



“And he made from one human being every nation of the world to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for “In him we live and move and have our being...”

*Acts 17:26-28a*

July 1<sup>st</sup> marks the beginning of my 7<sup>th</sup> year here at Trinity United Methodist Church. Magda and I have had a great time growing together with the people of this wonderful and warm congregation. We have seen many changes taking place at Trinity: we have seen people moving away from Frederick, we have buried many who had become part of our extended family, we have seen some leave for different reasons but we have seen God do great things through it all.

In my tenured here we have seen two beloved Associate pastors move on to new and exciting appointments, and we have been blessed with new and new gifts and talents coming our way with our new Associate Pastor Mark Claiborne. Although

changes bring uncertainty which can be unsettling, the good news is that our Lord does not, and neither does the mission of the Church. Our Vision has changed in order to point to where we want to go: “To make disciples of Jesus Christ, transform our community and world.” This is what guides our work for the Kingdom of God here in Frederick. Our mission has changed to respond to the new realities we are living today: “In obedience to Matthew 25 (31-41), Trinity’s mission is to challenge both ourselves and our communities to share the Good News of the Kingdom of God through acts of mercy and justice, compassion and love, piety and intentional faith development”.

I know that we are concerned with the future of our denomination, but we cannot lose sight of our goal, our *telos*: to “make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **and** teaching them to obey everything that [Jesus] have commanded....” (Matthew 28:19-20). We have our marching orders, and they have not changed.

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Therefore, I want Trinity to be that church in the community that lives its faith by its actions. I want our church to be that faith community that brings people together to work for the common good, for the well-being of all people living in our county, even if we disagree about how to go about it. I want Trinity to be that faith community that seeks transformation through our compassion and love. I want Trinity to be the church in Frederick that provides learning opportunities and trainings that will help develop Spirit filled people, people who will grow in their stewardship, people who will become financially astute, and who will live with generous hearts. I want people who will not be afraid to be inquisitive, and intellectually honest and courageous. In other words I want our people *"To reform the nation, particularly the church, and to spread scriptural holiness over the land,"* as Mr. John Wesley declared over 200 years ago.

I believe that Trinity can become the most diverse, and inclusive faith community in Frederick, it is in our DNA, we just need to reclaim it. I want us to make Trinity an example of that community we find in Revelations: *"a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages..."* (7:9).

So, I believe that to become that church, we must truly live into a holiness of heart and life that is centered on

loving God and our neighbor. This is where the power of our mission lies. Our Methodist movement was never meant to be an end in itself, but was always intended to serve the mission: bringing the good news of the kingdom of God to the world. Our Discipline, our organization, our emphasis on education, mercy and love were all designed to enable our movement to fulfill its purpose of renewing lives, the Church, and the nations.

Some people today are focus on the afterlife, just as some people were in the eighteenth century. Nevertheless, we have sustained for over two hundred years that God has called the people called Methodists to proclaim the message that God's salvation begins here on earth marked by our obedience to Jesus' commandment to love God and neighbor. It was this that made the Methodist mission distinctive, and this is what can make our work in Frederick transformational.

Would you join me in this work? Would you work with me to make Trinity that place where God's grace abounds, where God's mercy abounds, where God's love flows freely and unrestrained? I pray you do!

May God's blessings be upon all of you as we move forward to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God for another season.

In Christ's Service,



## FROM STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Dear Trinity Family,

While you are on vacation and enjoying summer activities, we would like to encourage you to continue your ongoing support. We pray that you and your loved ones enjoy your vacations, sporting events, parties, barbecues, and all the distractions that summer can afford. As you are away, consider giving by using our Q-R code, electronic bank transfer, PayPal on our website, or even by mailing in your offering to the church office. We are grateful for your ongoing support to bring the Good News of the Kingdom of God to our Frederick community. Enjoy your summer!!!



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**JULY**  
**Operation**  
**Christmas Child**  
**Collections**

**Sunglasses & Flip Flops**

*Please place donations in the Collection Center*

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**



**Sunday, July 28**

*Please RSVP by 7/21 to Dick Gessner at 301-788-6447 or gesra76@aol.com.*



We are pleased to announce that The Trinity Brass (the brass ensemble which is part of the Music & Arts Ministry at TUMC) has been invited to participate in the 2020 UMC General Conference being held in Minneapolis, MN, May 5 - 15, 2020.

The Trinity Brass will participate in a worship service one morning during the Conference, and will provide a musical concert later that same day for the enjoyment of the Delegates and other attendees. The exact date of The Trinity Brass' participation has not yet been determined.

The Trinity Brass participated the UMC 2016 General Conference that was held in Portland, OR.

**MEET OUR NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR MARK R. CLAIBORNE, SR.**



Pastor Mark Claiborne has served for the past three years as the Associate Pastor at Centennial Memorial UMC. He is a servant of God who gets excited about the opportunity to proclaim the Good News of God's Kingdom; someone who is passionate about Christ with a strong commitment to build godly relations through God's message of love & hope, compassion and mercy, and peace with justice. He has been part of the UMC since his childhood. He grew up in Jackson Chapel UMC, and went on to serve in other churches and ministries in the area including: Bethel United Methodist Church in Smithsburg, Hopehill United Methodist Church in Frederick, and City of Hope Ministry in Frederick. He has also served as the Frederick District United Methodist Men's President from 2010-2018.

Pastor Mark has been married to Kerry Claiborne for the past 24 years, and together they have three grown children. Mark Claiborne, Jr., who is a University of Maryland Alum and the Contemporary Musical Director at Brook Hill UMC, Makayla Claiborne who recently graduated from Howard University in Washington, D.C., and Makiya Claiborne who attends Hagerstown Community College. They have all been very involved in various ministries in the UMC. He and his family currently reside in Hagerstown.

Pastor Mark was born and raised in Frederick, MD and graduated from Frederick High School. He attended Hagerstown Community College, Hagerstown, MD, where he graduated in 2011 with an Associates degree in Information Systems Technology. In 2012 he graduated from Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, MD, with a BS in Information Systems. Pastor Mark is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC.



Pastor Mark is excited about the opportunity of serving alongside the amazing Ministerial Staff at Trinity and is looking forward to helping grow the ministry of both the contemporary and traditional worship services so that God's people may go out into the world to make disciples and transform the world.

## 2019 BALTIMORE WASHINGTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE LAITY REPORT

*By Michele Pickens*



This year's conference theme was about Love: We Are One United to Love.

On Wednesday, the laity heard from Marcia McFee in a laity session on how to enhance our worship life. She shared how many learning styles can be impacted during worship. Throughout the conference, she provided opportunities for all to fully experience worship through their various learning styles.

Candidates for ordination and commissioning were approved, including two persons that are married to people of the same gender and were not approved at last year's clergy session. Both expressed their gratitude by saying, "The vote today demonstrates the powerful work of the Holy Spirit and God's vision for building a loving and just church and world" and "This is one small step toward justice in the UMC and a sign of hope that God is still moving." In all, the clergy session approved 2 deacons and 9 elders as candidates for commissioning and 1 deacon and 11 elders for ordination.

At our worship on Wednesday evening, Bishop Easterling spoke of the pain over the continuing repercussions of the 2019 general conference and encouraged us to recognize that one of the most precious of human freedoms is the ability to choose one's attitudes in each moment. It is what we will do with the pain that will make a difference. Will the pain paralyze us or will we offer it to Jesus? She preached that love is an act of will, and that we cannot choose to banish the darkness, but we can choose to kindle the light.

On Thursday, lay and clergy listened to 7 conference leaders participate in a Samoan circle, a process of sharing varied and diverse perspectives from general conference in February. The one thing they all agreed on was what was at stake for the church – "Everything, Absolutely Everything!" In spite of the pain and anger, they feel hope in the ministries happening around our conference.

During bible study on Thursday and Friday morning, we heard from Dr. Marvin McMickle. He challenged us to confront poverty. He led the bible study using the scripture Luke 16: 19-22. He shared that God does not care about our rituals, but he does care if we are caring for other. Do we care and are we paying attention to the other? Poverty has a visibility and must be confronted. Having seen poverty, we make a conscious decision to act or not. He shared how many of us drive through poverty to church each Sunday. Are we paying attention to the needs just outside of our church doors? Look outside our church or as you drive to church one Sunday. He challenged us to blame the condition, not the person struggling with poverty. Poverty is our challenge.

One speaker on Friday, was James Cogman. He shared that, "If humanity ever harnesses the power of love it will be the first time in a long time, that we will have discovered the heart of God." Another speaker, Scott Johnson shared inspiring words with a laity address. He shared that "The church has turned the proverbial page, and our story is still be written." We were prompted to think about what it means to be part of an ongoing story that moves in directions that we weren't anticipating, but assured us that God, who is the author of our story, is indeed engaged with, in, through, and around us. He called us to make sure that we are playing our part in the unfolding story of The United Methodist Church. It is a moment in history that we cannot appreciate because we are still in the midst of it. Our churches need us and that involves all of us. God hears us and there is hope in the future that is shaping our ongoing story. Are you playing your part in our connection?

Before the gavel ended the session on Saturday morning just after 1 AM, decisions were made on 19 resolutions of which 11 with direct ties to the results of the February Special Session. Most of the resolutions were referred to conference committees for consideration. We adopted a 2020 budget by unanimous vote. We elected 6 clergy and 6 lay delegates to general conference 2020, 6 clergy and 6 lay delegates to Jurisdictional conference. We also elected 4 clergy and 4 laity alternates for conference. Elected was Pastor Giovanni Arroyo, as a clergy delegate for general conference.

Saturday's focus was on youth. The youth praised, prayed, and spoke to their lives in the church. Our own, Jasmine Osborne, represented the Frederick district.

This is a short reflection from my conference experience. If you have questions or want to know more please ask Pastor Eliezer, Pastor Suzanne, Laura Welker, Kevin Welker, or myself. You can also visit the conference website at <https://www.bwcumc.org/events/annual-conference/> to hear Bishop Easterling's powerful sermons and read the "UMConnection Daily" stories from each day of the conference. Below see some of the highlights from this year's Annual Conference:

- 20 retirees were celebrated for 545 total years of service
- The clergy session approved 2 deacons and 9 elders as candidates for commissioning and 1 deacon and 11 elders for ordination
- 11 churches were closed in our conference; including two here in the Frederick district
- The conference packed 60,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger
- An offering for Seeds of Security, aid in preventing domestic violence/intimate partner violence through the BWC raised \$10,189.
- There was a memorial service for families and friends of pastors, pastor's spouses, and conference lay people that had died in the last year.
- Ordination made history – first time, a bishop commissioned her husband as a provisional elder.
- Ordination made history – first time, an infant joined his parents in ordination
- Ordination made history- for the first time, two openly gay candidates were approved by the Clergy Executive Session and were commissioned/ ordained on Friday evening
- A Sexual Ethics Policy was approved
- Passed a resolution for common communion bread that is gluten-free, egg-free, dairy-free, and nut-free bread for all at all annual conferences, regional, and district events.
- Passed a resolution to Purchase a New Episcopal Residence for our bishop after mold and other maintenance issues have required a move.

Thank you for supporting your clergy, laity, and youth in attending our annual conference in Baltimore. Blessings.

DAVE RAMSEY'S  
**FINANCIAL** *Peace*<sup>®</sup>  
UNIVERSITY

**Starting September 8**  
**Sundays at 4:00pm**

Register at <https://fpu.com/1089341>

Classes are  
**STARTING SOON!**

**JULY 2019**  
**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

(MT=Ministry Team)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm Church Council	<b>2</b> 8:00 am Men's Bible Study	<b>3</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>4</b> <b>4th of July</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b> <i>Holy Communion</i> <i>Fill it Full of Food</i>	<b>8</b> 6:30 pm Praise Team	<b>9</b> 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm Altar Guild	<b>10</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Women's MT 6:00 pm Taizé Service 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>11</b> 6:00 pm Fellowship & Hospitality MT 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
Vacation Bible School 2:00- 5:00pm						
<b>14</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> <i>Fill it Full of Food</i>	<b>15</b> 6:30 pm Praise Team	<b>16</b> 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Member Care & Nurture MT	<b>17</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>18</b> 7:00 pm Stewardship & Finance MT	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 1:00 pm UMC Next
Youth ASP Mission Trip						
<b>21</b> 12:30 pm Church & Society MT	<b>22</b> 11:30 am J.O.Y. Club Senior Luncheon 6:30 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm SPRC	<b>23</b> 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm Trustees MT	<b>24</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 12:30 pm Ice Cream Social	<b>29</b> 6:30 pm Praise Team	<b>30</b> 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 1:00 pm Newsletter Collating	<b>31</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p><b>SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b> 8:45 am - Contemporary Worship 9:55 am - Grow Time for ALL ages 11:10 am - Traditional Worship <i>Staffed nursery care provided all morning</i></p> </div>		

## JULY VOLUNTEERS

Date	Drivers	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters
7/7	Bill Etzler 301-798-3469	Don Hott	8:45 - Wayne Buckingham 11:10 - Larry Boyer, Glenna Green, Pam Lesperance, and Adrian Winpigler	8:45 - Dick & Kim Gessner 11:10 - Tony & Caryn Driebelbies
7/14	David Eisentraut 301-371-3534	Barbara Maxwell	8:45 - Cecil Day 11:10 - Larry Boyer, Barb Ellis, and Judy & Michele Pickens	8:45 - Peggy Stagg and Pat Glass 11:10 - Bill & Kay Etzler
7/21	Matt Stegle 301-694-2649	Denise Berry	8:45 - Margaret Lukens 11:10 - Jerry Ryan, McKayla McNamee, and Doug & Mary Wallick	8:45 - Tom & Marian Paradise 11:10 - Barbara Maxwell and Sandy Wiles
7/28	Lars DeSalvio 301-471-7466	Wayne Buckingham	8:45 - Marisa Hombach 11:10 - Jerry Ryan, Dave Romer, and Bill & Kay Etzler	8:45 - Wayne Buckingham and Brenda Martz 11:10 - Chris & Lisa Freel



### FILL IT FULL OF FOOD!

The Missions Ministry Team is asking you to fill the back pew of the sanctuary full of food to help feed hungry Frederick families. As we have in the past, the goal is to FILL-A-PEW with canned goods and non-perishable food items on Sundays, July 7 and 14. Then, the food will be delivered to the Frederick Food Bank for distribution to hungry people in Frederick. Each week, bring food to help fill it and watch as it grows!

### NEWSLETTER COLLATING DATES

<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>July 30</i>	<i>1 pm</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>August 28</i>	<i>1pm</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>September 26</i>	<i>1pm</i>

These dates are subject to change. We are always looking for more volunteers. If you can help, please call Ruby Fine at 301-371-5617.

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please submit your information or article for the monthly Newsletter in one of the following ways :

- mail or deliver to the church office
- email to [TUMC@trinityfrederick.org](mailto:TUMC@trinityfrederick.org).

Information for the August 2019 Newsletter will be due the second Sunday of July – July 14.



Eliezer: 301-662-2895(work) and 301-620-8885(home)

The church office hours are 9am - 4pm, Monday through Thursday.

Pastor Eliezer's day off is Friday. He is normally in the office Monday through Thursday. Your pastor is ALWAYS available by phone.



Trinity United Methodist Church  
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www.trinityfrederick.org

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



Roar in to the fun at  
**Vacation Bible School**  
July 8 - July 12  
2:00 - 5:00pm

For more information or to register, visit [www.trinityfrederick.org](http://www.trinityfrederick.org).  
If you have any questions, please call Curtis Osborne at 301-662-2895.