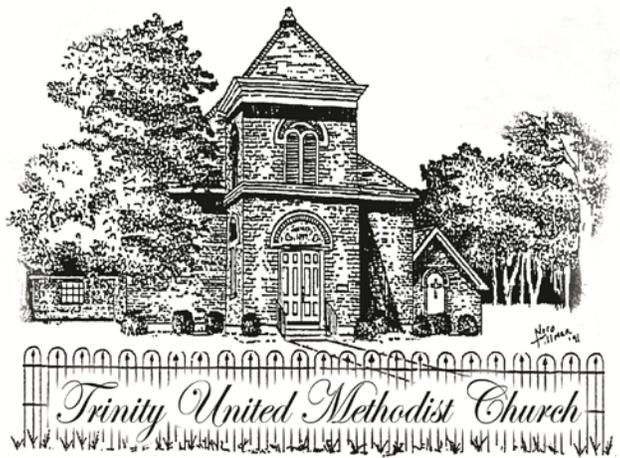




Trinity United Methodist Church Newsletter



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May 3, 2017

Dreams and Visions Committee

*I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions. Joel 2:28*

Trinity UMC is entering into a time of transition with the appointment of Rev. Will Wells as its new pastor. It makes sense when change occurs to look back and look ahead; to ask where we've been and where we are going.

At the Administrative Council meeting on April 29th, the Council voted to authorize a Committee to help with that process. Such a committee might be called a long range planning committee, but I prefer to think of it as the Dreams and Visions Committee. Marty Bauguess has agreed to facilitate the work of this committee which will be open to everyone in the church. The purpose of this committee is to take a hard look at where we have come over the last ten years or so, and where we are going. The committee will consider the changes that might have to take place to meet the needs of sharing the Gospel in this rapidly changing community. Mostly, I hope, it will dare to dream of what could be happening at Trinity UMC and dare to share its visions with the rest of the Church. I am proud of the things we have accomplished over the last seven years and I look forward to seeing the new things that Trinity undertakes.

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

Bishop Robert Schnase has written a book titled *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. Regardless of the shape that ministry takes at Trinity UMC, there are practices that are followed by healthy growing churches. Healthy growing churches practice:

1. Radical Hospitality
2. Passionate Worship
3. Intentional Faith Development
4. Risk-taking Mission and Service and
5. Extravagant Generosity.

Copies of this book are available in my office for those members who wish to read it.

Please be in prayer for our church as we begin a new season with new leadership. Please come and participate in the prayer, study and discussion of these issues by the Dreams and Visions Committee over the coming months. We are the Body of Christ, called to live in this world as the presence of Christ. Join with your fellow members as we seek to discern where God is calling us into ministry in this community.

Radical Hospitality

When people speak of welcoming new people to the church, we generally think about greeters on Sunday morning who make it a point to welcome visitors and help them find a seat. However, that doesn't begin to cover what is meant by **radical** hospitality.

Think about it this way. If you invited someone into your home, would you be content to simply show them where they can sit and then have nothing more to do with them? Would you carry on conversations with other guests you know well while ignoring the new comers? If they had to attend to the needs of children or infants, would you let them fend for themselves, or would you seek to assist them. If they had other special needs, would you ignore those needs or seek to help?

Radical hospitality means offering a welcome that is unequivocal and active. It includes an effort to anticipate the needs of your guests and a profound desire to make them welcome. It is the type of welcome that the church should always extend but that few churches ever master.

As we go into this time of discernment, ask yourself how we might practice radical hospitality at Trinity. Also, please be in prayer for our church as we enter this time of discernment. Please come and participate in the prayer, study and discussion of these issues over the coming months. We are the Body of Christ, called to live in this world as the presence of Christ. Join with your fellow members as we seek to discern where God is calling us into ministry in this community.

Rev. Will Wells Is the Newly Appointed Pastor for Trinity UMC

Stacy Bell, the Chairperson of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, announced on Sunday April 10th that Rev. Will Wells has been appointed as the next pastor of Trinity UMC. Rev. Wells is currently serving Fayetteville First United Methodist. His wife, Pamela, is also a United Methodist pastor and will take over as pastor to College Grove UMC in June. They will live in the parsonage at College Grove. Moving day for Tennessee Conference pastors is June 20th and Rev. Well's first Sunday will be July 2nd.

UMC Bishops Call Special Session of General Conference for 2019

April 25, 2017 By [Ricky Harrison](#)



Council of Bishops The United Methodist Church

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2017

Washington, D.C.: The Council of Bishops (COB) has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church (UMC) to be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri, USA. In announcing the call, COB President Bishop Bruce R. Ough said the Special Session will be held in accordance with Division Two – Section II – Article II of The Constitution of The United Methodist Church as recorded in Paragraph 14 of *The Book of Discipline (2016)*.

The purpose of the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference will be “limited to receiving and acting on a report from the Council of Bishops based on the recommendations of the Commission on a Way Forward.”

The 32-member Commission was appointed by the Council of Bishops to assist the bishops in their charge to lead the church forward amid the impasse related to homosexuality. The Commission’s task includes examining paragraphs in *The Book of Discipline* concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.

Per the Constitution of the Church, the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference shall be composed of the delegates to the 2016 General Conference or their legal successors or alternates, except when a particular annual conference or missionary conference shall prefer to have a new election.

The Secretary of the General Conference will communicate with annual conference secretaries regarding updated delegate information, seating of reserve delegates, and the issuance of new certificates of election for annual conferences choosing to hold new elections.

The Commission on the General Conference and the Business Manager of the General Conference will develop and forward additional information regarding the logistics of the special session of General Conference at the appropriate time.

“The Council of Bishops encourages the entire church to continue in deep, unceasing prayer for Holy Spirit breakthroughs for the Commission on a Way Forward and the Special Session of General Conference,” Bishop Ough said.

Volunteer Opportunities

- VBS director. It’s not too soon to start planning. The director will get to choose the VBS theme and date.
- Nursery level (pre-K) lesson plans coordinator. We have approximately 100 lessons and related crafts ready to use currently. Coordinator will need to refresh these periodically and be able to show others the set up.
- Wardrobe supervisor for the Christmas pageant. We have 70-80 costumes currently and have fabrics, patterns, etc. for several more. This role is about getting the costumes ready for the pageant as well as helping participants get “suited up”.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Thursday Morning Bible Study Group meets weekly on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 AM. We have room for you! We are currently studying Ruth and we will then begin 1 Samuel.

Prayer Ministry

The following persons are part of the prayer ministry at Trinity UMC:

Elva Beard	Rachel Newman	Sam Richardson
Larry Eastwood	Kenneth Stevens	Judy Richardson
Leslie Eastwood	Patricia Stevens	Charles Wilson

The members of the prayer ministry of Trinity United Methodist church covenant with one another to pray daily for:

- Those concerns on the prayer list of the Church and for healing of body and spirit for all persons listed;
- For each ministry of the church that each ministry would work to bring the Gospel to those within our community and most especially to bring the Gospel to those who have not yet accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior;
- For all the members of the Trinity UMC community that they be led and enabled to live as the Body of Christ;
- For our local community and all its needs, especially for those who are struggling with the burden of poverty;
- For our nation and our world that God help lead the people of the world to live in peace with God’s Kingdom.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry (or if you have already spoken to me about it and were inadvertently left off the list) please let me know and I will see that you are added.

Up-Coming Sermons

May 7, 2017: Sermon: Essentials of Christianity: We Worship God, Not the Bible. As Christians we profess that God was revealed to us in Jesus Christ. We turn to the stories of scripture to understand the living Word that is Jesus Christ. But, if we are not careful, we can find ourselves slipping into worshiping the Bible itself instead of God. The Bible becomes, in effect, an idol.

May 14, 2017: Rev. Meaker will be away on May 14th. Rev. Peter Ferguson will be leading worship on May 14. His texts are 1 Peter 2:2-10 and Matthew 1:18-15.

Worship Leaders Schedule

May 7

Jason Aldred, **Liturgist**

Pat Moran and Linda Robinson, **Greeters**

Gina and Brandon Stewart, **Ushers**

May 14

Stacy Bell, **Liturgist**

Maurice and Joyce Edwards, **Greeters**

Mike and Elaine Rohrig, **Ushers**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Larry and Leslie Eastwood are celebrating 50 years of marriage in June. On Sunday, May 21st, their son Larry Jr. invites you - Larry's and Leslie's Church family - to join them for a luncheon honoring this wonderful milestone. The luncheon will immediately follow the service in the fellowship hall.

Families are encouraged to **bring diapers** of various sizes as we collect them as part of the "No child wet behind." Mother's day will be the final day for people to bring diapers. A collection box is in Fellowship Hall for your donations.

The Men's Group will be providing a **Pancake Breakfast this Saturday, May 6. Breakfast will be ready at 8:00 A.M.** There is no charge for the breakfast but donations will be accepted. All proceeds will be used to support the men's ministries. Bring your friends and neighbors for wonderful food and fellowship.

We will be serving food to the congregants at **61st UMC**. Additional dates for providing and serving food are: **May 20 and June 17**. Sixty-First Ave. UMC will be closing in late June. This is a wonderful opportunity for serving others. Please make **Charles Wilson** aware if you are able to serve.

GraceWorks has a shortage on many items in our food pantry, and we need your help restocking it! Here is a list of some very critical items needed in our food pantry: **Critical Needs:** Canned green vegetables (not green beans), Canned beans, Canned meat (not tuna), Cereal, Hamburger Helper type boxed meals, Soup. Please support this important ministry with your regular donations. The box is located beside the side door.

The Nanette Crowell Companions in Christ Sunday School Class: We enjoy fellowship beginning at 9:45 with our study beginning at 10:00. All are welcome to join us as we pursue Biblical truths and the application for our lives.

Birthdays in May

Tommy Cotton, Laura Rinne, Sam Richardson, Jim Winton

Happy Birthday to each of you!