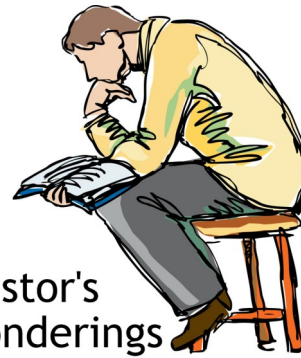


## Let's Help Our Graduates Celebrate

It is once again that time of year when we remember the accomplishments of our various graduates-both from high school and college. On Wednesday night June 1st at 6:30 PM we will have a very special fellowship supper in their honor. I hope that everyone will plan on attending this meal. We are encouraging everyone to bring extra dishes because we think that the turnout is going to be large. I am working on the traditional slideshow that celebrates the life of each graduate. So mark your calendar and plan on joining us for this event.



### Pastor's Ponderings

The following persons will be honored at the meal. Bubba Hubbard, Brooke Hubbard, David Goodman, Katie Rich, Wes Polly, Colston Polly, Jon Hall, Anna Skinner and Jessee Hagan. If you know of any other graduates in our church family please have them contact the office so that we can include them in the celebration.

### High School Graduation Date

The official date for the Union High School graduation ceremony will be Friday night May 27 at 7 PM at the University of Virginia's College at Wise Convocation Center. This event is open to the public. There will be lots of traffic. So be prepared, if you come, to do some walking. We will have three students graduating at this event: David Goodman, Bubba Hubbard, Brooke Hubbard, Katie Rich and Jon Hall.

### A Special Worship Service is Planned for Next Sunday

We want to invite everyone to join us next Sunday for a very special worship service. We are going to have a contemporary style service. This grows out of the response we received from the youth service when they came back from Resurrection. Our goal is to offer a contemporary service on each fifth Sunday. We hope that you will be with us and celebrate with us in this somewhat different worship style.

### Vacation Bible School is Almost Here

In case you haven't heard, vacation Bible school is about to begin. We will begin on Sunday, June 19 and will end on Friday, June 24. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done. If you're interested in helping in any way, please get in touch with David Goodman or attend the meeting that will be held after church today.

### April Financial Reports Are Available

The April financial reports are available with the bulletin today. They are not included in the bulletin, but are laying beside where the bulletins are available. If we run out, please just let Ashley know and she will be happy to print more for you.

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...

## My Perspective on One Aspect of General Conference

This past week has been an interesting time for me. I've had a lot of time on my hands. Sitting around with your leg up is no fun. However, there was something happening within United Methodism that made the days go a little bit quicker. This past week General Conference was finishing up in Portland, Oregon.

Via the modern marvel of the Internet and live streaming, I was able to watch General Conference as it unfolded. Needless to say, it was a very time-consuming and difficult time. The 864 delegates to General Conference were debating issues that would affect our denomination/church for the next four years. It seemed at times as if it mostly revolved around which amendment would be chosen over which other amendment or which word would be more important than another word. Sometimes I wonder how we as a denomination function with such an event every four years.

Then again, I wonder what we would do if we didn't have General Conference. General Conference is tasked with setting the direction and the theology of our church. They face some very difficult decisions each and every time they meet. Although every four years that they get together, it seems as if some things just continue to be carried on from one conference to another. This general conference was no different.

An inordinate amount of time was spent debating how the conference delegates could speak with one another. It took three days to decide that a suggested way of conferencing would not be appropriate. Such conferencing was suggested as a manner in which to deal with the elephant that was in the room.

Since 1972 General Conferences have spoken on the issue of human sexuality. Especially, the issue of homosexuality. For the last four years some annual conferences, jurisdictions, churches, bishops, and ministers have blatantly disregarded the teachings of the church as found in *The Book of Discipline* on this matter.

It was hoped, that this General Conference would be able to settle that matter. However, it was not. Instead, it voted to create a special commission to look at all references to human sexuality found within *The Book of Discipline* and come back to a special called General Conference sometime in the next 2 to 3 years. At that General Conference, hopefully, this matter will be decided and our church will no longer have to continue debating it each four years and the intervening years as well.

For more information on this topic, you can visit the church Facebook page or the church leadership page on Facebook. You may also go to the United Methodist Church General Conference page.

## The Trinity Companion Sunday May 22, 2016



Galatians 5:1, NRSV

## Trinity United Methodist Church

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

Worship begins at 11:00 am

Pastor—Rev. Terry Goodman

Office: (276) 523-0789

Cell Phone & Text : (304) 960-4438

Email: trinityumcpastor@gmail.com

www.trinityumc-bsg.net



Let me tell you how glad we are to have you at our worship service today. We hope that you will encounter the presence of the risen Christ. We'd really like to get some contact information. Would you please text your email and name to 80123 and we'll get back in touch with you.

**Greeters:** Alberta Mitchell and Jackie Mainous

**Announcements, Welcome, and Introduction :** Diane Botts

**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship: "Spirit Song"**

**\* Opening Hymn: "And Are We Yet Alive"** No. 553

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

*(You will be given an opportunity to share joys and prayer concerns. Please raise your hand and wait until an usher comes to you with a microphone.)*

**The Lord's Prayer** (as found at No. 895)

**\*Gloria Patri** No. 70

**Children's Message** Diane Botts

**The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**Ushers:** Patty Robbins, Alberta Mitchell, Kathleen Gillespie, Christy Smith

**Offertory:**

**\* The Doxology** No. 95

**\*Anthem: "There is a Redeemer"**

**The Presentation of God's Word**

**Scripture:** Galatians 1: 1-12 —verses referenced in the sermon

**Sermon:** "By Whose Authority"

**\*Closing Hymn: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"** No. 103

**\*Pastoral Benediction : "Old Irish Blessing"**

**Postlude:**

**\*Please stand as you are able**  
Musical lyrics reprinted using CCLI #1083130



A Publication of Trinity United Methodist Church  
Volume 5 No. 21, Sunday May 22, 2016

May 2016						
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29	30	31				

**May Events and Activities**

- ◆ **Sunday, May 22, 2016**
  - ◆ **TRINITY SUNDAY**
  - ◆ 12:00 pm—VBS Meeting
  - ◆ 5:00 pm—UMYF
- ◆ **Wednesday, May 25, 2016**
  - ◆ 6:00 pm—Prayer Circle
  - ◆ 7:00 pm—Choir Practice
- ◆ **Sunday, May 29, 2016—5th Sunday**
  - ◆ 11:00 am—Contemporary Service
- ◆ **Monday, May 30, 2016—Memorial Day**
  - ◆ Office will be closed

**June Events and Activities**

- ◆ **Wednesday, June 1, 2016**
  - ◆ 6:00 pm—Prayer Circle
  - ◆ 6:30 pm—Fellowship Supper—Graduate Celebration
  - ◆ 7:00 pm—Choir Practice
- ◆ **Thursday, June 2, 2016**
  - ◆ 10:00 am—Susanna Wesley Circle
  - ◆ 12:00 pm—Wesleyan Circle
- ◆ **Saturday, June 4, 2016**
  - ◆ 8:00 am—UMYF—Farmer's Market
- ◆ **Sunday, June 5, 2016—Annual Conference Sunday**
  - ◆ 5:00 pm—UMYF
- ◆ **Monday, June 6, 2016**
  - ◆ 6:30 pm—NOW Team Meeting
- ◆ **Wednesday, June 8, 2016**
  - ◆ 6:00 pm—Prayer Circle
  - ◆ 7:00 pm—Choir Practice
- ◆ **Sunday, June 12, 2016**
  - ◆ 5:00 pm—UMYF
- ◆ **Monday, June 13, 2016**
  - ◆ 6:30 pm—United Methodist Men Meeting
- ◆ **Wednesday, June 15, 2016**
  - ◆ 6:00 pm—Prayer Circle
  - ◆ 7:00 pm—Choir Practice
- ◆ **Saturday, June 18, 2016**
  - ◆ 10:00 am—VBS Assembling
- ◆ **Sunday, June 19, 2016—Father's Day**
  - ◆ 5:00 pm—Asbury Circle
  - ◆ 5:00 pm—VBS Starts
- ◆ **Friday, June 24, 2016**
  - ◆ 5:00 pm—VBS Award's Day

**Please join us next Sunday**  
**For our first 5th Sunday**  
**Contemporary Service**



**May**

**Van Drivers and Riders**

- 1—Pat Bowden, Christy Smith
- 8—Kenny & Martha Spurlock
- 15—Christy Smith, Diane Botts
- 22—Doug & Lucy Robinson
- 29—Kenny & Martha Spurlock

**Children's Church**

- 1—Patty Robbins
- 8—Mary Beth Allen
- 15—Kim Parsons
- 22—Donna Mahan
- 29—Cathy Galyean

**Money Counters**

- 1—Chris Higgins, Paul Clark
- 8—Diane Botts, Christy Smith
- 15—Pat Bowden, Kim Parsons
- 22—Kenny & Martha Spurlock
- 29—Bill Cole, Ashley Turner

**Children's Message**

- 1—Christy Smith
- 8—Nancy Toney
- 15—Mary Beth Allen
- 22—Diane Botts
- 29—Bill Cole

**Greeters**

Alberta Mitchell  
Jackie Mainous

**Announcements**

Diane Botts

**Ushers**

Patty Robbins, Alberta Mitchell,  
Kathleen Gillespie, Christy Smith



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

**For Those with Cancer:**

James Horne; Robin (Rita Nash's Daughter); Debbie Cooper; Phyllis Gilley; Melody (Mellie) Gilley; Doris Berta; Denise Qualls; Kathy Hirsch (Larry and Teddy Bland's daughter); David Burke (Bubba Burke's Dad); Karrie Compton (Randy and Phyllis Compton's daughter); Kim Shores

**Facing or Recovering from Surgery or Hospital Stay**

Becky Clark; Helen Cochran; Mary Warner; Liz Ashley; T. R Davidson; Melanie Sturgill; Mark Nickels; Ann Nickels; Jim Cooper; Barbara Hargrove; Ronnie Phillips (Patty Robbins' brother); Benny Clifton (Lillie Clifton's father); Siyere Williams; Elizabeth White; Nancy Toney; Terry Goodman

**Non-Specific Prayers for:**

Brownie Polly and family; Geneva Allen; Jim Gates; Fred Vanbever; Jennie Shupe; Hope Meade; Matt Carroll; Melvin Carter; Kenny Spurlock's mother; Bill & Jean Hendrick; Peggy Bates; Marion Kocher; Bob Horne; Nancy Toney; Beth and John Hagan; Nancy Kilgore and family; Johnny Wells

- 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.