

TRINITY IN TOUCH

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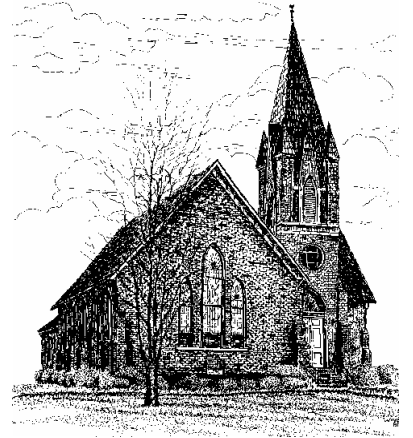
Secretary e-mail: tumcyork@bellsouth.net

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 1, 2009

From the Pastor

Advent has begun and you have responded wonderfully well to our Advent Call for Worship and Prayer. Congratulations to the Elementary 4&5 Class and the Faith Explorers Class. Both of these classes had more than their average attendance for 2009 in attendance on Sunday! Elementary 4&5 averaged 6.4 for the year and had 11 present Sunday. The Faith Explorers averaged 7.75 for the year and had 14 present on Sunday! This is wonderful! Every class has a chance in the challenge since it is based on the average attendance for the year. All it takes is a little work on the part of the class leaders, and a little attention on the part of all of us who should be a part of Church School. Advent is a great time to get into the habit of coming and taking part in Church School. Why not start on Sunday?

After all, Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ. You will be able to repeat it with me before Christmas, but we are preparing for Christ's coming at the end of time and in our hearts as well as for our celebration of his birth in Bethlehem. When he is born in our hearts, and when he comes into our lives in newer and newer ways, we grow spiritually. We grow spiritually by taking part in the kind of fellowship that we find when we gather weekly for Church School. Our children learn the basics of the faith, and they form the habit of attending Church School and Worship. Adults grow in faith; find comfort in sharing with friends who are going through many of the same things that we are experiencing, and find new ways to serve. Church School is a foundation-stone for our faith!

What we are doing in Advent is what we are called to do all through the year: prepare the way of the Lord. We prepare the way for the Lord to help us grow, we prepare the way for the Lord to help our lives move closer to what Jesus would have them to be, and we prepare the way for God to work in the lives of our children and other loved ones. This is an important part of who we are as the people of God! Now, I would like for you to do something else for me in your Advent preparation this week. Take a moment to turn to the other side of the Newsletter and read the Scripture readings for worship, and then take a look at the sermon title for the week. What in the world does Pennies for Progress have to do with Advent? What does it have to do with the two passages of scripture that I am asking you to read? The answer is fairly obvious, especially if you remember what Pennies for Progress did on Highway 5 between here and the Cherokee County line. While it isn't really straight, the highway is straighter, and there are more level places.

Now, prayerfully take a look at your own lives. What are the obstacles that are coming between you and God? What are the obstacles that stand between you and living a life that is more God-centered, more Christ-centered? Advent is a good time to look at where God might be calling us to grow and make some changes so that he can come into our lives in a new way. It is a good time to look at some of the things that separate us from God and from each other. How can we move, make straight, and generally get these obstacles out of the way? It isn't as simple as coming to worship and Church School—it takes more effort and more learning than that, but worship and Church School are important ways in which we can learn and grow. It isn't praying harder, though prayer is an important part. What we are called to do is to open our lives to the loving, gracious God who will take us and share his love and blessings with us. Glory to God. AMEN. Gene Feagin, Pastor

Sunday, December 6, 2009
Scriptures: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 3:1-6
Sermon: "The First Pennies for Progress"

Passionate Spirituality

"I remain confident of God's love and provision during difficult times." How would you respond to this statement on the never-to-always 1-5 scale? Those of us who know how blessed we have been in life normally have experienced the sort of love that surrounds us even when times get worse and worse. I often ask the children if they ever make their parents mad. Most of them admit that it has happened. Then I ask them, "Even when you've made them mad, do you know that they love you?" The certainty of their shouted affirmatives almost always resounds through the sanctuary. The late Sam Levinson wrote that even in the midst of poverty he knew that his family loved him. When we remember that God loves us through all that comes, we can face anything with trust and confidence.

SUNDAY, December 6

Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Evangelism Meeting	5:00 p.m.
Children's Play Practice	5:00 p.m.
Administrative Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Jr.Hi. & Sr.Hi.UMYF	6:00 p.m.
Lay Reader:	
Nursery Infants:	Leann & Steve Mellon
Toddler Church:	Staci & Chip Rampey
Children's Church:	Robin Johnston & Cindy Summersett
Acolyte:	Rush Johnston

MONDAY 7

Morning Circle @ Trinity UMC.....	10:00 a.m.
Mite Girls Basketball Practice	6:30-8:00 p.m.
Circle #2 @ Dawn McGaritys	7:15 p.m.

TUESDAY 8

Mite Boy Basketball Practice	4-5:30 pm.
Continuing Dulcimer Class.....	7:00 p.m.
Adult Basketball	7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 9

Mite Girls Basketball Practice	6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir	7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 10

Craft Work Day	9:30 a.m.
Junior Troop 34395	6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 12

Children's Play Practice	10:00 a.m.
UMMen – Chicken Stew Sale	11:00 a.m. – til gone

SUNDAY, December 13

Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Children's Christmas Play	6:00 p.m.

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

FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP: Bible Study Class

TRUSTEES/DECEMBER: Steve Boyd & Jamie Patterson

ALTAR GUILD/DECEMBER: Britt Snelling, Liz Brown, Debbie Black

WELCOME VISITORS/DECEMBER: Jack Benfield Class

VISITOR CARDS/DECEMBER:

Sunday School Attendance Nov.29:	105
Worship Attendance (9:00 am) Nov.29:	50
Worship Attendance (11:00 am) Nov.29:	136
Operating Fund received on November 29.....	\$5,209.70
Operating Fund received up to November 29.....	\$267,969.88
Budget goal up to November 29 (\$6,500 x 48)	\$312,00.00

MEMORIALS

To the Operating Fund:

Acree Bostic by Steve & Helen Boyd; Evelyn Johnsey; Dick & Jan Sweigart; Ronnie & Liz Cowart; Bill & Nina King.

Bob Johnsey by Bill Huffstetler; Steve & Helen Boyd; Charles & Jo Plemmons; Curtis & Peggy Sigmon; Dick & Jan Sweigart; Betty J. Jones; Jim & Wally Burch; Bill & Nina King; Jim & Pat Hodnett; Anne Ramere; Jack & Carolyn Matthews; Mitchell & Joye Sherrill; Sara Brown.

To the Sudan Fund in memory of Acree Bostic by Tom & Nancy Faulkenberry.

To Released Time Bible Education in memory of Bob Johnsey by Tom & Nancy Faulkenberry.

To the UMCOR Fund in memory of Acree Bostic by Bill & Marion Fischer.

To the Jack Benfield Class in memory of Bob Johnsey by Carol Moody.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our prayers are with Harriette Childers, Louise Smith, John Smith, Geneva Warren, Havern & Helen Brindle, Lois Crolley, Ernie Ulbricht, Bebe Benfield, and Jimmie Pridmore.

Also, we remember Steve Smith, friend of Eddie Jones; Debbie Lowe, niece of Susan Jones; Rena Walden, former Trinity member; Jean Whittington, friend of Renee Barker; Landon Pertuset, friend of Edgar Hardin; Mary Emma Dickson, aunt of Carrie Hodges; Harold Wilson, father of Alicia Breakfield; Henry Wright, brother of Ernie Wright; Jewel Stackley, mother of Johanna Sipe; Betty Beck, sister of Bunny Whitesides; Virginia Baker, sister of Jo Hammond; Dot Caldwell, sister of Anne Hipp; Kinsley James, and Mackenzie Decuir.

A tremendous thank you to all those wonderful bakers that baked pies and cakes for Acts of Hope on Thanksgiving. This group distributed 40 boxed dinners and 25 "prepared fresh" dinners to families in the York area on Thanksgiving Day!. This group extends many blessings on all of you who volunteered your time and talents to help so many others. Thanks to you, MANY families had a delicious Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings!!!

GRITS! OATMEAL! Any HOT CEREAL! Our PATH clients – particularly our "senior" clients think that a hot breakfast is so special. PLEASE HELP!



The Trinity Mission Team is asking for your support of our annual project to provide gifts for the York Adult Day Care Christmas Party. Wish lists are posted on the mission Bulletin Board. Due date for gifts is December 14.

The Mississippi/Katrina Team told about the troubles of the Sadie and Jason Hebert Family in Mississippi. Some of us are sending gift cards (Wal-Mart or Home Depot) to help them through the Christmas Season. If you would like to help you can purchase gift cards or give money to Jill, John Wine or Kenny Jones. Make checks to TUMC-Hebert. Call Kenny at 684-7238 if you have questions. We will mail the gift cards on December 10. Thanks.

NESEI Necklaces and Nativities For Sale - Because of numerous requests, the necklaces and nativities will be available at church on December 6th at 9:30 AM after first church and at 12 noon after second church. Each item sells for \$5. If you are interested, come by the parlor at either time.

NESEI Crafters - The final two meetings of our NESEI Crafters will be December 3rd and December 10th. We will meet at 9:30 in the conference room. We still need the "cutters, measurers, gluers and crocheters". Most of the yarn has been crocheted, but we need to put cards in each necklace and do LOTS of sorting and counting!! This project concludes December 12th at the Lake Junaluska Craft Show. A complete report will be given after that time. **THANK YOU** to all who have helped by working and purchasing!

Please join us on Sunday, December 20 for a Special Christmas Luncheon. The UMM will be serving lunch after the 11:00 Service in the Trinity Center. The menu will be baked ham, grilled chicken, mac & cheese, green beans, bread, and desserts. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. They will be sold in the hallway before and after Sunday School. Proceeds will go to The Church for any end-of-year expenses.

The Green Team is offering the remaining Trinity shopping bags for Christmas giving. They will be in the education building hall from now until Christmas or until all are taken. You may have as many as you want. (Donations will be accepted.)

ALICE'S CORNER

- The Sr. Hi. & Jr. Hi. UMYF will meet at 6:00 pm in the Trinity Center this Sunday night, December 6.
- The Trinity Travelers wish to invite you to their Christmas luncheon at Springlake Country Club on Wednesday, December 16 at noon. Cost is \$12.00 per person. Reservations and money are due in the church office by **Thursday, December 3.**
- The TUMC Children's Christmas play is underway. Practice is being held each Sunday afternoon. The play will be on Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 pm. Please mark it on your calendar now and support our children. Practice on December 6 will be at 5:00 pm. and dress rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 12 at 10:00 am.
- Church basketball practice has begun. The Mite girls and boys are underway. The two combined Bidy teams coached by Eric Johnston and Scott Taylor will have a mandatory parent meeting at 3:00 pm on Saturday, December 5 and practice for the children will be held from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Parents should be prepared to register their children and pay required league fee at this time (\$20 if a new t-shirt is required, \$5.00 if no t-shirt needed). The Bidy (7 & under) team will begin soon.
- To help our Trinity children prepare for Christmas. Advent calendars were given out on Sunday. If your child did not receive one please contact Alice. Let us teach our children that Christmas is more than Santa Claus and getting presents.
- KIDS/Recapture the magic of simple times by letting your child build their own "Gingerbread House" this Saturday 5th at 10:00 am at Lowe's. Register your child at Lowe's and join Alice for some creative fun. FREE. **You must register to participate.**