

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: 8:30 - 4:30 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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FEBRUARY 2015



Women's Fellowship

Souper Bowl of Caring February 1, 2015

EXACTLY 25 YEARS AGO, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat." Since that day, more than \$100 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. Please give generously on Super Bowl Sunday. Every dollar donated goes to a local charity chosen by our youth.



FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER FEBRUARY 17 6 P.M.

Plan now to join us on February 17 for a wonderful pancake supper served with ham and sausage prepared by the United Methodist Men. You won't want to miss this annual event. There is no charge but donations will be accepted.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FEBRUARY 18 7 P.M.

News for and about the TRINITY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Ladies, be sure to put the date of **Saturday, March 7, 2015** on your calendar. Trinity UMW is excited about hosting the **Columbia District UMW Day Apart** program that day, with breakfast and wonderful lunch to follow the Service. At our next meeting on **Wednesday, February 11, At 11:00 a.m.**, Betty Bradley, coordinator of the Day Apart event, will be with us, so it is important to have as many as possible of our members to be present. We'll be discussing our responsibilities and finding out what is expected.

Officers elected for 2015 are: Marilyn Lloyd, President; Lynn Martin, Vice President; Charlie Hooker, Secretary; Marilyn Lloyd, Treasurer; Nell Cooke, Spiritual Growth; Lynn Martin, Social Action; Charlie Hooker, Membership, Nurture, & Outreach; Carol Frye, Secretary of Program Resources; Jewel Percy, Communications Coordinator; and Marilyn Lloyd, Historian.

This is the time of year when UMW collects Pledges from members to promote the UMW Missions around the world, as well as here at Trinity and our Community. Your donations are important to the lives that are impacted through the structure of the United Methodist Women. We support Bethlehem Centers in Columbia and Spartanburg, Wallace Family Life Center in Bennettsville, Killingsworth Home and the Johns Island Mission. Our unit also gives to SisterCare and the West Columbia Police Victim's Assistance Unit.

Women's Afternoon Group Sunday, February 8 4 p.m.

Join Us For A Movie!!

Join the Women's Afternoon Group on Sunday, February 8, at 4 p.m. They will be showing the film *The Long, Long Trailer* starring Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz playing a newly married couple who invest in a 40 foot trailer as their first home. The movie was filmed in 1954 in Technicolor and was directed by Vincent Minelli. Everyone is invited to watch this entertaining film and enjoy a variety of snacks. Plan now to be a part of this fun and relaxing afternoon.

memorials & gifts

Steve Geddens

George Taylor
Mary Alice Duncan
Bonnie Ramsey

Elizabeth Tuck

George Taylor

Toby Cassels

Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

Skye Sanders

George Taylor
Mary Alice Duncan
Bonnie Ramsey
Linda Maloch

Danny Hodges

Mary Alice Duncan

Vivian Frazier

Mary Alice Duncan
Bill Duncan & Family
Genie Duncan

COLUMBIA WESLEY FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

The Methodist Student Network (Columbia Wesley Foundation) at USC will be hosting their second annual barbecue fundraiser to help cover costs associated with their Spring Break mission trip to Misahualli, Ecuador. Barbecue will be sold for \$10 per pound and will be delivered to churches on Sunday, February 22nd. Orders can be placed online at msnatusc.com or by phone by calling Bailey Sanford at (980) 297-6434.

Misahualli is a small rural community surrounded by indigenous villages on the banks of an Amazon tributary in the Ecuadorean rain forest. They will be traveling with roughly 25 USC students from March 5 – 14. They will be hosted by Volunteers in Mission of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Ecuador. They will be serving in various capacities including hosting a medical and dental clinic, working on a construction project to add space to the church, and hosting a Vacation Bible School for 150 children. Funds generated from barbecue sales will go toward purchasing medication to be administered in the medical clinic and toward school supplies to be used in the VBS program.



Jon & Elizabeth Day Moore
279 Pepperstone Drive
Mocksville, NC 27028-5959

Becke Valder
833 Scarlet Leaf Lane
West Columbia, SC 29169



To My Trinity Family,

There are so many things that I am thankful for, the majority of which begin with this church. I'm thankful for the prayers that helped me survive a serious setback, the food that has assisted my physical improvement, the cards and visits that bolstered my will to continue and the love I feel that has been the foundation of these acts. Thank you, my wonderful friends.

Jackie McNeill



Dear Trinity Family,

Words cannot express my gratitude for all of the cards, calls, prayers and memorials received after the death of my sister, Skye Sanders. Your expressions of love and concern were very much appreciated and helped so much during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Rhett Hook



I received the following from Micheal Fulmer regarding Claudia Sineath:

Claudia is doing very well. So much so that I project that she will have a homecoming at the beginning of March. Since September I have been doing some extensive home renovations in preparation for her coming home so that it will be easier for her care here.

She knows that she'll be coming home and she is excited! There will still be many challenges with her here at home but it will be so much better for her to be back.

Have a nice day,
Micheal Fulmer



Starting this year, the meetings listed below will be held every other month on the third Sunday of the month.

The **Outreach and Witness Teams** will meet at **3:30 p.m.**

Nurture will meet at **5:00 p.m.** (note the time change).

Church Council will meet at **6:30 p.m.**

Pastor's COLUMN

This is the third and last article regarding the significance of Israel in what the scriptures teach us and make known to us about the central significance of this nation. I realize that many of you who read the GLIA each month may possibly know very little about Israel or the Middle East crises or why America stays involved in the issues “over there”. Many Americans believe we should just mind our own business, taking care of ourselves while those Muslims and Jews and whoever just keep on killing one another endlessly because, “after all, haven’t they always fought and never had peace over there?” Unrest & war have often characterized the Middle East but we must not fail to realize the following truth! This is exactly what the scriptures warn every reader will happen in the Middle East and eventually throughout the world until the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our GOD and LORD JESUS CHRIST! Without the world’s interest or commitment to CHRIST the world will never find the eternal peace it seeks. Of course, I’m referring to truths as found in scripture. I realize there are those persons even within the local church who really don’t believe it is necessary for the Kingdom of GOD and the gospel of JESUS CHRIST to be spread abroad throughout earth and in that message, it being the only way to world-wide peace and reconciliation between all races after all people groups are reconciled to GOD in CHRIST JESUS! Time alone will have to pass on by for some persons to see the significance of Israel to world history.

Biblical history is the history of Israel. It is different from all other histories. Secular scholars consider the movements of nations and armies to be the core of world history. Church historians, on the other hand, consider the great ecclesiastical conferences and development of denominations and institutions to be at the heart of human history. It is remarkable, but the Bible alone views history from the vantage point of Israel, especially from Genesis 12 through Acts 8. The prophet Isaiah, for instance, envisioned Israel as occupying “the center of the earth”: In that day shall Israel be ... a blessing in the midst of the earth (Isa. 19:24). From Acts 9 through Rev. 3, the focus of the Bible is more on the church, local and world-wide. With Rev. 4, however, Israel resumes the center stage position and continues as such until the end of the Scriptures. Thus, the vast bulk of the Word of God revolves around Israel, the Chosen nation of God.

One also can say that the Scriptures center in Christ as well, because the entire Bible points toward the first and second comings of the Messiah. In many ways, though, the message of Christ is in the background, frequently apparent but often somewhat hidden in types, shadows and cryptic prophecies. Sometimes these great truths were not clear in their significance until the first coming of the Lord, when He and the Apostles explained their meaning in the Gospels and the Epistles.

For 19 centuries, though, the Dispersion has suppressed Israel, as the Jews have found themselves scattered throughout Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. Furthermore, Israel has been adrift from its own Messiah. The Messiah who came first to Israel has become a stranger to most of His own Jewish people. Peculiarly, it is mostly Gentiles who worship Him on all the continents of the earth through a vast variety of congregations and fellowships. So it has been for almost 2,000 years, but in our time things have undergone a remarkable change. Jews by the millions have returned to the Land of Canaan, and Israel is once again a nation on the face of the earth. There is also a resurgence of faith in Jesus as the Messiah among a minority of Israelis.

It is difficult to overestimate the importance of such a radical event. This is precisely what the prophets foretold would occur at the time of the Second Coming of Christ: Thus saith the Lord God: Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, to which they are gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land (Ezek. 37:21). The New Testament also teaches that the Church Age would end with the Rapture of the Church. Following that, the Lord would prepare Israel and the world for the Return of Christ through the awesome days of the Tribulation, the 70th Week of Daniel. All of this assumes that Israel is a nation at the end of the age. Israel will be again the center of the world as it was in the Bible. The focus of history is back on Israel. If we are to look at the world the way the Scriptures do, we must now view all actions of all peoples from the vantage point of modern Israel.

Since Christians should affirm the Scriptures to be our LORD’s perspective and truth that we constantly affirm, then we must conclude that this is precisely how God views the world. It is not easy for us to do this because we normally view everything from our own perspective: our family, our country, our church and our culture. How can we lift ourselves out of our shell and our circumscribed mold, and begin to view our world from the biblical point of view? It takes considerable effort, concentration and faith to go against the grain and commit our minds to conforming to the scriptural perspective. It is also somewhat humbling, as well. In America, for instance, we tend to see everything in relationship to the power politics displayed by our armed forces, and our ideas of democracy and constitutional government. We must step down off this exalted cultural pedestal. We must understand that much of what God will accomplish on the earth between now and the Lord’s Second Coming is going to be done in and through Israel.

My intention in this last article is to encourage every reader to take seriously what they see happening in the Middle East as something not only serious but being something like a volcano that when it erupts it will affect the entire world. Israel plays a major role in the time table of GOD! While none of us can immediately know everything beneficial to our discipleship in this area we can learn. If you are genuinely interested in knowing where the world is now in regards to GOD’s purpose for it and how CHRIST will work in the world through HIS bride, the church and the place and significance of Israel, there are numerous resources to help guide you into further seeing these truths. In conclusion and put as simply as possible, CHRIST is going to return to this world to establish HIS permanent Kingdom eventually. This world will not survive as it is. CHRIST will transform it in HIS ultimate intervention and grace! And the place of Israel in all this is far more significant than the average North American Christian has been taught or has taken the time to discover. Perhaps you will keep this in mind in the days to come..... Pastor Robert

NEWS & Notes

The Nominations and Leadership Development Ministries Team will meet immediately following the service this Sunday, February 1. Members of this committee for 2015 are Gale Frady, Sue Ballentine, Tom Lloyd, Jewel Pearcy, Erin Derrick, Laurie Knapp and Francis Hipp.

The United Methodist Men's Breakfast and Bible Study will be held on Sunday, February 8, at 8:30 a.m. There will be a called meeting of the Church Council immediately following the service on Sunday, February 8.

The Sunday School Breakfast will be held on Sunday, February 22, at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited to join us for this time of fellowship.



The following teams are preparing meals in February:

February 4 Marie Stiles, Frank Howard, Jan Weaver
February 11 Sue Ballentine, Marilyn Lloyd, Tom Geddens
February 18 No meal – Ash Wednesday
February 25 Becky Derrick, Carol Frye, Melanie Reeves
Mary Louise Robinson

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. 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.

Annual Planning Retreat

I would like to thank those who participated in the Annual Planning meeting. We had a good turn-out, and a productive day. For those chairpersons and small group leaders who were not able to participate, please be sure to write in meeting dates for the 2015 year on the calendars found in the Fellowship Hall by February 14th.

During the meeting, we asked GOD to help us see our church as He sees it, and to reignite the hearts of our church members. This led to the discussion of our annual events, as well as a couple new ideas, all of which were notated on the posters in the Fellowship Hall. The plans to celebrate Trinity's 55 years of sharing the message of Jesus are in the works. If you have not seen the Prayer Flags (which were introduced by Marilyn Lloyd during the meeting) in the Gathering Area, PLEASE come by to decorate one with your prayer so that your words may flow into and through the air. These prayers will be seen, and others will be heard as we pray around our crosses in the months to come.

Trinity is set to meet some wonderful goals which include church and community. Help and support from our members and constituents will be needed for these goals to be successful. Let's keep focused on the goal of total commitment to Jesus, as he is totally committed to us.

Blessings to you,
Sue Ballentine

Add Your Prayers to the Flags in the Gathering Area

Prayer flags are an ancient way of expressing the power of prayer. As the wind blows, our prayers travel outward from the church, through the community, throughout the State and country, and then around the world.

Our prayer flags are to be flown outside near the three crosses as an outward expression of Trinity's prayer emphasis.

We want to include prayers from everyone in Trinity. Please choose a flag from those on the table. With the markers provided, place your prayers on a prayer flag by adding words, designs or objects to a prayer flag. If you need to, take one home to complete and bring back next Sunday. Marilyn has prepared flags to be completed by you and all those wishing to express their cares, wishes, thoughts and prayers. (If you wish to make your own flag, the base is a 5 inch X 11 inch piece of fabric, folded over and sewn to make a 5 X 8 flag.) Your thoughts and designs are your own, and can be as arty (or not) as you please. At the Planning Retreat some prayer flags were prepared. Check them out on the Gathering Area table. Any questions? Check with Becky, Sue, or Marilyn.