

# The Tower

Vol. 18, No. 2

Trinity United Methodist Church, Iron Mountain, MI

www.imtrinity.org

October 2018

## Pastor's Ponderings

In October, I am going to attend a conference put on by a group called Christians Engaged in Faith Formation. I was drawn to it at first because of the Faith Formation idea. At District meetings and at Conference meetings, I keep hearing the question: How is your church making disciples for Jesus? What are you doing to plant the seeds of faith in others and nurture those folks into becoming followers of Jesus? Those are faith formation questions so I thought this conference might give me some new ideas to bring back to Trinity UMC.

As I registered and started receiving their email information, I found myself drawn to the theme of the conference...*Curious Church*. The banner on their website described the conference this way: *Where curious people engaged in faith formation go to connect, learn, worship, & discover*. And then they started posting quotes like: *We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious, and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths. (Walt Disney)* And I was hooked. I'm a sucker for some mystery and the chance to find out new 'stuff' that I never knew before! How about you?

The Healthy Congregations workshop a couple of weeks ago (funded by apportionment money through the Michigan Conference) led us down some new paths and opened some new doors of awareness and understanding. Maybe 14 or 15 people from Trinity were there, which leaves a whole lot of curious people out there...wondering what was taught and talked about. Let me give you some examples of curious things that were brought forward at that event:

\*Be yourself. Everyone else is taken.  
(Attributed to Oscar Wilde)

\*No one functions in a vacuum. All human interaction is both co-causal and co-influential. We really do 'work on each other.'

\*Don't be naïve about people's reactions and responses, because there will be both. Instead, be ready...know who you are and what you are about.

\*Anxiety is neutral...it doesn't have any moral value in and of itself. It's an emotion. What we do in reaction and response to anxiety is what can become a problem...for us and for others.

\*Privacy is a matter of respect for self and the dignity of others. Secrets, on the other hand, are a strategy to get and retain power over others.

\*Laughter and a sense of adventure are signs of healthy people.

\*Fear and reactivity are an indication of how invested we are and how intense a relationship is. We don't get upset by people we don't care about or on behalf of institutions that we aren't strongly connected to.

Maybe these are some ideas you have heard or thought about before. Maybe you're curious to hear or learn more about them. If so, please let me know, and I can show you the workbook and provide you with a reading list that was left here for us. Curiouser and curiouser. There is so much to learn. So many opportunities to stretch ourselves...let's continue to ask God to lead us along our path into God's future that is waiting for us in this community. In Jesus' name,

Pastor Geri

## Jubilee Prayer for October

Heavenly Father, summer is over  
and a quieter season surrounds us.  
Help us to take this peaceful time to listen  
for your voice and reflect on what we hear.  
The leaves are changing to their autumn beauty.  
Let us also look for beauty in the people we meet.  
If they have needs, show us what they are.  
Do they already know you?  
If not, what can we do to help them experience  
your love as we know it?  
Our Jubilee year will soon be drawing to a close.  
Please be with us, your church,  
as move into the future. Amen.



**Spaghetti Luncheon,  
Sunday, October 14, after the 10:30 service.**

Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, & dessert.

A free-will offering will be accepted to help pay down our operating-expenses loan.

**Mini-Fair Bazaar and Luncheon,  
Saturday, October 20 from 10:30 to 1:30**

Be sure to mark your calendar for this great event. Everyone from Trinity is asked to participate.

Your home-canned goods (jams, jellies, relishes, etc.), cookies, cakes, pies, candies, and baked goods always add to the Country Kitchen being a big success.

If you knit, crochet, do needlework, or make jewelry, these items are in big demand.

Check around your home for good, used items that you can contribute to the Resale Shop. Mark items with a suggested price, please, and have them at church by Thursday, October 18.

We'll also have frozen homemade ravioli and soup, and other food items for sale.

Lunch is served from 11:00 to 1:00, and donations are always appreciated. Please sign up when the list comes around.

The menu includes hot sandwiches, a salad bar, an assortment of pies, and beverages.

Nuts and Rada knives will be for sale.

We appreciate cash donations, too.

Keep Saturday, October 20 open for a fun-filled day!

**The Northern Skies District United Methodist  
Women's Annual Celebration is Tuesday, October  
2 at Zeba Indian Mission.**

**All Saints Sunday:** On All Saints Sunday, November 4, we'll honor those members of our church who have died since last year's All Saints Sunday. They are James Carefelle, Randy Champagne, Robert Morrell, Barbara Sandberg, Don Yuhasey, and Elaine Yuhasey.

**Day of 'Cross' Training** will be held Saturday, October 6, 12:45-5:00 p.m. Eastern Time at Memorial United Methodist Church in Gladstone. Speakers are Rev. Faith Fowler, David Dobbs, Don Emmert, and Dist. Superintendent Rev. Scott Harmon. Cost is \$5 per person.

See Pastor Geri if you want to attend this event.



**Healthy Congregations Workshop Tidbits:** On Friday and Saturday, 9/14 and 15, we received a lot of information, insight, and laughs. Here's a mini-list of valuable insights as written by people who attended this valuable workshop.

\*Being taught that anxiety, although it may be a part of a person's general response system, is just that—a system. And systems can change!

\*Succinct, meaningful, practical, fast-moving, kept prayer and Christ in the presentation.

\*Learning that I can stay calm during conflict is powerful knowledge—now to practice it!

\*Applying Scripture to help our church grow and to unify us.

\*Left me with personal goals to work towards...like looking at issues/concerns differently...less personally as an attack.

\*Got to have some well-needed prayer time with God.

\*Focus on strengths and appreciating those that we conflict with.

**"Building Up the Temple" Giving Goal  
Campaign, October 14 to November 11, 2018**

By the Stewardship/Generosity Team

Building up the temple of the Lord begins with us! Each of us bring our individual abilities together with others to share our ideas and dreams for the present and future of Trinity UMC. When we use our time, talents, and treasures, we are able to extend our temple out beyond the walls of Trinity.

Please come to worship during this time! We will be praising God and celebrating the many ways in which we draw closer to God, to each other, and to our community through this Church. You are part of all of that, and together we can do so much more to share the love of Christ with each other and the world.

A special letter will be sent in mid-October to the families of the church, and we are planning a spaghetti family dinner on October 14. Come if you can, and please pray always for the faithfulness and hopefulness of our Church.

**Making Soup?** In the freezer downstairs we have several packages of chicken gizzards, hearts, and neck bones that were given to us on the Feeding America truck, but none of the meal teams plan to use them. If you would like them for making soup, or whatever, please feel free to take as many as you want so we can free up the freezer room. Contact Sally or Cindi to find out what freezer they're in.

## Serving in October

### Offering Counters:

October 7 Tami & Mary Slagle, & Joyce Trevillian  
October 14  
October 21  
October 28

	<u>Liturgists</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Projection System Operators</u>
October 7 10:30	Drew Champagne		Riley Gauthier
October 14 10:30	TBD		Lizzy Ryan
October 21 10:30	Jill Noyce	Brian & Celeste Bancroft	Dean Laitinen
October 28 10:30	Deb Saul		Charlotte Ryan

**Junior Worship Leaders:** Please see the sign-up sheet by the door of the Junior Worship room.

**Altar Decorations:** There are lots of open dates for providing flowers or other decorations on God's altar in the Sanctuary. Please use the sign-up sheet by the elevator in the Gathering Room to reserve your Sunday!

### **Preacher's Corner**

October 7 will be our annual celebration of World Communion Sunday, along with finishing out our series 'Imagine the People of God.' We are a world-wide church, and that is something to celebrate along with other churches around the world!

October 14 will begin our Giving Goal Campaign season, and the preaching will mirror that theme of 'Building up the Temple.' The theme scripture for those five weeks will be: 1 Chronicles 28:20, 'Be strong and of good courage, and act. Do not be afraid or dismayed, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished.'

There are some wonderful connections and ties with 'Building Up the Temple,' and our Jubilee Year activities and focus on opening ourselves up to God's future for our Church. We will consider the foundations, the retaining walls, the pillars of humility and patience and trust, the sheltering roofs that God provides for us as a community of faith. Do come and be blessed by the words of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

October 7: Galatians 5:13-23, Leviticus 25. The Sabbatical Year of Jubilee. *World Communion Sunday*

October 14: 1 Chronicles 28:9-10, Hebrews 1. Jesus as the Foundation of Our Temple.

October 21: Jean Larson will be preaching while Pastor is on vacation.

October 28: Hebrews 4:12-16, 1 Chronicles 28:20. The Bible as the Retaining Walls of Our Temple.

### **Wednesday Night Community Prayer Meeting**

Don't forget that you have a chance to slow down and sit with God on Wednesday nights, 5:45 to 6:15, in our Sanctuary. If it's dinner time, you can always come a little bit earlier and share in the Community Meal.

All are welcome as we pray together in the Sanctuary. Invite your friends and family! Come and remember how much God loves you. Time spent with God, prayers, and a couple of songs can make all the difference!

**Pastor Geri** is happy to visit people at home or in the hospitals or nursing homes. Please call the office, (906)774-2545, if you or someone you know would like to be visited. (The hospitals don't contact pastors anymore, so she wouldn't 'automatically' know.)



## October Birthdays and Anniversaries

*Please pray for them on their special day.*

- Oct. 3 Michael Hunt, Paul Paupore  
5 Henry & Joyce London  
6 Zola Hilyard  
7 Matt Wiedemeier, Guy & Joyce Yuhasey  
8 Scott Trevillian, Tony & Megan Flaminio  
Chris & Sherri Champagne  
9 Mark & Kyle Shemanski  
10 Ezra Hilyard, Sue Paternoster  
Tim Swanson, Beverly Wright  
11 Jon Nord, Kayle & Jennifer Ahola  
Eugene & Beulah DuCharme  
John & Joyce Erickson  
William & Marie Uren  
12 Tim Driscoll, Karen Paupore  
Monica Rietveld  
13 Stephen Hodgins  
14 Matt & Jennifer Gauthier  
15 Vincent Cavalieri  
Robert & Mariann Waldbillig  
16 Zoe Reddinger  
19 Tony Flaminio, Brigid Kennedy  
Pam Smart  
20 Alan Moore  
22 Peter Daugherty, Debra Grailer  
Steve & Jan Davidson  
23 Laura Fortner  
28 Raeanne Wilcox  
30 Tom Slagle  
31 Derek Fortner

**Our condolences** to the family of Elaine Yuhasey, who died September 10.

**Our condolences** to Jill Noyce, whose mother, Gladys Raupp, died September 13.

**“Thank you** for paying for me to go to Camp Michigamme.”—Abby Ruble

### **Financial News from our Treasurer, Jack Noyce:**

During the month of August, our operating expenses and our weekly offerings were nearly in balance. There was no need to borrow additional funds from our operating loan at the bank. The balance of that loan stands at \$11,300. In the remaining four months of the year, our goal will be to meet all of our regular expenses and pay off this operating loan. Please continue to consider how you can help us continue our service to our world through your generosity.

**Greetings Trinity!** As we begin the fall season, the Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to say we are here and working on preparations for the November 18 Charge Conference. We continue to welcome

anyone to address the SPRC at our monthly meetings, if you would be kind enough to inform us ahead of time so we can put it first on the agenda, and also, we are glad to bring thoughts, concerns, praises, etc. as well, if you would like to speak with a committee member at any time. God bless, and thanks for your help and support! –Dean Laitinen, SPRC chairman

**October’s Mission of the Month** is the World Communion Special Offering through The United Methodist Church.

The World Communion Scholarship Program of The United Methodist Church supports United Methodist students and students who relate directly to the General Board of Global Ministries mission partners, so that they may carry out their master’s or doctoral studies at universities or seminaries. What follows is an example of how this scholarship program is influencing the life of Ofelia Duldulao. The scholarship made it possible for Ofelia Duldulao to finish graduate studies uninterrupted, instead of needing to take time off to earn money. A teacher by profession, Duldulao attends the University of the Philippines in Quezon City, preparing for a master’s degree in environmental education, a passion of Duldulao, an environmental activist. She has a B.S. in biology, as well as a degree in secondary education.

The scholarship, she said, has been an inspiration. “I am constantly reminded of the opportunity and the trust given to us scholars,” she said. “The support comes from people, from churches, believing we will serve the people through God’s ministries.

The scholarship also allows her to be active in the church and community while attending school. During graduate school, Duldulao serves as a speaker and educator for various campaigns in Nueva Vizcaya, helping to solve identified problems and training leaders in speaking, teaching, and community-organizing skills. Duldulao recently returned from Africa University in Zimbabwe, where she attended an Environmental Scholars Gathering with seven other Global Ministries-funded environmental studies and related scholars. They explored creation-care ministry and environmental programs to offer local churches around the globe. “I believe God provided me with this opportunity of being a scholar of Global Ministries to work in church and the community, she said, “to be part of the church’s work and to lead church members to help in the community work.” Please give to this Mission of the Month!

## **Minutes of the Church Council Meeting, September 17, 2018**

Roll Call: Kristy Ryan, Emily Ritsema, Dean Laitinen, Adam P. Ryan, Lucy Shampo, Ruth Carlson, Pastor Geri, Frank Trumbell, Blair Daugherty, and Lea Varda.

Pastor Geri encouraged the Council members who attended the Healthy Congregation Workshop to help with devotions by sharing one thing they found meaningful. The Council spent a few minutes in conversation. Pastor announced approximately 26 attended throughout the weekend. A thank-you went out to Joyce and Emily for setting up food and refreshments. And a thank-you to Lea, who cared for the children during the workshop. Devotions ended with everyone reading the September Jubilee prayer.

The August minutes were reviewed, and the September agenda was set by the Council members.

### **Nurture**

Pastor Parish Relations Committee - Dean announced to the Nominating Committee the need for a co-chair to help alleviate the time commitments for him as a chairperson. Dean informed the Council that Jean Larson is returning as our pianist. The 2018 Charge Conference paperwork and evaluations are in progress for the November Charge Conference. A copy was handed out to Council members to review and fill in for next month's meeting. The PPR Committee was thanked for setting up the Town Hall meetings. Council members responded with positive thoughts. Good and beneficial conversations, as well as powerful testimonials, from members.

### **Resource and Leadership Development**

Finance Committee - The Council reviewed and discussed the Treasurer's Report. August offerings were greater than August expenses. There was no need to borrow money from the loan. The loan balance is at \$11,300. Apportionment payments are up-to-date. Frank reminds everyone who may have sales within the church to keep up-to-date information on the 2018 Sales Tax forms.

**Frank made a motion from the recommendation of the Finance Committee to the Council, to transfer the \$575.10 in the Sprague fund to the General Fund. Lucy seconded. Motion passed.**

**Frank made a motion from the recommendation of the Finance Committee to the Council, to transfer the \$550.15 plus the amount currently in the jar to the General Fund. Lucy seconded. Motion passed.**

### **Trustees**

Blair reported that the church property and liability insurance will be with Church Mutual. After some research into other options, Church Mutual provided the best policy. And the heating system in the church should be up and running by the end of the month.

### **Pastor's Time and General Information**

Pastor Geri reminded everyone about the September 28-29 Healing Conversations workshop here at Trinity.

Anyone who needs more information on the changes within the Methodist Church is referred to read information in the September Tower. There are three options on the table for 2019. Additional items may be brought as well. Information and links can be found on pages 2, 5, 9, and 11 of the September Tower.

September 25, Bishop Bard will present "The Commission on a Way Forward." Information on the big, world-wide Church at 7:00 p.m. EST at Marquette Hope Connection Center.

Praise Team rehearsals are Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. All interested musicians welcome to join in.

Car Care Clinic is set for Saturday, September 29 at First Covenant Church.

UMW Church Mini-Fair is Saturday, October 20, 2018.

The Community Meal has discontinued call-in take-out orders as a way of simplifying work for the teams and reducing costs. Each team leader, each week, will decide if there's enough food to carry-out for the people who come in to eat with each other. A memo/letter was read to the Community Meal guests and given to the call-in carry-out people. This change seems to be generally accepted.

Next meeting: Monday, October 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by Lea Varda

## Minutes of the Trustees Meeting, September 10, 2018

Present: Jon Harry, Lucy Shampo, John Erickson,  
Blair Daugherty, Betsy Trumbell.

Blair called the meeting to order. Lucy opened  
with a prayer.

The agenda was reviewed.

Jon moved to approve the minutes of the August  
13, 2018 meeting. Lucy supported. Motion  
carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

We have renewed our Church Mutual Insurance  
policy for \$3,799, which is a savings of \$1,246.  
Thanks to Jon Harry for all his time and effort on  
our insurance.

Blair fixed the light on the Carpenter Avenue sign,  
the bushes are trimmed, and the sign looks great.

John has not heard from Gary Gardipee on the  
Church exterior lighting plan. Jon will contact  
him.

John and Blair are investigating and working on a  
plan for Fellowship Hall lighting. In the meantime,  
we are not buying replacement ballasts.

### NEW BUSINESS

Paul Langer cleaned the hoses on the dishwasher  
and replaced the filter for the large coffee pot. Paul  
will check the grease trap in the utility room and  
will call Dyer, if necessary.

Items to be added to the Maintenance Schedule are:  
Check the grease trap in the utility room each fall.  
Change the filter for the large coffee pot every 3-4  
months.

Check and clean the hoses in the dishwasher  
yearly.

The temperature in the refrigerator and freezer  
need to be recorded regularly. Betsy will contact  
Cindi Strehlow and ask her to remind the  
Wednesday meal team leaders to record the  
refrigerator and freezer temperatures each week.

The parts are in, and the boilers are due to be  
repaired at the end of September.

Lucy moved to adjourn. Jon supported. Motion  
carried.

Submitted by Betsy Trumbell, Trustee Secretary

Many thanks to those who have given  
to the 'Turn Up the Heat' project. So  
far you have offered \$3,021 towards  
this important project! God bless you  
for caring about this Trinity United  
Methodist Church. The heat should  
be turned on very soon....



## Fortunate FRIENDS



### What you need:

- pen
- round object to trace  
(about 4 inches across)
- lightweight colored paper
- scissors
- ruled notebook paper
- Chinese food takeout box  
(or small paper gift bag)
- hot glue gun

### What you do:

1. Trace circles onto the  
colored paper and cut  
them out.
2. Cut strips of notebook  
paper and write messages  
to a friend (or Bible verses  
about friendship).
3. Fold each circle in half  
without making a crease.  
Secure the top center edge  
with glue.
4. Pull the outside edges  
together by creating a  
bend in the center of the  
paper. Undo the bend  
and insert the fortune.
5. Re-bend the "cookie" into  
shape and add glue inside  
to hold it in place.
6. Put all the "cookies" in  
a takeout box and give  
to your friend.

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Iron Mountain, MI 49801

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

## October 2018

**Trinity United Methodist Church**  
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Pastor.....Rev. Geri Hamlen

Choir Directors.....

Emily Ritsema & Jeremiah Garrigues-Cortelyou

Organist.....Sue Saxon

Pianist.....Jean Larson

Custodian.....Larry Marlett

Nursery Attendants.....

Sally Verley, Kane Driscoll, & Emma Bilgreen

Secretary.....Sally Verley

Sunday Worship.....8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School classes for age 3 to adult.....9:00 a.m.

Nursery available during the 10:30 service

Office Hours.....Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friday, 8 a.m.-noon

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**Men of Prayer** will meet here at Trinity on Monday, October 1, at 7:00 p.m. Come and check it out. We'll compare notes on life and where God is working things out. Prayer time will then be followed by Holy Communion. Come and see what it's all about. For more information, please call Scott Ritsema, (906)282-4549.

