

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TRINITY VIEW

December 2023



Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

December 3: First Sunday of Advent, Worship Service at 10:00 am.

December 10: Second Sunday of Advent, Worship Service at 10:00 am.

December 17: Third Sunday of Advent, (Music Sunday) Worship Service at 10:00 am.

December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent, Worship Service at 10:00 am.

December 24: Christmas Eve candlelight worship service at 8:00 pm.

*Note: There will **not be** a worship service on December 25, Christmas Day.*

Turn on Your Love Light



Bobby Blue Bland, a Blues singer, sang "Turn on Your Love Light". When I hear this song, it brings me to a place where I reflect on what will happen throughout December. God is opening up His Love Light to shine on all of us.

We have been waiting for the Love Light. We need the Love Light to come into the world and shine on the places where darkness has infiltrated our lives and the lives of others.

We need the Love Light to take over where injustices have been found, like hurting innocent people by wars in Ukraine and the Middle East. We need the Love Light to shine on people on the border trying to find a way to a better life. We need the Love Light to shine on our families, friends, neighbors, and those who are struggling with mental and physical issues and food and housing insecurity.

We pray for this light to come down and shine in the dismal areas of our world. Throughout history, people have wanted to have the Love Light shine on them and others. God heard the cries of all people and sent the Love Light to all who needed it.

This Love Light will lead those who have an open mind and heart to a place of transformation. This transformation is something we want to share with everyone. We tell them of a great light we saw that came down from the heavens as a blessed sign of new things to come to those who are willing to open their hearts and minds to the leading of this Love Light.

When God turns on the Love Light, God is sending this light as a new way to see. A way for us to see that the Love Light will overpower whatever we are facing. This Love Light will bring joy and peace if you are willing to let this Love Light into your life and work through your life.

The Love Light that God is sending is a gift to all humanity.

Church, it is our mission to share the gift of this Love Light to those who need it and might not understand; it's our calling to share that the Love Light is the birth of a new leader. This leader is not like any leader they have ever witnessed in their lifetime. This leader brings compassion, heals the sick, prays for those in need of care, shows love to all, and, most importantly, shows Christ is the Prince of Peace.

During this Advent and Christmas season, please prepare your hearts for this Love Light. Let the Love Light shine through you, and as it shines through you, it will make a difference amid the darkness of the world we all live in.

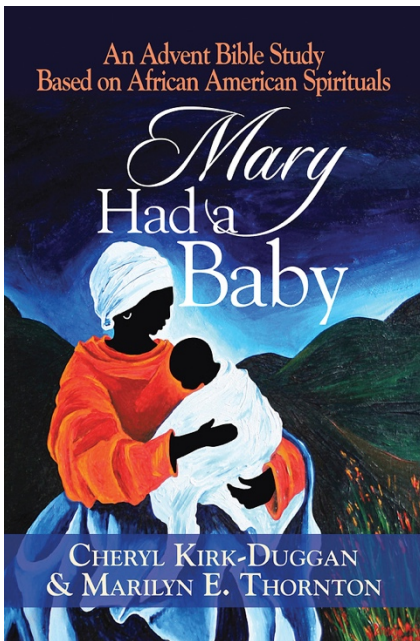
In his song, Bobby Blue Bland would say he feels all right when the Love Light is on. I wish for all of you that you feel all right when the Love Light is shining on you as well.

Please join Danielle and me on December 9th, 2023, from 1 pm to 3 pm for Danielle's cookie exchange and fun.

From my family to yours, may the Love Light bless you and keep you during this journey to the manger and the stars.

Blessings

Les

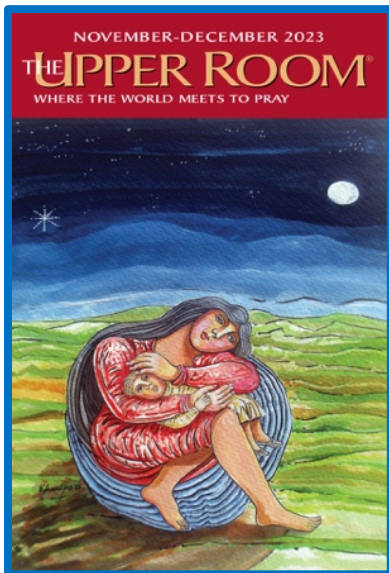


DECEMBER ADVENT STUDY

Pastor Les will be leading an Advent Study, “Mary Had a Baby.” The class will be held three consecutive Mondays, beginning December 4th, at 3:30-4:30, in the Fellowship Hall. We only have two books left, available to purchase for \$8.00.

If you wish to order a book through Amazon, here is the link:

<https://www.amazon.com/Mary-Had-Baby-American-Spirituals/dp/1426795513>



DECEMBER ADVENT STUDY WITH ALTA, VIA ZOOM

Advent Study on Zoom using “Upper Room” devotions will be led by Alta Hall. The class will meet on four Wednesday afternoons.

Dec. 6 at 2:30, Dec. 13, 20 and 27 at 2:00.

To join, send an email to Alta Hall (ahall3@sbcglobal.net) and she will send you the weekly invitations.

The November-December “Upper Room” is available in the church narthex.



Please thank the Board of Trustees as they host Fellowship Hour for the month of December. John Kersten Committee Chair, Bill Rodenhi, Ray Purcell, Rob Mills, and Jim Stanfill.



Home Church will be joining the Monday Advent Group “Mary Had a Baby,” for the month of December. For details about the Advent Study, see the post on the previous page.



United
Women
in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS

December 2023

December, the month of Advent and Christmas, decorating, shopping, gatherings and the spreading of good cheer and blessings, is here. It is also the time of year when we think of others and their needs and a time of generosity and good will.

Speaking of generosity, thank you to all those who contributed to the UWF bazaar in both donating items to be sold (including baked goods) and in purchasing items. Also, a big thank you to the UWF team who made and donated items, sorted, set up, and worked the sale. We made over \$1100 which will assist us in meeting our next year’s pledges to missions and donations to local programs and the church.

We are once again asking for donations for Socks for Los Osos’ Needy. A box has been set up in the narthex and will be there through the week of December 17. As usual, we are collecting new or very, very, gently used socks for all ages--children and youth and adult. Your generosity is appreciated.

Our only meeting this month will be the Board Meeting on Monday, December 11 at 1:00 in the Social Hall.

Wishing you all the blessings of Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Reason for the Season.

Alta Hall

Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes 2023



As we do each year, we ask visitors to our food pantry, during the preceding month, if they want full Thanksgiving meal kits in a box. We had 25 orders by November 17. We decided to make 28 kits. These kits contain 14 items to make a complete Thanksgiving meal. We bought 16 turkeys and 7 turkey breasts from the food bank, and 11 hams from local grocery stores. We received cash donations from the congregation of about \$400 plus a donation of \$600 from the Los Osos Kiwanis. 18 church members helped pick up most of the food items from Spencers grocery store and pack boxes on Monday, Nov 20. Then on Tuesday November 21, five church members helped deliver and hand out the boxes. On Tuesday we had an extra person show up requesting a kit, so we quickly made one more. We delivered 3 boxes; we had 3 no-shows, but the 3 extra boxes were given away within 2 days as new orders came in. The extra meat that we bought will be added to our pantry. Much thanks to all who helped with this big and important annual mission project.

Mike Lindsay
Missions Chair



We decorate our Sanctuary with poinsettias during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Sponsor one or more plants in the sanctuary for \$15 each, dedicate it in honor or memory of anyone you choose, and then take it home after Christmas. Sponsorship forms are available in the back of the sanctuary and in the church office. Dedications and payments must be received by Tuesday, Dec. 19 to be included in the Christmas Eve, December 24th Worship Folder.



MUSIC SUNDAY

Sunday, December 17th at 10:00 am

Trinity United Methodist Church worships through music.

The Chancel Choir, Trinity Ringers, along with many guest musicians will celebrate the joy of Christmas. You won't want to miss this special worship service.



Chrismon Tree

A Chrismon is a symbol that represents something about Jesus Christ or the Christian faith. There are many Chrismons. Individually, they remind us of some specific aspect of our God and the relationship we have with Him. Collectively they can tell a story of our faith, and all that Christ has done for us and who we are in Him.

Join us in decorating our Chrismon Tree in the Narthex this Advent Season.



TUMC Office will be closed: Monday, Tuesday, December 25 & 26 and Monday, Tuesday, January 1 & 2. Have a very Merry Christmas.



There are as many as 29 holidays that people celebrate between November 1 and January 15... 'tis the season! I would like to celebrate you. Because of you we have not had to transfer money from savings in months, pledges are up and our financial future is brighter. I would also like to thank all of you who cleaned up after fellowship time during November. Our financial team graciously provided you with treats, then scurried off to meetings. THANK YOU one and all!!!

Debbie Livingston



SAVE THE DATE

The 2024 Women's Retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, February 24, 2024. The retreat will be held here at Trinity from 9:00 am. until 4:00 pm. Pastor Paula Hulet will be the guest speaker again this year. Further details will be available at a later date.



Recap: Wednesday, November 29, Community Dinner

Thanks to our volunteer cooks for making the Tamale Pie Casseroles: Elizabeth Clover, Alta Hall, Colleen Powers, Sandy Green, and Wendy Porter. Approximately 100 dinners were served and once again the event was very well organized by Beth Crizer.

Bob, Beth and Scott continue to support the mission of feeding the hungry in Los Osos. Pastor Les attended and was busy networking and making some new connections which is just what our community needs. We are thankful for the TUMC Community Dinner Team!



“You do the Hokey Pokey and you turn yourself around that’s what it’s all about.” Pastor Les and Sarah Jane having fun at the first music session with the students of VCC, last month. Hopefully this will be the first of many enjoyable music sessions with Sarah Jane! A great time was had by all.



VCC is requesting donations of Clorox Wipes or boxes of Kleenex for the preschool. You may drop off your donations at the TUMC Office during regular hours.



Please welcome your Church Committee Chairs for 2024:

Sandy Green - Church Council Chair

Scott Danielson - Lay Leader

Scott Danielson - A.C Lay Member

TBD - A.C. Lay member

Scott Danielson/Cathy Bonnett - SPRC Co-Chairs

Debbie Livingston - Finance Chair / Planned Giving Chair

John Kersten - Trustees Chair

Elizabeth Clover - Memorials Chair

Mike Lindsay - Missions Chair

Alta Hall - UWF Chair

Susan McMickell - Worship Committee Chair

Lisa Purcell - VCC Chair



Fairbanks News for the Month of November 2023 and the end of October.

I had to get the October article to Mary Anne before Halloween. For the event I carved two Jack-o'-lanterns. All the trick-or-treaters we got were preschooler to elementary school age. All but the toddlers thanked us for the candy. One girl, about a fifth grader, wondered where I got the castle. She said she really liked it. Shortly after Halloween on November fifth, was Carole's birthday, 12 of us celebrated it at the Bay Side Cafe, Carole's favorite restaurant.

When Debbie, Carole and I went to the freshmen women's volleyball game in October we parked in the front parking lot and asked a girl sitting on the lawn what path to take to the gym, she got up and walked with us to a path and said it was way down there.

Then we got to a square where we thought we would see the gym, but didn't, I asked two girls who said it was further and recessed making it difficult to see, so they walked with us and pointed it out. I wrote a note to the MBHS' Principal complementing the courtesy of his students. He told our grandson Matt Irons what a nice note I sent him. In an October sermon, Rev. Les commented we need to build each other up. I built the principal up and, in turn through Matt, he built me up and we both confirmed Rev. Les' observation.

On the 12th I attended Marie Rossenwassers' memorial service, a formal event by invitation only. Marie was a Cuesta College President; I was the only faculty member in attendance. She and I had a unique relationship. As a year was winding down, she asked me to her office to tell her how it had gone. I filled her in concerning what I had done with students; hosting study sessions at our house, taking students with me to professional conferences, students helping me organize conferences, as well as what I was doing in various professional organizations related to my disciplines. Every year thereafter we met, her last year at Cuesta, she gave me \$300 from a discretionary fund, no red tape, to help students I was taking to conferences. At her service several former Cuesta administrators on the program said how she mentored them and supported their programs. I was the first member of the audience to speak and focused on how she supported my students and me. When I sat down

Marie's Rabi's wife gave me a 👍.

Thanksgiving dinner was at our house with 15 members of our extended family. Our children and Debbie brought the food, all I did was make an apple pie. It was the first test of our dining room table which was built around 1900. Bill, our son, with help from one of his friends, found time this summer to strengthen the antique table. We put all six leaves in it and it held up very well.

Since Matt was in upper elementary school, he and Bill went to a tree farm to cut Christmas trees for members of the family the day after Thanksgiving, so now our Christmas tree is up and our house decorated for Christmas.

Carole and Bill Fairbanks



Save the Date!!

Please plan to attend the

First Annual

Cookie Extravaganza!

Hosted by Les & Danielle

Saturday, December 9th, 1pm to 3pm

In the Fellowship Hall at

Trinity UMC



In the spirit of a cookie exchange, please bring 4-5 dozen of your favorite holiday treats to share, along with the recipe so that others can make it during the holiday season.

Drinks will be provided.

(For those that don't bake, your favorite store-bought treat is great)





Central Coast Chorus

(Sweet Adeline's)

will hold a concert here on Sunday, December 17th.



A NEW MINISTRY "HUMAN TO HUMAN"

Who doesn't enjoy receiving a personal note or card in the mail? Of course, we all can text or email or use social media to keep in touch, but there's just something so special about receiving a personal message in our mailbox.

Keeping connected in a more personal way can warm hearts and keep connections strong.

Also, writing to any age of children helps model and encourage literacy, and adds to self-esteem. (Don't forget to print words for younger children.) However, cards and stationary can be really expensive!

It just so happens that I am the recipient of such materials from non-profit groups. I will be sharing my extras with you. Beginning after worship service on Sunday, December 3, a table in the Fellowship Hall will feature **FREE** materials for all TUMC members and visitors. The table will be there at that time and place, every Sunday. You are welcome to visit the table and take whatever you need.

Also: if you happen to have any such items at your home that you no longer need, please add those items to the table. Such items may include: Christmas cards, birthday cards, get well cards, thank you cards, thinking of you cards, blank note cards, calendars, stickers, note pads or pens.

My hope is that this will become an **ONGOING RESOURCE** throughout 2024 and beyond.

Please visit the "Human to Human table! All are welcome!

Mary Jefferson



12/01 John Kelly
 12/02 Kasey Lindsay
 12/05 Lisa Purcell
 12/07 Dorothy Upton
 12/10 Will Wittman
 12/12 Holly Holz
 12/18 Bruce Powers
 12/18 Kirk Sidener
 12/19 Bob Robertson
 12/21 Beth Crizer
 12/21 Rosemary Hollis
 12/28 Rollie Bigbee
 12/30 Wyatt Wittman



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

12/13 Wendy and John Porter
 12/18 Robert and Karen Johnson
 12/18 Ted & Janet Oliver

Prayer List

Asking for your continued support in prayer for those in need. *If you or someone you know needs to be included on the prayer list, please email or call the office. To be removed from the list, please contact the church office.*

Sue Bigbee
 Mollie Devine
 Rob Mills
 Clytis Pitzer
 Rose Robertson
 Al Schiebelhut
 Rachel Stones
 Linda Wagner
 Family of Donna Vrooman

Ann
 Christy Awbrey
 Walt Bergman
 Ed Coppola
 Alvah Davis
 Nicolas Devine
 Rose Devine
 Steve Giasson
 Renee Gittins

Sharalyn Hamilton
 Marge Helseth
 Dillon Johnson
 Joan Landis
 Nancy Mansfield-Staudt
 Nina
 Darrell Oliver
 Marliss Peterson
 Valerie Powell
 David Richford
 Julie Rohner
 Mike Romanski
 Alan Roske
 Ronald Russel
 Maddie Schwenoha
 Justin Shong
 Barbara Stankovits
 Helen Wells



CONTACT US

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Bishop: The Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank District Superintendent: The Rev. Melissa MacKinnon
The Rev. Les Lungren Administrative Assistant: Mary Anne Meyer
Director of Music Ministries: Sarah Jane Scott Bell Choir Director: Rich Bolin
Director of Education & Media Ministries: Kasey P. Lindsay Lay Leader: Scott Danielson
V.C.C. Director: Bonnie Luther

Please contact the church office at 805-528-1649 if you wish to be removed from our mailing list



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