



The CHIMES

From the Pastor...

Happy New Year! It is my great pleasure to welcome you to our first “unified” newsletter! As you can see from the masthead, we do not yet have a title for this publication, which brings me to some important news that I have to share with you.

Now that the churches formerly known as Peace and Trinity have begun their new life as one, new and unified congregation, the first items on our official TO-DO list are:

- To choose a new name for the congregation,
- To decide on the best time for our Sunday service,
- And to select a title for our newsletter.

Luckily, we have a new, unified Church Council (see page 2) that is prepared to prayerfully and carefully begin deliberating these decisions on our behalf. But, before we begin, we want to hear from our members and get as many creative ideas and prevailing preferences as possible.

Therefore, from January 1st through the 15th, we will be accepting suggestions for church names, newsletter titles, and worship times. These suggestions must be received in the church office, in writing, by noon on January 15th, to be included in the discernment process. From the suggestions we receive, the unified Church Council will choose the most appropriate and appealing suggestions. Then, starting on Sunday, January 22nd, the “finalists” will be posted on the bulletin board outside the (Trinity) church library.

On Sunday the 22nd and 29th of January, everyone who attends worship will receive three colorful stickers in their bulletin. Either before or after the service, these stickers can be placed next to whichever church name, worship time, and newsletter title you like most. You may do this on either, or both, Sundays. Based on this input, the final selections will be made by the Council during the first week of February. The results will be announced on Sunday February 4th.

To make your suggestions, feel free to use the form (see page 2), or simply jot down your choices and bring or send them to the church office by noon on January 15, 2024. We look forward to hearing and considering your ideas and preferences.

Pastor Rachel's Message Continued....

In the meantime, please keep the new church, this renaming process, and all of our faithful church leaders in your prayers. Overall, we are hopeful and optimistic about the future, but also recognize that we are in the midst of significant changes. There are many among us who need time to grieve the loss of what was before they can fully embrace what is, and what is yet to come. Therefore, we will all need to be patient and as compassionate as we can be during this transition period, making room for healing as well as for new, forward-facing ideas and energy.

Our 2024 Unified Church Council:

Barb Nimocks -- Co-chair, Russ Shannon -- Co-Chair, Diane Cox -- Secretary, Jerry Bower -- Finance, Dave Foley -- SPRC, Howard Nelson -- Trustees, Joan Bethke -- Lay Leader, Jim Brock -- Lay Leader, Barb Shannon -- Education Ministry, Paul Murphey -- Memorial Ministry & Membership, Rosie Steinmetz -- Visitation Ministry, Kathy Bastian -- Missions Chair, Dianne Monson -- Hospitality Ministry, Monica Eernisse -- Treasurer

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Suggestions for the New Unified Church:

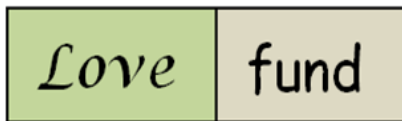
1 Church Name: _____

2. Sunday Morning Worship Time: _____

3. Title for the Monthly Newsletter: _____

Return to: United Methodist Church
400 E. Seminary Ave
Richland Center, WI 53581

Mission Focus for January



The January Mission Focus will support Trinity's Love Fund, a pastor's discretionary fund for anyone with emergency needs. Requests are kept confidential and recipients remain anonymous.

We are pleased to announce that the Love fund is currently in good shape. This has been a difficult year for many in our area, and Pastor Rachel anticipates that the trend for requests for help to fulfill emergency needs will continue in 2024.

The churches are already getting calls for gas vouchers, places to stay, help with utilities, help with child care, etc.

Please prayerfully consider supporting this local mission for those experiencing economic hardship.

"...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."
– Matthew 25:40 (NIV)



MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2024 <i>Special Sundays in Italics</i>	
January	TRINITY UMC LOVE FUND <i>Human Relations Sunday</i> <i>January 14th #1005</i>
February	MEMORIAL MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
March	UMCOR Sunday (<i>This is both a Special Envelope Offering Sunday and the monthly focus</i>) <i>March 10TH #1015</i>
April	CONFERENCE INGATHERING PROJECT (TBD) <i>Native American Ministries Sunday April 14th 1025</i>
MAY	<i>Golden Cross Sunday</i> <i>This offering helps support</i> <i>Schmitt Woodland Hills #1070</i> <i>Peace with Justice Sunday</i> <i>May 26th #1035</i>
June	ICE CREAM SOCIAL (TBD) (Church Camp Fund)
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 6th 1045</i>
November	VETERANS PROJECT (project TBD) <i>UM Student Day</i> <i>November 24th #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.

Human Relations Day – January 14, 2024



There are many examples of how our gifts to the Human Relations Day offering are changing communities near and far.

United Methodist congregations support communities through their gifts to the Human Relations Day offering.



Pray and seek God's guidance to discern how you can support outreach to these communities.

Our gifts on Human Relations Day work together to empower faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens.

One example is when a woman went to the Better Community Development, Inc. and was transformed into a vessel for Jesus. She had struggled with addiction for her entire life and was able to find recovery and Jesus within the beloved and supportive community at BCD. Now, she works as a faith leader in the community, working with women who have completed the in-patient program and preventing relapse by encouraging spiritual connection. The following is a quote from the faith leader ta: ken from a story by Caroline Loftin, contributing writer from Theresa Hoover Memorial Church

“When you strive to be the best version of you that you can be, you start to embrace who God created you to be because you start to get proud of yourself, and God truly shows he's proud.”

The Better Community Development, Inc. is a beautiful example of a community listening to the needs and hearts of the people and responding with faith and love. With support from a Human Relations Day grant, the BCD is lifting up those in their community who need the heart of Jesus.

Thank you for supporting neighborhood ministries that affect change within vulnerable communities.

Bits and Pieces

Women's Tuesday Bible Study News

Our class is taking the cold month of January off. 'Rest for your Soul' A Bible Study on “Solitude, Silence and Prayer” by Wendy Blight has been very thought provoking. It encourages us to learn the word of God and to find silent time to be with God. We invite all to join us on February 6th at 10a.m. to continue this study.

Thrift Shop Back in Business

Once again the Family Thrift Shop is open for business and asking churches to volunteer their time. Our Mission's Committee has been given the third Wednesday of every month from January – June. We will be working from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

If you have any questions and want to volunteer to work at the Thrift Shop, please see Kathy Bastian.

Our Poinsettias



Poinsettias

Thanks to the following sponsors who purchased a plant in Honor or memory of a loved one for Trinity's Christmas altar floral display.

Carl & Joan Bethke	In Memory of Steve Bethke
Shirley & Gene Wanless	In Memory of Dave and Bill Wanless (sons)
Rose Steinmetz	In Memory of Diane Dalberg
Kurt & Dianne Monson	In Memory of Clinton & Chloris Monson Ray Marshall
Paul & Louise Murphey	In Memory of Bob, Rose & Larry Murphey
Paul & Louise Murphey	In Memory of Art & Vera Boettcher
Russ & Barb Shannon	In Memory of Ileen Shannon Jim & Jane Taylor
Carl & Joan Bethke	In Memory of Bob & Donna Bethke
Kathy Bastian	In Memory of Charles & Lucille Bastian



Poinsettias Christmas

Such a beautiful and traditional flowering plant for the holidays. A very special thank you to Donna Bower for organizing with a local florist to purchase those plants and once delivered to the church, arranging them on the altar.

We also would like to thank each of the sponsors who purchased a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one as you are the ones that make this happy each year.

Thanks Everyone!



Memorial Ministry Corner



January Memorial Ministry Corner



In Memory of Maynard Moser
9-19-1926 - 12-10-2023

Maynard was a life-long member of Peace for 86 years, having joined on March 28, 1937. In his earlier years, he was very active at Peace and will be missed by all who knew him.

Maynard's visitation was Thursday evening at Pratts and his funeral was at Schmitt Woodland Hills on Friday, December 15th.

A full obituary is available online at <https://www.prattfuneralservice.com/>.

Condolences may be sent to:

Peg Moser
1400 W Seminary St,
Richland Center, WI 53581

Michael & Barbara Maier
440 S. Park St.
Richland Center, WI 53581

In Memory of Harvey W. Bastian
July 07, 1952 – December 14, 2023

Harvey was a dedicated Trinity UMC Member Since November 20, 1988.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Pratt Funeral & Cremation* Website:
<https://tinyurl.com/2cmbkj97>

Visitation and Services were held on Friday, December 22, 2023, at the Pratt Memorial Chapel, Richland Center, WI.

Cards of Condolence May be Sent to Harvey's Wife & Son at the Following:

Kathy & Nick Bastian
31400 Oak Ridge Drive
Muscoda, WI 53573-5512
(608) 647-4948

Memorial Ministry Has Received the Following Thank You!

Trinity Family: "Your kind expression of sympathy and friendship will always remain in our memories. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. We wanted to say thank you for all your thoughts & prayers for the loss of our mother, Shannon P. Trebus. Trinity was her home away from home, and we are so grateful that she loved so many from Trinity and felt loved." - - **Gwen (Trebus) Bennett & Mark**

Church Membership Notes



Church Membership Notes



Update Your Address Book!

Trinity UMC has received the following address changes for our members:

Kathy Cianci

110 Griswold Avenue
West Salem, WI 54669-9254
608.647.5010

Bruce Creasey

PO Box 321
Lone Rock, WI 53556-0321
608.475.1569

Ben Shannon

2605 Myrtle Street
Madison, WI 53704
608.598.9237

As we are now in our Peace/Trinity unification, it is so important to keep the Trinity church office informed of any address/contact data changes that you (or others you know) may have. The Trinity UMC Membership Team needs your help, as we merge our two membership lists, to keep us informed of these changes. We do not know unless you tell us. We thank you!

Two Verses of Hope for 2024

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." - - *Isaiah 43: 18-19*

Sunday School Christmas Program



Sunday, December 10, the children of Trinity United Methodist Church joined together to present a Christmas performance to the congregation. They discussed the true meaning of Christmas as well as the religious meaning behind many of our Christmas traditions. They finished up their performance by joining together to sing "Joy to the World". After the service, they served refreshments during coffee hour. It is always nice to see our youth involved!



Pew Reconstruction Completed!

The new reconstruction project has been completed in memory of Steve Bethke. Our sanctuary is now more accessible for all people and more welcoming for everyone.

Carl and Joan Bethke extend their gratitude to everyone who helped make this project happen. Thanks to the whole church for supporting the pew reconstruction. Special thanks to the following people: Jeff & Julie Hilleshiem for transporting the pews, John Storer for unscrewing and then securing the shortened pews, Eddie Yoder for his expert craftsmanship in reconstructing the pews. John Storer and Mike Nelson for repairing the floor, Bill Twining, Larry Hallett, and John Storer for their manpower; Terry Nimocks for loaning us his furniture mover and a special thank you to Ginger McCauley for shortening the pew pads at no charge as a memorial to Steve. Thanks also to Paul Murphey for his work in making sure the bills were paid in a timely manner and for sending notes of appreciation on behalf of the Memorial Ministry Committee.

It takes many people to complete such a project. The Bethke's are so pleased with the final results and Steve would be so proud. THANKS!!

Thank You Notes

Dear Trinity United Methodist Church,

Thank you for the gift of \$570.00 that we received from you. It will help us fight food insecurity in our country. Thanks for being a part of our team and joining with us in this effort. Your generosity makes a difference!

THANK YOU.

Jerry Bower, President

Please note: This was for our July mission project.

Dear Peace United Methodist Church,

At the November 27, 2023, meeting of the Richland School District Board of Education, the Board accepted your donation of school supplies to the Richland Center Primary School, valued at approximately \$70 for the 2023-24 school year.

Thank you for the support of the students at Richland School District.

Sincerely, Steve Board, District Administrator

Dear Trinity Church,

I would like to thank the Trinity congregation for its kind and generous gift card to Walsh's Hardware. I have enjoyed my many years working here at Trinity but especially appreciate longtime friendships made and experiences shared. Your kind gesture is much appreciated and not at all out of the ordinary!

Thank you so much, and have a blessed New Year!

Bill Twining

Dear Trinity Church Congregation,

I would like to thank everyone for the lovely gift cards to Christy's Sunday Side and Dunkin' Donuts. I enjoy working here and have been made to feel very welcoming. I also treasure the many friendships I've made and some I've reconnected with. Your wonderful gesture is much appreciated.

Thank you again and I hope 2024 is a good year for everyone.

Joan Wheeler

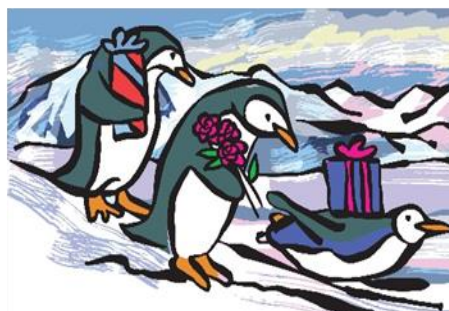


Kwik Trip Gift Cards make beautiful gifts for any occasion and supports Missions Ministry!

We have both Gas cards and Grocery cards available!

See Nancy McCauley if you want some cards!

Celebrations and More



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



January Birthdays

Brady Joyce	1/1
Nancy Pulvermacher	1/2
Juliette Hall	1/2
Anna Pulvermacher	1/3
Kyle Pulvermacher	1/3
Megan Crotsenburg	1/4
Kathy Bastian	1/9
Bernie Couey	1/9
Timothy Otto	1/10
Cheryl Stanley	1/16
Mike Windstrup	1/18

Jennifer Richardson	1/19
Mary Otto	1/20
Russ Shannon	1/20
Ed Fink	1/22
Barb Nimocks	1/22
Trey Schneider	1/24
Diane Cox	1/26
Ron Steinmetz	1/27
Terri Kaszubski	1/27
Bill Stebbins	1/28
Melissa Sprecher	1/30
Jeremiah Storer	1/30

January Anniversary

Al & Deb Walling	1/29
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Sunday School News



I hope you had an opportunity to see the youth perform "The 12 Symbols of Christmas" on the 10th of December. Allison Ewing and Stephanie Perkins spearheaded the Christmas Program again this year. Please make sure to thank them and the youth for a job well done. If you missed the program and would like a copy, please let me know.

We are looking forward to 2024 as we strengthen our faith and grow closer to our Lord and Savior.

Barb Shannon
Education Chair
647-6522

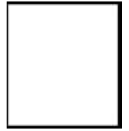
Barb Shannon
Education Chair



JANUARY MINISTRY 2024

Sun	Mon				Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Dance Class 4:00 p.m.	4	5 The office is closed	6
7 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.	8 Trustee Mtg: 4:00 p.m. Library	9 Mission Mtg: 4:30 p.m. - Library	10 Dance Class 4:00 p.m.	11	12 The office is closed	13
14 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.	15 Ad Council Mtg: 4:00 p.m. Library	16	17 Thrift Shop Workers 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Dance Class 4:00 p.m.	18 Revivalist Prayer Grp: 4:00 p.m. Library	19 The office is closed	20
21 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.	22	23	24 Dance Class 4:00 p.m.	25	26 The office is closed	27
28 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.	29	30	31 Dance Class 4:00 p.m.			

The 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!

The 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

Church Office

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

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

