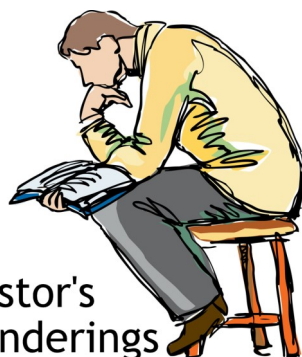


## Pastor Taking Some Vacation Time

I will be taking some vacation time. I will be leaving town early this morning with the boys. Debbie is still in Orlando. The week of Thanksgiving is a fall break for the Wise School system. So, I will be using that time to spend with family down in East Tennessee. In my absence today, please welcome the UVA Wise Wesley Foundation, under the direction of Beth Tipton, along with Rick Galyean and the Wise Guys who will be in charge of the worship service today. Betty Fleenor has also created a pre-Thanksgiving cornucopia for our altar. Special thanks goes to her for her efforts. I will be returning to town on Saturday November 29th. If something of an emergency nature occurs, please call me at (304) 960-4438.

## Pastor's Ponderings



## Get Ready for the Great Cookie Caper

This year the Great Cookie Caper will be on Sunday December 7, 2014. This event is our way of showing our appreciation to those that serve our community. We will be taking home made cookies to various groups, persons, and organizations. We need for you to make some cookies (last year we had about 3000 cookies) The minimum goal is 2 dozen cookies from each church member. We will also need (on Dec 7th) volunteers to fill cookie tins and plates immediately after the worship service. We will then need some volunteers to deliver the cookies on Monday December 8th. If you have any questions or if you will be willing to help, then please call Patty Robbins @ (276) 393-2916 or at (276) 523-1416

## It's Time to Get the Church Ready for Advent/Christmas

Next Sunday is the First Sunday in Advent. Between now and then, Nancy Toney will get our Advent Wreath in place for use next Sunday. However, we still need to decorate the church for the upcoming season. We will be doing that on Sunday afternoon November 30, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. Grab something to eat after church and change into some work clothes and then join with us at 2:00 p.m. to get things decorated. Let me stress that we need persons of all ages for this event. We also need men and women for this event. A lot of items have to be moved and unpacked and the more hands we have on deck the quicker that things will go. So plan on helping out next Sunday.

## Set Aside Time for the Cantata on Your Calendar

You need to set aside Sunday night December 14th on your calendar. At 7:00 p.m. on that night, Rick Galyean will lead the church choir and invited musicians in the performance of our cantata: "Darkness Into Light" The choir has been preparing now for several months and you are cordially invited to this evening performance. It is a great opportunity to invite your friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors to a special worship event at our church.

# Romans 12 Initiative

## Mission, Vision, and Action

Have you ever heard someone say something like "This is a waste of time! We wrote a mission statement ten years ago, and all we did was file it somewhere. We don't need a mission statement; we need to decide what we're going to do!" Exercises in writing mission statements will be pointless unless they represent how the people discern God's call in their lives and inform how the people will worship, learn, and serve together.

Memorial United Methodist Church in Gladstone, MI is an example of a congregation learning to live out their stated mission: We live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ. Leaders in the congregation have discovered that their challenge in embodying the mission is primarily one of interpretation: What does this mission really mean to us? What does it mean to participate in this mission?

Each area of the church's ministry is attempting to answer these questions by developing a vision statement that illustrates how the mission will "look" when it is lived out. For example, the team that plans for faith development envisions a "spirit-filled, joyful community of believers that is contagious to all." This team is committed to offering opportunities in faith development for all ages that will connect people's hearts to God and to one another.

To help people in the congregation understand the church's mission, the church started several small groups that used Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations to explore significant aspects of congregational life. Each group decided when, where, and how often they would meet. Discussion revolved around how the five practices relate to discipleship and how the practices are incorporated into the life of the congregation. The goal was to create a passion for living as disciples of Jesus Christ, thereby moving mission and vision statements from words on a page to action in people's life.

You can visit Memorial UMC online at [www.gladstone.org](http://www.gladstone.org) and on Facebook.

## Questions for Reflection:

- How would participants in your congregation describe your mission?
- In what ways does your congregation offer opportunities to explore the connections between mission, vision, and action in daily life?
- How does each ministry team use your mission and vision to plan and evaluate ministry throughout the year?

Carol Krau is the Director, Christian Formation and Discipling Ministries at GBOD. She can be reached at [ckrau@gbod.org](mailto:ckrau@gbod.org).

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## The Trinity Companion Sunday November 23, 2014

"YOU ARE THE  
MESSIAH,  
THE SON OF THE  
LIVING GOD."

MATTHEW 16:16, NRSV



## 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

Office: (276) 523-0789

Text Only : (760) 621-8264

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...** Advent is coming, it would be nice if we could get sponsors so that we could offer color during the Advent Season.



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!

**Announcements**

**Welcome and Introduction-Beth Tipton**

**Call to Worship:** “Down to the River to Pray”—*The Wise Guys*

**Opening Hymn:** “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” No. 694

**Litany: We Belong To God** (by Steve Garnaas-Holmes)—*Scott Berthold*

**We belong to God**

Eternal and infinite, Creator of all things and all that is to come.

**We follow Christ,**

Who comes to us from God, and reveals God to us.

He heals people and transforms lives, and calls us to join in his ministry.

He was crucified, died, and was raised again by God,

and reigns over all Creation;

and he bids us to die and rise with him in the service of the healing of the world.

**We are moved by the Holy Spirit,**

Together with the communion of saints,

As members of the Body of Christ, God’s holy universal church.

**We are confident in the forgiveness of sin,**

The power of resurrection and the reality of eternal life.

In all things it is our desire to follow Christ,

By the grace of the Holy Spirit, for God’s glory.

Amen.

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

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

**Lord’s Prayer**

as found at No. 895

**Children’s Message-Casey Page**

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

\* The Doxology

No. 95

**Musical Offering:** “Amazing Grace”—*The Wise Guys*

**Hymn:** “Crown Him With Many Crowns”—*Ryan Gibson*

**The Presentation of God’s Word**

**Scripture: Matthew 16:13-17:8**

**Sermon :** “Follow Me”—*Evan Clark*

**Hymn:** “We Gather Together”—*Ryan Gibson*

**Closing Hymn:** “We’ll Understand it Better By and By” No. 525

**Pastoral Benediction :** *Beth Tipton*

**Postlude:** *The Wise Guys*

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

*Musical lyrics reprinted using CCLI # 1083130*



**The Trinity Tribune**

A Publication of Trinity United Methodist Church  
Volume 3 No. 44 Sunday November 23, 2014

**Prayer Circle**

The Prayer Circle will be meeting on Wednesday November 19th at 6:00 pm.

**United Methodist Youth Meeting**

The UMYF will not be meeting on Sunday November 23rd. Also, the youth are encouraged to help with the church decoration next Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

**Church Office Closings**

The Church Office will be closed on November 27th and 28th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**Sunday School**

Each week, Sunday School for adults and children begins at 10:00 am. For more information, contact the church office.

**Holston Home for Children**

Carter came to Holston Home after spending three days wide awake and unable to rest. Highly addicted to drugs and cut off from his family, he had little hope that life could ever change for him. During his first bible study here at Holston, Carter found peace in a way he never thought he would. During an emotional conversation with Mr. Abel, our campus minister, Carter rededicated his life to Jesus. Since that day, he has been baptized and is learning to walk with the Lord on a daily basis. “I just can’t wait to show everyone how I have changed,” says Carter. Join us in celebrating Carter’s new life with Christ. With your offering this 5th Sunday, we can give many other children, like Carter, the hope that comes from knowing Jesus.

**Special Thanks to Betty Fleenor**

A special thanks goes out to Betty Fleenor for the cornucopia in the Sanctuary. She did a beautiful job.

**Decorating the Church for Christmas**

The decorating of the Church for Christmas is scheduled for November 30th at 2:00 pm. If you would like to help, please come by the Church on November 30th.

**AARP**

AARP will be holding their monthly meeting here at the church on December 1st at 10:00 am. Everyone 50 years of age or old is invited to attend.

**Fellowship Supper**

The next Fellowship Supper is scheduled for Wednesday December 3rd at 6:30 pm. Please bring a covered dish and join us for some great fellowship.

**Circle Meetings**

December 4th

10:00 am-Susanna Wesley Circle

Noon-Wesleyan Circle



**Financial Snapshot**

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

**Total Received Maintenance: .....\$ 14,831**

**Maintenance Goal: .....\$ 18,000**

**Money Given to General Fund**

**Budgeted Need to Date .....\$ 149,048**

**Actual Amount Given to Date .....\$ 137,145**



The process of becoming a disciple can be broken down into the following steps.

1.) It all begins when we are born anew in Christ. We move from being dead in spirit to being alive in spirit because of our faith in Christ. At this stage we are an infant learning to do the things that our new life entails.

2.) The next step represents the Childhood of our Christian faith. We begin growing closer to God, to fellow Christians and begin looking for God’s purpose in our life.

3.) The next step can be thought of as Young Adulthood. During this phase of our Faith life, we begin to get involved in the ministries of the church and begin reaching out to others.

4.) The next step could be called Christian Parenting. We have grown in our faith so that now, we seek to share our faith and introduce others to Christ. We seek to multiply and increase the Kingdom. We are able to explain and lead someone else through the Discipleship process to the point that he or she can be considered a Christian Parent as they learn to multiply the Kingdom through sharing their faith with others.

It’s important to realize that you are at one of the stages and physical age does not determine the stage at which you can be found. I hope that it 2015 I will find a way to help each person find the stage of faith they are in and help them grow to the next.



**For Those with Cancer:**

James Horne, Mary L. Horne; Emma Large; Alex Hall; Marcia Quesenberry; Robin (Rita Nash’s Daughter; Marilyn Gates; Earl Covey; Barbara Polly; Johnny Cubine; Debbie Cooper; Wilma Nein

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

Beth Hagan; Becky Clark; Helen Cochran; Kimberly Clifton; Sandy Wright; Bill & Juanita Maiuri; Dean Bieber; Jewel Carter; Ruth Perry; Sherry Egan

**Non-Specific Prayers for:**

Brownie Polly; Dagni Spurlock; Virginia Sigmon; Geneva Allen; Jim Gates; Fred Vanbever; Jennie Shupe; Hope Meade; Susan Curran; Matt Carroll, Jim Cooper; Judy Cole; Sandra Rich; Melvin Carter; Kenny Spurlock’s mother

- 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. The names that appear on the Prayer List for more than two weeks will be deleted unless you request them to remain on the list

If you would like to send a card to Beth Hagan, you may send them in c/o Robin Hagan, 2 Early Ave, Round Hill, VA 20141. No flowers please.