

# TRINITY IN TOUCH

Trinity United Methodist Church  
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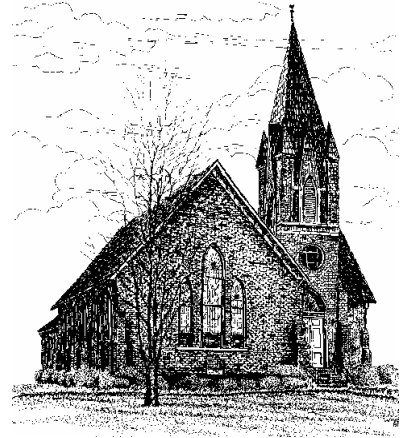
Secretary e-mail: [tumcyork@bellsouth.net](mailto:tumcyork@bellsouth.net)

Program Director: [tumcprog@bellsouth.net](mailto:tumcprog@bellsouth.net)

Church School: 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30am – 1:30pm (Closed Fridays)



December 8, 2009

## From the Pastor

We are already in the middle of the Advent season. On Sunday night the children will be presenting their Christmas drama. Next Sunday the choir will favor us with special music and the United Methodist Men will bless us with a fellowship meal, and then we will have the opportunity to go caroling and spend time with our shut-ins and others in our church family who might enjoy a visit. We have already lit Advent candles reminding us of “hope” and “peace.” There isn’t much time left in Advent. Before we know it we will be gathering for our Christmas Eve worship. What a blessed, busy time this is!

This Sunday we will be focusing on the idea of joy in Advent. In the old days the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent was known as “Jubilate Sunday.” The Advent wreath contains one pink candle among the purple ones to remind us of Advent joy! Unfortunately, many of us are aware that Advent and Christmas are not always times of joy for folks. Part of the problem is that we set unrealistic expectations for ourselves: we think everybody in the family ought to be able to get along—even when there are some family members who haven’t been able to get along all year, so why should we expect things to be any different now? We think that we ought to be able to purchase gifts that will please everyone and that everyone ought to be able to find the perfect gifts for us. We have idealized visions of how families ought to be able to get along, and most families are real rather than ideal. Some of us are alone over the holidays, remembering lost loved ones. There are folks whose experiences in life have included sad times over Advent and Christmas and that sadness can color our perception of the season. There are more reasons than I can name why this might be a less than joy-filled time for folks. Of course, the real joy in Advent and Christmas does not come from us or for us. The real joy in the season is because of what God has done and continues to do in our world and in our lives.

Here are a few ways to help us keep things on an even keel during the holidays:

1. Be kind to yourself. Take good care of yourself physically and emotionally. Don’t overload your calendar with things you really don’t feel like doing.
2. Express your feelings. The surest way to handle things is to feel your grief and your loneliness or happiness rather than denying them.
3. Ask for what you need. Express your feelings to others.
4. Create support for yourself. Be sure that you have people with whom you can talk. Sharing your pain eases it.
5. Help another person in need. By doing something for someone else you divert your attention away from yourself.
6. Appreciate your loved ones.
7. Don’t compare your life with other people. Embrace what you have.

Taking care of yourself means that you have a good chance to share the joy that comes from God’s actions in our world and in your life.

After all, the greatest gift of the season, the gift of Jesus Christ, God with us in the flesh, was a gift that God gave. Jesus’ coming and the love that flows into our world through God are reason enough for joy and celebration—even when things aren’t perfect in our lives or in our world. God is working.

God bless each one with the real joy of the season. Gene Feagin, Pastor

***Passionate Spirituality***

*Please respond on the 1-5 scale to this statement: "I regularly read and study my Bible." I suspect that a few folks reading this might respond with 1 (never) and a few might respond with a 5 (always) and that most of us will be somewhere in between. Reading the Bible is an amazing source for learning about God—we read of God's interaction with people from Creation onward. We read about Jesus. We learn what Jesus taught and how he treated people. The more we read and study, the more we learn about God's love and grace. What a wonderful God we serve.*

**SUNDAY, December 13**

Worship Service ..... 9:00 a.m.  
 Fellowship Time ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 Worship Service ..... 11:00 a.m.  
 Children's Christmas Play ..... 6:00 p.m.  
     Flower Ministry:   Worship Team  
     Lay Reader:        Rebecca Pursley  
     Nursery Infants:   Marie & Ed Ventry  
     Toddler Church:   Janet & Marcus Broome  
     Children's Church: Julie & Scott Taylor  
     Acolyte:            Amanda Breakfield

**TUESDAY 15**

Mite Boy Basketball Practice ..... 4-5:30 pm.  
 Adult Basketball ..... 7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY 16**

Trinity Travelers @ Springlake Country Club ..... 12:00 nonn  
 Mite Girls Basketball Practice ..... 6:30 p.m.  
 Chancel Choir ..... 7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY 17**

Knitwits ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Adults – Flat Rock Playhouse..... Meet at the church 10:00 a.m.  
 Mite Boys Basketball Practice ..... 4:00 p.m.  
 Junior Troop 3495 ..... 6:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY 18**

Sr. Hi. Christmas Dinner ..... 5:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY 19**

Chancel Choir Rehearsal ..... 10:00 a.m.

**SUNDAY, December 20**

**NO** 9:00 am Worship Service.....  
 Fellowship Time ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 Chancel Choir Program ..... 11:00 a.m.  
 Church Wide Lunch..... 12:00 noon  
 Christmas Caroling ..... 4:00 p.m.  
 College Students Social @ The Heltons ..... 6:00 p.m.

**USHERS FOR DECEMBER:** \*Kenny Cloniger, Kevin Smiley, Lee Alford, Basil Childers, Johnny Eite, Kelly Pursley, Bud Jones.

**TRUSTEES/DECEMBER:** Steve Boyd & Jamie Patterson

**ALTAR GUILD/DECEMBER:** Britt Snelling, Liz Brown, Debbie Black

**WELCOME VISITORS/DECEMBER:** Jack Benfield Class

**VISITOR CARDS/DECEMBER:**

Sunday School Attendance Dec.6:	130
Worship Attendance (9:00 am) Dec.6:	50
Worship Attendance (11:00 am) Dec.6:	116
Operating Fund received on December 6 .....	\$9,072.87
Operating Fund received up to December 6 .....	\$277,042.75
Budget goal up to December 6 (\$6,500 x 49).....	\$318,500.00

**MEMORIALS**

**To the Operating Fund:**

**Acree Bostic** by Terri & Joe Versen; Lee & Terri Alford; Matt & Kathy Brown.

**Bob Johnsey** by Mike & Cindy Summersett; Lee & Terri Alford; S. K. Lowry Jr; Ann & Pete Barnwell; Alice Shillinglaw; Bill & Lib Brice; Gene & Lettie Knight; City of York.

**Don Barbary** by Lu Barbary.

**To the Jack Benfield Class in memory of Bob Johnsey & Acree Bostic** by Anadell Burch.

**To the Choir Fund in memory of Bob Johnsey** by Renee Barker.

**To the Playground Fund in memory of Bob Johnsey** by Kevin & Marsha Smiley.

**HONORARIUM in honor of Lillian McSwain's birthday on December 25** by Lu Barbary.

**GRITS! OATMEAL! Any HOT CEREAL!** Our PATH clients – particularly our "senior" clients think that a hot breakfast is so special. PLEASE HELP!

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Our prayers** are with Isem Pennington, Harriette Childers, Louise Smith, John Smith, Geneva Warren, Havern & Helen Brindle, Lois Crolley, Ernie Ulbricht, Bebe Benfield, and Jimmie Pridmore.

**Also, we remember** Jean Chason, friend of Ellen Jones; Christopher Hodges, brother of David Hodges; Steve Smith, friend of Eddie Jones; Debbie Lowe, niece of Susan Jones; Rena Walden, former Trinity member; Jean Whittington, friend of Renee Barker; Landon Pertuset, friend of Edgar Hardin; Mary Emma Dickson, aunt of Carrie Hodges; Harold Wilson, father of Alicia Breakfield; Henry Wright, brother of Ernie Wright; Jewel Stackley, mother of Johanna Sipe; Betty Beck, sister of Bunny Whitesides; Virginia Baker, sister of Jo Hammond; Dot Caldwell, sister of Anne Hipp; Kinsley James, and Mackenzie Decuir.

**Our sympathy** is with Tracy & Tim Payne and their families, following the death of their father, Ernie Payne.

**Congratulations to** Matt & Christina Dover on the birth of their daughter, Natalie Usher Dover, on December 4.

*The Children of Bob Johnsey would like to express our gratitude to all the Trinity Church members, for the loving support shown to us through this most difficult time of the passing of our father.*

**The UMM** will be selling their Famous Chicken Stew on Saturday, Dec 12. It's \$8 a quart and will be available for pickup at 11:00 at the back side of the Trinity Center. Come early 'cause it will be going FAST. But IF there is any left, it will be for sale in the kitchen Sunday morning. Thanks for your support, The UMM

**The choruses of YJHS and YCHS** will present their Christmas Concert this Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm in the McCelvey Center. Admission is \$3.00 at the door. Hunter Ligon and Chris Suggs will participate! Everyone is invited!



**The Trinity Mission Team** is asking for your support of our annual project to provide gifts for the York Adult Day Care Christmas Party. Wish lists are posted on the mission Bulletin Board. Due date for gifts is December 14.

**Please join us on Sunday, December 20** for a Special Christmas Luncheon. The UMM will be serving lunch after the 11:00 Service in the Trinity Center. The menu will be baked ham, grilled chicken, mac & cheese, green beans, bread, and desserts. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. They will be sold in the hallway before and after Sunday School. Proceeds will go to The Church for any end-of-year expenses.

**College Christmas Social**

**What:** Casual get together for Trinity College Students

**When:** Sunday, December 20 - 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** The Helton's, 105 Bratton Avenue, York

**RSVP:** [scteacher2@comporium.net](mailto:scteacher2@comporium.net) or 684-3842 before Monday, December 14.

**Circle #4** will meet the third Monday of each month beginning January 2010. We will meet at the church at 7:30 p.m. and will be happy to have you join us.

**ALICE'S CORNER**

- The Sr. Hi. & Jr. Hi. UMYF will support the endeavors of our younger children by attending the play at 6:00 pm this Sunday.
- The play "Christmas Morning Live" will be presented by our Trinity Children this Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 in the Trinity Center. A light hot dog supper will follow. Support our children along with some fun and fellowship.
- Alice has a few advent calendars if you still need one.