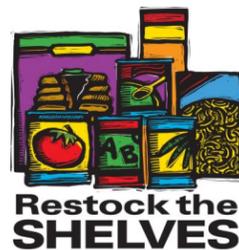




## The Trinity Tribune

A Publication of Trinity United Methodist Church  
Volume 6 No. 51, Sunday December 17, 2017

Don't forget that each month we are going to Restock the Shelves for the Union Primary School Backpack Program with a specific kind of food. For the month of December, the food item is **individual servings of breakfast cereal**. You can purchase them as individual cups or in the 6-8 pack of small boxes that will then be taken apart and placed in the backpacks. We collected 176 cans of soup during November. **Our food for January is going to be pop-tart breakfast pastries.**



### Sharing the Reason for the Season

The United Methodist District Office's Mission Trailer will be set up on Friday December 22 at the **Visitor's Center** from 10 am to 3 pm to give away donated items to families in need during the Christmas Season. If you have items you would like to donate or if you would like to join them to help, please contact Dennis Ashley or the church office. The Missions Trailer currently has lots of clothing and some toys. We would also like to offer hot food during this event. If you would like to bring a crockpot of soup, or cookies, or anything else, please let Dennis or the church office know as soon as possible. This is sure to be a wonderful event and will touch many people's lives during this holiday season. We look forward to seeing many familiar faces to help.

### Pastor and Family Going on Vacation

As soon as the service ends on Christmas Eve, the Goodman's will be heading to Tennessee and bright and early on Christmas morn, we, along with my mom, will be heading to the beach. We will be returning to Big Stone Gap late on New Year's Day.

### Christmas Eve Offering to Help Schools

As we have done the past couple of years, we will once again receive a special Christmas Eve offering. This offering will be used for ministries we have with the Union Primary, Union Middle and Union High Schools. This past week, we were able to give \$200 to the High School to help them put together 100 food bags that will be sent home with children over Christmas break. In addition, we were able to give \$700 to the middle school to help them with some supplies that are needed for children unable to supply them. The Lord is blessing us and we are being a blessing to others. This Christmas Eve offering will help us gain the funds that we need to continue helping the children in our local schools. Thank you in advance for your support of these critical outreach opportunities.

### Office Closed

The church office will be closed Thursday December 21 and Friday December 22.

### Upcoming Events and Dates

- Sunday December 17—5 pm—UMYF
- Sunday December 17—5 pm—Asbury Circle
- Monday December 18—6 pm—Garden Club
- Wednesday December 20—Caroling with the Choir
- Thursday December 21—Office Closed
- Friday December 22—Office Closed
- Sunday December 24—**NO UMYF**
- Sunday December 24—7 pm Candlelight Communion Service
- Monday December 25—Office Closed for Christmas

### Sermon Scriptures and Titles:

- Dec 24th — Sunday morning: Luke 1:46-55: "God Makes this World a Home" part 1
- Dec 24th — Christmas Eve: Luke 2:1-7: "God Makes this World a Home" part 2



### Christmas Ladders & Elves

It's not too late! The Christmas Ladders and Elves are still available. Jack Williams has done an exceptional job of creating these wonderful items. The ladders are \$20 each and the elves are \$5 each. All money raised will be used to help purchase food for the backpack program at Union Primary School.

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...

## The Trinity Companion Sunday December 17, 2017



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### 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

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# Sunday December 17, 2017

## Third Sunday of Advent

**Greeters:** Patty Robbins and Nancy Allman

**Announcements:** Bill Cole

**Call to Worship:** -Bill Cole

L: It is good.

**P: It is good.**

L: To be in the house of the Lord.

**P: To be in the house of the Lord.**

L: One more time.

**P: One more time.**

**Musical Prelude:**

**Lighting the Advent Wreath**

*Advent Liturgists: The Shupes*

**Hymn:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," stanza 6 No. 211

**"O Come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thy justice here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight."**

Liturgist: "The LORD has done great things for us, and we are overjoyed...Let those who plant with tears reap the harvest with joyful shouts." (*Psalms 126:3, 5*)

Liturgist: God of Joy, you enter the wilderness of our world and proclaim that there is a way to reach home again.

Liturgist: God of Joy, you break through clouds of despair and sorrow to bring good news to your people.

Liturgist: God of Joy, you send hope into the world in the form of a tiny baby.

**All: We, God's people, sing songs of joy with the prophet, "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God" (Isaiah 61:10)**

Liturgist: On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle, knowing that joy is our true home.

*Light two Purple Candles and the Pink Candle*

**All (sung): "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."**

**\*Opening Hymn:** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" No. 216

**A Time for Prayer...**

**Invitation to prayer...**

The Lord requires of us a pure offering, without blemish or spot. We must be right with God and our neighbor to offer ourselves or our gifts to God. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God and reconcile with our neighbors. Let us Pray...

**Act of Confessing:**

Pastor: We have grieved your Spirit by our sin.

**People: We have not been steadfast in prayer. We have failed to give thanks. We have quenched the Spirit.**

*SILENCE*

Pastor: We have ignored or despised the word of the prophets. We have not abstained from every form of evil.

**People: Forgive us, O God. Realign our wills with your. And fill us with your joy.**

*SILENCE*

**Pardoning and Peace**

Pastor: May the God of peace sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound now and to the day of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Your sins are forgiven.

**People: Your sins are forgiven.**

**ALL: Glory to God! Amen!**

*(We will stand now and greet one another in Christ's name. As the following hymn is sung, make your way back to your seats as we continue our time of prayer.)*

Gathering Song: "Gather Us In" stanzas 1,4 URWB—No. 54

Here in this place, new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away.

See in this space our fears and our dreamings,  
Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in the blind and the lame,

Call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
We shall arise at the sound of your name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
Not in some heaven, light years away,  
But here in this place the new light is shining,  
Now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
Gather us in all peoples together,  
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

**A Sharing of Our Joys, Concerns, and Thanksgivings**

*(Please raise your hand and an usher will come by with a microphone so that everyone will be able to hear your joy, concern or thanksgiving.)*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Gloria Patri**

*(as found at No. 895)*

No. 70

**Children's Message:**

Mary Beth Allen

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

**Ushers:** Phil Robbins, Spencer Quesenberry, Jack Williams, Ruben Allman

**Offertory:**

**\*The Doxology:** No. 95

**Special Music:** "Mary Did You Know" - David Goodman & Calli Shell

**The Presentation of God's Word**

**Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24** Andrew Holyfield

Leader: The Word of the Lord for the People of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon: "Joy is Our True Home"**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "Angels From the Realms of Glory" No. 220

**Pastoral Benediction**

**Choral Benediction:**

**Postlude**

**\* Indicates that you may stand, as you are able**

*CCLI #1083130*

