

TRINITY TIDINGS

January 2017

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

www.trinityumcpalatka.org

From the Pastor

I hope the new year has started off well for everyone. Thanks to God, your prayers and some good doctors, my health is much better.

As I sit down to write this article my mind turns to our recent national elections. And I must tell you that I don't often say much about politics and never from the pulpit. However I feel a need to briefly address the subject, and you can take it for what it's worth.

We all know that the relationship of church and state has always been a messy business. There are those who think that the two are one and the same ...However the Bible makes no such affirmation.

There are also those who think that the two are easily separable ...However the Bible makes no such allowance for that belief either. What we believe, particularly concerning matters of right and wrong, of justice and peace, of freedom and authority, should directly relate to how we vote, how leaders rule, and what we expect from our leaders.

What should be the relationship between Christians and political leaders?

My own view is that on the one hand, we should start based upon a clear understanding of human sin. That is to say that leaders are fallible people who are incapable of entirely delivering upon what they promise. The most obvious problem arrives when people, committed to a particular political party or person, will go to great lengths to defend their candidate's strengths while downplaying their weaknesses.

In contrast, they exaggerate their opponent's weaknesses while ignoring their strengths. The popular "conventional wisdom," as Newsweek weekly puts it, is to label all politicians as either "all saint" or "all sinner".

Well, guess what... just like us... they are all sinners.

A Christian should be able to applaud the strengths and the positions of any party while at the same time recognize and denounce any weaknesses or obvious departures from Biblical teaching. And so our role as a Christian is to never be so tied to the machine that we lack in courage to hold them accountable for behavior or positions we disagree with or lack the humility to commend them when they are right.

Having said all of that, I believe that we should be praying daily for our leaders as God's appointed rulers. The Apostle Paul writes to Timothy:

"I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. ² Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. ³ This is good and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth." 1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NLT)

Being a leader of any kind has it's challenges, but our elected leaders at the highest level have been given the difficult roles of protecting the peace of the nation and indeed the world, and they need God's guidance in doing so.

So as we enter into a new chapter in our Nation's Story, I encourage you to pray for President Trump, his family and for all those in leadership, that they would allow God and His Word to guide their decisions, their words and actions so they would be pleasing to God and beneficial to all Americans and to all peoples around the world.

Pastor John

Valentine Dinner

(Sponsored by the United Methodist Men)

Saturday, February 11 5:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall Cost: \$10.00 each

Catered by Mew Maws

Everyone is invited!! Contact Lee Ryals or the church office if you plan to attend.

Souper Bowl Lunch

Sunday, February 5 12 noon Fellowship Hall

Hosted by Share & Care Circle

Please join us for this special fundraiser hosted by Share & Care Circle. All donations will be used to support local missions.

FOOD DRIVE

The Methodist Men will be having a food drive for the next 2 weeks (Starting Jan. 29). We will be collecting food for the local Heart of Putnam Food Pantry.

Grocery bags can be picked up in the narthex. Just fill your bags with non-perishable food and return it to the church by February 12.

We will try to have a food drive every 3 months. Thank you for your generous assistance.

United Methodist Women

Share & Care Circle meets on Thursday, February 2, at 7 p.m. in the home of Jo Dunn, 2211 Palms Ceia Terrace, Palatka. All ladies are invited.

Wesley Ann Circle meets Monday, February 20, at 9 a.m. in the Bride's Room. All ladies are invited.

41st Annual Women's Spiritual Life Retreat

Standing Strong ...

Karen Porter, Keynote Speaker Robin Rost, Worship Leader

February 24-25, 2017

Putnam County Fair Grounds EXPO Center

118 Fairgrounds Rd., East Palatka, FL

Cost: Friday Only (dinner included) \$28.00 - Friday & Saturday (2 meals) \$55.00

Deadline for retreat registration is February 15, 2017. For more information you may contact the church office at (386) 328-4424 or visit the website at www.cimc.org. Forms are also available in the church office.

LEC Family's 2017 Programs

Grow Together

Dad & Me Weekend	- April 21-23, 2017
Grandparents & Me	- Summer 2017
Family Camp	- Summer 2017
Mom & Me Weekend	- September 15-17, 2017

Life Enrichment Center, 4991 Picciola Road, Fruitland Park, FL 34731

For more information and to register go to www.lecfamily.org

Springtime By The Sea

Senior Adult Vacation Bible School

“The Word Made Fresh”

May 22-25, 2017 Epworth By The Sea

With singer, humorist and Gospel storyteller Ed Kilbourne

Senior saints and sages are invited to revisit the old, old story in very new and fun ways through music and storytelling of one of the United Methodism’s most popular speakers, Ed Kilbourne. Like Vacation Bible School of old, we will laugh, we will play, we will learn and we will pray and somewhere along the way, we will even color! Invite your friends and come sea. Full schedule and online registration available at www.epworthbythesea.org

SCHOLARSHIPS

Trinity United Methodist Church Scholarships were presented in January to Sarah Bellamy and Anthony Moran. Sarah is attending St. Johns River State College and is in the EMT training program. Anthony is attending the University of Florida working toward a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Sciences with a plan to attend law school.

It is a joy to be able to help these dedicated young people in some small way to further their education. Congratulations!!

Did You Know???

Gil Cahan’s youngest son, **Gene Cahan**, was named “Coach of the Year” by the Illinois High School Coach’s Association. Gene will be inducted in the Hall of Fame on January 21, 2017. Congratulations!!!

A Women’s Resource Center has donated a pack & play to Trinity UM Church for our nursery.

Thanks – from the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home

Dear Friends:

I hope that your Christmas holiday was filled with the warmth of family and friends, as well as wonderful food and fellowship. As we approach the new year, many of our thoughts turn to helping others as you have done. Your generous gift is most appreciated, and will help to provide for our children here at the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home.

Justin’s first Christmas with us was not very joyous. He came to the Children’s Home one week before Christmas, four years ago. He had been removed from his home due to abuse, and was a repeat runaway with anger issues. He was also failing in school. But he has come to see this as his home and believes it is the best possible place for him.

His grades are now all A's and B's, and he no longer runs away. Through our therapeutic program, he has resolved the anger issues, and he has even earned his learner's permit from the DMV. When I asked him recently what he was most proud of, he replied, "I've matured a lot. Now I get to be a role model to the other kids, and help them like I've been helped."

Most of our children here at the Children's Home come from situations of abuse, abandonment, or neglect. We strive to make sure that our children are not only filled with the joys of the season, but also understand the true meaning as well – the message of Jesus Christ.

It is because of friends like you that we are able to provide the loving home longed for by our children and the extra special memories during this holiday season. And there's nothing more important to remember than the Christmas message as conveyed in Luke 2: 14, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

We are very appreciative of your congregation's recent gift of \$472.00. Your generosity is making an impact in the lives of our children.

From our children and staff, we wish you a Happy New Year.

Sincerely, Elisabeth Gadd, Vice President of Development

STEWARDSHIP REPORT (Through 1/22/17)

Total Budget	\$234,478.00	<u>Unbudgeted Contributions</u>	
Estimated needed to date	18,036.77	Scholarship Fund	50.00
Received to date	13,559.47	Cuba Covenant	277.00
Percent of "needed to date" that has been collected	75.18%		
Percent of Year that is Complete	7.69%		
Percent of Yearly Contributions that have been received	5.78%		

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	Lee West	Dennis Hayes,IV	

Those in the nursing homes (**Shirley Cowan, 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

Sympathy – Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of **Alice Nesbitt** who entered heaven on December 24, 2016.

KIDS' KLUB CORNER

Did you know that each Wednesday brings out a group of very special people that help to bring God's word to our children? They create the snacks, share a craft, tell about the Bible, run the video, play the piano, put dinner on the table and are always, always sharing God's love. Thank you all for your commitment to the children. Thank you for sharing your time, your effort and your love. You are "AWESOME." Please keep them in your prayers!

Kids' Klub will be celebrating Jesus' life and His call for us to "Follow Him" in the month of February. We will be making Valentines, sharing God's love with others and learning ways to serve God. 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.



Making puppets about
Jesus at the Temple.



Playing outside.

Wish a Happy Birthday to:

- 4th - Cassidy Smith**
- 5th - Dylan Harvey**
 - Errol Houck
- 6th - Charlene Coles**
- 8th - Ashton de los Santos**
 - Crystal Reed
- 9th - Fran Harden**
- 10th - Shirley Cowan**
 - Jordyn Revels
- 16th - Lee Ryals**
- 17th - Charles Hunter**
 - Lynsey Cox
- 19th - D. R. Clapp**
- 21st - Justin McKenzie**
- 27th - Bethany Frank**

Anniversaries

- 7th - Donald & Teresa Kennard**
- 8th - Chad & Kristi Willoughby**
- 12th - Ed & Charlene Coles**

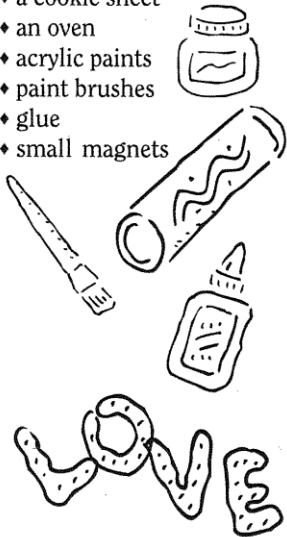
Altar Flowers

- 5th - Reed**
- 12th - Ryals**
- 19th - OPEN**
- 26th - OPEN**

Make Some Magnets

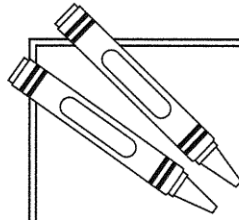
You will need:

- ◆ a tube of refrigerated breadstick dough
- ◆ a cookie sheet
- ◆ an oven
- ◆ acrylic paints
- ◆ paint brushes
- ◆ glue
- ◆ small magnets



How to make:

Stretch out the dough. Shape pieces into letters or shapes. Spell "LOVE" or make heart shapes for Valentine's Day. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 300° for 30 minutes. Cool. Paint. Glue magnet on back.



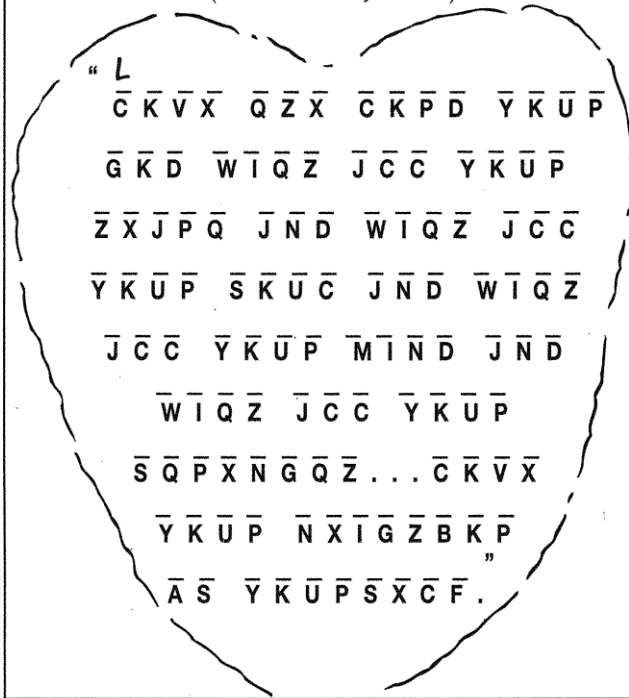
Just for KIDS

Mark 12:30-31

Change some of the letters below to find the words in these important verses.

Change:	C's to L	J's to A	K's to O	Z's to H
	Q's to T	P's to R	X's to E	

(The other letters stay the same.)



"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength ... Love your neighbor as yourself."

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Sunday Schedule</u> 9:15 a.m. – Sunday School 10:30 a.m. –Worship</p>			<p>1 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. - Youth 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>2 10 a.m.–TLC Bible Study 7 p.m. – Share & Care Circle</p>	3	4 8:30 a.m. – Dist. Leadership Training Starke UM Church
<p>5 12 noon – Souper Bowl Lunch</p>	6	<p>7 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice</p>	<p>8 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. - Youth 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>9 10 a.m.–TLC Bible Study</p>	10	11 5:30 p.m. – Valentine Dinner
12	13	<p>14 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice</p>	<p>15 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>16 10 a.m. – TLC Bible Study</p>	17	18
19	<p>20 9 a.m. – Wesley Ann Circle</p>	<p>21 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice</p>	<p>22 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S. 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>23 10 a.m. – TLC Bible Study</p>	24	25 Women’s’ Spiritual Life Retreat Feb. 24-25
26	27	<p>28 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice</p>				