

## From the Desk of the Pastor



### **“It Is Not REALLY Ordinary!”**

As you already know we have liturgical seasons in the church, just as our secular calendar has seasons. Here at Trinity, we keep the Pentecost color, red, a little longer than we are supposed to because we like to celebrate Pentecost a little longer than one day. Plus, to be honest, it is a bit of work to change out the paraments in the sanctuary.

Ordinary Time is the time in our lives for growth, the color for ordinary time is green for growth. We use this time to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. We try to let go of our weaknesses and grow in discipleship and to grow in sharing our faith with others. There is nothing ordinary about it, actually it is to be an extraordinary time in our lives. It is a time when we slow down just a little and study God’s word. We pray and ask God to breakthrough our lives and use us in mighty ways. We imagine the great things that God can do through us and in us. We remember ministry is never for ourselves or about ourselves, and it is not supposed to be easy and comfortable, but it is to help us to grow beyond ourselves to reach out to a hurting and dying world. We are much better together. Our goal is to move past ourselves and learn to love and serve others as Jesus did for us. So let us believe that there is nothing ordinary about this “green” time of growth. It is an extraordinary time with God and others! So, let’s lean into it and make it special! I hope and pray we grow spiritually and as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Below is the United Methodist description of the Liturgical Calendar:

*The Christian year includes two central cycles focused on major events in the life of Christ: the Christmas cycle (Advent-Christmas-Epiphany) and Easter cycle (Lent-Easter-Pentecost).*

*Each of these seasons begins with a time of preparation and anticipation followed by a time of celebration. A season designated as Ordinary Time follows each cycle.*

*The word "ordinary" here does not mean "routine" or "not special." Instead, it refers to the "ordinal numbers" (first, second, third, etc.) used to name and count the Sundays (such as the Third Sunday after Epiphany). This term comes from the Latin ordinalis, meaning "numbered" or "ordered," and tempus ordinarium, "measured time."*

*The first period of Ordinary Time, called the Season after Epiphany, begins on Epiphany Day and ends on the day before Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent). The central theme of this season is the calling of disciples and the early ministry of Jesus.*

*For some congregations, this will mean a focus on evangelism, as found in the Old Testament and Gospel reading for each week. For others, the focus will be preparing to help others grow in their discipleship. The Epistle reading each week emphasizes this.*

*The second period of Ordinary Time, the Season after Pentecost, follows the Easter cycle. It begins the day after Pentecost and continues to Advent. The purpose of this season is to support new disciples and the whole congregation in living out the gifts and callings discerned during the Easter Season and commissioned on the Day of Pentecost.*

*Every year, Christians experience the contrast between the central seasons of Christmas and Easter, where we see God in the events around the coming of Christ, and the in-between times, where we see, speak about and join God's ongoing work in the world.*

*We thus experience two regular cycles of preparation, celebration and action in ministry each year, with the Ordinary Times as the primary periods of action.*

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*This content was produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.*

## Our Extended Trinity Family



We had a special guest last Sunday in worship, Blake Spencer. Allen, Barbara, Florence and I invited Blake to lunch with us and we enjoyed getting to know him better. Blake works for a small architectural firm in Atlanta. He is a graduate of U.T. Knoxville. He is working toward getting his professional license. He lives in Alpharetta, Georgia. Blake is originally from Franklin, Tennessee where he lived with his mom, stepdad and sister. His sister is hoping to get accepted at University of Tennessee also. We enjoyed visiting with another faithful United Methodist who came to Lenoir City for a friend's wedding. Remember, a stranger is just a friend we have yet to meet! Blake also attended the Wesley Foundation at the University of Tennessee, where my dear friend Rev. Sharon Bowers was his pastor. It is truly a small world!

## Upcoming Events



### Choir Rehearsal

There will be no Wednesday night choir rehearsal during the month of July.

### Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Thursday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day. We hope that you and your loved ones have a happy and safe holiday!

### Yoga for Seniors

There will be no Yoga for Seniors on Thursday, July 4th. Yoga will resume on Thursday, July 11th, at 10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall. There is no charge to participate, and everyone is welcome! If you have a medical condition, please consult your physician before taking the class.

### Special Guest Pastor

On Sunday, July 7th, we will welcome the Rev. Ann Robins to Trinity. Rev. Robins is the District Superintendent for the Smoky Mountain District of the Holston Conference. We are looking forward to her visit!

### Meet & Greet

Our monthly Meet and Greet luncheon will take place on Sunday, July 14th, following worship in the Fellowship Hall. Sloppy Joes, hotdogs, and brownies will be provided. Please bring a side dish or salad to share. Everyone is welcome!

# Upcoming Events



## Administrative Council & Finance Committee Meeting

The Administrative Council and Finance Committee will meet on Monday, July 15th, at 5:30 in the New Visions classroom.

## Staff Parish Relations Committee

The SPRC will meet on Wednesday, July 17th, at 5:00 pm in the conference room.

## Trustees Meeting

Trinity's Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, July 23rd, at 6:00 pm in the conference room.

## Wesley House Donations for June

### UMW:

30 lbs. flour  
5 lbs. sugar  
2 bottles cooking oil  
130 cans Vienna Sausage  
8 cans Spam  
14 cans tuna  
12 peanut butter

### Outreach:

2 boxes Nutri-grain bars  
80 individual bags of chips  
4 pudding cups

*Thank you for your continued generosity, Trinity!*

# July Birthdays



## Happy Birthday!

July 1st	Rev. Linda Bass
July 3rd	Deb Counce
July 3rd	Amy Garnjost
July 7th	Carolyn Tokarz
July 8th	Olivia Clark
July 8th	Sarah Jane Raymer
July 16th	Bob Maroney
July 17th	Holly Hamilton
July 18th	Kathy Brock
July 22nd	Linda Garner
July 28th	Jean Griffith
July 31st	Warren Clark

# Trinity Provides Lunch for Habitat Volunteers

Trinity has enjoyed the opportunity to serve the volunteers from the Methodist Habitat build by providing them with lunches in the Fellowship Hall.



We would like to thank the Habitat volunteers, our volunteer coordinators, and our kitchen crew for their hard work and dedication!



## A Note From the Treasurer



### Treasurer's Newsletter - July Update

Dear Members,

I'm pleased to provide a financial update for June 2024. Our Budget Funds show a net positive activity with receipts of \$16,231.96 and expenses of \$15,054.33, resulting in a net budget activity of \$1,177.63. Year-to-date, we've accumulated \$146,137.82 in receipts and \$104,635.05 in expenses, achieving a net budget activity of \$41,502.77B\*.

For our Designated Funds, June receipts were \$3,268.80, while expenses totaled \$3,980.00. Despite a minor shortfall for the month, our year-to-date receipts stand at \$28,657.16 against expenses of \$27,141.30. Net transfers have resulted in a slight decrease of \$518.59.

- *Includes real and unrealized gain/loss from Housing and Scholarship Endowment accounts.*

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Best regards,

Mike Pearce  
Treasurer



## Missions & Outreach

**Good Samaritan School Backpacks:** It's hard to believe, but school will begin again the first of August and that means Good Samaritan will again be distributing school backpacks. The backpacks are filled with grade-specific supplies to assist parents who struggle to provide these necessary items for their children. Over 500 backpacks will be prepared this year.

Our offering for this outreach will be taken on both Sunday, July 21st and Sunday, July 28th. If you would like to be part of this outreach, the cost of a backpack is \$25. You can write Backpacks on the memo line of your check or offering envelope. The children and their parents say, Thank You!



Thank you, Trinity, for once again filling 15 Food Buckets for the children in Zimbabwe!



A special thanks to Phil Reed (left) for his assistance with transporting the food buckets to Cokesbury UMC!

Avery (right), Phil's granddaughter, happily helps her grandparents with a bucket!  
*"...God loves a cheerful giver."  
2 Corinthians 9:7*



The food buckets are now Zimbabwe bound!

# July 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 11:30 am Lunch for Habitat volunteers in Fellowship Hall	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6
7 9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship & Holy Communion with Special Guest Pastor Rev. Robins	8	9	10	11 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	12	13
14 9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship 12:00 Meet & Greet	15 5:30 pm Admin. Council & Finance Committee Meeting in New Visions Classroom	16	17 5:00 pm SPRC meeting in Conference Room	18 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	19	20
21 9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship	22	23 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting in conference room	24	25 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	26	27
28 9:45 am Sunday School  11:00 am Worship	29	30	31			