



FROM THE PASTOR:

As most of you read this article Thanksgiving is only a memory... except maybe for the left-overs in the fridge. The Christmas season has officially begun. Of course, if you go see the retailers, it began before Halloween.

The coming of Christmas brings excitement, anticipation, and maybe its share of stress. There seems to be so much to do in such a short time. The tree and the house must be decorated. The yard ornaments placed so everyone can see. The presents must be bought. The lists must be made and completed. The children constantly need to be calmed.

There are also the mandatory responsibilities during Christmas. Some will venture out to fight the crowds to glaze at holiday lights. Others will pack up and strike out to visit family. Still others are scrubbing every corner of the house, preparing for extra guests.

I fully realize the busyness and stress Christmas brings. The process at our house probably isn't a lot different from many others. The tree needs to be put up, the decorations hung, and we need to make sure every child and grandchild receives that special gift that they'll always remember. (Okay, maybe they'll remember it until the next day.)

But, as a pastor, I have other responsibilities. The numerous functions

and services at the church need to be attended to. Christmas Eve Candlelight, a

very meaningful service to me, requires prayer and development. Additionally, Christmas Day is on Sunday this year. That worship service will be a special time. I enjoy the Christmas season very much. But, I also have to prepare myself for the stress and busyness.

It seems every year I encourage folks...and myself to step back and remember who we're celebrating. Christmas isn't about us. It's not about the presents we want or expect or the ones we feel obligated to give. Christmas is about a present we've all been given...the gift of Jesus.

As one author puts it well: "We need to remember that Christmas ain't our birthday." It's the birthday of Jesus.

The words of the angels to the shepherds still ring true. "... behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11 KJV)

Think for a minute. Without the trees, the lights, the decorations and the presents it would still be Christmas. Without the birth of Jesus there would not be a Christmas...and there would not be any hope for messed up, sinful folks like us.

Let's take some time to celebrate Jesus. Let's take time to give Jesus a present...the present of our faithfulness and our worship.

Grace and Peace
Wade

For Church information visit:

Visit us at— www.trinityumcofcharlotte.com

Rev. Wade Ogle—(Minister) - pastor@trinityumcofcharlotte.com

Ronna Privette—(Administrative Assistant) - ronna@trinityumcofcharlotte.com

Claudia Myers—(Preschool Director) - caudia@trinityumcofcharlotte.com

CHRISTMAS AT TRINITY



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO A CHRISTMAS CONCERT
BY THE CHILDREN
AND THE CHOIR
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4th**

11:00am

**TRINITY CHURCH UNITED METHODIST
SANCTUARY**

A Hot Dog Lunch to follow

And a visit with SANTA!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

WAREHOUSE...mark your calendars for Thursday, Dec. 8th and make plans to be a part of the Trinity group as they go to help prepare the boxes for shipping at OCC Warehouse. This will be from 3-7pm. The church bus will leave the church parking lot at 2:00pm.

HAITI MISSION TEAM

This group will leave Charlotte on Thursday, December 8th headed to Haiti. They are collecting hygiene products to take with them to give to those in need along with School Supplies. Please have your donation to the church by Sun., Dec. 4th. Also we ask that you remember this group in prayer as they make this journey.

“And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born.” Luke 2:6



LOAF Sunday will be Sunday, December 18th. Please bring a loaf of bread to donate.

This bread will be made into sandwiches on Monday, December 19th at 8am in the FLC kitchen. All are invited to come help with this ministry.



FISH FRY

The UMM will sponsor a Fish Fry **Saturday, December 3rd** beginning at 4:00pm in the FLC. Flounder, Shrimp, Catfish with all the fixings will be served all for just \$10.00 per plate.



You can give online by going to trinityumcof-charlotte.com and following the directions under online giving. Thank you to all who are doing this from the convenience of your own home.

December Scripture

Dec. 4—Isaiah 11:1-10

Dec. 11—Isaiah 35: 1-10

Dec. 18—Isaiah 7: 10-16

Dec. 25—John 1: 1-14



Check out the newest addition to our light poles. Many of you have helped to adorn these poles by purchasing seasonal banners in honor or memory of loved ones. Watch our January newsletter for this list.



A contribution has been made to the **Music Ministry and Children's Ministry** in memory of *Mrs. Von Haverlah* by Dr. June Carland Hammond.

Contributions have been made to the **Church Budget** in memory of *Mrs. Von Haverlah* by TUMC Circle #3, and Kay Rainwater.

A contribution has been made to the **Church Budget** in memory of *Mrs. Vicki Tucker* by Kay Rainwater.

There is still time to place your **collared shirt** orders. These come in many colors and styles. See Chuck Laney for more info. All orders are due to him by Sunday, December 4th.

“I bring you good news of great joy for everyone!

The Savior, The Messiah, the Lord has been born” Luke 2: 10



SUPPER WITH SANTA

Santa will visit Trinity on Wed., Dec.7th once again this year via the Long Creek Fire truck. Make plans to join the pre-school kids at 6pm for a Hot Dog or Chicken nugget dinner and to wait the arrival of Santa at 6:30pm.



\$15/ first child \$5/ additional child

Contact Shelly Black at 704-399-1684 to register your children today!

ROOM IN THE INN

It's Time! Room In The Inn starts in December. The dates are Dec 16, Jan. 20, Feb 17 and March 17. Room In The Inn is an extension of the homeless shelter during the cold winter months organized through Urban Ministries. For more information please go to www.urbanministrycenter.org On these Friday nights we will host 12 of our neighbors that unfortunately have no home. We and they need your help. Here is what is needed. Help set up bedding, prepare and serve meals, fellowship with our guest, drive the bus to pick up and take back, spend the night, prepare and serve breakfast, pack 12 lunches, wash laundry. In addition we need gloves and hats total of 48 for the season. Chap stick, hot hands, tooth brushes, tooth paste, hand sanitizers, lotions, Kleenex **SMALL TRAVEL SIZES PLEASE.** Thank you in advance.

Please contact Lisa Roberts at 704 622-9015 or robertslr2003@yahoo.co,



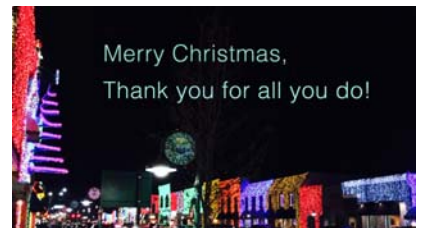
Have you ordered your Cookie Tray(s)?

This beautiful tray will have 4 dozen homemade cookies tied up with a festive Christmas bow ready to give as a gift for a teacher, neighbor, or just keep at home for the holidays. These will be ready for pick up on Saturday, Dec. 10th from 10:30-11:30am or pick them up Sunday am. The cost is \$20.00. You can see a member of Circle #1 or call the church office to place your order.



Join us Saturday, December 24th at 8:00pm in the Family Life Center for the annual Christmas Candlelight Service.

From The Trinity Church Staff!!!



POINSETTIAS...If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church in honor or memory of a loved one for Christmas please fill in the form below and mail it into

the church office or place in the collection plate **by Sunday, December 11th.** The cost is \$8.25 per potted 6" covered pot. They have multiple red blooms on each plant. These will be in the Worship Services on Sunday, December 18th and can be taken home that day to enjoy for the holidays.

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

By: _____

ordered _____ **Amt. paid** _____

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

11:00am—Traditions Worship Service



Trinity United Methodist Church

6230 Beatties Ford Road

Charlotte, NC 28216

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Charlotte, NC

Permit No. 770

Worship Helpers and Retirement Residents

RISE-UP NURSERY

Dec. 4—Lisa Laney
Dec. 11—Cheryl Howard
Dec. 18—Ronna Privette
Dec. 25—Brenda Raynor

TRADITIONS NURSERY

Dec. 4—Laurie & Karen Tucker
Dec. 11—Justin & Kristen Stroupe
Dec. 18—The Pistoris Family
Dec. 25—No 11am Service

USHERS FOR December

Brian & Sara Carey
Ken Plummer and Carolyn Miller

FINANCE STEWARDS

Lynne Bruce & Brian Carey

STREAMING

Rise Up Service
Dec. 4—Cindy Hough
Dec. 11—Malcolm Miller
Dec. 18—Bill McLemore
Dec. 25—Cindy Hough

Traditions Service

Dec. 4—David Stroupe
Dec. 11—David Stroupe
Dec. 18—David Stroupe
Dec. 25—No Service

COMMUNION STEWARDS

3 Ushers

TITHES and OFFERINGS

Needed Weekly: - \$4,763.20

HOMEBOUND

Naomi Lee, Mary Moore,
Calvin Nance, Fred Ward

PRAYER LIST

Alaska Bible College, Lynne Bruce,
Marie Chesser, Karen Elliott, Shannon
Freeman, Wayne Flowe, Heritage Bible
College, Austin Houser, Naomi Lee,
John & Carolyn McLemore, Margaret
Merritt, Calvin Nance, Nancy Pace,
Jeff Reid, Charles Tallon, David Todd,
Fred Ward, David Wilson.

RETIREMENT RESIDENTS

The Oaks—Margaret Merritt
The Laurels-David Todd
Carrillon (Lincolnton)-Mary Frances
Hunt

A BIG THANK YOU to Cheryl

Howard, Mike Raynor, Wayne
Privette, David Stroupe, Patty Wil-
son, Shelly Black and Jennifer
McLemore for their help in decorat-
ing the church and church grounds.
Trinity is ready to celebrate this
special birthday!



December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SUN SCHEDULE 9am—Rise Up Serv 10am—Small Groups 11am—Traditions Ser 3pm—Youth				1 6:30pm-Zumba 7pm—Praise Team	2 6pm—Karate 6:30pm—Food Pantry	3 10am-Choir 4:00pm— 
4 See Schedule 11am-Childrens and Choir Christmas Program 12pm-Lunch & Santa	5	6 6:30pm-Zumba	7 11-2pm –Hot Dogs 6pm—Supper with Santa 7pm-Choir	8 2pm-Bus leaves for Christmas Child warehouse 6:30pm-Zumba 7pm—Praise Team	9 FLC Kitchen Re- served All day 6pm—Karate 6:30pm-Food Pantry	10 10:30-12pm-Cookie Tray pick up 2-10pm-FLC Reserved
11 See Schedule Poinsettia orders are due	12 11am-Circle #3 to JoAnn Smiths	13 6:30-Zumba	14 11-2pm –Hot Dogs 5-8pm—Parents Night Out 7pm-Choir	15 6:30pm-Zumba 7pm—Praise Team	16 6pm—Karate 6pm—Room In the Inn 6:30pm—Food Pantry	17 6pm—Room in the Inn
18 See Schedule LOAF Sunday	19 8am—Sandwich Shop 6:30-Circle #1 @Christie Pistolis’ 7pm—Circle #4 @Donna Stroupe’s	20 6:30-Zumba	21 11-2pm –Hot Dogs 12pm-Preschool Christmas program 7pm-Choir	22 6:30pm-Zumba 7pm—Praise Team	23 6pm—Karate 6:30pm—Food Pantry	24 8pm—Candlelight Service (FLC)
25 10:30am-One Service in FLC No small groups 	26	27 6:30-Zumba	28 11-2pm-Hot Dogs	29 6:30pm-Zumba 7pm—Praise Team	30	31 
		CHURCH	OFFICE	CLOSED		