

Volume 9 Issue 10

October 2019



Trinity United Methodist Church

.THE MESSENGER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

“O Them Changes!”

One thing that we can predict about life is that it is totally unpredictable. Things change. Nothing stays the same.

And Buddy Miles was right when he sang, “Well, my mind is goin' through so many changes, I'm goin' right out of my mind (Them Changes, Buddy Miles, Steve Cropper, 1970).”

Also, another ancient rock and roll song from the 1960s has begun to play in my head, probably because it's featured on the hit television show, Orange is the New Black. The title is Turn, Turn, Turn, written by Pete Seager.

Incidentally, the song quotes Quohélet, the author of the book of Ecclesiastes in the Bible, “There is a time to every purpose under heaven (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 NIV).”

Change is evident in the air nowadays. The leaves are beginning to die; and, their true colors are beginning to show. I have an October Glory maple tree in my front yard that is trying its best to look glorious!

Fall always excites me. The humidity begins to fade away and a crispness returns to the air. In my mind, I envision apple pies, punkin' pies, pecan pies and more apple pies, all the favorite flavors of Fall!

I suppose what helps us survive and even thrive in the midst of change is that even through life's unpredictability, we can see patterns emerge that can provide familiarity to which we can cling and find comfort.

To put a finer point on things, Fall comes around every year like an old friend.

Loved ones, who are true loved ones, will change, will move in and out of

our lives, yet we know their love is unconditional and everlasting. God is still changing from the standpoint of creating and re-creating the universe, yet paradoxically God is always the same. To depend upon, trust and find comfort in God and these patterns amidst change is positive and constructive.

Sometimes though, as we deal with changes, we humans can form patterns of behavior that is not helpful or constructive at all. This is especially true when we fall into habits of negative thinking. For example, reflexively seeing the proverbial glass half-empty instead of half-full can tell a tale of the state of our mental health.

Part of the blame for our negative thinking is driven by the news media. I gave up watching the news for Lent a decade ago; and, my life has been richer ever since. Besides, if something happens that I need to know about, my mother will call me.

The news media will not tell us that a little over 329 million Americans got up yesterday, loved our families, behaved responsibly all day; and, then we went to bed without bothering a soul. Instead the news media will say that a handful of people hurt somebody; and, this is what gets our attention.

Recently, one of my cousins came to town for a visit. We so enjoy getting together and laughing our heads off about nothing.

She was telling me about a so-called vacation to Florida, which had been a royal fiasco. In fact, the trip had been so bad that she began to keep a list of everything that went wrong; and, when she was done, forty-one things were on that list.

.....continued inside

As she recounted the list, I began to laugh so hard, I cried. She and her husband went to Sea World and two of the whales bumped heads during a show. Because the whales became injured, the show was cancelled.

For Church information visit:

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## CONTINUED ....

As she recounted the list, I began to laugh so hard, I cried. She and her husband went to Sea World and two of the whales bumped heads during a show. Because the whales became injured, the show was cancelled.

The electricity was out at the hotel they were staying in, so the Florida heat just about killed them. Then they moved to another hotel and right after they checked in, someone jumped from a balcony into a swimming pool as a prank and died from this little venture. The police were called in to investigate; and, as a result my cousin's part of the motel was closed. She and her husband were then forced to move again.

She next recounted how an iguana ran through a restaurant causing uncalculated havoc and damage; and, again when she was done forty-one items made her list! I told her to write a screen play; and, then send it to Hollywood! It would make a great movie!

Yes, we laughed like crazy and in this humor, I was reminded how all of us are determined to keep a record of the bad things in life so that we can justify our negative positions; and, all-the-while we tend to forget the countless things that worked out quite well.

Have you noticed that most of the history that we were taught in school were the chronicles of wars, famines, catastrophes, injustices and body-counts? Never do you see a history book that states, "During this set of dates, there was peace, and nobody hurt anyone!"

When my children were younger, I used to torture them around the dinner table every night by making them tell me one blessing that happened to them during the day. I believed then and still do today that we should collect as many memories of happiness as we can and bank them. They sure do come in handy when it rains!

Would you like to take the anxiety out of change in your life? Keep a record of the times you've triumphed...over misfortune, over sorrow, over change itself. Count up all of those things that we worried about that never came to pass!

Know that there will always be causes for celebrations, especially in the worst of times. Finally, form positive and constructive patterns by focusing on the changeless God who is constantly creating.

Besides, if the seasons didn't change, there'd be no apple pies, punkin' pies, pecan pies...! I rest my case!

*"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)*

*In His Love, Jimmy*

### **RISE AGAINST HUNGER**

#### **Mission Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, for RISE AGAINST HUNGER**

Don't forget! Next Sunday, September 29th, is the **5th Sunday Mission Sunday for Rise Against Hunger**. We are over half way there with our fund raising goal of \$5,140.00. This will be used to purchase the food for our **October 19, 2019 Meal Packing Event**. We hope you have had this awesome mission on your heart. Remember, \$.034 will feed a family of four, so no donation is too small. If you are unable to be with us on Sunday, you can bring in your donation or mail back to the church anytime up until the meal packaging event on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>. Just make the check out to **TUMC and reference Rise Against Hunger in the memo line**. For those who have already made your donations, we thank you for your generosity. This is a very large undertaking and requires a lot of team work; but Trinity has always been known for that.

*Patty Wilson and Outreach Committee*

You can go online: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/TrinityUMC2019> or stop by the church office to get your registration forms to help fill meals on Saturday, October 19th.

# BOY Oh BOY

Please join Trinity UMC Circle 1 in showering

## Baby Hartsell!

Drop off a donation of diapers, wipes, or a gift card for the Hartsell family before Sunday, October 13th.

You can leave your gift outside the church office, and we will make sure it is received. Baby Boy Hartsell is due October 17th!

### CHARGE CONFERENCE

Trinity's annual Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, October 15th in the Conference Room of the Family Life Center. Rev. Jimmy Howard will be the presiding elder for this conference. All church members are invited to Charge Conference, so mark your calendars and plan on joining in on this very important time in the life of the church.

**REMINDER to Committee Chairpersons:** please have your forms into the church office by Sunday, October 6th so that the appropriate ones can be sent into the Conference Center before our Conference.

Fun Fellowship Great Finds Food Crafts Gifts

**FALL BAZAAR**  
**Saturday, November 2, 2019**  
**8:00 am – 1:00 pm**  
**Trinity United Methodist Church – Family Life Center**  
**6230 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte NC 28216**  
*sponsored by Trinity United Methodist Women*

Do you want to rent a table and sell your items at the Bazaar? Yes, you can! Table rental is \$20. Space is limited, so reserve yours TODAY. (first come first serve for tables with electricity) We are asking for a donated item from all table vendors to support our silent auctions.

Do you have a special talent BUT do not want to have your own table? Donate an item to us. We will gladly accept your handmade, homemade, baked, craft, jewelry or unique items to sell. All proceeds go to the UMW budget. We thank you for your donations.

**COME HUNGRY AS FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE**

Now is a great time to start thinking about Christmas gifts, too, so please plan to come out and enjoy fellowship, shopping, and FUN.

**Questions?**  
 Contact Avis at 704-906-0072 or avissummerslewis@gmail.com or contact the church office

### FOOD PANTRY

Turkeys will soon be going on sale and it's a GREAT opportunity to pick one up on sale and donate it to the Food Pantry. The turkey can be dropped off at the church during office hours or on Sunday. We would appreciate turkeys instead of money because many grocery stores impose spending limits to give you the sale price. To be good stewards for everyone, purchasing and donating a turkey will be the most helpful. Please help us support our food pantry families and continue to show them the love of Jesus Christ. Thank you everyone for your continued support of the Food Pantry ministry.

The "Charlotte CROP Hunger Walk", hosted by Church World Service, will benefit a number of local charities who work to address hunger including Crisis Assistance Ministry, Loaves & Fishes, and Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. The event is **Sunday, October 20, 2019. Trinity has a team.** Our goal was to raise \$500.00 and we have already doubled the goal thanks to the support of Trinity. Now we need to get walkers! To register go to <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/charlottenc/Account/Register>. **TEAM TUMC.** The walk starts at 2:30 PM, with participant and sponsor registration beginning at 1:30 PM. Sign up is at the registration tent on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Hawthorne. Various stations and tents will be set up along the path for supporters to engage with and for sponsors to distribute water.

*"Over 527,000 people struggle with food insecurity in or 19 county service region, including over 188,000 children and 41,000 seniors who turn to the 700+ agencies that partner with us. The Charlotte Crop Walk has been along-time partner in our mission to end hunger and funds generated from this event will go a long way for those in need." Notes Kay Carter, CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina.*

Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to walk. Our plans are to order T-Shirts for the Trinity Team. **Contact Avis Lewis or Patty Wilson if you have questions.**

# THE MESSENGER

## Trinity United Methodist Church

6230 Beatties Ford Road  
Charlotte, NC 28216



Church—704-399-1684

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

Oct. 6—Melissa Falcone  
Oct. 13 Carolyn Miller &  
Jennifer McLemore  
Oct. 20—Wendy Bastine  
Oct. 27—Lisa Laney

### TRADITIONS NURSERY

Oct. 6—Sara Carey  
Oct. 13—Dolores LaPrade  
Oct. 20—Jennifer McLemore  
Oct. 27—Ginny Martin

### USHERS/Greeters for Traditions

Tom & Marlene Campbell, Kay  
Rainwater and Brenda Blackwelder

### GREETERS for Rise Up

Oct. 6—Cindy Hough  
Oct. 13—Jimmy Hunter  
Oct. 20—Chuck Laney  
Oct. 27—Avis Lewis

### FINANCE STEWARDS

Lynne Bruce & Tom Campbell

### STREAMING

#### Rise Up

Oct. 6—Bill McLemore  
Oct. 13—Bill McLemore  
Oct. 20—Malcolm Miller  
Oct. 27—Cindy Hough

#### Traditions Service

October—Gus Pistoris

### PRAYER LIST

Alaska Bible College, Kenneth Alexander, Heritage Bible College, Chet Kidd, Perry McConnell, Mary Moore, Sheila Oates, Bennie Todd, Margie Todd

\*\*\*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).

Contributions have been made to **The Preschool Scholarship Fund** in memory of *Claudia Myers* by Shirley Figaro Reiss & Michael D. Moore.

A contribution has been made to the **Church Budget** in memory of Butch Hough by The TUMC Sr. Citizens.

### RETIREMENT RESIDENTS

The Oaks—Naomi Lee (Rm 466)

The Laurels—David Todd  
Carrillon (Lincolnton)—Mary  
Frances Hunt  
Northlake House— Mary Moore  
Ranson Ridge— Perry McConnell

### TITHES and OFFERINGS

Needed Weekly—\$5,145.05

Received—\$3,070.88

### ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Small Goups—70

Rise Up Service—71

Traditions Service—68

Online—14

Our condolences to Kat McClure on the passing of her sister, *Earline*.

Please remember Kat and family during this time.

