

**UPCOMING SERMON SERIES FOR May 2020** 

Greetings to all! As we continue with our video format for weekend worship, following will be where we'll be headed in the weeks to come. We'll be moving from 'GOD STRATEGIES', which we'll finish up on Mother's Day, May 10, to 'STRESS2REST' starting on May 17. Here are the message titles:

- May 3 "Knowing God is There!" Exodus 14:19-22
- May 10 "Look Today in the Eye and Praise God!" Exodus 14:30-31, 15:1-2
- May 17 "Stress2Rest: Future" Matthew 11:28-29, 2 Cor. 7:5
- May 24 "Stress2Rest: Finances" Proverbs 9:6
- May 31 "Stress2Rest: Job" Ecclesiastes 2:24

So, that's what to look forward to in May. After learning some God strategies for these difficult days we're in, we'll then be talking about how to care for ourselves—dealing with the stress we experience in life from so many different angles. Don't forget to join us on our Trinity Lomira YouTube channel or connect through our website at <u>www.trinitylomira.org</u>. We do hope & pray you'll be able to join us!

Continuing to be disciples of Jesus together... Pastor Rom

#### "SO, WHAT'S NEXT?"

*"We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps."* – Proverbs 16:9 (NLT)

Dear Trinity family,

I know, this is the same title as the newsletter in March. I don't know about you, but several weeks later ... I'm still asking the same question. So, what's next? In March, as we quickly approached another General Conference, I was talking about the United Methodist Church. Now, in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic, all church conferences have been rescheduled for several months down the road. So, the issues facing us a



few weeks ago are now put on hold. So, this month ... I'm talking about our 'new normal' for today. Since our 'normal' has changed drastically in the past few weeks ... what is next?

I have to say, never has the Proverb listed above been so real in my life. Some have said, 'Make plans ... and watch God chuckle!' It's been said in many different ways, but the ancient proverb (found in our Old Testament book of Proverbs) is where all the modern versions come from. We can do all the planning we want to ... but only God knows for sure what our future holds. And yet we continue to act like we are in control! 'Don't we?

Have you ever asked yourself that question? Who controls the events of this world? Solomon—author of most of the Proverbs—had great wisdom in this regard because he had a pretty good grasp on reality. He understood that—though human beings think they decide what's what in their lives, through planning and careful thought—ultimately only God is the one who determines our steps. And to some, this is a very disturbing reality.

The Apostle James spoke of this (4:13-15, NLT) when he said, "Look here, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.' <sup>14</sup> How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone. <sup>15</sup> What you ought to say is, 'If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.'"

What an interesting reality we have before us today—made ever clearer by the seemingly out-of-control situation we all find ourselves in today, a situation we are all sharing in together. So, who is in control ... and what's next? Truthfully, what these days are showing us is *the reality of being a disciple of Jesus*. Plans can be good things, when submitted to God; they become not so good things when they run contrary to God's desire for your life, or when God is not even considered in the decision process. Are we free to plan on our own? Absolutely! It's called 'free will' and it's a gift from God. But the reason God gave us this gift in the first place was his desire that we would choose him! Once Jesus is really Lord of our lives, we are no longer 'free agents' to do as we please. We'll ultimately want God's direction for our lives. If that's not the case with you right now, then ... *that's what's next*. We turn the days ahead over to God. Won't you join me?

Seeking the Lord's will together, Pastor Rom

# <u>Stewardship and Finance</u> Offering

Last month you received your quarterly statement for 2020. Along with this statement there was a letter explaining all the things your tithes and offerings help support in the life of the church. Some of the items are direct operational cost to keep a church functional and others are for ministry outreach programs. All these items that were listed in the letter are things for <u>US</u> as a



congregation. They help make our Sunday services more enjoyable, they help our shut ins, they provide activities and experiences for our youth, they provide a way for people to be active members of the church, and they help us grow as stewards and disciples of God.

Now some of those things you personally may not directly use, but the person sitting next to you may enjoy or need these ministries for support in their life or for a family member or friend. The people running these separate ministries want to have a way to serve God in other ways than just on Sunday service. When the churches budget is not fully and overly funded these ministries suffer, along with the members that use or participate in these ministries and outreach programs. The SF committee wants to get our budget to a place where we can add more programs and get more members involved in these types of programs. When a member has God move them in a way to serve but the church doesn't have the funds to support them, we are shutting that person's growth with God down. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could say yes...how can we help, rather than sorry we just cannot afford it right now? Maybe one day that will be you. Will the funds be there for you?

The March newsletter the SF Offering suggested just \$6 more each week from all of us and we would make budget this year. Did you take up that challenge? How are you doing with it? What blessings have you seen from God? If you didn't, start it this week. With your quarterly statement you received a ladder chart. Where did you finish on the ladder in 2019? Is it where you wanted to be? Is it where you should be? Are you willing to climb the next rung? The bottom 2 rungs had 102 of our church households in them, which was \$100 or less for the year that is 43% of our congregation. If you are in this percentage find a way out, take that next step start with this week. The committee's goal is to see the \$0 rung have 0 households in it for next year. It's not just the bottom rungs though, we all need to keep climbing the ladder. Take the \$6 challenge, find a way to cut some spending from your weekly finances (coffee, phone bill, fast food, etc) and then put that towards your offerings. Put your faith in God that he will provide for you, do not live in fear as Pastor Rom's sermon said this past Sunday. Do not let money control you, when it controls you then the devil is smiling, because you are taking your focus from God. Help support the ministries of the church so we can fund that next program. You can take pride in knowing you are helping someone fulfill their walk with God. Take that next climb and let God bless you.

SF Committee Chair Josh Marschie

### A Healthy Work/Life Balance - Kathy Drexler, SPRC Chairperson

A summary of the specific duties for the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is listed in The Book of Discipline in paragraph 258.2. The first duty listed in 258.2.g.1. is... "To encourage, strengthen, nurture, support, and respect the pastor and staff and their families" including advocating for a healthy work/life balance.

In the midst of this Coronavirus pandemic the SPRC met on 4-7-20 via Zoom technology. We discussed in great detail all that Pastor Rom is doing (along with the rest of the staff) to continue to minister to us. The flexibility and adaptability that the church staff is demonstrating is truly remarkable. Please let them know how much you appreciate everything that they are doing to meet the needs of all of us.

We, in turn, have to love and care for them.

The SPRC is tasked with advocating for the pastor, staff and their families because, as servants of God, they are not always good at advocating for themselves. Here are some things we can all do to care for Pastor Rom:

- 1. Pastor Rom uses Monday to pray, study and write his sermon. Please refrain from unnecessary interaction.
- 2. Pastor Rom tries to take Friday off. We all appreciate our day's off. Rom and Jane appreciate them, too!
- 3. If you are experiencing an emergency contact Pastor Rom at any time.



Let's care for Rom and Jane the way they care for us!



Thank you, Gary, for your article in April's edition of the church newsletter. I read, with interest, of the background, the event, the feelings, the challenges, and the possibilities for growth resulting from its occurrence.

The article itself was well-written and heartfelt and you left us with feelings of both warmth and

challenge. Thank you!

P.S. You, Pastor Rom, were between a rock and a hard place. What followed must assure you that you put it in God's hands and that always works!

Gwen Hinz





Starting in May 24th (or whenever it is safe to come back) and going through Labor Day Weekend, Trinity will have one Sunday Worship Service at 9:00 AM. Thank-You!



TUMC Will be hosting a blood drive at the church on Monday May 18th from 12-6 PM. Packaged cookie donations are appreciated!

Due to the pandemic, the 2020 Mission Trip has been canceled. The May brat fry is canceled as well.

The June Newsletter Deadline is May 26th Please have all of your articles into the church office by noon that day. Thank you!



Graduate Sunday TBD Our 2020 graduates will be recognized at a future service, as well as our scholarship recipient. Stay tuned for a date!

If you know of members graduating from an apprenticeship, technical program or college, please let Jessica in the office know, so they may be recognized as well when we have

Graduation Sunday.

920-269-4411

churchofficetumc@gmail.com

Thank-You

# Trinity's 2020

VBS Program has been canceled. Children who would have been going into 6th grade will be allowed to participate next year.



The Operation Christmas Child Ministry team is looking for your help to collect a few items that you may otherwise discard....

Are you going thru a lot of **paper towels** during your cleaning routine? Please consider saving the **inner paper roll**. We plan to try using the rolls this year when packing in place of folders to hold loose paper.





Enjoying **Wine** during your time at home? we'll gladly accept the **corks** you plan to discard to make **slip bobbers** for our fishing kits.

I f you have old t-shirts that are not worthy of handing-down or donating to a local program,



please consider donating them to Operation Christmas Child! The t-shirts **-any color**, **size**, **or condition-** will be cut-up and braided to make **jump-ropes** for our shoeboxes. This is a great way to upcycle an item that might otherwise be discarded or end up in a landfill.

P r

Possibly this summer you may find t-shirts at **garage sales** where the owner might be willing to give them to you at no charge if they are unable to sell them.



**KUDOS to Lila Ebert** who has been spending some of her free time writing personal notes on the back of the Christmas card covers many of you donated. This is a great way to connect with each child that receives an OCC Shoebox and often becomes a keepsake to remind them they are loved.

Through your generosity there is an abundance of Christmas card covers available. If you find yourself with extra time and would like to participate in the OCC ministry by adding a personal note to a few cards, please contact the church office or reach out to Heidi Zingsheim directly. A memorable project for

Hello fellow TUMC members. As Church council chair I just wanted to let everyone know that we are still conducting church business, but not in the same manner. We are meeting via Zoom! The bills are still coming in but not the same amount of contributions. Some programs are being cut back like OCC, Summer Mission Trip and Vacation Bible School. We are applying for a federal loan to help pay the bills. It is also our understanding the loan will turn into a grant. Everyone is doing their best to keep the ship afloat!

Yours in Christ

Gordy Zimmerman

P.S.-Stay strong, stay safe and lets all pray together!

#### **TUMC Prayer Concerns**

- Hake's twin great-granddaughters due early June-complications, may be born early 4/29
- Kathy Walker heart surgery on 5/4
- Tony O'Malley leukemia, getting stem cell transplant, going into isolation 4/22
- Family of Fred Weidmeyer 4/21
- Deb Weidmeyer recovering from foot surgery 4/21
- Rick Heine (B-I-L of Karlene Krueger) heart failure, home doing better 4/21
- Family of Ann Eid (Chuck Rhein's aunt and former member) 4/19
- Gary Jesse prostate cancer 4/7
- Patty Hayes working with Samara tins Purse in NYC 04/15
- Bea Penning (Junger's son's mother in law) fell and broke her back, surgery needed 4/9
- Ed Faber brain bleed 3/28
- Caroline Mairhafer (Victor J's Cousin) broken back 3/24
- Tony O'Malley leukemia, new treatment 3/24
- Tracey Roane (Scott K's Sister) started chemo treatments, doing well 3/11
- Jodi Hernandez (Glenn Eichstedt's Sister) improving enough for a bone marrow transplant 3/11
- Raymond Kittleson (friend of the Kiehnau's) cancer 3/8
- Melvin Schellin (Steve's father )recovering from a brain bleed 2/16
- Cameron Schafer (Lynn Haefs nephew) 28 yrs old with late stage colon cancer 2/12
- Tracey Roane (Scott K's Sister) recovering from surgery, doing well 2/3
- Mary Mitch (Hartford Shoebox Project team leader) battling cancer 1/22
- Paul Schwefel (Wayne Flury's friend) prostate cancer 12/24
- Nancy Feucht (Casey Buske's Mom) chemo treatments for breast cancer 11-3
- Amanda Liebe (Scott Kruger's cousin's daughter) leukemia 10-13
- Ray Wifler (Andy Luedtke's B-I-L) at Harbor Haven 9-15
- Brenda Bergman pancreatic cancer (meal train online)
- Carl Freitag (Carlene Cardenas' brother) Parkinson's (10 years) 3-6 months to live 8-11

Our Prayer list covers for 6-8 months. If you feel someone needs to continue or be placed back on the list, please let Jessica know. Thank You.

## FILL THE WINDOWS WITH CROSSES

Since the Sunday School can no longer gather for the school year, we have one final project. Fill the fellowship hall windows with crosses. Coloring sheets can be found on the website with the bulletins, or printed copies can be requested by emailing churchofficetumc@gmail.com. All ages are invited to join in the fun. Sunday School and Youth Group participants will get a surprise in the mail.

Get coloring! Feel free to drive or walk through to see all the artwork!

May Bir thdays

- 2 Jackie Eichstedt
  3 David Luedtke
  Logan Gornjak-Faris
  Cannon Klein
- 4 Annette Michels
- 7 Caleb Toth-Rambousek 8 Damon Kavonius
- Annie Sacotte
- 9 Owen Casper
- 12 Lila Ebert
- 13 Brian Stoffel
- 14 Isabel Westphal
- 15 Gerry Meyer
- 17 Janet Hesprich
- 21 Doug Kiehnau
- 23 Eloise Alf
- 24 Joan Brasch Andrew Greenfield
- 25 Donna Luther John LaVarda
- 26 Janice Haefs Bill Seefeld Weston Rhein
- 27 Casey Buske Peter Graf
- 29 Aisha Ullius
- 30 Joel Arndt Jacqueline Zimmerman
- 31 Deb Wiedmeyer

May Anniversaries

- 1 Jeffery & Rebecca Luedtke
- 2 Derek and Nicole Dittberner
- 4 Francis & Annette Michels
- 5 Jonathan & Lisa Luedtke
- 8 Gerald & Carolyn Krueger David & Michelle Wroblewski
- 9 Gary Jesse & Sandy Porter
- 10 Shawn & Amanda Ditter
- 18 Gerald & Adena Walter
- 21 Randy & Julie Faber
- 24 Glen and Pam Wellso
- 31 Richard & Janice Haefs



TUMC Budget Totals Year to date needed to meet budget: \$70,431.00

> Received through 4-26-2020: \$62,089.86 Budget Shortfall: \$8,341.14



#### May 2020 TUMC-Lomira

### Worship Services 8:00 & 10:00 AM

#### Sunday School/Youth Group/Coffee Connection 9:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 10-11:00 am Food Pantry
10 MOTHERS DAY	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 10-11:00 am Food Pantry
24	25 MEMORIAL DAY	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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Rom Pegram, Pastor Church Office: (920) 269-4411 Parsonage (920) 269-7292 Cell (608) 417-0060 Office Hours Tues.-Thurs. 9AM-12PM Or by Appointment

WORSHIP SERVICES First Service – 8:00 A.M. Sunday School/Youth Group, Coffee Connection 9:00 AM Second Service– 10:00 A.M

Church Office Hours: Tues-Thur 9AM-1PM