



THE RIDER

Trinity United Methodist Church

September 2012

Volume MMXII Issue IX

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PASTOR'S CORNER: WHAT SIZE ARE WE?

REV. TERESA KEEZEL

Some of us can still remember the old TV show: *Growing Pains*. It shared the saga and journey of children growing up and the family dynamics that went with it. Somehow, when change occurs in a family, everyone is affected. Churches are the family of God. As we age, we change. No longer able to do what we use to, the way we use to, in a world with different patterns and ways. We face the challenges the world (and our bodies) send our way. We remember when we were young. Our dreams and our fears. Our accomplishments and our losses. As our children have grown and changed, we find that we have changed too...and sometimes we find that we have determinedly not changed. And so now we find ourselves changed in some places and unchanged in others. We find that our children have become their own people and invited others into our family. Some we feel comfortable with. Others we don't know how to relate to. Churches are the family of God. Churches change and age. We watch our children grow and invite newcomers into our intimacy. Some things we keep the same. Some things we accept the new (sometimes because we want the new; sometimes because we have no choice). This month in the newsletter I am including a study that was done by Alban Institute. It is one of the leading research and teaching groups of 'the church.'

Ask yourself:

In which size church did I grow up?

In which have I visited or worshiped?

And which of the patterns do I see in Trinity?

CONTINUED

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WHAT SIZE ARE WE? Continued, from Making Your Church More Inviting by Roy Oswald, Alban Institute

The Patriarchal/Matriarchal Church

This small church can also be called a Family Church because it functions like a family, with appropriate parental figures. The patriarchs and matriarchs control the church's leadership needs. What Family Churches want from clergy is pastoral care, period. For clergy to assume that they are also the executive officer and the resident religious authority is to make a serious blunder. The key role of the patriarch or matriarch is to see that clergy do not take the congregation off on a new direction of ministry. Clergy are to be the chaplain of this small family. Clergy should not assume, however, that they have no role beyond pastoral care. In addition to providing quality worship and home/hospital visitation, clergy can play an important role as consultants to these patriarchs or matriarchs, befriending these parental figures and working alongside them, yet recognizing that when these parental figures decide against an idea, it's finished. It is not unusual for a congregation of this size to list five successive clergy for every ten years of congregational life. These congregations need a pastor to stay and love them over at least ten years. This pastor would have to play by the rules for the first three to five years. At about year four or five, when the pastor does not leave, the questioning begins: "Can we trust you?"

The Pastoral Church: 50 – 150 Active Members

Clergy are usually at the center of a Pastoral Church. There are so many parental figures around that they need someone at the center to manage them. A leadership circle, made up of the pastor and a small number of lay leaders, replaces the matriarch and patriarch of the Family Church. The power and effectiveness of the leadership circle depends upon good communication with the congregation and the ability of the pastor to delegate authority, assign responsibility, and recognize the accomplishments of others.

A key feature of a Pastoral Church is that lay persons experience having their spiritual needs met through their personal relationship with a seminary trained person. In a Pastoral Church it would be rare for a Bible study or a prayer group to meet without the pastor. The pastor is also readily available in times of person need and crisis.

The second feature of the Pastoral Church is its sense of itself as a family where everyone knows everyone else. If you show up at church with your daughter Julie, everyone will greet you and Julie too. When congregations begin to have 130 to 150 people coming every Sunday morning, they begin to feel nervous. Are they beginning to lose the intimate fellowship they prize so highly?

When a congregation grows to the point where its pastor's time and energy is drawn off into many other activities and the one on one pastoral relationship begins to suffer, it may hire additional staff to handle new functions so the pastor can have plenty of time for interpersonal caring.

As we move to the next size congregation, notice the change in the church's structure. Clergy consider a congregation's transition from the Pastoral to Program church the most difficult. One can expect enormous resistance on the part of the Pastoral church as it flirts with becoming a Program church. Many churches make an

unconscious choice not to make the transition and keep hovering around the level of 150 active members. The two treasured features of a Pasto Church that will be lost if it becomes a Program Church are ready access to their religious leader and the feeling of oneness as a church family, where everyone know everyone else and the church can function as a single cell community.

The Program Church: 150-350

The Program Church grows out of the necessity for a high-quality personal relationship with the pastor to be supplemented by other avenues of spiritual feeding. Programs must now fill this role.

The well-functioning Program Church has many groups of activity, which are headed up by lay leaders. These lay leaders, in addition to providing structure and guidance for these groups, also take on some pastoral functions. The Stewardship Committee gathers for its monthly meeting and the committee chair asks about a missing member. The chair may include a prayer for this member in the opening prayer. If the teacher of an adult class notices that someone in the class is feeling depressed, the teacher will often take the class member aside and inquire about his well-being. Even if the teacher eventually ask the pastor in intervene, the pastor has already gotten a lot of assistance from this lay leader.

Key skills for the effective ministry in a program church begin with the ability to pull together the diverse elements of the parish into a mission statement. Helping the parish arrive at a consensus about it s direction is essential. Next the pastor must be able to lead the parish toward attaining the goals that arise out of that consensus. In the Program church, clergy need to be able to stand firm at the center of that consensus.

The Corporate Church: 350+ Active Members

The quality of Sunday morning worship is the first thing you usually notice in a Corporate Church. Because these churches usually have abundant resources, they will usually have the finest organ and one of the best choirs in town. The head of the staff usually spends more time than other clergy preparing for preaching and worship leadership.

In very large Corporate Churches the head of staff may not even remember the names of many parishioners. When members are in the hospital it is almost taken for grant that they will be visited by an associate or assistant pastor, rather than the senior pastor. Those who value highly the corporate church experience are willing to sacrifice a person connection with the senior pastor in favor of the Corporate Church's variety and quality of program offerings.

The Corporate Church is distinguished from the Program Church by its complexity and diversity. The patriarchs and matriarchs return, but now as the governing boards who formally, not just informally, control the church's life and future. Laity lead on many levels, and the Corporate Church provides opportunity to move up the ladder of influence.

Key to the success of the Corporate Church is the multiple staff and its ability to manage the diversity of its minister in a collegial manner.

SEPTEMBER MUSIC NEWS: STARTING A NEW YEAR ON A GREAT NOTE

PAT MADISON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

FALL PROGRAMS BEGINNING

Trinity Chancel Choir meets every Wednesday at 7:30 pm. Our **Men's Chorus** meets at 7 pm. Anyone that likes to sing is invited to join us for learning, fun, and fellowship. Our "Back to Choir Night" is September 5th. Please bring a snack to share and photos of your adventures over the summer. It is a great time to get to know each other and become a new member of this group. All ages are welcome and a nursery can be provided if needed. Come and make a joyful noise!

Trinity Belles will have a retreat at Blackstone on September 7 & 8 where we will plan our year and rehearse music for fall and Christmas. If you are a music reader and have some experience with a musical instrument, please let me know if you might be interested in joining our group. Many of us have been together for a long time, but we always welcome newcomers who would like to participate in this group. Please see me if you are interested! Regular Monday rehearsals begin September 10 at 7 pm.

Trinity Chimers will have their first meeting on September 9th at 4 pm. All interested children (grades 2-6) are invited to come join this group. We ask that parents come to this first meeting to fill out forms and learn about this great opportunity for their children to learn to read music. Pat Shrader does a wonderful job teaching this group. She also will need an assistant this year in order for us to fulfill the requirement for 2 adults in each classroom. You do not need to know anything about music or the chimes, but we need your presence in the room. Please consider being a helper. You just might learn something new in the process!

The **Odyssey choir** will meet on September 9th at 4 pm. in the sanctuary. All teens, grades 6-12, are invited to join this group. We need lots of teens as well as some adults to help present the fall play, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"! This is a delightful play that is fun to do, so please come and join us! I need about 20 people to participate to make this play possible. So if you like to act or if you are willing to help us with this project, please let me know! **Youth Jam** will be in Richmond on November 16 & 17. The director this year is Mark Miller. We always have a great time with Mark! You do not need to be an experienced singer or actor to be a part of this group; we hope you will join us on September 9th at 4 pm!

Any **teen (grades 7-12) interested in ringing bells** should meet with me at 6:00 on September 9th in the sanctuary.

Treble Clefs (Grades 1-5) will meet from 5 – 6 pm on Sunday, September 9th in the music room. We will be learning the songs to our new Christmas musical, "In a Galilee Far Far Away". Books and CD's are already in! We will also be learning new songs for the services as well as some music reading with the "boomwhackers" and rhythms with our rhythm instruments. Come and join the fun.

Angels and Cherubs will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 12th at 6 pm. This is a meeting where parents are asked to stay for dinner, fill out forms, and talk about the schedule for the coming year. We will need help each week with certain activities. The UMW is providing drinks and paper products, but parents will need to help serve the pizza on Wednesday nights as well as help sometimes with crafts for the cherubs. With your help, we can make this work! Our Cherubs will be singing in church about once a month, so bring your calendars to help us decide what dates work best for you.

Please consider all the information above and let's make this the best year ever!

Blessings, Pat

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to all who participated and supported the "Night of Music and Storytelling"!

It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all. Linda and Geraldine were awesome with their great stories! Our Trinity Men's Chorus (plus one) sang beautifully! As I looked over the audience, everyone from age 4 to my mom at 96 had a smile on their face. It was a blessed evening!

Thanks to all who made desserts and to everyone who contributed to the Cherub dinner fund. We raised \$550.50 to feed our children this fall!

A special thanks to Linda and Geraldine for sharing their talent!

CHRISTMAS BASSIST NEEDED

George Sawyer, our E F Hutton in the bass section, will be gone on an extended vacation during the Christmas season. We need bass singers for the Christmas season to help us out! This is not a lifetime commitment. Please volunteer to help us during this time of need! Our bass section would really appreciate you help and they are a great group of guys! If you have questions about choir, please see me any time after service or call me during the week at the church. (748-2439) or email to piano4mom@gmail.com.

TALENT SHOW

I am still looking for theme ideas for the talent show. I have received 2 suggestions, but I would like to have more from which to choose. So, let me know your ideas!!!

A NOTE FROM THE LAY LISTENER: STATE OF THE CHURCH

DAVID BAILEY, LAY LISTENER

One of the duties of the Lay Leader is to prepare a State of the Church Report for Charge Conference. I have begun to reflect back on the goals we set for ourselves last year. Trinity has been alive with new things this year.

- **Become active in Rebuild Richmond** – *Done and doing*
- **Become connected to our local fire department** – *Scheduled for September and there is still room for anyone to join in to help*
- **Gathering to eat every month** – *This is just too United Methodist; done and doing*
- **Holding joint services every 5th Sunday** – *Done and the next is Sept. 30th*
- **Increase involvement by breaking down jobs to smaller, specific projects** – *This is happening in several of our programs and more is possible*
- **Using email versus the postal service** – *Underway and saving staff time, copy costs, and postage*
- **Develop our webpage and Facebook to increase communication and presence** – *Keith Nowlin tells us that there are over a thousand people visited our website or Facebook page (hits) since March*
- **Improving our visual worship experience by employing more projections and screens** – *Trials complete and final comments incorporated into design and cost estimates. The plan to be presented at the Administrative Council September 18th*
- **Exploring the needs of a larger kitchen to facilitate community and missions** – *Plan approved at the August Administrative Council. Displays to go up soon and construction to be in January/February.*

Wow, it looks like we stepped up to the plate and have taken good swings at all of them. I am willing to bet that some of these are going to be home runs.

In addition to the plan laid out at Charge Conference we have managed many new events, not to mention the many tried and true regular activities.

- The Pastor offered an education series titled “Just in Case You Have Wondered” attended by 61 people over four nights
- Two different and wildly successful shoe missions with over 300 pairs donated
- Started a Women’s Small Group Ministry
- Feeding at Safe Havens by different small groups from the Church
- The UMM built a storage shed that made the tent more accessible and freed up closet space in the church
- Collect Sports Balls for Joy in Manteo
- Pajama Program for Literacy
- Two staff member changes during the year
- Put together a pictorial directory
- Started Children’s Church during the summer

That hits the high points of the new things that we have worked on. In no way should we discount the other things that we have done; but rather celebrate that we have new visions and hands to carry out those visions.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPLORING AND LEARNING

October 13 – Vital Congregations Workshop. Workshop topics will be directly tied to the key areas for goal-planning in the Vital Congregations Ministry Plan and report.

Oct 21 – James River District Conference At High Street UMC, Courtland. This is the time that the accomplishments of the year are highlighted, priorities for the District are set, budgets are adopted and leadership is appointed and affirmed.

Jan 13, 2013 – District Training At Highland UMC, Colonial Heights and Feb 3, 2013 – High Street UMC, Courtland

District Training is offered at the start of the year for new people on committees and in leadership roles

I am listening for the ways that you think we can answer God’s call to impact lives for all eternity through ministry, missions, and worship.

"Preach the gospel. If necessary, use words."
Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

TRINITY UMW NEWS

BARBARA SMITH, UMW CHAIR

Ladies, join us Thursday, September 13th at 6:30 p.m. for a salad/covered dish dinner and meeting. Bring a dish and a friend and join us for food and fellowship. Our meeting will include planning for the Pumpkin Patch and the Bazaar.

Our annual bazaar will be Friday October 19 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. As usual the bazaar will include crafts, "nearly new" items, soups, baked goods, and a health fair. Details as to when and where you can donate items will be in the October newsletter. If you have questions or want to offer your help, contact Barbara Smith or any UMW member.



FINANCE COMMITTEE

A Finance Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, September 6 at 7 pm. This meeting will finalize the 2013 TUMC Budget to present to the Church Council for final approval.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have all news, pictures and articles to the office no later than Sunday, September 23rd for inclusion in the October Newsletter.

You can send items by email to trinity@trinity-umc.com or drop off at the office.

UMM: BRUNSWICK STEW SALE – OCTOBER 6TH

JOHN MORRIS

It's that time of year: when the Trinity UMC Men puts on their annual fundraiser that provides support of their many local missions. The UMM will be cooking their famous Brunswick stew on Saturday, October 6th. Due to the increased cost of ingredients, the cost this year is \$7 per quart. If you wish to purchase stew, add your name and telephone number to the sign-up sheet at the "sign-up booth." As the stew historically sells out, it is recommended that you prepay to ensure your stew will be reserved before we open the sales to walk-up customers. Stew pick up will be 12 – 3 pm on Saturday, October 6.

BRUNSWICK STEW PREPARATION – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The men request volunteers to help prep the ingredients (cutting meat, peeling and dicing vegetables). We will start preparing the ingredients Friday, October 5th at 6 pm. If you have them, please bring your own sharp knives, peelers and a cutting board. This is a great time to volunteer your services and enjoy socializing with other members of your church family. We appreciate any and all volunteers who may be able to help us! If you have any questions, contact John Morris at 777-9163.

TUMC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

KEITH NOWLIN

The Communication Committee is looking for volunteers to join the communications committee to assist with the TUMC website and advertising church events/activities through social media, local newspapers and other media. If you are interested, please call Keith Nowlin at 895-3225 or email: Keith.Nowlin@msn.com

Would you like to be added to the Trinity UMC email distribution list so you can receive the monthly newsletter, events, fundraisers, and activities by email? Some of you may already be receiving these emails. If not, and you would like to be added to the Trinity UMC email distribution list, then send an email to Keith.Nowlin@msn.com and put the following in the subject line: "Please add (your name) to the TUMC email list."

Trinity UMC also has a Facebook page: It's a great place to interact with other church members and to let others know what's going on in the church. <https://www.facebook.com/TUMC.Chester>

Did you know that Trinity UMC has an email prayer group? This is a great way to send prayer concerns to church members via email. If you would like to be added to the prayer group, then send an email to Keith.Nowlin@msn.com and put the following in the subject line: "Please add (your name) to the TUMC prayer group."

For more information, contact Keith Nowlin, Trinity UMC Communications @ Keith.Nowlin@msn.com or cell: 804-895-3225

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group kicks off on Sunday, September 9th!

There will be a parent's meeting at 4 pm, then youth at 5 pm.

On September 16th we will feed firemen, and September 22nd is the retreat to Camp Willow Run.

STEWARDSHIP

MAURICE LINKOUS, STEWARDSHIP CHAIR

Once again it is time for Trinity look at the accomplishments achieved in the current year and plan for the subsequent year.

Our 2013 Stewardship campaign will be conducted over three Sundays beginning September 16, 2012.

Currently we are exceeding our general fund budget by \$5,000 and have increased our building fund by \$2,600. While at the same token we have undertaken numerous missions successfully, which are far too many to list here. You can be proud of your church's achievements this year and take satisfaction in our being on target to exceed the goals set for the year.

This advance notice of the Stewardship campaign is not an encouragement for you to be absent three Sundays in September and avoid listening to me speak, but rather an invitation for everyone to participate. Your presence is not only desired and wanted but needed to display the unity in Trinity United Methodist Church. In the event you know someone who has been unable to attend recently please make them aware of the campaign and ask them to join us. Just so you know, my ego begs for a large congregation those three Sundays!

NEW AND EXCITING EVENTS FOR THE KIDS

COLLEEN CASSADA, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

As the children of our church look forward to the exciting changes that a new season brings, they can also look forward to the new and exciting activities planned! Parents and youth leaders have diligently worked to organize an exciting calendar of events for the upcoming year. These events are open to children ages 2 years through 5th grade. There is an activity for everyone; come join the fun!

SEPT 14TH - "GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

Our first children's fellowship of the year, from 6:30-8:30 pm.

We will play games that encourage the children to care and nurture friendship and fellowship. The children will also put together the "health kits" for the homeless, which the youth group will be handing out this month. What a great way for the younger children to get involved in mission work.

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME! That's right! Parents, this is a great time to bond with your younger children as well as your older children and help them become closer with their church family. It is important for the children to grow together and know each other.

LOOKING AHEAD

October 28th — Harvest Party/Trunk or Treat

Everyone remembers celebrating autumn with their church—playing games, dressing up in festive clothes, and sharing fellowship over seasonal treats. Trinity is excited to bring back the good old fashioned harvest party.

November 9th — Children's Thanksgiving Party

The children will gather in fellowship to understand and appreciate what being thankful is all about.

December 16th — Children's Christmas Pageant

Be looking out and listening for further details!

December 30th — Pajama Party for New Year's

Join us for popcorn and a movie in your pajamas as we wind down from the busy year and celebrate what awaits us in the year to come!

Of course these fabulous activities cannot be as spectacular without the support and volunteer work of everyone in the church! Parents, we ask for your time and energy to help nurture and grow the children of Trinity! Do not be afraid to volunteer—we are all in this together and we are here to support one another as we guide the future of the church!

If you are interested in helping, please contact:

Colleen Cassada by email: ccassada@comcast.net

Janet Collins by email: montanadog96@gmail.com

MISSIONS NEWS

BETH WILKES, MISSIONS CHAIRPERSON

Well, the adults survived the Mission trip to Franklin, WV from Aug. 19-24. We had a week of beautiful weather and just had a wonderful time.

There were 14 of us and we all divided up into crews. Our kitchen help this year was Rachel Allyn, Joan Foster and Sue Morris. They prepared wonderful meals for us and we just ate too much but it was delicious!! A crew of Bill Poole, Bill Foster, Harold Saunders and Rich went in the opposite direction and worked on a roof and porch at a very needy home. The rest of us split into two groups and worked on two new Habitat homes putting up drywall. The first house consisted of Jeff Harrison, John Morris, Karen Poole and Daphne Altice. The second house was Bill Shields, Joan Taylor and myself. We all worked very hard and were able to complete the installation of drywall in both homes. The Habitat supervisors were very impressed and could not believe that we women could hang drywall . . . I think they thought that we were there to pass tools to the men or look pretty and we were having none of that!! God blessed us all!! We want to send a special thank you to those of you that sent fresh vegetables for us to eat during the week . . . they were great and kept our food costs down! A shout out goes to George Sawyers for preparing those wonderful homemade rolls . . . we ate them the entire week and never got tired of them!! Thank you all so much and thanks to Karen Poole for her hard work in organizing this trip. Our little homeowner came by every day and would plan out where she was putting her furniture! It was very rewarding for all of us and we all felt that God is good on that little Habitat Hill!!

We all know how busy Trinity gets in the fall so here is a Heads Up of what to expect from Missions:

- There will be a bike ride for CCHASM on October 20 and you need to contact Bob Cassada if you are interested in participating.
- Kairos is the end of October. Maury Beck would like donations of homemade cookies to take to the prisoners. The prisons require a specific recipe; get in touch with Maury if you need it!
- CCHASM Thanksgiving Basket food drive starts near the end of October.
- We continue to do the Safe Haven feedings and Teresa will pass that clipboard around for sign-ups during church service.

Thanks to everyone for your support of Missions at TUMC! It's amazing how everyone comes together when we ask you to support a Mission and we hope that you will take the time to participate in Missions whether it's at Trinity or in your everyday life! Let us give back to God what he has given us!

AUGUST ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

SUBMITTED BY RUTH ALLYN, ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL SECRETARY

Members Present: Dave Shaffer, Ruth Allyn, Reverend Keezel, Beth Wilkes, Cindy Shelton, Todd Miller, Susanne Brown, Aubrey Tarkington, Maurice Linkous, Turner Wilkes, Pat Madison, Bill Foster, Sharon Boroch, Edward Boroch, Carol Sanders, Paul Sanders, Jeff Harrison, Barbara Smith, Lana Lefferts, Bob Cassada, Amelia Nicholson, Sue Morris, John Morris, Deborah Napolitano, Mary Potter, Gary Potter, Tim Ruxton, Keith Nowlin, Norman Carney, Glennice Carney, Karen Poole, Bill Poole, Pam Soto, Mary Palmer, David Bailey, Flo Gray, Ron Gray, Ed Sismour, Richard Wilkes

The meeting was called to order by Dave Shaffer, Chairman, at 7 pm. Agendas were distributed. The invocation was given by Reverend Keezel.

Correspondence: Several advertisements/publications regarding mission opportunities were shared and given to the Mission Chair. Information needed for upcoming Charge Conference was passed along to Reverend Keezel.

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of both the 5/22/12 and 6/13/12 meetings of the Administrative Council were approved as written.

Additions to the Agenda: Cindy Shelton presented an emotional appeal for open hearts and open minds as important issues are discussed and votes are taken.

Old Business:

Trustees: Bob Cassada presented the annual review of the Child Protection Policy. The current policy as approved in 2007 requires annual review and needed updated verbiage, such as "Administrative Board" to "Administrative Council". The full policy is attached. Bob moved to adopt the revised Child Protection Policy. After further discussion, the motion was amended to approve the policy as revised and recommended by the revision committee, and also have the policy reviewed at least by the district or legal counsel to evaluate any risk of legal exposure. The amended motion passed. The policy will be reviewed annually prior to the start of the school year.

Notes to Congregation: The policy requires all members who work with children to sign the Discipline Contract, which is the last page of the

policy. The policy also requires two adults be present whenever possible in Sunday School classes and church-sponsored children or youth activities. In the nurseries, a youth may assist an adult in the toddler nursery. One adult or youth (12-17 years) per every 5 children shall be maintained. If you are alone in a classroom or nursery, please feel free to request a volunteer observer via the Superintendent, Lay Leader, or general congregation. Please obtain a copy of the Child Protective Policy from the church office, and return the signed Discipline Contract to the Lay Leader, David Bailey.

Kitchen Committee: Bill Foster presented the work done by the Kitchen Committee. CAD drawings were projected for discussion. These schematics will be enlarged and posted in the central hallway for all to view. The plan combines the kitchen and serving areas into one large space with more storage and better work flow. The committee has obtained cost estimates, estimated length for completion, and has looked into contractors. The total estimated cost for the renovation is \$24,245, which includes demo, upgraded electrical (so one crock pot will not trip the breaker), plumbing (plan includes addition of a prep sink and disposal), appliances and laminate counter tops. The committee moved to accept the proposal for completion of the kitchen renovation. Discussion: John Morris, Finance Chair, said there are available funds to complete the project, the Finance Committee will decide from where to draw the funds. The motion passed. Estimated January/February for renovation to get underway, with a 30 day completion.

Communications Committee – Projection System: Keith Nowlin summarized that at the 2011 Charge Conference, communications was a weak link in the life of the church. Now through increased use of e-mail to spread announcements, use of the church web page and Facebook, communication has improved. Part of the challenge has been to improve the visual worship experience with the use of projections. The Projection Committee has researched a lot – meetings with several churches, experimenting with screen placement, light usage, etc. They have heard and responded to church member concerns, and if you have any please feel free to approach the committee.

The committee has received three bids from various vendors regarding the installation and configuration of a permanent projection system. All the bids were returned to the various companies to be tailored for our specific needs. The committee is waiting for them to be returned. The proposals include the installation of two projection screens on either side of the stage area (similar to where the temporary screens are now, but flush mounted above the wall track so as not to interfere with the wall flexibility), two projectors mounted high on either side of the central sanctuary area (about the level where the paneling starts), and one monitor installed on the back paneled wall for the choir to view. The software for running such equipment has already been donated to the church. Estimates range between 10K and 15K. All bids should be received and ready to vote on at next Administrative Council meeting in September.

Turner Wilkes added his thanks to everyone who has loaned equipment to the church during the research/experimentation phases.

Minutes/Records/Scanning Process: Bill Poole reported he had the Greater Richmond ARC scan a test batch of minutes, which turned out very well and are in searchable Adobe pdf files. For a relatively nominal fee of \$500 (already approved), they will continue to scan our minutes in order to convert them to electronic formats. However, we are a small project for them so it will take a while to complete. David Bailey moved to proceed with having Greater Richmond ARC scan our archived meeting minutes. The motion passed.

New Business:

Trustees: Bob Cassada presented a letter from a developer regarding the realignment of Greenyard Road. The letter from The Argent Group requested Trinity to grant Argent exclusive right to investigate the realignment of Greenyard Road for a period of 12 months in order for Argent to complete necessary engineering work to design a realignment that would be acceptable to VDOT, CDOT, and TUMC. There is no cost to the church during this period, and agreement does not imply future agreement with the realignment. Bob moved to give The Argent Group exclusive rights to investigate the realignment of Greenyard Road. Discussion: the property Argent wants to develop is already zoned for development; the reason for the 12 month option is the time needed for the engineering plan and permits. The motion passed by majority vote.

United Methodist Men:

Church Tent: Bill Foster said the UMM has received several requests to rent the tent, but the church owns it, not UMM. He moved that the UMM manage the outside use of the tent, and charge a deposit of \$500 per use, returning \$300 of it when the tent is returned, with the proceeds going toward eventual tent replacement. The motion passed.

Pumpkin Patch: Todd Miller reported that in 2011, the patch raised a total of \$27,864. Of that amount, 10% was tithed back to the church. Then expenses were taken – amount owed back to the supplier, flowers, straw, etc. The remainder was split 50/50 between the United Methodist Men and the United Methodist Women, who both used the funds toward various mission projects and church needs. The proceeds of the 2012 patch will be handled in the same way. This year the pumpkins arrive on September 26.

Lay Leader: David Bailey provided an update on feeding the firefighters as recommended by the 2011 Charge Conference. Various groups will provide meals the week of 9/10/12, and additional hands are needed for 9/11.

Group/Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds: Jeff Harrison provided a full report of completed and ongoing projects, which is attached. Highlights: the ant swarm in the choir room has been eradicated (THANKS), and our new janitorial contractor, Jan-Pro, started 6/26. Jeff thanked Beth Wilkes for helping “Mr. Handyman” repairing and replacing all entrance door seals.

Member Care: Carol Sanders reported the efforts of this committee continue, will be reorganized in 2013.

UMW: Barbara Smith reported the next meeting is 9/13 at 6:30, which will be a pot luck supper. All women of the church are invited. The Fall Bazaar will only be held on Friday, 10/19. In addition to crafts and soups/sandwiches, they will still have baked goods and the Nearly New section.

UMM: Bill Foster. In addition to prior reports of UMM, Brunswick stew will be sold 10/6, with prep on 10/5.

Finance: John Morris and Lana Lefferts provided the Finance and Treasurer’s Reports. Both are attached. 58% of the year has passed, and we have spent 54% of the budget. Funds are available in various accounts to support both the kitchen renovation and the projection needs. The Audit Committee lead by Judy Seely has completed the annual audit of all accounts, and have on minor finding of lack of receipts for expenditures in several accounts. Please submit receipts with all reimbursement requests. Also, all 2013 budget requests are due by Sunday, 8/19.

Missions: Beth Wilkes provided a written report which is attached. Highlights: Over 400 flip flops were donated for the Flip Flops for Soldiers initiative, thanks to Paul Brown’s company for providing the shipping. Upcoming mission events – adult VIM trip to Franklin WV, Kairos in October will need cookies, and the Thanksgiving food bags for CCHASM.

Worship: Mary Potter reported for Lucy Shields, there is a meeting scheduled 9/4 at 7:30 p.m.

Staff Parish Relations: Tim Ruxton praised the new church secretary, noting the improved graphics on the bulletin as well as the recent advertising flyer for Linda Goodman’s night of storytelling.

Children’s Ministry: Reverend Keezel reported the next meeting will be October 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Ministry: Turner Wilkes reported the youth has been pretty inactive since the mission trip to Atlanta, which was emotionally taxing. They’re working on planning for upcoming season, expect 16+ participants.

Sunday School: Mary Palmer stated she is still working on space/rooms for all classes, and asked for a list of volunteers who would be willing to be the second adult in the class room in light of the Child Protection Policy review.

Music: Pat Madison said the night of storytelling and music raised \$550 for the cherubs’ Wednesday night dinners for the upcoming season. She thanked Jeff for getting rid of the music room ants. The Belles will be going on retreat to Blackstone 9/7-8, Youth Jam is 11/16-17, the Thanksgiving play will be 11/18, the Christmas Cantata is scheduled for 12/9, and the Children’s Play/Santa Party is planned for 12/16.

Parsonage: Reverend Keezel is grateful for the window replacements that work.

Stewardship: Maurice Linkous reported this year’s campaign will start 9/9 and will culminate on Sunday, 9/30. Goal: Unity in the Church, Theme: Why Trinity? The 9/30 service will be a joint service since it is the fifth Sunday in September. There will be a church-wide picnic following the service; details are still being worked out but plan on bringing a side dish/dessert.

Pastors Report: Reverend Keezel reported her last “All You Ever Wondered About...” class is scheduled for Tuesday, 8/21, which will be on the Staff Parish Committee. The confirmation class is scheduled to start in September, she expects about 4 members. Since Rev. Keezel will be off the last week of August, communion will be held on Sunday, 9/9. Charge Conference is scheduled on November 11 in conjunction with Hopewell UMC, will be held here at Trinity.

The next Administrative Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 9/18

DISTRICT NEWS

From The James River Journal. A link to the full newsletter can be found on the Trinity website homepage at www.trinity-umc.com

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION

A Service of Celebration on the assignment of Young Jin Cho as Resident Bishop of the Virginia Conference will be held at 10:30 am Saturday, Sept. 22 at Reveille UMC (4200 Cary Street Road, Richmond). Reception will follow the service in the Reveille Fellowship Hall.



UMM – CALLING ALL MEN AND BOYS

The James River District United Methodist Men are sponsoring a Breakfast and Rally at Trinity – Disputana (10021 County Road) on Saturday, Sept. 15 from 8:30-10 am. A donation for the meal expense is welcome.

MISSISSIPPI MISSION.

The James River District will be coordinating a Mission trip to Gulf Port, Mississippi, from September 23rd to the 29th. The team will be staying at Camp Love located in Gulf Port. The Disaster camp requires a \$15 donation per person per day to operate the camp. This figure includes lodging and food and one MS UM Disaster Response T-shirt per person. Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday evening and depart on Saturday morning.

If interested contact Dan Armstrong at armstrongdn7250@aol.com or PO Box 145, Stony Creek, VA 23882. Funds will be collected in Virginia and delivered as one check to the camp director.

DISTRICT UMW

The James River District UMW annual meeting will be on Sunday, September 30, 2012 at 3:00 PM at High Street UMC (101 N. High St) in Franklin, VA. All UMW members from across the district are invited to attend this celebration of all we have accomplished together over the last year!

The conference UMW Young Women's Event will be September 21-22 at Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth. How can you become more involved in mission? Scholarship help is available. Contact Carol Elmore for more info: 804/458-0947 or teecebe@gmail.com.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEMBERS NEEDED

The Nominating Committee will be meeting to consider nominations to the various District committees and Members at Large to the Annual Conference.

For the 2013 Annual Conference the James River District will nominate 27 At-Large Members and 9 Reserve Members. Also included in our representation will be 2 youth, 2 young adults, the District Lay Leader, the UMW President and the UMM President.

District Committees include Common Table, Trustees, Finance, Superintendency, Nominations and Disaster Response.

If you are interested in serving on a District Committee or attending the 2013 Annual Conference as a District At-Large Member, please notify the District Office not later than September 17. Please include your reasons for wanting to serve and what you feel are your qualifications.

BIRTHDAYS

Help us update our information; if your birthday is this month and you are not listed, please notify the office so we won't miss you again!

- Sept 1** Lori Pythress
- Sept 5** Kaitlyn Leinberger
- Sept 7** Todd Miller
Anthony Napolitano
- Sept 8** Tristan Echols
- Sept 9** Angela Bailey
Laura Parrish
- Sept 10** Kayla Parrish
Stephanie Potvin
Jane Lisagor
- Sept 11** Brian Foutz
- Sept 12** Charlotte Sawyer
Adeline Krauchunas
- Sept 13** Donna Short
- Sept 14** Kevin Sapp
- Sept 15** Sarah Bishop
- Sept 18** Robert Linkous
- Sept 21** James Day, Sr.
Ryan Sapp
- Sept 22** Odette Burley
Kari Collins
Judy Seely
Taylor O'Shea
Zachary Mills
Hannah Donithan
- Sept 23** Abigail Pettigrew
- Sept 24** Bob Adams
- Sept 25** TJ Kennedy
- Sept 26** Linda Lewis
Jean Harvey
- Sept 27** Norma Stanfield
Keith Nowlin, Sr.
- Sept 28** David Cox
- Sept 29** Michael Cash
Stephanie Arnold

OFFERING TELLERS

- September 2 Judy Seely & Deborah Napolitano
September 9 & 16 David Shaffer & Flo Gray
September 23 & 30 Harold Saunders & John Morris

TODDLER NURSERY WORKERS

- September 2 Mary Palmer & Cindy Morris
September 9 Stephanie Fuina & Darlene Martinez
September 16 Betty Sawyer & Ann Wright
September 23 Pam Soto & Abby Heird
September 30 Georgina Foster & Wendy Kump

If you are available to help in the toddler nursery, please get in touch with Diane Springfield.

WELL WATER TESTING FUNDRAISER SUPPORTS UNITED METHODIST MEN

ED SISMOUR

Since 2010 I have owned and operated Biotech Laboratory, a Certified Drinking Water Laboratory. As a fundraiser to support the UMM, I will donate \$20 for each bacterial analysis designated for this fundraiser from September through the end of 2012 (the lab is closed from Christmas through New Years). To qualify, the phrase "UMM fundraiser" (preferred) or a suitable variant must be written at the top of the 'Request for Analysis' (RFA) form that is required with each sample. Each analysis costs \$45 and tests for the presence/absence of both total coliforms and *E. coli* bacteria. I provide sterile water bottles and appropriately marked RFA forms that will be available at the church. Each RFA form will also have sample collection instructions, business hours of operation, and driving directions to my home. Return the sample with the RFA the same day the sample is collected and place it inside the cooler in the drop-box at the end of my driveway. Additional bottles and paperwork are available there. Results are provided usually within 48 hours of sample drop-off. If the sample fails, I will call the client to discuss what to do next.

I also can test for common chemical contaminants, including lead (\$35), nitrate (\$25) and nitrite (\$25). A \$10 donation per test will be made when designated for the fundraiser. Mortgage companies often require these four tests for property transfers or refinances. Please note that sample collection procedures for chemical testing are different from those for bacterial testing. Instructions will be available at the church or can be obtained from my drop-box.

Payment can be made when the sample is dropped off or an invoice will be sent and payment can be mailed. Note on the RFA if you want a receipt. Please contact me if you have any questions: (804) 520-4807 or biotechlab@verizon.net.

If you are a well owner, please consider this opportunity to check your water quality and to help the UMM. If you know well owners, please pass along this information. Thank you for supporting the TUMC UMM.

September 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 <i>Regular Sunday Morning Schedule</i></p>	<p>3 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>4 7 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm Worship Committee</p>	<p>5 6 am Bible Study "Back to Choir" Night 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>6 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>7 TRINITY BELLES RETREAT</p>	<p>8 / 1 8 am UMM 10 am Sherbourne TRINITY BELLES RETREAT</p>
<p>9 <i>Regular Sunday Morning Schedule</i> 4 pm Youth Parent Meeting; Trinity Chimers; Odyssey 5 pm Youth Group; Treble Clefs 6 pm Youth Bells Interest Meeting</p>	<p>10 7 pm Trinity Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>11 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm Praise Team</p>	<p>12 6 am Bible Study 6 pm Angels & Cherubs 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm UMW Dinner & Meeting 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 <i>Regular Sunday Morning Schedule</i> 4 pm Chimes/Odyssey 5 pm Treble Clefs 5 pm Youth Group – feed the firemen</p>	<p>17 7 pm Trinity Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>18 7 pm Council</p>	<p>19 6 am Bible Study 6 pm Angels & Cherubs 6:30 pm District Scouts 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>20 7 pm Praise Team 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 YOUTH RETREAT TO CAMP WILLOW RUN</p>
<p>23 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE <i>Regular Sunday Morning Schedule</i> 4 pm Chimes/Odyssey 5 pm Treble Clefs 5 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>24 7 pm Trinity Bells 7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>25 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm Praise Team 7 pm Missions Committee</p>	<p>26 6 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Pumpkin Patch Delivery 6 pm Angels & Cherubs 6:30 pm District Scouts 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>27 7:30 pm AA</p>	<p>28 4 - 10 pm Apple Sauce Preparation</p>	<p>29 7 am Apple Butter Prep 3 - 5 pm Apple Butter Sales</p>
<p>30 <i>5th Sunday Joint Service Church Picnic to follow</i> 4 pm Chimes/Odyssey 5 pm Treble Clefs 5 pm Youth Group</p>	<p>If you have items to add to the calendar, please let the office know by email to trinity@trinity-umc.com or phone at 748-2349.</p>					

