

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 as you
feel comfortable.

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

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

New Seekers Faith
Meeting
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
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
www.tumcsa.net

Simply shop at
smile.amazon.com
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Trinity UMC.



2023 Missions - **JANUARY**

4th Sunday "Above and Beyond" Special Offering (PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY)
**San Antonio Region Justice For Our Neighbors
(SARJFON)**



"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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

CONNIE GERMANN	6-Jan
GRACE EMADE ESSOMBE	8-Jan
JAKOB BENTON	11-Jan
JOSEPH MONTALVO	14-Jan
LORRAINE RALLS	15-Jan
BYRON BURGE	16-Jan
TARA DYE	18-Jan
JONATHAN D. ORMOND	19-Jan
JOE SMITH	21-Jan
JULIE VINCENT	23-Jan
ALLYSEN DYE	27-Jan
RICKY LANDERS	29-Jan

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

DON & CINDY GERTH	12-Jan
JOHN & AMELIA REED	16-Jan

DECEMBER 2022

ATTENDANCE IN WORSHIP

IN THE SANCTUARY (IN-PERSON)

DECEMBER 4	39
DECEMBER 11	40
DECEMBER 18	43
DECEMBER 24	43
DECEMBER 25	29

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.

DECEMBER 4	79
DECEMBER 11	82
DECEMBER 18	82
DECEMBER 24	151
DECEMBER 25	88

TITHES & DONATIONS

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

DECEMBER 4	\$12,182
DECEMBER 11	\$3,856
DECEMBER 18	\$6,243
DECEMBER 24/25	\$1,735

Donate to Trinity UMC

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).

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.

- Contact John Reed

A New Year - A Fresh Start!

Another year is past, leaving us with wonderful memories and situations and occurrences we'd like to forget, as well. Either way, God's will was done; we learn from both. As I've said many times, I believe we are here to learn lessons, so any experience is a potential learning experience for us.

As you look forward to a new year, I urge you to reflect upon what you have learned from this past year. Try not to make the same mistakes again this year. Try to spread happiness wherever you go, not whenever you go! Be a part of the solution, not the problem! Yes, these are all sayings we hear over and over, but why are they repeated over and over?

Stop assuming somebody else will take care of "it." Some of us get "burned out" and might just stop "taking care of it." At least, offer to help when you see a need; you don't have to take on the whole task, yourself.

If you see someone looking sad and hopeless, ask how you can help. Maybe you can't afford financial help (If you can, please give), but a kind word can go a long way. Just knowing somebody cares really helps.

Every morning that God allows you to wake up is another chance to do something good. Yes, some choose another route, but you, as Christians, should choose something good. When we read that "God loves a cheerful giver," it can mean giving time, help, love, etc.

I don't mean to forget all that has passed, but don't dwell on it, either. You cannot change anything that has already happened, so make each day "the first day of the rest of your life." Go forward with hope and confidence that God will be with you on your journey.

So when I say, "Happy New Year," I mean for you and for all you meet.

Harriet Phillips

Lay Leader



What is the meaning of “redeeming the time” in Ephesians 5:16

Ephesians 5:15-16 in the King James version says, “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.” The phrase *redeeming the time* is also found in Colossians 4:5: “Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time” (KJV). In both passages, redeeming the time is related to wisdom in how we “walk,” that is, in how we live.

To redeem something means to buy it back, to regain possession of it. Time is a gift from God, and none of us knows how much of it we are allotted. Only God knows how much time each of us has on this earth to make decisions that will impact eternity (Psalm 139:16). When God says we should be “redeeming the time,” He wants us to live in constant awareness of that ticking clock and make the most of the time we have. In fact, the NIV’s translation of Ephesians 5:16 uses the phrase *making the most of every opportunity* instead of *redeeming the time*. Rather than waste our days on frivolous pursuits that leave no lasting imprint, Scripture instructs us to be diligent about doing good (Titus 3:8).

The context of the command to redeem the time helps us understand what redeeming the time looks like and why it’s important: “Be careful how you live. Don’t live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. Don’t be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life” (Ephesians 5:15-18, NLT). Redeeming the time means that we are careful in how we live. We seek out and employ wisdom (see Proverbs 2:1-15). We seize every opportunity and use it for God’s glory. We think through our plans and make sure they align with God’s will. And we avoid empty, harmful activities such as getting drunk. Why are we to live this way? “Because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16). We must overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21).

Jesus taught His disciples the necessity of redeeming the time: “We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work” (John 9:4). Jesus was diligent about keeping to His mission. Distractions were as prevalent then as they are now, but He let none of them deter Him from preaching and teaching God’s Word. That was why He had come (Luke 4:43). Though He spent only 33 years on this earth, Jesus changed the world forever because He redeemed the time.

Another way we can learn to redeem the time is by asking God to help us. We should start every morning by committing our day to the Lord and asking Him to help us do something that day that has eternal significance. By beginning our day with eternity in mind, we become more aware of spiritual nudges in our hearts. We look for ways we can honor the Lord, help someone else, or utilize our time in productive ways. Sitting at a red light, we can pray for our neighbor. Mopping the floor, we can worship in song. At a restaurant, we can leave an extra big tip along with a gospel tract or a card inviting the waiter to church.

.... *continued*

We can evaluate our gifts and interests and find ways to invest them for God's kingdom. Volunteering, serving at church, leading a ministry, taking Bible studies to the jails and prisons, and studying to show ourselves "approved unto God" are all ways we can redeem the time (*2 Timothy 2:15, KJV*).

James 4:14 reminds us that our earthly lives are no more than a fog that appears and then quickly evaporates. Our money and possessions will be given to someone else. Our jobs will be filled by others. Our families may remember us with fondness but will move on with lives that don't include us. All that remains of our lives on earth is that which was invested in eternity. In the end, all that matters is what we did or did not do to redeem the time (*Psalm 102:3; 144:4*).

- *Gotquestion.org*



Weekly Recurring Meetings:

- ✦ Prayer meeting every Wednesday 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 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. Family Life is responsible for our social activities, e.g., July 4th luncheon and sing-along, Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving luncheon, and Super Chili Bowl Cook-off.
 - 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 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, please contact Cynthia in the church office or Harriet Phillips.*

New Year Prayer 2023

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the year that has passed and the many blessings You have showered upon us.
We beg your pardon in our many failings and trespasses. Make the new year a more fruitful and blessed one.
We also thank You for every test of time that has brought us stronger in faith and trust in You.
Bestow upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit.
We call upon our Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessions, His guidance and His light to shine our path.

Prayer For Us As Individuals In The New Year

Lord Jesus Christ, we lift up ourselves in our present state.
We pray that we become more responsible in our pursuits, our faith and our prayer life.
In our personal development, as members of our families, employees, and in society, we pray to improve in our duties and responsibilities. May we be more diligent and productive in our contribution.
We pray to keep our eyes, our ears and our hearts from clinging to the things of this world.
May we keep our whole being fixed on You, O Lord.
Let us never lose sight of You and let our love for You grow more and more every day.
Bestow upon us, O Lord, a genial spirit and unwearied forbearance. Give us a gentle, kind, loving and patient heart.
Bless us with a pleasant, cordial speech and manners.
We pray to be true to all in our words, thoughts and deeds.
May we be humble and respectful towards others and honoring God all our lives.

For Our Family Life

Lord, we pray for all family members: father, mother, husband, wife, brothers and sisters. We pray for each one to be blessed with Your love and providence that they may be part of a family of unity, peace and well being.
May there be love in the family which will overlook all shortcomings. Let there be compassion which will see one another in mercy. And may there be forgiveness and acceptance in the times of failure and disappointments.
For those who are without faith, we pray that You open a door of opportunity for one to reach them with Your Good News. Convert their unbelief to embrace You, Lord Jesus Christ, with their hearts.

For Employment Opportunities In The New Year

Lord Jesus Christ, we lift up those who are reading this who are unemployed and in desperate need of a job.
We pray for Your divine help and guidance as they seek suitable employment. They need Your wisdom to guide their footsteps along the right path, and to lead them to find the proper things to say and do in this quest.
We pray they use the gifts and talents You have given them, as you reveal opportunities to do so with gainful employment.
Do not abandon them, dear Lord, in this search, but rather grant them this favor so that they may return to You with praise and thanksgiving for Your gracious assistance.

For Children Of All Ages

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for children of all ages who are either pursuing their studies or working.
May they be focused in their pursuit and become responsible individuals, contributing well to family and society.
Guard them, O Lord we pray, from all dangers and evil exposures. Protect them from the worldly pleasures that lead to a unhealthy lifestyle. May their homes be filled with love.
Let their hearts be strong and secure, not to fall into the way of darkness.
May education be important to them, and may moral values and discipline be an integral part of their lives.
We pray that they turn to You, O Lord, in prayer for Your continued love, mercy and support as You lead them to green pastures all the days of their lives.

Praying For The World Around Us

Lord Jesus Christ, last but not the least, we earnestly pray for world peace and unity.
May war and persecutions in the name of religion come to cease.
May there be respect and tolerance for one another's beliefs.
We pray for the sick, the terminally ill, the abandoned, the homeless, the rejected, the lost and those affected by natural calamities.
May we who are well and good, in our best, reach these who are suffering and aid them with care and support.
May our hearts extend with love, and our hands extend in sharing our blessings and providence, always for the glory of God, in Your blessed name Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

- Geevetha Mary Samuel / Christians TT