



HAPPY 4th of JULY



*We, the People, of the United States of America,
have many freedoms we often take for granted:*

Our first Amendment, in the Bill of Rights, covers the following freedoms:

Freedom of Religion

Freedom of Speech

Freedom of the Press

Freedom of Assembly

Freedom of Petition

Thank you to God and our veterans who allow us to enjoy so many privileges.



Dear Trinity Methodist Church Family,

The end of June brought an abundance of rain, leading to widespread flooding of fields and gardens in our area. As we move into July, we are hopeful for more moderate weather to help protect the community's agricultural efforts.

As we step into July, we not only celebrate the beginning of our Ecclesiastic Year but also look forward to our nation's Independence Day on July 4th. This day reminds us of the blessings of living in a country where we can worship freely, a truly great gift from God.

Over the past Ecclesiastic year, Trinity Methodist Church has embarked on a transformative journey, transitioning from the United Methodist Church to our new home within the Global Methodist Church. This period of change has redefined our congregational identity and deepened our commitment to our foundational Christian values.

The disaffiliation process was a critical step that enabled us to align our church's vision and practices more closely with our theological beliefs and congregational aspirations. As we embarked on this new chapter, our focus was clear: to place Jesus Christ at the forefront of all our endeavors. This shift was not merely administrative but **deeply spiritual, calling us to renew our dedication to Christ's teachings and to live out the gospel in transformative ways.** As Colossians 1:18 reminds us, *"He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything."*

Throughout the year, we've worked on building stronger connections within our church and with the broader community. Our efforts in areas like leadership, cultural understanding, and interfaith relations have helped us reflect Christ's love more fully.

We've seen our involvement in mission-focused initiatives. Our engagement in international missions such as the **"Feed My Starving Children" program, the "Operation Christmas Child" program, and our support for pastors planting the Global Methodist Church in Ethiopia** underscores our dedication to expressing our faith globally. **Locally, the establishment of a Men's Ministry and prayer group, along with the continuation of the Women's Bible Study and Vacation Bible School, have actively engaged our congregation.** These efforts have allowed us to embody our faith in tangible ways, serving as the hands and feet of Christ in a world in need.

Throughout the year, our Sunday worship services have been a cornerstone of our spiritual life, offering meaningful traditional worship anchored by Bible-driven sermons and enriched with traditional hymns. These gatherings have not only strengthened our faith but also brought us closer as a community. Looking ahead, we plan to introduce contemporary worship services every last Sunday of the month. This new addition aims to enrich our worship experience, catering to diverse preferences and inviting a broader expression of our devotion.

As we reflect on this year, we see a story of resilience and renewal. With the formation of a Strategic/Vision Team, we're planning for a future focused on deepening our spiritual and community engagement. This team will guide us in sharpening our vision and strengthening our church leadership.

Looking forward, we are excited about what lies ahead. We remain committed to loving, growing, and serving in Christ's name, eager to embrace the opportunities to expand our mission and deepen our ties within the community.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Let's continue to walk this path together, filled with hope and guided by our faith.

In Christ's Love,

Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo

**Trinity Methodist Church
Strategic Vision Team Update
submitted by John Muentner**

Several people have asked me recently, "What's going on at Trinity Church?" Well, let's take a moment to think together about this question. It has certainly been a historic last couple of years at Trinity with everything we went through in the process of disaffiliation from the UMC and our subsequent vote to join the Global Methodist Church. As we approach our 1st anniversary of joining the GMC, we are in the final stages of paying off the disaffiliation fund and can now turn our full attention to the future of Trinity church.

On June 11th a meeting was held to create a "Strategic Vision Team" to facilitate the transition to our future in the GMC and more specifically as a local church. I personally felt that the meetings and conversations that we all had during the disaffiliation process brought us closer together as a congregation and it is my prayerful hope that as we go forward with our Strategic Vision Team, we will continue to be drawn closer together. It is not going to be easy, and tough conversations will need to be had, as we develop a new and hopefully collective vision for the future of Trinity Church. In order for us to grow in our mission as a local church, we will need to have open minds and open hearts, to make a commitment to listen to each other's ideas and visions with respect for all.

To paraphrase JFK's speech from 60 years ago, we need to ask not what Trinity can do for you but ask what you can do for Trinity. I look forward to working with all of you as we define the future of our beloved Trinity Church.

The next meeting of the Strategic Vision Team is July 2 at 6:00 pm.

Annual Conference Update submitted by Pam

Wellso I'm reporting in as Trinity's delegate to the Annual Conference of the Great Lakes region of the Global Methodist Church. Pastor Mulongo and I attended, both as voting members, representing Trinity Methodist Church.

I have to tell you that this has been one of the most difficult months of my life. I have been sick with a cold or some undiagnosed infection for close to a month. In the midst of that my mom died very unexpectedly on May 20 with her memorial service being held here at Trinity on May 31. Her apartment needed to be cleaned out, and all the other things having to do with losing someone. I was, and still am, worn out and drained dry. And even before all of this, I have been struggling with my leadership here at Trinity and what the future looks like for my role here and for our church.

Needless to say, I didn't want to go. I was tired, emotional, didn't want to leave Glen and our new dog, didn't want to drive 5 hours to Timbuktu, Indiana. Yet, it felt unfair to ask someone to step in at the last minute. I committed to representing the church and so I went to Indiana.

Hear me out now though. **In the midst of this terrible month, the days at the Annual Conference were some of the best in my whole year!** I consider it a great privilege that I was allowed to attend and to represent Trinity at this new conference of the Global Methodist Church. There seem to be no restrictions on who can attend these conferences as there have been in the past. You may not be able to vote, but the speakers, times of worship and fellowship are worth the commute and the interruption in your life. Please consider attending next year's conference in June, in Michigan.

If you have been to any previous annual conference with the United Methodist Church, or heard any discussion, it is now a very different tone and environment and a much more positive, worshipful and expression of unity in a church than I've ever seen. The two sessions of business that needed to be conducted were very basic presentation of reports from various ministries and administration of the conference. Some addenda were presented and when asked if there were any points of discussion, no one raised any questions. Reports were approved by voting from around 700 attendees, mostly with 98% approvals. It was announced that the conference currently has some surplus in their budget for this fiscal year and for next year, the budget will be expanded



Annual Conference Continued



judiciously, but the conference is not asking local churches to increase their percentage of connectional giving

(formerly called apportionments) Secondly, we needed to approve 10 clergy and 10 laity delegates to attend the convening general conference of the Global Methodist Church which will be occurring in Costa Rica this September. Each vote was bathed in prayer and all business was conducted with mutual respect and trust in all leaders and attendees.

There were 3 times of worship with speakers, and 2 additional break-out sessions with speakers. The theme was “Empowered”, referencing Acts 1:8, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria and to the ends of the earth”. We are called to experience our own transformation by the Holy Spirit as well as having the Holy Spirit lead our church into a new era of ministry, of worship, of serving our community and reaching out to those who need to know who Jesus is. The speaker we heard and the worship times with over 700 people was inspiring, phenomenal and full of wisdom and encouragement. The recordings are available on YouTube and I can point you to them for viewing. It would be worth your time.

I’ve not been a person who easily saw supernatural signs of God but there has been many of these moments in the past month, mostly relating to my mom’s passing. A friend of mine said, “it might be that the door to heaven is opened just a crack to give us comfort in our grief. Perhaps it was in my own grief but during one of our worship times of singing and praising God, I heard a chorus of singing that I didn’t understand where it was coming from. I looked around the auditorium for an extra surprise choir, but no such choir was there. Was it another one of my God-incidences, just for me, or was it an angel choir joining with us to celebrate this new church, with the movement of the Holy Spirit that was evident and palpable in that auditorium.

Ezekiel 36: 26-28 says this: ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. ²⁸ Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

I’ve heard statements made in the past here at Trinity that “We will be the same church, just a different name.” Trinity friends, the message I heard clearly at conference and I think what has been making me unsettled in my leadership here, is that we are now a new church, a new denomination and we need to re-evaluate our way of doing “church”. It is no longer going to work to just expect that people will walk in our doors and embrace our church. We need to be thinking in new, innovative, contemporary ways to reach out to our community, to be forward thinking, creatively thinking, to be willing to look critically at our programs and our way of doing business and our way of ministering. I fear for the health and livelihood of our church here at Trinity if we continue to think that “nothing will be different” and “how we do things is okay, has been ok for years”.

Do you believe that you have the power of the Holy Spirit in you? Do you think the power of the Holy Spirit is in this church? What does that look like? What could happen in our hearts and in our church if we tapped further into the power of the Holy Spirit? I challenge you to think about these questions in the next weeks. I challenge you to get involved in the Vision committee that has just started, with the goal of developing a new vision and new plan for our church going forward. I challenge you to think outside the box about what ministry looks like here at Trinity. What resources, skills and talents do you have, what interests do you have that can be offered to the church for furthering God’s kingdom, and for reaching out to others with the love of Jesus? What does the future of Trinity Methodist look like and how will you be a part of that?

Again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend Annual Conference as your delegate. My feet were dragging before I left, but oh! what an overwhelming phenomenal time it was!

Who's In the Pews?

Ever wonder who you're sitting next to at church? Want to know a little more about them and their faith

journey here at Trinity? If so, this "newish" contribution may answer a few of your burning questions. This month's spotlight is on Lee Oestreich and Deb Bintzler-Oestreich .



Deb

Lee

Debbie: I grew up on a farm about 5 miles east of Lomira and have one sister, Annette Michels. Our brother, Roger, passed away in 1986. My family attended South Byron Methodist Church, and it was never, "Are we going to church this week," but rather "assumed" every Sunday. I attended Lomira School until 1972, when my family moved to Arizona, leaving my boyfriend, Bruce Bintzler, behind. When he graduated, he came to Mesa, AZ, and we got married. We had 2 daughters, Jenny (Tim) and Amanda (Shawn). Jenny and her husband, Tim had two children, Samantha and Hunter.

After we had our first daughter, Jenny, we moved back home to Wisconsin because it was too hot down there for Bruce's occupation. In July of 1973, we came to Trinity Methodist Church as the South Byron Church had closed. In 1982, we started our own business, South Ave. Garage, and later purchased a different building and it became Hometown Towing and Service, where I worked with Bruce until he passed away in 2017. Bruce had



Deb and Bruce



The Bintzler Family

suffered for years from Wegener's disease, a rare pulmonary disease. When he passed, I became widowed, unemployed and retired. Bruce and I did everything together. I worked with him for 35 years in the service business. Being a mechanic's wife was interesting and tough as we had to be on call "24/7" for the tow truck business. We both also worked for the Lomira Fire Department, where we had a combined 53 years of service between the two of us! We also volunteered together at church and really enjoyed doing the Trinity mission trips. In 2021, I was nominated for the Hometown Hero Award for the 39th Assembly District and received the "First Responder of the Year Award."

On December 11, 2021, I married Lee Oestreich, who I had known many years from church activities. Lee and I both found a chance at happiness and companionship again. Our children approved, as our daughters, Pam and Jenny, were best friends in high school! We continue to enjoy participation in church and other social events, traveling, and our winters in Arizona! My hobbies include working in my garden, planting flowers, knitting, crocheting, embroidering, traveling, and cooking. I especially enjoyed our recent trip to Ireland. One of my favorite memories was on a trip to London, England. It was New Years Eve, and I was sitting in a picture window imitating Queen Elizabeth and waving at the people passing on the sidewalk. Oh, the



Lee and Deb

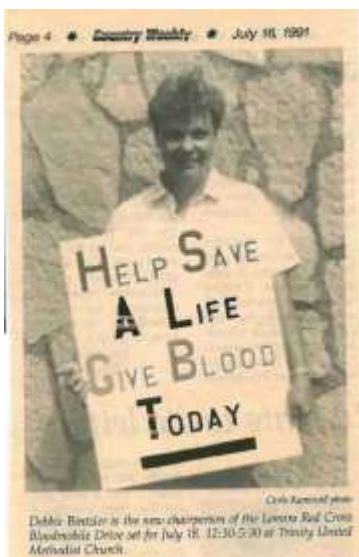
looks I got as people were running into light poles, touching the glass and four men even came in to kiss the Queen's hand!

The biggest lesson I have learned in life is that God is in charge. I never imagined I would be married and a mom at 17, and a widow at 61. But with the help of my family, friends, and faith, I managed.

My whole life has been a blessing as I grew up in a religious, loving family, married two wonderful men, have two beautiful daughters, two special grandchildren, and a beautiful home. I have worked hard many years and now can enjoy whatever the next chapter brings.

My involvement in church has been varied. I've done mission trips, fundraising (bake sale) spaghetti suppers, crocheting hats for mitten tree, helping in the kitchen for funerals, and yard clean up days. I also coordinate Red Cross Blood Drives at Trinity about every 8 weeks. We attend worship service almost every Sunday (where you can see us online waving to our friend in Arizona.) in both Lomira and Arizona.

My hope for Trinity moving forward would be to see more people in church: especially young families. People need to take the time to come to church, because your life will be



affected!

Lee: I was born and raised in Two Rivers, and have one brother and one sister. I was baptized and raised Lutheran. As a youth, I had a paper route with approximately 100 customers because almost every house took the local newspaper in those days. I spent many days fishing with cane poles for perch in Lake Michigan. As I lived 2 miles from the lake, I rode my bike, and carried 2 buckets on my handle bars (one for minnows, and the other for fish) as well as two 15 ft. poles! At 14, my dad and I built a 14 ft. boat that I bought from the "You Make-It Boat Co." We built it in the garage, bought a 16-HP Johnson outboard motor, and spent many days on the two rivers fishing. In high school, I lettered four years in football and track, and later attended Stout State College and then Wausau Tech School. I was in the Reserves and spent six months on active duty. My first job was at Great Lakes Houses in Sheboygan Falls, as a purchasing agent. It was here where I met my first wife, Kay. Kay and I had 2 daughters: Jill and



High School



Lee and his sister



Lee's family growing up

her husband (live in Plymouth) and have 2 daughters, and Pam (Dan) Dewhurst and their 2 sons, Zach and Nate, live in Lomira and belong to TMC.

Kay and I started coming to Trinity Methodist Church as we had moved into the Lomira School District and wanted our kids to attend school and church in the same city. As my wife was a Baptist, and I was a Lutheran, we compromised and attended Trinity. My biggest blessing was Kay's ability to survive major cancer 4 times, with God's guiding hand. Her 5th cancer sadly took her life at age 68. We had many good years (married 48 years) and thank God for his Blessings.



Lee and Kay

I spent many Friday night fish fries and shared "old fashions" with Marlin Towne and others in my old neighborhood. That is actually how Deb's and my relationship started during Covid. Deb heard Marlin and I talking about going out for a fish fry in the parking lot and Deb jumped right in and said she would like to join us. Years later, I have now been blessed with a new wife from Trinity, and we continue to share many interests and activities that are common between us.

My involvement at TMC does and has included: mission trips, OCC builder, Chair of Church Council, Trustee, Easter breakfast, & Loaves and Fishes. Our new joint venture is the project "Sleep in Heavenly

Peace," out of Fond du Lac, which builds beds for kids to ensure "no kid sleeps the floor in our town."

I enjoy TMC and many of its current traditions: "old school" classic hymns, early services, and the coffee hour/social time.

Even though Lee and Deb have faced many hardships and trials, they are so grateful for their relationship and appreciate how their lives have been enriched with each other. Both are noted to be compassionate, humble, kind, possess handy skills, believe in giving back, and are good cooks! They both feel they are fortunate to enjoy God's world together!



Deb and Lee

on

Study of the Book of Romans

Paul's Epistle to the Romans is widely considered Paul's most complete explanation of the Doctrine of Faith in Jesus Christ. Martin Luther stated that he was reborn through reading Romans. Luther considered Romans to be the 'Gemstone of the Bible'. John Wesley had his Aldersgate St. experience of having his "heart strangely warmed" after reading Paul's letter to the Romans.

Bob Coulter will facilitate a weekly one-hour study of the book of Romans beginning on Monday, September 9 at 1:00pm. Each weekly class will begin with a 30 minute video tape from the Les Feldick Ministries. Les is not a minister. He's a plain spoken Oklahoma farmer and rancher, who has an amazing way of making the Bible understandable to the average person. **The second half hour of each class will be spent discussing the video we just watched.**

Who will benefit from this class?

- People who have never participated in a Bible study.
- People who feel they need help understanding the Bible.
- People looking to strengthen their faith.
- People who have a good understanding of this book of doctrine but want to learn more.

For more information on Les Feldick Ministries go to www.lesfeldick.org. His videos are available online or on designated television stations if you want to study on your own. Direct specific questions to Bob Coulter or Kathy Drexler.

Save Monday afternoons from 1:00-2:00 for this exciting opportunity to learn alongside other members of your Trinity family. No previous Bible study experience necessary. Classes will start on September 9 and run through November 28. If interested in attending add your name to the sign up sheet in the Connections Room.



Prayer Concerns - As you pray through the week, send a note or make a phone call to those on our list. Just a simple gesture to show you care.

- Sarah Kretschmer completed second weekly chemo- 11 more treatments to go 06/25
- Pam Hilker healing, gathering strength and energy slowly, scan in August 06/12
- Kathy Zastrow, Gary Jesse's neighbor & friend, cancer has returned to multiple organs 06/12
- Gene Junger, severe peripheral vascular disease in both legs 06/11
- Laverne Senn, fell and broke arm 06/04
- Sarah Kretschmer completed second weekly chemo- 11 more treatments to go 06/25
- Mary, sister-in-law of Pam Hilker, tumor is below 5 cm, so she is now on the liver transplant list. No further treatments needed at this time. Scan will take place in 3 months. 05/30
- David Menzer, Fred's Brother, seeing some small improvements in certain health conditions 5/08
- Nancy Feucht, Casey Buske's mother, diagnosed with a rare blood cancer, upcoming bone marrow biopsy 01/14

Our Prayer list covers 6 months. If you feel someone needs to continue or be placed back on the list, please let the office know.



The School Supply sales are in full swing!

Although the Trinity Shoebox Project Team shops for a good chunk of our purchased gifts year-round, we do take advantage of the seasonal school supply sales. We will always welcome and appreciate the gifts you donate, but please consider sponsorship of a bulk purchase.

Thank you in advance!



Mondo Llama brand 12-Count
Colored Pencils

100 Purchased x 50c = **\$50**
Gifts for 10-14 y/o children



Mondo Llama brand 24-Count
Crayons

300 Purchased x 25c = **\$75**
Gifts for 2-4 y/o children



Staples brand 1-subject
Spiral Notebooks

100 Purchased x 35c = **\$35**
Gifts for 10-14 y/o children

Other school supply items we target for purchase include..
scissors (blunt or sharp), highlighters, glue sticks, pencils, pens,
6-inch rulers, pencil cap erasers, and large erasers. The 100-pack
of reward erasers at Walmart are a great find when on clearance!



Dollywood family amusement park is the top destination
for family vacations in **Pigeon Forge, Tennessee**,
nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains.

Through our partnership with Samaritan's Purse, the **Trinity Shoebox Project** has received
complementary tickets to **Dollywood valid March 10 - December 31, 2024**. We still have
four tickets left to offer **anyone** interested for a **\$50 donation each**. This is a great deal as a
2024 single day ticket price is \$92.

If you or anyone you know is interested, please reach out to Heidi Zingsheim at (920)539-
8807 or heidizingsheim@gmail.com. **Please help us spread the word.** *Thank you!*



Social media offers our church a powerful way to connect with – and
engage – our members. The content shared on Facebook also provides a
window for the community to see all the great things going on in our
church. So, we invite and encourage *everyone* to take pictures and share
content opportunities with Heidi Zingsheim or the church office.
Together, we can open that window wider. *Please consider!*

VBS - June 1, 2024
A Stellar Time Was
Had by All



**We have lots to
celebrate this month!**

Gloria Faber

Turns 88 on 7/5
611 Fifth St.
Lomira, WI 53048

Had Johnson

Turns 88 on 7/9
P. O. Box 203
Brownsville, WI 53006

Leverne Senn (Shut In)

Turns 95 on 7/25
438 Ashford Ave.
Apt. #118
Lomira, WI 53048

*Let's send them
lots of Birthday
Wishes!*

July Anniversaries

- 10 Dan & Brenda Michels
- 13 Augie & Andy Luedtke
- 18 Gene & Marge Junger
- 27 Brian & Ashley Schaefer

July Birthdays

- 1 Sandy Zitlow
- 3 John Muentner, Jr.
- 4 Owen Unferth
- 5 Gloria Faber
Richard Ullius
- 6 Dennis Michels
Jim Todl
- 9 Harold Johnson
- 10 Fran Coulter
- 11 Ron Kretschmer
- 12 Nora Buske
- 13 Karyn Michels
- 14 Felix Cardenas
- 17 Debra Gudex
- 19 Lillie Thorn
- 20 Bruce Dilling
Madeline Marschie
Scott Krueger
- 22 Alexandria Dean
Ed Faber
- 25 Pam Giese
Leverne Senn
Dalton Zingsheim
- 27 Addison Stoffel
- 28 Mike Lavarda
Barb York
- 29 Nathan Dewhurst
- 31 Connor Steers
David Wroblewski



**Save the
Date!!**

Sunday,
September 8

TMC Golf Outing

3:00pm

9 - hole outing

Camelot Golf Course

More details to follow

**The August
newsletter deadline
is July 25th. Please
have all of your
articles into the
church office by
noon that day.
Thank you!**

TUMC Budget Totals

YTD needed to meet budget:
\$105,525.00


Received through \$82,194.28

Budget Shortfall: \$23,330.72



July 2024 TMC-Lomira

Worship Service 9:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:00pm Strategic Vision Planning Meeting	3 6:30pm AA	4 	5	6
7 9:00am Communion Sunday	8	9	10 6:30pm AA	11	12	13 10:00am Food Pantry
14	15	16	17 6:30pm AA	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 6:30pm AA	25	26	27 10:00am Food Pantry
28	29	30	31 6:30pm AA			

Mulongo Mpoyo, Pastor

Church Office: (920) 269-4411

Cell (414) 690-5796

Office Hours Tues.-Thurs. 9AM-1PM

Or by Appointment

Email:

revmpoyomm@yahoo.fr

churchofficerumc@gmail.com

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

9:00 A.M.

Church Office Hours:

Tues-Thur 9AM-1PM

**Trinity Methodist Church
300 Church Street
Lomira, WI 53048
Return Service Requested**