Volume 7 Issue 12

December 2017

THE MESSENGER

Trinity United Methodist Church

FROM THE PASTORS DESK…

The holidays are upon us. Although the decorations have been in the stores since before Halloween, it is time to think about gifts and holiday functions.

During the next few weeks many of our schedules become busy enough to overwhelm us. There is so much happening and so much we need to do. The struggle seems to be that every year things get more and more rushed.

There is the search for the perfect gift. This is especially difficult in larger families or getting something for that person that "has everything." We often get caught at the last minute simply buying something because "it's the thought that counts."

Then the various parties with friends, at work, or with the family beg for our time and attention. Our time is spread thinner by the functions that we're "expected" to attend. There are so many expectations that, even before Christmas we're burned out and weary.

Additionally, there are the special programs and ministries at church. The children's program, the choir presentation, Sunday school gatherings, and other special services all are important but still take effort and planning to attend.

Pastors don't escape the busyness during the next several weeks. We are expected to be "on our game" and present at every church function. We have family expectations and gifts to buy.

How do get some relief from the stress and demands? I'd say we reserve some time, as hard as that seems, to relax, de-stress, and contemplate the meaning and importance of the season. How do we find some peace in the midst of all the hustle and bustle?

I would suggest we each give ourselves a gift this holiday season. What if we intentionally set aside some quiet time to escape the noise of the season? For years, Susan and I have reserved some time to unwind during the holidays.

Even when the boys were younger and we spent much of Christmas Eve putting together the gifts Santa delivered, we took a moment to spend time with each other. Now, with our children older, we go home after Candlelight and relax. We also have the luxury of having Christmas morning to ourselves. We realize our boys and all the grandchildren will be coming in the evening.

Christmas morning Susan and I give each other a present. That present isn't wrapped in bright paper or stuffed in a gift bag. Our present to each other is our presence with each other for a few hours.

To relieve some of the stress of the holidays I'd like to suggest that we each give ourselves…and those closest to us that same present this year. Let's give the present of our presence with each other.

May that presence remind us of the presence of the Christ child during the holidays.

Grace and Peace

Wade

For Church information visit:

Visit us at— www.trinityumcofcharlotte.com

Rev. Wade Ogle—(Minister) - pastor@trinityumcofcharlotte.com

Ronna Privette—(Administrative Assistant) - ronna@trinityumcofcharlotte.com

Claudia Myers—(Preschool Director) - caudia@trinityumcofcharlotte.com

TRINITY HAPPENINGS

LADIES ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA
Saturday, December 2nd
2:00pm
in the FLC

Tickets are $10.00 each and can be purchased from Cindy Hough or Avis Summers Lewis.

This year's annual tea is being held in honor and memory of those in UMW Circle #3 for their hard work and dedication in serving 10 years of Christmas Tea at Trinity UMC.

Christmas Caroling

Join us on Wednesday, December 20th beginning at 6:00pm. We will meet at the Northlake House to carol at 6pm and then continue to The Oaks. Please let Cheryl Howard know if you are going to be able to go so that we can get an approximate head count.

On December 10 during the 11 o'clock service the Sanctuary choir will present **COME LET US ADORE**, a Christmas musical where we return to the scene of a humble manger. Come here a blend of old and new Christmas music as we relive the miraculous story of Christ's birth.

KEEPSAKE CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 3rd @ 3pm. Trinity will host a Christmas program that families will love and can experience TOGETHER! During this engaging one-hour interactive program, you will hear a dramatic retelling of the Christmas story, sing Christmas songs, enjoy a snack, AND each child will make their OWN keepsake nativity scene to cherish for years to come. (there will even be a door prize).

LOAF Sunday will be Sunday, December 17th Please plan to bring a loaf of bread to donate to this ministry as we remember why we celebrate this season.

POINSETTIAS

It is time to order your Poinsettias for Christmas in honor or memory of a loved one. The cost is $9.00 for a 6" red poinsettia with multiple blooms. Please fill in the form below and place it along with your $9.00 per pot ordered in the collection plate or mail to the church office **by Sunday, December 10th**. These will be used in the Worship Services on Sunday, December 17th, then you can take them home to enjoy during the rest of the holiday season or to share with friends and family.

In Honor of:_____

In Memory of:_____

By:_____

Number plants ordered_____Amount paid:_____

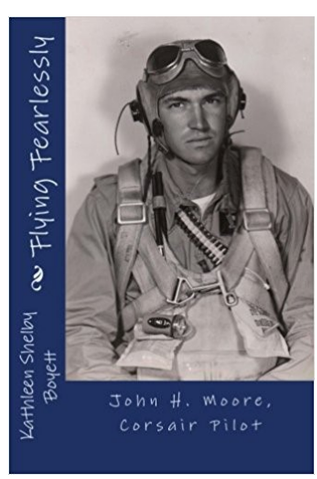
On Wednesday, December 6th, there will be a visit from Santa Claus at Trinity. He will arrive on the Long Creek Volunteer Fire Department truck. It is such a magical night as the kids and adults wait to hear the siren and then see the blinking lights as the truck carrying Santa makes its way down Beatties Ford Road. Santa will be at the church by 6:30pm. Come early and enjoy a hot dog or a chicken nugget plate for $3.00. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you.

***A contribution has been made to the **Music Fund** in memory of *Donald Haverlah* by Ted & Corinne Carland.

ATTENTION ALL LADIES

Saturday, January 27, 2018... save this date for a one day retreat at the church. Watch for more details to come!

Trinity's own John Moore has a book written about his



life. *"Flying Fearlessly"* John H. Moore Corsair Pilot. We have many people asking us where they can get a copy of this book. Amazon has it online, Barnes and Nobles., and you can also get a copy by calling the author, Shelby Boyett @704-846-0322.

You can also visit her website at:

shelbyboyett.webs.com

Watch for more details on a Book signing/Covered Dish meal to honor Mr. John Moore in January.

THE MESSENGER

Trinity United Methodist Church

answering Jesus' call to:

"FEED MY SHEEP"

Church—704-399-1684 **Pastor—704-456-8251**

9:00am—Rise-Up Worship Service **10:00am—Small Groups** **11:00am—Traditions**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Trinity United Methodist Church

6230 Beatties Ford Road

Charlotte, NC 28216

Non-profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Charlotte, NC

Permit No. 770

Worship Helpers and Retirement

RISE-UP NURSERY
Dec. 3—Carolyn Miller
Dec. 10—Wendy Penninger
Dec. 17—Lisa Laney
Dec. 24—ONE Service
Dec. 31—Cheryl Howard

TRADITIONS NURSERY
Dec. 3—Justin & Kristen Stroupe
Dec. 10—The Pistolis Family
Dec. 17—Laurie & Karen Tucker

Dec. 24—
Dec. 31—Patty Wilson & Teresa Hardee

USHERS FOR DECEMBER
Ken Plummer, Carolyn Miller
Gus & Christie Pistolis

STREAMING
Rise Up Service
Dec. 3—Bill McLemore
Dec. 10—Cindy Hough
Dec. 17—Cindy Hough
Dec. 24—Malcolm Miller
Dec. 31—Malcolm Miller
Traditions Service
Dec. 3—Malcolm Miller
Dec. 10—David Stroupe
Dec. 17—David Stroupe
Dec. 24—David Stroupe
Dec. 31—Malcolm Miller

COMMUNION STEWARDS
3 Ushers

FINANCE STEWARDS
Lynne Bruce & Gus Pistolis

HOMEBOUND
Kenneth Alexander, Marie Chesser

PRAYER LIST
Kenneth Alexander, Don Brown, Marie Chesser, Judy Fogle, Anne Griffin, Naomi Lee, Margaret Merritt, Mary Moore, Perry McConnell, Ed Puckett, Gene Snow, David Todd, David Wilson

***We are looking for a person or two to keep the **ONE Service** nursery on Sunday, Dec. 24th...would you consider doing it that Sunday? It will be at 11am.*

RETIREMENT RESIDENTS
The Oaks—Margaret Merritt, Naomi Lee
The Laurels-David Todd
Carrillon (Lincolnton)-Mary Frances Hunt
Northlake House—Mary Moore
Home—Bain Sharar, Don Brown
Novant (Hunt) - Ed Puckett

ONLINE GIVING

December Scripture

Dec. 3—Luke 2: 1-7

Dec.10 -

Dec. 17—Luke 2: 8-20

Dec. 24—John 1: 1-14

Dec. 31—

*****In case of an emergency you can reach Rev. Ogle by calling 704-456-8251 or call the church office @ 704-399-1684 *(Mon – Thurs).***

TITHES and OFFERINGS
Needed Weekly: - $4,919.64
Received: $3,001.00