

# TRINITY VOICE

Week of January 1, 2012

*“Changing Lives For Jesus Christ”*

*From David's Desk:*

Being Your Best

Recently I was looking for something in the credenza in my office. Most of the things I use on a regular basis are in my desk, my computer desk or a filing cabinet. Most of what stays in the credenza are those things that I don't use all that often. (This is sometimes called “junk”.) As I was looking, I saw two small bottles of grape juice.

Now you might wonder why there is grape juice in my credenza, but there is a good reason. Preachers are often called on to deliver the sacrament of Holy Communion to people. So at some point, I either bought, or someone gave me, two small bottles of grape juice. Normally that would be a good idea. Except that I deliver communion elements less often here than any place I've ever been. That is because we have a wonderful group of people who have felt called to take communion to shut-ins. So consequently, I haven't needed the grape juice.

To tell you the truth, I forgot it was there. Until I ran across it lately. I glanced at the date on the bottle. Please understand, technically speaking, there was no expiration date. So by the letter of the law, you can't say I kept it past the expiration date. It did have a date, but it did not say “expiration date”. It said... “best by...” and then it gave a date.

Granted, it is past the “best by...” date, but it did not have an expiration date. Now that I have made that crystal clear, I will tell you that, at least according to Welch's, my grape juice was best by... April 11 2006. Yes, I said 2006. Not quite six years.

I do think there is a lesson here. (Aside from the obvious lesson that it is time to clean out my credenza.) It got me thinking, “What is my *best by* date? What is yours? Have you ever felt like you passed your “best by” date years ago? Or maybe you are the opposite. Maybe you don't give your best because you feel like you still have time before you get to your “best by” date.

As I read the scriptures, your “best by” date and mine is always the same: Today. God each day gives us strength for today. There is a great line in the book of Revelation, “He that sat upon the throne said, ‘Behold. I make all things new.’” Every day, God is with you, giving you the opportunity to be your very best.

So as you begin 2012, remember that this is your “best by” date. Give your very best to God today! And if you have time, feel free to come by for some grape juice...

If it's Sunday, you want to be at Trinity,  
David

## *Stewardship*

It was the last day of our summer 2011 choir tour, and we were all exhausted. We had covered more than 3000 miles on a journey that took us from Rome to Indianapolis by way of Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Toledo, and Chicago. With more than 60 youth and adults on board two charter buses, we were rolling in to one of the last rest stops on our journey home to Rome. After fueling up, one of our bus drivers, who was driving our group for the first time, approached me and asked if he could speak with me about the kids. Now I know we have an incredible youth group, and I always expect the very best of them, but when a bus driver who has driven 30 plus kids and adults half way across the country over 11 days and 3000 miles says he needs to talk to me "about the kids", I was preparing myself for the worst. Was he finally tired of the spit balls, were the kids trashing the bus, was the music too loud, what had they managed to flush down the on board toilet, the list goes on and on. As the list of possibilities went through my head, he started to speak. I am paraphrasing here, but he wanted me to know, in no uncertain terms, that being around our kids over the last 11 days had changed his life for Christ. He wanted me to know that he and his family would be recommitting their lives back to involvement in the church. He wanted me to know that the testimony of our kids' actions over the course of the trip had shown him a renewed vision of Jesus that had called him back home. In an especially powerful statement, he said "Your kids go to places where most kids wouldn't go if you paid them (referring to places like Cornerstone in southwest Philadelphia and the Friendly Center in north Toledo), and they go with smiles on their faces and love in their hearts." Before our youth ever go on a youth trip, they sign a youth pledge. Part of that pledge states that they will faithfully represent Trinity as a faithful body of believers wherever they go. On choir tour 2011, our youth not only represented Trinity to schools and congregations over a 3000 mile, cross country pilgrimage, but they embodied the mission of our church as, according to our bus driver, they "changed his life for Jesus Christ." Grant Magness, Youth Director

*If you have a stewardship story showing how we are "Changing lives for Jesus Christ", or if you would like to know this week's budget numbers, please contact the church office.*

## *Prayer Concerns*

Debbie Culpepper	Don Hitchcock
Betty Kelly	Ben Masters
Phyllis Johnson	Joe Turner
Jerry Owens	Eleanor Walden
Allan Standridge	Wayne Hopper
Allen Rainwater	Freda Gipson
Frances Price	Kristen Vardy & Family

### Long Term Prayer List

Roy Lane	Chip Burke
Mike Parker	Betty Penn
Lily Hensiek	Lillian Momon
Keith Masters	Ingrid McConkey
The Gittings	Moe Doss
Frances Hancock	Scott Raines
Ann Fletcher	Beth Formby
Edna Tolbert	Roy Goolsby
Mary Looney	Mary McCord
June Sanford	Sandy Beem

### Intercessory Prayer

The Thursday morning Intercessory Prayer Group will not meet until further notice. If you would like to take a moment on Thursdays to pray for those on our prayer lists, I'm sure it would be greatly appreciated by those needing prayer and you will be blessed by taking time to do so. Thank you

This Sunday, we will have one worship service at 10:00am. The Lay Helpers are as follows:

Lay Reader: Delmas Franklin

Acolyte: Isaac Vardy

Greeters: Elaine Snow

Usher: Thom Holt

There will be no Sunday School this Sunday, but we will have Children's Church.

### **Sunday Morning Worship Service**

10:00 am

#### Message:

We Journey Toward a City  
Not Make With Hands

#### Scripture:

Genesis 12:1-8, Hebrews 11:8-2  
Wayne Hopper

## *Announcements*

### 2011 Giving

The books will close for 2011 giving on December 31. However, the last time the counters will meet to do a deposit will be on December 26th. Make sure all the giving you want posted for 2011 to be in the offering plate by Christmas day. You may bring your offering by the church office during regular office hours if you won't be here on Christmas day. All money received after December 26th will go toward the 2012 giving year. Thanks!

### Upper Rooms

The new Upper Rooms devotionals are in the Narthex.

### Missing Television

The television in the Trinity Building, Large Conference Room is missing. If you borrowed it or know who did, please let the office know. The Bible study groups use it every week, so it needs to be returned. Thanks, Trustees

### Pecans

The Fellowship Class still has pecans for sale. Contact a class member or call 706-346-4346. Thanks!

### Apostle's' Creed

Mark your calendars: On January 22 and 29, Trinity and First United Methodist are partnering to bring Dr. Brent Strawn to Rome for a two part series on the Apostle's' Creed. Watch The Trinity Voice for more information in the coming months.

### New Brochures

We are in the process of doing new brochures for the adult Sunday school classes. There are copies of the old brochure in your Sunday school attendance folders. If you haven't already, please take a moment to look over your description and make sure it does not need any changes. Please make a note on the paper of any or no changes and we will get it out of the folder next week. Thank you!

## **This Week At Trinity:**

Sunday, January 1	
10:00	One Worship Service
Monday, January 2	
Tuesday, January 3	
6:15	Women's Bible Study, Trinity Building, Large Conference Room
8:00	Evening Intercessory Prayer, Trinity Building, Large Conference Room
Wednesday, January 4	
7:00	Prayer Breakfast, Mobley Hall
9:00-1:00	PALS (Mother's Morning Out)
5:30	Fellowship Supper (Reservations Required)
Menu: Spaghetti and Meat Sauce, Tossed Salad, Breadsticks, Dessert	
6:00	Finance Committee Meeting, Trinity Building, Large Conference Room
6:00	Be-Artitudes Art Class, Trinity Building, 204
6:15	Youth Fellowship Activities, Martha King Building
6:30	Trinity Choir Practice, Choir Room
7:30	Youth Parent Meeting, Martha King Building
Thursday, January 5	
Friday, January 6	
9:00-1:00	PALS (Mother's Morning Out) Route 67 Lock In, Martha King Building
Saturday, January 7	

## *Birthdays*

### January 1

Libby Miller, Ingrid McConkey

### January 2

Tony Bryan

### January 3

Kristen Vardy, Jennifer Hoffman

### January 4

Mandi Thompson, Sam Freeman,  
Don Bettler, Hannah Campbell,  
Annabelle Magness

### January 5

Anita Stewart, Carol Franklin,  
Michele Rikard

### January 6

Audrey Motes, Michelle Sanford,  
Hannah Davis

### January 7

Gary Clair

## *Anniversaries*

### January 1

John & Barbara Reeves

## *Thank You*

I wish to express my appreciation to my pastors for their visits and prayers and to my church family for their cards and words of sympathy during the recent illness and death of my sister, Reva Anderson. Your love and support means so much. Frances Price

## *Gifts Given*

In Honor Of:

**Warren Jones**

To Children's Ministry  
By Michelle & Dustin Rikard

**To Trinity Staff**

By Madelyn Collette

In Memory Of:

**Reva Anderson**

By Gregory & Danielle Pierce  
By Edwin & Faye Curtis

# Thank You

Thank you Trinity for all the help this year with Nativity - those of you who helped carry costumes, move the camel, stand in the scene, dress those standing, and clean up while others stood. A special thank you to Judy Allen for her guidance this year and her and Lamar's hard work for the last nine years, to the Cravens - Frank and Sharon, Allen, and Mary Craven Jordan, to Pritchard Farms, to Jason Stewart, to my family, and to Gregg and Debi for being there Christmas Eve so Larry and I could have family time. And a thank you to those who were so patient with me during my first year learning curve. Above all, thank you to God for the amazing blessings we received while we as a church were sharing the miracle of Jesus' birth with others. Who knew that there would be an F2 tornado two hours before the standing Thursday evening? Yet God arranged for enough volunteers to be there to stand and spread His Good News to our community in the aftermath of that storm (with no rain falling, power and a stable!) Then as word spread of the damage, those at the church made plans to go out and do storm relief the next day. Many of the Youth, College and Fish Class there Friday had been working in yards all day before coming to stand Friday night. There was the blessing of a grandchild wanting to sing a verse of Silent Night before each standing one night – what a beautiful way to send us out to spread His Word! There was the joy on the face of a young shepherd after my son explained to him that losing your head covering wasn't a problem and that he had done an Amazing job and how proud we were of him! (Wil had told him many of the things that had happened to him over the years) There was the trio of little angels gathered around the manger staring in awe at everything around them! So many blessings occurred during one short week – I surely can't list them all. Many people came up and asked if I was in charge of the Nativity – my answer is no. I am coordinating, but God is definitely in charge.

God is good! All the time! Karen Tucker

## 2012 ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Larry Tucker, Chairperson	David & Carla Patterson, Youth Coordinator
Kay Lowe, Missions Coordinator	Carol Willis, Vice Chairperson
Carol Payne, Family Life Coordinator	Charles Norris, Stewardship Coordinator
Michelle Rikard, Secretary	Carol Winkle/Marlene Ransom, UMW Co-Chairs
Jan Sidwell, Worship Coordinator	Allison Holloway, Treasurer
Wayne Hopper, Education Coordinator	Sam Johnston, Lay Leader
TBA, Trustees Chairperson	Nolen Sanford, UMM Representative
Greg Wood, Finance Chairperson	Beau Gordon, Lay Delegate – Sam Johnston, Alternate
Carol Winkle, Staff-Parish Chairperson	Sam Evans, Long Range Planning Chairperson
Eulaine Camp, Senior Adult Coordinator	Lamar Allen, Dennis Abney, Jessica Cole, At Large
Wanda Mixon, Pam Ferguson SS Superintendent	Debi Lewis, Communications Coordinator
Tracy Noland, Dawn Daniel, Children's Coordinator	Karen Tucker, Nativity Coordinator

Hilda Candler, Jeanne Holt, Dot Storey, Paul Camp, Frances Hancock, Brady Drummond, Nell Candler,  
Ed Poe, Ruth Shaw, Marjean Simpson, Roy Goolsby, JoDel Hill, Honorary

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Office Hours:    Monday-Thursday: 9-4:00 (closed for lunch from 12:00-1:00)  
 Friday: 9-12 noon

### Trinity Staff Members:

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Nursery Director	Mary Ann Sailors	msailors5@wmconnect.com	706-290-1004
Minister of Congregational Care, Emerita	Ruth Shaw	rbshaw7@aol.com	706-291-9552
Custodians	Jerry Foster & Benji Smith		706-252-2338

