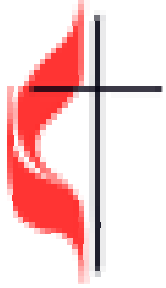


THE TIDINGS

Vol.9 Issue 2
April 2011



Trinity United Methodist Church

-Called by God—Creating Hope— Connecting People—Changing Lives

A Generous Life

encountered Jesus. One of my favorite stories is the one

The more I reflect on Jesus, the more I am convinced that he lived a completely generous life. Ultimately, he gave even his life on the cross and this has become the most powerful story of the Christian faith. However, the cross was not a single incident of generosity. The entirety of Jesus' life was a long sequence of generous gestures that had the power to save those people who opened themselves to his grace.

I shared the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus with the preschoolers in our Wednesday chapel service not long ago. Most of them knew it of course, but it never hurts to review. They sang with me the little song that has been offered up at Vacation Bible School for at least the past three generations. I bet you know how it goes: "Zacchaeus was a wee little man and a wee little man was he..." I spoke with the preschoolers about how Jesus loved everybody. One of the preschoolers responded "...but he didn't love the bad people!" I, of course, shared that Jesus especially loved the bad people and included those who felt ignored or despised – just like Zacchaeus. As we continued the story, I told how Jesus' love made all the difference in his life and how Zacchaeus immediately became a very generous man. The tax money he had taken from others to make himself rich, ...well, he gave it back!

It really is quite amazing to reflect on the stories in scripture about how people were changed as they

of Jesus meeting the woman at the well. Through his gracious inclusion, she was able to become a generous bearer of the good news in her city. She became an illustration of what Jesus meant when he said, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never thirst. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

By word and example, Jesus encouraged his followers to fill life with loving generosity in response to the abundant grace of God. Here at Trinity we should do all we can to continue to share this message. And, in fact, I celebrate that there are many here who understand this important principle and have committed themselves to it.

Let me encourage you to explore living a generous life. The way in which you and I give, directly affects the good that can be done in the name of Christ. We have the opportunity by our generosity to see new ministries ..."gushing up to eternal life!" During this season of Lent, take time to reflect on every aspect of your giving. Is it truly representative of who you are and what God has done for you?

Blessings!

Bill

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Trinity's Confirmation Class

Sunday, April 17, Trinity UMC will once again have the pleasure of confirming another group of wonderful young people. This will be a combined service at 11:00 in the Sanctuary, followed by a Congregational dinner in the Family Life Center. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will follow after in the yard outside. Please join us for this very special day and these extra special events.

Please keep the following young people in your hearts and prayers as they go through the next couple of days and weeks toward this very important time in their lives.

Aaron Tribble
Anastasia Quon
Andrew Rhonemus
Aylie Miller
Cameron Quon
David Gilbert
Daniel Brown
Emily Buehring
Emily Goggin
Erin Buehring
Jack Shope
James Griggers



Janelle Stewart
Jessica McLeod
Madison Smith
Megan Eader
Michael Buehring
Michaela Heide
Natalie Verhage
Payton Johnson
Sergei Quon
Taylor Oxyer
Tucker Brooks
Tyler Ammerman

13th Annual Jean Coleman Charity Golf Tournament benefiting Cherished Children Education Center will be held at Waterford Golf Club, Friday, May 6. Hole sponsorships, donated prizes/certificates, and teams all contribute to proceeds dedicated to paying the mortgage for the Center. Cherished Children is a day care program for low-income working families dedicated to "help families help themselves". Cost to play is \$50. Contact Carolyn or Dave Schomer, 922-2965, schomerc@bellsouth.net, or check out the Center's website at www.wrcherishedchildren.com and click on Events. We can also use volunteers that day beginning at 10:30 am if you would like to get an early start on one of our Save the World outreach projects.

The Jamaica Mission Team is still accepting team members in all areas, but especially in the areas of Children's Ministry and Construction! The cost for the trip is \$1000. The dates are June 3 - 11. Contact Toby Hill or Carolyn Schomer for more information.

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Designated Funds

-Mike Hatcher

These are the new "designated" fund descriptions which were recently presented by the Finance Committee and approved by the Church Council. This is the first step in our efforts to make this process more understandable, open and in compliance with IRS guidance. As we make more progress we will provide more information. Thanks to all the Trinity leaders, staff, and lay workers who helped us get it done.

Trinity/Miller School Partnership - (Miller is a neighborhood, Title I school). This fund is designated for purchase of school supplies and to show support and encouragement for students, faculty and staff.

Church Library - This fund is designated for upkeep of the library and to purchase books to keep the library's collection current and updated, as well as to purchase items necessary for the expansion and maintenance of the library (shelving, chairs, etc.).

Emmaus Table - This fund is designated for the serving of our weekly hot meal to the needy in our area. Monies are used to purchase supplies, staples and any needed item(s) to maintain the running of the soup kitchen.

Altar Flowers - This fund is designated for the purchase of flowers for the sanctuary altar.

Disaster Relief - This fund is designated for expenditures as teams and the church respond to natural disasters as defined by UMCOR.

Samaritan's Purse - (Christmas Child Shoe box Ministry). This fund is designated for the purchase of items and shipping for the shoe box ministry.

Food Pantry - This fund is designated for the purchase of food and other support items for the Food Pantry as well as to purchase and maintain equipment primarily used for Food Pantry purposes.

New Horizon's Youth Tour - This fund is designated for support of concert and Mission trips. Monies are used for travel, food, and other needs of the choir and chaperones.

Hand Bells - This fund is designated for purchasing, repairing, and upkeep of the hand bells and associated equipment. This fund is also used to defray costs of trips of bell choir members to perform concerts.

Prime Timers - This fund is designated for costs associated with Trinity's Prime Timers. This may include, but is not limited to, the cost of outings, speakers, entertainment, and meals.

Scholarship Fund - This fund is designated for annual distribution of scholarships to Trinity's college applicants.

Prayer Garden - This fund is intended to be used for the maintenance of the Prayer Garden including, but not limited to, the replacement of plantings and materials and repair of garden.

Praise Band - This fund is designated for expenses directly related to Trinity's Praise Band.

Mission Fund - This fund is designated for collection of monies from various fundraisers, including Miracle Saturday and Taste of Trinity, until they are disbursed.

Kairos Prison Ministry - This fund is designated to purchase supplies and pay expenses necessary for the Kairos Prison Ministry.

Hinton Mission - This fund is designated for supplies and equipment as well as travel expenses of team members and other expenses.

Family Dinners - This fund is designated for expenses pertaining to Family Dinners at Trinity including Wednesday Night Suppers.

CLC Mortgage - This fund is designated for payments on the bank loan for Trinity's CLC building.

Endowment Fund - This fund is designated to collect endowed donations for the purpose of accruing earnings on those funds for the benefit of Trinity. Eighty percent of the earnings may be disbursed annually upon the recommendation of the Endowment Committee, with the remaining twenty percent being reinvested to accrue earnings.

Agape Fund - This fund is designated to disburse monies for emergency financial needs of individuals and families in the community.

Jamaica Mission - This fund is designated for supplies and equipment as well as travel expenses of team members and other expenses.

Trustees Contingency - This fund is designated for use by the Trustees to maintain/support the church property and facilities. Specifically targeted for those "unknown/unknowns" which may be outside the budgeted or planned expenses.

SPLOST - This fund is designated to meet five specific facility needs beyond the planned budget as identified by the Trustees. It is a time (ends 2012) limited campaign targeting donations "over-and-above" regular giving.

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Finance Forum

-Mike Hatcher
mksrocket@cox.net

Our financial results as of the end of March 2011 are as follows:

	<u>March</u>	<u>YTD</u>
General Fund Mo Budget Need:	\$ 66,232	\$ 198,696
General Fund Receipts:	\$ 53,549	\$ 191,204
General Fund Expenses;	\$ 63,846	\$ 180,407
Net Result	(\$ 10,297)	\$ 10,797

While his month's receipts were significantly lower than our needs or expenses we are still in the black due to the combination the later timing of some of the planned expenses and the positive balances from January and February. We are in relatively better shape than in the past at this time of the year. Traditionally, the May through August time period is the one which has caused the most concern but entering that period in a positive financial position is what we are looking for.

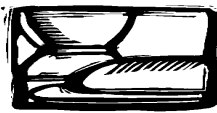
That will take your continued support and a renewed emphasis on holding down our expenses – especially the energy costs. As energy prices rise, we will need to be more careful to manage air conditioning, lighting and other energy uses to allow us to keep the missions of the church well funded.

The SPLOST campaign has been given a tremendous boost by the news from a recent examination of the

remaining roofs requiring repair. One of our members was able to get a roofing material manufacturer and distributor to conduct an infrared scan of the roofs to better determine the extent of repair required. This provided more confidence in the actual cost before the roof work began. Rather than having to price the job at “worst or most probable case” we can now get a much more accurate (and, in our case, less expensive) cost. Our Trustees now believe we can accomplish complete repair of the remaining roof work for around half the original estimate. With this news and your recent response to the request for donations to SPLOST the Trustees will be moving forward on these goals very soon. I hope we can soon bring you the news that we have accomplished all the goals we had with SPLOST before the end of this year.

Thank you all for your generosity and continued support of Trinity and it's work promoting God's word and kingdom.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 17th- Palm Sunday
8:30am, 11:00am (combined)
Luncheon & Egg Hunt

April 18th, 19th, 20th-Lesson
& Lunch @ noon

April 21st- Maundy Thursday
Communion Service @ 6:45pm

April 24th-Easter Services @
7am, 8:30am, 11am (combined)
Sunday School-9:45am

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Trinity Hobby and Craft Fair

-Roger Boan
rboan@cox.net

While visiting the Biltmore Estate in Asheville recently we were struck by the marvelous work in wood, stone, ceramic and fabric. We then visited several other centers for hand crafted works. All of this reminded us that we have seen comparable work here in our community. That led to the thought that we should have a fair that would highlight such crafts. There are others with talents that they simply call hobbies. So regardless of whether you see yourself as a hobbyist, technician, craftsman, or artisan come out and share your talent.

This Fair will offer our everyone an opportunity to sell some of their wares, teach others about a hobby or talent, demonstrate a skill, learn a new skill, or simply gain an appreciation for an art, a hobby, a talent, or even a game.

This means that we need people involved. There are 27 booths that will be for rent to sell products. There will be a dozen or more classrooms in use to teach a skill or game, there will be entertainment, and refreshments, and even a class for small children. Classes will follow several themes: music or dance, games, gardening, needlework, art, and food. If you have a topic not listed here, what should we consider adding?

Can you teach a one hour class that will fit into one of the themes? What class would you like to see added under a theme? We have topics such as teach how to play Bunko and Dominoes, teach how to create a compost pile or how to trim trees or care for roses, or learn a few basic chords on the guitar. Any interest in digital photography? Manipulation of digital photographs? Should we have a seed and plant exchange? Care to start a community garden? Can you teach garden design? Interested in making Jam or Jelly? Line dancing anyone? One stroke painting? Painting on glass?

In April, we need two things for the Fair – (1) anyone with some old sheets is asked to donate them to the Fair so that we can use them to mark off each sales booth and (2) we need ideas on topics to offer and topics that you can teach. Contact Tammy Miller at tgml@bellsouth.net or Roger Boan at rboan@cox.net and let us know how you can help. Contact us (Tammy at 929-8092 and Roger at 929-0769) if you just want to talk about the Fair to get a better understanding. In May we will provide more details on classes and specific help needed on Fair day.

From the Hospitality Committee:

March 30th was Birthday Night! Winners for the drawing were:

Adults: Kathy Watters

Youth: Bailey Overcash

Those who were not at the Wednesday supper missed good food and even better fellowship!

The Cat in the Hat made a special appearance at Trinity Preschool on Friday, March 4th! The children enjoyed a special story time together and of course some green *eggs and ham*!



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Change the World

-Lori Overcash
overcash6@cox.net

An Invitation to Participate

Saturday, May 7, Trinity will kick off Change the World Week with its "One Step At A Time 5K Run / Walk". The 5K begins around the church and circles our neighborhood area – we are hoping to make this an annual event and hope that even if you have never participated in an event like this before, that you will come out and walk with us. The event will begin and end at Trinity UMC, 129 S Houston Road, Warner Robins.

This event will be used as a fundraiser for our Annual Conferences "Imagine No Malaria" Campaign to eliminate malaria deaths in Africa by 2015. We are encouraging everyone to challenge the members of your Sunday School class, various clubs and organizations to Run, Walk or Volunteer! Registration forms can be found throughout the church or on the Trinity website at www.trinity-methodist.org. Contact Marie Goggin at mariegoggin@att.net should you have any questions.



We will also have a Biking for Bibles event for our children 12 and under in the front parking lot beginning at 11:00 after the 5k. The children are encouraged to bring their bikes, trikes, big wheels or wagons and circle the parking lot. Sponsorship forms are

available in the Children's Building. If you have any questions, contact Angie Sams at angela.sams@hcbe.net.

So me time during the week, we would also like every member of Trinity to participate in at least one of the many service projects happening during that week. Each day, throughout the week, various projects will be offered for you to participate in to change our neighborhood, our community and our world. These projects include picking up trash, planting azaleas at a nursing home, a building project for an elderly widow, packing for the Jamaica Mission team, helping Cherished Children, NAMI, Memorial Terrace and so many others.

Right now, the Change the World committee is looking for site projects and managers to organize projects. If you have projects you would like to see done or would like to assist with any of the projects currently being offered, please contact the Change the World Committee at tumcinformation@gmail.com.

We are also in need of sponsors for Change the World. Sponsorship applications are being accepted through April 7. There are 3 sponsorship levels, each offering the sponsors different opportunities to appear on the 5K t-shirts, tote bags and advertisements. Contact person – Melanie Brooks at mealanie.brooks@gmail.com.

Our youth will be having a 30-Hour Famine beginning Friday, May 13 through Saturday, May 14. They are encouraging each of us to participate with them to bring attention to those starving around our nation and our world. Please support them both fiscally and physically in this effort. You should speak to any member of our Trinity Youth if you have any questions about this endeavor.

Finally, the week will culminate with a Neighborhood Block Party on Sunday, May 15 on our front lawn with music, food, and fun. We will have Sumo-wrestling, slides, jumpers, and more. For information, contact Laura Dills at laura10583@gmail.com

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Our Church Family at Home

-Uplift these friends in your prayers and with cards and phone calls

Church Home for the Aged

2470 Hwy 41 North
Fort Valley, GA 31030

Gladys Rissmann
Jewel McGarity

Summer's Landing

608 Kimberly Road ~ 31088

Alice Reese
Margaret Poole, Apt. 1B
Jean and Sam Hendry, Apt 66

Summerhill Assisted Living Community

500 Stanley Drive, Perry 31069

Nell Posey ~ Veranda East Room 13

Willow Creek Assisted Living

Bldg.1 ~1900 Macon Road Perry, GA 31069

Linda Averett

Carlyle Place

5300 Zebulon Road
Macon, GA 31210

Roger Fulling

Homebound

Billie Curry
320 Bernard Drive ~ 31093

Shirley Matthews
421 Woodland Drive ~ 31088

Mae Kincaid
319 Oakview Square ~ 31093
Jim Kincaid—Dublin VA Hospital

Ruth Wehrmeyer
111 Pearce Drive ~ 31093

Billie Meaders
109 Ginny Drive ~ 31093

Continue to update this list by emailing theunderwoods1@cox.net

Deployed Active Duty Military

Kevin Parker—son of Eileen and Walt Parker
Jeff Dorsey (Afghanistan) nephew of June and Eddie Underwood
Troy Maskell - grandson of Nancy and Bill Birdsell
Stephen Kelly (Afghanistan) son of Connie and Ken Adkins
Wayne Smith (Basic Training) Hammakers
Major James B. Phillips, Jr. (Iraq) Mitt Team US Army
Jason Thaggard (Iraq) nephew of Shelby Snow
Joshua Green (Iraq) nephew of Stacy Green (Trinity Preschool Teacher)
Drew Daniels (Afghanistan) son of David and Marylou Daniels

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