

Volume 9 Issue 7

July 2019



Trinity
United
Methodist
Church

THE MESSENGER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Hello Trinity,

I'm back! And, no one is more surprised than I am! It almost never happens that a pastor is allowed to return to the church that sent him out!

It feels as if I stepped into a time machine twenty-five years ago, only to be deposited back on the shores from whence I came! Real life is stranger than fiction.

Yes, I know...I have helped with numerous funerals, weddings, baptisms and events at Trinity over these past twenty-five years, but even so this was kind of as a visitor. Now, I get to come back home and really share some joy with all of you.

For starters, please be patient with me. I need desperately to relearn the Trinity culture.

Many of our saints have crossed the river. And, I am a man in a season of life who has recognized that larger and larger pieces of my heart now reside on the other side of that river.

My point is that any time a church loses a saint, the culture and the dynamics change. Things are different; and, we must confess that far too often, when we lose a saint, we can never fully recover. But, here's what we can do...we can trust that God will build a new normal for us!

In addition, I see lots of new faces at Trinity. What a blast it will be to get to know all of them! Even so, this represents a new culture for me that I must learn.

On a humorous note, when Bill McLemore called me a few weeks ago to say that I was coming to Trinity, I laughed a wee bit, expressed gratitude for the fact that people fought to get me here; and, then I said something like, "I hope you will find me to have been worth the fight!"

Bill replied saying, "Well, just be

yourself!"

I laughed again and said something about that old saw of *having* to be myself because everyone else was taken. So, if in being myself at Trinity...you find me annoying, blame Bill McLemore! Throw him under the bus. He told me to be myself!

I also feel the need to chat a bit about Wade and Susan Ogle. I just love them! We've shared meals together and they have had Cheryl and me into their home.

Wade has been a tremendous friend to me and to my family. Many of you may not know this, but Wade stood with me, laid hands on me and prayed when I was brought into Full Connection with our Annual Conference. One does not forget such magnificent gestures.

Please note, I will grieve for Wade and Susan too! Wade will leave some mighty big boots to fill and I will confess right now that I do not have the capacity to fill them.

Even so...I have some boots too and so do you; and, they were made for walkin'! With the help of Christ and with all of you as well, we will forge ahead, following Jesus, making disciples and transforming the world. We will run whatever race that God has set for us.

I will ask only two things of you. First, let us accept the challenge to consider everything that we do points to Jesus. If an activity does not point to Jesus, can we modify it so that it will? And, if we cannot modify an activity so that it points to Jesus, can we pray whether we need to be engaged in it or not? **continued inside**

Second, let us accept the challenge to maintain unity of the body.

.....**continued on inside**
If we cannot maintain unity of the body, we are in big trouble. It undermines the mission.

And, the mission is everything. Please note that if you hear

For Church information visit:

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FROM THE DESK OF REV. JIMMY HOWARD...

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE...

Second, let us accept the challenge to maintain unity of the body. If we cannot maintain unity of the body, we are in big trouble. It undermines the mission.

And, the mission is everything. Please note that if you hear this as more work projects, this is not at all what I mean.

By saying that the mission is everything, I am saying that our spiritual formation is our DNA and it is everything! It is how we live and breathe into The Way!

The Way? The first church was not called the church but The Way. The Way is both a noun and a verb. The Way is a person, place or thing but it is also an action.

As we live into The Way, lives are changed and healed, joy is recovered, hope is grasped; and, we get a whiff of what salvation truly means! "And he that sat upon the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new,'" takes on form, substance and life (Revelation 21:5).

This is everything! At the end of the day, the mission leads to abundant living; and, for me eternal life begins right now in the precious present.

Finally, I hope we can reminisce, laugh about the old times, share funny stories about the past and just live in that bliss. But...I hope we can move on from there to envision God's calling upon us and to dream and imagine a glorious future.

But, let us not forget the precious present. For it is in the precious present that we live and move. It is in the precious present that we live into truth.

Buckle up! Let's take things out for a spin! Remember, never fear the future for God is already there!

In His Love and Service,

Jimmy-Howard

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM The Summer Lunch Program kicked off on Monday, June 10th and what an AWESOME two weeks it has been. We served 146 meals the first week and 186 meals the second week for a total of 332 meals thus far. We welcomed back many old friends and made several new ones, but all were glad we were back for the summer. This mission really pulls the church community together. We saw many of the children's faces at Bible School which started, Sunday, June 23rd and all were eager to share some more of the good old Trinity Love and Care that we spread thru God's teachings of "Feed My Sheep". Thank you to everyone who has help with your gift of time to serve, donations of snacks, money and most importantly your prayers. We will serve this week and then will take the week of July 4th off. Upon returning we hope you will continue with your donations of fruit cups, chips, crackers, cookies and snacks of any kind. Monetary donations and your time is also greatly appreciated. Please contact Brenda Raynor, Sandra Duggins, Avis Lewis or myself if you would like to volunteer or make donations.

Patty Wilson and the Summer Lunch Team.



JULY 4th LUNCH

Mark your calendars for the annual BBQ Chicken Lunch on **Sunday, July 21st** immediately following the 11:00am Worship Service. The menu will be: *BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Slaw, Rolls and Desserts* all for a donation. Get carry out or eat in. Proceeds from this meal will go towards the Backpack Ministry.

This will also be a meet and greet time with Trinity's new minister Rev. James. C. Howard, III (Jimmy)

Rev. Howard will begin at Trinity on July 1st and his first Sunday in the pulpit will be Sunday, July 14th.

The 2019 VBS is well underway and maybe by the time you receive this newsletter it will be finished. The first night we had 45 children from 3years old to 5th grade. Lots of fun memories being made!



TITHES and OFFERINGS

Needed Weekly—\$5,145.05

Received—\$3,684.88

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Rise Up Service—71

Traditions Service—91

Online—19

MONTANA MISSION TEAM

Please remember the following in prayer as they prepare to leave for Montana on Saturday, July 6th and will return on Saturday, July 13th. Prayers for a safe, successful trip!

**Clint Lewellyn, Avis Summers Lewis, Ginny Martin,
Missy Parker, Cynthia Gilbert Zinke, Amanda Bradford
Beau Bradford, Reed Johnson, Patsy Burns, Victoria Ha-
ley**

LET'S CELEBRATE!
Miss Claudia
IS RETIRING!
 Drop-In Sunday, June 30th
 2:00-4:00pm
 @ Claudia's House
 1384 Winged Foot Drive | Denver, NC 28037
 In lieu of gifts, please consider making donations to
 The Claudia Myers Preschool Scholarship Fund



Ahoy
It's a boy!

Were having a baby shower for
Brandi Schonauer

Saturday July 21st 2019 at 3.00pm

Trinity UMC Family Life Center
 6230 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216

NO RSVP required please just join the FUN!

greetingsisland.com

Help us celebrate a new duckling on it's way

Baby Schadel
 Due in August 2019

*This duckling doesn't need a party,
 only diapers & wipes
 (and a meal after it arrives)*

Join us at Trinity UMC as we prepare
 for another baby blessing
 from Mom Rebecca Schadel
 please bring your gift
 of diapers & wipes to the church office
 by Sunday July 28, 2019

greetingsisland.com

THE MESSENGER

Trinity United Methodist Church

6230 Beatties Ford Road
Charlotte, NC 28216



Church—704-399-1684

Pastor—704-458-8187

9am—Rise-Up Worship Service

10am—Small Groups

11am—Traditions Worship Service

answering Jesus' call to:

“FEED MY SHEEP”

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Charlotte, NC
Permit No. 770

Worship Helpers and Prayer Request

RISE-UP NURSERY

July 7—Carolyn Miller & Jennifer McLemore
July 14—Melissa Falcone
July 21—Donna Stroupe
July 28—Wendy Bastine

TRADITIONS NURSERY

July 7—Dolores LaPrade
July 14—Ginny Martin
July 21—Jennifer McLemore
July 28—Shelly Black

USHERS/Greeters for Traditions

Gus & Christie Pistolis
Brian & Sara Carey

GREETERS for Rise Up

July 7—Chuck Laney
July 14—Avis Summers Lewis
July 21—Karen Bryer
July 28—Cindy Hough

COMMUNION STEWARDS

3 Ushers

FINANCE STEWARDS

Lynne Bruce & Brian Carey

STREAMING

Rise Up

July 7—Cindy Hough

July 14—Cindy Hough
July 21—Malcolm Miller
July 28—David Stroupe

Traditions Service

July 7—Gus Pistolis
July 14—Gus Pistolis
July 21—Gus Pistolis
July 28—Malcolm Miller

PRAYER LIST

Alaska Bible College, Kenneth Alexander, Paul Bolick, Curtis Buchanan, Mattie Harrison, Heritage Bible College, Chet Kidd, Perry McConnell, Brady McKay, Claudia Myers, Bennie Todd, Margie Todd, Ken Walker

The Laurels-David Todd
Carrillon (Lincolnton)-Mary Frances Hunt
Northlake House—Mary Moore
Ranson Ridge—Perry McConnell
Home—Claudia Myers
Novant (Huntersville) - Margie Todd

Contributions have been made to the **Church Budget** in memory of *Mr. Butch Hough* by Kay Rainwater, TUMW Circle #3, Shirley Hunter, Susan Coble, Sherry Sigmon, Susan Kenley, Amy McGee, Robert & Coretha Ferrell, Al & Frances Lancaster, Wayne & Ronna Privette, Scott Tucker, Joyce & JimBob Stewart.

A contribution has been made to **The Cemetery Fund** in memory of *Mr. Butch Hough* by John Moore.

A contribution has been made to **The Montana Mission Team** in memory of *Mr. Butch Hough* by John Bertone.

***In case of an emergency you can



reach Rev. Howard by calling 704-458-8187 or call the church office @ 704-399-1684 (Mon – Thurs).

RETIREMENT RESIDENTS

The Oaks—Naomi Lee (Rm 466)