

PEACE AND TRINITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCHES
4TH SUNDAY AFTER ADVENT; DECEMBER 24, 2023

We are called to bring all into the family of God and deepen/mature their faith in Jesus Christ. Using each of our individual gifts, we envision this happening through P-E-A-C-E.

Praise & celebrative worship
Evangelism – Inviting all to proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord
Anchored in the word of God.
Compassionate, caring Christian community
Encompassing Ministries – focusing on the needs of the community and beyond.



The Mission of Trinity United Methodist Church is to become growing followers of Jesus Christ and to reach out to others in unconditional love because God first loved us.



Please silence or quiet your cell phone so we can worship and celebrate God together.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**This mark invited those who are able to please stand.*

PRELUDE
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Loving God, when the angel Gabriel visited Mary, announcing Your plan for her to conceive and give birth to the Messiah, “Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’” *(Luke 1:34)* And yet, only a few months later, Mary sings to Elizabeth: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name...” *(Luke 1:46-49)*. Loving God, we, like Mary, hear Your call to be part of making Your dream for our fullest and best life a reality, and we question, “How can this be? I am only...”

Yet, like Mary, the “onlys” that make us hesitate are gifts You can and will use as Your love transforms us into bearers of the Light of Christ.

People: We wait as people who have encountered Divine Love -- Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into an abundant life, mutual love, perfect justice, and peace for all. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

***HYMN** *It Came upon a Midnight Clear* 218

ADVENT WREATH -- Lighting of the LOVE Candles
Joan Bethke

Reading: Luke 1:46b-55
Pastor: We light these candles as signs of our hope for the world, our faith in your Word, our joy at hearing the Good News of your Presence among us, and your gift of Love that transforms us. May that Love grow within us, making us bold witnesses of your saving grace at work in our everyday lives. Amen.

HYMN *He Is Born* 228

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *UMH #885*

L: Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
There is the one true church, apostolic, and universal,
Whose holy faith let us now declare:

P: We believe in God the Father,
Infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
Whose mercy is over all his works,
And whose will is ever directed to his children’s good.

We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of Man,
The gift of the Father’s unfailing grace,
The ground of our hope,
And the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit
As the divine presence in our lives,
Whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance Of the truth of Christ,

And find strength and help in time of need.
We believe that this faith should manifest itself
In the service of love
As set forth in our example of our blessed Lord,
To the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

MINI-MESSAGE (for Children of all ages)

HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* 234

WORSHIP IN GIVING
***Doxology** 95
***Prayer of Dedication**

WORSHIP IN PRAYER
Individual/Silent
Pastoral Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORSHIP IN THE WORD
Scripture Lesson: Luke 1:26-38 (NIV)
Sermon: Mary

***HYMN** *Love Came Down at Christmas* 242

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Please join us this evening at 7:00 p.m. for a joint Candlelight Service to be held at Trinity UMC.

Peace:

Hymn Leader: Rosanne Knowler
Pianist: Sharon Moore
Scripture Reader: Paul Knowler
Sound Operator: Paul Knowler

Trinity:

Pianist: Sharon Moore
Scripture Reader: Joan Bethke

Prayer: Lord God, today you are a baby in a manger. You will grow to be the Savior of the world. And you will be raised in triumph and glory! I worship and bow before you. Amen

PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

This Week's Events:

- 24 Seeker' Class: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.
Worship Service on NOVA: 1:10 p.m.
25 Christmas Day – the office is closed
28 Ad Council Mtg: 6:30 p.m.
29 Moving Day: 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events:

- 31 Seeker's Class: 9:30 a.m.
Final Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.
Worship Service on NOVA: 1:10 p.m.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

This Week's Events:

- 24 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.
Candlelight Service: 7:00 p.m.
25 Christmas Day – the office is closed
26 NO Women's Bible Study till February

Upcoming Events:

- 31 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.
01 New Year's Day – the office is closed
03 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m.

Peace United Methodist Church

Pastor Rachel K. Olson
265 North Church Street
Richland Center, WI 53581
Pastor's Cell: 608-373-4027
Pastor's E-mail: rkolson123@gmail.com
Peace Church Office
Hours: Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Peace UMC Office: 608-647-4559
Peace's E-mail: peaceumc.rc@gmail.com
Website: www.umchurchrc.org or
www.peace.umchurch.org
Ministers: All the People
Office Manager: Joan Wheeler
Treasurer: Victor Vlasak

Trinity United Methodist Church

Pastor: Rachel K. Olson
Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-373-4027
Pastor's Email: rkolson123@gmail.com
Trinity Church Office
Hours: Monday-Thursday
1:00 – 4:00 p.m..
Trinity UMC Office: 608-647-3203
Trinity's Email: trinityumc@mwt.net
Website: www.umchurchrc.org or
www.trinity.umchurch.org
Administrative Assistant: Joan Wheeler
Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Monica Eernisse
Custodian: Bill Twining



*TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY HOST
NO coffee hour today..*

**Peace and Trinity United
Methodist Churches
4th Sunday after Advent
December 24, 2023**





“**Springs of the Valley**” by Dorothy Brice are available at Peace. They can be found on the counter in Peace Plaza or on the table in the North Room by the steps. Please take a copy if you wish. There are also a few in the Narthex at Trinity for anyone to take.



Lights, Camera, Action!

For the next five weeks, Peace’s worship services will be broadcast over NOVA. Thank to Paul Knower for working with Ben Koelsch at NOVA to get our last remaining five services on the airwaves. These DVD’s will be placed in our archive section at Trinity for prosperity.

You may watch the services on NOVA at 1:10 p.m. Sunday afternoons on channels:
Genuine Telcome – 12
Charter - 984



I am for sale at Peace. There are two of us and we match! We’ve been cut down from an old pew and want to go home with you. Please make a bid and if you’re lucky, you can take me home on December 29th.

The money raised from the sale of these two pews will go towards a scholarship. We have a couple of bids already. Let’s get the ball rolling and get more people to bid on us. You can see us in Peace Plaza.



There are loose pictures in the first pew of the sanctuary for anyone to take with them as a memento of our years here at Peace. Please feel free to look at them, and take whatever ones you wish.

Up For Silent Auction



Picture #1



Picture #2

These two beautiful Gordon Glass pictures, which are located in Peace Plaza, are up for sale. They are labeled #1 and #2 on the actual picture itself. Please bid on them as proceeds will go towards a scholarship. If no one bids on these pictures, they will go to Trinity. Paul Murphey has a place he’d like to place them.

Mission Project at Peace For December

At the last Ad Council meeting our next Mission project was discussed. It was decided to make our Mission focus for December Passages and the Free Clinic. Please mark your envelope or check for either one or place in the offering plate.

Mission Project at Trinity for December



Trinity's Mission for December will be the Salvation Army. Please look for the article in The CHIMES or on the Missions bulletin board.

This is a list of what we support in Richland County.

Homeless Shelter: A Child's Place opened in May, 2007
Food
Clothing
Shelter – Motels, rent, and mortgage
Utilities
Medical emergency, such as prescription medication
Camp in New Berlin
Pool passes
Band instrument rental
Sport shoes
Drug/alcohol treatment (in Milwaukee area)
School supplies
Employment-related needs, such as special shoes
Disaster Assistance
GED test payment
Other miscellaneous areas

If interested in bell ringing, please call Jay B. Mueller at 608-647-3169 or e-mail at mulrcats@hotmail.com.



Peace

December Birthdays

Lois Anderson	12/3
Connie Frye	12/5
Dean Braithwaite	12/13
Jay Kanable	12/18
Barb Borton	12/20

Trinity

December Birthdays

Teige Perkins	12/4	Sally McCollum	12/24
Shirley Steiner	12/4	Tammy Fritz	12/25
Gary Mott	12/5	Paul Turgasen	12/26
Amelia Shannon	12/18	Carrie Richardson	12/29
Benjamin Otto	12/19	Tom Richardson	12/29
Oakley Schneider	12/20	Ayden Ewing	12/31
Joan Bethke	12/22	Destiny Shannon	12/31
Jerod McCollum	12/22	Jamie Steinmetz	12/31
Nicholas Bastian	12/24	Lee Steinmetz	12/31

December Anniversaries

Fuzz & Nancy McCauley 12/30

Announcements



If you have something with your name on it, please make sure to take it with you today.

At Peace



As we wind down our church year, when you feel you will no longer need your keys to the church or to the office, please leave in the office with your name on them; give to Terry Nimocks or Joan Wheeler so they can add your name to the returned keys list. All keys MUST be turned in by December 31st. Thank you.

We're Moving! See you at 10:00 a.m. on Friday – 29th!



This is it! We need to have as many people here as we can get to help us pack up hymnals, Bibles and anything we are not leaving behind. We need to be moved out today (29th)! We will still hold our final worship service here on the 31st at 10:45 a.m. It will be a time of remembrance and fellowship. If you were the purchaser of one of the small pews, we need to gone today.

