



Welcome to Trinity United Methodist Church

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

6800 Wurzbach Road, San Antonio TX 78240

www.tumcsa.net

REV. ROBERT CLARK II

Pastor

pastor@tumcsa.net

Rev. Octaviano Garcia

Associate Pastor

SUNDAY

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY

School for all ages

11:15 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



Dear Friends,
I pray that you are all well and are taking every precaution necessary for your continued safety. As I write this message, I am sitting in front of the home computer. It is the second full day since the mayor issued a shelter-in-place order for the city of San Antonio. Honestly, being forced to stay home during the Lenten season has proven to



have wonderful spiritual benefits. It is much easier to focus on prayer and meditation sans the distractions that normally fill my day. I have been able to continue serving all of you through text messages, emails, and daily live streams. Unexpectedly enforced distancing has served to draw us closer as a faith community. Nevertheless, I would rather be at work today!

The Covid19 pandemic has made us all painfully aware of our human limitations. Despite our technological advances, our scientific hubris, and our inflated sense of power, this simple virus has shown us that we are not in control. It has reminded us in no uncertain terms that we are mortal. We are mortal and we are not in charge. As the psalmist says we, like the wildflowers, are here for a season and then we are gone. We are gone and soon enough forgotten. God alone is from everlasting to everlasting. The one God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the one God who is without beginning or end, created and therefore has dominion over all things. As we face the uncertainty of this current pandemic, let us remember that God is still God! The God whose love is from everlasting to everlasting has dominion over all things. Therefore, we can be at peace. In a world that seems to be spinning out of control, God is still in charge. Against the chaos of a global pandemic, God's grace is enough.

2020 Missions - APRIL

4TH SUNDAY SPECIAL OFFERING (PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY)

***** Native American Ministries *****



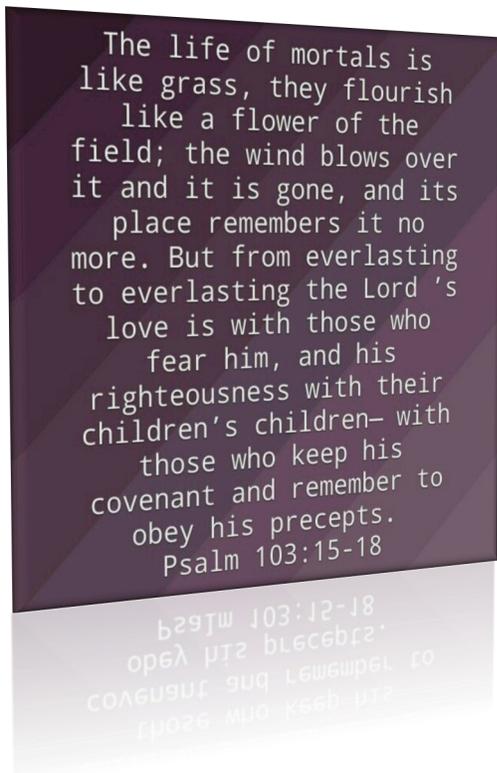
Friends, I hope you will remember that the church is here for you during these difficult times. We will continue to live stream evening prayers and a Sunday worship service. Our prayer team is praying nonstop. And I am still here to provide spiritual support and guidance. If you would like to make an appointment to meet with me online or by telephone simply text (210-837-0923) or shoot me an email (pastor@tumcsa.net).

As always, I thank God for each of you.
You are in my prayers,
Pastor Bob

Only Trust Him!!

I've added a suggestion to my last article. I previously said that we need to give up some personal time for Lent to give it to someone else. I am now adding that we need to give up doubt. We go to God in prayer at least every night, maybe several times a day. Why? Don't we believe that God loves us and that God will take care of us? Yes, I know that Ambrose Bierce said that the definition of "pray" is "to ask that the laws of the universe be annulled in behalf of a single petitioner confessedly unworthy."

Still, we pray for what we want, either for ourselves or for someone else. If you pray, please accept the result, no matter whether it is what you asked for or not. Believe it or not, God is in charge! As the Koran says, "Give God time." Or as Pastor Margaret used to say to us, "...in God's own time." I believe that God knows what God is doing by not granting our wishes immediately - if at all! Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The meaning of good and bad, of better and worse, is simply HELPING or HURTING."



What has been your reaction to this world crisis? Did you give food, money, time, and/or prayers to help those who need these things, or did you try to buy all the toilet paper, paper towels, hand sanitizer, and soap in the store for yourself and your family, whether or not you denied another person or family's having ANY? James A Froude said, "Fear is the parent of cruelty."

Continued ... "Only Trust Him"

I know you are afraid, but do you really believe buying all this stuff will save you from COVID-19? Do you really believe that denying others these items will save you? I don't believe God works like that. I'll bet you don't really either!! Remember that even Jesus said, "If it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt." Even Jesus knew he had to accept whatever God willed! I feel pretty sure you already know this, but none of us is getting out of this life alive! Only trust Him to decide whether or not your time is soon or many, many years from now. My grandmother always said, "Worrying means we don't trust God." You can pray, you can take precautions, and you can give it your best shot to do what is right, but God is the ONLY one in control! Never tempt God by being foolish! I doubt that you will be rewarded for that behavior! I love an anthem we have in our music library that is based on a quote from Robert Louis Stevenson, which says, "Give us grace and strength to preserve. Give us courage and gaiety and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends and soften to us our enemies. Give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we may be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath and in all changes of fortune, and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving to one another." Finally, I'd like to quote my favorite prayer by Reinhold Niebuhr, which says, "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardship as the pathway to peace. Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His will; That I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy forever in the next."

Go in Peace! Trust in God!

Harriet Phillips, Lay Leader

GOD IS HERE, ARE YOU?

Am I the only one who feels overwhelmed? Do you ever feel lost and unsure of where to turn? I must remember that God is always here and that I know to turn to Him.

GOD IS HERE! Trinity is here and in need of our support. Please stay current or ahead in your usual giving. There are salaries and bills to pay, and programs to support in spreading the Gospel as Jesus commanded. Thank you for doing your best for God's church. Your church (Trinity United Methodist Church) thanks you!

Liz Carin

Finance Chair





A New Passover by Pastor Bob Clark



As I listened to the mayor's announcement about the "shelter-in-place" ordinance, I was struck by the weirdly appropriate timing of this order for people of the Judeo-Christian tradition. In the season of Lent as we draw near the time of Passover, we are ordered to shelter in our home. How could I not think of the story of the Passover? How could I not remember the night the Israelites huddled behind closed doors as the angel of death passed over the land? I am confident you remember the story From Exodus 12:1-14. Therefore, as we hunker down to await the passing of this current pandemic, let's use this time as opportunity to remember and to reflect on the Passover.

We encourage you to join us on Facebook for **Trinity Live**. You do not need a Facebook account. When you open Facebook it will give you an option to open an account, if you do not wish to do so, simply click on the "not now" button. Included in this message is a link to an instructional video created by Ashley Dulin that will provide you with clear step by step instructions for connecting on Sunday using a variety of devices. Worship is more important than ever during this challenging season! The world needs our prayers. Please know that you are in mine.

May God continue to bless and protect you.
-- Pastor Bob

Below are some important links:

Trinity Home Page: www.tumcsa.net
 Instructional video: <https://youtu.be/xIcWV39ORFc>
 Trinity Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/tumcsa.net/>
 Pastor's email: pastor@tumcsa.net

ALSO! Join us on Facebook live for Evening Prayers at 5:00 p.m. led by Pastor Bob.

Welcome to Evening Prayers!
We will begin at 5:00 pm



The Passover reminds us of the story of a terrible plague, a plague that brought death to many people. It also reminds us that death is never the end of the story. Captivity, oppression, hardship, are not the end of the story! The bad news is never the end of the story. Covid-19 is not the end of the story! In the end God uses a terrible plague to liberate the people of Israel from bondage. In the end God uses the crucifixion of his only begotten son to conquer death once for all. The Passover ends with liberation. The passion ends with resurrection. In Romans 8:28, Paul writes "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God..." All things includes our current reality. God has the power to deliver us from the current pandemic. God will deliver us. Over those who are in Christ death has no power. Death is not the end of the story. In the end God wins. Remember, even this is the day that the Lord has made...Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Happy Birthday to:

CAROLYN MILLER	6-Apr
CURTIS FOSTER	8-Apr
ELOUISE COOLEY	9-Apr
ELIZABETH McCOWN	12-Apr
JULIANA M. RODULFO	16-Apr
ROBERT MILLER	17-Apr
DENISE WILSON	18-Apr
LOUISE LYLE	18-Apr

Happy Anniversary to:

BOB AND JOYCE PARKE	8-Apr
BILL & LIZ CAVIN	27-Apr

Dear Trinity Church Family,

It is with mixed feelings that I write this message to you.

It has been decided that Rev. Bob Clark will be serving a different congregation beginning June 28th. The Bishop of our Conference has decided to change assignments. If you are new to the United Methodist Church, moving pastors is a regular part of our church structure. Those of you that have been a Methodist for a longer time, have been through this before. We will be providing more information as the time gets closer about how, when and where we will send off Pastor Bob and Donna. Their service to our community is beyond compare.

I want to take this opportunity to introduce to you the new pastor that has been assigned to begin serving Trinity UMC as of June 28th.

Pastor John Meande (Me-en-de), was born in Buea, a small town on the slope of the Cameroon Mountain, in the former British Southern Cameroon, in Western Africa. His background has many paths that have led him to be our pastor.

After earning his Bachelor's degree in History of International Relations from the University of Yaounde I – in 1994, he migrated to South Africa in 1996. There he served at the Methodist church in Johannesburg as the Assistant Director of Outreach in its Peace and Justice ministries around Johannesburg and Soweto, where almost 30,000 people were served under his leadership.

After three years, he migrated to the United States of America and discerned that God was calling him into a lifetime of ordained ministry for God's glory. He enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at the Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City. While in Seminary, he served as the Associate Pastor of two Nazarene churches in the Kansas City area. Following this, he enrolled in a Cultural Pastoral Education program at the Research Medical Center. With this experience, he moved to San Antonio and became a part of Northwest Hills UMC.

Pastor Meande fervently states that "Coming back to the people called Methodist, was like coming home and coming to continue Jesus' work that Mr. John Wesley did in the South of Scotland." With this in mind, he became a candidate for ministry, and was appointed as a Local Pastor at Wesley-Harper UMC in Seguin. He was approved as a provisional Elder, and has been serving in this role for several years.

John is married to Felicite, and they are blessed with four children: Efome(16), Hadassah(10), Mishael(7), and Tamar(3). We are pleased to have this family join our Trinity family. God has been working, walking and inviting Pastor Meande as a servant for many, many years. Trinity is blessed to have him continue his service with us. His first Sunday will be June 28th.

As soon as it is possible, the Church Board will meet with John and Felicite. Please continue to pray for Trinity UMC and the families of Reverend Bob Clark and Reverend John Meande.

With God's love,

Julie Vincent

Chairman of Church Board

