



THE RIDER

Trinity United Methodist Church

PASTOR'S CORNER: CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

REV. TERESA KEEZEL

January 2016

Volume MMXVI Issue I

6600 Greenyard Road
(at Ironbridge Road)
Chester, VA 23831
(804) 748-2439

www.trinity-umc.com
www.facebook.com/TUMC.Chester

PRAYER

“This is the air I breathe,
This is the air I breathe,
Your Holy Spirit, living in me.”
This is my daily bread,
This is my daily bread,
Your very Word, spoken to me....”

EMAIL DIRECTORY

Church Office

trinity@trinity-umc.com

Pastor • Rev. Teresa Keezel

trinityrev@trinity-umc.com

Music Director • Patricia Madison

piano4mom@gmail.com

Interim Praise Team Leader •

Turner Wilkes

Twilkes86@hotmail.com

Prayer Group

kevinquinley@verizon.net

Trinity’s Charge Conference accepted a pledge to offer us ways to develop our prayer life this year. Remember, prayer is talking to God. It is being aware that he is sitting in the room with us. My hope is that during this year, we can help you grow in your awareness of how close God is. I hope that you can learn to feel his presence; so that, you can draw from his peace and strength.

One of the pledges that was made on our behalf is that we will have a prayer meeting every day. I am hesitant to put this on the church calendar. We start the day at different times. We are running in so many directions. Where I am asking us to start is each day with a prayer...this prayer...

IN THIS ISSUE

Pastor’s Corner Prayer and MDA lock up

Notes and Updates Newsletter Deadline • Music • Missions • Youth News • Children’s Ministry • Thank You! • UMW & Flower Calendar • David Bailey • Lay Servant Ministry • SPR News •

People Page Birthdays •

January Calendar

**New every morning is your love, great God of light,
And all day long you are working for good in the world.
Stir up in us desire to serve you,
To live peacefully with our neighbors,
And to devote each day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord.**

This is the prayer that the United Methodist Order of Morning Prayer begins with. It can be found on page 877 in the Hymnal. I will print it out on cards like we did for the Prayer of St. Francis. So far, I have given out the Lord’s Prayer and St. Francis on cards. This will be a third prayer that you can tuck in your Bible or calendar or on your bathroom mirror. Somewhere that you will see so that you can say it every day.

One of the teachings of spiritual disciplines is that if we start to say something every day, eventually it becomes part of our soul. As part of our very being, the words start to direct even our unconscious thought. We are transformed into the likeness of the prayer. So...wherever you are, at whatever time you are...pray the prayer. We will all try this same prayer each day. We will not be together when we pray it, but we will be together in that we pray it.

So please, try this. As you see, it is a short prayer. It won't take long. I will have copies of this the first Sunday. The force is with you. You just have to be able to access it.



HELP ME! I am being locked up....

The Muscular Dystrophy Association contacted me and asked if I was willing to be locked up to help raise funds to help conquer muscle disease. On the morning of February the 4th an officer will come and escort me from the office to another location. In order to be released, I will need people to bail me out. So starting in January, I will have a Bail Log where HOPEFULLY some of ya'll we offer some funds to get me out of jail!!! So, when you hear that an officer has indeed been to the church and taken me away: do not panic, worry, or spread rumors! Instead, rejoice that we can be a part of the interesting and important ministry.

Thanks, Teresa

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have all news, pictures and articles to the office no later than Sunday, January 24 for inclusion in the February newsletter. You can send items by email to trinity@trinity-umc.com or drop off in the "Church Secretary" hallway mailbox.





JANUARY MUSIC NEWS

PAT MADISON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

MUSIC NEWS – JANUARY 2016

A special thanks to all the choirs and individuals who provided us with beautiful music for this Christmas season. We are so blessed to have the talent and the dedication of choir members here at Trinity. A big thanks to all who have volunteered their time to help with the music programs. May we continue to grow in our faith and service to the Lord.

The annual TALENT SHOW is coming in early March! I am still looking for a theme this year. Please send me your ideas at piano4mom@gmail.com. We want lots of participation this year!

All musical groups will begin meeting again on Wednesday, January 6th! Sunday groups will begin on January 10th. Plans for spring will be announced, so come and bring a friend! All are welcome!

I would like to thank my Trinity Family and friends for the lovely gifts and cards that I received during Christmas and while I was recovering from surgery. Thank you so much for your generosity and continued love and support.

MISSIONS

DEBORAH NAPOLITANO

There is a great need for food in Chesterfield County. We would love to support all of the hungry and all of the pantries in the county. This, however, is unrealistic. Part of the job of the missions committee is to make sure that we are not duplicating programs and that we are not overwhelming the congregation with needs. I am asking that before your group solicits help from the congregation for a mission related activity, that you run it by the missions committee first.

To this end, Meadowbrook High School has a food pantry for students and their families. We are supporting this pantry exclusively now. Please support this approved mission as you are able, with prayers, monetary donations and with food donations. The food focus for January is canned soup. Feel free to donate any food you wish and I will be sure to deliver it. Cereal, pop tarts, nabs, oatmeal, granola bars, nutragrain bars, peanut butter, jelly, mustard, mayo, ramen noodles, canned tuna, canned chicken, canned macaroni products, easy mac n cheese and crackers are all desirable foods.

Thank you for your part in alleviating hunger where it is needed. If you have any questions, please contact Deborah @ seven_naps@verizon.net.



KRYSTAL COFER

January Youth News

Jan 10th Meeting 5-6:15

Jan 24th Meeting 5-6:15

Jan 31ST Meeting 5-6:15

Activities:

Polar Plunge – Family Fun Event – Open to ALL!

The Trinity Youth will be off for our annual Polar Plunge Fellowship activity. We will snow tube for 90 minutes Saturday January 16, 2016. Weather is always different so please dress in layers. Please pack a lunch to help save cost. After Polar Plunge we will be at the DRAC. This is the activity center with inflatables, air hockey, foosball, pool, big screen TV's for games, and mechanical bull.

Cost for youth age grades 6-12 is \$13 for both activities.

Non youth \$22 to polar plunge and \$9 for Drac

Please fill out sign-up sheet and/or contact Krystal if you would like to attend.

Siblings are invited to attend IF an adult is there with them, the adult does not have to participate, but is required to be present. Below are two links for more information.

<http://www.wintergreenresort.com/Tubing/com/discovery-ridge/> <http://www.wintergreenresort.com/discovery-ridge/>

Blackstone:

Our winter weekend retreat is approaching! Blackstone is February 12-14th. Cost per youth is \$60.00. Please let Krystal know no later than 1/10/16 if you are able/interested in attending.

Maggie Miller is our DYC rep if you have any questions on what the retreat is all about.

Children's Ministry



STEPHANYE FUINA

Thanks
a
MILLION
Billion
TRILLION

From The Children's Ministry

A huge thank you to all of the support that the Children's Ministry has received this year. Thank you to Broken Road Farm for the animals at the Live Nativity, the volunteers that helped make the Live Nativity once again a huge success and those who supported in purchasing donuts and hot chocolate. Thank you to those who contributed to 'Cookies with Santa' after the children's play.

Blessings in Christ,
Stephanye and Amanda

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Christmas giving was generous at Trinity. Many thanks for your support of CARES, Bellwood children, United Methodist Family Services, Elementary school books, and Envoy nursing home.

SPR Committee - Staff Christmas Gift Follow-up

'Thank You' to everyone who contributed to the 2015 Staff Christmas Gift fund. Through your generosity our congregation expressed its love and support for our staff and exceeded the amount donated in 2014. The gift was distributed to staff members following the Children's Play on December 20.



UMW

LANA LEFFERTS, UMW PRESIDENT

TRINITY UMW + TRINITY YOUTH + KROGER = BENEFITS to ALL!

HAVE YOU HEARD? Trinity UMW and Youth have teamed up! There is a community rewards program at Kroger and the UMW has partnered with the Trinity Youth Group to raise funds for missions! The UMW has applied for our group to collect funds from people “just shopping” at Kroger. In order for us to receive these funds, we need you to use your “Kroger” card and “sign up” by using the Kroger website: www.kroger.com/communityrewards. The UMW code is 93203. If you do not have access to a computer, please see one of the UMW or Youth members to sign up. Any of us will be willing to assist you with this. Please help us maximize our earnings by asking members of your family and friends to join our “team” as well. Kroger will be opening soon right next door so shopping will be convenient as well as practical. Thank you so much for your support!



2016 Flower Calendar

The new Flower Calendar for 2016 will be posted on the bulletin board for sign up of Sunday flower arrangements in memory or honor of someone special in your life. The arrangements are \$35 each and can be taken home after the 11:00 service. Please check the calendar early so you can sign up for your preferred date. If possible we would rather not have more than two arrangements per Sunday. Contact Lucy Shields if you have questions.

What on earth happened to David Bailey?

Our first Sunday at Trinity was the day after the Apple Butter Stirring in 1991. The fellowship and warm welcomes from those there that day made us realize that the Church just four blocks from apartment might be right for us. Shortly after our first visit to Trinity came a visit from the Pastor, Carl Cosslett. He talked about Vacation Bible School that was almost a year away. That visit lasted two hours and I found myself agreeing to be the Education Director. The sole duty he explained was to run the Vacation Bible School. I protested that I had never attended a vacation bible school. I grew up Catholic and went to Catholic School. We had no reason to go to bible school during the summer. We went to church school seven hours a day from late August till mid-June. For those of you that knew Carl, you already surmised that there was no refusing. Two weeks later I find myself standing before Cynthia Corley, the Petersburg District Superintendent, at the already scheduled Charge Conference.

That was the beginning of the time that people realized that they could get me to do anything by asking the Preacher to ask me. That continued from Carl, through Dorothy McNeer O'Quinn, Cynthia Corley, and now Teresa Keezel.

It was great in the early days because the Bailey's lived on a tight budget. We carried a mortgage on a house in NC that did not sell for 19 months. The church and the Fellowship Class (Young Adults at the time) became our social life. It was not hard for us to be at church four or five times a week. That is when I met Newton Jones. It was impossible not to like Newton. He seemed to do anything for anybody anytime. Newton and I started a little competition, unwittingly at first, but then in earnest to see who could get their name on the list of the most committees.

My list became: Education Director, Communication Committee, Nominations Committee, Sunday School Teacher, President of the UMM, sound system committee, Finance Committee, Staff Parish, Projection Committee, Administrative Board, Council of Ministries (they used to be separate), District Steward, Lay Speaker, Lay Delegate, and Lay Leader. Newton was always one ahead of me. Until he became ill and had a serious operation. At the time I picked up Managing the Fair Booth, changing the sign weekly, and publishing the newsletter. Trinity became my life saver. There never was any time to get into trouble. I was not any closer to God, but definitely farther away from devilish activities.

Somehow that was not enough. The people at the District Office found out that I could only say yes. That brought me to the All Things New fund raising effort to start 250 new congregations in Virginia in thirty years, the District Building Committee, the District Director of Lay Servant Ministries, and the District Common Table.

On the side of all this, Cynthia Corley guided me through the Ministerial Tract. I was approved by the Charge Conference at Trinity and spent two years on the District list of candidates for appointment as a local lay pastor. The work at the local church and district office of course could not go un-noticed by the conference office. My first role was on the Annual Conference site selection committee. Then the Conference Board of Discipleship where I worked on the Discipleship Circles development group. Next came the development team for Equipping Vital Congregations. Because of the progressively responsible activities in the Lay Servant Ministries, I was asked to be the first Lay Servant Academy Director. That brought me an automatic position on the Board of Laity. Because of the yes syndrome they also asked me to be on the Executive Committee. After five years as the Academy Director they asked me to become the Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries.

All during this time and outside church I have been a youth soccer referee on Saturdays, high school soccer referee three times a week, Chair of the Homeowners Strategic Planning and the Finance Committee. On the Board of Directors of the Property Owners Association for ten years including six as President.

Now the desire is strong but the body is weak. I was out of work for a week and worked only half days the next week. As you can imagine that brought me to the realization that my body could not keep up with what I thought the Spirit was leading me to do. Five doctors' visits, a chest x-ray, a pulmonary function test, two days of nuclear stress tests, and now a scheduled upper GI exam have convinced me that the three women that know me best; my doctor, pastor, and wife are right. I have to give up some things.

Well that is where I have been and gives you a hint at where I might be going.

Lay Servant Ministry Enters New Training Direction and Availability

For the first time in five years there is a new person directing the Lay Servant Academy at Blackstone. Many may have heard of Beth Christian. She has been on the Board of Discipleship many years including the last several years as chairperson. She is a delegate to the General and Jurisdictional Conference and works as the Staunton District as Director of Congregational Resources. Her email is bethchristian@vaumc.org



Lay Servant Academy

Fri, 26 Feb, 2016 - Sun, 28 Feb, 2016

The Lay Servant Academy is about equipping Laity (those who are not clergy) to carry out the mission of the church. "The mission of the Virginia Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church; all to the glory of God." All of the courses are open to anyone who would like to take one. Each course is designed to help those serving the local church learn more about leadership, personal faith development, and a deeper understanding of the United Methodist church.

Lay Servant Ministries offers two avenues of recognition and training that go beyond the local church. Many of the courses offered this year will support those who are seeking to become Certified Lay Servants and Lay Speakers.

Registration Contact: Cyndi Vanzant CyndiVanzant@vumac.org (434)292-5308 Other Questions: Beth Christian bethchristian@vaumc.org (804) 347-5999. For more information about Lay Servant Ministries in general please contact your district lay servant director at <http://www.vaumc.org/Page.aspx?pid=807>

\$6,000 Grant to the Lay Servant Ministries from the Bishop's Foundation

The new availability for LSM training comes from a startup grant. The conference will be offering on-line training that is also on demand. Namely you can pull it up and go through the class whenever you want to and spend as much time as you want. You are not bound to a webcast at a certain time. Once you start the class you can rejoin the class at any time. Our goal is to make the training more accessible. The first class will be on Leading Worship. It is for people that want to be a part of the worship presentation from delivery to planning special services or even a segment of worship. It is to be available March 19th. Registration will begin soon. [VAUMC Conference Calendar](#) or <http://www.vaumc.org/Events?cid=3&ceid=1393&cerid=0&cdt=3%2f19%2f2016> Future classes in order of the planned schedule are; Leading Prayer; Polity of the United Methodist Church; Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts; United Methodist Heritage. Because we know the person heading the program, TUMC members will have an opportunity to participate live in the recording of the class for free. The grant manager is the Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries. Just send this guy and email if you are interested. Dw.bailey@comcast.net



More About Lay Servant Ministries

The Lay Servant Ministries program provides training opportunities and experiences to equip disciples of Jesus Christ to realize and respond to their personal calls to ministry. Since each disciple is 'gifted' with one or more spiritual gifts (skills given by the Holy Spirit for the express purpose of serving the body of believers and thereby God), Lay Servant Ministries strives to help disciples become aware of their particular gifts by offering educational events to enhance and develop the skill level necessary for the full fruition of these gifts. It has aided thousands of church members to be better servants of Jesus Christ, to become stronger church family and community leaders, and to more capably assist their pastors. The main description for local church Lay Servant Ministries requirements can be found in Paragraphs 266 (p. 210) – 269 (p. 213) of the 2012 Book of Discipline.

Leading, Caring, Communicating: These words characterize what lay speakers do in ministry as The United Methodist Church engages the world of the 21st century!

- **Leading:** Lay servants combine words and actions in leadership roles within their churches and communities.
- **Caring:** As lay servants combine words with deeds, they find ways to care for others. Some are involved in crisis ministries, such as visiting grieving families. Lay servants share a ministry of caring one-on-one with people in times of need and in times of joy, and show their faith by responding to others with care--giving love and service.
- **Communicating:** Both the Bible and Christian experience point to the importance of proclaiming God's transforming love for a broken world. Lay servants often fill pulpits, lead Bible studies, or speak in youth and children's groups, health care centers, retirement centers, prison ministries, and more.

Post Script by Johnnie Draughon, Former Director of LSM.

I leave you with the words of Paul in his second letter to the church at Corinth: "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of His own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ..." (2 Cor. 1: 7-9 NIV) Let me encourage each of you to continue to step out in courage in the knowledge that your strength comes directly from the power of Holy Spirit. Don't be afraid to get out of the boat!

SPR News

Ed Sismour

The Staff-Parish Relations (SPR) Committee handles Human Resources matters in the United Methodist church. Though much of its work is confidential, as is that of any HR department, it is not secret. The TUMC SPR is committed to improving communication with the congregation when possible.

SPR voted favorably at the December meeting to recommend extending for an additional term the tenure of Ed Sismour to remain as Committee Chair. A quorum of the Administrative Council voted to support the recommendation.

SPR is tasked every January to vote whether the current minister should be re-appointed the following June. In preparation for this vote SPR must identify the priorities, strengths and weaknesses of the church and identify we seek in a pastor by answering a set of questions on goals and vision. You are referred to the 2015 February newsletter for additional background information and the results of the previous assessment. The questions are:

1. *What are the church's priorities for mission and ministry?*
2. *What are the church's three (3) greatest strengths?*
3. *In what area(s) does our congregation need to develop strengths?*

SPR began this process for 2016 at the December meeting. These questions were discussed extensively by both current and in-coming SPR members and produced the following results:

1. Priorities for mission and ministry
 - a. A need for building bridges within the congregation to promote our coming together and unifying as a church family. It was felt that one way to do this is to identify a project that the congregation could rally around to work together.
 - b. Continued and improved communication, transparency and information sharing.
 - c. Prayer
2. Greatest Strengths
 - a. Music - our music programs provide inspiration, joy and a way to involve adults, youth and children in the life of the church
 - b. Missions – we express our love and caring as a congregation through our extensive involvement in diverse mission activities
 - c. Children – we recognize the importance of youngsters as the those believers who will carry the message of the Gospel into the future
3. Growth in strength
 - a. To know each other better and expand who we know
 - b. Be more user friendly for children, e.g. nursery attendants and maintaining, improving and updating the playground.
 - c. Become better encouragers of and for one another
4. What we seek in a Pastor
 - a. Someone who truly loves God and others
 - b. Someone to help us to grow into the next generation
 - c. A minister who is fresh in thought, doesn't read canned sermons, leads at worship, funerals and weddings
 - d. One who visits regularly with sick, elderly and the home-bound

On a final note, thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2015 Staff Christmas Gift Fund. Your generosity vividly demonstrates the love of our congregation for our staff, and because of your generosity the amount donated exceeded the amount donated in 2014. The gift was distributed following the Children's Play on December 20 (the play was very well done and involved 24 children as actors or singers, kudos to all involved).

May God bless us all, individually and as a congregation, throughout 2016.

Trinity UMC People Page

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 30

Rachel Allyn

Ruth Allyn

*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!*

Jan 2 Brittany Napolitano

Jan 3 David Wright

Jan 4 John Morris

Jan 5 Annette Hairfield
Dara Mills

Jan 6 Nathaniel Sawyer

Jan 8 Nelson Babcock

Jan 9 Stephen Ruxton
Holly Love
Zakary Sandlin

Jan 10 Samoeun Por
Erin Reeves
Wayne Haley
Bill Foster

John Thomas "Tom" Wallace

Jan 11 Kathy Harman

Jan 12 Jennifer Walker

Jan 14 Andrew Kennedy
Katherine Madison

Jan 19 Justin Poythress

Jan 20 Jessica Farrar

Jan 23 Kendall Langford

Jan 24 Betsy Day
Mike Costello

Jan 25 Lillian McGuffin

Jan 28 Carl Cosslett

Jan 29 Jesse Sandlin
Shannon McGuffin

Sunday Schedule

8:30 am Contemporary Service • 9:45 am Sunday School
 11 am Traditional Service • 4 pm Odyssey & Chimes
 4 pm Disciple IV • 5 pm Treble Clefs • 5 pm Youth Group

JANUARY 2016

If you have items to add to the calendar,
 please let the office know

Wednesday Schedule

5:45 pm Children's Choirs
 7 pm Men's Chorus • 7:30 pm Choir

by email to trinity@trinity-umc.com or phone at 748-2439.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Office Closed Happy New Year!	2
3 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>	4 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Trinity Belles	5 7 pm Praise Team	6 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7 7 pm AA	8	9
10 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>	11 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Trinity Belles	12 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Praise Team	13 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	14 7 pm AA 7 pm UMW	15	16 Youth Polar Plunge at Wintergreen 8:30 am– 12:00 Gideons in Sanctuary & Classroom
17 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>	18 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Trinity Belles	19 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Praise Team	20 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	21 7 pm AA	22 6:00 pm Cub Scout Derby Set up	23 9:00 am – 3 pm Cub Scout Pinewood Derby in Sanctuary
24 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	25 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Trinity Belles	26 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Praise Team	27 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	28 7 pm AA	29	30
31 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>						

