

TRINITY IN TOUCH

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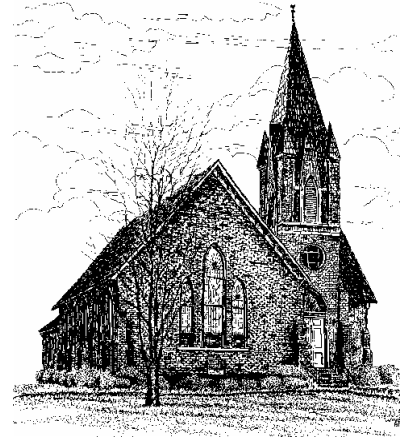
Secretary e-mail: tumcyork@bellsouth.net

Pastor e-mail: tumcpast@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)



January 21, 2009

From the Pastor

Ask most people what they know about Jonah and they will answer that he was swallowed by a whale. In fact, it seems to me that many folks get Jonah and Pinocchio confused. They have the picture of the raft, the candle and all of Disney animation, rather than of the prophet running from God, voluntarily thrown off of a ship in order to save the lives of the others on board. Most of us really don't know Jonah, but I suspect that many of us are more like Jonah than we think.

You see, the whole point of the book of Jonah is that God called the prophet to go somewhere he didn't want to go and call a people he didn't like to repent before God destroyed them—when the prophet really wouldn't have minded a bit had they been destroyed. At any rate, God called Jonah to go toward Nineveh, and Jonah promptly headed out—in the opposite direction toward Spain! I could say that when I stand in front of the sanctuary and ask for someone to assume the presidency of the United Methodist Women many ladies decide to join the United Methodist Men, but that would be a bit of an exaggeration. I could say that when some folks feel God calling them to become more involved in the life of the church, or more involved in ministry to a segment of God's people they become more involved in other things and run away from God's call—and that would be more accurate. There is something about God's call that seems to make us nervous and uncomfortable. Usually it seems that when God calls us it is to something that we would never become involved in on our own.

God called and Jonah ran in the opposite direction. When he was safely on shore and out of the "big fish" that had swallowed him, God called again and Jonah, still quite reluctantly obeyed. He really didn't want Nineveh to repent. He wanted God to destroy them. They deserved it! The fact that God didn't want to destroy them doesn't seem to have bothered Jonah. In fact he admits in the 4th chapter of the book that he knew that God was going to be more merciful than Jonah would have been. He knew what God wanted to do, and he tried to stop it. Now, none of us would do that, would we? We might not put it so bluntly, but there are times when we want bad things to happen to others, when we aren't willing to let go of what we want in order to serve and follow God.

Now, this is not to excuse the folks from Nineveh, who were Assyrians, from their cruelty to Israel. This is not to say that Jonah was called to smile and pretend that everything was wonderful. There was still the little matter of repentance. The folks were called to repent and worship God. It was only with their repentance and change of life's focus that God would decide not to destroy them. Maybe Jonah was afraid that if they began to love and serve God there wouldn't be room for him. He may have forgotten that with God there is always more than enough love to go around! Maybe he was more comfortable when Nineveh and Assyria were clearly "the enemy" rather than worshippers of God. I don't know. We will think more together about Jonah on Sunday morning.

For now, the main thing is that God called, Jonah ran, God gave him another chance and the people of Nineveh came to know and love God. At least for a while they worshipped God. Our God reaches out to all who will repent and worship him. We are called to offer the chance for repentance, and we are called to share the love of God with all people. Each of us is called to this ministry. Let's worship and work and love together. In Jesus name, AMEN. Gene Feagin, Pastor

January 25, 2009 – 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
Scriptures: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Mark 1:14-20
Sermon: “From the Fish’s Belly to the Fisherman’s Boat”

SUNDAY, January 25

Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time	9:30 a.m.
Cherub Choir Practice	9:40 a.m.
Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Job Function Workshop @ St. Johns.....	2:30-5:45 p.m.
Biddy Basketball Practice.....	3:30-4:30 p.m.
Dulcimer Practice (Beginners)	4:30 p.m.
Jr.Hi.UMYF.....	5-6:00 p.m.
Sr.Hi.UMYF.....	6-7:00 p.m.

- Flower Ministry: Circle #4
- Lay Reader: Keith McSwain
- Nursery Infants: Leann & Steve Mellon
- Toddler Church: Teresa Anderson & Linda Goss
- Children’s Church: Vicki Wood
- Acolyte: Seth Wood

MONDAY 26

Disciple Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
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TUESDAY 27

Disciple Bible Study.....	10:00 a.m.
Mite Boys Basketball Practice.....	4:30-6:00 p.m.
Mite Girls Basketball Practice.....	6-7:30 p.m.
Adult Basketball	7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 28

Chancel Choir	7:30 p.m.
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SUNDAY, February 1

Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time	9:30 a.m.
Cherub Choir Practice	9:40 a.m.
Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Biddy Basketball Practice.....	3:30-4:30 p.m.

USHERS FOR FEBRUARY: *Dick Sweigart, Chip Alexander, Tony Roberts, Chris Wood, Mike Smith, Keith McSwain.

FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP: FRIENDS Class

TRUSTEES/FEB: Lee Keller & Keith McSwain

ALTAR GUILD/FEB: Libby Brown

WELCOME VISITORS/FEB: FRIENDS Class

VISITOR CARDS/FEB: Sandra Deyton

PATH FOOD FOR FEBRUARY: Breakfast items – any kind, any size

Sunday School Attendance January 18:	116
Worship Attendance (9:00 am) January 18:	45
Worship Attendance (11:00 am) January 18:	132

Due to the banks being closed for Martin Luther King’s Birthday there is no financial report included in this week’s newsletter.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our prayers are with Pim Van Everdingen, John Smith, Voight Hipp, Justus Chol, John Deyton, Lois Crolley, Ernie Ulbricht, Louise Smith, Bob Johnsey, Pat Childers; and with Vida Lee Stewart who is at Westminster Health & Rehab Center.

Also, we remember Dot Caldwell, Anne Hipp’s sister; Karen Duncan, one of the members of our Mississipp/Katrina Team; Helen “Mimi” Riddle, mother of Harriet Wilkins; Kinsley James, daughter of Skip James, a friend of Evelyn Johnsey; Essie Thompson, grandmother of April Smith; John Sherer, cousin of Denise Mitchell; Midge Deaton, grandmother of Trip McGarity; Jane Adkins, niece of Jimmy Pridmore; Roy Wilkerson, father of Denise Mitchell; Joyce Robbins, friend of Mere McCoy; DeAnna Greiner, granddaughter of Bill Huffstetler; Lacey Robinson, friend of Ann Bailes; and Harold Dickson.

Our sympathy is with Nancy Faulkenberry and her family following the death of her aunt, Molly Ferguson; also with the family of Mary Meeler who died on Friday, January 16.

Donations for the Taste & Tell Cookbook allowed us to donate \$30 to PATH and \$30 to Tender Hearts. Thank you for your support.

BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY the two kitchens will be straightened every Monday. All unlabeled food will be disposed of. **Would the owner of the many containers of chicken stew** in the Trinity Center freezer please do something with them.
 The Board of Trustees

This year marks a special event for the Souper Bowl of Caring. On February 1, 2009 it will have been 20 years since the youth of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC addressed the issue of hunger in their community with this Souper Bowl Sunday prayer. “Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat.” More than \$50 million has been raised in cash and food over the past 20 years. Be a part of this movement that begins in our own backyard and reaches across the nation, showing God’s love with those who need our compassion and care. Please give generously as our youth collect donations on Super Bowl Sunday.

Nursery and Children’s Church Volunteers Needed: It is once again time to compile the list of volunteers for the Infant Nursery and Children’s Church. Due to Safe Sanctuary requirements we will now need to have at least 2 adults in Children’s Church for the up coming year, therefore we will need some additional volunteers to be “helpers” for Children’s Church. The “helpers” will not have any teaching responsibility. If you are interested in volunteering to be a “helper” or would like to have your name added to or removed from the Infant Nursery and/or Children’s Church list please notify Kathy Sandifer (684-3652) or Alicia Breakfield (628-0783) by January 25th. This is a vital ministry to the church so please prayerfully consider volunteering.

Market Bags and Sewing Kits - Thanks to everyone who took a pattern and yarn to help with the market bags for Sudan. Yarn will be available each Sunday and completed bags can be placed in the bin in the hall that is marked Sudan. A member of Trinity has donated the fabric for our sewing kits, but we need other supplies. Each kit should include: a few pins, 2 needles, small scissors (school type scissors are fine), 3 small spools of thread (orange, black, white or tan) and a 6 inch ruler. Place these items in a Ziploc bag and put them in the bin in the hall as well. As always, we appreciate the love that our church members show for others by their willingness to help with Trinity’s mission projects. If you have questions, call Bud or Suzanne Jones at 684-6173. Thanks and blessings to you. The Trinity Sudan Mission Team

SAVE-THE-DATE
HOMECOMING - April 25-26, 2009


HOMECOMING will be held April 25-26, 2009. The Committee is working now to plan this special event, and need your help locating former members, staff and friends of Trinity so that we may invite them to come back "home" for this very special celebration. If you know of someone you would like to receive a special invitation please contact Jill at the church office or Liz Brown (email: browne9@nationwide.com). Also, **PHOTOS WANTED!** We are looking for wedding photos of all couples married in the church between 1824 and 2008. Please make a copy of the photo with the names and wedding dates, and give to Diane Wine. You can also mail to her at PO Box 565, York, SC 29745. Photos will not be returned but stored in our Archives. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join us for this celebration. More details will follow in future newsletters.

BASKETBALL GAMES FOR THE COMING WEEKEND (JAN 23 & 24)

Team	Date & Time	Opponent		Location
Biddy A	Jan. 23 – 6:15 pm	OBC B	@	Ebenezer
Biddy B	Jan. 23 – 7:00 pm	OBC A	@	Ebenezer
Biddy 3	Jan. 23 – 5:30 pm	Tirzah ARP	@	St. Johns
Mite Girls	Bye			
Mite Boys	Jan. 24 – 9:00 am	OBC B	@	St. Johns
Mite Boys	Jan. 24 – 11:00 am	First Presbyterian	@	St. Johns

ALICE'S CORNER

- The Jr. Hi. UMYF will meet Sunday night, January 25 from 5-6 pm in the Trinity Center and the Sr. Hi. UMYF will meet from 6 to 7. Both groups will continue their study on the "Apostles' Creed" with Tom Tufts. Friends are invited for fellowship and study together.
 - Church Basketball on Friday nights and Saturdays is in full swing. Come join our families and be "a fan" for a game. It will be fun!
 - Tentative plans are being made to return to Moonshine Mountain for snow tubing for Trinity families on Sunday February 8. We had a great time last year. Don't miss it. Watch for details.
 - The Rock Hill Area Youth Directors Association will present a seminar called "Understanding Your Teenager" with guest speaker Duffy Robbins. Attendees will learn what to expect from their children during the teen years and how to parent them with greater confidence, love and understanding. The six "principles for effective parenting" will give parents the road map they need to successfully guide their teens through the rough waters of adolescence. The seminar will be held at St. John's UMC (of Rock Hill) from 5-8 pm on February 22. Advance tickets will be on sale from January 4 until February 1 in the church office and are \$15 per couple or \$10 for individuals (ticket price includes book, seminar fee, and heavy hors d'oeuvres). After February 1 the ticket price increases to \$25 per couple or \$15 for individuals. Childcare will be provided.
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 To save money and energy, use cold water rather than hot water whenever possible for kitchen tasks and laundry. Also, don't use excessive amounts of detergent. Presoak dirty laundry.