



# Welcome to Trinity United Methodist Church

“The mission of Trinity UMC is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

6800 Wurzbach Road, San Antonio TX 78240  
www.tumcsa.net

**2019 Missions  
FEBRUARY**  
Special/Fourth Sunday Offerings:  
**JIREH HOUSE**

REV. ROBERT CLARK II  
Pastor  
pastor@tumcsa.net

Rev. Octaviano Garcia  
Associate Pastor

SUNDAY  
Worship Services  
8:45 a.m. | 11:00 a.m.  
SUNDAY  
School for all ages  
9:45 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE  
HOURS:  
Monday through  
Thursday  
9:00 am- 4:00 pm  
ofcadmin@tumcsa.net

Church office phone  
210-684-0261

TUMSchool phone  
210-684-5214



# thank you Trinity

## United Methodist Church, San Antonio



The Río Texas Conference commends the  
extravagant generosity  
displayed through 100% apportionment giving in  
**2018!**

We not only thank the people of Trinity UMC but also praise God for their faithful witness. We are blessed to be in ministry with people who support the connectional nature of The United Methodist Church, allowing ministries across the globe to continue to thrive.

  
Robert Schnase  
Bishop

  
Kendall Waller  
Director Administrative Ministries



Do you have a great chili recipe?

Do you think it's good enough to compete for a  
\$50 Visa Gift card?

Then call me to sign up for the Annual Trinity  
UMC Chili Cook Off! Super Bowl Sunday,  
February 3, 2019 join us here at Trinity UMC  
(6800 Wurzbach Road, San Antonio Texas 78240)

Contact number 210-364-9239.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



# BOOK CLUB

Rising from adversity to activism, Sandra Uwiringiyimana wrote the book **How Dare the Sun Rise** to chronicle her family's experiences as African refugees. A Christian family from the Democratic Republic of Congo, they immigrated to Rwanda and were persecuted there. When they returned to Congo, they were again persecuted for sounding like Rwandans! They never lost their faith and when they had an opportunity to immigrate to the United States, they did so. The book tells how they find their place in a new country. We will read the book on our own and meet on *Monday, February 25 at 1:30 in the Null Building.*

Julie Vincent will be leading the discussion. Please join us!

The library has several copies of the book.

# Gifts from God

Since the beginning of the year we have been talking about gifts and the fact that each of us gets different gifts. Wouldn't our world be sorely lacking if we all got the same gifts? There are so many needs and wants in this world! If we all had the same gifts, there would be many needs and wants unmet.

Think about what gifts you have. I am so thankful that my husband is a trained and skilled engineer! When something in our house or car malfunctions, he usually knows what to do to fix it. I, on the other hand, am more likely to know our bank account numbers, our license-plate numbers, and people's birthdays or addresses. It really works best that each of us has abilities in different areas. I am not jealous of him because he is a great engineer. I don't think he is jealous of me because I can remember numbers. We know to turn to the other one if we need these skills.

I bought a framed quotation at one of our rummage sales. It is a quote from Albert Einstein. It says, "Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid." Do not call anyone stupid because he doesn't have the same gifts you have. Surely God knew what He/She was doing when we received our gifts! I know, I wish I had as good a singing voice as Julie Andrews had, but I'm not jealous of her. I would like to be taller, but I believe I am short for a good reason. There may be a lesson I can learn better by being short. I hit my head too often as it is!

We need varied gifts to work together. We need sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses to form a harmonious choir. How dull it would be if we all sang the same notes! We need people who are comfortable speaking in public. What if our pastor got up to deliver his sermon and froze every time? We need people who can put a bulletin together on a computer if we want to have bulletins to direct us in our order of worship on Sunday mornings and other times.

We need psychiatrists to talk people out of doing something dangerous or life-threatening, besides just helping people to cope with life. Of course, we need doctors and nurses. We need chemists to manufacture new medicines for us. We need people with an eye for detail to catch so many things that others miss.

Please remember when you feel jealous or sad that you don't have a certain talent, that you have other talents, God-given talents! The best way to thank God for them is to use them well.



Harriet Phillips  
Lay Leader

# a letter from the pastor



Dear Friends,

This is an exciting time to be a part of the Trinity Community! In the book of Ecclesiastes, the preacher tells us that for everything there is a season, a time to be born and a time to die, a time to reap and a time to sow. Now is the time for sowing. Now is the time for new beginnings. There is nothing more exciting than a new birth, a new beginning.

There was a time when all that was required of a church in America, was that it open its doors on Sunday morning. People came to church because it was expected of them. “Decent” people all went to church. Therefore, people were willing to endure mediocre preaching, out-of-tune pianos, and uncomfortable pews. This is not to say that there were not genuine people of faith in the churches. There were then, as there are now, many zealous Christians who were devoted to following Christ. What has changed is those whom John Wesley once called “almost Christians” have dropped the charade. The church is now viewed by many Americans as an anachronistic and irrelevant institution. They no longer look to the church for spiritual guidance and, therefore, feel they have better things to do on Sunday morning than come to church. It is also the case that some forty percent of working Americans now work on weekends. People who are working on Sunday morning will never show up in our Sunday morning worship service. If we are to reach new people for Jesus Christ, the church must find new ways, new times, and new places to be the church. It is time for innovation.

In the fourth chapter of the Book of Esther, Mordecai tells his niece, “...if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” If we keep silent and do nothing, the Church of Jesus Christ will prevail. Others will find new fresh expressions of faith and the church will carry on. However, this church, Trinity, will perish. I want to suggest that God has brought us together as the Trinity family for just such a time as this. It is an exciting time at Trinity.

Having heard God’s call for innovation, the leadership of Trinity UMC has made a decision to make some important changes in the way we do things. The first change, one that effects everyone, is to move to a single worship service on Sunday morning. Pending your input, the tentative plan is to worship together at 10:00 am. on Sunday morning with Sunday School at 11:15 am. There will be a church wide meeting in the Sanctuary at 10:00 am on the 3rd of February to discuss this move. If you have concerns or questions, please plan to attend. I would also be happy to meet with you individually. Call, text or email me and we can set a time to meet.

The second important change will be to start new fresh expressions of worship during the week. Right now, it looks like we will start with a dinner church experience, possibly on Friday nights. We are planning a preview dinner service for Thursday April 18, 2019 (Maundy Thursday). As we continue to plan your input will be welcomed. Please share any ideas you may have.

Again, this is an exciting time for Trinity. I thank God everyday that I have been sent to Trinity for just such a time as this, and I thank God for each of you.

In His Service,  
Pastor Bob



# Cub Scout PACK 20



Happy Birthday to:

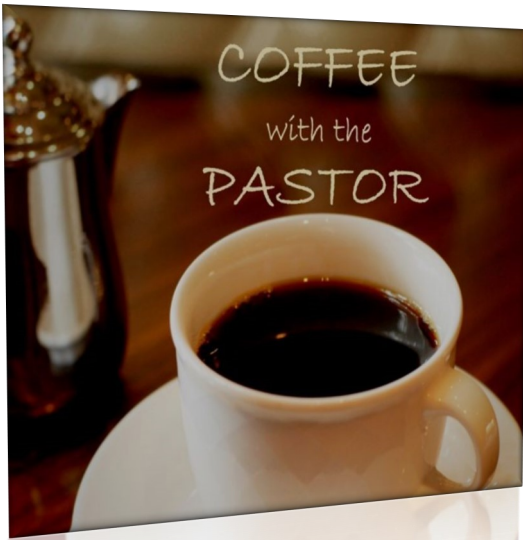
- |                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| MITZI KELLY      | 9-Feb  |
| DOYLE STAMPS     | 11-Feb |
| JOHN REED        | 16-Feb |
| TYLER BROWN      | 18-Feb |
| MARJORIE LOCKAMY | 18-Feb |
| NORMA KETCHUM    | 21-Feb |

Happy Anniversary to:

- |                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| FOHN & JHONNETTA GOANEH | 2-Feb |
|-------------------------|-------|



Tiger Den getting ready for clean up here at the church and school property 😊



COFFEE  
with the  
PASTOR

Pastor Bob invites you (those who would like to know more about the church, for coffee at 10am every 4th Sunday of the month.

## The Art of Clowning: A Guide to Family Entertainment

 **What you can expect to learn:**  
 Clown History  
 Character Development  
 Make-up and Costuming  
 Clown Skills: Balloon-twisting, face-painting, magic, puppets, storytelling, skits/performance  
 Venues for Children's entertainers (in clown/out of clown)  
 Marketing your new-found skills





**Buttons**

**March 11 – May 5, 2019**

Time: Mondays 6pm – 8pm  
 Address: 7790 Mainland Dr – Suite 102, SATX 78250  
 (Next to Kids World Day Care)

Supply Cost: \$60 (starter kit: makeup, balloons, materials for face painting, glitter tattoo practice, notebook/handouts)

Contact:  
 Diana "Buttons" McCurtain-Talbert  
 210-391-6087  
[buttonsc clown@att.net](mailto:buttonsc clown@att.net) [www.buttonspartyevents.com](http://www.buttonspartyevents.com)



Trinity United Methodist Church is supporting  
The Center for Refugee Services

**The mission of CRS is to promote the wellness, self-sufficiency, and successful community integration of resettled refugees and their families.**

**With the help of Trinity UMC, Angie Khan and Julie Vincent are helping to collect and distribute household goods for the families. These families come to the United States with not much more than a bag of clothes.**

**If you have decided now is the time to clear out that cabinet, we would love to help you donate your unwanted goods.**



**A donation receipt will be provided if requested.**

**Items needed:**

**Bed linens – all sizes  
Blankets  
Towels and wash cloths  
Shower curtain and curtain rings  
Toilet brush -new-  
Pillows – bed or throw  
Kitchen towels and pot holders  
Sponge/scrapper for dishes -new-  
Bath mats/rugs  
Table cloth – fabric or plastic  
Cloth napkins  
Lamps  
Trash can – any size  
Iron & ironing board  
Large soup pot  
Skillet/frying pan – any size  
Mixing bowls  
Baking pans  
Cooking pots – any size  
Cooking utensils – any kind  
Soup/cereal bowls  
Drinking glasses, cups and mugs  
Plates  
Silverware  
Pitchers  
Teapot/coffee maker  
Cutting boards  
Strainer/colander  
Blender  
Trays and serving dishes  
Sewing supplies  
Rubber gloves -new-  
Clothes pins/clothes line  
Laundry soap -new-  
Dish soap -new-  
Broom, mop, dust pan  
Scrub brush  
Extension cord  
Scissors  
Hangers  
Toys  
Tools: hammer, screwdriver, nails, etc  
New toiletries: toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, bath soap, razor, hand cream, etc**

# 50 WAYS TO WELCOME NEW PEOPLE

*By Lewis Center*

One key to effective outreach is making sure that worship visitors feel truly welcome. These 50 Ways will help your congregation make a good first impression and extend hospitality in meaningful ways.

## **Engage your leaders and members**

1. Teach that hospitality is at the core of the Gospel.  
Teach your congregation to honor Christ in everyone and that God seeks to be in relationship with ALL persons.

## **Make a good first Impression**

3. Convey a clear invitation and a statement of welcome in all communications directed at the external community — advertisements, banners, flyers, website, etc.
4. Know that 40% of visitors make up their mind about a church before they even see the pastor, according to Barna Research. Within two minutes of the beginning of a service visitors have formed an opinion about whether the congregation is friendly.
5. Care for your building and grounds as a way of honoring your attendees and honoring God. A well-cared-for building demonstrates a commitment to excellence and communicates that what the church does is important.
6. Have clear exterior and interior signage that guides visitors everywhere they need to go.
7. Reserve special parking places for visitors. Encourage church members and staff to park offsite or in more remote spaces. If parking lot congestion is an issue, recruit volunteer parking attendants.
8. Make your nursery clean, safe, sanitary, well-equipped, and visually appealing to children and their parents. Use a space that is easy to find and convenient to the sanctuary. Make sure your nursery workers and procedures inspire confidence on the part of parents.
9. Make sure your restrooms are neat and clean.

## **Be intentional about saying hello and goodbye**

10. Station greeters at all entrances, in classroom areas, and in the parking lot or entry walks, if appropriate.
11. Identify your greeters and ushers with a special badge or name tag so visitors who need information can easily identify them.
12. Encourage friendly, out-going persons with the gift of “hospitality” to serve as greeters and ushers. Don’t expect that just anyone can do these jobs well. Provide regular training that helps them see the church through a visitor’s eyes.
13. Escort newcomers to the nursery, classrooms, coffee hour, etc. Don’t just point the way or give directions.
14. Adopt the “rule of three,” which says members will not talk to other members in the first three minutes following the service — typically how long it takes guests to exit.
15. Enact the “circle of ten” rule — that each member will greet anyone, member or guest, who comes within ten feet of them.
16. Say, “I don’t think we’ve met before. ...” if you are not sure if the person next to you is a member or a visitor.
17. Ask outgoing church members to sit in the pews where visitors most commonly sit, often near the entrance or in the back.
18. Post someone at every exit to shake hands and thank people for coming. Ask worship participants (readers, music leaders, liturgists, etc.) to do this since their faces will be familiar.

## **Help newcomers feel at home in worship**

19. Accept and encourage casual attire.
20. Do not ask visitors to stand and identify themselves. Seventy percent of new attendees feel negatively about being recognized. However, they do expect people to be friendly and welcoming.
21. Provide nametags for the whole congregation and develop the habit of wearing them. Form a “tag team” to organize and promote name tag use.

19. Review your church bulletin and other printed material to make sure information is not “insider oriented.” Avoid church jargon and assuming that people understand the context.
20. Make sure your order of worship is easy for a visitor to follow. Include written or verbal explanations of what is going on and why. Print the words to all prayers, songs, and responses.
21. Sing at least one hymn each Sunday that is well known outside the church, such as “Amazing Grace,” “Joyful Joyful,” or “Morning Has Broken.”
22. Include a welcome to visitors in the open words before the service. Make sure the person speaking identifies him or herself. It is best for the pastor to issue this welcome.
23. Remember that visitors sometimes arrive a few minutes late. Don’t front load all the information directed at them.
24. Place information about your church’s ministries where a visitor can easily find it — preferably in the pew, or a clearly marked location near the entry points used by visitors. Don’t expect them to go someplace else to find it.
25. Prepare Visitors Packets to be handed out by greeters with information about your church programs.
26. Give visitors with small children a small activity packet (with crayons, pipe cleaners, stickers, etc.) as they enter worship.
27. Avoid all talk about money with visitors.
31. Keep the discussion of “family business” to a minimum in the services. Limit announcements.

### **Follow up with your visitors**

32. Get the names and addresses of first-time visitors. Some churches use visitors’ cards, but asking ALL worshippers to record attendance makes it more likely visitors will sign. Visitors don’t want to be singled out.
32. Make a special effort to remember visitors’ names and call them by name.
33. Make at least one follow-up contact with first-time visitors within 24 to 36 hours of their visit — a letter from the pastor, a phone call, a hand-written note, an email message. Many churches deliver a gift, such as freshly baked cookies or a church coffee mug, to visitors’ homes. The purpose is to communicate friendliness, not get a membership commitment.
32. Develop a system or data base for keeping track of visitors, their contact information, and the frequency of visits. A mailing list of persons who have visited in the past is one of your best marketing tools.
33. Don’t overlook visitors who come to the church for the first time for an event other than worship.
34. Once someone has attended three times, they should be invited to join the church with a pastoral visit and/or an invitation to take part in an inquirers or new member class.
38. Encourage visitors to get connected with activities and groups, even if they are not ready to join.

### **Be more inviting**

39. Hold an Open House Sunday at least once a year.
40. Organize a “bring-a-friend” Sunday at least once a year.
41. Extend extra hospitality during back-to-school time, Christmas and Easter, when persons are most likely to consider visiting a church.
39. Start a personal invitation ministry. Three out of four people attend a church for the first time because they were invited. Yet less than half of church members say they have invited someone in the last year.
40. Provide training to members on how to invite others to church.
41. Print special invitations to Christmas Eve services that people can deliver to friends.
42. Plan special events — concerts, lectures, etc. — that appeal to those outside the church and that members feel comfortable inviting someone to.
46. Have special recognition Sundays for scout groups, preschool families, or other community groups meeting in your church to encourage them to attend worship.

### **Become more aware of visitors and their concerns**

47. Gather feedback on how visitors respond to your church through surveys, focus groups, or interviews.
48. Conduct a “welcome audit” annually.
49. Provide training on welcoming at least once a year.
50. Send your welcome team to visit other churches and report back on how they experienced their reception.