

Volume 7 Issue 4

April 2017



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# THE MESSENGER

## FROM THE PASTORS DESK...

As Easter approaches we remember that the Resurrection is the foundation of our faith. Because Jesus bodily arose, overcoming death, we have the promise of eternal life. Our physical death isn't the end of the story. Without the events on that first Easter morning, everything else we believe would be useless.

Easter is a time to celebrate and remember what Jesus did for us. But this most important of all days for believers can also be a hectic time. There are often special services at church (*Maundy Thursday or Good Friday and Easter Sunrise*). Almost every church and many communities sponsor Easter egg hunts and all sorts of activities for children. The malls and stores have begun having the Easter Bunny visit (*just as they have Santa at Christmas*)

Easter is often a time for family gatherings at lunch or dinner with accompanying family egg hunts and crafts. Some families choose to take a vacation at Easter if the children are on spring break from school.

I'm not saying all of these things are themselves bad. Although I hope that folks who choose to take a few days away at Easter would worship somewhere. However, it's easy for all the other activities to crowd our time to consider the meaning of Easter and how the Easter events

affect our life.

It seems easy for the celebration of the Resurrection to be crowded out by the egg hunts, crafts, family dinners, and vacations. It's easy for worship attendance on Easter to become a ticket to the family activities later that day. It's easy for Easter to become as busy and demanding as Christmas.

I believe we can enjoy all the activities of Easter without losing the meaning of the Resurrection. I believe, if we take time to focus on the events of Easter morning, all the other things we do can have more meaning.

In John's account of Easter, Mary Magdalene has a face-to-face encounter with the risen Jesus. She experienced great joy when she realized the one she placed her faith in and the person she believed was the Messiah wasn't dead. Her excitement couldn't be contained. She ran to the disciples and announced: "*I have seen the Lord!*"

It is my prayer that, among all the activities of Easter, we will see the Lord. It is my prayer that we will experience the joy of experiencing Jesus new and fresh in our lives. It is my prayer that we each have a face-to-face spiritual encounter with the risen Savior.

### For Church information visit:

Visit us at— [www.trinityumcofcharlotte.com](http://www.trinityumcofcharlotte.com)

Rev. Wade Ogle—(Minister) - [pastor@trinityumcofcharlotte.com](mailto:pastor@trinityumcofcharlotte.com)

Ronna Privette—(Administrative Assistant) - [ronna@trinityumcofcharlotte.com](mailto:ronna@trinityumcofcharlotte.com)

Claudia Myers—(Preschool Director) - [caudia@trinityumcofcharlotte.com](mailto:caudia@trinityumcofcharlotte.com)

Grace and Peace

Wade

# TRINITY HAPPENINGS



**Invite family and friends!**

**SILENT AUCTION**  
Saturday, April 29th  
4:00pm—until

The UMM will sponsor their **Spring Fish Fry** serving Trout, Flounder, Catfish with all the fixings for just \$10.00 per plate.

The United Methodist Women will host a **Silent Auction** during the Fish Fry. The items sold will go toward the operating budget and missions supported by the UMW.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We hope that you will consider donating auction Items. You can ask your favorite restaurant, car dealership, store, nail salon, etc to donate a gift certificate or basket. Maybe you know someone who would consider donating tickets to a sporting event, or a long weekend at someone's rental property.

We hope that you will come bid on an item and get some amazing deals. And most importantly begin now praying for both events!

Questions or to make a donation call Avis @704-906-0072 or email to [avissummerslewis@gmail.com](mailto:avissummerslewis@gmail.com) or [Ronna@trinityumcofcharlotte.com](mailto:Ronna@trinityumcofcharlotte.com) or 704-399-1684.



**LOAF Sunday** will be Sunday, April 16th (Easter Sunday) Please bring a loaf of bread to donate.

This bread will be made into sandwiches on **Tuesday**, April 18th at 8:30am in the FLC kitchen. *(Please note this is Tuesday instead of the regular Monday morning)*

**April Scripture**

- April 2**—Matthew 7: 1-5
- April 9**—Philippians 2: 5-11
- April 16**—Matthew 28: 1-10
- April 23**—John 20: 19-23
- April 30**—

**PRESCHOOL NEWS**

They are now taking registrations for Summer Sessions and the 2017-18 School Year. For more information call Claudia at 704-399-1684 or visit their web page [www.trinityumcofcharlotte.com](http://www.trinityumcofcharlotte.com). This summer they are offering Summer Camp for all children thru 6th grade!!!

**EASTER FLOWERS**..Each year we are given the opportunity to place a flower in church in honor or memory of a loved one. Once again this year we will be using multi-colored Gerber Daisy's. The cost is \$6.00 per plant and all orders are **due by Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday)**. Please place the form along with you money in the collection plate on Sundays or mail to the church office.

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Number ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_



**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

Please join us on Friday, April 14th at 7:00pm in the sanctuary for the **Good Friday Service**.

*“On Good Friday, the Friday before Easter, we remember the day Jesus willingly suffered and died by crucifixion as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins.”*

- Sunday, April 16th**— 7:00am—Sunrise Service
- 7:30am—Breakfast
- 9:00am—Rise Up Service
- 10:00am—Small Groups
- 11:00am—Traditions Service

**Breakfast** begins @7:30am hosted by The Emmett Wilson Bible Class. Eggs, grits, bacon, biscuits, milk , juice & coffee all for a donation!

# Lent Devotion

Devotion written in 2006 by a church members..

## THE SACRIFICE OF THE FATHER... THE LOVE OF THE SON

I received a last minute request by my wife to do a Lenten devotion about self-denial and self sacrifice so as you can see, I gave in. I'm not usually a last minute kind of guy...I like things planned out with plenty of time to accomplish them, but...as I thought about what to write, my mind and heart kept taking me back to childhood memories.

As I reminisced about those times, I'm reminded of my Dad's sacrifices and self denial to become an ordained minister in the Nazarene Church. He would be up until the wee hours of the morning, except Sundays, burning the midnight oil with little or no sleep. He was working a full time job taking care of his family and still finding the time to attend ballgames or take us fishing along with ministering full time to the church and all of the responsibilities that go with it. Church wide visitation to member's homes, places of business and in the hospitals was something he took very seriously. For him, no drive was too far and no request for prayer too small. He would always try to meet the needs of others, placing himself last. **Romans 8:28** was one of his favorite passages of scripture, "*For all things work together for the good of them that love the Lord and are called according to His purpose*".

I think about my Grandmother Carrie Bruce who, as a young mother, had to sacrifice to raise six children on her own after Paw-Paw Clyde passed away at the young age of 35. I wish I could have had the opportunity to meet her and get to know her. From the stories I heard from my Dad, she was a godly woman, making sure all her children attended church every Sunday. She prayed so earnestly and with great humility that one day God would call one of her children into the ministry. My Grandmother died when my Dad was only 8 or 9 years old and yet twenty-six years later her humble prayers were answered and my Dad entered the ministry. Her sacrifice of praying every day was not in vain.

I'm also reminded of the sacrifices we as parents make for our children and those we love.

Foremost I remember and am grateful for the ultimate sacrifice of the Lord our God, for the gift of His Son Jesus Christ. I will eternally be grateful for the sacrifice of His life and the shedding of His blood on the cross, for the forgiveness of my sins and transgressions so that I could have everlasting life.

Donnie Bruce

## SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON & MAKE A WISH FUNDRAISER

Sunday, April 9th @12:00pm in FLC

Cost is a donation with all proceeds going to Make-a-Wish Foundation in memory of Isaiah Joseph. Come enjoy salad, spaghetti, bread & tea.

## Food Pantry Update

In 2014, God placed a call on the heart of a handful of people at Trinity to start a food pantry. Research was done, a plan was formed, the old kitchen was cleaned out & prepared and the doors opened in November 2014.

Since then, the pantry has served 234 different families (a total of approx. 942 people). We average 12 families at the pantry weekly. Some of our first families still come and some no longer need our assistance. New families come in almost every week. It costs approx. \$150-\$200 a week to keep the pantry stocked with basic staples.

During this time, God has called the United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women and a few individuals to assist by regularly providing funding to help with purchasing food.

God has called children to give up receiving presents for their birthday and instead, ask their friends to bring food to donate.

God has called a growing handful of volunteers to be at the church EVERY Friday night to sort food, greet shoppers, pack boxes of food & even help carry that food to cars. They love on the children that come and get to know many of our shoppers by name. They have even had the privilege of praying with some of them if a concern or need is expressed.

God has called 3 faithful men to go to Trader Joe's EVERY Friday to pick up the perishables that they donate to us.

God has called the Playschool and other church groups to have periodic food drives.

The mission of the Trinity Food Pantry is "*To stave off hunger in families and show the love of Jesus Christ to all we encounter*." We cannot be the weekly grocery store shopping trip, but we can provide the food needed to get families in need "over the hump."

It's an old story with a modern twist. At Christ the King Catholic Church in San Diego, there is a statue of Jesus with His hands missing. Vandals broke them off in the mid 1980's. Rather than have the statue repaired, the pastor chose to put a plaque at the base that reads, "I have no hands but yours." Is God calling you to help fulfill that mission by praying or donating food, money or time? Do you have more questions about how the food pantry runs or how you can help? Just stop Lisa Laney, Sandra Duggins, Lynne Bruce or Donnie Bruce and ask.

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**I want to thank you for your thoughts, prayers and concerns while I have been recovering from my hip surgery. It was greatly appreciated. Bless all of you,**

**John McLemore**

# THE MESSENGER

## Trinity United Methodist Church

answering Jesus' call to:

**“FEED MY SHEEP”**



Church—704-399-1684

Pastor's—704-655-2841

704-456-8251

9:00am—Rise-Up Worship Service

10:00am—Small Groups

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

Trinity United Methodist Church

6230 Beatties Ford Road

Charlotte, NC 28216

Non-profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Charlotte, NC

Permit No. 770

## Worship Helpers and Retirement

### RISE-UP NURSERY

April 2—Lisa Laney  
April 9—Cheryl Howard  
April 16—Ronna Privette  
April 23—Brenda Raynor  
April 30—Donna Stroupe

### TRADITIONS NURSERY

April 2—Tom & Marlene Campbell  
April 9—Cindy Hough & Wendy Penninger  
April 16—Carolyn & Malcolm Miller  
April 23—Patty Wilson & Teresa Hardee  
April 30—The Pistolis Family

### USHERS FOR APRIL

Doug Darnell, Brenda Blackwelder  
Ginny Martin & Kay Rainwater

### TITHES and OFFERINGS

**Needed Weekly: - \$4,919.64**  
3/26/17— \$3,100.00

A contribution has been made to the budget in memory of *Bob Blythe* by Curtis Buchanan.

### STREAMING

**Rise Up Service**  
April 2—Malcolm Miller  
April 9—Malcolm Miller  
April 16—Bill McLemore  
April 23—Bill McLemore  
April 30—Malcolm Miller

### Traditions Service

April 2—Wayne Privette  
April 9—Wayne Privette  
April 16—David Stroupe  
April 23—David Stroupe  
April 30—Malcolm Miller

### COMMUNION STEWARDS

3 Ushers

### FINANCE STEWARDS

Lynne Bruce & Doug Darnell

### HOMEBOUND

Naomi Lee, Mary Moore,  
Calvin Nance, Fred Ward,  
Kenneth Alexander



### PRAYER LIST

Alaska Bible College, Kenneth Alexander, Lynne Bruce, Marie Chesser, Carl Edwards, Karen Elliott, Shannon Freeman, Wayne Flowe, Heritage Bible College, Austin Houser, Naomi Lee, Kat McClure, John McLemore, Margaret Merritt, Calvin Nance, Beth O'Shields, Jeff Reid, Jim Thomas, David Todd, Fred Ward, David Wilson.

### RETIREMENT RESIDENTS

The Oaks—Margaret Merritt  
The Laurels-David Todd  
Carrillon (Lincolnton)-Mary Frances Hunt  
Huntersville Health & Rehab.—  
Beth O'Shields  
CMC-Calvin Nance

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**National Day of Prayer-May 4@7pm**

### **Graduation Sunday—June 4th-**

Please let the church office know if you have a student graduating from High School or College this year.

**Vacation Bible School— June 25-29**  
“Maker Fun Factory: Created by God,



# April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10-12:00pm-Easter Egg Hunt
2 9am-Rise Up Serv 10am—Small Groups 11am—Traditions Ser	3	4 6:30-Zumba	5 11-2pm-Hot Dogs 6:30-Trustees 7pm-Choir	6 12pm-Young @Heart 6:30-Zumba 7pm-Praise Team	7 4:30-Wedding Rehearsal 6pm-Karate 6:30-Food Pantry	8 Sanctuary/Education Building reserved all day
9 <b>PALM Sunday</b> 9am-Rise Up Serv 10am—Small Groups 11am—Traditions Ser 12pm-Spagheti lunch Make a Wish	10 1pm –Circle #3 7pm—Circle #4	11 6:30-Zumba	12 11-2pm-Hot Dogs  7pm-Choir	13 6:30-Zumba 7pm-Praise Team	14 6pm-Karate 6:30-Food Pantry 7pm– Good Friday Service	15
16 <b>EASTER</b> 7am-Sunrise Service 7:30am—Breakfast 9am—Rise Up Serv 10am-Small Groups 11am-Traditions Serv <b>LOAF Sunday</b>	17  6:30pm-Circle #1 @Ronna Privette's <b>Office Closed</b>	18 8:30am—Sandwich Shop 6:30-Zumba	19 11-2pm-Hot Dogs	20 6:30-Zumba 7pm-Praise Team	21 6pm-Karate 6:30-Food Pantry	22
23 9am-Rise Up Serv 10am—Small Groups 11am—Traditions Ser	24	25 6:30-Zumba 7pm—United Methodist Men Dinner	26 11-2pm-Hot Dogs	27 6:30-Zumba 7pm-Praise Team	28 6pm-Karate 6:30-Food Pantry	29 4pm- until  Fish Fry and Silent Auction
30 9am-Rise Up Serv 10am—Small Groups 11am—Traditions Ser						