

TRINITY IN TOUCH

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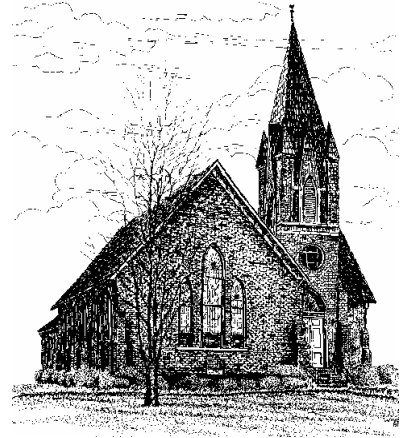
Secretary e-mail: tumcyork@bellsouth.net

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)



November 24, 2009

From the Pastor

An Advent Call to Prayer and Worship

The season of Advent is the beginning of the Christian year. After Thursday's Thanksgiving celebration we will gather to worship and to praise God and to prepare our hearts and lives for our celebration of the coming of Jesus Christ. We remember every year that Advent celebrates not only the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem but the coming of the Christ into our hearts and lives and the return of Jesus in glory at the end of time. This year we will celebrate again the ways in which God comes into our hearts and lives through Jesus Christ.

One of the hymns that we sing contains the prayer, "Come into my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for you." Sometimes during the season leading up to Christmas we find ourselves with so much to do that we don't really seem to have time or room for Jesus. It isn't the shopping or the parties or the family get-togethers that fill our time it's the shopping **and** the parties **and** the family get-togethers. It's the busy-ness that comes when we try to prepare for all of these things and all of the other details of every day live. I am afraid that sometimes we let ourselves become so distracted that if Jesus came we wouldn't have time to make room for him until at least February. And that's frightening!

I am not proposing that we don't do the shopping, or go to the parties, or have the family get-togethers. I love them! I am proposing that we keep them in perspective. I am proposing that we all agree among ourselves that we are going to remember what really is important—that this is a *Christian* season, a *religious* season and that in all things we are going to be aware of the ways that we are celebrating God's gift to us. I am convinced that we can make things easier on ourselves by being more prayerful and careful in our day-do-day handling of all that comes during Advent.

Miss Alice always offers Advent Calendars and devotional booklets for us to enjoy. If we take the time to pay attention to what is in these, we will be a step ahead. We always celebrate with an Advent Wreath here during worship, and if you make a special effort to be here for worship during Advent (next Sunday through December 20th, you will have a special blessing this year.

One thing that continues to worry me from year to year is how little attention we pay to the importance of our times of worship and learning together. It isn't just during Advent; it seems to be all through the rest of the year. We let illnesses that wouldn't keep us from work or school keep us out of Sunday worship and church school. We let activities that we couldn't get off of work to take part in take on more importance than our time in the presence of God in learning or worship activities. We give the unspoken message to our children or our friends that worship of God is not nearly as important as these other activities. I know that I sound like the Grinch, or like some nagging old preacher, (OK, I am a nagging old preacher), but I have learned over the years how easy it is for us to fall away from God by not making extra effort to pray and to worship. I have learned how much strength we find from coming together in the presence of God and opening ourselves to the Word that speaks to us through Church School and worship.

Let me challenge you this Advent to make every effort to attend worship and Church School. I have a special gift for the adult Church School Class that has the largest improvement in the percentage of its average attendance beginning next Sunday and ending on December 27th. I have a special gift for the youth and children's class that has the best percentage of its members attending during that same period. If our combined attendance at worship averages over 200 per Sunday for that same period, there will be a special treat at our January 3 worship services.

Let's plan to let God speak to us during Advent in ways that help us celebrate all of the ways that Christ comes into our world and into our lives.

Gene Feagin, Pastor

Passionate Spirituality

Please respond to this statement by ranking yourself on the Never to Always (1-5) scale: "I trust Christ to help me through any problem or crisis I face." In other words, what do you do if the "Whatifs" start bothering you? The more we realize that God is faithful, the easier it is for us to face problems and crises, knowing that God is with us. We aren't guaranteed an easy road, but we are guaranteed help and company on our journey. The more we trust Christ, the easier it is to trust him and to find his strength and guidance on the way.

SUNDAY, November 29

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 Play Practice	4:00 p.m.
Flower Ministry:	FRIENDS Class
Lay Reader:	Alice Smith
Nursery Infants:	Alicia & David Breakfield
Toddler Church:	Marsha & Kevin Smiley
Children's Church:	Robin Johnston & Cindy Summersett
Acolyte:	Briana Pursley

MONDAY 30

Mite Girls Basketball Practice	6:30-8:00 p.m.
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TUESDAY – December 1

Finance Committee Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Adult Basketball	7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 2

Fellowship Supper following York Parade.....	7:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir	7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 3

Craft Work Day	9:30 a.m.
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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	3:00 p.m.
Children's Play Practice	5:00 p.m.
Administrative Board Meeting	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.22:	109
Worship Attendance (9:00 am) Nov.22:	44
Worship Attendance (11:00 am) Nov.22:	140
Operating Fund received on November 22.....	\$4,202.65
Operating Fund received up to November 22.....	\$262,760.18
Budget goal up to November 22 (\$6,500 x 47)	\$305,500.00

MEMORIALS

To the Operating Fund:

Clark Warren by Allison & Linda Warren.

Acoree Bostic by Sam & Gay Feemster; Johnny & Diane Wine;

Bob Johnsey by Sam & Gay Feemster; Smokey & Harriette Childers; John & Frances Howe; Eddie & Susan Jones; Anne Hipp; The Jack Benfield Class.

To the Mississippi/Katrina Fund in memory of:

Acoree Bostic by Ernie & Laura Wright.

Bob Johnsey by Kenny & Ellen Jones.

To the Sudan Fund in memory of Acoree Bostic & Bob Johnsey by Bud & Suzanne Jones.

To the Choir Fund in memory of Acoree Bostic by Renee Barker.

Towards Kitchen Supplies in memory of :

Acoree Bostic by The Bible Study Class.

Bob Johnsey by Released Time Bible Education.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our prayers are with Weston Sandifer, 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; Grayson Carroll, niece of Ken Cushman; Dot Caldwell, sister of Anne Hipp; Kinsley James, and Mackenzie Decuir.

Our sympathy is with Evelyn Johnsey and family following the death of her husband, Bob Johnsey, on Friday, November 20.

Congratulations to:

Lynn & Rob Mahoney on the birth of their daughter, Kaley Margaret Mahoney, on Thursday, November 19. John & Margaret Bailey are the proud grandparents.

Crystal and Chris Swanger on the birth of their daughter, Ragan Ariel Swanger, on November 20. Kathy and Matt Brown are the proud grandparents.

To my dear Morning Circle friends:

So many thanks for the lovely lunch you gave for me, my family and friends after John's service. You all went to a lot of trouble and it showed. It was so very, very lovely. Thank you all so much.

Sincerely, Sandy, Diana, & John, Jr. Deyton

Bob and I would like to thank our many Trinity friends for your visits, and many cards. Your ongoing prayers helped us through the past 7 months while dealing with my eye. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated...Fondly, Carol and Bob France.

I would like to THANK everyone who supported The Released Time Bible Education BBQ Fundraiser on Saturday, November 14. If you bought a ticket, made a dessert or worked the dinner, you helped make this event a GREAT success. We served over 500 plates and helped spread the word of this wonderful program. We also helped some very needy people in York by donating the leftovers to Tender Hearts, PATH and The Soup Kitchen. Thank you SO much for your support, Spike

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.

MMMMMM GOOD!! - Circle #4 will prepare the **First Wednesday Supper on December 2nd**. They will serve delicious soups, cornbread, crackers, tea and assorted homemade desserts. Featured soups are chili bean, vegetable and potato. Serving will begin after the Christmas Parade and conclude at 7 PM. Cost is \$4 per person with a family max of \$15. Come out and enjoy supper with your friends!! Circle #4

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!

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.

JUST a REMINDER from the KITCHEN Committee....NO kitchen equipment is to be removed from the church, as per the Kitchen Policy, without prior authorization from the Kitchen Committee. This includes pots, pans, drink dispensers, etc. Thank you, The Kitchen Committee.

ALICE'S CORNER

- Persons going to Myrtle Beach for the Christmas shows – your final payment is due by Monday, November 30. Looking forward to a great trip.
- The Trinity Travelers will sponsor their Christmas Luncheon at Springlake County Club on Wednesday, December 16 at noon. Cost is \$12.00 per person. Reservations and money are due in the church office by Wednesday, December 2.
- 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 November 29 will be at 4:00 pm.
- Church basketball teams are being formed. Check the list in the Trinity Center and watch for practice times for your team. Games will begin in January.
- To help our Trinity children prepare for Christmas – they will be given an “Advent Calendar” for their use at home. Make sure your child or grandchild receives one. They will be distributed at play practice during Sunday School. Help the children learn that the Christmas season is more than just Santa Claus.