

## The Chimes

"....Behold, I make all things new."

Revelation 21:5

#### From Pastor Díaz

In Psalm 19:1 the Psalmist stated: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." This is a declaration and proclamation of the glory and work of God. It is an invitation to contemplate the work of God's hands and to worship Him. The display of his enormous power could be considered as part of his mission in this universe, with two distinctive elements.

The first one is creating everything that exists, visible or invisible. It presents his power to create objects and his immense power when he created life. Second, his mighty power is at work in this universe as he is transforming the things created by him that have been damaged by sin, so they could meet the demands of his divine holiness and will. By doing so, God is redeeming his creation and transforming those who have been created in his image and likeness, but have been affected by transgression of his laws. I am going to explain to you what I mean in the following paragraphs.

First, Jesus transformed the Jewish Passover meal into the Lord's Supper. He gave a new meaning to the Jewish Passover meal. It is clear that the Lord's Supper reenacts the Passover meal of the Jews during the time when they lived in Egypt. Before they departed from Egypt, God asked Moses to celebrate the Passover meal in anticipation of their freedom.

Then, the Lord's Supper represents liberation for both Jews and Gentiles from their sins. The Lord Jesus Christ, in anticipation of his death and resurrection, transformed the ritual meal. Later on, Paul said to the church in Corinth, "Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch, without yeast —as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb has been sacrificed." The yeast in the new batch represents sin. We are called to get rid of it because Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed to clean us.

Jesus transformed the Cross at Mount Calvary when this symbol of cruelty, punishment and death was transformed into a symbol of hope and new life. The cross, for the Jewish, meant the curse expressed in the Law for anyone who was hung on a cross. Jesus took away the curse by being hanged on a cross and the cross of Jesus became the symbol of glory. Paul said: "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." With his death on the cross, Jesus transformed the meaning of the cross meant for shame and sorrow into the central point of the preaching of the gospel.

The burial site where they placed the body of Jesus is no longer a place for sorrow and sadness, but a place for wonder and joy. It leaves us in silence because we can't explain what took place there. The tomb is empty and the only place we can go for an answer is...not to the Roman or the Jewish authorities, but to the Christian community.

The testimonial evidence of his resurrection is in the New Testament and in the testimony of the Christian community. The good news, when we believe in it, is the transforming power of Jesus who changes the sinner into a saint, or a person who hates others into a loving and kind person.

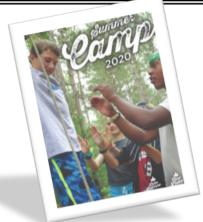
God has the power to again create everything new. The heavens will disappear and the earth will disappear, too, according to the prophetic word of the book of Revelation. The entire cosmos will be created again. Heaven and earth have been contaminated by sin, so God will create all things new. He wants to transform you and me so that we may become like Jesus. He is offering us the new birth that transforms us and gives us the gift of salvation.

We are being born by water and the Spirit through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. We become new creatures by having faith in Jesus. We are becoming part of the New Creation that Jesus is making. Everything will be done in God's own time. We are part of this new creation in which God granted us the right to become His children by the power of His love.

Jesus became the first fruits of this new creation when he rose from the dead. Since then Jesus has a glorifying body and those who trust in his saving grace will be caught up in the air during his Second Coming. They will be transformed so they can be with the Lord forever. It is Paul who gives us the final touch to these words. He says, "I am sure that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

Love and peace from God to all of you as we celebrate the love of Jesus in our lives, with our families, with friends in our faith community and in the rest of the world.

#### **Youth Ministry News**



## Wisconsin Conference UMC is pleased to announce that Summer Camp 2020 is open for registration!

All churches have received a promotional packet in January, which included digital media for our website, posters, booklets and brochures with more exciting details. Much more to come later.

Visit www.wiumcamps.org to learn more or to register.

# When it comes to eating s'mores under starry skies and singing songs around a campfire, little has changed over the years. There's still

The United Methodist Church has a great commitment to camping. The denomination offers one of the largest camp and retreat networks, with 220 centers serving a million people a year.

no place like summer camp.

#### Read Current News stories @

http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/church-camps-combine-faith-and-fun

- Camp Life reaches out to Baltimore youth
- Camp opens doors for kids with serious illness
- UMCOR gives Gaza kids a break from conflict
- Camp opens doors for seriously ill kids
- · Churches' math and literacy camps a hit
- Just Save One: Help the Global AIDS Fund
- · Native American youth to benefit from camp
- Lazarus Project offers military families refuge
- HIV camp gives dose of God's love

#### CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!!

Also the Trinity camp fund pays 2/3's of registration for youths, and the WI Conference Scholarships are also available if needed. In addition, you may contact Rosie Steinmetz at 647-4247 for assistance.

#### Missions' Upcoming Special Sunday

February	MEMORIAL MINISTRY SCHOLARSHII	
March	UMCOR Sunday,	
	March 22™ #1015	
April	CONFERENCE INGATHERING PROJECT Native American Ministries Sunday, April 25th #1025	
Мау	Golden Cross Sunday, May 10 <sup>th</sup> #1070	
June	ICE CREAM SOCIAL (DATE TBD)  Peace w Justice Sunday  June 7 <sup>th</sup> #1035	
July	UM HOSPITAL MINISTRY	
August	MEMORIAL MINISTRY WISH LIST	
September	SIERRA LEONE WATER & DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY, Advance #181000 (Lee Weaver)	
October	HARVEST AUCTION: to fulfill our covenant with David Makobo, Senegal, Africa	
	World Communion Sunday, October 4th #1045	
November	SNACK PACKS FOR BACKPACKS (local school district project for kids who are at risk for not having food over the weekend/school vacations)	
	UM Student Day, November 29th #1055	
December	SALVATION ARMY – Offering and opportunity for bell ringing	

What is UMCOR Sunday? In 2016 General conference approved the name change from One Great Hour of Sharing to UMCOR Sunday. UMCOR Sunday call United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Your monetary gifts to UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for the United Methodist Committee on Relief God's love (UMCOR) to share with communities evervwhere. The special offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business". This helps UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs.

What is UMCOR? UMCOR is the humanitarian arm of The United Methodist Church. UMCOR's work reaches people in more than 80 countries, including the United States. UMCOR provides humanitarian relief when war, conflict or natural disaster disrupts life to such an extent that communities cannot recover on their own.



UMCOR maintains a corps of trained disaster response specialists for quick reinforcement of local efforts, and it keeps a supply of relief materials in warehouses for dispatch when and where required. Disasters may be caused by upheavals of nature, such as the volcanic eruptions in the Philippines or by inhuman actions of human beings, such as the brutalities in Rwanda and Burundi. Whatever the cause of the disaster, UMCOR moves in concrete ways to ease human suffering and do whatever may be possible to restore normal life. Special emphasis is given to the emotional needs of disaster victims, who may lose their confidence and their ability to meet the new demands forced upon them when they are traumatized by the loss of family members, homes, and jobs. Recently, UMCOR has added a special program to bring pastoral care to children involved in disasters.

United Methodists celebrate UMCOR Sunday on the Fourth Sunday in Lent. This year, it will be March 22, 2020. Advance #1015. Please consider donating to UMCOR and help share God's love to communities everywhere.

By asking you to support Trinity Missions' Projects, we also ask that you first consider your support of the general find which is a first consider your support of the general find which is a first consider.

By asking you to support Trinity Missions' Projects, we also ask that you first consider your support of the general fund, which is what keeps our church doors open. Then please prayerfully consider your support of this month's Mission Focus. Thank you.

#### Celebrations and More.....



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS		
Connie Tracy	2/2	
Samantha McNamer	2/3	
Brooklyn Grace Worthington	2/8	
Angelica Black	2/9	
Allison (Spangler) Ewing	2/10	
Shannon Trebus	2/11	
Kathy Richardson	2/11	
Shirley Goplin	2/14	
Steven Bethke	2/15	
Ruby Hodge	2/16	
Rebecca Turgasen	2/16	
Helen Nelson	2/17	
Paul Murphey	2/18	



Dear Friends,

Thank you for making us feel so welcome as we return to Trinity. As a couple, we have returned to the church in which we were married over 4 decades ago and the church where Carl grew up. Steve was baptized as an infant at Trinity and so we feel at home. We are excited to be a part of the Trinity family again. We are grateful for the love you have shown us. We do appreciate the warm welcome.

In Christ's Love, Carl, Joan, and Steve Bethke



## 2020 Church Directory update.



We are in final stages of updating, proofing, duplicating, and assembling our 2020 <u>Trinity Member and Friends'</u> paper directory, which will be available at some point in February.

An announcement will be made at the right time during a Sunday service; however, if you wish to obtain this paper directory and are unable to attend church to pick one up, please contact the Trinity church office (608.647.3203 or <a href="mailto:trinityumc@mwt.net">trinityumc@mwt.net</a>) and ask for one.

We will mail it to you when it becomes available.

"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

- - 1 Corinthians 12:27

## **Points of Interest**

Date	Event	Description
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Valentine's Day	Also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is celebrated annually on February 14.
February 17th	President's Day	President's Day is a day set aside to honor all of the U.S. presidents. Look at this day as a tribute to each and every person who has ever served in the office of the President of the United States of America. It is a national holiday,
February 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	<b>Presentation of Ashes</b> For Ash Wednesday	9:30 AM at Trinity United Methodist Church
February 26th Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of prayer and fasting. It falls on the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter. Note: NO WORSHIP SERVICE IS SCHEDULED FOR THIS DATE.
Ongoing	Kwik-Trip Gift Cards for Sale on Sundays!	Most Sunday worship services when Nancy McCauley is presentshe 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 the office at 647-3203.



Presentation of Ashes Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> Trinity UMC Service at 9:30 AM





# February Memorial Ministry Corner



Memorial Ministry expresses it sympathy to the Jewell and Marshall families. Both Kirk and Hope will be recognized as Trinity saints during our annual All Saints' Day service on Sunday, November 01, 2020.

"God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted." - - Matthew 5:4

In Memory of Kirk Matthew Jewell June 2, 1982 – January 2, 2020

Kirk was a Trinity Member since May 11, 1997 (Confirmation Date).

Complete Obituary Appears at the Gunderson Camacho Mount Horeb Funeral & Cremation Care Website: https://tinyurl.com/tmvv2rx

Visitation & Services were held in Mount Horeb on Monday & Tuesday, January 6 & 7, 2020, at the Funeral Home & at St. Ignatius Catholic Church.

Cards of Condolence May be Sent to Kirk's Wife & Children, Mother, or Grandmother at the Following:

Jody, Owen Todd, & Vada Jewell 1405 Manor Drive Mt. Horeb, WI 53572 Julie Jewell 2170 West Preston Drive Richland Center, WI 53581

Rosemary Jewell 1170 West Haseltine Street Richland Center, WI 53581 In Memory of Benjamin "Ben" Andrew Wilson November 12, 1986 – January 20, 2020

Patty (Wheelock) Hill, Ben's Mother, Has Been a Trinity Baptized Member Since November 09, 2014.

Complete Obituary Appears at the Clary Memorial Funeral Home Website: https://tinyurl.com/wu6olzb

Visitation & Service Were Held at the Clary Memorial Funeral Home in Richland Center on Sunday, January 26, 2020.

Cards of Condolence May be Sent to Ben's Mother & Stepfather at the Following:

> Patty & Jason Hill 25111 Pleasant Alley Drive Richland Center, WI 53581 608.647.3286

#### In Memory of Hope Vernell Marshall

May 23, 1928 – January 14, 2020

Hope was a dedicated Trinity UMC Member from 1978 – 2011.

Complete Obituary Appears at the Simple Cremation Website: https://tinyurl.com/rlbsdax

Services were held in Ft. Worth, TX, on Saturday,
January 18, 2020, with an inurnment to occur at a later date
(spring 2020) at the Resting Green Cemetery,
Ironton, WI.

Cards of Condolence May be Sent to Hope's daughters at the Following:

Dana V. Marshall and the Rev. Dr. Joretta L. Marshall and Joy Allen

5020 Monarda Way Fort Worth, Texas 76123 817.349.8806 Memorial Ministry expresses it sympathy to the Jewell, Marshall, and Wilson/Wheelock/Hill families. Kirk and Hope will be recognized as Trinity saints during our annual All Saints' Day service on Sunday, November 01, 2020.

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

#### The "Future" Has Arrived!

It's February 2020, so that means our annual internal missions' project will be the <u>Trinity Scholarship Fund</u>. During February, the Missions Committee (Chair Kathy Bastian), working with Memorial Ministry (Chair Paul Murphey), will be seeking your prayers and financial support (honor gifts) for our church's scholarship fund that directly benefit Trinity youth and adults as they seek higher- and continuing education. This internal missions' campaign allows two church committees to work closely to promote a very important ministry that assists our own members (professing, baptized, and regular attendees as determined by Memorial Ministry).

Our current invested scholarship account, monitored & managed by Trinity Memorial Ministry, has a balance of \$8,622.01. It is probably no secret to anyone that an education of any kind can be costly, and Trinity has a long commitment and history of both financial support and encouragement for our students of all ages. No matter how valuable an education may be, some students simply cannot afford the financial impact to continue or to start their educational journey.

For at least the last two years, our annual February financial campaign has been titled "Building for the Future," as we watched the bubble of Trinity youth age and move toward scholarship application time. I am pleased to report that the first of our youth has now reached that point; thus the long-waited bubble has now burst! Your support in the past has been greatly appreciated, and we will now see the benefits of your generosity pay off, as we will be able to award our youth financial support.

The Trinity scholarship is funded not only through your honor gifts but also in memory of Marilyn Joan Anderson, Wayne Braithwaite, Jerry Cooper, Alberta Chellevold-Couey, Nancy Edwards, Hilda Heidenreich, Eloise Herbeck, Dean & Roger Jewell, James & Lucille Johnston, Ralph and Helen Monteith, Ruth Moser, and Eleanor Strang. Applications for our 2020 scholarship will be available through 12 midnight on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, and can be obtained in paper or electronic form through the church office, Memorial Ministry Chair Paul Murphey, or in the narthex literature rack.

We ask you, during the month of February, to consider prayerfully an honor gift of financial support for the Trinity scholarship fund. Special offering envelopes for this cause will be available to you through your Sunday bulletins starting February 2; however, you may also send a gift of any size directly to the church. Please note on your check "Trinity Scholarship Fund." We thank you for your prayers and honor gifts this month as we promote this very important internal missions campaign. As always, we remind you to meet your Trinity general budget financial goal before giving to this missions' project.

**2020 Wish List Item Update.** Two important items have now been completed from our church "wish list." Memorial Ministry thanks families/individuals for the memorial & honor gifts used to complete these items:

- Library Technology Upgrade. Ah, yes, technology changes all too often. Trinity ran "head first" into this need when it was discovered that our library's current TV/DVD could no longer support the technological needs of our women's study group. Our thanks to Administrative Assistant Pat Leonard and Trustee Chair John Storer for "answering the call" to order and to assemble a new TV/DVD player and portable stand. Memorial Ministry agreed to pay for this purchase through the following six Memorials: (1) Pat Dach, (2) Ellen Storer Gridley, (3) Lucille Sanner, (4) Bruce Siegfried, (5) Alyce Sugden, and (6) Revered Robert Trobaugh. No general church funds were used for this purchase.
- **AED Installation.** What a tremendous asset for our church that we are now equipped with our first Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) installed in the narthex. Our thanks to Dr. Janice and Michael Alexander and Trustee Chair John Storer for "answering this call" to order and to install our AED. Stay tuned for AED training sessions by Dr. Alexander for those wishing to receive instruction. Memorial Ministry agreed to pay for this purchase through the following two designated memorials (1) Ileen Shannon and (2) James Taylor and from three designated honor gifts for this cause. No general church funds were used for this purchase.
- Marilyn Joan Anderson Memorial Update. Marilyn's family has designated this memorial to be
  forwarded to the Red Bird Mission Christian School in Beverly, Kentucky. The Red Bird Mission is a
  designated "Advance Special" by the Wisconsin UMC Conference. Our thanks to Missions' Chair
  Kathy Bastian and members for working with the Anderson family and Memorial Ministry for this
  cause. What a tremendous tribute to Marilyn and her life-long devotion to mission work.

<u>Yes</u>, Memorial Ministry has been busy this past month. All of these memorial & honor gifts will be consecrated/dedicated during our annual 2020 All Saints' Day service. We are grateful for all the family and member/friend financial support that allow us to complete these needs, purchases, and causes.

#### **Church Membership Notes**



## **Church Membership Notes**



Welcome New Members! What a fantastic way for a membership secretary to welcome the new year by announcing the addition of three new Trinity members. We welcome Carl, Joan, & Steven Bethke to Trinity professing membership. The Bethke family transferred its membership from Peace UMC to Trinity UMC effective January 01, 2020. One of the gifts we presented to the Bethke family was the "Ephesian Cross," which is based on St. Paul's letter from Ephesians 2:19: "... you are no longer strangers or sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God."

Then, as now, these few words of St. Paul wholly describe the feeling of community in church membership. And, the cross continues as a seal of God's covenant relationship between Christ and His church. The members, friends, and ministry of Trinity UMC welcome the Bethke family to our fellowship and mission.

"To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever." -- Ephesians 3:21

Note. Any inquiries regarding church membership should be directed to Pastor Rey Díaz and/or Membership Secretary Paul Murphey.

#### JANUARY 2020 COMMITTEE NOTES.....



Submitted by Jerry Bower

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** The Finance Committee does not meet in January but I have a report on our December activity and a quick comment on the year end report for 2019.

We ended December 2019 with \$19,491.04 in the general fund checkbook. This includes \$13,606.76 in designated funds that are being held for specific projects. The largest amount is the Church Mutual balance of \$6,057.45, which is the remainder of the settlement of our roofing project. The Trustees will decide how this will be expended.

We ended the year with a \$5,884.28 balance in the checkbook for ongoing expenses. We again paid our apportionments in full. Our investment did very well last year. The general fund drew \$7,500.00 from the Capital Improvement fund, which is \$2,500.00 less than what was needed in 2018.

Thank You to all of you who have supported Trinity's ministries with your giving.

#### COUNCIL COMMITTEE:

PRESENT: Pastor Rey, John Storer, Annie Windstrup, Barb Shannon, Kathy Richardson, Kathy Bastian, Rosie Steinmetz, Russ Shannon, Jerry Bower, Paul Murphey.

Russ began our meeting with a prayer for guidance.

We heard very brief committee reports, then turned our attention to the recently issued *PROTOCOL OF RECONCILIATION AND GRACE THROUGH SEPARATION*. All of us in attendance had received a copy of Bishop Jung's cover letter and the Protocol prior to the meeting. We quickly decided to devote our entire evening to a discussion of the Protocol and the events that have led the United Methodist Church to this point.

(In preparing these Minutes, I have used materials supplied by Bishop Jung, Pastor Rey, Rom Pegram, David Turk & Russ Shannon.)

You have no doubt heard via the media that the United Methodist Church is on the brink of breaking up. This is true, however the media has emphasized only one aspect of the reasons our denomination has arrived at this point. The media reports that the issue is a fight over sexuality and whether we should ordain practicing homosexuals as ministers. What the media has not reported, as far as know is that the struggle also involves whether we should continue to uphold and enforce the *DISCIPLINE*, continue to believe in the inerrancy of Scripture, the Virgin Birth, the divinity of Jesus, and His Resurrection. The latter have been the tenants of Wesleyan churches for over 200 years.

Three factions have emerged as our denomination has struggled with these issues since the 1972 General Conference. One faction is the TRADITIONALISTS who believe that the DISCIPLINE should be enforced and that our basic beliefs should continue to guide our faith journeys. The CENTRISTS are, as the label indicates, in the middle. They believe that some portions of our traditions should be maintained and that we should make some changes to allow homosexuals to become pastors. The PROGRESSIVES are the "radicals" who believe that all of what is in the DISCIPLINE concerning marriage and ordination of ministers should be rewritten. As the years have passed and the Progressives attempts to win a change at General Conferences have failed, the dispute has gotten more and more bitter. The las straw, for the Progressives, was another defeat in the special General Conference held in February 2019. The Progressives have been invited to leave the denomination if they cannot operate by the existing rules but they have announced that they will not leave. So we have come to this recently proposed Protocol that describes how the Traditionalists could leave the denomination and form a new one.

#### PROTOCOL OF RECONCILIATION & GRACE THROUGH SEPARATION.

The Protocol will be proposed to the 2020 General Conference to be held in May 2020 in Minneapolis.

The Protocol was developed through mediation suggested by a few Central Conference Bishops. The viewpoints of the participants were Central Conference Bishops, Traditionalists, Centrists, and Progressives. The Central Conference Bishops were from outside the United States. The law firm of Kirkland and Ellis, Washington D.C. donated the services of a professional mediator. After 6 meetings in late 2019 the Protocol was approved by the participants and they agreed it would be submitted to the upcoming General Conference.

The key clause in the Protocol allows churches/congregations to leave the United Methodist Church with all of their property and assets. Of course, any liabilities would also go with them The current pension and healthcare programs would continue to serve clergy and laity from any new denominations that might be created. In addition, \$25 million will be paid over the quadrennium following approval of the Protocol "to the traditionalist Methodist denomination Established pursuant to this Protocol." The authors of the Protocol admit that no one faction got all of what it wanted, but that is the nature of mediation.

The proposed timeline looks like this:

May 2020 Protocol legislation considered for approval by the General Conference
May 15, 2021 deadline for registering intent to form a new Methodist denomination
July 1, 2021 Deadline for an annual conference to vote to affiliate with a new denomination
Dec. 31, 2024 deadline for local churches to affiliate with a different denomination than their annual conference has chosen

#### SO, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR TRINITY?

It means that no decision about Trinity's future affiliation will be made for years. In the meantime we all need to educate ourselves about the Protocol and the choices we may have to make. As mentioned at the outset, all Council members have received Bishop Jung's cover letter and the Protocol. You are urged to ask Pat Leonard for a copy of those documents.

When a vote is eventually taken, it is important to know that *only Professing Members of the congregation are eligible to vote.* If you are unclear about your membership status, you can also call Pat to learn your status. The vote will be taken during an official Charge Conference with the District Superintendent or a designee presiding.

Please pray about this situation and for an outcome that, at last, will permit the Methodist Church to return its primary focus to winning disciples to Christ.

Minutes prepared by Jerry Bower



### **FEBRUARY MINISTRY 2020**



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





WINTER WEATHER POLICY: On Sundays, please check the radio (WRCO) before leaving your home in the event the worship service has been cancelled.



## **Trinity United Methodist Church**

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Pastor: Rey Díaz

Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-633-7513 Pastor's email: zoolaar@live.com

Pastor's Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 9-12 PM

and by appointment M - F Saturday: 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