



The Mustard Seed

"If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed . . . nothing will be impossible for you."

A Note From the Pastor

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,

As I sit to write this letter, I find myself thinking about the past year or so (as I tend to do near the end of each year). We have been through a period of tribulation unlike any before in our lifetimes. We have had to redefine how we worship, interact with others, and just about every aspect of our lives. We have seen political divides widen, church attendance decline, and everything get locked down. Yet here we are! The pandemic seems to be winding down or maybe we are getting used to a new normal. Politics is, well politics... We seem to be returning to normal with some changes thrown in. Here at Trinity UMC, we are so ready to have things the way they were.

First let me assure you, we are continuing our online presence. If you do not feel comfortable yet that is perfectly fine. I believe that the pandemic has taught us that a good online presence is a bonus. Our church reaching out through our website, Facebook, and YouTube, is a great way to include people that cannot attend in person. Think of the time you really wanted to attend worship but were sick. Now you can attend online. Traveling? Attend online at your leisure. (The Facebook videos are left up for thirty days.) Don't live in Murfreesboro? You can still join us for worship. We have several families from across the nation that do so and at least one internationally. This is a real silver lining to the pandemic cloud.

Our first event in November is All Saints Day. We will have a special service of honor and remembrance of all the saints that have passed on before us. Christ the King Sunday follows three weeks later directly followed by Thanksgiving! Advent begins on November 28th with a Hanging of the Greens service. We are hanging this greenery differently this year. We will decorate the church during Sunday Services and learn about the various symbolic meanings of the decorations. December will be full of activities for the whole family to enjoy including three Christmas Eve Services, a play, and a cantata.

Wednesday night meals are back on beginning November 3. Please sign up your group to do a meal! For other activities please see the church calendar. The Wednesday night Bible studies will be continuing. I will be leading an Advent Bible Study and the women's Bible study is being led by Betty Lane (currently on break until after the holidays). Children and Youth will also continue meeting.

This year I am asking that you join me for a symbolic walk to Bethlehem. (Next year we will see it in person!) It is about 100 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the trip Mary and Joseph made, and I challenge you to walk that distance. I know that seems like a long way so you can share the distance with a friend or group. If there are two of you it would be fifty, four equals 25... The idea is to meditate or discuss various scripture each day. More details will be forthcoming. (If you are unable to walk easily you can simply read the scriptures and discuss them with friends.

We are entering a wonderful time of year and an exciting time in the life of Trinity UMC. I invite you to journey with me!

Blessings,
Pastor Tom

Trinity Staff

Pastor

Rev. Tom Pierce, Extension 103
Email: tom.pierce@tnumc.com

Administrative Assistant/Treasurer

Kristen Donahue, Extension 101
Email: trinityumc@comcast.net

Music Director

Stephen Burnette
trinitymusicdirector@comcast.net

Director of Youth Ministries

Sheryl Mabry, Extension 106
Email: trinityyouth@comcast.net

Director of Children's Ministries

Leslie Trail, Extension 105
Email: trinitychild@comcast.net

Trinity Nursery-Preschool Director

Christa Roth, Extension 107
Email: trinityumcpreschool@gmail.com

The Church Family



Prayer Requests

Continue To Pray For

Sadie Agnew, Jackie and Jo Jamison, Shirley Kull, Powell McClellan, Steven Lowel

If you have someone that is in need of prayers, you may call or email the church office (trinityumc@comcast.net or 615-896-0413). We will gladly add them to the prayer list. Names will roll off the prayer list after 2 weeks unless the church is notified. Please specify if a name should be continuously prayed for or a temporary request.

Thank you for your help.

At Home/ Assisted Living / Nursing Homes

Jack Arbuckle-NHC

Lorene Collins-Park View Meadows

Bill Elmore-The Villages

Lorene Fourman-The Villages

Chuck and Marlene Massey-The Villages

Doug & Charlotte Mason-NHC Place, Franklin, TN

Reba Miller-Adams Place

Clarice Stewart-Park View Meadows

Joy Elkins Tribke-Adams Place

Reva Wallis-Adams Place

Military Personnel

Shane Aylesworth, Seth Bell, Chaplain Jen Bowden, Chance Cooke, Tristin Corson, David Foster, Deserae Lacznia, Kelsey Lane, Thomas Lane, Robert Tracey, and the families of service men/women.

The Church Family Birthdays and Anniversaries

November and December Birthdays

November

1	Ashley Fee
2	Will West
3	Kelley McKnight
5	Brenda Whitehead
9	Jim Malpas
10	David Anthony
11	Kathryn Johnson
13	Lorene Collins
14	Eli Robinson
14	Jackie Jamison
16	Zachary Whitehead
16	Bethann Anthony
18	Marjorie Cowell
19	Tom Szejbka
22	Richard Willard
22	Sidney Roy
25	Brittany Leimer
27	Pat Counts
28	Mike Burkitt
28	Sheryl Mabry
29	Joan Vaughn
29	Katie Helms

December

2	Linda Anderson
2	Connie Golson
2	Jo Jamison
3	Al Goss
4	Butch Vaughn
4	Weston Taliaferro
8	Pauline Hackler
8	Ralph Scott
9	Bekah Pate
9	Chris Kiddoo
11	Sue Fultz
12	Sue Cain
12	Gary Johnson
14	Diana Corson
15	Francis Anthony
16	Deanna Frame
19	Julia King
19	Tom Pierce
20	Pam Van Etten
22	Beverly Anthony
23	Betty Parsley
24	Teri Towe
24	Sherrie Sledge
26	Caitlyn Brown
28	Bill Ludholz
29	Alan Young



November and December Anniversaries

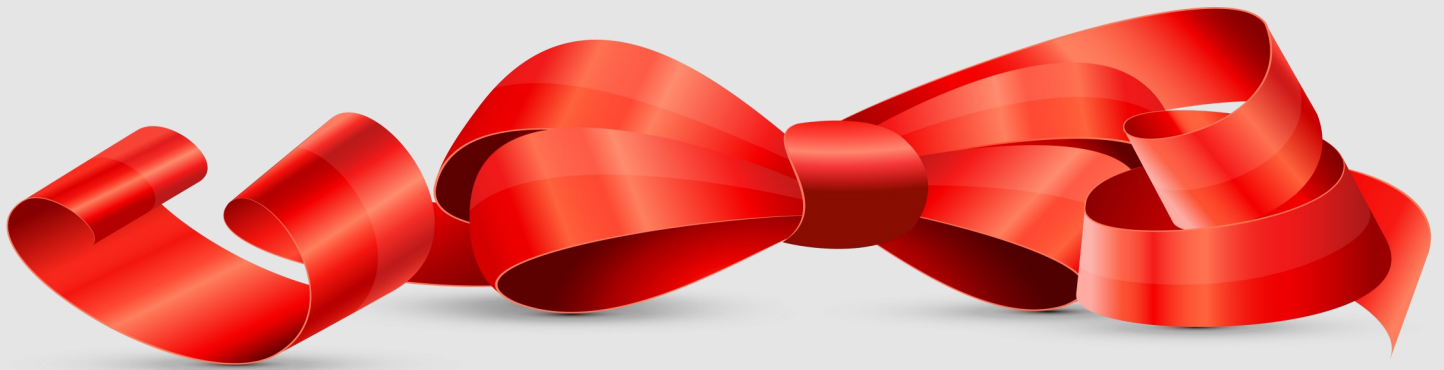
November

15 Kim and Rocky Davis
22 Connie and Butch Golson
25 Patty and Richard Willard

December

2 Pat and Mike Counts
9 Reba and Les Schmidt
28 Lynn and Bill West
29 Leslie and Jeremy Trail

Happy Anniversary



Trinity Finance

2021 Giving and Attendance

8/29/2021	\$2,305.00	57
9/5/2021	\$10,874.00	87
9/12/2021	\$4,275.00	105
9/19/2021	\$6,415.00	70
9/26/2021	\$4,430.00	89
10/3/2021	\$9,391.00	86
10/10/2021	\$10,191.00	110
10/17/2021	\$3,861.00	85
10/24/2021	\$3,606.00	111

Just a quick update from the Finance Committee: Thank you to all of our faithful members who continue to support Trinity with your giving, it has helped Trinity through an unprecedented time. We are pleased to announce that we are not in arrears in any of our payments.

Two quick reminders:

On Communion Sundays, donations left at the altar rail are placed in a discretionary fund which the Pastor can use to help those in need. We have seen a slight decrease in those givings, please give as you are led to.

Secondly as we draw nearer to the end of 2021, please remember that all regular, lump sum and end of year donations need to be made to Trinity no later than Thursday, December 30th.

Thank you,

Your Trinity Finance Committee



TRINITY BULLETIN BOARD

We will adorn our sanctuary with poinsettias during December.

If you would like to place a plant in the sanctuary in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out a form available in the front lobby area, include your payment, and turn in to the church office or collection plate on Sunday morning.

Proceeds will benefit Trinity UMC Scout Groups.

Please make your check payable to **Troop 2019**.

Payment must accompany your order.

The deadline to order is **Sunday, November 14th**.



Wonderful Wednesdays

We will start having meals
Wednesday, November 3rd.
Cost is \$5 per adult and \$3 per
child. Meal starts at 5:30pm and
small groups 6:30pm.

Meal for November 3rd is being provided by
The Sisters In Ministry.

The menu is lasagna, salad, bread, dessert
and drink.

Please make your reservations so groups
will know how much food to prepare by ei-
ther signing the attendance pad Sunday
morning or notifying the church office
(trinityumc@comcast.net or (615) 896-0413
by that Monday evening before the meal.

Volunteer groups are needed to prepare
the meals for November 10, November 17,
December 1 and December 8.

Mission Opportunity

Pull tabs are being collected for the Ronald McDonald House. Your pull tabs can be dropped off at the church or drop them off at Selma Pancake's house in the chair on her front porch.

Thank you and God Bless.

Staff Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

Current member of the Staff Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) ARE:

Teri Towe	teritowe@comcast.net	615.417.0964
Bill Lodholz	Bplod@att.net	615.483.4491
Connie Golson	aegolson@bellsouth.net	615.482.0089
Pat Counts	tennislove@comcast.net	615.969.2056
Jim Whitehead	jaw448@att.net	615.809.6367
Miles Lane	mileslanedvm@gmail.com	615.653.6503
Nancy McGill	Velta.snyder@outlook.com	615.890.3194
Nancy Hendrix	lukehendrix@bellsouth.net	615.427.1333
Nancy Lane	Nan0dad@bellsouth.net	615.785.9193

The *Book of Discipline* and United Methodist congregations give the SPRC the responsibility for administering the relationship between staff, congregation, and the district superintendent so that the mission of the church moves forward. The SPRC also interviews and recommends any ministerial candidates to the charge conference.

Listening and responding to the church community (Pastor, staff and congregation) is a vital function of the SPRC. When conflict arises (different ideas in the same place and same time), good communication is important to strengthen the church. Anyone may approach committee members with concerns or deeply felt convictions to be brought to the attention of the committee. To assure the specifics are not misunderstood we ask that you also submit your concern by email or in writing.

Some of the SPRC responsibilities are:

Recommend staff positions to church council and accomplish needed hiring/termination. Develop job descriptions for staff and evaluate staff at least annually. Establish and review staff salaries in coordination with finance committee.

Be attentive and open to congregation opinions concerning staff, both positive and negative, and take appropriate action.

Confer with the district superintendent about clergy leadership for the congregation

The committee meets as needed, at least quarterly, in closed session with all information shared in the committee being confidential.

From *Guidelines Pastor Parish Relations* by Betsey Heavner

Trinity Preschool

Preschool is having a ball in the fall! The change in weather feels so nice when we play and explore outside. We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the 2021-22 school year. We are still taking COVID precautions, however it actually feels a bit more normal now.

We've been learning about apples and leaves, numbers and letters, with lots of singing and dancing! We've received cleaning supply donations from several church members and want to send a big thank you. Our preschool and nursery program feels and receives so much support and generosity from church members. It is because of you all that this ministry is possible.

If you or someone you know is looking for a loving safe place for their childcare needs, please send them our way. Our one and two year old classes are full, but we still have some room in our 3 and 4 year old classes.

--

Christa Roth

Trinity Nursery-Preschool Director



Trinity's Children Ministry

The children have enjoyed a return to our regular Sunday morning and Wednesday evening programming. We have been learning about Moses and our study has taken us through Exodus. We are currently have 18-20 children participating with us at various times on some Sundays and Wednesdays. It is a blessing and a joy to learn together. We hope you will invite your friends and neighbors to join us!

We are beginning to work on our Christmas play. This year's play is not a musical, but we are excited to share some Carols at the beginning and end of the play. More information will be coming about our performance time and date soon! We hope you will join us as we share our Christmas message for 2021!



Trinity's Youth Ministry

Youth News

Special THANK YOU to Aaron Mulroy for teaching the youth group on Wednesday nights this Fall on a regular basis. They have greatly enjoyed the discussions on how we not just "talk the talk" of being Christians, but "walk the walk" in our daily lives. We also want to thank Rocky Davis, Caitlyn Brown, & Sara Roy for leading nights as well as we love to get different perspectives and life experiences that can be shared! We welcome any other volunteers whether it is to lead a Sunday School, Sunday evening, or Wednesday evening time (even if just a 1 time deal). You can contact Sheryl Mabry at trinityyouth@comcast.net if interested.

Sheryl Mabry

Trinity Director of Youth Ministries

Invite a Friend

Do you know someone who is looking for an opportunity to learn about Jesus and develop a relationship with Him? Do you know someone who needs a church family, a place to connect and feel encouraged in their spiritual journey? Invite them to join us at Trinity UMC. Let us step out in faith and make disciples for Jesus Christ in 2021!

Trinity UMC: *Where Jesus is lifted for all people and God's Word is honored.*



www.trinityumcmurreesboro.org

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TrinityUMC Murreesboro, TN

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Trinity UMC
2303 Jones Blvd.
Murreesboro, TN 37129