

# THE COMPASS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BY TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## NEWSLETTER

A PLACE TO... BELONG. BELIEVE. BECOME. ✳ TRINITY UMC MISSION – TO SEEK & TO SAVE THE LOST. JOHN 10:11

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### WORSHIP WITH US

- ✳ **Saturday Service - 5:30pm**
- ✳ **Sunday Service - 9:30am**

\*Sunday Livestream on *Facebook & Youtube*

### CONTACT US

- ✳ **OUR PASTOR**  
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### TRINITY UMC

- ✳ **838 N. 25th St.**  
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
- ✳ **OFFICE HOURS**  
Mon 9:00am-3:00pm  
Tues-Fri 9:00am-1:00pm
- ✳ **Website:** trinityumcfd.org  
**Facebook:** Trinity UMC Fort Dodge  
**YouTube:** trinityumcfd  
**Iowa Conference:** iaumc.org



#### April Worship Update

## Holy Week Worship

The month of April offers beautiful opportunities to worship our Lord. As we move from Lent into the season of Easter, our focus will shift from death to life. Come, celebrate!

#### **Maundy Thursday Taizé Worship: April 2, 6:30 PM**

This worship service will include prayer, reflective music, holy communion, and dramatic reading. It will conclude with the ritual of removing all color and shine from the chancel area in preparation for the observance of Good Friday.

#### **Good Friday Service: April 3, 6:30 PM**

Good Friday is the day we observe Jesus' death. During this time of worship, we will read holy scripture from the four gospels, alternatively extinguishing candles and singing hymns. This is a moving service and effectively prepares us for the celebration of Easter.

#### **Easter Resurrection Sunday Worship: April 5, 9:30 AM**

On Easter morning, we'll celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with joyful hymns, special music, scripture, prayer, reflection, and the celebration of holy communion.

#### **Confirmation Sunday: April 19, 9:30 AM**

Our congregation will welcome several young people as members of Trinity United Methodist Church on this Sunday. The confirmation class has spent two years learning what it means to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and they have now decided they are ready to commit themselves to membership in the United Methodist Church with their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Reception to follow.

#### **Great Day of Music Sunday: April 26, 9:30 AM**

Join us for a "GREAT DAY OF MUSIC" service. The service will feature the Praise Team, the Trinity Singers, the JAM kids' choir, and the Trinity Ringers along with some hymn histories and music testimonials. It's sure to be a spirit-filled service celebrating music in the life of our church!

*Church*  
**FAMILY**  
—PRAYER LIST—

Elaine Cassady  
Ed & Joanne Becker  
Ralph Ewing  
Terry Lee  
Lois Martin  
Linda Pingel  
Steve Roe  
Bill Cunningham  
(brother of Jean Warg)  
Joann Whittington  
Gary Winkler  
Sharon Perkins  
Martina Hanselman  
Ryan Bernie  
Jim Ainslie  
Kay Lomika  
Judy Clearwater  
Cathy Jones  
Family of Jerry Einwalter

Please let the office know if you want to be added or removed from this prayer list. We want to respect your privacy, but let our prayer warriors know that you desire inclusion.

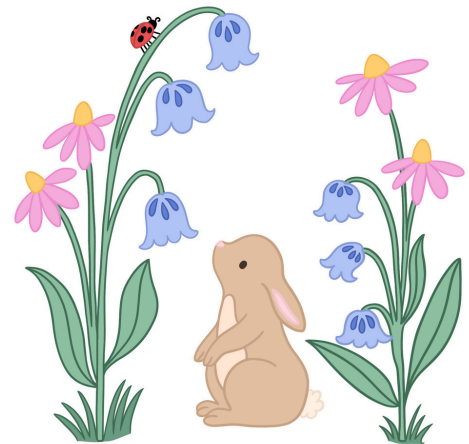


**APRIL**  
*Birthdays*

- 4/2 Jim Ainslie
- 4/3 Eli Johnson
- 4/3 Ella Johnson
- 4/3 Kae Mueller
- 4/3 Shari Netz
- 4/4 Ernie Jones
- 4/5 Zelda Farmer
- 4/6 Jane Harbaugh
- 4/6 Mykaela Stuhrenberg
- 4/6 Mykenzie Stuhrenberg
- 4/7 Kaydence Messerly
- 4/9 Arch Patterson
- 4/10 JoAnn Becker
- 4/10 Cathy Jones
- 4/11 Jared Feddersen
- 4/11 Talan Mericle
- 4/12 Avery Thompson
- 4/14 Jeffrey Nelson
- 4/17 Skip Campney
- 4/17 Samantha Pingel-Kuhn
- 4/18 Evelyn Netz
- 4/21 Laura Stover
- 4/24 Jodi Chada
- 4/24 Dee Murman
- 4/25 Mary Larson
- 4/25 Brenda Pemble
- 4/26 Quinn Richman
- 4/29 Gary Winkler
- 4/30 Kay Lomicka

**APRIL**  
*Anniversaries*

- 4/2 Dan & Mary Larson
- 4/2 Cliff & Sharon Perkins
- 4/7 James & Ramona Peterson
- 4/18 Ernie & Cathy Jones
- 4/22 Chris & Julie Ulrich
- 4/23 Kayode & Angela Garraway
- 4/25 David & Theresa Doster
- 4/27 Daryl & Bana Starrett
- 4/29 Ralph & Donna Bryan



**A Message from Pastor Bobbie**

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our Board of Trustees for their teamwork in overseeing the plumbing repairs in the master bath at the parsonage. They took the time to cut the wall and then replace the drywall after the plumber completed the job. The area has since been painted, and it looks fantastic!





**Easter Sunday Announcement**

# Early Easter Breakfast

Everyone is invited to an early morning breakfast on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. It will be a come-and-go meal from 8:30am until food is gone OR until the Easter service begins.

There will be a simple menu of egg casserole, sweet rolls/donut balls, fruit, coffee, and juice.

There is no charge, but a freewill basket will be set out.

Please join us for a little food and fellowship as we celebrate our most important Christian Sunday.

Thanks,  
Ruth Babbitt

**Stewardship and Giving**

# Cal-Hamster Circuit Meeting Update

At our last meeting on March 24, six clergy members and twelve laypeople from our circuit churches came together to provide mutual ministry support, engage in prayer, and participate in focused learning. March's learning focus was on stewardship. Recently, Rev. Filmore attended a workshop where he learned several strategies for navigating periods of decreased giving in congregational life.

One of the most impactful presentations at the workshop was by Katharine Yarnell, the executive director of the Iowa Methodist Foundation. **She highlighted that since the late 1800s, there have been fluctuations in church attendance and giving.** Notable periods of religious revival include the First Great Awakening (1730s to 1760s), the Second Great Awakening (1780s to 1840s), the World War II Revival (1935 to 1950), and the Baby Boomer Revival (1965 to 1971).

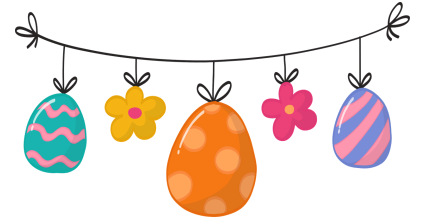
During each of these revival periods, church attendance and

giving surged, regardless of the quality of worship, preaching, or leadership; people simply showed up and contributed. However, these surges were always followed by significant declines in attendance and giving, again irrespective of the quality of church activities.

Ms. Yarnell's key point was that whatever season the church is experiencing now, another season will follow. *This is not the first time we've faced these challenges, and it certainly won't be the last. It is essential to remember that God is faithful through all seasons.*

Another topic discussed at the meeting included initial planning for a circuit day retreat, including workshops, nature walks, Bible study, and worship.

Circuit meetings are open to clergy and members of our congregation. If you'd like to attend, the next one will be on **Tuesday, April 28, 5:30pm, at Faith UMC in Humboldt.** Pastor Bobbie will be attending if you'd like to carpool.



## Thank you

to everyone who participated in

TRINITY UMC'S

**MARCH**

**BLOOD**

*drive*

*We had 14 people come to the March 13<sup>th</sup> blood drive to donate, and only three were unable to give blood.*



*The winners of the gift cards for registering online to donate and scheduling another donation were Mark Babbitt and Mallory Asche.*

*Thanks again for your support!*

*-Ramona Peterson*



## COMING SOON

**You can drop off your treasures at the church in the first classroom on the East upon entering the parking lot door. The date is not yet set. Thanks for supporting Trinity's youth!**

Missions Committee News

# Manna Meal on April 25th

On Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, in the evening, we will be serving a manna meal at First United Methodist Church here in Fort Dodge. Following the meal, we will play BINGO games with prizes! There will be sign-up sheets available for you to donate food items and money, and for volunteers to serve the meal.

In May and June, we will focus on giving to the Lord's Cupboard. We will have lists of the items that need to be purchased, as well as envelopes for cash donations. There will also be

a display showing the items that the Lord's Cupboard can buy from the Food Bank of Iowa at reduced costs.

**Mat Weaving Sessions** are every Monday and Friday from 10:00am to 11:00am.

**Additional Mat Weaving Sessions in April:**

Thurs., April 9: 5:00 - 7:00pm  
 Sat., April 18: 10:00am - Noon

*Everyone is welcome!*

Jayne Cassidy  
 Missions Committee Chair

**Trinity Women's Missions**

Trinity Women's Missions is a community of women whose purpose is to: know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and expand concepts of mission through participation in ministries of the church.

**Mary's Circle**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 4:00pm

Contact:  
Karen Hilpipre,  
Zelda Farmer

**Ruth's Circle**

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 9:15am

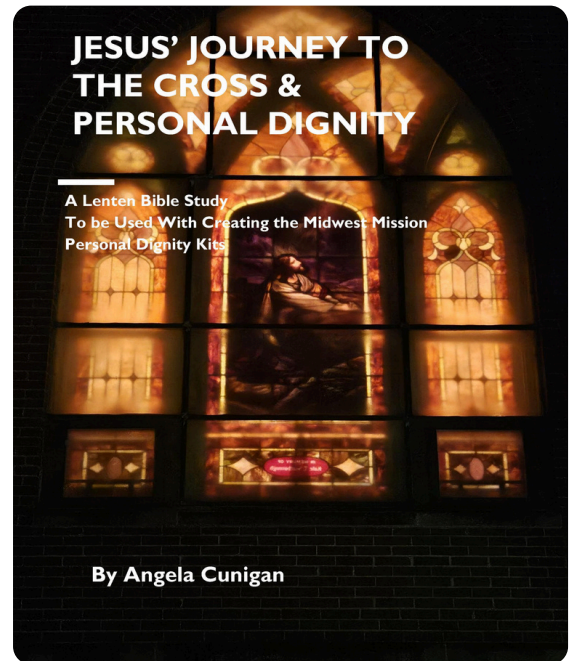
Contact:  
Carol Etzel

\*God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.\* - Psalm 46:5

**April Dates:**

**Mary Circle: Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm**  
**Ruth Circle: Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am**

*Everyone is welcome to come!*



**Adult Sunday School Update**

## Lenten Bible Study Extended

The Sunday School class at 11:00am will continue the Lenten Study through the middle of April because of the recent cancellation due to the blizzard.

The Lenten Study relates to items included in the Personal Dignity Kits that are sent to victims of disasters in the United States and around the world. There is a list of items needed for the kits on the table in the hallway by the Gathering Room. There are also envelopes for monetary donations. The items that are purchased can be placed in the basket on the table. Thank you to the people who have already purchased some of the items!

*"If everyone in the congregation purchased one item, our church would be able to help many disaster victims."*  
 —Carol Etzel

## Shine Your Light! :) Laura

## YOUTH NEWS

### Spring Break Mission Trip

By the grace of God and the blessing of the FDSH musical director, 10 Trinity youth, Chris Johnson, and I were able to carve out 2 ½ days to experience an Urban Plunge in Omaha, Nebraska. All the details fell into place in just 2 weeks!

We left FD at 2 p.m. on March 7 and returned at 9:30 p.m. March 9. Saturday afternoon we enjoyed supper together and tried 18 holes of mini golf at Prehistoric Putt in Omaha. We moved into The Place, lodging provided for by Christ for the City International. Our team leader was Barbara Rowe, director of missions for CFCI.

Sunday, we traveled to The Beautiful Gate, a CFCI partner ministry directed by Pastor Heidi, a street evangelist. We helped set up worship in a deteriorated store front in a low-income area. We helped prepare and serve lunch, sort clothing and food donations, then distribute it to all who came to worship and end with hearing Heidi's story.



Two hours later we served supper to women, children, and men who reside in temporary shelters provided by Open Door Mission. The supper was very good. We were able to meet many of the residents and offer prayer too.

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed,  
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus."*

*Colossians 3:17*

Monday we were on the road at 6:45 am to Sienna Francis House which also feeds those who are homeless and/ or food insecure. SFH is a "wet" emergency shelter allowing any and all to receive a meal. We met women and men of all ages and stages of life, some only with possessions they could carry, living nearby in tarp tents. Truth be told there are some smells you just can't forget.

Our next stop, Sozo (means safe place or salvation) Coffee house, a mission created to meet the needs of Gen Z. This coffee house is located in the Old Market area of Omaha and offers a safe space to drink coffee, dine, play pool, and even rent space to hold a Bible Study. Chad, the owner, took our group on a 15 block prayer walk. It was a powerful experience.



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The final stop, The Hope Center for kids, is a ministry providing the neighborhood children a safe place to go after school and during the summer offering meals, tutors, organized games, Bible lessons and lots of family engagement activities. The cost is \$10 a year! We were tasked with creating a pickle ball court in their gym and putting together shelves in their tech room.

We closed our Plunge with a time of sharing and praying for all those we met and their ministries.

### Reflections from the trip...

"We are all similar people, surviving and hopefully thriving in need of being loved and cared for."

"Don't take what you have for granted. Ask yourself, do I really need this? Or just want it?"

"Service doesn't need to be complicated. We put food on plates and served people. Meeting people's basic needs shows people God's love."

"Church can be a gathering of people anywhere."

"You can teach people to follow as well as teach them to be found!"

**YOUTH NEWS CONTINUED**

**Photo Updates:**



Pictured: Penne creates the disciples in (an ice cream) boat while Jesus sleeps.



Pictured: Amelia, Emmy & Jax tried an experiment to calm the storm.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT?**

**WEDNESDAYS**

**April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**

3:15pm JAM (Jesus and Me)

3:45pm Middle School Bible Study

5:00pm STOP & GO SUPPER

6:30pm Youth Bible Study

**APRIL 22: CELEBRATE CAMP**

Kali Tomlison from Spirit Lake United Methodist Church Camp will be here to share what's new for camp along with games and activities to get us ready to go! Registration is open! Scholarships available. Contact Laura.

**APRIL 29: END of the YEAR PARTY! 3:15 - 6:00pm**

JAM & Middle School Bible Study students- let's celebrate the end of the year with games, contests, music, prizes, walking tacos & sno cones!

**SUNDAY SPECIAL EVENTS**

**April 5:** EASTER! Worship at 9:30am

**April 12:** Youth Groups meet

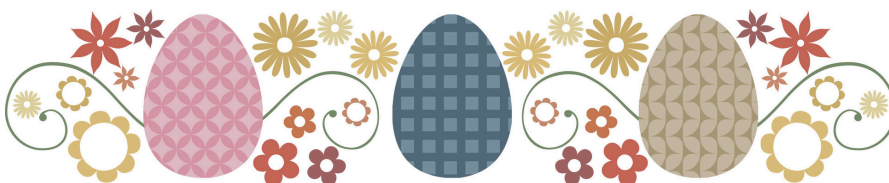
**April 19:** Confirmation Sunday at 9:30am

**April 26:** Great Day of Music at 9:30am

JAM & Middle Schoolers sing

Youth Groups meet

**May 3:** Senior Recognition at 9:30am



**GROWING IN GOD'S word**



Try this craft as a reminder that we need to continue to grow in God's Word.

**What you need:**

- Small terra cotta pot and plate
- Acrylic paints (various colors)
- Paper plate
- Potting soil (enough to fill the pot)
- Small inside plant or packet of seeds
- Newspaper or paper
- Paintbrush
- Cup of water
- Permanent black marker



**What you do:**

1. Spread some newspaper out on a table for your working area.
2. Squeeze the paint colors that you wish to use onto your paper plate.
3. Paint designs on the pot and plate.
4. When the pot is dry, take the black marker and on the top part of the pot write: Growing in God's Word.
5. Pour a small amount of potting soil into the bottom of the pot. With adults help, place your plant into the pot and surround your plant with the rest of the soil. If planting seeds, follow the packet instructions.
6. Water your plant so the soil is moist. Check your plant everyday and keep the soil moist.
7. Enjoy watching your plant grow, and remember that you too, need care as you grow in God's Word.

2 Peter 3:18 NIV

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

# April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> Palm Sunday 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School Bible Study 11:00am Confirmation Class	<b>30</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 6:30pm Lent Bible Study	<b>31</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters	<b>1</b> 9:00am Accountant Here 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>2</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Taize	<b>3</b> Office Closed 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 6:30pm Good Friday Tenebrae	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Easter Sunday 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class	<b>6</b> Office Closed 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness	<b>7</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters	<b>8</b> 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>9</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness 5:00pm Mat Weaving Session 5:30pm SPPRC Meeting	<b>10</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>11</b> 5:30pm Worship
<b>12</b> Youth Group Meets 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class	<b>13</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness	<b>14</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:45pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:00pm FD Quilters Guild	<b>15</b> 9:00am Accountant Here 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study 4:00pm Mary's Circle 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>16</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness	<b>17</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>18</b> 10:00am Mat Weaving Session 5:30pm Worship
<b>19</b> Confirmation Sunday 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School	<b>20</b> Newsletter Articles DUE 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 9:30am Webster County Retired School Personnel Meeting 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness	<b>21</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters	<b>22</b> 9:15am Ruth's Circle 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM & Middle School CELEBRATE CAMP 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>23</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness 5:00pm SPPRC Meeting	<b>24</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>25</b> Great Day of Music 5:30pm Worship
<b>26</b> Great Day of Music 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School	<b>27</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness	<b>28</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters	<b>29</b> 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM & Middle School END OF YEAR PARTY 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>30</b> Scholarship Applications Due 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness	<b>1</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>2</b> 5:30pm Worship



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FORT DODGE IA 50501-2849  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# April 2026 Newsletter

