

# God's Love In Action

GLIA: the essential element, or glue,  
which connects the tissue found in the nerve centers of the body

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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.

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NOVEMBER 2023

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## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 5

All Saints Sunday is November 5. On this Sunday, we will remember loved ones that have passed away since last November.



Congratulations to *Charlie and Ashton Rogers* on the birth of their daughter, *Elizabeth Louise Rogers*, on Tuesday, October 31, at 8:33 a.m. She weighed 8 lbs 8 ozs. *Elizabeth Louise* is the granddaughter of *John and Kay Jordan*.



Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday, November 5. Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour.



Each month we highlight the birthdays of those who are turning 85 or older. There are none in November.



Tuesday, November 21  
11 a.m.

The Grief Support Group will meet on Tuesday, November 21, at 11 a.m. in the Conference Room. This group is open to everyone.



How often do we say, "I wish we could keep the joy of Christmas year round." During Advent, I will begin a study on finding and keeping joy. The study will be based primarily on *The Book of Joy*, a series of interviews with Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Dali Lama. Join me as we learn to live a joyful life.



Sunday, November 26

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, will be held on Sunday, November 26. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and great fellowship!



**George Henry**

Jeanette Hornsby  
Dottie Sistare  
Iratine Henry  
Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

**Betty Gleaton**

Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

**Georgeann Pace**

Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

**Steve Aillo**

Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

**Shirley Butler**

Nell Cooke  
Hilda Edwards  
Jim & Marie Stiles  
Wayne & Charlie Hooker  
Tom & Marilyn Lloyd  
Jo Ann Heiting  
Bonnie Ramsey  
Mary Kamoroff

**Dianne Schmotzer**

Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

**Mildred Perry**

Tom & Marilyn Lloyd



THANKSGIVING  
**LUNCH**

**Mt. Hebron UMC**  
**Thursday, November 16**  
**12 p.m.**

Mt. Hebron will have their annual Thanksgiving Lunch on Thursday, November 16, at 12 p.m. This year, they are opening the meal up to several churches, including Trinity.

Senior Adults (60+) are invited to partake of the lunch that includes Turkey, Ham, Country Style Vegetables with all the fixings prepared by Tyler Jackson. There will be a variety of desserts. The cost of the meal is \$8.00 and a sign-up sheet is on the Gathering Area Table. The deadline to sign up is November 12.



**WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to:**

**Larry Butler and family** on the death of his mother, **Shirley Butler**, on October 21. Please keep **Larry and his family** in your prayers.



**Sunday, December 17**  
Christmas Cantata

**Sunday, December 24**

Lessons and Carols, 11 a.m.  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6 p.m.

# John's Jotting

## *Deceit*

Deceit is one of Satan's tools. It leads us down a path of harm to ourselves or others. It may be a distortion of the truth or outright lies. Deceit may play on our emotions, leading us to make decisions that we would not ordinarily make. In this article, I want to focus on deceit that affects us directly.

During the holiday season, there is often a rise in scams. People will try to get our personal information through fraudulent means, often through an e-mail or text message from a bank, the IRS, or the Social Security Administration. The message may say that your account is locked, you owe more taxes, or you were overpaid with a number to call. **Do Not Call That Number!**

If it is from a bank, read the message carefully to ensure you have an active account at that bank. I have received messages from banks where I have never had an account. If it is from your bank, call the customer service number in your account information, not the number on the message.

If it is the IRS or Social Security, ignore and delete the message. Governmental agencies do not communicate through e-mail or text but only by letter. Of course, there may be scam letters. If you feel uncertain about a letter you receive, call the agency directly, not the number on the letter.

Another common scam is that you owe for services. A couple of weeks ago I dropped my laptop at Best Buy for servicing. I purchased the Geek Squad membership to save money for any repairs. The next day we received an Email from Best Buy with an invoice for the cost of the membership and virus protection. We did not order the virus protection so we started to call the number given to cancel the service. However, something did not seem right, so I looked up and called the Best Buy customer service numbers. Sure enough, this was a scam. The invoice was fake. If you receive a notification that you owe for a service you did not order, ignore or call the company customer service number. Do not call the number on the message.

Another common scam this time of year is a message that you have a package at the Post office that cannot be delivered and need to call to pick up or schedule a delivery. Do not respond. The Post office does not communicate through text or email. The mail carrier will leave a note in the mailbox if something needs to be picked up.

Social media is another means that scammers and predators use. They look at profiles on social media platforms to glean information for potential victims. They will find out if a person has lost a loved one and is in a fragile state and exploit it. The posts of your two-week vacation may let burglars know you are out of town. Predators will give false information on their profiles. They may ask for pictures, especially from children and adolescents.

Kids, as your pastor, I implore you, if someone asks for pictures of you **do not send them!** People will use them to exploit you to do things you do not want to do. One of the causes of suicide among young people is exploitation. Parents, monitor your child's social media activity.

These are just a few of the ways we may be deceived. There are so many ways people can get information from us. Kay and I have experienced identity theft and know how hard it is to clean up. The bottom line is to stop and think before acting. If it doesn't seem right, it probably isn't, and verify the information by contacting the company or agency number, not the number on the message. Do not give information to anybody you do not know. Keep yourself safe from deceit.

Shalom,

John