



OCTOBER 2025

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.

Genuine gratitude is more than saying “thank you” – it’s a way of seeing and engaging with the world that can change your outlook on life. The practice of giving thanks and recognizing the good in our lives, as well as appreciating the big and small blessings we enjoy from our Creator, adds a depth of richness to our lives that nothing else can. By focusing on what we can be thankful for, we build resilience and are reminded that there’s always something to celebrate, even in the face of adversity.

Most United Methodist Churches set aside several weeks in the fall after a stewardship campaign, inviting members to pledge their tithes and offerings to support the church's ministries through the budget. This year, Trinity United Methodist Church is going to do something very different. At September’s Finance Committee and Administrative Council meeting, the idea was approved!

We’re going to celebrate our blessings and share them with our community. Each weekend in worship, our preaching focus will be on God’s goodness toward us and our congregation. Our stewardship testimonies will be how people are thankful for how God has blessed them and what God has done in their lives.

Our October theme is this:

Inspired by Gratitude  *Motivated by Love*

And praise God, gratitude inspires us to do something good for others. When we’re thankful, we want to make others feel just as blessed. So this is the idea we’re putting out to the congregation: Let’s get motivated by Love. Instead of a consecration meal, what can we do for our neighbors? We’ve been blessed; let’s bless our neighbors with a meal or a concert or a combination of both!

October 11/12: Where Were Nine? Luke 17:11-19

October 18/19: Left-Overs Matthew 14:13-21

October 25/26: Enough Exodus 16:2-15

November 1/2: All Saints/ Celebration Weekend



Saturday Worship– **5:30p**

Sunday Worship– **9:30a**

Sunday Livestream on
[Facebook & YouTube](#)

Visit trinityumcfd.org

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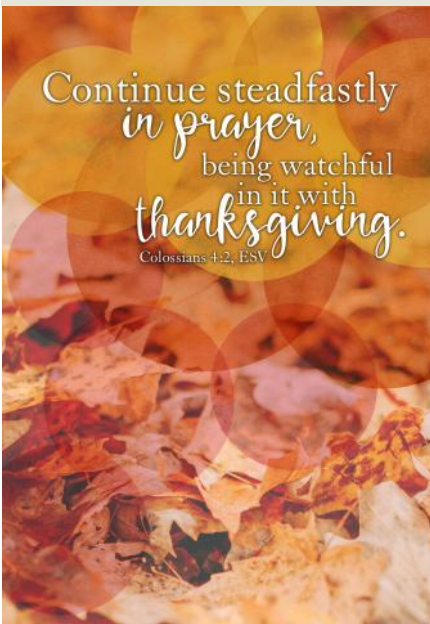
Calendar 7



PRAYER LIST

Elaine Cassady
 Ed & Joanne Becker
 Ralph Ewing
 Terry Lee
 Lois Martin
 Linda Pingel
 Steve Roe
 Ilene Smith
 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.



October Birthdays

| | |
|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Austin Stewart |
| 1 | Lori Cassady |
| 3 | Ilene Smith |
| 3 | Amanda Pratt |
| 4 | Joely Swenson |
| 4 | Rhonda Olson |
| 4 | Joanne Astor |
| 5 | Gavin Hansen |
| 5 | Janelle Chada |
| 7 | Sharon Perkins |
| 8 | Amanda Peart |
| 9 | Diana Thompson |
| 9 | Lisa Meyer |
| 9 | Theresa Doster |
| 9 | Martha Mericle |
| 9 | Sarah Geilenfeld |
| 11 | Erin Rogers |
| 11 | Carol Knapp |
| 14 | Sharon Berg |
| 14 | Linda Sessler |
| 14 | Rita Fleener |
| 15 | Cody Seil |
| 16 | Mallory Kilian |
| 19 | Chris Johnson |
| 19 | Deanne Ebelsheiser |
| 19 | Diane Larson |
| 21 | Sandra Valvoda |
| 24 | Allison Becker |
| 25 | Jana Nelson |
| 26 | Glenn Yenger |
| 27 | Kristi Lynn McLoud |
| 27 | Matilda Breaser |
| 28 | Joyce Choate |
| 28 | Gini Chizek |
| 29 | Dale Conklin |
| 30 | Stacey Stuhrenberg |



October Anniversaries

| | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 1 | Jerry & Linda Beck |
| 6 | Jeremy & Brooke Roe |
| 12 | Mike & Rose Dopita |
| 20 | Bruce & Dee Murman |
| 27 | Lawrence & Leanne Hartley |



Save the Date:

October 5 is Heritage Sunday, when we will celebrate the history of Trinity United Methodist Church. During the worship service, we will recognize members whose journey with us began many years ago and who continue to bless our congregation today.

The chancel choir will present a special anthem titled "Love Grows Here," and we will also celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. It's the first Sunday, which means there will be a potluck lunch after worship. Bring a dish to share and join the fellowship!



♡ Love ♡
 grows here

Local Service Projects

(Unless otherwise noted, our service projects are open to supervised school-aged children, youth, and adults.)

Oct 12 Beacon of Hope Meal (Meal prep, serve, clean-up), Kitchen, Beacon of Hope. Sign up in the hallway to donate food, make casseroles, make dessert bars, and serve.

Nov 1 1-4:00 PM Ingathering, Fellowship Hall, Parking Lot. Churches from several surrounding counties will be bringing Ingathering Kits to Trinity UMC for loading on semi-trucks. There will be activities inside and outside of the church and help will be greatly appreciated!

Mondays/Fridays 10:00 AM Mission Loom (Cutting, Weaving, Conversation), Fellowship Hall.

The Lord's Cupboard is a food pantry that welcomes volunteers. Go to the "volunteer" tab at www.lordscupboardfd.org or contact the director at 515-227-3337.

Meals on Wheels helps older citizens of Fort Dodge who struggle with hunger by delivering nutritious hot meals. Several members of Trinity UMC are delivery drivers for Meals on Wheels and you can be too! Contact Pastor Bobbie Maltas at bobbie.maltas@iaumc.net or 515-573-3519 to volunteer.



Strengthening Families Program: For Parents and Youth in 5th & 6th grades

Trinity UMC is happy to be hosting the Fall session for the ISU Strengthening Families program for 5th & 6th graders and their parents. The dates are Sunday, Oct 12, 19, 26 and November 2, 9, and 16. The time is 2-4:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Strengthening Families 10-14 Program is now registering for the Fall 2025 sessions. Strengthening Families 10-14 is fun, it's free, and it's time well spent.

Parents learn how to establish "love with limits" while their pre-teens develop skills in handling peer pressure and stressful situations.

This program is a win-win! Not only is a meal provided, childcare for younger children is provided too! The 5th and 6th graders earn money to attend with their families and also receive a \$40 gift card when they "graduate" after attending 5 of 6 sessions.

Registration forms will be sent home with Fort Dodge 5th & 6th graders. You may return the form to the school office, the Webster County Extension & Outreach office, or register online at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/webster/strengthening-families-program-parents-and-youth-10-14>.

All Sessions:

1. Sunday, October 12, 2025 2:00 pm
2. Sunday, October 19, 2025 2:00 pm
3. Sunday, October 26, 2025 2:00 pm
4. Sunday, November 2, 2025 2:00 pm
5. Sunday, November 9, 2025 2:00 pm
6. Sunday, November 16, 2025 2:00 pm





FALL BACK in LOVE with JESUS

Highlights from Laura

Trinity's return of JAM, More JAM, and Confirmation started Sept 17th on a tasty note as Ella and Ace served sno cones with 8 new flavors to try. On September 24th the JAM students fashioned their own shepherd's staff to help them explore Psalm 23's green pastures and refreshing waters at Snell Crawford Park. It was a workout caring for the sheep and fending off biting insects.



The middle and high school students were posed this question: "If you could be famous for just one day, would you? Who/What would make you famous?" Surprisingly, the majority of the high school students said they would NOT want to be famous. Their reasons were many, like your privacy would be gone, you'd have to face the paparazzi, and you would lose control of your life—valid points. However, having the world's attention for 24 hours seems like a gift to be grasped. Maybe one could sing a song that would literally bring people to their knees as they surrender their lives to Jesus Christ. Or one could preach a Billy Graham-style sermon that invites people to lay down their differences and work together for world peace. I'm all in. How about you?

These questions led us to discover a few of the most FAMOUS verses in the Bible, like John 3:16. What if you had only 30 seconds to share your faith? Could this verse help you accomplish the goal? These "what if" questions are examples of the topics the middle and high school youth are tackling as they begin a new year of Bible study and youth group. **If this sounds interesting, why not volunteer on a Wednesday or Sunday night? Wrestle with us on how to share what we believe with our friends, family, and beyond! Call Laura!**

September was filled with unique activities that positively impacted others' lives. Middle school youth



celebrated Grandparents' Day with a surprise visit with their grandma &/or grandpa. A clever musical



greeting was created along with a survival kit filled with sweet treats. The delight in the honorees' eyes was unforgettable for both the youth and the grandparents.

The high school students walked and prayed their way to Snack Shack and back. Whoever God put in their sight or path was prayed for with boldness!

Another September highlight was the 4-hour GAB Sale on the 19th. About a dozen youth & parents worked fervently to set up, sell, tear down, and distribute leftover treasures. WOW! What a wonderful turnout. \$900+ was raised for future mission experiences. Thank you, youth, parents, and church family! Start saving your treasures for our Spring 2026 GAB Sale.





WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT?

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

JAM (Jesus & Me) Elementary youth group afterschool until 5pm for 1st – 5th graders.

MORE JAM – 6th grade pre confirmation class after school until 5pm.

CONFIRMATION for 7 & 8th graders meeting at 3:45-4:45pm or 5:45-6:45pm. It's not too late to participate. The Fall semester focus is the 10 commandments & the Apostle's Creed, along with a variety of service projects.

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY @ 6:15 pm for anyone in 9-12th grades. Friends welcome.

STOP & GO SUPPER – Serving from 5 – 5:45pm All children, youth, their families and friends along with the church family are invited to **STOP** by the Fellowship Hall for supper before you **GO** home or to another event. The menu is posted on FB and/or emailed to the church families each Monday. The cost is a free will offering.

YOUTH GROUP SUNDAYS Oct 5, 19 & 26

October 5th 4:30 – 6pm Middle School
6:30 – 8pm High School

Painting Pumpkins with a Purpose. This is our 4th annual contest to create a pumpkin into a Bible character, event or verse.

OCTOBER 19 Middle School from 5-7p
Rake, Run and More

OCTOBER 26 High School 6-8p
Fright Night

together 
we make a difference

Missions Committee:

On **September 15th**, a group of us got together for pizza and to assemble ingathering kits. We sorted all the items, assembled them into kits, and packed the kits into boxes. A heartfelt thank you to all who helped and to those that donated items or funds.



Carol and I participated in a nice meal packing event in Webster City on **September 20th**. We joined people from area churches and packed 36 boxes that filled a pallet in under two hours. It was a great opportunity to help feed hungry people around the world.

Our next Missions meeting is **October 7th** at 5 pm.

Additional weaving sessions are **October 9th** from 5 pm to 7 pm, and **October 18th** from 10 am to 12 pm.

We will be serving an evening meal at the Beacon of Hope on **October 12th**. Sign up sheets are in the church hallway for food items and volunteers to help prepare and serve the meal.

Mark your calendar for Ingathering Day on **November 1st**. Sign up sheets will be available soon. There will be two shifts: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm and 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. If you can help for even one hour, that would be very much appreciated.

Jayne Cassidy
Missions Committee Chair



The Ministry of United Methodist Apportionments

The main way we support the church ministries is through our apportioned funds, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the churchwide budget to conferences and local churches.

For United Methodists, this method of giving has become a strong, generous tradition.

Together, through our connected congregations, we accomplish what no single church, district, or annual conference ever could hope to do alone. In this way, each individual, each family, and each congregation gives a fair share of the church's work. We combine our prayers, presence, gifts, and service to make a significant difference in the lives of God's people.

Contributions for apportionments is often misunderstood, simply because people don't know where the funds are allocated. So each newsletter will include a description of the apportionment programs. Let's start with the last two of the 11 General Conference Apportionment Ministries:

Council on Finance and Administration funds the work of the office of the Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services and for the audit of financial statements as well as other work required by *The Book of Discipline*.

Connectional Ministries Council funds the salaries, benefits, travel, and other related costs for the Assistant to the Bishop for Connectional Ministries, the Leadership Development Ministers, and other related staff. This fund is also responsible for the cost of meetings and other administrative expenses for program boards and agencies of the Conference.

Thanks for taking time to read about the UMC apportionments! Hopefully these program descriptions have been informative! Some of the programs will touch your heart more than others but apportionment giving continues to be a strength of the United Methodist Church. Check back in November to learn more about how local church apportionments are figured.

Beloved Community Event

Saturday, October 18, 2025

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Storm Lake UMC — 211 E 3rd St, Storm Lake, IA 50588-2515

The Beloved Community recognizes and celebrates the beauty and power of God's love and gifts of diversity. We are all wired for authentic relationships and communities. More so, Christians need to be together through the Body of Christ.

Lunch will be potluck, meat & drink provided as well as tableware. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. Register online.

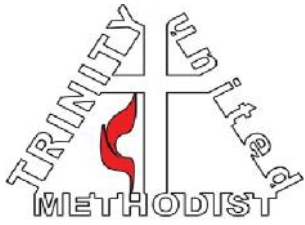
We must be intentional about connecting and being with others. This means building relationships with those who are different from us. *"Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives."* - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Sponsored by the Iowa UMC Conference Commission on Religion and Race (CORR)



October

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| <p>28</p> <p>9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 1:00pm High School Special Event 4:00pm Theology on Tap</p> | <p>29</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness</p> | <p>30</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters</p> | <p>1</p> <p>10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Confirmation Class 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 5:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study</p> | <p>2</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>3</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p> | <p>4</p> <p>5:30pm Worship</p> |
| <p>5</p> <p>Heritage Sunday Potluck World Communion Sunday 9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 4:00pm Theology on Tap</p> | <p>6</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 5:30pm The Chosen Bible Study</p> | <p>7</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:00pm Missions Committee Meeting</p> | <p>8</p> <p>Accountant Here 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Confirmation Class 4:00pm meeting 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 5:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study</p> | <p>9</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>10</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p> | <p>11</p> <p>5:30pm Worship</p> |
| <p>12</p> <p>9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 1:00pm Strengthening Families 4:00pm Theology on Tap 5:00pm Beacon of Hope Meal</p> | <p>13</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 5:30pm The Chosen Bible Study</p> | <p>14</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters 5:45pm Finance Committee Meeting 6:00pm FD Quilters Guild 6:30pm Ad Council Meeting</p> | <p>15</p> <p>10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Confirmation Class 4:00pm Mary Circle 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 5:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study</p> | <p>16</p> <p>8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness</p> | <p>17</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p> | <p>18</p> <p>10:00am Mat Weaving Session 5:30pm Worship</p> |
| <p>19</p> <p>9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 2:00pm Strengthening Families 4:00pm Theology on Tap</p> | <p>20</p> <p>Newsletter Articles DUE 9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness 5:30pm The Chosen Bible Study</p> | <p>21</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters</p> | <p>22</p> <p>Accountant Here 9:15am Ruth Circle 10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Confirmation Class 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 5:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study</p> | <p>23</p> <p>8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness</p> | <p>24</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p> | <p>25</p> <p>5:30pm Worship</p> |
| <p>26</p> <p>9:30am Worship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 2:00pm Strengthening Families 6:00pm Charge Conference</p> | <p>27</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom 1:00pm RSVP BASE Fitness</p> | <p>28</p> <p>9:00am Trinity Quilters</p> | <p>29</p> <p>10:00am Coffee with Friends 3:20pm JAM 3:45pm Confirmation Class 5:00pm Stop & Go Supper 5:45pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study</p> | <p>30</p> <p>8:30am Trinity Bible Study 9:30am Community Bible Study 10:25am Teen Parent Connection Group 1:00pm RSVP Base Fitness</p> | <p>31</p> <p>9:00am RSVP BASE Fitness 10:00am Missions Loom</p> | <p>1</p> <p>All Saints Day 1:00pm Ingathering Day 5:30pm Worship</p> |



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

October

COME, LET'S
SING FOR JOY
TO THE

LORD,

LET'S SHOUT
JOYFULLY TO
THE

ROCK
OF OUR
SALVATION.

PSALM 95:1, NASB