

TRINITY IN TOUCH

Trinity United Methodist Church
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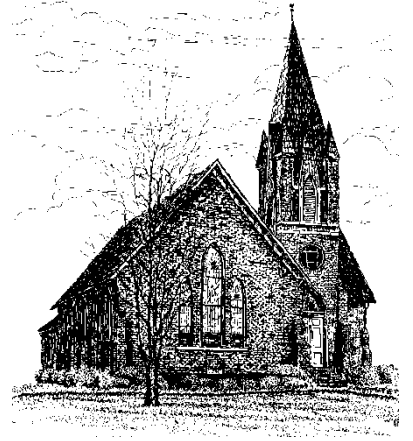
Secretary e-mail: tumcyork@bellsouth.net

Program Director: tumcprog@bellsouth.net

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 6, 2011

From the Pastor

Happy New Year! The Advent season is the beginning of the liturgical year, and we are coming up to the 3rd Sunday in Advent and I have yet to wish some of you Happy New Year. The liturgical year, or the Christian year as we sometimes see it called, is the cycle that begins with Advent, a time of preparation, moves through Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and the final “ordinary” time of the year that used to be called “Kingdomtide.” Each season has its own special focus and each season is represented in worship by different symbols and colors.

If Advent is a time of preparation, what is it a time of preparation for? The easy answer would be “Christmas!” and as you know, that is partly correct. Advent is a time of preparation for the celebration of Christ’s coming. We celebrate Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem, but we also look to his coming at the end of time and we look at the ways he comes in our own hearts and lives and in our world now. The theme of preparation is one that seems to resonate with many of us: we work hard to be prepared for the things that come our way, we look ahead and anticipate so that we will not be taken by surprise when things happen, and we are often strongly critical of those who don’t seem to be prepared for their responsibilities.

Every year during Advent we offer special programs intended to help us keep our focus on the coming of Christ. We have already started our study of Mike Slaughter’s book Christmas is not YOUR Birthday. The Faith Explorers Class has changed their plan and is studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s God is in the Manger, another Advent classic. The Children’s Program this Sunday evening is called Santa Gives Back Christmas. What a great way to help the children focus on what really matters. Miss Alice has distributed books to the children and to the Trinity Travelers which help with the focus on Christ as well.

I heard a deep sigh from some parents and grandparents on Sunday when I told the children that I want them to bring one **quiet** toy to our worship on Christmas Day. We will only be having the one service, which will be after a “Birthday Party for Jesus” celebration in the Trinity Center. During the worship service I want to share a “Blessing of the Toys” liturgy that I found recently—reminding us that among the first gifts were the gifts of the Magi to Jesus. The focus on giving, sharing and letting God have our gifts is a very important one.

God continues to give us many gifts—love and grace, forgiveness and peace, family and friends. Let’s celebrate the gifts that we receive as we recognize that they are from God. Let’s look for ways to give back to God so that we can share the blessings he has given to us.

God bless each one. Gene Feagin, Pastor

Sunday, December 11 – 3rd Sunday in Advent
Scriptures: Isaiah 64:1-4, 8-11; John 1:6-8, 19-28
Sermon: “Where are You Waiting?”

SUNDAY, December 11

Worship Service.....	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service.....	11:00 a.m.
Finance Committee Meeting.....	4:00 p.m.
Children’s Christmas Play & Supper.....	6:00 p.m.
Flower Ministry:	Worship Committee
Lay Reader:	Meg McGarity
Nursery Infants:	Ed & Marie Ventry
Children’s Church:	Abe & Meghan Green
Toddler Church:	
Acolyte:	Rush Johnston

MONDAY 12

Jr.Boys Basketball Practice.....	7:30-9:00 p.m.
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TUESDAY 13

Beginner Dulcimer Class	6:00 p.m.
Continuing Dulcimer Class.....	6:30 p.m.
Junior Troop 1946.....	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 14

Sr.Hi.Youth – Bojangles.....	7:30 a.m.
Trinity Travelers Luncheon @ Springlake Country Club.....	12:00 noon
KFC (Kids for Christ).....	2:30 p.m.
Advent Bible Study.....	6:00 p.m.
Adult Choir	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY 15

Adults – Flat Rock Playhouse.....	Meet at the church 9:30 a.m.
Advent Bible Study.....	10:00 a.m.
Cadette Troop 3495.....	6:30 p.m.
Jr.Boys Basketball Practice.....	7-8:30 p.m.

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.
Christmas Caroling	4:00 p.m.
Cadette Troop 3311.....	6:00 p.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 4:	115
Worship Attendance December 4 (9:00am):	48
Worship Attendance December 4 (11:00 am):	126
Operating Fund received December 4	\$10,863.25
Operating Fund received up to November 27.....	\$295,001.35
Budget goal up to December 4 (\$6,732.00 x 49).....	\$329,868.00

MEMORIALS

To the Operating Fund in memory of:

Mack Alexander by Blanche Alexander.

Mary Shuler by Richard Kalb.

Lois Smith by Eddie & Susan Jones; John & Margaret Bailey; Sam & Gay Feemster; Smokey & Harriette Childers; Evelyn Johnsey; Ronnie & Liz Cowart; Jim & Wally Burch; Anadell Burch; Ray & Mary Sue Burns; Bud & Suzanne Jones; Tom & Roberta Wolfe.

To the Choir Fund in memory of Mary Shuler by Debbie Black.

To the Bus Reserve Fund in memory of Lois Smith & Leon “Tub” Bratton by Renee Barker.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our prayers are with Irene Williams, John Smith, Geneva Warren, Helen Brindle, Margie Castillo, and Isem Pennington. **Also, we remember** Jack Sammitt, stepson of Brad Childers; Jim Brandon, friend of Evelyn Johnsey; Blanche Stewart friend of Susan Jones; Floyd Jackson, father of Nancy Childers.

Now we are in December and you begin your year-end planning, now would be a good time to check up on your giving to the church. It would also be an excellent time to think about an extra gift to help the church. Jill can tell you whether or not you are up to date on your pledge, so that you can catch up if you are behind. Any extra gifts toward the ministry of the church would be very welcome as we approach the end of the year. Thanks for your faithfulness and support.

The Mission Team, as in the past, is asking TUMC to provide Christmas gifts for clients of the Adult Enrichments Center of York (formerly York Adult Day Care). Sign-up sheets are posted on the Mission Bulletin Board. Thank you for your support.

Trinity Mission Bazaar

The Trinity Mission Bazaar made a little over \$7000. The craft group voted to give 10% to the church budget with the remainder going to Africa Education and Leadership Initiative. Many thanks to all who supported this effort by purchasing and by donating. If you donated items, please stop by the old Boy Scout room at your convenience to see if you have anything left over to take home. Blessings and thanks to you all!

ANNUAL UMM CHICKEN STEW FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY - DECEMBER 10 - 11AM UNTIL
\$6.00 PER QUART
THE TRINITY UMM WILL ALSO BE RECEIVING ANY
TYPE CAN GOODS TO BE DONATED TO PATH

The Committee on Finance will meet on December 11 to finalize the 2012 budget. Each group within the church that has a budget is asked to take a few moments to review your budget and spending for 2011 and submit a proposal for 2012 that reflects your needs. If you have some dreams and hopes for expanding your budget, or some special projects that you would like to have considered, please submit them as an addendum so that we can look first at current needs and then at extras. Jill will help you review current spending. Please have your proposal for the 2012 Budget submitted to Jill or to the Finance Committee by December 7th.

ALICE’S CORNER

The Trinity Children will present “Santa Gives Back Christmas” this Sunday night at 6:00 pm. A hot dog supper will be provided following the play. Our children and cast have worked hard to prepare another wonderful Christmas play. Please plan to encourage and support them with your attendance. Dress rehearsal is Saturday from 9 to 11.

Trinity Travelers will have their annual Christmas luncheon at Springlake Country Club on Wednesday, December 14 at 12 noon. Reservations are required.

KFC (Kids for Christ) will meet on Wednesday, December 14 at 2:30 pm. Alice will pick up from York Intermediate school.

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.

The Older Adult Spiritual Life Retreat will be 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 if you are planning to go.