



# *The Chimes*

## 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.)

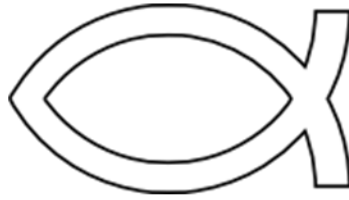
But that is not quite right! In the Greek language and alphabet, the letter that looks like an X is the Greek letter chi / X (pronounced 'kye' - it rhymes with 'eye') which is the first letter of the Greek word for Christ, Christos.

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: Ϟ



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.

*Continued >*



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. 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 2018.

Rev. Wiley Gladney



Barb Shannon  
Education Chair  
647-6522



Heather Gladney  
Youth Leader  
920-509-2258

A big thank you to the congregation for supporting the youth and children of the Sunday School by being present at the Christmas Program Sunday December 17th. The youth and children worked hard to present a meaningful and enjoyable program to you. I am very proud of them. A special thank you to Kathy Richardson for taking on this project and the many hours she put into making it happen.

Sunday School will resume on January 7th with the celebration of Epiphany - The visit of the wise men. See you then.

**UMC Youth Group resumes on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>  
6 PM at Peace UMC.**

## Missions' Committee Updates

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### **RICHLAND CENTER LOCAL FOOD PANTRY**

Missions' Committee has again chosen the local Food Pantry as its January Mission focus. The last Sunday, January 28, 2018 offering for missions will support the Food Pantry. Also the committee requests that you make a special effort to bring food donations every Sunday in January, especially before receiving Communion, January 7th.

Canned fruit and meats and hearty canned soups are especially appreciated during the cold winter months. Food collection tubs are located in the east and west entryways.

Also, at the east entry is a display of Mother Hubbard's cupboard.

Please don't let the cupboard be bare.

Missions' Committee wishes to thank the congregation for their faithful support of our mission efforts, in the community, state, nation, and the world.



### **PENNY WARS FOR HEIFER INTERNATIONAL**

The Mission Committee would like to announce that the Sunday school children won the Penny Wars against the congregation. It was a landslide! The grand total raised was \$33.25.

The Sunday school children had raised a total of \$29.20 but after subtracting the negatives and adding the positives... netted \$27.65. The congregation raised a total of \$4.55 but after again subtracting the negatives and adding the positives... netted \$4.15.

Since the Sunday school children raised the most... they will decide which animal Trinity will help "purchase" for Heifer International.

Thank you to all that helped in this fundraiser for Heifer International.

# 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
Mike Windstrup	1/18
Mary Otto	1/20
Russ Shannon	1/20
Ed Fink	1/22
Ron Steinmetz	1/27
Alyce Sugden	1/28
Melissa Sprecher	1/30
Jeremiah Storer	1/30

**Hospitality Calling-** for Coffee Hour Hosts, Greeters and Ushers for Sunday services here at Trinity Church. Please see clipboards in the narthex for signup sheets.



**Makes perfect Christmas gifts and supports Missions Ministry!**  
See Nancy McCauley

<u>MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2017</u>	
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>FOOD PANTRY</b>
February	Trinity Memorial Ministry Scholarship Fund
March	One Great Hour of Sharing (UMCOR)
April	Native American Sunday
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	UM Student Day
October	Harvest Auction
November	TBD
December	Salvation Army



# Points of Interest

Date	Event	Description
January 1	New Year's Day	New beginnings for everyone! May the spirit of continued growth and shared positive energy be instilled in us all.
January 7	Epiphany Sunday	The season from January 7 through the day before Ash Wednesday. It may include anywhere from four to nine Sundays, depending on the date of Easter.
January 1 - 31	Richland Center Food Pantry	<p>The Food Pantry is the Mission's Committee focus for this month. If possible, making a special effort to bring food donations every Sunday in January, especially before receiving Communion, January 7<sup>th</sup>, it would be very much appreciated.</p> <p>Canned fruit and meats and hearty canned soups are especially appreciated during the cold winter months. Food collection tubs are located in the east and west entryways.</p>
January 14	Human Relations Day	The Human Relations Day offering supports Neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy in the U.S. and Puerto Rico through United Methodist Voluntary Services, and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.
February 10 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	Basic Lay Servant Class	9:00 am to 2:30 pm at Westby UMC, Westby, WI (see page 7 for more details)
Ongoing	Kwik-Trip Gift Cards for Sale on Sundays!	Most Sunday worship services when Nancy McCauley is present....she will be selling \$25 Kwik-Trip gift cards. These make great gifts for any occasion, for anyone, for any time or any reason ☺ You also will be helping the Missions group with their ongoing ministry too!
Ongoing	Visitation Ministry Team	If you feel called to assist with making contact and personal visits to those who are homebound, hospitalized, or in a convalescent center, please contact Tricia Holley at 305-4788.



## Memorial Ministry Corner

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## January Memorial Ministry Corner



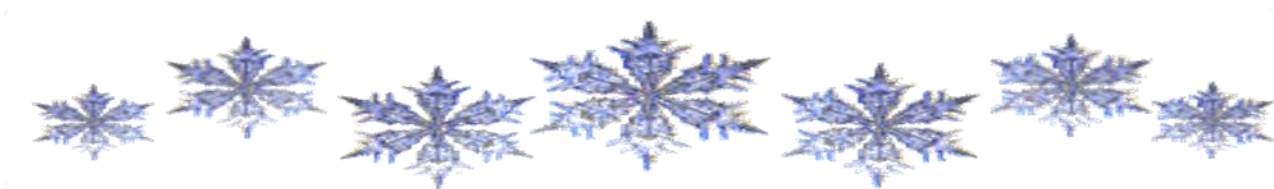
**Check Off the List Another Major Project Completed!** With either a “song of praise” or a “sigh of relief” (or both!), Memorial Ministry is very pleased to announce the completion of yet another of its major Trinity projects – **Schmitt Hall Chairs**. On Wednesday, December 20, 2017, a hardy troop of volunteers moved many boxes of chairs & new chair dollies from upstairs to downstairs. The cost for this project was **\$4,605.80** and was funded as follows: Ruth Moser memorial, Ruth Moser estate bequest (Trustee funding), James & Lucille Johnston memorial, folding chair fund, & “wish list” fund. So, what have we received for this cost? Schmitt Hall will now be upgraded with 175 new folding chairs, six stacking padded chairs with arms, four new folding chair dollies, and one stacking chair dolly.

We wish to thank the following people, without whose efforts none of this could have been accomplished, for all their efforts from dreaming to planning to implementation: Larry & Susan Moser Hallett, Harvey & Kathy Bastian, honor gift contributors to the folding chair & “wish list” funds, Trinity Trustees, Trinity Memorial Ministry, Pastor G. Wiley Gladney, John Storer, Bill Twining, Dan Johnson, Fuzz & Nancy McCauley, Louise Murphey, Pat Leonard, Kathy Richardson, Howard Nelson, and members of the Richland Center High School (RCHS) National Honor Society (NHS) community service team coordinated by RCHS student Clay Bruckner. The NHS members were an invaluable force on December 20 of younger, stronger backs for the lifting and carrying of this equipment. We could not have done it without them!

Gradually, you will start to see this new equipment appear in Schmitt Hall. For a “sneak peek,” check out the choir room! As for the old chairs and chair dollies, 50 of the better chairs will be held on reserve for use during the annual “Worship in the Park” event with the remainder of the chairs and old dollies being placed “up for sale” to Trinity & Peace members and then to the general public in a similar fashion as we did for our old banquet tables. Stay tuned for an official announcement of this sale after February 5, 2018.

***“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”***

***-- 1 Thessalonians 5:18***



## Announcements

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### TRINITY UMC FEBRUARY CANDLELIGHT DINNER FOR 2018 CANCELLED

Due to several retirements within the Trinity Candlelight Dinner Planning Team, Trinity has announced that its February 2018 dinner will be cancelled. During the 2018 late summer or early fall, Trinity Planning Team members (remaining & retired) will meet to discuss the future for a 2019 dinner. If interested in filling one of our planning team positions, please contact Paul Murphey ([pmurphey@mwt.net](mailto:pmurphey@mwt.net)) for further information. We thank you all for your past years of support for this dinner.

### HUMAN RELATIONS DAY: JANUARY 14, 2018

The UM Church celebrates six church wide special Sundays. In 2018, the first of these special Sundays is Human Relations Day on January 14. The Human Relations Day offering supports Neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy in the U.S. and Puerto Rico through United Methodist Voluntary Services, and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

Special offering envelopes are provided if you wish to use them. Also, please see the poster on the Missions bulletin board in the narthex.

### 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.

### BASIC LAY SERVANT CLASS

Saturday: February 10 & 17, 2018

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Place: Westby United Methodist Church

[202 E State Street Westby WI](#)

[608 648-2528](tel:6086482528) – Church Office

<http://driftlessministry.org/>

Teacher/Facilitator: Pastor Jim Aniol

### Theme: Introduction to Lay Servant Ministry

The Class is the required first step for becoming a Lay Servant or Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church, and is a prerequisite for the Advanced Lay Servant courses.

Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended, and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship.

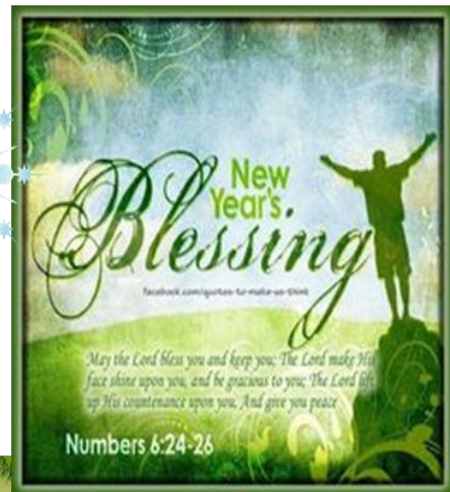
Ministry isn't just a clergy endeavor; all Christians are called to serve, this is our United Methodist history. Laity serve on the front line of evangelical living and serving.

# New Year's Prayers and Blessings!



**NEW YEAR PRAYER:**

Thank You Lord for giving me  
The brand new year ahead.  
Help me live the way I should  
As each new day I tread.  
Give me gentle wisdom  
That I might help a friend,  
Give me strength and courage  
So a shoulder I might lend.  
The year ahead is empty,  
Help me fill it with good things  
Each new day filled with joy  
And happiness it brings.  
Amen.



**New Year's Blessing**

facebook.com/groups-for-women-40-50

*May the Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.*

Numbers 6:24-26



**Happy New Year**

JESUS SHOW US THE WAY  
beginning a new year  
with a good guide on our side  
the star of Jesus  
which shows us safe roads  
fills our hearts with his grace  
best wishes for the new year



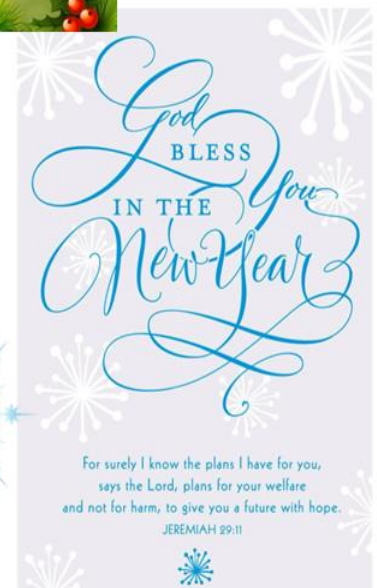
**NUBIA GROUP**

**A New Year's Blessing**

May God make your year a happy one!  
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;  
Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;  
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping your face bright,  
even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life always pleasant,  
But by showing you when people  
and their causes need you most,  
and by making you anxious to be there to help.  
GOD'S LOVE, PEACE, HOPE & JOY  
To you for the year ahead.

**Happy New Year!**

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nubia\\_group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nubia_group/)



**God BLESS You IN THE New Year**

For surely I know the plans I have for you,  
says the Lord, plans for your welfare  
and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.  
JEREMIAH 29:11

*Whether you've just walked through the greatest year of your life, or are incredibly glad to see this one finally over, one truth still rings clear amidst it all. You are not alone. Not ever.*

*Our God is a "with us" God. On the heels of the celebration of the birth of our King, that reminder has the power to carry us right into a fresh, new start. He is Immanuel, God with us. And though things and people around us shift and change, our God never changes.*



## December 2017 Committee Notes : By Jerry Bower, Lay Leader

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**TRUSTEES:** Pastor Wiley opened our meeting with a prayer.

The Minutes of 2 October 2017 were unanimously approved.

Financial Reports: A review revealed that, due to the strong stock market, each of our investment accounts showed a gain over the previous month. The gains for the year are significant.

Parsonage Report: Things are calm. There were no items that needed attention.

Church Report: Several items, as noted below.

Ceiling Lights: Dick Marshall is having a difficult time finding a manufacturer that can supply all of the bulbs we need. This is a project still in progress.

Parking Lot: Sheldon's has not yet responded with a visit and an estimate. Obviously, this will now await Spring weather. The plan is to tear out the fractured sidewalk along the lot and replace it with blacktop, which should be easier to maintain. There was discussion of whether, when the lot is repaired and repainted, we should have a canopy installed at the east entrance. The conversation was lively. Shannon volunteered to make some contacts about design and expense. This will be on future agendas.

Water Issues: Doug Tyler dug out one of the west window wells and discovered that there is not a concrete floor in them. John suggested that the grates be covered with an appropriately colored corrugated sheet, to keep water from getting into the wells and, from there, migrating into the basement. John was given the go-ahead.

Grease Trap: John had the City Inspector look at our situation. The inspector said that, as long as we are not putting grease down our drains, we do not need a functioning grease trap. This is good news, as we were facing an extensive and expensive project to tear out and replace the trap. The current trap, however, does need to be removed and the piping needs to be replaced. John has one estimate of about \$1,000.00 and one day to complete. John will seek other estimates and we will decide who will do the work at a future meeting.

Back/East Door: As you know, there have been problems with this door not closing because it is scraping on the threshold. John and his son, Jeremiah removed the door and discovered that the adjusting screw is worn out. They placed a washer on the screw, which holds the door up so that it can close. Sometime, we will investigate whether the adjusting screw can be replaced.

Outside Light: The light at the end of the sidewalk toward Seminary Street has been inoperative for a long time. Investigation revealed that the wire from the light into the building was broken. John arranged to have a wire buried from the light that is working to the broken one. Both lights are now working.

Wi-fi: Last Sunday, when the paragraph 213 task force met, the Wi-fi could not be accessed in the Library. The meeting was moved to the Narthex. A booster was purchased during Pastor Bill's tenure but has disappeared. Pastor Wiley volunteered to purchase a booster and install it so that the Wi-fi can be accessed in the east wing. Permission granted to make the purchase.

Other Business: Paul Murphey reported on several items.

Candlelight Dinner: As of now, there will NOT be a dinner in 2018, as the general chairperson has retired.

Paul is still trying to secure additional bids for installing an additional outlet in the Narthex kitchen and to install a speaker in the toddlers' room.

Pat Leonard has asked for permission to purchase ¾ new bulletin boards. Our present boards just aren't large enough to post all of the information that needs to be shared. After discussion, we approved the plan. Paul said that Memorial Ministry would finance the purchase from Wish List funds.

Finally, Paul told us that the new chairs have been ordered!!! He has arranged for NHS (National Honor Society) students to move the chairs from the parking lot, where the freighter will drop them, into the choir room in the basement. The order also includes four storage racks, six chairs with arms, and a storage rack for

## December Committee Notes Continued from page 9.....

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the armed chairs. The total cost will be \$4,605.80. All but \$256.80 of this amount has been covered by gifts for the chairs and funds from several memorials. Some Wish List funds will also be used. Thanks, Paul, for bringing this project to a conclusion.

**NEXT MEETING: 5 FEBRUARY 2018, 6:00 PM., IN THE LIBRARY .**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Our meeting opened with a prayer.

Our review of the spreadsheets revealed that all of our obligations are up-to-date. At the end of November, our general fund had a balance of \$307.53. It appears that we will finish the year with all our bills paid. Many thanks to all of you who contribute to supporting Trinity's many ministries!

**Introduction of new Contribution Envelopes:** Pastor Wiley showed us a model of what the new envelopes will look like. Peace is already using this type of contribution envelope. The major change is that these envelopes will not be preprinted with our contribution number. *So, we will need to take care to put our name on the envelope, so that the counters can credit our account.* Putting your name on the envelope will be critical if you give cash, without a name, your account could not be credited! A major advantage of the new envelopes is that we will not have a lot of envelopes that we do not use and simply discard. For example, Donna & I contribute once a month, so we only use 12 envelopes from the package we received. The new system will be less expensive to operate.

**Discussion of Committee Membership:** Jerry noted that, due to resignations, Finance does not have an at-large member who attends regularly. Finance meets every other month, in the even numbered months on the first Wednesday, at 7:00. If you could help staff the Finance Committee (and learn a lot about how the church operates), please let Jerry know.

We approved the renewal of our Quick Books subscription, for \$610.00 plus tax. This is the system that we have used for years to keep our financial records

**NEXT MEETING: 7 FEBRUARY 2018, 7:00 PM., IN THE LIBRARY**

**CHURCH COUNCIL:** Because there was no urgent business, the December meeting of the Council was cancelled. The next meeting will occur on the third Monday of January 2018.

I hope that you have a Blessed Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!! (Jerry)

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## Last Word ☺



**CHECK IT OUT!!**

Trinity's website is now up to date with church events, announcements, worship bulletins, monthly newsletters, and recently added informational pages.

[www.trinity.umchurchrc.org](http://www.trinity.umchurchrc.org)

**CHECK IT OUT!!**

## DEADLINE REMINDERS

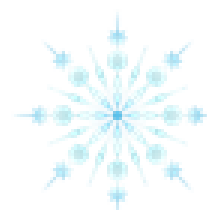
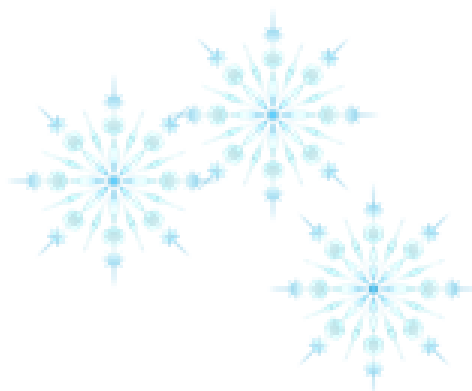
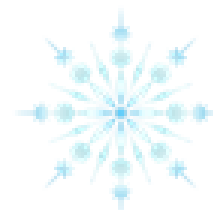
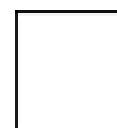
Weekly bulletin postings is every Thursday by noon, keep in mind space is very limited. Deadline for the next CHIMES newsletter is Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> by noon, keep in mind that not only layout space is limited, there is also a significant postage increase for exceeding the maximum 12-page publication.

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# JANUARY MINISTRY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Office Closed New Year's Day	<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Dance Group 3:45 – 6 PM	<b>4</b> MOPS 9-11am  Bulletin Deadline 12 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Pastor's Day Off
<b>7</b> 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Tuesday Morning Group 9:45 am  <b>Joint SPRC 7:30 pm @ Peace</b>	<b>10</b> Dance Group 3:45 – 6 PM	<b>11</b> Bulletin Deadline 12 pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Pastor's Day Off
<b>14</b> 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School	<b>15</b> <b>PEO Chapter 1:30 pm</b>  <b>Council Committee 7pm</b>	<b>16</b> Tuesday Morning Group 9:45 am	<b>17</b> Dance Group 3:45 – 6 PM <b>CHIMES DEADLINE</b>  	<b>18</b> Bulletin Deadline 12 pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Pastor's Day Off
<b>21</b> 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School  UMC Youth Grp 6pm @ Peace	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Tuesday Morning Group 9:45 am	<b>24</b> Dance Group 3:45 – 6 PM	<b>25</b> Bulletin Deadline 12 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Pastor's Day Off
<b>28</b> 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Tuesday Morning Group 9:45 am	<b>31</b> Dance Group 3:45 – 6 PM	<b>Church Office Hours 9am – Noon Monday thru Friday</b>		

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](mailto:revgladney@gmail.com)

Pastor's Office Hours: Thursday 9-12 PM and by appointment M - F

Saturday: Pastor's day off

Youth Leader: Heather Gladney

Minister of Pastoral Care: Tricia Holley

### Trinity Church Office

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 - noon

Trinity UMC Office: (608) 647-3203

Trinity's email: [trinityumc@mwt.net](mailto:trinityumc@mwt.net)

Websites: [www.umchurchrc.org](http://www.umchurchrc.org) & [www.trinity.umchurchrc.org](http://www.trinity.umchurchrc.org)

Administrative Assistant: Pat Leonard

Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Kathy Richardson

Custodian: Bill Twining