

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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SEPTEMBER 2014



A Biblical Perspective on the Middle East Crisis

In the next few months my GLIA newsletter article will address the Middle East Crises and why this situation should not only concern us as Christians but should also awaken us to the deeper implications of what this means to the entire world. The current fighting between Israel and Hamas is not just about the Gaza strip as some Americans and other global citizens may presume. No, the problem is bigger than will ever be resolved by any human intervention. This subject matter and problem can be very intimidating to the casual observer who doesn't take seriously what is at stake in the Middle East. There is no way any of us can read a dozen articles or less about these issues and know everything possible or needed to be permanently up to date on the crises. That said, I will attempt to give a brief overview about what is happening over there and how and why it will eventually effect us over here in America. If you believe the scriptures address the state of present Israel and address world-wide issues that culminate in the return of CHRIST to earth then I would suggest you read the 2nd Psalm as one of many scripture texts that begin to help us see the reasons for the present Middle East conflict. I take the scriptures seriously in what is stated within the canon about the nation of Israel being the major center piece of GOD's work in the expression of Judeo-Christian ethics and intention. That said, let's begin to look at this overwhelming issue the world is watching in the Middle East.

Since 9/11, America has become painfully aware that there are an endless number of fanatical, Islamic, fascist groups that hate us for the two things we treasure most; our citizenship in heaven and our citizenship as Americans. Paul Marshall, a Senior Fellow at The Center for Religious Freedom in Washington, D.C. said that there is a hate list. First and foremost on the list is Israel. In fact, the official name of Al Qaeda is the "World Islamic Front for Holy War against Jews and Crusaders." During the Middle Ages, terrible things, atrocities, were committed in the name of Jesus Christ. The perpetrators called themselves "Crusaders." So the Islamic mind has associated Christianity with medieval Crusaders. More recently, the United States has been hated because of our support for Israel. We are seen as Israel's bodyguard.

Now to get a better understanding of what is going on in the Middle East, we need to know the root cause of the problem. The problem with all Middle East peacemaking is that it doesn't really address the real issue. Over the past few days we have heard the Hamas organization say, "We've done

nothing wrong, we are the victims of Israeli brutality. Israel responds with "Hezbollah kidnapped our soldiers and Hamas hides behind children and families in their homes." And so it goes—back and forth, just like when we were children and you would call out to your mother, "Johnny hit me, make him stop." Then Johnny would defend himself by claiming, "He hit me first." Well the question to be answered is not so much "Who hit who first?" but "why can't you two children get along with one another?". The same question is necessary regarding the Middle East crises. Why can't Israel and its surrounding neighbors get along?

I have copies of a book that was written to help answer that question called "Your People Shall Be My People". It is written to enable American Christians to better understand the complexities of the Middle East crises. It was recommended to me by Messianic believers some years ago. I will give you a copy of the book if you would like to read it. Right now, I strongly suggest we all pray for the peace of Jerusalem and Israel's surrounding neighbors. I'll continue this article next month.

Blessings for the journey!!!

Pastor Robert Reeves



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Beginning September 17 and continuing each Wednesday through November 19, we will have ten weeks of Wonderful Wednesdays. Family-style meals will be served at 5:30 p.m. Bible Study will begin at 6:15 and end at 7:00. We encourage you to be with us for both. This is a time to share your enthusiasm and to enjoy being with one another.

The price of the meals is \$5.00 for adults and children 12 and over. Children 6 to 12 are \$3.00 each. Children ages 2 to 5 are \$1.00.

Those preparing meals for September:

September 17	Sinners Class	Jo Ann Heiting
September 24	Worship	Tom Geddens

(Continued Next Column)

memorials
& gifts

Barbara Pearson

Nell Cooke
Ray & Gale Frady
Mary & Ellen Matthews

Ruby Schmotzer

Nell Cooke

Irene Ward

Ray & Gale Frady

Altie Hooker

Nell Cooke
Ray & Gale Frady
SCDDSN

Bruce Raynor

Ray & Gale Frady

Harvey Stiles

Ray & Gale Frady



On Sunday, September 7, our District Superintendent, Rev. Cathy Jamieson-Ogg, will be our guest speaker. Following the service, there will be a church-wide covered dish luncheon. It's a wonderful chance to get to know Rev. Jamieson-Ogg and join in fellowship with the congregation.



You are invited to join a weekly Bible Study of the Book of Psalms at the home of Nell Cooke beginning on Tuesday, September 9th, at 10:30 a.m. Her address is 313 Sweet Birch Lane in West Columbia. If you have any questions, please call her at 794-1869.



Congratulations to **Patrick and Stacey Stamps** on the birth of their son, **Michael Courson (Mikey)** on Tuesday, August 19th. He weighed 7 lbs. 10 ozs. **Mikey** is the grandson of **Jan Stamps** and the late **Mike Stamps** and the great-grandson of the late **Helen Hook** and the late **Eva Stamps**.



Vacation Bible School has come and gone and we need to give a big SHOUT of THANKS to those who helped. A big thanks to Ruth Frady, Lynn Martin, Jon Martin, Brandon Jones, Tom Geddens, Marilyn Lloyd, Becky Derrick, Melanie Reeves, Sue Ballentine, Charlie Hooker and Marie Stiles. We could not of had a successful VBS without your help.



Congratulations to **Sara Platt** on being crowned **Miss Grand United States**. She will travel to Bangkok, Thailand on September 15th to compete in an international pageant with 100 young ladies, returning home October 9th. Sara plans to attend Clemson beginning in January, 2015. Sara is the daughter of **Ricky and Leslie Platt** and the granddaughter of **Marvin and Sara Efron**.



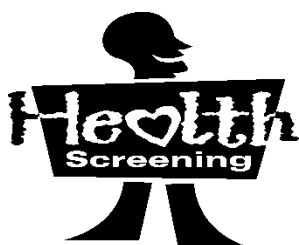
A Big Thank You to Lynn Martin, John Ballentine, and Tom Geddens for helping with the Salkehatchie lunch. We had a big crowd and they really enjoyed the sub sandwiches, chips, watermelon, cheesecake and other desserts.



Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you so much for your love and support you gave me after my colon surgery in July. Thanks to the Hospital Ministry Team for being there to pray with me that day prior to the surgery, and during the surgery. Thank you to all of you who also prayed faithfully for me prior, during and after for my recovery. Thank you for all the calls, cards, food and visits.

Blessings to you all,
Bonnie Ramsey



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
7 – 9 A.M.

Join us on **Wednesday, September 24**, for a Health Screening conducted by Lexington Medical Center. There are two changes with this screening. First, we will not be partnering with Our Saviour Lutheran Church. It will be open to our church family, family, friends and neighbors. Secondly, it will be held on a Wednesday instead of on a Monday. It is currently scheduled to run from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. but we will consider extending the hours if there is a need.

They will test for Blood Sugar, Blood Pressure and Cholesterol. They have discontinued testing for iron levels and PSA. Flu Shots and tests for Thyroid and Calcium levels will be available for an additional fee.

Sign-up sheets will be on the round table in the Gathering Area. It is very important for you to sign up for the time slot you want. If you have any questions, please call Marty Johnson at 939-0082.

EPWORTH WORK DAY OFFERING **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

Where do children go when DSS has taken them from their families because of abuse or neglect? What about when a mother is struggling with addiction and is neglecting her children? Last year many of these children found a home through the ministry we share as United Methodists in SC. Epworth Children's Home has been welcoming children in Christ's name for 118 years through the generous support of churches like ours! We will participate in the annual Work Day Offering on Sunday, September 14th, to benefit the children who call Epworth home. 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, you can visit them on the web at www.epworthchildrenshome.org or find them on Facebook.

COLUMBIA DISTRICT **SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING** **SOUTH CAROLINA UMC CONFERENCE CENTER**

4908 Colonial Drive
Columbia, SC 29203

September 27, 2014

Registration	8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Gathering	9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Workshop	9:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Closing	11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Workshops: Cyber Bullying
How Do We Protect Our Children?

Registration Forms are available on the Gathering Area table. The forms must be received by the Conference Office by September 20, 2014. Please mail them to the address on the form and let Ruth Frady know if you plan to attend so that she can reserve the bus if needed.



Trinity United Methodist Women

Columbia District UMW Annual Meeting

Come with us to the Columbia District United Methodist Women's Annual meeting on Saturday, September 20, 2014. It will be held at Union United Methodist Church from 8:30 to 12:00 a.m. with lunch following. Registration is only \$15, which includes the program with information and for a lovely lunch. Registration forms are on the Gathering Area table. Return to Marilyn Lloyd with your check.

This is an inspirational meeting that is meaningful and educational. Our speaker, Rev. Mallory Forte, Associate Pastor of Union UMC, will speak on the theme "...And What Does The Lord Require of You?"

We'll meet at the Gunter Circle Parking lot and leave at 8:15 a.m. Come with us, it'll be a fun, meaningful time, and a great memory for you.

Killingsworth Gala

It's also time to sign up and pay (\$50) for the Killingsworth Gala, which is to be held on Thursday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. We'll meet at the Gunter Circle Parking lot and leave at 5:30 p.m. We always have a great time: being together, hearing the music, seeing the Fashion show, eating a wonderful meal, and checking out the Silent Auction. We want to share this experience with you!

Let's support our sisters in need who live at the Killingsworth Home. Sign up to show your intent to go. Marilyn Lloyd, President

MORNING UMW

Beginning in September, at the request and approval of the members present, the **morning UMW** will meet at **11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, the second week of the month**. We hope this will be a time that more members will be able to attend. On **September 10**, we'll be planning for an exciting new year of meetings and activities. See you then!!

WOMEN'S AFTERNOON GROUP

The **Women's Afternoon Group** will meet on **Tuesday, September 16, at 4 p.m.**

LOÓK at THIS!

Our thanks to those of you who shop online and use the [igive.com](http://www.igive.com) site. We recently received a check from [igive.com](http://www.igive.com) in the amount of \$43.15. If you would like to sign up, just go to the following link: <http://www.igive.com/PI1j38K>. There are over 1,414 stores that participate.