

# Trinity Times



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1809 North Main Street

Anderson, South Carolina

## Ramblings from Rev. Roy

### The Big Rocks

There's a well-known story about a university professor that wanted to make a point about the importance of priorities.

The professor stood in front of his class with a display of items, he took a large empty jar and filled it with rocks approximately two inches in diameter. He then asked the class if the jar was full and they agreed yes the jar was full.

The professor then took a box of pebbles and added them to the jar ....and then took a box of sand and added it to the jar, filling the spaces between the rocks and the pebbles.

This jar represents life. The big rocks signify the really important things in your life; the pebbles are the other things that matter in your life; and the sand signifies the remaining small stuff.

So I was reminded today to stay focused on the Big Rocks! Or else there is no room for what matters most if you fill the jar with pebbles and sand first.

Of course, when Jesus was asked about the "Big Rocks" - the most important of the commandments, we know his answer: *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength ...and Love your Neighbor as Yourself"*.

John Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism, named some "Big Rocks" for the people called Methodists - he called them the *Three Simple Rules*:

- #1 - Do No Harm
- #2- Do Good
- #3 - Stay in Love with God ("attain to the ordinances of God")

Here at Trinity UMC, we have "Big Rocks" known as our vision and mission: *"to make 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."*

And last month I named a few other "Big Rocks" that I see in the jar:

1. BE AN INVITING CONGREGATION.
2. BE A WELCOMING CONGREGATION.
3. BE AN AUTHENTIC CONGREGATION.
4. BE A MISSIONAL CONGREGATION.

All these are our "Big Rocks" and we put them in the glass jar first - they are our priorities. "For God alone.....is [our] rock and [our] salvation" (Psalm 62: 5-6), and Jesus Christ is "the cornerstone" (1 Peter 2: 4-6).

I give thanks for all you do and for who you are - Children of God and Brothers and Sisters in Christ! You rock! Together we are #TrinityStrong.

Keep on Rocking,

APRIL 2024

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## Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday  
8:30 am—2:30 pm

Friday—Closed

## **WORSHIP AT TRINITY UMC - 2024**

### **POST-EASTER SERMON SERIES: "Unleashing Love"**

Christ is Risen! So, what now? What difference has it made, is it making, and will it make in our lives day by day? How shall we live now? Join us post-Easter for a five-week journey to unlock the power of love, unravel its complexities, and discover its transformative strength. In a world yearning for connection, we'll learn to love with purpose, and unleash a power that can truly change the world.

**April 7 - One Worship @ 11am - "Made For Love" - Rev. Roy Mitchell**

Scriptures: Mark 12: 28-30 and 1 John 4: 7-8

**- HOTDOG "Debt-Free Trinity" Celebration**

wear your #TrinityStrong t-shirts for church-wide picture

**April 14 - "Only Love Can Do That" - Rev. Roy Mitchell**

Scriptures: Luke 6: 27-28 and 1 Peter 3: 9

**- 4:00pm - Church Talent Show and BBQ Dinner**

(supporting our Fortson Homes Ministries)

**April 21 - "Misdirected Love" - Rev. Kathryn Bariou**

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 11: 13-16 and 1 John 2: 15-17

**- 4:30pm - Service of Prayer for the General Conference of The UMC**

**April 28 - "Making Love Last" - Rev. Roy Mitchell**

Scriptures: Matthew 7: 9-14 and Colossians 3: 12-14

**May 5 - "WWJD: What Would Jesus Do?" - Rev. Roy Mitchell**

Scriptures: John 15: 9-13 and 1 Corinthians 13: 2 / Ephesians 5: 1-2

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**May 12 - "We Share Christ" - Rev. Roy Mitchell**

Scriptures: Psalm 1 and John 17: 6-21

**Mother's Day and Graduate Recognition**

**May 19 - "These Bones Will Live" - Rev. Roy Mitchell**

Scriptures: Ezekiel 37: 1-14 and Acts 2: 1-21

**Day of Pentecost - Wear RED**

**May 26 - One Service @ 11am - Rev. Kathryn Bariou**

**Trinity Sunday/Memorial Weekend**

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**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. Join us from anywhere...when you can't be here!**



### **Welcome to Our New Member**

Maryrita  
Miller

**Church Office**

**Closed**

On Easter Monday  
April 1, 2024

## Red Shoe Reflections with Rev. Kathryn

As I am writing this it is before Easter, by the time you read it, it may be after Easter. We find ourselves in an in between time, a time of waiting. It makes me think of Holy Saturday. We remember Maundy Thursday, and celebrate the Last Supper. It is a day to remember Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial. Good Friday we remember the ultimate sacrifice as our Savior willingly died on a cross for our sins, so that we could be forgiven. Then we get to Holy Saturday. Nothing of note happens, so we just wait for Easter Sunday. But I think there is something special about Holy Saturday, about a day without any events to celebrate except the wait.



Henri Nouwen tells us, "Of all the days in history, Holy Saturday – the Saturday during which the body of Jesus lay in the tomb in silence and darkness behind the large stone that was rolled against its entrance, (Mark 15:46) – is the day of God's solitude. It is the day on which the whole creation waits in deep inner rest." Genesis tells us that God created and on the seventh day God rested. Jesus came to us, shared the Good News and was buried on day six of Holy Week. Now all of creation is to rest. We are to rest and wait as all of creation prepares to meet the Risen Christ the next day.

So if you read this before Holy Saturday, I challenge you to find a time of rest, a time to sit and wait as you prepare your hearts for Easter. If you are reading this after Holy Saturday, you can still find time to rest. We need our rest. Christ's resurrection on Easter is the beginning. It is the day we are called to go and share the love of the Risen Christ. Take time to rest this Holy Saturday because Easter Sunday we get to work!

*Kathryn*

### Sympathy

The Trinity Congregation expresses Christian love and sympathy to

- Karen Campbel upon the death of her father, Dick Bayard
- Steve Bowen upon the death of his mother-in-law, Lucy Rackley

### General Conference RECAP

Trinity's own, Chris Lynch, who is one of 862 delegates to the UM General Conference will give a RECAP of what occurred and tell about his experience on Sunday, May 5 at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall.

### Online Giving

You may give online at [www.trinityanderson.org/giving-2/](http://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](mailto: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/](http://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





## Trinity Financial Update

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

<u>General Fund (Budget)</u>	<u>February</u>
Beginning Balance	\$ 9,310.15
Income/Transfers	\$ 39,404.09
Expenses	
Personnel	\$ 37,947.74
Administration, Building, Maintenance	\$ 6,970.79
Programs/Ministries	\$ 2,200.01
2024 Apportionments	\$ 0
Ending Balance	\$ 1,595.70
Monthly Mission (canned goods)	\$ 310.00

**PUBLIC WELCOME  
FREE ADMISSION!!**



# SPRING FESTIVAL



**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

**SATURDAY MAY 4  
3PM-6PM**  
Rain or shine

- BBQ TICKETS
- Bake Sale
- Silent Auction
- Bounce Houses

www.trinityanderson.org  
1809 N. Main Street Anderson, SC  
864-224-2531

**#TRINITYSTRONG**



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

## CHURCH WORK DAY

**Saturday, April 13**  
**8:30am-noon**

Contact David Ford for more info  
**864-224-2531**

## Why I Love Trinity UMC

Three years ago, our family found ourselves looking for a new church home. Looking back at our list, we had 109 churches that we went to visit, watched online services, or looked at their website. March 6, 2022 our family visited Trinity and our search was done. The day after we visited, Roy emailed us (I never delete an email). He described you, the congregation of Trinity, saying... "They give back to the community, care for one another, and attempt to follow Jesus more and more."

Our daughter has enjoyed the children's ministry – from thought-provoking conversations, learning Bible stories, running around in the gym with friends, and organizing food at AIM and clothes at the Lot Project. Volunteering in the pumpkin patch has been a fun way to give back to the community, and we have felt the support of the church at the work projects for Rebuild Upstate. My husband and I have grown so much from being a part of the Wednesday night life group. The deep discussions have brought me closer to God.

I love Trinity because it is a congregation that serves – serves God, serves the community, serves the children, and serves to grow the spiritual life of our family. And for all of these things, I am grateful! We are so thankful to be able to "attempt to follow Jesus more and more" alongside you.

Nicole Kulick

## Why Do You Love Trinity UMC?

Write a few sentences or paragraphs to let us know.

We will include them in upcoming newsletters.

Email your article to [trinityadm1809@gmail.com](mailto:trinityadm1809@gmail.com).



# United Women in Faith



## United Women in Faith

### Trinity United Methodist Church

#### Calendar of Activities at a Glance:

**April 6:** SCCUW Faith Spiritual Growth Event, virtual, Anderson District, host; 10 AM, must register

**April 17:** 10am Unit Meeting, Asbury Hall, Call to Prayer and Self Denial Program

**April 19-21 :** SEJUW Faith Quadrennial Meeting, Chattanooga, TN, must register

**April 23-May 3:** UM General Conference, Charlotte, NC

**April 29:** United Women in Faith Day at UM General Conference, Charlotte, NC

**May 15:** 10am Unit Meeting, Asbury Hall, last meeting before summer break

**May 18:** SCCUW Faith Come Together Be Together Event, virtual, Florence District host; 10 AM, must register

**June 9-12:** SC UMC Annual Conference, Greenville, SC

**June 22:** SCCUW Faith Charter for Racial and Environmental Justice Event, virtual, 10 AM, must register

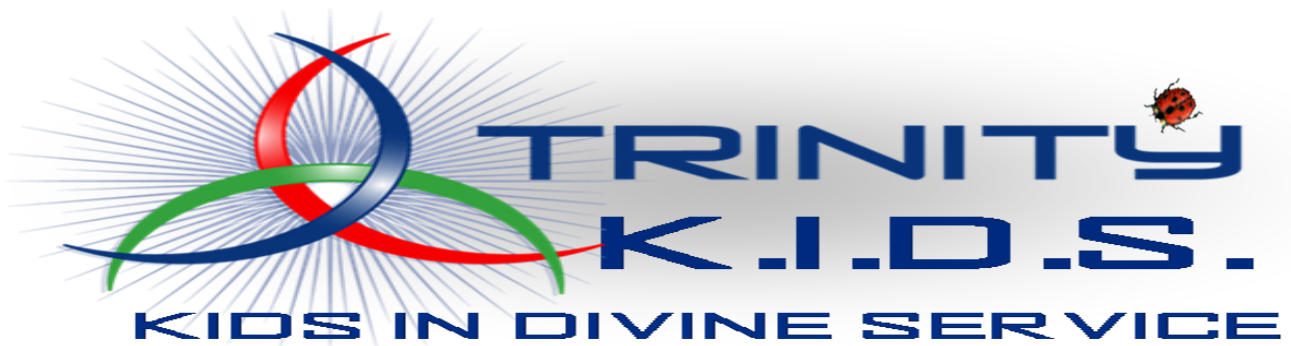
#### Details of Activities:

Our members will be **collecting non-perishable food items through May**. All are invited to donate foods to help end hunger in Anderson. The local Anderson mission best able to use our food donations will be named at the May 15<sup>th</sup> unit meeting with the Good Neighbor Cupboard as the first mission to be considered. Please join us by contributing to this important local project.

Our **Call to Prayer and Self Denial Program** will be given at our **April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting**. The theme is “*Lifting Up Voices for Climate Justice*”. This year’s program invites us to deep dive into our faith and recommit ourselves to care for one another and all of God’s creation. As bold women in faith, we strive constantly for self renewal and the material and spiritual transformation of the world in Jesus’ name. Biblical inspiration is from **Romans 8:19 – 21 (NIV)** *For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.*

A **Craft Room** will be located at Spartanburg Methodist College during **SCCUW Faith’s Mission u on July 18-20**. Our member Beth Addis serves as SCCUW Faith’s Education & Interpretation Mission Coordinator and is responsible for the Craft Room. All proceeds from sale of handmade items goes to Bethlehem Center, Spartanburg, Columbia Bethlehem Community Center, Killingsworth, and Wallace Family Life Center. Let us support this endeavor by donating our handmade items including jellies, pickles, breads, knitted and crocheted items, cards, jewelry, and wreaths.

Participation in the **Reading Program** is encouraged for all members. Reading books found on the reading lists between the years 2019 and 2024 will count towards earning a certificate. Reading is meant to inspire faithful and informed action on behalf of women, children and youth. Our unit meeting agenda includes reading aloud one children’s book. Those with perfect attendance in 2024 will complete Plan I at the May meeting. To qualify for a certificate lists are due mid August.



April Edition

## What's Happening in a Glance



Hello, friends. Springtime brings all kinds of fresh new life, from fuzzy bunnies hopping around to birds chirping in nests to plants and flowers poking up through the dirt. We see life springing up all around us. The yellow coating on all of the vehicles is a reminder that with the new stuff spring brings, pollen happens, too. The bees may be excited but my sinuses are not. Sneezing, itchy watery eyes and a sinus headache are sure to arrive—labor pains for all the new life awakening around us. A man named Nicodemus was intrigued by some of Jesus' teachings. He snuck away at night to meet up with Jesus and ask a few questions to try to understand what it means to be "born again." Jesus gives Nicodemus an explanation but it is still a little hard for him to comprehend. How can someone be born a second time? That is physically impossible. Jesus responds that the new life is different from the physical birth. It is a renewing of the spirit. The Holy Spirit works in us always but there are seasons in our faith life. There are times that feel like fall; I see the beauty of the changing leaves but I also recognize that the warmth of summer is behind me and the cold winter is coming. There is not much growth during these times. But then, the springtime comes and I feel warmed by the Spirit and excited for all of the new things growing around me. Some faith winters are especially hard - ice storms and gray skies; some are not bad at all - ski trips and fireplaces with cocoa in hand. The Spirit is always with us, guiding us, encouraging us, empowering us to hang in there until the spring. We receive this gift of the Spirit as a parting gift from Jesus. He tells us that He must go, but He is not leaving us alone. The Holy Spirit connects us to God the Father, Jesus the Son and to each other. As you watch life opening up in the physical world, think about the beauty blooming in your spiritual life. Every flower, plant, bunny, bird or bee is a gentle reminder from God that He is still with us, life is still happening and it is beautiful and wonderful to behold. Try to remember this month to stop and smell the flowers - Achool!



## Ways to Connect

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

Follow us:  
[facebook.com/trinityandersonkids](https://facebook.com/trinityandersonkids)

**KIDS Midweek Lessons will take a pause until the fall. We do not meet during spring break on April 3, 2024. Our last night to meet until after the summer is April 17th.** We will have lots of other special opportunities to meet during the summer (TGIF/AIM Service/VBS/Sunday Morning Lessons) so check out our Trending at Trinity, Facebook Page and Newsletter submissions for ways to connect.

## Words to Ponder:

"Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself."

- Rumi

## Lessons for April

Sunday School

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Nicodemus/Life**

**Week One** - Story

**Week Two** - Science

**Week Three** - Craft

**Week Four** - Snack

## **\*JAM Session\***

3rd—5th Grade Bible Study

April 19th @ McDonalds

(1651 Greenville St.)

4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Bring your Bible and

\$\$ for a drink or snack.

## Key Passage:

I have spoken to you about earthly things, and you do not believe. So how will you believe if I speak about heavenly things?

- John 3:12



# The Well Youth Ministry

(March 29th - April 5th – Spring Break)

April 3rd—NO MEAL/NO MIDWEEK WELL

April 7th - 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm – The Well

April 10th – 5:30 – 7:30 PM - Meal/Midweek Well

April 13th – 9:00 – 10:00 AM – Guys and Gals' Small Groups at Chic-fil-a; Same location for both groups, but we will be separate.

April 14th – 4:00 PM – Talent Show/Dinner/NO WELL

April 16th - 5:00-6:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale

April 17th - 5:00-6:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale

April 17th – 5:30 – 7:30 PM - Meal/Midweek Well. Last midweek until the Fall. Watch weekly run downs for a few drop in dates of just fun fellowship.

April 18th - 5:00-6:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale

April 20th - 10:00 - 12:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale (Sat)

April 21st - 11 am – 1 pm South Main Mercy Center Meal

4:30 PM Service of Prayer

5:30 - 6:30 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale (Sun)

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm – The Well

April 23rd - 5:00-6:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale

April 24th - 5:00-6:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale

April 25th - 5:00-6:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale

April 26th - 5:00 - 7:00 pm Open Drop Off for Yard Sale (Fri)

April 26th - 7:00 - 9:00 pm Yard Sale Prep (Fri)

April 27th - 7:00 am - 11:00 am Yard Sale (Youth should plan to arrive by 6:00 am and work until 12:30 pm)

April 28th – 5:30 – 7:30 PM - The Well

## Trinity Talent Show

Any youth interested in sharing your talent at the talent show, consider being a talent presenter. For those of us who have the behind the scenes talents, come out and support our church folks who have incredible talents and enjoy some barbecue.

## Look Up Lodge News

We have a full group for Look Up Lodge. Thank you for all who reached out to confirm spots. This year promises to be a great trip with some great folks!

**Yard Sale:** April 27 is the best youth fundraiser we got! We get support from our congregation in donations and support from our community in buying our gently used stuff. We also have a chance to give back to our community with the leftover donations being donated to many appreciative groups. If you are available and willing to help collect, price, sort, stack, sell or clean up after, let Aly or Dawn know your availability. All are welcome. We will again have dates for open gym drop off and scheduled times for those who cannot make it during our open slots. See above for open drop off dates and times. We can begin taking donations on April 15.

Our regular weekly youth (The Well) meets on Sunday from 5:30 pm—7:30 pm. We also have our youth Sunday School from 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](mailto: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.



**ADULT LIFE GROUPS**  
Meet on Wednesdays  
Asbury Hall  
4:30 pm or 6:15 pm  
Based on Wesleyan/Methodist Class Meetings  
Contact Rev. Kathryn with any questions.

**Gifts**

**General Fund**  
In memory of William Steele  
by Family of Gary & Pauline Hedden

In memory of Durwood Penninger  
by Martha Parks

In memory of Kay McKee  
by Eleanor Bowen

In memory of Juanita McInnis  
by Eleanor Bowen

In memory of Bea Martin  
by Eleanor Bowen

**#TRINITYSTRONG**  
In honor of Dr. Don Campbell  
by Jim & Pat Lemons

In honor of Dr. James Clark  
by Jim & Pat Lemons

STEPHEN MINISTERS

# The After People

Sometimes people ask,  
"What exactly is a Stephen Minister?"

Stephen Ministers are trained lay caregivers who provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through difficult times in life, providing hope and healing in the midst of their pain.

**STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE THERE . . .**

- ... *after* the phone call in the middle of the night that changes life forever.
- ... *after* after the baby comes home, demanding more of her than she ever imagined possible.
- ... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and his emotions held at bay come crashing in.
- ... *after* the email announcing a new round of layoffs suddenly appears in her inbox.
- ... *after* the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing else we can do."
- ... *after* the youngest child pulls out of the hug and heads into the dorm—followed by a long drive back to an empty house.
- ... *after* the retirement community director says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ... *after* the divorce papers are served and she wonders if she'll ever trust anyone again.
- ... *after* the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and his loved one is led away.
- ... *after* the fire, when rebuilding a home feels impossible.
- ... *after* family and friends have heard his story one too many times, but he still needs to talk it out.

Through Stephen Ministry, your congregation can build a team of Stephen Ministers ready to come alongside members of your church and community. This proven system for high-quality lay caring ministry offers the structure, training, and resources for providing distinctively Christian care for people during the "afters" in life.

If you are looking for a Stephen Minister, contact Trinity's Stephen Leader on staff, Rev. Kathryn Bariou, 864-224-2531 or [kmbariou@umcsc.org](mailto:kmbariou@umcsc.org).

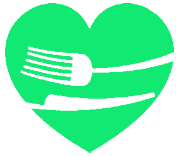


## Graduate Recognition—May 12



Our 2024 graduates will be recognized during our worship services. High school, home school, technical school, or college graduates, please notify the church office with your name, from where you are graduating, a senior picture, and which church service you attend by **Sunday, April 28**.

You may email your information to [1809office@gmail.com](mailto:1809office@gmail.com)  
or call the church office at 864-224-2531.



## Monthly Mission News April

Our April Monthly Mission Offering will go to the Anderson Emergency Kitchen. The mission of Anderson's Emergency Kitchen (AEK) is to address hunger. It is a weekday (M-F) feeding program that provides a hot nutritional meal to all in need who come through our doors. In the United Way of Anderson County's terminology, the AEK focus is to address basic needs. Our strategy is not a lofty strategy, but it is an essential one to the clients we serve. Many of them may not be able to get even one meal a day, and others are pressed to be food secure without these meals.

The AEK strategy for fulfilling its mission is to provide one hot nutritional meal to anyone who comes through our door five days a week. The AEK is located at 1527 South Main Street. For more information see [andersonemergencykitchen.org](http://andersonemergencykitchen.org).

## Update on Trinity Costa Rica Missions

While there has not been a Trinity mission trip to Costa Rica since January 2020, we maintain our connections with our mission partners there. After prayerful consideration and discussions with Rev. Roy, Rev. Kathryn, and the Outreach Team, we are excited to announce that Trinity will now seek to organize its eighth Costa Rica mission trip, aiming for early 2025.

There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, April 14, 2024, during the Sunday school hour in the Fellowship Hall to gauge interest in the trip.

Going forward in faith, our hope is to assemble a team to achieve our mission project and ministry objectives. Please lift up a prayer for this endeavor. Perhaps this is an opportunity for you to answer this call to international mission service. For more information, contact Cynthia & Dan Keesler, Rev. Roy, or Rev. Kathryn through the church office.

## 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](http://www.trinityanderson.org).

**Menus for April** are (and will include beverage and dessert):

3 — No Wednesday Night Dinner

10 — Taco Bar, salad, fixings or chicken nuggets

17 — Chicken pot pie, salad or pizza

## **Facilities / Campus Report April 2024**

April welcomes us the beauty of blooming trees, flowers, and shrubbery along with the change to much warmer weather. Over the next few weeks, we will fully transition to air conditioning campus-wide on all our HVAC systems. We will continue to operate our facility under energy conservation mode while making adjustments for conditions.

The church office will be closed April 1 for observance of Easter Monday.

School District Five and Trinity Preschool Spring Break is April 1 – 5.

Trinity UMC will host the Anderson City Municipal Elections in Asbury Hall on Tuesday April 2.

The UMC General Conference will be held in Charlotte, NC April 23 – May 3.

Trinity Trustees are hosting our Spring Church Workday on Saturday, April 13, starting at 8:30 am. Please join us for a quick biscuit, donut, and coffee breakfast in the Family Room before we start our tree and shrubbery trimming project. Bring your work gloves and join a team that will trim, cut, and haul limb debris to the roadside location on Anderson Ave. Other important and much needed tasks will be weed removal from bedding locations around our campus and general cleanup at each trim and cut site. Our Trustees are securing equipment such as pole saws, hedge trimmers, leaf blowers, wheel barrels, tarps, trailers, and bob cats.

If you are willing to share any equipment or tool that would help us with this project, please contact Dan Keesler at (864) 276-4404 or David Ford at (864) 933-0795. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you as we address this concern.

Let's join in and celebrate Arbor Day, Earth Day, National Garden Month, and Keep America Beautiful throughout the month of April as we do our part making God's earth cleaner, safer, and better for all mankind.

"Let us rejoice and be glad in it." "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts."

Peace,

David Ford, Business & Facilities Manager

## **MidWeek in May Series - 2024**

5:30pm-6:30pm - Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays - May 1, 8, 15, and 22

### **Holy Living: Spiritual Practices for Building a Life of Faith**

*"While physical training has some value, training in holy living is useful for everything. It has promise for this life now and the life to come." (1 Timothy 4:8 CEB)* The spiritual disciplines are historical practices that can guide us in our daily walk, bringing us closer to Christ.

*Holy Living: Spiritual Practices for Building a Life of Faith* is a series that brings a fresh perspective on the spiritual disciplines, enabling us to apply their practices to our current lives. Practicing these spiritual disciplines opens us to God's transforming love.

### **We will begin with the spiritual practice of "Neighboring."**

**Neighboring** - Both the Old and New Testaments call the people of God to love God completely as well as to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Jesus told his followers these were the greatest commandments. What if by "neighbor," Jesus literally meant the precious people who live in your neighborhoods? What if by "neighbor," Jesus meant all of your neighbors, regardless of age, socio-economic status, or any other potentially divisive designation? We will first define what is meant by the spiritual practice of "neighboring" and then look at ways we can live into neighboring as a spiritual practice in our own lives and in the lives of our churches and communities.

Mark your calendars!!

**May 1 - Session #1 - Stepping into the Neighborhood**

**May 8 - Session #2 - Look, Listen, and Learn**

**May 15 - Session #3 - A Neighbored Christian**

**May 22 - Session #4 - A Neighboring Church**



## United Methodist General Conference Information Sessions

Rev. Jim Brookshire, retired UM elder from the Western NC Conference, and active here at Trinity will lead our last remaining information session prior to The United Methodist General Conference. Our session will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday afternoon, April 7th at 4pm. We will also have a special service of prayer on Sunday, April 21st at 4:30pm (prior to the start of the General Conference).


**April 7th @4pm - What does it mean for the local church/Trinity UMC?**  
**April 21st @4:30pm - Service of Prayer in Fellowship Hall**

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 continue and continually pray for Trinity UMC and our city of Anderson. And we continue to 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

# 24 for '24

 *A Call to a Season of  
Prayer for General Conference*

In April, United Methodists from around the world will gather in Charlotte, North Carolina, for the postponed 2020 General Conference. Much has gone into the preparations for this global assembly, and significant work is before delegates and church leaders when they meet April 23-May 3.

As we journey through Lent toward the cross and the promise of resurrection, Bishop L. Jonathan Holston and the South Carolina Conference Delegation to General Conference are inviting all South Carolina United Methodists to join them each evening for “24 for 24” – a season of focused, daily prayer for the 24 days leading up to the General Conference.

“When we join together in prayer each day, we remember who we are and whose we are as disciples of Jesus Christ,” Bishop Holston said. “Each day we have the opportunity to be for someone the Gospel that they may never otherwise hear. We cannot avoid uncertainty, but we can respond with faith rather than fear.

“Together each day, let us come together in prayer, trusting that God hears every word.”

**Beginning March 30**, Bishop Holston and delegation members will share a video prayer at 8:24 p.m. (a.k.a., 20:24) each evening – praying for the church and specifically for groups of people who have been preparing for General Conference and who will participate and attend.

The daily evening prayers will be shared via Facebook (@scumc), Instagram (@umcsc) and X (@umcsc), and by email to all who are signed up to receive conference news emails. They also will be posted on the South Carolina UMC Conference website - <https://www.umcsc.org/24for24/>

More ways to pray ..... Download the Guide to Prayer that begins April 7 that leads up to the start of the General Conference.

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/guide-to-prayer-for-the-united-methodist-general-conference>

**And remember!!! - Join us here at Trinity UMC on Sunday, April 21 at 4:30pm in the Fellowship Hall for a Special Service of Prayer.**

As Bishop Holston stated, “We cannot avoid uncertainty, but we can respond with faith rather than fear.”

Peace and prayers,  
Roy



