

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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JANUARY 2021

John's Jottings

Whew. I believe that we all will breathe a sigh of relief that 2020 is over. We may be tempted to say that this is a year we want to forget. We may be like Nathaniel who, when he heard the Messiah was Jesus of Nazareth, said "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" We may want to say, "Did anything good come out of 2020?"

Did anything good come out of 2020? It may not seem like it in a year marked by the worst pandemic in 100 years, the most racial unrest since the 60s, an extremely contentious election cycle, and political polarization. It was a year when the Lady Gamecocks were poised for another national championship run when the tournament was cancelled. There was no baseball. There was almost no football, and then the football was not good for some, but to others congratulations. There was no going to the movies, no going out to eat, no concerts and so many other things we loved to do were cancelled. Schools closed. Even churches halted in-person worship. No, it did not seem that anything good came out of 2020.

However, Nathaniel did learn that something good came out of Nazareth – Jesus. As I look back on 2020, I see that a lot of good did come out of 2020. At Trinity, a lot of good came out of 2020. We were able to pay off the loan for the new roof on the educational building as the pandemic hit. We were able to replace the roof on the sanctuary without taking out a loan. We learned that much of the business of the church could be done by Zoom or by email. In some ways, this makes us more efficient. We even learned to do Bible Study via Zoom. We were able to upgrade our WiFi and add visual capabilities to our sound system. Now we will be able to live stream our services on both Facebook and You Tube. Also, the quality of the video will be much better. We have been reaching people online during this pandemic, but this will give us the capability to reach even more.

We have been able to do these things due to the dedicated giving of our people. We set up electronic giving which some have been using. Many have mailed in their pledges and gifts. The majority of the days when I check the mail, there is at least one check. Even in this pandemic we have remained on a good financial footing.

We have learned different ways of worshipping. Many have enjoyed having the order of worship and the sermon sent out by email and mail, and are able to remain connected by using these to worship at home at 11 on Sunday mornings. Though some have related that this is not as satisfying, we have been able to maintain some connection. Some have even shared with neighbors.

I know I cannot speak for all of you, but for Kay and I many good things have happened. Being the outdoor type, we have discovered new hiking trails in the area and reacquainted ourselves with some we haven't done in a while. We have discovered state parks we had not been to before, especially

one where we could meet Ashton and Charlie for birthday celebrations. We became better acquainted with our neighbors as we visited across the fence and across the street.

While we have not been able to see them, we had two great nephews born, one in each family (but no grandchildren yet).

So yes, a lot of good has come out of 2020. After you read this, take some time to reflect on this year and look for the good that has happened to us. It may seem difficult at first, but as I continued to write this more and more good things came to mind. Take time to reflect on the good, the ways in which we saw God working in our lives, our church, our community, our nation and the world. A lot of good did come out of 2020.

Shalom,
John



This has been a most challenging and difficult year. I would like to thank all of you who supported Kay and I through her surgery in January. I would like to thank all of you who supported me as I completed and fell short in my ordination interviews. Most of all I would like to thank the Worship Committee, SPRC, Trustees, and Finance Committee for their support and hard work as we negotiated our way during this pandemic, suspending then working to safely restart in-person worship and enhancing our virtual worship and electronic giving. I want to thank all of you for continuing your financial support of Trinity. I know some of the decisions made may not have been well received by all but all decisions were made with the health and safety of the congregation and community being the first and foremost priority.

I also want to thank Billy and Doug for their continued care for our grounds and building especially in the light of the extra cleaning that needed to be done as we restarted in person worship.

Most of all I want to thank Jackie for her tireless dedication to the church. She had the extra tasks of editing my sermons and preparing the order of worship to be sent out for you to have on Sunday Mornings. She has been a sounding board and has reminded me of many details I have overlooked. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful staff.

So, while 2020 has been challenging, it has also been a year of blessings. May we go forward into 2021 with God's blessings for better things for us and our church.

memorials & gifts

Mary Alice Duncan
Patsy Shuler

Tommy Johnson
Patsy Shuler

Shirley Scurry
John & Patsy Zeigler

Joann Hershey
Wayne & Charlie Hooker
Jo Ann Heiting
Mary Kamoroff
Bonnie Ramsey

Altha Percy
Wayne & Kay Johnston
Jo Ann Heiting
Mary Kamoroff
Nell Cooke
Bonnie Ramsey
Linda Maloch

Raymond Rhode
Wayne & Charlie Hooker
English & Jewel Percy
Jo Ann Heiting
Mary Kamoroff
Bonnie Ramsey
Linda Maloch

*A GIFT TO TRINITY is given to the glory of God and to support the church and its Core Mission by **Ben and Debbie Whetstone**.*

*A GIFT TO TRINITY is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Andy and Fran Jones**, by **Richard and Elizabeth Jones**.*

*A GIFT TO TRINITY is given with love to the glory of God and in appreciation of her **Trinity Family, past and present**, for the past 50 plus years, by **Mary Kamoroff**.*

*A GIFT TO TRINITY is given to the glory of God in lieu of sending Christmas Cards, by **Jo Ann Heiting**.*

*A GIFT TO TRINITY is given to the glory of God in loving memory of **Arnold Heiting** by **Jo Ann Heiting**. The gift is to be used for postage for the Upper Rooms.*

*A GIFT TO TRINITY is given to the glory of God in loving memory of **George L. Hardee** by **his family**.*



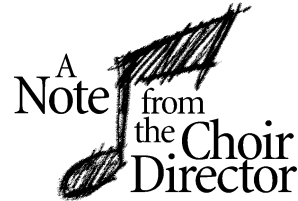
WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to **Leslie Platt and family** on the death of her mother, **Sara Efron**, on Friday, January 1.

Thank You!

Dear Trinity Members,

Thank you for all that you do for Asbury Arms. Bobby and I appreciate all that you do every year.

Sincerely,
Bobby & Karen Snelgrove



As Choir Director, I wanted the church to know and share my gratitude for a project that has been developing over the past few months. Laurie Knapp has donated new and greatly improved filing cabinets for the church's music library. Not only that, but she is also in the process of doing all the necessary refileing, moving music from the cramped older cabinets into the newer, easy to access cabinets. So, thank you Laurie for your time and talents on this project. No doubt the choir and I will benefit from your efforts for years to come!

Christopher



Each month we will highlight the birthdays of those who are turning 85 or older. For the month of January we wish a Happy Birthday to the following:

January 28

Linda Maloch
1425 Redwood Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169



On December 22, I participated in a teleconference through DEHEC with Dr. Linda Bell. Dr. Bell stated that with the safe and effective vaccines coming out we are seeing the light at the end of this COVID-19 pandemic. South Carolina received its first doses of the vaccine that week. These first doses are going to frontline healthcare workers caring for the critically ill, those most likely to be exposed to the virus. Those next in line would be staff and residents of nursing homes, assisted living and other congregate living facilities. Then it would go to essential workers and those in vulnerable populations. Finally, it would go to the generally healthy public.

That said, it will be several months before most of us will be able to be vaccinated. During this time, we need to continue our present precautions of avoiding crowds, wearing masks and maintain social distancing. Even after one is vaccinated, they need to continue precautions until 60-70% of the population is vaccinated.

The vaccine will not be available to children under the age of 16, or pregnant women because there have not been enough trial subjects to determine the possible risks to these populations.

Common side effects have been pain and swelling at the injection site, slight fever and some ache and pain which usually resolve with 48 hours. Side effects do appear less in older people.

We thank God for the scientists, doctors and technicians who developed this vaccine. We thank God for all the people worldwide who participated in the trials. We thank God that with this vaccine, we may see the end of this pandemic in the near future. But until that time let us continue to be vigilant in our precautions even after we are vaccinated until it is safe to stop precautions.



A Gift in Lieu of Poinsettias is given to the glory of God and in honor of:

Tom Geddens by John & Patsy Zeigler.

COVID Frontline Workers by Jo Ann Heiting.

Their Grandchildren, with love by E.

Their Children, with love by Annie Heiting.

Bonnie Ramsey by Annie Heiting.

Mary Kamoroff by Annie Heiting.

Trinity Choir by Annie Heiting.

Tom Geddens, for all he does for Trinity, by Patsy & Claire Boggs.

President Trump, the greatest president he has ever known, by Ray Frady.

A Gift in Lieu of Poinsettias is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Their son, Altie Hooker, by Wayne & Charlie Hooker.

Their daughter, Ann Zeigler Derrick by John & Patsy Zeigler.

Their parents, Grady & Lucile Chavis and Johnnie & Margurite Zeigler, by John & Patsy Zeigler.

Her brother, Billy Chavis, by John & Patsy Zeigler.

Arnold Heiting by his Annie Heiting.

Ben & Amanda Heiting by Annie Heiting.

Charles & Josephine Von Glahn by their daughter, Jo Ann Heiting.

Those who lost their battle to COVID by Jo Ann Heiting.

Her mother, Janet Knapp by Laurie Knapp.

Her father, Hugh Knapp by Laurie Knapp.

Tommy Johnson by Marty Johnson.

Her sister and Claire's aunt, Mandy Meek Snow, by Patsy & Claire Boggs.

Her father and Claire's grandfather, Ebbie Meek, by Patsy & Claire Boggs.

All Trinity Members who have passed away, by Patsy & Claire Boggs.

Their sister-in-law, Altha Percy, by English & Jewel Percy.

His parents, Wink & Louise Frady, by Ray and Gale Frady.

Her parents, Charles & Ruby Schmotzer, by Ray and Gale Frady.

Special Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for all of the ways that you made 2020, and especially Christmas, a blessing. In the midst of the turmoil of the year, your constant support and acts of kindness and love have been a beautiful light in my life. I am grateful to be able to work in a time when so many have found themselves without a job. Please believe me when I say that I do not take it for granted. Thank you again for everything.

Love,
Jackie Eitel

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Matthew Skipper**. He received a 4.0 for his first semester in his sophomore year at Francis Marion University. He received the following letter of recommendation from one of his professors.