

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.

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JANUARY 2024



Grieving with God
Tuesday, January 9
(Change of Date)
11 a.m.

The Grief Support Group will now meet on the **second Tuesday of every month** at 11 a.m. in the Conference Room. This group is open to everyone.



Wednesday's Words
Every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.

This month I will continue the series Finding and Keeping Joy based on the *Book of Joy* by Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Dali Lama. You may participate in person in the sanctuary or on our YouTube channel. After this series, I will begin a series on United Methodist beliefs. This will be ongoing and open to any topics you might like to discuss. Come or tune in on Wednesdays at 11:30 am.



Sunday, January 28

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, resumes this month and will be held on Sunday, January 28. It will continue on the fourth Sunday of every month. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and great fellowship!



Church Council will meet on Sunday, January 28, immediately following Taste of Trinity.

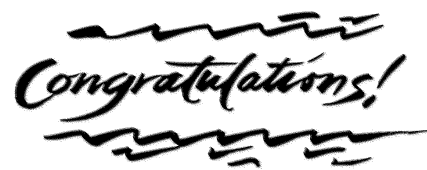


Mondays & Thursdays
10:30 a.m.

The Exercise Class meets every Monday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to join the class at any time. It's a great way to start the year!



Congratulations to *Jeremy and Hannah Glanz* on the birth of their daughter, *Magnolia Mae Glanz*, on Monday, December 4, 2023. *Magnolia Mae* is the granddaughter of *Donna Easterling Becude*.



Congratulats to *Anna Kamoroff* on her graduation from USC on December 18th with a Master's of Art in Teaching in art education.



Each month we highlight the birthdays of those who are turning 85 or older. The birthdays for January are:

January 28

Linda Maloch

C/O Lee Maloch

1070 Northshore Drive

Roswell, GA 30076

January 31

Patsy Shuler

1412 Cardinal Drive

West Columbia, SC 29169



Jewel Percy

Laura & Robert Behre

Andy & Fran Jones

Richard & Elizabeth Jones

Shirley Butler

John & Sue Ballentine
Patsy Shuler

Betty Gleaton

John & Sue Ballentine

George Henry

John & Sue Ballentine

Georgeann Pace

John & Sue Ballentine

Steve Aiello

John & Sue Ballentine

Diane Schmotzer

John & Sue Ballentine



Dear Church Family,

It is with a grateful heart I send my thanks for an interesting and beautiful gift bag. I really appreciate everyone's time and effort in assembling these gifts.

Love in Christ,
Libby Strickland



Dear Trinity UMC,

Thank you so much for your continuing support. It greatly helps in providing assistance through our community.

Sincerely,
God's Helping Hands



Dear Trinity United Methodist Church:

Thanks to donors like you, Killingsworth has been able to fulfill its mission serving women in crisis for the past 76 years. Without your support, transformations would be impossible. Your support is greatly appreciated. Your kindness and generosity are making a difference. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Susan Simons
Interim Executive Director of Killingsworth

Dear Trinity United Methodist Church:

Thank you for supporting our 2023 In Person Gala! Your sponsorship goes far beyond this event and your support makes an immediate impact on the residents of Killingsworth. Please know that the residents, staff, and Killingsworth Board greatly appreciate your generosity.

Sincerely,
Susan Simons
Interim Executive Director of Killingsworth



Reminder: This is the last GLIA that will be received in the mail. Next month we will begin sending the GLIA by email. You will also be able to see it on our website. Please make sure we have your email address so that you can continue to receive the GLIA. If you do not have internet access, please call the Church Office.

The **Offering Envelopes** are now available in the Gathering Area. If you would like envelopes, but don't see your name, please call the Church Office and I will prepare them for you.

John's Jotting

Kitchen Table Relationship

Last month, I wrote about going on to perfection. One of the questions asked of all Methodist ordinands from the time of Wesley is, "Are you going on to perfection?" This question is not limited to ordained clergy but one for all Christians. Christian Perfection is experiencing the complete love of and for God with all of the heart, mind, soul, and strength, then loving your neighbor as yourself. We should grow in our love for God and our neighbors every day.

The emphasis of Christian Perfection is on our relationship with God, not our actions. Our actions arise from our relationship with God. We go on to perfection as we develop a closer, more intimate relationship with God. This relationship with God is much like a relationship with a new neighbor.

You move into a new neighborhood. Someone knocks on the door a few days after the moving trucks are gone. They introduce themselves as the next-door neighbor. You step out onto the porch and chat for a few minutes. After finding out some basic information, they leave. The conversation only lasts a few minutes.

Time passes, and you wave at the neighbors as they walk past. After a while, you may stop and chat. Eventually, the conversations become longer, and you invite them to sit on the front porch. You invite them into the house when you feel more comfortable with them. At first, you may sit in the living room. Then, you move into the den. Finally, you become intimate enough that they are welcome to sit at the kitchen table, even if dirty dishes are in the sink.

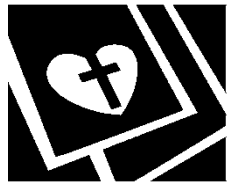
With people, the relationship grows. You gradually invite them into the more intimate areas of your home and life as you get to know them. You do not invite a total stranger into your kitchen, or keep a close friend outside, in the yard.

In many ways, our relationship with God is the same. As we go on to perfection, we invite God into the more intimate aspects of our lives. God invites us into his house. At first, we may only be comfortable on the front porch. But as our relationship with God grows, we go deeper into God's house. Eventually, we may get to the point where we are comfortable at God's kitchen table and having God at our kitchen table, even with our dirty dishes in the sink.

In this new year, let us grow more intimate in our relationship with God. If we are chatting with God in the yard, may we move to the front porch. If we are on the front porch, invite God into our house and lives. May we reach the point where we can invite God to sit at our kitchen table with us, even with our dirty dishes. The relationship God wants to have with us is to be able to sit at our kitchen table and even help wash those dirty dishes.

Shalom,

John



FROM THE PASTOR

During 2024, let us pray for our church. Pray for the United Methodist Church as we hold the first General Conference since 2019 and deal with the issues that have divided the denomination. Pray for the Annual Conference as we respond to the decisions made at the General Conference. Pray for Trinity as we begin a new day with a new organization. Pray that we are more strategic and efficient in our mission and outreach. As we pray for our church, let us pray that God's will be done, not ours. Let us pray to be the church God wants us to be, not the church we want to be. Remember that we are God's Church, doing God's mission to bring all people to God.

This year, we begin a new organizational structure. The structure consists of an Administrative team, which handles all the administrative tasks of the church, a Ministry team, which handles all the ministry functions of the church, and a prayer team that prays for the teams. The Members of each team are listed below:

Administrative Team- functions as Trustees, SPRC, and Finance Committees

Tom Geddens- SPRC/Chair	Sue Ballentine- Lay Leader	Chris Derrick- SPRC
Ted Frady- Trustee	Jo Ann Heiting- Treasurer	Wayne Hooker- Trustee
Brandon Jones- Young Adult	Bonnie Ramsey- Finance	Marie Stiles- Delegate to AC

Ministry Team- Coordinates all ministry activities of the church

Patsy Boggs	Erin Derrick	Ruth Frady
Dan Greshel	Jeanette Hornsby	Kelsey Jones
Mary Sue Lewis	Jim Stiles	Slone Taylor

Prayer Team- Prays for the committees whenever they meet

Becky Derrick	Hilda Edwards	English Percy
John Zeigler	Patsy Zeigler	