



The Chimes

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It has been a very exciting and busy few weeks since the last issue of the newsletter was published. I have been to Madison three out of the four Saturdays in March, all for meetings or events related to the church. I have to say it is an exciting time to be in ministry in the United Methodist Church of Wisconsin.

I want to follow up last month's article by responding to some concerns and questions I have heard from folks. First, I know human sexuality is a difficult and contentious issue to discuss in the church, but the conversation must be had; and even though I support the Wesleyan Covenant Association, I do believe we must have a place at the table for LGBT people to have a voice. After last month's article was published, and I preached a sermon where I expressed support for the WCA, the Lord spoke to me through a song I heard on the radio. It is called "I Go Through" by a band named O.A.R. (Of A Revolution). Here are some of the lyrics:

"My daddy told me, 'politicians never learn the golden rule/ Do unto others, as you'd have them do to you.'/ But you go 'round and around it/ You go over and under/ I go through/ You break my legs, then make me walk/ You seal my lips, then demand I talk/ You blind my eyes, then ask me if I like what you drew/ But you go 'round and around it/ You go over and under/ I go through"

For years, our denomination has gone around and around, over and under the issue of homosexuality, but it is important to remember that it is those folks who identify as LGBT who are the ones going through it. It is hard for those of us who do not deal with the hate and discrimination to understand where they are coming from. So, we need to remember that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ and we go through this struggle of the church, together. As the last line of the song says "We go 'round and around it/ We go over and under/ We go through"

I also want to say that the United Methodist Church does not discriminate against LGBT people in regards to church membership. In fact, General Conference passed legislation last year that directly states that membership will not be denied to anyone because of sexual orientation. The Wesleyan Covenant Association does not oppose this stance. What the Wesleyan Covenant Association does believe, is that clergy should be held accountable to the vows they make when they are ordained, to uphold our doctrine and Discipline.

As you can imagine, I have had many people ask me about what it would look like for churches to join the WCA, so here are some specific questions and answers regarding the resulting effects of our churches joining the WCA:

- 1) Would an LGBT person be allowed to join or to transfer into the church? YES
- 2) Would an LGBT person be allowed to assume a position of leadership as a professing member? YES
- 3) Would an LGBT person be allowed to take communion? Absolutely YES

Continued >

- 4) Would a child of one or two LGBT parents be allowed to be baptized? YES
- 5) Would an LGBT member be allowed to use the church building for a function? Would there be limits as to those functions? YES and NO, the **only** limit being that a same sex wedding ceremony cannot be performed in a United Methodist Church.

Peace's church council voted in favor of joining the WCA on April 16th, at its regular monthly meeting. All votes were in favor of joining, with two members abstaining from the vote. Trinity's church council had a brief discussion about the WCA at its meeting on March 20, where I answered the specific questions above, but no vote was taken at that time. I want to thank everyone for having a discerning heart and mind, and being patient with one another and with me during this last month. I know the conversations have been uncomfortable, and painful at times, but the conversation needs to be had, at a time when our denomination finds itself at such a significant cross-road in its history. I encourage everyone to continue to seek the will of God and the love of Jesus Christ in all we say and do, and I pray that what we do as God's people would glorify Him.

Your brother in Christ, Rev. Wiley Gladney

Serving God's People

The Trinity Missions Committee is pleased to announce its April 2017 Focus
A CLEAN WATER PROJECT

As many of you remember, we were visited by Agricultural Missionary, David Makobo, from Senegal, Africa, last fall. He gave a power point presentation of the mission he and his wife, Solange, are involved in, called Seeds of Hope and Spiritual Growth in Senegal. GBGM Advance #3021869. They maintain and dig if possible, wells for irrigation, but this is included in their vital agricultural efforts.

Farmers do not own land, but must rent it, and pay when they harvest. Mr. Makobo is working to try to improve the sandy texture of the soil; he has taught the farmers how to compost, and is teaching them to improve the livestock (a few goats and pigs, some chickens) that is owned by a pastor of a United Methodist Church in a nearby city of Thiadaye. Other churches that own a few acres have farmers who are being taught how to compost, plant seedlings and water. Their principal crop is eggplant; financial need is great, as farmers need to obtain loans to purchase seeds, and this must be repaid (at high interest rates) after harvest.

One way to alleviate poverty in rural areas is to grant loans to small-scale farmers. Two churches in the area were granted loans of \$600 and \$400. They are involved with pig production, but have no barn or cages to separate boars from sows or piglets from adults. They have invested the money they have in buying construction materials for a barn.

Mr. Makobo stated twenty-eight out of 30 farmers received loans, for a total of about US \$4,500. This was distributed to the neediest and were used basically to purchase vegetable seeds. In another church, Mr. Makobo, working with a group of about 35 mostly Catholic women, assisted them in obtaining a loan of US\$2.200 for purchasing seeds. They repay the loans after harvest, being charged an interest rate of about 10 percent.

As a missionary, he preaches and teaches during Sunday services and on other occasions. He leads Bible studies which connect faith with social justice. His work is not limited to preaching and teaching farmers; he is there to serve as needed.. He finds himself serving as a translator or simultaneous interpreter for Volunteer to Mission teams, missionary colleagues or visitors from the general agencies of the United Methodist Church.

Mr. David Makobo's agricultural missionary efforts can be supported through GBGM #3021869.

Trinity Youth Camping Corner



Many thanks to all the youth and adults that helped with The Potato Bar and Irish Dance held on March 19th here at Trinity Church. It was well attended and enjoyed by the community.. We cleared \$447. Take a look at the WI UMC camp books in the back of the church and start planning your summer.

In addition to youth camps, there are also different types of other camps, such as mother daughter camps, family camps, grandparent and grandchildren, and adult special need camps. For more information www.WIUMCCamps.org 877-947-2267 608-837-3388 or contact Rosie Steinmetz at 647-4247.

Community Highlights



APRIL BIRTHDAYS	
Ryan Weber	1
Julie Jewell	3
Christy Weber	4
Lester Studnicka	5
John Storer	13
Donna Bower	28
Jacob Storer	30



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES	
Tim & Mary Otto	19
Chris & Destiny Shannon	29

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

MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2017

January	Food Pantry
February	Trinity Memorial Ministry Scholarship Fund
March	One Great Hour of Sharing (UMCOR)
April	A Clean Water Project
May	Wisconsin Conference Golden Cross Offering
June	Church Camp Fund (Ice Cream Social)
July	UW Madison Hospital Ministry (Chaplaincy)
August	Trinity Memorial Ministry Wish List
September	David Makobo's ministry, Dakar, Senegal
October	Harvest Auction, Rachel & Daniel Gabler's ministry, DRC
November	Heifer Project
December	Salvation Army

Community Events

Note: please check bulletin boards for flyers with additional details about these events

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
April 2 nd Sunday	Birthday Party Potluck Location: Peace UMC (647-4559)	Trinity members are invited to come and celebrate their birthdays too. Bring a dish to pass that is NOT a dessert, as there will be cakes for every month. Potluck will begin immediately following the church service.
April 5 th Wednesday	Lenten Services at Schmitt Woodland Hills	7:00 p.m. – Leading service will be Pastor Jan Starr speaking about “Peace”. Services will be held on the 2 nd floor in the Activity Room .
April 6 th Thursday	MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)	Meets the first Thursday of each month 9-11am in the library. For more details please contact Heather Gladney at 920-509-2258
April 8 th Saturday	“A Night of Nourishment” Dinner and Concert Location: Willow Valley Church in Ithaca (608-585-2281) or acwvumc@gmail.com	6:30pm – dinner; 7:30pm – concert Tickets - \$12 adults; \$8 for children 10 and under. Catered by Paula White; offering Beef Tips & Chicken Alfredo. Music by Rich Rubietta & One Big Tribe.

Easter Services



EASTER WEEK Worship Services and Updates

Palm Sunday service at Trinity, at 9:30 AM April 9th

Maundy Thursday service will be at Peace, at 6:30 PM. 13 April 2017

Good Friday Community services: 1:00 PM at St. Johns Lutheran Church.

There will also be a 7:00 PM service, Peace United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday service at Trinity, 9:30 AM April 16th

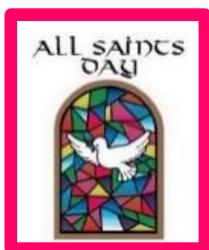
Also there will be a special Easter offering that will go to Passages, which has experienced several cuts in its support. A special Easter mailing will be used to distribute these designated offering envelopes..

FLOWERS for EASTER – Easter lilies and an assortment of spring plants will be ordered for Easter Sunday. If you would like to sponsor a plant please call the church office (647-3203) or us the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary. The selection of plants available and prices are listed on the sign-up sheet. Please indicate if you would like to donate the plant in someone’s honor or memory. Plants may be taken home following the Easter service.

April Memorial Ministry Corner

February Internal Missions' Thank You. A tremendous thank you to all for your continuing financial support of the Trinity scholarship fund. Our February internal missions' project raised **\$398.00** in honor gifts that have been deposited into our Ameriprise scholarship account. This deposit now brings our total Trinity scholarship fund to **\$5,136.32**. The deadline for 2017 Trinity scholarship applicants was 12 midnight on Friday, March 31, 2017. Memorial Ministry will keep you informed regarding any potential scholarship recipients.

– *Kathy Bastian, Missions' Chair & Paul Murphey, Memorial Ministry Chair*



2016 All Saints' Day Service Scheduled

The long awaited "postponed" 2016 All Saints' Day service has been scheduled for Sunday, May 7, 2017, during our regularly scheduled 9:30 a.m. service. This will be our traditional service that normally would have been held on Sunday, November 6, 2016. Contained within this Chimes issue will be a list of our 2016 saints to be remembered and memorial/honor gifts to be consecrated & dedicated during this special service. Please mark your calendars now to attend with a coffee hour to follow.

The Trinity United Methodist Church Memorial Ministry

Invites You to its

All Saints' Day Service of Remembrance and Consecration of Gifts

Sunday, May 7, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.

We will be remembering our Trinity professing and baptized member saints and consecrating/dedicating memorial and honor gifts from November 1, 2015, through November 6, 2016.

Coffee hour (sponsored by Memorial Ministry) will follow this Sunday service.

“Remembering Your Personal Saints” Tablecloth Returns. Memorial Ministry is asking you again this year to remember your personal saints (deceased family members and friends) from this year or from years past on our commemorative tablecloth.

You may recall from last year, a tablecloth appears in the back of the Narthex for you to add the names of your personal saints (need not be Trinity members). During the past year, this tablecloth has been carefully stored and will be available to you from Sunday, April 9 through Sunday, April 30, as we continue to add names to the same tablecloth year after year. Our Trinity 2016 saints will automatically be added. We are asking you to write the names (fabric markers provided) and any personal messages you may provide right on the tablecloth. If you are not comfortable writing the names on the cloth (permanent markers), small slips of paper will be provided for you to write the name/s and any message you wish to give for transfer to the tablecloth.

While the names and messages from this tablecloth will not be read during our May 7 All Saints’ Day service, the tablecloth will be used as a part of the planned service. Trinity committees may wish to remember their deceased members.

If you would like to have a name added but are unable to come to church to do so, please contact AA Pat Leonard in the church office (647-3203 or trinityumc@mwt.net), and we will transfer the name for you. Please help us to continue what should be a long-standing Trinity tradition.

Church Membership Notes



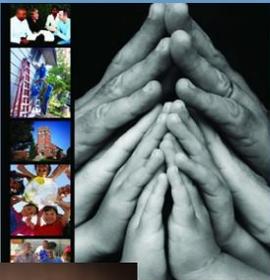
Thank you very much for all your March cooperation helping us update and refine the Trinity membership & friends’ directory. If you were unable to come to church to review the directory draft in the Narthex area and wish to make sure that your name or the names of others are correct, please contact by **April 15, 2017**, AA Pat Leonard in the church office (647-3203 or trinityumc@mwt.net), and she will check our membership records. We have now incorporated membership and scheduling software into our office computer to make updates much more quickly. Having an accurate membership directory is so important to the many times we use our directory to contact folks for any number of varied reasons! Stay tuned for a late April or early May publication of our updated (paper) membership directory. **ALL** questions and/or changes regarding church membership should be directed to Trinity Membership Secretary Paul Murphey at 647-6439 or pmurphey@mwt.net.



It's time for our Church Directory . . .

Sign up and Smile!

Lifetouch Church Directory



Each participating family receives a **Free Directory & Complimentary 8x10 portrait**

THREE WAYS TO SIGN UP

1. Online at umchurchrc.org
2. Before/After Sunday Services
3. Call the office 647-3203 for immediate scheduling



My Family Album 2013



Invite your extended family for a special portrait



Our directory will

- Preserve our history
- Highlight our ministries and activities
- Put names with faces
- Help us reach out to inactive and new families



Photo Sessions will be held at PEACE UMC in the "Friends Room" (lower level) – follow signs and enter on Union Street or use the lower ramp.

TRINITY AND PEACE PHOTO CHURCH DIRECTORY IS UNDERWAY.

We need you to make our family directory complete.

BE INCLUDED IN OUR UPCOMING PHOTOGRAPY EVENT....



Our Church Photography Dates and Hours:

Monday - Friday April 24th -28th 2PM-9PM

Saturday April 29th 9AM-4PM

Sunday April 30th 12(noon) -7PM

HOW DO I SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT?

You can sign up 3 ways:

- 1) On our church website at www.umchurchrc.org
- 2) See us before or after services on upcoming weekends
- 3) Call the church office for assistance

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PERSONALLY!

Lifetouch encourages you to bring something that says who you are to your portrait session. Perhaps a hat.. pin.. scarf.. musical instrument.. Bible.. sports gear.. whatever it is that's important to you!

Lifetouch also does generational photography. It's a great opportunity to get all the family together for one big portrait! Capture the memories for a lifetime!

Bring in a food item to your photo session and receive a \$5.00 coupon



Also receive a \$10 coupon when you arrive as a "Thank You" for participating.



**HELP US MAKE THIS DIRECTORY COMPLETE!
IT WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU!**

We want to make this a complete representation of our church family - PLEASE be a part of it!

***Photo Sessions will be held at PEACE UMC in the "Friends Room" (lower level) – follow signs and enter on Union Street or use the lower ramp.**

Mission Committee Updates



PASSAGES' PANTRY

Once again, the Mission Committee has decided to partner with Passages' on stockpiling their scanty shelves with the item of the month. Items would be collected in the Narthex and delivered once a month to Passages or earlier if needed. The items this month-to-collect will be to pack their pantry with basic cupboard supplies such as **sugar, coffee, flour, baking soda/powder, salt, spices and peanut butter**. Please consider picking up a few items and place them in the plastic container in the Narthex. Once the items are plentiful, they will be delivered to Passages. Please don't let Passages panic over the need for everyday basic items. Let's pad their paltry pantry to the maximum! Please and Love!

SPECIAL SUNDAY – APRIL 9TH NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

Through Native American Ministries Sunday, we're able to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus.

NAMS nurtures mission with Native Americans and provides scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians.

When you support Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. And you empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ. Look for special offering envelopes in the 4/2 Sunday worship bulletins.



The Missions Committee would like to thank the congregation for enthusiastically supporting the request for donations of used pill bottles for the next Honduras mission trip. However, due to lack of storage, we are **NO LONGER COLLECTING PILL BOTTLES**. We'd also like to thank Dr. Alexander for graciously arranging to send the current collection of bottles to the Stamman's orphanage in Honduras.

HONDURAS MEDICAL MISSION UPDATE

The Missions Committee has been in contact with Pastor Bill Busch regarding the next medical mission trip to Honduras, which was to have taken place this year. Unfortunately, the person at Waterford who had planned to coordinate the trip was unable to complete these duties. Pastor Bill is searching for a new coordinator, but as a result, the 2017 medical mission has been postponed until 2018. We will continue to raise funds for the 2018 trip, and we will keep the congregation informed of any new developments.

Committee Notes

MARCH 2017 COMMITTEE NOTES

By Jerry Bower, Lay Leader

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Did not meet. All bills are current. We had to request another \$2,500.00 advance from the Capital Improvement Fund to assure our cash flow.

TRUSTEES: Russ opened our meeting with a prayer of thanks and for guidance.

The MINUTES of our 6 February 2017 meeting were unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: All of the investment accounts are up, thanks to the “Trump bump”.

Our Lincoln Annuity has matured and we are trying to get the balance transferred into the Capital Improvement Fund but we are having a hard time presenting the proper form to secure the transaction. An annuity just isn't a good investment for a church, since Trinity is not an individual or a corporation. John has taken in our third attempt at a proper resolution and we hope this one is acceptable. Jerry continues to dig around to learn as much as possible about the Carl Barnes Trust.

PARSONAGE REPORT: Dr. Alexander has signed a new lease, for one year. Strang's have been notified to do the chimney repairs as soon as the weather permits. We authorized contacting Tri State Basement Repair to do an inspection of the basement and to provide us with suggestions for eliminating the seepage problem. Jim Weber & John will be present during the inspection. A new garage door will soon be installed. Fortunately, the opener is OK. The heavy wooden door will be replaced with aluminum. Bruce and Marilyn Creasey will roll the lawn, when the weather allows.

CHURCH REPORT: Strang's will replace the altar lights at no charge, when someone agile can be spared to do the work. John has worked with Wallace Electric to get a light installed on the southeast corner of the church, to illuminate the parking lot. Fortunately, power can be secured from a light in a closet, on the second floor in that corner. John will bring an estimate of our next meeting. We agreed to do a “walk-through” of the church following our April meeting. We will be looking to update the Wish List with new items, as necessary.

OTHER BUSINESS: Jerry presented two items. First, Jerry & Donna & Shirley Steiner adjusted organ pipes so that they are no longer leaking air. That is, Jerry did the adjusting and Donna & Shirley played the notes! Second, Jerry reported that G4 has encountered a back order in securing a new sound mixer for the sanctuary. In the meantime, try to be patient with the erratic behavior.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 3 APRIL 2017, 6:00 PM., IN THE LIBRARY.

Last Word ☺

www.trinity.umchurchrc.org

CHECK IT OUT!!

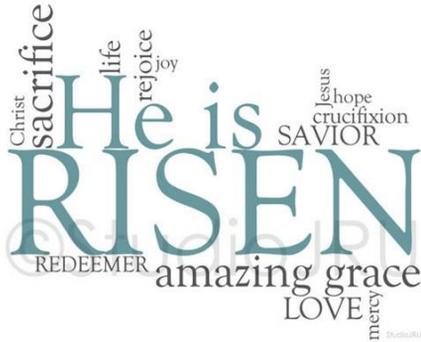
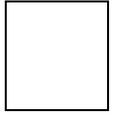
Trinity's website is now up to date with church events, announcements, worship bulletins, monthly newsletters, and recently added “PHOTO DIRECTORY SIGN UP” on front page menu bar at top! Please check it out and schedule your portrait sessions now! Our new directory won't be the same without YOU!! See **BIG announcement on page 10. More details to come!**

DEADLINE REMINDERS

Weekly bulletin postings is every Thursday by noon, keep in mind space is very limited.

Deadline for the next CHIMES newsletter is Wednesday, April 19th by noon, keep in mind that not only layout space is limited, there is also a significant postage increase for exceeding the maximum 12-page publication.

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



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

Websites: www.umchurchrc.org & www.trinity.umchurchrc.org

Administrative Assistant: Pat Leonard

Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Kathy Richardson

Custodian: Bill Twining

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

Chimes Newsletter

April 19th