TRINITY TIDINGS March 2017

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Pastor: John F. Bennett

From the Pastor

"Pastor, my son came home from school today and asked me what we believe about dinosaurs."

"Pastor, my daughter came home from school today and asked me what we believe about evolution."

"Pastor, do we believe in angels?"

"Pastor, is it a sin to get divorced?"

You might be surprised at how many similar questions I get.

Sometimes these questions hold deeper meanings and are more personal. "Pastor, do you have time to meet? There's something important I want to talk with you about."

Behind each question is a person with questions about their faith, which have been shaped by their unique understanding of how they see the world. I love to hear them because each one of these questions brings life to my calling because they offer an opportunity to glorify God by speaking the name of Jesus into their lives.

The answers to many of these questions seem to change from time to time due to contemporary knowledge on the subject, knowledge that can challenge our faith on many fronts. The strange thing is that this "contemporary knowledge" has been around since the beginning of humanity. Every generation believes it has surpassed the one before it in wisdom and knowledge to a degree that renders all previous ages primitive and simple.

Today, people are certain that the universe is 14.6 billion years old, that all life evolved from a common ancestor, and that it all came into existence from the "Big Bang."

Today, people are certain that the major world views, religions and the beliefs that came before represent less educated thinking and were based on inferior knowledge. We are advanced; they were backwards. We are moving forward!

The current educated opinion is that we must leave the past behind, throwing the baby out with the bathwater. That which is new must be better because it's based on updated understandings, whether in material goods or accepted human behavior and faith expression.

How this contemporary philosophy sees the world is constantly changing, it is always evolving. Every new revelation changes the lens through which the world sees itself and replaces what came before it. But most people can't see that it has always been this way and that what is believed to be true today is just the next thing to be replaced by what is discovered to be true tomorrow.

As Yul Brynner once said, playing The King of Siam in the movie "The King and I"; "IT IS A PUZZLEMENT".

But it doesn't have to be this way. This month, we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. That is, the singular event in human history that fundamentally changes the way we see the world, God's role in it, and what our future holds. The resurrection of Christ destroys what we thought we know about being human. It bends the laws of nature to God's will, and gives us a lens through which to see the world that is radically different than every Contemporary Perspective that came before it, or that has come since.

Death has been defeated. It is tragic, but it is not final. That God raised Jesus means even more than the fact that he's real; it means that he is concerned about each one of us as individuals and that he is willing to do anything, including die, to save us from ourselves.

It means we matter to him. The resurrection of Christ does not need to accommodate itself to whatever the contemporary thinking or theology; it stands apart from the always-changing opinions of men.

In the beginning was the Word... and He still Is.

Happy Easter, Pastor John

Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, March 1 7:00 p.m. Church Sanctuary
St. James UM Church and Emmanuel UM Church
will join us for this special service.

What about Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday will be on March 1 this year. Do you know the symbolism of the day?

- 1. From ancient times, ashes have been used as a symbol of mourning, penitence, grief and humiliation. In his pain and sorrow, Job "sat among the ashes" (Job 2:8). The Old Testament book of Numbers and the New Testament book of Hebrews indicate that ashes were also used for purification (see Numbers 19:17 and Hebrews 9:13).
- 2. Christians have had an old tradition of using ashes made from the palm branches used on the last Palm Sunday. Priests and ministers have often used the ashes to make the sign of the cross on a believer's forehead as part of the Ash Wednesday ceremony.
- 3. The ashes symbolize the Christian's intent to repent of sins, to accept purification from the Lord, and to make a public witness of one's faith in Christ as Lord and Savior.
- 4. Since Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, the ashes symbolize one's intention to deepen his or her spiritual life. Lent is a time for spiritual renewal and growth in dedication and service.

Laity Town Hall Meetings with District Superintendent Jay Therrell March 7 at New Life Community UM Church, Jacksonville, FL March 9 at Keystone UM Church, Keystone Heights, FL

These events are FREE to attend and do not require pre-registration. Join the district superintendent for conversation and questions from 7-9 p.m. For more information call the district office at 904-396-3026 or go to www.flumc.org/northeast.

Fellowship Lunch
Sunday, March 26 12 noon Fellowship Hall

Hosted by Kids' Klub

Everyone is invited. The lunch is free to all. Come and join us!

Did You Know???

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12.

United Methodist Men will be busy this month serving others. On Tuesday, March 7 they will prepare breakfast for the employees at WHIF Radio Station during their Sharea-Thon. On Saturday, March 11, Kairos Outside will be using our facilities and the UMM will serve them breakfast. Thanks men. We appreciate all you do!

Finance Committee meets on Thursday, March 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Bride's Room.

Administrative Council meets on Thursday, March 16, at 7:15 p.m. in fellowship hall.

United Methodist Women

Share & Care Circle will meet at the church on Thursday, March 2, at 5:30 p.m. to visit the shut-ins of the church and then have dinner at a local restaurant. All ladies are invited!

Wesley Ann Circle will meet on Monday, March 20, at 9 a.m. in the Bride's Room. All ladies are welcome.

Looking Ahead -

UMW General Meeting – Saturday, April 1 - 9 a.m. – Fellowship Hall Hosted by Share & Care Circle - All ladies are invited.

Thanks - From Heart of Putnam Food Pantry

Dear Family in Christ:

Thank you all so much for remembering this ministry with your recent gift to the food pantry of 123 pounds of food to be redistributed within our area to the less fortunate.

So far this year we have served 1077 clients representing 3083 family members. Of this number, there are 1185 children, 307 people with some form of disability, 430 seniors (over 60) and 184 military vets. We could not meet this need without the concern and prayers of the wonderful Christian people in this area such as Trinity Methodist.

Again, we thank you and your congregation for thinking of others as Christ commanded.

Marilyn Young, Office Manager

STEWARDSHIP REPORT (Through 2/19/17)

Total Budget	\$234,478.00	<u>Unbudgeted Contribu</u>	<u>itions</u>
Estimated needed to date	36,073.54	Scholarship Fund	150.00
Received to date	28,981.98	Cuba Covenant	1,857.00
Percent of "needed to date"		Uprising Student Min.	413.00
that has been collected	80.34%	Children's Home	557.00
Percent of Year that is Complete	15.38%		
Percent of Yearly Contributions	that		
have been received	12.36%		

CIRCLE OF CONCERN – Those needing our prayers -

Tina Mullis	Joyce Strickland	Bob Murff	Keith Stettes
Gary Armstrong	Sarah Ogle	Virginia Alexander	Herb DuTour
Gail West	Genevieve Jones	Dennis Hayes,IV	Lee West

Those in the nursing homes (**Shirley Cowan, Edna Houck, Jean Moore,**) and our shutins; 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

Wow!! What an awesome month March is going to be at Kids' Klub. Kids' Klub will be celebrating Jesus' call for us to "Follow Him" in the month of March. We will be learning about the parables that Jesus told to help us learn about Him. 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' love, 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. Dates to Remember:

MARCH 1st Kids' Klub will be learning about Ash Wednesday MARCH 26th Kids' Klub will be hosting a luncheon after church. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. We will need you all!!! SAVE THE DATES:

April 5th Kids' Klub Easter Egg Hunt

April 23rd Church picnic and Kids' Klub Cake Auction

April 30th Kids' Klub will sing during church



Singing around the camp fire on ice day.



Singing, praying, and praising in the Sanctuary.



Sharing Jesus' love by coloring and writing on pictures for Kairos Outside Women's Weekend.

A Prayer for Lent

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see more clearly the condition of my soul. If there is darkness, mean-spiritedness, egotistic pride...or worse within, cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Renew a right spirit within me and make me truly Christ-like in all my thoughts and actions. And when I begin to edge away from your will, please stir up my conscience until I am in harmony with you again. In Christ's name. Amen.

Wish a Happy Birthday to:

2nd - Kaylee Davis

3rd - Jeff Cahan

- Mallory Huskey

5th - Katelynn Manning

- Jimmy McNeill

8th - Stran Cahan

- Nickie Gill

9th - Ben Browning

- Colby Hudson

10th - Angela Bechanan

18th - Robert Hare

21st - Howard Carnes

- Karen Larsen

22nd - Tom Sykes

27th - Trevlyn Sheffield

- Tracy Underwood

28th - Robynn Hare

31st - Vicki Hare

Anniversaries

1st - Henry & Tina Mullis

12th - Errol & Andrea Findlater

15th - Robert & Sharon Fridy

Altar Flowers

5th - OPEN

12th - OPEN



Gentleness

Generosity

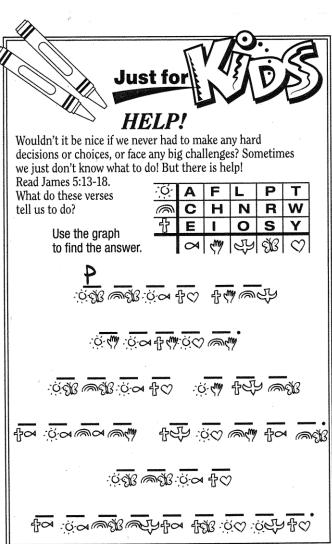
Prayer

Grace

Peace

Hope

Joy



Pray in faith. Pray for each other. Pray earnestly.

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule 9:15 a.m. – Sunday School 10:30 a.m. –Worship			1 Ash Wednesday 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m Youth 5 p.m. – Kids' Klub 7 p.m. – Ash Wed. Service	2 10 a.m.–TLC Bible Study 5:30 p.m. – Share & Care Circle – Visits and Dinner	3 World Day of Prayer	4
5 Holy Communion	6	7 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	8 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m Youth 5 p.m. – Kids' Klub 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	9 10 a.m.–TLC Bible Study	10	11 8 a.m. – Kairos Outside
12 Daylight Saving Time Begins	13	14 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	15 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. – Kids' Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	16 10 a.m. – TLC Bible Study 6:30 p.m. – Finance 7:15 p.m. – Ad Council	17	18
19	9 a.m. – Wesley Ann Circle	21 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	22 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S. 5 p.m. – Kids' Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	23 10 a.m. – TLC Bible Study	24	25
26 12 noon – Fellowship Lunch	27	28 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	29 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S. 5 p.m. – Kids' Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	30 10 a.m. – TLC Bible Study	31	