



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.

August Worship and Events

**Thursday, August 4 -
Friday, August 5**

YoTrinity Camping/Michigan's
Adventure Overnight

Saturday, August 6

9:30 a.m. VBS Day in
Muskegon

Sunday, August 7

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

Wednesday, August 10

Last Day of CM Summer
Program

Sunday, August 14

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

11 a.m. Pizza on the Lawn

Sunday, August 21

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

Wednesday, August 24-

Sunday, August 28

Camping at Albright

Sunday, August 28

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

What Will Your Response Be?

Dear Friends,

As I think and ponder about what the content of the education class should be that I will lead on September 11, 2011, I keep asking myself on the 10th Anniversary of this great tragedy, 'what has been our response, what should our response be, and what is my response?'

I hope that we can wrestle with some of those questions in the class on 9/11 at 9:30 a.m. Yet I do want to give you a heads up, as a Pastor I believe that the first response we need to make is to contribute to the world in a positive constructive way with an act of love. With this in mind I am really pleased to tell you that the Church Council voted to help with a project at Africa University, Zimbabwe, to build a room for residents. The room is one of a number of rooms that collectively will make an 'Ubuntu' gathering center in the University. Africa University is a direct result of funding from the United Methodist Church and was created to develop future leaders for Africa.

The cost of a room is \$20,000, a small price to pay for an act of 'love' that will help develop future generations of mature leaders in Africa. As I write this article in July there are eighteen months until we have to have the money gathered (by December 30, 2012). The personal response of Glenys and I is to give \$11.11 for the next eighteen months, this adds up to about \$200. If just 100 people responded with an act of love by giving \$11.11 per month we would have our goal by December 30, 2012. I can assure you our efforts will leave a lasting legacy of love. So as you think about September 11, 2011, will your response be \$11.11? Would you join Glenys and me in this, we need just 100 people!

The second response is to seek understanding of people from different cultures and faiths. With this in mind I am planning a tour of the Holy Land in 2013. The tour will be run through an organization called Educational Opportunities, who are used widely by the United Methodist Church. The tour will take us on a journey through the Holy Land in the footsteps of Jesus, and will bring us into contact with Palestinian Christians from Bethlehem Bible College. It will be the trip of a lifetime and will greatly increase our understanding of the Holy Land and the cultural setting. I hope to bring a representative from Educational Opportunities to Trinity to speak to us about the tour.

So what will your response be? May it be one of love and understanding.

Peace,

Pastor David

Caring Coins

In August, Caring Coins will be collected for the YWCA Domestic Crisis Center. The Center is a safe shelter for up to four weeks for women together with their children who have been in abusive family situations. The goal of the Center is to assist these families to rise above the adversities in their lives and to treat each of them with respect and dignity. Help is available in finding legal, medical, housing, childcare and counseling services. There is no fee for emergency shelter or support services.

Hands Across the City

Saturday, October 1, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The La Nueva Esperanza UMC community is moving into their new building on Buchanan Ave. SW and we are going to join them in beautifying and fixing up this historic building to get it ready for action!

WHY are we doing this? This event stems from a desire to create systemic and sustainable change WITH the community surrounding La Nueva Esperanza.

WE HAVE LIMITED SPACE FOR 200 VOLUNTEERS ONLY! Get on-board TODAY to reserve your spot. Send an email to event coordinator, Mary Lou Fassett at mfassett2@yahoo.com. Be sure to include your name, church, email, and an emergency contact. More details are available on Hands Across the City Facebook Event Page.

Within the Trinity Family Circle

Our Sympathy is Extended to...

... John Regenmorter and his family. Florence Regenmorter passed away June 29.

... Dorothy French and her family. Her husband, Edgar French, passed away Friday, July 1.

Congratulations to...

... Chris and Darlene Dekker! Austin Joel Dekker was born July 8, 2011. He joins big sister Kailyn.

Dear Trinity Family...

... It is with a grateful heart that I thank you for all the prayers, support, cards, meals, financial help with snow removal, rides and so much more over the last 9 months. It has been a long road and I continue to improve. The support of my Trinity family has been wonderful and invaluable to my recovery process.

-Blessings, Sue Brouwer

... Thank you for your generous gift of \$501.42 on June 13, to ensure lunch is not the last meal of the day! When you combine the generosity of supporters like you, with incredible gifts of time and talent from volunteers, the outcome is truly spectacular. Your financial assistance and advocacy to attack childhood hunger are appreciated more than words can describe.

-Gratefully, Christine Lentine, Kids' Food Basket Fund Development/Community Outreach Manager

Thank you for connecting with us!

It's been a few months and we wanted to share with you what we've learned from the Connection Card program so far. This type of communication tool is being used in churches of all sizes and denominations because it helps the pastors and staff "connect" with members on many levels. It provides a venue for questions, ideas and concerns to be shared and addressed.

Here's how it works. Each Sunday we ask everyone to fill out their cards, fold them in half and pass them in to be collected. Every Monday morning Laura compiles all the information from the cards and forwards it to the appropriate person or work group. Once our pastors learn about a concern or idea, they make a contact to follow up on the issue at hand.

One goal that has been achieved is that we are getting more information from guests than we used to. Studies have shown and our cards confirm that new people are more comfortable leaving contact information using this format. As a bonus, new visitors see on the card all the ministries, programs, classes and activities we offer and they can request more information about anything that interests them.

Because the Connection Cards incorporated the old 'pink slip,' members can sign up for committees, events and ministries all in one place. They can request information, inquire about a committee or send a compliment on a job well done.

But the best part about this new system is one "ye old" red pads could not have given us- your concerns, your needs and your prayers. Our care team is now hearing about important developments that effect your lives. Each week we learn about personal issues such as a job cut, an upcoming surgery or the loss of a loved one or friend. By sharing this information, our pastors are able to "connect" with our congregation to provide much needed pastoral care.

So we want to compliment everyone on a job well done and encourage all to continue to connecting so that we may grow in faith and fellowship!

Events and Opportunities for August 2011

To have an event listed in the September *Trinity in Touch*, submit your content to Laura at office@grtumc.org on or before Monday, August 22.

Summer, Food & Fun!

Sunday, August 14, following the 10 a.m. worship service

Pizza on the lawn! Enjoy oven fired pizza by Trinity's own Dan Woodruff and Matt Parrott!

Salad Bar, beverages and Ice Cream Sundae's! A donation of \$6 is requested. Learn about Trinity's Imagine No Malaria Campaign! Proceeds benefit, UMCOR's - Imagine No Malaria.



Marshmallows and Fireflies

Wednesday, August 24, to Sunday, August 28, at Albright Campground

Come for all the time or for part of it! Camping sites and cabins, fire bowls, kayaking, canoeing, hike n' bike the Rails to Trails, swimming pool or you can just relax!

Many of our families at Trinity Family Camp have asked for a more informal time to camp this summer... here is your opportunity! Campsites are \$25 per night, Cabins are \$50 and \$60. Contact Albright Campground to reserve your spot (albright.campground@yahoo.com). Questions? Contact Nichea Ver Veer Guy (orangezelt00@aol.com, 456.7158).



UMW Road Trip!

Tuesday, August 23, at 8:30 a.m.

Ready for a day trip to Shipshewana for a day of shopping the Flea Market and Amish Shops? How about wonderful Amish bakeries and lunch?

Trinity United Methodist Women are filling up vans and cars and heading south on Tuesday, August 23. We will leave Trinity at 8:30 a.m. and return early evening. If you would like to go along or help drive in the car pool let us know. Contact Judi Ryan (judith-ryan@sbcglobal.net, 295.2619) or Nichea Guy (orangezelt00@aol.com or 456.7168).

Monthly Applebee's Fundraiser

The Community Ministries Program has set up a way to enjoy a meal out with your family or friends while helping us out at the same time at the Wyoming Applebee's (1375 28th St. SW). The first Monday of each month anytime from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Applebee's will donate 20% of the profit from the food and nonalcoholic beverages purchased, to those presenting coupons for our fundraiser at Trinity. **Join us for the next one on Monday, August 1.** Flyers are available on our website (www.grtumc.org) or in the Parlor. You can always get one from any Community Ministries staff person or the office. We have even made 2 for everyone, so use one and share with a neighbor or friend!



VBS Day!

Saturday, August 6, at 9:30 a.m. at Elks Campground in Muskegon, MI

Hopefully, you have already RSVP'd for *Beach Party, Surfin' Through The Scriptures* VBS Day! Lunch is provided at Noon at the Pavilion Picnic area. The 1:30 p.m. block time is for families to enjoy the play area, beach or continue some handwork in the pavilion, then at 4 p.m. we'll re-gather for the closing of VBS with music and a skit. A Potluck BBQ follows (provided: hot dogs/buns, condiments, plates/cutlery etc, lemonade). Please bring sides or desserts. Families are free to stay or to leave following the potluck.

We need volunteers for rotation teams (music, opening and closing), welcome team (with nametags and forms), lunch team (help with set up and distribution of meal), BBQ team (grill dogs, set-up) and decorations team. Contact Nichea Guy to help (orangezelt00@aol.com, 456.7168).

Music News

There is Room for All of God's Young People

Each family with children should be receiving a mailing during the next few weeks inviting the children and youth of Trinity to join one of Trinity's many choirs. Three caring staff members dedicate their time each week to nurturing young people through the ministry of music. Trinity has five children/youth choirs (three vocal and two bell), each age specific. Please consider taking advantage of this marvelous opportunity by enrolling your child in a choir! Watch your mailbox for more information!

No Child is Too Young

At many churches and organizations, children must attain a certain age before they are welcomed into a music program. At Trinity, there are opportunities for even the smallest of God's children! Our Kindermusik program offers the opportunity for infants through age five to learn about music through movement. Two dedicated individuals help grow children in musicianship each week from October to April. A mailing will soon be sent to all Trinity families with children in the appropriate ages. Watch your mailbox for more information!

Join the Chancel Choir!

With such an exciting season ahead, there has never been a better year to join the Chancel Choir. Even if you aren't sure if you can make a long-term commitment to the group, your participation is encouraged. While Trinity has been blessed with an



extraordinarily large amount of accomplished musicians, there is always room for those that don't consider themselves to be great singers. Music aside, there are many other reasons to consider joining the choir, one of which is the tremendous sense of family that exists within the group. The choir regularly holds special functions such as the initial Kick-Off Party in the fall, the Year-End Party in the spring, and various social gatherings. In addition, the Chancel Choir will participate in Trinity's Madrigal Feaste this December! Childcare is provided at all musical rehearsals, services, and performances. Anyone even remotely interested in joining the Choir can contact Chris Dekker (456.7168, c.dekker@grtumc.org).

Ring with one of Trinity's Bell Choirs!

Trinity is blessed to have two adult handbell choirs. The Matin Ringers, directed by Stephanie Wiltse, meets on Thursday mornings at 11 a.m. and participates in approximately one worship service per month from September to May. They ring three octaves of Trinity's new Malmark handbells. The Trinity Ringers, directed by Chris Dekker, meets on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and participates in approximately one worship service per month from September to May. They ring five octaves of Trinity's classic White Chapel handbells.

Some rudimentary music reading ability is necessary to participate in these groups. Childcare is provided at all musical rehearsals, services, and performances. This year is a particularly exciting year to join, as the third event of our upcoming Festival of Music Concert Series will feature Embellish (a professional level handbell ensemble from Grand Rapids), Classical Bells (a professional level handbell ensemble from Detroit), and Fred Gramann, an International handbell authority and the Director of Music at the American Church in Paris.

Anyone interested in joining is encouraged to contact either Stephanie Wiltse (616.243.3729, wiltse@iserv.net) or Chris Dekker (616.456.7168, c.dekker@grtumc.org).



Madrigal Feaste is back!

On Friday and Saturday, December 9 and 10, this longtime Trinity tradition will once again take place. However, much work is to be done in order to make this event a success! Several positions are still in need of a dedicated individual:

- **Tickets, Sales and Advertising:** This person will be responsible for the said duties, also including advertising and publications.
- **Costumes:** While most participants will already have costumes from previous years, there will be instances where some outfits may need altering or repair. Some costumes may need to be created for first-time participants.
- **Food:** The meal of Feaste is one of the main attractions. The cook(s) will need to provide a meal for a large number of people (exact amount dependent upon ticket sales).
- **Children & Youth:** Trinity's younger generation are an important part of this event. The Children and Youth coordinator will work to recruit youth for the various roles, and will coordinate the various aspects of their participation.



Each one of these positions may be filled by more than one person. Each individual will become a part of the Feaste Planning Team, a committee that will meet approximately once per month to sort through details, share ideas, and execute tasks.

Please consider taking a leadership role in Feaste! Those interested should contact Chris Dekker (c.dekker@grtumc.org or 456.7168).

Upcoming Worship Music

August 7, 10 a.m.: On this Communion Sunday, a sextet featuring vocalists Ric and Stephanie Wiltse, Keith and Benita Wolters-Fredlund, and Brian Thomas and Summer Silveius will give several musical offerings. Organist Chris Dekker will offer Alec Rowley's beautiful *Benedictus* as part of the prelude.

August 14, 10 a.m.: Scott Bosscher, Musical Director of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys and Professor of Music at Grand Rapids Community College, will serve as vocalist.

August 21, 10 a.m.: Vocalist Suzanne Hewitt will offer several musical pieces, and Ethan Carlson will give musical offerings on the trumpet during the prelude.

August 28, 10 a.m.: Bill Chowning will participate in the service as vocalist.

Fall Worship

Trinity's fall worship schedule is full of exciting, moving, and inspirational worship services. September includes:

September 11, 11 a.m.: On the tenth anniversary of the events of September 11, 2011, Trinity will offer a service of reflection and healing. The liturgy will be based around the Psalms, with brief meditations offered by both Pastor David and Pastor Julie. The Choral Scholars, a professional-level vocal ensemble that also participated in our Maundy Thursday service, will participate. Many meditative musical pieces will be offered by both The Choral Scholars and by the congregation including Taizé and several responsorial Psalm settings.

September 18, 11 a.m.: Homecoming Sunday will feature an uplifting sermon, the return of the Chancel Choir, and big organ and brass music! The postlude will feature Charles-Marie Widor's spectacular "*Toccata*" from *Symphony V*.

September 25, 11 a.m.: Community Ministries Sunday will showcase Trinity's tremendous outreach program. Several personal testimonies will be given about how God has worked in people's lives through Christian service at Trinity.



News from Boy Scout Troop 215

The entire troop and two adults had another great week at Gerber Scout Reservation in July. Thank you, Trinity, for your continued support!

Our first meeting of the new school year will be on September 12. We meet weekly on Monday evenings from 7 to 8:30 at Trinity. New scouts are welcome. Come to a meeting or contact John Czuhajewski at 575-8545 (johnc@qlcom.com).

There is a possibility that a new Cub Scout pack will be started. Cub Scouts is for boys in first grade through fifth grade. If you or someone you know has an interest in this, please contact Bonnie Czuhajewski at 575-8545 (bonnie.czu@gmail.com).

J.U.M.P.! (Jesus, Use Me Please!)

Sunday, September 11, at 9:30 a.m.

Come, join us in celebrating Children's Ministry at Trinity! Visit classrooms, register your children, experience the exciting curriculums. Discover ways you can volunteer to embrace the children of Trinity!

Enjoy Toe-Jam Tonic... have fun foot-painting... enter the Wackiest Flip-Flop Contest... and "Kick-Off" another season of amazing opportunities for your Family! Questions? Contact Nichea Ver Veer Guy (orangeelt00@aol.com, 616.456.7168).



Are You Ready to Help Our Children J.U.M.P.?

We are looking for volunteers to JUMP on board and help in our classrooms. We could use your unique "LEAP" of talents! We have three classrooms we need help with on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

- Pre-School-Early Kindergarten (Hands-On Bible Curriculum, more fun than a "barrel of monkeys")
- Children and Worship (Biblical stories and expression)
- 4/5th Grade (Hands-On Bible Curriculum, encouraging preteens to apply their faith in everyday living)

Consider giving of yourself and be a part of a volunteer team in one of these classrooms! JUMP at this opportunity to share!

If you're interested, contact Nichea (orangeelt00@aol.com, 456.7168).

Homecoming Picnic

Sunday, September 18, 2011, beginning at 1 p.m.!

We're at a NEW TIME this year and enjoy the entire day at Townsend Park, Cannonsburg. Hike the trails, have playground fun, creek play, field games or just good conversation on the porch.

We will share a potluck meal at 2 p.m. We are asking you to bring a dish to pass that would feed 12 persons and your own tableware. We will provide beverages and games for all ages. Join us as we celebrate the Trinity UMC Family and welcome the exciting new fall season!

Questions? Contact Nichea Ver Veer Guy (456.7168, orangecelt00@aol.com).



Children's Clothesline Art Show and Sale

Sunday, October 2, 2011

Calling all child artists!!!! We are having a Children's Clothesline Art Show and Sale on Sunday, October 2, 2011. We will be showcasing your amazing talents!

We need you to paint, sketch, draw and create items that we can offer up for the show. The proceeds to the sale will go to the Imagine No Malaria Campaign. Helping to eliminate Malaria in Africa, one mosquito at a time!

Look through your drawers, bring out the crayons, explore your creative side! Bring your donations to church so we can add them to the line! Thanks for helping!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| | 1 Noon CM Summer Program - Teens 2pm Memorial Service 5:30pm CM Summer Program - Kids | 2 8:30am Hospitality Meeting, Discovery Noon CM Summer Program - Teens 6:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym | 3 9am Staff Meeting, Fireside Noon CM Summer Program - Teens Noon NA, Library 6:15pm Co-Ed Softball Game 7pm Table Tennis, Gym | 4 YoTrinity Camping/MI Adventure Overnight Noon La Leche League, Library 7:45pm Music Development Team, Fireside | 5 YoTrinity Camping/MI Adventure Overnight | 6 9:30am VBS Day in Muskegon |
| 7 8:15am Nursery Opens 8:30am Worship 10am Worship 3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside | 8 Noon CM Summer Program - Teens 5pm Vision Team, Library 5:30pm CM Summer Program - Kids 6:30pm Staff Parish Relations Committee, Fireside | 9 Noon CM Summer Program - Teens 6:30pm Finance, Fireside 6:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym | 10 9am Staff Meeting, Fireside 1pm CM Teen Club Trip to MI Adventure Noon NA, Library 7pm Table Tennis, Gym | 11 Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings | 12 | 13 |
| 14 8:15am Nursery Opens 8:30am Worship 10am Worship 11am Pizza on the Lawn 3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside | 15 | 16 6:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym | 17 9am Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Noon NA, Library 7pm Table Tennis, Gym | 18 Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Room | 19 | 20 |
| 21 8:15am Nursery Opens 8:30am Worship 10am Worship 3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside | 22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30pm Stewardship Committee, Library | 23 7:30am UMW Shipshewana Trip 6:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym | 24 9am Staff Meeting Noon NA, Library 7pm Table Tennis, Gym Camping at Albright | 25 Noon La Leche League, Library, Awakenings Room 1pm Newsletter Crew, Discovery | 26 | 27 |
| 28 8:15am Nursery Opens 8:30am Worship 10am Worship 3pm Disciple Bible Study, Fireside | 29 6pm Safety Training, Discovery Room | 30 3:30pm Micah 6: 8, Discovery Room 6:30pm Men's Basketball, Gym | 31 9am Staff Meeting Noon NA, Library 7pm Table Tennis, Gym | <h1>August</h1> <p>At Trinity UMC</p> | | |

Community Ministries

Summer Fun

August is almost here as I write this newsletter article. That means our Community Ministries summer program is about half over. Thanks to our staff and committed volunteers, the kids are having a great time. We have more children involved in reading and Kids Club outings than ever before! Our Teen Club continues to grow. It never ceases to amaze me the comments we hear when on our beach trips. So many kids have not been to Lake Michigan, flown a kite, played in the sand or seen the sunset. The smiles on the children's

faces and the running and laughter says it all if you are anywhere near our kids this summer.

The teens are imagining themselves, happy, successful, safe and free. What does that mean?

It means talking about their health and bodies. It means planning for a bright future in a career they might enjoy or exploring information about colleges. It means talking about fears and what scares us. It means keeping busy with constructive activities and or how to gather needed information. How do we

find the information we need i.e., a doctor's office or a movie showing or a school phone number. How do you figure out the bus routes? And of course, it means how to make good choices. These are all the things our teens have been experiencing this summer in addition to our regular fun outings.

We also offer a big thank you to those of you that have responded to our call for more drivers and helpers. We can't do what we do without you. Thanks again for giving up part of your summer!

-Donna Shirey

School Supplies Needed

Please check out the sales and consider donating school supplies to our kids in Community Ministries. We will be giving out backpacks, pencils, glue sticks, crayons, markers, rulers, folders, paper... whatever you think might be used by children or teens at school this fall. There are many great sales going on at the local stores right now so it is a good time to stock up. You may drop them off in the Community Ministries office anytime before Aug. 3.

Altar Fund Needs

The Altar Fund at Trinity is the fund that the pastor and Community Ministries staff use to help those in need. Many people in the community or neighborhood often stop in or call for assistance with rent, utilities, bus tickets and other needs. Trinity has typically been a generous church and offers what we have with others. We work with other churches and ACCESS to utilize a specific screening system to process all requests. Our fund is very low right now due to a high number of calls lately. We have had to turn many away. If you would like to make a contribution to the altar fund, please do so by writing a check marked altar fund or mark your envelope for special offering ...altar fund or drop some money in the hunger pot at the back of the narthex. Thank you.

IMPORTANT NEWS FLASH: Many Volunteers Needed

As summer comes to a close this month and you set your priorities for what you will choose to do with your time and how you will plug in time for and with God, please consider volunteering with Community Ministries. We are looking forward to a large number of kids this fall and many of our leaders won't be returning. Kids Club leaders are on the move to other areas of the country or other not so local schools and we will simply need more teen leaders due to our increasing numbers. We admit, it is sometimes a challenge, but the rewards are great. You will truly be in the trenches really trying to carry out the special mission God has given us, Trinity. Please prayerfully consider joining our team. Training begins in September. Keep your eye on the connection cards as summer comes to a close and sign up for one or more of the many opportunities you have to serve. The kids will love you for answering God's call!

SAVE THIS IMPORTANT DATE

Trinity UMC will be hosting a poverty simulation workshop on Wednesday, September 28. This program has a great impact on participants and has probably been the most powerful experiences we have ever had related to an understanding of people living in poverty. All leaders and other staff are encouraged to participate. It carries a powerful message to everyone and we are hopeful that many of the people of Trinity choose to join us for this special evening. You truly won't be sorry you did. More details will follow next month. For now just circle the date and plan to come!



United Methodist Church

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Trinity In Touch August 2011

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Children and Youth Volunteers Safety Orientation Monday, August 29, from 6:30 - 8 p.m.

This session will be provided for all volunteers working with children and youth here at the Trinity building. We will review in-house safety guidelines, allergy policy and emergency preparedness. We encourage all persons that will be working with children and youth, to attend this session!!!

Kristen Gifford, Matt Parrott, Nichea Ver Veer
Guy

