

# Welcome to 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.”

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

REV. JOHN MEANDE  
Pastor  
pastor1@tumcsa.net

Sunday Worship  
10:00 a.m.

In the sanctuary  
(we encourage you to wear your mask even if you are fully vaccinated),

FB live, YouTube

New Seekers Faith Mtg.  
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.  
Zoom room

Pastor-led Bible Study  
5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays  
Zoom room

Church office phone  
210-684-0261  
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  
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2022 Missions - **APRIL 2022**

4th Sunday "Above and Beyond" Special Offering (PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY)  
**CHILDREN SHELTER**



"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

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# THANK YOU TRINITY!

*'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.'* Matt 25:35,36.

Many thanks to everyone who gave food to help neighborhood children who missed their school lunches during their spring break. Trinity teamed with the Unicorn Center and San Antonio Partners in Service to provide 100 care packages to Glenoaks Elementary.

You are welcome to join us in the coming months in our continuing ministry:

- In May we'll put together care packages for refugees through Catholic Charities.
- In July we'll collect school supplies and fill backpacks for children with a parent in jail or on parole.

Thank the good Lord for blessing this effort and for giving us opportunities to share with others in need.



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."- Matthew 19:14

## Easter Egg Hunt

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16—10:00 AM**

**BRING YOUR KIDS, GRANDKIDS,**

**NEIGHBORS. AND FRIENDS**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BASKET**

**KIDS 2YRS - 5TH GRADE**

Trinity United Methodist Church  
6800 Wurzbach Rd.  
San Antonio TX 78240



**Join us for Fasting and Prayer Day here at Trinity on Thursday, APRIL 21st, from 6am-12noon. Pastor John's cell phone will be open for prayer during those times.**

### MARCH 2022

#### ATTENDANCE IN WORSHIP

##### IN THE SANCTUARY -

MARCH 27	44
MARCH 20	35
MARCH 13	40
MARCH 6	39 + 17 (Ash Wednesday)

FACEBOOK LIVE—(Engagements: engagement is any action someone takes on your Facebook Page or one of your posts. The most common examples are reactions (including likes), comments and shares, but it can also include saves, viewing a video or clicking on the link.)

MARCH 27	83
MARCH 20	89
MARCH 13	62
MARCH 6	155 (includes Ash Wednesday)

#### TITHES & DONATIONS

(Report taken from only the counters; not including online and text giving)

MARCH 27	\$1,528	UMCOR	\$120
MARCH 20	\$3,468		
MARCH 13	\$ 984		
MARCH 6	\$4,951		

#### Happy Birthday to:

CAROLYN MILLER	6-Apr
CURTIS FOSTER	8-Apr
ELOUISE COOLEY	9-Apr
ELIZABETH McCOWN	12-Apr
PASTOR JOHN MEANDE	13-Apr
TAMAR MEANDE	13-Apr
JULIANA M. RODULFO	16-Apr
DENISE WILSON	18-Apr
LOUISE LYLE	18-Apr

#### Happy Anniversary to:

BILL & LIZ CAVIN	27-Apr
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**Happy birthday!**

## Weekly Recurring Meetings:

- Prayer meeting is every Monday via zoom at 2:15pm.
- Pastor-led Bible study is every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.; please join us via zoom.
- New Seekers faith meeting meets on Thursdays at 3:00pm via zoom.

Please call Cynthia for zoom links.

## Trinity is asking for volunteers to ...

**This**  
**N**  
**That**

- ..... usher on Sundays at our worship services.
- ..... help in the church office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
- ..... broadcast our worship service live on Facebook (on rotation).
- ..... help with the Family Life Committee. They are responsible for our social activities, e.g. July 4th luncheon and sing-along, Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving luncheon, and Super Chili Bowl Cook-off.

If you are led to serve in these areas, please contact Cynthia in the church office or Harriet Phillips.

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## **JOIN THE NEW SEEKERS (N' FIPS)**

NEW SEEKERS/FIPS LUNCHEON MEETINGS ARE EVERY SUNDAY (EXCEPT 5TH SUNDAYS)  
AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE.

1ST SUNDAY - JASON'S DELI, 5819 NW LOOP 410

2ND SUNDAY -ROYAL INN, 5440 BABCOCK

3RD SUNDAY, BILL MILLER BBQ, WURZBACH @ BANDERA

4TH SUNDAY - SEA ISLAND, 5959 NW LOOP 410

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### **Palm Sunday**

April 10, 2022—10:00am worship service

### **Maundy Thursday service**

April 14, 2022—7:00pm

### **Good Friday service**

April 15, 2022—7:00pm



### **Easter Sunday**

April 17, 2022—10:00am worship  
service

# The Story of Teddy Stoddard

*I've heard the story of Teddy Stoddard told as a true story. Recently, though, I read it was written as fiction for Home Life Magazine by Elizabeth Silance Ballard. No matter - the truth of its meaning still rings true as we touch the lives of children!*

**T**here is a story many years ago of an elementary teacher. Her name was Mrs. Thompson. And as she stood in front of her fifth grade class on the very first day of school, she told the children a lie?

Like most teachers, she looked at her students and said that she loved them all the same? But that was impossible, because there in the front row, slumped in his seat, was a little boy named Teddy Stoddard. Mrs. Thompson had watched Teddy the year before and noticed that he didn't play well with the other children, that his clothes were messy and that he constantly needed a bath. And Teddy could be unpleasant. It got to the point where Mrs. Thompson would actually take delight in marking his papers with a broad red pen, making bold X's and then putting a big "F" at the top of his papers.

At the school where Mrs. Thompson taught, she was required to review each child's past records and she put Teddy Stoddard's off until last. However, when she reviewed his file, she was in for a surprise. Teddy's first grade Teacher wrote, "Teddy is a bright child with a ready laugh. He does his work neatly and has good manners...he is a joy to be around."

His second grade teacher wrote, "Teddy Stoddard is an excellent student, well liked by his classmates, but he is troubled because his mother has a terminal illness and life at home must be a struggle."

His third grade teacher wrote, "His mother's death has been hard on him. He tries to do his best but his father doesn't show much interest, and his home life will soon affect him if some steps aren't taken."

Teddy's fourth grade teacher wrote, "Teddy Stoddard is withdrawn and doesn't show much interest in school. He doesn't have many friends and sometimes sleeps in class."

By now, Mrs. Thompson realized the problem, and she was ashamed of herself. She felt even worse when her students brought her Christmas presents, wrapped in beautiful ribbons and bright paper, except for Teddy's. His present was clumsily wrapped in the heavy, brown paper that he got from a grocery bag.

Mrs. Thompson took pains to open it in the middle of the other presents. Some of the children started to laugh when she found a rhinestone bracelet with some of the stones missing and a bottle that was one quarter full of perfume. But she stifled the children's laughter when she exclaimed, how pretty the bracelet was. She put it on and dabbed some of the perfume on her wrist.

Teddy Stoddard stayed after school that day just long enough to say, "Mrs. Thompson, today you smelled just like my Mom used to." After the children left she cried for at least an hour. On that very day, she quit teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic. Instead, she began to teach children.

Mrs. Thompson paid particular attention to Teddy. As she worked with him, his mind seemed to come alive. The more she encouraged him, the faster he responded. By the end of the year, Teddy had become one of the smartest children in the class, and despite her lie that she would love all the children the same, Teddy Stoddard became one of her "pets."

A year later, she found a note under her door, from Teddy, telling her that she was still the best teacher he ever had in his whole life. Six years went by before she got another note from Teddy. He then wrote that he had finished high school, third in his class, and she was still the best teacher he ever had in his whole life.

Four years after that, she got another letter, saying that while things had been tough at times, he stayed in school, had stuck with it, and would soon graduate from college with the highest of honors. He assured Mrs. Thompson that she was still the best and favorite teacher he ever had in his whole life.

Then four more years passed and yet another letter came. This time he explained that after he got his bachelor's degree, he decided to go a little further. The letter explained that she was still the best and favorite teacher he ever had. But now his name was a little longer.

The letter was signed, Theodore F. Stoddard, MD.

The story doesn't end there. You see, there was yet another letter that spring. Teddy said he'd met this girl and was going to be married. He explained that his father had died a couple of years ago, and he was wondering if Mrs. Thompson might agree to sit in the place at the wedding that was usually reserved for the mother of the groom.

Of course, Mrs. Thompson did. And guess what?! She wore that bracelet, the one with several rhinestones missing. And she made sure she was wearing the perfume that Teddy remembered his mother's wearing on their last Christmas together.

They hugged each other, and Dr. Stoddard whispered in Mrs. Thompson's ear, "Thank you, Mrs. Thompson, for believing in me. Thank you so much for making me feel important and showing me that I could make a difference." Mrs. Thompson, with tears in her eyes, whispered back. She said, "Teddy, you have it all wrong. You were the one who taught me that I could make a difference. I didn't know how to teach until I met you."



**"Please be patient: God isn't finished with me yet."**

I received a lapel button many years ago with this saying on it. It's a good reminder to others to postpone their judging. It is also a good reminder to me to not give up, but to keep on trying. What does it say to you? Are you more likely to be patient with others or to not give up on yourself?

At my age I sometimes feel that I am NEVER going to learn the lessons I need to learn. I have asked for patience, but I find that I am still impatient with others. (By the way, asking for patience is not recommended! It appears that God is actually trying to give me patience by giving me more occurrences to learn what patience is). I am also still impatient with myself. Apparently, natural tendencies are difficult to correct! I must not use this idea as an excuse! With God's help I believe nothing is impossible! I am not saying that if we just pray that God will correct our "flaw," that it will be gone. I believe we have to actively work on eliminating it, ourselves. Also, if we know someone who seems to repeatedly make the same "mistake" or who continues with a "bad" habit (or one we perceive as bad), we can try to pray that that flaw will be corrected. We can even mention to that person that his or her behavior toward us or toward others hurts feelings or makes us angry; but it's still up to God and that person to correct it. We cannot magically make someone stop a bad behavior just because we want it.

If you are still alive, God still has at least one more lesson to teach you - or someone else through you. Are you open to His/Her desires for you? Are you listening to God or others who are hinting to you that you need to correct a behavior? When people observe you, do they KNOW you are a Christian, or do they say, "If that is a Christian, I don't want to be one." Are you teaching others how to be a Christian or how NOT to?



I am very grateful for every day of my life! Sure, some of them I would like to skip over so that I don't have to endure certain things. We all have tragedies in our lives. We all have stressful days that can actually end our lives sooner than they otherwise would have. God can help us through these tough times if we will just ask Him/Her.

Maybe you're here a long time because you are either a good teacher or a good student. It may not be because you are a slow learner! If you are a good teacher, God can and should use you as long as possible. If you are a good student, you will probably want to stay as long as you can to learn as much as you can.

Be mindful that we are all a "work in progress." As long as any of us is here, God has a use for us. Let's do our best to learn and teach as much as we can about how to be a Christian. Remember that every one of us is going through something that makes it more difficult to be happy all the time. God has not singled you out as the one to have ALL the misfortune in life. If you didn't have any problems, you would be dead to this world but, hopefully, in Heaven with God! No, this is NOT Heaven! This is the "school of life," where we are to learn lessons and to teach them. True, I hear people all the time say that our lives here "sure beat the alternative." Honestly, I hope not! I pray and believe that Heaven is way better. I just want to learn enough, to be good enough, to get there!

Yours in Christ,

Harriet Phillips, Lay Leader

**W**e of the Worship Team have come to the conclusion that sitting for all but the last verse of a hymn may feel awkward to some. We also feel that saying to “stand as able” still makes people feel that they are supposed to stand (sometimes, whether they're able to or not). This is especially true with hymns/songs with 4 or more verses. Therefore, we are going to just give you the option to stand or not—as you like, not “as able.”

- The Worship Team



**Would you like to support the special music for Easter Sunday?**

**We will have brass instruments to praise the miracle of the special day.**

**A love offering will be given to the musicians.**

**If you would like to contribute to this special collection, please donate and mark it for Easter Music!**



# **OUTSIDE WORK DAY!!**

**Saturday, April 2**

**9:00-noon**

**Bring your own tools, gloves, etc  
Let's spruce up things before Easter!**



**Trinity** is celebrating **143 years** on **Apr 10th!**

We will have cake after worship and a time of fellowship.  
We will celebrate our past and prepare for our future!

If you are interested, you may make a donation to the birthday fund that will be used for special projects to support the future of Trinity. A suggested donation is \$143, but any donation is accepted!