



# THE RIDER

## Trinity United Methodist Church

**June 2016**

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### IN THIS ISSUE

**Pastor's Corner** Be nice

**Notes and Updates** Newsletter Deadline •  
New Women's Gathering and Widows Group  
• Playground meeting & thank you • Music •  
Children's Ministry • Recycling & Youth •  
Sabbatical & UMM • Birthdays & One Harvest  
& Food Focus • Calendar • 30 years •

**June Calendar**

### PASTOR'S CORNER:

REV. TERESA KEEZEL

*Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,  
Put your whole trust in his grace,  
And promise to serve him as your Lord,  
In union with the church which Christ has opened  
To people of all ages, nations, and races?*

This is a part of the membership vows of the United Methodist Church.

We promise to serve in union with people of all ages, nations, and races. In other words, we promise to serve with all kinds of people. When I was a child, the world was a simpler place. One of the songs we use to sing taught: "Jesus loves the little children. All the children of the world. Red and yellow. Black and White. They are precious in his sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world." I was too young to realize how divided the world could be. I didn't realize that we divide ourselves by dress codes, vocabulary, zip codes...But I do now.

I am aware that we, like animals, mark our territories. That we struggle over 'that type' of person. Is 'that type' of person acceptable here? I keep laughing at myself over Danny Mizelle. Gosh, he knows that I love him. He is so different. At first he scared me. Not anymore. (Continued to page 2)

## NEW WOMEN'S GATHERING

We are having all kinds of new women coming to the church. On June 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm ya'll are invited to a gathering. Some of us have children in high school. Some have no children. Many of us have children in their 20's and 30's. Regardless, we want to get together and learn who each other are. So please join us.

## WIDOWS GROUP

This group will meet on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.

## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Please have all news, pictures and articles to the office no later than Sunday, June 26 for inclusion in the July newsletter. You can send items by email to [trinity@trinity-umc.com](mailto:trinity@trinity-umc.com) or drop off in the "Church Secretary" hallway mailbox.



My grandfather was WWII vet. He served two tours and was wounded in the invasion of Sicily. He was in the bottom of a bombed ship. As he continued at his duty station, his legs went numb from the cold water. He was one of McGuire Hospital's guinea pigs on how to do artificial arties. He never really was able to walk again. He had tattoos. Eagles and anchors. Because he could not work, when we spent a lot of time with him. If we got sick, if it was a teacher work day, in the summer...we were with him. As I child, I grew up tracing the tattoos with my fingers. As he aged, I watched them age as well. I am use to tattoos. They do not startle me. Danny's dew rage and dog collar I was not use to. So God, in he own humor, has gotten me use to them. Like that tattoos, they are a part of a person who I have learned to love. And they do not matter anymore. What are the things that take you aback? It used to be women in pants. Not anymore. What is it that takes you aback? My dad's parents would not attend my ordination to be a minister because women should not speak from the pulpit. We could teach, and lead missions, and visit the sick, and pray. But not preach. What are the things that take you aback? What things startle you and you have to get your head and heart around them? Our membership vow says that we will serve Christ with all people. We will serve with people that are like us and with people that are not like us. In this incredible, beautiful tapestry that God is weaving, some of us are working on the same sections. Others of us are not. Yet the call is to support each other. We may be not working on that portion of the tapestry, but we support that someone else is. God does not have all of us doing the same thing. Like scripture says, different parts of the body (I Corinthians 12). (Continued to page 3)

## WHO GETS WHAT?

In January The Church Council made a change to how we do things. The change was made so that we could follow the church law and normal fiduciary policies. The jobs of Treasurer and of Financial Secretary were divided.

The Financial Secretary's job is now taken by Dana Potter. She oversees the money counters and is responsible for all depositing of funds. She also is responsible for the records of all giving. Any questions concerning personal giving or giving statements should be directed to her.

Lana Lefferts has kept the job of Treasurer. She is responsible for the payment of all bills. If you have a question about if a bill has been paid, this is the person to ask.

We understand that good banking rules require that the person who is counting the money should not also be in charge of writing the checks. So we are following the rules of the Discipline (church law) and the banking world. Thanks to Lana who has worked so hard for years. Thanks to Dana who is helping us with this change.

We HAVE to be nice. The snipping and meanness have got to stop. We need to speak up. If someone is being mean, ask them to please not say that. Share with them that you do not want to hear that and to please stop. We keep losing really nice people because they cannot withstand the meanness, the insensitive comments, the lack of mutual respect. Help God. We do not have to work in all the same areas. We have to accept that God is working in all these areas....in areas that you may chose not to go.

Help us watch out for each other. Help us to protect each other. Help God.

—Pastor Teresa

## COME PLAY WITH US!

On June 12<sup>th</sup> during Sunday school (9:30) a group of us will meet to work on how to update the playground. We are looking at what needs repair and how we can update. We are looking at if we can divide the preschool and the elementary groups. If you are interested, please join us.

## **THANK YOU – TIM RUXTON**

I would like to thank all the people who have sent me photos and information about their groups. Like Shannon with the newsletter articles, I still struggle to get information for Facebook and the website. When you send information please include specific information especially about how someone who isn't involved might get involved. We have some willing soles who are hesitant to volunteer because they don't know what exactly we are asking for.

I would like to thank Stephanie Griffith and Danny Mizelle for joining and helping me keep the Facebook page up to date. I would also like to thank Alan Rouze for helping with the website, he is currently working on a big makeover that I am looking forward to.

# MUSIC *Ministry*

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, and food for me as I recover from heart surgery. Your love and support has been a key factor in my recovery. I hope to be back to church soon.

As the school year ends and Wednesday nights and Sunday afternoons come to a close for the summer, thanks to everyone who helped to make these programs so successful. What a blessing it is to have an average of 24 children on Wednesday nights. Congratulations to all the parents, teachers, and kitchen staff for your hard work. We will close with our end of the year picnic on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. Everyone bring something to share. Waters, soda, and juice will be provided.

Please plan to attend the children's Sunday on June 5 at 10:00 a.m. when the Chimes, Cherubs, and Angels will lead us in worship. Cherubs will sing and ring their melody bells and Angels will present the play, "Legends at Camp Garner Creek". A church picnic will follow. Come join us for worship, fun, and fellowship.

Due to several members with health issues, the Trinity Belles will not meet again until the fall. You will be contacted in August about our fall retreat. Thank you ladies for your hard work!

The Chancel Choir will continue to rehearse during the summer months. We will be practicing for our special concert in August at Bethany Place. Summer is a great time to join the choir so come and join us!

Again, thank you for your love and concern. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Blessings,

Pat

# Children's Ministry



BY: STEPHANYE FUINA AND AMANDA KELLY

## Picnic Following the Children's Play

**AFTER YOU HAVE ENJOYED THE ENTERTAINMENT, COME AND STUFF YOUR BELLY WITH DELICIOUS BBQ AND COLESLAW!! THERE WILL BE A PICNIC FOLLOWING THE CHILDREN'S PERFORMANCE. TRY OUT OUR NEW PICNIC PAVILLION!! BARBEQUE AND COLESLAW ARE PROVIDED. THE CONGREGATION IS ASKED TO BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE.**



## SAVE ROOM FOR DESSERT!

**WE ARE CELEBRATING PASTOR TERESA'S 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WITH CAKE!!!! PLEASE JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP.**



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS

VBS begins June 26<sup>th</sup> - July 1<sup>st</sup> 6:00pm-8:00pm with dinner beginning at 5:45 each night. Everyone is welcome! Registration forms are available online at: <https://answersvbs.com/vbs/trinityunited-methodist-church-2016/>

Forms are also available at church on the VBS promo table. Completed forms can be placed in the Children's Ministry mailbox.

THERE WILL BE A VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING ON JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> @ 6:30 IN THE SANCTUARY. PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANYE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND. **VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED!!** CAN YOU HELP SET UP? CAN YOU HELP DECORATE? CAN YOU LEAD CHILDREN FROM STATION TO STATION? CAN YOU HELP REGISTER CHILDREN?

THERE ARE MANY VBS JOBS BOTH BIG AND SMALL, PLEASE GIVE THE GIFT OF YOUR TIME TO THE CHILDREN OF TRINITY AND OUR COMMUNITY. **TOGETHER** WE CAN IMPACT THE LIVES OF CHILDREN WITH THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE.

## VBS Menu

We strive to feed their tummies before we feed their souls! Please note there are Gluten Free and Nut Free options for those with allergies.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hot Dogs Chips Baked Beans Applesauce Cookies Lemonade/Water	Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Buttered Noodles Tossed Salad Garlic Bread Fruit Cookies Lemonade/Water	Pancakes Sausage Fruit/Applesauce Cookies Lemonade/Water	Mac & Cheese Fruit Carrots Cookies Lemonade/Water	Fish Sticks Tater Tots Fruit Cookies Lemonade/Water	Family Potluck & VBS Performance  *Guest bring a dish to share*

Food Donation Items are still needed. Please donate if you are able.

Items needed for VBS are listed below:

Empty 2 liter soda bottles with lids

Inflatable pool rings and beach balls

Goggles

Spaghetti Sauce & Spaghetti Noodles

Economy Size Canned Fruit

Economy Size Applesauce

Mac & Cheese

Pancake Mix & Pancake Syrup

Lemonade Mix

**\*\*NOTE: ALL GLUTEN FREE/NUT FREE DONATION REQUESTS  
HAVE BEEN RECEIVED!!!**

## Recycling Cans

Please bring your aluminum cans to LC Bird High School. You can leave them beside door 5 located around the back of the school. This is a fundraiser for the LC Bird RoboHawks.

We no longer accept aluminum cans at church for recycling. Someone has been leaving bags of cans outside by the kitchen door. Please discontinue this process. The recycle bins in the narthex and education wing are for recyclables generated at church, such as church events, old bulletins, paper from the church office, but not set up for folks to bring in their recyclables from home. Thank you for your cooperation.



### **JUNE YOUTH NEWS**

By: KRISTAL COFER

#### JUNE MEETING DATES

June 5th and 12th from  
5-6:15.

### MISSIONS – CHEROKEE, NC

WE WILL BE HEADED TO CHEROKEE NATION, NC SUNDAY 6/19 AND RETURNING SATURDAY 6/25. WE WILL BE TRAVELING WITH TEAM EFFORT MISSIONS. WE HAVE ONLY A HANDFUL THAT HAS ATTENDED A MISSION TRIP BEFORE SO PLEASE KEEP THE ENTIRE GROUP IN YOUR PRAYERS. PLEASE SUBMIT ANY CARDS OR ENCOURAGING THOUGHTS/ SCRIPTURES TO KRISTAL NO LATER THAN 10:00 AM 6/19.

## What's a sabbatical?

According to church law, clergy are allowed time off every seven years to renew. The word originate from the word: Sabbath...a time of rest. The SPR and Council have given me the month of July. I am only going to take a couple of weeks. During the sabbatical time, pastors are asked to study something that will help them in ministry. I have chosen to work on something called "Stages of Faith Development." Teachers study this type of stuff. In developmental learning, we recognize that the brain can only perceive certain things by certain ages. Two year olds cannot see themselves throwing a temper tantrum. Middle Schoolers struggle to see how their own lives impact others....they can see what others do to them....not so much what they do to others. The stages have to do with self-awareness. Can I see how I behave? Can I see how others respond to how I behave? Can I see how I respond back? Can I change how I behave?

Because Trinity is stuck in a cycle that can be traced back over years, I want to learn more about how different stages act. I want to understand better what the stages are and ask the question: how do I help people take the next step? Are there things that we can do to help us see our impact on others and change how we do things, so that, we change responses: ours and theirs?

So I am taking a couple of weeks in July...and reading. Paul will oversee while I am gone. Our own will preach those few Sundays. When I get back I plan on sharing what I learn with Sunday school teachers, SPR, Council, parents, and others. We need to break this cycle of stuckness. Our church family needs us to embrace each other, forgive, and celebrate.

## UMM

In June, the meeting will have Rev. Mike Buckley there to speak about his Hope 21 project.

"Hope 21 delivers fresh water through water filters and food to women, children, and men all around the world. Our Mission is to give hope to the hurting and the hungry by having compassion on those who suffer, inspiring others to give, and connecting with Christian ministries that share a common vision."

You can find more about Hope 21 at <http://www.hope21ministries.com/index.html>.

# Trinity UMC People Page

## BIRTHDAYS

*Help us update our information;  
if your birthday is this month  
and you are not listed, please  
notify the office so we won't  
miss you again!*

June 3	Aubrey Tarkington Joyce Honderich	June 23	Dana Potter	Sonya Burley
June 4	Robert Napolitano II	June 24	Jean Brode	
June 6	Harold Saunders Christen Miller	June 26	Alex Pettigrew	Donald Seely
June 7	Pat Shrader Ian Lang	June 27	Patricia Farmer	
June 9	Barnes Wall III	June 28	Bill Shelton	
June 11	Travis Collins	June 29	Ed Hazzard	Renee Sandlin
June 13	Susan Rouze George Sawyer Christopher Echols Bill Griffin			
June 17	Christopher Burley			
June 18	Ruby Sawyer			
June 20	Meredith Beck Meredith Lively			
June 21	Jean Hazzard Megan Johnson			
	Rodney Rasmussen			
June 22	Betty Bauman			

## ONE HARVEST

The deadline for ordering online is Wednesday, June 8 at midnight.  
Distribution is on Saturday, June 18.

## FOOD FOCUS MEADOWBROOK

The Food Focus for June is canned tuna and canned chicken.

**Summer Sunday Schedule**

8:30 am Contemporary Service • 9:45 am Sunday School  
11 am Traditional Service

# June 2016

If you have items to add to the calendar,  
please let the office know

by email to [trinity@trinity-umc.com](mailto:trinity@trinity-umc.com) or phone at 748-2439.

**Summer Wednesday Schedule**

7 pm Men's Chorus • 7:30 pm Choir

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 5:45 Children's Music 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8 am UMM
<b>5</b> <i>10:00 am Joint Service - Children's Play and Church-wide picnic after the service</i>	<b>6</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>7</b> 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm Praise Team	<b>8</b> 6 pm Children's Music picnic 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 11:59 pm One Harvest Deadline	<b>9</b> 7 pm UMW 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL	<b>10</b> 5:15 pm UMFS	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> 2pm New Women's Gathering 4 pm Widow's Group	<b>13</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>14</b> 7 pm Praise Team	<b>15</b> 10:30 Young at Heart lunch at O'Charley's 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b> <b>9 am – 12 pm Office hours</b> 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL	<b>17</b> <b>9 am – 12 pm Office hours</b> <b>PASTOR TERESA AT CONFERENCE THROUGH THE 19TH</b>	<b>18</b> 8 am One Harvest Distribution
<b>19</b> <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> Summer Sunday schedule Youth Mission Trip	<b>20</b> Youth Mission Trip	<b>21</b> Youth Mission Trip 7 pm Praise Team	<b>22</b> Youth Mission Trip 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>23</b> Youth Mission Trip 7 pm TNL	<b>24</b> Youth Mission Trip	<b>25</b> Youth Mission Trip (return)
<b>26</b> <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> VBS 6-8 pm	<b>27</b> VBS 6-8 pm	<b>28</b> VBS 6-8 pm 7 pm Praise Team	<b>29</b> VBS 6-8 pm 7:00 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b> VBS 6-8 pm 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL		

## 30 years in Ministry

By: Pastor Teresa

I celebrate 30 years as a United Methodist Minister the end of June. I was ordained a Deacon( the first leg of the journey) in Roanoke in June of 1983. My mom's mom came from Richmond to see me ordained. I had been living with her while attending Union Seminary. My dad's folks didn't believe a woman should be a pastor. They only lived an hour from Roanoke but they would not come.

Ordained ministry is not where I expected to be. Growing up in Virginia Beach, I watched military families move all the time. I didn't want that. I would not even date a military man because I did not want to move. I was educated and trained to work in museums. In high school I had volunteered at the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk and with the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA). At Mary Washington College my majors were History and Historic Preservation. I had an internship with Chrysler in Norfolk. My junior year I commuted to Washington D.C. three days a week. I worked for the Smithsonian Institution. I trained at the National Museum for American History. I enjoyed working on the Mall. I got to go in and out of the museums and got to eat lunch at the Supreme Court (it had and has the best soup around!) I did not finish my Preservation degree because I finished college a semester early. I decided to not go back for one class I needed: archeology. No, church was something I was active in but being a preacher was not my vision....

That's the point, isn't it? Life isn't about our vision. It's about God's vision. The Presbyterians have an old hymn called "God is working his purpose out...as the water covers the sea." As Christians, our lives are about God and him working his purpose out. God kept fussing at me...so I applied to seminary. The relief I felt when I did not get in was tremendous! No moving. No standing in front of gobs of people. Ordained ministry was not for me. But God kept fussing. (you know how he can be...nagging...sweeping....watching....) So I finally

told him that I would apply again and if I did not get in that time: HE HAD TO BE QUIET!!!!

I got in. The school said that they did not know why I didn't get in the first time. I did not know either. All I know was here I went. I lived with my mother's mother and commuted to school. I worked in the library. I met my husband.

In June of '85 I got ordained a Deacon and took my first church. I had the North Amelia Charge. Three churches: Epworth (sits in a corn field), Salem, and Jetersville (in Jetersville of course!) I commuted to school and finished my third year. I did chaplain work at the Medical College. I learned to watch people die. During my three years there, the charge went to full time service, went to three services a Sunday, and started a children's after school ministry. The Children's Ministry was even recognized by the Conference as a pattern and example of how an older church could get children back.

At the end of three years, I moved to Dinwiddie. Three more churches! Dinwiddie Courthouse, Crawford, and Mt. Olivet. I stayed 12 years; had my two children, and bought a house! Carl and I became friends and laughed together. He relocated and built his church. I did the same. While there, I got ordained Elder...did you know that become fully ordained we have to have an undergraduate degree, a three year seminary degree and residency for 2 years!!! The starting salary for all the time and education is now 40,000) You do a lot of living and loving in 12 years. Touch a lot of lives and are touched by lots of lives. People in Dinwiddie still consider me their minister. People come up to me all the time...just like some of ya'll do with Carl. Lots of learning and growing and watching God do amazing things! Amazing things...he is awesome. Isn't he?!

In 2001 I moved to Wesley in Hopewell. Never been in a factory town before. Don't want to be again. People are segregated by income. In the country, the poor and working poor, and middle class and wealthy all live next to each other. Not so in a factory town. Don't want to do that again. Hopewell is not a fan of learning. Superstitious too.

Religion is magic. Many, many don't like to think or to play or to change. I was there for 4 years. I had a parishner (Charlie Dane...some might know him). He wanted to start a contemporary service. I told him to pull it together and I would support it. I had played the piano for worship at smaller churches for years. I just picked up the new sheet music and started practicing. Charlie and Wes played the guitar, Bruce on drums, and me on the piano. Others came and went. Some wonderful singers and LOADS of fun. So there we were. I moved from Hopewell because the church did not like to play and because Rebecca was entering High School. A good time for a transition.

In 2005 I moved to St. Luke's on the Richmond District. Just up the road from here. My husband died there. My children graduated from high school. Rebecca went off to William and Mary. Nathaniel earned his Eagle Scout. I internally died. Jeff's death was too much for me. I kept working. But my wounds were pretty deep. Gracious people like Wayne Haley and Anthony Lively, and Fred Hicks brought life and kindness into my pain. God sent them. They kept me alive.

In 2011, I came here. It has been an interesting ministry. I haven't gotten to play with children like I have everywhere else. Everywhere else I led children's choirs. Haven't done that either. And I have always done loads and loads of missions. Taught Disciple more times than I can tell you: thank you Paul!!!! This place has been very different for me in all kinds of ways. God keeps creating new paths; whether I am ready for them or not.

I have appreciated your kindness and love of God. I have found kindred spirits of people who enjoy learning and playing. Gosh, I love ya'll. God's spirit shines in you and we lift each other up. The Holy Spirit keeps empowering us to love even when we are hurt; It keeps empowering us to seek new paths, to invite new people, and to create the Kingdom of God! Sounds like Star Trek doesn't it: to boldly go...well....maybe not boldly, but after prayer and discernment, we go with conviction.

I thought about retiring. Sometimes I get so tired. The pain of watching God's people hurt is tremendous. Doing this alone is draining. I have two close friends. Amazing women who are creative and ever so loving to everyone. It is an honor that they call me friends. One is Lee (the one at the War College) and the other is Peggy. I give thanks for the good friends that God has put in my life. These people and your grace and boundless love, keep me going. Please, keep praying for me. Pray because you love me. Pray because you don't. Keep playing with me too. Scripture says that God makes all things new. That God is the one who "is was and is and will be"...ever creating life. In His spirit, so are we: creating life. Live. Laugh. Love. Cry. Pray.

Ya'll are amazing. Who ya'll are, your love of God, the miracles he is working within us and among us....ya'll are keeping me here. And I love you so very, very much. Thank you.