

Trinity United Methodist Church Of Jensen Beach Newsletter

"Live by Faith, Be Known by Love, Be Voice of Hope"

July 2023

Volume 1, No. 7

TUMC'S Church Council

What does it take to make a church run? A well run church takes the efforts of many, most of whom work behind the scenes through a system of committees. Usually, it is only when the church is not running smoothly do we actually think of who other than the clergy are directing the church.

At Trinity United Methodist Church the direction and actions are overseen by a *Church Council* that meets monthly to work with the Pastor to ensure that we are



Church Council Planning Calendar

planning and running as smoothly as possible. The Council is the TUMC leadership team, its board of directors so to speak. It works with the Pastor to oversee three important areas—spiritual, community, and financial/physical plant. The Council works with the Pastor to review planning in all three interconnected areas.

Spiritual Trinity's spiritual needs are reflected in the church programs that develop and extend the congregation's spiritual journey. This includes both formal and informal spiritual needs, such as sermon series, continuing Bible education and study, and youth/family programming.

Community The Council oversees the development of the church as an extension of community. There are many different communities TUMC serves, some internal to the church and some helping in the larger community area. Internally, the Council oversees the activities such as Priscilla Circle, Men's Ministry, Hooks & Needles, and Line Dancing. Externally, the Council works with supporting the local community through programs such as Hands & Feet, House of Hope, and Heffer International.

Financial/Physical Plant Of course all this is not possible without a place to meet and the Council reviews the financial status and the condition of the physical plant—TUMC's buildings and landscaping. It produces monthly financial statements and advises the Council on current and planned spending as well as building condition, usage, and keeping all up to date.

TUMC's Church Council consists of interested and talented congregants who volunteer their time. As might be expected, the Council is always looking for volunteers wishing to become more involved with the life of the church.

Pastor's Corner

Prayer: God's Perennial Power Plant

Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice—Psalm 141:2

Loculd go on endlessly about my experience in England. I've never had so many perspective-shifting experiences in so short a time! Thanks to God!



I snapped the photo on the left inside John Wesley's residence in London. On its face, it looks like just an empty room: Bare wooden floors, brightly lit, a kneeling bench, and a desk holding the Bible. That's it.



Yet the docent who guided us referred to this room as

the "Power Plant" of the Methodist movement! This is John Wesley's prayer room, where he made a habit of spending the first few hours of every morning. Like a great many of the meeting houses we visited, Wesley's prayer room contains only what's needed for the given task. Evidently, Wesley practiced minimalism hundreds of years before it became a "thing."

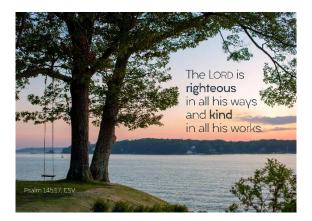
The Holy Spirit Power generated in that room propelled Wesley on his Christcentered mission for over fifty years. He overcame resistance, plowed through rejection, and overcame all forms of dissent and hardship. Wesley persevered in prayer!

And his prayers yield divine dividends even to this day!

When it comes to faithful living, perhaps we can follow Wesley's lead and practice the basics. As we can see from the photo, it doesn't take a whole lot of "stuff", and should cost us practically nothing. A little time each day. But the fruit of our faithful practice could well blossom in ways we cannot see, transforming the world across the generations, all for the Glory of God in Christ! Make your time with God a daily habit!

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.—James 5:16

Anil





Let's Talk About Live Streaming—Part 2

Last month, I answered two of the questions we are most often asked about our Live Video Streaming. You may recall, I explained why we don't stream the 9:15 a.m. service and why we zoom out when a video is showing on the screen during our Facebook streaming. In this month's newsletter, I'll answer two more questions.

• **Question #1**—I noticed that, sometimes, during the 11:00 a.m. broadcast on Facebook, the video will freeze up. Why does that happen?



- Whether you're watching our video or any video online, if the video freezes it is often "buffering." Buffering refers to downloading a certain amount of data before starting to play the music or movie. However, if the local Internet speed is too slow, the video will stop during playback until it can catch up with enough data. Various factors can affect Internet speed. One of these is the speed the Internet provider delivers to a site. Here at Trinity, Doug Evans is looking to increase that speed for our next contract. Besides provider speed, if there are too many computing devices accessing our Internet during our live broadcast, that can also cause buffering. (I apologize if this is a bit of a technical answer!)
- **Question #2**—There used to be closed captioning when I was watching our service from home. That seems to have disappeared. Why is that?
 - You probably know that closed captioning is when the words appear at the bottom of the video. Unfortunately, that is not a function we control. Should the time come that we broadcast on our website instead of on Facebook, we may be able to provide this service.

John



Let Freedom Ring!

As we celebrate Independence Day, more commonly known as July 4th we celebrate our freedom as a nation. That freedom has certainly come at a cost, but has also provided us with opportunities to share so many "freedoms" with others. In the United States, we are allowed to freely worship our God through a variety of denominations and practices. We can share our faith without persecution from the government. We have enjoyed celebrating our freedom down through the ages. The song, *America (My Country Tis of Thee)*, written in 1831 by Samuel Francis Smith, reflects the freedom we celebrate and we still sing this song as a reminder of those freedoms during our patriotic services.



My country, 'tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty Of thee I sing; Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride, From every mountain side Let Freedom ring.

"Let Freedom Ring" was famously spoken by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., calling for a change in civil rights, outlawing discrimination, and requiring equal access to all.

Quoting Presbyterian minister, the Reverend Peter Marshall, "May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right." I believe that relates closely with John Wesley's belief on how we should live.

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can" (John Wesley).

John Wesley was definitely a strong advocate for doing what is right. As we contemplate our freedom this July 4th holiday, let's ask ourselves are we taking this opportunity of freedom to do what is right? Take time to thank God for our freedom and ask Him to help us do what is right by sharing His love with all people.

Rick



Blessings In A Bag: A Ministry Which Serves Local Students

Food insecurity is a problem, even in Martin County. According to Florida Health Charts, 58% of Elementary School students are eligible for free/reduced lunch. In the schools Trinity serves:

	Students on free
School Site	Reduced Lunch
Felix A. Williams Elementary (via JASE)	37%
Jensen Beach Elementary	42%
Jensen Beach High School	46%
Spectrum Academy	64%

These students receive free/reduced lunch during the week. Our question is—"What about weekends? School Breaks? Summer?"

During the school year we serve a weekly delivery of weekend meals to be distributed to at-risk students by their guidance departments. Trinity has been supplying the same weekend meals for use during school breaks, including Winter and Spring. We also make sure the students receive these packages in a timely fashion, to be distributed to students on Fridays. If there is a Friday off, we deliver for distribution on Thursday.

Food insecurity rates are up in 9.5 percent Martin County (2020). Sixtyfive percent of the population is reported as late as 2022 as being 200 percent below the Poverty level.

Trinity has been serving weekend meals to at-risk students for years now. The schools and the students appreciate this immensely. Does this help make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world? As we love and care for others in need, we share the love of Christ. As we share the love of Christ, the recipients of that love feel loved by us and the church we represent, and therefore, the door to believing in Christ's love can "save me, too" is opened. If we can open that door, we are serving the mission of the Methodist Church at large.



(Continued on page 6)

May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us yes, establish the work of our hands. —Psalm 90:17

Interested in getting involved?

A Shared Burden

Blessings in a Bag costs about \$39,000 per school year to run. The group hosts a Fundraiser Dinner, with a Silent Auction and Line Dance fun. Many times, the Men's Group will donate their earnings from the Pancake Breakfast to support this ministry as well and Priscilla Circle often chooses to donate their proceeds to Blessings in a Bag. The Line Dance group



contributes two out of five dollars per person, per session, every week. As that group grows, so does their contribution. This is a well-oiled machine, cranking out these bags of blessings, delivering EVERY WEEK to local school children.

As we care for local children, Trinity also collects personal clothing items for "The Hands and Feet" to provide emergency clothing, shoes, and pajamas for foster children in Martin County. We collect food for House Of Hope's pantries, monies for the Heifer Project, and in these ways share love with families in need.

How Can You Help?

Donations We need grocery bags to pack meals for Blessings in a Bag and personal clothing/shoes for children newborn through age 18 for Hands and Feet. There are also transporting opportunities with House of Hope and Blessings in a Bag, and Hands and Feet. You can also designate and donate online as well as volunteering.

Contact People Want to learn more and get involved in Trinity's various ministries? Contact Rick, Anne, or Randi!

Rick Decker <u>rdecker@trinityjb.org</u> Blessings in a Bag? Anne Pappas <u>office@trinityjb.org</u> Hands and Feet? Randi Schwartz <u>randi@trinityjb.org</u>

Randi

THE HANDS AND FEET

'DELIVERING' HELP AND HOPE

NEEDS NEW PERSONAL CLOTHING ITEMS SIZES 0-18 YRS OLD! CONTACT: RANDI@TRINITYJB.ORG



Apportionment

I'd like to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for the ribbon to the right: It acknowledges Trinity's payment of 100% of her apportionments to the Florida Annual Conference for the past year. Trinity has earned one of these ribbons every year I've been here and for however many years before. This is a tremendous, ongoing accomplishment for which we have you to thank!

Sometimes, local Churches lose their sense of connection with the larger Conference. We fail to realize that our connection actually spans several continents and incorporates over 12 million people. This ribbon serves as a tiny reminder that our tithes, gifts, and offerings bless the world all around us, in ways we often do not see. Our apportionments, in part, keep our company of clergy in ready supply. It's an ongoing process to manage and support incoming clergy candidates, help working clergy progress in their careers, and plan for retirements and other departures from ministry. Our gifts assist churches that could not afford to provide for their pastors otherwise.



At the same time, our Conference apportionments help with education, the camps that thousands of young people enjoy, and many other ministries. Our gifts make a difference in people's

lives! Wherever and however you can, please continue to support Trinity and all her ministries.

Thanks and congratulations for being a blessing to Trinity and to the world!

"May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance."—Jude 1:2

Anil

Supporting TUMC

There are many ways to donate to TUMC. In-church donations can be placed in one of the two collection boxes in the Narthex. Donations may be mailed to the church. And donations can be made online by clicking "Donate" on the TUMC website home page where you can choose to make a general or specific donation. It also allows you to donate by credit card.

JENSEN BEACH "Live by Faith, Be known by Love, Be a Voice of Hope"	Give to Trinity United Metho	dist Church
DONATE	Give to General Fund	
Want to donate online? You can make a one-	Add Gift to Another Fund	
	Give this One Time	•
time donation or set up an ongoing amount.	Give by Credit/Debit Card	•
Just click or tap the button below.		
We appreciate your support.	Continue	
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Free At Last!

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 2 Corinthians 3:17

During this season of the year, we are very aware of the freedom we have in our beloved country. From Memorial Day to Flag Day to Independence Day to Patriot Day, we are reminded of our freedoms all summer long.

But there is an even more profound freedom that we have as Christians, and that's being free in Christ! We are free from the bondage of our past, free to walk in the Spirit each day, free to be content, at peace and without anxiety, and free to be hopeful. Our freedoms in the Lord are endless because He is our generous freedom-giver.

Many of our songs and hymns sing about this freedom we possess in Jesus. I'm reminded of so many of them! At our contemporary service we often sing about our freedom with songs like:

I Am Free ("I am <u>free</u> to run, to dance, to live for You!") Chain Breaker ("If you need <u>freedom</u> or saving, He's a prison-shaking Savior!") Who You Say I Am ("Who the Son sets <u>free</u> is <u>free</u> indeed!") and There Is Freedom ("Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is <u>freedom</u>!")

And how about those wonderful hymns we know that randomly spin up in our spirits and give us assurance as we go through our daily walks?

He Rescued Me—"(He) lift(ed) me up from the miry clay and set me <u>free</u>"
Power In The Blood—"Would you be <u>free</u> from the burden of sin?"
Sing The Wondrous Story—"Sight was gone and fears possessed me, but He <u>freed</u> me from them all!"
I Will Sing Of My Redeemer—"On the Cross He sealed by pardon, paid the debt and made me <u>free</u>."
O For A Thousand Tongues—"He breaks the power of cancelled sin, He sets the prisoner <u>free</u>!"

Let's never take our freedom for granted! People have fought and died for freedom. Whether it's political or spiritual freedom, it is a precious, costly gift. However, our only true freedom is in Christ. We are blessed! And we are free at last!

Joyce

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	w.trinityjb.org		
	<u>.facebook.com/tumc.jb/</u>		
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChdTtPRcHbEYAD2Vv3KbiLQ			
Pastor: Rev. Anil K. Singh	Music: Joyce Grubb		
Pastor: Rev. Anil K. Singh Congregational Care: Rick Decker	Music: Joyce Grubb Organist: Dr. MJ Montague		
Congregational Care: Rick Decker	Organist: Dr. MJ Montague		
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The Book of Genesis is the first book in the Bible! It tells us a lot about creation and how the world got to be in a fallen state. It contains the stories of creation, Noah's Ark, and the Tower of Babel. That's up through Chapter 11. After that, the whole book is about the first four generations of God's chosen people and cool stuff that they did!

1.	This creature tempted Eve in the Garden. (Genesis 3:1-7)	
2.	He was the first person on earth to get murdered. (Genesis 4:3-8)	
3.	This mountain range is where Noah's ark landed. (Genesis 8:4)	
4.	He is one of Noah's three sons who survived the Great Flood. (Genesis 10:1)	
5.	The man who built the Tower of Babel is named in this verse. (Genesis 10:9)	
6.	The first patriarch of Israel is named here. (Genesis 17:5)	
7.	This son almost got sacrificed on an altar. (Genesis 22:7-12)	
8.	The twin who had his father's blessing stolen is named here. (Genesis 27:32-35)	
9.	This patriarch's name was changed to Israel. (Genesis 32:24-29)	
10	. This son of Israel dreamed all his brothers would bow down	

and worship him. (Genesis 37:2-11)

Choose from:

Abel Abraham Ararat Esau Isaac Jacob Japheth Joseph Nimrod Serpent

Annual Conference Report

It was a privilege and a blessing to represent Trinity United Methodist Church this year at the Annual Conference held in Lakeland, Florida. It was a time of getting to know and appreciate our new Bishop, Tom



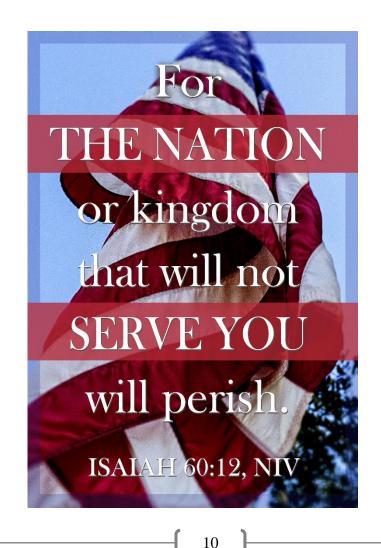
Berlin. He is, to you and I, very personable, knowledgeable, and worships a loving God. He has a great natural sense of humor.

It was a time of worship and praise through music, hymns, contemporary music, and dialog. It was a somber time and at the same time, joyful. There was no dancing around issues. It was a time of relief and release.

There were two dynamic speakers who rattled your brain and heart to help you see, feel, and understand. Dr. Carla Works explained scripture and clarified it for us. The other speaker, Rev. Jasmine Smothers spoke at Communion. Wow! You can see and hear them if you go to the conference website. In fact, you can hear and see the entire conference at <u>https://www.flumc.org/annual-conference-23-videos.</u>

A quick summary and takeaway: It is not you and they but it is we.

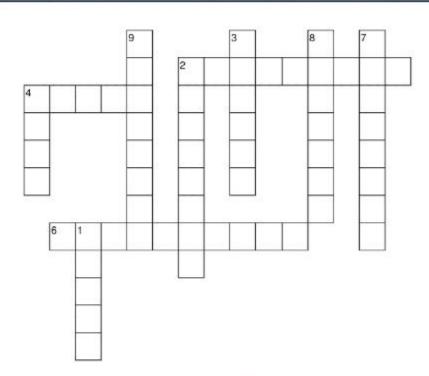
Sue Nance Conference Lay Leader





OVERVIEW

Genesis is the first book in the Bible and covers the longest span of time—over 2,000 years! It also covers more famous Bible stories than any other book, save the Gospels of Christ. Chapters 1–11 cover the period of Creation through the Great Flood, ending with the Tower of Babel. The rest of the book covers the four generations of Abraham and his primary offspring: Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. With 50 chapters, Genesis is one of the longest books in the Bible.





Across

- God mixed up these at the Tower of Babel so that people could not understand each other (11:6)
 Abraham's name before it was changed by God (12:1)
- 6. The name of Noah's grandfather (5:25)

Down

- In the beginning God made the heavens and the (1:1)
- Human beings were made in God's image or _____ (1:26)
- God said He would put _____ between Satan and the woman (a word that means fighting or strife) (3:15)
- 4. Cain killed his brother, named _____ (4:8)
- A breed of giant that lived on the earth before the Flood (6:4)
- Noah's sons were named Shem, Ham, and (7:13)
- God rained down fire on two sinful cities: Sodom and _____ (19:28)

July Offerings

Sundays

- Celebration Service (9:15 a.m.)
- Traditional Service (11:00 a.m.)
- Sunday School (9:15 a.m.)
 - Communion Sunday: Children and parents worship together in the Sanctuary. Other Sundays, children leave after the Praise Set.
- Adult Bible Studies (9:30 a.m.)
- Prayer Time (10:30 a.m., Bob Engle Room)
- 1st Sunday:
 - Communion
 - House of Hope Donations
- 3rd Sunday: Noisy Change
- 4th Sunday: New Member Sunday

Mondays

• Line Dancing (1:00–3:00 p.m.)

Tuesdays

• Lunch Bunch (11:30 a.m.)

Wednesdays

- Beginner's Line Dancing (11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)
- Hooks & Needles (5th and 19th at: 10:00 a.m.)

Thursdays

• Line Dancing (1:00–3:00 p.m.)

Fridays

• Martin County Quilters

Saturdays

• 1st Saturday: Men's Meeting (8:00 a.m.)

Trinity United Methodist Church

2221 NE Savannah Road Jensen Beach, FL 34957