



Trinity Times

**Volume 9, Issue 1-2**

**January & February 2021**



Following the Light of Christ

*“In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’”*

We are in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is the time that the church celebrates the coming of the magi or the wise men—the kings from the east—to behold the birth of Christ. They followed a star—a star that lit the sky and guided them to the infant Jesus. It is a time that we read of the light of that star, the light of Christ, the light of the people. As we navigate our lives, we inevitably experience periods of darkness. But if we follow the light of Christ, we will always defeat the darkness whatever the cause. As I write this message to you, our great nation is reeling from a mob of insurrectionists who crashed into the Capitol in Washington and shut down the government for hours. Not since 1814 had we experienced such a breach. We cannot help but be wounded by that. Such events cause us to struggle with darkness. But we know what we must

Do. We must reach out for the light of Christ.

We read in Matthew. “After Jesus was born in

Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. They asked, ‘Where is the newborn King of the Jews? We have seen his star in the east, and we’ve come to honor him.’” A star is the brightest celestial body in the universe. It is the epitome of light. So bright and so powerful that it warms the planets. It is that light that guided the Magi. It is that true light, manifested in the Christ child, which enlightens everyone. Christ has come into the world! That is what why we celebrate Epiphany. That is why we celebrate this season. Let us all see the bright star of the light of Christ. And neither the darkness of a deadly pandemic nor the upheaval of insurrection, nor anything else can blot out that light. That is what lifts our hearts. That is what gives us hope. Christ is our hope!

Blessings,

Pastor C hales Wilbanks



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Trinity United Methodist Church

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PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN!

Peggy Bogart, Church Secretary

Head Usher: Harry Longshore

Choir Director: Jane Pollard

Organist: Eddie Welborn

Video Board: Josh Pitts, Caroline Senn, Bryan Waldrop

Acolytes/Cross Bearers Coordinator: Eli Martin

Newsletter Editor: Harriet Stevenson

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We are a caring church and want to share your concerns. Let us know if you or someone you know would like to share a prayer request with us. We will be happy to pray for you. Contact Peggy Bogart, Church Secretary, or Pastor Charles, to add or remove names from the list.

***Trinity Church Members****: Jane and Robert Pollard, James and Jeanette Poag, Shirley Berry, Cheryl Longshore, Gloria Brehmer, Rebecca Bundrick, Mary Forrest*

***Family and friends of Trinity:*** *Sandra Kenney, Robert Duffie, Kerry Franklin, Blake Hendrix, Jennie O’Shields, Phillip Sanders, Neal and Irene Whatley, Eddie Fisk, Kathy Fails, Jimmy Dennis*



4-Debbie Waldrop 15-Coleman Waldrop

5-Christine Hendrix 19-Ron Stevenson

5-Susan Longshore 22-Chesley Brehmer

9-Donna Pollard 25-Frank Somers

10-Watkins Martin 25-Dillon Morris

14- Emily Senn 29-Dixie Waldrop

15- Betty Way



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|  *3 - Caroline Senn* |  |
|  *4 - Hugh Boyd Davenport Jr.* |
|  *5 – Cindy Lindler* |  |
|  *6 – Kella Battiste* |
|  *7 – Kim Eubanks* *9 – Lisha Senn* |  |
|  *9 – Gary Holmes* |  |
|  *11 – Sarah Mohler* |  |
|  *12 – Luke Brehmer* |  |
|  *23 – Clarissa Hendrix* |  |
|  *28 – April Wilson* |  |
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| **METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (MYF**) – Josh and Erin Pitts, LeadersThe MYF will meet on January 10th and 24th at the church at 5:00 p.m. Beginning Sunday, January 10th, there will be a collection box in the narthex for all non-perishable food donations along with a collection bucket for any monetary donations for **Souper Bowl of Caring**. We will be collecting food donations until Feb. 7th and all of our donations will go to the **Pomaria Food Bank**. As long as COVID allows us to do so, we will be delivering these donations and volunteering at the Food Bank in February. If anyone who is not attending church due to COVID would like to make a monetary donation, you may reach out to Josh or Erin and they will make arrangements to get the donation. If anyone would like to make a food donation, you may drive by and place it in the new Blessing Box located outside the church. February meetings: Check the Trinity FB page for dates as we get closer to February. **Continue to Support the Church**During this time of lockdowns and shutdowns,  continue to support the church with your offerings and tithes. If you are not worshipping in our sanctuaries, please send your support to the church (1160 Trinity Church Rd., Newberry). For New Chapel, provide your offerings and tithes in the manner which has been previously suggested. New envelopes are now available at Trinity in the Narthex of the church. If you have any questions contact the pastor at (803) 206-4623. |

We will continue to have in-person services at Trinity each Sunday. Right now we are averaging around 20 people each week. We would very much like to see that number grow. We wear masks and conform to social distancing. The only way to know if you feel comfortable attending is to join us one Sunday and find out. If you do not feel comfortable attending in person at this time, we are continuing to live stream our services on the Trinity UMC Facebook page and encourage you to join us there. In person and live streaming is at 11:00 a.m. If you miss the 11:00 a.m. service, you can go back and watch it at any time.



**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL WILL MEET MONDAY, JAN. 11TH AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY. PLEASE WEAR MASKS AND CONFORM TO 6 FT. SOCIAL DISTANCING.**

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**Calendar for January and February 2021**

January 1 New Year’s Day

**January 3** **Epiphany Sunday**

**January 5** **Twelfth Night**

**January 6** **Epiphany**

**January 10** **Baptism of the Lord**

January 10 MYF meets at Church @ 5:30 p.m.

January 11 Meeting of Trinity Administrative Council – 7:00 p.m.

January 11 Human Trafficking Awareness Day

**January 17** **Second Sunday After Epiphany**

January 17 Human Relations Day

January 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**January 18-25** **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**January 24** **Ecumenical Sunday – Third Sunday after Epiphany**

January 24 MYF meets at the Church @ 5:30 p.m.

**January 31** **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

February Black History Month

February American Heart Month

February 1 National Freedom Day

February 2 Groundhog Day

**February 7** **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

**February14** **Transfiguration Sunday**

February 14 Scouting Sunday

February 14 Valentine’s Day

February 15 President’s Day

**February 17** **ASH WEDNESDAY**

**February 17 IMPOSITION OF ASHES SERVICE – 7:00 P.M.**

**February 21** **First Sunday in Lent**

February 22 Washington’s Birthday

February 28 Second Sunday in Lent



**For every $6.00 donated, a $1.00 matching donation will be made to the MYF’s charity, the Pomaria Community Food Bank. This is new this year, so take advantage of this generous gift from Eastminister Presbyterian Church in Columbia. South Carolina hopes to raise One Million Dollars to Tackle Hunger in South Carolina.**

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**Completion of Confirmation Classes**

2020 Confirmation Class: During Lent we will finish the last two sessions of the Confirmation Class which was begun last year and suspended because of COVID-19 concerns. We need the names of the youth who wish to finish that class. Just call or email those names to the Pastor anytime or call or email Peggy in the church office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-12. We plan to meet in the sanctuary at Trinity March 14th and March 21st at 2PM. **Confirmation Sunday will be on Easter April 4th.**



**2021 Confirmation Class**: There may be youth who will be entering the sixth grade or higher in the Fall of 2021. We are offering the opportunity to begin a confirmation class during Lent this year. The new class will meet in the sanctuary at Trinity the following dates at 2PM: February 21st, February 28th, March 14th, March 21st, and March 28th. **Confirmation Sunday will be on Easter, April 4th.**



**ASH WEDNESDAY – Imposition of Ashes – Join us at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity.**

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent, a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, and spiritual discipline. Although Ash Wednesday has ancient roots, it does not appear in the rituals of The United Methodist Church or our predecessor denominations until the 20th century. Ash Wednesday emphasizes two themes: our sinfulness before God and our human mortality. The service focuses on both themes, helping us realize that both have been triumphed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In many churches the ashes are made by burning the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday. The imposition of ashes on the foreheads of Christians to mark the beginning of Lent can be traced at least to the 10th century.

As the ashes are placed on the forehead, words such as these are spoken: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return," recalling God's words to Adam in Genesis 3:19, or “Repent, and believe the gospel” recalling the message of both John the Baptist and Jesus (Mark 1:15).Through the [service of ashes](https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/a-service-of-worship-for-ash-wednesday) on the first day of Lent, we come before God recognizing our humanity, repenting of our sin, and remembering [who we are and who we can be](https://www.umc.org/en/content/why-ashes-connecting-to-who-we-are-and-who-we-can-be).

Reprinted from United Methodist Communications.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY FOR 2021**

If you have any changes, additions, or deletions to the church directory, i.e. address or phone numbers, etc. please give to Peggy Bogart, the church secretary, as soon as possible. We hope to have the directory ready in the near future.

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