



Trinity United Methodist Church Newsletter

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

January 2025

Volume III, No. 1

2025—Invitation and Connectivity

January brings in a New Year to Trinity United Methodist Church. Looking back on 2024 several events challenged us to rethink a number of changes, both in personnel and reaching out to attract others to Trinity. As 2025 begins, Trinity will begin what Pastor Singh is calling a “Year of Invitation” (see page 2).

How should Trinity define connectivity may be central to its strategy. The Church Council has looked at connectivity in two ways. First, connectivity as *bringing others to Trinity* through its various programs, services, and events. Second, connectivity as *taking Trinity out to others* through increased advertising, increased social media activities, and attending local community events. Although neither approach is new, the emphasis is on increasing connectivity. The third approach to connectivity is through personal interaction with members of our individual communities. Again, this is not particularly new, but the first approach suggests that events and activities will bring in interested parties, and the second suggests that information awareness will attract interested parties to Trinity. The third approach takes an interpersonal focus through a more personal form of *evangelization*.

Think of this from the 6 Degrees of Separation theory, where if you know 44 people, who know 44 people, by the time the sixth interaction occurs you have potentially influenced over 7 million people ($44^6=7,256,313,856$).

Let’s bring this closer to home. If I know 7 people who know 7 people, who know 7 people we have over 5,000 possible influences. If Pastor Singh meets 7 people at a Chamber of Commerce meeting, who know 7 others who know 7 more, the math says he may influence over 5,000 people to seek more information about Trinity, and make connections that *may* lead to Trinity membership.

This is different than door-to-door evangelization, where we hand out our *Newsletter* or other material. It calls simply to be aware of some of our friends who might be interested in Trinity based on special interests we know they have because of the interpersonal nature of friendship. Can you name several friends who might be interested in Trinity’s approach serving the Lord?

Take a few minutes and think about that.

JANUARY

Pastor's Corner

Come and See: A Year of Invitation

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."—John 1:45-46



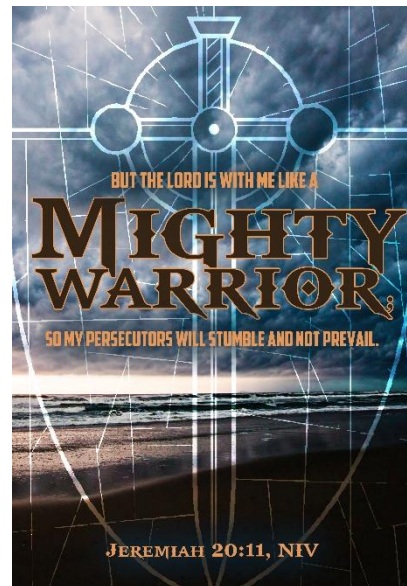
In the early chapters of every Gospel, someone invites another to follow Jesus. Friends and relatives invite each other, but sometimes it comes from Jesus Himself!

Friends, we have a terrific Church here, and I am convinced that we all at Trinity love the Lord and sincerely desire to share God's love with the world. Let's consider this new year as a "Year of Invitation."

We have a range of institutional opportunities to invite our community, such as through advertising. As we can see from John's Gospel though, the most effective way is through personal invitation. I plan to attend Chamber of Commerce meetings, offer invocations at government functions, and otherwise engage with our community. But Trinity's reach will extend beyond mine if we all invite others to join us next year. Over the coming weeks, we'll introduce some ways we can help you extend that personal invitation.

I believe that Trinity has the potential to grow into one of the largest and most enduring Churches in the Florida Annual Conference! In an era of national decline in Church participation, we can write the book on Church re-growth and revitalization! We at Trinity share the Gospel in so many unique and wonderful ways! Let's do everything possible to raise a multitude for the Glory of Our Lord!

Anil



365 days of Opportunities!

As the new year begins, so does another year of opportunities to do something we have always wanted to do, a chance or chances to take that special trip, start that special project, begin that new hobby or change a habit. It's an exciting time when we set out on a new adventure. There may be obstacles along the way, but with planning and perseverance, we can make it! So don't let this year of opportunity go by without doing something! As Director of Congregational Care, I want to encourage each of you to do good things for yourself and in so doing share that goodness with others around you.



When we are doing something we enjoy, something we want to do, and something we like doing, others around us can see and feel the joy exuding from us. And the year 2025 can be a great year for Trinity UMC if we are all enjoying our lives and sharing in that joy. We can take opportunities throughout the year to help in the various ministries at our church, those ministries that you enjoy, you want to do and that you like doing because if you take those opportunities, you will be sharing joy with others. So as the new year begins, think and pray about how you can take the 365 days of opportunities and make an opportunity to serve at Trinity and share your joy with others.

Rick

“I **H★Ve** 
a **DReAm...**
January 20th



Let us
test
and
examine
our ways,
and return
to the LORD!

Lamentations 3:40, LSV

JEREMIAH

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

24 52

PROPHECY, MAJOR



OVERVIEW

Jeremiah is one of the few prophets who warned the people of impending disaster and was able to experience the events as they unfolded. For over 40 years, Jeremiah found himself addressing a nation who refused to change its ways despite many warnings, and as a result found itself facing judgment from God.



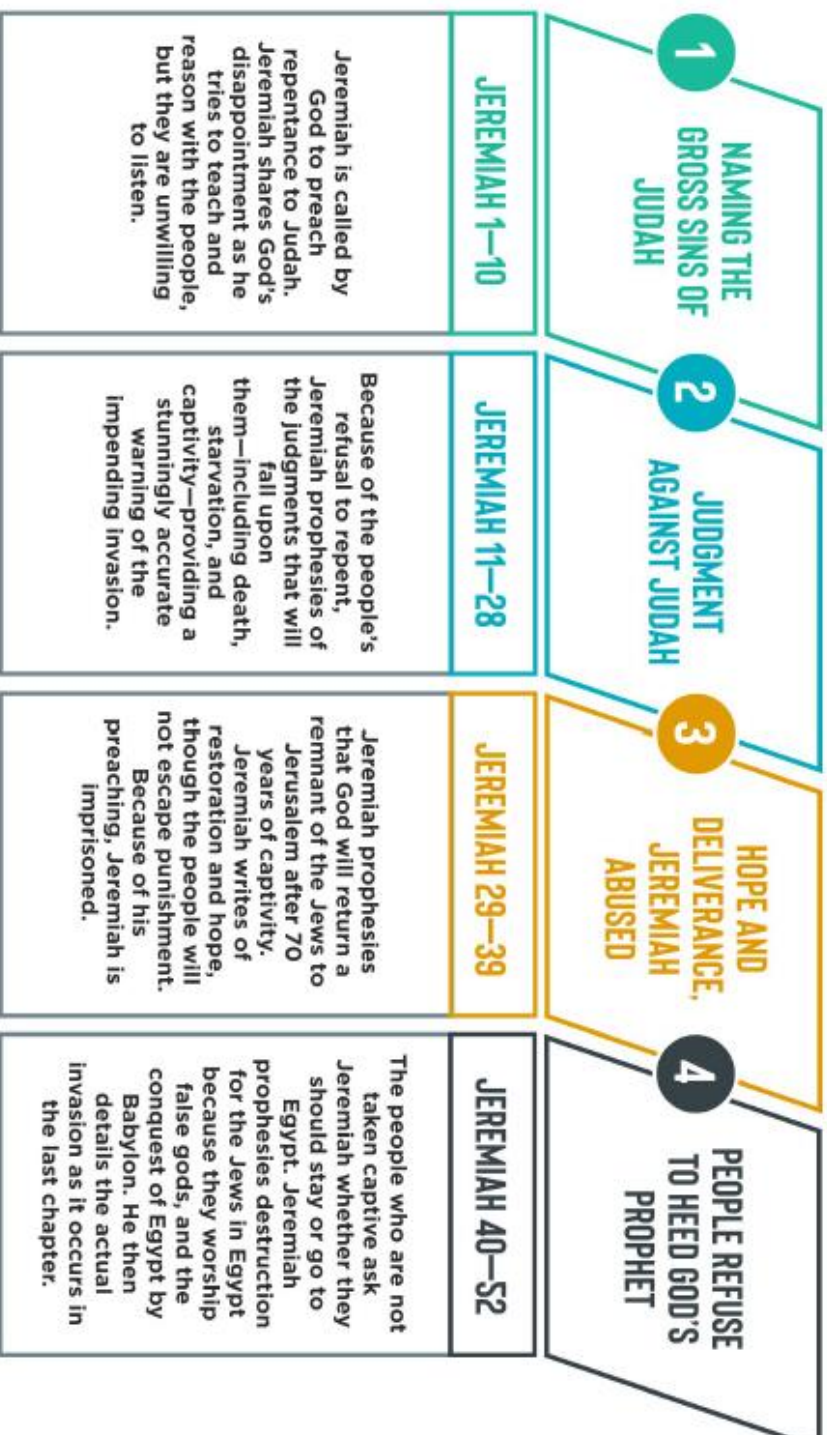
WRITTEN
585-570 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
575 BC-25 AD



AUTHOR
The Prophet Jeremiah



Time

We should be intentional on how we choose to use our time!

Time is interesting as it is integral and structured. Your clock measures minutes as 60 seconds each, and so five minutes is 300 seconds. However, five minutes underwater or five minutes sitting on a couch are two different experiences of five minutes. Underwater five minutes is almost like an eternity! But waiting in a line to go to the movies for five minutes is



speedy, like no time has passed. I find that interesting. That time goes by no matter what we are doing. Even when you are doing nothing, time is going by—and as I sat in church one Sunday, I looked around and it was apparent that time had progressed. What happens today in the next five minutes will never exist again. Those *five minutes* will never exist again. Something to really think about, especially during Christmas when everything is so materialistic, when really *nothing* is materialistic and it is all about time passing, and *what we do with that time*.

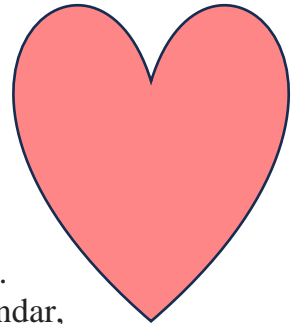
Each soul is put on this earth, to spend their time, for some purpose. What is the most crucial task of souls on Earth?

Sharing faith and love is crucial, and probably the greatest gift of all. Acting on the best interests of everyone—*Agape* love.¹ Imagine how different the world would be if everyone practiced *Agape* love!

If you feel no other purpose for your time, just engaging situations where you can personify the love of God in all you do and share this with everyone you meet (even the animals)—this is all God wants from us, and in the time He has given us.

What a perfect way to ring in the New Year—(according to the Gregorian calendar, anyways)—with an intention of using our time-sharing love and faith with others; giving them a gift of hope, making your God even more glad he made you!

An intentional share of Faith, Love and Hope in 2025 could also help transform the world! Happy New Year—set your intentions and act on them. Spend your time creating a better world.



Randi

¹ Agape love, often considered the highest form of love, embodies selflessness, sacrifice, and unconditional care for others. This profound concept, rooted in ancient philosophical and religious traditions, transcends mere feelings, emphasizing actions and commitment. “Agape love” differs from other types of love in the Bible. It is the highest, most pure form of love as a choice, not out of attraction or obligation. Agape love is beautifully described in [1 Corinthians 13](#).

Love Is Indispensable

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part,

¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.

¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.

¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

How Should a King Come

December 14th and 15th



LAMENTATIONS

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

25 S

PROPHECY, MAJOR



OVERVIEW

Written by Jeremiah, the Book of Lamentations shares his sorrow at the destruction of Jerusalem and the wickedness of the people. Having warned and prophesied of the event for over 40 years, Jeremiah grieves Judah's ruin and captivity. He writes a series of poems expressing both God's view and his own feelings, which are closely aligned.



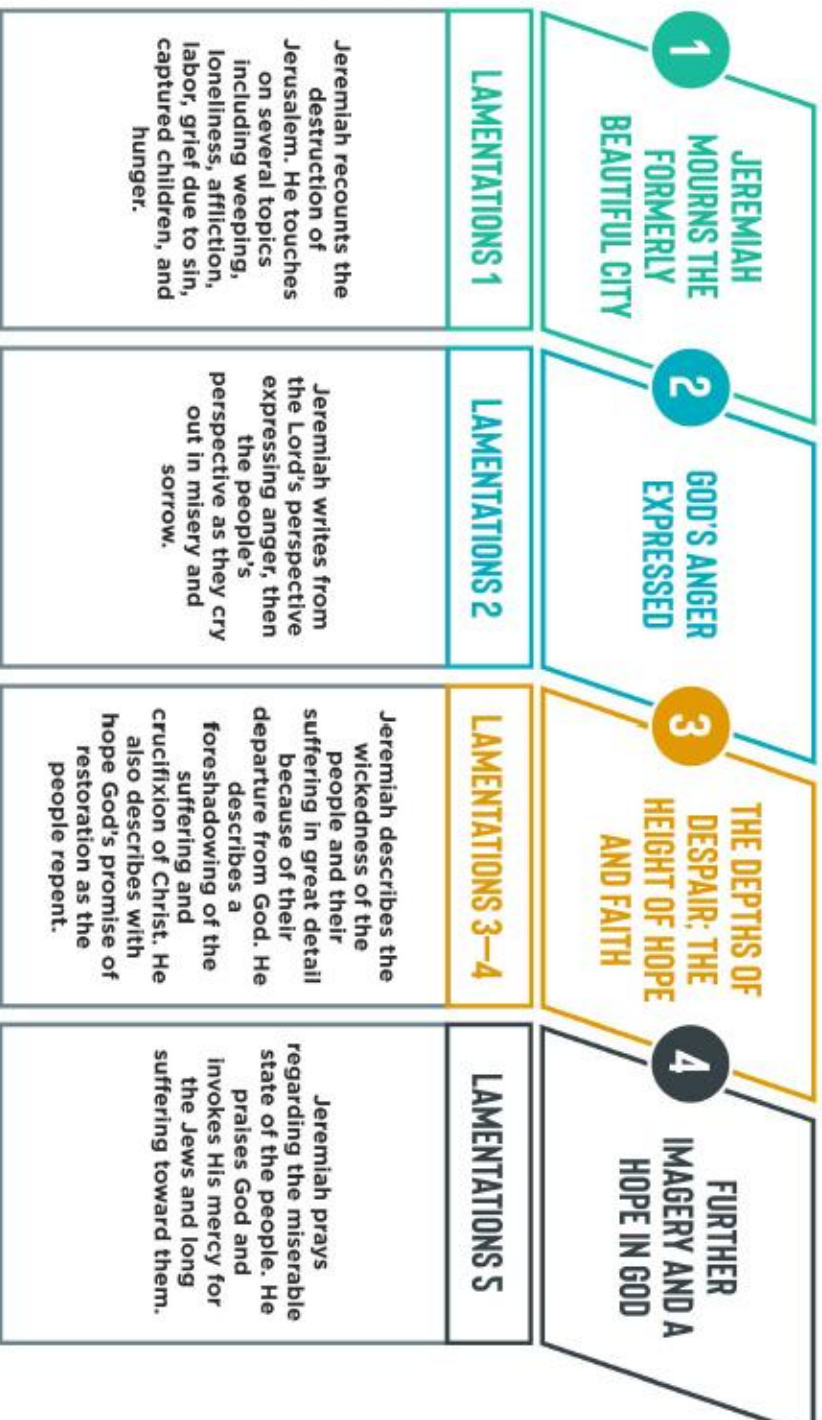
WRITTEN
585 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
586–585 BC



AUTHOR
The Prophet
Jeremiah



Christmas Eve Service



Committee on Finance

Greetings and Happy New Year 2025. As Chairperson of the Committee on Finance I would like to share a few words with the congregation.

During the month of November, we heard from Pastor Anil who shared about his travels when he visited John Wesley's home and ministry in England and Wesley's commitment to stewardship.

We read in our Bulletin inserts and *Newsletter* during November the powerful message regarding the Stewardship Tree as it provides the foundation of our faith and commitment to managing God's gifts: Time, Talents, Temple, Treasure, Testimony, and Terra.

We also heard from several members of our congregation sharing what Stewardship means to them. Each shared a unique and meaningful message.

Thanks to Jennifer, Darryl, Archie, Sherry, Sue, Don, John, and Donna. They all said yes without hesitation when asked to share their message with the congregation.

For me there is one word that brings Stewardship together. One four letter powerful word, *Love*. Stewardship can be wrapped up in that one word.

Love God
Love your Family
Love your Fellow Man
Love your Enemy
Love your Self
Love your Church

I fully believe that it is incumbent upon each of us to take God's love and share it every day.

I would like to report that our church's financial picture is very good. This is due to the support and commitment from each of you. TUMC is blessed to have a faithful and giving congregation. Thanks to all of you for making that possible.

Our committee has recently completed the budget for 2025. During this process we received input from each of the church's ministry areas. The budget was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee and Church Council at our October meetings.

With the recent and ongoing staffing changes we will see an increase in the Staff Parish budget. We recently hired new personnel to oversee and enhance our in-house and on-line media presence, both new positions.

The Trustees' budget will also see an increase as routine maintenance costs have increased as well as Trinity's property insurance.

The Trustees have developed a long overdue deferred maintenance schedule for Trinity's facilities and equipment and will be monitoring that throughout the year. This will ensure that our physical plant will be maintained at a top-notch level in future years.

Trinity proudly supports at 100 percent our Connectional Giving.

Overall, we will see a budget increase of approximately 9.2 percent over 2024.

As we begin 2025, the Finance Committee would ask that you prayerfully consider your giving level in support of our new budget. With your continuing support the Finance Committee does not see anything that would prevent us from having sufficient revenues to support the 2025 budget.

Trinity's future is bright thanks to the continuous generosity of each of you.

Live by Faith, be Known by Love, be a Voice of Hope.

Jim Williams
Chairperson

Methodist Men

Thirteen Methodist Men met Saturday, December 6th, in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and fellowship. The meeting was called to order by Don Frye and opened with prayer from Doug Evans at 8:00 a.m.

Jim Williams presented the financials, which stand at \$3265 with a few items still to be accounted for. Basically, Jim said that the Methodist Men are in “pretty good shape”. He also noted that along with Priscilla Circle and TUMC members we had donated \$3580 to the UMCOR fund for disaster relief in North Carolina.

Don Fry then previewed the group’s 2026 plans. He noted that we will have three (3) pancake breakfasts on January 18th, February 15th, and March 15th. The Chili Cookoff will be held February 1st, and two picnics will be held on June 1st and August 31st.

Discussion then ensued about having a “cold weather” picnic where attendees could sit outside and enjoy the winter weather. A decision was made to investigate this for 2026. Discussion then turned to setting up a time and date to take down the holiday greens. It was decided to do this in conjunction with our next meeting on January 4th.

New business included a discussion on replacing some of our Christmas wreaths that are in bad shape. Rick Decker reported to the group that Niantic Christian Church that has several outreach programs in Illinois similar to TUMC (e.g., Blessings in a Bag) had been broken into and all the food as well as Christmas gifts and other items were stolen. A motion was made to send \$100 in support of the church’s missions, which was passed unanimously.

Don Frye ended the meeting asking for prayers for several members and the meeting was closed in prayer at 9:55 by Pastor Anil.



Martin County Quilters

The Martin Co Quilters would like to thank the TUMC parishioners for voting on the challenge quilts hanging in fellowship hall for the past month. There were 59 total votes, and quilt numbered 6 was the winner with 19 votes.

The runner-up was number 2 with 10 votes. Thanks for sharing in our challenge.



GRATITUDE/ THANKFULNESS

AT-A-GLANCE

FIRST

First time the subject appears in the Bible:

1 Chronicles 16:34: Give **thanks** to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

LAST

Last time the subject appears in the Bible:

Revelation 11:17: saying: "We give **thanks** to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

THREE VERY IMPORTANT OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON THIS SUBJECT:

- **Psalm 118:24:** The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad.
- **Psalm 136:1:** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.
- **Psalm 105:1:** Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

THREE VERY IMPORTANT NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ON THIS SUBJECT:

- **1 Thessalonians 5:18:** give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
- **Ephesians 5:20:** Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
- **Philippians 4:6:** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.



God's Important Messages about Gratitude/Thankfulness:

When people receive a thank you and some true gratitude for something they have done, they want to do more. To thank people is to empower them. A similar principle holds true with God. If you remember to thank him, he feels good about it.

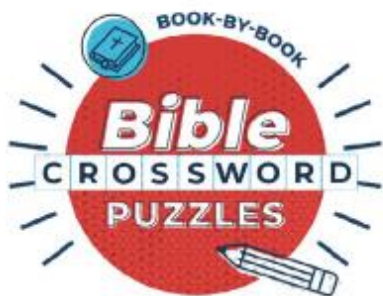


BIBLE STORIES SHOWING GRATITUDE/THANKFULNESS:

- Jesus healing the 10 lepers, and only one was grateful enough to come back (Luke 17:11-19)
- Abraham built two altars out of gratitude. They are in Genesis 12:6-8 and Genesis 13:17-18
- Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, showed thanks after defeating huge armies. (2 Chronicles 20)
- Exodus 14 is the Parting of the Red Sea, and the Song of Miriam, which they wrote out of gratitude, is in Exodus 15.

teach SUNDAY SCHOOL

23



JEREMIAH



ORDER IN THE BIBLE
OT: #24



WRITTEN BY:
The Prophet
Jeremiah

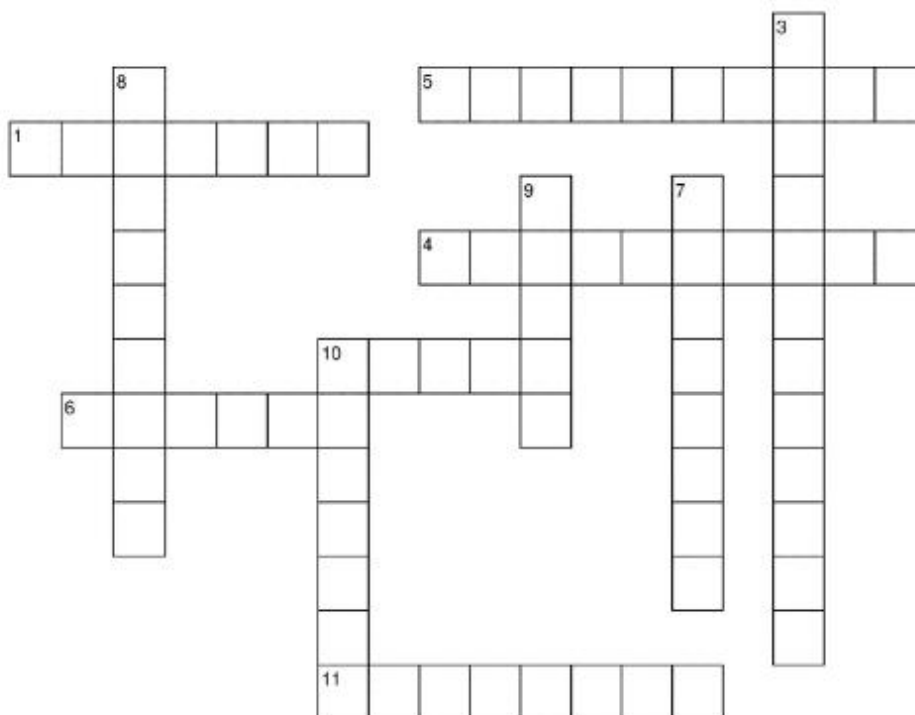


TIME PERIOD COVERED:
575 BC to 25 AD
(in prophecy)

OVERVIEW

Jeremiah was nearly 20 years old when he began to prophesy; he then prophesied for the rest of his adult life of 40 years or more.

Jeremiah was prophesying to a nation behaving terribly, and judgment from God was on its way. The Kingdom of Judah had watched as the Kingdom of Israel was destroyed by the Assyrians. They feared the Babylonians, who would eventually overpower them and take them away in exile. Throughout the turmoil, they refused to repent.



Across

1. "I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to ____" (29:11)
4. Stand at the ____ and look; ask for the ancient paths (6:16)
5. The person who trusts in men instead of God will be like a bush in the ____ (17:5-6)
6. I will be their God and they will be my ____ (31:33)
10. This is deceitful above all things (17:9)
11. Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong of their ____ (9:23)



Down

3. Call to me and I will tell you things that are great and ____ (33:3)
7. When he is angry, the earth ____ (10:10)
8. You are trusting in deceptive words that are ____ (7:8)
9. I have put my words in your ____ (1:9)
10. False gods will perish from the earth and from under the ____ (10:11)

Church Council 2024–2025

Overview. The Church Council did not meet in December. At its October meeting committees and staff were asked to write an article for this edition giving an idea of what it/they do, what was accomplished in 2024, and what is being looked forward to in 2025. Pastor Singh reported in the November 2024 issue of the *Newsletter* his review of 2024 and plans for Trinity in 2025. In this part of the *Newsletter*, you will find articles from the major committees and some staff that review what was accomplished in 2024 and what they plan on accomplishing in 2025. To help with understanding their duties, most reports have included a description of what that committee or staff do for Trinity.

TUMC Council Chair

Council Chair is the position in the United Methodist Church who meets and works with the Pastor, Lay leader, and Committee leaders to guide and fulfil the vision and mission of the Church. In my words, for those who have gotten to know me, this is like “herding a bunch of cats”. All kidding aside, this position is a fun and challenging endeavor to listen and engage with our various committees and encourage everyone to discuss “openly” related items that arise throughout the year and “needs” for the future. It has been a very challenging year to replace two key members of our church who held very prominent roles in our worship services. The good news is that we all came together, took up the challenge, and filled those positions with individuals who will grow in their new roles to enhance our church in coming years.

The new year will provide more challenges and opportunities for us to continue to grow at Trinity. We have initiated a Stewardship campaign to encourage everyone to strengthen their spiritual and time commitment to ensure that we are able to fulfil the goals of the vision we have set forth in our community. With that in mind, I encourage everyone to “reach out and spread the word” in the community and find those who need our love and compassion and offer our services.

I am so grateful and thankful to everyone who participates in the many offerings at Trinity and pray we can do even more in 2025.

Barry Brunner
Council Chair



2024 Trustees Year in Review and Visioning for 2025

At the beginning of 2024 the Trustees had a seamless transition from its former chair, Wilson Lear, who as a contractor brought a wealth of experience to his position. Wilson helped to oversee projects ranging from improving the Sanctuary sound system, improving TUMC signage, sale of the Parsonage, and many, many other projects including the initial work on the parking lot refurbishing.

2024 in Review

In 2024, the Trustees took on one of our largest projects since the 2022 re-roofing project. Namely, refurbishing TUMC's parking lot, which was about twenty years old. The milling and resurfacing gave us the opportunity to bring the parking lot up to code. It also allowed us to add more handicapped parking spaces near the entry to the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall; the refurbishing eliminated the rough walking surfaces, improved storm water runoff, replaced many broken wheel stops, and eliminated the wheel stops in the middle of the parking lot, which were tripping hazards.



One of the missions of the church is the support for homeless families known as Family Promise. Two of the rooms on the second floor have been

converted to accommodate a homeless family for a week or two.

The Trustees also replaced all the windows on the north side of the church with new hurricane impact rated windows. This completes the replacement and protection of all church windows, except the large stained-glass window behind the altar.



The Trustees developed a Deferred Maintenance Spread Sheet to help future Boards of Trustees, Finance Committees, and Administrative Councils to plan for future repairs, when they will be needed, and how much should be budgeted for the work. This was completed and distributed to the responsible committees for input. Every time we repair or replace a system it will be noted to aid

future planning.

The Trustees also converted 100 of the original blueprints of the buildings into digitally scanned files. This means the files will no longer deteriorate due to light and heat. Trustees in the future will have legible building plans to help them make decisions. The files have been distributed to members of the Trustees as a means of duplicating and saving the information in case a disaster strikes, and the originals were lost.

Doug Evans replaced the phone system and upgraded the fire suppression panel, which saved operating expenses, and has continued to improve the energy efficiency of our major systems, such as air-conditioning, and lighting. Thereby saving the church on its monthly bill to Florida Power and Light.

A donated player piano was refurbished and made operable by Brent Rasmussen, who donated his wife's iPad to the cause. It now sits in the Fellowship Hall ready to be played.



We oversaw the renovation of the Library/Seminar Room in the Fellowship Hall. Roz Miller has agreed to be the Librarian and purchased two comfortable easy chairs to encourage people to use the library for reading purposes. Roz and Brent Rasmussen also provided a small table and table



lamp to provide a more directed reading light and reinforce the personal feel of the newly defined comfortable reading space in the library.

The Trustees approved a request for exterior space for a Medical Plant/Food Forest. The pathway will be at the eastern end of the property and will be educational in nature. The work of planting and maintaining the garden will be by Randi Schwartz, Sam Rhodes, and Paul Green.

The Trustees have negotiated with Florida

Cont'd on page 14

Power and Light to change out our current lights in the parking lot, which will provide an improved quality of light and save the church on its monthly payment.

Two flag poles with solar panels and lights were funded by Joyce Monticelli and installed by Doug Evans at the entry to the campus from Savanna Road. This will help new commers and visitors to identify the entrance.

Refurbishment of the Brides Waiting Room/Prayer Room has been completed. The improvements were managed and financed by Nancy Burnett. Brides in the future will wait in a much-improved environment.

The stove in the Fellowship Hall kitchen was professionally refurbished and rehabilitated.

When Hurricane Helene passed by our area, a section of the fence on the south wall of the Sanctuary was destroyed. Rich Dampf has volunteered to repair and replace the damaged fence.

There were many more projects, but this list covers the major ones.

Looking Forward to 2025

At the first meeting in 2025 the Trustees will establish their major projects for the year.

We will continue energy conservation measures and look at the accessibility issues with the facilities.

As the church ages we expect replacement of older mechanical systems.

We are also looking for the opportunity to talk with the people involved with TUMC's various ministries to better understand their needs as related to facilities and their usage.

Some of the projects that were deferred from 2024 due to lack of funding were: refurbish the Memorial Walkway and replace some of the bricks with names to have family members grouped together. Also, the bricks will be pressure washed and reinstalled with a compacted base and perimeter border. And we will improve the sound system in the Sanctuary for members of the congregation with hearing difficulties.

*Tom Cooper,
Chair of the Board of Trustee*

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Staff Parish Relations Committee or S.P.R.C. as it is more commonly known is the committee within a United Methodist Church that manages all things Human Resources related. This group of approximately 7 to 10 church members is responsible for providing feedback to the District by preparing an annual review of Pastor Anil and his service. We also maintain job descriptions of all positions of paid staff and assist Pastor Anil with any issues that may arise. Annually we prepare the budget that covers salaries, taxes, workman's compensation, and a few other items. Members will serve a three-year term and are asked to serve by the Nominating Committee.

2024 was one of the most challenging years we have had for S.P.R.C. since Pastor Anil was hired. Our long-term Music Director and Media Coordinator came to a new season in their lives and decided to move closer to family. This left two positions that S.P.R.C. needed to hire. There were many long hours of meetings, many emails and much prayer over this hiring process. New positions had to be created, and budgets adjusted. Blessedly, we have filled our open spots, and the Church is moving forward.

Hopefully, S.P.R.C. will not be required to hire any new employees or fill any positions in 2025. We are up for the job though if needed. Our plan is to review and update job descriptions, prepare for Pastor Singh's review, and the prepare the church budget for 2026 over the course of 2025.

*Jennifer Baker
Chair*

Sunday School/Children's Ministry

The Children's Ministry at TUMC has approximately five to ten children that participate on a fairly regular basis. We have two little boys that are in the nursery almost every Sunday and they will have some others join them occasionally. Sandi Mulvaney is in charge of the nursery and gets to play with these boys every week. There is also a Sunday School class for our elementary aged children. We regularly have anywhere from 3 to 5 children in class. Jennifer Baker and Sue Prescott alternate throughout the month as teachers. Activities vary every week, but there is always a Bible story/lesson and then generally a craft. When Sue teaches the children get the added pleasure of getting to jump rope. We are always on the lookout for additional teachers/helpers so if you feel called to minister in this way please reach out.

Jennifer Baker

TUMC's Finance Committee

The Finance Committee at Trinity is composed of volunteers who, by virtue of other leadership responsibilities, link the committee to other areas of congregational life.

The committee's basic activities include: oversee stewardship, compile a budget annually, raise sufficient income to meet the budget, administer funds received by the church, disburse funds, count and deposit offering, establish internal control policies, recommend proper depositories for church funds, use contributions in accordance with donor's intent and provide for an independent annual audit of church's financial statements.

2024 Accomplishments

- Paid 100% of church's Apportionments (Connectional Giving)
- Reported status of church's financial picture to the Church Council monthly
- Managed church's finances including ensured strong internal controls
- Supported all Trustee projects to upgrade/enhance the church's physical plant
- Developed 2025 annual budget that aligns with the church's ministries
- Conducted successful Stewardship Program
- Completed 2023 Financial Audit

2025 Goals

- Report status of church's financial picture to Church Council monthly
- Meet quarterly to discuss, review and approve both budgeted and unbudgeted expenses
- Continued management of church's finances, investments, ensuring proper allocation
- Continued emphasis on Stewardship throughout the year
- Schedule 2024 Annual Audit
- Promote/highlight advantages of on-line giving
- Develop 2026 budget consistent with TUMC's mission

Trinity's financial picture is extremely positive. We are truly blessed with dedicated members of the congregation who pledge their support of the church's ministry through generous giving. Each of our gifts make a difference in people's lives and enables Trinity UMC to continue to be a beacon of faith, hope and love in our community. Thanks to each of you for making this possible.

Jim Williams

Finance Committee Chairperson

Congregational Care

2024 was a year of learning and trying things to get more people involved in church and encourage new people to attend church. As I review the events held such as the Fall Festival and Flea Market, both of which were done in 2023 as well, the yielded result fell short of the intended goal. They were successful in getting church members involved in an activity and I am very grateful for the response from the congregation; however, the events did not yield any new attendees to our services. We may have had a visit from one or two, but in most cases they only visited once.

So, the focus for 2025 is to develop events for the congregation we currently have, meaning more adult oriented activities that our congregation can invite friends to and more outreach to our community to encourage church attendance. I have tried some things (i.e., the postcards to invite or let someone know they are missed) but am not satisfied with the outcome. So, I will be looking for new ways of engaging the congregation and hopefully they will get excited enough to invite others to come. We do need younger people and families in our church, but the few events we have done have not brought them in, so in 2025, I hope to discover new ways of outreach to the community.



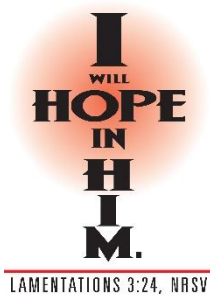
Our visitation ministry, and that is what visiting truly is, a ministerial outreach of love and caring, has been slow in developing as well. I came up with some ideas in 2024, such as adopting a shut in and being a “minister” to that person and got no volunteers, so back to the drawing board. I have a few very willing people who will visit others, but this is a ministry that needs wholehearted dedication from more than a few. God bless the few who are willing.

Our prayer team is working, the prayer line that we installed in 2024 is working (not as much as I would like) but it is being used. We have faithful people who are notified of prayer concerns and are prayer warriors. Our very small group of prayer warriors, who sacrifice some of their social time to gather on Sunday mornings, is still going. We have a group of 4–6, there’s room for more!

So, we have things in place to minister to others and to each other, but what I hope to see in 2025 is more involvement in reaching new people for our church.

Rick Decker

Director of Congregational Care



OUR FITNESS TRAIL IS OPEN FROM DAWN TO DUSK.

**CHOOSE A TIME TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS
ENJOY AN UPLIFTING TIME OF EXERCISE AND PRAYER**



STRENGTH * BALANCE * STAMINA * PRAYER * REFLECTION

“A due degree of exercise is indispensably necessary to health and long life.”

~ JOHN WESLEY

Music Ministry

Trinity Choir, Praise Team, Trinity Bells, special music of solos, duets, and trios, instrumentalists, and of course our Concert Series all encompass our ever growing and always worshipping Music Department. All to be THE church for sacred music on the Treasure Coast.

In just four short months that I've been honored to be Trinity's Music Director, we have embraced some changes and continue to work hard for our ministry. Our *Praise Team* has blessed us with music every Sunday morning during the 9 a.m. Celebration service. And our *Ladies Chorale* has provided a touch of tradition to that service. *Trinity Choir* with the accompaniment of Carol Paul and Dr. MJ Montague has provided our Traditional service at 11 a.m. with choral anthems. And of course, preludes, postludes, and our beloved traditional hymns enhance and embrace our worship experience.



Our Christmas Musical, *How Should a King Come*, with the participation of our Drama Team, provided two awesome presentations for all to enjoy. We told the real meaning of Christmas, depicting how our King, born in a stable, came to save us all.

December continued with the ever so talented Rev. Huntley Brown, who brought "fire to that piano" with his variety of music, worship experience, and a touch of humor. And of course, our beautiful Christmas Eve service with singing, specials, and a few bells to celebrate ended with the always touching candlelit

Silent Night

And the music will continue through 2025 with the following concert schedule:

- Sunday January 12th at 3:00 p.m., vocal artist Austin Glover
- Saturday January 18th at 4:00 p.m., cellist Ian Maksin, sponsored by TCCS
- Sunday February 23rd at 3:00 p.m., composer workshop concert with Pepper Choplin joined by multiple local churches
- Sunday March 9th at 3:00 p.m., the Ebony Chorale
- Saturday March 15th at 3:00 p.m., Treasure Coast Community Singers concert
- Saturday April 5th at 3:00 p.m., Treasure Coast Community Singers concert
- Saturday April 12th at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday April 13th at 3:00 p.m., our Easter Musical
- Saturday May 17th at 3:00 p.m., Treasure Coast Community Singers concert
- Sunday July 6th at 2:00 p.m., patriotic concert with saxophonist Eirinn Abu

Should you be interested in participating in our music ministry, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at cynthia.beam@trinityjb.org.

We are so blessed to have an abundance of varied musical experiences here at Trinity. I am very thankful for everyone who has devoted endless hours of practice in order to provide Trinity with our musical worship experience.

Cynthia Beam
Music Director



The Priscilla Circle

The Priscilla Circle is made up of Women of Faith at Trinity United Methodist Church. Their goals continue to support women, children, and youth throughout the world as well as our community and Trinity United Methodist Church.



During 2024, we sent various types of cards to not only members of the Circle, but to members of the Church that might

need love, support, and comfort. We will continue to ensure cards are sent to everyone within the Trinity family.

Our Heifer project (*Noisy Change*) is collected monthly on the third Sunday of each month. This year we were able to send over \$3,600 in monthly increments which the Heifer Program will triple match the donation. Our goal is to continue collecting monthly and prayerfully increase this donation in 2025.

Our *House of Hope* collection is monthly on the first Sunday of each month. In 2024, we collected over 1,200 pounds of food. Our goal is to seek additional ways to collect food and increase our 2025 donated amount.



The *Ladies Spring Tea* was held this year in May with an attendance of 104 ladies. A fashion show and tea were held and enjoyed by all. Proceeds from the Spring Tea provided 18 cases of Horizon Milk to the

Blessings in a Bag Ministry.

Outreach to the Trinity community is our annual *Craft and Bake Sale* held in November. We had 18 art and craft vendors from the community attend. This gave us an opportunity to provide our Church's outreach and worship

hours to everyone that came and attended the event. We were also able to give \$1,000 to United Methodist UMCOR in support of hurricane relief throughout Florida and affected areas.

The Hooks and Needles group functions as a subgroup of the Priscilla Circle as a small group varying between 5 to 10 depending upon the season of the year. The ladies in our group are members of the Priscilla Circle or the TUMC congregation or friends of TUMC. We enjoy knitting, crocheting, quilting, embroidering and/or just working with their hands. Together 17 prayer shawls/lap robes have been completed and are waiting to be gifted by a member of the

Visitation Team to an individual in need of a “hug” from our Lord and Savior, Jesus. We pray as a group over each completed prayer shawl or lap robe that



the recipient will feel the arms of Jesus around them in their time of need. We have yarn and needles available for anyone who would like to join with us. All are welcome!

During 2024, the Priscilla Circle provided many special opportunities to share our love with the congregation. We give two Hug-Me-Bags to church members in February (one to keep and one to share), Mother's Day carnations, Palm Sunday crosses at Easter, and a special Christmas gift after the Christmas Services.

The Priscilla Circle meets monthly at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and join us for a time of fellowship and working together to fulfill our mission.

Pat Williams
President

United Methodist Men

Trinity United Methodist Men's Ministry meets on the first Saturday of every month for a fellowship and breakfast.

After breakfast we have our monthly



meeting, we set the times and the dates for our event, ask for volunteers, get the Ok and run with it.

We have three or four *pancake breakfasts*, depending on how the calendar falls. We also have three or four free

picnics a year for our church members and non-members as well; it is our way of saying thank you, come and be a part of our church.

We also organize the *Sunrise Service* on Easter Sunday. This is the biggest event we have. Our members set up starting at 4 a.m. come rain or shine. This service averages over 1,000 people to witness the event, and they have been coming for over 50 years.

We have a great relationship with the *Priscilla Circle*. When we need help, they jump right in and we also do the same; this year we acted as the ladies' servers for their *Fashion Show*. A great time was had by all, and I really believe we had more fun than the ladies.

We also help with the Flea Market that is set up outside in the church yard. We also help with the Fall Festival. Methodist Men are in charge of putting the greens up in our sanctuary and

other Christmas decorations. We also take roles in Christmas and Easter plays.

2024, I believe, was good. We lost 3 members, and gained 3 new members. One month we had 23 members in attendance, which was our best attendance. Our free picnics were great, we had at least 100 or more who attended. We also invited our first responders to our *pancake breakfast* and our free picnics. We also made a donation when the hurricanes came this year of a \$1,000 to UMCOR.

Our group is now cleaning up after Fellowship Hour and kitchen, and we pick-up the bread and sweets donated by Publix, and take it to the homeless.

Looking forward to 2025. We are working on a *Chili Cook-Off* coming in February. We plan to do a membership drive at "Jumping Jensen" on Thursdays where they close the roads in town and have food and other crafts for sale. It's so crowded there is hard to get through. We will see about getting permission to set a table with brochures that tell our community what we have to offer.



Don Frye
President



Communications

Communications goal is to bring Trinity, it's offerings and events, into the public eye by maintaining our website, creating a weekly Bulletin, supplying invite cards for events, advertising posters for public venues (shop windows, residential clubhouses, etc.), contacting newspapers, radio stations, and the chamber of commerce.

In the last year

Over 2024, I've learned how to use Photoshop to create materials for Trinity's branding and missions using images, banners, posters, and invite cards. I also design the "big sign" in front of Trinity, create items for the bulletin—whatever the needs there be.

I've learned how to better manage my time and tasks accomplishing the most I can in the time I have allotted. I honor the Sabbath as best one can in this society and present it to the community.

Communications has taken an active role in advertising with WAYfm and JOYfm. We work with *Hometown News* and *Stuart News* (which covered our Easter Sunrise Service). We have begun to post and advertise on Facebook a weekly invite for Sunday services featuring the Bible verses being offered at the service. And I have invited other churches to attend our special events.

Looking forward

There are many things I'd like to see going forward in 2025.

- Start an Instagram page
- Create a committee that helps distribute inviting event promotions, such as Posters to various places and post TUMC invitations and events in local businesses
- Grow the website
- Organize my flow to have invite cards ready weeks before the event for the congregation to distribute and invite friends and neighbors
- Better communication with newspapers, radio stations, and any venue of advertisement I can find
- Develop a more connectional relationship with other Methodist churches in our area, inviting them to concerts and events we host
- Encourage a couple congregation members to attend Jensen Beach Chamber of Commerce breakfasts to inform Business owners of our missions, push the church, and their business
- Considering creating a "SHARING BOARD" where Trinity members can "advertise" their business and congregants who are looking for services can hire Trinity member business. This would include a *ride share* component, where those needing a ride can ask for rides or, if you can provide a ride, information on when and where you can drive.

Just a note: I'd also like to work on *internal communications* (maybe called an interoffice memo?) to guarantee we are all on the same page for events, procedures, needs, and the review Trinity's administrative calendar to ensure all information on the calendar is verified and accurate.

I am sure many other goals will pop up during the year. Communications major focus, however, is to ensure that information is getting out to the congregation and the public.

Randi
Director, Communications

January 2025 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)
- 1st Sunday:
 - *Communion*
 - *House of Hope Donations*
- 3rd Sunday: Noisy Change
- 4th Sunday: New Member Sunday

Mondays

- Priscilla Circle (13th, 10:00 a.m.)
- Line Dancing (1:00–3:00 p.m.)

Tuesdays

- Line Dancers (1:00–3:00 p.m.)

- Lunch Bunch (11:30 a.m.)
- Trinity Ringers (5:30 p.m.)

Wednesdays

- Hooks & Needles (8th, TBA, 10:00 a.m.)
- Blessings-in-a-Bag (12:30 p.m.)
- Line Dancing (1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.)
- *Why by Adam Hamilton* (5th, 22nd, 29th, 4:30 p.m.)

Thursdays

- Martin County Quilters (9th, 5:30 p.m.)
- Line Dancing (1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.)
- Praise Team Rehearsal (6:15 p.m.)
- Choir Rehearsal (7:00 p.m.)

Fridays

- Quilters Guild (17th, 9:00 a.m.)
- Family Night Movie (17th, 7:00 p.m.)

Saturdays

- Men's Meeting (4th, 8:00 a.m.)

Trinity United Methodist Church

2221 NE Savannah Rd.
Jensen Beach, FL 34957