

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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E-Mail Church - trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com

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MAY 2022



Through the month of May, we will be receiving a Love Offering for Christopher McCroskey. As many of you know, Christopher was hospitalized for twelve days after having his big toe on the right foot amputated due to an infection. He will be having physical therapy at home and even though he will be able to play for church, he will not be able to return to substitute teaching this school year. He will also be faced with medical bills that his insurance will not cover. If you would like to contribute to this Love Offering, please make the check out to Trinity and write Love Offering in the Memo Line. The Love Offerings will be tax deductible.



Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 15

On Sunday, May 15, we will celebrate the following graduates:

Kara Howard

B. C. High School

Dee Hughes

B. C. High School

Matthew Skipper

Degrees in Sociology and Political Science
Francis Marion University (December)

Slone Taylor

Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from USC



Mother's Day is May 8. There will be a special combined Time Together to celebrate Birthdays and *Mother's Day*.



Wednesday, May 11
5:30 p.m.

Join us on May 11 for Wonderful Wednesday. The meal will be prepared by *Gale and Ruth Frady*:

Fried Chicken
Yellow Rice
Baked Beans
Baked Apples
Dessert

The meal will start at 5:30 p.m. and be followed by a devotional at 6:15 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children 6-12 and \$1.00 for children 2-5. A reservation form will be in the bulletin on Sunday, May 8 or you can call the office by noon on Monday, May 9.

Epworth Mother's Day Offering Sunday, May 8

Next week is Mother's Day. We will buy flowers, call the mothers in our lives, and remember those mothers who have impacted our lives in the past. Most of the children served by Epworth Children's Home will not be celebrating Mother's Day with their birth mothers. Instead, they will be surrounded by loving staff, and foster parents who walk with them daily to provide spiritual, educational, emotional, and physical support. Consider what God is calling you to give to support our church's ministry to the children in South Carolina. Your generous contribution to our church's ministry enables transformation to happen for the children who call Epworth home. Epworth does not receive apportionments from the United Methodist Conference. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit them online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.



Pauline Wenner
Jeanette Hornsby

Bill Pearson
Jeanette Hornsby

Carolyn Hardee

English & Jewel Pearcy	Wilbur Rogers Jr. SS Class
Ray & Gale Frady	Marty Johnson
John & Patsy Zeigler	Wayne & Charlie Hooker
Jim & Marie Stiles	Trinity UMC Sinners Class
Oren & Hilda Edwards	Chuck & Lynn Martin
William Darby &	Jo Ann Heiting
Terri Anne Hebert	Mary Kamoroff
Bonnie Ramsey	Helen Elizabeth Billings &
Rose Dance & Sisters,	Ayden & Kyler Hardee
Shirley, Carolyn, Maydene & Wanda	

Gifts To Trinity are given in loving memory of *Ann Zeigler Derrick* and *Genie Duncan* by *Libby Strickland*.



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO *Chuck and Lynn Martin and family* on the death of her mother, *Carolyn Hardee*, Sunday, April 10, 2022.



Dear Trinity Family,

I am grateful for all of the food, cards and calls I have recieved since the death of my father, Bill Pearson. Thank you for all of the prayers on my behalf and the memorials given in his memory.

Sincerely,
Billy Pearson

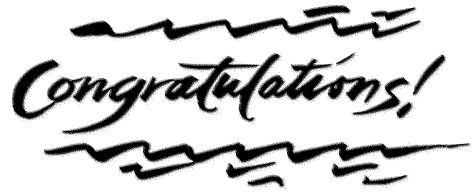


Each month we will highlight the birthdays of those who are turning 85 or older. Special Birthdays in May:

May 10
Shirley Butler
2341 Robin Crest Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169

May 17
Jewel Pearcy
1129 Osage Avenue
West Columbia, SC 29169

May 22
Tom Lloyd
1162 Gunter Circle
West Columbia, SC 29169



Congratulations to *Matthew Skipper!* In April he was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society at Francis Marion University. He will graduate in December.



Dear Trinity Family,

The family of Carolyn Hardee wishes to thank everyone for the cards, calls, and gifts of food we received following the passing of our mother. Since she suffered her first stroke in 2019 we have felt the loving care, concern and support for our family throughout Mom's difficult journey, and we remember with heartfelt gratitude your many expressions of sympathy and comforting words. We especially thank the members of the bereavement team who prepared a delicious meal for us following the funeral and interment at Fort Jackson. Our church family demonstrates its love for each other in so many special ways, and we are blessed beyond measure to be the recipients of such love and care.

With sincere appreciation and love to all,

Lynn Martin

FROM THE PASTOR

John's Jottings

Biscuits and Molasses

My grandfather was a small man. Granddaddy was only about 5 feet 3 inches tall and weighed 125 pounds. However, his father was nearly six feet tall as was his brother. His sons, my uncles, were both six feet tall. Even his daughters, my aunt and mother, were taller than him, though mom was only 5 feet 5 inches tall. Of his grandchildren, my brothers and I are the shortest at 5 feet 11 inches. From this one could surmise that Granddaddy's size was not due to genetics. So why was Granddaddy so much smaller than the rest of his family?

When Granddaddy was about 4 or 5 years old, he (for reasons I don't remember) went to live with two old maid aunts. This was the age when the body is developing but these two aunts did not know what a growing boy needed to eat to develop properly. They simply asked Granddaddy what he wanted to eat. Granddaddy always said biscuits and molasses. For about two years during this crucial time of development all Granddaddy ate was biscuits and molasses. He always claimed this was why he was so much smaller than the rest of the family.

We know that a growing child needs more than biscuits and molasses to develop. A child needs a balanced diet of protein, dairy, fruits, and vegetables to get all the nutrients it needs to grow. Some of the foods a child needs may not taste as good and may not be what they want to eat, but they need them. A child is not going to develop on a steady diet of biscuits and molasses. So, there is validity to Granddaddy's claim for the reason for his small stature.

The same is true with spiritual development. John Wesley considered salvation to be more than just deliverance from hell and going to heaven but a restoration of our spiritual health and a renewal of our souls after the image of God. There is more to our spiritual health and development than being saved from sin. It is also growing closer to the perfect love of God and for neighbor. Our spiritual life is not to be static but one of continual growth and development. For proper spiritual growth one needs a balanced diet.

This balanced spiritual diet includes participation in regular worship, communal and individual. It includes daily Bible reading and study. Having time set aside for prayer and communing with God is an important part of our spiritual diet. Sunday school and Bible study with others adds to our spiritual growth. Having fellowship with other Christians is important. Performing acts of mercy, giving to the needy and working for social justice are important parts of a healthy spiritual diet. Though we know we need a balanced spiritual diet to grow in love with God and neighbor, we may settle for a diet of biscuits and molasses. We tend to read the passages of scripture that we find comforting and ignore those that challenge our beliefs. We read authors whose theology agrees with ours. We like to have our beliefs affirmed and not challenged. In our prayer life we talk to God but do not listen to God. We are satisfied with where we are now and don't need to grow - just give us spiritual biscuits and molasses.

We do not grow spiritually with a diet of what simply feels good and affirms our beliefs, just as granddaddy did not grow physically on a diet of biscuits and molasses. We may need to try reading the Bible straight through as a narrative rather than picking and choosing "feel good" passages. We may need to try different forms of prayer, taking time to listen to God speaking to us. We may need to read from different authors to gain a different perspective on our Christian beliefs and Biblical interpretation. We may benefit from different styles of worship.

One way in which we may grow spiritually is by being a part of a small group whose focus is to help the members grow in their spiritual life. In early Methodism this was the class meeting. For the past five weeks, ten of us led by Tom Geddens and by me, have been studying the Wesley Class Meetings. There is a consensus that this has helped each of us grow in our relationship with God, and the group will continue past the eight weeks of the study. As the group grows in size, it will split into smaller groups. So there will be more groups meeting at different times and places.

The members of the group are all at different places in their spiritual journey. A group may be a good place for someone who is seeking God or seeking to return to God. The goal of the group is to help each other grow closer to God. The group does not replace other parts of our spiritual diet but is, I believe, a valuable part of our spiritual diet. I encourage you to consider joining a group as we expand these groups.

Let us not settle for a spiritual diet of biscuits and molasses. Let us add new disciplines to our diet. Let us consider other views rather than discounting those which may be different from ours. Let us continually be growing deeper in our love of God and neighbor until our souls are renewed in the image of God.

Shalom,
John



Kay wishes to thank all for your prayers during her recent eye surgery.



Dear Trinity United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$100 to Asbury Arms. We look forward to seeing you guys and women after COVID.

Again, thank you on behalf of Asbury,
Linda Ware, Manager

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Dear Trinity UMC,

Thank you for your very generous donation of \$250. What a wonderful practical support and an encouragement it is. You have been supportive for many years. Thank you!

May you be blessed with Easter Joy.

Tom Wall & MSN

CFK Raft Day
Saturday, May 14
10 a.m.

Raft the rapids of the Saluda River in this exciting fundraiser for Canoeing for Kids! Raft-a-Rama is back and rebranded as CFK Raft Day! Choose from two options: a trip that starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 12 p.m. for \$50 (food trucks will be on hand), or a trip from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. with food included and live music for \$75. **ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT CANOEING FOR KIDS.**

Tickets must be purchased in advance from the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/304680978007>

You can also find this information on the Canoeing for Kids facebook page.