

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: *John Jordan*

Music Director: *Jackie McNeill*

Organist: *Christopher A. McCroskey*

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 2019

John's Jottings

I recently ran across two statistics that are quite telling. The first is that eighty-six percent of people begin attending church because they were invited by a friend. Only six percent began attending because of a pastor's visit and six percent by a formal outreach program. This indicates that people will attend church if invited by someone with whom they have built a relationship with over time and trust. Coming into a new situation, such as a church, particularly for someone who is "unchurched", can be scary but knowing that there is someone there who you already know and might help you to "learn the ropes" makes it easier and more comfortable.

The other statistic that I heard recently, one I had heard a few years ago, is that the average United Methodist invites someone to church every thirty years! Yes, I said years. And we wonder why the church is declining.

Too often, I feel that churches have taken a Field of Dreams approach to getting new members. Remember in the movie Field of Dreams Kevin Costner's character, as he is walking through his cornfield, hears a voice that tells him. "If you build it, he will come." So he builds a baseball field out of part of his cornfield and Shoeless Joe Jackson and many other old baseball players come out of the cornfield to play baseball.

Churches have often taken this approach. If we build a new building- sanctuary, fellowship hall, family life building- people will come. Too often then churches are left with empty buildings because nobody came because nobody invited them to come.

For our church to grow, or even survive, we must invite others to come and be a part of our community here at Trinity. We need to be a community that not only welcomes others as they come in but invites others to come in. We may never know who in our circles may be in need of a community such as we have here at Trinity.

Sometimes we may invite someone to come to church but some people may not feel comfortable in a worship service where they may not understand what is going on. Remember that church is not just Sunday morning at 11:00 am. Inviting someone to our exercise class, Bible Study, or a special service, may get them in the door. We may also offer to meet them and bring them with us so that they know someone and not just coming in cold.

Inviting others to church may be uncomfortable for some of us. But remember that we do not go to a party unless we are invited. There are many out there who need the community we have here at Trinity, dying to come to our party. So let us make the effort to invite someone to church be it a service or some other activity. Let us be aware of new people in our neighborhoods, build relationships and invite them to church. Let us be a church that invites someone to church every thirty days instead of every thirty years.

Shalom,

John

Souper Bowl Sunday



Sunday, February 3

This Sunday, February 3, our Children and Youth will be collecting funds after the service for Souper Bowl Sunday. All funds collected will be given to an organization within the community (to be decided). Be a part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need by giving generously.



Wonderful Wednesdays will begin on February 6 and end on February 27. Family-style meals will be served at 5:30 p.m. Bible Study, led by Pastor John, will begin at 6:15 p.m. (see below) and end at 7 p.m. 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 11 are \$3.00 each. Children ages 2 to 5 are \$1.00. There will be a limit of \$12.00 to be paid per immediate* family, with a maximum of five persons. After five family members, each additional person is \$3.00. (*Two related generations is an immediate family.)

The meal on **February 6** will be prepared by *Jim and Marie Stiles*.

Menu: Spaghetti, Salad, Bread & Dessert



February 22 begins the called General Conference to address the issue of homosexuality for the United Methodist Church. This has been a very contentious issue for the church since its founding in 1968. Please keep the General Conference in prayer that what God wants for the United Methodist Church may come to pass and this issue that has take up so much time and resources of the church may be put to rest.

Wonderful Wednesdays will begin February 6. That Wednesday I will present the proposals that will be presented to the General Conference February 22. This is for information only though we may look at the possible consequences of each plan for our denomination and our church. The following three Wednesdays we will be examining Wesley's three General Rules for Methodists, utilizing Bishop Reuben Job's book Three Simple Rules. Come join us for good fellowship and learning.



Evelyn Greshel
Boots Morgan

Donnie Johnson
Wayne & Charlie Hooker

Don Hinds
Oren & Hilda Edwards

Julius Tumbleston
Boots Morgan

Theresa Hudson Awtrey
English & Jewel Pearcy

Lynn Blair
English & Jewel Pearcy
Wayne & Charlie Hooker
Mary Kamoroff

Mary Brewer
Boots Morgan
Oren & Hilda Edwards

Patsy Taylor
Boots Morgan
Mary Kamoroff



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to:

The family of Theresa Hudson Awtrey on her death on Tuesday, January 22, 2019.



We will be preparing 75 Valentine's Day bags for our shut-ins and for the residents of Asbury Arms. We will be including Valentines from members of the congregation and small candies in each bag. We will be collecting Valentines, signed with a note of encouragement, through Sunday, February 10. You can participate by bringing candy and signed cards to be included in the bags, and/or by making a monetary donation to help cover the cost of the bags and candy. Please see Becky Derrick if you have any questions or would like to make a donation.



There has been interest in a Confirmation Class beginning February 27 with confirmation the Sunday after Easter. If you are interested in joining Confirmation Class please let John know by Feb 13 so that books maybe ordered.



Dear Trinity Family,

Ted and I can't thank you enough for your thoughts, cards, calls, and food following my knee surgery. Also, there was the comforting knowledge that our church family was praying for us. During the healing process, the soul needs comfort too and your prayers helped that happen.

Thank you again for the blessings of your love!

In His Grace & Love,
Ruth Frady



Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you for the Christmas stockings filled with cards, goodies and gifts. It was a nice unexpected surprise. For ten years now, Marty and I have been a part of Trinity. We appreciate the love and support everyone has always shown to us.

Sincerely,
Tommy Johnson



Dear Trinity,

Thanks to each of you who were part of your ministry to the residents of Asbury Arms!! You truly blessed us!

I was sitting in my apartment the afternoon your precious "deliverers" came. I was feeling sad. I had let myself start worrying about the future when I heard the beautiful sound of children on the sidewalk outside! Just that touched my heart with joy! Then they knocked on my door and presented me with a very special stocking from all of you! I was truly blessed and shed some soft tears as I began to worship the Lord.... "Yes, Lord - You are taking care of me and You will take care of me."

Love,
Angie G.



Please note: Thank You letters from Epworth and UMCOR for donations from the proceeds of the Fall Festival and a letter from Killingsworth for our yearly budgeted donation can be found on the Outreach Board in the Educational Hallway.



Congratulations to **Brandon Jones**, grandson of **Arnold and Jo Ann Heiting**, on the successful completion of Aircraft Maintenance School and his passing the FAA testing. He is returning to Columbia to work.



Community Recognition Program for 2019

Recognizing those in our community who are often unrecognized for the hard work they do is the goal of the Community Recognition Program. This program was started as a way of connecting more with our community as a part of the Reaching New People process. Last year we kept hearing “no one has ever done this for us before!” as we visited places. This year we’ve added some different places and retained some that we feel deserve recognizing every year.

What’s Involved?

Volunteers are welcome to take refreshments to the following sites at any time during the month that works for them and the facility. We usually call ahead to make sure we have enough food for the number of staff and to make arrangements for a convenient time. Sometimes we stay to meet the staff but most often they are busy and we leave the refreshments for them to enjoy when they can.

If you don’t want to actually visit the site you can help in other ways. You can make homemade goodies (which are greatly appreciated); donate coupons or money, and/or purchase donuts or other food.

You can do this with a small group of church friends, your Sunday School class or other group—the point is to connect with new people to share our love!

Please contact Jeanette Hornsby by phone (803-467-0993) or by e-mail (hornsbjm@bellsouth.net) if you’d like to be in charge of a particular month/place.

February	Jenny Lynn Assisted Living	July	Police Department
March	East Point Academy	August	Carolina Gardens Assisted Living
April	National Health Care	September	Northside Middle School
May	Saluda River Elementary School	October	Riverbank Elementary
June	Fire Department	November	Riverbanks Zoo Custodial Staff
July	Police Department	December	Public Works Department (partner with Westover Acres Community)



As we begin a new year, we would like to extend an invitation to all women of the church to join us in fellowship and mission to our community and beyond. Below are some of the highlights of 2018 and upcoming events in 2019:

The Fall Festival’s Country Store generated \$649.75 which was given to the church to be divided among UMCOR, Epworth Children’s Home and our roof repairs.

Through the generosity of our church family, we received \$1,385.00 in support of the children of Saluda River Academy for the Arts which was the focus of the Angel Tree donations. We were able to provide 30 children with Christmas gifts and 50 children with peanut butter and jelly during their Christmas break. Twenty of the children participated in the Families Helping Families Program so all fifty children received gifts. Photos of the gift bags’ contents are on the table in the Gathering Area. In a related outreach, we were able to furnish many items that teachers had requested on a wish list as well as school supplies needed as the children returned for the 2018/2019 school year. The willingness of our congregation to reach out to those less fortunate in our neighborhood and to unselfishly give of their time and financial resources is overwhelming and appreciated so much by the recipients of your generous hearts.

In lieu of a meeting on February 13, Becky will be driving us to Compton’s Kitchen for lunch. We will gather at 11 and leave for Compton’s at 11:15. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Gathering Area. All women are invited to join us for food and fellowship and we look forward to having a great group!

The Columbia District Day Apart Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2019, at Lexington UMC beginning at 8:45 with lunch at noon. The cost is \$12.00 per person. Kempie Shepard is the speaker. The deadline to register is February 25. Please make checks payable to Columbia District UMW and give to Marilyn Lloyd if you would like to attend. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Gathering Area.

The 2019 S.C. Conference UMW Spiritual Growth Mission Trip scheduled for April 1-4 is a trip to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum. A flyer containing information on this trip is located on the table in the Gathering Area. If you are interested in this trip, funds must be received by February 28. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Gathering Area. A meeting of those who wish to go will be held before February 21 so that travel and hotel accommodations can be discussed and funds collected. This will be a great opportunity to see this inspiring exhibit and museum!



Getting Kids in the Kitchen

Cooking with your kids/grandkids is a good way to help them build healthy eating habits.

Get them interested - Most kids enjoy helping in the kitchen. While they help you cook, you can talk to them about healthy foods. Children like to eat food they make. This is a good way to get them to try new healthy foods.

Let them help - You can show your kids how to help you prepare meals. Here are ways that young kids can help in the kitchen:

2-year-olds can:

- * Wipe tabletops
- * Wash fruits and vegetables
- * Tear lettuce or greens
- * Break cauliflower or broccoli into pieces
- * Carry ingredients from one place to another

3-year-olds can:

- * Knead and shape dough
- * Mix or pour ingredients
- * Shake liquids in a covered container to mix them
- * Apply soft spreads
- * Put things in the trash

4-year-olds can:

- * Peel oranges or hard-boiled eggs
- * Mash bananas or cooked beans with a fork
- * Cut parsley and green onions with kid-safe scissors
- * Set the table

5 to 6-year-olds can:

- * Measure ingredients
- * Use an egg beater

Be patient with spills and mistakes. Remember that the goal is to help your kids learn about healthy eating.

Let them be creative - Set out three or four healthy foods, and let your kids make a new snack or sandwich from them.

Start with:

- * A new kind of bread (whole grain or rye)
- * Whole grain crackers or graham crackers
- * Mini rice cakes or popcorn cakes
- * Small bagels
- * Small pieces of whole-wheat pita bread

Spreads could include:

- Fat-free or low-fat cream cheese or cheese spread • Fat-free or low-fat peanut butter • Bean dip • Jelly with no sugar added

Toppings could include:

- * Slices of apple or banana
- * Raisins or other dried fruit
- * Strawberries
- * Small pieces of whole-wheat pita bread
- * Slices of cucumber or squash
- * Cherry tomatoes cut in small pieces

As you help your kids make the new snack or sandwich talk about why it is healthy. Point out each food group in the snack or sandwich. Explain that eating a mix of foods is good for you. Ask why the snack or sandwich tastes good. Is it sweet, juicy, chewy, or crunchy?



Trinity Food Co-op

Invite your friends and neighbors to participate.

Our next co-op date is **Tuesday, February 26**. The more participants we have the more produce we can get with our money. Forms can be found in the Gathering Area.

Bags are only \$5.00 each and need to be paid in cash. Please remember to pay in advance so that I know who wants bags each month and also how much money I have to spend. Please let me know by the weekend before the Tuesday of co-op. Thank you for your help. **Becky**



COLUMBIA COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND'S WINTER CONCERT

FEBRUARY 15, 2019 AT 7:30

The Columbia Community Concert Band presents its Winter Concert on Friday, February 15, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium at Airport High School. Selections include classical music as well as Broadway show tunes. A sign-up sheet is located on the round table in the Gathering Area if you'd like to reserve a seat on the bus which will leave from the Gunter Circle parking lot at 6:45.