

TRINITY TIDINGS
January 2018

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

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From the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

As I sit here thinking about the last year, I find myself wondering why things happened as they did, or more importantly, I wonder what this next year will bring.

As a pastor who does a bit of counseling, I've witnessed evidence that if we don't make good choices about the direction of our lives, we will find ourselves being directed by the choices that others make for us. And of course, that leaves us dealing with the consequences; often to our chagrin.

Out of embarrassment, we blame our spouses, our parents, our bosses, the economy, the world situation, Elvis, or whatever person or phenomenon we have encountered for our dilemma. But it doesn't really help and nothing ever changes.

So... what's wrong in your life? What's missing? What mistakes have you made that need fixing? What is left undone? As you ask these questions, notice how easy it is to blame others for the holes in our lives.

What do we do? Well, many people turn to various addictions, i.e. drugs, alcohol, food or other means of escape.

But is that the solution? Just mellow out? Take something to push the pain or discomfort away? Blame is a good mellowing agent, whether it's directed at others or ourselves. It diffuses the issues enough that we are soon mellowed into an uncomfortable inactive state.

People of faith however have other options. Look realistically at your life, don't just accept the view that others put on you, and get rid of what you know to be sin in your lives. (see James 1:22-26) Accept the forgiveness that is offered you in Christ. This releases us from being controlled by guilt and self-blame. Ask God for guidance and power to live out your faith and begin to move out in new or better directions. Cut the strings, break the chains that influence your life and you'll find joy and peace in Christ.

May the Lord help us all to make better decisions in the coming year and help us to be a reflection of Jesus to our own sphere of influence.

I pray you have a blessed new year!

Pastor John

District Leadership Training Event

Equip 2018 The “E” Word: Evangelism

Saturday, January 20, 2018 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Keystone UMC, 404 State Road 21, Keystone Heights FL 32656

Or

Saturday, January 27, 2018 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Beach Church UMC, 325 7th Ave N, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Join the North East District for our 2018 Training Event entitled EQUIP 2018- The “E” word: Evangelism. During this training event, we will offer multiple breakout sessions and also some great large group gathering speakers.

You MUST register in advance to attend. Due to space constraints, we cannot allow walk-in registrations. Cost to attend the event is \$10 per person. Please review the event guide. The event guide includes information about locations, schedules, class offerings. Go to www.flumc.org/eventdetail/equip-2018-the-e-word-evangelism-9985485 for more information and registration.

United Methodist Men

Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, January 13, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

Start the new year off right by joining the men of Trinity United Methodist Church for breakfast on Saturday, January 13, at 8:30 a.m. We will have a morning of wonderful food and fellowship and welcome Doug Brown as our new president. Please come and help us make him feel welcomed.

United Methodist Women

2018 Florida Conference Women's Retreats

"Restored and Free"

February 16-18 March 9-11

Keynote speakers include Rev. Geraldine McClellan and Vidalis Lopez. Every weekend offers a time for Bible study, enrichment and craft sessions, music, fun, fellowship and food! **Registration in online at www.flumc.org/floridaconferencewomensretreats**

Share & Care Circle will meet at the home of Jo Dunn (2211 Palma Ceia Terrace) for their monthly meeting on Thursday, January 11, at 7 p.m. All ladies are invited.

Welsey Ann Circle invites all ladies to join them on Monday, January 15, at 9 a.m. in the Bride's Room for their monthly meeting.

Did You Know????

Our Trinity Christmas float won 1st Place in the Church Category at the Palatka Christmas Parade. Way to go!!! See pictures on our website at www.trinityumcpalatka.org

The **2018 Flower Calendar** is located in the narthex. Sign up early to get the dates you want.

There will be a **Calendar Set-up Meeting** on Thursday, January 18, at 7 p.m. in fellowship hall. If you cannot attend and would like to put an event on the Trinity 2018 calendar, please contact the church office to reserve your date(s).

There is an **Initial Offering Envelope** in your box of contribution envelopes. This offering is used to offset the cost of envelopes. If each person gives \$10.00 we will be able to pay for the envelopes without taking it out of our budget. Thanks.

If you have changed your address, phone number, e-mail address, etc., please let the church office know. Thanks.

Trinity United Methodist Scholarship

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

Deadline – January 15, 2018

Emmaus Gathering
Saturday, January 13, 2018
6:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
200 E. Boyleston Street, Interlachen, FL 32148

All persons who have ever attended an Emmaus event are invited to join
for the special gathering.

THANKS – On behalf of the combined choirs, I would like to once again, thank Brenda Simpson, Karen DuTour and Bob Reed for the beautiful (and delicious) reception after the cantata. You never cease to amaze with the abundance of goodies and fruit, and beautiful decorations. Everything was wonderful. We really appreciate it! Alice Ryals, Choir Director

THANKS – From the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home

Dear Friends:

It’s the time of year when we all tend to look at our many blessings and consider all the things for which we are thankful. We remind our children at home how blessed they are, and we even share messages on Facebook about being thankful. The children here at the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home have much to be thankful for because of your support. In many cases, they are simply thankful to be out of the traumatic environment from which they had to be removed. Nicole was one of those children who had to be removed from her home, and has flourished here at the Children’s Home.

Nicole grew up in an abusive environment. When she was only eleven years old, she watched her mother die from a drug overdose. Her stepfather soon followed the path of Nicole’s mother and became addicted to drugs as well and the abuse continued. After a couple of years, her biological father came back into the picture. He assumed custody of Nicole and her siblings, but things didn’t really improve.

Nicole struggled in school with very low grades and she was academically behind due to years of familial dysfunction. Prior to coming here, she had never even been to church. But that has all changed since Nicole came to the Children’s Home. Academically, she is on track and her grades have improved. She has become one of our more dedicated students and is taking an active role in the Chapel services here on campus. Next summer, she will graduate from our on-campus school, Legacy Scholars Academy, and then attend a local college to become an RN.

Nicole’s success did take time, and it required specialized therapy and support. But it was made possible entirely through the support of friends like you. Your support not only provides for the skilled counseling and mentoring for our children, but also for the food, clothing, education and other necessities for a happy and healthy life. And it can even help children like Nicole write the next chapter in her life as she prepares for college.

We are very appreciative of your congregation's recent gift of \$610.00. Your generosity is making an impact in the lives of our children.

From our children and staff, thank you for your continued love, support, and prayers.

Sincerely, Elisabeth Gadd, Chief Development Officer

NOTE: December 31st is our next 5th Sunday. A special offering for the Children's Home will be received during the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

THANKS – I would like to give a very special thanks to Trinity for your generous support of gift cards for the Children's Home. Your donation of 77 gifts cards will greatly make these children's Christmas a little brighter. A special thanks goes out to the Kids' Klub for their continuous generous support of this effort.

God Bless you all, Lee Ryals, Children's Home Representative

Sympathy – Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of the Reverend John F. Springer who entered heaven on November 9, 2017. Joann Springer's address is 6312 Matanzas Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. Reverend Springer served as Trinity's pastor from 1986-89.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT (Through 12/17/17)

Total Budget	\$234,478.00	<u>Unbudgeted Contributions</u>	
Estimated needed to date	225,629.77	Scholarship Fund	525.00
Received to date	195,196.41	Cuba Covenant	2,607.00
Percent of "needed to date"		Uprising Student Min.	1,985.00
that has been collected	86.51%	Children's Home	2,363.00
Percent of Year that is Complete	96.23%	Kids' Klub	1,794.00
Percent of Yearly Contributions that		Kairos Outside	25.00
have been received	83.25%	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	387.00

CIRCLE OF CONCERN – Those needing our prayers -

Joyce Strickland Lee West Virginia Alexander Gary Armstrong
Herb DuTour Gail West Gil Cahan Wayne Hare

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

KIDS' KLUB CORNER

As we begin this new year with Kids' Klub I would like to take time to thank all of you that have taken your time and effort to make Kids' Klub such a great place to be. Thank you for playing the piano each week. It brings such great joy as we worship in song. Thank you to those who faithfully come each week to help teach, to do Bible study, to take us out for play time or getting our dinner ready. Thank You to all that helped with the Advent Workshop. What an awesome way to begin the season. It is with a humble heart that I send a big "THANK YOU" to those that attended the Children's Christmas Cantata. Your support was Amazing and the children were so proud. You made them feel special and a true blessing for God. We are so blessed by your prayers, your support and your donations but most importantly by your love. We are looking forward to a great new year filled with Jesus and His wonderful stories and truths. If you are a kid between three years old and fifth grade come and see what blessings God is showing us. We will learn about Jesus, play games, sing, and pray together. Supper will be served each week. We are looking forward to seeing you from 5:00 to 7:00 each Wednesday afternoon.



Practicing for our
Christmas Cantata



Santa tells the children
that the real reason for
the season is Jesus

Christmas Parade Float

After talking about doing something for the past several years, Trinity had a float in the City of Palatka Annual Christmas Parade. We not only had a float, we won first place in the church float group. We had two people who originally talked about the float, one who kept the idea alive and one who came up with the plan for the float. On Saturday, November 18, 2017 approximately 20 people met at the home of Matt & Megan Simpson to put the idea into action. Matt Simpson designed the float and signs and provided the materials with which to build it. We grouped up into two main groups who worked on the crèche and lights while the other group worked on the braces for the sound system and the electronics for the lights and sound. The workers who assisted in the build were:

Matt Simpson, Bob Reed, Sarah Bellamy, Lee Ryals, Alice Ryals, John Bennett

Don Kennard, Teresa Kennard, Megan Simpson, Micke Schmidt, Peggy Brooks

Crystal Reed, Dylan Lewis, Brandon Lewis, Emily Simpson, Evan Simpson,

Brenda Simpson, Gary Simpson, Gary Armstrong, Carolyn Armstrong

Below are pictures of the completed float and the team who rode and walked alongside the float in the parade. Those riding sang Christmas carols and those walking passed out candy and flyers telling of the activities of Trinity. We had a good time of fellowship, fun and exercise. Thanks to Brenda Simpson for including the kids and the entire church in the activity. Have a blessed Christmas Season.



Wish a Happy Birthday to:

- 1st -Gail Cahan**
- 2nd -Joseph Azula**
- 5th -Tina Huskey**
 - Austin Layman**
 - Calvin Wilson**
- 9th -Betty Walston**
- 10th -Brett Gross**
- 11th -Preston Fields**
- 13th -Rothe Simpson**
- 14th -Tate West**
- 17th -Whitly Woodard**
- 18th -Rodney Sheffield**
- 20th -Star Douglas**
- 22nd -Jessica Gross**
- 30th -Eva Mankey**
 - Joyce Taylor**

Anniversaries

- 22nd -Rodney &Cathy Sheffield - 46 years**

Alter Flowers

- 7th - Open**
- 14th - Ryles**
- 21st - Open**
- 28th - Open**

JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule 9:15 a.m. – Sunday School 10:30 a.m. –Worship	1	2	3 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S.	4	5	6 <i>Epiphany of The Lord</i>
7 Epiphany Sunday Holy Communion 2 p.m.-Take down Chrismon Tree	8	9 6 p.m. – Girl Scouts 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	10 10 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study 5 p.m. - Youth 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	11 7 p.m- Share and Care Circle	12	13 8:30 a.m.-UMM Breakfast Meeting
14	15 9 a.m. – Wesley Ann Circle	16 6 p.m. – Trustees 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	17 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	18 7 p.m. Church Calendar Set-up Meeting	19	20 9 a.m.-District Leadership Training Keystone, UMC
21	22	23 6 p.m.-Girl Scouts 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	24 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S.. 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	25	26	27
28	29	30 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	31 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S.. 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice			

A WINTER WONDERMAZE

Find your way through the snowy maze.

START ↘



FINISH ↙

Just for KIDS

Look around and you will see lots of different colors. Many Bible verses have colors in them.

Find each verse. Write the color found there in the boxes.

From top-to-bottom the darker boxes will tell you what all of these colors together make!



BIBLE TRIVIA

- Q. Who fought a lion on a snowy day?
 A. Benaiah (2 Samuel 23:20)

Answers:

Psalms 92:14 green; Psalms 52:8 olive; Isaiah 63:2 red; Isaiah 1:18 scarlet; Daniel 7:9 white; Isaiah 1:18 crimson; Luke 16:19 purple; Exodus 28:31 blue; Judges 8:26 gold. All these colors together make - God's World