

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: Donna Stone Eidson

Organist: Christopher A. 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.

Phone: (803)794-7777

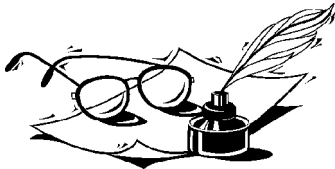
E-Mail Pastor - dgseidson@gmail.com

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Website - trinityumcwc.org

MAY 2016



Ramblings from your Pastor

I have so many things running around in my head to talk about that sometimes it is hard to know exactly what to talk about.

First off I want to thank Jeanette Hornsby for leading our Reaching New People project. Also a big hooray to Linda Maloch and Rusty Poole for assisting in this effort. We are beginning to participate in our coaching calls and I find them helpful and interesting. Please keep our Reaching New People project in your prayers. It will have to be a team effort. The three that attended the first seminar will not be doing this by themselves but each of us will need to do our part. Their job is to train you to do what they have been trained to do. I am excited about the prospect of reaching unchurched people for when in Matthew Jesus told His disciples to go out into the world and make disciples for Him it did not just stop there in Jerusalem, but continues today as a command for each of us.

Also I want to thank all of you for the prayers, cards, and kind words during my mother-in-law's illness and her home going. I am most thankful that I was allowed to spend a week with her while she was still conscious sometimes and could talk with me. Mere words cannot thank you for all your support that allowed me to relieve my sister-in-law some and let my mother-in-law know that I would be there when my sister-in-law needs me.

I am also excited about our Summer Splash that is coming up, and Erin Derrick and I are gearing up for Vacation Bible School. Some people have already volunteered to help, but we still need more. We will be putting a signup sheet in the gathering area soon. Our theme this year is Barnyard Roundup and is based around the 23rd Psalm. Please be sure to invite your neighbors, grandkids, nieces and nephews. We want to spread the love of God to everyone we can.

I am excited to be serving God along beside you all here at Trinity. I am so thankful that I have been allowed to serve God my Master in such a capacity as this.

God Bless all of you.

Love,

Rev. Donna, Cece, Curlie, and Patch



National Day of Prayer

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSSES

THURSDAY, MAY 5

6 P.M.



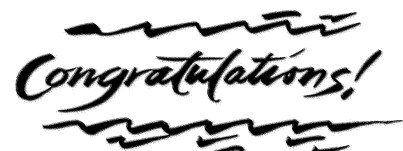
Mother's Day

On Sunday, May 8, the United Methodist Men will host a Mother's Day Breakfast in lieu of their monthly breakfast and Bible Study. The breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

EPWORTH'S MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Each year, Epworth Children's Home provides care to children in our own communities who have experienced abuse, neglect, and loss. Epworth's care breaks the destructive cycle and encourages children to aim higher in life. Each child receives the physical, emotional, academic, and spiritual care they need to transform their lives. This care makes a difference. It develops long-term healing, self-worth and self-confidence. It transforms children who are three years behind in school into honor roll students, high school graduates, and college students. Epworth's care provides spiritual nourishment to strengthen their relationship with God. We invite you to give generously to the children who call Epworth home. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry.



At the recently held National Collegiate Conference of the Association of Information Technology Professionals held in Chicago, Jon Martin was awarded 3rd place in PC Troubleshooting. He was one of 141 competitors in this event representing 60 universities from across the country. Two other USC students attended the Conference and competed in this and other events as well. Jon is looking forward to graduating from Carolina in December of this year.



Fred Latham
Bonnie Ramsey

Buster Guichard
Bonnie Ramsey

Eugenia Gordy
Mary Kamoroff

John Glaze
Mary Kamoroff

Terry Pitts
Bonnie Ramsey

<u>Marjorie Eidson</u>	
Jim & Marie Stiles	Oren & Hilda Edwards
English & Jewel Percy	Arnold & Jo Ann Heiting
Mary Kamoroff	Bonnie Ramsey
Ray & Gale Frady	Mary Alice Duncan
John & Patsy Zeigler	Wayne & Charlie Hooker



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO:

Pastor Donna Eidson and family on the death of her mother-in-law, *Marjorie Eidson*, on Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

Warren and Carol Driggers and family on the death of her mother, *Eugenia Gordy*, on Monday, April 25, 2016.

Shirley Butler and family on the death of her brother-in-law, *John Glaze*, on Tuesday, April 26, 2016.



Dear Trinity family,

Thank you for all of your love and support during my hospitalization, rehab and now while I recover at home. Your many acts of kindness have meant so much to me. All of the cards, calls, visits from Pastor Donna and friends, prayers, food, including wonderful soups, desserts, and even drinks, have been much appreciated.

Thank you again for your care and concern.

Love,
Mary Alice Duncan



The family of Marjorie Fallaw Eidson greatly appreciates your kind memorial gift to Calvary Baptist Church in her memory.

Thank you,
Rev. Donna and family



Most of you are aware Trinity received a generous donation of property four years ago. Sadly, the real estate market for commercial property has not met our expectations, but at a recent Charge Conference called for just this purpose, we approved the sale of this property for \$85,000. The net proceeds of just over \$76,000 have been applied to the principal balance of our mortgage. This reduced the balance to approximately \$60,350. By December 2017 Trinity should be mortgage free. As in all things, to God be the Glory!

Mary Kamoroff,
Finance Committee Chair

Upcoming Graduations

If someone from your family is graduating from high school or college, please contact Ruth Frady at 796-1592, or call the Church Office.

Balance Class

The Balance Class will continue to meet on Mondays and Wednesdays at 2 p.m. This informal class will consist of warm up, stretching, aerobic and cool down exercises led by Marilyn Lloyd. If you would like more information, please contact Marilyn.



SUMMER SPLASH
Saturday, June 4
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Are you ready for some fun and food? This year we’re inviting our neighboring children and their families to join us for our annual “Splash” beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 1 p.m.

We’re having our standby water slide plus there will be a bounce house to soak up some of that extra energy summertime gives the children.

For cooling down, how about snow cones, in Grape, Black Raspberry, Cherry and Orange? For lunch: Hot Dogs, as you like ‘em, chips, cookies and Kool-Aid. After lunch, we’ll draw names for prizes!!

Reaching New People

During the presentation made to the congregation on Sunday, April 10, quite a few statistics were presented. Here are some of the highlights:

At Trinity UMC:

- Trinity began with 30 charter members in 1960.
- In 2005, we hit our highest membership number—352.
- At the end of 2015 we had 284 members.
- Average attendance at worship declined from an average of 118 to **60** last year.

Nationwide:

- Only 19% of the US population attend church weekly
- In SC, only 22.2% attend church weekly.
- In the 18-22 age group, 70% drop out of church, never to return.
- Between 1990 and 2010, 125,000 churches closed.
- The percentage of churches experiencing decline is **80%**.
- ***Only 2% of church members EVER invite anyone to come to church.***

These numbers represent a call to action to us at Trinity and we've begun a process to help us Reach New People so that we can better fulfill our mission to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." And, we can make sure we are continually striving to reach our vision of helping people "Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform."

Because 20% of churches are thriving we're trying to learn from their best practices and will be focusing on the following:

1. **Seek Help From Specialists**—we've joined the Coaching Cluster sponsored by Nickerson Consulting and have submitted our plan to them. We will be receiving 24/7 support from them via e-mail, text and conference calls as well as receiving continuing education from them.
2. **Introduce Ourselves to the Community**—we'll be finding new ways to be more visible and involved in our community. Things like relocating our meetings to public places, connecting with community-wide events, and conducting events in the public arena, not at church will become the norm.
3. **Change the Expectations for the Pastor's Time**—Pastor Donna will be leading by example and getting out into the community more. This will require us to help her reallocate 8 hours of her time each week to be spent networking with community organizations.
4. **Change the Expectations of the Congregation**—We'll be looking at the ways we take care of our congregation so that more of that work falls on the congregation and not just on the pastor. We'll also focus on developing new ways to invite people to join us at Trinity and we'll learn how to more effectively reach out to those who don't attend church.
5. **Develop a Plan and Stick to It**—At the seminar attended by Pastor Donna, Rusty Poole, Linda Maloch and Jeanette Hornsby we started a plan. We've fleshed it out a little more and there are copies on the table in the Gathering Area if you're interested in seeing some of the things we'll be doing. We also held a Training Session on April 30 to get a better picture of our community and learn how to invite people into our congregation. We'll be focusing on a few specific things each month so watch the GLIA and the bulletin each Sunday.

What can you do?

Pray—for our church, it's purpose and your part in it! Change is not easy and we need God's help in helping us change the way we do things to bring about the changes that will be needed to make this work.

Get out in the community yourself—think about ways you can impact the lives of those you encounter in your everyday lives!

INVITE—as someone who already has a church background to come to church or a church event—don't be a part of that 2%!

Make a commitment to help Trinity Reach New People in 2016!

Canoeing For Kids

Annual Raft-A-Rama is on May 14th, 2016

A fund raising event benefiting Canoeing For Kids will be held on the Saluda River in Columbia, S.C. 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. The trip will begin at 9:30 a.m., an additional trip at 2:00 p.m. is a possibility based on demand.

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 \$80 per person. Early registration is recommended due to limited raft space.

Fundraising is the primary goal of the Raft-a-Rama. Upon pre-registration, you are invited to join the CFK fundraising team. If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Bring family and friends and make a day of it. Have a great trip on the river and then join us for lunch and some socializing. Best of all, the proceeds go to funding another fun and fulfilling summer for the many children that Canoeing for Kids spreads joy to each year. Please call or contact us through our website or facebook page if you would like a private trip for a small or large group!

Canoeing for Kids is a non-profit organization serving as a free recreational outlet for disadvantaged children. Canoeing for Kids' primary function is to provide free canoeing, and kayaking trips for underprivileged children. On average, at least 1,000 kids have benefited from the experience of being "on the water" and "in the woods" each season. Teamwork, self-reliance, sense of accomplishment, as well as awareness and conservation of nature is achieved while the kids simply have fun.

Free services are provided to children's homes, camps for unhealthy, physically and mentally challenged children and any other qualifying group. Adventures are catered to the individual group's skills and/or limitations.



Lunch Bunch will meet this Sunday, May 1, immediately following the service. Bring a covered dish and join us for this informal time of fellowship.

The UMW will meet on Wednesday, May 11, at 11 a.m.

Outreach/Witness will meet on Sunday, May 15, at 4 p.m. Nurture will meet on 5 p.m. and Church Council will meet at 6:30 p.m.

The Sunday School Breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 29, at 9 a.m.