilee. They had walked with Jesus as he healed the sick, cleansed lepers, ate with sinners, and fed the five thousand. They had walked with Jesus to Jerusalem and entered triumphantly. They had walked with Jesus through those final days but fled when the going got tough.

Even though the disciples did not understand, Jesus walked with them. Even though their faith was shaken, Jesus walked with them. Even though they had fled when Jesus needed them most, Jesus walked with them. Even though they rejected, doubted, and misunderstood, Jesus walked with them. Even though Jesus had been raised from the dead and could be seated on the right hand of God the Father in Glory, Jesus walked with them.

Last week Tom talked about receiving the Holy Spirit. One of the works of the Holy Spirit is the continuing presence of Jesus today. The Spirit serves as a bridge between the Jesus of the past and Jesus in the present. My friends, Jesus walks with us today.

Jesus walks with us through our good times and our bad. Jesus walks with us even though we lack faith and we doubt. Jesus walks with us even though we do not understand. Even as we may reject Jesus and flee from him, Jesus still walks with us.

Like the disciples on the way to Emmaus, we may not be aware of Jesus walking with us. We blithely go along with our daily lives without thinking about Jesus. We tend to compartmentalize our lives and relegate Jesus to Sunday morning. We don't believe Jesus walks out the door of the church with us.

Jesus walks with us, listening to our doubts, fears, and misunderstandings. Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, guides us through our doubts, fears, and misunderstandings. Even when we may flee from Jesus, he remains with us.

Jesus would have gone on, but the disciples begged for him to stay with them. They begged him to come into their home. While Jesus walks with us, he does not force himself upon us. We are free to let him go on. He enters our lives only when we invite Him.

When we invite Jesus into our lives, he is revealed to us. He is revealed and we realize that He has been with us all along.

Notice Jesus revealed himself to the disciples, through the simple, ordinary act of breaking bread. When Jesus broke the bread, the disciples realized it was him.

This revelation is why our most sacred sacrament, Holy Communion, is the ordinary act of breaking bread. Jesus walks with us in the ordinary acts of our everyday lives.

Jesus walks with us in our difficult times, getting us through those times. As we get through those hard times Jesus reveals himself to us in ordinary, often unexpected ways.

Last Tuesday, I received a text from a friend. Her fiancé's 13-year-old son had died by his own hand. They had arranged to have Rutledge Chapel for a memorial service but had no clergy to perform the service. Because of the circumstances, they did not want condemnation. Liz thought of me. Of course, I said yes. Meeting with the family, organizing the service, preparing the eulogy and then doing the service was one of the most difficult tasks in my ministry. It was difficult for both Kay and me as she went to the service to provide added support.

After the service, we were drained. When we got home, Carmen (our dog) was ready to go for a walk. We got Carmen leashed, hopped in the car, and went to the Riverwalk.

We walked past Knox Abbot Drive before we noticed that dark clouds were coming in. We turned around, but the rain began before we got back to the Knox Abbot Drive Bridge. Fortunately, we made it under the bridge just as it began to pour. Two young women with strollers with babies about eight months old were also under the bridge. During the time we were under the bridge, we enjoyed the babies. We completed our walk with uplifted spirits.

Jesus walked with me as I prepared that very difficult service. Jesus walked with Kay and me during the service as we consoled the family. Then Jesus took us to an unexpected place, under a bridge in a rainstorm, where we received what we needed to bring us joy.

Jesus always walks with us even as we are unaware of his presence. If we flee from him, he walks with us. He reveals Himself to us in ordinary ways, like breaking bread or being stuck under a bridge with babies. When we invite Him into our lives, he walks with us through hard times and leads us to places where we can find peace and joy.

As we leave today let us remain aware of Jesus' walking with us throughout the week. Invite Him to stay with you, and He will lead you through all hard times to places of joy and peace.