



FEBRUARY 2026

THE COMPASS

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FORT DODGE

TRINITY UMC MISSION – TO SEEK & TO SAVE THE LOST. JOHN 10:11

A PLACE TO... BELONG. BELIEVE. BECOME.



Why do people need Trinity United Methodist Church? Because we pray.

This is a note received in mid-January 2026:

Rev. Bobbie Maltas,

My name is July Pawlosky. My brother, Ron Blomker, is a member of your congregation. My husband, Larry, has had several health problems. The past couple of years, he has battled with melanoma skin cancer of the nose. He went through several surgeries but the past week the Dr said he is in remission.

On Oct 29, he fell and severely broke his ankle. We got wonderful news that the ankle is healing very well.

From my heart and soul, I want to thank you (and your congregation) for your prayers and support during our recent time of need. That is proof that God answers prayers.

I'm so glad that Ron has found such a wonderful church family.

Thank you again. Bless you.

July Pawlosky



Worship with us:

Saturday Worship– 5:30pm

Sunday Worship– 9:30am

Sunday Livestream on

Facebook & YouTube

Visit trinityumcfd.org

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- 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.

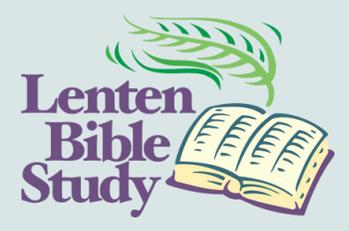
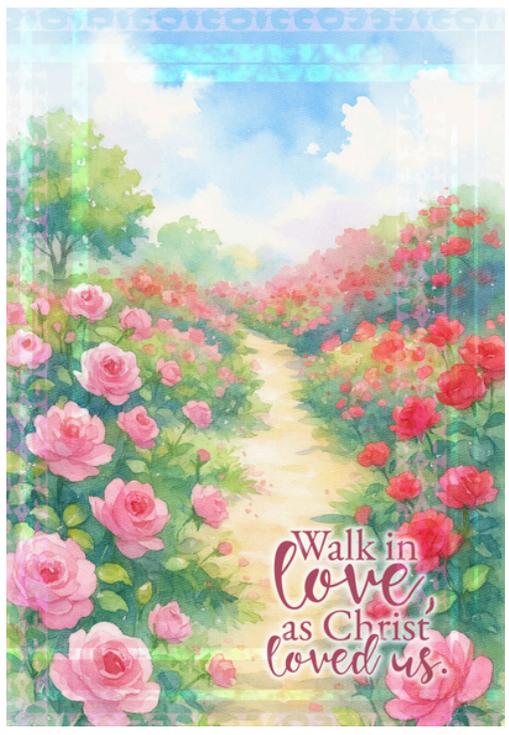
HOW CAN
we Pray
FOR YOU?



- 3 Elijah Yates
- 7 Eric Pratt
- 8 Sabrynn Ulrich
- 8 Gretta Pratt
- 10 Lane McIntyre
- 14 Joan Feddersen
- 14 Joann Whittington
- 14 Ellie Doster
- 15 Jobina Kirby
- 28 Hannah Tolle
- 28 Koen Netz



- 3 Dean & Kandis Fryar



WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

That's the question asked in our new Lent study.

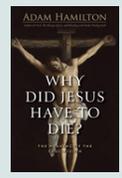
Mondays at 6:30 pm
February 23 – March 30
Gathering Room
Leader Rev. Bobbie Maltas

Despite the crucifixion's central place in Christian faith, the New Testament offers few clear answers about how Jesus' death saves, or why, exactly, he had to die. The New Testament writers use a host of metaphors—ransom, sacrifice, reconciliation, victory—but never explain exactly how it works or why it had to happen this way.

What if that's because we've been asking the wrong question? What if the cross isn't a transaction to be explained, but a living Word from God meant to transform who we are and how we live?

Let's ask the hard questions together and follow the Holy Spirit as we discover the answers.

Order your book, Why Did Jesus Have to Die: The Meaning of the Crucifixion, by Rev Adam Hamilton from www.cokesbury.com or www.christianbook.com





**Are you called to climate action?
We believe you are.**

**Saturday, March 21
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
1340 3rd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA**

Iowa Faith & Climate Network is excited to gather people of diverse faith and spirituality from across Iowa for Called to Climate Action 2026, our annual one-day, statewide conference rooted in faith, justice, and collective action.

This gathering offers a full day of spiritual grounding, learning, connection, and practical action. We are honored to welcome Rev. Jenny Phillips, Director of Environmental Sustainability at Global Ministries and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), who will offer the keynote address, bringing deep experience at the intersection of faith, climate justice, and global mission.

Through workshops, participants will engage topics including clean water, the state of cancer in Iowa, clean energy and how congregations can get involved, local food systems, storytelling, and screenings of *Iowa's Dirty Secret*. These sessions will ground conversations in Iowa's lived realities and provide pathways for hopeful action. The day also includes time to network with tabling organizations and event sponsors at our Advocacy Fair, as well as time for regional breakout groups. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with over a dozen nonprofits and businesses working on climate, environmental, and related issues across Iowa.

To register: <https://iowafaithandclimate.org/ctca-registration/>
or
contact Pastor Bobbie Maltas
515-573-3519 bobbie.maltas@iaumc.net

Scholarships are available.

Cal-Hamster Circuit News

The Cal-Hamster Circuit consists of 23 churches in Calhoun, Hamilton, Webster, Humboldt, Sac, and Wright Counties. When first formed, it represented only Calhoun, Hamilton, and Webster counties. Thus, the name, Cal-Hamster Circuit. We've discussed updating the name but can never come up with a good one.

The clergy of the circuit meet monthly for mutual support and prayer. But the best stuff happens at the monthly meetings of combined clergy and laity. When we met in November, we decided to focus on two areas of ministry that are challenging and high on the circuit's priority list: Hospitality and Finance/Stewardship.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, February 17, at 5:30. First UMC of Fort Dodge will be hosting that meeting. Our devotions this year are focused on hospitality and after the devotion, each circuit church takes time to share how their congregation welcomes worship guests. If we used ideas we learned from other churches in the previous month's meeting, we report on how they worked for our church.

Our next agenda item is to share best practices of each circuit church to stimulate financial stewardship and giving. What we learned at our November meeting is that every single church, regardless of size, is struggling financially. Finance meetings have been hard, but we are determined to remain faithful and trusting in God.

The circuit will also spend time planning quarterly events, such as continuing education events for lay speakers, circuit youth/children events, community Vacation Bible School, circuit mission/service events, worship services, etc.

Finally, we share God sightings. It's incredibly inspiring to hear all the ways God is moving in the United Methodist Churches, the communities, and the individual lives of so many people. We pray for each other and bid one another farewell.

Trinity UMC, we currently have no laity who attend the monthly circuit meetings. They are typically on the third Tuesdays of the month, and the location rotates from church to church around the circuit. If you would like to carpool with Pastor Bobbie to one of the meetings, please contact her at 515-573-3519 or bobbie.maltas@iaumc.net.

“Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!” Psalm 99:5 (ESV)

BUT WAIT... there is something MORE for your taste buds to experience in February.

Plan now to attend the 4th Annual SOUPER BOWL LUNCH @ 11 AM on FEBRUARY 8, 2026!



The youth will host this mission trip fundraiser following worship on **February 8th at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall**. A free-will offering will be taken. You choose what to sample or take your soup bowl to go!

Vote with a dollar or more for your favorite kind. The 2025 favorites by vote were Maiya’s Chiefs Chili and Brek’s Zuppa Toscana.

Anyone can donate a crockpot of soup for the contest! Let Laura know by Wed, February 4.



What a treat to capture a beautiful sunset on Clear-water beach in Florida. Although it was a short time away with family, it was refreshing! Not only did my niece and her husband treat me to beach time, smoked turkey and mini bowling, we three researched the best ice cream places in the St. Pete area because...

NATIONAL EAT ICE CREAM FOR BREAKFAST DAY IS FEBRUARY 7TH!



We had a delicious time but could not settle on just one favorite ice cream. I challenge all who read this article to pick up a spoon and join in the fun like Madi and Ja’unique! (pictured) This “holiday” was created in the 1960s to cure winter blues, it is a global event that encourages people to eat ice cream before noon, often in their pajamas.



If ice cream doesn’t sound appealing for breakfast how about PANCAKES FOR SUPPER?

Mateo & Carlos, two high school Bible study regulars, added their own special touch to our recent “breakfast for supper” night.

EVERYONE is invited to Trinity’s annual **ASH WEDNESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER on February 18th** from 5:00 to 5:45pm in the Fellowship Hall before the combined Ash Wednesday worship service at First United Methodist Church begins at 6:30 pm.

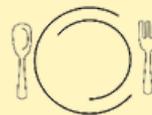
These practices are a meaningful way to begin the Lenten season.

WHAT’S HAPPENING NEXT?

FEBRUARY 1: BATTLE of the YOUTH GROUPS (6th - 8th verses 9th - 12th) beginning @ 5pm in the Fellowship Hall. Your hidden talent may earn points for your team. The contests may get a bit messy so do not dress in your best! Let the games begin...

FEBRUARY 8: Host the SOUPER BOWL LUNCH

FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18 & 25: STOP & GO SUPPER



Serving from 5 – 5:45 pm. Fellowship Hall. Suggested offering: \$5 each or \$15 a family. Menu posted on Trinity’s Facebook page & emailed to members & friends. **HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY at 6:30 p.m.**

FEBRUARY 20-22: CONFIRMATION RETREAT

At Wesley Woods Camp near Indianola for students currently in 7th & 8th grade. Sign up with Pastor Bobbie

SUNDAY, MARCH 1: ICCC’s PRINCE OF EYGPPT’s Musical

At 2 pm for all 6-12th graders. Sign up for a ticket by Wed. Jan 28th with Laura

SUNDAY, MARCH 15: WINTER JAM in Des Moines!

Doors open at 4p.m. Concert begins at 5p.m. Room for 11 in the church van sign up with Laura

COMING LATE SPRING: THE 2026 GAB SALE

Church family and friends, once again the youth will host an annual Garage, Attic and Basement Sale to raise funds for the summer mission trips. Save your treasures. Thank you! Contact Laura if you have any questions.



The following is a **Year-End Recap of the “Planned Receipts”** which are our normal giving that is applied to the total **“Planned Expenses”** which is our budget that covers staff wages and benefits, insurance, expenses for the upkeep of the church and parsonage, utility expenses at the church, apportionments, committee budgets, and a few other smaller items that are budgeted.

If additional funds are received for special events or requests, then they are applied separately to our budgeted income and expenses. For example, if we have a G.A.B. sale and the proceeds are designated for a special project then the funds received from the sale do not go into the general fund as “Planned Receipts” but rather go into a separate fund and are paid out of that fund for the designated purpose.

Below is Planned Receipts from offerings and tithes & Planned Expenses (budgeted items):

	Planned Receipts	Planned Expenses (Budget)
2025	\$213,991.74	\$294,540.96
2024	\$222,597.41	\$288,896.73
2023	\$256,208.71	\$287,864.71
2022	\$271,488.68	\$271,649.18

2022 was basically a breakeven year.

2023 we had enough money built up in our checking account to cover the shortfall.

2024 we used \$64,000 of our General Ministry Funds that we have invested at the Iowa United Methodist Foundation and that account would be like a savings account when used for general ministry uses at the church.

2025 we used \$77,000 of our General Ministry Funds.

On 12/31/25 Our General Ministry Funds (kind of like our savings account) balance was \$95,384.17.

In 2022 our Insurance expense was \$8,400. In 2025 that same expense was \$20,877 for the church, parsonage, and van (In 2026 that amount is \$23,753). 2025 was an increase of \$12,477 more than in 2022. This amount represents about 55% of our increased planned expenses in 2022 vs. 2025.

In 2022 our apportionments paid were \$26,731 and in 2025 that amount was \$31,731 or \$5,000 more than in 2022.

Insurance and apportionments have gone up about \$17,477 since 2022 or about 76% of our increased budgeted expenses.

Kraig Barber,
Finance Committee Chairperson



MISSIONS Committee



In February, we are supporting **Blankets of Hope** through Church World Services. The two types of blankets will be on our display along with donation envelopes. Every \$10 donated buys a blanket. *Your contributions provide warmth and comfort to people in need around the world.*

We want to thank everyone who donated to the **Heifer International Project**. With the \$800 raised, we were able to purchase a pig, a goat, baby chicks, honeybees, a Bio-fuel stove, and a solar kit! *What a difference these will make!*

2026 Project Calendar Missions Committee:

- **Feb:** CWS Blankets of Hope
- **Mar:** Manna Meal Sign-Up
- **Apr:** Serve Manna Meal on April 25th
- **May:** Lord's Cupboard
- **June:** Lord's Cupboard
- **July:** Set-Up Ingathering Tree
- **Aug:** Collect Ingathering Kit Items
- **Sep:** Sort Items, Assemble Kits
- **Oct:** Beacon of Hope Meal
- **Nov:** Host Ingathering Day on Nov 7th
Winter Items for School Kids
- **Dec:** Heifer International Project
Winter Items for School Kids

Additional Weaving Sessions:

Thursday, February 12th from 5:00 to 7:00pm
Saturday, February 21st from 10:00am to Noon.
Everyone is welcome!

Jayne Cassidy
Missions Committee Chair



Friday, March 13, 2026 : Blood Drive

Please save the date for our blood drive. Specific times are to be announced at a later date.



HolyCow!
consulting
Organizational Intelligence You Can Use

It's Time for Trinity UMC's CAT!

**We're excited to use the
Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT)**
to gather insights from our beloved
community!

Please fill out the online survey from your
email or stop into the office to grab a
paper copy.

**These need to be completed by Sunday,
February 15th!**

Thank you!

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Potluck 9:30am Worship 5:00pm Battle of the Youth Groups</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters</p>	<p>4</p> <p>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</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness 5:30pm Board of Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:30pm Worship</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30am Worship 10:45am Souper Bowl Lunch 11:00am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:45pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:00pm FD Quilters Guild</p>	<p>11</p> <p>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</p>	<p>12</p> <p>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</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:30pm Worship</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 1:00pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 9:30am JRSP 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:30pm Cal Hamster Circuit Meeting at FUMC FD</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00am Accountant Here 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Middle School Bible Study 5:00pm Pancake Supper 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship 6:30pm High School Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Newsletter Articles DUE 8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Confirmation Retreat 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Confirmation Retreat 10:00am Mat Weaving Session 5:30pm Worship</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Confirmation Retreat 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 6:30pm Lent Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters</p>	<p>25</p> <p>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</p>	<p>26</p> <p>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</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30pm Worship</p>



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

February

