

TRINITY TIDINGS
December 2017

Trinity United Methodist Church
1400 Husson Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177-5464
Phone: 386-325-5272
Pastor: John F. Bennett

trinityumcpal@bellsouth.net

www.trinityumcpalatka.org

From the Pastor

If I see another turkey I believe I'll begin to sprout feathers!

Can any of you relate to that yet? I'll be eating ham for Christmas.

But you know in reality, we should be thankful for whatever is on the table considering how many in the world will have little or nothing on their table.

One of the memories Sharon and I have together is a mission trip to Guatemala more than 20 years ago. We recall the joy we witnessed as the members of a tiny church we visited worshiped God for more than two hours and then sat down together for a gourmet meal of hamburgers. Beef is very expensive in Guatemala and these folks gladly sacrificed a lot to serve us their very best.

Over two thousand years ago, God saw fit to serve us His very best; a gift that would change the world forever.

One night, as a group of lowly shepherds were tending their sheep, an angel appeared overhead and announced to them... *"I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord, has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."* Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others...*the armies of heaven, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."* (Luke 2:10-14)

My prayer is that as we enter the season of Advent, we would serve our very best, to each other and to the community we are all called to serve, so that we may be counted as "those with whom God is pleased."

Sharon and I wish you all a very merry and blessed Christmas.

Pastor John

Children's Christmas Cantata

"A Christmas Nativity"

Sunday, December 10 6:00 p.m. Sanctuary

There will be a reception to follow and a very important guest to greet the children. Please come and support our children as they share the story of Jesus' birth through songs and the Christmas story.

Christmas Cantata

"The Splendor of Christmas"

Sunday, December 17 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

It's hard to believe, but an entire year has passed since we last shared in the wonder, the joy, the **Splendor of Christmas**. Lots has happened, some of it good and some of it frightening. Our world changes daily and is desperately in need of a good word. The words of the Prophet Isaiah many centuries ago proclaimed, "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace." Looking around today, we may have trouble finding any semblance of true lasting peace. But listen closely God is still whispering. "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men." Please join us as we proclaim the **Splendor of Christmas!**

Annual Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 9 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

The United Methodist Men will hold their annual Christmas dinner on Saturday, December 9, at 6:00 p.m. followed by entertainment in the sanctuary. Main course will include roast beef and pork chops. Cost per person is \$10.00. Please plan to attend. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, December 3 by contacting Lee Ryals, Gary Simpson or the church office. We would love to have a great crowd at this event.

Christmas Eve

Candlelight & Communion Service

Sunday, December 24 6 p.m. Sanctuary

Christmas Gifts for the Children's Home

We are collecting \$10.00 Wal-Mart gift cards for the children at the Children's Home in Enterprise for Christmas this year. We hope you will consider donating a gift card(s) to help make this Christmas a little brighter for the children. You may bring the cards any Sunday and give them to one of the ushers or drop them off at the church office as soon as possible. We appreciate your continued support of this annual event.

Trinity United Methodist Church Scholarship
Deadline – January 15, 2018

Applications for TUMC “Spring Term” Scholarships are available in the church office. Full time students who are members of Trinity are eligible to apply for this scholarship.

2018 Contribution Envelopes

Your 2018 contribution envelopes are available in the church narthex this month. Please take time to pick up your envelopes. The ushers will be happy to assist you. If you do not receive envelopes and would like to do so, please contact the church office or tell one of the church ushers. **Note: Those members whose envelope numbers were 101 or higher have been changed this year.**

United Methodist Women

Share & Care Circle will meet at the home of Jo Dunn (2211 Palma Ceia Terrace, Palatka, FL) for their Christmas dinner on Thursday, December 7, at 6 p.m. All ladies are invited.

Wesley Ann Circle will meet at the church at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12 to carpool to St. Augustine for dinner at Columbia restaurant. All ladies are invited. Please contact Karen DuTour or the church office if you plan to attend.

Flower Calendar for 2018 is posted in the Narthex. Those wishing to sign up to furnish flowers on a particular Sunday may sign their name by the date(s) desired. Anytime prior to your date(s) please place \$15.00 for one arrangement or \$30.00 for both arrangements in the collection plate. Please mark on your check, or on the envelope, your name and specify “Alta Flowers 2018”.

When your week comes, please let the church secretary know by Tuesday noon what you would like printed in the bulletin about your flowers – “in honor of..., in memory of..., to the Glory of God” etc.

The flowers will be delivered to the church by Palm Florist for you. You will not have to think about ordering, picking up or delivering them to the sanctuary.

After the service you may remove the flowers to do with as you wish. If you decide to leave them, they will be distributed to our church shut-ins.

Note from the Church Secretary

Most of you know I will be retiring the end of this month so I just want to take this opportunity to tell you what a blessing it has been serving as your church secretary. Over the years I have heard horror stories from other church secretaries about their experiences with their church members, but I can truthfully say I have never had a bad experience with anyone in this church. You have always been cooperative, patient, understanding, forgiving and especially loving. It has been a joy to serve you for the past 23 years (can't believe it has been that long).

Our own Beth Frank will be our new secretary beginning January 1, 2018 and I would ask that you continue to extend your help, cooperation and Christian love to her as well.

Thank you for everything and God bless you all, Pam

STEWARDSHIP REPORT (Through 11/19/17)

Total Budget	\$234,478.00	<u>Unbudgeted Contributions</u>	
Estimated needed to date	211,932.04	Scholarship Fund	525.00
Received to date	181,523.11	Cuba Covenant	2,607.00
Percent of "needed to date"		Uprising Student Min.	1,985.00
that has been collected	85.65%	Children's Home	2,363.00
Percent of Year that is Complete	90.38%	Kids' Klub	1,594.00
Percent of Yearly Contributions that		Kairos Outside	25.00
have been received	77.25%	Brie Paulin Mission Trip	100.00
		Vacation Bible School	600.00
		Music Accompanist	200.00
		Annual Conf. Offering	125.00
		Uprising Curriculum	600.00
		Youth Rm Improvements	500.00
		UMCOR Hurricane Harvey	665.00
		Choir Fund	50.00
		Pastor's Discretionary Fund	287.00

CIRCLE OF CONCERN – Those needing our prayers -

Joyce Strickland	Lee West	Virginia Alexander	Gary Armstrong
Herb DuTour	Gail West	Tracy Underwood	Gil Cahan
Lacey & Faith Claunch			

Those in the nursing homes (**Edna Houck, Jean Moore**) and our shut-ins; San Antonio de Rio Blanco Church in Cuba; the Persecuted Church; Moseley Elementary School teachers; Westover Mobile Home Park Ministry; Children at the Methodist Children's Home; our Nation's leaders & military; your Pastoral family & your Church

CONGRATULATIONS to Doug Brown the new president of Trinity's United Methodist Men. The UMM are a vital part of Trinity and we appreciate your willingness to lead this wonderful group of men.

KIDS' KLUB CORNER

Kids' Klub has been working hard in the month of November to be ready to share Jesus' birth through song. We are really excited about this opportunity to be able to share God's love and joy to the church through our cantata, "A Christmas .Nativity" We want to share the story of Jesus' birth through songs and the Christmas story. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining the Kids' Klub as they present their annual Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. There will be a reception to follow and a very important guest to greet the children.

December Happenings:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| November 29th | Advent Workshop. All are invited! Please join us as we prepare for Christmas. |
| December 10 th | CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CANTATA at 6:00 p.m. |
| December 13 th | Blanket ride/visiting/caroling |
| December 20 th | Last regular meeting of 2017 |

We thank you for all the support that you have given us through your prayers, your time and your monetary donations. God has truly blessed us. We are looking forward to seeing you on Wednesdays. Come learn and enjoy all the things that God has blessed us with. God Bless!! The Kids' Klub Team

Praise and Worship at
Kids' Klub



Thanksgiving for kids and family



Wish a Happy Birthday to:

- 1st** - Virginia Alexander
- Devon Pierce
- 4th** - Troy Nettles
- 6th** - Jami Curtis
- 7th** - Gary Simpson
- 9th** - Kenny Thompson
- 11th** - Lisa Myers
- 13th** - Lee West
- 14th** - Trish Murff
- 15th** - Donald Kennard
- 16th** - Faith Claunch
- Brandon Underwood
- 17th** - Brandon Lewis
- 20th** - Shirley Saunders
- 21st** - John Michael Azula
- 24th** - Chris Kennedy
- Micke Schmidt
- 26th** - Gary Armstrong
- Addysen Sheffield
- 28th** - Sarah Bellamy

Anniversaries

- 6th** - James & Joyce Taylor – 65 yrs.
- 9th** - Kevin & Katie Ryals
- 10th** - Marlin & Teresa Bechanan
- Herb & Karen Du Tour
- Keith & Devon Pierce
- 14th** - Troy & Cassie Nettles
- 16th** - John & Sharon Bennett – 50 yrs.
- 20th** - Carlos & Sarah Azula
- 21st** - John & Virginia Alexander
- 28th** - David & Gail Cahan – 43 yrs.
- 30th** - Paul & Jayne Moran

Just for Kids

A Special Season

Here are symbols and signs of a special season.

They help us celebrate:

J
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 !

Write the name of each picture on the spaces below it. Write the letters from the numbered circles in the matching numbered spaces above.

9 _____
 3 _____
 10 _____
 11 _____
 2 _____
 13 _____
 8 _____
 1 _____
 6 _____
 4 _____
 12 _____
 7 _____
 5 _____

Answers:

star, shepherd, candle, peace, donkey, manger, joy, bell, drum, angel, wise men, Jesus' birthday.

DECEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Sunday Schedule 9:15 a.m. – Sunday School 10:30 a.m. –Worship Holy Communion	4	5	6 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S. 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	7 6 p.m. - Share & Care Circle Christmas Dinner	1 8	2 9 UMM Christmas Dinner 5:30 p.m.
10 Children’s Christmas Program 6 p.m.	11	12 6 p.m. – Girl Scouts 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	13 10 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study 5 p.m. - Youth 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	14	15	16
17	18 5:30 p.m. – Wesley Ann Circle Dinner at Columbia Restaurant	19 6 p.m. – Trustees 6 p.m. – Girl Scouts 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	20 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	21	22	23
24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> Christmas Eve Service 6 p.m.	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	21 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	22 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S.. 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	23	24	25
26 <i>New Year’s Eve</i>	27	28 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	29 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S.. 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	30		