

# TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE GOOD NEWS

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### Introducing New Trinity Intern Madison Michel



#### How did you find out about the intern job at Trinity?

I saw a flyer at the Wesley Foundation for the job. When I found out there were other music therapy students who have been interns, I decided to look into it.

#### What are some of the jobs you do as an intern at Trinity?

I still have a lot to learn and a lot of things I have yet to experience. I would have to say my favorite job so far is watering plants with our fancy expanding hose.

#### Where are you from?

I grew up in Flower Mound, Texas, which is a suburb right by DFW airport. My home church is a large Methodist church in Flower Mound called Trietsch Memorial United Methodist Church, where I served this past summer as the music ministry intern.

#### What is your major and what year are you in college?

I am a music therapy major and am currently a sophomore/junior. I transferred here after my freshman year at Texas Tech University in order to study music therapy, and I am currently doubling up on music therapy credits to catch up.

#### Tell us about your family.

Once I graduate, I am going to be the first ever third-generation music therapist. My grandfather was one of the very first official music therapists in the country and my mom is also a music therapist. I'm very proud to be carrying on the "family business." My dog Missy is the real musical genius of the family though, because no one can howl like she does! My dad runs his own company and has been married to my mom for 29 years. My big sister and grandparents also live in the Dallas area, and they are all Aggies. But not me! Roll Tide!

#### What do you hope to do and where do you hope to live when you finish college?

My dad always told me the best thing you can do is go into business for yourself. In keeping with that entrepreneurial spirit, I want to make a career as a private contracting music therapist. This is appealing because I love working with all sorts of populations and ages. I want to go back to the Lone Star State to a city like Austin or San Antonio where music therapy isn't as established to spread awareness and build up a business in a community with unfulfilled needs.

#### What do you do for fun?

I am a bit of a fashionista. I love vintage shopping and unique boutiques, and I am addicted to cowgirl boots. That being said, I also love to dance the Texas two step! I also scrapbook and exercise in my spare time.



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NOVEMBER, 2013

*Sharing the Compassion, Hope and Unconditional Love of Jesus Christ with  
The University of Alabama and the greater Tuscaloosa community.*

### Trinity's New Members



On Sunday, September 22, **Lacie Garrett** joined the church by profession of faith and was baptized, surrounded by a cloud of friends. Lacie is a sophomore at UA majoring in elementary education. She is from Baltimore, Maryland and came to UA because she received a scholarship. Now that she is here, Lacie says, "I love the environment in Tuscaloosa. There are lots of ways you can find a group with interests similar to yours." In her spare time, Lacie enjoys doing volunteer work at different local elementary schools.

**Kelli Reese** is a sophomore at UA who is from Knoxville, Tennessee and a new affiliate member at Trinity. She says, "I decided to come to Tuscaloosa for school because I got a great scholarship and crimson is a much better color than Tennessee orange." Kelli is the vice-president of Apwonjo on campus, which is the Sub-Saharan Africa advocacy group. Apwonjo sponsors events on campus to raise awareness about social justice issues in Africa.



Kelli also plays on an intramural co-ed soccer team. She adds, "Not that we're any good, but I still love it." Kelli is a health education major who has political science and international studies minors. Her next academic goal is to go to grad school for a master's of public health because she wants to work on international health advocacy programs.

**David Rissling-Venit** is a new associate member of Trinity. He retains his membership in the Catholic church, but has associated with Trinity United Methodist while he is in Tuscaloosa. David is a music major and will be

graduating this year. He is mostly a singer, but he also plays keyboards and enjoys playing hymns. David says, "The Methodist hymnal has the best hymns of any denomination I have ever known, including the Catholic hymnal!"



David is practicing with Trinity's choir. Because he is blind, he gets rides on Wednesday evenings for Wednesday night supper at the church, followed by choir practice.

David's future plans might include a graduate degree in radio and broadcasting. His mentor is Lynn Brooks, the news director at WVUA, who is a member of Romulus United Methodist Church. David says Lynn has been a great inspiration in his faith journey and is responsible for suggesting that he can be an associate member of Trinity while he is here.

### Trinity's Facebook Page

Trinity's Facebook page was set up to get information out quickly about events, celebrations, illnesses and deaths, and other announcements. The page has been a success even beyond original expectations. Anybody who is a Facebook friend can post, and they do! Not only members, but also former members and friends of members see Trinity's Facebook posts. Readers frequently then post comments with additional information or expressions of love.

A number of people who can no longer attend Trinity on a regular basis, but who want to keep up with their church family, actively look at Trinity's Facebook page. An unexpected use has been the number of prayer requests that come to the Facebook page, and the love and sympathy that others express in their comments.

Trinity continues to expand its presence on the internet by developing its webpage and creating a Twitter feed.

## Cub Scout Pack 6 Meets at Trinity

By Bonne Morris

Under the leadership of Scoutmaster Dan Powell, Tuscaloosa's Cub Scout Pack 6 met for the first time in Trinity's fellowship hall on Sunday, September 8. Pack 6 has about 30-35 scouts divided into several dens. Trinity's Dean Townsley is the first grade Tiger den leader and the father of twin scouts Aidan and Nathaniel. Dean is also the scout pack's official liaison with Trinity.

At their first meeting, the scouts said the Cub Scout Promise, then everyone stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. After announcements and motivational remarks, the scouts "trooped" outside for some fun. The boys lined up by the prayer garden for a special sail boat race. Each boy placed his boat on top of one of two rain gutters that were partially filled with water. Then, with a little luck and skill, coupled with lots of heavy breaths and perhaps some blowing through a straw, each boat was encouraged to make passage from one end of the rain gutter to the other.

Being a hospitable church means more than just providing a place for scouts to hold a meeting. By adopting

Cub Scout Pack 6, Trinity has been given an outstanding opportunity to positively influence young lives. Our congregation is celebrating Cub Scout Pack 6 with a welcoming spirit!



## Updating in the Educational Wing

Many have noticed some updating going on in the Sunset Funset room. The cabinets and the entrance table have been repainted. The flower ministry's storage wardrobe has been painted the same color, and the lectern and the bulletin board borders match. The kitchen cabinets and the entrance cabinet also have new hardware. The new color scheme was chosen to compliment the color of the grandmother clock made by and donated to our church by the late Paul Pruitt.



Room 107, across from the church office, has also had some furniture painted. The bulletin boards and the cabinets in that room were painted the same color as in

the Sunset Funset room and one of the cabinets in 107 also has a nice tabletop.

The Guy Gilliland Fund has paid for these upgrades. The Guy Gilliland Fund is earmarked for maintenance items only for Trinity United Methodist Church. This Fund pays for things that our regular maintenance budget has not yet been able to afford.

Every room needs a "pick-me-up" every now and then. Trinity is always open to ideas and workers—and donations!--to help make our facilities look better.

## Back to School Covered Dish Dinner

On September 22 Trinity had its annual back to school covered dish dinner in the fellowship hall after the worship service. That weekend was Parent Weekend at UA, and all college students were invited to bring their parents to church and lunch. About 50 college students and some parents attended, but so did many of our congregation's K-12 students and their families. Paula Marques said, "It was so much fun to see families of all ages there—including the babies!"

The Campus Outreach Committee and Trinity's student interns had decorated the fellowship hall beautifully with a Roll Tide theme. There was plenty of food and everybody there was delighted to get the new school year started in such a pleasant way.

# Spotlight on...

## PASTIMES OF OUR TRINITY FAMILY

God created us with a great variety of talents. Some people at Trinity are able to run a marathon, organize a group meeting, teach, or write. Other people are very good at computers, photography, or painting. In previous issues this newsletter has highlighted some who sing or play a musical instrument. Each of us has unique abilities, and God deliberately made us that way.

Here are some of the other talents our capable, smart Trinitarians have.

**Rusty Ward** is a short story writer. He writes mainly hunting-related stories for magazines whose readers enjoy the outdoors. Rusty's first published story appeared in 1989 and since then he has had many stories accepted for publication.

**Beth Sherrill** is a member of the Alabama State Poetry Society and the Warrior Wordsmiths, a local poetry group. Beth has won poetry contests and has had several of her poems published. Beth sponsors a poetry contest at Hillcrest High School where other local poets serve as the judges. She says, "I find writing poetry very fulfilling because it is a way of connecting with others."

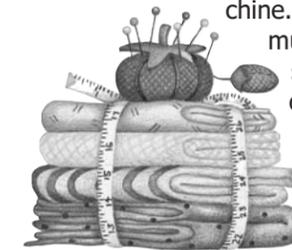


**Sydney Sparkes** has a spinning wheel and makes yarn from a variety of wools. She has made beautiful yarn from alpaca, but mostly from sheep's wool. Sydney is a member of the West Alabama Fiber Guild, which is a local organization dedicated to fiber arts. Sydney says, "Spinning is a wonderful form of relaxation. Troubles just fall away as I am working at the spinning wheel."

**Aurelie You** is also good at spinning, and additionally she is a very accomplished lace maker, quilter, and knitter. She learned needle skills from her mother Danielle and now Aurelie is an expert in her own right. Aurelie's lace making is an art form. People who see what she has made are amazed at her abilities.

**Wimbreth Chism** has been a seamstress all her life. She says, "My mother [Dulcie Biggs] taught me to sew when I was about eight years old. It has been a great therapy for me. I sewed clothes for my children when they were small and in recent years I have gotten

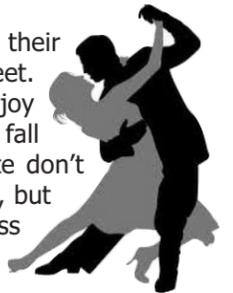
interested in machine quilting. I've made quilts for each of my five grandchildren." Wimbreth remembered that, when she was a newlywed, her husband got orders to report to Hawaii. When they got to Hawaii, the first thing Wimbreth bought was an inexpensive Singer sewing machine. She made Hawaiian shirts and muu muus and had great fun sewing while her husband was on duty.



**Beth Hurst's** sewing skills show up regularly at Trinity. She has worked on many of the banners at the front of the church and she was very influential in the group of women who made the pall our church can use at funerals. Beth says, "Whatever the project, I always enjoy working with the other women at Trinity."

Wimbreth and Beth, along with **Doris Kispert**, sewed nightgowns and baby blankets for the layette kits Trinity made earlier this year for UMCOR. Our church thanks them for donating their skills to the missions our church supports.

Not everybody is good with their hands. Some are good with their feet. **John and Annette Watters** enjoy ballroom dancing. After a recent fall involving a ladder, John and Annette don't have much jump in their jive this fall, but pretty soon they will be Waltzing Across Texas or doing a sassy cha cha.



## Love in Action

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Romans 12: 9-16 NIV