

January 2016
Newsletter

United Methodist Church
Trinity



300 Church St. Lomira

Worship Times Church Office 920-269-4411
churchofficetumc@gmail.com

8:00 AM Worship Service
9:00 AM Sunday School
9:00 AM Youth on A Mission Group
10:00 AM Worship Service

LOVE.GROW.SERVE



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear members & friends of Trinity UMC,

“A NEW YEAR CHALLENGE...”

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. —
Hebrews 4:12 (NLT)

As you read this, we're at the start of a brand new year—a time for new beginnings. It's a time to reflect on the year past ... and to make plans for the year ahead. This is our chance—our chance to do things differently this year than we've done in the past. And I'm so thankful we serve a God of new beginnings, aren't you? Now, here's a question for you to consider as we begin 2016 together: *What is the one thing you could change in your life that would strengthen your relationship with God in the coming year?*

As a Christ-follower, an area of my life I look at every single year is my quality time with God. There is no way you can be a disciple in any way, shape, or form ... if you don't spend time with the One you follow. So, how can I improve on personal time with God in the coming year? And what is the one thing I can do to strengthen this relationship?

The most accelerated spiritual growth I've experienced in years past has been when I've been challenged to make a change in my daily habits or disciplines. I'm forever grateful to those who've challenged me and pushed me to grow in my faith. I'm so grateful, in fact, that I'd like to do the same for you. It doesn't matter who you are or what your past experience has been, when it comes to this particular discipline. I believe anyone can step up to this challenge ... and it will change your life in 2016! What challenge is that? I'm calling it our '2016 New Testament Challenge'.

Many approach me and want to—at least some time in their life—read through the entire Bible in a year. That's a wonderful goal. However, it can also be a rather daunting goal, if you're a novice in Bible-reading marathons. So my recommendation for those just beginning to read scripture in this way is this: *start with the New Testament*. Read the New Testament in one year, then move up to the whole Bible at a later date. It's like running a half-marathon, before attempting to do the whole 26+ miles!

Each month in 2016, we'll run a monthly reading schedule that you can use as a checklist. This reading schedule will help you to read through the New Testament in 2016. This will be good for those who've always wanted to read more of their Bibles, but also a good review for those who've been at it for a while. And it's something we—as a congregation—can do together, encouraging one another along the way (and we pray there'll be many conversations about the Bible taking place during 2016).

If you plan to accept the challenge of reading through the New Testament in 2016, would you please let us know in the office? We'd love to know how many have taken the challenge, as well as pray for your efforts in the coming year!

Walking through God's Word together, *Pastor Rom*

SERMON SERIES

As we begin our New Year of 2016 together, we're going to do it in a very practical way. Our first worship series of the year is going to be all about ... parenting. And it's not just any kind of parenting, but parenting from God's point-of-view. It's called 'Parenting is a Verb' and the messages for the series are as follows:

Shade for Our Kids

The Mother's Role

No Trash Talk ... Just the Truth!

GOOD NEWS for Your Kids!

The Father's Role

This series will take us through the month of January, through the first Sunday of February, and right up to the Season of Lent (Ash Wednesday = February 10, 2016). And there's going to be something for everyone. This is a series of teachings for those who are currently parents. It's a series of teachings for those who are now grandparents. And it's even a series of teachings for those who are aunts and uncles who occasionally have to 'parent' too. After all ... parenting is a verb! And many of us—even by default—end up in this very activity. Don't miss out, folks! And please take the time to tell a friend or family member—anyone who might be involved in the act of 'parenting'. Invite them to worship with you during the month of January. This is the chance to find out God's view of how we fulfill this incredibly important role...



PRAYER CONCERNS

- **Angie Benke Family** *Cancer returned*
- **Bridget Thorn** *Pain*
- **Gary Kuehn** *Cancer returned*
- **John "Harpy" Rahjes** *Throat Cancer*
- **Jay Rawlins** *recovering from Lung Surgery*
- **Tina Brickham** *Breast Cancer (Paula Green's Sister)*
- **Pastor Marcy Stone** (Jackie Eichstedt's Cousin)
- **Elsmer Zimdahl** (Vickie Renderman's Dad)
- **Eileen Kretschmer** (Ron Kretschmer's Mom)
- **Mary Kiehnau's Brother "Tony"**
- **Gordon Schultz and Family** *Cancer*
- **Steve Kelly**
- **Bill Ebly**
- **Military, Veterans and their families**
- **Victims of Terror Worldwide**

Bible Reading Plan -- New Testament

- Thursday, January 01, 2015 --- **Matthew 1**
- Friday, January 02, 2015 --- **Matthew 2**
- Monday, January 05, 2015 --- **Matthew 3**
- Tuesday, January 06, 2015 --- **Matthew 4**
- Wednesday, January 07, 2015 --- **Matthew 5**
- Thursday, January 08, 2015 --- **Matthew 6**
- Friday, January 09, 2015 --- **Matthew 7**
- Monday, January 12, 2015 --- **Matthew 8**
- Tuesday, January 13, 2015 --- **Matthew 9**
- Wednesday, January 14, 2015 --- **Matthew 10**
- Thursday, January 15, 2015 --- **Matthew 11**
- Friday, January 16, 2015 --- **Matthew 12**
- Monday, January 19, 2015 --- **Matthew 13**
- Tuesday, January 20, 2015 --- **Matthew 14**
- Wednesday, January 21, 2015 --- **Matthew 15**
- Thursday, January 22, 2015 --- **Matthew 16**
- Friday, January 23, 2015 --- **Matthew 17**
- Monday, January 26, 2015 --- **Matthew 18**
- Tuesday, January 27, 2015 --- **Matthew 19**
- Wednesday, January 28, 2015 --- **Matthew 20**
- Thursday, January 29, 2015 --- **Matthew 21**
- Friday, January 30, 2015 --- **Matthew 22**

GWEN'S PEN

PART 4 OF THE SERIES "SACRIFICE"



Photo of passengers approaching San Francisco in 1941.

Mom remained sick for a few days but the worst was over when the storm passed and she spent her days (two weeks) either writing letters which she knew she wouldn't have time for once the ship arrived in San Francisco, or on a deck chair out in the fresh sea air, making hot pads on a small loom. She made white ones with pink trim, white ones with blue trim, white ones with multicolored sprinkles. She never made one before that trip, nor did she ever pick up that loom again after the trip.

Classified as "steerage" because of our cabin, we were assigned to eat with the crew. Long bare wooden tables and backless benches were flanked by the rough crew. Food was served family style and we soon learned that practicing table manners left us with little to eat. Stacks of sliced white bread in the middle of the table were accessed by reaching out and piercing a slice with one's fork, leaving ketchup from the fork down through several slices. The ambiance and clientele lacked elegance, to say the very least.

Something wonderful happened on the second or third day out. A passenger, a missionary, was aboard and when one of his Japanese converts, a prominent figure in the steamship community, learned of the missionary's accommodations in

second class, had him moved to a first class cabin. Thus we were moved into his vacated quarters. We had a real cabin up in the daylight and tablecloths in the dining room.

One early morning I went up on deck simply to see the ocean. Where it had been dark, angry, yet awesome the evening before with waves that seemed higher than the ship itself as it rode the swells and trenches, now it was as smooth as glass. My first split-second thought was, "ice!" Immediately, I saw the undulating movement of the ocean stretching out ahead of me into infinity. What an amazing world, I thought ... even as a semi-irresponsible kid.

As we neared the end of our voyage, we stood on the deck, leaning against the rail and watched the skyline and the Golden Gate Bridge materialize. Mom surprised us with a question. "What's the first thing you want when you get there?" I don't remember my own answer but I do remember my 16-year-old brother, Gaius's, immediate response. "A box of graham crackers and a quart of milk." Graham Crackers weren't available in the local Japanese grocery and our milk was condensed (canned) milk which we diluted. On rare occasions we had powdered milk ... a special treat included in

a “mission box” that came from “The Women's Missionary Society” of one of our churches in the U.S.

We traveled by rail, sleeping in upper bunks let down from the ceiling and enclosed in heavy black drapes. Destination: Fairmont, Minnesota where our relatives would meet us and then on to nearby Blue Earth, Mom’s hometown.

Grandma's downstairs was rented out, we settled into the upstairs with her and a teacher to whom she rented a room. Grandma was 71. Her tranquil life was suddenly scrambled by three teenagers she hardly knew. Mom realized how difficult this would be for her and firmly instructed us, “whatever Grandma asks you to do, you do it. Whatever she says is right is right. I don't care if she says black is white, she is right!” That was a tall order for this independent and strong-willed tomboy. But Mom had managed to mellow me somewhat by then and I tried to comply.

It was mid-April 1941 and Dad, longing for a letter from Mom, meticulously noted the incoming boats from the U.S. He was sure there would be a letter on the boat that came in on the 15th. He fell asleep anticipating the next day's mail. But the morning mail brought him only disappointment and loneliness. The first of Mom's letters, mailed in Honolulu where the ship moored for a day, arrived on April 28, one month and a day after we sailed away from him.

“The American School in Japan” where we had attended had accelerated their studies when they realized that many would leave before the school year was finished. Thus we three kids had completed our respective grades and were already enjoying summer vacation. Several times when one of us was walking the sidewalks of downtown Blue Earth, adults would confront us with, “Aren't you supposed to be in school?” We thought it was “cool” to be legitimate absentees.

Mom set about finding a house to rent and furnished it with what she could afford and she managed to buy a car with which to travel to and from her many speaking engagements. She parked it in the driveway, keys and all. Brother Gaius could not resist the temptation. Trusting that Mom was Zseriously engrossed and taking a huge risk, he slid into the driver's seat and took it for a drive just

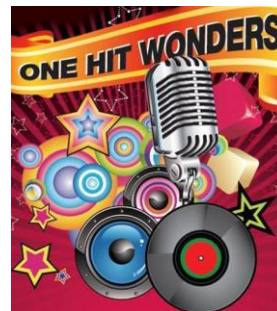
around the block carefully parking it back in the driveway. Mom, however, was vigilant. After all, she was now responsible for our actions. When she came out of the house she eyed the car then turned to Gaius and asked him whether he had moved the car. “Yes,” he admitted. He had moved it. Mom thought he had simply moved it in the driveway, but she didn't ask him how far. I think she didn't want to know. She was dealing with bigger problems.

But Dad was feeling the weight of loneliness and longed to be here with us. In July he wrote three copies of a letter which were entrusted to his two brothers with instructions to deliver them to us only if he did not return to us. He had kept one copy with his own papers. *To be concluded next month...*

Come to the table!

Our Fellowship Hall and Sunday School tables have seen better days. All of us appreciate using these tables for the various events we have here at Trinity, but they are starting to break down and need replacing. We are instituting a table fund to help defer the cost from the budget and operating fund. The tables seat 8, so by 2 spots, 4 spots, or all 8 spots! See Dan Dewhurst or one of the Trustees for more details. You may also label your envelope “table fund” and place your donation in the offering plate during church service.

***Thanks,
TUMC Trustees***



4 Members of Trinity will be performing this year in the Lomira Community Theatre’s Variety Show

“One Hit Wonders”.

Tina Rawlins, Patti Cobb, Teresa Amerling

and her daughter Morgan. The show will be held at Camelot and tickets are still available at Bublitz’s for the Jan. 2nd Dinner Show (6PM) and the and Jan. 3rd Matinee (1PM).

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 *Mila Reitz*
- 4 *Reagan Rosenkranz*
- 5 *Kevin Beck*
Ashley Strassman
- 7 *Tristin Duley*
Henry Guell
Gwen Hinz
Carisa Thompson
- 9 *Vicki Schneider*
- 10 *Paul Jewson*
Mark Lavarda
- 11 *Dawn Faber*
Mikayla Klein
- 13 *Deana Bartels*
Tom Klein
Colton Renderman
- 15 *Roger Clark*
Mary Kiehnau
Grant Renderman
Justin Straub
Mitchell Wroblewski
Richard Zitlow
Karlene Krueger
- 18 *Dan Riehbrandt*
- 19 *Shari Buske*
Mark Hodny
- 20 *Melissa Poetzel*
- 21 *Penny Beck*
Mark Dahlinger
Paula Green
Zach Ruenger
- 22 *Taylor Klein*
- 23 *Carolyn Krueger*
Chad Alf
- 24 *Joseph Bialk*
- 25 *Randy Faber*
- 26 *Jennifer Greenfield*
- 27 *Chris Kuen*
Sarah Morgan
- 29 *Madysen Janke*
Augie Luedtke
- 31 *Kathy Mintner*



ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 *Bob & Fran Coulter*
- 14 *Bill & Michelle Large*
- 21 *Gene & Dorothy Hake*
- 24 *Victor & Lois Jewson*
- 28 *Kevin & Penny Beck*

Congratulations to Gene & Dorothy Hake as they celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on January 21st, and to Vic & Lois Jewson as they celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary on January 24th.



80+ BIRTHDAY CLUB

- January 7 *Gwen Hinz*
- January 7 *Henry Guell*



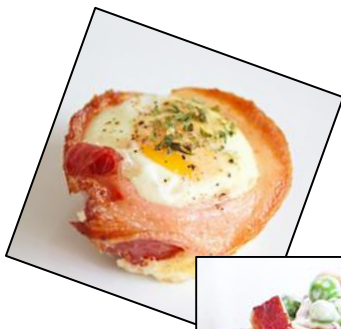
On **Sunday, December 6th**, the shopping cart was overflowing with cake mixes thanks to the generosity of our congregation. The Sunday morning **Youth On A Mission** group collected **over 150 boxes** for the benefit of the **Lomira Area Food Pantry**. We are truly blessed! *Thank you!*



Their final collection event of the season for the benefit of the **Lomira Area Food Pantry** will be held on **Sunday, January 3rd**. The youth have again set a goal to **collect 100 cans or mixes of SOUP**. A warm bowl of soup makes a great meal during these cold winter months. Please consider adding a can or two of soup (or more) to your shopping cart. Soup placed in our shopping cart through January 3rd will be counted toward the youth's goal. **Thanks in advance for your participation and generosity!**



Youth On A mission will be hosting
“A Taste of Bacon”



For the love of bacon, come join the fun at **“A Taste of Bacon”** held at Trinity on Sunday Jan. 31st. If you love (or even like) bacon, you will have a good time and help out a great cause at the same time... the proceeds will be used towards the

Youth on A Mission Trip to the United Methodist Children’s Services in Milwaukee.

Our youth will be entering their tastiest bacon dishes...but anyone who would like to enter a dish is welcome! The more bacon the better! There will be 5 categories...all created with using a pound of bacon...breakfast, appetizers, salads, main dishes, and desserts. The congregation along with family and friends are welcome to attend, taste test and vote for their favorites.

The “Taste of Bacon will be held after the 2nd service on the 31st from 11:00am -1:00 pm.

Have questions...please contact Youth On A Mission/ Team Leaders for Mission & Resource
 John Muentner Jr. 920-904-1919 and Teresa Amerling 920-269-4411

This year’s heartwarming response to the Mitten Tree yielded: Hats 118

Hat and mitten sets 2

Mittens/Gloves 31

Scarves 6

Lap robes 6

Thanks so much to all of you who made this happen!

The February Newsletter Deadline is Jan. 22nd.

***The Church Office will be closed
 Between Christmas and New Year’s.***

There will be **No Communion on Jan. 3rd** & we will welcome guest Pastor Jason Steger
 Communion will take place on Jan. 10th instead.

THANKS FROM THE PEGRAMS...

A great big ‘THANK YOU’ to all for the wonderful cards & gifts given us during our first Christmas in Lomira! Again, what a joy it is to be here with you, to serve as your pastor, and to have the opportunity to lead others into a deeper relationship with the Christ of Christmas! God has certainly blessed us through you... *Rom & Jane*

“Thank You” is an inadequate response to the many loving, sincere, thoughtful calls, visits, cards, gifts of food, time, transportation, and especially prayers that so many of you have showered on me during my recent encounter with pneumonia. I’m improving but have been cautioned that it will be a slow process. I have no medicine to take and am not considered “contagious”. That leaves only time as both my enemy and my healer. However, God is on my side so I win! Thanks! Gwen

COFFEE Connection

Mark your calendar for January 3rd, our first weekly “all church” Coffee Connection. Let us come together between services—as one Body—for a snack, beverage and good conversation beginning at 9:00 until 9:50 am. Everyone is welcome, so plan to stop by and fellowship with your church family. We will need two hosts for each Coffee Connection, one to set up and make coffee, and a second to clean up. Both will provide treats to share. More information and a sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex. If hospitality is your gift, please consider giving us a hand. For questions or concerns, please contact Judy Renderman 269-4673 or Kay Oestreich 921-0071.

Updated Locks at TUMC

Per Church Council action the church building will be updating its locks at the end of this year.



Old locks and keys will be replaced at this time. This update will be coordinated by our Trustees and our Church Office.

New keys will be issued the week of Jan. 4th to Committee Chairs, staff and individuals who would need regular building access.

There will be an agreement to sign for each key issued. Everyone, however, will be able to access the building during regular office hours. Mon-Fri from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Join us as we
CONNECT
our families



We would love to have as many of our families participate as possible so that our new Pastor, Rom Pegram, can get to know our congregation.

You will soon be receiving a call from Pastor Rom with more details!

Do you know the names of the people sitting around you?

Help us to build a tool that will put names with faces. Be a part of our new family directory program—we need YOU to make our new family album complete!

Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and free directory for participating!



Teresa, TUMC's Administrative Secretary, will be sending out an email link for you to register and choose your appointment time online. There will also be On-site sign-up days at the church in between services on Nov. 29th, Dec. 6th, Dec. 13th and Dec. 20th.

The Photo Shoots will take place at the church on the following days:
Monday Dec. 28 from 2-9 pm
Tuesday Dec. 29 from 2-9 pm
Wednesday Dec. 30 from 2-9 pm
Saturday Jan. 2 from 9 am - 4 pm
Monday Jan. 4 from 2-9 pm

Again, just for coming in you will receive a free 8x10 portrait and a free church directory! There is no charge involved unless you wish to purchase additional portraits from your photo shoot. Portrait Price Brochures will be available for you if you would like to order.

January 2016 – Trinity United Methodist Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Worship Services: 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School/Youth On A Mission Group 9:00 a.m.						
Coffee Connection Every Sunday between Worship Services. Open to Everyone!					1	2 10:00-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry 9:00am-4:30pm Photography For Church Directory
3 Guest Pastor Jason Steger/No Communion 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Sunday School/ Youth on a Mission 10:00 am Worship Youth on a Mission Food Drive	4 12-6:00 pm Blood Bank 2-9:00 pm Photography For Church Directory	5 3:00 pm Hope Nursing home Service 6-8:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 8042	6 5-6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 8581 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm A.A. 7.00 pm Choir practice 6-8:00 p.m. Weeblo's #2	7 5:45-7:15 Girl scout troop 8005 5:45-7:15 Girl scout troop 172	8	9 10:00-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry
10 Communion Sunday New Sermon Series "Parenting is a Verb" 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Sunday School/ Youth on a Mission 10:00 am Worship	11	12 9:00 am Men's Group (At Suzie's Home Cooking) 6:00 pm Church Council Meeting 6:00 pm Cub Scouts Leader Meeting	13 6-8:00 p.m. Weeblo's #2 (Scouts Room) 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm A.A. 7.00 pm Choir practice	14 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tiger/Wolf Den Meeting	15	16
17 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Sunday School/ Youth on a Mission 10:00 am Worship 6:30 pm Adult Fellowship	18 Martin Luther King Day	19 6-8:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 8042 6:00 pm Staff Parish Relations Meeting	20 5-6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 8581 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm A.A. 7.00 pm Choir practice	21 5:45-7:15 Girl scout troop 8005 5:45-7:15 Girl scout troop 172 6-8:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack Meeting	22 	23 10:00-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry
24 8:00 am Worship, 9:00 am Sunday School/Youth on a Mission 10:00 am Worship 31 8:00 am Worship, 9:00 am Sunday School/Youth on a Mission 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am-1:00 pm "A Taste of Bacon" Fundraiser	25	26	27 6-8:00 p.m. Weeblo's #2 (Scouts Room) 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm A.A. 7.00 pm Choir practice	28 12-1:30 pm Circuit NE09 Clergy Meeting 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tiger/Wolf Den Meeting	29	30

Rom A. Pegram, Pastor

Parsonage:

(920) 269-7292

Church Office:

(920) 269-4411

Email:

pastorromtunc@gmail.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

First Service-8:00 A.M.

Sunday School-9:00 A.M.

Youth On A Mission Group-9:00 A.M.

Second Service-10:00 A.M

Trinity Harvest
Trinity United Methodist Church
300 Church Street
Lomira, WI 53048
Return Service Requested