



The Chimes

Spiritual Growth

At the beginning of his book, “The Dynamics of Spiritual Formation”, Mel Lawrenz quotes the words of Count von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760: “Lord, when my eyes confront my heart, and I realize that you have filled my heart with your love, I am breathless with amazement. Once my heart was so small in its vision, so narrow in its compassion, so weak in its zeal for truth. Then you chose to enter my heart, and now in my heart, I can see you, I can love all your people, and I have the courage to proclaim the truth of your gospel to anyone and everyone. Like wax before a fire, my heart has melted under the heat of your love.”

Spiritual growth is part of being a Christian. Through the gospel, God calls us to be part of his family. Like in any given household children are the results and expressions of the love of parents. We also add to this love the care needed for the children to grow healthy. There are many ways to show children our love and care for them. Nourishment is one of the many words we use to express the attention a child needs to have if we expect a child to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually. The baby Jesus received the type of nourishment, love, and care from Mary and Joseph that he needed so that he could grow up in a healthy household.

Saint Paul gave Timothy the instructions for people to know how they ought to conduct themselves in God’s household. Paul received these instructions from Jesus because previous to his conversion with him in Damascus he had no knowledge of how everyone needs to behave in the household of God, the Church. These simple rules that Paul is sharing with Timothy about how to behave in the household of God gave Timothy guidelines so that he could follow up with a “manual of instructions”. Timothy would then be able to teach other people the spiritual principles everyone needs to abide by when he/she is part of the Christian Church.

Knowing Jesus’ instructions for the church helps us to follow his teachings and by doing so, we fulfill the need to work together in meeting Jesus’ demands. This is one of the many ways by which we follow up on the concerns we have for the spiritual growth of our members and the Christian discipline that needs to be carried out in order to accomplish the mission of the church. Christ calls us to work for God’s kingdom, to use our resources, talents, gifts, and money for his glory, mission, and ministry. We are called to the fellowship of Christian love. Paul said “...knowledge puffs up, but love builds up...” (The NIV Study Bible, 1 Corinthians 8:1).

Pastor Rey's message continued....

The letter of Hebrews says, "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it." (Hebrews 12:11). Teaching, preaching, serving, worshipping, administrating the business of the church and sharing with others our gifts of ministry are among the many ways by which we pass down to new generations the rich blessings entrusted to us by our Lord.

We go through many different experiences in life because this is part of growing up and these experiences help us in our spiritual formation. Later on, we can teach, give advice or take part in the spiritual formation of other persons because we have been trained in the ways of the Lord. Through our examples, words, and Christians discipline we share the image of Christ so that people may follow Christ. This new understanding helps them in their spiritually formative process. They can then go on and practice Christian discipline that leads them and other people into further spiritual formation and growth.

We may repeat the words of Count von Zinzendorf, "Like was before a fire, my heart has melted under the heat of your love."

Happy Independence Day, on July 4, 2023!

In Christ,

Pastor Rey Díaz

Christ Still Calls Us

The rugged hills of Galilee drop down to meet the sea
Where burly men still mend their nets, still fish there eagerly.

The sea's the same place where Christ said, "Lay down your nets and heed
My call to love all people, and serve them in their need."

"I'll help you fish for humankind," he told them long ago.
His call's still heard, His help's still real today, as we well know.

Yes, people still are leaving "nets" wherever they might be,
And as disciples still go forth to serve Christ willingly.



Mission Focus for July: Food Pantry



RICHLAND CENTER LOCAL FOOD PANTRY



Missions' Committee has again chosen the local Food Pantry as its JULY Mission focus. The last Sunday, July 30, 2022, 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 July if possible.***

Canned fruit and tuna/chicken, box dinners, peanut butter/jelly, canned vegetables/beans, rice and pasta are especially appreciated as they have a long shelf life. Food collection bins will be located in the east entryway and in the narthex.

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

“In June, the number of families served every Wednesday is up from 50 to 72!

The cost of food items have gone up.

The Food Pantry is spending about \$3,000 - \$4,000 a month.

They are able to buy food for 18 cents a pound so cash donations go farther.

But, they are happy to get any donations, whether food or cash.



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.

Monthly Mission Focus 2023

MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2023 <i>Special Sundays in Italics</i>	
July	FOOD PANTRY
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



This year the Missions Committee set a goal of 20 personal dignity kits to be taken to our Annual Conference Ingathering in June. We are very pleased to report that, due to your generosity, we once again exceeded that goal; we were able to send 31 kits to Annual Conference for the Ingathering! These kits will now be delivered to those in need. Thank you for participating in this vital mission project.

Thanks to Carl and Joan Bethke for delivering the kits to the drop off site in Fennimore.

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

---- Hebrews 13:16 (ESV)

The Ingathering for this year was a huge success! 1,456 Personal Dignity kits, far outdoing last year's 977. 246 Home Care kits, so many sewing machines, medical equipment, bikes school kits, shampoo, laundry detergent, blankets and **more weighing in at 15,720 lbs. In 2 days a total of \$5,161.66 was donated.**

Save-Worthy

I was teaching a junior high Sunday school class about salvation and that age-old question, “Are you saved?” Before diving in, I asked the students what they collect and why. Answers included sports cards, coins, stamps and rocks — items you may have saved as a child too. We save because items seem special or interesting to us. Collecting implies worth and a desire to keep something safe.

In our class, that led to discussion about what it feels like to be saved by or for Jesus ... to be the “savee” instead of the “saver.” How amazing that God deems us special, interesting and worthy of safekeeping. We are God's precious, well-loved “collection,” and he's reserving space and preparing a place for each one of us.

—Julie Lee

Pastor Rachel Olson's Bio



Pastor Rachel K. Olson

This is an introduction to our new pastor, Rachel Olson. Pastor Rachel has about 30 years of ministry experience. She has served 7 congregations, from small, rural churches to a large, multi-staffed urban church.

These are First UMC: Genoa City, Wisconsin.
 Wesley UMC, Stockton, Illinois
 Faith UMC, Westfield, Wisconsin *
 Calvary UMC, Coloma, Wisconsin*
 First UMC, Madison, Wisconsin
 Crossroads UMC, Waunakee, Wisconsin
 Blessed Hope UMC, West Allis, Wisconsin

* This was a two-point charge

From August 1986 to June 2015 she worked in the Wisconsin Conference office in Sun Prairie. She provided spiritual care and leadership for local church congregations, including:

- O Worship planning and facilitation
- O Pastoral care and counseling
- O Strategic planning
- O Staff and volunteer supervision and training
- O Fiscal stewardship
- O Educational programming for adults and children
- O Conflict management and reconciliation
- O Communications including print, web, broadcast, spoken and social media
- O Community engagement, network building and other outreach efforts

She received her Master of Divinity in May of 2000. She has been a Hospital Chaplain, and has other volunteer and professional experiences she feels has prepared her for this call to Richland Center.

Pastor Rachel has walked with other churches through difficult transitions, and believes the Holy Spirit has led her here to Peace and Trinity. Her only agenda is to help us find a path forward, that allows each of us to use our God-given gifts, to become a healthy, stable church. She will be here to nurture us in our journey – wherever the Holy Spirit may lead us.

Pastor Rachel's position will be half-time. She will lead Sunday worship services, do weddings and funerals, attend meetings, and be available for "crisis" situations. As a church we will need to "step up our game," as we are used to having a full-time pastor.

Pastor Rachel is excited to be moving to the Driftless Area. Please pray for her as she begins this new chapter in her life.

Welcome!!!

Memorial Ministry Corner



July Memorial Ministry Corner



“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”
Matthew 5:8

In Memory of Steven Michael Bethke

February 15, 1980 – June 03, 2023

Steve has been a Trinity Professing Member since January 01, 2020.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Pratt Funeral & Cremation Service, Richland Center, WI*,
Website: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9eryua>.

Visitation and services were held on Tuesday, June 06 & Wednesday, June 07, 2023, at the
Pratt Memorial Chapel & at Trinity United Methodist Church, Richland Center, WI.

Cards of Condolence may be sent to Steve's father & mother at the following:

Carl & Joan Bethke
855 Panorama Court
Apartment No. 109
Richland Center, WI 53581

In Memory of Brenda Kay Fiereck

May 13, 1957 – May 14, 2023

Brenda was Francis (Fuzz) McCauley's sister-in-law.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Service, River Falls, WI*,
Website: <https://tinyurl.com/23neuw4p>.

Visitation and services were held on Sunday, May 21, 2023, at the Bakken-Young Funeral
Home, River Falls, WI.

Cards of Condolence may be sent to Brenda's brother- and sister-in-law at the following:

Fuzz & Nancy McCauley
21496 County Highway SR
Richland Center, WI 53581

Memorial Ministry Corner *continued*

Thank You!

We want to say "thank you" to each of you for your love and support during the week of Steven's death to the funeral services. We are so grateful for those of you who worked hard to make Steven's funeral so special. It meant so much to us that we could gather here in this church where we were married almost 45 years ago. The picture, printed along with the obituary, was taken right here the last Sunday in March when we brought Steven to church for the first time since the COVID pandemic began. He was so happy to be in church, and you welcomed him with hugs and a few kisses. Thank you all!

Carl & Joan Bethke

Trinity Presents Sprecher Scholarship



On Friday, May 19, 2023, Memorial Ministry Chair Paul Murphey attended the Ithaca School District's 2023 Senior Awards Brunch to present Talena Sprecher with her \$500 scholarship on behalf of Trinity United Methodist Church. The event was very well organized and coordinated by District Administrator/HS & MS Principal Greg Herbst, HS/MS Counselor Meredith Bevan, & Youth Apprenticeship Career Coach Monica Kershner. The students of MS/HS Family & Consumer Science teacher Heather Stocks served an incredible brunch.

Administrator Herbst reported that during the senior awards ceremony over \$250,000 was awarded in scholarships to several deserving Ithaca seniors, an amazing total for a district the size of Ithaca. Our very own Talena Sprecher received a reported \$15,400 in her own scholarships that will be well used as she begins her college career this fall at Illinois Central College [ICC] (see below). Our Trinity scholarship check has been sent directly to ICC for Talena's fall 2023 tuition bill use. Congratulations, Talena, as we are so pleased to help you begin this exciting new chapter in your life!

Talena Sprecher Finalizes Her Fall 2023 Plans

Talena Sprecher, daughter of Melissa Sprecher, has recently announced her final fall 2023 college plans. Talena will be a first-year student at Illinois Central College (ICC) located in East Peoria, Illinois, majoring in the Agriculture Associate in Arts Transfer program. What this means is that Talena will complete her first two years at ICC, receive her associate in arts degree, and then transfer all her completed credits to an accredited four-year college to obtain her two bachelor degrees in agriculture education and agribusiness.

Memorial Ministry *continued from page 7*

Illinois Central College (ICC) is a very impressive Illinois community college with campuses in East Peoria and Peoria, Illinois. To explore this campus, see <https://icc.edu>. When Talena was asked how she felt about pulling up stakes from the family farm in Gotham and moving to the “big city” later this summer to begin her college career, she responded, “I am so excited to start college.” When “Mama” Melissa was asked the same question, she responded after a moment of silence, “It will be a big adjustment not having Talena around and that far from home. I am sure I will be in touch with her more frequently than she will want!”

Memorial Ministry Chair Paul Murphey offered Talena’s the same “Words of Wisdom” he was given when he left home for college, “Enjoy your college years because they will be the best years of your life!” Trinity offers its prayers of support for both Talena and for Melissa.

Talena Sprecher Thanks Trinity

Trinity UMC & Memorial Ministry,

Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the 2023/2024 Trinity UMC scholarship. It is an honor to have received this scholarship. During my time at Illinois Central College (ICC), I am planning to be on the livestock judging team, becoming active in the student body, participating & performing in the theatre/music arts, and taking an active role in the Agriculture Bureau Club, as well as working hard in all my classes and finding part-time employment while attending college. This scholarship will allow me to have the time to stay involved and worry less about paying for college.

Upon my graduation from ICC in two years, I will be transferring to a four-year college to complete my two intended bachelor degrees in agricultural education/FFA advisership and agribusiness. With your scholarship, I will be able to make my career goal of teaching a reality.

Thank you, again!

Talena M. Sprecher

“May He grant your heart’s desires and make all your plans succeed.”
- - Psalm 20:4 (New Living Translation/NLT)

Camping News: Pine Lake and Lake Lucerne

Bike Camp

Grades 6-12

July 9-14

Experience God by biking into almost 500 acres of trails at Lake Lucerne! Learn the basics of trail riding, biking in groups, and bike maintenance while developing your faith in new and exiting ways! Enjoy all other camp activities, like Bible studies, campfires, high ropes, swimming, canoeing, and so much more! Bring your own bike and helmet if possible; Lake Lucerne has a limited supply available. Contact us to reserve our equipment!



Spotlight

Pine Lake

Grades 1-4: July 16-19

Grades 4-6: July 16-21

Spotlight is our NEW performing arts amp! Throughout the week campers will spend time creating and learning music, taking on a new role in performances, learning to express themselves through movement and motions of dance. At the end of their week, they will show friends and family what they learned with a special performance at our end of week Family Fest

Circuit: Robotics/S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Computer Programing

Grades 9-12

July 30 – August 4

Pine Lake

High school Circuit campers will dig deeper into the processes behind robotic and computer program development through cooperative and competitive projects. Spend time working with LEGO® Technic robotics to navigate an obstacle course, dive deep into making your own games, and much more.



Lake Lucerne

6460 County Road YY
Neshkoro, WI 54988
920.293.4488



Pine Lake

W8301 County Road M
Westfield, WI 53964
608.296.2720

Celebrations and More



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Ellie Ann Otto	7/5
Harvey Bastian	7/7
Chasidy Weber	7/8
Louise Murphey	7/9
Kevin Steinmetz	7/10
Gene Wanless	7/12
Becky Tracy	7/18
Mark McColhum	7/19
Brandon McColhum	7/20
Zach Brewer	7/26
Emmett Drone	7/29

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Louise Murphey	7/9
Ron & Rose Steinmetz	7/9
Gary & Corina Mott	7/12
Russ & Barb Shannon	7/12
Lester & Nancy Studnicka	7/24
John & Chrstine Storer	7/25



A Thoughtful Memory

Dear Peace and Trinity friends,

Thank you for your generous gifts in honor of Steve. Thank you for your love and prayers. Steve enjoyed it whenever he was able to be in church. The picture that accompanied his obituary was taken the last Sunday in March of 2023, when he attended Trinity for the first time since the COVID pandemic began, in March of 2020. He was so happy and excited to be around his church family and friends. We have been so blessed by both Peace and Trinity and the many memories of Sunday morning services and the love Steve received!

Because He Lives,

Carl and Joan Bethke






Dolphins

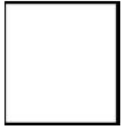
Because dolphins often swim alongside ships, they've been used to symbolize Christ's presence, guiding people through earthly life and into eternal life. Although they're mammals, dolphins have been depicted as the fish that swallowed Jonah. Jesus compared his three days inside the tomb to Jonah's three days inside the fish, so dolphins also came to symbolize resurrection.



JULY MINISTRY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 						1
2 9:30 A.M. Worship	3	4 Indep. Day 	5 PEO working in Fellowship Hall – Rummage sale	6 PEO working in Fellowship Hall – Rummage sale	7 The office is closed PEO Rummage sale	8 PEO Rummage sale
9 Welcome Pastor Rachel 9:30 A.M. Worship	10	11 Missions Mtg 1:30 P.M. - Library	12	13	14 The office is closed	15
16 9:30 A.M. Worship	17 Ad Council Mtg 4:00 P.M. - Library	18	19 CHIMES deadline Noon	20 RAREA Board Library 10:00 A.M.	21 The office is closed	22
23 9:30 A.M. Worship	24	25	26	27	28 The office is closed	29
30 9:30 A.M. Worship	31	Special Days: 4 th : Independence Day 9 th Pastor Rachel's first Sunday				

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



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!

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