



# Trinity United Methodist Church Newsletter

*“Live by Faith, Be Known by Love, Be A Voice of Hope”*

February 2026

Volume IV, No. 2

## First Impressions? Are We the Friendliest Church in Town?

Remember that time when you first met that individual or company? Like it or not, your decisions in the next few minutes will impact on your behavior. In an interview first impressions are made within the first 10 seconds of the interaction! The same is true for someone new entering Trinity, coming with an expectation of Trinity as the friendliest church.

When meeting others for the first time impressions are actually *expectations*. These expectations influence our behaviors. Impressions are a three-part process: initial, intermediate, and post. Unsurprisingly, initial impressions serve as predictors of an upcoming interaction, and they are primarily nonverbal (research estimates 65–90% of decisions to continue an interaction are nonverbal). These include eye contact, body language, touch, personal spacing, and dress. They are evaluated by how well they confirm or deny expectations. As such, initial impressions set the tone for both attitude and behavior.

Trinity presents itself as the “Friendliest church in Town,” thus setting expectations that will either be confirmed or denied. If confirmed, a visitor may decide to “test” Trinity a few more weeks before deciding either to join or move on. If denied, the visitor may leave at a negative first impression or stay through the service to confirm that initial impression as an intermediate impression and decision not to establish a relationship (post impression). What follows is part of review a visitor recently put on Yelp:

We are seniors and were seeking a more traditional service. Pastor Singh gave a wonderful sermon and cares greatly about his flock.

In regards to the vibe of the congregation of mostly seniors, we were met with a cool reception. Not one person welcomed us to the church or spoke to us. There is a lack of Christian spirit here, in my opinion. After 2 visits, we decided to move on, sorry to say. Where’s your Christian fellowship, people?

So, how can we create a positive first impression? First, demonstrate friendly nonverbal cues. Most important when first interacting is to establish eye contact, usually from a distance initially. Second, actually *smile* at the visitor. A true smile sets the visitor at ease. Third, create a comfortable *distance* with the visitor (he/she will back up if you get too close). You might then use *body language* by leaning slightly forward when greeting the visitor, thus indicating interest and a wish to talk. Fourth, find some way to initiate *touch*—usually a handshake with moderate grip and a quick shake. Fifth, at Trinity what you wear is probably less important than at other churches, but how the visitor is dressed will let you know how formal he/she expects the church to be. All of this is done prior to that visitor taking a seat (if they decide to stay)! Have you considered how you represent a “friendly” or “friendliest” church in town?

# Pastor's Corner

## Messengers

*And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles.—Luke 6:13*

**F**ishermen. A tax collector. Others of indeterminate professions. Simon, a Judean zealot, bent on throwing off the Roman yoke. And Judas, who ultimately betrays Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.

These are the twelve Jesus chooses in Luke's Gospel to serve as ἀποστόλους or *Apostolos* (apostles), meaning *delegates*, *messengers*, and *ambassadors*.

Jesus chooses this unlikely band of fellows to represent the Good News of the Kingdom of God come near. And sends them out on missions of healing, casting out evil spirits, and proclaiming Christ's peace to the households they visit.

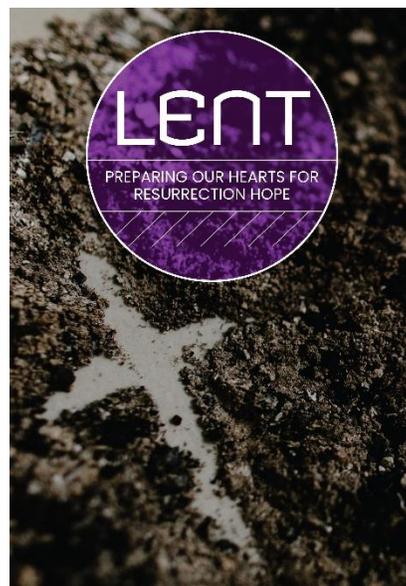
Leaping ahead to the final scenes in Luke's Gospel, our Lord instructs the remaining Apostles that they are to be His witnesses, His Ambassadors, His Representatives and Storytellers, proclaiming repentance and forgiveness from sin through faith in Christ to all nations.

Friends, here in our little corner of the world, *we* all serve as Christ's ambassadors in our own way. Whether clergy or laity, whether we've been churchgoers all our lives or have arrived recently, *we* are commissioned by Christ to serve as His messengers, with *our* words and especially *our* actions.

The most direct, impactful, and effective way we can share God's Love in Jesus Christ is to love others. To serve as a faithful, loving, inviting, and welcoming presence in the lives of everyone we encounter. After all, wouldn't we want the same for ourselves?

May we continually glorify God by blessing others with the gift of our faithful friendship! Amen.

*Anil*



# Helping Those In Need!

Helping those in need can be done in a variety of ways. What does it mean to you? How can you help? Here at Trinity, we provide a variety of ways to help, through *Blessings in a Bag*, *House of Hope* donations, *Helping People Succeed*—Our Baby Needs drive—and various other giving opportunities. We just announced the *Meals of Mercy* program to help those of our church congregation who need food prepared for them during a time of illness or incapacitation. All of these opportunities provide a way of helping someone in need. The question is how are you helping? What can you do to help in the ministries within our church? Sometimes it may just be reaching out to someone with a loving comment or a listening ear. God provides ways for us to share His love; we need to listen to His leading and do what we can to help others.



Matthew 25 verses 35-40 tells us **35** *For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.*

**37** *Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?”*

**40** *The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”*

Let’s do what we can for those in need and remember whatever you do for one of the least, you are doing it for Him.

Rick



*Transformation Sunay, February 15<sup>th</sup>*

## Trinity United Methodist Church of Jensen Beach

2221 NE Savannah Road, Jensen Beach, FL 34957

+1.772.234.3404

[office@trinityjb.org](mailto:office@trinityjb.org)

[www.trinityjb.org](http://www.trinityjb.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/tumc.jb/>

<https://www.youtube.com/@tumc.jensenbeach>

**Pastor:** Rev. Anil K. Singh

**Congregational Care:** Rick Decker

**Office:** Anne Pappas

**Communications:** Randi Schwartz

**Nursery:** Sandi Mulvaney

**Music:** Cynthia Beam

**Organist:** Dr. MJ Montague

**Choir Accompanist:** Hye-Yun Chung Bennett

**Celebration Leader:** Darryl Sweeting

**Media:** Mike & Tiffanie Fields

# Getting to Know Randi Schwartz

*And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap,  
if we do not give up—Galatians 6:9*

I noticed this white-haired lady with a beautiful smile doing all kinds of things around the church since I started coming to Trinity, and through putting many little notes together, I determined her name was Randi. However, I did not know her last name and more importantly, I didn't know what her primary position or responsibility with the church was. In starting these biographies of members in our church, I thought maybe some of you might be in the same position, so I made arrangements to interview Randi for this next *Newsletter* feature.



Randi Schwartz has been with Trinity for 18 years and oversees Written and Digital Media for all external communications as Trinity's Communication Director. MaryLou Rathgeber would pick up Randi's young daughter Gianna every Sunday and take her to church. Not long after, Randi decided for Gianna's best interests, it would be wise for her to attend the church as well and so she did...Trinity United Methodist in Jensen Beach.

There was a Family & Youth Program at the time and Randi became very involved.

Randi also noted how she believes in the United Methodist Church's Mission Statement, "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." With this passion to be of service and helping to change the world in this way, she became a faithful member, keeping her daughter immersed in faith and church, while serving the church as well. By the way, Gianna is now a student at Savannah College of Art and Design. Many of us were blessed to hear Gianna sing at services during the holiday season.

While Randi enjoys everything she does at Trinity, she is challenged frequently by doing everything she can to communicate accurate information in a timely manner. She is most thankful for the opportunity to use her creativity and interest in art through these projects.

Randi was born in Manhattan, New York, and came to Florida from Arizona in 1972. She has lived in Jensen Beach for 45 years and is a Florida Keys Community College graduate with an Environmental Marine Science A.S., transferred, and became an FIT graduate with a degree in Aquaculture and Environmental Technology. She worked for the Department of Environmental Regulation and went on to teach High School Sciences and is now a retired High School Science Teacher.

Gardening is a special interest of Randi's and while she has her own garden, she also started a Medicinal Plant and Permaculture "garden" at the church. (Anyone with interest in helping with this endeavor, please see Randi!)

In addition to her beautiful daughter, Randi loves her special dog, Leila. Leila just turned 11 and you might see her with Randi at the church during the week.

Randi is very fond of the church members here at Trinity and after being here so long, she has come to realize just how much she really loves and cares about each and every one. As for me, I think we are truly blessed for all that Randi does for Trinity, and the very special friend she is to so many of us. May we not forget the special people like Randi, who does so much that is often behind the scenes, but still needs to be done. I'm not sure what we would do without her. Randi, we appreciate you!

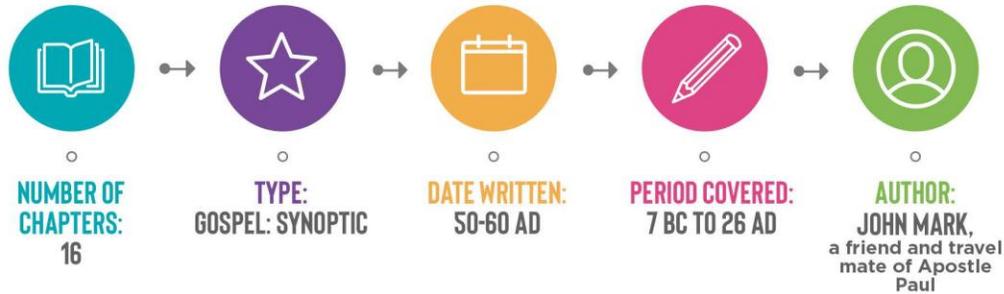
*Meri*

# MARK | 02 NT



Mark, also known as John Mark, was a friend of Apostle Peter, but then he traveled with Apostle Paul and his assistant Barnabas on Paul's first missionary journey around Asia Minor. The book is loaded with miracles. Mark's point was to show how powerful, kind, and merciful God is.

The Gospel of Mark does not mention the birth or childhood of Jesus, but starts with the ministry of John the Baptist. Whereas Matthew presents Jesus as king, Mark presents him as a humble servant of man.



## BREAKDOWNS

● = Classic Bible Stories

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES	SUBJECT	✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES	SUBJECT
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1:1-8	John the Baptist	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 9:38-50	Jesus Makes Severe Warnings
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1:9-13	Jesus' Baptism	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10:1-12	Teaching: Marriage and Divorce
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1:14-28	Jesus' first Four Disciples; First Deliverance	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10:13-16	Jesus Blesses the Children
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1:29-45	Peter's Mother Healed; Second Deliverance	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10:17-31	The Rich Young Ruler
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 2:1-13	Miracle: Paralytic Dropped through Roof	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10:32-45	James and John Ask for Special Seating
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 2:14-22	Matthew/Levi Called to Follow	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10:46-52	Miracle: Healing of Beggar Bartimaeus
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 2:23-28	Jesus' Disciples Pick Grain on the Sabbath	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 11:1-11	Triumphal Entry: Palm Sunday Story
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 3:1-12	Jesus Heals on the Sabbath	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 11:12-14	Jesus Curses a Fig Tree
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 3:13-19	The Rest of the 12 Chosen and Instructed	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 11:15-18	Jesus Cleanses the Temple
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 4:1-34	Parable: The Sower and Explanations	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 11:27-33	By Whose Authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 4:35-41	Miracle: Jesus Calms the Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 12:1-12	Parable: The Vine-growers
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 5:1-20	Miracle: Legion of Demons Goes into Swine	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 12:13-40	Jesus' Responses to Religious Leadership
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 5:21-43	Miracles: Jairus' Daughter and Bleeding Woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 12:41-44	The Poor Widow Gives Big
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6:1-6	A Prophet is Without Honor	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 13:1-23	Jesus Describes the End Times
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6:7-13	The 12 Disciples Sent Out	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 13:24-37	Take Heed; Watch for the Second Coming
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6:14-29	John the Baptist's Arrest, Death	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:1-11	Death Plot and Anointing of Jesus' Body
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6:30-44	Miracle: Feeding of the 5,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:12-21	Holy Week: Passover Meal/Prediction of Betrayal
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6:45-52	Jesus Walks on the Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:22-31	Holy Week: Lord's Supper
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6:53-56	Many Healings at Gennesaret	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:32-42	Holy Week: Garden of Gethsemane
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 7:1-13	Jesus Rebukes Religious Leaders	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:43-52	Holy Week: Judas' Betrayal and the Arrest
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 7:14-23	What Defiles a Man	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:53-65	Holy Week: Jesus Speaks Before His Accusers
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 7:24-31	The Syrophenician Woman	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14:66-72	Holy Week: Peter Denies Jesus Three Times
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 7:32-37	Jesus Heals the Man's Eyes with Spit	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 15:1-15	Holy Week: Jesus Before Pilate
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 8:1-8	Miracle: 4,000 Fed	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 15:16-21	Holy Week: Soldiers Beat, Mock Jesus
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 8:27-38	Peter Confesses Jesus as Christ	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 15:22-41	Holy Week: Crucifixion
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 9:1-13	The Transfiguration	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 15:42-47	Holy Week: The Burial and the Stone
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 9:14-29	Miracle: Jesus Heals Boy with Convulsions	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 16:1-13	Holy Week: The Resurrection
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 9:30-37	Jesus Foretells his Death, Resurrection	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 16:14-20	Commission to the Disciples

### Most Popular Verses

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES	RANK
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1:15	Mark Rank: 2, Overall: 332
<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 16:15	Mark Rank: 1, Overall: 21

# The Story: The Transfiguration of Jesus

Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a quiet mountain—away from the noise, the crowds, and the constant demands. While they were there, something extraordinary happened. Jesus was transfigured before them: His appearance changed, His clothes shone brilliantly, and the Disciples suddenly saw Him not just as their teacher, but as someone filled with God’s glory. Moses and Elijah appeared, representing the Law and the Prophets, showing that Jesus stood at the heart of God’s long story with humanity.

The disciples were overwhelmed and afraid. Peter, unsure what to do, tried to hold onto the moment, wanting to build shelters and stay there. But a cloud covered them, and God’s voice spoke clearly: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.” Then, just as suddenly, the vision ended. Moses and Elijah were gone, and only Jesus remained—familiar, human, walking beside them again.

As they went back down the mountain, Jesus told them not to speak of what they had seen yet.\*

The Transfiguration reminds us of several deep and practical truths about faith and daily life: First, it shows *who Jesus truly is*. The disciples had followed Him as a teacher and miracle-worker, but on the mountain, they glimpsed his divine identity. Faith often grows when we see beyond what is familiar and recognize that God is at work in ways bigger than we expect—even when those moments are brief.

Second, it teaches that *clarity comes before challenge*. The Transfiguration happens just before Jesus begins His journey toward suffering and the cross. God gives the disciples a vision of glory not to escape hardship, but to strengthen them for what lies ahead.

Third, it reminds us to *listen, not control*. Peter wants to build shelters and freeze the moment, but God redirects him: “Listen to my Son.” We often try to manage or preserve spiritual experiences, when what God asks is obedience and trust.

The Transfiguration reminds us that moments of clarity and spiritual insight don’t remove us from real life—they prepare us for it. We don’t stay on the

mountain. We carry what we’ve seen back into the valleys, trusting Jesus even when the glory is no longer visible. Faith is lived out in the valleys—through love, endurance, and daily faithfulness.

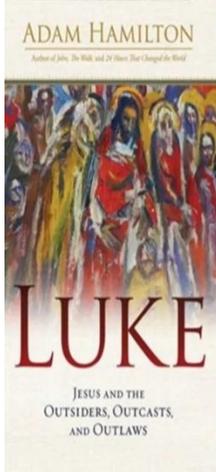
Let’s share some fellowship, food, and fire to recognize this Transfiguration of Jesus; imagine what it was like to be chosen by God to meet His Son in person; chosen to spread this information to the world, in order to change the world! Sound familiar? Bring a chair, a drink, and a snack to share! And let’s bask in the light of a fire as we prepare for Ash Wednesday.

The Light of the Transfiguration, and the Ashes of Ash Wednesday are a reminder that humility and repentance open us to God’s grace. As we move from light to ashes, we are not moving away from God—we are being led back toward the transforming light that still guides us, even when it seems hidden.

Randi

\*Bible verses: Matthew 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-9, and Luke 9:28-34

# Learning Opportunities

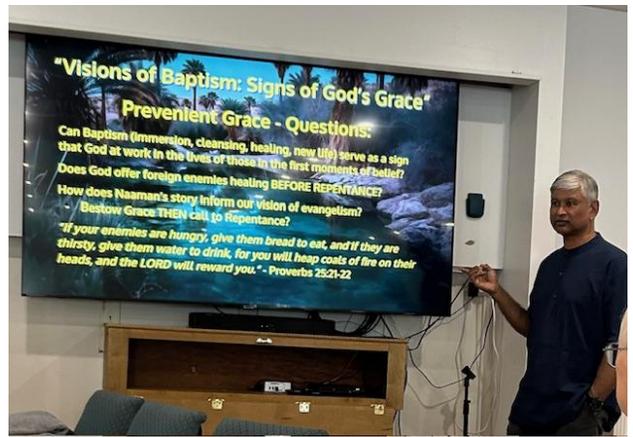


ADAM HAMILTON  
Author of John, The Walk and 20 Other Short Chapters in the World

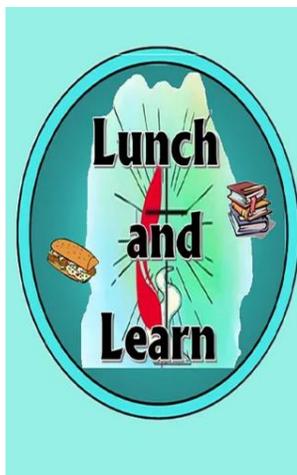
**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**  
**BEGINNING JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>**  
**4:30 PM \* FELLOWSHIP HALL**



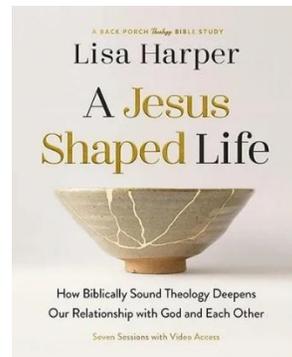
**BEGINNERS TAI CHI**  
**FRIDAYS \* 1:00**  
*Beginning February 6<sup>th</sup>*  
**CONTACT: 801-319-3926 OR VISIT SKYLINETRIBE.COM**



**"Visions of Baptism: Signs of God's Grace"**  
**Prevenient Grace - Questions:**  
Can Baptism (immersion, cleansing, healing, new life) serve as a sign that God at work in the lives of those in the first moments of belief?  
Does God offer foreign enemies healing BEFORE REPENTANCE?  
How does Naaman's story inform our Vision of evangelism?  
Bestow Grace THEN call to repentance?  
*"If your enemies are hungry, give them bread to eat, and if they are thirsty, give them water to drink, for you will heap coals of fire on their heads, and the LORD will reward you." - Proverbs 25:21-22*



**JOHN WESLEY & THE BEATITUDES**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>**  
**12:30 PM**  
**FELLOWSHIP HALL**



A BACK PORCH THEOLOGY BIBLE STUDY  
Lisa Harper  
**A Jesus Shaped Life**  
How Biblically Sound Theology Deepens Our Relationship with God and Each Other  
Seven Sessions with Video Access

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**  
*With Eric Boyle*  
**THURSDAYS 10:30-11:30 AM**  
**BEGINS: FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>**  
**BOB ENGLE ROOM**  
**A SEVEN WEEK STUDY FOR WOMEN**

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

2 16

GOSPEL, SYNOPTIC



# OVERVIEW

As one of the Gospels that detail the ministry of Jesus Christ, Mark is written by John Mark, who was a friend of the Apostle Peter. He later traveled with the Apostle Paul and his assistant Barnabas on Paul's first missionary journey around Asia Minor. Mark's account is unique in that it is written to a Gentile audience, and he emphasizes Christ's actions more than His teachings. As such, the book is filled with miracles Jesus Christ performed during His ministry. Mark's testimony shows how powerful, kind, and merciful God is.



WRITTEN  
50-60 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED  
7 BC-26 AD



AUTHOR  
John Mark, a friend who traveled with the Apostle Paul

1

THE START OF  
THE BOOK OF  
MARK

MARK 1-2

Mark shares the ministry of John the Baptist relating to Jesus Christ, but does not account for Christ's early years.

2

TEACHINGS OF  
CHRIST SINGULAR  
TO THIS GOSPEL

MARK 3-15

Mark includes two original parables including the parable of the seed growing secretly, and the doorkeeper.

3

THE MIRACLES OF  
CHRIST SINGULAR  
TO THIS GOSPEL

MARK 3-15

Fifteen miracles are presented in Mark, three of which are original: the healing of the deaf-mute man in Decapolis, the blind man at Bethsaida, and the boy who threw himself in fire. Mark also tells of Jesus calming the storm.

4

THE PROPHECIES  
OF CHRIST  
SINGULAR TO THIS  
GOSPEL

MARK 3-15

Mark recounts Jesus telling Simon Peter and his brother Andrew that He will make them fishers of people, Jesus naming James and John the Sons of Thunder, and reports the power that left Jesus when a bleeding woman touched His robe.

5

THE DEATH,  
RESURRECTION,  
AND ASCENSION,  
DETAILS  
SINGULAR TO THIS  
GOSPEL

MARK 15-16

Mark tells of a young man fleeing naked during the arrest of Jesus, and Pilate asking whether Jesus was already dead. The last verses of Mark are questionable, not having been included in the original manuscripts.

# Trustees Establish Responsibilities for Trinity Campus

Following the retirement of Facilities Director, Doug Evans, the Trustees have established responsibility areas for Trinity's campus, grounds, and buildings (see, pp. 16–17) . Questions or concerns about things concerning these areas should be addressed to the following Trustees.

- **Landscape and exterior property:** Nancy Burnett (772-631-8186, [donanwd@live.com](mailto:donanwd@live.com)) and Levi Miller (561-601-0565, [levi\\_280@hotmail.com](mailto:levi_280@hotmail.com))
- **Sanctuary building and main Office:** Darryl Baker (772-215-2262, [pse.bowshop@gmail.com](mailto:pse.bowshop@gmail.com)), Ed Miller (848-245-406, [ginnym245@gmail.com](mailto:ginnym245@gmail.com)), and Mike Fields (772-501-2508, [media@trinityjb.org](mailto:media@trinityjb.org))
- **Fellowship Hall and Nursery:** Brent Rassmussen (772-882-5570, [cbrentrasmussen@gmail.com](mailto:cbrentrasmussen@gmail.com)), Richard Dampf (201-519-3887, [pdampf50@gmail.com](mailto:pdampf50@gmail.com)), and George Burkhardt (772-678-9904, [Thisisgeorge-2019@gmail.com](mailto:Thisisgeorge-2019@gmail.com)).



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## Who is Jesus to Me?

Jesus is the son of God who was sent to Earth in human form to teach us God's ways and to save us from our sins. Jealous and vengeful people during His lifetime arrested, beat, and crucified Him. He knew ahead of time what was about to happen, but He chose to continue preaching and healing. He sacrificed himself to save us.

Through his teachings I have learned to be more forgiving, patient, and kind to everyone,

(Note: This was written for Pastor Singh's April Bible Study Class.

and to be thankful for the many blessings He has given me. My faith in Jesus has brought me peace and happiness. I feel calm and content knowing He is always with me guiding me through life. I love Jesus with all my heart and soul.



*Sally Young*



**Love is patient,  
Love is kind.**

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4

# TUMC Connections

**MEALS OF MERCY**  
**SICK? RECUPERATING?**  
**In need of a delivered meal?**  
**LET US HELP!**  
 CONTACT: RICK DECKER or SALLY YOUNG

**GAME NIGHT AT TRINITY!**  
 7:00 PM \* FELLOWSHIP HALL  
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>**  
**BRING A SNACK TO SHARE**  
**& YOUR OWN BEVERAGES**



 **Welcome!**  
**GOD LOVES YOU**  
**AND SO WILL WE!**  
 WE INVITE YOU TO GROW IN YOUR FAITH WITH US



**Join the Fun!** **Trinity Line Dancers!**  
  
**Line Dancing**  
 \$5.00 w 2 going to Blessings in a Bag  
**Mondays \* 1:00-3:00**  
 &  
**Thursdays \* 12:00-2:00**  
**Get fit and support Blessings in a Bag!**



# Priscilla Circle

**H**i Friend of Trinity United Methodist Church. Some of you have asked why our Circle/group is named “Priscilla”. I hope this information is helpful to you.

Priscilla was very helpful in the early Christian Church. She was a co-laborer with her husband Aquila. They were tent makers like the Apostle Paul. She invited Paul to live with her and Aquila and they all traveled together. As a skilled craft person, it allowed Pricila to walk with dignity (respect) in the marketplace. Pricilla had a church in her home in Rome (Romans 1:3-8), Corinth (1½ years) and Ephesus where she helped plant a church and remained there when Paul went to Antioch (H2 Timothy 4:19).

Priscilla brought home and taught Apollos, the great 1st century orator, all about Jesus. Apollos had only known about John the Baptist. Apollos went on to be an effective speaker for Christ because of Priscilla and Aquila. Priscilla’s name is usually written before her husband Aquila, so it is thought that she was a more prominent leader of the early church. Some scholars think Priscilla wrote the book of Hebrews or she co-wrote it with Aquila.

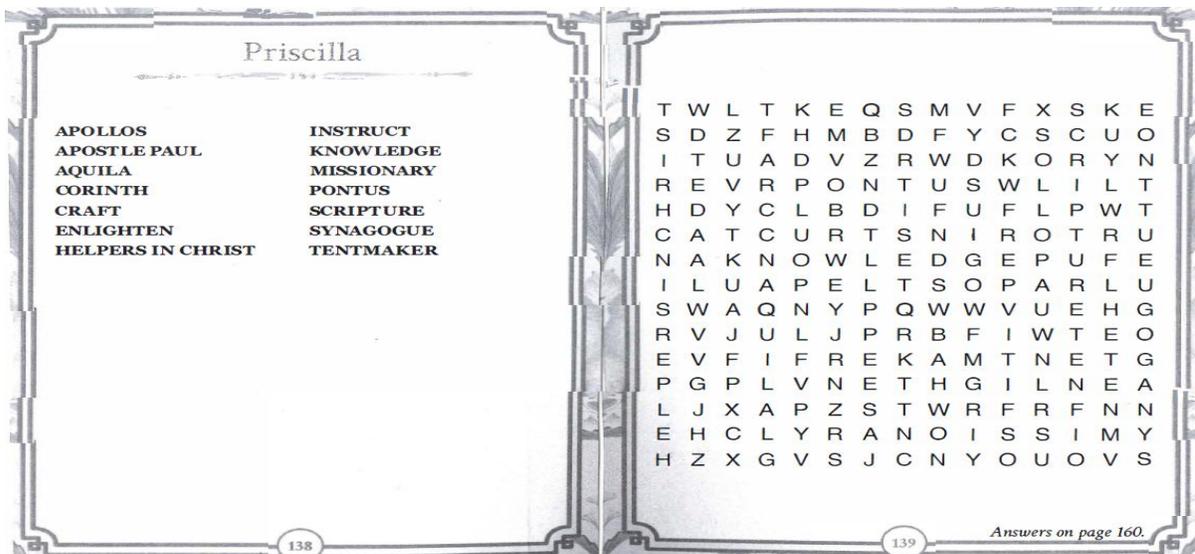
Women in the early church felt liberated in the Christian community because women could worship together with men. Women could be heard in the same places and hold conversations that had only been allowed for men in Judaism. Women were also allowed to receive spiritual gifts. (Acts 2:17)

Priscilla had a strong, consistent faith in Jesus. She traveled, evangelized, taught, and encouraged young believers. We all try to be more like her.

Please join us at our monthly meeting which is the second Monday of the month. We get together to sign cards, have wonderful fellowship with other women believers, encourage each other, and plan events to inspire and help others in our community. We hope you have enjoyed some of our activities. At Christmas we gave out a Pocket Jesus; at Valentine’s Day, Hug bags; on Mother’s Day carnations; on Palm Sunday crosses; and great bargains at annual Craft and Bake sale. Come and join us at our Spring Tea and Fashion Show on March 28<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, 1p.m–3p.m. As a part of the Priscilla’s Circle, we also are the “Hooks and Needles” group, which knit and crochet prayer shawls which are given to the sick. We also have made the Christening blankets that are given out to our youngest when they are Baptized in our church. Come and join us. We would love to meet you.

Our Priscilla circle will be giving our “Hug Me Bags” on Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup>. You will receive two bags. One is for you to keep and enjoy, and the other “Hug Me Bag” is for you to give away.

*Nancy Rasmussen*



# Music Ministry

**O**utreach!!! Sometimes a simple invitation can go a long way. This year's mission at Trinity is outreach. Yes, whatever we can do to bring new people through our welcoming doors.

"Christmas Holy Week" as Pastor Anil lovingly called it, was a successful weekend of music in December ... and outreach. Our annual Christmas Cantata with our Trinity Choir and invited instrumentalists brought in a new Trinity Ringer and singer for upcoming concerts.

The Christmas cantata was followed by a Messiah Sing-a-long! I was able to welcome the singers in the audience as the choir and invited them to our church and Trinity Choir. After that event three people came to me voicing interest in our choir. Again, a simple invitation!

Since then, three additional people have voiced their excitement with Trinity Music. Praise God!

My hope is that you, our Trinity family, will take the opportunity to invite others not only to our special musical events, but also to our church.

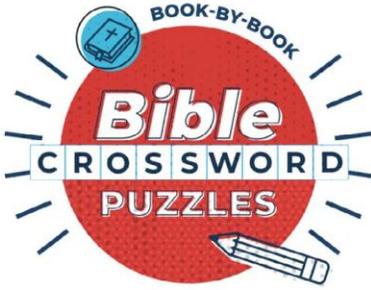
And speaking of special events, yes, Joseph Martin will be joining us for our composer weekend on February 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join us for the Saturday workshop and Sunday concert, please see me. We would love to have you join us!

Until then, please continue to invite others to Trinity's musical events. You never know how a simple invitation can bring others to Trinity!

Shalom and many blessings,

*Cynthia*





**ORDER IN THE BIBLE**  
NT: #2



**WRITTEN BY:**  
Mark, a.k.a.  
John Mark

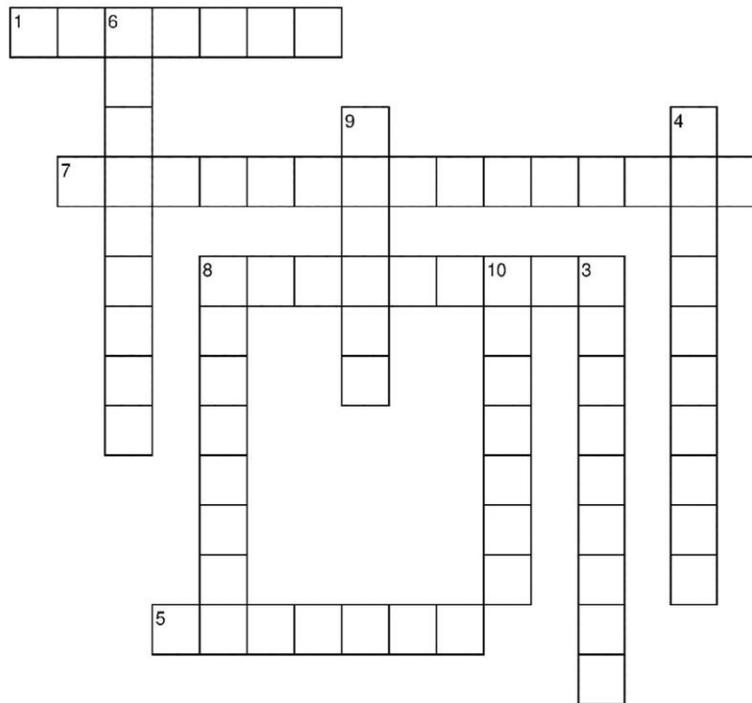


**TIME PERIOD COVERED:**  
7 BC to 33 AD

## OVERVIEW

John Mark is thought to be a friend of the Apostle Peter. John Mark also traveled with the Apostle Paul (and his assistant Barnabas) on his first missionary journey around Asia Minor. The Book of Mark is filled with miracles. Mark's point was to show God's power, kindness, and mercy.

The Gospel of Mark does not mention the birth or childhood of Jesus. Whereas Matthew presents Jesus as king, Mark presents him as a humble servant of man.



### Across

- The messenger that came before Jesus is known as John the \_\_\_\_ (1:4)
- Jesus said this type of person is without honor in his hometown (6:4)
- Name of the event when Jesus saw Elijah and Moses on the mountain (9:2-4)
- A man who had this affliction was lowered through a hole in the roof to Jesus (2:3)



### Down

- The man healed by Jesus had a hand in this condition (3:1)
- Jesus freed a man who suffered this spiritual condition (5:15)
- Group of religious leaders who always gave Jesus a hard time (5:20)
- The plot to kill Jesus was carried out during this Jewish holiday (14:1)
- The name of the man who ultimately sentenced Jesus to death (15:1)
- Mary visited the tomb after this holy day (16:1)

# Committee On Finance

Dear Members of the Congregation,

I hope this letter finds you well and filled with the peace and joy that comes from our shared faith and fellowship. As we embark upon a new year, I am delighted to share with you some wonderful news regarding our church's stewardship program and financial health.

Over the past year, our stewardship program has truly flourished thanks to your generosity, commitment and faithfulness. The participation and support from every corner of our church family have made this possible. Whether through financial gifts, volunteering, or acts of kindness, your contributions have strengthened our ministries and outreach efforts. Together, we have deepened our sense of community and service, truly living out our mission to love and support one another.

I am pleased to report that Trinity's financial position remains very positive as we move into 2026. December giving was especially strong. Trinity finished 2025 on a high note all because of your stewardship and financial support. We received several large gifts during the month. As a result, we were able to set aside additional funds in our reserve account for future needs and opportunities. This stability ensures that we can continue to serve our congregation and our broader community without interruption. Our Trustees remain diligent to identify, prioritize and make recommendations to the Church Council throughout the year to enhance our physical plant. Even though we had a 10.1% increase in our budget from 2025 we are well-prepared to fund our community outreach programs, and meet all of our conference obligations in 2026.

With this solid foundation, we are excited to look ahead to new possibilities for growth, service, and worship in the coming year. We will continue to steward our resources wisely, invest in our ministries and support those in need—both within our church and beyond.

Thank you for your ongoing faithfulness and dedication. Your support is the reason for our success and strength. Let us continue to work together, trusting in God's provision, as we strive to make a positive difference in the lives of all we encounter.

At this writing, you should have received your 2025 giving statements via email or hard copy. Please notify the church office if you have not received your statement.

With Gratitude and Hope,

*Jim Williams*

*Chairperson, Finance Committee*



**YOUR GIVING MATTERS!**

# PATIENCE

## AT-A-GLANCE

### FIRST

#### First time the subject appears in the Bible:

Proverbs 19:11: A person's wisdom yields **patience**; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense.

### LAST

#### Last time the subject appears in the Bible:

2 Peter 3:15: Bear in mind that our Lord's **patience** means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him.

### THREE VERY IMPORTANT OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON THIS SUBJECT:

- **Proverbs 14:29:** Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly.
- **Psalms 37:7:** Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.
- **Psalms 5:3:** In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

### THREE VERY IMPORTANT NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON THIS SUBJECT:

- **1 Corinthians 13:4-5:** Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
- **Ephesians 4:2:** Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.
- **Romans 12:12:** Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.



#### God's Important Messages about Patience:

Waiting is part of living. God generally takes longer to bring his will to fruition than we mortals think it will take. It may have been 100 years between God's first conversations with Noah and the actual Flood. Moses waited until he was 80 to begin the Exodus. David had to run, hide, and live in caves for many years before becoming king. Even Jesus had to wait 30 years before showing any miraculous powers and wisdom.



#### BIBLE STORIES SHOWING PATIENCE:

- The book of Job is the perfect example for patience. It where we get the phrase "patience of Job" from! Job suffered many afflictions and refused to question God. In the end he was blessed with gifts beyond all that he lost, many times over!
- If patience were not critical, we would not be waiting 2,000 years for the return of the Messiah.

# Council Notes

Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> was a day of meetings for the leadership of Trinity United Methodist Church. Following separate meetings of the Trustees and the Finance Committees, the Administrative Council met at 3:00 p.m. for committee reports and any action items that were to be brought before it. The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Barry Brunner at 3:00 p.m. with prayer by the Pastor. The following business was conducted.

**Council Chair:** The Chair asked if there were any corrections or additions to the last minutes and if there being none, the minutes were accepted. The Chair then welcomed new members to the Council and commented on how 2025 had been a great year for Trinity, noting advances made, the finances were good, and that the stewardship campaign from November had made strides in advancing Trinity into 2026. He then reported that the new Outreach Committee would be formed in February.

**Trustees:** Levi Miller reported that the Trustees had divided the work Doug Evans had been doing into responsibilities for the Narthex, Fellowship Hall, and grounds. He noted that Family Promise has a seven-member family in residence and that another church was helping to support. In terms of building and grounds, mold remediation has been completed, Narthex entry doors replaced, the handrail to the altar fixed, and a new air conditioner installed on the second floor of Fellowship Hall, with three more planned.

**Finance:** The Finance Committee reported that Trinity was in good financial condition and that 2025 income was above expenses. Treasurer Dale Forbes reported that December 2025 donations were high, Trinity ended with a \$22,300 gain, and that \$16,000 was added to the reserves. He also reported that online giving was approximately 21.4% of December total giving.



## Church Council Meeting

**Lay Leader:** Roz Miller reported on the on-line course she had attended dealing with Pastor retention.

**SPRC:** New chair Becky Binder noted the first meeting of the Staff Parish Relations Committee would be in February.

### **Lay Delegate to Annual Conference/Line**

**Dancing:** Sue Nance talked about working with the Trustees and Administrative Council committee chairs instead of taking issues or problems directly to the Pastor. She also reported that the line dancing mission had gone through a period of struggle and was now focusing on making the activity “fun again”.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Anil reported on attendance seeing an uptick as seasonal members returned and Trinity net member increase for 2025 was 15 new members. New members were being added to his monthly report with both pictures and contact information. Finally, he noted that online viewership was up over 2024.

**Music Ministry:** Music Director Cynthia Beam noted that the Christmas “Holy Week” approach to the holidays worked well with the focus being on one week’s activities. She reported the Cantata was highly attended, and Joel Raney (composer of the work) viewed and praised the Cantata. He also invited the Choir to participate in the Cantata at Carnegie Hall in November. She also reminded the Council that Joseph

*(Continued on Page 17)*

(Continued from page 16)

Martin would return in February.

**Congregational Care:** Rick Decker introduced the “Meals of Mercy” mission for homebound members, will try the postcards for members who have been out of church, and that the Directory is almost ready to go to the congregation. Following up on a class he taught, the first “Game Night” will be held at 7:00 p.m. on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Priscilla Circle:** Pat Williams reported that 27 members attended their first meeting of 2026, 334 pounds of food was donated to House of Hope, \$425 was raised through Noisy Change Sunday, and that \$2,000 was sent to our Heifer International mission. She also reported that \$500 was donated to the “Meals of Mercy” mission.

**Methodist Men:** Levi Miller reported that the January Pancake Breakfast raised \$1,300 from 169 tickets. He noted the next breakfast will be February 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Family Promise:** Barry Brunner expanded on the current seven-member Family Promise that Trinity is hosting. Brought up also was how to

help the Pastor with requests for help by nonmembers. Discussion suggested that he not take those requesting to fill up gas or other places without another person with him. Also discussed was the possibility of purchasing gas cards to help those who needed gas to get to work or find work.

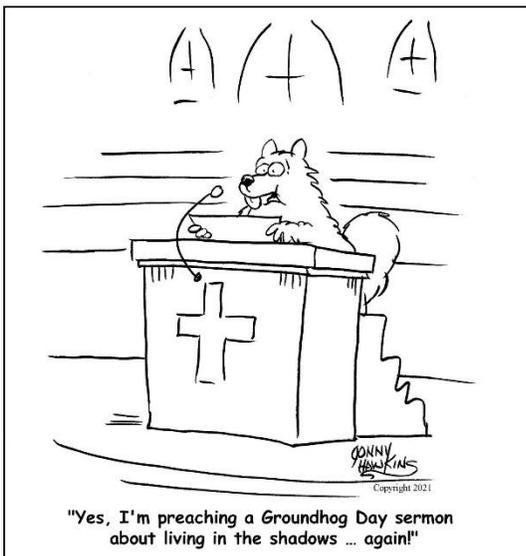
**Communications:** Randi Schwartz noted that all things were going smoothly.

**Newsletter:** Don Stacks reported that Trinity’s Newsletter was now in its fourth year of production and that he continued to get requests to be added to the subscription list.

**Administration:** Barry Brunner reported that Anne Pappas was working on church statistics and started working on the Easter Sunrise Service.

**Other Business:** The Council voted to accept the meeting calendar for 2026. Sue Nance commented on the “community dinners” for nonmembers that had been done in prior years and the possibly of starting them again.

**Closing:** There being no other business, Pastor Anil closed the meeting in prayer at 4:52 p.m.



# Methodist Men

Trinity's Methodist Men's group met to start the new year on January 3<sup>rd</sup> for a breakfast and fellowship. After a breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, and potatoes, Don Fry called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. He introduced John Kulick as a new Men's group member and John gave a short introduction to the group.

The opening devotion and prayer were then presented by Don Stacks. He focused on Mathew 18:20, *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them*, and how community can be achieved within the church.

Jim Williams then reviewed 2025 in terms of finances and how the group had used its treasury to extend on our mission and support projects. Jim reported that the men had deposits of \$5,703.00 from three projects and donations from individual members. Against this he reported \$4,552.96 in expenses, which included funeral support for Roy Emmett and the purchase of a new coffee maker. He reported \$2,181.00 in donations that included help to UMCOR for the California fires, Helping Hands Proceed, Blessings in a Bag, and Community UMC of Fort Pierce. Jim then reported that the group had a healthy checking balance of \$2,622.90 to begin its work in 2026.

Don F. then discussed the January 10<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast in terms of who would be working in what areas. He noted that our last Pancake Breakfast was the best turnout ever and that he hoped we would have an even better turnout. Don F. then reminded members that we were helping "taking down the green" after the meeting and asked as many members to stay as possible. Don S. then noted that Mitch Ortego would be providing the next Newsletter recipe (chicken and sausage jambalaya) and discussion turned to what region he would be representing (e.g., New Orleans or Louisiana based) and how the regional flavors differed. Don F. then thanked the officers for their work in 2025 and identified several others who had impacted on the men's group projects.

Don F. noted that several members should be kept in prayer and several other Trinity members were then added to group's prayer list. It was suggested that a donation be made to Doug Evans to help with meals. Don S. made a motion that \$100 be donated, the motion seconded by Levi Miller, and John Gear suggested a Door Dash certificate would be appropriate. The motion passed unanimously. John then asked that his daughter, Kelly, who is undergoing chemotherapy, be added to the prayer list. Don F. asked if there was any other business to be discussed and there being none, he asked Rick Decker to adjourn the meeting in prayer at 9:00 a.m.

*Don Stacks*



# Recipe of the Month:

## CHICKEN AND SAUSAGE JAMBALAYA

### Ingredients:

- 1 lb of andouille or other smoked sausage
- 2 Tablespoons of Canola oil
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 2 bell peppers, chopped
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 2 stalks of celery, chopped
- 1 tomato, diced
- 1-1/2 lbs of skinless, boneless chicken thighs, cut into 1-inch chunks. If preferred white meat can be used, but there is more flavor in thighs.
- 1 cup rice (white rice is fine, but I use Rice Select Royal Blend, which is a mixture of white, brown, wild and red rice)
- 2 cups chicken or bone broth (This can vary slightly due to the liquids produced in browning the chicken)
- Salt and pepper to taste or use a good Cajun seasoning like Tony Chachere's or Slap Ya Mama.
- Optional – package of onion soup mix



*A recipe from...*



### Instructions

1. Cut the smoked sausage into small pieces then microwave on paper towels for 1 to 1½ minutes to melt some of the fat. Set aside.
2. In a skillet heat 2 tablespoons of oil and sauté onions, bell peppers, celery, minced garlic and tomato on medium heat until onions are clear and vegetables are soft. Remove and set aside.
3. In the same skillet, season and brown chicken. Add more oil if needed. In a 3 quart or larger pot, add the sausage, vegetables, chicken, rice, (optional onion soup mix) and chicken broth. Bring to a boil, cover and simmer for 30 minutes.
4. Remove from stove and let stand for 10 minutes.

*Mitch Ortego*

**Note:** *services 6 to 8. I usually double up on the recipe to have leftovers.*



# February 2026 Happenings

## **Sundays**

- Celebration Service (9:00 a.m.)
- Fellowship Hour (10:00 a.m.)
- Traditional Service (11:00 a.m.)
- Children's Sunday School (9:00 a.m.)
- Adult Bible Studies (9:30 a.m.)
- Prayer Time (10:30 a.m., Bob Engle Room)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: *Communion, House of Hope Donations*
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: *Noisy Change*
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: *New Member Sunday*
- Lunch & Learn (11<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 p.m., *John Wesley and the Beatitudes*)
- *New Members Class* (15<sup>th</sup>, 10:15 a.m.)
- Church Council (15<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 p.m.)
- *Joseph Martin Concert* (15<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m.)

## **Mondays**

- Priscilla Circle (9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.)
- Line Dancers (1:00–3:00 p.m.)
- TCCS Rehearsal (4:30 p.m.)

## **Tuesdays**

- Tai Chi (10:00 a.m.)
- Lunch Bunch (11:30 a.m.)

- Trinity Ringers (5:30 p.m.)

## **Wednesdays**

- *Ash Wednesday* (18<sup>th</sup>)
- Hooks & Needles (4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.)
- Treasure Coast Singers Practice (10:00 a.m.)
- Bible Study—*Luke* (4:30 p.m.)
- Blessings in a Bag (12:30 p.m.)

## **Thursdays**

- *Chicken Soup for the Soul* (5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.)
- *A Jesus Shaped Life*—Ladies Lenten Bible Study (12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m.)
- Line Dancers (12:00 p.m.)
- Martin County Quilters (12<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.)
- Praise Team Practice (6:00 p.m.)
- Choir Practice (7:00 p.m.)

## **Friday**

- Tai Chi for Beginners (1:00 p.m.)
- Quilters Guild (9<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.)
- *Friday Eve Transfiguration "Sunday" Fire* (13<sup>th</sup>)

## **Saturdays**

- Men's Meeting (7<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m.)
- Pancake Breakfast (14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.)
- Game Night (27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.)

**Trinity United Methodist Church**  
2221 NE Savannah Rd.  
Jensen Beach, FL 34957