

Welcome!

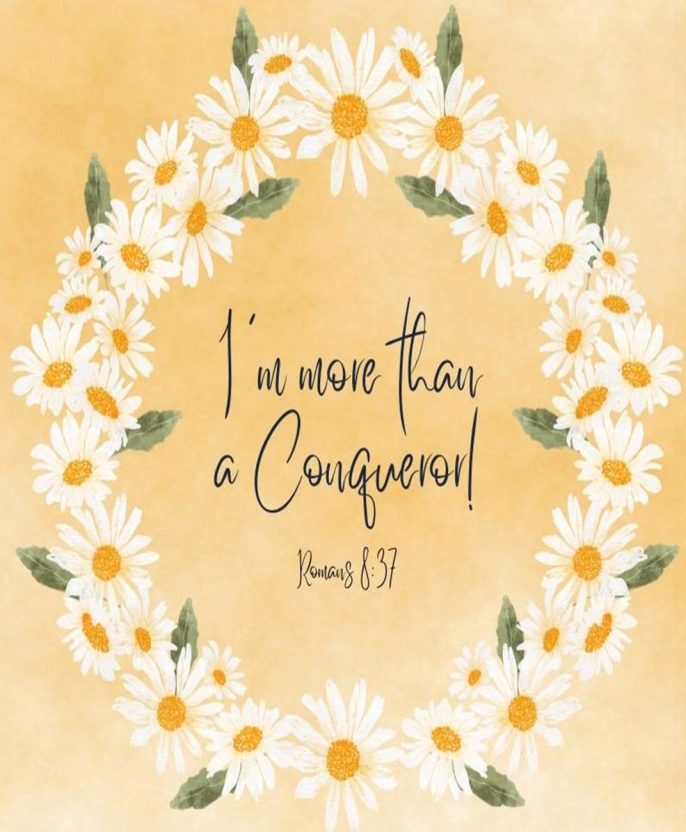
Trinity United Methodist Church

"Together we LIVE to see our lives, our community, and our world transformed by the power of the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST."



August 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



AUGUST 2024

"Do All the GOOD you can in ALL the PLACES you can" - John Wesley

"Serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God's diverse gifts" - 1 Peter 4:10





Rummage/Yard Sale/Pop-up (every 2nd Saturday of the month)

- ⇒ Bring your tables.
- ⇒ The cost is \$15.00 per space.
- ⇒ You may bring your canopy and chairs.
- ⇒ Invite your friends, and come and have a picnic 😊.
- ⇒ Either prepay at the church office:
(Mon-Thurs) between 11am and 2pm or bring in the day of – CASH Only and the exact amount, please.
- ⇒ Great visibility on Wurzbach. Will advertise on social media and the church's electronic marquee.

AUGUST 10, 2024 | 9 AM-2 PM | SATURDAY

Trinity United Methodist Church

6800 Wurzbach Road, 78240. 210-684-0261 church office.

Come early for a good location.



When we joined the church,
we pledged to
uphold it with our prayers.

***Please pray for our
church every day at
noon***



Donating altar flowers is a
simple way to honor a
loved one, glorify God, and
beautify the altar.

Call the church office at
210-684-0261 to make
these arrangements.
Thank you.



REV. FEDERICO PEREZ, JR.
Pastor
fperez@riotx.org

Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.
In the sanctuary -
we encourage you to wear
your mask as you feel
comfortable.

Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m. is also available
on Facebook Live, &
www.tumcsa.net

Pastor-led Bible Study
7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays
Zoom room

'Sunday School' meetings
- Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
Zoom room

Prayer Meetings:
- Wednesdays via zoom at
2:15 p.m.

Church office phone
210-684-0261
Office hours:
Mondays—Thursdays
11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
or call for an appointment

e-mail:
ofcadmin@tumcsa.net
6800 Wurzbach Road,
San Antonio, Texas 78240
www.tumcsa.net

JULY 2024

ATTENDANCE IN WORSHIP

IN THE SANCTUARY (IN-PERSON)

JUNE	30	33
JULY	7	41
JULY	14	35
JULY	21	35
JULY	28	31

FACEBOOK LIVE – VIEWS

JUNE	30	66
JULY	7	67
JULY	14	81
JULY	21	76
JULY	28	60

TITHES & DONATIONS

JUNE	30	\$7,325
JULY	7	\$8,106
JULY	14	\$3,714
JULY	21	\$2,550
JULY	28	\$1,424

RUMMAGE SALE (JULY 2024) \$165

(Report taken from ONLY the counters;
NOT including online and text giving).

Happy Birthday to:

JOHNETTA L.H. GOANEH	4-Aug
LAURIE L. BRADTKE	14-Aug
SUSIE FELTON - YAMOAH	14-Aug
DIANA ALDERETE	16-Aug
BERTA SPAULDING	17-Aug
PAT STEPHERSON	23-Aug
BECKY LAMBERT	23-Aug
KAY AGUILAR	26-Aug
PEYTON RODGERS	26-Aug
JUANITA SCOTT	28-Aug
XAVIER LEE SALINAS	28-Aug
ERICK BENTON	30-Aug
Happy Anniversary to:	
JIM & CHRISTINE CHESNUT	7-Aug
PASTOR FRED & MARICRUZ PEREZ	31-Aug

DONATE ONLINE

Simply scan this
image using your
phone's camera
(or QR code
reader).



You may also go
to:

www.tumcsa.net

then click on the
"Donate" button.

DONATE FROM

YOUR

SMARTPHONE.

You may also **text**
giving to:

844-210-1179

(Type in the
amount you wish
to donate, then
hit send).



*If we have missed your
special day, please notify
Cynthia in the church office.
Thank you!*

What I've Learned From International Travel

As many of you know, I just returned from a trip to France, Belgium, and The Netherlands. Yes, it is my fourth trip overseas, but the first one in which I left here with a preconceived idea of what to expect from people. Two of my trips were with long-time friends and coordinated by the son of one of the couples. That made the trips easy, comfortable, and fun! Since I knew all these people, I knew what to expect.

On this most recent trip, I was warned that French people are rude and that they don't appreciate it if we try to speak French but get it wrong. I was quite surprised to find that, especially in France and on the beaches of Normandy, French people LOVE Americans! And why wouldn't they? We sent more soldiers over there to liberate them than any other country! So many of our people are buried in France! There are many monuments dedicated to our leaders and soldiers. Streets are named for our leaders and even single soldiers who gave their lives for them. (By the way, if you even try to speak French, they will help you along and try to respond accordingly).



Also, the people of Belgium and The Netherlands were just as friendly as the French people. Of course, there's always going to be a rude person somewhere, but, for the most part, people were great! (Some of the rudest and most thoughtless people I encountered were on the bus with me!). (Can you believe "person 0" was on our bus, was told by our director to stay in his room to keep from spreading what I believe was the flu to the rest of us, but refused and actually showed up the next day and every day after that?). Out of 55 people on the bus, 19 had to stay in their rooms all day one day because we were too sick to even get up! Some of our songs had to be omitted from the programs because we didn't have soloists to sing their parts! The only other rude person I encountered tried to push her way in front of me to get a picture of the Mona Lisa. (She didn't win). Yes, out of ALL the people I encountered on the trip, only 2 stand out!

So, what I've learned is that people are who they are, no matter where they are from, nor how they were raised. Do you use your upbringing, your current circumstances, your health or lack of it, or your friends or coworkers as an excuse for how to treat other people? Apparently, a whole country or race or ethnic group, or even political belief doesn't determine how one treats other people (!). Some may use those situations as an excuse for how to treat others, but aren't we "bigger" than that? Are we really so afraid that we'll lose something that we have to be rude to others? I know... biting my tongue is one of my greatest challenges, but I really am getting better at it. I implore you to really try to think about how your behavior will affect others...and how it makes YOU look. When you insult someone or are rude to someone, do you feel that you have "won"? God knows what's in your heart. Do you?

Harriet Phillips,
Lay Leader

What Is the Gospel?

Have you ever been asked a question that made you stop and think? For example, someone asks for a simple and direct answer to the question: 'What is the Gospel?' Many pastors mention it in their sermons, but their explanations are often vague.

So let us try to comprehend the response to that wonderful question found in the Bible.

The term "gospel" translates to "Good News." Essentially, the Good News is that God loves us so much that he sent Jesus to address our sins, allowing us to be forgiven, draw closer to our Creator, and live with him eternally. We approach God because we have faith that this is indeed true. That's the essence of it, plain and simple. And when you really think about it, it's extremely good news! Its simplicity, however, doesn't detract from its profundity. One well-known Bible verse encapsulates it perfectly.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16)

Then comes the usual question: "Do I have to do anything to deserve the Good News?"

The answer is: "No, just put your trust in Jesus"

We're discussing the deeply held belief that Jesus is who he says he is. According to the Bible, this is called faith. God knows that we will live out our deepest beliefs, whatever they may be. It's inevitable.

You may say, "I believe, but I'll sin. I'll blow it. I know I will!" Yes. But the good news is that God has decided not to allow sin to keep you from Him anymore. Ask Him to forgive you, and He does. The relationship between you and God is restored.

I believe the most wonderful part of the Good News is that God loves you. He is not just aware of your existence, He actively loves you! He cares about your life and what troubles you. He longs to draw you into His embrace, just like an affectionate parent would reach out to a beloved child and draw them very close.

Jesus told the story of a man with a wayward son. Still in his teens, the young man is bored at home. He asks for his share of his father's estate in cash up front. With that in hand, he proceeds to blow through the money on wine, women, and song in the big city. When his money runs out, he is too poor for rehab. He hits bottom. He is homeless, starving on the street. One day he realizes that his father's employees are better off than he is. He decides to go home, beg for forgiveness, and plead for a job. Before he has barely turned onto the street, his father sees him, rushes out onto the road, and throws his arms around the boy. The son tries to say his prepared speech, but there is no need. The son who had been "dead" is now home, and that is enough. The son who left home in disgrace returns to overflowing love. (Luke 15:11-24).

"What does the parable mean? It's pretty clear: God loves you and will never, ever stop loving you. Come home, dear friend. Come home and feel your dad's embrace. That is the Gospel. It sounds like pretty good news to this sinner. How about you?"

Henri and I love seeing you in church on Sundays at Trinity United Methodist Church, where you can experience the loving embrace of your Heavenly Father.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen!

Shalom, Pastor David and Henrietta Cerwantez



Why Do We Give Tithes and Offerings?

What's the Biblical basis for giving tithes and offerings, and what's the difference between the two?

Why Do We Give Tithes and Offerings?

Giving in the form of tithes and offerings is an important part of Christianity. Tithing is frequently mentioned in the Bible, like when Moses said, *"From what you have, take an offering for the Lord. Everyone willing is to bring to the Lord an offering of gold, silver and bronze."* (Exodus 35:5)



GIVING
Thanks
& GIVING
Back

What is the importance of tithing and offering, and why do we frequently make these kinds of donations?

Importance of Giving Tithes and Offerings

Three reasons why tithing is important:

God Commands Us to Do So

Tithing is repeatedly mentioned in the Bible. Scripture tells us, *"Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year."* (Deuteronomy 14:22)

God commands us to set aside one-tenth of what we produce for the church. In modern society, your "produce" can be anything from your salary to your business profits.

Tithing Shows Your Love for God

The tithe is the Lord's way of asking us to show our love. Giving God a percentage of our earnings shows that we put our love for Him before our need for money.

Tithing Grows Trust in God

By sacrificing 10% of our income, we learn to rely on God. While 10% might be a sizable part of some people's earnings, giving tithes means you trust that God will still provide you with enough food and wealth to live.

Difference Between Tithes and Offerings

Tithes and offerings are closely related because they both involve giving. However, there are two key differences between tithes and offerings:

Amount

Tithes mean "one-tenth", so it has a set amount of 10% of your income, as defined by Scripture: *"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord."* (Leviticus 27:30)

Meanwhile, offerings have no set amount. Everyone can decide how much to give with each offering, as mentioned in the Bible, *"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that He has given you."* (Deuteronomy 16:17)

Priority

Whenever you make money, you're called on to give tithes first. This means tithing is the priority when giving. Meanwhile, offerings are generally optional and come *after* the tithe.

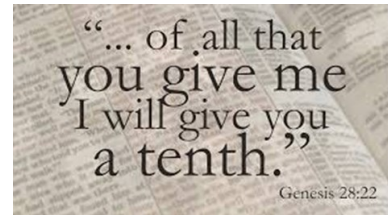
Purpose of Tithes in the Bible

The main purpose of tithes and offerings in the Bible is to teach us to put God first. As said in the Bible, *"Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine, and olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the Lord your God at the place He will choose as a dwelling for His Name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always."* (Deuteronomy 14:23)

Why Do We Pay Tithes in Church

Tithing is a source of income for your church.

...continued



Here are some examples of what the church may use your tithes for:

- Paying church staff members
- Funding outreach programs and donations for the needy
- Maintaining the church building and equipment, including repairs
- Supporting the church programs
- Donating to local charities

Connecting to God Through Giving

If you love money, you can't love God and vice versa. Jesus said in Matthew 6:24, *"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."*

We don't truly own our wealth – we're stewards entrusted with money and riches by God. As stewards, God trusts us to use this money for His glory. The truth of God's tithes and offerings is that we bring ourselves closer to Him when we give.

Jesus says in Matthew 6:21, *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* Giving tithes and offerings demonstrates our love for God by prioritizing Him over worldly wealth.

Encouragement for Giving Tithes and Offerings

Do you need more reasons to give tithes and offerings? Here are some of our favorite Bible verses about giving:

- *"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."* (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)
- *"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."* (Proverbs 11:25)
- *"A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great." (Proverbs 18:16)*
"Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matthew 6:1-4)

Conclusion

Tithes and offerings are an important part of Christianity because, by giving, we put our love for God before our love for money. Giving also supports the church to spread the Gospel and teach the Bible to the community.

January 1, 2023
Author: Tithe.ly

Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity!

Weekly Recurring Meetings where everyone is invited:

- Sack lunch ministry each Sunday at 9:15am in the narthex.
Everyone is welcome to help. For more information, please contact Don Ketchum.
- Sunday school in person led by Jim Chesnut (in the parlor at 9:00 a.m.).
- Pastor-led Bible study every Tuesday via zoom at 7:00pm.—on break and resumes 8/20.
- Prayer meeting every Wednesday via zoom at 2:15pm.
- Sunday school meetings every Thursday via zoom at 3:00 p.m.—on break this summer
Please call Cynthia for zoom links or visit our website at www.tumcsa.net.

Trinity is asking for volunteers to...

- broadcast our worship service live on Facebook (on rotation).
- help with the Family Life Committee alongside Alisa Roberts, Carol Lewis, & Sandra Dance. Family Life is responsible for our social activities, e.g., July 4th luncheon and sing-along, Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving luncheon, Super Chili Bowl Cook-off, and “Fat Sunday instead” (Sunday before Ash Wednesday).
- read at our Sunday’s worship services, on rotation.
- help in the church office with very light clerical duties such as answering phones, assisting visitors, and other tasks alike. Help is needed on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 11am-2pm.
- serve refreshments and clean up after church on the 1st Sunday of every month.
- donate refreshments such as cookies, doughnuts, sweet breads and beverages to serve after the first Sunday worship services; please contact Stacie Brown.

If you are led to serve in these areas, or any other ministries not mentioned, please contact Cynthia in the church office or Harriet Phillips.



Trinity UMC Prayer Team †

“God, help me navigate whatever challenges I encounter this day. Be my comfort and my rock. Guide me to do Your will and be an instrument of Your peace today and each day. Amen.”

**Come
Let Us
Pray**



*Prayer team meets every Wednesday at 2:15pm via Zoom.
Please join us or send us your prayer request at www.tumcsa.net*