## God's Love In Action

GLIA: the essential element, or glue, which connects the tissue found in the nerve centers of the body

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1201 Mohawk Drive, West Columbia, SC 29169

Pastor: Rev. Darlene L. KelleyOffice Manager: Jackie EitelMusic Director: Christopher A. McCroskey

Office Hours: 8:30 - 4:30 Monday-Thursday Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

The mission of Trinity United Methodist Church is to: **To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.** 

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 JULY 2024

 Website - trinityumcwc.org
 JULY 2024

Sunday, July 28

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, will be held on **Sunday, July 28.** Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and fellowship!

**Please Note:** The Ministry Team will meet immediately following Taste of Trinity.



Each month we highlight the birthdays of those who are turning 85 or older. Birthdays in July:

<u>July 1</u>

Marilyn Lloyd 1162 Gunter Circke West Columbia, SC 29169



Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you so much for your generous gift. Most of all thank you for your love and support during our years of ministry at Trinity. Trinity will always hold a special place in our hearts.

May God bless every one of you and the wonderful community that is Trinity.

Shalom,

John and Kay



Grieving with God Tuesday, July 9

All who are on the journey of grief are invited to join us each second Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Conference Room of the church. We are using the book "Good Grief" by Granger E. Westberg. Copies are available each session and in the church office. Retired Hospice and Palliative Care Chaplain from Richland Hospital, Jerry Fonte, facilitates discussion,



The Trinity Ladies Group **will not meet** in **July.** There **will** be an outing on **August 10**. The plan is to go to Laura's Tea Room in Ridgeway. Reservations are for 11:30 a.m. Contact Marie Stiles at (803) 463-9706 if you are interested in being added to the group email and text for notification.



Marie Stiles has provided new name tags. Please remember to wear the name tags so Pastor Darlene Kelley and her husband, Craig, can learn our names.

Also, please remember to keep them on during Time Together and Taste of Trinity. A basket will be provided for you to put them in as you leave.



With || Sympathy

WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to:

*Charlie and Ashton Rogers and family* on the death of his grandmother, *Dorothy Lee Hucks*, on Wednesday, June 19.

Lolly Petroff, Valerie Weaver and Keith Weaver and their families on the death of their mother, Jan Weaver, on Thursday, June 20.

Jan Weaver Pam Turner Jeanette Hornsby John & Patsy Zeigler Marty Johnson Ray & Gale Frady Jim & Marie Stiles Jo Ann Heiting Bonnie Ramsey Mary Kamoroff

## John's Jottings

## The Last One

This John's Jottings is the last for the GLIA. You are subjected to my rambling thoughts one last time. I hope that my writings have given some food for thought or at least some amusement.

I can hardly believe that I have been the pastor of Trinity for six years. These have been some very unusual years. These years were years of change and stress. The beginning of my ministry here was filled with hope. Attendance was increasing, and there was renewed energy.

Then COVID hit. Everything was suspended, including worship. Though unable to meet in person, we developed ways to worship together in spirit. We began electronic giving as a means for people to continue to give to the church. We recognized the need to upgrade our audiovisual capabilities so we could livestream services. Also, we have used this medium for Bible studies and other studies.

Though our in-person attendance remains about half the pre-COVID attendance, we have 10-20 views online each Sunday service. The studies have had 5-10 viewers. Streaming funerals online allowed family and friends who were unable to attend to participate. We may not know exactly how many, but we reached people through this medium.

Since COVID, we have not been able to have our big events, such as the Summer Splash and Fall Festival. Instead, we began moving to small group ministry. We began the T. a. G. group. Based on the Wesley Class Meeting, this group is for spiritual growth and transformation through mutual support and accountability. We also began a grief support group that meets every second Tuesday of the month at 11:00 AM. I hope these groups expand and more small groups are developed, as small group ministry is an effective and inexpensive way to reach new people.

We also recognized our organization was unwieldy and inhibited our ministry. Therefore, we reorganized with a twoteam approach instead of multiple committees. The administrative team serves all the administrative functions of the church, while the ministry team carries out the church's ministries. While we are adjusting, we should become more efficient in our ministries.

We have gone through a season of loss and grief. Many faithful members have died during these years. Many have lost family members who were not professing members but part of our church family. I do not dare to name them all because I will probably forget someone.

The past six years have been a time of joy. I cannot describe the elation I felt when the District Superintendent pulled out the Church Profile and I saw Trinity-West Columbia. After my experience in Laurens, coming to a place I knew well and loved was so healing. You do not know how much healing took place for Kay and me by being here.

I had the joy of baptizing Everly and Lyla Faye Branham. This was extra special because Kay and I taught Daphne in the nursery with Ashton. Of course, nothing can compare to baptizing Lizzie at the same fount where Ashton was baptized. Though it was the only one, joining Kelsey and Brandon as husband and wife was a great pleasure.

My biggest accomplishment was finally being ordained a full elder. Little did I know that when we joined Trinity in 1986, I would become an elder in the United Methodist Church while at Trinity. I could not have done this without your prayers and support. I thank you.

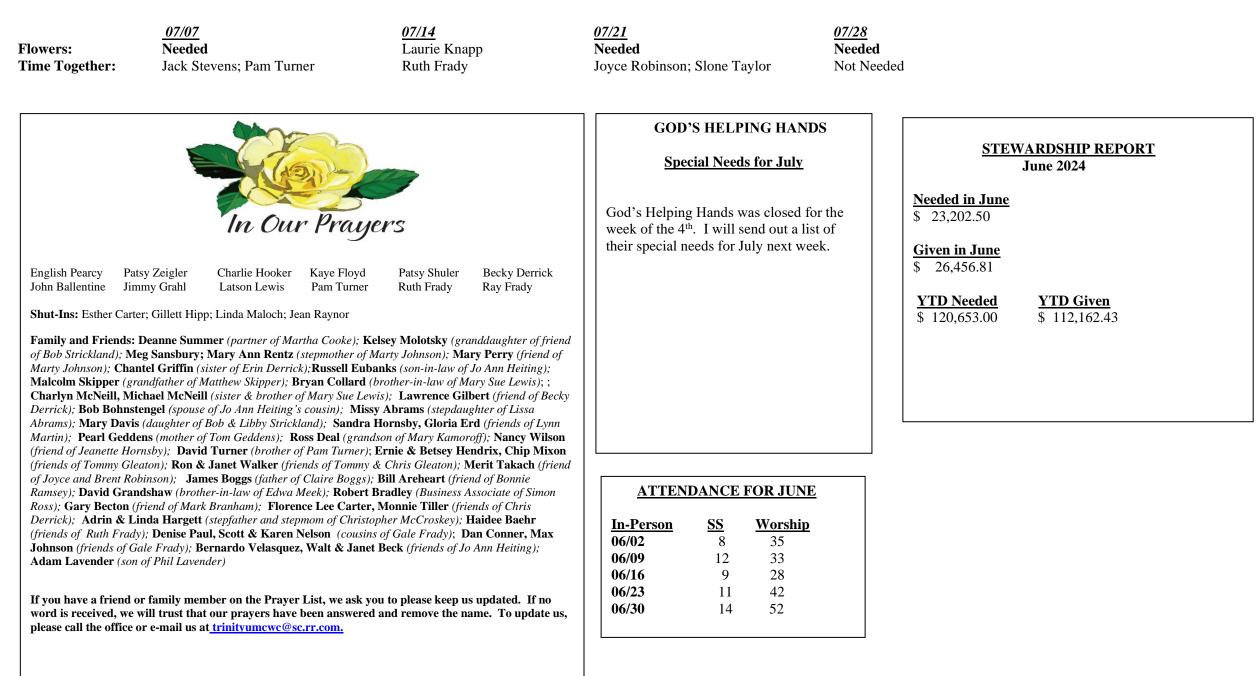
So many helped to make the past six years of fruitful ministry. My ministry here did not turn out as I anticipated in 2018, but it has been good. We had our differences of opinion. At times, I wondered if these differences were too great, but the love of the community overrode these differences. We remembered that it is more important to love alike, even if we do not think alike.

I thank every one of you for your support these six years. Keep being the faithful community. Support Darlene the way you have supported me and Trinity will thrive.

For the last time.

Shalom, John

## JULY 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			JULY			
	<b>1</b> Brandon Jones Marilyn Lloyd Exercise, 10:30 a.m.	2 Kathy White	3 K. C. Warble	4 * Independence Office Closed	<b>5</b> <i>Ruth Frady</i> Office Closed.	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m.	<b>8</b> Exercise, 10:30 a.m.	<b>9</b> <i>Mary Sue Lewis</i> Grieving with God, 11 a.m.	<b>10</b> Jo Ann Heiting Eric Robinson Choir, 6 p.m.	<b>11</b> Exercise, 10:30 a.m.	<b>12</b> Jeff Portwood Alex Prevuznak Debbie Whetstone Office Closed.	13 Alicia Morgan Libby Strickland
<b>14</b> Annie Day Lauren Kenner Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Birthday Celebration	<b>15</b> Exercise, 10:30 a.m.	16	17	<b>18</b> <i>Megan Corby</i> Exercise, 10:30 a.m.	<b>19</b> Office Closed.	20
<b>21</b> Susannah Valder Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m.	<b>22</b> Exercise, 10:30 a.m.	23 Brady Derrick GLIA Articles Due	24 Rhettt Hook	<b>25</b> Exercise 10:30 a.m.	<b>26</b> Office Closed.	27 Krystal Laughead
<b>28</b> Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Choir, 10:35 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Taste of Trinity following Worship Ministry Team following meal	<b>29</b> <i>Vince Gleaton</i> Exercise, 10:30 a.m.	<b>30</b> Kinsley Howard Steve White	31	@``` <b>`````````````````````````````````</b>		