

Trinity Times

A place to belong. A community that serves. Growing in God's abundant grace.

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May Highlights

COVID-19 Update on Worship

Our Western NC Annual Conference of the UMC and Bishop Leeland have shared guidelines that follow the 3 phase protocol shared by the state authorities. We will not gather for in person worship in May. Should the 3 phases continue to evolve as planned (i.e, the data shows decreases in cases, hospitalizations, & deaths), then the earliest we would be able to gather is mostly likely mid-June. That being said, TUMC leadership and staff are reviewing these guidelines and determining our best practices for keeping everyone safe upon returning to activities within the building. (limiting # of people in bathroom, cleaning door handles, marking off pews to practice social distancing, etc.). We will continue to offer worship via Zoom and Facebook, even as we return, knowing that many of our members are in the vulnerable age group and we are grateful that many of you have joined via virtual worship.

Virtual Charge Conference following worship on May 31

We will have a virtual Charge Conference following worship (around 12 Noon) on Sun., May 31 for the following business:

- To return the pastor's compensation package to 2019 levels (following SPRC & Finance recommendations in budget reduction of all staff salaries); the Clergy Compensation change requires a Charge Conference approval.
- To vote upon shifting our Leadership model from separate committees to a single board governance structure (what has been recently named the "Trinity Leadership Council" with this one board serving the purposes of Council,

Finance, Trustees, and possibly SPRC. We will still need to determine if we keep a separate SPRC or if this one board takes on that role as well. This decision will be determined at a later date after Nominations has an opportunity to discern what is best for TUMC. The Council has offered several opportunities since January for sharing information on this model. If you would like a short summary, please see a helpful summary from Council Chair Caroline Levi. The Leadership Council would be filled by current chairs and our lay leaders until the Nominations Team comprises a Leadership Council to take over following our Fall Charge Conference. We believe the continuity in leadership will help make a better transition this Fall.

All are welcome to attend this meeting via Zoom (which will be the same link we send for worship - it will be a continuation of that Zoom "event"). As a reminder, only those who are serving on the Church Council by virtue of their leadership role are considered voting members according to Par. 246.2 In the **Book of Discipline**. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Nancy Walton or Council Chair, Caroline Levi.

Worship Series for this Unusual Easter Season

On April 26, we began a new worship series called "Unraveled." What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do



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we become when our identity - or the path we're on - comes undone? What if all of this is not the end we fear it will be?

In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope - with a new

beginning we couldn't have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed. This worship series explores a number of biblical stories of unraveled shame, identity, fear, grief, dreams, and expectations. These are stories where God meets us in the spiraling, unraveling our plans - and us - into something new. In these unprecedented days, when much seems to have unraveled, please join us and the Spirit as we experience God's grace and mercy meeting us when we're unraveling as well as when we're being woven back together.

Join us virtually this Sunday to find out how we press onward when tightly-knit plans unravel. We are also mailing bulletin and sermon copies to those who do not access worship online. If you are not receiving this and would like to, please call the Church Office and we will gladly put you on the mailing list to receive these weekly.

Here are the May and June themes:

- ❖ **May 3** - MARK 5:1-20 || Jesus Heals Legion, a Man Possessed by Demons (The Unraveling of the Mind)
- ❖ **May 10 / Mother's Day** - GENESIS 18: 1-15; 21:1-7 || Sarah Laughs (Unexpected Joy and Surprise)
- ❖ **May 17** - EXODUS 1:22, 2:1-10 || Moses' Mother Gives Moses Up So He Can Live (When Our Plans for Our Children Unravel)
- ❖ **May 24 / Aldersgate Sunday / Ascension** - ACTS 9: 1-20 || The Conversion of Saul to Paul (Discovering a New Path)
- ❖ **May 31 / Pentecost** - (ACTS 2:1-21); JOHN 20:19-23; JOHN 21:15-25 || Holy Breath (The Spirit's weaving us back together)
- ❖ **June 7 / Trinity Sunday** - JEREMIAH 29:1-7 || Encouraging the Israelites in Exile to Plant Gardens & Build Houses (When Dreams Unravel)
- ❖ **June 14 / Father's Day** - LUKE 19: 1-10 || Zacchaeus the Wealthy Tax Collector (Radical Unraveling of Vocation)
- ❖ **June 21** - 2 SAMUEL 3:7; 21:1-14 || Rizpah Mourns Her Sons (Public Grief That Inspires Action)
- ❖ **June 28** - JOHN 4:1-29 || The Samaritan Woman at the Well (Unraveled Shame)

Ways to Serve our Community:

- **ABCCM Volunteers Needed** - As things return

toward the "new normal" help is needed immediately at Hominy Valley Crisis Ministry of ABCCM. Furloughed Buncombe County employees who have been bolstering those volunteers able to continue over past weeks have now returned to their jobs. Hominy Valley Site Manager Christy Shortridge has just sent a plea for help. Volunteers are now needed, if your situation permits. The focus is still on food for those in need--prepared boxes remain the norm--but volunteers are needed in the kitchen as well as in reception, intake, counseling, data entry, warehouse, etc. Multi-tasking, as usual, is helpful! This is also a good time for new volunteers. Just call Christy at 398-6942 if you're considering.

- **ABCCM Virtual General Mtg -Tue., May 26, 6PM** This will be a very informative meeting with a five minute presentation by each ministry on how they have been impacting lives during this pandemic. There will also be an important update on Transformation Village's near opening! They will also share information about how you may volunteer under the new circumstances.

- **TUMC** is hosting opportunities to serve:

◇ **RED WAGON pick up on THU., MAY 28.** Our Church Van hits the road again as the mobile Red Wagon! This month's focus is Trinity Place Shelter for Youth. They are always in need of paper products - paper towels (they've shared that they have plenty of toilet paper!). **PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN UP FOR PICK UP.** We will only come by IF you have called and registered your need for pick up. If May 28 does not work for your schedule, or if we have a huge response and need to schedule another day, we will let you know. **ALSO**, if we may bring anything to you to leave on your front doorstep (groceries, Rx pickup, a copy of *The Upper Room Daily Devotional*, please let Lee know and we will be glad to deliver!



- ◇ **\$ Donations from your Cares Act Federal Government checks.** Consider if you are able to donate even a small portion of the check you may receive from our government to one of the many needs at Trinity - our JDHowell Mission Fund (specifically for missions & outreach), the Pastor's Discretionary Fund (often given to church members or community folk in need in small

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amounts for vital services - Rx's, transportation, educational needs; this could also assist members who have lost their jobs due to Covid-19), the Bless the Schools Fund (given to local school children's medical & educational needs in coordination with school social workers), or our current capital campaign to build our Memorial Garden.

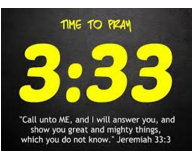
- ◇ Consider making a donation towards the building of our Memorial Garden. You may give in honor or memory of a loved one this Easter Season. We will collect these alternative lily donations and publish the names on Trinity Sunday (June 7), the end of our 50 days of Easter.
- ◇ Stay tuned to sign up for Summer Lunch Program, which is scheduled to begin June 10, following appropriate Covid-19 protocols. This will be a vital ministry to serve children in need of on-going nutrition during the crisis. Contact Andrew Tripp for more information.
- ◇ Save the Date - Trinity will host Room in the Inn July 5 - 12! More details to come!

Interested in April On-line Sunday School?

If you would like to attend an on-line Zoom Sunday School for adult and youth? (it may not happen on Sunday morning), please let Rev. Nancy or Lee know. We will send out a poll of possible class times after Easter.

PRAYER FOR TRINITY

Would you be willing to set your alarm for 3:33PM each day to lift up a prayer for Trinity and our new year? (Yes, 3:33 as a reminder of our name, *Trinity!*)



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- May 04 Grace Hertzinger
- May 05 Theo Pharr
- May 08 Vicki Biggers
- May 09 Margot Buddy
- May 10 Andrew Starnes
- May 11 Woody Cunningham
- May 11 Harlan Dempsey
- May 12 Angela Waldroup
- May 13 Stella DiLoreti
- May 16 Donna Smith
- May 18 Barbara Goist
- May 22 Hazel Harwell
- May 24 Fred Meadows
- May 27 Gina Parham
- May 28 Liam Tripp



- May 30 Joe Harrison
- May 30 Jeff Patelidas
- May 30 Sean Clark
- May 30 Celia Clark
- May 31 Tom Harrison

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- May 16 Chris & Betsey Matthews
- May 22 Ed & Judy Shuster
- May 24 Nick & Meredith Harvey
- May 24 Seth & Brooks Buddy
- May 26 Mark & Erica Abrams Locklear
- May 30 Russ & Andrea Davis



Kathryn C. "Kitty" Crout (16 Feb 1933 - 9 May 2020)

Kathryn C. "Kitty" Crout, 87, passed away Saturday, May 9, 2020, at CarePartners Solace Center.

Mrs. Crout was born in Greenville, SC to the late Andrew Battle and Kathryn Henderson Cosby. She attended Winthrop College and had worked as an

accountant for a number of area businesses.

She enjoyed playing bridge, square dancing, water aerobics and traveling, especially to the coast. Her family includes her husband of 67 years, Oris E. Crout; daughters, Grace Lunsford and Mary Gregg (Mike); son, Bill Crout (Lynne); grandchildren, Michael Buckner II, Benjamin Buckner, Brandon Lunsford, Rafe Conner, Russ Conner, Sloan Crout and Claire Crout; 14 great-grandchildren; and a brother, Tom Cosby (Betty). She was preceded in death by her sister, Curtis Smith.

A memorial service was held 11:00 a.m. Thursday in the Patton Avenue chapel of Groce Funeral Home with Chaplain Bob Stacey officiating.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions, attendance will be limited to 50 persons.

Memorials may be made to Francis Asbury United Methodist Church Welcome Table or to Meals on Wheels.

The service will be live streamed to YouTube and to Facebook.com/GroceFH.

If you are experiencing a financial crisis, please contact Pastor Nancy Walton, NWalton@wnccumc.net. She can offer confidential financial assistance through the Church's Discretionary Fund. We want you to know your Church Family is here for you and you are not alone.

