



When I attended The Preaching Academy Continuing Education this fall, they gave us a wonderful resource for our churches for Advent. Perhaps, this “Night Before Advent” poem could be made into a bookmark to use in your Advent reading for the Season. Read it aloud to your family and friends and begin a new tradition for Advent. But most of all, celebrate the joy of unwrapping The Greatest Gift of Advent, Jesus Christ our Savior who is God with us!

**The Night Before Advent** by Ann Voskamp

*’Twas the night before Advent when all through God’s House not a heart  
wasn’t stirring, not a heart wasn’t roused.*

*His people wrapped around His Word with awe, Awaiting wonders and  
the fresh grace of God.*

*The children were anxious for His Story to start, these Visions of love  
dancing loud in their hearts.*

*And God in His glory, and us, in Jesus Christ, settled only for a Christmas  
all about Christ.*

*When out on the streets, the frenzy came with a clatter,  
Yet in hearts, Joy sprang up, centered on Who matters.*

*Away from the stresses, we flew like a prayer,  
Simply opened our hands and made room to prepare.  
For the Light of the World to warm every dark space,  
a lustre of hope cupped in every cold place.*



*Till what to our wandering hearts should appear, murmurings of a King  
and Love drawing near.*

*In a Book of Old Pages, so Living and True, you can hear Jesus' whisper,  
I'm coming for You.*

*Through Every Story, The King fiercely came, and He beckons you,  
woos you, and calls you by name!*

*"Come Beloved! Come Chosen! Come Special Child! Come Wanted!  
Come Nearer! Come Feel the King's smile!"*

*From Creation's first star to manger's bright light, unwrap His Love  
Story till He hold you one night.*

*He spoke all Love's Word, then became Word in the Skin and filled every  
heart that would welcome Him in.*

*And laying Himself down into manger's straw, He's Your Immanuel,  
With Us is God.*

*Advent unwraps wonder, the greatest gift ever dreamed, so come adore  
Him, the One who redeemed all the willing and wanting with this  
Advent Awe a sacred, slow Unwrapping of a season of God.*

**#TheGreatestGift**

**I also wanted to share this with you**

**I Looked For An Amazing Gift Because I Wanted To**

**CELEBRATE THE WONDER OF YOU!**

**And realized:**



You make the world better by being your beautiful selves and our fellowship together.

You inspire me by your ability to make beautiful music in our worship services.

Even when it's hard, you serve with a smile.

I see your courage when you depend on the Lord when going through many trials.

I profoundly respect you for your faithfulness to God.

I truly admire your love and care for others.

I will always remember how you took Allen and I in from the very beginning.

I really love the way you roll up your sleeves and get busy.

I am deeply grateful for the way you love each other.

I BELIEVE IN YOU & CELEBRATE YOU

And BELIEVE that:

YOU are the MOST AMAZING GIFT!

Perhaps you can fill in the underlined or blank spaces for your family and friends to let them know what an AMAZING GIFT they are to you!

May your Advent be filled with the wonder of Christ!

*Pastor Linda*



## Upcoming Events

### One Heart Community Closet

The One Heart Community Closet will open on Saturday, November 2nd, from 10:00 am to noon. The community closet will be open on the first Saturday of each month during winter. The ministry will be accepting donations of coats, sweaters, and warm bedding. They are especially in need of men's clothing.

Please contact Jane Whitaker if you want more information.

(865) 986-8741 or [jane Whitaker45@gmail.com](mailto:jane Whitaker45@gmail.com) .

### UMW Meeting

The Trinity UMW will meet Monday, November 4th, at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will assemble chap stick gifts for the residents of River Oaks and make plans for our annual Mary and Jesus Baby Shower in December.

### Yoga for Seniors

Trinity's Yoga for Seniors class will continue on Thursdays at 10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall. There will be no charge to participate, and everyone is welcome! If you have a medical condition, please consult your physician before taking the class.

### Charge Conference

Trinity's Charge Conference will take place on Thursday, November 7th, at 1:00 pm at the Holston Conference offices on 217 South Rankin Road, Alcoa, TN, 37701 .



### Daughters of the American Revolution

The Gen. William Lenoir Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet on Saturday, November 9th, at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary.

### Meet & Greet

Our monthly Meet and Greet luncheon will take place on Sunday, November 10th, following worship. The meal will be Thanksgiving themed. Turkey, dressing, cake, and pecan pie will be provided. Please bring a holiday side dish or salad to share. Everyone is welcome to attend!

### Admin. Council & Finance Committee Meeting

The Administrative Council and Finance Committee will meet on Monday, November 11th, at 5:30 pm in the New Visions classroom.

### Girls Scouts Food Drive

The Girls Scouts will host their annual food drive to benefit the Good Samaritan Center on Saturday, November 16, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Auto Zone (in front of Tractor Supply/Dollar General). We will have collection bins for people to drop off donations. Good Sam's list of needs is on their website at: [goodsamloudoncounty.org/our-pantry](https://goodsamloudoncounty.org/our-pantry).  
–Christine Calvin, Troop Leader



### Tree Decorating at Trinity

On Monday, November 18th, at 10:00 am we will decorate the Fellowship Hall Christmas tree. On Sunday, November 24th, at 4:00 pm we will decorate the Chrismon tree in the sanctuary. Please join us as we prepare for the festive season!

### Advent Bible Study

Pastor Linda will lead an Advent Bible study and it will follow the book *Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation* by Will Willimon.

The class will meet on Tuesdays at 10:30 am on November 26th, December 3rd, December 10th, and December 17th. If you would like to participate, please contact Pastor Linda or the church office.

### Choir Rehearsal

The choir will not rehearse on Wednesday, November 27th, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Choir rehearsal will resume on Wednesday, December 4th, at 6:00 pm.

### Happy Thanksgiving!

The church office will be closed Wednesday, November 27th, through Friday, November 29th, in observance of Thanksgiving. We hope you enjoy this time with your loved ones!

## Habitat Update

We have received the Habitat work schedule for November. Again we will provide lunches on Tuesdays (Nov 5, 19, and 26). Wilma is coordinating our lunch schedule. If you would like to volunteer for the on-site work, please let me know what dates you are available.

Habitat requests just a certain number of volunteers for each work day, so after I hear from you, I will confirm with you whether you will be on the work schedule for that day. The work day begins about 8:15 and goes until 2 or 3 or whenever the work is completed. Lunch is provided on most days by the partner churches.

Even though I will be out of town in November, I will be available by phone, email or text.

Jane Whitaker  
865-603-8741  
[jane Whitaker45@gmail.com](mailto:jane Whitaker45@gmail.com)

**Mon. Nov 4** -- Paint walls (primer) -- Roll and cut in under close supervision of task leader.

**Tue. Nov 5** -- Paint walls (2 coats) -- Finish wall painting.

**Wed. Nov 13** -- Paint doors -- Put doors on saw horses, fill nail holes, tape around hardware and door frames, and paint doors.

**Thu. Nov 14** -- Paint doors -- If second day is needed, finish painting doors.

**Fri. Nov 15** -- Paint base -- Paint base trim on saw horses prior to installation.

**Tue. Nov 19** -- Cabinets and vanities -- Install upper and lower kitchen cabinets and bath vanities.

**Wed. Nov 20** -- Cabinets and vanities -- Finish installing cabinets and vanities.

**Tue. Nov 26** -- Install doors -- Reattach painted doors to their frames.

**Wed. Nov 27** -- Install base and trim -- Install pre-painted base trim in entire house.

## New Ministry

Are you struggling with understanding your insurance benefits? Have you received a medical bill, either up front or after services that you may not think you owe? I am here to help! Knowing your plan benefits is the first step toward figuring out if your statement is right or wrong. I have worked in this field for 25+ years and have had multiple conversations with insurance companies on the patients behalf towards claim payment, among other responsibilities in that realm. The medical and dental insurance world is a bit confusing for sure! Looking forward to helping out to the best of my ability!

In His service,  
Regina Carl

You may reach Regina by phone (865)556-2339 or email [jesusmusic2@yahoo.com](mailto:jesusmusic2@yahoo.com)

Barbara Montgomery, Pastor Linda, & Flo Valentino attended the Wesley House Appreciation Breakfast in October.



Fun times at the Granny's Attic Rummage Sale with Trinity superstar Sarah Young!





## Happy Birthday!

Lee Aikens	November 1
Juanda Sniff	November 2
Hazel Maples	November 4
Bob Brown	November 7
Jo Alison Cortez	November 9
Dennis VanWormer	November 21
Barbara Montgomery	November 26
Ann Maroney	November 27



**\*\*Support Trinity United Methodist Church with PayPal Donations!\*\***

Dear Trinity Family,

As we continue to foster a spirit of generosity and community at Trinity United Methodist Church, we are excited to share an easy and convenient way for you to contribute to our mission and support our various ministries. With the rise of digital payment options, donating has never been simpler!

**\*\*Why Use PayPal?\***

PayPal offers a secure and user-friendly platform that allows you to donate from the comfort of your home. Whether you're supporting a specific ministry, contributing to general funds, or making a one-time donation, PayPal makes the process quick and efficient.

**\*\*How to Donate Using PayPal\***

*Here's a step-by-step guide to help you navigate your donation:*

1. **\*\*Visit Our Donation Page\*\***: Go to our church website at <https://trinityumc-lenoircity.org>. and click on the "Giving Options" button.
2. **\*\*Select "Online Giving Option"** and click on the link to Trinity's PayPal account.
3. **\*\*Enter Your Donation Amount\*\***: Decide how much you wish to donate. You can either select a preset amount or enter your custom donation.



4. **\*\*Complete Your Donation\*\***: Follow the prompts to finalize your donation. PayPal will provide confirmation of your contribution, which you can keep for your records.

5. **\*\*Receive Confirmation from Trinity\*\***: After your donation is processed, you will receive a confirmation email from Trinity United Methodist Church, thanking you for your generosity.

### **\*\*Recurring Donations\*\***

If you prefer to make a lasting impact, consider setting up a recurring donation. This option allows you to automatically contribute a fixed amount on a schedule that works for you (weekly, monthly, etc.). Just select the recurring option during the donation process for effortless giving!

### **\*\*A Note of Gratitude\*\***

Your generosity enables us to continue our mission of serving others, nurturing faith, and building community. Every contribution, no matter the amount, plays a vital role in the work we do at Trinity. Thank you for considering supporting our church through PayPal.

In His Name,

Mike Pearce, Treasurer



# Memorials

*In Memory of Elaine Finn given by Linda Bass*

*In Memory of Elaine Finn given by Sandra Guinn*

*In Memory of Elaine Finn given by Bonnie Ledbetter*

*In Memory of Bettye Joyce Fulton given by Jack Hammontree*

*In Memory of Pat Miller given by Bettye Abbott*

*In Memory of Pat Miller given by George Miller*

*In Memory of David Purdy given by Linda Bass*

*In Memory of David Purdy given by Bonnie Ledbetter*

*In Memory of Sylvia Sproul given by George Miller*

*In Memory of Sylvia Sproul given by Mike & Terri Pearce*

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.*

*John 14:27*



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

On Monday, October 7th our women met to say Thank You to Barbara Montgomery for her faithfulness and to present her with a UMW pin.

We then distributed the monies from our Grannies Attic Sale to the following organizations:

Boys and Girls Club	\$500
Kids First Child Advocacy	\$300
Crisis Center for Women	\$300
Red Bird Mission	\$200
Good Samaritan Center	\$200
Henderson Settlement	\$200
Susannah's House	\$250
UMCOR	\$350
Jubilee	\$300
Holston Foundation/Helene	\$1,500
Trinity Building Maintenance	\$150

And we also made the decision to financially support our *Funeral Meals for our Church Families* program with donations from our Christmas Luminaries offering.

We then assembled 20 UMCOR Hygiene Kits for Hurricane Helene relief. They were delivered to Cokesbury UMC for distribution.

-Jo Alison Cortez, UMC Co-president



## **Good Samaritan Thanksgiving Baskets**

Thanksgiving is just a few weeks away and there are families in our community who will need assistance in providing that special meal for their family. We're lucky to have Good Samaritan to be that assistance, and we here at Trinity can join in too. Last year over 400 families were provided baskets full of supplies for a "thankful" meal. Trinity will be taking an offering on both Sunday, November 3rd and 10th. If you would like to be a part of this outreach a basket costs \$25.00.

Please write "Thanksgiving Basket" on the memo line of your check or offering envelope. We Thank You!!

## **Offering for our Children/Young Adults of South Sudan:**

Once again, as we shared our time of worship and fellowship with Rev. Fred and Libby Dearing, we were inspired, informed, and enlightened. During our service, Rev. Fred took pictures of all those attending to send to our Children. They had asked for pictures so they could see just who they were praying for. Some years ago, a great number of us were part of a congregational picture that we then sent to the Children, and many of us continue to have our pictures from years ago of those Children we pray for daily. How blessed we are for this connection.

Well, Trinity you were also so very generous and our offering for the Children at this time was \$794.00. Thank you for your faithfulness.



## Hurricane Helene

On October 6th, Trinity had an UMCOR Hurricane Helene offering for the purchase of UMCOR *Cleaning Kits and Hygiene Kits*. We raised \$2,415. A quite remarkable response and always generous.

Then on October 13th, Trinity took an offering to support our Holston Foundation relief effort specifically for *financial assistance* to those in need from Hurricane Helene. You raised \$1,205 for that outreach. Thank you again and thank you for being part of an effort of restoring mercy and goodness to those who are suffering.

-Jo Alison Cortez, Missions & Outreach Chair



# Flood Relief





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00 am - Noon One Heart Community Closet
3 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship & Holy Communion All Saints Sunday	4 10:30 am UMW Meeting in Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	5 11:30 am Lunch for Habitat volunteers in Fellowship Hall	6 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall 1:00 pm Charge Conference	8	9 9:00 am DAR Meeting in Sanctuary
10 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Meet & Greet	11 5:30 pm Admin. Council & Finance Committee Meeting in New Visions Classroom 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	12	13 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	14 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	15	16 Liner-Fritz Wedding in Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall
17 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	18 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	19 11:30 am Lunch for Habitat volunteers in Fellowship Hall	20 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	21 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	22	23
24 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	25 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	26 10:30 am Advent Bible Study 11:30 am Lunch for Habitat volunteers in Fellowship Hall	27 No Choir Rehearsal  Church office closed	28 Thanksgiving Day  Church office closed	29 Church office closed	30