

The ACORN

Vol. 7 Trinity United Methodist Church, Sarasota, FL July 2024



Blessing Kaene Empowerment Group (and their siblings), Kenya. 25 Households and a total of 99 children. Partnered with South West District of the Florida United Methodist Church.



Pastor Linda was privileged to visit our Zoe Empowers family group we will support for the next three years. They are lovely and so excited to know that Trinity is praying for them every day!

Pastor Linda shared the cards Trinity and other churches of the SW District prepared for them.

Pastor's Page

July is a month in which we are reminded of the privilege to live in this great country. So often we take it for granted or get bogged down in griping and complaining about how we want things to be different. We celebrate freedom, a key aspect that this country was founded on. Freedom to have a voice in our government, freedom to gripe and complain, but also freedom to use our voice to make a difference. Our country was founded on the principle that every person's voice was important.

Christian freedom is the same. Jesus has freed us from the power of sin not so we can do what we want, but allowing us to live a life of righteousness and holiness. We have been given such a wonderful gift in freedom of choice that we can live the way Jesus calls us to live and not the way we want to live. **Gal. 5:1, 6b says – It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm then and do not let yourselves be burdened by the yoke of slavery. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.** The Bible encourages people to use that freedom for the good of others as seen in the love of Christ.

So as we celebrate our country, let's also celebrate the choice we have to share the love of Christ with others. Why do we do it? Because Christ loves us! Does that ever sink in, the power of Christ's love in your life? That no matter what you do or have done, Jesus has freed each of us from the yoke of the sin we may carry and calls us to use that energy to share Jesus with others in our actions and words. It is difficult to remember sometimes in election years or times of differing opinions, but through Christ each one of us has a voice right now to make a difference around us in the love of Jesus. Let the fireworks of celebration burst out into the world around us that Jesus' love is real!

Blessings,
Linda

Worship in July and August

We continue sermon series – The Major hits from Minor Prophets

7/7 – Micah

7/14 – Zephariah

7/21 – Joel

7/28 – 8/18 – Olympics for Christ

7/28 – Champions for Christ

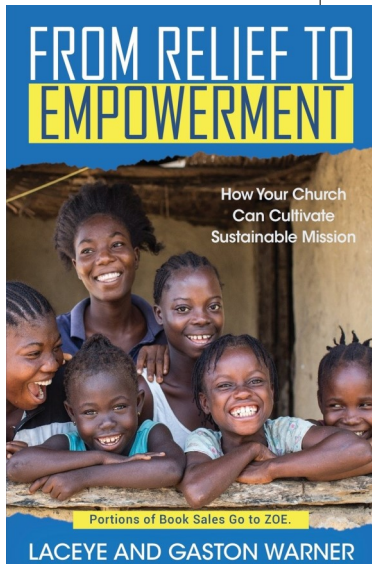
8/4 – Racing For Christ

8/11 – Winning For Christ

8/18 – Living For Christ

8/25 – Psalm 84 – Better is One Day!

See you in worship! Invite a friend!



Pastor's August Book Club

We will be reading the book From Relief to Empowerment by Gaston Warner. This book tells the story of Zoe Empowers, but also asks us to think about what it means to be in help to others – do we enable or empower? Dates to be announced for discussion times. Note: a percentage of this book purchase goes to Zoe Empowers.

Florida Annual Conference

I attended my first annual conference this year and was excited by the energy and vitality consistent with the theme 'Come, Holy Spirit, Come.' The plenary sessions were informative and I was honored to be able to help serve Communion. I also enjoyed the exhibits of our ministries including Blessed Be the Ties. That Bind against racism and Residing Hope—the new name of the United Methodist Children's Home - Brenda Moore



Stewardship

During the pandemic our access and our gatherings were reduced. This reduced our fellowship, our worship, and our stewardship. We made certain that Trinity's online giving / donation connection remained secure. It is still secure and a number of us use this site for regular offering and for special gifts and giving. While our overall income from tithes and offerings does not match our total expenses, your generosity continues to make the difference.

Trinity is a healthy, growing and relevant congregation of believers and our next seventy six years are promising because of you.

Thank you for demonstrating your faith in the Risen Christ by giving of your time, your resources, and your money.

Abundant Blessings,

Carrol Hatfield and The Finance Team

Connect Worship



Everyone is invited to our new Connect Worship Service at 9am on Sunday mornings.

Join us as we celebrate Jesus through psalms and prayer, the Lord's Supper, and relevant teaching from the Bible. Children and families are invited for fun and games in the Youth Room before and after the service.

Can you Help?

Visitation Team

Do you enjoy visiting members of the church? A new visitation team is being formed to assist Pastor Linda in visits to our at home members. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact her. If you make regular visits to one of our at home members please let her know who you visit.

Sunday Coffee Hour

Do you enjoy a cup of coffee or juice after worship on Sundays in Haley Hall? Maybe a little snack? Volunteers are responsible for putting out the snacks and cleaning up afterwards. Coffee and juice will be available, but unless YOU volunteer, we will not have snacks available. The sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board. We also need a coffee hour coordinator who can keep track of supplies needed and organizing the hosts sign up.

Communion preparation

Volunteers are needed to prepare communion on Sunday mornings the first Sunday of the month. This involves putting prepared trays (pouring juice into chalices) on the table in the sanctuary and cleaning them up after worship. Please contact Pastor Linda if you are willing to help.



Community Connection



Thank you, again, to our church and neighbors for their continued donations to the ministries that help those in need of food, clothes and basic care items. Thanks also to our volunteers Brenda, Carroll, Steve, Marsha, Mary, Ray, Karen and Brad.

On June 17, we collected 109 pounds of food for the Church of the Palms and toiletry items and clothing for Remnant Cafe. Cash received at our drive through for the Church of Palms Food Pantry and Remnant Cafe was \$425.

Our next Food Drive is July 20 at 9:00am and you can come help sort, weigh, and box food, drive through with a food donation, or donate food, clothes and toiletry items

ahead of time in the office or kitchen. You may also donate money by writing a check to TUMC and note for 'Food Drive.'

Isaiah 58:7: "Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them..."

July Monthly Mission

Thanks to everyone for the June donations to honor men at Remnant Cafe. One of the male clients, who came out recently to carry items to their donation room, told Mary Weaver how much they appreciate every single item.

In July we will collect donations for Phillipi Shores Elementary School. Below is a list of needed items:

Box of #2 pencils
Highlighters
(Pink pearl-type) large erasers
Pack of glue sticks
Dry erase markers
Box of 24 Crayola crayons
Pack of 12 Crayola colored pencils
Wide ruled Composition books
Spiral notebooks
Box of markers
Box of gallon Ziploc baggies

Mission Moment

Trinity members and friends, we have created an additional local ministry involving the **All Faiths Food Bank**. For four years, Trinity has had a monthly food and care collection supporting the food distribution of Church of Palms and for Remnant Café which provides meals, showers and other support for the homeless community. Our community Food collection will continue.

Interest has been expressed about our volunteering individually and as a group on-site at All Faiths Food Bank.

We now have specific information to share with those of you who are interested. Trinity's primary contacts regarding this are Brenda Moore, chair of our Community Connection team and Carroll Hatfield, Trinity member. Consider this opportunity prayerfully as we serve others through Christ.

5-Day Bible Reading Program July and August

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 27 June 30-July 6

1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chronicles 9; 1 Timothy 6
Ecclesiastes 1-3; Psalm 45; 2 Timothy 1
Ecclesiastes 4-6; Psalm 125; 2 Timothy 2
Ecclesiastes 7-9; Psalm 46; 2 Timothy 3
Ecclesiastes 10-12; 2 Timothy 4

Week 32 August 4-August 10

Hosea 1-3; Matthew 16
Hosea 4-6; Psalm 58; Matthew 17
Hosea 7-10; Matthew 18
Hosea 11-13; Matthew 19
Hosea 14; 2 Chr 26-27; Psalm 61; Matthew 20

Week 28 July 7-13

1 Kings 12; 2 Chronicles 10-11; Titus 1
1 Kings 13-14; 2 Chronicles 12; Psalm 47; Titus 2
1 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 13-14; Titus 3
2 Chronicles 15-16; 1 Kings 16; Philemon
1 Kings 17-18; Psalm 119; Jude

Week 33 August 11-17

2 Kings 15-16; Matthew 21
Isaiah 1-3; Psalm 9; Matthew 22
Isaiah 4-6; Matthew 23
Micah 1-4; Psalm 10; Matthew 24
Micah 5-7; Matthew 25

Week 29 July 14-20

1 Kings 19-21; 2 Chr 17; Psalm 129; Matthew 1
1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 18; Matthew 2
2 Chronicles 19-20; 2 Kings 1; Psalm 20; Matthew 3
2 Kings 2-3; Psalm 48; Matthew 4
2 Kings 4-6; Matthew 5

Week 34 August 18-24

Isaiah 7-10; Psalm 22; Matthew 26
Isaiah 11-13; Psalm 118; Matthew 27
Isaiah 14-16; Matthew 28
Isaiah 17-19; Psalm 62; 1 Corinthians 1

Week 30 July 21-27

2 Kings 7-8; 2 Chronicles 21; Matthew 6
2 Kings 9-10; Psalm 49; Matthew 7
2 Chr 22-23; 2 Kings 11; Psalm 131; Matthew 8
2 Chronicles 24; 2 Kings 12; Psalm 50; Matthew 9
Joel 1-3; Matthew 10

Week 35 August 25-31

Isaiah 23-25; 1 Corinthians 3
Isaiah 26-29; Psalm 65; 1 Corinthians 4
Isaiah 30-32; 1 Corinthians 5
Isaiah 33-35; 1 Corinthians 6

Week 31 July 28-August 3

Jonah 1-4; Matthew 11
2 Kings 13-14; 2 Chr 25; Psalm 53; Matthew 12
Amos 1-3; Matthew 13
Amos 4-6; Psalm 55; Matthew 14
Amos 7-9; Matthew 15

Week 36 Sept 1-7

2 Chronicles 29-31; 1 Corinthians 8
2 Kings 18-19; 2 Chr 32; Psalm 67; 1 Corinthians 9
Isaiah 36-37; Psalm 123; 1 Corinthians 10
2 Kings 20; Isaiah 38-40; Psalm 68; 1 Corinthians 11
Isaiah 41-44; 1 Corinthians 12

Adult Bible Study Groups available on Sunday morning:

Heroes and Villains of the Bible— 9am, Wesley Room. Led by Sam Caudle

The God Who Speaks—7 week study at 9am in the Mary Hill Room. Led by Carroll Hatfield

Inhabit the Garden Centering Prayer Group

Every Friday morning we gather at 8:30 AM in the Garden of Hope. Each person brings a folding chair and we form a circle, finding the shade. Some of us come a bit early to catch up. Each person is vital to the circle because "you can't have a group meditation without a group" as a dear friend used to remind me. At 8:30 we read the four guidelines, pray the prayer of St Francis, join in a simple chant, then practice twenty minutes of Centering Prayer. In our shared leadership, one person reads our lectio passage from scripture, slowly, twice, and then we are given the opportunity to respond to three questions that flow out of the classical moments of lectio divina.



Silence is our friend throughout. It is not unusual for us to be surrounded by sounds of birds chirping, automobiles, motor cycles, children arriving for the church preschool. A couple weeks ago, one friend commented after our session that there had been a mockingbird perched on the overlooking cross and that he had counted 78 different songs from that bird. I thank the Holy Spirit that we valued the silence enough that he could hear and count each distinctive sound. In our shared silence we worship God in the beauty and diversity of holiness!

There is always more room in the circle. You will be warmly welcomed!

With love,
Rev Stephen Hoffman CJN, AOJN

Summer Reading



Summer is here! It's time to relax a bit, put your feet up and find a good book to read.

Once again, we'll have a table of all kinds of reading materials in Haley Hall. Mysteries, adventure, Rom-com, humor, even some children's books to read to your kids of "grands." There may even be a game or two! Just come in, browse and find something that "strikes your fancy" - and take it home! And if

you have a book or two to share, we invite you to bring it in. Happy Reading Y'all! - Evelyn

All readers participating in the United Women of Faith reading program, now is the time to fill out the sheets to claim your certificates. I need to have them by August 1.

Thanks Karyn
Return to a Karyn or a Karen

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.

Please lift extra prayers for:

Kay Anthofer, Lucy Athas, Barb Ellsworth, John Ellsworth, Karyn Eubanks, Brenda Lee Hickman, Revella Lee, Elle Lyons, Bev Packer, Marie Piraino, Troy Poulin, Phyllis Pritchett, Rhonda Puhaly, Dawn Sutton, Joan Utter, Laurie Ward, Marilyn Williams, Miriam Williams, Owen Woodyard, Pat Woodyard.

Our prayers are with the family and friends of Norma Fryer, who died on June 17, 2024

Our prayers are with the family and friends of L.J. Gibbs, who died on June 20, 2024

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.

Trinity United Methodist Women received this email from Pastor Rafael of Valle Dos Church in Cuba:

God bless you. This morning I received the news that the water purifier is already in Cuba. They are in Havana... Talk to our superintendent and he will take care of getting it to Valle Dos... We are very happy. We continue praying for the Church floor and the fans. We count on your prayers... Greetings and a big hug to the sisters, we love you in the Love of Christ..... "



Summer Splash 2024

Thanks Joy Jones for taking these pictures



Baseball & Fireworks



Baseball & Fireworks

Join us for a fun night of baseball and fireworks on **July 27th** at LECOM Park in Bradenton to see the Lakeland Flying Tigers vs. the Bradenton Marauders.

The game starts at **6:30 PM** and the fireworks begin after the game. We have reserved a section of seats for our church. All ages are invited! Bring a friend or someone new!

Reserve your tickets at the Sign In Table on Sunday, July 7th or 14th. Please speak with Russ if you have any questions.

Hurricane Preparedness

Sarasota County Emergency Preparedness Guides Are available in Haley Hall or check-in



table. Thank you to Tom Surprise for once again obtaining them for us.

Trinity PreSchool



The preschool board has accepted the resignation of Brooke Brayton and is currently accepting applications for a new Preschool Director. We are looking for an experienced preschool director with current Director, VPK and CPR certifications.

July Birthdays



JoAnn Rall 7/2
Bill Athas 7/3
Ashley Rader 7/7
Taylor Rader 7/7
Mary Raymond 7/7
Ian Bland 7/12
Mathias Liller 7/15
Russ Towery 7/15
Gail Thornton 7/17
Amy Towery 7/18
Sally Wood 7/18
Greg Zahn 7/18
Tee Ormiston 7/18
Ruby Cook 7/20
Pat Shive 7/20
Linda Tice 7/25
Linda Cipoletti 7/27
Sam Cipoletti 7/28
John Ellsworth 7/29
Joshua Rose Jr. 7/31

July Anniversaries

Phil & Carol Harris 7/1
Tom & Sandy Thayer 7/6
Kenneth & Emily Beck 7/7
Henry & Revella Lee 7/15
Bill & Sylvia Elam 7/19
Donn & Mary Raymond 7/27
Diane Freestone & Tom Surprise 7/28

**Trinity
United Methodist Church**



Trinity – Sarasota
a United Methodist Church

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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
Director of Children/Youth Ministry: Russell Towery
Sound/Projections Board: Sebastian Girstl

Business Administration: Jack Hundley
Secretary: Karen Remfrey
Preschool Director:
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