

God's Love In Action

**GLIA: the essential element, or glue,
which connects the tissue found in the nerve centers of the body**

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1201 Mohawk Drive, West Columbia, SC 29169

Pastor: *Robert Reeves*

Organist: *Christopher McCroskey*

Music Director: *Jackie McNeill*

Office Manager: *Jackie Eitel*

Office Hours: 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

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

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Pastor's COLUMN

By now you've either seen the "Noah" movie or you don't intend to see it. Right now there are more movies in the theaters than ever before that are partially faith themed or Biblically themed or spiritually themed or whatever language you may choose to use. Besides "Noah", we have "Son of GOD" and "God's not Dead" and "Heaven is for Real". Wow, what an opportunity to pray that the audiences that see all these movies can connect to the living reality of JESUS the CHRIST.

Of course, it is not the intention of each of these movies to draw the audiences into a faith decision, but our GOD is bigger than the intentions of the movie makers and even more so, GOD is bigger than the critics on both sides of the issue! Whether the critics are upset with the movie for not being Biblical enough or critical that anything to do with the Bible or faith is being put on the screens by big business movie makers, the fact is that faith values are being discussed, considered and decided upon. The bottom line is this. There are persons who will be led to follow CHRIST because of what they saw in one or more of these movies. At the same time if someone claims they will not follow CHRIST because of these movies, I would argue they were simply looking for an excuse to justify their resistance to the claims of JESUS CHRIST.

Let's discuss the "Noah" movie as our example. If you read the news on the internet or facebook with your friends, you've probably seen all sorts of positions about this movie. I really like what one of my friends from another state had to say about Noah. Don made clear the details of this movie are all messed up in comparison to the Biblical account BUT the base message of the biblical story of GOD as creator, the garden, the fall, the world gone wicked, the flood, remnant survives and the promise (rainbow) were portrayed strongly! The giant fallen angels encrusted in rock is often offensive to viewers who wonder why they are in the script. While most Christians would prefer they were not included in the script think about it this way. From a faith Biblical perspective, GOD is making the devils fallen crew help build the ark that will transfer the LORD's plan of salvation to the next phase. Although this is just added fiction the story line illustrates a great principle of truth in GOD's economy. The LORD can work even through less than perfect circumstances or sin or darkness or evil or whatever to create and accomplish GOD's work.

Now here's what is really funny about the movie! The director of the movie, Darren Aronofsky, is supposed to be a staunch atheist who has bragged that Noah is the least biblical Bible movie ever made! Bless Darren's heart!!! How little does he know that our GOD will have the last laugh!!! No matter what Aronofsky's intent was in the movie, Darren

(continued next column)

really messed up. No card carrying atheist would ever make a movie that portrays creation and creator as reality and in such supernatural terms! Aronofsky has probably been banished from some of his atheist group circles for having made this movie, for in the principles conveyed in the story line the director set the message of evolution back a 100 years!!! Wow!!! From a Christian world view, sure, we would have liked the movie to have better portrayed the scriptural account but the bottom line is this beloved. The possible evil intent of the director or whomever is going to be outweighed by the greater intent of our amazing GOD to draw persons to the truth of JESUS CHRIST. While the movie is by far not perfect or made to motivate faith and trust in the LIVING GOD, the HOLY SPIRIT is still at work through the issues present in this movie. So pray that every single person who saw the movie would be drawn to the truth of the faith by HOLY SPIRIT. Would we claim that GOD can only use perfect tools to draw persons to faith or they have no value whatsoever at all to the LORD's purpose? I hope not. Where would that leave you and me? While the movie has problems, it is not too big a problem for our problem solving GOD to work in and through. Let's see the bigger issue here. All these movies point to the fact that people are hungry for spiritual reality beloved!!! PRAY that they discover the truth of JESUS!!! AMEN!!! Blessings for the journey!!!

Pastor Robert

New Logo Identify for Trinity



The Church Council has approved the use of a new logo for our church. (Trinity is printed in red.) Business cards with the new logo are available on the Welcome Center table in the Gathering Place. Car magnets have been produced using the logo and are available at \$5. The profit from the sale of the car magnets will be used to fund a water distribution project at the West Columbia River Walk this summer. Please contact anyone on the Witness Team (Frank Howard, Ruth Frady, John Ballentine, Jan Weaver or Marie Stiles) to purchase a car magnet.



Congratulations to *Nell Cooke* on the birth of her great-grandson, *Miles Raymond Kirby*, on Sunday, April 13, 2014. *Miles Raymond* is the son of *John & Lisa Kirby* and the grandson of *Jimmy and Carol Kirby*.

memorials & gifts

Irene Ward
Nellie Hipp

Bruce Raynor
Bill & Becky Sulser
Jack & Bonnie Cherry



GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY MAY 4th, 2014

On Sunday, May 4th, we will recognize our upcoming graduates during the worship service. The Time Together will be in their honor. This year we have the following graduates:

High School

Alex Thomas – Dreher High School
Sara Platt – Brookland-Cayce
Josh Reeves – Online

College

Taylor Lewis – USC



Patsy & Claire Boggs
315 Favorite Court
West Columbia, SC 29170

Jon & Elizabeth Day Moore
120 Blackthorne Place
Garner, NC 27529



1 Million Book Tea Party

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, SAVE THE DATE for the 1 Million Book Tea Party. It will be held on May 18th from 3-4 p.m. in the Trinity Fellowship Hall. Cost of the tea is \$5 plus 1 new age appropriate book for pre-school or elementary school children. Bring 2 books and pay nothing. Feel free to dress up and wear hats or come casual. Children are especially invited for a fun time and a time of learning about poverty as they bring books for another child who otherwise would not have any. The cost for a child is just 1 book. Reservations are necessary. Sign up in the Gathering Area or call the Church Office, 794-7777. We want to do our part in transforming the lives of children in our state by equipping them with the tools they need to grow into educated adults. Come and enjoy tea party food and listen to the music of some of our youth. Pass the word on to your neighbors and friends.



MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

On Sunday, May 11th, the **United Methodist Men** will prepare their annual **Mother's Day Breakfast**. Join them for a wonderful, stress-free and delicious start to Mother's Day. The breakfast will begin at 9 a.m. and everyone is invited.

NEWS & Notes

Lunch Bunch will meet on Sunday, May 4th, immediately following the worship service. Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish and enjoy this informal time of fellowship. Lunch Bunch meets the first Sunday of every month.

Nurture will meet on Sunday, May 18, at 5:30 p.m. **Church Council** will meet at 6:30 p.m.

The **Sunday School Breakfast** will be held on Sunday, May 25, at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend. The Sunday School Breakfast is held on the last Sunday of every month.

The Church Office **will be closed on Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day.**

EPWORTH CHILDREN'S HOME
MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING
SUNDAY, MAY 11

We all like to dream about the future of new and exciting possibilities. But have you ever stopped to think about what the future looks like to a hungry child whose parents lost their jobs and home? Or to the neglected child who lives in a locked bedroom of a drug-infested house? Or to a child whose only proof of parental interaction is a body covered with bruises? To these children the future is not an exciting dream – it is a nightmare. We, the United Methodist Church of South Carolina, refuse to let these tragedies define childhood for our neighbors. We stand with these children and promise to transform their future. Through the ministry of Epworth Children's Home we open our doors to these children, surround them with comprehensive care and provide them with the opportunity to transform their lives. Epworth goes above and beyond just food and shelter. It provides 182 children each year with tutoring, counseling, health care, fun activities, and the spiritual formation they need to heal and belong.

On Sunday, May 11, 2014, our congregation will stand with Epworth to break the cycle of abuse, neglect and shame through our collection of the Annual Epworth Mother's Day Offering. Without the support of churches like ours, Epworth could not provide transformational care for children in need. We invite you to give generously to the children who call Epworth home. For more information, please visit Epworth on the web at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

SALUDA RIVER BOBCAT NEWS

Thanks to the generosity of Trinity, we have served the children of our neighborhood in the following ways:

- Donated school supplies to 40 children at the Back to School Splash on August 10, 2013, when we enjoyed a day of family activities
- Provided snack sacks to 28 – 33 of the less fortunate children as well as peanut butter and jelly for Christmas and summer break
- Christmas gifts given to 28 children
- Taste of Trinity cookbooks were given to 55 teachers and staff in appreciation of their dedication to Saluda River and its children
- Easter treat bags given to 33 children
- 75 children will be given the opportunity to select books at the Scholastic Book Fair currently in progress
- Plans are already underway for our third Back to School Splash which is scheduled for July 26, 2014.

As we continue to be God's hand and feet where we're planted, let us pray for His blessing on our efforts as we reach out to those around us. Thank you again for our generosity in this most worthwhile mission.

Canoeing for Kids Raft-A-Rama

A fund raising event benefiting Canoeing for Kids will be held on the Saluda River on May 17. The seven mile paddle from CFK headquarters to the State Capitol is suitable for absolute novice paddlers. CFK will provide rafts and gear for everyone as well as a guide in each raft. Trips will begin at 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Pre-register by May 1 to guarantee a seat in a raft. Registration also includes lunch at CFK HQ and shuttle service. Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$50 per person. Early registration is recommended due to limited raft space. For a registration form, go to www.canoeingforkids.org/raft-a-rama.

The Witness Team will be giving out bottled water, fruit and energy bars to the participants. We invite everyone who is interested to come out and help support the event and many of the youth in the church will be participating as rafters and helpers. Please let Marie Stiles know if you are able to help in the morning or afternoon, or both.

CONSIGNERS NEEDED

If you would like to earn money for your church, circle, an individual or your favorite charity, get together your women's consignment items. You can put them in the Brookland Boutique. The proceeds will be split 50/50. 50% will go to Brookland's UMW and 50% to who you designate. Brookland will provide the labels and you set the price. If an item does not sell you can pick it up after the sale or it will be donated to LICS. Consignment agreement sheets and sheets to list your consigned articles are available in the Church Office at Trinity.