

# THE COMPASS NEWSLETTER

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BY TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A PLACE TO... BELONG. BELIEVE. BECOME. ✳ TRINITY UMC MISSION – TO LEAD OTHERS TO CHRIST

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## WORSHIP WITH US

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

\*Sunday Livestream on Facebook & Youtube

## CONTACT US

- ✳ **OUR PASTOR**  
REV. BOBBIE MALTAS  
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(281) 793-7558
- ✳ **DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES**  
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MALLORY ASCHE  
office@trinityumcfd.org  
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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



# WELCOME

The Confirmation Class of 2026,  
New Members, New Baptisms



## THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026

- \*Clarissa Brown
- \*Erika Berning
- \*Haleigh Kiplinger
- \*Madison Le
- \*Ja'Nique Price
- AvaMarie Kirby
- Casey Nielson
- Gretta Pratt
- \*Madisyn Smith
- Paisley Smith
- Maiya Herndon

\*Also Baptized

## NEW MEMBERS

- Ryan & Hope Brown
- Esther Clark
- Phyllis O'Brien

## NEW BAPTISMS

- Carolyna Price
- Everett Netz
- Taylor Netz
- Sadie Netz

**WELCOME!**

Church  
**FAMILY**  
PRAYER LIST

Ed & Joanne Becker  
Ralph Ewing  
Terry Lee  
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

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.

**BE** joyful in hope,  
patient in affliction,  
faithful in prayer.  
Romans 12:12, NIV



**MAY**  
Birthdays

5/2 Gary Astor  
5/2 Don Peart  
5/4 Corbin Smith  
5/4 Kevin Thompson  
5/5 Nick Salmon  
5/7 RaeAnne Marner  
5/7 Jane Soppeland  
5/8 Regina Barber  
5/9 Julie Ulrich  
5/10 Jody Donahe  
5/11 Leanne Hartley  
5/13 Dee Burbank  
5/13 Tristin Doster  
5/15 Bruce Murman  
5/20 Judy Clearwater-Davis  
5/21 Mitch Shelton  
5/22 Casey Nielson  
5/24 Cheryl Barber  
5/26 Jamie Campbell  
5/27 Lilly Johnson  
5/29 Brad Koester  
5/31 Katrina O'Brien

**MAY**  
Anniversaries

5/6 Jason & Mandy Beckman  
5/6 Mark & RaeAnne Marner  
5/10 Eric & Amanda Pratt  
5/19 Brad & Colleen Koester  
5/21 Nick & Aerial Peterson  
5/24 Rick & Linda Sessler



**Trinity Women's Missions  
May Meeting Dates:**

**Mary Circle:**

Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm

**Ruth Circle:**

Wednesday, May 27<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am

*Everyone is welcome to come!*



# Shine Your Light! :) Laura YOUTH NEWS

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAURA

Dear Church family and friends,

Thank you—truly, deeply, joyfully—thank you for the past five years of ministry together. It has been an incredible privilege to serve as Coordinator for Children and Youth Ministries. I have cherished every moment of planting seeds of faith and watching young people grow in their relationship with God. Walking alongside the children, youth, and families of this church has been a gift I will always carry with me.

As I step into a new season, my last day will be May 31. I look ahead with excitement and trust, eager to discover the next chapter God has prepared. I leave with a heart full of gratitude and countless memories of the ways we have learned, grown, and served Christ together. You have been a blessing to me in more ways than I can express.

As Paul wrote, "I thank God for you... whenever I think of you. My constant prayers for you are a real joy... I feel sure that the one who has begun his good work in you will go on developing it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:3, J.B. Phillips)

**With a grateful heart, Laura Stover**

### Celebration of Ministry

Laura Stover's Celebration of Ministry will be Sunday, May 31, after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

The Staff-Pastor Parish Relations Committee is providing pulled pork sandwiches and invites everyone to bring a side dish or dessert.

Starting the week of May 25, there will be a basket in the church office for personal notes and gifts for Laura. It will be at the reception on May 31. If giving a check, please make it out directly to her, not the church. Thank you for your generosity.



## Trinity UMC Seniors

On Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> the 2026 high school graduates will be recognized during the 9:30am service. Those graduating are Ellie Alstott, daughter of Sean & Josephine Alstott, Janelle Chada, daughter of Joe & Jodi Chada, and Aianna Kirby, daughter of Greg & Jobina Kirby. Also honored are senior youth group members; Carlos Cervantes and Jaxton Jones.

## Welcome Confirmands!

Congratulations and Blessings upon our eleven new members who were baptized and/or reaffirmed their baptism on Sunday, April 19, 2026

## JAM (Jesus and Me)

The JAM kids had a full and meaningful month as they journeyed through Holy Week, wrapped up a nine-week study on the miracles of Jesus, and celebrated the joy of church camp.



We also rejoiced in a special milestone as Carolyn was baptized on April 19. Norma Hughett, her congregational sponsor, stood alongside her in faith, and she was gifted a new Bible from the church family to mark the occasion.

The JAM kids would also like to share their heartfelt thanks to **Deb Shelton & Matthew Tolle** for spending their Wednesday afternoons with them. Deb brings Bible stories to life in creative and engaging ways—even incorporating science experiments! Matthew keeps things fun and lively with games, snacks, and exciting surprises, including a visit from the FDSH robot. We are so grateful for the joy and dedication they bring to our ministry.

**THANK YOU - JAM** kids for sharing your musical talents with the congregation. May we all decide to follow Jesus, no turning back!

## 4th Annual GAB SALE

Friday, May 29, 3-6pm

Trinity United Methodist Church  
838 N 25th St, FD

Garage, Attic & Basement treasures  
Bake Sale

Free will offering!



Donations accepted through Wed. May 27th. No adult clothes, please. Questions? Contact Laura.

## Missions Committee News

## The Lord's Cupboard

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, we served a manna meal for people living in the downtown area. Afterwards, we played a continuous game of BINGO and gave out prizes. We want to thank everyone who donated food items or gave money for prizes, and those who helped prepare and serve the meal.

In May and June, we are focusing on giving to the Lord's Cupboard. To contribute, please pick up one of the lists showing the most needed food items, as well as the most wanted hygiene and cleaning items. Donated money will buy food through Food Bank of Iowa at a reduced cost.

The sleeping mats that we weave are needed year-round. Recently, a friend spoke with a homeless lady who said she really appreciates her mat as it keeps her much warmer than lying on the cold concrete at night.

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

### Additional Mat Weaving Sessions in May:

Thurs., May 7: 5:00 - 7:00pm  
Sat., May 16: 10:00am - Noon

**Everyone is welcome!**

Jayne Cassidy  
Missions Committee Chair

## Finance Committee Report

## 2026 Giving Increased

The first three months of 2026 has been very rewarding for the Trinity finances especially with the challenge grants in place and people stepping up to the challenge. Through March we have brought in \$74,387.10 this year compared to \$57,246.29 in 2025. Year-to-date we are in

the positive for paying our budgeted bills by \$9,401.19. Therefore, we are also able to pay money towards apportionments.

The mission and obligations of the church have been thriving and we appreciate everyone's continued support of Trinity.

## Adult Sunday School Update

## Volunteers Needed to Assemble Kits

Please join the Adult Sunday School class on Sunday, May 17, at 11:00am to help assemble the kits that were donated during their Lent Bible Study. Everyone is invited to help. Monetary donations are welcome too so they can assemble more kits. These will be distributed to local homeless shelters.

## Summer Food Ministry News

## Weekly Sunday Meals Ministry

**Food insecurity in Fort Dodge is real**, and the United Methodist Churches – Epworth, First UMC, and Trinity UMC – will do their part this summer to feed the hungry bellies of our neighborhood children and their families.

We don't often think about it like this, but it's true.

*People can't hear the gospel over the rumbling of their empty stomachs!*

Beginning Sunday, **June 7, 5:00 – 6:30 PM**, throughout the summer until school begins again in August, the United Methodist Churches will open their doors to serve neighborhood children and their families a very simple but hot meal. Every. Single. Week.

### The Menu

**Hot Dogs, Chips, Bottled Water  
Whatever bars or cookies each church  
wants to provide**

By now, you probably have some questions like these:

### Aren't the schools providing meals throughout the summer?

Yes, they'll be distributing food for children only, not families, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The problem? The food that goes home on Thursdays doesn't last for the weekend. People get hungry by Sunday.

### How many people are we going to feed?

Honestly? We're not sure until we've offered the meals for a couple of weeks, but the schools regularly see 300 or more. So, we'll be prepared.

### How will they know to come to our church on Sunday evenings?

We (pastors) have consulted the schools about student needs and are arranging to send flyers to students through the district.

### How much is this going to cost?

I'm so glad you asked! We've estimated this will cost \$1.25 per person per meal, including food, paper products, and water. Estimating so many meals, it could be as much as \$13,000.00. (Yes, there are lots of zeros.)

**Pastor.** Beloveds, the funds for this outreach ministry will come from a Parish Development grant, a Development Fund Grant through First UMC Fort Dodge, and a Northwest District Grant. We're responsible for ketchup, mustard, and cookies or bars. Oh – and love, compassion, patience, time, cooking, and more love.

Most importantly, our purpose for offering this food ministry to the children and their families in our neighborhood is quite simple: **it's an expression of unconditional love and grace.**

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<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 6:30pm Bible Study	<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 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 5:00pm SPPRC Meeting	<b>1</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>2</b> 9:30am Northwest District Conference, Laurens UMC 5:30pm Worship
<b>3</b> Graduation Sunday and Reception 9:30am Worship	<b>4</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>5</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:00pm Missions Committee Meeting	<b>6</b> 9:00am Accountant Here 10:00am Coffee with Friends 1:00pm Tai Chi Class 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study	<b>7</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 Board of Trustees Meeting	<b>8</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>9</b> 5:30pm Worship
<b>10</b> Mother's Day 9:30am Worship	<b>11</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>12</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:45pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:00pm FD Quilters Guild 6:30pm Ad Council Meeting	<b>13</b> 10:00am Coffee with Friends 1:00pm Tai Chi Class 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>14</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 11:00am Community Bible Study Potluck 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness	<b>15</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>16</b> 10:00am Mat Weaving Session 5:30pm Worship
<b>17</b> 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School Kit Assembly	<b>18</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>19</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters	<b>20</b> Newsletter Articles DUE 9:00am Accountant Here 10:00am Coffee with Friends 10:30am FD High School Mock Wedding 4:00pm Mary's Circle 5:30pm Baccalaureate at FUMC of FD 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>21</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness	<b>22</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>23</b> 5:30pm Worship
<b>24</b> 9:30am Worship	<b>25</b> Memorial Day: Office Closed	<b>26</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:30pm Cal Hamster Circuit Meeting at FUMC FD	<b>27</b> 9:15am Ruth's Circle 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study 4:00pm Youth Set up for GAB Sale 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>28</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness 5:00pm SPPRC Meeting	<b>29</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 3:00pm GAB Sale	<b>30</b> 5:30pm Worship
<b>31</b> 9:30am Worship 10:45am Worship Committee Meeting 11:00am Adult Sunday School	<b>1</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>2</b> 9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:00pm Missions Committee Meeting	<b>3</b> 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study 6:30pm High School Bible Study	<b>4</b> 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness 5:30pm Board of Trustees Meeting	<b>5</b> 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom	<b>6</b> 5:30pm Worship



838 N 25TH ST  
FORT DODGE IA 50501-2849  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# May 2026 Newsletter



BE ALERT  
AND ALWAYS  
KEEP ON PRAYING  
FOR ALL THE  
LORD'S PEOPLE.

EPHESIANS 6:18, NIV