



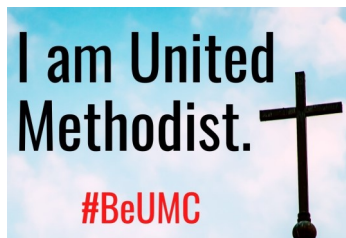
Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

The Sail

Our Vision: *“To love God, uplift people, inspire hope, and grow disciples of Jesus Christ in our community and everywhere we go!”*

May, 2024

I am United Methodist!



I am a lifelong United Methodist. Not only was I born into the church and baptized as an infant in it, but I also chose this church in adulthood. What it means to be United Methodist fits my character, attitude and creation by God. I think you all already know that I love the church, I love the community of United Methodists and I love the United Methodist way of following Jesus.

In 2019 the United Methodist Church, in a special called session of the General Conference (the worldwide gathering of United Methodists), took a wide step away from who I felt God calling us to be. I didn't leave the church at the moment, but I understand why others had to move on. We have been waiting for over 40 years for the United Methodist Church to officially be a place of welcome, love and inclusion for ALL of God's people, especially our LGBTQiA+ siblings. Instead of leaving, I planted my roots in the UMC more deeply, hoping that I could work alongside of others to help the church become what God has called us to be.

We were working toward the regularly called 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis to do the work of affecting that change. And then the pandemic...

Finally, in April of this year (2024), the 2020 General Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet to shape its ministry and its future. We gather as a very different church than in 2019, after 25% of our churches have disaffiliated (left) the United Methodist Church over human sexuality. (The majority, if not all, of those churches held to a traditional view of human sexuality.) That changes the landscape of how the General Conference might speak for the United Methodist Church. Inclusive United Methodists are working to leverage this season in the United Methodist Church to officially become a place of welcome,

Continued on next page...

In this Issue

Pastor Chad	1-2
Children, Youth & Family	3
Mission Corner	4
Core Team & Finance Updates	5
Church Announcements	6-7
May 2024 Calendar	8

Pastor Chad continued...

love and inclusion, while making space for our siblings in the Global church to have a regionalized expression of Methodism.

The three priorities of the Reconciling Ministries Network (the group working on inclusion) are these:

- Adopt worldwide regionalization – Changing how we relate as the church. This work would restructure the UMC based on equity and respect for missional context while maintaining our global connection.
- Adopt revised Social Principles – Changing how we relate to the world. The proposed changes are more succinct, more theologically grounded, and better reflect the nature of the global church. The proposal includes removing the harmful language related to homosexuality and it defines marriage between “two people.”
- Remove anti-LGBTQ+ language and discrimination – Changing how we treat each other. The goal here is to remove any language that targets LGBTQiA+ persons, creating a blank slate for future regional expressions.

You are likely reading this article after the final gavel has struck the podium, signaling the close of the 2020 General Conference Session. But for Minnesota United Methodists, and for us at Holy Trinity UMC as well, no matter what happens at General Conference, we know who and how we are as United Methodists. The Minnesota UMC values being rooted in Jesus, grounded in our Wesleyan theology, inclusive of all persons and engaged in the work of justice and reconciliation. Holy Trinity United Methodist Church will continue to be a Reconciling Congregation focused on loving God, uplifting people, inspiring hope, and growing disciples of Jesus Christ.

This is a fertile season in the United Methodist Church, and a great time to remind ourselves of what it means to follow Jesus in the United Methodist way. I hope that you will be present in

Continued above...

worship (in person or online) as we continue to explore the marks that confirm our identity as genuine and fruitful followers of Christ in the Wesleyan (United Methodist) way. They will remind us why and how we follow Jesus.

Join us in a season of hope for the United Methodist Church and a season of formation as United Methodists in Prior Lake and the surrounding area.

Blessings,
Pastor Chad



Mission Accepted

I was on last month's mission trip to Costa Rica with the Strong Missions organization. Their mission is to help those in need and empower their local communities to create sustainable change. With them we delivered food, renovated a home to make it habitable, and led activities with local kids. Strong Missions also works to help create and improve vegetable gardens, schools, churches, and other community resources. They motivate kids to strive for better lives by teaching them discipline and self-esteem through karate, traditional dance and VBS programs. And they show people that Jesus cares for them through all the things we do for and with them.

When I said yes to our first Strong/Costa Rica mission trip in 2018, I didn't know if I was ready. I don't speak Spanish. I doubted I had any skills that would be very useful. I really didn't know how I would do with the food or what the beds would be like. I thought a mission trip sounded like the kind of thing that Jesus would have us do but I was worried about many things. I took the chance despite my doubts because the Bible says a lot about trusting God, being obedient to God's call, loving our neighbor, and following Jesus. And it turned out great. I mean, it was hard work, and not luxury conditions, but the people we connected with were amazing and we did meaningful work, and nothing that I was worried about was really a problem at all. I came back with confidence in Strong Missions, more confidence in myself, and even more confidence in God's power to work through me even when I am not the best choice for a job.

This year it was my husband, Bryan's, first mission trip and I was afraid I had over-hyped it and it would be a disappointment. But it wasn't. Bryan had a great trip, and my experience was even better than the first time. It was wonderful to reconnect with many of the people I had worked with in 2018, connect with new team members and Strong Staff, and help on a variety of projects.

It is life-changing to experience the hospitality and beauty of another culture, to do something meaningful for another with no expectation of reward, and to trust that God will really meet our needs when we step out of our comfort zone to

follow him. There were many reasons to say no, or maybe later. But all those good things I experienced began with a "yes."

Costa Rica is a long way to go, and the next trip is not until 2026, but we have ways to live out our love for God and for others right here at home. Work on the Don Hartley Memorial garden is about to begin for the season, we have an opportunity to provide hospitality and feed our congregation and guests when we celebrate Pastor Chad's service to Holy Trinity with a pizza party on June 9, we need adults to help in several ways when we host STORM camp (local mission!) July 14-18, and leaders and decorators and food people are needed for the Camp Firelight Vacation Bible Week which is August 5-8. Each of these events is a variation on ways we have served our neighbors in Costa Rica. Our neighbors here also need to know that God loves them by the ways we care for them. Spending a few hours or a few days putting others who are outside our normal circles ahead of ourselves is saying yes to God's call, and the beginning of many good things.

There will always be good reasons to say no, or maybe later, when it comes to mission work. Maybe when we aren't so busy, or maybe when we feel a little more sure we are needed, or feel a little more like we want to. But we kid ourselves when we say these things, don't we? We will always be busy, unsure of our role, and not quite motivated on our own. It is God who makes the difference. God has been reaching for us, inviting us into community our whole lives. God sent Jesus to show us how we are to be (humble, grateful, obedient,) what we are to do (love, serve,) who we are to serve (each other,) and why (because when we do, God's love for us and our neighbors inspires hope.)

Holy Trinity is only one place to say yes to opportunities to live and serve others, but it is a good place to do this in company with others who are motivated by the same call to mission. Look more closely at the announcements in this SAIL newsletter for ways you can be in local mission, and let us know if you have ideas you think God is calling us to as well!

Lynnette Dobberpuhl

Children, Youth & Family Coordinator
kidsandfamilies@htumc.org

May Mission of the Month



MIDWEST MISSION
DISTRIBUTION CENTER
midwestmission.org

Midwest Mission Distribution Center is a logistical conduit for Christ's ministry. They receive a request from trusted nonprofits, then prepare items they have and ask their supporters for items they need. Volunteers process, revitalize, and assemble the donated items. Then, donations are shipped to their trusted partners to distribute to those in crisis.

Year-round, Midwest Missions is preparing for disasters. They work with UMCOR to receive, assemble, store, and disburse kits. They also work with Food For The Poor to pre-stage Disaster Relief supplies in Southern Florida and in 10 Latin American and Caribbean countries. Pre-staging allows for supplies to get to victims quickly despite disruptions in transportation due to the disaster. Their preparedness allows them to quickly disburse relief in the event of a disaster. They commit to responding within 24 hours once a request comes in.

Holy Trinity will be collecting monetary donations as well as specific items for their disaster relief/ tornado cleanup kits. Please see the list below...

- 2 gallon Ziploc/resealable bags
- 1 gallon Ziploc/resealable bags
- Work gloves
- Permanent markers
- Colored duct tape
- Dust masks (not surgical masks)
- Heavy duty trash bags - 33-45 gal
- Large clear or white trash bags – 20-33 gal



Thank you for donating **\$1276** to this year's Easter Offering which will be given to the **Love Offering** during Annual Conference in May.

Inclusion Starts with I

By Lori Boynton and Carol Ottoson

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and while that is important all year, this special month of recognition raises awareness about mental illness, its prevalence in today's society, and its impact on people of all ages and backgrounds. Since its creation in 1949, Mental Health Awareness Month has been critical in addressing the challenges faced by millions of Americans. One in five U.S. adults experience mental illness each year, and only half of them receive treatment. Nearly 20% of children and young people ages 3-17 in the United States have a mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral disorder, and suicidal behaviors among high school students increased more than 40% in the decade before 2019. These trends were exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Raising awareness is the first step toward improving mental health. Knowing that mental health issues affect many of us in this church community can lead to compassion and understanding. Be sure to check out the various posters in the narthex and downstairs for more information and resources. **Remember, Inclusion Starts with I.**



Thank you for donating **\$1132** to Cap Agency's **Food Shelf** during the month of March.

Thank you also for donating 20+ boxes of cereal to help stock the shelves at the food shelf!



Core Team and Finance Updates...

The Core Team met Monday, April 22 at 6:30pm. Highlights of the discussion included:

- The Close the Gap campaign brought in nearly \$10,000 in additional pledges and many ideas for ways to raise the profile and possibly money for the church. Most ideas would take research or further detailed planning to be viable. A couple of people have volunteered to start planning or pulling together a team to research two ideas so far (hosting a flea market, and estimating kitchen remodel costs to be able to host community meals) and Core Team will be sharing a list of other ideas in the weeks ahead. If one or more of them excite your interest let us know so we can connect you with others to get the ball rolling.
- The I Team is happy with the turnout and conversation started in the Rethinking Neurodiversity event on April 21, and with the promising number of sign ups for the Ellie Krugg Grey Area Thinking event on May 5. More events will be planned beginning in August or September.

The next Core Team meeting will be on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6:30pm. Full minutes of Core Team meetings can be found at <https://htumc.org/core-team/>.

Finance Update

END OF THE FIRST QUARTER

We ended the first quarter at a -\$12,555.00.

The Close the Gap fundraiser came in at 41% of goal. This is \$13,675.00 short of our goal.

I thank all of you who contributed to this fundraiser.

Had we had reached 100%, we would be in the black.

You can still contribute to the Close the Gap Campaign. You have options on how you can donate. We are asking for \$250.00 per person or \$500.00 per couple. You can pay in one lump sum, or monthly.

I have repeatedly stressed the importance of meeting the goal of the Close the Gap Campaign. Having failed that, we must start looking at other ways to meet our financial goals for this year.

Patrick Rasmussen (prasmussen68@gmail.com)

REMEMBER—Venmo Is Now Available!

You will now be able to scan the QR code below or enter @holy-trinity-umc in the Venmo App to give any amount. **Please use the space provided to specify the purpose of the funds.** If no reason is provided, it will be added to the general fund. The giving will be tracked and included in your year end statement.



Scan the QR code or enter @holy-trinity-umc in the Venmo App. Look for our logo to make sure it's us!





United Women in Faith

Our United Women in Faith Gathering for May will be a social event! We will meet for lunch, and this will take the place of our usual monthly meeting. All women are invited!

Please join us for a

Spring Luncheon

Tuesday, May 14th - 12:00pm

Dangerfield's, 1583 1st Ave East, Shakopee, Minnesota (yes, Gus has reopened!)

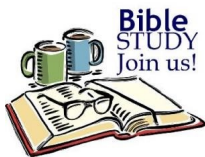
Our group will dine in "The Library".

COSTS: Lunch will be your responsibility. Gratuity of 20% will be automatically added to your check (customary for larger groups).

We will order off the menu. Word has it that popovers are back!

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED: Please let Sharon Dougherty know by no later than MAY 8. (sdsrdougherty@gmail.com or 612-280-2103).

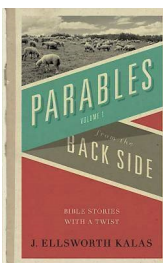
We hope you can join us!



Lakefront Bible Study
May 7 & 21
from 1:00-2:30pm
Lakefront Plaza Commons Room

The group is currently studying the book *Parables from the Back Side Volume 1* by J. Ellsworth Kalas.

This book is available on Amazon. This is a non-denominational group. All are welcome! Call Barb Bollinger with questions at 612-670-1847.



United Women in Faith Church Sale

United Women in Faith are planning a church sale on **Saturday, June 22nd from 8a-2p in Fellowship Hall.**

So far there are 12 people who are participating and have reserved a table, so we need 4 additional people to sign up. Your support to make this a successful church sale would be appreciated.

The plan is to have 16 rectangular tables (8 feet by 30 inches) set up for sellers. We will charge \$25.00 per table, and that money will be donated to missions that UW Faith support. Any additional money made will be the seller's profit. Sellers may have "garage sale" type items such as household, children's clothing, toys, sporting items or craft/hobby items. You may want to partner with another family member or friend.

If you have additional questions or want to reserve a table, please let us know **before May 14th.**

To sign up or to ask questions contact:

Sandy Feldhake sfeldha1@msn.com
Sharon Dougherty sdsrdougherty@gmail.com

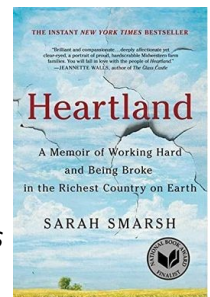


Trinity Readers
Tuesday, May 28
1:30pm at the Parsonage

If you enjoy reading and discussing books, join us!

The book for May:
Heartland
by Sarah Smarsh

An eye-opening memoir of working-class poverty in America that will deepen our understanding of the ways in which class shapes our country.





Mark your calendars everyone!

On Sunday June 9th the congregation will having a pizza send off for Pastor Chad following worship from 11am-1pm. What better way to honor his part in the inception of the Bread Oven Ministry here at Holy Trinity? His faith and enthusiasm have been vital to building this beloved ministry, not to mention his fire building and pizza baking skills.

It will take many hands and feet to make this event a success, but I know we are up to it. Your participation makes a difference!

Please take the time to sign up to help with the many tasks and/or provide food and make this event memorable.

Sign up here <https://bit.ly/PizzaFarewell> or on one of the sign up sheets in the narthex or fellowship hall.

Contact Rene Meyer with further questions or concerns. (651) 331-1997 or schrton@aol.com



Camp Firelight VBS (August 5-8)

invites us on a summer adventure where we learn to trust God no matter what situation life brings!

Through crafts, science, music and movement, recreation and stories from the Bible, campers learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day, we will face new challenges together as we explore timeless Bible stories that show how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name.

There is no cost for this program! VBS includes dinner each night, a T-Shirt and lots of fun activities! T-shirts can only be guaranteed for kids who register by July 25. Visit link below to register...

<https://htumc.org/events/vacation-bible-2024/>



Save the Date: STORM CAMP 2024

STORM Camp 2024 will be at Holy Trinity July 14-18 for kids who have finished 7th-12th grades, and adults

who want to make some lives better and be moved by amazing worship. STORM sends groups of five 7-12th grade youth and an adult driver to residences (and businesses, occasionally) with the tools needed to do a half-day to a day's work. We do things like yardwork, painting, cleaning, minor building projects and/or demolition. The staff team contacts those we're serving ahead of time and check the jobs, then they work with the teams who will do the work - typically checking in during the day and offering support as needed. We're not professionals, but pride ourselves on good work and good conversation with homeowners (as appropriate). STORM doesn't charge for our services (donations are accepted).

So if you have a job that needs doing, a kid who is ready to stretch and possibly grow in confidence and love for Jesus, or an adult who wants to be part of the team that supports the youth in a wide variety of ways, reach out to Lynnette for more info.

<https://htumc.org/events/storm-camp-2024/>

You can help support our STORM CAMP youth and adults by signing up at the link below...

We need helpers for our Liaison Teams, Tool Team, Kitchen Team and Dessert Heroes Team!

<https://bit.ly/STORMsupport2024>

Graduate Recognition



Holy Trinity will be honoring graduates of high school, vocational training, military basic camps and universities during worship on **June 2**. If you are (or know of) a graduate, please send a photo (head and shoulders photo, or pic with cap and gown, uniform or alma mater signs) to Lynnette by **May 19**. We also would like a few bits of information, like specialized training, degrees earned, and future plans (including college, employment, gap year, deciding next steps.)



May 2024

Holy Trinity UMC
 (952) 447-2990
 office@htumc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30am Moment of Prayer 4pm Bells Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal	2 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	3	4
5 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream 10:30am I-Team Meeting 6:30-8:30pm Ellie Krug "Gray Area Thinking"	6 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	7  Bible STUDY Join us! 1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	8 8:30am Moment of Prayer 4pm Bells Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal	9 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	10	11
12 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream  <i>Mother's Day</i>	13 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	14  United Women in Faith 2:00pm UWFaith 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	15 8:30am Moment of Prayer 4pm Bells Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	17	18
19 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	20 6:30pm Core Team Meeting 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	21 1-3:15pm Quilters  Bible STUDY Join us! 1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	22 8:30am Moment of Prayer 4pm Bells Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal	23 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	24	25
26 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	27  MEMORIAL DAY 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	28  BOOK CLUB 1:30pm Trinity Readers 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	29 8:30am Moment of Prayer 4pm Bells Practice 7pm Choir Rehearsal	30 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	31	

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church



16150 Arcadia Avenue SE
Prior Lake, Minnesota, 55372

Worship: 9:30am (in-person & online)

Pastor: Rev. Chad Gilbertson
(952) 356-4616 pastor@htumc.org

Family Ministries: Lynnette Dobberpuhl
(651) 492-8188 kidsandfamilies@htumc.org

Church Admin: Tina Chant
(952) 447-2990 office@htumc.org

Church website: www.htumc.org



Our Vision: *"To love God, uplift people, inspire hope, and grow disciples of Jesus Christ in our community and everywhere we go."*