



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1809 North Main Street

Anderson, South Carolína

Ramblings from Rev. Roy

February 2024! I am excited about everything that is happening at Trinity. Just this month A new confirmation class beginning, the Youth Valentine's dinner, Shrove Tuesday pancakes, Ash Wednesday service and the beginning of Lent, a new Lenten Study on the Gospel of John, serving another ministry project with Rebuild Upstate, Stephen Ministry leadership training, Fortson Homes tutoring ministry, Wednesday Night dinners and LifeGroups, paying off the church mortgage and being debt-free, and having new members join our church.

It's an exciting time. So, let me ask you, what are you excited about? What do you hope for? What are you looking forward to?

If you aren't sure, start thinking about it and decide to do one new thing this year that excites you. Choose one thing you can look forward to. Choose one thing that may help you grow in faith. Choose one thing that you can do to help another person, or simply bring joy to your heart.

Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." **Nehemiah 8:10**

Grace and Peace....and Joy of the Lord be with you,



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Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am—2:30 pm Friday—Closed

WORSHIP AT TRINITY UMC - 2024 February - March

February 4 - "With Wings Like Eagles" - Rev. Roy Mitchell Scriptures: Isaiah 40: 21-31 and Mark 1: 29-39

February 11 - Transfiguration Sunday - Rev. Roy Mitchell Scriptures: 2 Kings 2: 1-12 and Mark 9: 2-9

*February 14 - Ash Wednesday @ 6:30pm - Rev. Jim Brookshire Scriptures: Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17 and Mark 2: 15-17

Lenten Worship Series: "Depths of Love"

The Season of Lent is a time of self-reflection and spiritual examination. It is a time for getting our spiritual house in order so to speak....but above all, it is an invitation to once again commit to love like Christ loves.

February 18 - "Has Come Near" - Rev. Roy Mitchell Scriptures: Genesis 9: 8-17 and Mark 1:9-15

February 25 - "For the Sake of the Gospel" - Rev. Kathryn Bariou Scriptures: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 and Mark 8: 31-38

March 3 - "I Will Raise it Up" - Rev. Roy Mitchell Scriptures: Exodus 20: 1-17 and John 2: 13-22

March 10 - "Loving the Light" - Rev. Roy Mitchell Scriptures: Numbers 21: 4-9 and John 3: 14-21

March 17 - "Whoever Serves" - Rev. Kathryn Bariou Scriptures: Jeremiah 31:31-34 and John 12: 20-33

March 24 - Palm/Passion Sunday - Rev. Roy Mitchell Scriptures: Mark 11: 1-11 and John 12: 12-16

*March 28 - Maundy Thursday @ 6:30pm - Rev. Kathryn Bariou Scriptures: Exodus 12: 1-14 and John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

March 31 - Easter Sunday/Confirmation Sunday - Rev. Roy Mitchell 9am - Oasis Worship

> 10am - Easter/Confirmation Reception and Continental Breakfast 11am - Traditions Worship

The Oasis Service @ 9:00am in our Fellowship Hall - our version of a modern, laid -back service with a praise band, family tables, community prayer, holy communion, and message.

The Traditions Service - @ 11am in our Sanctuary - Traditions have a place here: choirs, handbells, hymns, liturgy, and sermon.

Both services are live streamed so you can join us online from anywhere...when you can't be here!

Red Shoe Reflections with Rev. Kathryn

I am at an age where my yearly doctor visit requires some labs to be run. I am always in awe of how a blood draw on one day can tell them 3 months of information. It's not a snapshot of one day, but 90 days. I can behave myself and eat really healthy for a few days before blood work, but if I would do it for 90 I probably wouldn't need the bloodwork. On the other hand, knowing that my good days will even out the bad ones is comforting. There is a bit of grace there.



Thank goodness, I get that grace daily. My Chirisian walk is good, but at any given time, it may look better or worse than the average. There are days that I am caught up on my personal study, had sufficient time for prayer, and have taken some Sabbath time in the recent past. I feel like I'm doing good. And then there are the other days. I am way behind in my study, my prayer life is just quick, scattered prayers, and I can't tell you the last time I had Sabbath rest. The good seems to help carry me through the bad.

Either way, I know that God's grace is there. I know that my relationship grows deeper in the good times, and God will be waiting for me when I get my ducks in a row after a bad time. "Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch; like me." It really is Amazing Grace, always there, never wavering, ready to meet me when I need it most. I may have gotten a little grace with my lab work, even after all the Christmas goodies, it was pretty good. Thank you for Amazing Grace.

Kalhry

Online Giving You may give online www.trinityanderson.org/giving-2/. Create your own account by visiting the website and clicking on give and following the instructions there. Creating your own account lets you monitor your giving at any time during the year. For those who wish to give one-time gifts, you may also do that by clicking on "click here to give now." You do not have to create an account to give one time. There is an option to contribute an additional 3% to help cover fees for your online transaction.

Certain funds are already listed. If you do not see a fund to which you wish to give or make a payment, choose one that is closely related and make a note in the comment section or send an email to trinityadm1809@gmail.com with the details of the transaction. Thank you!

Thank You for Your Gifts!

Ways to Give:

Sunday offering—place in designated offering boxes

In Person—drop off at the church office

Online—trinityanderson.org/giving-2/ Choose the fund to which you wish to give (please include 3% fee)

Mail-

Trinity United Methodist Church 1809 N. Main Street Anderson, SC 29621



<u>Gifts</u> General Fund

In memory of

Kay McKee

by Susan Thomas

In honor of

Betty Campbell

by Gary & Mary Poore

Endowment Fund

In memory of

Herman Carlton

Kay McKee

Juanita McInnis

Martha Plummer

Ron Smith

by Margaret Cox

In honor of

Kathy Casedonte

Larry & Janet Greene

Rosalie Hovencamp

Rev. Roy Mitchell & family

James & Phyllis Morrison

Brenda Stephens

Eldon & Judi Zehr

by Margaret Cox

#TRINITYSTRONG

In honor of

Rev. Roy Mitchell Rev. Kathryn Bariou Dr. Don Campbell

Dr. James Clark

by Steve & Pat Graham

Sympathy

The Trinity Congregation expresses Christian love and sympathy to

• The family of Bea Martin

Trinity Financial Update

The General Fund is our non-designated fund from which our operational expenses are paid.

General Fund (Budget)	 <u>December</u>	
Beginning Balance	\$ 9,385.37	
Income/Transfers	\$ 61,077.21	
Expenses		
Personnel	\$ 38,646.04	
Administration, Building,		
Maintenance	\$ 7,374.42	
Programs/Ministries	\$ 1,135.42	
Ending Balance	\$ 23,306.70	
Monthly Mission	\$ 155.00	

Note to Trinity

Just a note to say thank you for lots of paper goods and money. All are needed for our mission to the Clean Start Hygiene Center for the homeless. Please continue to pray for the homeless.

Norene Smith, director

Stephen Ministry News

For some people, Valentine's Day is a painful reminder of a broken relationship, the death of a loved one, a recent relocation, a chronic illness, or another life challenge. If you are going through a difficult time, our Stephen Ministers can bring Jesus' love (God's ultimate Valentine) back into your life. Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will meet with you privately on a weekly basis to listen, to support and encourage you, to pray with and for you, and to walk with you for the duration of your struggle.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry and how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with one of our Pastors. Rev. Kathryn Bariou, our Trinity staff Stephen Leader, kmbariou@umcsc.org, or Rev. Roy Mitchell, rmitchell@umcsc.org or Stephen Leader, Betty Gurganus, at bettyg702@gmail.com. You may also call the church office at 864-224-2531. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!



United Women in FaithTrinity United Methodist Church

Calendar of Activities at a Glance:

<u>February 8</u>: 6:30pm SCCUWFaith Virtual Social Action Program, zoom Workshop #1

<u>February 15</u>: 6:30pm SCCUWFaith Virtual Social Action Program, zoom Workshop #2

February 21: 10am Unit Meeting, Asbury Hall

<u>February 24</u>: 10am SCCUWFaith Virtual Social Action Program, zoom Workshop #3

<u>March 1, Friday</u>: World Day of Prayer Service, St. Johns UMC – Fellowship Hall

March 20: 10am Unit Meeting, Asbury Hall

March 23: Annual Day of Giving, Legacy Fund & Anderson District Day Apart Celebration, in person, location and time to be announced

Details of Activities:

New printed resource materials usher in a new year with exciting new themes.

Food, Faith, and Fellowship, United Women in Faith Circles Program Resources 2024 invites all to join at God's banquet table where we explore what it means to be a community with all creation. Participants will embark on a journey about food, spiritual practices and God who dwells with us at the table, learning how to be good hosts as well as good guests at the table, in someone's home, at church, at school and work, and on the created earth. We will deepen our understanding and be encouraged to look for ways to include and consider others.

Our Daily Prayer Guide 2024 is titled Let Us Break Bread Together. This theme prompts humble thanksgiving for God's abundant provision of nourishment and grace-for the product of field and stream and for the love bound up in Jesus Christ. It leads to rejoicing in the opportunity to serve the food needs of all persons and to celebrate the lives of those-including missionaries, deaconesses, home missioners and others-who plant and harvest in Christ's name. Breaking bread together calls for reverence-in the attitude of the spiritual.

All are invited to attend our monthly unit meetings, the third Wednesday of every month, 10am in Asbury Hall. Experience the United Women in Faith of Trinity. Be part of our faith based program and experience love traveling around the globe. We hope to see you soon.

We are invited to attend World Day of Prayer Program at our neighboring church St.

John's in Anderson on Friday March 1st
2024. The gathering is planned for their Fellowship Hall. Event timing will be shared closer to the date.

Written by the women of Palestine, the theme is "I Beg You ... Bear With One Another in Love." It is inspired by Ephesians 4:1-7 and the words of Apostle Paul describing characteristics of our walk.

Each year a different country serves as the writer of the World Day of Prayer worship service, interpreting the Bible in their own context, and lifting up issues of mission, justice and peace. The WDP motto is "informed prayer, prayerful action." World Day of Prayer USA promotes justice and equality for women through prayer, partnerships, service and celebration.





February Edition What's Happening in a Glance



Hello, friends. Stuck. Stuck. Stuck. Sometimes, we all feel stuck. Stuck in a rut; stuck in a mess; stuck in a thought; stuck in a choice. Our story this month is about two guys who were stuck. They made choices in life that brought them to a pretty bad spot where they were stuck. They were on either side of Jesus, three men hanging on crosses, but only one who chose to be there. Two thieves who chose to break the law were there with a King who chose to be stuck right there between them. One thief recognized Jesus was not there for having done anything wrong. He spoke to Jesus and Jesus saw him. He asked Jesus to remember him when He went into heaven. Of all the time and places that Jesus could have shown up, He chose to be there right then to meet this man. The last great act that Jesus did before He died was to offer a chance for this man to be with Him in paradise. There are no accidents with God. He does not put people "in our way;" He puts people "in our path." We will get stuck some days but it might be because God needs us to slow down so we can meet someone along our path. We meet people who need us to offer comfort, to sit with them in struggles and to introduce them to a mighty Savior who loves them right where they are; but, we also meet people who we need to encourage us, to help us, to support us, to love us and to help guide us on our faith journey. Our attitude matters along the way. Do we notice the folks struggling on either side of us? Do we take time to "see" them and extend hope, comfort, love, encouragement, grace? Or, do we see them "in our way" and try to get around them as fast as we can? Jesus chooses to get stuck with us. He sees us and He has what we need to get unstuck from the past



and to get stuck with Him for the future. He is so patient and steady. He is authentic and real. He knows who we are, what we have done and how stuck we are and He invites us to join Him anyway. True disciples take time to see with Christ's eyes, feel with Christ's heart, and listen with Christ's ears. They choose to get stuck, too. Maybe being stuck isn't so bad, especially, if we get stuck with a friend and, even better, if it is with a friend we didn't know we needed until we got stuck together. You have a friend in Jesus. Go get stuck.

Ways to Connect

Remind 101 - text @kfcceb to 81010 to be added to the Children's Ministry class.

Follow us: facebook.com/trinityandersonkids

Words to Ponder:

"We are all broken.

That's how the light gets in."

— Ernest Hemingway

Dates for February

Sunday School 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Lesson: Thieves

Week One—Story
Week Two—Science
Week Three—Craft
Week Four—Snack

JAM Session

3rd—5th Grade Bible Study February 16 @ McDonalds (1651 Greenville St.) 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Bring your Bible and \$\$ for a drink or snack.

This month we will visit the Roper Mountain Science Center for a Friday Night Starry Nights Show after.

Key Passage:

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "What I'm about to tell you is true. Today you will be with me in paradise."

- Luke 23:42-43

Midweek Wednesday Night KIDS: 1st - 5th Graders will meet on all Wednesdays that coincide with our Wednesday night meals. They can eat supper with the family at 5:30 PM (donation requested to cover cost, as able). At 6:30 pm, they can head upstairs for lessons and activities until 7:15 PM. They can get picked up from the children's wing classrooms at 7:15 PM or hang out with their friends until 7:30 PM for dismissal directly to parent cars at the gym door.

NOTE: The drive beside the gym is a one way drive. Use caution.

The Well Youth Ministry

- February 3 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Small Group Guys at Chic-Fil-A
- February 4 5:30 7:30 PM The Well
- February 7 5:30 7:30 PM Midweek Meal/ Midweek Well
- February 10 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Small Group Gals at Chic-Fil-A

5:00 –7:00 PM Valentines Dinner in the Gym

- February 11 4:00—5:30 Confirmation Class 5:30 -7:30 PM The Well
- February 14 5:30 7:30 PM Midweek Meal/ Ash Wednesday Service
- February 18 5:30 -7:30 PM The Well/Meal and Open Gym
- February 21 5:30 7:30 PM Midweek Meal/ Midweek Well
- February 25 4:00—5:30 Confirmation Class 5:30 -7:30 PM The Well
- February 28 5:30 7:30 PM Midweek Meal/ Midweek Well

Our regular weekly youth (The Well) meets on Sunday and Wednesday nights from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm. We also have our vouth Sunday School 10:00 am-10:55 am in our youth room above the gym. If you are a youth or have a youth interested in plugging in, email thewell.tumc@gmail.com. We are actively seeking adults willing to invest in our young people and if you have thought about helping occasionally or regularly with our youth, we have lots of opportunities to serve. Our church and the future of the church depends on our continued efforts to make disciples who make disciples. We have room for you at the table. Come and see what is happening.

Confirmation Classes:

4:00-5:30 PM 2/11, 2/25, 3/10, Youth 3/17, 3/24. will confirmed on Easter Sunday. The confirmation retreat is scheduled for March 1-3, 2024 at the Hinton Hayesville, Center in North Carolina. Cost of the retreat is \$185. If cost would prevent your youth from attending, funds are available upon request to reduce the cost. We do not want the cost prevent any youth attending a faith building event.

Valentine's Dinner -

Youth can assist with set up, decorating and food prep on February 9th from 4-6 pm and February 10th from 3-8 pm. Youth are asked to dress in white and black or a nice outfit as wait staff and casual attire if helping in the kitchen. Lasagna is messy. Tickets are \$25 and youth are encouraged to sell to folks outside of the church, too. It is not a "couples" Valentine Dinner, so if you know anyone who would love a meal with a fun bunch of folks, invite them to come enjoy a great We are God's evening out. Valentines. We will celebrate the love of a heavenly Father this night and share Christ's love at the table.

Collecting Children's Art for the Monthly Card Ministry

Does your child love to create art and your refrigerator is full? The Monthly Card Ministry would love to use their art as an insert in the cards that are sent to our Love Persons each month. We ask that it be no larger than 5x7 so it will fit in the cards. There will be a small tub under the Trinity mailboxes in the preschool hallway for you to place their masterpieces in. Thank you for being a part of this ministry.—Jan Rozell

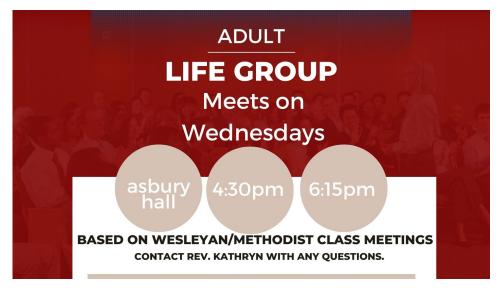


Thank you to everyone that participated in the fall and Christmas card collections for our homebound members. The cards, sweet angels made by Young at Heart, and prayers are so appreciated by our love persons and their families.

Valentine's Day cards will be delivered to our love persons (homebound) during the week of February 11. The love person list is available at the church office or at the family card box. Homemade or the small classroom Valentine's are fine. This is a great mission for our children to share in. Seal your cards with a prayer and deliver them to the church office or the basket at the family mailbox no later than **noon on February 11**.







Rebuild Upstate February



We have another opportunity to partner with Rebuild Upstate this month. We will be working February 22-24, from 8:30 am—4:30 pm with a lunch break in between. Below is a sign up for both work shifts and to help provide lunch. If you have any questions or for help signing up, please contact Kathryn Bariou at kmbariou@umcsc.org or 864-376-2375.

Rebuild Link http://bit.ly/rebuildupstate

Monthly Mission News February

As we partner with Rebuild Upstate again this month, we are also focusing on them as the recipient of our Monthly Mission Offering. These funds will help cover costs in all areas of the organization.

Rebuild Upstate's approach to affordable housing differs slightly from other affordable housing organizations, in that they don't offer total new home construction or provide affordable rental housing. Instead, they focus solely on home preservation and repair as means to keep residents in their own homes.

By understanding the needs of the people inside a home, they gain a better insight to the repairs that will help them the most. Whether addressing safe entry and exit by building a new wheelchair ramp or ensuring that a family is healthy and dry under a new roof, the goal of every home repair is to make sure the residents may remain comfortably in place for years to come. That's why Rebuild Upstate takes a holistic approach to affordable housing by partnering with other fantastic community organizations to help address the symptoms of subpar housing and empower individuals to break the cycle of poverty.

Wednesday Night Dinner

- Sign up each week at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090944ABA62AA5FD0-47041493-spring
- If you wish to be on a standing list, contact Dava House at 803-917-0599.
- Our guide for payment to cover our costs is: \$7 for adults, \$5 for ages 8-17, and \$3 for children age 8 & under. (family of 4 - \$20; family of 5 - \$25)
- Place cash or check in basket on dining tables or pay online through our website at www.trinityanderson.org.

Menus for February are (and will include beverage and dessert):

- 7 Sub sandwiches, pasta salad, regular salad, chips or chicken nuggets
- 14 Meatballs, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, bread or pizza
- 21 Pasta bar, salad, garlic knots or chicken nuggets
- 28 Soup and salad, cornbread or pizza

Facilities / Campus Report January 2024

So what's special about February? Well, besides having only 28 days in common years February will add the 29 day on a leap year which will occur this year.

It is the first of five months not to have 31 days. It's known as American Heart Month, Black History Month, and National Bird-Feeding Month. We celebrate Valentine's Day (my birthday), National Wear Red Day, Presidents Day, Groundhog Day and three of my favorite days, National Pizza Day, National Sticky Bun Day and Super Bowl Sunday. As we are dealing with the middle of winter on the shortest month, I'm hopeful you can find joy, stay warm, and celebrate this special month.

On Saturday, February 3, Asbury Hall will again be used for a voting location for the SC Democratic Primary Election. The building will be closed to the public on Friday, February 2, as election equipment is set up.

On Saturday, February 24, Asbury Hall will be a voting location for the SC Republican Primary Election. The building will be closed to the public on Friday, February 23, as election equipment is set up.

Let's welcome our 2024 Trinity UMC Board of Trustee members:

Dan Keesler - Chairman

Mike Strickland - Vice Chairman

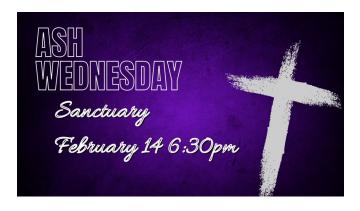
Amanda Greene - Secretary Pat Graham - Preschool Board Representative

David Britt Bob Hill

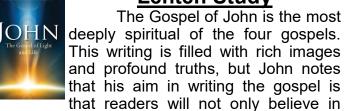
Your continued prayer, support, and suggestions are deeply appreciated as we address property management and ministry responsibilities at Trinity UMC.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart."
Peace,
David Ford
Business & Facilities Manager





Lenten Study



Jesus Christ, but that they "may have life in his name." This Lent, Trinity will be using Adam Hamilton's six-week study, John: The Gospel of Light and Life. We will follow the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the Gospel of John and understand the context of some of the best-known verses in the New Testament. Books cost \$13.00 each.

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12 noon starting on February 19, 2024. Feel free to bring your lunch and eat while we learn.

Contact Kathryn Bariou at kmbariou@umcsc.org or 864-376-2375 for questions or help signing up.

Sign up link: https://bit.ly/LentJohn

Discipleship Path

Early in January we presented our Discipleship Path. I hope that you have taken time to review and study the path. Have you found where you think you may be? Have you found the area you need to move forward the most? Have you found something to help you move forward? This is a life long path, we are always growing closer to God. It is also a leap of faith to take the next step, but remember we are all growing together. Questions about your next steps, contact Rev. Roy or Rev. Kat.

<u>United Methodist General Conference</u> <u>Information Sessions</u>

The United Methodist worldwide General Conference will be held April 23 - May 3, 2024 in Charlotte, North Carolina. This is the General Conference that has been postponed since 2020 due to the Covid Pandemic, and issues with hundreds of visas of the delegates.

The coming General Conference is to have 862 voting delegates — 55.9% from the U.S., 32% from Africa, 6% from the Philippines, 4.6% from Europe and the remainder from concordat churches that have close ties to The United Methodist Church. There are at least 10 different languages spoken among delegates, and roughly 1,100 pieces of legislation to work through. Half of the delegates are to be clergy and half laity. Bishops preside at General Conference sessions, but do not have a vote. **Trinity's own, Chris Lynch, is a lay delegate to General Conference.**

We will hold three information sessions leading up to the General Conference on the first Sunday of each month beginning in February. I have asked Rev. Jim Brookshire to lead us in these sessions. Jim is a retired UM elder from the Western NC Conference, and is an active "member" of Trinity (clergy are technically members of annual conferences, not local churches).

All three sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday afternoons at 4 pm on February 4, March 3, and April 7.

February 4 @ 4pm - How We Got Here?

March 3 @ 4pm - Legislation Before General Conference

April 7 @ 4pm - What does it mean for the local church?

For Trinity UMC Anderson?

Below are links to the official General Conference website and a short video explaining the General Conference.

General Conference 2020 (resourceumc.org)

What is... the General Conference?

As always, thank you for remembering Trinity UMC and our city of Anderson in your prayers. We remain focused on our mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" by "loving God and all people, learning God's will and ways, and living for Christ in the world."

Grace and peace, Roy



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Submit articles for the March 2024 issue by February 12 to trinityadm1809@gmail.com