

# THE CONNECTION

January

2012

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## “God’s Timing”

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
 a time to be born, and a time to die;  
 a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
 a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
 a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
 a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
 a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
 a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
 a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
 a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
 a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
 a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
 a time to love, and a time to hate;  
 a time for war, and a time for peace.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

The New Year is a time for new beginnings. As Ecclesiastes states, there is “a time for every matter under heaven.” What is it time for in your life this New Year? What is it time for in our church this New Year?

Many people make New Year’s resolutions. Some common resolutions: “I’m going to lose weight,” or “I’m going to save more money,” or “This year we’re going to redecorate the house.” Many resolutions have to do with physical, material or financial matters. Perhaps it is time to make a spiritual New Year’s resolution. May 2012 be a time for you to seek God with more passion. Perhaps it’s time to return to worshipping God, if you’ve been out of the pew for a while. Maybe it’s time to serve the needy through a mission project, or time to love your enemy. How about making a

resolution to participate in a Bible study, small group or Sunday school class? What is keeping you from a deeper spiritual walk and a more active Christian faith? Whatever the obstacles may be - indifference, worldly distractions, disappointment with church, a busy calendar - perhaps it’s time to throw away these obstacles. Perhaps it’s time to build up a stronger relationship with Jesus Christ and the Body of Christ, the church.

The New Year also gives our church an opportunity to make a resolution come to fruition. On June 7, 2009, our church approved a resolution to pay down old debt by \$400,000, purchase 2 acres, expand and build facilities. We are within \$23,452 of reaching the debt reduction goal. We unveiled a proposed master plan on October 23, and welcome your feedback. A Building Committee representative will gladly visit your class or group to present the plan and answer questions. This month we will take the plan to the District Committee on Church Building and Location, seeking feedback and support. May 2012 be a time to start a building on the holy ground of Trinity campus!

The word “resolution” comes from the root word resolve, which means to be determined, tenacious, or steadfast. As individuals, may our faith exhibit these qualities. As a church, may we be determined, tenacious and steadfast in growing our church to reach the new people God is sending in 2012 and years to come.

May the New Year be a time to heal, laugh, dance, embrace, and love. And may it be a time for peace in our world.

In Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace,

*Rev. Cathy*

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# Memorials and Honorariums

## In Memory Of

Marianne Grant  
Marianne Grant  
Marianne Grant  
Marianne Grant  
Marianne Grant

## Given By

Lanny and Susan Laurens  
Donna S. Wilkins  
Evalyn R. Ward  
Eddie and Kathy Wingard  
Pat Snipes

## For

Undesignated  
Undesignated  
Undesignated  
Undesignated  
Undesignated

## In Honor Of

Hans & Emile Vradenburg  
Buzzy and Jo Holland  
Bobby and Jo Hecker  
Lamar and Beth Brabham  
Ed and Lou Watson

## Given By

Lellan Smith  
John and Sandra Bloodworth  
John and Sandra Bloodworth  
John and Sandra Bloodworth  
John and Sandra Bloodworth

## For

Cooperative Ministries  
Cooperative Ministries  
Cooperative Ministries  
Cooperative Ministries  
Cooperative Ministries

# UMW News

## United Methodist Women

### Killingsworth Cleaning Product Collection

The First Sunday of every month is Killingsworth Cleaning Product collection. The Killingsworth bin resides beside the Emanon Sunday School Room in the Narthex. Any cleaning products will be appreciated, but they especially need paper towels, furniture polish, Pinesol and Tilex (or generic brands of these items). Thanks in advance for your support of this mission. Killingsworth is a home for women in crisis, supported by UMW. Contact Elizabeth McKee (691-8221 or [quiltteam@sc.rr.com](mailto:quiltteam@sc.rr.com)) if you have any questions.



# Awesome Church News

Trinity members are awesome – but not unexpected! In addition to your regular giving for the day-to-day operations of the church, and helping with the church's future through gifts for the exciting building program, you have also helped in many other financial ways. Thank you for your support for the Epworth Children's Home, Killingsworth Home, Habitat for Humanity, Kairos Ministries, youth missions and programs, local and other natural disasters, Operation Christmas Child, Salkehatchie, and the list goes on.

# Holiday Office Hours



## Holiday Hours



The church office will be closed the following days for the Christmas – New Year's Holidays:  
Friday - December 23; Monday - December 26;  
and Monday – January 2.

The office will be open from 9 AM to 2 PM on December 30. This is the last day before we close the financial accounting records, so please consider catching up your pledge for 2011.

# Older Adult Ministry Team News



Beginning a new year means looking toward the future. I get excited holding my brand new calendar and seeing all the spaces yet to fill and wondering what the new year will bring. While I may not make a list of New Year's Resolutions I do take a mental inventory of last year, and give some thought to how I want to plan to change or prioritize my time and resources for the new year. Planning doesn't guarantee success...there's a lot of follow through that is important to achieve success, but planning is a necessary first step.

According to TIME magazine, the ten most common resolutions are the following:

1. Lose weight and get fit.
2. Quit smoking.
3. Learn something new.
4. Eat healthier.
5. Get out of debt/save money.
6. Spend more time with family.
7. Travel to new places.
8. Reduce stress.
9. Volunteer.
10. Drink less.

If losing weight, exercise, and eating healthier are one of your goals, you are in luck! Trinity has a new WEIGHT WATCHERS program as well as a GET FIT exercise program, both right on campus to offer you convenience, support, and accountability.

Want to learn something new? Join a Bible study class and attend HILLCLIMBERS and you will be amazed at the range of interesting topics that our speakers cover. This month at HILLCLIMBERS our speaker will teach us about e-readers (Nooks and Kindles) and how to access the library's holdings. That will be a valuable tool. Plan on taking part in TRINITY 101 in April. This year we have several master gardeners who are working on an interesting hands-on program for us.

Older adults are also planning on a couple of DAY TRIPS this coming year. We enjoy traveling together. Details will be coming soon.

If you want to volunteer, there are tons of projects in and around Trinity that need your help. Ask for a ministry menu and you will find some things that suit your interest and talents. If you enjoy singing, OASIS is an excellent choice. Volunteering not only gives you the satisfaction of helping someone else but is a great way to reduce your own stress.

We also like to get together just to socialize and have fun (another stress reducer). BRIDGE meets on the third Tuesday at 2:00pm each month, and the date for the next BINGO will be on February 21, so be sure to mark your calendars.

The Older Adult Ministry Team wants to plan events and activities that are of interest and help to all of our members, friends, and community. We have a consultant who has volunteered to help us develop some short and long term goals. You may be asked to take part in a survey to provide information that will assist us in this goal, please cooperate because we need your ideas.

Plan to join us in 2012 for a healthier, happier NEW YEAR!

Kathy Griffin

Older Adult Ministry Team Chair

## Upcoming Events

### 2012 Committee Meetings



COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Please submit your requests for scheduled meetings and space requirements to the church office. Space and dates fill up quickly. The Event Request Form (Yellow Form) can be picked-up at the church office or found on our website ([www.trinityblythewood.com](http://www.trinityblythewood.com)) under Get Involved then on the Ministry Menu / Event Form page. All Event Request Forms should be submitted to Tracy Barnes at least 2 weeks in advance.

## Volunteers Needed



### Volunteers Needed at Cooperative Ministries Building

Due to a recent water heater leak in the Cooperative Ministries building, we need some help in replacing some flooring and building shelving for the food pantry. Please call the office to volunteer for this needy project.

# Cathy's Monthly Sermon Selection

“Mission Possible”

December 18, 2011

Luke 1:26-38

Rev. Cathy Jamieson-Ogg

Do you remember when you were a kid, playing football or baseball with your friends? There was a captain for each team and the captains got to choose players. You always wanted to be chosen early, not the very last one. We all want to be chosen, whether for a team, a job, an award, a role in a play, a promotion, a solo in the choir. To be chosen means to be valued, appreciated, needed. Mary, the mother of Jesus, was chosen as we see in Verses 28, 30 <sup>28</sup>*And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ...* <sup>30</sup>*The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.* How did Mary find favor with God? Did she have outstanding talents? Was she more holy than others? Why was she qualified to be the mother of Jesus?

Perhaps Mary was favored because of her family connections. Luke writes in Verse 27 Mary was *“... engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David...”* Mary was about to marry into a royal family. Like Kate Middleton who married Prince William, Mary was entering into a royal marriage that would elevate her status. Her fiancé, Joseph, was a descendent of King David, the second king of Israel. David was the first to unite the Israelites into a political and military powerhouse. He also strengthened Judaism by making Jerusalem the religious center. There were many kings who followed David, but none quite made the impact David did. Jesus will inherit his throne as the angel states in verse 32, <sup>32</sup>*... the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.* Not only was Mary marrying into King David's family, but she also had another family feather in her cap. She was a cousin of Elizabeth, wife of the priest Zechariah and mother of the prophet John the Baptist. Earlier in verse 5-6, we see the prominence of Zechariah and Elizabeth. <sup>5</sup>*In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.* <sup>6</sup>*Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord.* If God wanted to choose a mother for Jesus who had credible family connections, then Mary was the one.

Do we need a credible family tree in order to be chosen or used by God? If so, I'm out of luck. My dad used to say about our family tree, “Nuts don't fall far from the family tree.” If we need a royal family or righteous, blameless relatives in order to be chosen by God, none of us would qualify.

But maybe family connections aren't the reason God chose Mary. Maybe he chose her because she was young, pure and innocent. The word virgin appears three times in this passage. The original Greek term can mean unmarried, young or maiden. Mary was about 14 years old. In the Bible, miracle births usually happened to either young virgins or barren women. Sarah was 99 years old and barren, when God made her the mother of a nation. God chooses unlikely women for bearing children, which allows Him to show his power to create life. Perhaps God chose the Virgin Mary so He could make the birth of Jesus even more miraculous.

By using an innocent teenager, God shows how the young can do great things for his kingdom. Trinity's children and youth are proof of this. Our children helped pack hundreds of shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. This week, the children are going Christmas caroling at the Rice Home. The A-teens, a youth leadership team, teach lessons at Abide and reach out to inactive or new teens. Our Youth Band leads 8:45 worship once a month. On January 8<sup>th</sup>, our college students will lead in worship. These young people are modeling the truth stated in I Timothy 4:12, <sup>12</sup>*Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.*

Did God chose Mary because of her family connections or because of her young innocence? Perhaps neither of these qualified her to be the mother of Jesus. Maybe she was chosen because of her willingness to serve. Her most important qualification was a “yes” attitude as we see in verse 38, <sup>38</sup>*Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.”* Sure, she questioned God first, “How can this happen? I'm a young, unmarried virgin. I'm not qualified to be a mother.” But the angel reminded Mary of a powerful truth, <sup>37</sup>*For nothing will be impossible with God.*

None of us and yet all of us are qualified to be servants of God. We don't need a fancy family tree or holy habits. We don't need to live blamelessly. We are sinners, through and through, yet God chooses us as we read in I Peter 2:9, <sup>9</sup>*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.* God is the captain of the team, and he chooses all of us. All we need to do is say “yes.” Nothing is impossible for God, as the angel told Mary. God will overcome

# Monthly Sermon (continued)

excuses, “I don’t have the time. I don’t have the talent. I’ve never done that before.” “God doesn’t call the equipped, but rather he equips the called.” Right now, we need some Marys to work with children, youth, college age, new believers, Holy Grounds coffee, carpentry work, and hospital visitation. Will you say “*Here am I, the servant of the Lord*”? This morning, pray about how God will use you. Maybe your Christmas present to Jesus this year is your gift of service.

Mother Mary  
By Cathy Jamieson-Ogg

Mother Mary  
God’s chosen one  
Marvelous Mary  
Mother of God’s Son  
Innocent Mary  
Just a young teen  
Humble Mary  
Could you have seen  
Holy Mary  
What was ahead  
Loving Mary  
Your son would be dead  
Giving Mary  
You gave him to die  
Suffering Mary  
While you stood by  
Grieving Mary  
He rose from the grave  
Amazing Mary  
The world he did save  
Mother Mary

## Contemporary Worship News

### **Goodbye Sami Makhuli - Contemporary Worship Leader**

We pray a blessing upon Sami Makhuli who leaves his staff role as Contemporary Worship Leader. Sami has been with us for three years, and has strengthened our 8:45 service. He had spiritual and musical gifts, and worked well with our Sonrise Band. He helped improve interaction and response from the congregation, engaging us to sing, praise, clap and participate more actively. He also wrote songs that were meaningful and appropriate for the theme or sermon of the day. We will miss Sami and pray God’s blessings as he focuses on his health, the reason he is leaving.

### **Interim Plan for Contemporary Worship**

We will continue to grow the seeds Sami planted. Sonrise will continue to sing for us and with us. We will experiment with some changes in the service as different leaders play a role. Mark King will lead Sonrise for January 8 and 15. Youth Worship Band will lead January 22 and Vance Sharpe, a local professional musician, will lead January 29. Vance and his wife, Jeannie, have travelled the nation doing contemporary and Southern gospel music. His children grew up in our Child Care Center, and he and Darren Rhodes sang at Blythefest last May. You can find out more at [www.thesharps.com](http://www.thesharps.com).



# PRAYER & WORSHIP

We gather for prayer, and reading the Bible, and singing the songs of David.

## Prayers of the People

Together let us pray for...

### The People of this Congregation

**Hospitalized** – Members: Nan Stafford; Family of Members: Grace Gordon (Carol Ward's mother).

**Recently discharged or illness** – Members: Debi Best, Greg Best, Barbara Edge, Brady Knutson; Family of Members: None.

**Homebound** – Members: Becky Boyte, Bill Hoffman, Hilda Malloy, Ann McMahon, Lellan Smith; Family of Members: Peggy Calder (Beckie Davis' mother), Hazel Robertson (Greg Robertson's mother).

**Nursing Homes** – Members: Scrip Anthony - Life Care; Lida Corley, Della Turner - NHC; Gladys Cross - Magnolia Manor; Nan Stafford - Waterford; Sara Wilson - Sandpiper Convalescent, Mt. Pleasant; Family of Members: Dot George (Betty and Leon George's sister-in-law), Edith Geiger (Brenda Crain's mother) - Palmetto; Dorothy Peters (Kim Conant's mother) - MA; Betty Smith (Brownie Hart's mother) - Harbor Chase in Aiken; Myrtle Thompson (Ellen Roberts mother) - Wildewood Downs Long Term Care.

**Military** – Members: Jacob Brown, Brandon Coker, Jonathan Dillensynder, Chris Zell; Family of Members: LTC. Christopher Benson (Warren Benson's nephew), Maj. Greg Cullison (cousin of Robyn Leadbitter), Kristina George (Betty and Leon George's granddaughter), Chris Hanna (Liza Johnson's brother), Shawn Harvey (Debbie Coriarty's nephew); Stephen Knight (Tom Knight's and Fran Elrod's son), Rob McMahon, Maj. Clay Reynolds (Jeanne and Barry Reynolds' nephew), Andy Roberts (Ellen & Jim Roberts' son), Will Sipes (Melissa George Sipes' husband); Chelsea Storey (Bob & Stephanie Storey's granddaughter), Alan Taylor (Suzette Taylor's son).

**Expectant Moms** – Members: Shelley Ard, Sally Caver, Darilyn Galloway-Coker; Family of Members: Jessica Faulkner (Herman Rich's daughter).

### The Concerns of the World

For those who continue to suffer from the global and local economic crisis: the unemployed, underemployed, those who face foreclosure, homeless, children living in poverty, retired persons who lost their retirement fund, and those persons and businesses who have gone bankrupt. May we pray for a stable economy, and wise stewardship of our financial resources.

### The Concerns of our Church

For the New Year to be one of growth (spiritually, numerically, and financially) so that we can build our new facility, expand our ministries and reach more people with the good news of God's love.

### The Communion of Saints

The staff and congregation offer condolences to Diane McConegly following the death of her mother, Diane Ducate on December 7; to Ken Trogden and Amy Andrews following the death of their father, Ken Trogden, Sr. on December 12; to Johnny Davis following the death of his mother, Mary Jean Davis on December 17; and to Bob Vincent following the death of his mother, Corinne Vincent on December 17.

*Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**PRAYER CHAIN** - To share a prayer request with the church email [prayerrequests@trinityblythewood.com](mailto:prayerrequests@trinityblythewood.com) or call Sherrie Payne at 917-3767 or 753-2287.

**LOVE LINE** - To receive a meal following a hospitalization or for a funeral, contact Carolyn Pregnall at 735-7696 or email [capregnall@aol.com](mailto:capregnall@aol.com)

### Pastoral Care

In order to provide effective pastoral care for the congregation, Rev. Cathy, and Rev. Scott need to be informed. You may contact us any of the following methods: prayer cards (in the pew racks), or you may email us or call the church office 786-1637.

### For Emergencies

Rev. Cathy cell phone:  
463-1463

Rev. Scott cell phone:  
608-2278

# Worship At Trinity This Month

<b>January 1, 2012</b> <b>Epiphany</b> Special Event or Sacrament: One Service at 11:00 - Communion Sermon Text: Matthew 2:1-12 Sermon Title: "Wise Seekers" <b>Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson-Ogg Preaching</b>	<b>January 22, 2012</b> <b>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</b> Special Event or Sacrament: 8:45 Youth Band Sermon Text: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Sermon Title: "Second Chances" <b>Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson-Ogg Preaching</b>
<b>January 8, 2012</b> <b>Baptism of the Lord</b> Special Event or Sacrament: Reaffirmation of Baptism Sermon Text: Mark 1:4-11 Sermon Title: "Washed Away" <b>Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson-Ogg Preaching</b>	<b>January 29, 2012</b> <b>4th Sunday after Epiphany</b> Special Event or Sacrament: 8:45 Vance Sharpe Leading Music Sermon Text: I Corinthians 8:-13 Sermon Title: "Stumbling Block" <b>Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson-Ogg Preaching</b>
<b>January 15, 2012</b> <b>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</b> Special Event or Sacrament: Human Relations Day Sermon Text: Sermon Title: <b>Guest Preacher Preaching</b>	

Children's Moments		
January 1	11:00am	No Children's Moments
January 8	8:45am 11:00am	Julie Parks Arlene Andrews
January 15	8:45am 11:00am	Stacey Knutson Asha Ellison
January 22	8:45am 11:00am	Betty Hillyard Jo Williams & Alicia Hinson
January 29	8:45am 11:00am	Rev. Cathy Melanie Jinnette

Greeters		
January 1	11:00am	Maree Price & Matt Bell
January 8	8:45am 11:00am	Debbie Corarity & Claudia Morse Edmund Monteith & Darlene Walker
January 15	8:45am 11:00am	Don & Robin Owens Linda Erwin & Terry Povey
January 22	8:45am 11:00am	Alan Hay & Melisa Sipes Allan & Carolyn Pregnall
January 29	8:45am 11:00am	Cathy & Brook Boone Dorothy Fronczek & Michelle Rich

Lay Readers		
January 1	11:00am	Kitty Farnell
January 8	8:45am 11:00am	Cindy Brown Caleb Williams
January 15	8:45am 11:00am	Koehler Beard Brian Lee
January 22	8:45am 11:00am	Terry Corl Pamela Wood
January 29	8:45am 11:00am	Diedre Murphy Lee Porter

Hedge Prayer		
January 1	11:00am	Gale Coston
January 8	8:45am 11:00am	Aggie Davis Audrey Brown
January 15	8:45am 11:00am	Ralph Young Liz Humphries
January 22	8:45am 11:00am	Debbie Coriarty Elizabeth McKee
January 29	8:45am 11:00am	Sandy Hanna Gayle Bell

## Dates For Youth Ministry

- January 8 Abide 5pm  
The A Teen 7pm
- January 15 Abide 5pm  
The A Teen 7pm
- January 22 Abide 5pm  
The A Teen 7pm
- January 29 Abide 5pm  
The A Teen 7pm

WANT INFO, PICTURES, VIDEOS?

**Go to [abideyouth.com](http://abideyouth.com)**

Find us on  
**facebook**

["Abide at Trinity"](#)

## Food Schedule for Abide

- January 1 No Abide (New Year's Day)
- January 8 Anne Marie Gayle & Dottie Bratton
- January 15 Theresa Hanna & Tzarina Salomon
- January 22 Cathy Boone & Chris Crout
- January 29 Terri Anton & Tara Morrison

## Abide Blog

This Blog is for all Youth and Parents of Trinity United Methodist Church. It exists to support the Christian faith, to bring some weekly encouragement and to challenge growth. It also allows the Youth Director to go on long, long rants about the Bible.

To subscribe to this blog go to [abideyouth.com](http://abideyouth.com) enter your email address and you will receive notifications of new posts by email.

Want to stay informed on all that is going on with Abide and the Youth at Trinity, send an email to [abide@trinityblythewood.com](mailto:abide@trinityblythewood.com) and you will be added to our new youth email list.

## Abide Talks - Book of Mark

Follow the Abide talks on the Book of Mark on the Abide Blog (see information below). You can even watch the videos of the talks.

## our vision

**Love God** - We want youth to study and learn about the living gospel. Jesus, desires a real relationship with us.

**Love Others** - We want our youth to reach out to others and share the love of Jesus with them through both their words and actions.

**Love Self** - We want youth to find their identity and purpose in Christ. We want them to have accountable relationships where they can learn to receive love from God and others.

We believe in walking youth through a process of discipleship and our programs are built that way.

*John 15:9-12*

*"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. This is my commandment, that you*



## our ministries

### Love God

**Abide** - Join us every Sunday night from 5-7! Abide is for all youth grades 6-12. Come and get a free dinner and learn more about the living gospel. We meet in the CLC (Christian Life Center).

**Senior High Sunday School** - Senior High meets every Sunday at 10:00 am (in between church services) to talk about issues surrounding today's youth. We meet in the green youth building.

**Junior High Sunday School** - Junior High meets every Sunday at 10:00am to study the Bible and the life of Christ in and fun and in-depth way. We meet in the back room of the green youth building.

### Love Others

**Outside Inside** - This is a bi-monthly outreach night for all Sr. High students on Friday nights from 8-11 pm. Come here to eat junk food, watch movies, play games and hangout. This is a great place to start if you are new to the church or the area. Dates will be posted on Facebook (Abide at Trinity) and in the church newsletter and bulletin.

### Love Self

**Small Groups** - This is our new small group ministry for youth that desire to move deeper into relationships with God and others. Small groups meet weekly at different times and locations. If you are interested in joining a small group email Mark King!

# Childcare Center News

Happy New Year! We are excited about "Our" New Year. I'm sure that this year will go by very fast. We will be doing exciting things in the coming year.

This month we will be talking about letters J, W, and K, number 6, color of Blue, and the shape of a rectangle. Our character education will be "Please and Thank You". Our concepts will be Planets, Space, and Our World. Our Bible focus will be "God Made Night and Day" based on Genesis 1:1-5, 14-19, "Jacob Took a Trip" based on Genesis 28:10-22, "Joshua Led People to a New Home" based on Joshua 3:1-5, 12-17, 4:1-11, 18-24, "Jesus Taught from a Boat" based on Luke 5:1-11.



Our Breakfast with Santa went really well. The children had a great time. The breakfast was delicious. We want to thank all of the people that helped make the breakfast a success. We couldn't have done it without you.

The Christmas program was wonderful. The children did a great job on the music and dancing. They looked so ready for Christmas. We hope it helped keep the true meaning of Christmas in everyone's heart. Thank you for helping us with the refreshments. We want to say thank you to all the parents for your support of our special events.

We would like to thank all of the parents for all of our Christmas gifts and the monetary donations to the PTO. We appreciate you thinking of us in such a kind way. Thanks for sharing your children with us each day.

We look forward to a fun filled year. We hope that everyone has a wonderful New Year and please let us know if we can help you in any way.

In Christ,

*Missy Hagoood*

# Trinitree News

What a day of giving! Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, your church helped 80 families (more than 250 children) with an outpouring of generosity for those in our community less fortunate in this Season. These families' names are given to us by the local school counselors who help identify those children who may be in need of assistance. This year, families from Trinitree were able to give their children Christmas presents, warm coats, and over 2600 age appropriate books. Additionally, large bags of donated groceries were given to each family. Again, many thanks.



# Cooperative Ministry News



Mission Statement: To Provide the Midland's Poor, Help for Today and Hope for Tomorrow.

Cooperative Ministry - Blythewood Phone: (803) 786-0092

Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm

## A Cooperative Ministry Moment:

This month we like to thank the youth of Sandy Level Baptist Church. They did a tremendous food drive by standing outside the IGA and Food Lion and asking people to buy some extra groceries for The Cooperative Ministry. They did this for 2 Saturday mornings and collected a total of 1200 lbs. I truly enjoyed meeting some of them. Besides that they collected \$328.28. Great job!! Also thanks to the Crossing Community Church for their monthly donation. The Community Thanksgiving Service offering was \$501.48. We are very blessed to have such great support in the community.

Jane came to see us with a request for assistance with her water bill. She was a single working mother with two children ages 8 and 1. Last year Jane fell behind on the mortgage payments of her house and went in for closure. In order to keep her house for her and her two children she had to pay extra mortgage payments and is required to make an extra half payment in the middle of the month. We worked up her budget and her paycheck and a small amount of alimony makes that she has a small surplus every month. However, that is taken up by the extra half payment she has to make. Because of the mortgage payments she fell behind on her monthly bills. We were able to pay \$100.00 towards her water bill. Food was also scarce at her house and we could help her with that as well.

Another service The Cooperative Ministry provides is the distribution of food boxes for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which provides free, healthy foods each month to help stretch the food dollar. How do you qualify? You must be 60 years or older; have a low monthly income and live in Richland county. Once a month the boxes will be distributed at the Cooperative Ministry in Blythewood. If you know anybody who would qualify please ask them to contact us.

During the month of November we served 71 clients: utility 15; rent 30; food 35; clothing 12 and other 2. We volunteered 87 hours.

“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever. Amen!” 1 Peter 4:10-11.

The Holidays are behind us and we start a new year. We would like for you to consider volunteering with us either as a receptionist or a counselor. We are asking for two mornings a month, just 8 hours. Maybe you know somebody else who would like to help us. We will train you and once you feel comfortable you will be placed with an experienced counselor. If interested please call Hans Vradenburg at 691-9282 or e-mail [hansvra@yahoo.com](mailto:hansvra@yahoo.com).



Thanks to all of you who answered our need for food last month. As you know we never are without requests for food. We also recently had some requests for bathing soap, detergent and toilet tissue. If you would rather make a monetary contribution you can write a check made out to Trinity UMC and on the memo line please write “CM food bank.” The money will go into a designated account and you will be able to get a tax deduction.

Thanks to all of you for helping us to help others.

## Trinity Assistance Bridge Fund News

Your generosity for the Trinity Assistance Bridge (“TAB”) fund helped 173 individual cases for 2011 and we paid \$8157 towards their utilities, rent assistance, food, and gas. As you know, this fund is supported only by the collection plate coins and checks written by some members who support this worthwhile community effort. The church coordinates with the Cooperative Ministries Blythewood office in assisting those in need as we both attempt to help individuals and families get back on their feet when faced with financial shortfalls.

# Adult Education & Fellowship Opportunities

## Trinity Book Club

The Trinity Book Club will meet **Thursday, January 12th, at 7:00pm**. Come join us for fellowship and lively book discussion! We meet on the second Thursday of the month in a members' home. We enjoy casual, fun evenings and read a wide variety of books.

At the January meeting we will be discussing **Sister** by Rosamund Lupton and **Night Road** by Kristin Hannah; February meeting **Catherine the Great** by Robert K. Massie; March meeting **Turn of Mind** by Alice LaPlante; April meeting **The American Heiress** by Daisy Goodwin; May meeting **The Last Child** by John Hart.

If you would like more information, contact Sherrie Payne (753-2287) or Sandra Bloodworth (754-5596).



## Growing Through Divorce Support Group

**Shandon United Methodist Church**  
3407 Devine Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29205  
Anne Cox - 256-8383, Ext. 115

To assist people who are approaching divorce or who have already divorced, Shandon United Methodist Church ("SUMC") offers an 8 week support group that begins on the third Tuesday in January and the second Tuesday in June and October (6:30-8:30 pm). The sessions allow people to begin letting go of painful feelings and to affirm a new sense of self worth as they develop friends in a supportive environment. For over 15 years, these groups have encouraged hundreds of people in the community.

Each week, participants meet in the same small group, from 6:30-8:30 pm. Topics for discussion come from Jim Smoke's excellent book, *Growing Through Divorce*. Group leaders are caring individuals who have been divorced a good while and moved on in positive directions.

Open to anyone, pre-registration is necessary and on a first come, first served basis, until groups are filled. Please contact staff member Anne Cox, as soon as possible and a week before the start date at 256-8383, Ext. 115.

A \$14 book fee is payable to SUMC. Participants are expected to attend all sessions.



## Trinity Supper Club

**Small Dinner Groups:** It's time for planning our Winter/Spring small group dinners known as Supper Club. We meet monthly in different members homes for a meal and opportunity to enjoy Christian fellowship. Everyone contributes to the meal, and we rotate hosts, and dining partners. If you are interested in joining these groups, please contact Susan King 735-1148 or [susan.king129@yahoo.com](mailto:susan.king129@yahoo.com) by December 1st. We will start in January.



## Weight Watchers Meetings

Trinity is now hosting the Weight Watchers On Site Program. The cost is \$98, per individual, for a 10 week series. Meetings are on Tuesdays at 6:00pm in Learning Cottage # 5. If you have any questions please contact Lana Branham at [lgailb2002@yahoo.com](mailto:lgailb2002@yahoo.com) or 691-1404 or Tracy Barnes at [tbarnes@trinityblythewood.com](mailto:tbarnes@trinityblythewood.com) or 786-1637. If you would like to join, please come to any of the meetings.



## Dates To Remember

- January 1: **11:00 Worship Service only**  
**No 8:45 Service**  
**No Sunday School**
- January 2: **Church Office Closed**
- January 9: **Susannah Wesley UMW Circle Meeting**  
 7:00pm
- January 10: **Frances Creech UMW Circle Meeting**  
 10:00am  
**Ruby Brown UMW Circle Meeting**  
 10:00am, Women Growing in Faith Classroom  
**Trustee Committee Meeting**  
 6:30pm, Emanon Classroom
- January 22: **New Member Class**  
 9:45am, Welcome Center  
 5:00pm, Beef O'Brady's  
**The Lord's Children ("TLC")**  
 5:00pm, CLC Gym
- January 29: **Volunteer Fair & Breakfast**  
 9:45am, CLC Gym  
**New Member Class**  
 9:45am, Welcome Center  
 5:00pm, Learning Cottage # 5

## Weekly Activities

- Abide**, Sun. 5:00pm (for more info. please see Youth Section)
- Al-Anon**, Thurs. 6:00pm, Breath of Life Lutheran Church
- Alcoholics Anonymous**, Tues. 8:00pm, Breath of Life Lutheran Church, 300 Main Street, Blythewood
- Boy Scouts**, Mon. 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- Cub Scouts**, Tues. 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- Chancel Choir**, Wed. 7:30pm, Choir Room
- Disciple I**, Sun. 5:00pm, Seeker's Classroom
- Disciple II**, Thurs. 6:00pm, Seeker's Classroom
- Dulcimores**, 2nd & 4th Thurs. 2:00pm, Learning Cottage # 5
- Get Fit**, Tues. & Thurs. 9:00am, CLC Gym
- Girl Scouts**, 1st & 3rd Thurs. 6:00pm, Youth Building
- Jewel Tones Rehearsal**, 1st & 3rd Sun. 7:00pm, Choir Room
- OASIS**, Wed. 5:00pm, Choir Room
- Resound Handbell Rehearsal**, Wed. 6:00pm, Seeker's Classroom
- Sonrise Band**, Tues. 7:30pm, Sanctuary
- Staff Meeting**, Tues. 9:30am, Seeker's Classroom
- Stephen Ministry Supervision Meeting**, 1st & 3rd Mon. 6:30pm, Emanon & Seekers Classroom
- TOPS**, Thurs. 6:30pm, Learning Cottage # 5
- Weight Watchers**, Tues. 6:00pm, Learning Cottage # 5
- Women's Bible Study**, Mon. 9:30am, Seeker's Classroom
- Youth Worship Band Practice**, Sun. 4:00pm, Fellowship Hall



Office (803) 786-1637  
 TCCC (803) 786-4999  
 Fax (803) 786-6252  
 Blythewood Counseling  
 Center (803) 739-4272

**Office Hours**  
 Monday-Thursday  
 9:00am-5:00pm  
 Friday  
 9:00am-2:00pm

**NON-PROFIT ORG.**  
**US POSTAGE**  
**P-A-I-D**  
**BLYTHEWOOD, SC**  
**PERMIT NO. 9**

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors*

*Join us for Worship*  
 8:45 a.m. - Contemporary Service  
 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
 11:00 am - Traditional Service