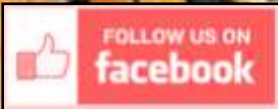


Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

www.trinitylomira.org

Sunday School 9:15 A.M.

Youth Group, and Coffee Connections 10:00 AM



November 2024 Monthly Newsletter

gratitude

[gra-ti-tude] noun.

the positive state of being grateful; an overwhelming feeling of appreciation and thankfulness, and the desire to return kindness to others.

FOREVER

Thankful

ALWAYS

grateful

ABUNDANTLY

blessed



Dear Trinity Family,

As November unfolds in Wisconsin, it brings with it the chilly winds and the vibrant tapestry of fall colors that remind us of the cycles of renewal and thanksgiving. This time of the year deepens our appreciation for warmth, not just in our homes but in our hearts through the community and fellowship that defines us. In these moments, as we witness the transformation of the world around us, we are reminded of the words from 2 Corinthians 4:16, *“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.”*

This month is marked by our much-anticipated annual Spaghetti Dinner on Thanksgiving Day here at Trinity Methodist Church. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who are contributing their time and effort to prepare for this cherished event. Your dedication enriches our church family and extends our table to the wider community in a true spirit of gratitude.

We are also celebrating the successful launch of our First Contemporary Worship service, an initiative that could not have been realized without the tremendous support of our church family. We are currently raising funds to purchase musical equipment for our new Praise Band, as most of the equipment used at our first service was rented or borrowed. We need to raise \$6,000 and invite everyone to contribute as they feel led by the Holy Spirit. Please hand your contributions to Deb Zinniel. Your support will greatly improve our worship services and help make them a regular blessing.

Turning to a broader spiritual horizon, I am excited to share a brief report from the first Convening General Conference of the Global Methodist Church held in San Jose, Costa Rica.

I served as a pastor in the United Methodist Church for 25 years before joining the Global Methodist Church. During my tenure, I noticed a significant shift within the church—it began to function more like a corporate entity rather than a spiritual organization. This change deeply concerned me as the church seemed to lose its foundational spiritual dimension.

Unfortunately, this corporate mentality became prevalent among many members, pushing aside the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Instead of relying on faith and spiritual direction, there was a noticeable shift towards operational efficiency and organizational tactics and politics, overshadowing the church's true purpose. This transformation marked a departure from our core religious principles and responsibilities.

My expectations about church meetings have been shaped by my previous experiences, even though I try not to let them. Often, these meetings have been hurtful. Every General Conference I attended was filled with political maneuvering and tricky discussions, ending in decisions that made clear who won and who lost. The 2019 Wisconsin Annual Conference and the 2019 UMC General Conference were particularly tough. They left lasting wounds on many of us. From these events, I carried away a deep sense of hopelessness.

Since joining the Global Methodist Church and attending two annual conferences, along with the inaugural General Conference in San Jose, Costa Rica, I've experienced a profound renewal. This journey helped me reclaim a **precious aspect of faith I felt was slipping away**: *“complete trust in God and letting the Holy Spirit direct our lives.”* These principles, revitalized during the conferences, are what I am eager to reintroduce to my local church community.

The Great Lakes Provisional Annual Conference (Our Conference) has been renamed the Great Lakes Annual Conference. Scott Pattison's role changed from President Pro Tem to Conference Superintendent. After thoughtful prayers and discussions, a plan was set to have bishops lead multiple annual conferences, not just one. This new system was approved, and six interim bishops were elected for two-year terms starting in November 2024.

The conference also witnessed the retirement of Rev. Keith Boyette, who significantly shaped the church's direction. His retirement led to Rev. Mike Schafer stepping in as the first Connectional Operations Officer.

The delegates also voted on the Global Methodist Church's new mission statement and introduce a vision statement. The new mission statement reads: "The Global Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe." The newly adopted vision statement declares: "Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the Global Methodist Church envisions multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ throughout the earth who flourish in scriptural holiness as we worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly."

Looking ahead to 2026, the conference decided to host the next General Conference in a central African location, with plans to conduct some legislative work virtually before the General Conference. This change aims to streamline the process and make it more accessible. The exact location will be announced later.

The conference was deeply unifying because of its powerful worship. We knelt, cried, and sang passionately to honor God, experiencing a charismatic atmosphere. It wasn't just about speaking in tongues but feeling God's gifts fill our spirits as we focused on Jesus. This worship moved all the participants beyond themselves, preparing them to focus on God's work when they returned to their meetings.

In those moments, healing occurred. The worship, prayers, and communion served as ways God healed many wounds, some of which were kept open to avoid the pain of healing. The message was clear: it's time to forgive, stand tall, and embrace new life in Christ, leaving behind resentment and self-pity. Personally, I'm learning to let go of old grudges and accept God's grace, even when it's hard. This journey towards healing and forgiveness is something many of us share, as we learn new ways to relate and allow God to work within us.

Let us move forward with a renewed spirit of unity and purpose. Our collective efforts at these conferences and our local initiatives, like the Spaghetti Dinner, OCC program, Bible studies the Contemporary Worship service and many others, are all steps towards deepening our faith and strengthening our community. We are called to a life of service, forgiveness, and bold faith, living out the principles Christ taught us. As we commit to these actions, let us recall the words from Galatians 6:9, *"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* This verse inspires us to persist in our good works and community efforts, trusting that our labor in the Lord is not in vain and will indeed bear fruit.

With blessings and gratitude,

Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo





Contemporary Service TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Music has shaped cultures, societies, and church services around the world for generations. It has the power to alter one's mood, change perceptions, and inspire individuals to do more than they ever thought possible.

Make a difference in your local church community. Donate to our **Praise Band Fund**, so we can update our musical equipment and praise the Lord even more spiritually. As Pastor Mpoyo mentioned in his letter this month, many of the instruments/sound equipment were borrowed or rented this past month. Please feel inspired by the Contemporary Service performance and help us to take our "praise" to a whole new level.





Sunday School - Submitted by Carissa Backhaus and Tammy Steers

What is the main purpose of your ministry?

To see children come to know Christ and to consistently grow in Christ and learn to serve him.



Who are the members involved in your ministry?

Carissa Backhaus, Tammy Steers, Kathy Walker, Jessica Marschie, and Katelyn Kretschmer



What is a recent project you worked on with your ministry?

Rally Day - building excitement for the kick off of all programs starting back up in the fall with a pie and ice cream social.

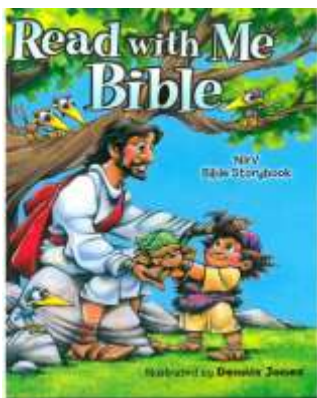
What do you need from TMC to be more successful as a ministry?

We are hoping to increase our numbers in the classrooms, so getting the word out to family and friends about all the Children's Education program has to offer at TMC. Also, we are looking for helpers to "sub" in when needed.



How can members become involved in your ministry?

Members can help with different events that we have throughout the year.. i.e. make Christmas program props and costumes.



Bible Sunday

During the worship service, our new 4K Sunday School Students received their own Children's Bible. Kathy Walker, our 4K-1st grade Sunday School teacher, is pictured presenting bibles to Aubree and Teagan Christianson.





Nominations and Leadership Development Committee

Submitted by Mary Muehlius



What is the main purpose of your ministry?

Our main purpose is to identify, evaluate, and monitor Christian spiritual leadership for the local congregation; identify spiritual gifts and abilities of church members; recruit and support leaders; and inform church council of changing leadership needs.

Who are the members involved in your ministry?

Members typically serve a 3 year term: Pastor Mulongo Mpoyo, chair; Mary Muehlius, vice chair; Kathy Drexler, Becky Luedtke, Owen Unferth, John Muentner (lay leader).

What is a recent project you worked on with your ministry?

There are typically 1 or 2 meetings a year, and usually held early fall to assess needs and fill leadership/committee roles for the following year.

What do you need from TMC to be more successful as a ministry?

In order to be successful, we strive to educate committee members of the leadership roles in church and how to most effectively tap talents of church members and help them successfully and meaningfully participate and assume roles in areas of interest and expertise.



Thank you to John Lavarda and his mom, Kathy, for helping to cleanup a portion of Hwy 175. TMC and the community thank you for maintaining that section of the road and allowing the true beauty of nature to shine through.



Congratulations to Nora Buske, and her grandpa Bill, on signing her letter of intent to play volleyball at The University of Wisconsin-Platteville.



The DEADLINE to return filled OCC SHOEBOXES
is **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17th**



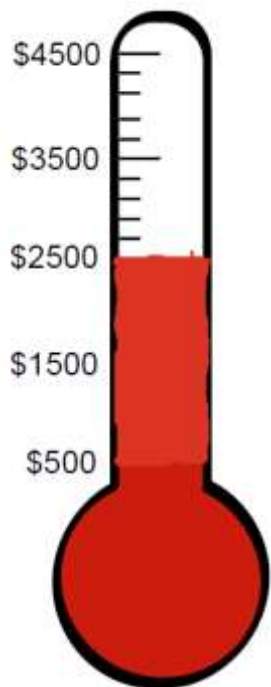
You still have time to **pick-up and pack a shoebox...**
what a great tradition for your family!

Hope Holiday Outreach

This year we will NOT be collecting bodywash for the residents/tenants at Hope. A crafted Christmas gift and treat bag will still be given this year but we are discussing alternative activity for a less busy holiday/season.



Trinity Shoebox Project Fund Status



\$10 Donation for
450 Shoeboxes

Our church has seen a flurry of activity recently preparing for the Trinity Shoebox Project packing events. Pictured is the TEAM assembling 450 shoeboxes. Exciting times! Many thanks to those who have already offered financial support! The TEAM sure appreciates it and can't do what they do without your generosity.

Our project financial 'book' closes on 11/30. The funds received by that date are used to cover costs of purchased gifts and minimal admin expenses. The remaining balance is given to Samaritan's Purse for the suggested \$10 donation per shoebox that helps cover collection, processing, shipping, training, Gospel materials, and other project costs.

As of 10/27, the Shoebox Project fund is around \$2000 short of covering all expenses and the \$10 donation for 450 shoeboxes in full. Please consider a financial donation if you are able. What a great way to fulfill the Great Commission and be a Disciple of Jesus Christ through participation in Operation Christmas Child!

The TEAM continues to labor as God has directed our hearts without expectations. Please join us in praying that God will provide blessings within our church, our personal lives, and for the Trinity Shoebox Project.

Operation Christmas Child opens doors to the Gospel among children who had never heard about God's love for them. (from samaritanspurse.org)

The classroom was quiet as boys and girls opened their Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. There were no squeals of excitement or chattering, no shouting for friends to come and look at the fun gifts inside their shoebox. Yet, their smiles were so big and bright that verbal expressions weren't needed to reveal the joy overflowing from their hearts. "It moved my soul seeing them very happy. It's like I got a gift for myself," said Klaudia, who teaches the group of deaf children in Opuwo, Namibia.



Sunglasses and socks were some of the children's favorite gifts. ----->

The Operation Christmas Child outreach event marked the first time that most of the children had ever received a present. Many of the boys and girls belong to the Himba ethnic group and come from families of livestock farmers who live in small mud huts in isolated villages.

Klaudia heard about the shoebox outreach events through Pastor Rizera and his regional team, who began reaching the Himba with the Gospel through Operation Christmas Child and The Greatest Journey about six years ago. Their efforts have resulted in several churches being started among the Himba, who previously had a longstanding tradition of worshipping ancestors and spirits.

Klaudia was excited for her students to participate in Operation Christmas Child because she wanted them to learn about the Gospel and to know that they are precious in God's sight.

"They felt loved today," she said. "They will be smiling the whole week."

A New Start

Klaudia's class is the only option for deaf children in Opuwo to receive an education unless they travel nearly 10 hours to the capital—which isn't an option for these impoverished families. None of the boys and girls in Klaudia's class had previously attended school or had an opportunity to learn sign language. Some students come to her as teenagers having spent their lives feeling alone because they were unable to communicate with family and friends. Klaudia isn't deaf and she doesn't have friends or family who are deaf. She had never thought about working with deaf children, but when God burdened her heart to reach out to this marginalized group, she knew she had to obey. Klaudia began learning sign language and pursuing a teaching degree.

"God called me to this. It's a pure love from my heart.

The children make me smile, and they are my everything."

God is using Klaudia to show His love to children who have been abused and treated as outcasts. Deaf children in the Himba culture are often viewed as mentally disabled and unable to learn and function like hearing children. Sometimes they are seen as cursed or blamed for another's wrongdoing even when they are not at fault.

"People don't see that these deaf kids are like other kids.

We are all human; there's no difference."

As much as Klaudia wants her students to learn the fundamentals of reading and writing, she is more concerned about their spiritual condition. She faithfully prays that her students will come to trust God and His love for them. "That started here, today, with the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes," she said.

Receiving Christ as Saviour

Kavari is just one of many students who received a gift-filled shoebox earlier this year. Before joining Klaudia's class, he helped to tend his family's livestock. He had never been to school and had no hope of ever being able to do so.

Kavari had never met another deaf person until he started taking classes. He never got invited to play with children in his village because he was deaf. "Sometimes they beat me and bullied me," he said. But things are different now that he's in school. "I felt very happy and excited when I saw I'm not the only one who is deaf," he said. "Now, I can read and write. Life is better because of school."

Family and friends in Kavari's village have also had a change of heart. They see that he is not only capable of learning, but is thriving in school. "My family smiles every time I take my school papers to show them," Kavari said. Kavari was thrilled to see all the gifts packed inside of his Operation Christmas Child shoebox, especially the soccer ball. Yet, it wasn't a toy that excited him the most—it was The Greatest Gift storybook. In addition to hearing the Gospel before they receive their shoebox gift, boys and girls also receive this booklet that shares 11 Scripture stories and invites children to follow Christ.

Just one day after the outreach event, and Kavari was already eagerly sharing the stories in his book.

"I'm so happy to get the booklet. I learned about creation, how we should love one another, and how the kids in the Bible were excited to see God."

The stories in the booklet had quickly become more than stories to Kavari—he knew they were God's truth and that they would change his life. "I decided to follow Jesus," he said. Kavari said he is excited about going to church with Klaudia and sharing his faith with others.

"I want others to accept Jesus into their life."

Please pray for Klaudia, Kavari, and all of the students at the Opuwo school. Ask God to draw them closer to Him each day.



Let's have some fun on Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall!

All Trinity adults are invited for an evening of adult fellowship and snacks as we play the social game of Bunco. **Invite your siblings, friends and neighbors to join us.**

What's Bunco? It's a simple dice game that requires no skill or prior knowledge to play. If you want a sneak peak at the game just Google, "How to play Bunco".

If your interest has been peaked, here's what to do:

1. Sign up on the Bunco sheet in the Connections Room.

2. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us. Sign them up, too.

3. Bring 3 things with you on Nov 14th:

1. Your own drink

2. A small bowl holding 6-12 ounces of a snack (ex: pretzels, M&M's, almonds, etc.)

3. \$1.00

4. Prepare to interact with many members of your church family for about 2 hours.

Bunco is played in groups of 4. The challenge for the organizers of this gathering will be to have 16, 20, 24, etc. people in attendance on Nov 14th. Please do us the courtesy of signing up by Sunday, Nov 10. If you sign up, we are counting on you to attend unless you inform us of your change of plans in advance.

Mugs and Muffins is sponsoring this adult fellowship event. **Please contact Fran Coulter or Kathy Drexler for more information.**

Bring 3 things with you on Nov 14th:



One Day Women's Retreat: Sat. Nov. 9, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Worship through his Word and Christ-exalting music, testimonials from women who hope against hope, lunch, door prizes, and learning opportunities.

Cost: \$25 until Nov. 1, \$30 after Nov. 1.

Contact Pam Wellso or Kathy Drexler to carpool.

**Tuesday, November 5th
4:00-7:00 p.m.**

Annual

ELECTION

DAY

Spaghetti Dinner

Trinity Methodist Church

300 Church Street • Lomira, WI

All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad, and Tortes.

Ticket Prices: \$10.00
Children 15 & Under
FREE

Advance Tickets will be available in the church office.

— CARRYOUTS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR —



BAKE SALE DURING DINNER

PROCEEDS FROM BAKE SALE WILL BENEFIT THE TRINITY SHOEBOX PROJECT

Trinity's Election Day Spaghetti Dinner Needs You!

Tickets will be available in the office or you can purchase at the door on the night of the dinner.

Bring a friend or family member along to share this special evening.



We will be needing cooks, set up, servers, wait staff, and dish washers... Sign-up sheets are located in the Connections Room. If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Steers.

Bakers are needed for the annual Spaghetti Supper Bake Sale. All proceeds from the Bake Sale go to help cover the OCC postage cost.

BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER



Please deliver your items to TMC on November 5th after 8:00am

- No need to cut or package your items.
- If your bakery has nuts in it, please note accordingly.

Save the Date



You are invited to join us for a cup of Christmas Tea!

Sunday, December 8

1:00pm-3:00pm

Light lunch will be served.

Open to All Ladies: Middle School through the Golden Years

Please feel free to invite your mothers, sisters, best friends and neighbors; anyone who may enjoy a moment of rest and pampering before the hectic holiday time starts.

Any questions? Please see Deb Bintzler-Oestreich or Barb Sauer.

There will be a Christmas Tea Meeting
Sunday, November 3 after church
in the Fellowship Hall.



We are very grateful for our new handbell ringers this season! However, we can use even more ringers for some special Advent/Christmas selections planned. Please see me or one of our current handbell ringers if you may be able to join us in the weeks ahead.

Thanks,

Clarice—Bell Choir Director

Call or email me with questions 248-568-8026 /

Communion Stewards Needed

We are in need of two people who are willing to work together as a team, to prepare the communion elements. Training would be provided.

The commitment includes:

- * serving as stewards 2-3 times per calendar year
- * purchasing the bread and grape juice
- * 1 hour of preparation before the service
- * 1/2 hour of clean up after the service

Can you commit to 4- 6 hours of service to our church per year? If so, contact Kathy Drexler for additional information and training.

Please take a moment to thank Betty and Fred Menzer for their years of service as communion stewards at Trinity Methodist Church.



Mug & Muffin

Next Meeting - 11/16 9:00am

Bring a craft project to work on or just enjoy this social time with friends.



Men's Group is meeting the

following dates:

November 16

9:00 A.M.

Mug and Muffins will supply the treats if we supply the coffee.
Seems like a "win" for us men!



Strike Up the Trinity Band

To play the Prelude:

November 17

Practice before church

Please join the group and share your talents! Looking forward to playing together!

Jason - Band Director



Prayer Concerns

- Sarah Kretschmer finished five weeks of radiation, chemo port removed 10/30
- David Menzer, Fred's Brother, finishing up with therapy, but hoping for a little bit more - has seen some small improvement 10/30
- The family of Nancy Schenning, Pat Burmeister's friend, who recently passed away 10/30
- Laura, Dick Galow's granddaughter, in remission 10/29
- Chris, Dick Galow's son, in remission 10/29
- Judy Renderman 10/24
- Harold Johnson, taken to Froedtert in West Bend for a few days of observation 10/22
- Sara Marschie, Josh's Mom, in hospice care 10/22
- Steve, close friend of Deb Zinniel, prostate cancer 10/22
- Jeff Luedtke, prayers requested during this time of treatments and ongoing tests 10/16
- Phyliss Scharfenberg, recovering well from knee surgery 10/16
- Mary, sister-in-law of Pam Hilker, fighting infections, difficulty with new cancer treatments, prayers needed 10/09
- Rob Kiehna, Doug Kiehna's brother, Stage 4 Prostate Cancer 10/02
- Adam Holzman, coworker of Sarah Kretschmer, starting chemo again 10/02
- Gene Junger, staying at St. Frances Home in FDL 09/05
- Gene Hake, continuing health issues - extra prayers needed 07/09
- Nancy Feucht, Casey Buske's mother, diagnosed with a rare blood cancer 05/01



With Thanksgiving, Jason & Priscilla thank our church family for your love and acts of kindness after our car accident. We thank and appreciate our wonderful Pastor Mulongo so very

much. Your prayers were felt during my successful carpal tunnel surgery. Priscilla's greatest blessing is my family being: Jason, David, and Carol and our church family being TMC. **"With God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26** With humility, to God be the glory!



Thank you to Tina Rawlins for donating her piano to TMC. What a fabulous addition to our music department.



Dick Galow thanks the congregation for their prayers for his son and granddaughter. The communities' prayers have been answered as they both are in remission. Alleluia!

Golden Club



**Judith Stucke turns 82
on November 5th!**

Judith Stucke

2076 Wildwood Dr.

Cedarburg, WI 53012

**Lets send her lots of
Happy Birthday wishes!**

November Anniversaries

- 3 Doug & Mary Kiehnau
- 12 Mark & Cindy Hodny
- 13 Bruce & Carol Dilling
- 15 Felix & Carlene Cardenas
- 19 Steve & Diane Luedtke



November Birthdays

- 1 Matthew Riehbrandt
- 5 Judy Stucke
- 6 Harold Muehlius
Tina Rawlins
- 7 Hanna Faber
- 8 Porter Sacotte
- 10 Ellen Hodny
- 11 Carlene Cardenas
- 13 Mulongo Mpyo
Ben Priesgen
- 14 Carol Dilling
- 15 Debra Zinniel
- 17 Gabe Priesgen
- 19 Michelle Dahlinger
Jeff Luedtke
Dustin Westphal
- 20 Kincade Todl
- 26 Rob Schaefer



**Sunday Nov. 3rd
turn clocks back**



TUMC Budget Totals

Year to date needed to meet budget: \$181,503.00

Received through 10-27-2024: \$143,227.44

Budget Shortfall: \$38,275.56

**The December Newsletter Deadline is
November 22nd. Please have all of
your articles into the church office by
noon that day. Thanks.**

November 2024 TMC-Lomira
Worship Services: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15a.m.
Youth Group & Connections: 10:00 a.m.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 8:30am Women's Bible Study	2
3 9:00am Communion Sunday 10:00 Cemetery Board Meeting 10:00 Christmas Tea Meeting	4 1:00pm Study of the Book of Romans	5 4:00pm Spaghetti Supper	6 6:30pm AA & Al-Anon 7:00pm Bell Choir	7 6:30pm Communion Stewards Meeting	8 8:30am Women's Bible Study	9 10:00am Food Pantry
10 9:00am Bell Choir Performance	11 1:00pm Study of the Book of Romans	12 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	13 6:00pm Choir 6:30pm AA & Al-Anon 7:00pm Bell Choir	14 6:30pm BUNCO	15 8:30am Women's Bible Study	16 9:00am Men's Group 9:00am Mug & Muffins
17 9:00am Choir Sunday	18 1:00pm Study of the Book of Romans	19	20 6:00pm Choir 6:30pm AA & Al-Anon 7:00pm Bell Choir	21	22 8:30am Women's Bible Study	23 10:00am Food Pantry
24 9:00am Contemporary Service	25 1:00pm Study of the Book of Romans	26	27 6:00pm Choir 6:30pm AA & Al-Anon 7:00pm Bell Choir	28 Thanksgiving Office Closed	29 8:30am Women's Bible Study	



Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo

Cell 414-690-5796

Church Office: (920) 269-4411

Office Hours Tues.-Thurs. 9AM-1PM

Or by Appointment

Email:

revmpoyomm@yahoo.fr

churchofficerumc@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday - Thursday 9AM-1PM

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