



# THE RIDER

Trinity United Methodist Church

PASTOR'S CORNER:

May 2016

Volume MMXVI Issue V

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REV. TERESA KEEZEL

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Missional Priorities

Hey everyone! Just a reminder that on May 22<sup>nd</sup> we will have a general meeting to hear people's input about the sale of the parsonage and about ideas of how we can serve the community better. The office has heard from some people. Remember that the 22<sup>nd</sup> is a joint Sunday so the service is at 10am. Then this meeting is at 2pm. If you are interested, hope you can come. Council is looking forward to the visions that God is giving you. Thanks! (more on page 3)

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## SUMMER IS COMING!!!!

Summer is coming and with it we begin the weekly gatherings of Thursday Nite Lite. On May 26<sup>th</sup> we will gather to worship. We do not have anyone scheduled but more details will follow. Then on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Pat Shrader will lead us in making hand size prayer labyrinths. We begin at 7pm. The service is about 45 minutes. Snacks follow. Remember: laughter

fills our hearts and  
God's joy overflows.  
Come sing and laugh  
and eat with us!

### WHO IS MISSING?

Look to your left; Look  
to your right. Who is  
missing? In the back  
of the sanctuary, in the  
narthex the tray of  
cards remains. We  
have added to it a  
copy of the directory.  
So if you notice that  
someone is missing,  
please pick up a card  
in the back, go ahead  
and address the card  
and then add a  
personal note and pop  
it in the mail. All of us  
like to be missed. Let's  
let each other know  
that we care.

Thanks for noticing....who is missing.

THE PLAYGROUND NEEDS HELP...AND SO  
DO WE

I don't know if you noticed but the  
playground needs help. It needs power  
washing, rails fixed and general  
maintenance. We have some money set  
aside, but we need help. If you are  
interested in helping, please come to the  
meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> during Sunday school.  
We will meet in the pastor's office. Hope you  
are interested. Hope you can join us.  
Thanks!

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have all news, pictures and articles to the office no later  
than Sunday, May 29 for inclusion in the June newsletter. You can  
send items by email to [trinity@trinity-umc.com](mailto:trinity@trinity-umc.com) or drop off in the  
"Church Secretary" hallway mailbox.



Response to the missional priorities statement previously distributed suggests that insufficient information was provided to explain the background and purpose for the document, where to send feedback, and other concerns. This article will attempt to fill in some, and hopefully most, of these. Should you have questions or concerns that have yet to be addressed, please direct your comments to Maurice Linkous, Chair of the Trustee's Committee. Interest in selling the parsonage has come out of the Trustee's Committee based on concerns pertaining to the utilization and maintenance of the property. As the Trustee's Chair, Maurice is dedicated to keeping us as good stewards of God's gifts.

In the United Methodist Church, each church or charge (multiple churches with one pastor) is responsible for providing housing for the pastor. It is considered part of a pastor's pay. Over the years the standards for the size of the house, the number of rooms, bathroom amenities (shower/tub vs shower), and the addition of new standards (e.g. disability access) have changed. Our parsonage does not meet current UMC requirements, for example: rooms are too small, one bedroom is small enough to no longer be considered a bedroom, and there is no disability access. Consequently, the Conference will not place a family at TUMC .

As currently construed, the parsonage is part of Rev. Keezel's salary. It is at her disposal as she sees fit to use it.

Although she has a house in Dinwiddie where she sleeps most nights, she has indicated many times that she is always in the parsonage on Saturday nights and usually at least one other weeknight as well. When she has night meetings at church, she goes to the parsonage to rest and eat supper. If the parsonage is sold, it is then TUMC's responsibility to provide some alternative housing.

If and when the parsonage is sold, at least two things will occur. First, TUMC will be responsible to reimburse part of Rev. Keezel's salary as a "housing allowance". It works just like the housing allowance given to military families and is based on legal codes for the military. Second, by UMC law, proceeds from the sale of the parsonage must go either into capital expenditures (not the general budget) or be set aside for pastor housing in the future.

The rationale for the current effort by Maurice and the Trustees to sell the parsonage is to use the proceeds from the sale to pay down our church building mortgage. This can only be accomplished by selling the parsonage before the current mortgage is paid off, as per UMC law mentioned above. Though there is no guarantee, we think the parsonage could sell for \$150,000 to \$160,000, which will pay down most of the mortgage, if not all of it, by the time the house gets sold. Based on the current payment schedule, the mortgage will be retired within about 4 years.

This effort to sell the parsonage began months ago when Maurice brought the motion to the Trustees. They discussed it and passed it on to Council who, after several months of debate, forwarded it to SPR to acquire supplemental information, including current fair market values of houses in surrounding neighborhoods, and to Finance to review TUMC revenue and accounts

and for what purposes the accounts exist. Simultaneously, Maurice began discussion with the District Superintendent who specified two conditions we must meet to obtain the necessary permission to sell the parsonage. First, we must set aside \$20,000 to cover the pastor housing allowance. (This money will be set aside out of Trinity's savings account.) Second, we must document and demonstrate how the sale of the parsonage will help us better serve God and our community. Hence, we cannot simply put the money into savings.

Upon completion of the work by SPR and Finance, the matter was presented to the Church Council and a motion to proceed with investigation was passed. A planning committee consisting of the chairs of Trustees, SPR, Finance, the Chair and Vice-chair of council, and Rev. Keezel then met to discuss, conceptualize, and prioritize possible missional priorities for presentation to the congregation. If we cannot show how the sale will help us to serve better, then we won't get permission to sell the parsonage, the parsonage remains as a capital asset (some might argue a liability). If we do not sell the parsonage before the church building mortgage is paid off,

the proceeds will then have to be set aside in a fund for paying for Pastoral Housing. The money will be restricted for that use only. It cannot be used for any other purpose.

Once we are mortgage-free, what would you like to do that will enhance our capability to better serve God and reach out to the community around us? The next step is for us as a congregation is to answer this question, and requests input from you. This is the purpose of the Missional Priorities working document. Do you agree with the proposal to sell the parsonage, what should be done with the proceeds, what questions or concerns remain? Would you like to hire one paid nursery staff for the 11am, fix the nursery space, get a bigger ice maker, improve the grounds so that we present ourselves better and attract the attention of people now coming in and out of Kroger? Did you know that the original plan for the building was to have a half circle drive in off of Greenyard? We cannot put the money into savings, so how do we invest it in our churches?

ministry? Several possible options are presented in the Missional Priorities document, but these are not the only options. Your input is important to continue this discussion and move forward.

The most important first step is to dream. If we had \$2,500 dollars that we must spend every month: WHERE would you like to reach out, WHO would you like to minister to, HOW can we improve offering Christ to people? First dream. Dream and if you can imagine some things you would like to see us do, then speak up, speak out, and/or write it down. Ask all the questions you can imagine. Share your questions and ideas and dreams with one another and with us (the planning committee). Use the Missional Priorities document as a basis for discussion. The planning committee has requested that groups within the church take time to discuss this document. Write down your comments, thoughts, suggestions, critiques or anything else that will help 'move the ball' forward. Provide your comments to Maurice or Rev. Keezel and they'll make their way to the planning committee.

Ministry versus capital permanence. The determination belongs to the Church Council who will make this final decision. But they would like your opinion, insight and contribution, no matter what, as they work toward this

Come on everybody: God is alive and in us. He is still giving visions to his people. To YOU! Thanks for thinking about it. Thanks for praying and listening for God. Thanks for sharing. Council really wants your help to think through this. A decision has not been made, and we wait for what God is showing you.

### **Parsonage Planning Committee**

## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

The communications committee is working on revitalizing the website. If you have any ideas please send them to Tim Ruxton at [Ruxtontm@gmail.com](mailto:Ruxtontm@gmail.com). If you or your group have pictures or information about what you are doing please send that as well.



## **UMCOR KITS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

### **UMCOR Kits For Annual Conference**

Every year the Trinity United Methodist Women (UMW) participate in the kits for conference drive for Annual Conference. The kits are basic items gathered for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for world-wide distribution. There are five types of kits: birthing kit, school kit, baby/layette kit, sewing kit and health kit. Trinity UMW will be putting together two types of kits for collection at Annual Conference in June.

The items needed for the Health Kit are as follows: 1 Hand Towel (15x25 inches to 17x27inches). Kitchen, cleaning and micro fiber towels are unacceptable. 1 washcloth, 1 comb (Comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6 inches, no pocket combs or picks please. 1 metal nail file or nail clippers. No emery boards please. 1 bath size soap 3 oz or more. No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content. Do not remove from original wrapping. 1 toothbrush (adult size only) Do not remove from original packing. 6 adhesive bandages (¾ to 1 inch size) Common household band-aids. 1 plastic re-sealable gallon bag.  
TOOTHPASTE IS ADDED BY UMCOR TO MAINTAIN FRESHNESS.

The items needed for the School Kit are as follows: 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip only/no plastic scissors), 3 pads of paper (spiral or top bound pads; 150 sheets or less of loose-leaf paper can be substituted for 1 pad; a combination of spiral, top-bound, side-bound, or loose-leaf is acceptable) 1 hand-held pencil sharpener (must be at least one inch long; remove from packaging). 1 30-centimeter ruler (hard or flexible, cartoon characters are acceptable, no advertisements please) 6 unsharpened pencils, (no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols please; cartoon characters are acceptable.) 1 2- inch or larger size eraser ( No advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols, please: Cartoon characters are acceptable.) 1 24-count box of crayons (no more/no less). 1 14 x 16 inch cloth bag ( homemade or purchased bags are both acceptable; heavy duty fabric only, such as denim, corduroy, drapery fabric etc.; No advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols please; closures are optional, but must be buttons, snaps, or Velcro sewn in middle of opening if used.)

The UMW would like to invite everyone to participate in this year's kits for conference drive. Items will be due on Sunday, May 8, 2016 ("MOTHER'S DAY"). You may want to collect a few of the listed items or complete an entire kit. All items must be new. Any monetary donations will be used to complete the kits or to pay for processing and shipping. The average cost of a health kit is \$12. and the school kit, \$11. Because of the strict rules in other countries, please do not add items not listed or put more than the listed quantity. Personal notes or cards are also not allowed. Please place items in designated boxes in the hall. The UMW will inventory donations and add any items needed to complete the kits. Thank you for prayerfully considering this project. The full list of UMCOR kits can be found at [umcor/kits](http://umcor/kits) . For further information or questions contact [helensawyer2@yahoo.com](mailto:helensawyer2@yahoo.com) (Betty Sawyer)



## PRAYER SHAWL

Well you have not heard from us in a while but we have been busy creating blankets for the UMFS kids and also making prayer shawls for those in need...There will not be a May meeting because Pam will be gone for a few weeks but will resume in June (June 7<sup>th</sup>, most likely) . Check your bulletin for the next meeting. If anyone would like to join us please do so anytime. We laugh, cry, share stories, pray and even eat!! PLEASE let Janet Collins or Pam Soto know if there is someone who would benefit from a shawl. We do not always hear about illnesses, etc. until after and we feel bad that we were not able to get something to your loved one or friend . Also if there is a situation where you want it to remain anonymous, please contact Teresa and she will get the shawl from us but we will not know to whom it is going. Thanks and have a great month.

Pam .... [pumice@comcast.net](mailto:pumice@comcast.net)

## Recycling Cans

Please bring your aluminum cans to LC Bird High School. You can leave them beside door 5 located around the back of the school. This is a fundraiser for the LC Bird RoboHawks.

We no longer accept aluminum cans at church for recycling. Someone has been leaving bags of cans outside by the kitchen door. Please discontinue this process. The recycle bins in the narthex and education wing are for recyclables generated at church, such as church events, old bulletins, paper from the church office, but not set up for folks to bring in their recyclables from home. Thank you for your cooperation.

# Children's Ministry



STEPHANYE FUINA AND AMANDA KELLY

It's that time of year! The Children's Ministry is excited to announce this year's Vacation Bible School theme is **Ocean Commotion**!! We will follow Noah and his many adventures on the Ark...look out for **JELLYFISH**, they are one of God's great creatures too!! Come **ONE BY ONE** or **TWO BY TWO**. Planning has begun to prepare for a week of fun and learning. VBS will be held June 26<sup>th</sup>- July 1 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Check your mailbox for more exciting information headed your way!! The tradition continues with a feast before our nightly adventures begin!



**All hands on deck!!** We need your help! VBS is a big job and we cannot do it without your help! Last year we had nearly 100 children and 45 volunteers! Each year we hope to grow the number of children and families we are able to reach. Helpers are needed each night to provide dinner service, lead children to their stations, give lessons, play games, help with music and make arts and crafts. Where is God calling you to help?? Please give the gift of time, any time you may have even if you can only help one night!! If you are interested in volunteering to help with Vacation Bible School, please email Amanda & Steph at [childrensministry@trinity-umc.com](mailto:childrensministry@trinity-umc.com) or sign up during worship! Please know that we appreciate all helping hands, big or small and we are grateful for the continued support of the congregation!!



Each year VBS is made possible through generous donations from the congregation and our community. Below, is a list of items needed to make VBS successful this year. Donations can be placed in the bins located in the Narthex labeled VBS. Don't have time to shop? Please consider making a monetary donation specifically for Vacation Bible School. Your support is appreciated! THANK YOU!!!

#### Food Items Needed for VBS

Spaghetti noodles  
Spaghetti sauce  
Boxed Macaroni & Cheese  
Gluten Free Macaroni & Cheese  
Pancake Mix  
Gluten Free Pancake Mix  
Canned Fruit  
Applesauce  
Hotdogs  
Gluten Free Hotdogs (Nathan's Brand)  
Lemonade Mix  
Gluten Free Cookies

#### Non-Food Items Needed for VBS

Pool ring floats-various sizes  
Goggles  
Sand toys  
Small handled gift bags-100



KRYSTAL COFER

**Youth Sunday:** May 22<sup>nd</sup> the youth will be assisting with the Joint service and invite everyone to attend.

June 5 – Children's Play and church Picnic





### 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. **Only 3 open dates remain for 2016:**

July 10, October 30 and November 20.



Pat is still recovering from surgery so please keep her in your prayers.

# *UMFS – Friday June 10th*

## *at 5:15 pm*

### **Example of a visit for UMFS:**

We sponsor a girl's cottage and a boy's cottage. We visit every 6 weeks on a Friday night. Our Prayer Shawl ministry provides a fleece blanket for each new arrival. This particular visit brings us 2 new girls and 3 new boys.

We provide dinner and dessert for the youth. Sometimes I cook a meal and sometimes we bring pizza, Chinese, or subs.

## **Young at Heart**

We are having such great fellowship with the Young at Heart Senior Group!  
Here are some upcoming events:

Wednesday May 11th we are going to Blandford Church in Petersburg. We will carpool with the church van. Blandford is the oldest building in the city and is home to 15 Tiffany stain glasses windows dedicated to the fallen soldier. Afterwards we will lunch at the Dixie Diner.

Wednesday May the 20th is our regular meeting where Ed Cole delivers a devotion and we enjoy fellowship with refreshments.

We had so much fun at The Riverside Theater attending My Fair Lady, that we are going back either October 12th or October 19th to see Driving Miss Daisy! The price for the lunch and performance is \$55.00 with a non-refundable deposit of \$30.00 due on May 8th. There is some scholarship money available.

We typically meet only once a month in the summer and usually go out for lunch. This year we are hoping to go to Fort Lee for one of their theater productions. Currently the schedule is only up through May, so we will be checking back.

Won't consider joining this vibrant group? Contact Deborah with any questions at [seven\\_naps@Verizon.net](mailto:seven_naps@Verizon.net).

The desserts are provided by the ladies that come with me.  
We visit with the youth and typically do a craft with them.  
We leave the campus around 8:15.  
We will carpool together in the church van.

\*Please contact Deborah Napolitano if you're interested in helping out UMFS\*

# GROUNDS

Our church Grounds Maintenance Committee is limited on available personnel who regularly:

1. Trim the shrubs periodically and water them if weather requires it
2. Keep the playground area clean
3. Kill weeds in the planted areas
4. Plant and maintain the 6 planter pots at the entrances

We are organizing the planted areas into small work zones that will allow you to work at your own pace. We'll create a landscape layout in the narthex indicating these work zones for you to choose your own happy place to maintain and maybe improve the church' beauty.

Thanks in advance for taking the time to give us a hand that fits your time and energy level.

The big grounds chore for the May through October period is cutting the grass that sometimes grows fast or somewhat slow. It takes 3 hours to cut our grass if all is growing well.

The church has a total budget of \$1000.00. We have a new riding lawnmower that does the hard work, though. The \$1000.00 budget would average \$40.00 per cutting. If you have some time to do this regularly or want to consider working on an intermittent basis, please call Gary Potter to discuss your interest. Home phone is 748-3904 or daytime phone is 706-1313. Thanks again for considering this challenge

# UMM

In June, the meeting will have Rev. Mike Buckley there to speak about his Hope 21 project.

“Hope 21 delivers fresh water through water filters and food to women, children, and men all around the world. Our Mission is to give hope to the hurting and the hungry by having compassion on those who suffer, inspiring others to give, and connecting with Christian ministries that share a common vision.”

You can find more about Hope 21 at <http://www.hope21ministries.com/index.html>.

# Trinity UMC People Page

## 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!*

<b>May 1</b>	Susanne Brown	<b>May 25</b>	Ava Walker	Robert Napolitano III
<b>May 2</b>	Jennifer Johnson Wesley Carl	<b>May 27</b>	Mildred Sellers	
<b>May 3</b>	Neil Moran	<b>May 28</b>	Mike Parrish	Robert Napolitano
<b>May 6</b>	Branden Beck			
<b>May 7</b>	Joan Foster Rosa Lee Coleburn			
<b>May 8</b>	Brenda Contreras			
<b>May 9</b>	Ann Pettigrew Harold Harvey			
<b>May 11</b>	John Schneider			
<b>May 13</b>	Troy Potvin			
<b>May 14</b>	Brandon Hatcher			
<b>May 17</b>	John Thomas Tyler Leinberger			
<b>May 20</b>	Terry Lefferts			
<b>May 21</b>	Cole Leinberger			
<b>May 22</b>	Hunter Watson Marshall Dunn			
<b>May 24</b>	Glennice Carney			

**Sunday Schedule**

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

# May 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](mailto:trinity@trinity-umc.com) or phone at 748-2439.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 5:30 & 7 pm Bible Study 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	5 7 pm AA	6	7 7 am Yard Sale 8 am UMM
8 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> Happy Mother's Day	9 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Trinity Belles	10 6:30 pm Finance Meeting 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Praise Team	11 10 am Young at Heart 5:30 & 7 pm Bible Study 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:59 pm One Harvest Deadline	12 7 pm AA 7 pm UMW	13	14
15 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> 2pm SPR	16 7 pm Trinity Belles 7 pm Boy Scouts	17 Trustees Meeting 7 pm Praise Team	18 5:30 & 7 pm Bible Study 5:45 Children's Music 6:30 BSA District Meeting 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	19 7 pm AA 7 pm Council	20	21 8 am One Harvest Distribution
22 <i>10:00 am Joint Service</i> 2 pm Missional Priorities Meeting	23 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Trinity Belles	24 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Praise Team	25 5:30 & 7 pm Bible Study 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	26 7 pm TNL	27	28
29 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	30 Memorial Day <b>Office Closed</b>	31 7 pm Praise Team				



