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TRINITY UNITED



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are three churches which merged together to become one in 2008. We are a multicultural, multigenerational and multiethnic congregation reflecting the rich diversity of God's people. This church is a witness to the uniqueness of the Christian faith which is called to mission and must be responsive to diversity both in the church and in the world. You are welcome here. We have made space for you.

Upcoming Events

Please check your Worship bulletin for a complete list

May Birthdays

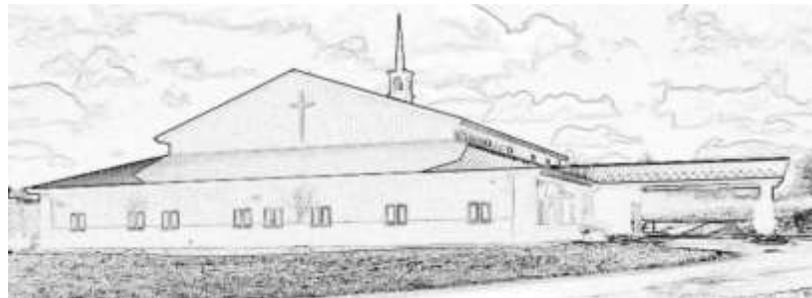
3rd George
Granberry

7th Desiree Fischer
Dominique Fischer

8th Darrell Stiltz

Trinity United Observer

May and June 2015



FROM THE EDITOR

I want to draw your attention to our feature article for this issue "How To Be A Daily Pray-er", from Guideposts magazine. Margaret Bausack both found this article and secured the permissions needed for us to share the article. Thank you Margaret!!

This is our second newsletter for 2015.

At this time, I'm going to publish every other month and hopefully I will get enough material from members for a newsletter!

The deadline for the July/August newsletter will be June 25.

If you have items for the newsletter, please send them to gregoirembolduc@comcast.net

12th Sharron
Alexander

13th Janyce
Kamrath

14th Katie Bradley
Funmi Adigun

15th Charles White

20th Sally Howard
Linda Ryan

23rd Margaret
Bausack

24th Margaret Bond

27th Michael
Fischer

June Birthdays

4th Kathy
Henderson

7th Rev. Bert Clark

11th Ryan Weir

12th Mary Miller

13th Terry Bausack
Anthony Lawson

14th Jane Harger

16th Granville
Granberry

17th Beckie Auger

20th Jacquelyn
McClellan

How to Be a Daily Prayerer

Eight tips to help you draw closer to God one day at a time.

by

Marilyn Morgan Helleberg

A block from Kearney State College, I felt the butterflies in my stomach. I was scheduled to participate in a public forum, and I suddenly felt inadequate-just plain scared. "Please, Lord, don't let me make a fool of myself. Help me to ..."

A guilty thought stopped me in mid-sentence. "Forgive me, Lord. Here I am, coming to You in a time of need again. So often I forget to pray when things are going smoothly. What's the matter with me, anyway?" My hands tightened on the steering wheel as I realized I hadn't turned to God in prayer all day. Maybe not the day before, either. I couldn't remember.

I wanted to be faithful in prayer. I wanted to pray every day. But I kept trying and failing.

Then and there, I decided to concentrate hard on developing some "support systems" that would help me have a daily time with God.

Little by little, I did find ways to have a time for prayer, even on super-busy days. Now I've written down my discoveries, hoping maybe they'll help you too.

1. Set a prayer goal.

Sit down with your Friend Jesus and ask Him to help you set a realistic prayer plan. It's better to start with

23rd Delores
Generes
Georgia McCall

24th Timmy
Graham

25th Denise Dixon

26th Patricia White

29th Pam Pascal
Noah Smith

May Anniversaries

1st Beverly and
Waldo Bromson

3rd Sharon and
Jerry Auger

21st Lisa and Tim
Graham

23rd Jill and Greg
Bolduc

28th Gwen and
Eddie Barney

June Anniversaries

11th Margaret and
Larry Tilley

15th Delphine and
Richard Holland

16th Margaret and
Terry Bausack;
Loraine and Rev.
Bert Clark;
Rev. Desiree and

one prayer period a day, adding more after daily prayer becomes an established habit.

2. Schedule prayer time into your day just as you would a business appointment or lesson.

Find the time that's best for you so that God gets the best of you-when you're most alert.

3. Establish a regular place for prayer.

When you enter that special room and sit in that same chair, your mind automatically begins to tune in to the Lord. It should be a place where you can be alone, without being interrupted.

4. Minimize distractions.

Take the phone off the hook or ask whoever's home to take calls. If you can't find a quiet place to pray, buy a pair of earplugs. They worked for me!

5. Shorten instead of skipping.

On those days when you absolutely cannot get in your full prayer time, you can at least offer an abbreviated prayer. Five minutes with the Lord are better than no time at all. Just be sure you shorten only on the days when that's the only alternative to skipping prayer.

6. Keep a prayer diary.

It takes just minutes to record the date and any insights that come to you from your time with the Lord, I like to note specific prayer requests and people I've prayed for. When I look back through my diary, I'm always amazed at the number of prayers the Lord has answered, the surprising ways He has done it, the steady movement of His Spirit in my life.

7. Find a prayer partner, someone you feel close to, who is committed to the Lord and who will join you in regular prayer.

Agree on a daily time. My friend Carolmae and I

Anthony Lawson

24th Roberta and
Craig Hardy

25th Katie and
George Granberry

 **Ministry Links** 

Trinity United Presbyterian
Church

Presbytery of Lake Huron

Synod of the Covenant

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

meet periodically to pray; on days between, we signal each other with one ring on the telephone when it's prayer time.

8. Give thanks for your dry, inarticulate periods in prayer.

Remind yourself, whenever you feel a dryness, that this is precisely the time when the Lord is working behind the scenes to prepare you to come closer to Him!

I'll admit that sometimes I still find it hard to discipline myself in prayer; but my lapses are getting farther apart. And I can tell you this: Since I've had a regular prayer schedule, I've had a more peaceful mind-knowing that I'm steadily nourishing my spiritual health.

"Pray Effectively: How to be a Daily Pray-er" by Marilyn Morgan Helleberg is reproduced with permission from Guideposts, Guideposts.org
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From the Deacons:

Deacons "Summer Food for Schools" program - For several years, the Deacons have given two grocery bags of food to 25 students from each of the three schools we support. The purpose of this is to provide a little additional food to the family since the students will not be receiving breakfast and lunch meals at school. Due to calendar restraints at the schools, we are not able to wait until school is actually almost over. This year, we will package up the food on Thursday, May 21 beginning around

10:00. We always need help on that day. Some jobs require lifting, but we also need people who can pack the bags and someone else will move them to a designated area.

North End Soup Kitchen - We continue to volunteer each third Friday at the Soup Kitchen on Stewart Ave. This is from 2 - 5 pm . We help with various tasks of food preparation and we dish up the servings to the guests. This work does involve some standing, but not the entire time. We would love for you to join us. Our next date is Friday, May 15.

CareNotes - There is a display of CareNotes on the West wall in the Multi-purpose room . Please take a look at them and take what you think would be helpful to you or a friend. The topics cover grieving, health, and social issues. we have "Notes" for children, teens, and adults.

Box Tops for Education and Soup labels - We continue to collect these and distribute them to our three schools. Schools are able to get needed supplies by using your donations. Please check your soups and packaged items for these "coupons." The "Box Tops" even come on some packaged clothing items or paper items. There is a gallon sized bag on the bulletin board in the Multi-Purpose room where they can be deposited.

Thank You - Lastly, I wish to thank you all on behalf of the Deacons for all of your prayers and support. We would not be able to operate without your help, which includes monetary and other donations, volunteering your time, and supporting us by prayer. The people of Trinity are a true blessing to us.
(Margaret Bausack, Moderator)

Severe Weather Preparedness

Jennifer Boyer, Director of Emergency and Homeland Security for Genesee County, visited Trinity United on Friday, April 18 to offer procedure instructions in case of a tornado or severe weather warning.

Her recommendation is, in case of a weather warning in the area of Trinity, to move to the east hall of the church building (where the classrooms are located). It is advised that individuals take a hard covered book (such as a hymnal or Bible) with them to hold over their heads in a pitched roof fashion.

She also suggested that a severe weather phone calling procedure be implemented like the one we use for severe winter weather. The details of this will be worked out.

Craig Hardy, Co-Chairperson - Property Team

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Focus On: Sandy Topham

by Debbi Deming

-
Born and raised in the City of Flint, Sandy Topham now lives in Grand Blanc, Michigan, and attends church in Flint Township.

His long tenure as a church member has included being a part of starting two new churches, Farnumwood Presbyterian and Trinity Presbyterian.

Explaining that First Presbyterian sponsored the establishment of a new Presbyterian church in the Farnumwood Community in 1955, Sandy indicates

that he and his wife Joyce lived in that area at the time, and were a part of the beginnings of Farnumwood Presbyterian Church. And, he adds, they were a part of closing the same church, as it merged with Christ the Liberator Presbyterian and Bethany Presbyterian Churches to form Trinity United Presbyterian Church in 2007.

Serving on the Trinity Site Selection Committee, Mr. Topham worked with the other five members to find just the right spot for Trinity United. He also served on the Building Committee to bring the ideas for a new building to the reality it is today, and on the Finance Committee to help manage the financial matters of the church.

In his professional life, after a stint in the Navy on the Atlantic, our brother rose in the ranks of Citizens Bank for over thirty-one years in administration to be over six departments, some of which included property maintenance, insurance, and property taxes.

While Topham acknowledges the financial challenges facing Trinity and other churches, he also recognizes that Trinity has a lot to offer, mentioning "just about everything, especially our good minister, who has a lot on the ball, and the camaraderie of the people in the congregation." He appreciates the way Trinity people get along with each other and everyone is accepted.

When asked what he would like to see at Trinity, Sandy replies "more young people," reiterating the concerns of others interviewed here, mentioning the need for the involvement of more youth and children.

In addition, since he and his wife find it more and more difficult to drive and get out, he would like to see copies of the Trinity Observer Newsletter in the

mail, and would be willing to donate for mailing costs. Sandy suggests that others who have a hard time getting to church would appreciate receiving the newsletter, and adds that it would be worthwhile to mail it to those in the Trinity family who have not been to church.

The young people in Mr. Topham's own family visit Trinity at times, and fortunately, many are still in the immediate area. He counts four children, nine grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren, the oldest of which is sixteen. Some are as far away as Arizona, Wyoming, and California.

As to hopes for Trinity, Sandy does not hesitate to say, "to stay alive, and to grow, and to pray."

Results From The Church Rummage and Bake Sale

As many of you know, we had our annual Rummage and Bake Sale on April 17 and 18. It was a great success and thanks to all who helped set up for, and run the sale!!

Here are the results from the sale:

Kitchen Sales: \$210.65
Bake Sale: \$200 (rough estimate)
Card and Knife Sales: \$85.60
Table Fees: \$75
Rummage Sales: \$910.16

From Sharon Auger (Thanks Sharon!)

Contact Information

Church Office
(810) 720-5152

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