

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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MARCH 2024



Sunday, March 10

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 10. Don't forget to spring forward.



**Grieving with God
Tuesday, March 12**

All who are on the journey of grief are invited to join us each second Tuesday in the Conference Room of the church. We have named our grief support group "Grieving with God" for this second year of our meetings. Job, the ancient man who lost so much, has been subject of many of our discussions so far. We are also using as the basis of our movement through the year the book "Good Grief" by Granger E. Westberg. Copies are available each session and in the church office. Ten processes of grief are noted in this classic little book. Retired Hospice and Palliative Care Chaplain from Richland Hospital, Jerry Fonte, facilitates discussion, which is open, free and sympathetic to each other. Our next session is Tuesday, March 12, at 11:00 a.m. Tell someone that you know is grieving, and join them in our discussions



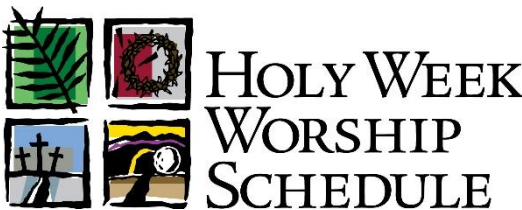
Sunday, March 24

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

Please Note: The Ministry Team will meet immediately following Taste of Trinity.



On Sunday, March 3, we celebrated the baptism of **Elizabeth Louise Rogers**. She is the daughter of **Charlie and Ashton Rogers**, and the granddaughter of **John and Kay Jordan** and **L. B. and Carole Rogers**.



Sunday, March 24	Trinity UMC	Debbie Miller
Monday, March 25	Brookland	Morgan Byers
Tuesday, March 26	Shiloh	Mark Payne
Wednesday, March 27	Platt Springs	John Jordan
Thursday, March 28	Trinity UMC	John Jordan

All services start at 6 p.m. Mark your calendars for these times of worship and fellowship with our sister United Methodist churches in the West Metro Area.



**Saturday, March 30
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Join us for a morning of fun as we meet in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 30, at 10:30 a.m. for an Easter Egg Hunt! There will also be crafts and refreshments!

We are in need of small wrapped candy to fill the eggs or donations to purchase the candy. The candy and donations can be dropped off at the Church Office through Thursday, March 28.



Wayne Lineberger
Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

David Robinson
Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

Larry Butler
Jeanette Hornsby
Tom & Marilyn Lloyd

George Taylor, Sr.
Joyce Robinson
Shelby Corley

Carlis Edwards
Ted & Ruth Frady
Joyce Robinson
Judy Bishop
Lynn Martin & Family
David & Nell Scott
Jeanette Hornsby
Charles & Margaret Tisdale



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



Easter Sunday
March 31

Easter is traditionally a time of joy, but in this year's Easter Cantata we will also look at the despair that the followers of Jesus experienced before that first Easter dawned upon them. We will look back with them at the memories and reflections of their life with Jesus. We'll share the impact of his death before coming to the joy of new life through his spirit, which brought them, as it will bring us, from despair to joy, which is the theme of this year's Easter Cantata. Please join us on Easter morning, Sunday March 31, for "From Despair to Joy".



Instead of purchasing lilies this year, we ask that you give an honorarium or memorial for a loved one. All money given in lieu of lilies will go to the **University of South Carolina Food Pantry**. We would like to have all donations in by March 24. A special insert listing memorials and honorariums will be in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.



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

This month I will continue the series on United Methodist beliefs. You may participate in person in the sanctuary or on our YouTube channel. Wednesday's Words will be ongoing and open to any topics you might like to discuss. Come or tune in on Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m.

John's Jottings

Looking at Church Differently

Many people may be discouraged as they look at our worship attendance. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, we were averaging 63 in worship, an increase from prior years. In 2023, we averaged 35 in worship, a 45% decrease from prepandemic attendance. While these numbers may be discouraging, we must consider that our average attendance in 2022 was 28. Thus, we have had a 25% increase in attendance.

We have to remember that this is in-person attendance. We are averaging an estimated 14 worshippers online. Many of these may not participate in Sunday Morning, but they worship when they can. We may reach homebound members or those who work Sunday mornings. We may reach members who live out of town but want to maintain a connection. We may reach others who have no church and are exploring. These people are a part of Trinity, even though we may not know who they are.

Since the pandemic, we started a Transformation and Growth Group. This group focuses on the member's spiritual growth. I hope more T.a.G. groups will be formed in the future. Presently, all T.a.G. members belong to Trinity but the groups are for anyone seeking to grow spiritually.

In response to the number of deaths in the congregation, we began a grief support group. This group meets every second Tuesday of the Month at 11:00 am. Twelve different people attended the group. Some were not members of Trinity. This group is open to anyone needing support in navigating grief.

In February, we began a Women's Fellowship group. Seventeen women of all ages met for brunch at a local

restaurant. Four generations of one family attended. The women plan to continue activities at least once a month.

I mention these to remind us that church is not just Sunday Morning worship. The presenter at Bishop's School of Ministry stated we have to look at church differently. The people participating online are just as invested in the worship service as those in the pews. The church is when and where the people of God gather. The groups I mentioned are the church just as much as the 11:00 am worship service.

Church can be a group gathering for a book study at a coffee shop. It can be people meeting in someone's home to share a common interest. It can be a group of kids on a hike. It can be people working in a community garden. Anything we can imagine that brings people together can be church.

We must remember our mission is to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. It is not to fill the building on Sunday morning at 11:00. A church can have seemingly meager numbers in the building on Sunday Morning but be a vibrant church. This happens by having church in many different ways and times. Any activity is church as long as it inspires, nurtures, connects, and transforms people to become disciples of Christ.

If you have an idea of a way we can be church at Trinity, contact a member of our ministry team. The team will meet every month after the Taste of Trinity so you can bring your idea to the Team. Trinity can grow even if our numbers on Sunday morning don't.

Shalom,
John

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
					1 Diane Muszynski Office Closed	2
3 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Holy Communion Snacks & A Movie, 4 p.m.	4 Christie Maloy Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.	5 Donovan Barilleaux	6 Wednesday's Words, 11:30 a.m. Choir, 6 p.m. T.a.G., 7 p.m.	7 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.	8 Office Closed	9
10 Bella Prevuznak Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Birthday Celebration	11 Latson Lewis Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.	12 Grieving with God, 11 a.m.	13 Ann Marie Harbert Wednesday's Words, 11:30 a.m. Choir, 6 p.m. T.a.G., 7 p.m..	14 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.	15 Office Closed	16
17 Sue Ballentine Lily Warble Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m.	18 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.	19 Alice Jones 	20 Wednesday's Words, 11:30 a.m. Choir, 6 p.m. T.a.G., 7 p.m.	21 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m. GLIA Articles Due	22 Office Closed	23 Annie Kate Moore
24 Dylan Edwards Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m.. Taste of Trinity Ministry Team Meeting Holy Week Service @ Trinity, 6 p.m..	25 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m. Service @ Brookland, 6 p.m.	26 Service @ Shiloh, 6 p.m.	27 Wednesday's Words, 11:30 a.m. Service @ Platt Springs, 6 p.m. Choir, 6 p.m.	28 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m. Maundy Thursday Service, 6 p.m. @ Trinity	29 Everly Branham Office Closed	30 Jad Driggers Easter Egg Hunt, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
31 Easter Sunday Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Easter Cantata						

MARCH 2024

Flowers: Time Together:	<u>03/03</u> Jordan/Rogers	<u>03/10</u> Laurie Knapp	<u>03/17</u> Needed	<u>03/24</u> Needed	<u>03/31</u> Needed
	Jack Stevens; Pam Turner	Ruth Frady	Joyce Robinson; Slone Taylor	No Time Together	Wayne & Charlie Hooker



English Pearcy Patsy Zeigler Charlie Hooker Kaye Floyd Patsy Shuler Taylor Linholm
Becky Derrick John Ballentine Mary Kamoroff Jimmy Grahl Latson Lewis Christopher McCroskey

Shut-Ins: Esther Carter; Gillett Hipp; Linda Maloch; Jean Raynor; Claudia Sineath

Family and Friends: **Logan Sturkie** (*granddaughter of Marty Johnson’s neighbor*); **Bryan Collard** (*brother-in-law of Mary Sue Lewis*); **Charlyn McNeill** (*sister of Mary Sue Lewis*); **Elizabeth Kelsey & Jamie Barnett** (*friends of John & Kay Jordan*); **Alex Courtney** (*friend of great nephew of Joyce Robinson*); **Lawrence Gilbert** (*friend of Becky Derrick*); **Bob Bohnstengel** (*spouse of Jo Ann Heiting’s cousin*); **Judy Spence** (*former member*); **Anne Piercy** (*former member*); **Missy Abrams** (*stepdaughter of Lissa Abrams*); **Mary Davis** (*daughter of Bob & Libby Strickland*); **Gloria Erd** (*friend of Lynn Martin*); **Pearl Geddens** (*mother of Tom Geddens*); **Beverly Lipscomb** (*sister-in-law of John Jordan*); **Ross Deal** (*grandson of Mary Kamoroff*); **Nancy Wilson** (*friend of Jeanette Hornsby*); **David Turner** (*brother of Pam Turner*); **Ernie & Betsey Hendrix, Chip Mixon** (*friends of Tommy Gleaton*); **Ron & Janet Walker** (*friends of Tommy & Chris Gleaton*); **Merit Takach** (*friend of Joyce and Brent Robinson*); **James Boggs** (*father of Claire Boggs*); **Stacy Coggins** (*daughter of Steve Aiello*); **Sweat Family** (*friends of Marty Johnson*); **Bill Areheart** (*friend of Bonnie Ramsey*); **David Grandshaw** (*brother-in-law of Edwa Meek*); **Robert Bradley** (*Business Associate of Simon Ross*); **Gary Becton** (*friend of Mark Branham*); **Florence Lee Carter, Monnie Tiller** (*friends of Chris Derrick*); **Adrin & Linda Hargett** (*stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey*); **Alexa Lookingbill, Teddy Derrick** (*uncle of Arvan Derrick*); **Haidee Baehr** (*friends of Ruth Frady*); **Denise Paul, Scott & Karen Nelson** (*cousins of Gale Frady*); **Dan Conner, Max Johnson** (*friends of Gale Frady*); **Bernardo Velasquez, Walt & Janet Beck** (*friends of Jo Ann Heiting*); **Adam Lavender** (*son of Phil Lavender*)

If you have a friend or family member on the Prayer List, we ask you to please keep us updated. If no word is received, we will trust that our prayers have been answered and remove the name. To update us, please call the office or e-mail us at trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com.

GOD’S HELPING HANDS

Special Needs for March

Crackers (No Saltines)
Juice
Canned Fruit
Flour
Sugar
Liquid Dish Soap
Jiffy Mix
Pasta Sauce
Powdered Milk
Evaporated Milk
Canned Meat
Cooking Oil (Regular)
Small Boxes of Powdered Detergent

Prefer lift tops for canned goods if possible.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

February 2024

Needed in February

\$ 18,562.00

Given in February

\$ 16,046.33

YTD Needed

\$ 37,124.00

YTD Given

\$ 32,294.36

ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY

<u>In-Person</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>Worship</u>
02/04	13	26
02/11	14	28
02/18	15	37
02/25	15	39