



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.

February Worship & Events

Feb. 7

The Company He Keeps, Carole Strobe Lyman
Luke 5: 1-11
12:15 p.m. Children's Council
3 p.m. GR District Conference

Feb. 14

Transfiguration Sunday
Scouting Sunday
Valentine's Day
There's Something About A Mountain..., Frank Lyman
Luke 9: 28-36
12:15 p.m. Boy Scout Dinner and Pinewood Derby

Feb. 17

Ash Wednesday
7:30 p.m. Worship
Regrets, I've Had More Than a Few, Frank Lyman

Feb. 21

First Sunday in Lent
Burpee Appreciation Day
TBD, Carole Strobe Lyman
Luke 4: 1-13

Feb. 28

Second Sunday in Lent
Not the Mighty Eagle, or the Stealthy Leopard, or the Proud Lion..., Frank Lyman
Luke 13: 31-35
12:15 p.m. Church Council
5:30 p.m. Haiti Night

Haiti Task Force Urges Partnership

Posted on www.westmichiganconference.org on 1-22-2010

The Michigan Area Haiti Task Force wants to remind everyone that ministry continues to happen in Haiti. The majority of the schools are open. This is a most difficult time for the children outside the earthquake area to get food because of the devastation in Port-au-Prince. The School Hot Lunch Program still provides a mid-morning meal for thousands of children. The Michigan Area's support of that program faces a definite crisis as the cost and lack of food in Haiti escalates.

The Michigan Area Haiti Task Force has sent \$4,000 to the Haitian Methodist Church to provide immediate food aid and other assistance to the 43 children at the Methodist Children's Home in Port-au-Prince.

How can we work together for a brighter tomorrow?

- Give to UMCOR Advance #418325, Haiti Emergency. Your donations provide financial support for the first responders and their colleague organizations. UMCOR is now working with Action by Churches (ACT), Church World Service (CWS), Global Medic and the Methodist Church of Haiti to give immediate help to victims. Remember, 100% of your donation will help the people of Haiti.
- Mobilize resources now--food, medicine, and health kits--to be ready to ship when the Methodist Church of Haiti gives the signal that their depot on the Frere Campus in Petionville is able to receive sea containers. Trinity UMC is a collection site. What to send: **Food:** dried beans; rice; powdered milk; canned milk; and peanut butter. **Medicine:** antibiotic cream; aspirin (adult and child strengths); Tylenol; ibuprofen; band-aids; gauze; bandages; medical tape; and Ace bandages. All medicines and supplies must be in their original wrappers. Expiration dates must be at least six months from the present. Over the counter only. Please, no outdated or prescription drugs. **Health Kits:** 1 hand towel and 1 wash cloth; 1 tooth brush in original wrapper; 1 tube toothpaste, 4.5 oz. or larger with expiration date beyond six months or more; 1 bar bath soap in original wrapper; 1 metal nail file or fingernail clipper; 1 comb; 6 adhesive band-aids. Place in 1 gallon plastic zip lock bag. It helps if the bags are brought to collection sites in 18 gallon rubber tubs to prepare for shipment in the sea container. **Money:** send checks to the Conference Treasurer marked, "To ship Haiti Supplies." It costs \$8 per cubic foot to ship the supplies to Haiti through Rays of Hope.
- Volunteers will be needed to transport goods from the collection sites to the central warehouse in Grandville, where the containers are being loaded. Contact the Rev. Paul Doherty to learn more; 269.449.6559.

We need ongoing support and prayers for the partnership in Haiti to stay strong. The journey to bring relief to Haiti is going to be long and hard. It calls for generosity and sacrifice. Thank you for your financial help, your prayers and your volunteer service. A brighter day will come for Haiti.

- Rev. Paul Doherty, Chair, Michigan Area Haiti Task Force

Caring Coins

Caring Coins in **February** are being collected for *Second Harvest Gleaners Food Bank of West Michigan*. This agency is the regional non-profit clearinghouse for donated food on its way from the food industry to charity agencies which feed the needy. Thank you for contributing your coins to support this valuable community resource.

Taste of Trinity

The United Methodist Women were busy putting together this wonderful collection of culinary delights, and resources for your healthy lifestyle. The cookbook is now available for \$12.

Trinity Seniors

Please note that Trinity Seniors will not meet in February. The next scheduled event will be Saturday, March 20, so mark your calendars now!

Staff Compliments & Concerns

If you have a joy or concern regarding a full or part-time staff member at Trinity, feel free to contact anyone on the Staff Parish Relations Committee. It can then be handled in an appropriate way.

Members of SPRC are:

Vicki Francis - Chair
Bruce Barnhart
Doug Brant
Tom Brink
Del Crowe
Paul Hillman
Betty Nichols
Katie Orent
Randy Velzen

Within the Trinity Family Circle

Our Sympathy is extended to...

...the family and friends of Josephine (Jo) Powell, who passed away on December 28, 2009. A Memorial Service is schedule for April 24, 2010 at Trinity UMC.

...Kathleen and Michael Raudenbush, on the death of Nellie Raudenbush, who passed away on January 19, 2010.

...the family and friends of Marilyn Lee, who passed away on January 23, 2010.

Congratulations to...

...Ryan and Tara Lafferty, on the birth of their son Quentin Lee Lafferty on December 14, 2009. He joins two proud big brothers, Carson and Hayden.

...Grandparents Tom and Marcia Haas. Their son, Greg, and his wife Janice, welcomed Sadie Cove on December 11 in Anchorage, AK. Sadie joins big sister Madeleine.

Dear Trinity UMC,

I would like to offer words of blessing and thanks to the ministry and congregation of Trinity UMC. I have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of concern and care offered by so many. Nancy and I have appreciated the meals that have been prepared and have given her a break from the many other duties that she has needed to assume since I have been unable to assist in any way with the care and management of daily chores in our home.

I would also like to thank the congregation for the many cards, visitors to the hospital and to the rehab center as well as the many Care Page messages that I received on the website. Most of all, I thank you for the many prayers that were offered in my behalf as I continue to heal and regain the strength and ability to be with you all once again.

-God Bless, Bill Chowning

Thank you so much for the Christmas love gift. I really appreciate it! Thank you also for the cards, emails, kind words and prayers. Your support and love helped me so much at this difficult time.

-Barb Copeland

Thank you so much for your recent gift to Home Repair Services! Your donation of \$97.11 will help us maintain our services to more than 3,100 lower-income families each year.

-David Jacobs, Executive Director of Home Repair Services

Thank you for your recent contribution to PARA of \$125.92. With your support, PARA fulfills its mission of matching volunteers from churches with newly arrived refugee families.

-Jotham Ippel, Resettlement Coordinator/Supervisor of Bethany Christian Services

Thank you for your recent contribution of \$69.50. As a driver for "FISH," it is very evident to me that our assistance to the community is very much appreciated.

-Sincerely, Flo Goss, FISH Treasurer

The Church and Community Ministries staff would like to thank the congregation for the Christmas gift this year. We were very pleasantly surprised! It's an honor to serve amongst such great people! Thanks so much for your kindness.

Events and Opportunities for February 2010

To have an event listed in March's Trinity in Touch, submit your content to Laura at office@grtunc.org on or before Monday, Feb. 22.

All Church Sock Hop

Saturday, Feb. 6 at 6 p.m. in the Gym

Yes, that is right...get out the anklets and get ready to dance away the night! Bring the whole family! We will transform the gym with music from the 50's, 60's, 70's, and 80's! There will be a costume contest and dance contest for each decade, so get ready! Proceeds from the Pizza, brownies, soda, and snacks concessions will go to benefit the Drew Stanton "High Five Foundation." Donations will be accepted at the door. See you there...no Wall Flowers allowed!

Don't Give Up Chocolate for Lent!

Happy Valentine's Day from your United Methodist Women.

Chocolate cravings can be satisfied with Fair Trade offerings from Equal Exchange. On February 7 and 14, watch for sales of hot chocolate mix, baking cocoa and chocolate bars as well as an assortment of coffees and teas.

Thank you for supporting Fair Trade products.

GR District Conference

Sunday, Feb. 7 from 3-5 p.m.

The Grand Rapids District Conference is open to all United Methodists in the GR District and will be held at GR Faith UMC (2600 Seventh St., NW, 49504). This year's Conference will sport a *Super Bowl* theme! Mark your calendars and plan to attend! Bring cans of soup to donate. Call the GR District office with questions at 459.4503 or email grdistrict@wmcumc.org.

Lent Events

Wednesday February 17: Ash Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Regrets, I've Had More Than a Few -FWL
Psalm 51:1-12

February 21: First Sunday in Lent
Luke 4:1-13 (*The Temptations*) -CSL

February 28: Second Sunday in Lent
Not the Mighty Eagle, or the Stealthy Leopard, or the Proud Lion... -FWL
Luke 13:31-35

February 28: Haitian Night Dinner and Dialogue
5:30-7:30 p.m.

March 7: Third Sunday in Lent (Communion)
The Most Misquoted Verse in the Bible -FWL
I Corinthians 10:1-5, 12-15

March 14: Fourth Sunday in Lent (Global Music)
One Great Hour of Sharing
The God Whisperer -CSL
Psalm 32

March 19: Friday Family Fun Night 6 p.m.



March 21: Fifth Sunday in Lent
Spoilsports and Saints -FWL
John 12:1-8

Saturday, March 27:
Easter Egg Hunt and Sidewalk Chart Art 11 a.m.

March 28: Palm/Passion Sunday
Did You See I Waved? -FWL
Luke 19:28-40, Luke 23:1-49

April 1: Maundy Thursday Service with Communion 7 p.m.
New Maundy Thursday Drama written by Frank Lyman:
Unless a Grain of Wheat...

April 2: Good Friday Service 12:15 p.m.
Tenebrae Service of Diminishing Lights
Ritual on the Seven Last Words of Jesus

Saturday, April 3:
United Methodist Women Holy Saturday Breakfast 9:30 a.m.

April 4: Easter (No Communion)
Bringing Back the Alleluias Dialogue Sermon by CSL and FWL
Luke 24:1-12



Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouts of America 1910-2010

Scouting Sunday, February 14

All Scouts are invited to participate in uniform during the 11 a.m. worship service: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Venture Scouts, etc.

Troops may bring their own troop flag or Scout flag. (Use the *Take Time for Trinity* insert in Sunday's bulletin to indicate your interest in participating in Scout Sunday.)

Spaghetti Dinner

Following the worship service, join us for a Spaghetti Dinner prepared and served by Trinity's Boy Scout Troop #215. \$5 person; \$20 family (Please RSVP on the *Take Time for Trinity* insert in Sunday's bulletin or contact the office (office@grtumc.org).

Pinewood Derby!

During the spaghetti dinner, there will be a Pinewood Derby. The race is open to everyone; all ages are welcome. Dust off your old Pinewood Derby car or build a new one!

Troop #215 will host two Derby Workshops for those who would like help building a car. You can purchase your own kit at the BSA office on Walker Ave or craft stores such as Hobby Lobby or Michaels.

Derby Workshops:

Monday, Feb. 1 and Monday, Feb. 8 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Trinity UMC.

To register for the Pinewood Derby and/or attend a Derby Workshop, use the *Take Time for Trinity* insert in Sunday's bulletin, contact the office (office@grtumc.org) or contact John/Bonnie Czuhajewski at 575.8545 or bonnie.czu@gmail.com. All race participants must be registered by February 7.

Trinity and the Table Tennis U.S. Open

Many Grand Rapidians who were around in the early 70s' remember local residents Connie and Dell Sweeris who were nationally renowned table tennis players. They competed and won recognition at the U. S. Open Table Tennis Championships played in Cobo Hall in Detroit. Connie was selected to go to China representing the United States as part of President Nixon's "Ping Pong Diplomacy." Forward to 2010: The U.S. Open Table Tennis Championships will be played here in Grand Rapids at DeVos Place June 30 to July 3! The Tournament will be run by USA Table Tennis, and Dell Sweeris will help in the local coordination. 90 tables will be used, and 600 to 900 top players from around the world will participate. We encourage everyone to either participate in or just come down and observe this great event

Trinity has had table tennis play in the gym every Wednesday night from 7-10 p.m. for about 10 years now with the Grand Rapids Table Tennis Club. Over 300 players have joined us over this time. We usually set up 6 tables and average 16-22 players, mostly from Grand Rapids, but also from Muskegon, Grand Haven, Kalamazoo, and Lansing. We wish to sincerely thank Trinity UMC for allowing us to use the gym. We invite anyone interested to come and observe and/or join us Wednesday nights.

-Chase Klinesteker

Leadership Development

We would like to urge all Work Area Committee Members and Chairpersons to mark this important event.

Church Communications 101: Exploring how members, staff, leadership and committees share ideas, suggestions and concerns for the betterment of our Church

We will discover the amazing way in which we work to make our mission come alive here at Trinity. We will see our connectedness to one another and begin to work on ways to utilize our amazing resources to empower our faith experience. Facilitator and date is in the works, so stay tuned!

Not sure if you should come or maybe you aren't really sure if you actually said you would be on that one committee? No worries, just contact Laura in the office (456.7168, office@grtunc.org) and find out!

Again, a new date is being determined. The original date of Feb. 13 is being rescheduled so stay tuned!

Trinity Family Fun Night

Friday, March 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for "P.J.'s and Popcorn" Trinity Family Fun Night. We will have a movie room for young children, one for youth and one for older folks as well. Bring your P.J.'s and pillows and settle in for a fun night of movies.

A \$2 donation will get you a movie and snacks ... what a deal!



Housekeeping

Thanks to Ellie Bergman, Pat French and Laurie Sproul for the fantastic job they did cleaning the Parlor Kitchen.

They found lots of great containers that belong to our congregation. If you are missing one, please pick it up! They are in the hallway outside the Parlor Kitchen, near the nursery. Thank You!

Empowering the Children of Trinity...

It is not just a Sunday School lesson!

The Children's Council has been trying creative, innovative ways to help our children experience our Christian faith in their lives. We have discovered that our families need more than just a traditional Sunday School format to help them understand what faith really means.

So, we offer traditional approaches to Christian education by offering a 9:30 a.m. Sunday School hour. Where your toddlers will enjoy a tactile curriculum designed just for them and the Pre-school class will use play to wonder and explore the meaning of their faith. Children and Worship grounds our elementary children with concrete Bible lessons in a unique Montessori environment. Your upper elementary students are enjoying a hands-on curriculum, which enacts faith through action. Parents even have a cafe at 9:30 a.m. where they can share together and grow deeper as a faith community.

But, we also offer opportunities for our families with the Parent Link Newsletter sent to your email, available at church in print or on our website (www.grtunc.org), Family Nights at the Church, Family Camps, Outings and social groups like A.C.T.S. (Adult Christians Totally Socializing) and Trilights, to continue in the nurturing of your faith at home. Children's Choirs, Vacation Bible School, Summer Camps and Scouting continue to round out the many opportunities you have.

We invite you to look at the many ways you can be involved at Trinity from introducing the youngest child to God, to encouraging the family to journey together! We are always looking for volunteers to work with our children, so if you would like to become a part of this exciting mission team let us know. We could use your gifts and talents!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nichea".

-Nichea Ver Veer Guy, Director of Children and Family Ministries

Sunday Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 7 - Feb. 28

Parables of Jesus

Led by Miriam Taber in the Discovery Room. The Parables are familiar to most Bible students, but we will focus on their meaning for our lives today. Parables are: Of the Kingdom of God, About Discipleship, Of Jesus, Of God's Judgment.

Feb. 14 - Feb. 21

Spirituality & Healing

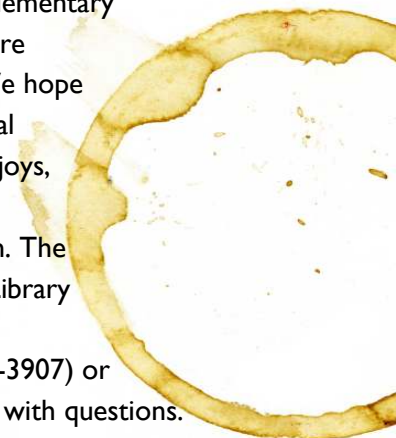
Led by Betsy Willey in the Fireside Room. The class will focus on how to connect more deeply to a divine source of love and healing and how to develop personal spiritual practices from an interfaith perspective.

Betsy Willey is a Certified Healing Touch Practitioner and author of *Footprints of the Soul, A Creative Guide for Spiritual Journey: Groups and Individuals*.

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 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

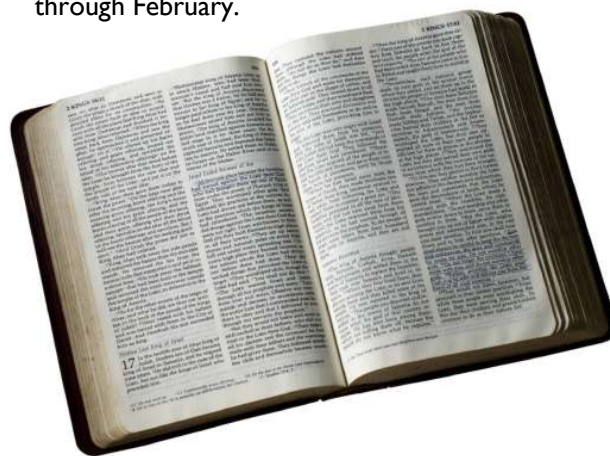
The class follows the 21-week video series "Living the Questions 2.0." We will watch the 20 minutes video each week and then discuss it. Each subject is taught by one of the leading lights of progressive Christianity. The class will run through February.

Spiritalk

Sunday, February 21

4 p.m. to 6 p.m. In the Fireside Room

This month *The Shack* by William Paul Young will be discussed.



Haiti Panel and Haiti Dinner - Sunday, February 28 at 5:30 p.m.

The panel will feature Trinity folks with ties to Haiti: Jacson Celestin will share the history of his native land as well as what it is like growing up in Haiti, Roger Durham will focus on politics and the international relationships that contributed to the nation's poverty and Valerie Mossman-Celestin will share her perspective of an American living in Haiti. Following the panel, we will dine upon an authentic Haitian dinner prepared by a woman from Haiti.

Welcome to Our Newest Members

Hopefully, by now you have had a chance to welcome our newest Trinity members, who joined on December 6, 2009.

Not pictured: Paul and Marge Burke and Rick Nelson.



John Blakemore



Jackie Frid & Brett Schuitema
Methea Frid



Yata McGill



Christine Buron
Dan and McKeiley Buron

Way to Go UMW!

Many thanks to all the women at Trinity that made pledges and helped with fund raisers. United Methodist Women (UMW) were able to raise over \$4,900, with three soup/salad lunches, several funeral receptions, Christmas by Candlelight, and cookie sale. This allowed us to pay a \$2,000 pledge to missions, \$100 to Community House, scholarships, pay for cookbook and other expenses leaving us with an \$1,100 balance at year-end. An apology to women who turned in recipes for cookbook that didn't get IN the book. They somehow disappeared from box we kept them in and we don't know what happened to them. We have plenty of cookbooks left to sell for \$12.

Thanks to all who faithfully save pop tabs and labels from Campbell products. Once again, the bar code/Campbell kid is what we need saved. (We're still receiving label fronts and bar codes ripped through. They aren't any good unless we have the entire bar code (no taped code either).) Many were just sent off to Fran Woodworth at Red Bird. We are giving box tops to Community Ministries temporarily. Thanks for a job well done!

A Note from a Visitor on Christmas Eve

This note was found in the offering plate on Christmas Eve. Way to go Trinity!

"We are visiting from Covenant Church United Methodist in Greensboro, NC. Thank you for the wonderful Christmas Eve service in this beautiful church!

-From, A Visiting Family

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.

Have You Noticed Yet?

You will notice around the building and offices several new tables, chairs and desks. These came to us as a gift from Greenridge Realty who no longer needed them in their office. Thanks to Richard and Jeanenne Morton of our congregation who are a part of Greenridge and were kind enough to think of Trinity!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9am Threshold Meeting, Parlor 1pm Census Jobs, Discovery Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym 7pm Stephen Ministry, Discovery	2 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking Noon Membership Growth, Fireside 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 5pm CM Teen Club 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall 7:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym	3 9am Staff Meeting, Library Noon NA, Library Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 5pm CM Kids Club 6pm Trustees, Library 6:30pm Adult Ed, Fireside 7pm CM Tutoring 7pm Table Tennis, Gym 7:30pm Symphonette, Fellowship Hall	4 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall 11am Matin Ringers Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Rm. 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 5:30pm CM TMO 6:30pm Trinity Ringers	5	6 10am Camp New Day Training, Parlor 6pm All Church Sock Hop, Gym
7	8 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 4pm Leadership Team, Discovery 6:30pm Staff Parish Relations, Fireside 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym	9 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball, Gym 5pm CM Teen Club 6pm Finance, Fireside 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall 7:30pm Men's Basketball	10 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	11 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall 11am Matin Ringers Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Rm. Noon CM Leadership Team, Wolfgang's 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 5:30pm CM TMO 6:30pm Trinity Ringers	12	13
14	15 President's Day No CM	16 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking No CM 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall	17 Ash Wednesday 9am Staff Meeting, Library Noon NA, Library Noon Bible Study, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 5pm CM Kids Club 7:30pm Symphonette, Fellowship Hall 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary	18 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall 11am Matin Ringers Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Rm. 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 5pm CM TMO 6:30pm Trinity Ringers	19 Family Winter Weekend 7pm Communities of Shalom Training, Plainfield UMC	20 Family Winter Weekend 9am Communities of Shalom Training, Plainfield UMC
21	22 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 4pm Leadership Team, Discovery 6:30pm Stewardship Committee, Fireside 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym	23 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 5pm CM Teen Club 6:30pm Ski Patrol, F. Hall 7:30pm Men's Basketball	24 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	25 9am-Noon Gym Open for Walking 10am City Fit Exercise Class, Gym 11am Matin Ringers Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Rm. 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside Room 3:15pm YET, Congress 3:30pm CM Basketball 5pm CM TMO 6:30pm Trinity Ringers	26	27

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February At Trinity UMC

For Sunday Schedule See Next Page

February Sunday's At Trinity UMC

Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
<p>7</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 *Nursery, 0-2 Years *Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room *K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room *4th-6th Grade, The PIT *7th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education *Coffee Chat, Library *Parables of Jesus, led by Miriam Taber, Discovery</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15 p.m. Children's Council, Fireside</p> <p>3pm GR District Conference, Faith UMC</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Scouting Sunday</p> <p>Transfiguration Sunday</p> <p>Valentine's Day</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 *Nursery, 0-2 Years *Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room *K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room *4th-6th Grade, The PIT *7th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education *Coffee Chat, Library *Parables of Jesus, led by Miriam Taber, Discovery *Spirituality/Healing, Betsy Willey, Fireside</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15pm Scouting Celebration, Dinner/ Pinewood Derby, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4pm Kindermusik Village, Sound Beat</p> <p>5pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>5:30pm Christ Care</p> <p>5:45pm Carol Choir</p> <p>5:45pm Jr. High and Sr. High Youth</p>	<p>21 First Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Burpee Appreciation Day</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 *Nursery, 0-2 Years *Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room *K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room *4th-6th Grade, The PIT *7th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education *Coffee Chat, Library *Parables of Jesus, led by Miriam Taber, Discovery *Spirituality/Healing, Betsy Willey, Fireside</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15 p.m. Youth Development Council, Fireside</p> <p>12:15pm Burpee Appreciation Reception, Parlor</p> <p>Noon-8pm Buffalo Wild Wings CM Fundraiser</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4pm Kindermusik Village, Sound Beat</p> <p>4pm Spiritalk, Fireside</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 Jr. High and Sr. High Youth</p> <p>5:30pm Gathering Meal, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:45pm Carol Choir, Choir Room</p>	<p>28 Second Sunday in Lent</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 *Nursery, 0-2 Years *Pre-School-Early Kindergarten, Awakenings Room *K-3rd Grade, Horizons Room *4th-6th Grade, The PIT *7th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education *Coffee Chat, Library *Parables of Jesus, led by Miriam Taber, Discovery</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>12:15 p.m. Church Council, Parlor</p> <p>4pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4pm Wesley Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>5pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>5:30pm Jr. High and Sr. High Youth</p> <p>5:30pm Christ Care, Fireside Room</p> <p>5:30pm Haiti Dialogue and Dinner, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:45pm Carol Choir, Choir Room</p>

Dave Ramsey's Total Money Makeover Live!

February 25 at Van Andel Arena at 6 p.m.

The LIVE Event is full of powerful information from America's trusted source for financial straight-talk...Dave Ramsey. It's entertaining!

You will laugh out loud as you learn along with thousands of people:

- What it takes to get out of debt
- How to spend your money with a purpose
- Keys to saving money like never before
- How to invest with confidence
- And so much more!

Save the Date!

United Methodist Women's Winter Tea

The UMW Winter Tea will be Sunday, March 7 at 3 p.m. in Trinity's Parlor. We hope you'll join us!

Bishop's Day 2010: No Finish Line in Sight

Saturday, March 13
9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Cornerstone UMC

Featuring world class athlete, Scott Rigsby, who is the first double-amputee in the world to finish an Ironman distance triathlon with prosthetics.

It's for both clergy and laity and only \$12 per adult, with a free youth component, price includes snacks and lunch.

More info is available on the GR District Website.
(www.grdistrictumc.org)

Community Ministries

What Do You See?

Things used to be "black-and-white." There were rules. Rules like: put your napkin in your lap, open the door for other people, listen to your elders, always obey a policeman, do your homework, don't lie, cheat or steal. There was no "gray area" with these rules. When I broke a rule, I accepted my punishments as part of the deal. It was the old adage: what you "see" is what you get.

When it comes to the children who attend our Community Ministries programs, what you "see" is not always what you get. From all outside appearances, they seem to be normal kids going to school and walking to our church to participate in activities that are fun and educational, both socially and academically. Sometimes when they come to Kids Club on Wednesday afternoons, they walk into the church and throw their coats and backpacks on the floor, we know they are only mimicking their behavior at home. They need to go back out into the hall to hang up their things before they can participate in our activities and they grudgingly return to hang up everything. As adults, we need to teach them some routine things like hanging up their coat but we also know that their behavior is typical of children their age. However, these children live in conditions that are anything but "typical." These children often have no rules at home. If they do, the rules are not enforced. If you were a first-time visitor to Kids Club and met one of these kids, you would think that they were just like everyone else. The fact is that virtually all of them come from families who live in poverty, but you can't "see" that if you just look at them. You need to dig deeper.

What do you see in the following sentence? "God is nowhere."

How many of you read "God is Nowhere."?

How many of you read "God is now here."?

Do we really take time to look at things or do we just skim the surface and take at face value what we **think** we see. I continually struggle with the behavior issues that our Community Ministries kids bring to our program. Many times I think, "Here's the rule. If you break it, here's the consequence." But I need to dig deeper into these children's lives. I need to "see" more because they come to the table with issues that the majority of us never knew existed in our childhoods. They are lost in a world where society's "rules" are not their rules. So what is the answer?

One of Frank's sermons from last November was a Scripture reading from Luke 15: 4-7, which tells the story of the shepherd who rejoices in finding one lost sheep and which Jesus likens to God finding a lost soul.

Each child who comes to Community Ministries is a lost sheep. They live in poverty, on food stamps, functioning below grade level in a home with little supervision. Yet, they come to Trinity because they see in us an opportunity to be in a safe place where people are listening to their life stories and giving them tools for dealing with their life situations. We dig deeper. Trinity "sees" in them an opportunity to seek out the "lost sheep" because when we return that lost sheep to God, He will be pleased.

Blessings to all,
Suzy Gill

Thank You's Abound from Community Ministries

Trinity, you have again been generous with your time and gifts. Our Christmas Boutique continues to be an annual success because of you. The room was filled with exciting, colorful, and sometimes practical gifts for our students to choose from, thanks to your donations and talented volunteers who know how to make things look inviting. Many volunteers worked in the shopping area and wrapping gifts in order for students to have a cheerier Christmas, a time that is hard for so many of our kids.

Thank you to the Endowment Committee, the Jiminy Fund, and the Trustees for providing funds for us to refurbish a more *kid-friendly* room in the lower level. It also provided a venue for students to learn to remove carpet and do some painting. Thanks too for the hours spent by Don Miller and the trustees in preparing the electrical system and installing our TV.

The room that has been the chapel, food pantry and our



resource room has been converted into a wonderful area for our students to gather, 'chill', do group work, be tutored, play games and play Wii. We have used it two weeks and the kids are loving it! Stop in and see it sometime.



Thanks to the many of you that contributed to Community Ministries throughout 2009 and especially the end of the year giving, either through simple money contributions or magazine purchases. It takes a lot to keep us going and your contributions really help. The kids and staff thank you!

And finally, thanks to so many of you for your donations for the *Haiti Health Kits*. They have been put together and hopefully will soon be on their way to help the ravished country. It was a small way in which our kids could help those with more needs than their own. We are hoping to hear directly from someone that has recently visited Haiti as a follow up.

Thank you again and again!

Looking to Help Somehow? Come to these!

Sunday, February 21 from Noon to 8 p.m.

A fun way to support Community Ministries is take your family and friends to Buffalo Wild Wings for dinner on Sunday, February 21. All you have to do is take along a coupon we will provide for you and order your food. Community Ministries will receive a percentage of the profit that day to anyone presenting our coupon. Circle the day and come join us!

Friday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand we are planning an encore performance of our Gospel Concert last year. Mark your calendars, tell all your friends and plan to attend Trinity United Methodist Church on Friday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. More details will be coming.

Trinity In Touch

February 2010

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Trinity Winter Weekend

Friday, Feb. 19 and Saturday, Feb. 20

It's fast approaching!

Join us for a winter "slumber party" at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI (south of Cadillac). Friday, Feb. 19 (after 6:30 p.m.) through Saturday afternoon on Feb. 20.

Your lodging will be in the Red Oak/ hotel rooms at \$80. (2 Queen beds and rollaways)

Your meals are a wonderful breakfast and lunch at \$26 for persons over 12 years. Kids 4-11 years are \$7.50.

Have fun Cross-Country Skiing, ice skating, snow shoeing, sledding or just relaxing!

We will have a game night on Friday night as well... so sign up for the fun Forms will be in the Parlor beginning Feb. 7.

