

# THE RIDER



## Trinity United Methodist Church

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We answer God's call to impact lives for eternity through ministry, mission and worship.

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Volume: 2012 Issue 4

April 2012

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## SPECIAL LENT AND EASTER SERVICES

April 1<sup>st</sup> - 11:00 am - The Easter Cantata,  
Annual Easter Egg Hunt on the church  
lawn at 5:00 pm

April 5<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday Communion  
at 12:00 pm and 5:30 pm

April 6<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm Good Friday Service

April 8<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service,  
breakfast will be served by the United  
Methodist Men following the Sunrise  
Service

9:45 am - Sunday School, the adult classes  
will be combined in the large classroom in  
the education wing.

11:00 am - Easter Celebration Service.





## The Pastor's Corner

### THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Yes, we are trying. We are trying to keep up. The church struggles with this. As a history major, I remember studying about WWII. Following The Great War, Europe was exhausted. Coffers were depleted. While France and Russia settled into healing, Germany struggled to survive...and to face the future. As Germany faced the future, they also put stock in modernizing. When WWII broke out the Allies discovered how unprepared they were. While they had been sitting back, Germany had modernized and were stepping into the future. France and Russia's military was outdated and unprepared. Even Britain and the US scrambled to catch up. The Church can be like this. In our homes we have cable, internet, cell phones, and televisions. Most people do not keep the radio on; they keep the television on. We don't sit and listen to the news, we watch it. Ours has become a visual world. Ours has become an electronic world. We in the Church continue to struggle with how to fit in this world. How do we keep our comfort and stay open. People are use to visuals: How do we become visual? People are use to getting information sooner...not wait for print or "snail mail" as some call it. Sometimes we find that we are unprepared for the future and even the present. What steps do we take? What pace to we take?

One of the places we are trying to catch up is with email. Council voted to increase Trinity's use of email. This means that **this is the final mailed copy of the Newsletter.** Starting in May, we will be emailing the Newsletter. Now don't get all worried. We know that some people do not have email; so, we will also have some printed copies. These will be left on the table in the hall. If you presently received the Newsletter and we do not have your email address, please send your email address to [www.trinity-umc.com](http://www.trinity-umc.com). We are especially thoughtful that some of us have moved away, and we want to stay in touch. Please, please, send us your email.

In addition to the Newsletter, we are also planning to replace the "green cards". Council voted to send the Committee reminders via email. So we have sent the last of the postcards. We are trying to take advantage of technology that many of us are using to save the congregation's money. The money we can save in ink, paper, copier cost per copy, and mailing expense is substantial. We want to be good stewards.

We are trying. We are trying to keep up and modernize. We do not want to loose our family feel. We do not want to leave anyone out. If you think of a group or a concern that you think we haven't thought of, please share that concern with us. We want to learn. We don't want to forget about anyone. Thanks for working with us. Thanks for playing with us. We are trying, Teresa

## ATONEMENT

Aren't prisms beautiful? As light shines through a prism, it divides into all kinds of colors. Depending on your point of viewing, various colors will appear. Some facets display green while others show red. Some are violet while others are yellow. All the colors are there, but where are you standing when the light comes through? The Doctrine of Atonement is like this. The Doctrine of Atonement is one of the most important doctrines the church has. For the Children of Israel, Rosh Shoshanna celebrates God giving Abraham a ram to replace Isaac. The story continues in Leviticus with the offering of two scapegoats. One goat is killed and his blood poured out for the sins of the people. The other goat is beaten for the sins of the people. If the goat makes it down the beating line alive, it is taken out into the wilderness. (Lev. 16) In the Mideast, blood sacrifice was the way to go. Human sacrifice was the practice. An eye for an eye; blood for blood. The grace or good news to the Jews was that Yahweh allowed animal blood to be substituted for human blood. Ergo: a ram substituted for Isaac; the goat instead of the people of Israel.

Atonement is the teaching that asks: how does my relationship with God get repaired when I sin? AT ONE MENT. How can I become one with God again? One view of the prism is this doctrine of substitution. Followers of Jesus, look at Jesus' death as the updated version of this Old Testament atonement. Look at Jesus' death through a prism. Some see the death as a substitution. He dies for us. The human sacrifice replaces the animal sacrifice.

Within this substitution atonement the prism breaks out more colors. Jesus takes our place, my place. He takes our place but to whom is the sacrifice directed? One facet says that because God is perfect, he cannot allow the imperfect to come into his presence. So the blood is used to cover us (expiation). Yahweh requires the blood of an unblemished sacrifice for himself.

Another facet says that it is not Yahweh that has to be appeased. It is the Devil. When humans sin, they lose their souls to the devil. In order for us to become one with God again, we must be bought back or ransomed. Biblical scholars call this the Ransom theory of atonement. Jesus died to buy us back. "You were bought with a price. You have been 'redeemed'."

"Jews want signs; Greeks want wisdom".

Not all cultures are based on blood sacrifice. Another one of the facets in the Doctrine of Atonement is that Jesus died because he would not desert us. If he had just gotten quiet. If he just stopped standing for the reuniting of God with sinners. If he had just clung to the religious rules instead of rightness in the heart, they would not have killed him. If he had abandoned his call, the religious would have left him alone. He would not have been killed. Here the focus is on love and faithfulness. "God loved us while we were yet sinners". His life was not taken because blood was required; his life was taken, his blood was shed because like his Heavenly Father, he would not abandon us. Like others before him, his life was taken because he remained faithful to the course God had called him to proclaim. The Doctrine of Incarnation in part proclaims that God and Man united to show us the way, to walk the walk, to not just tell but to show the way to live.

Each age seems to view the meaning and the gift of Christ's life and death through their own prism. Different denominations look through different facets. Substitution. Expiation. Ransomed and redeemed. Faithfulness and incarnation. These are all facets of The Doctrine of Atonement. I don't know through which facet you view the death of Jesus. They are different. But they all have the same aim. How do we become one with God? How do we reconnect and find wholeness? God seeks us out. God goes ahead of us to reunite us so that once again, we are walking with him. Whichever path you take, may you experience the presence of the One who made you and calls to you; may you find the wholeness and the healing, and may this walk grant you a life of love and grace.

### **LOOKING FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

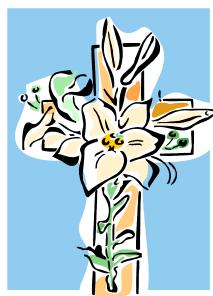
Yes, yes, yes, I know. But here we are. We continue to grow in numbers and in children. Part of the vows that each of us takes at a child's baptism is that we will support their nurture and development into followers of Christ. The teachers of the 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> grades said they would take the class for the year and they are. But their year ends at the end of this summer. Christ and the children need someone to pick up from there. The mission is a one year commitment. Please pray and open your heart to the Lord. Is this a place where Christ is calling you?

### **“Come Together”**

On April 29<sup>th</sup> we are having a joint worship service. Last fall, Administrative Council voted to have a joint worship service on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday's. January got past us but we are now prepared. So, the last Sunday of this month we will gather for Sunday school at 9:00 am and gather for worship at 10:00 am. We appreciate everyone being flexible. This may be early for some and late for others. Thank you so much for coming together. I will ask you to be gracious and play as some of the same seats are claimed at both services. Some of you may need to give up your seat. This might be a Sunday to stump the pastor. I do hope that we will come together and celebrate God's goodness.

### **Easter Flower Cross**

Please remember to bring a live flower on Easter Sunday to put on the Easter Cross!



## SHERBOURNE NEWS



We will be meeting at Sherbourne on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am to put together bags of food. Thanks to all who have supported the food pantry through gifts of non-perishable items. This is especially helpful these days, because there are more people who come for food bags. Proteins (canned tuna, ham, chicken, turkey, or peanut butter) are especially needed, but any non-perishable food items are greatly appreciated.

## Trinity's Annual Yard Sale

Yard Sale. It's that time of year again when you need to begin collecting your "disposable treasures" to donate to the church for our annual yard sale, sponsored by the Fellowship Class. We are raising money to purchase building supplies for the adult mission trip to Franklin, West Virginia, in August. The sale will be Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. – noon. We need lots of help, especially from 6:30 – 8 a.m. to help carry out tables and items and again at noon to help carry tables back inside the church. The 4 days prior to the yard sale, we will set up stations around the Sanctuary and ask that you pre-sort your items to the proper station, so that we can carry them outside and quickly set up "departments" around the parking lot that morning. Remember, we are looking for items that still have lots of good use left in them, and would be appealing to a new owner. Please no old TV's or computers -- they are not sellable items.



## UMW NEWS

The next UMW meeting will be on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Trinity UMW welcomes Susan Mc Cannon, Executive Director of the Shepherd's Center, as our featured guest speaker for our April 12, 2012 meeting. We invite everyone to join us for this program. Susan will talk about the programs sponsored by Shepherd's Center which is located at Lucy Corr Village. The Shepherd's Center provides many opportunities for our senior citizens as volunteers and in learning something new in their Adventures in Learning sessions. Please come out and hear what is available in our community. Ask Ann Wright about her service as a volunteer! The program starts at 7:00 pm with a twenty minute presentation followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be served.

The UMW ladies thank you for your support of our Easter Egg project. We sold around 300 eggs with a profit of \$1,000 which will be used to pay on the principal of the mortgage. Thanks for your support!

### **UMCOR Kits For Annual Conference**

Every year the Trinity United Methodist Women (UMW) participate in the kits for conference drive for Annual Conference. The kits are basic items gathered for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for world-wide distribution. There are four types of kits: birthing kit, school kit, baby/layette kit, and health kit. Trinity UMW will be putting together two types of kits for collection at Annual Conference in June.

The items needed for the health kit are: 1 hand towel (15x25 in. to 17x27 in.) no kitchen towels, 1 washcloth, 1 comb (large, sturdy, not pocket-size), 1 metal nail file or fingernail clippers, 1 bar of soap (3 oz and up), 1 toothbrush (single brush only in original wrapper/no child's brushes), 6 adhesive sterile bandages (Band-Aids), NO TOOTHPASTE PLEASE. UMCOR buys toothpaste with appropriate expiration dates.

The items needed for the baby/layette kit are: 6 cloth diapers, 2 shirts or one-piece body suits (size 3-6months), 2 baby washcloths, 2 gowns or sleepers (size 3-6 months), 2 diaper pins, 1 sweater open in front (size 3-6 months), 2 receiving blankets.

The UMW would like to invite everyone to participate in this year's kits for conference drive. Items will be due on Sunday, May 6, 2012. You may want to collect a few of the listed items or complete an entire kit. All items must be new. Any monetary donations will be used to complete the kits or to pay for processing and shipping. Because of the strict rules in other countries, please do not add items not listed or put more than the listed quantity. Personal notes or cards are also not allowed. Please place items in designated boxes in the hall. The UMW will inventory donations and add any items needed to complete the kits. Thank you for prayerfully considering this project. The full list of UMCOR kits can be found at <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies> . For further information or questions contact [bettsawyern@yahoo.com](mailto:bettsawyern@yahoo.com) .

## **Communication Committee News**



The Communications Committee is trying to improve the way we provide information to members of the church. You can find out what's going on in the church through the monthly newsletter, Sunday bulletin, announcements, the website, Facebook, and now through email. Trinity UMC is now sending the monthly newsletter, events, fundraisers, and activities by email. Some of you may already be receiving these emails. If not, and you would like to be added to the Trinity UMC email distribution list, then send an email to [Keith.Nowlin@msn.com](mailto:Keith.Nowlin@msn.com) and put the following in the email subject line: **"Please add (your name) to the TUMC email list."** You can also go to Trinity's UMC website at: <http://www.trinity-umc.com> and request to be added to the website by scrolling down on the Homepage and click on the following: [If you would like to be added to the Trinity's UMC email distribution list](#) (and follow the directions to be added to the email distribution list).

Did you know that Trinity UMC has a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TUMC.Chester> It's a great place to interact with other church members and to let others know what's going on in the church.

For more information, contact Keith Nowlin, Trinity UMC Communications @ [Keith.Nowlin@msn.com](mailto:Keith.Nowlin@msn.com) or cell: 804-895-3225

## About Our People

\* Trinity's April Birthdays - If you don't see your birthday here, let us know! Our information is not complete, and we would like to have everyone's birthday listed. Call and let us know. Happy Birthday to the following folks:

April 3	Sherri Diven
April 5	Bobby Donovan
	Alyssa Sandlin
	Rod Scott
April 8	Robin Stariha
April 9	Vickie Beck
	Patricia Murdock
	Judy Scott
April 10	Cody Short
April 11	Sherry Farrow
April 12	Dean Rasmussen
April 14	Alan Rouze
April 16	Rachel Sismour
April 19	Chase Watson
	Diane Springfield
April 20	Ashley Nowlin
	Nicholas O'Shea
April 21	Joe Kump
April 24	Maury Beck
	Brian Leinberger
April 26	Bill Kinsley
	Tony Roach
April 27	Bill Bailey
April 28	Joshua Huff
April 29	Kevin Sandlin
	James Stariha
	Terri Watson
April 30	Jane Costello
	Jack Sismour



## UMFS VISIT

Trinity United Methodist church will be visiting UMFS. We will be going on Friday, the 20th of April and will leave Trinity @ 5:30 PM. Anyone who would like to come, please join us!

## MISSION NEWS



We continue to have a steady flow of Missions Projects going on at Trinity.

We have started going to Safe Haven, which is a place for mentally ill adults, and doing a dinner there once a month. This is a safe environment where members can take their children to participate and learn about giving of themselves at an early age. We have already had several children attend and also, Zak Sandlin in his boy scout uniform working on his badges. The next feeding is coming up on Monday, March 26.

On April 28, our church is participating in the Rebuild Richmond project. Members go and help repair or build on homes of people that cannot afford to pay someone. Our church also donated \$1000 from Missions for this rebuild in honor of Ed Hazzard for all the years he devoted and continues to devote toward missions. If you want to sign up for this, see Al Tougas or Harold Saunders. It will be a great day!!

The Fellowship Class will be having their annual yard sale on May 5 with the money collected going to the Adult Mission trip. Help is needed for set up, workers that day, and break down. If you have items to donate, look for the info coming up!!

The Adult Mission Trip is scheduled for August 19-24 at Franklin, WV. This is where we have gone the past few years and worked on Habitat communities. A deposit of \$15 per person is needed by July 15. Please see Karen Poole if you are interested in going.

We continue the Sherbourne Food bags every month. Donations of non-perishable foods, especially Cereal, Peanut Butter, Tuna and other canned meats, are needed. You can leave them in the narthex and Deborah Napolitano welcomes anyone to come and participate in this project.

As you can see we have a variety of projects that all ages can participate in and we encourage our whole congregation to participate in at least one of these projects. We are really trying to start to do some hands on Missions so that we can get out and feel the needs of our community! Hope you'll join us!

Beth Wilkes, Missions Chairperson

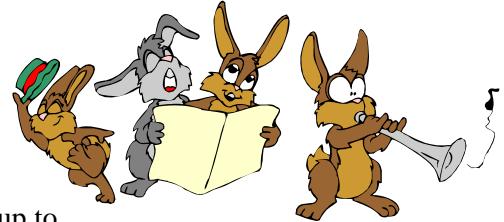


United Methodist Men News  
*“Making Christ the Center of Our Lives”*

The UMM will meet the second Saturday, April 7, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. at the church. Remember, all men are invited to join us for breakfast and fellowship.

The UMM will be serving breakfast after the Easter Sunrise Service on April 8, 2012. We would appreciate additional helpers. If you would like to help, please join us at 5 am to help prepare the breakfast.

## Music News



Thanks to all who participated in the talent show! You totally lived up to the saying, "the show must go on". Thanks to David Heird for being our Master of Ceremonies, the stage crew, David Bailey for lighting and Derek Bailey for sound. It was a fun evening and we raised \$1,328.00 to go toward the youth mission trip and refurbishing bells. Thanks so much for your support. I am looking for a theme for next year, so if you have any ideas, please let me know by phone or e-mail.

The Trinity Chancel Choir will be presenting a special program on April 1<sup>st</sup> at the 11:00 service. "The Song Everlasting" incorporates hymns, spirituals and folksongs, and intersects these musical moments with the story of Christ's ministry among us. Please plan to join us for this worshipful service.

Odyssey is busy working on their musical to be presented on Youth Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. We could use additional youth to help us tell about the parables as described in "Once Upon a Parable". We meet at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. Please join us and be a part of this production.

Angels and Treble Clefs are presenting "Life School Musical" on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Plan to join us for that Sunday and see what it is all about!

Our Cherubs are 15 strong and growing!! Thanks to Kathy Ruxton, Janet Collins, Deborah Napolitano and all the moms and grandmoms who help out on Wednesday nights.

We are so pleased to see new parents and children joining us on Wednesday nights and Sunday afternoons. Please know we are delighted to have you come and join us!

## children's fellowship news

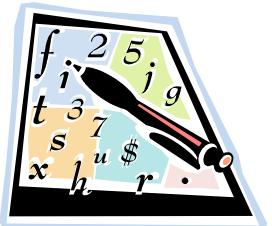


Our annual Easter egg hunt will be on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm. Everyone is invited! Hope to see you there!

There will not be a regularly scheduled meeting this month because of the Easter Egg Hunt.

## Notes from the Lay Listener

The Council this month was dominated by several issues. All were important and represent changes for the Church business. One that stood out the most for me, because of the potential savings, was the decision to change how we deliver the Church Newsletter. The decision was predicated on several things. Our copier costs have gone up every year, we now have over 152 people that have signed up for our mass email, and the bulk rate delivery of the newsletter has been delayed in the last two months an average of 12 days from mailing to delivery. When you look at the copier costs for



our eight page newsletter and the cost of mailing we spend over \$400 per month delivering the newsletter. Emailing to the 152 with email will save \$285 per month.

Wanted: someone to provide assistance in running the soundboard for the 11:00 service. Both of the people that have been regularly available have increased their out of town responsibilities for their work. This is another one of many jobs that we don't recognize until someone is not there to do it. Please speak to the pastor.

**David Bailey**  
Lay Servant Academy  
February 22 -24, 2013  
804-338-3168



## APRIL NURSERY SCHEDULE

### Baby Nursery

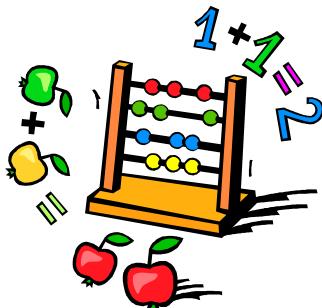
April 1     Carol Sanders and Judy Seely  
April 8     Judy Seely and Lucy Shields  
April 15    Lucy Shields and Carol Sanders  
April 22    Carol Sanders and Judy Seely  
April 29    Judy Seely and Lucy Shields

### Toddler Nursery

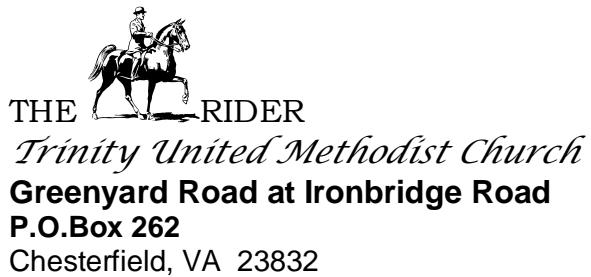
Lana Lefferts and Ashley Cameron  
Diane Springfield  
Jackie Sawyer and Renee Drerer  
Ann and David Wright  
Janet Collins

If you are interested in helping out in the nurseries, please get in touch with Diane Springfield.

## APRIL OFFERING TELLERS

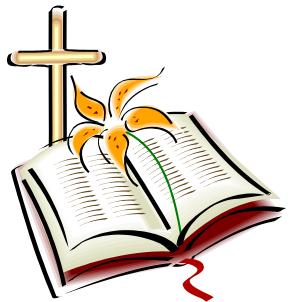


April 1     Al Tougas and Linda Lewis  
April 8     Judy Seely and Deborah Napolitano  
April 15    Judy Seely and Deborah Napolitano  
April 22    David Shaffer and Flo Gray  
April 29    David Shaffer and Flo Gray



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**Newsletter Deadline is April 15th, 2012**



