



The Chimes

Greetings to you from your new pastor!

Today I am celebrating my nineteenth day as a gratified resident of Richland Center. The hospitality I have received thus far has been both humbling and impressive. With the possible exception of the need for more rain, it's truly hard for me to imagine how my first days here could have been any better.

As we are waiting for Peace's parsonage to become available later this summer, I've been provided with a charming Air BnB cottage on the quiet end of Central Avenue. The owners of the house clearly know what they're doing -- I have everything I could possibly need, and more and I am feeling quite pampered.

What's more, I have been shown remarkable kindness and encouragement by the members of both the Trinity and Peace congregations. Staff and volunteers alike have gone out of their way to bring me on board and make me feel at home, which made my first Sundays in the pulpit both comfortable and meaningful. Add to that the pleasure of fellowship and being invited to lunch after the service at Peace -- a regular feature of Sunday mornings here.

I am pleased to say that of all of the places I have been appointed in my twenty years serving the United Methodist Church (Richland Center is number seven) this ranks among the most gracious welcomes I have ever received. Which is especially remarkable considering how many significant and challenging changes are taking place within the United Methodist denomination generally, and within the Richland Center churches in particular.

I will confess that I wasn't entirely sure what to expect upon my arrival, and would have understood completely -- in fact I was prepared for the people of Peace and Trinity to be a bit tentative about welcoming a stranger. Not to mention all the work that goes into bringing a new pastor into the community. All of which make the greeting and support I have received in these first few days nothing short of inspiring. It tells me a great deal about the depth of faith, commitment, and resilience that is at the heart of the United Methodist Churches in this lovely little gem of a city that is becoming my home.

Pastor Rachel's Message *Continued*....

I want to offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has opened their heart and given their time and attention to making my transition such a positive one. There is still so much I have to discover about Richland Center, and about what the future holds. Not just for me, but for the faithful people of Peace and Trinity, who have chosen to weather the current uncertainties and stay the course. But, the voice of the Spirit reassures me that I am here for a reason, that God is with us, and that together we are going to be witnesses to something wonderful in the days and weeks to come.

With gratitude and blessings,
Pastor Rachel

A Warm Ice Cream Social Thank You!



On the warm summer evening of June 21st, members and friends of Peace and Trinity gathered in Schmitt Hall for an enjoyable time of fellowship and a tasty meal at the annual Ice Cream Social. The Ice Cream Social was also a fundraiser, and the proceeds, **a record \$1,236.75**, were split evenly between the two churches for church camp scholarships and other projects.

Trinity's Missions Committee would like to extend warm thanks to Peace and Trinity for making the Ice Cream Social another successful event. **27 adult and youth volunteers** from both churches performed the many necessary tasks. These volunteers planned and organized, set things up, baked pies, cooked and served the meal, helped with clean-up, and donated items that helped us to have a larger net profit. Thank-you notes were sent to each individual helper and/or pie baker, but if we inadvertently missed you, we apologize; please know that your efforts were greatly appreciated.

We owe special thanks to Shirley and Gene Wanless for applying for and receiving a **Thrivent Financial "Action Team" special project grant of \$250**. That grant, along with Chris and John Storer's generous donation of hamburger for the Bar-B-Q, and the many pie donations meant that our other expenses were minimal.

Once again, Peace and Trinity came together and worked cooperatively for the benefit of all. We are truly in mission together.

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

---Ephesians 2:10

The Family Thrift Shop Needs Our Help

Friends of Church Women United

As members of the Board of Directors we would like to thank each one of you for your support of our Family Thrift Shop. We would not be able to survive without your time, talents, and treasures throughout the over 50 years we've been in business. With your help we've been able to donate at last \$400,000 back to the community. We are not a fancy corporation with a CEO who pads his pockets with the earnings. We are a family.

Our mission statement says, "This chain of community giving is the key to our success! The community donates, the community buys, and the community benefits!"

On Saturday, February 18, 2023, the Family Thrift Shop closed their doors for a temporary, three weeks, remodel of the ceiling. The landlord has also put in new walls, new lights and new floors. It's now been four months and our building is not finished and our store still remains closed.

Throughout this period, we have continued to pay our rent, wages, and all our other monthly expenses. Our biggest expense has been our loss of income. The time we have been closed has cost us over \$21,000.

This period of being unable to be of service has been devastating. We are grateful for the improvements; however, our community cannot donate. Our community cannot buy. And above all, our community does not benefit.

<u>MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2023</u> <i>Special Sundays in Italics</i>	
August	MEMORIAL MINISTRY WISH LIST
September	PASSAGES
October	HARVEST AUCTION: to fulfill our covenant with David Makobo, Senegal, Africa <i>World Communion Sunday</i> <i>October 1ST 1045</i>
November	VETERANS PROJECT (project TBD) <i>UM Student Day</i> <i>November 26th #1055</i>
December	SALVATION ARMY

We did still give scholarships to graduating seniors from four local high schools, for college.

I know you have goodness and the love of Jesus in your hearts. We created the Family Thrift Shop together, and now we need your help. We are accepting any financial assistance, so the Church Women United community can continue to donate, buy, benefit and grow. God bless every one of you.

Trinity's Mission Committee has agreed to donate \$500 towards their deficit. Can you help as well? Please mark your envelope "Family Thrift Shop" and place in the offering plate. We'll make sure it's sent on for you.

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.

The Proposed Unification of Peace UMC and Trinity UMC

Dear Trinity Members and Friends,

As United Methodists, we have a long history of responding to life's challenges with courage, faith, inspired action, and an ability to work together as a community. This is the legacy that we hold as we face the changes that are taking place in our time and place. This includes the possibility that Trinity and Peace could come together as one congregation to combine our strengths and help each other face an uncertain future.

On June 27, 2023, a joint meeting, convened by the District Superintendent, brought leaders and members of both Trinity and Peace UMCs together. During that meeting, it was proposed that Peace and Trinity, two distinct, historic congregations in Richland Center, be unified to create a new "shared regional ministry." This would result in creating a single congregation, housed in what is now the Trinity UMC building.

In our current circumstances there are compelling reasons for this proposal:

- Both Trinity and Peace are facing the financial realities of declining income in a time of increasing expenses.
- Our memberships have been aging and declining steadily for some time now. With the combined effects of Covid and disaffiliation, church attendance has decreased significantly and many members have left the denomination.
- There is an undeniable need for change and renewal, and coming together provides an opportunity to respond to this need in a positive and proactive way.

Therefore, members in each congregation will vote after church on September 17, 2023 to determine if this proposed unification and creation of a new shared ministry will become a reality. To be eligible to vote you must be a professing member and be present in the pews on that day. It will take a 2/3 majority vote to join the churches together and both churches must agree for it to happen.

Prior to the September 17th vote, we will hold an open Question & Answer session at Trinity. We highly encourage everyone, regardless of membership status, to attend and share your thoughts, insights, and concerns. The day and time for this will be announced soon.

If the both churches vote in favor of this proposal:

- Peace will close their building and it will be sold. Items of historical and ceremonial significance for the people of Peace may be transferred to the Trinity building.
- In accordance with the Book of Discipline (BOD), all proceeds from the sale will go to the Wisconsin Conference where they will be held in trust for missional use by the new unified congregation.

The Proposed Unification of Peace UMC and Trinity UMC *continued...*

- Peace's parsonage will be deeded to the new unified church for use by the appointed pastor.
- Trinity's parsonage, which is currently under lease until the end of the year, may be sold when the lease term expires and proceeds may also be allocated, as determined by the BOD, for the benefit of the unified congregation.
- The new unified congregation will be responsible for conference apportionments to be calculated based on the revised and audited membership rolls of the new unified congregation.
- A new name for the unified congregation may be chosen.
- There will be a number of special ceremonies and celebratory events to mark the birth of this new ministry, as well as many opportunities to celebrate, commemorate, grieve and honor the history, ministry, and individual identities of the former separate congregations.

If one or both churches vote against the proposal:

- Peace UMC will close its doors and cease to operate before the end of 2023.
- Peace UMC assets will revert to the conference, except for the parsonage which may be deeded to Trinity UMC.
- Individual Peace members may choose to attend or join Trinity, or to go elsewhere.
- Trinity will continue to operate as long as possible with the current challenges of declining membership and revenue.

These are the facts as we understand them today and we will keep you posted as more information becomes available. Our sincere hope is that the people of Trinity UMC will take this matter prayerfully to heart and make an informed choice based on their own conscience, wisdom, and clear judgment. We understand that this is a deeply personal, affecting, and difficult decision for everyone involved, and we are praying fervently, asking for God's wisdom, mercy, and guidance every day.

With our sincere gratitude and very best regards,

The Leaders of Trinity UMC

Please join us for our Ecumenical Worship Service as

We "Worship in the Park"

Worship in the Park

Sunday, September 3, 2023

10:00 a.m. in Krouskop Park



Look for the tent by the Killian Meyer Building!



Memorial Ministry Corner



August Memorial Ministry Corner



“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

- - Matthew 5:4

In Memory of Pamela Ann (Pahl) Coppernoll
November 14, 1958 – July 13, 2023

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Clary Memorial Funeral Home Cremation & Monument Services, Richland Center, WI*, Website: <https://tinyurl.com/mwt43kh8>.

Visitation & services were held on Saturday, July 29, 2023, at Clary Memorial Funeral Home, Richland Center, WI.

Cards of Condolence may be sent to Pamela’s mother & sister/brother-in-law at the following:

Shirley Pahl
855 Panorama Estates
Apartment No. 201
Richland Center, WI
608.649.2683

Sandy (Pahl) & Jeff Brice
E3110 Highway 154
Hillpoint, WI 53937
608.986.4681

In Memory of Robert (Bob) F. Kesting
June 02, 1950 – July 13, 2023

Bob has been a Trinity “Affiliate Member (AM)” since July 30, 2018.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Pratt Funeral & Cremation Service, Richland Center, WI*, Website: <https://tinyurl.com/4pfc7jz3>.

Visitation was held on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at the Pratt Memorial Chapel, Richland Center, WI.

Cards of Condolence may be sent to Bob’s wife & family at the following:

Linda Kesting
22015 State Highway 60
Muscodia, WI 53573
262.497.5311

In Memory of Charles (Chuck) H. Worthington
August 14, 1933 – July 15, 2023

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Pratt Funeral & Cremation Service, Richland Center, WI*, Website: <https://tinyurl.com/bd274vs4>.

Visitation & funeral mass were held on Friday, July 21, 2023, and Saturday, July 22, 2023, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Richland Center, WI.

Cards of Condolence may be sent to Chuck's son/daughter-in-law and grandson/wife and their families at the following:

Dave & Kelly Worthington
24670 Cooper Hill Road
Richland Center, WI 53581
608.647.2776

Grant & Stephanie Worthington
415 East 7th Street
Richland Center, WI 53581
608.604.8888

August "Internal" Missions' Project: Trinity "Wish List" Fund

Co-Sponsored by Missions' Committee & Memorial Ministry

Help Support the Trinity "Wish List" Fund During the Month of August!

Current "Wish List" Fund Balance: \$ 4,036.50

Honor gifts will be accepted the entire month of August.

Please use your regular offering envelopes, and make checks payable to "Trinity United Methodist Church"; notate checks "Wish List" Fund.

We encourage you to give to the church's general budget first, with your "first fruits," and then if you are led and want to give further to this month's internal missions' project, please do so.

-- Kathy Bastian, Missions' Chair; Paul Murphey, Memorial Ministry Chair

"May the Lord Reward You for Your Kindness." – Ruth 1:8

"Wish List" Financial Update

Because our August 2023 internal missions' project will benefit the Trinity "Wish List" fund, Memorial Ministry decided to publish the actual projects & amounts for which your past generous "wish list" honor gifts have been used from August 01, 2022, through August 01, 2023, to benefit the church:

◆ Schmitt Hall Kitchen/Confirmation Supplies \$203.82

Memorial Ministry Corner *continued from page 7*

◆ Office Paper Cutter/Trimmer	\$80.95
◆ Pie/Cake Markers (C. Stanley WL Gift)	\$33.48
◆ 55-cup Coffee Urn/Warranty (K. Richardson WL Gift)	\$149.79
◆ Beverage System (C. Stanley WL Gift)	\$103.02
◆ Carry-Out Containers (C. Stanley WL Gift)	\$112.85
◆ Dish Drainer Mats (C. Stanley WL Gift)	\$31.57
◆ TOTAL	\$715.48

Memorial Ministry thanks you all for your past generosity. As you can see by the “financial update” list, we always use your gifts in the best interests of our church, our ministry, and our service.

Future “Wish List” Projects in Progress

Note: The following is a sample list of continuing projects for which the Memorial Ministry “Wish List” may play a significant role to finance!

- ♥ West Lawn Replacement Sign/Landscaping
- ♥ West Lawn Replacement Bench/Landscaping
- ♥ Lighting Repairs (East Hall, Altar, Schmitt Hall Kitchen)
- ♥ Automated External Defibrillator (AED) – Floor 02
- ♥ Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Replacement Pads – Floor 01
- ♥ Large, Round Table (Preschool Classroom)
- ♥ Large Area Carpet (Preschool Classroom)
- ♥ Other Projects “Tackled” With the Trustees

Memorial Ministry Meeting Notice for Quarter 03

Thursday, September 07, 2023, @ 1:30 p.m. (Church Library)

Feel free to attend as a guest to see your Memorial Ministry team in action!

2023 All Saints’ Day Service and Gift Consecration/Dedication

Sunday, November 05, 2023, @ 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Rachel K. Olson/Memorial Ministry Chair Paul Murphey Officiating

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

-- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Camping Info For All

Thank you to all who have supported the United Methodist Camping Program!

Amelia and Gabriella Shannon attended the Create Camp at Pine Lake in June. The girls said they had a great time. Ellie Otto will be attending a backpacking camp at Pine Lake. Sad to say, Ben Otto's Classic camp at Lake Lucerne in June was canceled due to a lack of a male counselor for his cabin. But he was able to attend Ithaca's State championship baseball game with friends that same week.

Rosie and Max attended Grandparent and Grandchild camp at Pine Lake. The camp was filled to capacity and the lake was warm. The directors at the camps do a great job!



Lake Lucerne
W6460 County Road YY
Neshkoro, WI 54988
920.293.4488



Pine Lake
W8301 County Road M
Westfield, WI 53964
608.296.2720

Celebrations and More



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Lila Spangler	8/1	Bruce Creasey	8/19
Pat Leonard	8/3	Eunice Black	8/20
Anita Alexander	8/6	Pastor Rachel Olson	8/21
Brian Perkins	8/8	Anya Drone	8/21
Kayla Turgasen	8/10	Lewis Drone	8/21
Marlene Yates	8/13	Ross Nelson	8/23
Jack Johnson	8/13	Graham Schneider	8/23
Zada Ludwig	8/13	Rosie Steinmetz	8/24
Henry Drone	8/14	Jeff Brice	8/24
Steve Hodge	8/18	Catie Shannon	8/25
		Leonard McNamer	8/31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

David & Nancy Pulvermacher	8/4
Mike & Annie Windstrup	8/18
Jarred & Kennedy Schneider	8/24
Ryan & Jaleesa Bee	8/28

Tuesday Morning Bible study is on hiatus for the summer!

Our Tuesday morning Bible Study is taking July and August off. At this point we plan to restart on Tuesday September 12th. The group thanks Pastor Rey for his participation and interpretation of the books of Luke and Acts.



Joan on vacation! FINALLY!

I'm finally able to make the flight to Elma, Washington (and use my e-ticket) to see the rest of my Mayberry family. My aunt and uncle (now 86) are looking forward to me coming out there. Not to mention all my cousins and second cousins. It's been three very long years since I've seen them because of the Pandemic and last summer they all caught COVID, so I had to stay away. I usually make this trip every summer. It's not far from the ocean and I love it

out there!

I'll be out of the office from August 14th through the 21st. Pat Leonard will help handle both offices on a limited basis while I'm gone. My first day back will be the 22nd, and I'll hit the ground running as it will be newsletter time again.

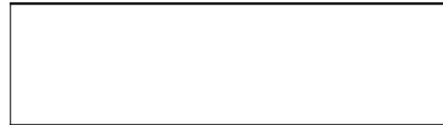
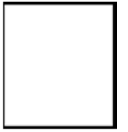
Please pray that I have a safe flight both ways and can enjoy my time out there with my family.



AUGUST MINISTRY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>“Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.” — Miles Kington</p>		<p>1 Missions Mtg 4:30 P.M. Library</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 The office is closed</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 9:30 A.M. Worship COMMUNION <i>Sunday</i></p> 	<p>7 Ad Council Mtg 4:00 P.M. Library</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 The office is closed</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:30 A.M. Worship</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16  The CHIMES: Noon</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 The office is closed</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 9:30 A.M. Worship</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 The office is closed</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 9:30 A.M. Worship</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>“Make the world a better place one person at a time. Start with yourself.” — Linda Poindexter</p>	

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



Trinity United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Pastor: Rachel K. Olson
Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-373-4027
Pastor's email: rkolson123@gmail.com

Trinity Church Office

Hours: Monday through Thursday /1pm – 4pm
Trinity UMC Office: (608) 647-3203
Trinity's email: trinityumc@mwt.net
Websites: www.umchurchrc.org &
www.trinity.umchurchrc.org

Administrative Assistant: Joan Wheeler
Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Monica Eernisse
Custodian: Bill Twining

Peace and Trinity Unified Mission Statement

We the people of Trinity and Peace United Methodist Churches are compelled by God to build His Kingdom. We are guided by Biblical truth.

We are committed to unifying as one church to receive and serve all people with the compassionate and unconditional love of Jesus.

We are passionate to assist people to find restoration and hope through the life changing transformation offered by Jesus!

We are aware of the abundant grace God has lavished on our lives which drives our passion to serve in unity.

As a unified Church we will be empowered by Jesus to develop a flourishing and thriving Christ centered community.

With God all things are possible!