

Trinity Unity Methodist Church

The Chimes

January 2017

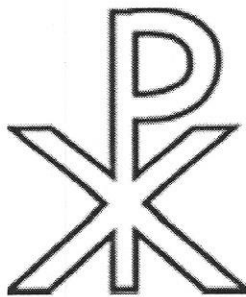
Happy Xmas!

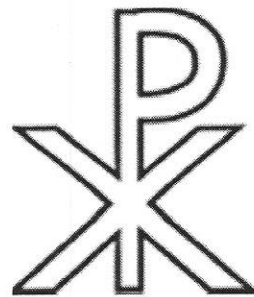
(I can't believe the pastor just used Xmas instead of Christmas! And doesn't he know Christmas is over already?)

The 12 Days of Christmas start on Christmas Day and last until the evening of the 5th January - also known as Twelfth Night- the evening before Epiphany, which is the day the Magi visited the baby Jesus. The 12 Days have been celebrated in Europe since before the Middle Ages and were a time of celebration.

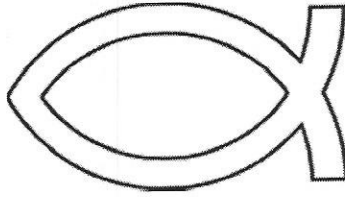
Christmas is also sometimes known as Xmas. Some people don't think it's correct to call Christmas 'Xmas' as that takes the 'Christ' (Jesus) out of Christmas. (Christmas comes from Christ-Mass, the Church service that celebrated the birth of Jesus.)

But that is not quite right! In the Greek language and alphabet, the letter that looks like an X is the Greek letter chi / X (pronounced 'kye' - it rhymes with 'eye') which is the first letter of the Greek word for Christ, Christos.

The early church used the first two letters of Christos in the Greek alphabet 'chi' and 'rho' to create a monogram (symbol) to represent the name of Jesus. This looks like an X with a small p on the top: 



The symbol of a fish is sometimes used by Christians (you might see a fish sticker on a car or someone wearing a little fish badge). This comes from the time when the first Christians had to meet in secret, as the Romans wanted to kill them (before Emperor Constantine became a Christian). Jesus had said that he wanted to make his followers 'Fishers of Men', so people started to use that symbol.



When two Christians met, one person drew half a basic fish shape (often using their foot in the dust on the ground) and the other person drew the other half of the fish. The Greek word for fish is 'Ikthus' or 'Ichthys'. There are five Greek letters in the word. It can also make up a sentence of Christian beliefs 'Ie-sous Christos Theou Huios So-te-r' which in English means "Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Savior". The second letter of these five letter is X or Christos!

So, Xmas can also mean Christmas; but it should also be pronounced 'Christmas' rather than 'ex-mas'!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful Xmas with family and friends. As you read this, Heather and I will probably still be in West Plains, Missouri with her grandmother, where we gathered with family and cherished our time together.

On January 8th, we return to our sermon series on "The Story." I look forward to preaching the second part of a two-part sermon about King David. If you have a friend or neighbor who does not attend a church, please invite them to join you in worship this New Year. May the Lord bless you and keep you in 2017.

Rev. Wiley Gladney

Serving God's People

Prayer Seminar-Thank you and follow up

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Pathways to a Praying Church Seminar. Thank you to the Loving Care Committee for providing meals, and for all those who served and prepared food. Thank you to those who hosted the team members. Thank you for all who helped with advertising and the planning and preparation leading up to the seminar. Thank you for those who served as greeters, sound system operators, power point operators, transportation, and worship team. We had enough helpers in the right places at the right times. We believe it was a success and we couldn't have done it without the combined efforts of Peace and Trinity, as well as Pastor Wiley.

When we wrote the Grant to the WUMF to build a house of prayer, we planned for around 30 people to attend this seminar. We had about 45 people participate over all. Some people came for all of it, others for parts of it. We learned really good tools and Holy Spirit manifested in many ways. People experienced deliverance and emotional healing. Pastor Tom Coleman, Pastor Erik Anderson, Pastor Jan Starr, and Pastor Wiley attended. There were people from Peace, Trinity, Grand View, Grace, RCF, Nazarene, Free Methodist, BMZ, St. John's Lutheran, Boaz UMC, and Community UMC. There were powerful testimonies and people accepted the opportunity to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. We have greater tools to use in our praise and prayer services that truly practice listening and praying Spirit inspired prayers rather than praying from our flesh.

The leadership team led by Margie Burger, said that this was definitely a more experienced group of prayers and that everyone was so engaged all the way until the end.

The prayer team prayed about how to move forward from here in becoming a praying church. We were able to purchase materials from Aldersgate Renewal Ministries that can be used in small groups, Bible Studies, and perhaps to check out. We received a complete DVD set that includes the following teachings: The Basics about Holy Spirit, Hearing God, Healing Part I & II, The Rest, Faith Catalyst, and Power Evangelism. We look forward to how God will use as we pray His Kingdom purposes.

Community Highlights



January Birthdays

Sara Weber	1/7
Brandon Mott	1/8
Ruth Ghastin	1/8
Kathy Bastian	1/9
Beata Elliott	1/9
Bernie Couey	1/9
Lynette Schwichtenburg	1/10
Tim Otto	1/10
Scott Andresen	1/15
Mike Windstrup	1/18
Mary Otto	1/20
Ruth Moser	1/20
Russ Shannon	1/20
Ed Fink	1/22
Diane Cox	1/26
Ron Steinmetz	1/27
Alyce Sugden	1/28
Melissa Sprecher	1/30
Jeremiah Storer	1/30



January Anniversaries

No Anniversaries to celebrate this month!

*"The more you praise
and celebrate your life,
the more there is in life
to celebrate."*

*(Please always feel free to notify the office with any
and all adds/deletes for the Trinity Birthday and
Anniversary lists)*

Announcing an Ecumenical Bible Study! A new Bible study class is forming on Wednesdays at 1 PM! All are welcome! For more information, contact Kathleen Corey-Pittman at (608) 536-3443 or katorbea@mwt.net.

Volunteers Needed – for Sunday morning worship services. We are in need of assistance with both the coffee hour in the Narthex and ushers for greeting the congregation, handing out bulletins and offertory. If you can help with either of these requests, please sign up on clipboards in the Narthex. Thanks for your consideration.

Community Grief Support "When Mourning Dawns" - sessions are being sponsored by Home Health United Community Grief Support on Mondays, January 9th thru February 6th. Sessions will be held at the Richland Hospital, 333 E. Second St., Richland Center. Registration is required. For additional information please contact HHU-Grief Support Coordinator at 1-877-356-4514.

Good Dishes for Sale – Peace Methodist Church, in an effort to clean up their kitchen in Founders Hall, find it necessary to sell a set of 200 dishes. The dishes are packed in totes as a place setting of 6. The cost is \$25 a set. There is a set of dishes in the Peace Plaza for you to look at. For more information please contact Joan Wheeler at 647-4559

Deadline Reminder - Deadline for weekly bulletin postings is every Thursday by noon, and the deadline for the next CHIMES newsletter is Wednesday, January 18th by noon.

Extended Thanks

Thank you to my church family for all your prayers for my son, Mark, as he faces his battle with terminal brain cancer. He has been transferred to assisted living in Madison for the time being as he has appointments at UW. Thank you all, again. Shannon Trebus

Thank you to my Trinity church family for all the concern, care, and prayers on my behalf as I recover from pelvic fractures. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and I plan to be back with you in the New Year. Kathy Bastian

2017 Coming Events

Save The Date – Trinity Annual Candlelight Dinner – Saturday, February 25, 2017. Details to follow!

2017 "Wish List" Annual Review. – Contained in last month's issue, the December Chimes, was the church's current updated "Wish List". The Memorial Ministry is seeking your input for new items to place on this list for 2017. Our "Wish List" is used by Memorial Ministry to seek memorial and honor gifts and other church committees to focus priorities. Please submit your ideas to Chair Paul Murphey by calling 647.6439, e-mail at pmurphey@mwt.net, or a simple written note placed within the Memorial Ministry mailbox. No name is required for any submitted idea. The **deadline** for your suggestions will be **January 1, 2017**. During its February 14, 2017, meeting, Memorial Ministry will be reviewing the entire list to choose a maximum ten items (highest priority) that will be used by Pastor Wiley and Memorial Ministry as they work with grieving families seeking to designate a memorial Trinity cause.

2017 Trinity Scholarship Application Period. The Memorial Ministry is pleased to announce its application period for the 2017 Trinity scholarship. Applications will be sought from **Thursday, December 1, 2016, through Sunday, April 30, 2017**. Scholarship recipients are notified after May 9, 2017. Through generous memorial and honor gifts, our scholarship fund has a current balance of **\$4,029.45**. Scholarships are available to all Trinity professing and baptized members and regular attendees (as determined by Memorial Ministry). Scholarship categories include higher and continuing education. Electronic or traditional paper scholarship applications can be obtained in three ways: (1) church office at 647.3203 or trinityumc@mwt.net, (2) Memorial Ministry Chair Paul Murphey at 647.6439 or pmurphey@mwt.net, or (3) paper copies available on the Narthex literature table. Our Trinity scholarship is partially funded in memory of Wayne Braithwaite, Nancy Edwards, Hilda Heidenreich, Eloise Herbeck, Roger Jewell, Ralph & Helen Monteith, & Eleanor Strang. **ALL** questions should be directed to Paul Murphey.

Missions Committee Updates

FOOD PANTRY IS JANUARY MISSION FOCUS

The January 29th last Sunday offering for mission will support the local Food Pantry. We encourage you to make a special effort to bring canned goods for the entire month of January. Canned fish and meat, hearty canned soups, and canned or dried soup ingredients such as chile beans are especially welcome during the colder winter months. Monetary donations are also very welcome.

Traditionally, January is the month when Trinity is asked to supply two volunteers to help at the Food Pantry each Tuesday in January. **You will not be required to do any heavy lifting.** Your services will be needed at the Lighthouse Chapel (the former Town and Country Presbyterian Church) from approximately 3:45-6:00 P.M. Please sign up on the sheet located on the Missions bulletin board.

An Update from the Gablers

The Missions Committee wishes to pass on greetings from Rachel and Daniel Gabler; they also send a big thank you to Trinity for the funds raised for their ministry at the Harvest Auction.

In October, Rachel and Daniel spent some time in the States on "vacation." Rachel planned to take advantage of a decent Internet connection to get Kasongo Munza's book, "A Letter to Africa about Africa" published on the Internet and possibly self-published to print. Rachel is asking for prayers as she undertakes this daunting task. In her words, "Please pray for me. Frankly, I have been terrified. This is on behalf of someone else. And Kasongo has no way to give me input. His widow trusts me to do this. I don't trust myself! Help! It seems there are so many pitfalls."

"I knew nothing about this process. I made several starts. Then the light dawned! I have my own material. I can practice! So I started . . . putting the first release of my dramas on Kindle."

If you wish to download any of Rachel's dramas, they are available on Amazon (the price is \$1.99). Rachel also values your feedback and comments. Here is the information from Rachel:

It is available on Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss/151-4631382-7202049?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=rachel+gabler

The title is: **Where Do We Go from Here?** You can search for that title or for my name as author.

I have also posted information on this on my website: <http://rdgabler.wixsite.com/rachelgabler>

In another e-mail, Rachel indicated that they would be using some of the Harvest Auction funds to support the publishing and distributing of the material they are using. One of the needs that came up recently is for a laptop for the young university student who works with Rachel in preparing French material for publishing. The laptop he was using was stolen at gun point by soldiers in Lubumbashi when he was walking down the street.

Rachel also informed us that they are currently in South Africa at least through December because the General Board of Global Ministry has evacuated all its missionaries because of insecurity. Dan and Rachel are secure, but their friends and colleagues in DRC are not. Please pray for them.

Committee Notes

DECEMBER 2016 COMMITTEE NOTES

By Jerry Bower

TRUSTEES: Jerry chaired the meeting as Howard was out of town. Russ opened our meeting with a prayer.

The Minutes for 12 September 2016 were unanimously approved.

Financial Reports: Presently the market is on an upswing and our investments reflected that trend. Our Lincoln Annuity has matured. We decided to leave the money invested as is until Howard, Jerry, and Russ can meet with Edward Jones to learn about our options.

Parsonage: Barb Marshall & Marilyn Creasey will meet with Dr. Jan Alexander to get a new lease signed. They will report on it at our next meeting. Strang's has been engaged to do the annual check of the furnace.

Church: Bindl's has been contracted to do our snow removal, at the same rate as last winter. A light bulb is burned out over the sanctuary piano. This needs to be changed from the attic—and that's no small task. Howard will contact Strange's about changing **all** of those light bulbs (8 of them). There was a problem with the front door. That has been fixed with some adjusting and applying WD40. The Pastor's mike is cutting in and out. Jerry will meet with Wiley and they will try to figure out what is wrong.

The Carl Barnes Trust: We think we should try to get this contract renegotiated. Howard will gather information as to how we can proceed.



Next Meeting: 9 January 2017 at 6 pm.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: This was a brief meeting, about thirty minutes. We approved the Minutes of our special November meeting, in which we approved the 2017 budget for forwarding to the Church Council. We reviewed the spreadsheets that had data through November. At that time all our bills were paid up to date. Noting that the checkbook balance was just over \$400.00, we have requested another transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund into the General Fund, of \$2,500.00. (The nasty weather two weeks in a row will hold down our contributions, so this request is timely.) We authorized Treasurer Kathy to update the Quick Books program, the cost is just over \$500.00. This is an annual purchase so that we can stay current with the program.

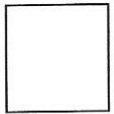
Next Meeting: 1 February 2017. To review the end of the year data.

CHURCH COUNCIL: Unanimously agreed not to meet in December.

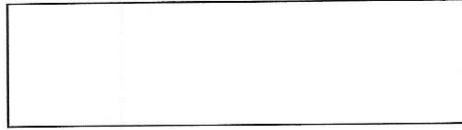
JANUARY MINISTRY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  9:30 Worship Sunday School 9:45	2 Offices Closed	3 Tuesday Morning Group 10am	4 EBS 1-2pm Library	5 Noon Thursdays - Bulletin Deadline	6 Pastor's Day Off PEO Meeting 6 pm	7
8 9:30 Worship Sunday School 9:45	9 Trustee Committee Meeting 6 pm	10 Tuesday Morning Group 10am	11 EBS 1-2pm Library Dance Class 3:30pm	12 Noon Thursdays - Bulletin Deadline	13 Pastor's Day Off	14
15 9:30 Worship Sunday School 9:45	16 Church Council 7pm	17 Tuesday Morning Group 10am	18  Chimes Deadline EBS 1-2pm Library Dance Class 3:30pm	19 Noon Thursdays - Bulletin Deadline	20 Pastor's Day Off	21
22 9:30 Worship Sunday School 9:45	23	24 Tuesday Morning Group 10am	25 EBS 1-2pm Library Dance Class 3:30pm	26 Noon Thursdays - Bulletin Deadline	27 Pastor's Day Off	28
29 9:30 Worship Sunday School 9:45	30	31 Tuesday Morning Group 10am	Notes: Church office hours are 9am – Noon Monday through Friday			

Trinity United Methodist Church
400 East Seminary Street
Richland Center, WI 53581



Happy
New Year
★2017



Trinity United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: Wiley Gladney

Pastor's Cell Phone: 1-920-509-2630

Pastor's email: revgladney@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours: Thursday 9-12 PM and by appointment Mon. – Thurs.

Friday: Pastor's day off

Trinity Church Office

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 - noon

Trinity UMC Office: (608) 647-3203

Trinity's email: trinityumc@mwt.net

Website: www.umchurchrc.org

Administrative Assistant: Pat Leonard

Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Kathy Richardson

Custodian: Bill Twining

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

Chimes Newsletter

January 18th