



THE RIDER

Trinity United Methodist Church

PASTOR'S CORNER:

July 2017

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HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

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July Calendar

This summer, we are growing a garden.

We are learning about different types of soil. And the power of the sun. And the need for renewal and support.

Several weeks ago we planted a garden in the front yard. It is going so-so. The 2 plants planted in the rocky soil are having quite a difficult time. No matter how often I water them, the heat of the day is proving too overwhelming. One is pretty much dead. The other is thinning and drooping. The two plants I planted in the weeds are hanging in there. The corn is faring better than the bean plant. The wire grass is growing over them and within them. But they are both still alive. The plants in the turned soil are faring better. Our ground is so compact that I could only turn the ground a little. I brought in good soil to mix with the old and added layers of the good. Some of the plants wilted over the weekend when they did not get water. Some of the wilted plants are making a comeback. Others are growing and settling in.

FOOD FOCUS

The Food Focus for July is cereal and pop tarts. For the summer, all food focus items will go to the Chesterfield County Food Bank.

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE

Please have all news, pictures and articles to the office no later than Sunday, July 30th for inclusion in the August newsletter. You can send items by email to trinity@trinity-umc.com or drop off in the "Church Secretary" hallway mailbox.



AUDIT COMMITTEE & ALL VOLUNTEERS

The audit committee led by Sue Makins is about to start the 2016 audit. If the treasurers will please get their 2016 data to the office by July 16th. This would be appreciated. Thank you!



We are trying to see what it takes to grow a garden. Like what it takes to grow a Christian. Does the foundation in which they are planted matter? What happens when they are given attention? What happens when they are given support? From there the question is does each of us need the same support or different kinds for different people. Different amounts of water and renewal at different times of the day.

How do we help each other grow? How is garden of spiritual fruit growing? What can we give to you to help?

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?

The Pastor is holding a gathering on Wednesday July 5th at 7pm to answer any questions and to set dates for people to join. We are so blessed to have people who are enjoying the ministry/the garden that God has been planting in us. God continues to till new ground and bring in new people. So see you on the 5th!



Mat workshop

We will be having a workshop to prepare the homeless mats on July 18 and August 8 at 10 AM until 12. All are welcome to come because there is something for everyone to do. We will be making strips out of the plastic bags and then we will be tying them together to make balls of PLARN. We have plenty of plastic bags to go through and if you have scissors that you don't mind using to cut plastic bags please bring those.

We can also use crocheters but you do not have to be a crocheter to help with this project. I hope to see you there and if you have any questions Please call Angela Bailey at (804) 338-3203.

Trinity Softball Team

June schedule of games:

July 7th - 7 pm (Field 5)

July 14th - 8:30 pm (Field 10)

July 21st - No Games

July 28th - 8:30 pm
(Field 6)

2017 Flower Calendar

The new Flower Calendar for 2017 is posted on the bulletin board for sign up of Sunday flower arrangements in memory or honor of someone special in your life. The arrangements are \$35 each and can be taken home after the 11:00 service. Please check the calendar early so you can sign up for your preferred date. If possible we would rather not have more than two arrangements per Sunday. Contact Lucy Shields if you have questions.

Next 2 open dates: August 20th and 27th.





MUSIC NEWS – JULY

Great job Angels, Cherubs, and Chimers! I hope we all remember the lesson taught to us by the children in “A Not So Terrible Parable”. They did a terrific job of teaching us that we need to look for the good in people and to help those in need. This is a good philosophy to keep as we go about our summer travels. I hope to see all of these talented children back to Cherubs and Angels in the fall. Thanks again for your hard work and talent.

Our Chancel Choir continues to rehearse on Wednesday evenings: Men at 7:00 and everyone at 7:30. We would love to have some new members, so get off the couch and come join us!

I am looking forward to the Kaleidoscope Camp with 8 of our Angel Choir members on August 7-10th! Get ready kids! The Chancel Choir will be presenting a concert with 4 other choirs on August 13th at Bethany Place Baptist Church. This is a wonderful concert to attend on a Sunday afternoon. Make your plans to attend!

Have a blessed summer!

Pat

THE G-TEAM by: Bill Poole

You may remember a TV show called the A-team. They were an unlikely cast of characters lead by Hannibal Smith. They always found an injustice to right and developed a detailed plan of action. Their plans rarely worked as conceived, but they always solved the problem. When success was achieved, Hannibal would say..."I love it when a plan comes together."

Trinity is developing a G-Team...G for God. He spoke to us through newspaper articles about Christians working to improve the quality of life for families along Jefferson Davis Highway (JDH).

After church on the 25th, about 20 of us met with the following people:

Pam Steele who operates a ministry called A Place of Miracles Café. Her ministry is located at 2124 Willis Road (I-95 and Willis Road). She provides free dinners from Tuesday through Friday evenings from 5 – 7 PM. On Fridays, they also distribute food bags to help people get through the weekend. She also gives people crock-pots if they have no other way to cook.

Cloud Ramirez whose ministry is called Empowered Warriors and is located near JDH and Alfalfa Lane (about 1 mile south of Chippenham Parkway). She is helping her community with transportation to the grocery store and Laundromat and pedestrian safety along JDH. People are now walking more than a mile to the closest grocery store and ½ mile to the nearest Laundromat.

Jeff Marble who is involved with a men's ministry in Mechanicsville and would like to develop a similar program along JDH.

Kim Marble who lives in the Bensley community along JDH and is a volunteer with the Jefferson Davis Association (a group of business people and residents along JDH that works in improve their community). Kim has an elderly neighbor that needs help with yard and home maintenance and also mentioned the need for Little Libraries (boxes of books placed in neighborhoods that let people without access to a public library get books to read).

We discussed many needs:

A Place of Miracles Cafe

- Prayers

- Money to pay the rent and utilities for the Cafe...no salaries are paid

- Crock Pots

- Food...but not bread

- Books, children's items

- Personal hygiene items

- Volunteers to hand out weekend food items

- Volunteers to assist people getting food items home

Empowered Warriors

- Prayers

- Support for public transportation, sidewalks, etc.

- Volunteer drivers for groceries, other shopping, etc.

Jeff

- Male involvement

- Urge all men to act like men and support their families

Kim

- Prayers

- Establish Little Libraries

- Establish summer reading programs

- Partner with smaller churches along Jefferson Davis Highway

- Help elderly folks with yard, home maintenance

We brainstormed the following ideas:

Provide carts to help pedestrians carry groceries/laundry. Trinity has provided Pam and Cloud with 3 different carts to let them see if they help. If they do, additional ones could be purchased. We also provided many insulated bags to help people carry their food home.

Use the church van or private cars to transport people. The church van may work best in Cloud's area and private cars may work best for Pam's area. Cloud is working with her community to see if a schedule can be developed. Jeff Raynor and Teresa have volunteered to drive the van to see if it is helpful. Right now, we're waiting for suggestions from Cloud to develop a test run. Pam's need is more random and is mostly on Friday from 5–7 PM. Trinity had 2 drivers at the Café last Friday but nobody needed a ride that night. We need to follow up on other Fridays.

Sue Makin is looking to involve the Trinity Girl Scouts in this project. We already have some books. Heidi Foust is interested in helping. Sue and the Girls Scouts will develop a plan, if possible. I'd suggest we not bring books to Trinity until Sue get the project organized and asks for them.

Yard/home maintenance...the Boy Scouts and the Trinity the youth group have been asked to consider this project.

The United Methodist Men have donated \$500 to A Place of Miracles Café to help pay their utility bill and have set aside additional money to be used as the project proceeds. The Fellowship Class has set aside \$500 to help with project needs. Additional funding will be needed, but it is too early to determine specifics.

Where do we go from here?

As we wait for feedback about some of the things we've already done, we need to pray:

...for the people living along the Jefferson Davis Highway corridor

...for how you want to participate...we will need people to coordinate projects, people to drive the van or their own cars, people to work at the Café, people to help with home maintenance, etc

...for God's guidance

The men will be meeting with Jeff Marble to learn more about his vision for men along the corridor.

We should talk to Sherbourne UMC or other churches along JDH to see if we can work with them in their communities.

We have asked Todd Wilson with the Cornerstone Assembly of God to share information about the work they have been doing along JDH for the past several years. This may be done at another "after church" meeting so more people can attend.

We can continue to volunteer at A Place of Miracles Café on Fridays to learn more about that ministry and look for additional ways we can assist them.

We don't have a plan in place yet like the A-Team had, but we're developing one. I can already hear God saying...I love it when My people are making plans. Someday soon, we'll hear him say...I love it when My plan comes together!

Here are pictures of some of people trying out one of our carts and an insulated bag.

(Continued on the next two pages)





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!

July 1 Stephanie Griffith

July 2 Karen Poole

July 3 Mike Potvin
Heather Madison

July 5 Merle Foster
Christopher Fallin

July 6

July 9 Craig Stariha
Logan Mills

July 10 Ann Wright

July 13 Wayne Walker

July 15 Aaron Poythress
Annabelle Rasmussen

July 17 Heidi Foutz
Nicholas Ruxton
Beth Wilkes

July 18 Turner Wilkes

July 20 Irene Cassada
Emily Moody

July 22 Bill Poole
Joshua Prentice

July 23 Amy Babcock
Wendy Linkous

July 24 Janet Collins

July 25 Joe Love
Jeff Short

July 26 Amber McGuffin

July 28 Tim Ruxton Alex Arnold

July 31 Cindy Shelton Ed Boroch

JULY SERVANTS OF WORSHIP

MONEY COUNTERS:

July 3

Dana Potter & Sarah Bishop

July 10 & 17

Dana Potter & Ed Cole

JULY 24 & 31

Dana Potter & Linda Lewis

USHERS:

July 2, 16 & 30

Jeff Raynor, Jane Cole, Carol Pratt, Faye Cormier

July 9 & 23

Duane White, James Benfield, Brenda Shepherd

Summer Sunday Schedule

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

July 2017

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

by email to 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
30 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	31					1
2 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>	3	4 Office Closed Today	5 7 pm New Members Class (Classroom 1) 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir	6 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL	7 7 pm Softball (Field 5)	8
9 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>	10	11 7 pm Praise Team	12 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir	13 7 pm UMW 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL	14 8:30 pm Softball (Field 10)	15
16 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>	17	18 7 pm Praise Team	19 11 am Young at Heart 630 pm Scout District Mtg. 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir	20 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL	21 OFFICE CLOSED 5 pm UMFS (van) NO Softball	22
23 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i>	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm Praise Team	26 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm Men's Chorus 7:30 pm Choir	27 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm AA 7 pm TNL	28 OFFICE CLOSED 8:30 pm Softball (Field 6)	29

