

TRINITY IN TOUCH

Trinity United Methodist Church
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Church School: 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30am – 1:30pm (Closed Fridays)



December 13, 2011

From the Pastor

“Not enough time, and inability to maintain motivation,” the speaker at York Rotary Club explained, “are the reasons given by most people nationally for not maintaining an exercise program.” I nodded as he said it because I know that these are among my best excuses. The speaker went on to remind us that we all have twenty four hours in a day, and we have a lot of choice as to how we use them. His purpose was to interest folks in a program that he represents which suggests exercise for only about five minutes per day, preferably first thing in the morning, with the idea of developing a habit.

I am not about to judge his program; I didn't stay to see the equipment that he had to offer and to hear more about how every part of the body could be exercised in such a short period of time. I do know, however, that lack of time and poorly sustained motivation are explanations for other activities than exercise. Over the years I have had people remind me of one of the “Ten Great Truths of Life;” that is, “people can always make time for what is important to them.” The twenty four hours in each day can be stretched and used in many different ways. Some of it will be spent in sleeping and in eating; some will be spent in work, some will be spent in recreation. We all have some discretionary time that can be used as we choose. I used to love to listen to an audio book read by the great motivational speaker Zig Ziglar, in which he tells his audience to imagine that they have been offered an opportunity for the trip of a lifetime—all expenses paid, everything done for them except packing and making arrangements to be able to go; the only stipulation being that they must be ready to go in 24 hours. Ziglar says that most people who could go would begin with a list—packing, taking care of the pets, taking care of the mail and newspapers and all of the other obligations. They'd pay their bills and make arrangements for important obligations to be taken care of. They'd make arrangements for their work to be covered and other things in life to be cared for. Within 24 hours they'd have all of the incidentals covered, the major things prepared and they'd be ready to go. “The question is,” he would say, “if you could get all of that done so quickly when it becomes important to you, why aren't you taking care of things like that now?”

I guess the real problem is not so much time as it is motivation. The things that get done are most often the things that really matter to us—unless we have fallen into such a deep rut that we go through life simply going through the motions. Sometimes we need to be awakened to what has happened and to be shown how deep in the rut we have gotten. Advent can be a time for that to happen. After all, our schedules are already just a little out of whack: we have to add shopping, parties, decorating, family time and other activities to our daily routine. We have to make our lists and check them twice. We will often find ourselves longing for the time when life settles back into its quieter routine.

But what would happen if we let this be a time when we develop some new habits? What would happen if this Advent we let our Advent preparations continue into the new year as we continue to study and learn? What if after this Advent we let ourselves begin to make the same sorts of visits to friends and shut-ins a priority as it has been during the Advent season? What would happen if we begin looking now at what is really important to us, and then planning to take care of the really important things first? Time and motivation—what are we waiting for? Gene Feagin, Pastor

**Sunday, December 18 – 4th Sunday in Advent
The Chancel Choir – Christmas Cantata**

SUNDAY, December 18

NO 9:00 a.m. Service.....	
Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....	10:00 a.m.
Chancel Choir Program.....	11:00 a.m.
Administrative Board Meeting	12:00 noon
Biddy B & C Basketball Practice	3-4:00 p.m.
Christmas Caroling.....	4:00 p.m.
Cadette Troop 3311	6:30 p.m.
Flower Ministry:	Poinsettias
Nursery Infants:	Cindy Summerset & Beth Jarrett
NO Children's Church:	
Toddler Church:	Steve & Leann Mellon
Acolyte:	Jordan Cappitelli

TUESDAY 20

Mite Girls Basketball Practice.....	4-5:30 p.m.
Jr.Boys Basketball Practice	7-8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 21

Youth Mission-Christmas Cheer	7:45 a.m.
Advent Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
Mite Boys Basketball Practice	7-8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 22

Advent Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
Jr.Boys Basketball Practice	7-8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 24 – Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Service & Candlelighting.....	6:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service & Candlelighting.....	9:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, December 25

NO 9:00 a.m. Service.....	
Fellowship Time.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School – Birthday Party for Jesus.....	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.

USHERS FOR DECEMBER: *Kenny Cloniger, Kevin Smiley, Lee Alford, Basil Childers, Johnny Eite, Kelly Pursley, Bud Jones

TRUSTEES/DECEMBER: John Bailey & Reid Smith

ALTAR GUILD/DECEMBER: Liz Brown & Robbie Miller

WELCOME VISITORS/DECEMBER: FRIENDS Class

VISITOR CARDS/DECEMBER: Susan Jones

PATH FOOD FOR DECEMBER: Canned Meat – any kind, any size.

Sunday School Attendance December 11:	131
Worship Attendance December 11 (9:00am):	47
Worship Attendance December 11 (11:00 am):	160
Operating Fund received December 11	\$8,403.00
Operating Fund received up to December 11	\$303,404.35
Budget goal up to December 11(\$6,732.00 x 50).....	\$336,600.00

MEMORIALS

To the Operating Fund in memory of:

Mary Shuler by Budda & Patty Farris; Basil & Pat Childers; Kenny & Cathy Cloniger.

Lois Smith by Laverne Spoon.

Allen Miller, Ernie Ulbricht, Lilly Munn, Helen Childers by Basil & Pat Childers.

HONORARIUM to the Operating Fund in honor of Gene & Anna Feagin by Reid & Karen Smith.

VISITOR ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Shane Pickrell, 1015 Sharon Rd, York.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our prayers are with Elizabeth Podmore, Lillian McSwain, Irene Williams, John Smith, Geneva Warren, Helen Brindle, Margie Castillo, Isem Pennington, and Lee Alford recovering following surgery at Piedmont Medical Center.

Also, we remember Red Warren; Jack Sammitt, stepson of Brad Childers; Jim Brandon, friend of Evelyn Johnsey; Blanche Stewart friend of Susan Jones; Floyd Jackson, father of Nancy Childers.

Congratulations to Spencer Miller who graduated from The University of South Carolina Darla Moore School of Business on December 12, 2011.

The Administrative Board will meet following church this Sunday to approve the 2012 budget.

The Mississippi Mission trip next year will be from February 15th – 22nd.

MISSING - Have you seen 1 long table from the Trinity Center and 1 Speaker Stand? We cannot locate them and wondered whether someone had borrowed them to use for a Church event off the Church property.

Signup now to go Christmas Caroling with Trinity on December



18th. Sheets are placed in strategic locations around the building so that you can sign up. You can also sign up to bring soup for the fellowship time after we return. This is a ministry that everybody can take part in, and it touches everyone who sings or is sung to. Sign up today!

On Christmas morning we will be having a birthday party for Jesus during the Sunday school hour. We are asking for everyone to consider bringing a gift to the party. We are suggesting that you bring pajamas that will be donated to the children at the Children's Attention Home. They have children there from infants to teenagers so all sizes are welcome. If you would prefer to bring something different feel free to do so. If you choose to wrap your gift please label it with girl/boy and size. Thanks.

From Cheri Curtin – Executive Director, PATH

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you at Trinity for all you do for us all year long. There are the Sunday School Classes, the various ladies groups, Rev. Feagin who serves on our board, and the Men of Trinity who recently put up our new shelving in the warehouse. Thanks everyone! Not to mention all the drives and activities you participate in to donate goods, and the funds donated. You are all just so exceptional. Thanks from all the clients and volunteers at PATH and her thrift store. I do not say it often enough, so here at the end of the year, thank you, thank you, thank you.



Offerings for 2011 must be received in the church office, or postmarked, by December 31, in order for you to receive credit on your 2011 contribution record. Thanks for helping our financial officers comply with this IRS regulation.

The Flower Calendar for 2012 is now posted on the bulletin board outside the pastor's study. Please take time now to designate the Sunday on which you wish to place flowers in the sanctuary, in order to insure that you get the Sunday you want.

The First Wednesday Fellowship Supper List for 2012 has been posted outside the Pastor's Study. Please check it out and sign up your group to host one of the dinners. Plenty of dates are still free!!

ALICE'S CORNER

Thank you to all the children who participated, parents who helped, an army of workers who made the Christmas Play last night a HUGE success. It is good to know even Santa is concerned that everyone does not lose sight of the importance of Jesus at Christmas. After all, Christmas would not exist without Jesus. Have a Blessed Christmas Day and I hope to see you at the birthday party for Jesus at 10:00 am.

Youth-Grades 6-12 – come join other youth in the York area as we serve others in “Mission : Christmas Cheer”. We will be cleaning several overgrown yards, building a wheel chair ramp, playing bingo and playing with the children at York Place. Reserve Wednesday, December 21 from 8 am until 2 pm to help. Breakfast will be provided by 1st Baptist and Trinity will do lunch. Please call Alice if you and your friends can help. Meet at Trinity at 7:45 am.

The Older Adult Spiritual Life Retreat will b held at Springmaid Beach on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday February 7-9th. The featured speaker is Rev. Dr. Connie Shelton. This retreat allows us to explore and enhance our relationship with Christ. The conference registration fee of \$40.00 per person is due now. Room and meal rates (double) is \$119.00. Let Alice know **this week** if you are planning to go.



This will be the last newsletter for this year. The next one will come out the first week of January 2012.

The office will **only be open as needed** over the Christmas holidays to take care of the business of the church, but will not be operating on a specific schedule. In case of pastoral emergency while the office is closed, you may leave a message on the parsonage answering machine (684-9146), or call Gene's cell phone (803-981-2165). Please don't hesitate to call in case of an emergency need. Gene Feagin