



Worship Service: 9:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:15 AM

Youth Group/Connections: 10:00 AM

February 2025 Monthly Newsletter

5 Ways God Has Shown His Love For You

1. God formed you in your mother's womb:

God gave you life. You are not here by mistake. He has known you since before you were born.

2. God has a purpose for your life.

He created you for a reason and if you [surrender your life to Him in repentance and faith](#), He promises to work everything together for your good - to accomplish His perfect plan.

3. God sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for your sins.

God wants a relationship with you. But when you do things that are displeasing to Him - sin - it separates you from a holy God. That's why He sent His Son, Jesus, into the world. Jesus, who was perfectly both God and man, closed that gap of separation by dying on a cross for your sins.

4. God offers you both discipline and grace.

God wants us to have an abundant life, so He teaches us His truth through His Word. When we stumble, there are consequences for our actions. Yet, God also offers His grace, meaning that when we are remorseful, we get His unending love and forgiveness.

5. God is preparing a place for you in Heaven.

He wants us to be with Him. That's why His Son, Jesus Christ, promised that all who repent of their sins and believe in Him will one day be reunited with God. In Heaven, there will be no more pain, sorrow, or death, just joy and love from the Heavenly Father.



Dear Trinity Methodist Church Family,

As we step into another month, I find it essential to pause and reflect on the journey we have just traveled. January was a challenging month for many, especially with the wildfires in California and the severe cold that brought about sickness. It's in these times that we are deeply grateful for God's constant presence, walking with us through each day. The Psalmist writes, "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit" (Psalm 34:18). This scripture reminds us that God is always with us, providing comfort and strength even in the hardest times.

In the wake of the Christmas celebrations, my family and I embarked on a journey to Arizona, where we welcomed the new year. This has been a tradition for many years - a time of singing, sharing testimonies, and offering thanks to God for the blessings and trials of the past year. During our stay from December 27, 2024, to January 3, 2025, we experienced the warmth of fellowship and the beauty of God's creation.

The highlight of our Arizona trip was visiting the Grand Canyon, a magnificent testament to God's artistry. Standing at the rim of the canyon, one cannot help but be moved by the vastness and beauty of what God has created. It brought to mind the words of Genesis 1:31, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." The Grand Canyon, with its overwhelming size and splendor, truly reflects God's glory as declared in Psalm 19:1, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Looking ahead to February, we have prepared sermon themes that I hope will inspire and challenge us:

- February 2: "The Nazareth Turning Point" based on Luke 4:21-30
- February 9: "Deep Waters, Divine Catches Beyond Fish" from Luke 5:1-11
- February 16: "Standing Firm in Spiritual Integrity" featuring Luke 6:17-26
- February 23: "Living Beyond Our Human Nature" with insights from Luke 6:27-38

As we explore these themes in our sermons and gather for worship, let us also remember the core values that guide us as followers of Christ - love, unity, and sacrifice. These are not just words; they are the very essence of what it means to live as disciples. Love calls us to look beyond our interests to the needs of others. Unity binds us, despite our differences, in a common purpose. And sacrifice encourages us to give generously of ourselves, just as Christ did for us. Each day presents a new opportunity to express these principles in our actions and interactions.

I encourage every member of Trinity Methodist to embrace these values wholeheartedly. Let us strengthen our bonds with each other, share our love more freely, and step forward in faith together. In doing so, we not only enrich our own lives but also shine as a light in our community, drawing others to the grace and truth of Jesus Christ. As we move forward, let's hold fast to the mission that has been entrusted to us, supporting one another with kindness and courage, and always seeking to reflect the heart of God in all we do.



Additionally, I will be attending the Clergy Session in Michigan from February 27 to March 1, 2025. This will be a time of growth and renewal, and I ask for your prayers as we seek to bring back valuable insights to enrich our community.

In closing, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to each one of you for your dedication and service. Our church is a beacon of hope because of your commitment to living out the love of Christ. As we continue our journey together, let us keep our hearts focused on God, who leads and sustains us through every season.

With all blessings,

Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo



We are always looking for new ways to share all of the great things going on at Trinity Methodist Church. One of the recent strategies we used was to run an ad in the Dodge County Pioneer inviting the local community to come and join in our Contemporary Worship Service. Thank you to the Memorial Committee for funding this venture.



Thank you to the congregation at TMC for the:

- Food
- Cards
- Calls
- Visits
- Prayers



I'm so thankful that everything turned out as well as it did after my accident.

Thank you all for supporting me so well during this time,

Lila Ebert

Praise the Lord

Contemporary Worship Service

Sunday, January 26 | 9:00am



LOVE. GROW. SERVE.

300 Church Street, Lomira

Come and Raise Your Voices with Ours

Faith is the journey from believing in God to trusting God.

*Biblically, **faith** is considered a **belief** and trust in God based on good evidence but without total proof. To have faith, we must trust that God is there and working on our behalf, even though we can't see him with our eyes.*

What has your personal faith journey looked like?

Recently, I asked that question and a few more to Sarah Kretschmer, TMC lifelong member.

My name is Sarah Kretschmer, and I have been blessed to grow up within the loving community of Trinity Church. As a youth, I was deeply involved in the church's life—an active member of the Youth Group and Sunday School, and later, a Sunday School teacher for many years. Back then, I believed faith was about going to church every Sunday and staying engaged in church activities. But as life has taught me, faith is so much more than that.

Faith is the gift God gives us to endure life's toughest challenges. In 2024, I faced one of the most difficult seasons of my life: being diagnosed with breast cancer. When I first heard the diagnosis, I remember thinking, *What am I going to do? I have so much life left to live. At the time, it felt like my world was falling apart—but in truth, it was falling into place.*



God was at the very center of my storm, and He held me close, assuring me that I was going to be okay. As I began treatment and encountered setbacks, I found myself lifting my hands to Him, surrendering my fears and doubts. On the days when I felt like giving up, God gave me the faith to keep moving forward. He was there, steady and strong, pushing me forward even when I didn't think I could take another step.

Through this journey, I've learned that faith is about trusting God fully and letting Him take control. It's about believing that He is greater than any fear or obstacle we face. Faith over fear—always.

Want to share your faith journey? TMC would love to hear from you as everyone has a different journey they are on and working through in this life. Please send your story to churchofficetumc@gmail.com.

TMC Church Council Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025

Meeting Details

- **Memorial Committee** is working to light the sanctuary windows of the church at night to give more of a presence to the church from the road.
- Continuing the **Contemporary Service "Praise Band" equipment fundraising effort**, but \$5,000 was authorized by the committee toward the purchase of new equipment.
- The new TV in the entranceway, purchased with money from the Memorial Fund, will provide updated information **happening within the church**.
- **Finance Update:** We ended the year approximately \$10,000 short of budget.
- **Trustees** are working on bids for tower work and parking lot repairs
- **Sunday School** classes are working on an Easter program.
- **Compassionate Fund** gave an update of 2024 numbers. Please see chart on page 8.
- **Moving forward with a committee to promote our church** and it's activities in the community. We are placing an ad in the Dodge County newspaper highlighting our Contemporary Service on January 26.
- **Thanked Michel** for his work on developing our technology with our website and slide presentation. Will continue to work both throughout the year.
- Discussed how to **improve readership of the monthly newsletter**. Some copies are made available each month and placed in the Connections Room.

Next Meeting March 11, 2025 @ 6:00P.M.

Why Trinity?

I recently asked a few members of the church why they chose TMC to be their home church. In a time when there are many options to choose from, I asked what Trinity provided for them in their faith journey.



Here is Carissa Backhaus' response:

We choose Trinity for the **community** that it has brought to us. We enjoy being a part of a church that is **invested in their people** and **willing to take time to learn more about their family**. We enjoy spending time with the members of Trinity in **growing our spiritual needs**.

We also enjoy Trinity due to its belief and also not pressuring that on other members but being willing to talk about them.

This question has been asked "Why Trinity" and I have been thinking about all the reasons I enjoy Trinity. **First** is my church family, the **warmth** I feel on Sundays just brings me **peace**. **Next** is the activities, there are lots of groups and projects you can be part of. **Our Sunday School program**, I went to as a child and I have taught and helped with it since I can remember, brings me **joy**. **Watching my son go through Sunday School and seeing him now in college and knowing how strong his faith is** gave me comfort when we took him to college.

My church has **been with me through many ups and downs and love I feel always brings me comfort and peace.** - Tammy Steers

Want to share your "Why TMC" thoughts? Please contact Jill at churchofficetumc@gmail.com.



We have found a volunteer to host this year's Thanksgiving Dinner. Nancy Pahnke has graciously agreed

to take on this task. Please remember to keep an hour or two free that day so you can help out.



TMC's calendar is available for viewing on our church website?



Just navigate to: Trinitylomira.org

Select "About Us" then "Calendar" It's that easy!



you're invited

Feed My Starving Children MobilePack Event

occasion

March 8 9:00-11:00am, 12:00pm - 2:00pm, 3:00-5:00pm

date & time

Fond du Lac Fairgrounds

location

Feed My Starving Children Organization

hosted by

Sign up at the Feed My Starving Children table in the Connections Room /sign up online after 2/8

rsvp

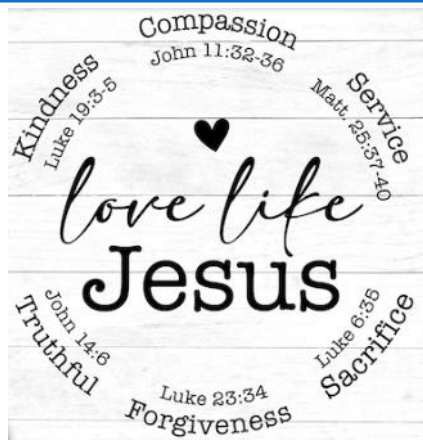
Any questions, contact Nancy Hammock at 920-948-9413 or bnhammock@att.net

2025 Fond du Lac MobilePack Goals

- 140,000 Meals to Pack by 600 Volunteers
 - \$41,000 raised



Donate or Volunteer!



Won't You Help?

Every year, millions of children die from preventable causes such as:

Pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, and undernutrition.

Today, hunger causes nearly half of the deaths in children under 5 years old. This is truly heartbreaking. As followers of Christ, we are called to respond. Matthew 25:35:

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

Through a Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) Mobile Pack™ event at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds on March 8th, our community will be responding to the cries of those in need by producing 140,000 nutritious meals for God's children around the world.

We invite you to join us! We're looking for 600 volunteers to pack meals and **help us raise \$41,000** for this Mobile Pack event at the Fond du Lac Fairgrounds Rec Center.

Adults and children 6 years and older will measure and scoop ingredients, seal bags, and prepare boxes for shipping.

Pack times are 9:00am, 12:00pm, and 3:00pm. It's only a two-hour time commitment.

To sign up for the March 8th pack, please see the Feed My Starving Children table in the Connections Room.

To help us meet our \$41,000 fundraising goal, submit donations online at give.fmssc.org/fdl (find our event, click Get Involved and Donate Now) or mail a check to:

Feed My Starving Children
ATTN: Mobile Pack #2404-032SC
401 93rd Ave NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

(Checks should be made payable to FMSC, Memo line Mobile Pack #2503-19SC)

Jamaica & Mauritius - Two New Shoebox Countries for Trinity Shoebox Project!

For those of you who aren't aware, the shoeboxes shipped by our Project in 2024 are headed for **Jamaica**, **Mauritius**, and **Trinidad and Tobago**. The prior year some of our boxes also went to Trinidad and Tobago, but Jamaica and Mauritius are new destinations for us!



Mauritius

Mauritius is an island nation located in the Indian Ocean just east of Madagascar. It is known for its beautiful beaches and once being the habitat of the dodo—a large, now-extinct bird. Samaritan's Purse began hosting outreach events for the children of Mauritius in 2009 and launched our follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey, in the country in 2011.



Jamaica

Located in the Caribbean Sea, Jamaica is known for its beaches, mountains, rainforests, and reggae music. Samaritan's Purse began delivering Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts here in 1997. Since 2013, we have also offered The Greatest Journey, our follow-up discipleship course, to shoebox recipients on the island.

Shanika & Sherika and the Mittens



We received mittens in our shoebox gifts in Jamaica at age 8. Before this, our father cut a notebook and pencil in half so we'd have school supplies."

We grew up in rural Jamaica sharing most things, not because we're twins but because it was a necessity for our family to make ends meet. Our parents had us in their late teens. They couldn't afford an ultrasound, so having twins was unexpected. Our mom and dad had to stop attending college in order to provide for us. They worked hard—our mom at home and our dad in sugar cane fields. Both Christians, our parents had faith that the Lord Jesus would provide for our needs. Every morning, they gathered us together for devotions.

“We knew that Good Samaritans had sent us these gifts.”



To enable both of us to have something to write on at school, our father cut an 8-by 9-inch notebook in half. He also broke a pencil in two and sharpened the lead with a knife because we didn't have a pencil sharpener. We wished we could have full-sized notebooks and pencils like some of our peers. Our wish came true at age 8 when we heard shriek after shriek of delight in the halls of our school. Large cardboard boxes with a shoebox plane printed on them were delivered to each classroom. We were so excited about these huge brown boxes and were curious to see what was inside.



We rejoiced when we learned that they contained shoebox gifts for us. One of us received two full-sized notebooks! We shared what was in our shoeboxes so we would each have one. We also received our first calculator—a small, gray one we still love to use. We received a pair of woolen mittens. We didn't need them for warmth, since we lived in the Caribbean, but we put them to good use as pot holders. Our parents still have them at home in Jamaica.

“The boxes of gifts reflected the goodness of Christ.”

We were glad to receive a game of jacks since previously we used stones or the balls from roll-on deodorant to play the game. We also each received pencils and pencil sharpeners, as well as crayons, coloring books, and personal care items, such as combs, toothbrushes, washcloths, and soap. One of our younger brothers also received a shoebox gift. He still has the flashlight he received in his box.

At first, we wondered who we knew that would send us these gifts. We had learned the story of the Good Samaritan in Sunday School. So, when we saw Samaritan's Purse printed on the tape that held the shoebox closed, we knew that Good Samaritans had sent us these gifts. Through the shoebox gifts, we learned that you don't have to be close neighbors in order to help each other. These gifts came from strangers. The boxes of gifts ultimately reflected the goodness of Christ, showing us that the Lord graciously provides for us. We felt God's love for us as we received them.

Earlier that same year, we both made professions of faith in Jesus Christ during an evangelistic crusade. We each stepped forward that night to dedicate our lives to Him. The shoebox gifts and [The Greatest Gift Gospel booklet](#) that we received along with them helped us as new Christians to continue to grow in our faith. We read the booklet in Sunday School and together as a family before we went to bed. The lessons, which we read over and over, were such a blessing and comfort to us. Our parents instilled in us how important it is to study the Bible and pray together. We talked and prayed through any issues that came up, seeing how God works through situations. We sisters still have morning devotions together.

Our parents are so proud that both of us graduated last year with business administration master's degrees from Liberty University, a Christian college in Virginia. Our mom went back to school to earn a teaching diploma and our dad has certifications in food service, hospitality, and nutrition. It wasn't until we saw an [Operation Christmas Child](#) video at our church in Virginia that we realized those were the gifts we received. We knew that logo—the shoebox plane. And there was that word again—Samaritan. We raised our arms in joy and praise. We exclaimed: “We're shoebox recipients!” We stood and shared our stories right then.

It meant so much to us to learn the background of how our boxes were sent—through churches! It also was moving to see how much church members appreciated hearing us talk about the lasting influence the gifts had on our Christian walk.

Then, we saw the shoebox logo again on our college campus. They pack shoeboxes there, too! That's when we knew we had to keep sharing our story, so the message of how God is working keeps spreading.





A big thanks during the Christmas season and year round to all who help with music for our worship services.

To the soloists and ensembles, adult choir, bell choir, Trinity Instrumental Band, and the Praise Band members and directors, let's keep making music together!

God bless all of you for working in perfect harmony!

Jason—Worship Music Coordinator



The Men's Group will be meeting:

Saturday,
February 15 @
9:00 A.M.

Coffee will be served, along with a few treats from the Mug 'N Muffin ladies.

TMC has their next date to help with the **Loaves & Fishes** program of

Loaves & Fishes



Fond du Lac. We are looking for volunteers to help bake, pack, and distribute meals on **Monday, February 3.**

We are looking for cookie donations as well. Please package your cookies in bags of two.

The Loaves and Fishes program provides hot meals to approximately 150-200 local people twice a week.

Please sign up in the Coffee Connections room.



Mug 'N Muffin will be holding their next meeting on Saturday,

February 15 at 9:00am.

Ladies, with the cold temperatures, this might be a great month for hot chocolate!

TMC's own, Jason Ehlert, will be performing in the

Fond du Lac Symphonic Band Chamber Concert

Sunday, February 2, 2025 @ 3:00p.m.

Church of Our Savior -

363 S. Main Street

Fond du Lac



Are you thinking about how you can make a difference in our worship service?

Why not donate to the "Praise Band Fund?"

All donations will go towards updating instruments and sound equipment, so we can enhance your overall worship experience.

Please drop off your donations in the offertory plate.

Please note in the memo section: "Praise Band Fund," so your monies can be applied appropriately.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

TUMC Budget Totals

YTD needed to meet budget: \$17,224.00

Received through 1-26-2025: \$13,555.91

Budget Shortfall: \$ 3,668.09





Food Pantry 2024 Year in Review

	Families Served	Members in Family	Vouchers Given	\$50 Gas Cards	\$50 Piggly Wiggly GC	Monetary Assist
January	42	113	84	5	1	\$1,075.00
February	41	145	84	5	5	\$1,208.00
March	44	125	91	3	0	\$0.00
April	43	112	86	2	0	\$925.00
May	43	115	86	0	1	\$2,058.00
June	40	94	78	2	2	\$300.00
July	40	126	98	10	5	\$1,018.45
August	44	116	91	1	0	\$250.00
September	43	110	87	0	0	\$0.00
October	49	132	99	3	0	\$238.00
November	55	147	110	1	0	\$0.00
December	57	156	119	1	1	\$2,658.00
Totals	541	1491	1113	33	15	\$9,730.45



Lomira Compassionate Fund—by Deb Zinniel

What is the main purpose of your ministry?

To assist people from the Lomira, Theresa, Knowles, Brownsville area with food and funds when needs arise.

Who are the members involved in your ministry?

Bruce Sterr, John Rigotti, Amanda Kemmel, Sharie Stueb, Deb Z.

What is a recent project you worked on with your ministry?

Twice a month we provide boxes of food for families and as needed financial assistance for rent, medical and utility bills.

What do you need from TMC to be more successful as a ministry?

TMC is invaluable as it provides the storage and the location to house the food pantry out of. We can always use volunteers and donations of monetary or food items.

What are the goals for your ministry?

To become more known in the community that we are available to help out.

How can members become involved in your ministry?

Talk to Bruce Sterr (920-960-1144) to ask about volunteer opportunities.



Want to make a difference in your community? The Lomira area food pantry is looking for an assistant. This volunteer opportunity would include:

- 4 hours a week
- Doing follow up phone calls
- Writing “thank you” notes
- Potential fundraising

Training with Bruce would be included



The food pantry is looking for donations of peanut butter!

2023 vs. 2024 Breakdown

- Cash Down 6%
- Assistance dollars distributed - Up 1%
- Piggly Wiggly Vouchers—Up 22%
- Misc. Food Purchased—Up 33%
- Script Christmas Donation—up 20%
- Patrons - up 23%
- Family# - up 30%
- All areas of the food pantry and assistance are well funded. We currently have 9 months of cash reserves.

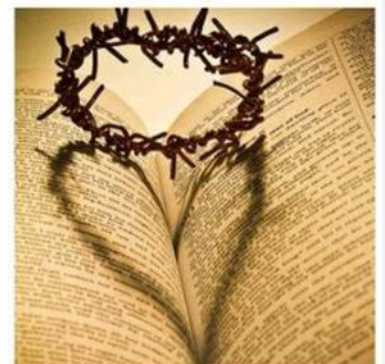
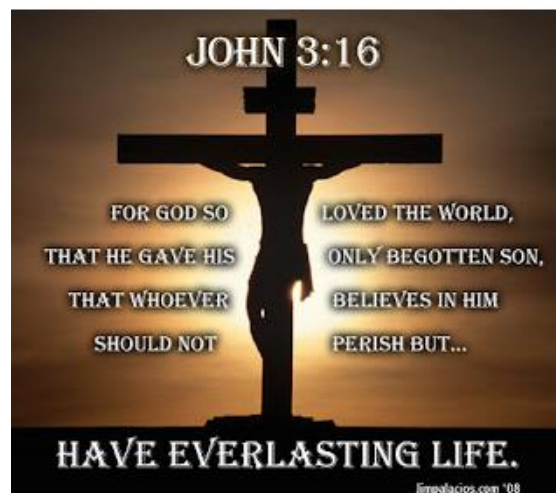
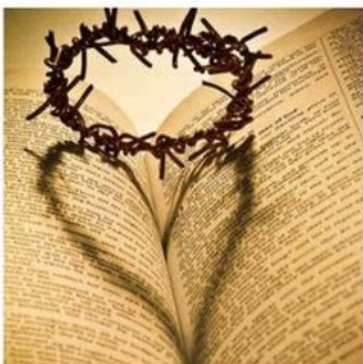


LET US PRAY

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.

- Jeff Luedtke, bone marrow transplant has been postponed as Jeff's current bone marrow is not ready for it. He will need additional units of blood so his body to prepare the bone marrow for the transplant. 01/21
- Mary, sister-in-law of Pam Hilker, tumor marker is going down, continuing treatments 1/15
- Steve Luedtke, the plan is to have cardio version for his heart in February 01/14
- Mark Sterr, friend of Faye Beck, admitted to UW Hospital 12/31 and has been there since. He is in a lot of pain. Please pray for his wife Joy as she navigates this journey. 01/14
- Maria Bruggink, niece of Betty Menzer, diagnosed with breast cancer-undergoing treatments 01/08
- Anne Biesek, friend of Betty Menzer, diagnosed with Leukemia, at home and receiving her second round of chemo 01/08
- Amanda Schaefer, wife of Mitch, had two strokes on 12/23, currently in rehab - prayers for recovery 01/08
- David Menzer, Fred's Brother, working on building his strength 01/08
- Pastor Kerry Wilson, lung biopsy with complications 01/02
- Gene Hake, had another fall, at Hope Senior Living 12/23
- Adam Holzman, coworker of Sarah Kretschmer, numbers are steady, still doing chemo 12/23
- Marie Wiedmeyer, Deb Wiedmeyer's sister-in-law, struggling with multiple blood clots 12/10
- Phyllis Scharfenberg, Jackie's mother, back in the hospital with extremely low electrolytes, quad muscle tear, and UTI in addition to recovering from knee surgery 12/03
- Carol Melang and baby, co-worker of Bridget Thorn, pregnancy complications 12/03
- Rob Kiehna, Doug Kiehna's brother, Stage 4 Prostate Cancer, 11/13



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 *Carissa Backhaus*
Judy Schraufnagel
- 3 *Emily Schwanke*
- 4 *Peter Buske*
Mike Sacotte
- 6 *Judy Lerch*
- 7 *Zachary Dewhurst*
- 10 *Skylyr Thorn*
Cynthia Bryant
Aricka Ullius
Ryan Ullius
- 14 *Warren Sauer*
- 17 *Debbie*
Bintzler-Oestreich
Tori Beck
- 18 *Joel Menzer*
Bob Coulter
- 20 *Bill Buske*
Vickie Renderman
- 22 *Jonathan Luedtke*
Jesse Backhaus
- 23 *Gene Junger*
- 25 *William Beck*
- 28 *Doug Kindschuh*
Will Jewson
Finley Sacotte
Marley Sacotte
- 29 *Deb Janke*



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 *Kevin and Jenna Rhein*



We were created in God's image to do two things on Earth: learn to love God and learn to love other people.

Golden Club

Let's send them lots of birthday wishes!



- Judy Schraufnagel turns 84 on February 1
- Judy Lerch turns 81 on February 6
- Bob Coulter turns 81 on February 18
- Bill Buske turns 82 on February 20
- Eugene Junger turns 94 on February 23

Judy Schraufnagel	Judy Lerch	Bob Coulter	Bill Buske	Gene Junger
1202 Maple Street	947 Maple Street	240 Water St.	975 Bavarian Court	St. Frances Home
Lomira, WI 53048	Lomira, WI 53048	Lomira, WI 53048	Oshkosh, WI 54901	33 Everett Street #105
				Fond du Lac, WI 54935



February 2025 TMC-Lomira

Services 9:00am

Sunday School 9:15am

Coffee Connections / Youth Group 10:00am

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 9:00am Communion 3:00 Girl Scouts	3 12:30pm Grace with Gratitude	4 5:00pm Girl Scouts	5 6:00 Choir Practice 6:30 AA & Al-non 7:00pm Bell Choir	6	7	8 10:00am Food Pantry
9 9:00am Worship Service "Young at Heart"	10 12:30pm Grace with Gratitude 5:00pm Girl Scouts	11	12 6:00 Choir Practice 6:30 AA & Al-non 7:00pm Bell Choir	13	14 	15 9:00am Men's Group 9:00am Mug 'N Muffin
16 9:00am Worship Service 3:00pm Girl Scouts	17 12:30pm Grace with Gratitude	4 5:00pm Girl Scouts	5 6:00 Choir Practice 6:30 AA & Al-non 7:00pm Bell Choir	20	21	22 10:00am Food Pantry
23 9:00am Contemporary Worship Service	24 12:30pm Grace with Gratitude	25	26 6:00 Choir Practice 6:30 AA & Al-non 7:00pm Bell Choir	27	28	

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

churchofficetumc@gmail.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

9:00 AM

Church Office Hours:

Tues-Thur 9AM-1PM

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