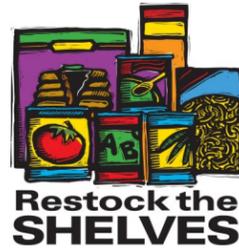




The Trinity Tribune

A Publication of Trinity United Methodist Church
Volume 6 No. 52, Sunday December 24, 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.*



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.

District's New Name

The votes are in and have been tallied..... We are now the Appalachian District! The Holston Conference Strategy Team learned the new names for the nine new districts Thursday in the Alcoa Center, days after each district completed a voting process. The new district titles are effective January 1, 2018. The new names and the change from 12 to nine districts are final in accordance with the Holston Annual Conference's vote to formally adopt the "Comprehensive Conference Strategy Plan" in June 2017.

Upcoming Events and Dates

- Sunday December 24—**NO UMYF**
- Sunday December 24—7 pm Candlelight Communion Service
- Monday December 25—Office Closed for Christmas
- Sunday December 31—**NO UMYF**



- Monday January 1— **Church Office Closed**
- Wednesday January 3—6:30 pm—Fellowship Supper
- Thursday January 4—10 am—Susanna Wesley Circle
- Thursday January 4—12 pm—Wesleyan Circle
- Thursday January 4—6:30 pm—N.O.W. Team Meeting
- Sunday January 7—5 pm—UMYF
- Monday January 8—6:30 pm—Methodist Men Meeting
- Sunday January 14—12 pm—Trustees Meeting
- Sunday January 14—5 pm—UMYF—Parents Meeting
- Sunday January 14—7 pm—Administrative Board Meeting
- Friday January 19—UMYF leave for Resurrection
- Sunday January 21—UMYF return from Resurrection

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... **Bill & Judy Cole & Andrew Holyfield**
Happy Holidays to all the members of the church

The Trinity Companion Sunday December 24, 2017



CHRISTMAS EVE

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

Sunday December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Greeters: Patty Robbins and Nancy Allman

Announcements: Bill Cole

Call to Worship: -Bill Cole

L: Greetings, Favored Ones! Do not be afraid. The Lord is with you.

P: **Holy Spirit, come upon us. Power of the Most High overshadow us.**

Musical Prelude:

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Advent Liturgists: Bill Cole & Andrew Holyfield

Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," stanza 7, No. 211

All: "O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples In one heart and mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife."

Liturgist: "Our souls magnify the Lord and our spirits rejoice in God for God has looked with favor on us, God's servants."

Liturgist: "God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly. God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty."

Liturgist: God of Justice, God of Peace, we open our hearts to you. Give us grace to be instruments of your righteousness.

Liturgist: Give us courage to turn away from distractions and distortions and turn toward the home you have made, are making, and will complete through Christ.

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, NRSV)

Liturgist: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the morning of Christmas Eve, we light this candle, turning with courage toward the One who makes a home among us.

Light all four Advent candles.

All: "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

***Opening Hymn:** "There's a Song in the Air" No. 249

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:

(Based on Luke 1:38, 51-55, NRSV)

We have refused your will, God Most High.

We have relied on our own strength.

We have made the powerful more powerful.

We have ignored or suppressed the lowly.

Silence

We have blessed the people who can support themselves, and left hungry people to starve.

We have celebrated wealthy people,

and sent poor, sick, and outcast people to early graves.

Silence

Give us Gabriel's words, "Fear not," and Mary's courage to sing and live them.

Have mercy upon us.

Overthrow our sin with your strong arm.

Cast out our fear.

Silence

Pardoning and Peace

Pastor: According to the promise made to us in Christ Jesus, the Mighty One remembers mercy when we confess our sin.

You are forgiven. Take courage!

You are forgiven. Take courage!

All: Glory to God! Amen.

At peace with God, let us now offer the peace of Christ to one another.

(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

(as found at No. 895)

Gloria Patri

No. 70

Children's Message:

Nancy Toney

The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

Offertory:

***The Doxology:**

No. 95

The Presentation of God's Word

Scripture: Luke 1:46-55

Diane Botts

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

People: Thanks be to God

Sermon: "God Makes This World Our Home"

***Closing Hymn: "Hallelujah" - (see insert)**

Pastoral Benediction

Choral Benediction

Postlude

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

CCLI #1083130

