

# 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*

Office Manager: *Jackie Eitel*

Music Director: *Christopher A. McCroskey*

Office Hours: 8:30 - 4:30 Monday-Thursday

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 - [jdjordan@umcsc.org](mailto:jdjordan@umcsc.org)

Fax: (803) 939-9628

E-Mail Church - [trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com](mailto:trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com)

Website - [trinityumcwc.org](http://trinityumcwc.org)

SEPTEMBER 2023



**Tuesday, September 19**  
**7:30 p.m.**

Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, September 19, at 7:30 p.m. Please note the following dates.

Thursday, 09/07: Budgets Due  
Tuesday, 09/12: Finance Meeting at 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, 09/13: Reports Due  
Sunday, 09/17: Church Council Meeting following  
Worship



**Tuesday, September 19**  
**11 a.m.**

The Grief Support Group will meet on Tuesday, September 19, at 11 a.m. in the Conference Room. This group is open to everyone.



**Sunday, September 24**

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, will be held on Sunday, September 24. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and great fellowship!



We welcome *Betty Cantrell* and her son, *Arthur (Artie) Joyner*, who joined the Trinity family on August 27. Betty's address is 924 Natchez Trail, West Columbia, SC 29169 and her phone number is (803) 603-0812. Artie's address is 331 Edgewater Lane, West Columbia, SC 29169.



*Elijah Leroy Herrera-Derrick* was born Sunday, September 3, at 8:31 a.m. He weighed 9 lbs and was 21 inches long. Congratulations to his parents, *BradyDerrick and Jasmin Herrera*. *Elijah* is the grandson of *Chris and Erin Derrick* and the great grandson of *Arvan and Becky Derrick*.



*You're Invited*  
*October 1 Following Worship*

**Attention: All Ladies of Trinity**

You are invited to *shower* Baby Elijah, son of Brady and Jasmin, with gifts and love and welcome him to our Trinity Family.

**Date:** Sunday, October 1st

**Time:** Following Worship

**Place:** Trinity United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall

**RSVP:** Bonnie Ramsey (803) 260-2283

**Registry:** [www.babylist.com](http://www.babylist.com)



**Betty Gleaton**

Bonnie Ramsey  
Mary Kamoroff  
Jo Ann Heiting  
Jim & Marie Stiles  
John & Patsy Zeigler  
Wayne & Charlie Hooker  
Ray & Gale Frady

**John Nowakoski**

Ray & Gale Frady

**Jeff Kososki**

Ray & Gale Frady



Each month we highlight the birthdays of those who are turning 85 or older.

**September 28**

Hilda Edwards  
1186 Gunter Circle  
West Columbia, SC 29169

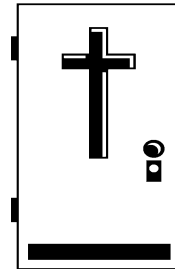


**WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to:**

***Tommy and Joan Gleaton and family*** on the death of his mother, ***Betty Gleaton***, on Monday, August 1.

***Sherry Henry and family*** on the death of her husband, ***George Henry***, on Sunday, September 3.

**The  
Church  
Office**



**Will Be  
Closed:**

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**



Matthew Martin  
501 N Adair Street  
Clinton, SC 29325-2001

The Church Office will continue to be closed on Fridays.  
The office will be open Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m.  
– 4:30 p.m.

# John's Jotting

## *Sound of Silence*

We have become accustomed to many noises. We experience much ambient noise - the ticking of a clock, car engines, sirens, airplanes, and other motorized gadgets - that we don't really notice the noise. Many stores have music playing while you shop. Many of us turn on the television, radio, or stereo just to have some background noise. When we make a call and are put on hold, we listen to music along with a recording telling us how important our call is.

We hear so much noise that we rarely experience silence. We probably experience so much noise that we become uncomfortable with silence. In conversations, we feel uncomfortable with silence. We feel like we must say something to keep the conversation going. We have become so accustomed to noise, that we do not like silence.

Then there is internal noise. Our thoughts are racing with everything we have to do. We stress about work, school, children, and grandchildren. We worry about our health. External and internal noise surrounds us. With so much noise, how can we hear God's voice?

In 1 Kings 19, the prophet Elijah is fleeing from Queen Jezebel. He has decided to give up and prays to die. He cannot hear God amidst the noise of Jezebel's threats and his fear. The LORD tells Elijah to go to Mt. Horeb, the mountain of God. God sustains Elijah throughout the journey. The LORD tells Elijah to stand on the mountain, for the LORD is going to pass by.

Elijah experiences a strong wind that breaks rocks into pieces, but the LORD is not in the wind. Then comes a mighty earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. Next comes a fire (the Hebrew actually reads the stench of fire), but the LORD was not in the fire or smoke. The LORD did not speak to Elijah by any of these noisy means.

Elijah hears the LORD in a "still, small voice" (KJV, RSV). Others translate this phrase as the "sound of sheer silence" (NRSV), "a gentle whisper" (NIV), a "sound, thin, quiet" (CEB), or "a gentle blowing" (NASB). The Hebrew could also be translated as "sheer, thin, calm." All these translations denote a sense of quiet, gentle, calm, delicate, barely a sound. It is in this quiet, delicate, calm, almost silent sound we hear the voice of the LORD.

Some of my most holy moments with people have been in times of silence. The most therapeutic act was sitting in silence with a client after some insight, letting the revelation soak in. A young woman with stage four cancer spent half an hour grieving her losses, particularly not seeing her son graduate from high school. All I could do was sit with her in silence. In the silence, I knew the presence of God was with me.

We do not hear God's voice or feel God's presence in the noise, wind, earthquakes, or fires in our lives. We hear God or feel God's presence when we are quiet, calm, and still. Then we can feel the gentle whisper, the thin, quiet sound of God. We may not necessarily hear God's voice audibly, but we may experience God's presence in the sound of silence.

Try sitting in silence for five minutes away from the external noise. Let the internal noise flow from you. At first, this may seem like a long time. It may take that long to clear the internal noise. Increase the time in silence as you wish and are able. While you may not hear the voice of God, you will experience God's presence and peace. You will be better able to deal with the noise of the world.

Shalom,  
John



Even as we try to quiet ourselves, we enter the hectic time in the Methodist calendar known as Charge Conference season. Trinity's has been scheduled for September 19, at 7:30 pm. In addition to the usual reports and celebrations of our ministry at Trinity, we will be voting on a resolution to adopt a new church structure. The new structure will consist of an administrative team and a ministry team of nine people each. The administrative teams will serve as the Trustees, SPRC, and finance committees. All the ministries of the church will be through the ministry team. These teams will be surrounded by a prayer team who will pray for God's guidance for the teams whenever they meet. All members of the church are encouraged to attend the Charge Conference.

**EPWORTH WORK DAY OFFERING  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, is the annual Work Day offering for Epworth Children's Home. This tradition dates back decades to when Methodists were challenged to "Give a Day's Pay" to the children at Epworth. While the emphasis has shifted a bit over the years, it is still important that we come together to provide spiritual, educational, emotional, and physical support for the children at Epworth. As you consider what God is calling you to give to support our church's ministry to children, remember Christ's command to let the little children come to him. He embraces them, welcomes them, loves them, and teaches them. Epworth is answering this call to let the little children come. Your generous contribution to our church's ministry enables transformation to happen for the children who are served by Epworth. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, please visit [www.epworthchildrenshome.org](http://www.epworthchildrenshome.org).