



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.

May Worship & Events

Sunday, May 1

Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Children's Sunday School and Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 7

8 a.m. Hunger Walk

Sunday, May 8

Mother's Day

Native American Awareness

Cradle Roll

Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Children's Sunday School and Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 14

River Bank Run/Walk

Sunday, May 15

Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Children's Sunday School and Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 15

Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Children's Sunday School and Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 21

9 a.m. Plant Sale

9 a.m. Car Wash

Sunday, May 22

Confirmation Sunday

Teacher Appreciation Sunday

Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Children's Sunday School and Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

12:15 p.m. Virtual Tour of Building, Discovery

Friday, May 27-Monday, May 30

Family Camp at Albright Camp

Will You Be Part of Our 12?

More than 2,000 years ago, Jesus called upon 12 disciples to help Him spread the Good News. Today, that call is being celebrated through the invitation of 12 members from our church and every church in the West Michigan Conference to attend the final day of Annual Conference for a spectacular day of worship, fellowship and self-discovery.

"We are planning to witness a miracle on Saturday, June 4th," commented Annual Conference Program Committee Chairperson, Rev. Bill Johnson, "We are praying for the arrival of 5,000 new faces to join us for an extraordinary day with Jesus Christ and the Church."

Our Pastor is being asked to attend "Miracle Saturday" with our Lay Member to Annual Conference plus 10 or more members who feel are ready to grow in faith and put it into action. The conference has arranged for seating up to 5,000, so more than 10 can attend.

The theme of the day is "Take My Hand: Engaging the poor in ministry." It features worship with the dynamic Rudy Rasmus, Pastor of St. John's United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas. Rasmus, who ministers to over 12,000 people (4,000 of the total were homeless or formerly homeless), is also an author, regular

contributor to Oprah Winfrey's "O Magazine" and hosts a street ethics program on Sirius XM radio. Rasmus has also worked with a member of his congregation,

singer and actress Beyonce' Knowles, to create a multi-million dollar program to address poverty and starvation.

Also featured on Saturday will be Thomas Kemper, a former missionary and current General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries. Kemper, who has strong United Methodist roots in his native Germany and broad ecumenical and international experience, will speak on how to transform our work with the poor from charity to engagement.

Following the talk, everyone will be invited to attend one of more than 50 Mini-Events that will focus on how to put your faith into action upon returning home. The events have local, regional, national and international themes, depending on the interests of each attendee. A Ministry Fair will also take place simultaneously, introducing new members to the hundreds of mission areas of the church.

This is a great way for our church to grow closer together and deeper in faith. The cost of the entire day is just \$18 per person. If you would like to be there to witness a Miracle, please see our Pastor or ask the Church Office for more details. You can also go to www.westmichiganconference.org for more details and to register.



Caring Coins

Caring Coins in May are being collected for *De'gage' Ministries*. This organization provides the primary community center for one of the poorest neighborhoods in Grand Rapids in terms of social and economic indicators. The word *De'gagé* is a French verb meaning "to relax and be at ease" and as such *De'gage' Ministries* has strived to be a safe and enriching alternative to the streets. Thank you for contributing your coins to support this valuable community resource.

Sunday Table Tennis

A good mix of kids, youth, and adults participated (around 10) in the fun. Our last time before the summer break will be Sunday May 29, so plan on being there. The Grand Rapids Table Tennis Club will continue to play every Wednesday night at 7 p.m. throughout the summer and would like to invite Trinity members to come and join us then. Bring a novice friend to play with and you won't feel intimidated. During the summer there are fewer players and tables are always available.

-Chase Klinesteker

Appeal Letter

A letter was sent to the congregation with the hope and joy that Christ brings to us at Easter. It is an appeal to ask for help in sharing God's love in our Church and Community, through our excellent Music Program; and in sharing God's Grace both at home and overseas through Ministry Shares, which enables the connectional church to help those in need. Please consider this extra appeal and use the envelope enclosed in the letter for your giving.

Within the Trinity Family Circle

Our Sympathy is Extended to...

... Mary Florence and Tom Brink and their family. Mary Florence's father passed away on Friday, April 15.

... Paul and Carol Hillman and their family. Paul's brother, Larry, passed away on Tuesday, April 26.

A Thousand Thank You's

The phone and voicemail system at Trinity had served us well. John Czuhajewski and his company, Quantum Leap, did a fantastic job keeping it going and making it last as long as it could. For the past year and a half, every time a Quantum Leap service person came out to fix whatever our current problem was, they all commented what a great job John did, but the system was on it's last leg. Soon there wasn't going to be much more they could do for it.

Around that same time the Endowment Committee was asking for a wish list from staff and committees. Perfect timing! I met with our Quantum Leap account manager and went over what we need in a phone system, he also met with John to get all the info necessary. I wrote a proposal to the Endowment Committee and, thankfully, they approved the purchase. We now have a new phone and voicemail system that matches the 'size' church we are! Although our volunteers and staff are still working out the kinks, the new phones have been great! I, especially, am so grateful to the Endowment Committee and cannot thank them enough!

I am also grateful on a daily basis for John Czuhajewski. He donated his valuable weekend time (as he often does) to save the church money and installed the system. With the help of his daughter, Kendra, they were able to switch everything over with little disturbance to our daily business. When I came in that Monday morning, he was here waiting for me to give instructions and help me out. We are so blessed to have him care so much about his church. Be sure to say 'thanks' the next time you see him! I certainly cannot do or say enough to thank John.

-Laura Witkowski

Family Camp is Coming!

Trinity Memorial Weekend Family Camp is celebrating 30 years of amazing FUN! We hope you can join us Memorial Day Weekend, Friday, May 27-30, 2011, at Albright Campground in Reed City. A weekend of Christian Fellowship *Stepping Stones of Faith*, will include: hiking, biking, canoeing and kayaking, The 2nd Annual Hersey River Bank Run, soccer, softball, haunting stories by the campfire with endless S'mores and even a Euchre Tournament!

You can bring a tent or camper, or stay in cabins provided at the camp. If you cannot stay the weekend, join us on Sunday, May 29, for outdoor worship at 11 a.m., Family Potluck Picnic at the Pavilion (dogs/brats provided) at 1:30 p.m. and an afternoon filled with field games, water fun and vespers by the fire.

All families of every size and shape welcome! Need more information? Contact the office (office@grtunc.org) and sign-up in the Parlor on Sundays.

Think you hear Rain in the forecast for Memorial Weekend? Do not dismay, there will be plenty to do at Family Camp! How about "Prom Night in the Tabernacle," or Popcorn and Movies in the Chapel, or Table Game Frenzy! We have plenty to keep you busy come rain or shine. **Sign up today!**

Events and Opportunities for May 2011

To have an event listed in the June *Trinity in Touch*, submit your content to Laura at office@grtunc.org on or before Monday, May 23.

Trilights at River City Improv

Saturday, May 7, at 5:30 p.m., show at 7:33 p.m.

Trinity Trilights will be going to Ladies Literary Club to enjoy the River City Improv, Saturday, May 7, for the 7:33 p.m. showing. All ages are welcome! Tickets will need to be ordered ahead, so contact Nichea ASAP (\$9). Some have expressed interest in dining out ahead of the show, so feel free to join us at 5:30 p.m. at Peppino's on Ionia Ave. downtown adjacent to Van Andel Arena.

Change the World

Saturday, May 7

Help Trinity "Change the World" and join Trinity's Troop 215 for a Saturday clean-up at Albright Campground, Reed City, on May 7. This project is a part of the United Methodist Church's month-long emphasis of ReThinking how you can reach out and help others. This work session is an extension of "ourselves" beyond financial support... with grit! Consider this as a way of living your faith. If you want, you can join the troop on Friday night and tent-it overnight and begin the work on Saturday morning. This work session will help this United Methodist Camp get ready for the Memorial Weekend Camp and the summer sessions, which begin in June. Grab some work gloves and a rake and join in! Lunch will be provided for those who RSVP. If you would like to join us, or if you have questions, please contact Bonnie Czuhajewski (bonnie.czu@gmail.com or 575.8545).

Co-Ed Softball Begins Soon!



Christian Fellowship League Co-Ed Softball begins Wednesday, May 11, with either a 6:15 or 7:30 p.m. game at Orchard Hill Reformed Church (3 Mile and Bristol NW). If you are 14 years or older, come on out and join the fun. Contact Nichea (456.7168, orangeclt00@aol.com) to get

your name on the roster and order your team t-shirt (\$12)! If you do not want to play... come and cheer us on! Spectators ARE required!

Need Your Car Washed?

Saturday, May 21, beginning at 9 a.m.

Let us wash off all of the winter's grime! The Trinity Family Mission Work Camp team will be offering a reasonable \$5 Car Wash in the Lake Drive Lot here at Trinity. Tickets can be purchased in advance or the day of. Help us as we make our final approach to our Work Camp in Red Bird Kentucky, June 11-18.



United Methodist Women's High Tea

Sunday, May 15, at 4 p.m. in the Parlor

You are invited to attend the United Methodist Women's High Tea! Valerie Mossman-Celestin will update us on her work with HAPI (Haitian Artisans for Peace International), and the magnificent work being done to help Haitian women succeed. An offering for the Prayer and Self Denial will be taken to assist United Methodist Women in mission work around the world.

Volunteers for Supper House Needed!

Tuesday, May 24, 4:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Supper House is a program that serves free meals twice a week at St. Alphonsus Church on Leonard Street NE through NECOM (North End Community Ministries). Trinity participates in this program twice a year by providing 10-12 volunteers to serve meals and by paying for food costs. This community service extends the budgets of many individuals and families who are hurting during tight economic times. To volunteer or to find out more information about Supper House, please call 616.977.5033 or email Susan Blose (skblose@yahoo.com).

Perennial Plant Sale

Saturday, May 21, from 9 a.m. to Noon

It's that time of year again! The Trinity Gardening Committee is having its annual "Perennial Plant Sale" in the church parking lot. We are in need of spring-dividing plants! Here are some suggestions:

Mums, Iris (Siberian or Bearded), Bee Balm (Monarda), Grasses (Miscanthus), Astilbe, Ferns, Daylily (Hemerocallis), Black-Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia), Sedum, Veronica, Hosta

If you would like to donate any of these plants from your garden, contact Suzy Gill (616.956.1861, Lsogill@comcast.net). A member of our committee will come dig up your donated plants! Or, if you choose to dig them up yourself, just call and we'll come pick them up from your home the week before the sale. Thanks!

Celebrate the Cradle Roll

Sunday, May 8

The Children's Council would like to Celebrate our ever-growing Cradle Roll! What a perfect time, Mother's Day, to lift up the families that have been blessed with new children in the last two years! Contact Kristen Gifford (616.245.9975, jkgifford@hotmail.com) if you have a new child in your family in the last two years, so we can add them to the celebration! We invite everyone to visit the Nursery on May 8, meet our amazing staff and share in the wonder of this ministry. We have been blessed with the excitement of new life in our midst... what joy!



Teacher Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, May 22

On Sunday, May 22, the congregation will acknowledge the generous gift of time and talent our Church School teachers have given. The countless hours, the gentle lessons, the warm hugs and the amazing stories that have given our children and youth their wings of faith. Our teachers will be recognized in worship and with punch and cookies following the service. Join us as we celebrate these dedicated leaders!

We Need Hospitality Volunteers!

West Michigan Conference Annual Conference will be June 1-4, at Calvin College. This is an exciting time to welcome our Conference to the Grand Rapids area as we celebrate the work we do in the name of Christ! We will be offering Hospitality services throughout the week and especially on 'Miracle Saturday' for a major celebration event. **WE NEED HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS!** If you could give some of your time to help us welcome, transport or shadow our guests to make them feel comfortable, we would appreciate it very much. Contact the office (456.7168) or Nichea (orangecelt00@aol.com) if you can volunteer as much or as little as you can! Help us do what we do best... lead with a warm hand and heart!

Lace Up Your Walking Shoes!

Access/GRACE Hunger Walk, Saturday, May 7, at 8 a.m.

GRACE and ACCESS are combining efforts to hold Hunger Walk 2011. Check-in is at 8 a.m. at Grand Rapids First United Methodist Church and the walk begins at 8:30 a.m. The money earned through this walk provides funding for many programs throughout the city that provide for people living in poverty. This year Trinity's Community Ministries is eligible to receive funding for our many programs.

Come join us as a walker or a sponsor! If you have questions, please contact Donna (d.shirey@grtunc.org) at the church, Sue Emmons (sre.peace@yahoo.com, 245.9866) or Kathy Hosten (kathyhosten@yahoo.com, 734.604.9655).

It's not too late to donate either! You can now donate to TEAM TRINITY through our online fundraising page! www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/TrinityUMC/Hunger-Walk-2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 7pm Stephen Ministry, Discovery Room 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym	3 Election 8:30am Hospitality Committee, Fireside 1pm Adult Education Committee, Library	4 9am Staff Meeting 10am Micah 6:8 Mailing, Parlor Noon W.O.W., Fireside Noon NA, Library 3:30pm Micah 6:8, Discovery Room 6pm Trustees, Library 7pm Table Tennis, Gym 7pm Symphonette, Fellowship Hall	5 National Day of Prayer 10am CityFit, Fellowship Hall 11am Matin Ringers Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside 6:30pm Trinity Ringers 7:45pm Music Development Team, Fireside	6	7 8am Hunger Walk 3pm Wedding 7:33pm Trilights, River City Improv @ Ladies Literary Club
8	9 Noon Meditation for Clergy, Library 4pm WMC Hospitality Meeting, Discovery 5pm Vision Team, Discovery Room 6:30pm Staff Parish Relations Committee, Fireside Room 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym	10 2pm GR Metro Ministry Trustees Meeting, Library 6:30pm Finance Committee, Fireside 6:30pm Children's Council, Library	11 9am Staff Meeting Noon W.O.W., Fireside Noon NA, Library 6:30pm Orchard Hill Neighborhood Meeting, Library 7pm Table Tennis, Gym	12 10am CityFit, Fellowship Hall Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside 6pm GR District Annual Conference Pre-Conference Briefing, Marne UMC	13	14 River Bank Run
15	16 Noon Meditation for Clergy, Library 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym	17	18 9am Staff Meeting Noon W.O.W., Fireside Noon NA, Library 6:30pm Mission Work Camp Meeting, Library 7pm Table Tennis, Gym 7pm Prayer Shawls, Fireside Room	19 10am CityFit, Fellowship Hall Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Room 1pm Dissident Daughters, Fireside	20 Confirmation Overnight	21 Confirmation Overnight 9am Plant Sale, Trinity Parking Lot 9am Car Wash 6pm Trinity Seniors, Parlor
22	23 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE! Noon Meditation for Clergy, Library 6:30pm Stewardship Committee, Library 7pm Boy Scouts, Gym	24	25 9am Staff Meeting Noon W.O.W., Fireside Noon NA, Library 2pm Retirement Reception, Parlor	26 10am CityFit, F. Hall Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Room 1pm Newsletter Crew, Parlor	27 Family Camp	28 Family Camp
29	30 Family Camp Memorial Day Office Closed	30	<h1>May</h1> <p>At Trinity UMC</p> <p>For Sunday Schedule See Next Page</p>			

May Sundays At Trinity UMC

Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
<p>1</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early</p> <p>Kindergarten, Awakenings</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons</p> <p>*4th-5th Grade, The PIT</p> <p>*6th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*<i>The Coalition to End Homelessness</i>, led by Betty Zylstra, Discovery</p> <p>9:45am <i>Discussion Class</i>, led by Julie Dix, Fireside Room</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside</p> <p>3:15pm Kindermusik Village, SoundBeat Room</p> <p>3:30pm Celebration Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4:10pm Wesley Ringers, Sanctuary</p> <p>4:10pm Celebration Singers, Choir Room</p> <p>4:30pm Kindermusik Our Time, SoundBeat Room</p> <p>4:30pm Carol Choir, Discovery Room</p> <p>4:50pm Wesley Singers, Sanctuary</p> <p>6:15pm YoTrinity</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Mother's Day</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early</p> <p>Kindergarten, Awakenings</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons</p> <p>*4th-5th Grade, The PIT</p> <p>*6th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*<i>Housing Justice</i>, led by Michael Holton, Discovery Room</p> <p>9:45am <i>Discussion Class</i>, led by Julie Dix, Fireside Room</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early</p> <p>Kindergarten, Awakenings</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons</p> <p>*4th-5th Grade, The PIT</p> <p>*6th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*<i>Health Care</i>, led by David VanDyke, Discovery Room</p> <p>9:45am <i>Discussion Class</i>, led by Julie Dix, Fireside Room</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside</p> <p>6:15pm YoTrinity</p> <p>7pm Small Group (Pohly)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Confirmation Sunday</p> <p>Teacher Appreciation Sunday</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>9:15am Chancel Choir, Choir Room</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School</p> <p>*Nursery, 0-2 Years</p> <p>*Pre-School-Early</p> <p>Kindergarten, Awakenings</p> <p>*K-3rd Grade, Horizons</p> <p>*4th-5th Grade, The PIT</p> <p>*6th-12th Grade, The Alley</p> <p>9:30am Adult Education</p> <p>*<i>Poverty and Hunger in Kent County</i>, led by Nicole Devries, Discovery Room</p> <p>9:45am <i>Discussion Class</i>, led by Julie Dix, Fireside Room</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>Noon Virtual Tour of Trinity, Discovery Room</p> <p>3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside</p> <p>3:30pm Table Tennis, Gym</p> <p>6:15pm YoTrinity</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Memorial Day Weekend</p> <p>Family Camp</p> <p>8:15am Nursery Opens</p> <p>8:30am Worship</p> <p>11am Worship</p> <p>3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside</p>

Sunday Adult Education at 9:30 a.m.

May 1

The Coalition to End Homelessness

Led by Betty Zylstra in the Discovery Room. Find out how our community is reframing the response to homelessness, by focusing on the prevention of homelessness and the promotion of affordable housing.

May 8

Housing Justice

Led by Michael Holton in the Discovery Room. Do you wish to end homelessness in Grand Rapids? Learn how you can join the Grand Rapids Area Center for Ecumenism (GRACE) Congregational Partnership Program and become more engaged with the issue of housing justice.

May 15

Health Care

Led by Dr. David VanDyke in the Discovery Room

May 22

Poverty and Hunger in Kent County

Led by Nicole Devries from ACCESS in the Discovery Room.

at 9:45 a.m.

May 1 - May 22

Discussion Class

Led by Rev. Julie Dix in the Fireside Room. All are welcome!

Book Discussions

Spiritalk

Meets May 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room

Little Bee, by Chris Cleave (Check out the two short videos about the book given by the author on www.amazon.com.)

Dissident Daughters

Meets Thursdays 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This weekly book study group meets in the Fireside Room and will be reading the same books as *Spiritalk*. New members are always welcome!

Music News

Director of Music, Chris Dekker, will be participating in the annual *Tulip Time Organ Recitals* in Holland, MI from May 11 to May 14. Twenty minute recitals take place on the hour and on the half hour from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Chris' recitals occur at the following times: Wednesday, 12 p.m. and 12:30pm; Thursday, 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Stop by Dimnent Chapel (on the campus of Hope College) for a refreshing time of beautiful music!

Chris will also present a solo recital at the First Congregational Church of Owosso, MI, on Sunday, May 22, at 3 p.m. The concert is both a celebration of the installation of their organ five years ago, and a benefit concert for an ill member of the congregation.

The Choral Scholars, a professional-level Grand Rapids-based choir (Chris Dekker, member), will present a concert on Mother's Day, May 8, at 3:30 p.m. as part of The Basilica of Saint Adalbert's *Music Under the Dome* concert series. Music will include works by Allegri, Bach, Byrd, Mendelssohn and many others. Admission is free and open to the public. The church is located at 701 4th Street NW, 49504. For more information about The Choral Scholars, visit www.thechoralscholars.com.

11 a.m. Sunday Music

May 1: On this first Sunday after Easter, Bill Chowning will serve as vocalist, as the Chancel Choir has the day off.

May 8: Each of Trinity's eight choirs will participate in worship on this Mother's Day. This includes the Celebration Ringers and Singers, Wesley Ringers and Singers, Carol Choir, Trinity Ringers, Matin Ringers and Chancel Choir. The adult handbell choirs will join to form a double choir and will offer two joyous pieces, one with organ accompaniment. This will be every choir's last participation in worship this season, with the exception of the Chancel Choir.

May 15 to June 12: The Chancel Choir will lead worship and will sing for the final time before summer recess on June 12.



An Easter Reflection

Dear friends,

Christ the Lord is Risen today, Alleluia! Well, I just loved all of our Easter services. The build up through Lent in looking at the different disciplines was very unique; can you remember what they were. Just to put you out of your misery the first one was sand? What were the rest?

I also loved the Passion worship services. Maundy Thursday, with the beautiful haunting music of the Choral singers, and the ever more meaningful version of Lamb of God that they sang. Wow! And the violin players brought out every single fiber of emotion as they played. With the incredible liturgy we used for Communion, it was one of the most moving services that I and many people have attended. The Good Friday service was very simple yet powerful, as we looked at Dietrich Bonhoeffer's poem, *Stations on the Road to Freedom*, sharing the scripture that related to each verse and singing songs and hymns that resonated with each word.

With much emotion and a prayer vigil in between we were ready for Easter, but of course had the church Easter Egg Hunt in between on the Saturday, with nearly 50 children attending and some of them from Schools of Hope.

Well, we finally arrived at Easter and in a celebratory mood. My what wonderful services we had with 8:30 and its unique music to the 11 a.m. service with all the gusto that the instruments, choir and congregation could muster. And, of course, the dressing of the cross with flowers! It stayed outside to witness to the Community, of God's saving Grace through Jesus Christ.

Thank you to all the staff and all those that came and participated in the Lent and Easter worship services. Your presence made a difference! Come again, so that with your help we can make every week special!

Alleluia, Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Pastor David



Thanks to Stephanie Wiltse and Glenys Nellist for the Easter pics!

Virtual Tour of Trinity

Please plan to join us for an intriguing look into Trinity's past as we celebrate Heritage Sunday on May 22 following the 11 a.m. worship service. Refreshments will be served during a "Virtual Tour" presentation showing our church's rich history.

Discover some unique facts about our building and our community. This story will unfold against a backdrop of West Michigan's past as you travel from the late 1800's to the present. We hope to see you there!



See how this building fits into our past!

Imagine No Malaria on NBC

Imagine No Malaria, a ministry of The United Methodist Church, has produced a documentary to increase awareness and action against malaria, a disease that kills a child in Africa every 45 seconds.

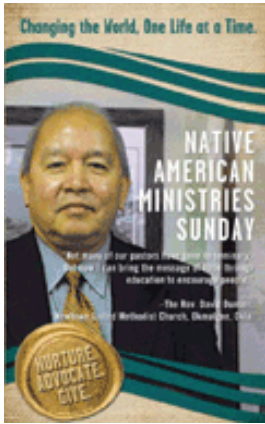
The one-hour long television special will air on NBC affiliate stations nationwide beginning Sunday, May 1. "A Killer in the Dark: An Extraordinary Effort to Combat Malaria" conveys a powerful message that highlights the remarkable community-based efforts underway to fight malaria. Hosted by actress Pauley Perrette, the program chronicles two mothers, one in the midwestern U.S., one in Africa. Both tuck their children into bed each night, both awake to two very different missions with one common goal: to wipe out this devastating disease.

"This film, 'A Killer in the Dark' illustrates how *Imagine No Malaria* is truly a mission to heal the sick and help those in need, empowering the people of Africa to achieve a sustainable victory over the disease," said the Rev. Larry Hollon, chief executive of United Methodist Communications. "We know malaria is preventable—and we know the more people know about the needless suffering it causes, the more passionately they get involved."

Much of the project was filmed on location in Africa, in the countries of Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sierra Leone; all places where malaria accounts for a vast majority of child mortality. "A Killer in the Dark" documents malaria's impact on lives, its history and how the *Imagine No Malaria* campaign is creating a global movement to end deaths from the disease.

Interested viewers are encouraged to contact local affiliates to encourage the broadcast of this global health documentary. Imagine the entire population of a city even larger than San Francisco wiped out every single year. What would the response be like? "You don't have to be a forensics expert to see the evidence," says Perrette, who plays Abby Sciuto on the hit drama NCIS. "It's time for the killing to stop." www.imagenomalaria.org

Native American Awareness Sunday



On Sunday, May 8, United Methodists take an offering to support Native American Ministries, which includes scholarships for Native Americans studying for the ministry and other outreach ministries to Native American churches.

In the early days of our country, missionaries tried to "take the Indian out" of native children so they could become Christian. They were removed from their families

and forced to attend mission schools. Their names were changed and they would be punished if they spoke their native language or showed any display of their native culture. Such mistreatment amounted to a trauma that has haunted Native American communities to this day. While we would like to believe that nothing like this could exist today, the truth remains that we could be more culturally aware and sensitive to issues that concern our Native American brothers and sisters.

A few of those issues were illustrated in a recent article from the General Board of Church and Society that are summarized here.

1. Be careful not to generalize about Native Americans. People of Native background come from urban areas and reservations. They may speak a variety of languages and they have a multiplicity of cultures and backgrounds.
2. Drums are an important aspect of Native American culture and powwows. Because of its sacred nature for many Native people, it is not appropriate for just anyone to perform drumming.
3. It is inappropriate to dress in what you consider Native American attire. Native clothing can have traditional, cultural and spiritual significance to people. In addition, avoid trying to imitate things from Native culture that you do not understand.
4. Do not speak of Native Americans in the past tense. They are a people of a living culture. Engage in conversations with them to better understand their points of view on what honoring or dishonoring, respect and disrespect looks and feels like to them.

Awareness and being culturally sensitive enables us to be a church of faith in action.

Yemen and Far East Countries

Saturday, May 21, at 6 p.m. in the Parlor



What would you like to know about the people and these countries?

David VanHammen (son of Bob and Esther) spent 14 years in these countries in the Peace Corps. You are invited to hear David's stories at an event sponsored by Trinity Seniors. We start with a potluck at 6 p.m.. If you can't make the potluck, the program will start at 7 p.m. The cost is \$3 per person.

If you are able to join us, please RSVP to Eleanore Poelstra (616.454.2252) or Velma Fitzgerald (616.363.2238).

The "Secret" World of the Life-Long Learner

July 19-22, at Albion College

It is time to make plans to attend the *School of Christian Mission*, which is sponsored yearly by the West Michigan Church Conference and the West Michigan Conference United Methodist Women. The School of Mission is a four day study, worship and fellowship experience that is geared for the whole family. Dorm rooms are assigned and delicious food is served in the college cafeteria. While adults attend in-depth studies on current and spiritual topics, the children and youth get age-appropriate lessons and a lot of fun activities, all led by trained and certified instructors. There is a Drive-In Day for adults (childcare available and lunch is included) on July 23, which is a brief overview of the more in-depth studies of the four day school.

School flyers, including costs and application forms, are available on the rotating bulletin board in the church parlor. District and Conference Scholarships are available for clergy and first-time scholars.

Contact Susan Emmons (sre.peace@yahoo.com, 616.245.9866) for more information.

Community Ministries

The Best Part of the Week

It is 3:15 p.m. in the afternoon. At Congress Elementary School 18 students, ages six to ten, make their way to a classroom upstairs, where Beth Ainsworth and I are waiting for them. For the next 90 minutes these children will learn reading skills, which will aid them not only through school, but also through their entire lives. Funded through United Way and part of the outreach of our Community Ministries, Schools of Hope after-school reading program is a proven, phenomenal success story, not just at Congress Elementary, but also in several major cities across the USA.

But I can't help thinking that *our* Schools of Hope Reading Program is different from the rest... Wednesdays, in particular, are always special and Beth and I are reminded of that fact every week, as Savannah, a little first grader, jumps up and down, and shouts out, with evident excitement in her voice, "Is it Trinity today? Is it Trinity?" The other children ask, "What is Trinity?" And Savannah answers, "Trinity is fun!" In her little eyes, 'Trinity' is simply the best place in her week... 'Trinity' is a safe haven where she is met at Kids Club with warmth, love, food, attention, and fun.

It came as no surprise to me then to see Raquel's eyes light up when I invited her, another little first grader, to an egg hunt at 'Trinity.' "Yes!" she answered immediately, "Yes! I get to go to Trinity!" You will be glad to know that Raquel's expectations of 'Trinity' were not disappointed. She came, along with her 3 siblings, to the Easter Egg hunt last Saturday morning and

had such a wonderful time that she came back with me the next day, along with her little sister, Julisia, to attend Easter morning worship.

If you were part of our congregation that Sunday morning, you might have spotted Raquel and Julisia—they were the only little girls not wearing pretty Easter dresses. Raquel and Julisia do not own pretty dresses; they have never been on an egg hunt before; they have never seen a cross covered with beautiful flowers; they have never heard of a man called Jesus and they have never met so many people who greeted and hugged them with warmth and love. Friends...what an incredible opportunity



we have to witness through our Community Ministries program! Many of you said to me on Sunday, "It was so good of you to bring those little girls." But the truth is that I did it more for myself than for them. Bringing Raquel and Julisia helps me to fulfill what Christ calls me to do and helps me have a purpose for living. I am proud to bring them to Trinity—because I know that I am bringing them to Christ. Just like Savannah, I want 'Trinity' to be the best part of my week. How about you?

-Glenys Nellist

Summer Opportunities

As you are beginning to plan your summer schedule, save some time to be in ministry 'with' our neighbors. Please consider our volunteer opportunities to work with some amazing kids. We will be looking for Reading Buddies to read with one child once a week beginning in June, we will need volunteers to help supervise and drive children on weekly outings and folks to work with teens weekly according to your availability from July 11-August 10. Take some time to pray about how you might be helpful. If you join us, we can promise you won't be sorry you did! There will be more specific details coming your way.

Thank You 4th and 5th Graders!

Many thanks to the 4th and 5th Grade Sunday School class for the 12 Easter baskets they provided to some of our Kids Club students. The children and their young siblings were excited to receive them. Many of our students don't have the luxury of baskets due to a variety of family situations, so having some to share was great!





United Methodist Church

1100 Lake Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506
www.grtumc.org

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Trinity In Touch

May 2011

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Check Out Our Upcoming Summer Activities!

- May 11-July:** Co-Ed Softball, games are at 6:15 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. and played at Orchard Hill Reformed Church (3 Mile and Bristol NW).
- May 27-30:** Family Camp at Albright Campground
- June 11-18:** Family Work Camp at Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky.
- June 12:** Switch to Summer Worship Schedule - 8:30 and 10 a.m.
- June 19:** Father's Day and Kick-Off to Summer BBQ on the Lawn following the 10 a.m. worship
- July 10:** Root Beer Floats following the 10 a.m. worship - Compliments of the Co-Ed Softball Team
- July 11-Aug. 10:** Community Ministries Summer Program
- July 27:** West Michigan White Caps Game and BBQ on the Third Base Deck at 5:30 p.m. Cost: \$25 Adults, \$18 3-12 Year Olds, younger than 3 is free! Includes all-you-can-eat MVP BBQ Dinner and game ticket! Deadline to sign-up is June 26.
- August:** Marshmallows and Fireflies - Camping at Albright Campground for all interested families

Join us for Iced Tea and Lemonade on the lawn following worship all summer!