

## Nominations Team is Working on Church Leadership List

The Nominations Team members are currently in prayer as to who God might want our new leaders for 2016 and beyond to be. Team members have been given a nominations slate and asked to prayerfully consider who might be the best person for the various positions of leadership that must be filled. Each member will turn their suggested slate of nominees into the pastor today. The pastor will combine all the names from the various slates into a master list of nominees. **The Team will then meet tonight, September 20th, at 6:00 pm to make the initial round of nominations.**

If you want to be considered for a leadership role or if you wish to have your name removed from consideration, then please contact the pastor and let him know your desires.

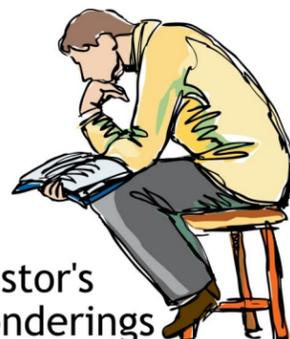
Also, please be in prayer for the members of the Nominations Team: Pastor Goodman, Chairperson: Alberta Mitchell, Dell Williams, Kim Parsons, Cindy Ashley, Don Shorter, Sandra Rich, and Cathy Galyean.

## Administrative Board Meets Tonight

The Administrative Board will meet tonight @ 7:00 pm. All members of the Board are asked to attend.

## IT IS DONE!!!!

In February of 2014, I decided that too many years had gone by since I had undertaken a complete read through of the Bible. Over the years, I have read many parts of the Bible quite frequently, but I had not done a complete read through since the early 1980's. So I found a plan—a ONE YEAR plan—that was to be my roadmap. Let's just say that I sort of got lost a few times (especially in the Old Testament with the book of Numbers!!) As of this past Tuesday morning, I completed my read through. Along the way, I found a new Bible that was really helpful in explaining the Old Testament texts. I have a much better understanding of the OT timeline and the prophets. I have been challenged and I have grown. I encourage you to begin a read through of the Bible—especially if it has been a few years. There are a lot of great plans available and I would strongly suggest that you find a Bible with some good built in commentary so that you can follow the flow of the Old Testament. Now, I am off to a more selective reading of some of the New Testament books using the aforementioned Bible with its great notes.



Pastor's Ponderings

## Following Up on Last Sunday

This week, I read an article attributed to Stephen (no last name) entitled: *General Conference Can't Save the UMC*. Just so we are on the same page, General Conference is the ultimate decision making body for United Methodist's. What is decided at the General Conference becomes the law of the church for at least the next four years—until General Conference is once again convened. So, General Conference is the only place that system wide change can be undertaken within United Methodism. That's why the title of this article caught my attention.

As I read the article, it basically said that United Methodists "...cannot legislate our way to a better denomination." It then went on to suggest that what we can do is to make more effective clergy and more effective laity. The more effective laity comment dovetailed nicely with what I was trying to do with last Sunday's sermon. Let me share with you what I read:

"For as long as I can remember we have trained our laity in order to serve on committees. If you were put on the Trustees, then you went to Trustees training and learned about what it means to be a Trustee committee member. Same with SPRC or Nominations or Finance or Administrative Board or UMW or UMM or UMYF or anything else you were stuck on as laity. *Training people to serve on a committee is not helping us make disciples.* A lot of our laity are already engaging in ministry with the world around them. They are inviting people to church. They are present with people who are grieving. They are in our hospitals and our schools caring for others. What would happen if we trained our laity to be the best ministers they already are rather than training them to be a committee member? *Changing the way we train our laity would have a huge impact on the local church.*

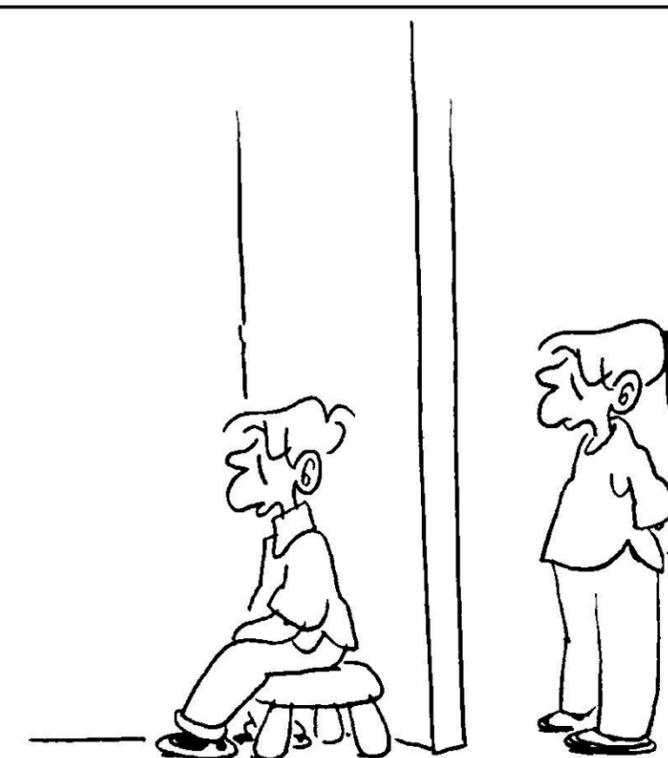
When you have a mix of an effective clergyperson and effective laity then you have a vital congregation that can impact their community and the world. With these two things working together the church flourishes."

This has been my expressed goal (implied throughout my ministry) for at least the last eight years. It has been my underlying guiding principle since the day I arrived at Trinity UMC. It has been what I have tried to convey and share with you for the last three years. It is my prayer for our church that the laity can move from simply serving on committees—to doing compassionate, life changing ministry within our community.

Is that your goal as a lay person? If not, then our church is about to face it's greatest hour of testing, because without an energized and vibrant laity, then I am afraid that our church will simply stay where it is at best, or face significant decline, at worst. I really want to open avenues of conversation on this matter. I really want anyone and everyone to pull me aside and say, "Let's talk about what you are trying to do and what my role in that plan might be."

You have heard my side. Now. Please let me hear from you.

## The Trinity Companion Sunday September 20, 2015



"I'm glad we don't speak in tongues.  
One keeps me in enough trouble."

## Trinity United Methodist Church

203 E 1st St, South—POB 217  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Worship begins at 11:00 am

Pastor—Rev. Terry Goodman

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by...

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easy it is to sponsor at bulletin.



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. Please feel free to join in any of the activities or events that you see mentioned. Please come back and worship with us again!

**Greeters:** Kathleen Gillespie and Peggy Beverly

**Prelude**

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

**Call to Worship:** “Spirit of the Living God”

**\* Opening Hymn:** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” No. 384

**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.)*

**Lord’s Prayer** as found at No. 895

**Gloria Patri** No. 70

**Children’s Message** Nancy Toney

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

**Ushers:** Patty Robbins, Alberta Mitchell, Pat Bowden, Patty Lynn Cooper

**\* The Doxology** No. 95

**Musical Offering:** “Behold Our God”

**The Presentation of God’s Word**

**Scripture:** James 3:1-12 Martha Spurlock

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord for the people of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Sermon :** “Words that Hurt. Words that Heal”

**An Affirmation of Our Faith: The Apostle’s Creed** No. 882

**\* Closing Hymn:** “Let There Be Peace on Earth” No. 431

**\* Pastoral Benediction :** “God Be With You Til We Meet Again”

**Postlude:**

**\* Please stand, as you are able**

*Musical lyrics reprinted using CCLI # 1083130*



**The Trinity Tribune**

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**Circle Meetings**

Sunday, September 20th

5:00 pm—Asbury Circle

**Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees will be meeting on Monday, September 21st at 6:00 pm at the home of Doris Berta.

**Choir Practice**

Choir Practice is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:00 pm.

**AARP**

AARP will be meeting on Monday, October 5th at 10:00 am. Everyone 50 years of age or older is welcome to attend

**September Meetings and Activities**

—Sunday, September 20, 2015

—5:00 pm—UMYF

—5:00 pm—Asbury Circle

—6:00 pm—Nominations Team

—7:00 pm—Administrative Board

—Monday, September 21, 2015

—6:00 pm—Board of Trustees at Doris Berta’s

—Wednesday, September 30, 2015

—8:00 am—Pop “n” Jesus—MECC

**UYMF Meeting**

The UYMF will be meeting today at 5:00 pm.

**Administrative Board**

The Administrative Board will be meeting tonight at 7:00 pm.

September 2015						
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			

UMYF meets Sunday nights at 5:00 pm for a meal and 5:30 pm for meeting.

Choir meets each Wednesday at 7:00 pm



**Financial Snapshot**

The Administrative Board thinks that it is important that we give you a weekly Financial Snapshot. Here are some figures to ponder:

**Current Balance Forward Trinity Maintenance:** .....\$726.22

**Money Given to General Fund**

**Budgeted Need to Date** .....\$113,444

**Actual Amount Given to Date** ..... \$110,824



“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); Barbara Polly; Debbie Cooper; Wilma Nein; Phyllis Gilley; Melody (Mellie) Gilley; Doris Berta; Sandra Rich; Dennis Qualls; Kathy Hirsch (Larry and Teddy Bland’s daughter)

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

Beth Hagan; Becky Clark; Helen Cochran; Mary Warner; Liz Ashley; Don Whittaker; T. R Davidson; Melanie Sturgill

**Non-Specific Prayers for:**

Brownie Polly; Dagni Spurlock; Virginia Sigmon; Geneva Allen; Jim Gates; Fred Vanbever; Jennie Shupe; Hope Meade; Matt Carroll; Jim Cooper; Melvin Carter; Kenny Spurlock’s mother; George Gose; Bill & Jean Hendrick; Peggy Bates; Marion Kocher; Bob Horne; Mary Burton

- 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.