



TRINITY TIMES

WORSHIP AT TRINITY:
SUNDAY MORNINGS
9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Traditional Worship
in Fellowship Hall
11 a.m.
Crossroads Contemporary
Worship in Fellowship Hall
SUNDAY EVENINGS
8 p.m.
The Well in the Chapel

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 04

APRIL 2008

Rev. Philip Brooks
Senior Minister
pbrooks@rrohio.com

Rev. Colleen Ogle
Associate Minister
cogle@rrohio.com

Rev. Amy Barlak Aspey
Minister of Small
Groups & Missions
aaspey@rrohio.com

Dr. Carolyn Leick
Director of Christian
Education
cleick@rrohio.com

Heather Perry
Director of Youth and
Young Adult Ministries
hperry@rrcol.com

Gary Brand
Director of Older
Adult Ministries
gbrand@rrohio.com

Richard Schnipke
Director of Music
rlschnip@aol.com

Katie Widing
Crossroads Praise
and Worship Leader
kjokiniemi@yahoo.com

Josh Freshour
Worship Leader for
The Well
josh@wellspring.com

Church E-Mail
triumc@rrcol.com

Church Website
www.trinityumchurch.com



Unforeseen *by Reverend Philip Brooks*

My membership in the Amateur Prognosticators Association was unceremoniously revoked March 9 caused by Ohio's worst blizzard in recorded history that dumped record snows

on central Ohio. Each Friday morning we transmit hundreds of emails giving a brief preview of the coming Sunday services including sermon title and text. When I wrote the email for March 9 two days earlier on Friday before daybreak, the ground was bare and no snowflakes had fallen. Forecasts indicated the snow would be heavy but manageable and would stop Saturday afternoon. Based on that information, I confidently emailed that "Our Sunday schedule will occur this weekend regardless of weather."

By Saturday afternoon, however, when the hired snow shoveling company gave up and went home after unsuccessfully trying to keep the church sidewalks clean, it became clear my forecast for Sunday services was wrong. So, for the first time in my 40 years of ministry, we had to cancel Sunday services for safety's sake. Since everyone was snowed in, we couldn't even get to the church to send an email refuting the announcement of the previous morning. My family and I managed to dig out by Sunday morning and we attended a service near our home on Sunday. Very few people were there. My apologies to anyone who did not see the notices on TV that Trinity UMC was canceling services on March 9.

This episode reminded me of a sign once seen outside a civic hall: "The meeting of the Society of Clairvoyants has been postponed - due to unforeseen circumstances." Indeed, peering into the future is fraught with hazards because, simply put, we never know what will happen. We may think we know, but we don't. The unforeseen has a way of popping up at inconvenient times and places to change our well laid plans.

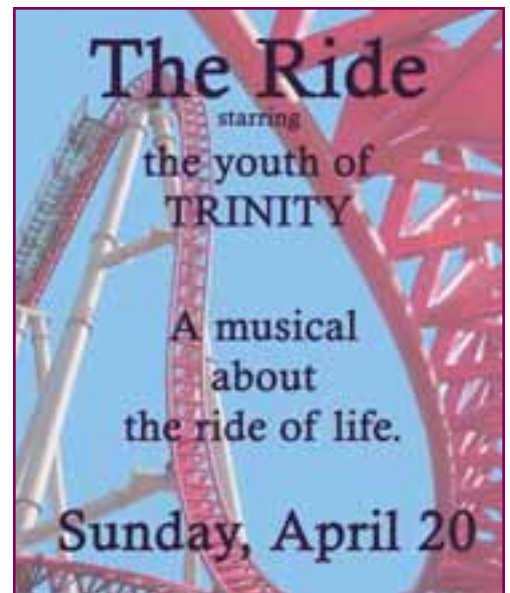
What does the future hold? I really don't know. But, and this is the key point, I know Who holds the future and with that assurance we move forward in confidence and joy. A beautiful hymn contains this refrain:

Many things about tomorrow I don't
seem to understand;

But I know Who holds tomorrow
and I know Who holds my hand.

Amid "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," encountering unforeseen victories or disappointments, in good times or difficult, when whatever confronts us, we face the unforeseen in assurance and hope because we know that in all things God will see us through.

My crystal ball is still in the shop, my membership in the A.P.A. is forever cancelled, and I have no idea what's going to happen next. Except, whatever it is, I do know that God's peace, presence, and power will give us strength to face and overcome whatever the unforeseen future brings. That's all I need to "keep on keeping on."





christian education

Dr. Carolyn Leick
Director of Christian Education
cleick@rrcol.com

Adult Sunday School Spring Offerings

March 30 - June 1

Kids as Teachers

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

Luke 10:36

Sometimes I marvel at the lessons I keep learning again and again, the very same lessons I learned as a child, long, long ago. "Good grief, Carolyn! You'd think you'd know that by now!" I silently lament, blaming myself for not having figured it all out as a mature adult. But somehow situations are different. People are different. Personalities are different, and I continue to learn, learn, learn what seems on the surface to be the simplest of concepts but what is sometimes the most difficult to carry out. And, of course, just as the king in that wonderful Rogers and Hammerstein musical, "The King and I," tells the beautiful young school teacher, "By your pupils you'll be taught!"

Mac was snubbed. Mac was ostracized. Mac was scorned. Mac was left alone. I was feeling his pain day after day as I, his first grade teacher, witnessed kids on the playground excluding Mac from their play, embarrassed to be seen in his presence. I'd made sure that Mac was seated in groups of children I thought would show kindness. I'd chosen Mac to lead activities. I'd praised his accomplishments. I'd used his work as examples for others to admire. But Mac remained the class outsider, for Mac was different in many ways.

The day John ran to Mac's rescue is burned into my consciousness as if it were yesterday, yet it happened over thirty years ago. Mac had fallen. His hand was badly cut. His forehead was ragged with scrapes crusted with mud, damp with streams of blood and streams of tears. John helped him up. John comforted Mac. John walked with him, arm around his shoulder as we escorted him to safety and to help. John remained with Mac throughout the day, never leaving his side until the school day ended and all were dispersed to homes and families. John had a new friend, and, remembering Mac and John, I continue to be taught.

"Go and do likewise."

Luke 10:37

Learning about Prayer through the Book of Psalms

Janet and Brad Goodwin
Chapelside Parlor

Psalms are prayers written in poetic format. There are psalms that celebrate creation, psalms of thanksgiving, and many, many others. In this class we will examine the different types of psalms and look at the lessons they can teach us about how to pray and be in relationship with God. Many psalms are also the basis for some of the great hymns of our Christian traditions. Informal hymn sings will be included as appropriate.

Land, God and Neighbor in the Old Testament

Rev. Colleen Ogle and Frank Himes
Fellowship Parlor

Rev. Ogle will give an overview of the story of the Israelite people from Abraham, Moses, David, and the Exile/Reconstruction. Dr. Himes, PhD in soil agronomy, with help from Daniel Hillel's "The Natural History of the Bible" and Bruce Feiler's "Walking the Bible" will show how, as the Israelites moved from one ecological region to another, their views of creation and the Creator, their conception of humanity's role on Earth and their ethics were modified. Rev. Ogle will lead study of specific scriptures that highlight the development of Israel's relationship with God and neighbor. The class will discuss how where we live alters our views of creation, and who is our neighbor.

"UnChristian?" What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity and Why It Matters

Dr. Carolyn Leick, Rev. Amy Aspey, and Dr. Josh Frazier
Chapel

According to a major new research project by the Barna Group, Christianity has a negative reputation among many young Americans who see Christians, not for what they are for, but for what they are against. Seen as judgmental and too political, Christians are viewed by this group as no longer as Jesus intended them to be, describing most Christians as "unChristian." Paul's advice to the first believers to "live wisely among those who are not Christians" and to "let your conversation be gracious and effective" will be a major part of the class discussion.

The Book of Job

Patrick Moore
Room 207

Few works of literature of faith address human suffering and divine nature as directly as does the Book of Job. The class will read and discuss Job, looking for understanding and mystery, consolation and challenge.

In His Word

Matt Hamilton, Chris Spielman, Geoff Eubank, Geoff Arthur, Michael Doran
Room 208

Join us for an on-going weekly Bible Study. Currently we are examining the Book of Romans and related Old and New Testament scriptures. Join us intermittently or regularly; you won't be behind.

Power Lab
Vacation Bible School
July 14 - 18, 2008
9:00 to noon



Come have a BLAST discovering Jesus' miraculous power at Power Lab - an energizing 2008 Vacation Bible School! Your lab crew will enjoy five days of mind-blowing Bible adventures, incredible music, wacky snacks, amazing crafts, hyperspeed games, science cinema and an inspiring mission outreach. Encounter the power of God's word through science-themed activities - A-HA!

Due to the church's renovation project, space will be limited at VBS this year. As such, registration is open to families that attend Trinity from now until May 15th, at which time registration will be open to the entire community. Pick-up your registration and medical form at the church or after May 15th you can download it at www.trinityumchurch.com. Until May 15th, early registration will be \$20 for the first child and \$15 for siblings. After May 15th, all registrations are \$25.

We are also looking for adults and teen volunteers to assist with planning, preparation and daily activities. Contact co-directors, Pamela Pace (562-5600) or Martha Field (294-2967), to find out ways you can plug-in to help. This exploding adventure is only possible with lots of lab personnel.

Trinity's 3rd Annual Chili Challenge



Thanks to all who came out for the Hospitality Committee's Chili Challenge on Feb. 24. Over 180 came out to warm up and judge lots of delicious chili. Attendees got to sample every kind from really spicy to white chicken chili. Kids had fun across the hall eating hot dogs and decorating cookies. Congratulations to team C.H.R.I.S.T. (Chili Has Real Intense Southwest Taste) for taking home the top prize. Thanks to all of the teams that participated!

trinity youth

Heather Perry
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries
hperry@rrcol.com

League Champions!



Trinity's High School Basketball Team won the league championship. Pictured in the back row are Coach Andrew Tweddle, Chase Pitman, Ryan Denehy, Zach Steen, Olivia Armstrong, Allie Fitz, Elizabeth Narwicz, Michelle Kullberg and Hunter West. In the front row are Jameson Lowery, Cooper Dennis and Emily Fitz.

COMING EVENTS

- April 6 JAM and Pathfinders - 7-8 pm
- April 10 Service Hours Opportunity, TUMPS Pancake Dinner and Silent Auction- 5-7 PM, We need students to help monitor the "Bounce House"
- April 13 MS Small Groups, 6:30-8:00 PM
- April 20 "The Ride" Youth Musical
- April 24 Service Hours opportunity -babysitting for "Cuisine for a Cause" sponsored by Dinner Clusters- 5:00-8:30 pm
- April 27 Polaroid Scavenger Hunt - 6-8:30
- June 22-28 High School Mission Trip to Queens, NY
- July 7-11 Middle School Mission Week

opportunities

Doing Well by Doing Good
 Sponsored by Trinity Foundation
 Wednesday, April 30, 2008
 7 p.m.

Willie Grove, Chair of the Trinity Foundation, and attorney Clark Pritchett, Foundation member, invite you to come for an informal "Kitchen Table Discussion" about planning opportunities and the benefits you may derive from charitable planning and estate issues.

Saturday April 19, 2008
 6:00 - 10:00 P.M.
BLUEGRASS MUSIC
 A CONCERT TO BENEFIT
 NEW LIFE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S HOMELESS AND
 POVERTY STRICKEN NEIGHBORS MINISTRIES
SCHEDULED TO PERFORM:



The Hart Brothers
 Hosted by:
K 95.5 FM "The Hawk's"
Miss Lisa

WHERE:
 New Life United Methodist Church
 25 West 5th Avenue
 In the Short North area of Columbus, Ohio
 Music starts at 6:00 Concessions available at 5:30

This event is FREE!!!
 Admission will be granted with any donation.
 Packages of new socks and new underwear will also be accepted.

Trinity Times is a monthly newsletter published for members of Trinity United Methodist Church. Subscriptions are available for \$15 per year for non-members. Make checks payable to Trinity UMC and designate Trinity Times on the memo line.

The deadline to submit information for the May issue is Tuesday, April 8. Please place your information or photos in the *Trinity Times* box in the church office or email to beckywest22@aol.com.

Weekly meetings:	Sunday	Monday
<p>WORSHIP SERVICES</p> <p>Sunday Mornings</p> <p>9 & 11 a.m. Sanctuary</p> <p>Traditional Worship</p> <p>11 a.m. Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Crossroads Contemporary Worship</p> <p>Sunday Evenings</p> <p>8 p.m. Chapel The Well</p> <p>HOLY COMMUNION</p> <p>is offered on the first Sunday of every month during all worship services.</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL</p> <p>10 a.m. for Adults and Children please see p. 2 for a list of adult classes</p>	<p>Weekly Meetings in April</p> <p>Jump into spring! Aerobics at Trinity</p> <p>March 25 - May 15 Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:45 p.m. in the Undercroft 8-week class, \$64 or \$5 for drop ins</p> <p>6 Business Apparel Drop-Off 8:30 am -12:30 pm in Rm 001</p> <p>7 pm Stephen Training; Room 221</p> <p>13</p> <p>10 am Confirmation Parents Meeting; Fellowship Parlor 3 pm Delta Omicron with Willie Grove - all welcome; Sanctuary</p> <p>20 <i>The Ride</i> Youth Musical 9 & 11 a.m. 9:50 am Blood Pressure Screening; Library 7 pm Stephen Training; Room 221</p> <p>27</p> <p>9:50 am Blood Pressure Screening; Library 7 pm Stephen Training; Room 221</p>	<p>7 9:15 am Women's Bible Study; Chapelside Parlor</p> <p>14 9:30 am Wee Moms; Fellowship Parlor</p> <p>21 9:15 am Women's Bible Study; Chapelside Parlor</p> <p>28 9:30 am Wee Moms; Fellowship Parlor</p>

April 2008

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6:30 am Men's Small Group; Fellowship Parlor</p> <p>12:30-2:30 p.m. Trinity's Tuesday Team @ New Life Clothing Store</p> <p>4:45 pm Aerobics; Undercroft</p> <p>7 pm Troop 261; Room 011</p>	<p>9 am WOLW; Fellowship Hall</p> <p>6:45 pm WOLW; Room 207</p>	<p>4:45 pm Aerobics; Undercroft</p> <p>6 pm Carillon Bells; Room 201</p> <p>6:45 pm Chancel Bells; Room201</p> <p>7 pm Young Professionals Group @ VanderDoes</p> <p>8 pm Chancel Choir; Room 204</p>	<p>9:30 am Ladies Bible Study; Room 207</p>	
<p>1</p> <p>7pm Lenten Study; Chapel</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Business Apparel Drop-Off 11-1 & 4-6 in Rm 001</p> <p>5 pm AA Anniversary Gathering; Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>8</p> <p>6:30 pm Children/Family Council</p> <p>7 pm Meeting Night for Committees & Councils</p> <p>Trinity Times Deadline</p>	<p>9</p> <p>2 pm Ecumenical Outreach; Chapelside Parlor</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:30 am Prayers & Squares Quilting; Room 001</p> <p>5 pm TUMPS Pancake Dinner; Fellowship Hall</p> <p>7 pm Caring Card Ministry; Room 001</p> <p>7 pm Stephen Ministries; Rm. 221</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>15</p> <p>6:15 pm Pizza Making for Friends of the Homeless; Fellowship Kitchen</p> <p>7pm Foundation Meeting; Room 117</p> <p>7 pm Mary Martha Circle; Chapelside Parlor</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5 pm YWCA Family Center Hosting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:15 am Lois-Priscilla Circle; Chapelside Parlor</p> <p>1 pm Leah Circle; Chapelside Parlor</p> <p>7 pm Stephen Ministries; Rm. 221</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8 am United Methodist Men Breakfast Meeting; Fellowship Parlor</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:30 am Prayers & Squares Quilting; Room 001</p> <p>6 pm Cuisine for a Cause</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7 pm Trinity Foundation Seminar</p>			

Rev. Amy Aspey

Director of Small Groups and Missions
aaspey@rrcol.com

Shoppers Alert ... Garage Sale Gala

On Saturday May 10, there will be a Garage Sale Gala from 8:30 a.m. to noon at 2755 Donna Dr., Columbus 43220.

This sale will have both fashionable and functional pieces. Already donated are exceptional 'new' women's designer clothes and jeans, sizes 2-10, shoes 7-7 1/2 from an earlier estate sale.

We NEED your 'almost new' small electrical appliances, costume jewelry, tools, home & garden equipment, art, flower arrangements, soft goods, toys, small pieces of furniture and collectibles.

If you would like to donate items please contact us to discuss drop off/pick up arrangements. Your support is requested and we are accepting volunteers to help sale day. Proceeds will benefit Trinity's mission partnership with the Casa de Misericordia (House of Mercy), an orphanage in Mexico.

For more information, please contact Betsey Grover 451-6292 or Nancy Monahan 761-0022.

New Life Covenant Committee Organized

In February, the organizational meeting of the New Life Covenant Committee was held. Lisa Williams will serve as chair. Additional members are: Cathy Brady, George Coles, Suzanne Gray, Anne Lawyer, Rosalee Moore, Earl Newberg, Judy Newberg, Pam Powell, Don Vorce, Rev. Amy Aspey and Vickie Moseley.

The committee is charged with the responsibility of strengthening the partnership of Trinity and New Life UMC through communication, hospitality, fellowship and service. The committee is to be intentional in promoting shared participation in activities and events of each church to develop and enrich relationships between the congregations.

The next meeting will be held on May 22, 12:15 at New Life UMC.



Cuisine for a Cause

April 24

6-8 p.m.

Eat and Bid to support the Trinity Bed at Grace Children's Hospital

You are invited to attend "Cuisine for a Cause" - Hors d'oeuvres and Silent Auction on Thursday, April 24th, 6:00-8pm. The Cuisine for a Cause logo is a gift box,

because through eating together and buying gifts from the silent auction we will be giving a gift to Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti. All proceeds from this event will be used to support the Trinity Bed at Grace. Grace Children's Hospital is recognized as Haiti's leading medical facility dedicated to the treatment of children with TB and with HIV/AIDS. This is a wonderful way to love our neighbor!

"Cuisine for a Cause" will take place in Fellowship Hall (Dinner) and the Atrium (Silent Auction). There will be delicious hors d'oeuvres to enjoy while you place your bid on a variety of silent auction items. Just a few items are: lunch with Rev. Brooks, children's artwork, a "Taste of Grandview" basket, a beautiful lamp from Ethan Allen and many more!

The event is not only for adults! There will also be a FREE children's party (Kindergarten-5th grade) in Room 001 so that the children are able to join in the fun of helping their friends in Haiti.

Ticket prices for adults are \$20 each. Free nursery care will also be provided for our youngest friends. Please RSVP (children included) on Sunday March 30, April 6, or April 13 at the registration table in the Atrium.

Also, if you would like to make a donation to the silent auction, please do so by April 13th. For more information or to deliver your gift please contact Jenny Shrodes, 1535 Doone Rd, 487-0269, jshrodes@gmail.com; Dawn Lewis 1866 Chatfield Rd, 488-9224, lewisetc@columbus.rr.com or Rev. Amy Aspey, aaspey@rrhio.com, 488-0695.

Doctors Needed for New Life UMC Health Care Ministry

New Life UMC, our sister church, is thrilled that their Health Care Ministry is up and moving! In addition to meaningful worship on Sunday mornings, our neighbors also have the opportunity to shop for clothes, enjoy a hot breakfast, and receive health care. New Life offers a holistic approach to health care, as each person is greeted, sees a nurse, doctor, and prayer minister. Currently, they need more doctors to help sustain and grow this program! If you are willing to offer your vocation as a means for serving our neighbors or are interested in this health ministry in any way, please contact Rev. Jennifer Kimball-Casto at 614-294-0134 or nwlifeumc1@att.net

Pastor Jennifer has been dreaming about offering health care to our neighbors for years. This year, New Life received a \$30,000 grant from the Board of Community and Congregational Development, which will be used to transform the parsonage into the New Life Health and Wellness Center, to be dedicated on Sunday, May 4th. How wonderful that we are able to be part of this dream!

Celebrating Trinity Stewards

7

The Stewardship Committee invites us to celebrate the efforts of the members of our church family who contribute their time and talents to support the ministries of the Church. If you would like to nominate someone for his or her stewardship contributions, please contact Jim Houk (jhouk@bird-houk.com, or 764-1122.) Seth Metcalf wrote the following tribute.

Lucille Anderson

This month, we recognize the stewardship contributions of Trinity member Lucille Anderson. Lucille is a quilter and has been an active member since Trinity's cornerstone was laid in 1951. Lucille serves as the twinkling-blue-eyed artistic director for Trinity's Prayers and Squares group, which fashions beautiful prayer quilts for Trinity members facing serious health challenges. Each prayer quilt is blessed during a Trinity worship service and completed by members of the congregation, who pray for the quilt's recipients while knotting the remaining threads.



At a spry 94-years-young, Lucille channels her God-given creative talents to design prayer quilts, each one unique and beautiful. People treasure receiving the spiritual comfort of a prayer quilt; and the quilts bless caregivers, friends who visit, and family members as well. The prayer quilt ministry is full of touching, heart-warming stories. One woman found her prayer quilt so meaningful that when her sister became very ill, she took her own prayer quilt to share. Trinity's Prayers and Squares has quilted over sixty quilts in the three short years since the group's inception. A prayer quilt is a labor of love that serves as a tangible reminder to each recipient that he or she is a part of Trinity's community and a beloved child of God. On these quilts, a prayer is tied in with every knot.

Lucille imparts her 28 years of quilting experience to new generations as a mentor to Prayers and Squares quilters. Lucille is a perfectionist master quilter whose quilts have received awards and acclaim from many organizations, including the National Quilting Association. Lucille is also active in other quilting groups, such as the Applique Society. Applique is a needlework technique in which pieces of fabric, embroidery, or other materials are sewn onto a bottom piece of fabric to create designs. An exquisite example of Lucille's mastery of applique is the Century Quilt displayed in Trinity's ground-floor hallway. The Century Quilt presents Trinity's history and rich Christian symbolism and models the versatility of quilting as a medium for artistic expression, love, and Christian ministry. Kathy Koblentz quilts with Lucille in Prayers and Squares and views Lucille's vivacious love of life and quilting as "an inspiration to our group."

Lucille serves the Lord and community in many ways. She served as executive secretary to Bishop Werner of the West Ohio Conference of the UMC and to Superintendents Heishman and Dr. Mincy of the Upper Arlington City Schools. Lucille's husband Hank, who joined the Lord in 2000, was an executive at Nationwide Insurance. Lucille's two children, five grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren live in Ohio and her daughter, Carol, is active with Prayers and Squares. Lucille resides in the Westminster-Thurber Community and also employs her talents as a member of the Altar Guild. Lucille's active lifestyle as a nonagenarian and tireless dedication to God, Trinity and the community are inspirational. Further, Lucille is showing no signs of slowing down. God speed and thank you, Lucille!

Thanks for Sharing the Love

by Marcia Emerson

Valentine's Day is all about love, and wow, did Trinity show their love! My Sunday school teacher friends, headed by Donna Vorce, the Sunday school kids, and the Trinity congregation really came through with supporting the Gulf Coast with the creation and sale of Valentines.

Fellowship Parlor was an awesome site, filled with red, pink and white cards, handmade by the kids of Trinity. By the end of the morning there was over \$800 in sales! The Mission Council matched this amount so that \$1,850 in Home Depot cards was purchased, and then distributed to families rebuilding after Katrina.

My husband, Mark, Rosalee Moore, Randy Young, and myself represented Trinity on this Gulf Coast Relief Trip, along with three friends from Grandview. We were able to work on six homes, and that means that six families are much closer to living in a house instead of a FEMA trailer.



I was able to go with one family to Home Depot and use some of the funds to pick out light fixtures for their new house. This family has been living in two FEMA trailers for the last two and a half years, and needless to say, living quarters are tight. The smiles were priceless when we told them we were going shopping. I was able to start the "finish electrical work" on their house, and there should be light in their house as you read this!

Being a Kindergarten Sunday School teacher, this experience reminds me of a song many of us learned in Sunday School ... This Little Light of Mine based on Matthew 5:14:

"You are the light of the world - Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Thank you for spreading your light and your love to the Gulf Coast.

8

our church family

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Betty Chrissinger
Polly Corwin
Jeffrey Koontz
Mary Lewis

SYMPATHIES

Trinity sympathies are extended to Ron Biltz, Lea Anne and Roland Brooks and Families in the passing of wife and mother and Trinity member, Dorothy Biltz . . . and to Jane Campbell and Family in the passing of her husband and Trinity member, Gordon Campbell.

Did you know?

Stocks and bonds are an excellent means of making a gift to Trinity. You can be entitled to a Federal income tax deduction, if you give these securities to the church during your lifetime. Ask your professional advisor for assistance.

Stuckey Family: Putting People First

By Linda Bryan for the Trinity Foundation

The Stuckey Family's philanthropic giving goes to their core identity. "People come first. At home, work, or in the community, we think our highest value is in serving others," said Kent Stuckey, long time Trinity member.

Kent and Laura Stuckey and their eight year old son, Ridge, are in the process of making a planned gift of appreciated stock to the Trinity Foundation. It is a wise way to make a gift as appreciated securities have tax advantages. The church gets full value of the stock before tax, and the donor gets full value of the gift as a tax deduction.

Kent grew up "all over Ohio" including Westerville where his father served as Senior Minister to Church of the Master United Methodist and Chaplain to Otterbein College. Money was very tight in the early days. Two of his older siblings slept in drawers as babies with the beds made from clothing that lined the drawers. "I have great respect for my Mother and Father and the values they instilled in all of us," Kent said. They taught the family by example to serve others and put people first.

Kent recently sold his business where he served as Board Chairman and CEO of Internet Transaction Solutions which provided electronic payment services under the brand "PayMyBill". Previously, he served as a member of the CompuServe executive management team following the private practice of law at Bricker & Eckler. Laura is a career social worker now serving as a realtor with Real Living HER.

"We had the honor of teaching some classes at Trinity including one on faith and personal finance where we were impressed with the truth that we are stewards and not owners of property.

"The question that people often ask is where they should be investing their money-equities, bonds, real estate, keep it in cash? We try not to view it that way. Rather we try to invest in others-invest in people...people with dreams and goals, and help them realize those dreams.

"We aspire to do what we can to empower people--whether it is at work, in a charity, or within the church." The Trinity Foundation is all about helping our church community achieve its dreams and goals.

"Hopefully our careers merge with our core identity with no clear boundary between family, career, and philanthropy. Money is a by product of having the right team, the right value, and a shared vision. It's all about alignment. If you share a worthy goal, you will be more passionate, more efficient and more likely to succeed. That requires you put people first. Interestingly it seems that when you put people first, the rewards comes. When you put money first, the people go....."

When I asked Kent what use he wanted the Foundation to make of his gift he replied, "It is unrestricted and I want it to be applied where the leadership thinks it can best be used."

If you want to know more about how you can donate to the Trinity Foundation and invest in people and invest in their dreams and goals, contact Willie Grove, Trinity Foundation Chair, at william.grove@ubs.com or Rev. Philip Brooks at 488-0695.

Trinity Foundation - the right value, the right vision, and the right community.

TRINITY

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1581 CAMBRIDGE BOULEVARD COLUMBUS, OHIO 43212-2714

Non Profit
Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
Columbus, OH
Permit NO. 1122