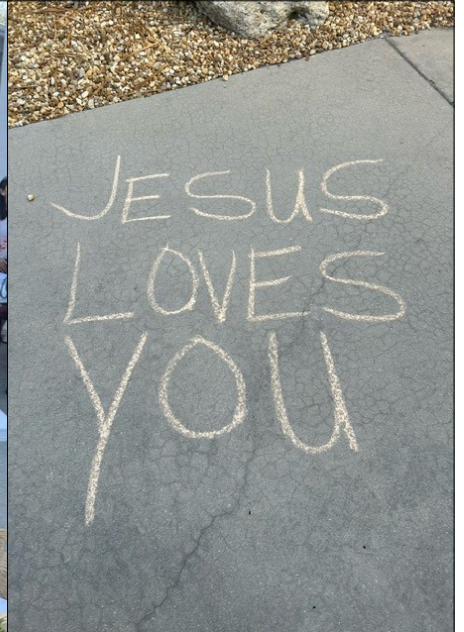


The ACORN

Vol. 4 Trinity United Methodist Church, Sarasota, FL April 2024

EASTER AT TRINITY



Easter Brunch was beautiful AND delicious!

Thank you to all who donated food, the helpers, and especially Beatty Shipley, Stephen Hoffman, and Tyeann Dillon who hosted the event! Thank you Becki, for the FLOWERS

Thank you to Kristy Compton for taking the pictures for our Before/After Jesus video; Joy Jones and Stephen Hoffman for action pictures during Easter Sunday at Trinity.

Connection Worship

Our 9 AM worship has a new name and new format - CONNECTION!

This is a relaxed, interactive worship experience for everyone of all ages led by Russ Towery and Pastor Linda.

We look forward to seeing you! Due to this new format this service will not be online for the time being.



Finance Team

Thank you Trinity members and friends for responding to our recent letter communicating status of our income and expenses.

Some of us have responded favorably with questions because we had no idea. Some have responded with Second Mile gifts and stepped up offering. Thank you.

All such responses are appreciated. Following Resurrection Day, let us all be renewed as witnesses to the Risen Christ and generous stewards of our resources.

Abundant Blessings,

Carroll Hatfield

Finance

Staff Parish Relations

Covid was detrimental to many churches as people did not return to congregations after restrictions were lifted. The result in this post-covid time is that churches have to adjust to a new reality.

One of the realities for Trinity is painful in that the decision has been made to eliminate a staff position to reflect a smaller congregation needs and finances.

At the end of April, the Congregational Care position will be absorbed by the pastor and volunteers. This has been a difficult decision and in no way reflects on the outstanding job done by Tyeann Dillon. We are grateful for her passion caring for this congregation in the two years she has been here. This decision was made to help the church be stronger as we go forward doing the ministry God has called us to do.

There will be a reception in Tyeann's honor after church on the 28th when you can share your gratitude with her.

WOTO & LLL

Women on Their Own & Ladies Lunch Lift

April 15, 2024

Women on Their Own will join Ladies Lunch Lift Monday, April 15, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. This month we will try a new location, Bonefish Grill at 3971 South Tamiami Trail. It's a local contemporary grill chain offering a seafood-centric menu, plus steaks, chicken and cocktails.

Reservations are necessary. Text Mary Raymond at 941-914-1002 or call Church office

Hope to see lots of ladies there!

Trinity Believes in Empowering Youth

Trinity made the decision to join the SW district Zoe Empowers in which we are committed to supporting a Zoe Empowerment Group in Kenya for the next three years. We recently received the name of our group and the names and ages of the youth! Our group's name is Blessing Kaene Empowerment Group. The youth pick their own group name. The first part is their self-description and the second is a reference to their location to distinguish between other Zoe groups. The ages of the orphaned and vulnerable children in this program range between infant and college age, however, the youth who is the head of the household must be old enough to manage a small business and so is usually between 14 and 21 years old. Often the household includes an elderly grandparent, single parent or disabled caregiver, but this caregiver is unable to provide adequate food, education, health care or other necessities. These children are especially vulnerable to abuse and/or having their child rights disregarded.

Before an empowerment family group is created, Zoe staff members take time to get to know the youth. They make home visits to record information about the children, their dependents and any caregivers in the picture. They assess if any emergency interventions are required to alleviate health issues, abusive conditions or inadequate shelter. Once they have confirmed who is eligible and committed for the Zoe program, a name list is created. The youth are encouraged and strengthened by the knowledge that their church partner is not only supporting them with resources, but also with prayer and in the belief that they are capable of great things.

Pictures of the children in the group supported by our church and the SW district are posted on the bulletin board in Haley. Take a look at our Kenya family and begin praying for them! Thanks for being a church that cares!

General Conference of The United Methodist Church

General Conference – April 23- May 3

- What is General Conference? The deciding legislative body of the United Methodist Church that meets every 4 years. Delegates from around the world – ½ laity and ½ clergy – spend 10 days in committees and plenary sessions voting on resolutions that have been received from United Methodists around the world. This determines the legislation of the church for the next four years.
- Over 5000 people will be gathering in Charlotte, NC and 862 delegates that were elected in 2019 will vote. (Note: due to the pandemic 2020 GC was postponed so this technically is 2020 which may sound confusing. A determination will be made on when and how to hold the 2024 GC at this meeting.)
- Although no one knows what resolutions will make it through committees to come to plenary floor, the expectation is that there will be four areas that resolutions will be grouped around – Regionalization (US becoming its own region), Revised social standards (2012 GC set a group to revise, update social principles based on scripture, tradition, reason and Christian experience), Harmful language (adjustments in language use in areas of polygamy, homosexuality, and other areas), Budget (a major reduction for budget to empower local churches).
- Most voting will require majority vote. A constitutional vote to change structure will require a 2/3s vote of General Conference and then will go to all worldwide Annual Conferences for a 2/3 vote as well.

This is a quick overview. I invite you to go to flumc.org and watch the excellent video prepared by Bishop Berlin and others to give an overview of what General Conference is and how to understand what is happening. It is very good. Also, you can watch General conference online. The committee sessions aren't available, but all plenary voting sessions are. It is a wonderful glimpse of the excitement, complexity and diversity of the worldwide church in action.

Finally, there will be news coverage of General Conference. Please make sure you are listening to accurate accounts of voting and events. Outside groups are already putting distorted spins on conference. You can see daily updates and news briefs online at the conference webpage (flumc.org) or the United Methodist webpage (umc.org). Pastor Linda is also available and willing to answer questions.



Foster Parent Appreciation Basket Drive:

UMW Unit participated in this event organized by Save Children Coalition here in Sarasota. Thank you to Evelyn Miller for making the basket and to Carol Harris for delivering it.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO LUNCH OR DINNER???

UMWWomen are hosting a great fellowship event in April. Church members, UMW members, friends and neighbors are invited to gather for lunch or dinner in various members' homes. Hosts provide lunch or dinner for a specific number of guests. You can make your choice at a special table on Sunday April 7th and 14. or in the church office during the week. Cost: Lunch: \$10 per person, Dinner: \$15 per person Payment is collected at sign up. All income will go into the UMW treasury be used for their mission to women, children. Here are the hosts – sign up soon!



GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

Fri. April 12, Dinner 6 pm Host: Evelyn Miller 4444 Rum Cay Circle Menu: Chicken Dinner

Wed. April 17 Lunch noon Host: Sherrill Carr 8901 Veranda Way Unit 125 Menu: Lasagna

Thurs. April 18, Lunch noon Hosts: Evelyn Miller & Ellie Lyons 4444 Rum Cay Circle Menu: Chicken Salad

Thurs. April 18, Dinner 6 pm Hosts: Becki Creighton & Ian Bland 3963 Berlin Drive. Sorry – already filled

Sat. April 20 Dinner 5:30 pm Hosts: George & Ruby Cook 9432 Glen Abby Lane Menu: Something Yummy

Sun. April 21, Dinner 5 pm Host: Beatty Shipley, 8633 Sundance Loop Menu: Turkey

United Methodist Women Precious Purses Project



PRECIOUS PURSES COMPLETED AND DELIVERED!

Pictures of the three circles with the purses and delivery. The purses were blessed in worship on March 17, then delivered March 18 to SPARCC and Selah Freedom who both serve women in crisis. They were so appreciative of the filled purses because handing a pretty purse with basics a woman needs is truly a gift. Thank you to all who donated to and helped with this outreach project.

Pastor's Page

I'm still smiling from Easter Sunday. It was uplifting to celebrate Jesus' resurrection with hearts that were open to receiving our living Lord, smiles that were welcoming to others and voices singing with gusto 'Christ the Lord is risen today!'

Everyone did a great job on the wave in worship! But the key as we look forward is not the wave which can only happen in a self-contained room or facility. The key to Jesus' resurrection is that it was the spark to a 'Jesus Explosion!' We are all part of that explosion that shares the energy and excitement of Easter morning with everyone both in the sanctuary and beyond.

The challenge for each of us is not to get lulled into the look forward to summer mindset. No, the challenge is to ask ourselves what else can I do to build on that excitement for Jesus from Easter? How can I experience the living Christ daily? What can I do that will help others see the living Christ who makes a difference? People want to invest themselves in ways that they see make a difference. Jesus has made a difference for over 2000 years! How can each one of us help the Jesus Explosion continue?

This is an exciting time for faith communities believe it or not. There are people right by us wanting more, wanting to connect to life again as we find new normals in a post covid society. Ministers have been talking with each other about a different energy witnessed at Easter this year.

People are ready to move ahead and Jesus is certainly part of that! The key for looking ahead is not doing so with the eyes of the past, but rather being open to envisioning new ways of gathering for Jesus. So let's continue the excitement as we listen to God and see opportunities to EXPLODE for JESUS as we move forward. What is God placing on your heart as we think outside of the box with God's vision?

Easter Blessings!
Linda



Bible Study

Pastor Linda invites you to a six week Bible Study on Ephesians starting Tuesday, April 9th at 2:00 in the Mary Hill room. All you need is your Bible and curiosity to learn!



New Member Class

Are you ready to be a member of Trinity UMC? Pastor Linda will meet with anyone interested in talking about making that commitment to this church on Sunday, April 21st at 2:00 in the church of-

Centering Prayer Group

“Inhabit the Garden” Centering Prayer Group

Our Centering Prayer Group continues to be grateful to Trinity UMC for hosting us. In last month's *Acorn* we pictured our new brick before and after it was placed in the Garden of Hope. Carroll Hatfield kindly placed the brick not only where we can see it when we meet to gather in a circle each Friday morning but also to urge any visitors to inhabit the garden in prayer. The brick's inscription is the affirmation: “For God alone my soul waits in silence” (Psalm 62:1).

For this edition of the *Acorn* our group, before we dispersed from our circle of prayer, posed for photos as we stood behind our new brick. Coming from six different denominations, each person present appreciates the beautiful setting that this garden offers for our prayer time together. Often our group enjoys the presence of Tyeann Dillon and Cathy Tjaden from Trinity UMC. I'm sorry that these pictures were taken on a day when we missed them.

From mid-April through the end of May, Stephen and I will be on our annual sojourn to the UK, but the group will continue to meet at 8.30 am every Friday. We always welcome newcomers. Please bring your folding lawn chair to gather in a circle in the Garden of Hope. In rainy weather or if the temperature is below 60 we meet in the Wesley room. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Stephen and Christine Hoffman at 941-773-7008.



Garden of Hope walkway Bricks

Anyone can order memorial and Bricks of honor for placement in the Garden of Hope.

The order forms are in Haley Hall. 4" x 8" bricks with printed dedication are \$125.

Complete form and return to church office with payment.

Community Connection

Thanks to all the generous donors at Trinity, as well as our neighbors, and the faithful volunteers who serve at the Food Drive! On 3/16/24 we received 202 pounds of food for Church of the Palms. We had received notice from Remnant Cafe about certain needs for the month and put this info out to our Trinity congregation. As always, they came through in abundance as you can see from the picture below! We delivered 129 Razors, 25 Deodorants, 100 pairs of Socks, 2 boxes of Tampons, 4 bottles of aspirin, lotions, 1 blanket, assorted toothpaste and brushes, lots of combs, hairbrushes and hair accessories. Mary Weaver said when she delivered them, the ladies were so thrilled and grateful with our donations.

Please come to **our next Food Drive on 4/20/24** to volunteer, drop off sustainable food products or items for Remnant Cafe. You may also drop off items in the kitchen or office beforehand, or donate money by writing a check to TUMC and notate for "Food Drive." This ministry is an important way Trinity helps its neighbors in need.

Matt 25:35-36, 40 "For I was hungry and you fed me...I was naked and you gave me clothing...And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to the one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'"



Monthly Mission Moments

Our monthly mission moments for March and April are designed to honor and thank our First Responders and Sheriffs Deputies. If you have ever had to call 911 due to an emergency health crisis or someone trying to break into your home, etc., you know how much we depend on them at times of crisis.

In March we filled 70 gallon freezer bags with donated granola bars, crackers, candy, peanuts, popcorn bags, small waters and juice boxes and other snacks. We also collected bags of coffee, creamers, and condiments as they cook at the fire stations during their long shifts. These items will be delivered to the stations with a blessing of protection, and pictures of firetrucks and thanks drawn by our preschoolers.

In April, we are collecting the following items for our Sarasota County

Sheriff's deputies: Individually bagged Granola or energy bars, popcorn, potato chip or pretzel bags, small waters, small juice boxes, crackers and cheese, peanut butter and cheese, nuts, small hard candy, candy bars, fruit snacks, jerky—basically any smaller snack. You can put these item on the Community Connections table in Haley.

Our next Community Connections gathering is on Saturday April 20th at 10:30 after our Food Drive. Come help plan our next mission moments and other events!

5-Day Bible Reading Program April

Read the entire Bible, or just the New Testament, in 2024.

This special Bible reading system allows you to read the entire Bible (or just the New Testament) in one year while only reading 5 times a week. Five readings a week gives room to catch up or take a day off to focus on other Bible reading or spiritual disciplines and makes daily Bible reading practical and do-able.

Week 14 Mar 31 — April 6

- Joshua 14-17; Luke 17
- Joshua 18-21; Psalm 15; Luke 18
- Joshua 22-24; Psalm 116; Luke 19
- Judges 1-3; Psalm 16; Luke 20
- Judges 4-6; Luke 21

Week 15 April 7—13

- Judges 7-8; Luke 22
- Judges 9-11; Psalm 17; Luke 23
- Judges 12-16; Psalm 146; Luke 24
- Judges 17-18; Psalm 21; Acts 1
- Judges 19-21; Acts 2

Week 16 April 14-20

- Ruth 1-2; Acts 3
- Ruth 3-4; Psalm 37; Acts 4
- 1 Samuel 1-2; Psalm 120; Acts 5
- 1 Samuel 3-5; Psalm 23; Acts 6
- 1 Samuel 6-8; Acts 7

Week 17 April 21-27

- 1 Samuel 9-10; Acts 8
- 1 Samuel 11-13; Psalm 38; Acts 9
- 1 Samuel 14; Psalm 124; Acts 10
- 1 Samuel 15-16; 1 Chronicles 1; Psalm 39; Acts 11
- 1 Samuel 17; 1 Chronicles 2; Acts 12

More Easter Pictures



Check out the “Trinity Easter Wave” on our Facebook page or YouTube. Just click on the Traditional Worship Video for March 31st.

PRAYERS....

What an honor it is to lift up our church family in prayer. One of the greatest privileges of Christian life is the opportunity to pray. If you would like to be a part of the new Prayer Team, please let Tyeann Tyeann@trinity.org or Phyllis phyllispritchett@hotmail.com know. If you have a prayer request for the Team, contact either Tyeann or Phyllis.

Please lift extra prayers for:

Kay Anthofer, Lucy Athas, Barb Ellsworth, John Ellsworth, Karyn Eubanks, Norma Fryer, L.J. Gibbs, Brenda Lee Hickman, Revella Lee, Bev Packer, Marie Piraino, Phyllis Pritchett, Rhonda Puhaly, Mary Raymond, Dawn Sutton, Joan Utter, Marilyn Williams, Miriam Williams, Owen Woodyard, Pat Woodyard.

Prayers for Miriam Williams on the death of her husband, Ron on March 20, 2024. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at Trinity on May 25th.

Prayers for Phyllis Pritchett and family on the death of our beloved Wendall on March 27th. A Celebration of his life will be held at Trinity on Saturday, April 13th, 10 am. Reception to follow.

Prayers are with the friends and family of Ethel Paki who died on March 28th.

Prayers are with Beverly Quesnel on the death of her husband Omer Quesnel.

Prayers are with Laurie Ward on the death of her sister, Connie Cass.

Also please pray for our military family: Tanner Holly, Gunnar Kral, Joshua Marsh, Dylan Mitchell, Brandon Oberkamp, Audrey Santana, Craig Scott, Devin Voyles, Dylan Youngblood.
Note: please let us know if any of the above are no longer in the military service.

Gulf Coast Community Chorus



Saturday, April 14th 4PM

Trinity Sanctuary

A Musical Journey through the Ages

Tickets \$20 donation
(Children under 12 \$10)

For tickets, see Evelyn Miller or Dave Korty
or Michele Carroll 917/406-0287

Trinity Friends are invited to attend for free the rehearsal for this concert on Saturday, April 14, 3pm

Creation Care Ministry



April 22, 2024

Earth Day is an annual celebration that honors the achievements of the environmental movement and raises awareness of the need to protect Earth's natural resources for future generations. The first Earth Day was held April 22, 1970.

Honor and celebrate our remarkable planet. Earth day is a reminder of the importance of environmental conservation and sustainability, encouraging us to come together and take action for a healthier planet and better future.

Suggestions:

- Plant a tree or Bee-loving flowers.
- Eliminate single-use plastics from your homes and work places (and churches).
- Join a clean-up team (beaches, parks, neighborhoods)
- Read and learn the many ways you can help protect God's planet.

Submitted by Karen Remfrey

Warren Willis Summer Camp



Experience a high-energy, life changing week for rising 4th grade through 12th grade students. Make lifelong friendships and unforgettable memories on beautiful Lake Griffin near Leesburg, Florida. Talk with Russ about summer camp scholarships and any questions you may have.

April Birthdays

Marilyn Tranbarger 4/3

Carroll Hatfield 4/5

Stephen Cook 4/6

Ginny Lints 4/8

Roy Cowles 4/10

Sandy Thayer 4/10

Pam Pierce 4/13

Tom Thayer 4/13

Leon Milner 4/17

James Martin 4/19

Nancy Smith 4/19

Marilyn Williams 4/19

Jim Martin 4/19

Jan Robertson 4/22

Brenda Moore 4/23

Stephen Hoffman 4/25

Addisyn Schweid 4/27

Henry Lee 4/27



April Anniversaries

Trent & Pam Rader 4/2

Don & Janet Waldron 4/12



**Trinity
United Methodist Church**



Trinity – Sarasota
a United Methodist Church

4150 S. Shade Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34231

Tel: 941-924-7756

Email: trinity@iTrinity.org

www.iTrinity.org

Join us Sunday at 9:00am or 10:30am for In-Person Worship or Live-streaming
Worship on Facebook.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TrinityUMCSarasota/>

Or watch the recording anytime on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCu8ri4OChHWMbbJt3rgfRLg>

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Linda Tice
Traditional Worship Director: LaTerry Butler
Congregational Care Coordinator: Tyeann Dillon
Director of Children/Youth Ministry: Russell Towery
Sound/Light Board: Adria Pike
Projections Board: Sebastian Girstl

Business Administration: Jack Hundley
Secretary: Karen Remfrey
Preschool Director: Brooke Brayton
Preschool Teachers: Glenna Schrock, Wanda Butler;
Abigail Gonzalez

The Mission of Trinity United Methodist Church: Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World