



Trinity In Touch

Trinity UMC is an inclusive, progressive community of faith in which persons grow in faith, love and service in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

December & January

Worship

Dec. 6

Second Sunday of Advent

Communion

For the Time Being, Frank Lyman

Luke 1: 68-79, Malachi 3: 1-5

Dec. 13

Third Sunday of Advent

Tonight You Shall Be Visited...,

Carole Strobe Lyman

Luke 3: 7-18, Isaiah 12: 2-6

Dec. 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

A Lump of Coal in the Stocking,

Frank Lyman

Luke 1: 46-55, Micah 5: 2-5a

Dec. 27

First Sunday after Christmas

Day

For Us... and For Them, Frank

Lyman, Luke 2: 22-32

Commentary on Christmas

Hymns

Jan. 3

Epiphany, Communion

TBD, Carole Strobe Lyman

Matthew 2: 1-12, Isaiah 60: 1-6

Jan. 10

Baptism of the Lord

Thundering Voices, Russell

McReynolds

Psalms 29, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Jan. 17

TBD, Carole Strobe Lyman

John 2: 1-10, 1 Corinthians 12:

1-11

Jan. 24

Guest Speaker

Jan. 31

Music Sunday

The Community is Still at the Heart of Trinity

Trinity's sanctuary was built in 1922 at the height of the movement in Christianity to develop body, mind and spirit. Reflecting the influence of persons like John Mott (founder of the YMCA), Trinity's Lake Drive Building incorporated space for a gym, bowling alley and a movie theater. The gym remains to this day, and though much of the church has changed, our church continues its outreach to the community.

We are very proud of Trinity's Community Ministries program which is at the heart of our ministry, but we also would like to share the other groups that find a welcome place at Trinity. They include Narcotics Anonymous, Community Symphonette, The Wednesday Night Table Tennis gathering (probably the best players in the community), a new Men's Basketball program, our longstanding sponsorship of our Boy Scout Troop, and an international education program. In addition, we are often asked to support community gatherings and other programs that support the ideals and the openness of our faith community. It's good to "leave the light on" for our community friends.

-Frank Lyman

The Mission Work Area Announces Special Offerings for Christmas

We will follow the usual practice of designating local, national and international projects and ministries. A donor can select from these or choose to have an offering divided between them.

For Christmas, offerings are designated for:

1. The United Methodist Community House. This mission is in our own home town and has been in existence for over 100 years. Programs run the gamut from child care, after school programs, senior meals and fellowship, literacy classes, parenting classes and, recently, a First Step House for women recovering from drug dependence and prostitution.
2. Habitat for Humanity
3. Covenant Ministries. Our church is in covenant with two mission teams in the world. Ut and Karen To are in ministry in Southeast Asia while Nkemba and Mbwizu Ndjungu have recently been assigned in Cameroon. This offering will be divided between these ministries as a special gift.

Thank you for consideration of these important ministries and projects.

-Your Mission Team

Caring Coins

In **December**, our Caring Coins will be collected for *Heartside Ministry*. Heartside Ministry advocates publicly and privately on behalf of the marginalized people of the neighborhood and others like them in the Greater Grand Rapids area. Their goal is to be a place of healing and empowerment.

Caring Coins will be collected for *In The Image* during **January**. In *The Image* links gently used clothing, housewares, furniture and appliances with families in need in a manner that enhances dignity, embraces choice, and encourages participation and builds a community of diversity.

Please share your coins with this important ministry.

Look What's Coming...

Taste of Trinity

The United Methodist Women have been busy putting together this wonderful collection of culinary delights, and resources for your healthy lifestyle. Look for it to be ready to purchase for the holidays! A must on your Christmas List!

UMC Special Offering

We look ahead to January when the United Methodist Special Sunday Offerings begin.

January 17, 2010 is when the Human Relations Day offering is taken. This denomination-wide offering will support outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico and encourage social justice and work with at-risk youth. Special envelopes will be provided for that offering.

Within the Trinity Family Circle

Our Sympathy is extended to...

...Silvia Rittenhouse, Jerry and Jane Rittenhouse and their family, on the death of **John Rittenhouse** on October 23.

...Bill Mellinger and his family, on the death of **Betty Mellinger** on October 30.

...the family and friends of **Peggy Ervine**, who passed away on November 6.

...the family and friends of **Jean Carr**, who passed away on November 7.

...Bernie Shashaguay, on the death of his wife, **Bea Shashaguay**, on November 9.

...Eleanore Poelstra and her family on the death of her brother, **Roger Bradley**, on November 11.

Congratulations to...

...Elliott and Sara Lowe on the birth of their son, Hudson Michael on November 8. He joins proud big sister, Avery.

Dear Trinity UMC,

The Rittenhouse family would like to sincerely thank the family of Trinity Church for the concern and love expressed during the illness and death of John. Our special thanks to Carole and Frank for visiting and the beautiful service, the many prayers during his illness, the UMW for the refreshments and Trinity Ringers for the special music. John loved a celebration and we're sure he loved every minute of this one. "Think what a present thou to God hast sent."

- Jerry and Jane Rittenhouse

The comfort of knowing and receiving the care from Trinity has been so graciously appreciated. Through the continuous thoughts and prayers that have given me encouragement, Trinity's Helping Hands that furnished many meals and sharing of their time, and the visits and phone calls all have been a part of my ongoing healing. Thank you all for the love that you have shown and thank you Frank and Carole for your caring ministry that makes this all come together.

-Love, Susan Cooper

To the UMW,

Thank you so much for your support of my participation in the Parliament of the World's Religions. This is an amazing opportunity to connect with people of many faiths and gain resources for furthering the interfaith-based social justice work I hope to do. It means more than I can put into words to have the support of my church in this activity. Thank you for helping me make this opportunity a reality.

-Love, Blessings and Thanks, Anne Hillman

Many thanks to our Trinity family for your love and support the past few weeks since Joy had her surgery. We are in awe at the kinds of support we have received and how much it has meant to both of us. God has blessed us all with this great supportive community and we will be forever thankful.

Joy continues to heal and looks forward to seeing you all very soon.

-Love, Joy and Mike Murphy

Events and Opportunities for December 2009

Green Bottle Fundraiser

Get some Christmas shopping done early by purchasing an environmentally friendly, Green Bottle. All Green Bottles are made of 18/8 food grade Stainless Steel, are BPA free and come in three sizes. A 12 oz. Youth Size for \$14, 20 oz. for \$15 and 25 oz. wide mouth bottle for \$16. All bottles come with a Sports Cap, a travel clip and come in all different colors and patterns (See a sample in the Parlor!). If you're interested in selling them at your work or school you can pick up an order form in the Parlor or office. Sale ends Dec. 6 and payment is due at time of order. Proceeds will go towards updating Trinity's technology. Contact the office with questions (456.7168, office@grtunc.org).



Poinsettia Sale

Here is a great opportunity to beautify the sanctuary, your home or someone else's home this holiday season. We are offering you the opportunity to purchase beautiful poinsettia plants that you may use for the holiday. Simply place your order by Sunday, December 6 by filling out the form found in Sunday's bulletin. Prices range from \$6-\$23. Plants will be delivered and used in the worship services on Sunday, December 13. You may take your plant home following the service or leave them in the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve. All pots will have covers and the proceeds will go to Trinity's United Methodist Women.

Grand Rapids Women's Chorus Annual Winter Concert

Saturday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m.

The Grand Rapids Women's Chorus will perform at Trinity. Doors open at 7. Reception follows the concert. Suggested donation of \$10 taken at the door.

Advent Festival

Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3 p.m.

Join the Trinity Family as we celebrate together Trinity's Advent Festival. Grand Rapids Artisans have been invited to offer their works for sale, as well as hands-on work for children, carol singing, Kindermusik play and, of course, Holiday Cookies and Wassail! There will be something for all ages! Come and share as we celebrate the simple joy of this holiday season and each other!

UMW Cookie Sale & Itty Bitty Bazaar Sunday, Dec. 13

Trinity's United Methodist Women invite you to participate in our Christmas Cookie Sale and Itty Bitty Bazaar during the worship hours. You will be able to purchase a large box of holiday cookies for \$6 or a small box for \$3. This sale will help Trinity's women to continue their pledge to Mission which helps women, children and youth around the world.

We will need your family favorites to make this a success, donate some of your favorites by dropping them off at the church Friday, Dec. 11 or by bringing them Saturday, Dec. 12 to the assembly line at 1p.m.

Your donations will make a difference.

ACTS

Please stay tuned for the details of the December and January Adult Christians Totally Socializing events. We will once again, be meeting in the wine cellar at *Mangiamo!* for an evening of great fellowship for December's event. Also, January will see us meeting at *Big O's Pizzeria* followed by an evening of ice skating at Rosa Parks Circle. Please watch the bulletin and e-vites for details on dates and times. Thanks from your ACTS coordinators, Jen Schottke and Amy Heiney, we hope to see you there!

Our Sanctuary During Advent

The theme of our sanctuary visual design throughout Advent and Christmastide is "The Gathering Host." Each Sunday the congregation will note more and more angels "gathering" in the sanctuary as we await the birth of the Christ Child. This will be incorporated in our Advent Wreath, the Sanctuary itself and through other forms of art. The congregation will have opportunity to help in the artwork for "The Gathering Host" on Sunday afternoons.

The worship design will also include a tree decorated with Crismons made by members of our congregation. The word "Crismon" meaning "monograms of Christ" are the historic symbols for Jesus Christ that have been passed down to us. They will also be featured in our Children's Times during worship.

If anyone is interested in participating in making angels for our Advent visuals, please contact Gayle DeBruyn at gdebruyn@lakeaffectdesignstudio.com. We also need cardboard donated to help us make these designs. If you have any cardboard boxes or pieces, please drop them off at the church. They will be stored in the Sunday School art room. Any size cardboard will do.

Christmas Eve

Thursday, Dec. 24

There is something very special about arriving at Trinity on Christmas Eve. The air is crisp and cool, there is expectancy in the air and the warm light of the sanctuary invites us in. We look forward to welcoming new and old friends on this night of awaiting Jesus' birth and the homecoming spirit that is so evident on Christmas Eve.

4 p.m. Children's Service

We would like to invite families with Pre-school and younger children to join us for a very special time for a *Young Child's Christmas*. We will have a time of sharing the story *I Am Christmas*, hands-on activity, sanctuary experience and cookies and milk. This is an informal format, to help your youngest family member understand Christmas. We hope you will join us.

7 p.m. Worship

with Wesley Singers, Carol Choir and Celebration Singers

This service is candlelit and features music from our children and youth, a time for the Children and a brief homily. We will sing carols and close the service with the singing of *Silent Night*.

8 p.m. Homecoming Hour

Our Homecoming Time will be in the Parlor allowing the persons leaving the 7 p.m. service to greet those arriving for the 9 p.m. service.

9 p.m. Worship

with Chancel Choir and Trinity Ringers

Our 9 p.m. service this year features several of the carols written by Carl Wiltse as well as other familiar carols. This devotional service includes choirs, homily and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.



Events and Opportunities for January 2010

To have an event listed in February's Trinity in Touch, submit your content to Laura at office@grtumc.org on or before Jan. 25.

GVSU Basketball Game

Saturday, Jan. 9 at 3 p.m.

Grab the kids and head to Allendale for GVSU vs. Lake Superior State! Go Lakers!

Welcome Center Training

Sunday, January 10 at Noon

Carole, Angie Seabert, Pat French and Bob White are hosting a training session for anyone interested in staffing our new Welcome Center on Sunday from 10:30-11 a.m. This is also going to be a training time for all greeters and ushers that can be with us. We promise to be short in duration, take only a half hour, but it will be fun to all get on board with warmly greeting our members and visitors. Hope to see many there!

UMW Soup Lunch

Sunday, January 17 at 12:15 p.m.

Before you head out after church on a cold day, come have a bowl of soup provided by Trinity United Methodist Women.

Grand Rapids Griffins

Hockey Game

Saturday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m.

Come and watch exciting hockey as the Grand Rapids Griffin's take on the Ice Hogs. Watch for ticket sales, because it'll be a fun night out.

Grand Rapids District

Training Workshops

Monday, Jan. 25, 6:45-9 p.m.

At Rockford UMC

Staff Parish Relations Committees: Led by Laurie Haller, Grand Rapids District Superintendent

Trustees Committees: This year will have an emphasis on church safety. Led by Terry Groesser, attorney and lay person from Genesis UMC

Finance Committees: led by Chris Hawkins, former long time Finance Chair at GR First UMC

Aligning Church Programming with Your Mission

Statement: For anyone involved in program committees. Such as: education, missions, outreach, worship, pastoral care, hospitality, social concerns, evangelism, church council. Led by Laure Mieskowski, Director of Personnel and Programming at GR First UMC

If you have specific questions that you would like addressed in your training session, please email them to Liz Bode at the Grand Rapids District Office, grdistrict@wmcumc.org.

CityFit Exercise Class

Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Lisa, from Cityfit exercise is willing to lead a group from Trinity of men and women of all ages in a combination exercise class on Thursday mornings from 10 to 11 a.m. Many from the Matin Ringers, who practice at 11 a.m. on Thursdays have indicated an interest in this. We hope that many more from our Church and community can join us in this fun time of getting fit in the New Year! Lisa is good at sensing where we are in our exercise ability and can tailor the work out to each person's needs and abilities.

Each session costs only \$2 and believe me, is well worth it! I hope to see lots of my sisters and brothers *Trintarians* joining me in this great way to start off our New Year together. It's tons of fun and may take away some extra poundage we acquired during the festivities of the holidays! See you there!

-Carole Strobe Lyman

Sunday Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 6

Membership Class

Led by Frank and Carole Lyman in the Library on the second floor. The class will be welcomed into membership on Dec. 6 during the 11 a.m. service.

Dec. 6 - Dec. 20

The Dead Sea Scrolls

Led by Maurice Fetty in the Discovery Room. Examining the significance of these 2000 year old scrolls found in 1947 around the Dead Sea. Containing parts or whole manuscripts of the Old Testament which predate all other Old Testament manuscripts by 1000 years, we will examine the scrolls, the community that produced them and their significance for Biblical studies, Judaism and early Christianity. Books are available to purchase in the office along with a study guide.

Jan. 10 - Jan. 31

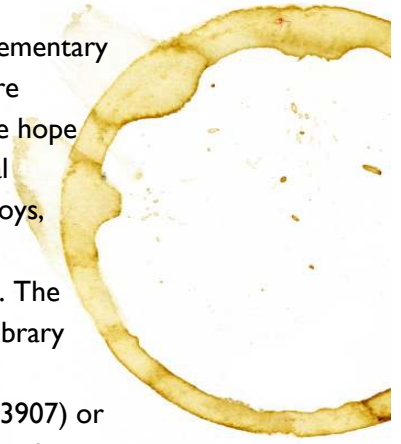
Honest to Jesus: A Fresh Look at the Gospels and the New Testament

Led by Dr. Robert C. Smith in the Discovery Room. The class will be reviewing the texts from a historical point of view, using writing from some faith, but historical scholars including; Robert Funk, N.T. Wright, Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, John Shelby Spong, Ed Dobson and others.

Coffee Chat

Every Sunday, parents of elementary age and younger children are welcome to participate. We hope you'll join us for an informal gathering of sharing in the joys, trials and day-to-day life of parenting in the millennium. The class usually meets in the Library on the second floor.

Contact Jen Schottke (340-3907) or Laurie Coulter (447-1923) with questions.



Other Adult Ed Opportunities

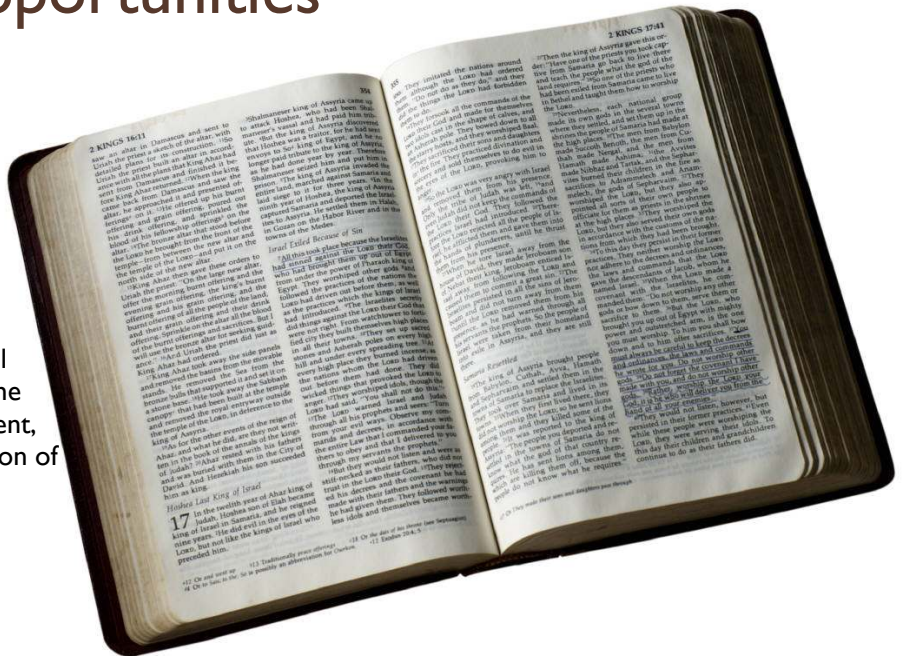
Wednesday Bible Study

Noon to 1 p.m.

Under the Tree of Life Disciple Bible Study

Led by Frank Lyman

Rather than the "normal" 33 weeks of 3 hours per week that is "Disciple's norm", the class will take its time with its Wednesday noon class. The themes include the writings of the Old Testament, the Gospel of John, letters of John and Revelation of John. Text is \$34.



Wednesday Evening Adult Ed

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Living the Questions 2.0

Led by Frank Lyman

The class follows the 21-week video series "Living the Questions 2.0." We will watch the 20 minutes video each week and then discuss it. Each subject is taught by one of the leading lights of progressive Christianity. The class will run through February.

Just in Case You Missed It! Fall Events Photo Recap



Consecration Sunday Lunch



5/6er's November Wii Night



Hayride at Post Family Farms



ArtPrize 2009 "WonderWagon"



Community Ministries Halloween Mummies



Ruthie the Cow

Youth, Children & Family

30 Hour Famine Recap

So apparently spending 30 hours without food and 24 of those hours outside, in what has turned out to be the coldest weekend of the fall so far with only some rope, a couple tarps and some cardboard boxes, is really not that fun. However myself, a bunch of brave Youth and a couple of way too dedicated adult volunteers did just that on what felt like an arctic October night, and while not a lot of fun, in the traditional sense of the word, it turned out to be an even better learning experience than I thought it would be.

I wish I could say that the day started out rather nice and that we got to enjoy some sunshine and warm temps before night fall. However, I think God had other plans for us on that day, because from about noon to 8 p.m. there was this really annoying thin sideways rain falling, you know the kind that almost hurts your face as it hits. As we started to build our shelters out of tarps and cardboard, the wind decided that it would be a good time to really pick up speed and start blowing everything around and destroying any forward progress we might have made on our dwellings for the night. As the temps dropped steadily and daylight faded, it was getting much more difficult to pretend that this was going to be a fun time.

After the youth went on a two mile walk to get their water supply for the next 24 hours, reality was setting in. We were done talking about and planning the 30 Hour Famine, we were actually doing it. To keep our spirits and body temps up, we spent a good amount of time on the side of the road jumping up and down and yelling to cars passing by to make them aware of our food and clothing drive we were doing. Which was actually rather successful, as Laura took a car FULL of food and clothing to Degage ministries the following week for us.

Despite the cold temps, blowing wind and rain I do think a good time was had by all, a more difficult than expected time, but a good time. More importantly a learning experience, a lesson in gratitude and appreciation. I know things are meaningful and have a positive impact by how much the Youth talk about them and reference them. Lets just say the 30 Hour Famine comes up in conversation around church quite often.

As the Holiday season rolls around and we start to get caught up in what we are buying as gifts, what Santa is going to bring and where we are going to be for that Holiday Feast. Let us not forget that many people right here in our church neighborhood don't have the luxury to worry about where that Holiday Feast is going to be, they are too busy worrying about how their children are going to get at least one meal for the day. I challenge anyone who reads this to not buy one gift this year, or buy double food for that Holiday meal and either donate that money or that food to a charity of your choice that helps eliminate hunger. If the Youth of Trinity can endure the 30 Hour Famine, I am sure that you can make that small sacrifice.

-Matt Parrot, Director of Youth Ministries

Old Christmas Cards Needed

During the Advent Festival, Trinity's children will be making special Christmas Cards to be given away at the Veteran's Home. In order to complete the project we are in need of old Christmas Cards. If you have any that you could spare, put them in the box by the church office window. Thank you!

Christmas Ingathering

The 4-6th Grade Sunday School Class will be coordinating an ingathering of Children's gifts for Christmas. These gifts will be wrapped and given to our Community Ministries Families in need this holiday. When you are out buying gifts, purchase an extra toy. You can bring it to church and put it in the collection box in the Parlor. The class will be wrapping the gifts and getting them ready for Christmas giving. Need an idea? How about:

Children's books, Art kits, PlayDoh, games, puzzles, toy cars/trucks, small dolls, toy animals

Thank you for helping us to make the holidays special for others.

Ian, Issac, Leo, Brianna, Alaina, Austin, Christina and Nichea

Where in the World Are You?

We would like to know where our college students and recent college grads have been and what they are doing! Many have had incredible study abroad experiences, college related tours, and many other exciting opportunities. If you know of a college student or grad that has had a great experience, send in a picture and a short description of their opportunity by December 5. We will be putting a display up during December and January to celebrate their journeys! Send to Nichea Ver Veer Guy (orangeclt00@aol.com) or to the church office (office@grtumc.org).

Thank You for Making Trinity's 26 Year Old Garden a Success

The Trinity Garden has wrapped up it's 26th year of operation. Thanks to the pastors and congregation for another year of support through the caring coins and for other special gifts. Thanks to the Heydenburg and Klinesteker families for gifts of equipment (roto-tillers). Thanks to the Pickerd family for the use of their land, heated greenhouse, tractors and a generator to pump water.

Thanks to the regular volunteers: Dick Barber, Dave Budde, Chuck Garrod, Marion Graf, Carl Pelcher, Robert Smith, Jerry Sytsma and Forest Van Valin. Special thanks to Dave, Chuck and Carl for delivering produce weekly. Thanks to Rob Bruining for equipment maintenance and those who sent "goodies" for break time. Thanks to all those who came out to help pick in the evening, 15 persons responded to the call.

A total of 118 bushels of fresh vegetables were delivered to three agencies: Northeast Community Ministries (NECOM), Southeast Community Outreach Ministries (SECOM), and United Methodist Community House. The vegetables are distributed through their network and or used to prepare meals for the community served.

Through fellowship and sharing we pray God is served in the endeavor.

-Trinity's Garden Committee

Save the Date for the Kettunen Center!

Friday, February 19 through Saturday, February 20

Winter in Michigan is breathtaking! We have reserved the Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI (near Cadillac) in Feb. so we can enjoy a Trinity Winter Weekend.

Cross-Country Skiing, sledding, skating, and indoor activities are just a few of the things you can do. So... mark your calendars for Friday, February 19, 6:30 p.m. through late afternoon on Saturday, February 20. Look for sign-ups in the parlor! This will be great fun for all ages.

Wow! 70 Grocery Sacks Worth...

Your Mission Work Area would like to thank Trinity for the response to the recent food drive. Our food pantry recipients, SECOM and NECOM, were thankful to receive this bounty during these difficult economic times. It is only an estimate, because not all the food was brought back in grocery sacks, but there were approximately 70 grocery sacks worth of food brought in for the November food drive. Good job Trinity!

Children's Stewardship

The children of Trinity will be continuing their study on stewardship as they move into "Brother/ Sister, Can You Spare a Dime?" This ingathering of dimes will help to support "Pure Water for the World." This program helps to institute hygiene and sanitation education and biosand water filters throughout the 105 Methodist Schools in Haiti. Look for piggy banks in the parlor where you can deposit your dime and join the children as they fill \$5 dime sleeves for this great project!

Consecration Sunday

After Trinity's Consecration Worship service on November 8, nearly 300 individuals attended the celebration luncheon catered by the *Electric Cheetah*. On that Sunday 148 giving units felt called to return their Estimate of Giving cards.

Those who were not in attendance were mailed Estimate of Giving cards that can be turned into the church office at their earliest convenience. In planning next year's church budget, it is very helpful to have the Estimate of Giving cards returned

Our hearts are filled with Thanksgiving because it appears we will have a 6% increase when all cards are returned. Special thanks to each one for sharing so generously not only your monetary gifts, but your time and talents as well.

-Deanna House,
Stewardship Committee Chair

Save the Date for Saturday, February 6

Join us for an All Church Sock Hop at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Look for details in January!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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December

At Trinity UMC

For Sunday Schedule
See Next Page

		<p>1</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym</p> <p>5pm CM Teen Club</p> <p>6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall</p> <p>7pm CM Leader Training, Parlor</p> <p>7:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9am Staff Meeting, Fireside Room</p> <p>Noon NA, Library</p> <p>Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room</p> <p>1pm YET Training, Discovery</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>5pm CM Kids Club</p> <p>6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside</p> <p>7pm Table Tennis, Gym</p> <p>7pm CM Tutoring</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9am-11pm CM Barnes and Noble Book Fair</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>11am Matin Ringers</p> <p>Noon Advisory Board Meeting, Parlor</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym</p> <p>5pm CM TMO</p> <p>5:30pm Music Director Search Committee, Discovery</p> <p>6:30pm Trinity Ringers</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9am-11pm CM Barnes and Noble Book Fair</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7pm Grand Rapids Women's Chorus Concert, Sanctuary</p>
6	<p>7</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym</p> <p>7pm Boy Scouts, Gym</p> <p>6pm Stephen Ministry Christmas Party, Discovery</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym</p> <p>5pm CM Teen Club</p> <p>6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall</p> <p>7:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9am Staff Meeting, Fireside Room</p> <p>Noon NA, Library</p> <p>Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>5pm CM Kids Club</p> <p>6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside</p> <p>7pm Table Tennis, Gym</p> <p>7pm CM Tutoring</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>11am Matin Ringers</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym</p> <p>5pm CM TMO</p> <p>5:30pm Music Director Search Committee, Discovery</p> <p>6:30pm Trinity Ringers</p>	11	<p>12</p> <p>1pm UMW Cookie Sale Set-up</p>
13	<p>14</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym</p> <p>5pm CM Boutique Set-Up, Parlor/Discovery</p> <p>6:30pm Staff Parish Relations Committee, Fireside</p> <p>7pm Boy Scouts, Gym</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>9:30am UMW Circles, Parlor</p> <p>Noon Membership Growth and Development, Fireside</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym</p> <p>5pm CM Boutique</p> <p>6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall</p> <p>7:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9am Staff Meeting, Fireside Room</p> <p>Noon NA, Library</p> <p>Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>5pm CM Kids Club Outing</p> <p>6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside</p> <p>7pm Table Tennis, Gym</p> <p>7pm CM Tutoring Discovery</p> <p>7pm Prayer Shawls, Parlor</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>11am Matin Ringers</p> <p>3:15pm YET, Congress</p> <p>4pm Gift Wrap at B&N</p> <p>6pm Finance</p> <p>6:30pm Trinity Ringers</p>	18	19
20	<p>21</p> <p>9am Gift Wrap at B&N</p> <p>7:30pm Winter Solstice Concert, Sanctuary</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Noon NA, Library</p> <p>7pm Table Tennis, Gym</p>	<p>24</p> <p>CHRISTMAS EVE</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>4pm Children's Service</p> <p>7pm Worship Service</p> <p>8pm Homecoming Hour</p> <p>9pm Worship Service</p>	<p>25</p> <p>CHRISTMAS DAY</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	26
27	28	<p>29</p> <p>9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking</p> <p>6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Noon NA, Library</p> <p>7pm Table Tennis, Gym</p>	<p>31</p> <p>NEW YEAR'S EVE</p> <p>6:30pm Trinity Seniors, Parlor</p>		

December Sunday's At Trinity UMC

Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
<p>6 Second of Advent</p> <p>New Members Join</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Nursery, 0-2 Years Old *Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room, 2nd Floor *K-3rd, Horizons Room, 2nd Floor *4th-6th Grade, The PIT, Lower Level *7th-12th Grade, The Alley, Lower Level <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *<i>The Dead Sea Scrolls</i>, Maurice Fetty, Discovery *<i>Coffee Chat</i>, Pellowe Rm. *<i>Financial Peace University</i>, Fireside *<i>Membership</i>, Library <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15pm Church Council, Parlor</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4pm Kindermusik Village, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>5pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>5:15pm Kindermusik Our Time, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>5:30pm Gathering Meal, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>6pm Carol Choir, Choir Room</p>	<p>13 Third Sunday of Advent</p> <p>UMW Cookie Sale</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Nursery, 0-2 Years Old *Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room, 2nd Floor *K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room, 2nd Floor *4th-6th Grade, The PIT, Lower Level *7th-12th Grade, The Alley, Lower Level <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *<i>The Dead Sea Scrolls</i>, Maurice Fetty, Discovery *<i>Coffee Chat</i>, Library *<i>Financial Peace University</i>, Fireside <p>11am Worship</p> <p>3pm Advent Festival</p> <p>5:45pm Jr. High and Sr. High Youth</p> <p>5:30pm Christ Care, Fireside Room</p>	<p>20 Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Nursery, 0-2 Years Old *Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room, 2nd Floor *K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room, 2nd Floor *4th-6th Grade, The PIT, Lower Level *7th-12th Grade, The Alley, Lower Level <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *<i>The Dead Sea Scrolls</i>, Maurice Fetty, Discovery *<i>Coffee Chat</i>, Library <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15pm Christmas Dinner, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4pm Kindermusik Village, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>4pm Spiritalk, Fireside Room</p> <p>5pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>5:15pm Kindermusik Our Time, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>6pm Carol Choir, Choir Room</p> <p>6pm 5/6er's Event</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>11am Worship</p>

January At Trinity UMC

For Sunday Schedule See Next Page

1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2
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3	4 3:15pm YET, Congress 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym 7pm Stephen Ministry, Discovery	5 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 3:15pm YET, Congress 5:30pm CM Teen Club Staff, Parlor 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall	6 9am Staff Meeting, Library Noon NA, Library Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 5pm CM Kids Club Staff, Parlor 6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside 7pm Table Tennis, Gym 7:30pm Symphonette, Fellowship Hall	7 9am-Noon Gym Open 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Gym 11am Matin Ringers 3:15pm YET, Congress 5:30pm CM TMO Staff, Parlor 6:30pm Stewardship, Fireside 6:30pm Trinity Ringers	8	9 GVSU Basketball Game
10	11 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 4pm Leadership Team, Discovery 6:30pm Staff Parish Relations Committee, Fireside 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym 7pm CM Council, Parlor	12 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 5pm CM Teen Club 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall 7:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym	13 9am Staff Meeting, Library Noon NA, Library Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 5pm CM Kids Club 5pm Memorials and Endowment, Fireside 6pm Finance, Library 6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside 7pm Table Tennis, Gym 7pm CM Tutoring 7:30pm Symphonette, Fellowship Hall	14 9am-Noon Gym Open 9:30am AC Program Committee, Parlor 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Gym 11am Matin Ringers 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 5pm CM TMO 6:30pm Trinity Ringers 7:30pm Church & Society, Fireside Room	15	16
17	18 MLK, Jr. Day Office Closed	19 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking Noon Membership Growth, Fireside 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 5pm CM Teen Club 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall 7:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym	20 9am Staff Meeting, Library Noon NA, Library Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 5pm CM Kids Club 6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside 7pm Table Tennis, Gym 7pm CM Tutoring 7pm Prayer Shawls, Parlor 7:30pm Symphonette, Fellowship Hall	21 9am-Noon Gym Open 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Gym 11am Matin Ringers 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 5pm CM TMO 6:30pm Trinity Ringers	22	23 1pm West Michigan Conference Personnel Reception, Parlor
24/31	25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE! 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym	26 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 5pm CM Teen Club 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall 7:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym	27 9am Staff Meeting, Library Noon NA, Library Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 5pm CM Kids Club 6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside 7pm Table Tennis, Gym 7pm CM Tutoring 7:30pm Symphonette, Fellowship Hall	28 9am-Noon Gym Open 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Gym 11am Matin Ringers 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside Room 1pm Newsletter Crew, Parlor 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 5pm CM TMO 6:30pm Trinity Ringers	29 9am GRPS Choir Festival, Sanctuary	30 3pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 7pm Grand Rapids Griffins Game

Frank and Carole on Holiday January 20-26

January Sunday's At Trinity UMC

Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
<p>3 Epiphany Sunday</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>11am Worship</p>	<p>10 Baptism of the Lord</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years Old</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*4th-6th Grade, The PIT, Lower Level</p> <p>*7th-12th Grade, The Alley, Lower Level</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*Coffee Chat, Library</p> <p>*Honest to Jesus, led by Bob Smith, Discovery</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15 p.m. Welcome Center Training, Narthex</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4pm Kindermusik Village, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>5pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>5:15pm Kindermusik Our Time, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>5:30pm Gathering Meal, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:30pm Jr. High and Sr. High Youth</p> <p>5:30pm Christ Care, Fireside Room</p> <p>5:45pm Carol Choir, Choir Room</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years Old</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*4th-6th Grade, The PIT, Lower Level</p> <p>*7th-12th Grade, The Alley, Lower Level</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*Coffee Chat, Library</p> <p>*Honest to Jesus, led by Bob Smith, Discovery</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15pm Church Council, Parlor</p> <p>12:30pm Soup Luncheon, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4pm Kindermusik Village, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>4pm Spiritalk, Fireside Room</p> <p>5pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>5:15pm Kindermusik Our Time, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>5:30pm Sr. High Youth, Pellowe Room</p> <p>5:45pm Carol Choir, Choir Room</p> <p>6pm 5/6er's Event</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship (Guest Preacher)</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years Old</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*4th-6th Grade, The PIT, Lower Level</p> <p>*7th-12th Grade, The Alley, Lower Level</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*Coffee Chat, Library</p> <p>*Honest to Jesus, led by Bob Smith, Discovery</p> <p>11am Worship (Guest Preacher)</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4pm Kindermusik Village, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>5pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>5:15pm Kindermusik Our Time, Sound Beat (2nd Floor)</p> <p>5:30pm Gathering Meal, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:30pm Jr. High and Sr. High Youth</p> <p>5:30pm Christ Care</p> <p>5:45pm Carol Choir, Choir Room</p>	<p>31 Music Sunday</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years Old</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room, 2nd Floor</p> <p>*4th-6th Grade, The PIT, Lower Level</p> <p>*7th-12th Grade, The Alley, Lower Level</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*Coffee Chat, Library</p> <p>*Honest to Jesus, led by Bob Smith, Discovery</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>5:30pm Gathering Meal, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:45pm Jr. High and Sr. High Youth</p>

Boy Scout Troop 215

Most of us know that we have a Boy Scout Troop at Trinity with a rich history. Jerry Ford and Roger Chaffee received their Eagle Scout awards here.

What most people don't realize is that we as a church don't just let them use our facilities to meet, but the charter to this troop is actually in our name. It is just as much a part of us as all the other working parts of the church. I think we tend to forget our responsibility. We should all be aware of this and endeavor to help our troop whenever the opportunity arrives.

-Lynn Francis

Our Growing Nursery

We are delighted with the number of young children becoming a part of Trinity. We are seeing an increasing number of young children in our nursery. This is a wonderful situation to have.

We are also grateful for our youth helpers who assist in the nursery under the supervision of the adults. The youth are invited to sign up to help in advance. Once the number of youth assistants is reached we ask the youth to stay in worship during the worship hour.

Parents, please make sure that you know where your youth are for the safety and enjoyment of all. Our ushers will walk throughout the building during the morning to assure that all is well. Thanks so much for your cooperation.

Experiencing a Year-End Blessing

The Trinity Memorial, Living Tribute and Endowment have contributed several thousand dollars a year to Trinity's ministry over the past decade or so. Projects include:

- Building improvements: New Cross and Flame on the front exterior of the building, second floor classroom project, youth rooms projects, sanctuary renovation, new railing on Lake Drive entrance, portable defibrillator, new hearing system, landscaping, new sprinkling system, etc.
- Education: Camp scholarships, Bibles for Children's classrooms, leadership training
- Community Ministries: Furniture and classroom needs, leadership training
- Stephen Ministry Leadership Training
- Leadership Training Seminar for Children and Youth Ministry Staff and volunteers

What's in the plans now? One big project is a new sign on the front yard with funds from the Russ Burpee Memorial as the base. Other smaller memorials and additional gifts will make this a reality at some point. A large wall mounted TV would also be welcomed for educational purposes in the Discovery Room. The Endowment has made \$5,000 available for carpeting and other improvements in the Discovery Room. Any interest in providing the TV or beginning a fund for it?

Memorials and living tributes (for those honored during their lifetimes) are placed in a special fund and distributed in their entirety when a decision for their use is finalized.

Endowment Funds are invested through the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan in carefully selected investment portfolio administered by the Foundation. Strict guidelines are followed for the use of these funds through the various subsections. Each year a portion of the Endowment is made available for appropriate projects and ministries.

The Endowment has been a blessing to Trinity since its inception in 1993. Without the Memorials and Endowment Trinity simply would not be able to provide for the building upkeep and certain special projects and training. Brochures are available on the Legacy Board rack between the narthex and parlor.

Interested? Contact the Chair, George House, (616-676-5593), Jerry Pohly (616-949-0757) or the Church Office (616-456-7168).

A Glimpse into our History

Did you know that our congregation at Trinity dates back to 1874? Did you know that our church was wired for electricity, but they also installed gas for lighting in case electricity was a passing fad? Learn about these and other interesting historical facts about our beautiful building. There are tours at 9:30 a.m. and noon on November 29 and December 20. Tours are open for all members and guests. Consider bringing friends to worship and inviting them to stay for a tour. If you have family home for the holidays, bring them along. The tour explores everything from architectural points of interest to descriptions of our ministry and fellowship programs. Join us for this unique glimpse into our history and we celebrate the many opportunities that make Trinity an inviting and engaging church home.


Community Ministries

We're Doing Great

Trinity Community Ministries is heading into 2010 with their heads up high. With a strong group of volunteers and a large group of kids every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, why not have Christmas joy? October and November went great, but now we are headed to December. We have our annual, fabulous boutique for the teens and a book store extravaganza for the children.

The leaders are doing great. They are being consistent with the program and kids, helping them with school work or anything possible. The leaders are also bonding well with peers and all the kids. The program is doing well. We know this because we have a new kid every week that wants to join. They are hearing about us from their friends.

We hope all the teens and children have a great and safe Christmas vacation so we can start 2010 like we ended 2009. We also want to thank Trinity United Methodist Church and all the leaders for their support. We wish everyone a blessed Christmas and New Year.



-Tony Willis, CM Leader

You Are Very Special

As we head into next year we are grateful for all that Trinity has provided, thank you for your warm place to be, your warm welcoming smiles as we enter this place, for your time, for your donations of money and needed items and most of all your prayers. This is an important ministry Trinity United Methodist Church provides to the young people in our community. You are very special.

All Sorts of Ways to Help Out

Community Ministries is definitely abuzz this season, so come and help out!

See details on the *Take Time for Trinity* insert in the Sunday bulletins or contact Donna (456.7168, d.shirey@grtunc.org) or Scott (245.1431, shirey824@yahoo.com).

Ways to help Community Ministries this season:

- Donate gifts to/for the Teen Club Christmas Boutique (beginning Dec. 1).
- Sign up to help set up our Teen Club Christmas Boutique (Mon., Dec. 14, 5 p.m.).
- Sign up to work at the Christmas Boutique (Tues. Dec. 15, anytime 5-8 p.m., selling/wrapping).
- Donate at least \$20 toward a book for kids (make checks to TUMC, Community Ministries, send to Donna or mark accordingly in Sunday collection plate).
- Help drive children in Kids Club to the book store to purchase a book for their Christmas gift this year (Wed. Dec. 16, 6-8 p.m.).
- Volunteer to help a child read in the YET Program (Mon.-Thurs. 3:15-5:15 p.m., you pick the day!).
- Be a teen club leader (Tues. 5-7 p.m.).
- Pray for Community Ministries and our participants, that we be guided in the way God would have us work and for the safety of all our families.
- Contribute new or gently used toys and games to Kids Club.
- Buy a magazine (see fundraiser details on CM blog at trinitycm.wordpress.com).
- Support our fundraisers; next one at Barnes and Noble Bookstore Dec. 3 and 4, from 9 a.m.-11 p.m.
- Donate hats, mittens and socks for use with children and youth this winter.





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Trinity In Touch December 2009 January 2010

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Winter Solstice Concert XII

Monday, Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Several local professional musicians will give the twelfth annual Winter Solstice Concert in the sanctuary of Trinity UMC. The concert is a tradition among audience members who find the tranquil mood as a haven amidst a busy holiday season. This year's theme is *For One White Singing Hour of Peace*.

The participants also enjoy this concert as an opportunity to perform music and read stories which are deeply meaningful to them.

Performers will include Nancy Summers-Meeusen, oboe; Stephanie Wiltse, mezzo-soprano; Cindy Goudzwaard, bassoon; Barbara Boertje-DeVries, harp and piano; Paul Austin, horn; Margie Gage, horn; and Philip Pletcher, piano. Bonnie Bierma will provide stories and readings to enhance the reflective tone of the evening. There is no charge or free will offering; the event is the musicians' gift to the community.

The Trinity Labyrinth will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The labyrinth, which is patterned after the ancient labyrinth of Chartres Cathedral, can be used for a time of personal meditation.

Call Trinity UMC (456.7168) for more information; or contact Stephanie Wiltse at (wiltse@iserv.net).