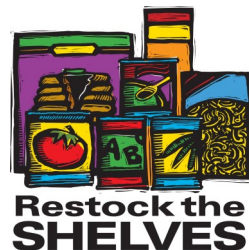


UPS Back Pack Program

Don't forget that each month we are going to Restock the Shelves for the Union Primary School Back Pack Program with a specific kind of food. The food item for January is Breakfast Cereal.



The food item for February will be Single Serving Fruit. Please, only Pears, Peaches, or Fruit Cocktail.

Epiphany Service

Service will be hosted by Norton Methodist Church at 5 pm this evening.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Meal and March sponsored by UVA-Wise

Tomorrow, January 20th, Wise Baptist Church will be hosting a meal at 5 pm followed by a march (line up begins at 6:30 pm) to Wise Christian Church for a service that begins at 7 pm. Transportation will be provided from Wise Baptist to Wise Christian for those who are unable to participate in the march.

Inserts and Handouts

Please note that there is a lot of organizational information that is available this week as an insert in the bulletin. During Charge Conference, a decision was made to move away from an Administrative Board and to favor a Church Council. The insert has a list of committees, officers, and leaders as well as the Church Council structure for Trinity.

Please notice that there has been an addition of 5 Discipleship Ministers. With this addition, there has been a few changes to the Lay Ministers.

- Intercessor—One who prays with and on behalf of those who request prayer.
- The Hands and Feet of Christ—These are teams sent two by two (trained and commissioned by the pastor) to minister to shut-ins and nursing home members through prayer, anointing with oil, and Holy Communion.

Lay leader forms with descriptions of duties are available in the Narthex, at the chancel railing, and in the office. If you are still being called to lead in Ministry, please complete and place in the offering plate or return to the office by February 2. If you would like to speak with Robert to discern where God is calling you to be in Ministry, please make an appointment.

Here is the New Union Primary School Food List :

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jan —Breakfast Cereal | Feb —Single Serve Fruit | Mar —Mac n Cheese |
| Apr —Juice Boxes | May —Juice Boxes | June —Cash Donation |
| July —Cash Donation | August —Soup | Sept —Chef Boyardee |
| Oct —Ramen Noodles | Nov —Breakfast Bars | Dec —Juice Boxes |

Food Notes: *Soup (Chicken Noodle or Tomato) *Chef Boyardee (Spaghetti O's or Ravioli) *Ramen Noodles (Chicken or Beef) *Breakfast Bars (Apple/Cinnamon or Strawberry) *Cereal (Small bulk bag 7-9 servings) *Single Serve Fruit (Pears, Peaches, or Fruit Cocktail) *Mac n Cheese (Individual servings) *Juice Boxes (Apple or Grape)

January 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



The Trinity Tribune

A Publication of Trinity United Methodist Church
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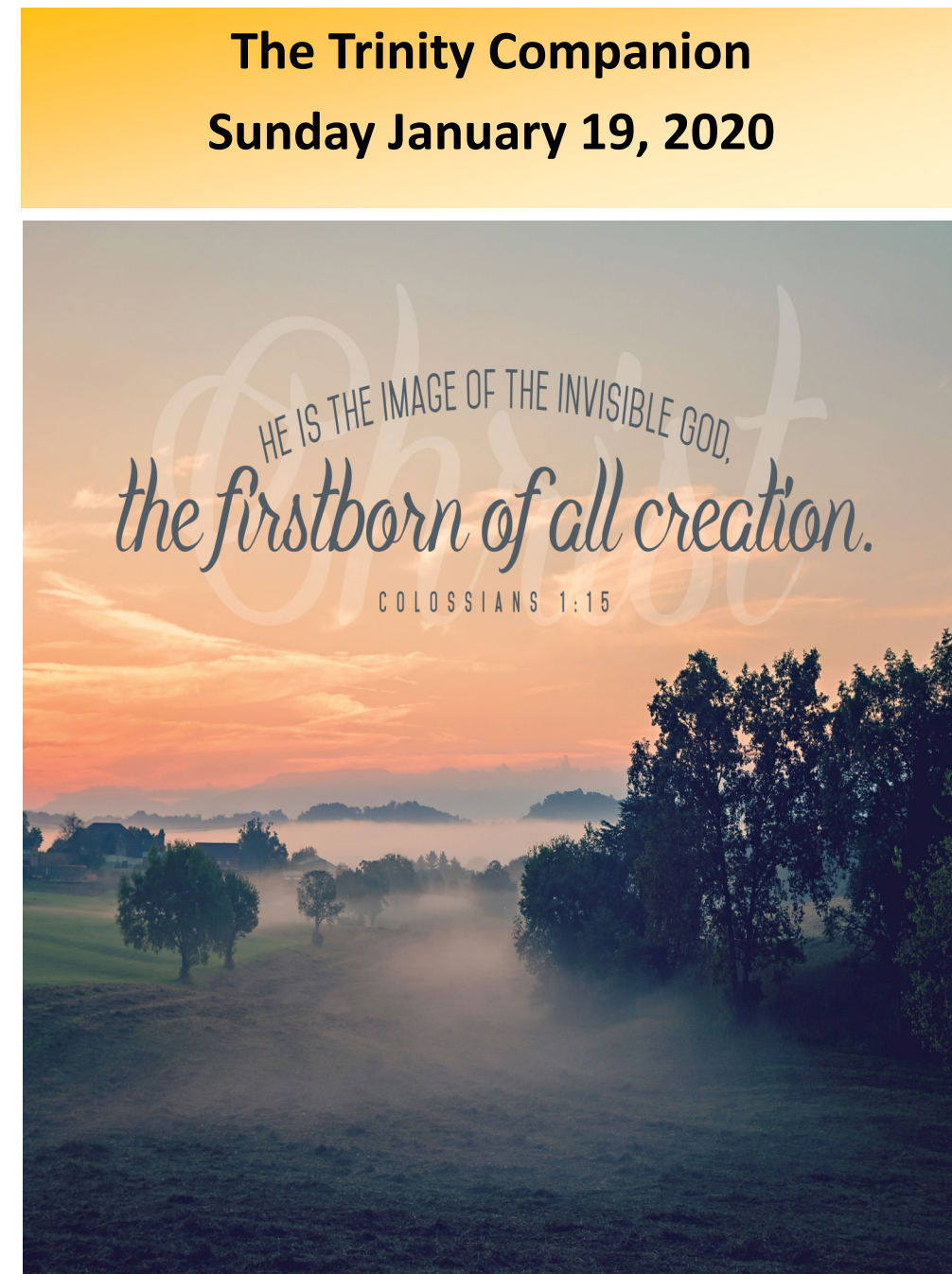
Important dates to keep on your calendar...

- *January 19* 5:00 pm Asbury Circle
5:00 pm Epiphany Service at Norton Methodist Church
- *January 20* 5:00 pm MLK Jr. Celebration Meal @ Wise Baptist Church followed by march to Wise Christian Church for Service
6:00 pm Garden Club
6:30 pm Contagious Discipleship at Parsonage
- *January 21* 11:00 am Ugly Mug Study Group
- *January 22* 6:00 pm Bible Study
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- *January 27* 6:30 pm Contagious Discipleship at Parsonage
- *January 28* 11:00 am Ugly Mug Study Group
- *January 29* 6:00 pm Bible Study
7:00 pm Choir Practice
- *February 2* 12:00 pm Fellowship Dinner
- *February 3* 6:30 pm Contagious Discipleship at Parsonage

	Last Week	Last Month (December)	Year to Date
Worship Attendance	52	56 (AVG)	50
Offering to Budget	\$2691.28	\$28722.44	\$4107.99

You can sponsor a bulletin. For \$15, we can put color on one side and for \$25 we can put color on both sides. Contact the office to see if the Sunday you want is available.

This Bulletin is sponsored by... Tiffany J. Stallard Adams



Trinity United Methodist Church

203 E 1st St, South
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Worship begins at 11:00 am
Pastor—Rev. Robert Burlingham
Office: (276) 523-0789
Cell Phone & Text : (423) 863-7622

Email: robert.burlingham@outlook.com
www.trinityumc-bsg.net

Zero Sum Economics

Professor Bill Laycock taught economics at Hiwassee College. He would tell you that I exited his class with a very basic and limited grasp of economics. Little did I know that the subject would be essential to understanding the Apostle Paul. In Colossians 1: 14, Paul explains God's forgiveness as an act of redemption. Basic accounting terms like redemption, reconcile, and forgiveness also apply to God's economy of gracious abundance. It is the gift that keeps on giving...abundant life.

We redeem things everyday. As I write, the waitress laid a bill on the table. Including tax, I owe Huddle House \$9.77. Before I leave the restaurant, we will do an equal trade. I will give them my money for their food and service. In exchange, I get to leave the restaurant without going to jail for stealing. Economists call this Zero Sum Accounting. The debt I owe is reconciled, made zero, through redemption. Such economics espouses the world view of scarcity.

As I finish the about paragraph, one of the saints of Trinity UMC stopped by my table. When we finished our conversation, he reflected God's image of redemption and reconciliation. He picked up my bill. He acted as my redeemer. He paid for my meal.

A few of my momma's lessons on manners sunk in. When I realized what has taken place, my pride filled protest would not change my redeemer's mind, my momma's teaching took hold. With a smile, which reflected a grateful heart, I said, "Thank you."

Up to this point, my little story reflects Paul's Good News, Salvation Message. The debt I owed the Huddle House is redeemed and reconciled. It is forgiven. By virtue of my redeemer's graciousness, it is as if I never owed Huddle House a cent. Paul wants us to understand that Jesus' gracious act redeemed our sin. He offers us an even trade. He gave his Life in exchange or the penalty of our sin, death. Forgiveness literally means "it is as if (sin) never happened. (Jeremiah 31:34) God did this out of His will; graciously and abundantly.

My Huddle House redeemer purchased all of my meal, not part, but the whole. He left a while ago, and yet the waitress continues to refill my coffee cup. She will refill it until I leave the restaurant. My point is that God sends the Holy Spirit to refill my heart, soul, and mind with Jesus' forgiveness every time I hunger and thirst for salvation. The Holy Spirit shall provide such comfort till I join the Triumphant Church. (John 16: 5-11)

Like every metaphor, this one also falls apart. Do you have a built in ledger sheet? Do you thank people for the meals they redeem? Once they are out of sight do you make an entry on your balance sheet? How many people do you owe? How much money would it take for your balance sheet to equal Zero? (I guess I would owe about 10,000 talents.)

When I look at my internal balance sheet I find myself in a situation similar to the man in Matthew 18: 23. Jesus is the King who came from heaven to earth to settle the slaves' accounts. I was a slave to sin. Jesus redeemed my life of sin and death with His eternal life.

I continue to suffer hunger and thirst for salvation. Each time the Holy Spirit "leads (me) not into temptation but delivers (me) from evil." When tempted by shame, guilt, blame, or unworthiness try doing these things in remembrance of Jesus Christ. Name the temptation and say "Thank you Jesus for paying my debt, not in part, but in whole."

One in Christ
Robert

Greeters: Alberta Mitchell and Sandra Rich

Announcements: Martha Spurlock

Prelude: Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown, Traditional Scottish Melody (CANDLER)

Lighting of the Candles: Jaxon Anderson and Maverick Webb

***Opening Hymn:** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise No. 103

Pastoral Welcome

Affirmation of Faith: **Apostles' Creed** No. 881

Gloria Patri No. 70

Lord's Prayer

The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Prayer of Blessing

Ushers: Phil Robbins, Christy Smith, Lana Prater, and Angela Tipton

Offertory Music:

***Doxology** As found at No. 95

Children's Message: Patty Robbins

Anthem: The Seven Joys of Mary

***Scripture Reading:** Colossians 1: 15-23 Paula Barton

Message: The Economy of God

***Closing Hymn:** Amazing Grace No. 378

Invitation to Discipleship

Pastoral Benediction

Postlude: Will You Come and Follow Me? (The Summons), Traditional Scottish Melody (KELVINGROVE)

*Indicates that you may stand, as you are able.
CCLI #1083130

*The Devil whispered in my ear,
"You're not strong enough to withstand the storm."*

*I whispered in the Devil's ear,
"I am a child of God, a Warrior of Christ,
I AM THE STORM."*



Van Drivers and Riders

5—Christy Smith & Donna Mahan
12—Kenny & Martha Spurlock
19—Diane Botts & Cathy Galyean
26—NO VAN (RESURRECTION)

Money Counters

5—Pat Bowden, Kim Parsons
12—Christy Smith, Diane Botts
19—Kenny & Martha Spurlock
26—Bill Cole, Tiffany Adams

Children's Message

5—Communion Sunday
12—Kim Parsons
19—Patty Robbins
26—Diane Botts

Scripture Readers

5—
12—Bill Cole
19—Paula Barton
26—Andrew Holyfield

Greeters

Alberta Mitchell and Sandra Rich

Announcements

Martha Spurlock

Ushers

Phil Robbins, Christy Smith, Lana Prater, and Angela Tipton

Communion Ushers

Fellowship Dinner Hosts



"I HAVE NOT STOPPED GIVING THANKS FOR YOU, REMEMBERING YOU IN MY PRAYERS."
EPHESIANS 1:16, NIV

For Those with Cancer:

Denise Qualls; Karrie Compton (Randy & Phyllis Compton's daughter); Zac Carter; Steve Clark; Kamyryn (Patsy Mutter's great granddaughter's sister); Wilma Mills; Raymond McCoy

Facing/Recovering from Surgery/Hospital Stay

Sandy Wright, Jan Tate, Patty Cooper, Beth Hagan, Jean Hendricks, Bootsie Duncan, Deja Stallard Melott

Non-Specific Prayers for:

Matt Carroll; Bob Horne; Ida McCall; Judy Cole; Maurice & Patsy Lay; Andrew David Hartman; Jack Williams; Bill & Jean Hendrick, Larry Spears; Ann Nickles; April Hess

- Pray for our Pastor and the Leaders of our church.
- Pray for the Leaders of the United Methodist Church.
- Pray for those in the Church in need.

If you know that someone on the prayer list has passed away, please contact the church office.



Donation link can be used at any time and from any capable phone.