



The Chimes

Pastoral Reflections: A Season of Change, Renewal, and New Possibilities for Peace and Trinity UMC

- “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” -- Isaiah 43:19:
- “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” -
- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” -- Jeremiah 29:11

As people of faith, we take comfort in knowing that our God is constant and eternal -- unchanging from age to age. However, what we also know is that this trait applies only to God. The Scriptures, as well as our own life experience, tell us that for everything else in all Creation, change is as essential as it is inevitable.

And so it is that God is doing a new thing among the United Methodists of Richland Center.

Yesterday, on September 24th, both Trinity and Peace UMCs voted to approve the unification of the two congregations for the purpose of forming a new, single-point charge dedicated to United Methodist ministry in the greater Richland Center area. The unification is expected to take effect on January 1, 2024, which gives both churches time to prepare for changes, as well as to honor their individual histories and identities -- which will not be lost, but rather blended as elements of the newly formed congregation.

There will be special services and other events planned during the last quarter of 2023 for each church to meaningfully commemorate the transition, as well as ceremonies and celebrations planned for a “grand opening” of the new combined church in 2024. Our plan is to invite the local community to participate and help us to celebrate this hopeful, new chapter in our story.

It goes without saying that there is going to be much to talk about and do in the next several weeks and months -- as well as many questions to be answered -- but for the moment, here are some of our first administrative steps.

Pastor Rachel's Message Continued....

On January 1, 2024, the membership rolls of both churches will be counted together as the membership of the new congregation. This gives current members of both Trinity and Peace time to prayerfully discern where they want to belong and worship after the new year. I, along with administrative staff and Membership Committees for both churches, are available to answer membership questions and to assist with individual concerns and changes as needed.

In the meantime, before the end of this year, a new Church/Charge Conference will be formed, in compliance with the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline, by a Nominations Committee consisting of members from both congregations. Anyone wanting to be considered, or recommend someone else, for specific leadership roles should contact me at their earliest opportunity. Out of this process, all the necessary committees and work groups will be re-formed with members from both churches, in order to begin work in January.

That is the bulk of what I can tell you as of today. More is coming soon and we will make every effort to keep everyone posted as plans emerge and clarify.

Meanwhile, I want to thank everyone who has participated in this process thus far -- most especially for their time, patience, and loyalty. I want to thank everyone for their prayers of camaraderie and support. I ask that we would all please continue to hold both congregations; all our members, friends and missions; the new church; and most of all, our good leaders -- past, present and future -- in our warmest thoughts and deepest meditations of our hearts.

Together, with God's grace, guidance, and loving encouragement, through Christ, we can do all these things. And more!

Sunday School News



Barb Shannon
Education Chair
647-6522

We are looking forward to an exciting year with some new changes taking place. The children will be dismissed to the Sunday School rooms after the Mini Message and will rejoin the congregation at 10:30 for Coffee Hour and fellowship.



Mission Focus and Special Sundays 2023

October 1, 2023: World Communion Sunday

The sacrament of Holy Communion joins us in Christian unity and invites us to focus on the holiness of communion with God and one another. This universal and inclusive connection is the foundation of the special offering for World Communion Sunday.

Your “special envelope” offerings on World Communion Sunday support racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals and transforming communities.

Fifty percent of this offering provides scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries.

Thirty-five percent supports racial and ethnic scholarships for students pursuing ordained ministry (deacon or elder) and includes a mentoring program.

Fifteen percent funds Ethnic-In-Service Training Grant for leadership development, recruitment, training, and retention of ethnic United Methodists in leadership positions in every level of the church and its ministry. Through our gifts, we can invest in talented, qualified students from around the globe to transform the world as witnesses for Christ.

In the words of two WCS scholarship recipients:

“I use to hear people talk about miracles but today I can testify of the miracles in my life because (of) the WCS scholarship . . . “ --Clarice Ndaya Kadima, Africa University

“My calling is to be a doctor and God wants me to use my knowledge and skills to help others. In the Philippines, there are a lot of people dying without even seeing a doctor.” – Karl Wesley E. Dillozon, Centro Escolar Univ., Manila, Philippines.

<u>MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2023</u>	
<i>Special Sundays in Italics</i>	
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



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.

Harvest Auction News

Trinity Harvest Auction Set for WEDNESDAY, October 11th

It's time to save the date and to start thinking about our annual Harvest Auction. The Harvest Auction promotes a spirit of community while raising funds to support our covenant missionary, **David Makobo**, who is an agricultural specialist serving, along with his wife, in **Senegal, Africa**.

This year's auction will be held on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11th**, in Schmitt Fellowship Hall and will begin at 6:30 P.M. with snacks and beverages provided by the Missions Committee. Socialize with friends while looking over auction items and planning your bidding strategy! Auctioneer Kurt Monson will begin the auction at **7:00 P.M.** You can look forward to good-natured, spirited bidding and lots of laughs as Kurt moves things right along.

If you're unable to attend, we hope you will support the auction by donating an item or items to the auction, and/or supporting this missions focus financially. Your prayers for the ministry of David and Solange Makobo are greatly appreciated.



Harvest Auction Donations Needed

The Missions' Committee is busy planning the annual Harvest Auction to be held in Schmitt Hall on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11**. A successful auction depends upon having a variety of interesting and appealing items to present for bidding, and we need your help!

In the past, popular auction items have included garden/orchard produce; food items—fresh, canned, or frozen; specialty baskets; hand crafted items; seasonal décor; plants and herbs; puzzles; tools; hobby items; toys, and much more. **Blank auction certificates** for donated goods or services to be delivered in the future to the buyer will be posted on the Missions bulletin board and will also be available the evening of the auction. Certificates may be used for such services as food items to be delivered in the future to the buyer (e.g., *Rosie's famous lasagna*); leaf raking; babysitting; a load of chopped wood; --use your imagination and be creative!

Please bring your non-perishable Harvest Auction donations to the room across from the choir room downstairs. **It is very helpful if you identify Harvest Auction donations as such, as other things may be stored in the room.** Non-perishable items should be at the church by the afternoon of October 11th if possible; perishables may be brought the evening of the auction.

We request that donated items be clean and either NEW or VERY GENTLY USED. Any items not sold at the auction may be donated to the local Thrift Shop. **PLEASE—NO LARGE EXERCISE EQUIPMENT OR OUTDATED COMPUTER SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE.**

If you're unable to participate in the Harvest Auction, please prayerfully consider a monetary donation to our covenant missionary, **David Makobo, of Senegal, Africa**. David and his wife appreciate your prayers for their ministry.

United Methodist Foundation News

God's Abundance

Parker Palmer, a Quaker theologian, once told a story about abundance. Palmer was a passenger on a plane that pulled away from the gate, taxied to a remote corner of the field and stopped. You know the feeling: the plane stops and you look out the window and see that you're not on the runway, the engines wind down and your heart sinks. The pilot came on the intercom and said, "I have some bad news and some really bad news. The bad news is there's a storm front in the West, Denver is socked in and shut down. We've looked at the alternatives and there are none. So we'll be staying here for a few hours. That's the bad news. The really bad news is that we have no food and it's lunch time." Everybody groaned. Some passengers started to complain, some became angry. But then, Palmer said, one of the flight attendants did something amazing.

She stood up and took the intercom mike and said, "We're sorry, folks. We didn't plan it this way and we really can't do much about it. And I know for some of you this is a big deal. Some of you are hungry and were looking forward to a nice lunch. Some of you may have a medical condition and really need lunch. Some of you may not care one way or the other and some of you need to skip lunch. So, I'll tell you what we're going to do. I have a couple of bread baskets up here and we're going to pass them around and I'm asking everybody to put something in the basket. Some of you brought a little snack along – something to tide you over – just in case something like this happened, some peanut butter crackers, candy bars. And some of you have a few LifeSavers or chewing gum or Roloids. And if you don't have anything edible, you have a picture of your children or spouse or girlfriend/boyfriend or a bookmark or a business card. Everybody put something in and then we'll reverse the process. We'll pass the baskets around again and everybody can take out what he/she needs.

"Well," Palmer said, "what happened next was amazing. The griping stopped. People started to root around in pockets and handbags, some got up and opened their suitcases stored in the overhead luggage racks and got out boxes of candy, salami, a bottle of wine. People were laughing and talking. She had transformed a group of people who were focused on need and deprivation into a community of sharing and celebration. She had transformed scarcity into a kind of abundance."

After the flight, which eventually did proceed, Parker Palmer stopped on his way off the plane – (deplaning), and said to her, "Do you know there's a story in the Bible about what you did back there? It's about Jesus feeding a lot of people with very little food."

"Yes," she said. "I know that story. That's why I did what I did."

Even amid what we think is scarcity, many times God has already given us what we need.

Rev. Jason Mahnke,

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Please visit our website: wumf@wumf.org or call 608.837.9582

Memorial Ministry Corner



October Memorial Ministry Corner



In Memory of Diane Jewell
January 01, 1960 – August 16, 2023

The entire Jewell family has been affiliated with Trinity for many years.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Pratt Funeral & Cremation Service, Richland Center, WI*, Website: <https://tinyurl.com/47n48kmx>.

A private memorial will be held at a later date.

Cards of Condolence may be sent to Diane's mother & family at the following:

Rosemary Jewell
1170 West Haseltine Street
Richland Center, WI 53581
608.647.2398

In Memory of Harriet Reese
March 06, 1922 – September 09, 2023

Harriet has been a devoted Trinity UMC Professing Member since November 15, 1970.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Pratt Funeral & Cremation Service, Richland Center, WI*, Website: <https://tinyurl.com/mr392wrj>

Visitation & services were held on Sunday, October 01, 2023, at the Pratt Memorial Chapel from 12 noon until 2 p.m. (visitation) with the funeral service immediately following at 2 p.m.

Cards of condolence may be sent to Harriet's son & daughter-in-law at the following:

Bob & Tara Frank
375 North Stewart Street
Richland Center, WI 53581

All Saints' Day 2023 "SAVE THE DATE!" The first Sunday in November of each year is recognized as the United Methodist All Saints' Day. Please "clip & save" the following invitation. A complete list of memorial & honor gifts will also be consecrated/dedicated during this service.

The Trinity United Methodist Church Memorial Ministry



2023 All Saints' Day Service of Remembrance and Consecration of Gifts

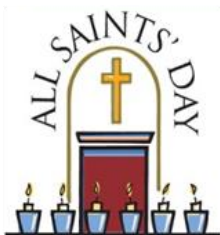
Sunday, November 05, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

We will be remembering our Trinity member & friend saints and consecrating/dedicating memorial and honor gifts from November 06, 2022, through November 05, 2023.

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

2023 List of Saints (To Date)

- ◆ Steven Michael Bethke..... February 15, 1980 – June 03, 2023
- ◆ Robert (Bob) F. Kesting..... June 02, 1950 – July 13, 2023
- ◆ Margie E. (Orsburn) Tanner..... September 04, 1929 – August 05, 2023
- ◆ Harriet Reese..... March 06, 1922 – September 09, 2023
- ♥ All 2023 Peace UMC Saints..... Special Candle in Tribute



**"Going home, going home, I'm just going home. Quiet light,
some still day, I'm just going home."**

Thank You, Again, for Your Honor Gifts to the August 2023 Internal Missions' Project. Missions' Chair Kathy Bastian & Memorial Ministry Chair Paul Murphey thank you all for your support (honor gifts) during our August 2023 internal missions' project benefitting the Trinity "Wish List" fund. Our final total was **\$425.00**. Church projects, for which your Wish List honor gifts have been used, will be dedicated/consecrated during our 2023 All Saints' Day service scheduled for Sunday, November 05, 2023.

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers.

-- **1 Thessalonians 1:2**

Memorial Ministry Corner continued from page 7...

ASD Memorial Tablecloth Returns for Year 10!

Starting Sunday, October 01, 2023, our traditional memorial tablecloth will return in the narthex area in preparation for our 2023 All Saints' Day service.

Please add any names you wish to remember as personal saints you may have lost this year or from years past by using the fabric markers, or simply write the name on the slip of paper. Leave the paper on the table, and we will transfer the name for you.

The fabric markers are permanent!

Our Trinity 2023 saints will automatically be added. If you are unable to attend church to add a name, please call the church office at 608.647.3203; and leave the name with Administrative Assistant Joan Wheeler. We will add the name for you.

This is now a Trinity tradition, as the tablecloth will be used in a place of honor during our Sunday, November 05, 2023, service.

Deadline to add a name will be Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

Paul Murphey, Memorial Ministry Chair

*"For all the saints who from their labors rest, who Thee by faith before the world
confessed; Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!"
- - William Walsham How (1864)*

Things My Mom Taught Me

My mother taught me TO APPRCIATE A JOB WELL DONE.

"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside...I just finished cleaning."

My mother taught me RELIGION.

"You better pray that will come out of the carpet."

My mother taught me LOGIC.

"Because I said so, that's why."

My mother taught me WISDOM.

"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."

My mother taught me ENVY.

"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world."

Stewardship Team Info

Help for the Stewardship Team

Ann Michel and Lovett Weems Jr., authors of *Generosity, Stewardship, and Abundance*, say creating a culture of generosity requires creativity and consistency. Here are seven strategies that they recommend to help any church deepen the link between faith and giving.

- 1) Use the offering as a teaching moment. Whether your church is back to passing the offering plate or if the offering time is just used to highlight how people can financially support the ministries of your congregation, take the opportunity each week to educate congregants on how offerings are used to live out the church's mission and make a difference in people's lives.
- 2) Exercise the vocabulary of generosity. Congregations with a generous culture let the themes of gratitude, abundance, and generosity to frame every aspect of congregational life.
- 3) Tell the story. Sharing success and impact stories are critical to helping people connect their generosity to real world results. *Creating a Culture of Generosity*
- 4) Offer testimonies. While it is important for pastors to regularly talk about financial stewardship from the pulpit, it is just as important for congregants to hear why and how others from within their church give.
- 5) Say thank you. Gratitude and generosity are two sides of the same coin. Saying thank you promptly and regularly is one of the simplest and most effective things a church can do to reinforce a sense of gratitude and enhance giving.
- 6) Teach about giving during Advent and Christmas. Because generosity is deeply engrained in secular culture, Christmas is a fantastic opportunity for the church to teach about generosity.
- 7) Involve children and youth. Emphasizing generosity in ministry with children not only prepares a future generation of givers, but it helps form parents and families as well because adults often pay extra attention to what their children are taught.

If you have questions or want to learn more, contact:

**Jason Mahnke,
Director of Programming & Campaigns,
Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation
at 608-837-9582 or jmahnke@wumf.org.**

“ I sought to hear the voice of God and climbed the topmost steeple, but God declared: ‘Go down again – I dwell among the people.’”

--John Henry Newman

“Old gardeners never die. They just spade away and then throw in the trowel.”

--Herbert V. Prochnow

Celebrations and More



OCTOBER BIRTHAYS

Megan Goodyear	10/3	David Eder	10/14
Shirley Pahl	10/3	Austin Ewing	10/16
Alaina Crotsenberg	10/7	Gabriella Shannon	10/19
Stephanie Perkins	10/10	Heather Vig	10/19
Ron Shannon	10/12	Barbara Marshall	10/21
Dianne Monson	10/12	Talena Sprecher	10/21
Howard Nelson	10/13	David Pulvermacher	10/25
Morgan Worthington	10/13	Shirley Wanless	10/27

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Todd & Monica Eernisse	10/14
Dennis & Connie Tracy	10/14
Brock & Anya Drone	10/21
Carl & Joan Bethke	10/28



Joy in the Word of God

Oh! how great and glorious a thing it is to have before one the Word of God! With that we may at all times feel joyous and secure; we need never be in want of consolation, for we see before us, in all its brightness, the pure and right way. He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction.

—*The Table Talk of Martin Luther*



Pastor

In honor of Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastor, you are always there
To help us when we fall.
We just want to thank you
For answering the Master's call.

To thank you for caring
When things can seem so bad.
To thank you for your humor
That helps us up when sad.

To thank you for the prayers
That you pray for us each day.
You're more concerned with others'
needs,

Then the trouble you must face.


To thank you for the sermons.
You always seem to know
The problems we are facing,
And the ways we need to grow.

We must also thank the Lord
For this pastor strong in Christ.
His example and his humbleness
Inspire all our lives.

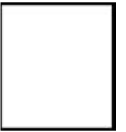
A pastor that relies on God
Through happy times and tears.
You're such a special blessing
And we thank God – He sent you
here.

©*Loving Poems and More*

OCTOBER MINISTRY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 World Communion Sunday 9:30 A.M. Worship  9:45 A.M. Sunday school	2 PEO Library 1:30 P.M.	3	4 Dance Class 4:00 P.M.	5	6 The office is closed	7
8 9:30 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Sunday school	9 Columbus Day Trustee Mtg 4:00 P.M. Library	10	11 Harvest Auction 6:30 P.M.	12 RAREA Mtg Library 10:00 a.m.	13 The office is closed	14 Lord's Acre Sale at Willow Valley UMC Dinner 4:30 p.m. Auction 7:00 p.m.
15 9:30 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Sunday school	16 Ad Council Mtg Library 4:00 P.M.	17	18 CHIMES deadline Noon Dance Class 4:00 P.M.	19	20 The office is closed	21 Lord's Acre Sale at Ash Creek UMC Dinner 5:00 p.m. Auction 6:30 p.m.
22 9:30 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Sunday school	23	24	25 Dancer Class 4:00 P.M.	26	27 The office is closed	28
29 9:30 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Sunday school	30	31 Halloween	It's Pastor Appreciation month! Please take a moment to let Pastor Rachel know that you appreciate everything she's doing for us.			

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!