



“...We must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, ...as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.” -Ephesians 4:15-16

The Lay Leadership (Nominations) Committee and I are in the process of nominating leaders to serve the Lord through the ministries of Trinity UMC. The members of this important committee who serve with me are Jo Lynn Blomquist, Denise Brookshire, Terri Pearce, Melanie Robinson, and Jane Whitaker. We do our work carefully and with prayer, following the teachings outlined in I Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4. I’m looking forward to welcoming a new class of leaders at our Charge Conference in November to join our current team of dedicated leaders. We are grateful for the willingness of our congregation to step forward in making commitments to uphold our church vows by sharing our “prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.” How can we help you to discern your place in vital ministries of the Body of Christ for the transformation of the world?

Please mark your calendars for two events intended to reach the greater community. The first event is the Pet Parade and Blessing of the Animals Service on October 4. Please invite your friends, neighbors, and pet enthusiasts! It will be a fun afternoon of caring for all of God’s creatures “great and small.” If you are unable to bring your pet to the service, I’ll be glad to bless a photograph of your furry friend.

The second event is the Halloween Party on October 31. Wear a costume, and please join us in providing a safe and joyful environment for the children of our neighborhood. We’d be most grateful for donations of candy (individually-wrapped), decorations, and other treats. Thank you for helping us in this endeavor to share His love while having lots of fun!

I’m currently looking for folks to help us with events and day trips, which might include the following activities or ministries: “crop drops” with the Society of St. Andrew to feed hungry neighbors, a trip to the Apple Barn in Pigeon Forge, supporting our Girl Scout troop, exploring nature trails in our beautiful area, attending local concerts, wearing our church T-shirts to town events, participating in the Christmas Parade, etc. Please let me know of your interest.

Thank you for serving the Lord through Trinity! I look forward to seeing you each Sunday.

Blessings,
Barbara

Upcoming Events

October Lectionary

October 4 - Matthew 21:33-46

October 11 - Matthew 22:15-22

October 18 - Fred and Libby Dearing will preach.

October 25 - Matthew 22:34-46

Meet & Greet Schedule

October - NO MEET AND GREET the first Sunday - We will have a catered meal this month when the Dearings are with us on the 18th.

November - Meet and Greet will be on November 15

December - Meet and Greet will be on December 13

January - NO MEET AND GREET

February - Back to the first Sunday schedule - Meet and Greet on February 7

Pet Parade & Blessing of the Animals

Our Blessing of the Animals service will take place on Sunday, October 4, at 3:00 pm on the lawn by the church parking lot. To keep our animal friends and their humans safe, cats and other small animals must be in carriers and dogs must be on leashes.

Thank you! Invite your friends and neighbors!

Board of Trustees Meeting

The Trinity Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, October 6, at 6:00 pm in the conference room.

Lay Leadership & SPR Meeting

The Lay Leadership Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 13, at 11:00 am in the conference room. The Staff Parish Relations Committee will meet on Thursday, October 15, at 5:00 pm in the conference room.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will hold a brief meeting on Sunday, October 18, after worship in the New Vision classroom.

Visit from the Dearings

Please join us on Sunday, October 18, when Rev. Fred and Libby Dearing will again join us in worship with a fellowship meal and program to follow on the United Methodist Church's mission work in South Sudan.

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Monday, October 19, at 5:30 pm in the conference classroom.

Historical Society Meeting

The Historical Society of Loudon County will meet on Sunday, October 25, at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Missions & Outreach Meeting

The Missions & Outreach Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 28, at 11:00 am in the conference room.

Trick or Treat at Trinity

On Saturday, October 31, trick or treaters can stop by the church from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm for candy. Please bring in bags of individually wrapped candy to hand out. Volunteers will be needed for this event! We hope to see you there!

Mark Your Calendars

Here are a few important dates to remember in November:

November 1 - All Saints' Day

November 15 - Charge Conference @ Loudon UMC 3:00 pm



Happy Birthday!

Harvey Sproul	October 8
Scarlett Hamilton	October 15
Cherlyn Quick	October 15
Caroline Brookshire	October 16
Jim Campbell	October 17
Pam Kirkpatrick	October 25

Photo here

We are very happy to have Jennifer Lainhart as a new professing member and her daughter, Matilda, as a preparatory member. Welcome to Trinity!

Notes of Gratitude



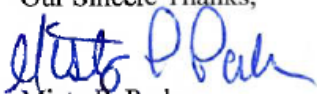
Trinity United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 606
Lenoir City, TN 37771

8/28/2026

Dear Friend,

Thank you for being a partner as we serve our Loudon County community facing difficult life situations and choices. Your gift allows us to be there in these critical times of need with assistance of food, utility payments, rent/pharmacy needs and much needed dental care. You make all the difference in the lives of our clients and their families. Food for their cabinets, A/C for their homes and many other items that we often take for granted. Working together, we make a difference in the lives of so many.

Our Sincere Thanks,


Misty P. Parker
Executive Director

*Thank you for
your continued
support!*

Donation: \$1,100.00

Memorials

In Memory of James Hines given by Wayne & Josephine Blankenship

We would like to thank Wayne & Josephine Blankenship for their generous contribution of a Leonardo DaVinci print. It is now on display in the church library.

October Finance Update

As we enter the final quarter of 2026, this is an ideal time to begin your year end tax planning. Fall provides a helpful window to review your charitable giving, consider any adjustments, and ensure contributions are completed before December 31. Thoughtful planning now can make a meaningful difference when you file your 2026 return.

Overall Financial Condition (Year to Date Through August)

Trinity continues to operate from a position of stability. **Year to date expenses through the end of August remain well below budget across nearly every ministry area**, reflecting careful stewardship and consistent cost management throughout the year.

- **Personnel**, our largest category, stands at **57% of budget spent**, right on track for this point in the year.
 - **Worship, Discipleship, and NOW ministries** remain significantly under budget, with most line items showing minimal spending so far.
 - **Office Expenses** are trending below expectations, with copier, supplies, and finance related costs all under 60% of budget.
 - **Maintenance and Insurance** categories show moderate activity—utilities at **54%**, landscaping at **58%**, and insurance at **65%**—all appropriate for midyear.
 - **Apportionments** are nearly complete, with the District Fund fully paid and Conference Apportionments at **79%**.
- Mission Support** is also on track at **67%**.

This pattern of controlled spending means Trinity has maintained a healthy cushion in most budget areas, giving us flexibility as we move toward year end. Giving has remained steady through the summer and early fall, and your continued generosity will help ensure we finish 2026 in a strong position.

A Helpful Year End Option: Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

If you are **age 70½ or older** and have a traditional IRA, a **Qualified Charitable Distribution** allows you to give directly from your IRA to the church. A QCD can **count toward your Required Minimum Distribution while not being included in your taxable income**, making it one of the most tax efficient ways to support Trinity. Your financial advisor or IRA custodian can help you initiate the process.

A Warm Closing

Thank you for the many ways you support Trinity — through your giving, your presence, your prayers, and your love for this church family. It is a privilege to serve as your treasurer, and I am grateful for the trust you place in our Finance Team. May this season bring you peace, clarity, and joy as we look toward the blessings still ahead in 2026.

In His Name,
Mike



Trinity Methodist Women

Trinity Methodist Women: There are so many folk to say Thank You to but want to begin with ALL who brought something to sell and those who took something home to enjoy! Because of that effort, TMW raised \$5,963.38 and one individual has said they are giving another \$100. That is the most our women have ever raised for mission outreach! Quite Amazing and quite Wonderful for sure!

What we experienced again this year as we started the setup for our Grannies Attic Sale, is that it is definitely a team effort and that Team Spirit continued throughout the days and weeks leading up to the sale days, during them and in the final pack up! Everyone helping each other where ever the need.

We begin our Thank Yous with all the Fellas who helped clear out the Fellowship Hall taking down tables and chairs and then the task of putting up the necessary clothes racks. They continued by going into our community and picking up those items that would add to our success. Couldn't do it without you!

We Thank ALL the gals who helped when able every Monday, Wednesday and Friday by finding their "spot" to work and making that area special. Thank You to Melanie for the many days of donuts and then Friday lunch too, and Denny who each year covers our Saturday lunch for the workers. Delicious and keeps us going to the end of the day!

Thank you to Sandra, Jane, Terri, Wilma and Mike who got our guests checked out and items bagged for their convenience. And an additional Thank You to Jane for her attention to securing so many outside purchases through her placement of special items and then following through with the responses and final purchases from the Facebook Marketplace site.

Then one very special *THANK YOU* to *Terri* who a few years back took

Trinity Echo, October 2026

on the task of setting up and putting organization into our efforts that has now made our time together so efficient and much more fun for sure. She is our leader and we so appreciate her!

And now, if you are able, come join our TM Women on Monday, October 5, at 10:30 am when we will decide how our sale monies will be distributed. This is what we've all worked so hard for.

We will also select the designation for our Christmas Eve Luminaries offering.

All women are invited and hope you can join us for some fellowship and fun. See you then.

YOU CAN BE PUBLISHED!

The Trinity Methodist Women are putting together an Advent Meditations Book for 2026 and your thoughts, memories, poems, or prayers can be included. There is even a prize for the first usable submission.

- Keep your submissions to between 200 and 400 words
- Include your name with your submission. A short two sentence bio would be nice
- Deadline for all articles is November 1, 2026.
- Submissions can be sent electronically to sarahyoung09@gmail.com or given personally.

Think you would like to be included but you know you're not a writer? Call Sarah Young at 865-599-9775 and your story will be recorded and transcribed. All for the cost of a cup of tea and possibly a cookie!

Check the library for a complete book from another church. You might get some great ideas. I can't wait to hear from you.

Sarah Young, Chief Scribe

Missions & Outreach

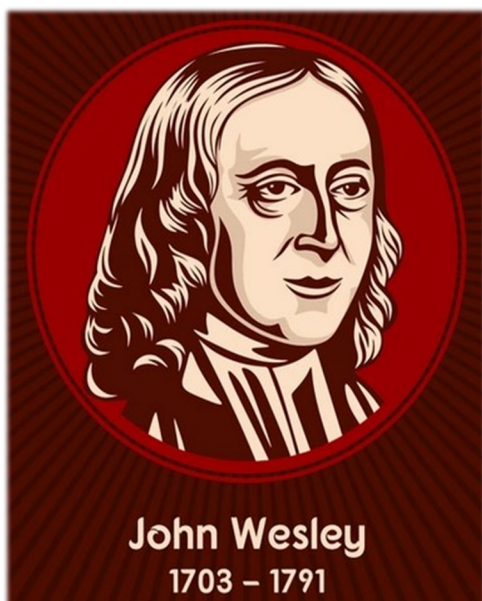
Bridge Refugee Services “Gently Used Warm Coats and Hoodies”: We want to thank all of you who contributed to our collection of gently used warm coats and hoodies for refugee families in our community here and in the Chattanooga area. We so appreciate your response. We will continue our collection until Sunday, October 4.

The agency serves about 750 clients who have left their country of origin, left a second country and must be in their third or fourth country before applying for protected status in the United Nations refugee agency, UNHCR. With this status they are allowed to apply for legal permanent residence after one year and citizenship after five years, although this is changing under the current administration.

Their clients include Afghans who came as temporary humanitarian parolees, a status established for them in late 2021 at the end of this country’s participation in the war in Afghanistan, but the status no longer exists. They must now apply for another protected status. Bridge also works with about 500 Ukrainian nationals who came to East Tennessee during their country’s war with Russia. Their status has also changed and the Department of Homeland Security began implementing a new \$1,000 immigration parolee fee in October 2025.

Thank you for joining in a new opportunity for Trinity UMC to love our neighbor.

Wesley's Words



"October 6, 1774

I met those of our society who had votes in the ensuing election, and advised them

1. To vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy
2. To speak no evil of the person they voted against, and
3. To take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side."

--- John Wesley, The Journal of John Wesley

Missions & Outreach

Rev. Fred and Libby Dearing in Worship, Sunday, October 18th:

We're excited to welcome back Rev. Fred and Libby Dearing, Volunteers in Mission to the Republic of South Sudan, for worship and a fellowship meal following the service. Fred, a retired pastor from our Holston Conference and a District Superintendent in both Kingsport and Chattanooga, will be in our pulpit. Libby, a retired nurse, has been instrumental, or as many have called her, the "heart" behind the development of the two orphanages, Grace Home and Greenland in South Sudan. During our fellowship time, she will again share from their most recent time with the Children arriving home September 15 from Uganda where the Children now live.

Trinity began this journey with Fred and Libby in 2016 and our time with them and the Children has been steadfast and faithful as their lives have changed and forever been impacted by the devastating on-going civil war.

In 2011 Fred began serving as the Yei District Superintendent for 15 churches and their pastors, while Libby worked with the children of both Grace Home and Greenland Home in South Sudan. When Trinity came on board our Outreach committee under the direction of Wilma Bickers made two posters of our then 36 Children that we display each year and that has recently been updated with current pictures as they are now young adults with the most beautiful smiles! Also in 2016 our congregation had the opportunity to choose one or more of the children's pictures with bio to take home and begin praying for their children, and we continue that prayer to today.

Over the years Trinity has collected toothbrushes and toothpaste, along with a congregational picture of us waving "hello." We collected so many books it took Fred and Libby two trips to deliver them all. One year we made individual note cards with the picture of each child on the front and then during Meet and Greet members could write a message of hello. In most recent years, our offerings have gone directly to assist in the care of our now Young Adults as they continue their educational and vocational endeavors. Trinity will again take an offering on Sunday the 18th to support our Children.

We invite ALL to join us in worship Sunday, October 18, to hear Fred preach and Libby share some "Children's Moments" and then following we'll gather in our Fellowship Hall to enjoy a *catered* lunch, please just come to enjoy, no extra food requested this time, and hear about their visit with the Children this year. We know you will enjoy!!!

Church & Society

FAITH & FACTS

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

IMMIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES

What does the Bible say?

When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. **(Leviticus 19:33-34)**



I [Jesus] was a stranger and you welcomed me. **(Matthew 25:35b)**

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. **(Hebrews 13:2)**

But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. **(1 Corinthians 12:24b-26a)**

What does the United Methodist Church say?

Regardless of legal status or nationality, we are all connected through Christ to one another. Paul reminds us that when “one part suffers, all the parts suffer” as well (1 Corinthians 12:26). The solidarity we share through Christ eliminates the boundaries and barriers which exclude and isolate. Therefore, the sojourners we are called to love are our brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, sons, and daughters; indeed, they are us. **(Book of Resolution, #4271, Welcoming the Migrant to the US)**



We express our utmost concern for the passage of anti-immigrant laws, which adversely affect the well being of citizens and residents of this country as they engage in providing humanitarian aid to undocumented persons in several States. **(Book of Resolutions #4272, Faithfulness in Response to Critical Needs)**

FAITH & FACTS

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

IMMIGRATION IN THE UNITED STATES

What do the facts say?

- In 2022, 14.3% of the US population was foreign born (Pew Research Center)
- One-in-ten Black people in the U.S. are immigrants. The number of Black immigrants living in the country reached 4.6 million in 2019, up from roughly 800,000 in 1980 (Pew Research Center, 2022)
- Immigrants contribute and pay over 651 billion dollars in taxes to support and participate in the US economy (American immigration Council)
- 43% of recently arrived family and diversity-based immigrants are college graduate— compared to 29% native born Americans
- Beyond the staggering moral costs and far-reaching trauma of separating millions of American families, the deportation of 11 million people would impoverish many American families and create enormous social costs. Mass deportation would force a nearly \$8 trillion hit to the economy over the next 14 years and jeopardize our housing market. Further, it would take 20 years, and cost U.S. taxpayers between \$400 to \$600 billion (FWD.us)



What do you say?

Take **ACTION** for justice...

- **Join** a rapid response team in your area to support and learn more about opportunities for engagement, partnership, and solidarity
- **Contact** your legislator utilizing any of our Action Alerts to support legislation that protects immigrants and honors their dignity
- **Support** the Immigration Law and Justice Network through donations and volunteering



For more information contact:
advocacy@umcjustice.org

www.umcjustice.org

Updated 2025

General Board of Church and Society

100 Maryland Ave, NE Washington, DC 20002

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The United Methodist Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	2	3 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons
4 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship & Holy Communion 3:00 pm Pet Parade & Blessing of the Animals	5 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	6 11:00 am Prayer Group 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Piano Lessons in Chapel 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting	7 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	8 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	9	10 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons
11 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	12 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	13 11:00 am Lay Leadership Meeting 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Piano Lessons in Chapel	14 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm SPR Meeting	16	17 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons
18 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Finance Meeting 12:00 Lunch with Dearings	19 5:30 pm Church Council 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	20 11:00 am Prayer Group 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Piano Lessons in Chapel	21 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	22 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	23	24 9:00 am - 11:00 am Piano Lessons
25 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 3:00 Historical Society Meeting	26 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Meeting	27 11:00 am Prayer Group 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Piano Lessons in Chapel	28 11:00 am Missions & Outreach 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	29 9:00 am - 10:30 am Piano Lessons in Chapel 10:15 am Yoga for Seniors in Fellowship Hall	30	31 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Hand out candy to Trick or Treaters