

TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

“THE TRINITY OBSERVER”

NOVEMBER, 2012



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News from the Pastor's Desk

It's ok to Disagree!

One of the things I truly appreciate about being a Presbyterian is our right to disagree. Everyone is entitled to express their opinions and have their say. I can remember the first time I went to a Presbytery meeting and there was a debate over something or the other. Both lay and clergy were passionate about their views and were standing firm on their positions. After the meeting, those very same people who were on opposite ends of the spectrum were confirming lunch plans, sharing about their families or moved on to a completely different topic. They expressed their opinions and had their say in the meeting and afterwards moved on. It was amazing to me how they didn't allow their differences to severe or negatively impact their relationships.

These differences in theology and polity are at the heartbeat of a reformed faith tradition. I feel empowered knowing that I have voice and vote. I know that my comments, have at times, made a difference in the way someone who may have been undecided or even firm on their position, caused them to look again at their stance from a different perspective. I have come to understand that there is great wisdom in diversity. Our Book of Order states in F-1.0403: *"The unity of believers in Christ is reflected in the rich diversity of the Church's membership."* There is also another term called Mutual Forbearance in F-3.0105. I appreciate this as well because it anticipates that when a group of people get together (committee) to create, plan and

do the work of the church, there will be differences. We were all uniquely created in God and we should come to expect that we will respond differently. If we all agree all the time about everything, we should be suspicious because this could mean that someone is hindered or may not feel the space is safe to be their authentic self.

For me, mutual forbearance means you don't cut and run when you don't get your way. It means that I don't have to think like you all the time to love you. It means that we respect one another and as mature Christians because our goal is not to win and be right. The goal is to be one with Christ by joining together with all those whom Christ calls into relationship with him. This means we pray for one another, we fellowship together by sharing our lives with one another and we don't allow differences to divide us. Differences can ultimately lead to deeper relationships and deeper communities. Differences are sometimes disguised as opportunities to grow in our faith. Let's face it, we are not all children. We can expect them to get angry and stomp off when they aren't getting their way.

Disagreements happen all the time with family, friends and co-workers and yet we often manage to hold on those relationships. We are reformers and agents of change. Being a reformer means we must exhibit love, patience and forbearance with one another because change is rarely a quick process. It's not always easy, but anything is possible with God on our side.

Blessings,

Pastor Lawson

SERMONS FOR NOVEMBER 2012

November 4, 2012	Ruth 1:1-18	Transforming Lives
November 11, 2012	Mark 12:38-44	Jesus Preaches at the Local Bank
November 18, 2012	<i>Guest Preacher</i>	Harvest Dinner Sunday
November 25, 2012	<i>Guest Preacher</i>	Christ the King Sunday

Updates from the Session

- **Capital Campaign:** The Capital Campaign will kick off a new campaign on Sunday, November 4, 2012. Our theme for the next three years is Transforming Lives.
- **Pastor Lawson:** Pastor Lawson and Anthony will be away for the Thanksgiving holiday. They will leave on November 17, 2012 and be back in church on Sunday, December 2, 2012.
- **Challenge Budget 2013:** Session approved the challenge budget for 2013 and it was presented to the congregation at the October 21, 2012 Congregational meeting.
- **Officer Training:** Training for newly **elected officers and those currently serving** will take place on Saturday, November 3, 2012 from 10am to 3pm.
- **Nominating Team:** The slate of 2013 elders, deacons, and auditors and nominating team were elected at the October 21, 2012 Congregational meeting. Mrs. Fumni Adigun was nominated to finish out the term of Peggy Brack as a Deacon for 2013.
- **Manual of Operations:** Per the Book of Order: “Each council shall develop a manual of administrative operations that will specify the form and guide the work of mission in that council.” For the next four months the council (a.k.a. session) will be working diligently to complete this requirement. We may call on members of the various teams to lend assistance.
- **New Members Class:** There will be a class for those considering membership held on Saturday, November 10, 2012 from 10:00 to noon.
- **Property Meetings:** The Property Team Meetings have been moved to the 4th Monday of each month at 10:00am.
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SESSION MEETING FOR NOVEMBER: Because Pastor Lawson will be on vacation for the November session meeting, the meeting has been moved to November 12, 2012 at 4:00pm.

LITURGIST FOR NOVEMBER:

November 4th & 11th will be Fred Tumer

November 18th and 25th will Roberta Hardy

Acolytes for November are:

Monica Bradley & Undrea Fischer



**DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER
IS NOVEMBER 21, 2012**



HARVEST DINNER

The Harvest Dinner will be held on Sunday, November 18th, following the worship service. Turkey will be furnished and it **WILL BE A POTLUCK**. Sign-up sheets will be available the first part of November. Look for them in the Multi-Purpose Room in November.



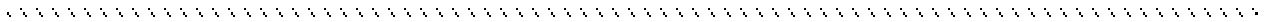
The dates for the Deacons to help at the North End

Soup Kitchen has changed.

November 16, 2012 2-5pm

&

December 7, 2012 2-5 pm



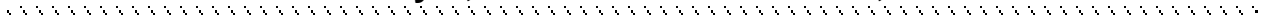
The Family of

John E. Beach 100 Years Old

Father to John Jr. and William Beach

Grace Tucker and the late Janis Beach

January 8, 1912-----October 23, 2012



Special Care



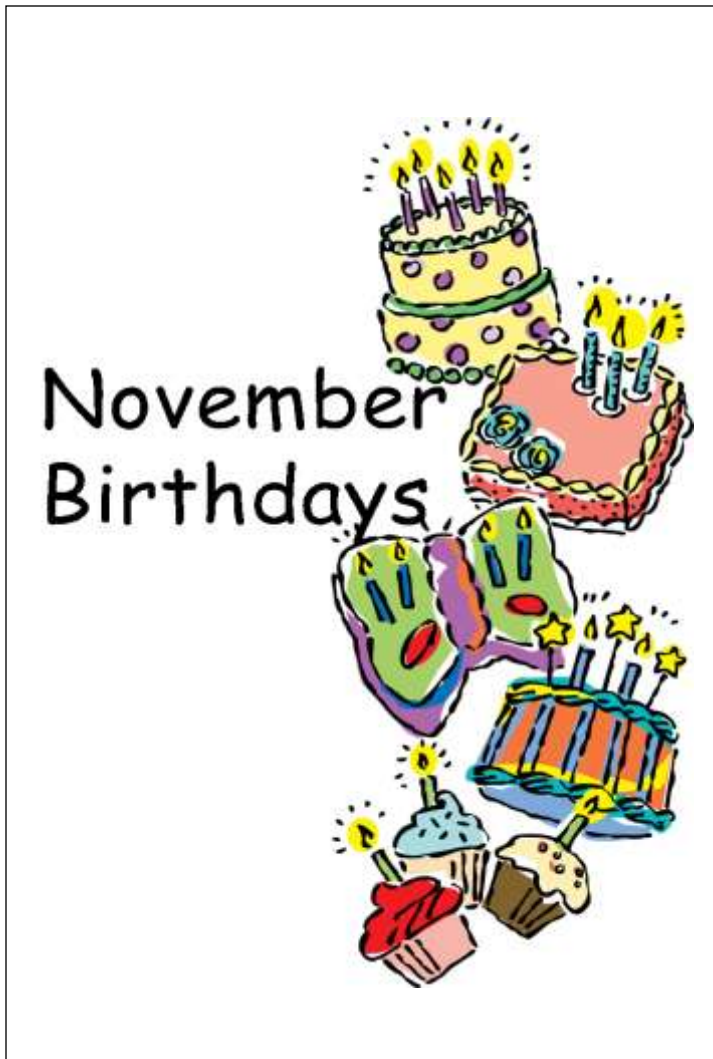
Ron Auger, Denny Bonney, James Bonney, Alberta Burton, Jesse Cook,
Betty Elford, Ruby Fizer, June Foltz, Tim Graham, Arlene Gullett,
Dr. Alfred Gwillim, Jane Harger, Richard Holland, Connie Hutchins,
Katie Granberry, Michael Jackson, son of Dr. Ernestine Jackson,
Helen Johnson, Donna Jones, Linda Jones, Leonard Krist, Ann Lomax,
Jean Lyttle, Pat Miller, Roy Olson, Audrey Resler, Randy Rice,
Phyllis Scales, Joan Shirey, Larry Shoup, Addie Terrell,
Larry Tilley, Joyce Topham, Charlie White, and Georgene White.

***Please remember our Special Care People. A card or a call to
show them you care, is always appreciated.***

Happy Anniversary



Lynwood and Marie Barry.....11th



Eva Keely.....11/3

Rev. Desiree Lawson

..11/4

Phyllis Scales.....11/4

Russell Auger.....11/10

Olivia Thomason....11/12

Diamond Storey....11/18

Sharon Bonney.....11/22

Tracy La Fuente....11/25

Jeffrey Needham...11/25

Harold Ryan.....11/27

Delphine Holland...11/30

Connie Hutchins...11/30

Patricia Miller.....11/30

Grace Saunders.....11/30



With the coming of Advent Season, we will be Decking Our Halls for the Christmas Season. That will happen on December 1st at 10:00am.

Come prepared to have a good time getting all the Seasons decorations put up.

There will be coffee and refreshments, along with the fellowship that goes with all the work. Normally it only takes 2-3 hours if we have enough people to help. See you then!

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There will be **NO** bowling on November 21st because of the Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend. December 5th will be the last week of bowling for the season.