

From the Desk of the Pastor

*“O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.”
Psalm 107:1*

The crisp autumn air, the fluttering of golden leaves, the reunions with family and friends are a few of the reasons we love November. God’s splendor is all around us. In the life of the Church, this month also holds the important holy days of All Saints’ Day and Thanksgiving. The days are shorter, the nights grow longer, and our spirits are inclined to pause for the meaningful remembrances of those sacred occasions.

All Saints’ Day falls on the calendar on November 1 of each year, and we will observe this special day during worship on November 2. The hymns, prayers, rituals, and the Holy Communion will provide moments for us to remember our saints who died in the past year: *Betty Smalley, Helen Sanders, Dale Jacobsen, Pat Yarnell, Jack Hammontree, Maxine Whistler, Susan Rollins, and Jim Anderson*. Because of God’s eternal love, we are never separated completely from those we love. Thanks be to God for this gift!

This month also holds important opportunities for us to uphold our covenant to the United Methodist “connection.” We are members of the Smoky Mountain District of the UMC, and we are cordially invited to attend the annual “**District Day with the Bishop**” on November 18, at Seymour UMC. Our annual **Charge Conference** will be held on Saturday, November 22, 1:30 p.m., at Madisonville-First UMC. All members of the Administrative Council are voting members of the Charge Conference. We will benefit from a time of reporting and sharing with other churches in our area: Loudon UMC, Madisonville-First, Pleasant Hill, Forkner’s Chapel/Buckner Memorial, Philadelphia, Eleazar, and New Hope.

November also ushers in the season of thankfulness. As we celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving, let’s bear witness to God’s abundant gifts. I’m very grateful to all of you for upholding your vows to the Lord through your worship attendance, offerings, service, and prayers. What truly touches my heart are the many ways you show signs of Christ’s love by reaching out to the least, the lost, and the lonely. Let’s continue to be faithful!

I wish you and your loved ones a joyous Thanksgiving season! “I give thanks to God upon every remembrance of you.”

Gratefully yours,

Barbara



Time to "Fall Back!"

Please remember that Standard Time begins early on Sunday, November 2, so set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

November Lectionary

November 2 - All Saints Sunday - Luke 6:20-31

November 9 - Luke 19:1-10

November 16 - II Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

November 23 - Philippians 4:4-9

November 30 - First Sunday of Advent - Matthew 24:36-44

Yoga for Seniors - Level 1

This is a new class for beginners. There is no cost and everyone is welcome, male and female. If you have a medical condition, please consult your physician before taking the class. This level, (all done seated in a chair) emphasizes posture, and gentle range-of-motion exercises to keep joints supple and stretch and strengthen muscles. All movements are safe, simple, and easy to follow.

Session lasts for 30 minutes, every Thursday, beginning at 10:30 am. We will meet next door to the Fellowship Hall (in the Sunday school room with the mural). We will finish about the same time our Level 3 group does, and all are welcome to join the group for lunch afterwards. If you have any questions, call Wilma Bickers or the church office.



Lunch & Learn

On the second Tuesday of each month, Pastor Barbara would like to offer a “Lunch & Learn” experience for any members, friends, and guests who are interested in exploring ideas for growth in faith, service, and stewardship. The topic for this month will be “You Are What You Read.” Please bring your own lunch. Beverages will be provided. Reservations are not necessary, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Concert for Human Rights 2025

Trinity will host the Concert for Human Rights 2025 featuring Wendel Werner & Friends on Sunday, November 9, at 3:00 pm in the sanctuary. Admission is free and a love offering will be taken.

Admin. Council & Finance Committee Meeting

The Administrative Council and Finance Committee will meet on Monday, November 10, at 5:30 pm in the New Vision classroom.

Meet & Greet

Our monthly Meet and Greet luncheon will take place on Sunday, November 16, following worship. The meal will be Thanksgiving themed. Turkey, dressing, sliced ham, cake, and pecan pie will be provided. Please bring a holiday side dish or salad to share.

Everyone is welcome to attend!



Tree Decorating at Trinity

On Tuesday, November 18, at 1:00 pm we will decorate the Fellowship Hall Christmas tree. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 23, at 4:00 pm we will decorate the Chrismon tree in the sanctuary. The first Sunday after Thanksgiving will be the First Sunday of Advent. Please join us as we prepare for the festive season!

Charge Conference

Trinity's Charge Conference will take place on Saturday, November 22, at First Madisonville UMC, 143 College Street S, Madisonville at 1:30 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

The choir will not rehearse on Wednesday, November 26, owing to the Thanksgiving holiday. Choir rehearsal will resume on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 6:00 pm.

Happy Thanksgiving

The church office will be closed Wednesday, November 26, through Friday, November 28, in observance of Thanksgiving. We hope you enjoy this time with your loved ones!



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

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steadfast love endures forever!”

Psalm 107:1



*Dearest Trinity UMC community,
Please accept our deepest gratitude for all the love and care we received during the days and weeks after Jack Hammontree's passing. We will always remember fondly the outpouring of support and generosity you gave to us. Rev. Clark and a host of other Trinity servants surrounded us with comfort, care and hospitality. You opened the doors of the church to celebrate Jack's life and welcome all who came to honor him.*

We are grateful for all who attended the memorial service and shared stories and love for Jack with us. Thank you to all who provided and served at the beautiful reception, to Walter for his faithful gifts of hospitality and service to the entire Trinity community, to Sarah Jane for creating the memorial program, for the beautiful music that comforted us during the memorial service, and to Jack's usher team who prepared the sanctuary and welcomed all who attended. Our deepest gratitude for the pastoral guidance and care of Rev. Clark. Finally, thanks to all who contributed so generously to the Trinity memorial fund set up in Jack's honor. May your gifts bless the ministries of Trinity and the community it serves. Trinity was a special place for Jack. A place where he felt loved and accepted. The light of Christ shines brightly through all of you. For this, we are most grateful.

- Evan & Thad Pardue and family

We would like to thank the Girl Scouts for their generous donations of food for the Wesley House and candy for our trick-or-treaters! Thank you for your kindness and service to our community! We are glad you are part of our Trinity family!

Items of Note

Condolences

We offer our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the family of longtime Trinity member, Jim Anderson. Jim passed away on October 29. We ask that you please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. A memorial service will be held at a later date. We will let you know the details as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

From the Treasurer's Desk – November

As Thanksgiving approaches, I just want to say how truly grateful I am for each of you. Your steady giving and support have helped our church do so much good this year—from keeping our ministries strong to lending a hand to those in need. Every gift, large or small, makes a real difference.

As we head toward the end of the year, please keep our church in your prayers and plans for giving. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity—it's a blessing to serve alongside you.

With gratitude,

Mike Pearce, Church Treasurer

October Wesley House Donations

Peanut butter - 80

Vienna sausage - 106

Tuna - 120

Misc. cans of food - 14

Mac and cheese - 4

Soup - 19

Pudding - 2

Beans - 8lbs.

Rice - 3 lbs.

Pasta - 1

Feminine supplies—1

Thank you for your generosity, Trinity!



Trinity Methodist Women

On Monday, October 13, our women distributed the monies from our Grannies Attic Sale to the following organizations:

Second Harvest/Wesley House \$750 (will be doubled by 2nd Harvest)

Lenoir City Schools Family Resource Center / Hygiene Kits \$500

Boys and Girls Club \$600

Kids First Child Advocacy \$300

Crisis Center for Women (Iva's Place) \$300

Red Bird Mission \$250

Good Samaritan Center \$300

Henderson Settlement \$200

Susannah's House \$250

UMCOR \$300

Jubilee \$300

Advance Special TBD \$250

Wendell Werner Concert \$100

Trinity Maintenance \$600

* Silverware \$175

* Tree \$150

* Chair Pads \$250

Thank you again to ALL who helped to make these donations possible! Know you've made a difference in the lives of so many.

Trinity Methodist Women



The TMW will meet on Monday, November 3, 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

When our TMW officers met at the first of this year to plan our monthly calendar for 2025, we anticipated changes were going to be made at General Conference that would affect our Book of Discipline and would ultimately carry over to our congregations. A few of us have been familiar with the Reconciling Ministries Network that began in 1983 and in 1984 became an affiliated agency of the United Methodist Church. We were interested to learn more and decided to request a speaker for our November meeting.

Rev. Kenneth Sauer who co-pastors with his wife, Claire Travis Sauer at First UMC Oak Ridge will be our speaker for the day. Because we feel this is such an important opportunity for our congregation to become aware and informed about this growing justice movement, we wanted to invite ALL of our congregation and your friends too for what we feel will be a very special event.

So, let me share a bit about the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN). As mentioned, it became an official UM agency in 1984 committed to intersectional justice across and beyond the United Methodist connection, working for the full participation of all LGBTQ+ people throughout the life and leadership of the Church. Simply put to advance justice and inclusion and to bring healing for all LGBTQ+ people.

In the midst of continuing challenges that seek to separate LGBTQ+ persons and their loved ones from full communion with the Body of Christ, RMN draws on the Wesleyan understanding of God's grace that embraces all of creation and seeks its restoration and perfection in love.

In their theological statement, RMN is called by God to work with evangelistic zeal through the power of the Holy Spirit to encourage every local congregation to embrace and affirm the presence, participation, gifts, service, and witness of the LGBTQ+ persons within their community.

We invite ALL to join us for this very special, informative and impactful time together to learn and grow in God's goodness, grace and Love for ALL his children.



Missions & Outreach

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 November 2, and Sunday, November. If you would like to be 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!!

Lenoir City Schools Santa's Helper Gifts

Again, this year Trinity has partnered with our LC Schools Family Resource Center (FRC) to sponsor five children as part of their Santa's Helper outreach. This year our children are from one family. Willy is 15, Dilan, 11, Diego 7, with their sister, Natalia, 5 and rounding out the family is Samuel who is 18 months old. What a wonderful family!

We receive from each child a list of three toys or gifts they would like. Then we are given their sizes for shoes, pants, shirt, socks, coat along with their favorite color. With all this important info our Outreach committee goes to work to fill all their wishes and their needs. It's a very fun time shopping and then wrapping those gifts to go under our Trinity Christmas tree for dedication on Sunday, December 7.

If we would like to participate as a Santa's Helper, please write "Santa's Helper" on the memo line of your check or offering envelope. We will share in an offering on both Sunday, November 23, and November 30. We anticipate spending between \$250 to \$300 this year per child. We promise great delight with big smiles when the children open their gifts on Christmas morning. Thank You for always sharing the Spirit of the Season by continuing to make a difference in the lives of so many.

Fred & Libby Dearing

Thank you Trinity for your incredible generosity by giving \$810 for our South Sudan children as they continue to grow and succeed in their vocational and educational opportunities! Thank you!

Church & Society



Eliminating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion General Board of Church and Society May 20, 2025

POSITION STATEMENT

Eliminating Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church supports Diversity, Equity and Inclusion policies as acts of restorative justice seeking to honor and advance all persons and to eliminate exclusion and discrimination.

“We condemn racism, ethnocentrism, tribalism, and any ideology or social practice based on false and misleading beliefs or ideologies that one group of human beings is superior to all other groups of human beings.” (The United Methodist Social Principles, ¶162 The Social Community, L., Racism, Ethnocentrism, and Tribalism)

Background

The current administration has written multiple executive orders calling for the elimination of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. [The Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History Executive Order](#) is a bold expression of hate for DEI wrapped in a thinly veiled push for American patriotism, while dismissing all connections to the oppressive past of the United States. This administration is attempting to rewrite U.S. history by highlighting the long centuries of racial and colonial injustices as fake and exaggerated.

“In the United States, Whiteness as a concept and racialized identity has always been placed at the top of the societal hierarchy. As a result, white people in this country continue to benefit from a wide range of unearned privileges based solely on their race. These privileges are the direct and indirect result of practices, policies, and procedures stemming from a system of white supremacy, out of which the United States was formed and in which it continues to operate.” (United Methodist Church, Book of Resolutions, #3328 White Privilege in the U.S.)

In an attempt to implement a government-wide effort to unravel decades of civil inclusion and social justice advances, thousands of civil servants affiliated with DEI job titles were fired under the guise of government efficiency. The administration has also ordered all government documents to purge [a list](#) of over 200 words deemed “woke” language. In agencies like the Defense Department (DOD), this racist directive has meant the erasure of information on Black war heroes, the deletion of pages about Holocaust remembrance and purges of ethnic content at military academy libraries.

The White House’s opposition to diversity, equity, and inclusion is also being imposed upon the education system. [The Ending Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schooling Executive Order](#) cuts off funding to public schools which teach students about the issues of race and gender. Instead, the administration requires them to promote “Patriotic Education”. The Education Department is enforcing this propagandistic order, launching an investigation into more than 50 universities for their attempts to promote diversity, inclusion, and equity on campuses.

“Telling the truth of a nation’s history is not only a moral imperative, it is necessary to avoid repeating the mistakes of an immoral past. This is true even when the truth is uncomfortable and painful. When we educate ourselves on a nation’s history regarding race, indigenous tribes, gender, and disability, we yearn for and feel compelled to create a country where all people are treated justly and where we live in harmony with one another.” United Methodist Council of Bishops Letter (May 7, 2025), A Stand Against Dismantling of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policies.

Actions You Can Take

- Contact your elected officials and implore reconsideration and repeal of the administration’s removal of Diversity Equity and Inclusion policies
- Affirm and participate in the denomination’s ongoing work in support of equity
- Encourage United Methodists to advocate for the rights of all marginalized communities
- Pray that this administration will refrain from any discriminatory practices.
- Read more about diversity and justice in the UMC Book of Resolutions #3325 A Charter for Racial Justice in an Interdependent Global Community and #3326 Affirmative Action.

Some background facts provided by Brett Heinz, a political researcher and writer based in Washington, DC, who writes on economic justice, political inequality, and U.S. foreign policy at the American Friends Service Committee.

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons in Chapel
2 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship & Holy Communion All Saints Sunday	3 10:30 am TMW Meeting in Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	4 11:00 am Prayer Group 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Piano Lessons in Chapel	5 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	6 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	7	8 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons in Chapel
9 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 3:00 pm Concert for Human Rights 2025	10 5:30 pm Admin. Council & Finance Committee Meeting in New Visions Classroom 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	11 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Piano Lessons in Chapel	12 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	13 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	14	15 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons in Chapel
16 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Meet & Greet	17 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	18 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Piano Lessons in Chapel 6:00 pm District Day with the Bishop at Seymour UMC	19 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	20 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	21	22 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 1:30 pm Charge Conference
23 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 30 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 1st Sunday of Advent	24 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	25	26 No Choir Rehearsal Church office closed	27 Thanksgiving Day  Church office closed	28 Church office closed	29