

THE MESSENGER

T R I N I T Y U N I T E D M E T H O D I S T C H U R C H



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK....

Where has this year gone? It's almost the first of November. Thanksgiving is around the corner and Advent and Christmas aren't far off. My mother always told me that the year would past quicker as I got older. But I didn't realize that it would be in "fast-forward."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Wooly
Wednesday

As we approach the holidays, it's a good time to reflect on our life-journey over the past year. I've had some difficult times during 2011. This will be the first Thanksgiving and Christmas without my mother. It was difficult enough last year after my dad passed away. To tell you the truth, it's hard for me to get excited about the holidays, especially Thanksgiving. When I stop and think, what have I got to be thankful for this year?

Maybe there are others that feel that way. Has the past year been one of struggle and disappointment? Has sickness, disease, broken relationships and grief left some of us searching for a reason to be thankful? Even if the past year has been terribly stressful, some folks really have a struggle deciding what (or who) they are thankful for.

Christmas
Tea

Sure, if asked to share what we are thankful for, we have our list ready: our family, our church, our friends. Sometimes those items seem little more than an afterthought....a prepared answer just in case someone asks. We may do that because we are struggling to put the best face on a bad year or because we have been so blessed by God we don't know where to start counting our blessings.

Christmas
Child Boxes

What I would like to suggest may seem radical to some folks. What if we prayerfully considered one or two things or people that we are *really* thankful for and mention those to God daily until Thanksgiving Day? I realize we should thank God for all good things, however I believe that focusing our attention on just a couple things will change the way we appreciate those things or treat those people.

Thanksgiving
Dinner

I believe this is possible even if the past year has been a tough one. For instance, I am thankful for a caring church that gave me the space to grieve and supported me through the difficulty of my mother's death. I am also thankful for a family (especially my wife) that guided me and comforted me when I got down.

Feed My
Sheep

I have committed to thank God for the congregation at Trinity and for my family these next few weeks. I will try to focus my prayers on thanksgiving alone. I don't want to ask for direction in the church or for guidance in family situations. I simply want to express how blessed I am that God has given me the gift of a wonderful church to pastor and a great family that loves me.

Scriptures
for
November

What do you say? Let's give this "thankfulness thing" a try. I don't know about you, but I often take the people for whom I am most thankful for granted. It's easy to do because they are always there. Perhaps concentrating on a few "thanksgivings," God may show us how to express our thanks in a real way.

Calendar,
Birthdays &
Anniversaries

May God, the giver of all good things, guide our hearts and our minds into a thanksgiving life rather than a Thanksgiving Day.

Grace and Peace
Wade

WOOLY WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, November 2nd from 5:30pm to 7:00pm you are invited to stop by the church for a “Wooly Wednesday” Dinner.. The menu will be: Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans and Chicken Nuggets Kids meal.

Preacher Wade and friends will be cooking, they can always use good help, and of course they are not much on baking desserts, so these are always appreciated. This will be the last Wooly Wednesday Dinner for 2011, the next date will be February 1, 2012.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA**

The annual Christmas Tea is just a few weeks away. There are a few tickets left. You can call the church office or see a member of Circle #3 to get your tickets and make plans to come be a part of this special day. The cost is \$10.00 per ticket.

ATTENTION PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY.. For the month of November the Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on the third Saturday of the month...November 19th!

All are invited to come be a part of this ministry that provides knitted or crocheted prayer shawls to those who are sick in the church, community and Levine Dickson Hospice House. If you know someone with a need, please see Cheryl Howard or call the church office.

CLUSTER RALLY

There will be a celebration rally for Trinity and 14 other UMChurches in the Lake Norman District on Sunday, November 13th beginning at 4:00pm at Greater Vision UMC. This is a time to celebrate what your church has done in 2011 and hear what other churches in the area are doing as well. All are invited to attend!

THE ST. JAMES MALE CHORUS

..will be at Trinity on Sunday, November 27th to share their love of music and many of the old beloved hymns. This will begin at 6:00pm in the sanctuary. Trinity’s own Ed Puckett and Curtis Buchanan are part of this group of men.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

Trinity offers Children’s Church for all children ages 4 years old thru 3rd grade. We ask that you **bring your children into the sanctuary with you each Sunday.** Every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month the children will leave the sanctuary with their leader. On the 1st Sunday of each month the children will stay in the service and participate in communion with their family.

**SUNDAY EVENING YOUTH GROUPS...**

If you are 3 years old-12th grade Trinity is the place for you each Sunday evening from 5:00—6:30pm. There is a lot happening and we want to share it with you.

There are 4 different age groups:

3 & 4 year olds—Delores Velazquez
K—3rdgraders—Holly & Shea Hartsell
4th—6th graders—Shelly Black & Sherri Barth
7th—12th grade—Lynne Bruce

Each evening they have K Motion with Cheryl Howard and Susan Ogle as well as many other planned activities for their special age group.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS**

CHILD Shoe boxes are due back at the church on Sunday, November 13th. If you were not here this past Sunday to pick up your shoe boxes and would like some, stop by this week or you can use a regular shoe box or a small plastic container to fill with items. Determine if you are doing one for a boy or girl between 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14 and label your box in this manner. Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child, such as pens, pencils, crayons, markers coloring books, picture books, small cars, balls, dolls, toothbrushes, toothpaste, comb, socks, ball caps, etc. You can include a personal letter from your family. Please **DO NOT INCLUDE** damaged items, chocolate, food, military figures, play guns, liquids, medications etc. Please donate \$7.00 for each shoe box you prepare to help cover shipping cost. Be sure to have them at the church by Sunday, November 13th so that they can get to the drop-off sites in time. For more info visit www.samaritanspurse.org/occ

HANGING OF THE GREENS—Sat., Nov. 26th

9am—12pm..please join the Nurture Committee for decorating, fun, and fellowship! **ALL HELP IS NEEDED**, especially strong men! There will be childcare, hot chocolate, coffee and goodies.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD WAREHOUSE TRIP

You are invited to go on the church bus on Wednesday, November 30th to help at the Christmas Child warehouse where all these boxes that you have packed will be opened, inspected, items will be added or taken out for other boxes. This is a great time to actually see this big operation in action.



FEED MY SHEEP HAPPENINGS.....

and IN THE NEAR FUTURE HAPPENINGS! IMPACT COMMUNITY DAY

On Saturday, October 1st at Hornets Nest School over 40 volunteers from Trinity, Asbury and the school showed up to work in the court yard, library and office. Lots of great things were accomplished during this time..not only physical work, but friendships and partnerships made as well.

There were also 11 adults who joined the Hornets Nest PTA from Trinity..there is still time to join, see Cheryl Howard if interested.

The **K- 12th Grade Youth Groups** have been contributing this past month to “Feed My Sheep” by making treat bags for the Backpack Ministry, carrying shoppers groceries at Food Lion one Sunday evening, and providing egg salad for 500 sandwiches that were made for the sandwich ministry in October.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL FUNDRAISER

There will be an Ice Cream Social Fundraiser here at the church on Sunday, November 13 to raise money for the *Give Kids the World Village*. This event is in memory of *Isaiah Joseph* who went on vacation at this village in Orlando Florida with the Make a Wish Foundation. This organization is run through donations and volunteers. You are invited to join Dolores & Angel right after the 11am worship service on November 13th and enjoy ice cream and learn more about this organization.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Emmett Wilson Bible Class will provide a thanksgiving meal for some of our neighbors at Urban Ministries on Tuesday, November 22nd at the church. The bus will pick up and bring them to the church for a Thanksgiving Feast.

(Trinity is following the mission of the church... “Feed My Sheep”.)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Needed each week to make Budget—\$4,841.28

CEMETERY FUND

Memorials have been made to the Cemetery Fund in memory of *Mr. Marvin Todd* by Denesa Lawson and Corinne Carland.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 6—12th—Mission Trip (Swan Quarter, NC)

November 20—LOAF Sunday

Every week—Backpack Ministry

Beginning in December—**Sheep Tree** (formerly Angel Tree) there will be names you can pick from Hornets Nest School who are in need of a little help at Christmas. The Sheep will have toy and clothes needs/wants on them.

December 4—Christmas Music by the Chancel Choir during the 11am Traditions Worship Service.

December 10—Circle #1 Cookie Tray sale
(taking orders beginning 11/13)

December 18—Children’s Christmas Program

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



On a lot of the cereals, cereal bars that you buy you will find the Box Tops for Education pictures on there, please take the time to cut these out and bring to the church as you collect them.

These can be used by Hornets Nest School to receive money to purchase items for the school. This is a very easy ministry that anyone can do..it only takes a pair of scissors and a little time to cut these out. There is a container on the “Feed My Sheep” table in the sanctuary or you can place them on the desk in the church office.

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO VOLUNTEER AT AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...but didn’t know how to go about doing it? It is easy, just go online and register. Go to cms.k12.nc.us and click on Volunteers and Partners (or see Cheryl Howard or go by the office to get help registering). Hornets Nest would love to have volunteers from Trinity come by and read to students, eat with them in the cafeteria, etc.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

If your Small Group is having a Christmas party and you would like to get it on the December calendar, please call Ronna by Monday, November 21st.



November, 2011

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 770
Charlotte, NC

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6230 Beatties Ford Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216
704-399-1684

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NOVEMBER WORSHIP HELPERS

INFANT NURSERY

Nov. 6-Karen Kidd & Cathy Carpenter
Nov. 13-Holly & Shea Hartsell
Nov. 20-Tami McLemore & Michael Thuemmel
Nov. 27—Danny & Sherri Barth

TODDLER NURSERY

Nov. 6-Christie & Gus Pistoris
Nov. 13-Darlene Sarment & Dolores LaPrade
Nov. 20-Cheryl & Peter Putukian
Nov. 27-Susan & Lee Owings

RISE UP WORSHIP SERVICE NURSERY

Nov. 6-Ronna Privette
Nov. 13-Donna Stroupe
Nov. 20-Dolores LaPrade
Nov. 27-Ronna Privette
(We are looking for others to help with the Rise Up Worship Service Nursery for a few months. As you may know Brenda Raynor has injured her leg and will not be able to help for a while. Please call the church office if you can help with this ministry.)

USHERS FOR NOVEMBER

Willie Ross
Mike Hicks
Elaine Hicks
Patty Wilson

FINANCE STEWARDS

Finance Committee & Willie Ross

RETIREMENT RESIDENTS

Shad's Landing - Lee Almond
Olde Knox Commons at the Village— Patsy Ward Bill Todd
Churchill Assisted Living- O'Neal Harpe
Maple Leaf Healthcare Center— Hilda Morris
The Laurels— James Rogers
Aldersgate—Francis Whisenant

HOMEBOUND

Betty Johnston
Melvin Kerns
J.B. Heglar

**ONE Service- October 30th 11:00am in the FLC!
Echols Baby Shower 10/30 2-4pm (FLC)**


SERMON SCRIPTURES FOR NOVEMBER

These are for your use in preparing for the worship services on Sunday mornings.
Nov. 6-Hebrews 12: 1-2
Nov. 13-Joshua 24: 14-25
Nov. 20-1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

PRAYER FOCUS FOR NOVEMBER

Each month during 2011 the Prayer Committee will choose one area of the church to focus their prayers on that month. *For the month of November you are asked to focus on "The Opportunity to Help Others".*

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

 Terry Chavis, Marie Chesser, Joe Fisher, Don Haverlah, J.B. Heglar, Tina Heatley, George Malone, Hilda Morris, Lois Puckett, Brenda Raynor, Kaye Rogers, Bill Todd, Vicki Tucker.

**Country Ham Breakfast-10/29 7am-11am
Trunk or Treat-10/29 5pm-7pm**

