

TRINITY TIDINGS
January 2017

Trinity United Methodist Church
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From the Pastor

Well my friends, the New Year has arrived. What joys and challenges await you in 2017? Will this be a year filled with exciting new opportunities to explore? Or will 2017 be just a year like every other year, filled with the same old grind, worries, and boredom. Will you meet a new lifelong friend or lose one? Will your investments continue to grow and overcome our previous losses or will they be decimated once again by hard economic times? Will you discover a hidden gift that enables you to go in directions you've never gone, or will you experience lessons of failure that will cause you to rethink your direction?

The answers to these and many more questions remain an unknown chapter yet to be revealed in God's unique book of plans for your life. However, Jesus had some great advice for people like us who tend to worry about the future:

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" Matthew 6:25-27

Now the worry-free life Jesus spoke of doesn't relieve us from our responsibility to be diligent and to value integrity and patience, but you'll also notice there isn't any small print in Jesus' promise that says, "Void during a

crisis.” What Jesus is saying is that we are “more important’ and “more valuable” to God than anything that could possibly worry us.

Some of you may remember a cartoon character named Alfred E. Newman. (I know, I’m dating myself) Well Alfred had a saying... “What, me worry?” As we go boldly into the New Year, I encourage you to take on that attitude.

Don’t let the silent thief of worry claim 2017! Take ownership of your future by placing your faith in God who considers you more valuable and more important than anything you could ever imagine or worry about!

May God richly bless you and your families as you strive to follow God’s desire for your life in the New Year.

I remain your brother in Christ. Pastor John

United Methodist Men
Breakfast Meeting
Saturday, January 14, 2017 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 14, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. We will have a morning of food and fellowship. Please come and check us out.

District Leadership Event
Activate Conference
Saturday, January 28, 2017 at Beach UM Church, 325 7th Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach
or
Saturday, February 4, 2017 at First UM Church of Starke, 200 N. Walnut Street

The Mission Society will facilitate an Activate Conference in our district that will support the continued expansion of the church’s outreach and will ignite a passion for missional life and service among our congregation. Interested churches can also receive coaching to develop a mission action plan, including how to develop partnerships and fund your mission ministry. Please join us for one of the dates listed above.

8:30 a.m. – Gathering, Check-in & Continental Breakfast
9 a.m. – Biblical & Global Perspectives on Mission
10:30 a.m. – Break
10:45 – Developing a Mission Action Plan for Your Church (Part 1)

12:00 – Lunch
1 p.m. – Developing a Mission Action Plan for Your Church (Part 2)
2:30 p.m. – Closing

You must register online at www.themissionsociety.org/activatenortheastfl

United Methodist Women

Florida Conference Women's Retreats - 2017 January 20-22 February 10-12 March 3-5

Keynote speakers include Rev. Sabrina Tu, Rev. Juana Jordan and Rev. Sheryl Marks-Williams. Registration is on line only at FLUMC: Florida Conference Women's Retreats

Share & Care Circle meets on Thursday, January 5, at the home of Jo Dunn (2211 Palma Ceia Terrace, Palatka). All ladies are invited to the meeting which begins at 7 p.m.

Wesley Ann Circle invites all ladies to their monthly meeting on Monday, January 16, at 9 a.m. in the Bride's Room.

Did You Know????

There will be a **Calendar Sep-Up Meeting** on Thursday, January 19, at 7 p.m. in fellowship hall. If you cannot attend and would like to put an event on the Trinity 2017 calendar, please contact the church office to reserve your date(s).

Sunday, January 29, is a **5th Sunday**. We will receive a special offering for the **FL United Methodist Children's Home** in Enterprise, FL. Please be generous with your donation.

The **2017 Flower Calendar** is located in the narthex. Sign up early to get the dates you want.

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.

Deadline for the **Trinity United Methodist Church Scholarship** is January 15, 2017. Applications are available in the church office.

CONGRATULATIONS to Toni M. Hare & Matthew Hoblit on the birth of their daughter, **Julia Elizabeth Hoblit**. Julia was born on November 23, 2016 and weighed 6 lbs. 14 ozs. Proud grandparents are Wayne & Vicki Hare and the late Glen & Mary Hobit (both deceased).

BAPTISM – The baptism of **Faith Ann Claunch** was celebrated on Sunday, December 18. Faith is the daughter of Robby and Lacey Claunch. Faith was born on December 16, 2015.

Giving Deliberately

As we begin 2017, I would like to challenge each of you to give deliberately to Trinity. That can be done in several ways.

1. Give of your financial resources. Be deliberate in contributions each week. There are several models that can be followed.
 - a. One is the 10% tithe of your income.
 - b. Give some amount above your normal contribution each week. Increase your giving by \$1.00 per Sunday or \$10.00 or some other model which fits your heart and budget.
 - c. Deliberately contribute each Sunday by mailing in your contribution if you are unable to attend or bringing the missed Sunday contribution with you to combine with your next Sunday contribution.
 - d. In addition to your regular contribution, give \$1.00 additional the first Sunday of the year, give \$2.00 the second Sunday and continue that pattern until you contribute \$52.00 above and beyond your normal contribution on the last Sunday of the year.
2. Give of your heart to the work of Trinity.
 - a. Pray for our ministries.
 - b. Respond when asked to help with a project.
 - c. Deliberately seek God's guidance when trying to determine where you are needed within the work of the church.
 - d. Deliberately invite someone to church on Sunday.
 - e. Deliberately call someone or send a card letting them know you are thinking of them and you are missing them.

In all you do in 2017, seek God's guidance and pray, listen and live for what God has. Together we can become more involved and minister as God directs.

God Bless You and Your Family

Gary Simpson, Treasurer

Thanks – Once again, the choirs would like to 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 the beautiful decorations. Everything was wonderful. We really appreciate it! The Combined Choirs

Thanks – I want to thank our loving congregation for the generous contribution to the children of the Children’s Home. Thanks to your support we collected 80 gift cards for the children. A special thanks to Kids’ Klub for their continued support.

Lee Ryals, Children’s Home Representative

STEWARDSHIP REPORT (Through 12/25/2016)

Total Budget	\$233,923.00	<u>Unbudgeted Contributions</u>	
Estimated needed to date	233,923.00	Cuba Covenant	1,065.00
Received to date	185,135.63	Uprising Student Ministry	976.00
Percent of “needed to date”		Children’s Home	3,554.00
that has been collected	79.14%	Projectors & Screens	5,590.00
Percent of Year that is Complete	100.00%	Kids’ Klub	1,916.75
Percent of Yearly Contributions that		Kairos Outside	25.00
have been received	79.14%	Scholarship Fund	760.28
		North Point Ministry	1,300.00
		Music Accompanist	1,000.00
		Youth Camp	1,068.00
		Fire Assessment Fee	1,873.11
		United Methodist Men	100.00
		Annual Conference	175.00
		Ray Watson Memorial	1,248.00
		United Methodist Women	100.00
		Johnny Bennett Family	200.00
		Choir Fund	100.00

CIRCLE OF CONCERN – Those needing our prayers -

Tina Mullis	Mitchell Rose	Joyce Strickland	Bob Murff
Gary Armstrong	Sarah Ogle	Virginia Alexander	Herb DuTour
Gail West	Lee West	Dennis Hayes,IV	Keith Stttes

Those in the nursing homes (**Shirley Cowan, Edna Houck, Alice Nesbitt, 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

THANKS from North Point Youth, Inc.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Thank you for your contributions of \$300.00 and \$1400.00 that North Point Youth, Inc. received on July 14th and August 29th, 2016. Your gifts are greatly appreciated and you have been a source of encouragement. Every time we received a donation, no matter how small, it meant that someone else believed in what we are doing and has joined us in the journey.

Words cannot express the depth of my gratitude for you choosing to partner with us in this great undertaking. Your support has helped launch the North Point Youth after school program at Robert Jenkins Middle School. This program provides healthy snacks, academic assistance, life lessons, and recreational activities. This endeavor has been much more difficult than I anticipated. However, we have seen significant progress but we have much further to go.

Please continue to pray for North Point Youth as we press forward and encourage the youth to become all that God has created them to be. I am thrilled to be standing in this sea of boundless energy and potential for good. We know in the heart of each child resides the answer to all the grave issues in our society. Therefore, we will continue to labor in love by sharing the word of God and by providing academic assistance to the youth. In Christ, we dare not fail.

In closing, we appreciate your support. Please consider us for any end of year charitable contributions that you or your company may wish to make. **Our tax # is 46-0925103.** This letter is a receipt for your tax records. In addition, no goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

Your Servant in Christ, Errol N. Findlater, M.D., Mdiv
President/Founder of North Point Youth, Inc.

THANKS from 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. Taylor was one of those children who had to be removed from his home, and has flourished here at the Children's Home.

Taylor's father disappeared when he was very young, and his mother became addicted to drugs and alcohol. While his mother did remarry, Taylor's stepfather turned out to be a heavy drug and alcohol user as well. There were times at home when his stepfather would take Taylor and his siblings fishing or for other fun outings, but there was also a dark side to his stepfather. One night, Taylor's stepfather was upset with him and became physically abusive, which resulted in Taylor being rushed to the hospital with a skull fracture and broken nose.

When Taylor came to the Children's Home at age ten, he was confused and angry. He felt guilty about the situation. And, this led to feelings of low self-esteem. But with time, his counselors and houseparents were able to help him feel loved and valued. At sixteen, he decided to pursue dual enrollment, which is taking college courses while finishing his high school education. One week before he was to graduate with his high school diploma, he had also earned an Associate of Arts degree as well.

Taylor'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 happy and healthy life.

We are appreciative of your congregation's recent gift of \$605.00. 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. We wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday.

Sincerely, Elisabeth Gadd, Vice President of Development

Thanks from Heart of Putnam Food Pantry

Dear Family of Christ:

Blessings on you all for your support of your local food pantry. We were blessed to receive 211# of food for redistribution on November 1 in plenty of time for the Thanksgiving holiday! Thanks to one and all for their love and generosity.

FYI, we have assisted 10,844 individuals representing 28,118 family members through November. Of this number, 10,718 were children, 710 were American Veterans, 2371 suffered some form of disability.

I join our board of directors, our all-volunteer staff, and of course, our clients in wishing you and your congregation a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Marilyn Young, Office Manager

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 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.



Working on crafts at
the Advent Workshop



The Kids' Klub Cantata

Wish a Happy Birthday to:

- 1st - Gail Cahan
- Allyson McKenzie
- 2nd - J. D. Azula
- 5th - Tina Huskey
- Austin Layman
- 9th - Betty Walston
- 10th - Brett Gross
- 11th - Preston Fields
- 13th - Rothe Simpson
- 14th - Tate West
- 17th - Whitly Woodard
- 18th - Rodney Sheffield
- 20th - Starr Douglas
- 22nd - Jessica Gross
- 23rd - Lindsey Hayes
- 27th - Troy Smith
- 29th - Austin Annis
- 30th - Eva Mankey
- Joyce Taylor

Anniversaries

- 22nd - Rodney & Cathy Sheffield

Christmas Treasure from Trash

You can make pretty Christmas ornaments from old Christmas cards.

You will need:

- * old Christmas cards
- * scissors
- * glue
- * 3" or 4" circle pattern (cut from cardboard or just trace a coffee cup)
- * hole punch
- * yarn and ribbon
- * glitter
- * trims — rick-rack, ribbon, sequins, beads

How to do:

Trace the circle on two cards. Cut out and glue the backs of the cards together.

Decorate the edges of the cards with glue and glitter or scraps of ribbon.

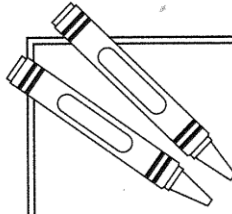
Punch a hole in the top.

Insert a piece of yarn or ribbon.

You may also make small ones for gift tags.

Just cut your circles smaller.

Leave the back white and write "To:" and "From:" on it.



Just for KIDS

Telling the Christmas Story

These words are all part of the Christmas story. First, find them in the puzzle below. Circle them. You may find them → ← ↗ ↘ ↙ ↚ ↛ ↜ ↝. There will be 12 letters that remain uncircled. Write them in the order found on the lines below. You will find a special Christmas message! Then use the words from the list to tell the story to someone!

joy	hay	men	inn	wise
Lord	star	baby	king	east
Mary	gold	angel	taxes	Jesus
sheep	myrrh	three	manger	Savior
donkey	Caesar	Joseph	birthday	Messiah
shepherds	frankincense	Bethlehem	Augustus	

B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	P	S	M	A	R	Y
I	A	N	G	E	L	E	G	O	L	D	E	C	A	E
R	C	B	J	S	M	Y	R	R	H	R	S	A	E	K
T	J	O	Y	E	H	E	T	S	A	E	S	E	M	N
H	T	A	X	E	S	E	N	O	I	H	I	S	A	O
D	A	G	N	I	K	U	E	N	N	P	A	A	N	D
A	E	Y	W	R	A	T	S	P	N	E	H	R	G	R
Y	A	U	G	U	S	T	U	S	T	H	R	E	E	O
F	R	A	N	K	I	N	C	E	N	S	E	A	R	L
R	O	I	V	A	S	R	T	H	J	O	S	E	P	H

“ _____ ”

Answer: Peace on Earth

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Epiphany Sunday</i> Sunday Schedule 9:15 a.m. – Sunday School 10:30 a.m. –Worship	2	3 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	4 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S.	5 10 a.m.–TLC Bible Study 7 p.m. – Share & Care Circle	6 <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	7
8	9	10 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	11 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. - Youth 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	12 10 a.m.–TLC Bible Study	13	14 8:30 a.m. – UMM Breakfast Meeting
15	16 9 a.m. – Wesley Ann Circle	17 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	18 10 a.m. – Ladies B.S. 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	19 10 a.m. – TLC Bible Study 7 p.m. – 2017 Calendar Set-up Meeting	20	21
22	23	24 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice	25 10 a.m. – Ladies B. S. 5 p.m. – Kids’ Klub 5 p.m. – Youth 7:15 p.m. – Chancel Choir Practice	26 10 a.m. – TLC Bible Study	27	28 District Leadership Training Event Activate Conference at Beach UM Church
29 5 th Sunday – Children’s Home Offering	30	31 7 p.m. – Bible Study 7 p.m. – Trinity Flame Practice				

