



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 and Events

Sunday, Feb. 5

Worship at 11 a.m.

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

Sunday, Feb. 12

Boy Scout Sunday

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

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

Sunday, Feb. 19

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

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

Sunday, Feb. 26

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

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

Dear friends,

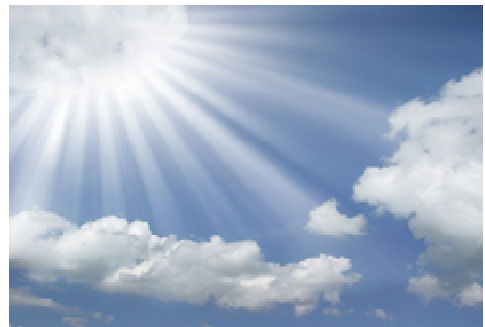
As I sit to write this newsletter at my desk, I am looking out at a cloudy gray sky, but there are hints of blue in it. The street below me has that steel gray tinge to it that a winter street usually has. It tells me it's cold outside. Yet I also see glints of yellow sunlight appearing on the buildings, and I know it's not that cold. In fact it really feels more like March or April, yet it is still only the end of January.

Sometimes in life we feel that winter is all around us, that we are enveloped with an icy cold, and we can't find any relief from it. Even when it warms up it seems misty and foggy and we still can't find any way out of it. If only we could climb above the clouds, like when you take a plane journey, and you break through the clouds and suddenly you see bright sunlight, it was there all the time!

In these 'dog days' of winter, I want to remind you that like the sunlight above the clouds, God is always with us, trying to break into our lives, to bring the radiance of his Glory upon us. Whether you are feeling on top of the world or down with the 'winter blues' may you know that God is with you, and will always be with you.

'The earth is full of his Glory' Isaiah 6: 3;
Jesus said 'Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age'
Matthew 28:20

Peace,
David



Connection Card

We use this communication tool for many purposes at Trinity. Need a new name tag? Have an idea for a committee? Are you interested in reserving a room for a meeting or event at Trinity? These are some basic examples of how you can "connect" with Trinity office and staff. But the connection card is also a way to connect on a deeper, spiritual level. Do have a health concern you would like to share with the Parish Nurse? Are you worried about a family member or friend going through a difficult time? Would you like to speak to the pastor about a personal matter? Use the connection card to share your prayers requests and concerns. We want to help. Connect with us so we can offer the care you are seeking.

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.

Wish List

There are now several ways to obtain items that may not be in your committee's budget. The Endowment Committee has limited funds, but if you would like something, that isn't a necessity, but would be nice to have, you can place it on our **Wish List**. It's like they say, you can not receive if you don't ask.

Within the Trinity Family Circle

Our Sympathy is Extended to...

... The family of Mae Bruining, who passed away January 18.

...The Family of Judith Riplo, who passed away on January 4.

Congratulations.....

.... Ruth Stevens and Tom Stellard are happy to announce that Elizabeth Moriah Stellard was born on December 22, in Markham, Ontario. Elizabeth and her parents, Tommy and Lisa Stellard, are all doing well. Elizabeth was baptized at a church near Markham on January 15.

Dear Trinity Family....

....the family of Glen Trembath would like to thank Velma Fitzgerald and the rest of the women who put on the luncheon after our mother/grandmother's service. A special thank you to Jerry Pohly and David Nellist for the comfort and love.

Parish Nurse News

As your Parish Nurse, I will from time to time invite other Nurses to contribute articles of interest to our faith community. Brenda Hoss RN, MSN is a Trinity member and an employee of St. Mary's Hospital. She has the following exciting program to offer at our next blood pressure screening. Blessings, Katie Orent RN

Breast Cancer: Learn your lifetime risk and what to do about it.

By: Brenda Hoss RN, MSN

Breast cancer is a common concern among women and the men who love them. Any new information that helps improve early detection and successful treatment is important for nurses to share with the public. That's why we are offering an opportunity for **Breast Cancer Lifetime Risk Assessment** at the next TUMC Blood Pressure screening on **February 19th** in the Fireside Room.

According to the National Cancer Institute, the number of people diagnosed with breast cancer each year in the United States is staying about the same. The good news is that survival rates are steadily increasing. Experts believe that this is because of the combination of healthier lifestyles, early detection and improved treatments.

Risk of breast cancer rises with age. Early detection is very important for successful treatment. Recommendations for regular breast cancer screening are now based on both a person's age and their individual risk factors. The Comprehensive Breast Center at Saint Mary's Health Care offers lifetime risk assessment free of charge. By answering questions about your health history, your personal lifetime risk can be calculated and recommendations about how best to monitor for early detection of breast cancer can be tailored to you.

On Sunday February 19th, Brenda Hoss RN will be available to calculate your lifetime risk of breast cancer and review recommendations for breast cancer screening during TUMC's regular blood pressure screening time. The risk calculator is most accurate for women aged 35 and older. Brenda will ask a few questions that cover your age, lifetime exposures to estrogen, family history and race/ethnicity.

Events and Opportunities

To have an event listed in the March *Trinity in Touch*, submit your content to the church office at office@grtumc.org on or before Monday, February 20.

Monthly Applebee's Fundraiser



Dining for Dollars

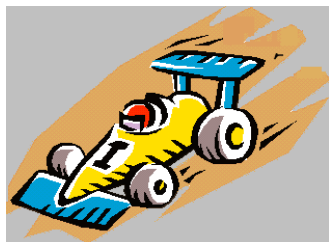
If you are a person that likes to plan ahead, be sure to circle your calendar and head to Applebee's in Wyoming, 1375 28th St. SW the first Monday of every month to support Community Ministries, (Future dates: Feb. 6, Mar. 5, Apr. 2, May 7 and Jun. 4). Just be sure to take along a coupon and arrive between 11:00 AM and 9:00 PM. A portion of your total receipt will be donated to CM. Last minute decisions are ok too! Good news is that you can do curbside service if that seems more convenient for you. Coupons are typically available in the parlor or print one off from the church website, www.grtumc.org or our blog, trinitycm.wordpress.com. Thank you for your support.

Scouting Sunday

On February 12, 2012 all Scouts are invited to participate in uniform during the 11:00 worship service (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Camp Fire, Venture Scouts, etc.). Those wishing to carry a flag in the processional may bring a troop flag or Scout flag. If you wish to participate in worship as a greeter, usher or liturgist, contact Bonnie Czuhajewski at 575-8545.

Scout Spaghetti Dinner

On Scout Sunday, Boy Scout Troop 215 will sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner and the 3rd Annual Trinity Pinewood Derby following the 11:00 worship service. The cost for dinner is still just \$5/person or \$20/family. Please sign up using the "Take Time for Trinity" form in your bulletin.



Trinity Pinewood Derby

Rev your engines; it's Derby Time! Unlike the traditional Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, the Trinity Pinewood Derby is open to racers of all ages. We will again have two separate races: the "Official Race", following BSA Derby Guidelines, and the "Outlaw Race", where (almost) anything goes! Participants can register in the parlor on January 29 or February 5 or by using the "Take Time for Trinity" form in your bulletin. Registration will close at 11:00 am on race day. If you would like a chance to "test drive" your car on the track, come to Trinity on Saturday, February 11 from 1:00 until 2:00. You can use an existing car or build a new one. Basic kits can be purchased for \$3.99 at the Scout Shop (3213 Walker Ave NW) or Hobby Lobby. Some stores (Michaels, Riders Hobby Shop, Hobby Lobby) also carry more elaborate kits.

Youth Schedule for February

- Sunday, Feb 5:** 12:15 Youth Development Council Meeting
No Youth Dinner or YoTrinity (Super bowl Sunday)
- Sunday, Feb 12:** 5:30 Youth Dinner
6:00 YoTrinity (Jr & Sr High)
- Sunday, Feb 19:** 5:30 YoTrinity Parent Meeting & Potluck
6:00 YoTrinity (Jr & Sr High)
- Sunday, Feb 26:** 5:30 Youth Dinner
6:00 YoTrinity (Jr & Sr High)

Griffins Hockey Game

Don't forget about the Griffins Hockey Game on February 11, 2012 at 6pm. Contact Nichea at orangece1t00@aol.com or 456.7168 to get tickets, by January 29!

Events and Opportunities

PJ's, Popcorn and Pizza Movie Night



Do not miss the next Fun Family night of movie watching at Trinity! Friday, February 17 at 6:30pm we will again enjoy pizza, and watch a Family Friendly feature and a Youth Friendly feature. Get out the wacky Jammies, fuzzy slippers and laughter as we enjoy Movie Night! Donations of \$3 for adults and \$1 for a child suggested. Contact Nichea at orangecelt00@aol.com/456.7168 to save a spot!

JoAnn Garvin Campership Fund

We would like to invite the Trinity Family to make donations to the JoAnn Garvin Scholarship Fund. This fund supplies much needed \$100 Camperships to our Trinity Children and Youth attending United Methodist Camps and for our Troop 215 Boy Scout Troop to attend camps. Summer camps have gotten very expensive and often are not an option in many family budgets. Enabling our Children and Youth to attend summer camp can be an amazing experience in their spiritual journey. Last year, we heard back from a Troop 215 Scout who received a Campership to Camp Gerber. He shared the amazing opportunities that he was given at camp and now uses in Troop leadership and community service. We will begin issuing Camperships in March, so help us to get our kids to camp. Contact the church office with questions or Nichea, orangecelt00@aol.com.

4/5er's Snow Days



Calling all 4/5th Graders!!! We are

hoping for a fun snow outing on Sunday, February 12 at 5:30pm. We will share a meal together at the church and head out to enjoy a Winter Wonderland. So, get out the snow pants, and get ready to have FUN! Parent volunteers will be needed to help with transport. Contact Nichea at orangecelt@aol.com or 456.7168.

Women's Bible Study



simply relevant relational Bible series for Women...

Join us for a time with God. A time with women on the journey. What does living a life of balance look like? Let's explore that together.....

This 6-Week study is the beginning:

Tuesday, February 7-March 13 at 6:30 p.m. In the Trinity Library

Register with the office 456.7168

Children Care is available

Pando Outing for the Youth - February 26th

When? February 26, right after rehearsals for our youth choirs. Meet in the parlor as soon as you can to get your portable dinner, listen to any announcements, pay, and turn in your release form. **Why?** To enjoy this wonderful snow!!! **Needed:** **1.** Winter gear to have fun in. Bring it to church with you. **2.** You must have a release form signed from Pando to enjoy this event. You can print on out from www.pandopark.com OR contact the Houle Family to help you with this. IT MUST BE FILLED OUT OR NO FUN. **3.** You must rsvp to the Houle Family by February 19. We need a count for the park. If we have over 20, adults can be included in the count if you want to enjoy the park, for a cost discount. **4.** Cost: At present it is \$20.00 per person. HOWEVER, over 20 signed up = \$17.00 per person. It has been pointed out that there is a discount coupon in Entertainment Books. Please get those to either the Houles or the Hillmans and maybe we can make this an even cheaper event!! Check with your neighbors as well. Maybe they would never use that coupon out of their book. **5.** Drivers - Hillmans can handle 8. Houles = can handle some, too. Parents, please let us know if you can help drive and also if you want a ticket for yourself. **IMPORTANT***** We plan to stay until close at 8 pm, then drive to the carpool spot at US 96 and East Beltline to meet up with parents to get you home. We will not be returning to the church.

Questions? Contact the Houles or the Hillmans

Events and Opportunities

Trinity Hospitality

Welcoming Ministry at Trinity...

reaches out to, and welcomes home, each and all who are seeking to connect with Jesus.

How does Trinity welcome people? Does the lifestyle of our church bring new people into Christian community, disciple them and send them out to transform the world?

Welcoming has everything to do with how we make people feel. Are they comfortable - physically, psychologically and spiritually, from the appearance of the facility to the ease of finding their way; to being greeted and accepted; to feeling the joy and anticipation of the congregation and the experience of God's grace; to a worship service that makes sense; to a sense of opportunities for personal and spiritual growth?

Welcoming starts with being attuned to the needs and hope of people. When someone new walks through the door of a church, the first question is cultural: "Is there anyone here like me?" The answer of the welcoming congregation is, "There are many like you. We welcome you no matter who you are."

The second question is more personal: "Is there anyone here who is interested in me?" If the answer is no because the congregation is not prepared to receive the guest hospitably, then the newcomer will look elsewhere - or may not look again. But when a congregation is involved in a welcoming ministry, the answer is "Yes, we are interested in you. Our hearts, our minds and our doors are always open to you." The message is clear.

The Hospitality Team has planned this year to accomplish the United Methodist "Welcoming Congregation" Certification. As this goes to print, we'll have had four "Guest Audits" - secret shoppers to report back to our team what their experience was on a Sunday morning!

In February, we'll gather the data from the audits and walk-through our church to focus on signage and other ideas to help a newcomer feel welcome. (Do you have ideas you think would be helpful? If so, we'd love to hear about them.) Also, planning will start for our Community-Wide Event with the team and staff.

Because first impressions are lasting ones, people make up their minds about our church within the first ten minutes of being here. Long before Pastors David or Julie preach, people most often have decided if they plan to return. Here are three key tips for developing and sustaining our congregation's Welcoming Ministry:

1. *Circle of 10:* Greet anyone, member or guest, who comes within ten feet of you. Make a special effort to greet the people you don't already know within your Circle of 10.
2. *Rule of 3:* Try to not talk to other members for the first three minutes after the service. Talk only to those you don't know and to people that you know are guests. It takes guests about three minutes to exit the church after worship so it's important to make sure someone has made contact with them before they leave.
3. *Wear a nametag.* Wear it to all church activities. Even the kids are wearing them!

Thank you, Trinity family, for having open minds, hearts, and doors to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

~ Suzanne Hewitt, Hospitality Team Leader



Attention All Trinity Attendees

The youth of Trinity will be going to Pando for winter fun on February 26. It has been brought to our attention that the latest Entertainment Book has a one for two coupon in it for this park. We would greatly appreciate the donation of this coupon if you are an Entertainment Book owner and do not plan to ever use the coupon yourself. Please bring it to church with you to give to the Houles or the Hillmans or contact one of these families to arrange for a way to retrieve it. Thanks Trinity for supporting our youth.

Music News

February 11 am Service Music



Sunday, February 5, 11 am: On this Communion Sunday, the Chancel Choir will sing Mosan Hogan's Afro-American spiritual, *Old Time Religion*, and the Wesley Singers, Wesley Ringers, and Trinity Ringers will participate. Organ Scholar David Heinze will offer César Franck's *Cantabile* as the prelude.

Sunday, February 12, 11 am: The Chancel Choir will sing Felix Mendelssohn's eight-part gem, *Holy, Holy, Holy* as the Introit, and will offer Thomas Tallis' *If Ye Love Me* as the Anthem. Youth violinists Renee Hillman and Mitchell Bush will offer three hymn-based duets, and the Matin Ringers will also participate.

Sunday, February 19, 11 am: The Chancel Choir will sing *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* by Tom Fettke, and organist Chris Dekker will offer Cesar Franck's *Chorale no. 3 in A-minor* as the prelude.

Sunday, February 26, 11 am: On this first Sunday of Lent, the Chancel Choir will sing John Rutter's *God Be In My Head* as the Introit, and will combine with the Celebration Singers to offer Larry Visser's arrangement of *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* at the conclusion of the service. The Carol Choir and Celebration Ringers will also participate.

Music at Mid-day Concert: On Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 12:15 p.m. you are invited to a 30 minute concert by organist and Wesley Ringers director, Irene Beethe, entitled *Christmas, Epiphany, and Beyond.....* This free concert will be held at First (Park) Congregational Church, 10 E. Park Place NE in Grand Rapids. Free parking is available in the lot adjacent to the church.

Chris Dekker and David Heinze in concert: On Sunday, February 19 at 3pm, the Grand Rapids American Guild of Organists will present its annual members recital at Fountain Street Church. A selection of the area's professional organists, including Trinity's Director of Music and Organ Scholar, will present a variety of music on the church's Austin/Allen organ. Admission is free. Fountain Street Church can be located at 24 Fountain Street NE, Grand Rapids.

The Festival of Music Concert Series

In Concert: Embellish and the Detroit Handbell Ensemble, Saturday, February 11, 2012, 7:00pm

Two Michigan handbell ensembles unite in concert together: *Embellish* of Grand Rapids, Stephanie Wiltse, Music Director and *The Detroit Handbell Ensemble*, Michael Burkhardt, Artistic Director. Two of the finest handbell choirs in the region, *Embellish* and *DHE* will perform a variety of engaging music. Admission is free, and a free-will offering will be received. A reception will follow.



Community Ministries

Our Vision:

As promised, we have presented our potential vision for the next 5 years. It will surely change and be tweaked as we progress through our growing process but this is the base of what we have in mind.

First and foremost we will remain a safe place for children and youth.

1. If we are to grow and deepen, we must increase our funding. We must be able to fund our current programs, which includes the reading program that is currently funded through United Way. That money is scheduled to run out the end of the current school year. That means before we do anything, we need to have an extra \$20,000.00 to maintain that program. Other regular programming includes: Kids Club, Teen Club, tutoring, mentoring, Reading Buddies, the TED Project, etc. Allowing time to seek funds and increase our grant writing will impact some of our staffing roles and volunteer needs to allow for time to seek funds.

2. We need to continue to address the needs of our growing Hispanic population while not minimizing or devaluing the needs of our African American participants.

3. Our hope is to increase ability levels of our students. This is vital if they are to have the inner strength and skills to succeed in a middle class society. We will be revising our current goals in all areas, spiritually, health and safety (what to do in case of fire, when to call the doctor, how to fix a cut and practical skills (how to write a money order or address an envelope, how to figure out a city bus route, or how to follow a recipe).

The plan will also include building stronger parent relationships and possibly provide skill training for parents as well kids, improving our technology training, and exploring concrete vocational programming and training. As you see, much of our plan is not that much different from what we have always hoped for. However, in order to renew or efforts we will be redefining our roles and revising our grade level goals. We are simply going to work harder to find the money and skills to do what we do, deeper and better. If you see a place where you could fit in or assist us in any way, please let us know. We are always grateful to Trinity for allowing us to be here in so many ways for our families and kids. Thank you.

Community Ministries Quiz Bowl:

This month we are starting something new. It will be a fun way for you to learn more about us and get some chocolate too!!! We will ask you a couple of questions for the next few months. The answers will be available in the next edition of the newsletter. Before the next newsletter comes out, you may send us your answers (Donna, Scott or Jake, emails listed below) or stop in our office with them to win a prize. We have stocked up on Hershey kisses and for every right answer you will receive a 'kiss' from us. Are you ready? Oh and council members are disqualified.

- Can you name 3 schools that our kids attend other than Congress Elementary?
- What is the age range of our children and youth participants?

Email addresses are d.shirey@grtunc.org, shirey824@yahoo.com, iam@jakewiltse.com

Meet Our New Intern!

I am Bethany Doorlag, a junior at Calvin College, studying Secondary Education with a major in Spanish. I am currently in the Comenius Scholars Program at Calvin and will be an intern with Community Ministries this semester. In the future I am interested in teaching for Bilingual schools and working with the Hispanic community in Michigan. I enjoy playing the violin, and am a principal in the Calvin College orchestra, as well as a member of a Calvin College string quartet. In my spare time, I enjoy playing various sports, reading, and spending time with my friends and family.

-Bethany

