



Trinity In Touch

April 2025

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Mission

Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Vision

We strive to be an inclusive faith community that extends God's love in our neighborhood and world.

Core Values

**Diversity & Inclusiveness:
Seeking to affirm every person as a child of God.**

**Scripture, Tradition,
Experience and Reason:
Searching for truth
in our faith community.**

**Peace & Justice:
Striving for positive social
change in our
neighborhood and world.**

**Trinity UMC
1100 Lake Drive SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616.456.7168
office@grtumc.org**

Behind the Worship: Rituals and Relevance

Doxology

There are certain parts of our worship service that are so familiar, so ingrained we could do them in our sleep. I'd have to check with Bri but I'm pretty sure I have. But just because something's familiar doesn't mean it's unimportant.

Take the moment right after the offering. After the congregation has walked the aisle and brought their offerings forward, we stand, and we sing:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, blest Holy Trinity,
Both now and for eternity. Amen.

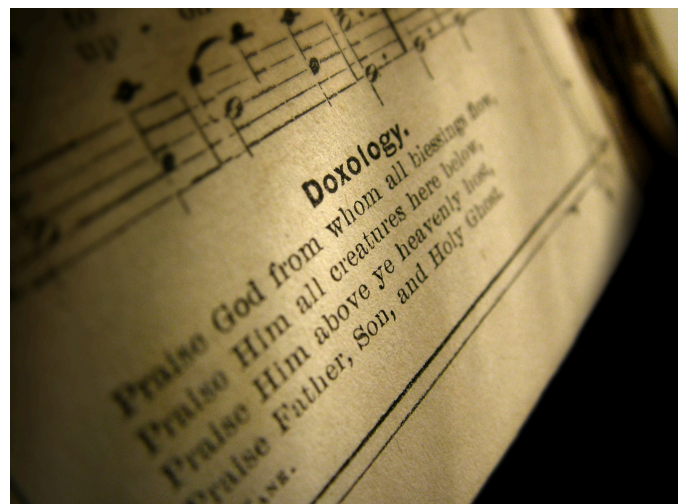
We do this every week. Chances are if you have visited other churches, even from other denominations, you will have sung this with them as well. Though, perhaps, with slightly different words (and definitely with different tempos. Some churches can sing this in under 10 seconds flat).

The words trace back to Thomas Ken, an Anglican priest in the late 1600s. He wrote them as the closing stanza of morning and evening hymns for the students at Winchester College in England. He wanted to help the young folks remember to praise God throughout the day. (If you've ever tried to get teenagers to do anything twice a day, you know the poor priest was herding cats.)

After that stanza, what we now call "the Doxology", was first published in 1709, it found its way into just about every Protestant hymnal under the sun.

Why do we sing it after the offering though you might ask? Because it makes sense. The offering is more than a mid-service moment to stretch our legs. It's a moment when we respond to God's generosity with our own. We're not just giving money to keep the lights on, we're giving thanks. We're supporting ministry. Expressing hope for the future. And we're reminding ourselves that everything we have is a gift.

Singing the Doxology at that moment lifts the whole act into something sacred. It transforms a practical task into a liturgical proclamation: "We see what God has done, and we're grateful."





At Trinity we sing a version with different wording than the one you might've learned growing up. Ours avoids gendered pronouns for God while it lifts up the fullness of the Trinity. Why? Because how we speak about God matters. Words shape theology. And at Trinity, we strive to reflect a God who is bigger, broader, and more inclusive than any single human image can contain.

Our version still praises the one from whom blessings flow. It still lifts the voices of all creation. And it still calls us into reverence and gratitude. But it does so in a way that's true to who we are as a community that welcomes all and believes God's love has no boundaries.

The Doxology is one of those "little things" that carries big meaning. It reminds us every week: That we're not in this alone. That God is good, even when life isn't. That giving and gratitude go hand in hand.

So the next time you stand to sing it, don't let the muscle memory take over. Let the words sink in. Let the gratitude rise up. Let the song be your prayer. Even if the act of standing and singing feels automatic, the praise doesn't have to be.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Mike

Ministry Spotlight

All Things FoRT: Holy Moments of Listening, Sharing, Learning, and Serving

"FoRT" is short for "Friends of Rohr at Trinity." We are folks who enjoy gathering weekly for fellowship and discussion of books written by Father Richard Rohr.

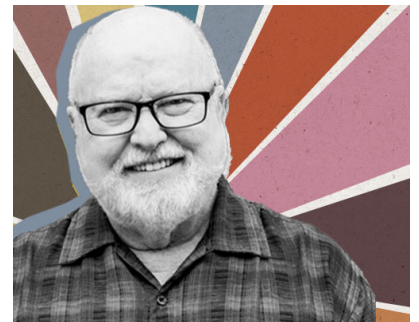
Richard Rohr is a Franciscan priest who founded the Center for Action and Contemplation in 1987 in Albuquerque, NM. The mission of CAC is to introduce Christian contemplative wisdom and practices that support transformation and inspire loving action in the world. His work points us to our intrinsic oneness with God and with each other.

Some of us have followed Rohr and the CAC for years while others of us are unfamiliar with anything Rohr. Wherever we start, together we desire to integrate action and contemplation in our lives.

We currently have two FoRT groups meeting weekly. DBC (grow Deeper, love Better, see God more Clearly) meets on Sundays, 5:00-6:30 pm, in the Fireside Room and on Thursday our EvB (Everything Belongs) meets in the Library from 6:15-7:30pm. There are 19 who regularly attend our DBC group and 23 attend our Everything Belongs group, with several attending both groups each week and 6 joining us from the community. We have a total of 37 persons involved in the FoRT ministry – a long way from the 3 who first gathered in the Fireside Room in November, 2017.

Our weekly FoRT groups study different Rohr books but our model for each gathering is similar. We welcome you to join us! For more information, please contact Merrita Tumonong (616-240-4538) or talk with one of the group members from Trinity (see below).

Carol Ashcroft, Vicki Blubaugh, Becky Bosker, Margaret Bulgarella, Chuck/Mary Jo Burpee, Steve/Penny Murray, John/Betsy Zysk, Linda Burpee/Sara Smolenski, Brian/Jenna Chisholm, Cathy Risley, Belinda Geertsma, Amy Gerold, Kristen Goodman, Tricia Ophoff, Natalie Wiersma, Nichea VerVeer Guy, David Howard/Eve Ricketts, Laura Johns, Greg/Kim Longworth, Jim Urquhart, Tonya Murphy, Kathy Zeichman, Pros/Merrita Tumonong.



See page 8 for more updates on what the FoRT group is up to!

United Women in Faith



**Trinity United Women in Faith
Invite you to attend our Lenten Breakfast
Saturday, April 19, 2025 9:30am
Parlor on the main floor**

Join us as we usher in the Easter festivities and celebrate the resurrection of faith. Delicious breakfast buffet, hot beverages and great fellowship!
Message presented by Jenna and Brian Chisolm.
All are welcome to attend!

Donation of \$8 will proceed the UWF Prayer and Self-Denial Offering enabling ministries of justice here and around the world.

Contact the church office to RSVP to office@grtumc.org.
Questions? Contact Nichea VerVeer Guy at orangecelt00@aol.com

**A NIGHT OF FANTASTIC STORYTELLING!
FRIDAY, MAY 9 @ 6:30PM
TRINITY UMC FELLOWSHIP HALL**

United Women in Faith would like to invite you to attend our "Black Tie and Blue Jeans Gala" that benefits our support of women's justice ministries around the world. Storyteller, Patrick Foley, will entertain with spoken word with an appetizer buffet and beverages. There will also be a Gift Card Auction Board for you to bid on! Selfie Booth and more!

Ticket price \$8 per person.
Event is appropriate for ages 12 and up!
Tickets available at office@grtumc.org.
-Or-
You can pick up Sundays in the Parlor



Do not miss this great way to support UWF and enjoy the spring!

Missions & Justice



Be A Force for Affordable Housing

Affordable housing continues to be a crisis in Greater Grand Rapids. There are many causes of unaffordability but we are extremely fortunate to have neighbors like Inner City Christian Federation Community Homes (ICCF) that are working proactively and faithfully to increase housing options and prepare families for successful home-ownership. To advance their exceptional work, Trinity will be doing a volunteer workday to do spring cleanup at one of ICCF's properties on Saturday April 26, 2025 from 9:00 am to Noon. Most likely we will be doing yard work outside but could also involve organizing spaces, light painting, etc. We'll know the specifics closer to the date. Seeking 6-8 persons. Youth are welcome. Their parents are very welcome to join us as well but we will have other adults present to oversee youth if they cannot. Looking for a total group of 6-8 folks. Background checks by Trinity are required for those 18 and older. Contact Kip Smalligan 616-485-6198 to join.

Call to Action:

AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN GRAND RAPIDS

VOLUNTEER WORK DAY AT ICCF

Inner City Christian Federation Community Homes
Local Non-Profit Housing Organization

Saturday, April 26 from 9:00am-12:00pm

Trinity will support ICCF by assisting with a spring clean-up of one of ICCF's properties!

Affordable housing continues to be a crisis in Grand Rapids and Kent County. Your help maintaining ICCF's residences provides temporary and long term options for families to build stable and independent lives.

ALL AGES OPPORTUNITY! ICCF requires background checks through Trinity for those over age 18. Volunteers under age 18 are welcome too and do not need a background check.

Contact Kip Smalligan with questions or to register: kipsmalligan@gmail.com or 616.331.3211



Easter Holiday Offering

Immigration Law & Justice Michigan (formerly Justice For Our Neighbors) is the recipient of Trinity's Easter Offering. ILJ-MI supports low-income immigrants:

- Provides trustworthy legal services so persons are not exploited or misled.
- Advocates for refugees with asylum cases through the immigration system
- Supports immigration laws that are just and humane.

In 2024 ILJ-MI served 1,053 clients from their four Michigan locations. See their website and newsletters for their very real impact and success stories. You may give via Trinity website or envelopes in pews. Thank You!

As we think about ways we can love our neighbors, it's easy to be overwhelmed and uncertain as we try to digest and respond to the daily onslaught of news. Where do we start when so much seems out of our control?

Trinity's "Immigration Work Group" invites you to consider some tangible actions you can take to meet basic needs of immigrants in our community. According to Katie Carpenter of Bethany Christian Services, we can support our refugee neighbors in 4 different ways. See the following document: <https://tinyurl.com/ImmigrationWorkGroup>

Continue to follow the Justice Resource document for more resources for areas you are passionate about. The justice document is updated weekly and you can send suggested resources to staff at justice@grtumc.org.

Justice Resources

Find Our Latest Social Justice Resources Online



tinyurl.com/TrinityUMC-Justice

Our Google Doc is updated regularly and includes resources, organizations & direct action steps.

Email suggestions or links to:
justice@grtumc.org

A new book group is forming here at Trinity! Join the Library Team as we dive into a variety of different non-fiction justice titles.

Meetings will be once every three months on Tuesday evenings. Come for deep conversation, meaningful action, and tasty snacks!

Our first meeting will be Tuesday, May 6 from 7:00pm-8:30pm and we will be exploring Micro Activism by Omkari L. Williams. There will be time for discussion about Micro Activism, future book suggestions, and thoughts on format. Did we mention the snacks? Because there will be snacks!

Questions about Sacred Justice Book Club?
Contact the Library Team: Laura Johns, Hannah Marshall & Dani Patrick

Sacred Justice Book Club

Join us as we dive into a variety of different non-fiction justice titles!

Tuesday, May 6 from 7:00pm-8:30pm

Micro Activism

Omkari L. Williams





Trinity UMC celebrates the beautiful diversity of the human community. We affirm the sacred worth of each person as a recipient of God's love and grace. As followers of Christ, we are an open and inclusive congregation. We live this out by welcoming into full participation all persons regardless of gender, race, national origin, physical or mental abilities, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, marital status or economic condition.

April

Intention Word



Our intention word for April is Reveal. Not sure what an intention word is? Pastor Mike wrote an introduction to this concept in September 2022's Newsletter. Check it out online at: <https://bit.ly/Sep2022Newsletter>

Church Family

ALTAR FLOWERS

April 6-20 - Lent/Easter

April 27th - Bonnie Czuhajewski in honor of her grandson's 1st birthday.

PRAYERS AND CARE

Continued prayers for Andrew Hanson, Annie Slabaugh's cousin, as he recovers from blood clots in his lungs.
a.slabaugh@grtumc.org

Prayers for healing and comfort for Dave Merrill, husband of Myrna Merrill, as he is dealing with health concerns.
johnson.myrna@gmail.com

Continued prayers of healing and comfort for Jerry Sytsma as he recovers from recent surgery.
5655 N Seagull Dr NE
Belmont, MI 49306
616-430-9354

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Liz Barnett and family on the passing of her mother, Patty Williams.
elizabethsarahbarnett@gmail.com

Condolences to Stephanie Wiltse and family on the passing of her brother, Max Wolf.
1046 San Juan SE
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506
stephanie.wiltse@gmail.com



Opportunities to Engage



From Hosanna to Hallelujah: Exploring Holy Week Together

Tuesday, April 15
5:30pm-7:30pm

From Hosanna to Hallelujah – the Holy Week event you do not want to miss - is back this year on Tuesday, April 15 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm! Beloved by kids & grown-ups, this FREE multi-sensory experience will be better than ever with a few new surprises waiting for you! We will follow Jesus through his last week: reading scripture & stories, reflecting through crafts and activities, celebrating communion, walking the labyrinth, and much more! New this year, we'll have an opportunity to really celebrate the Joy of Easter in the gym with active play.

If you have ever felt like all those Lenten worship services & traditions are lost on you or that you wish your kids better understood the Holy Week story, this is the chance to gain new understanding! The open house style makes it great for all ages as it means you can arrive & depart when you wish and move from room to room at your own pace.

RSVP: Planning to join us? Email Laura Johns at ljohns@grtunc.org. This gives us a better idea of numbers for purchasing supplies. That said, join us no matter what. All are welcome here!!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Lend A Hand: To make this event magical for all our guests, we need room hosts, hospitality folks, and greeters. All helpers are asked to arrive at 5:00pm for a quick tutorial. Each volunteer will be assigned a 1 hour shift (5:30pm-6:30pm or 6:30pm-7:30pm). This ensures that even our volunteers have an opportunity to tour the various rooms. To sign up, contact Laura Johns at ljohns@grtunc.org.



This spring, God's Naturehood is back for both adults and families with kiddos!



Designed for Trinity families & friends with kiddos ages 12 and under, God's Naturehood: Family Edition is a time of fellowship & fun at a local park! Each meet-up will have a short guided activity for the kids and then plenty of free-time for them to play while the adults socialize. Allergy friendly snacks will be available, but make sure to pack your own beverages! All kids must be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday, May 1 from 10:00am-11:00am

Blandford Nature Center at 1715 Hillburn Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

Park in the main lot and gather near the entrance to the Mary Jane Dockeray Visitor Center.

This meet-up is open to all families with kiddos, but scheduled on a weekday particularly with some of our younger families in mind. Staying home with littles can be hard, come out and play with your Trinity friends! We'll say "hello" to some animals, take a short (stroller friendly) walk, and spend some time in the nature play area. Trinity will cover the \$3 admission fee for anyone who does not have a Blandford membership.

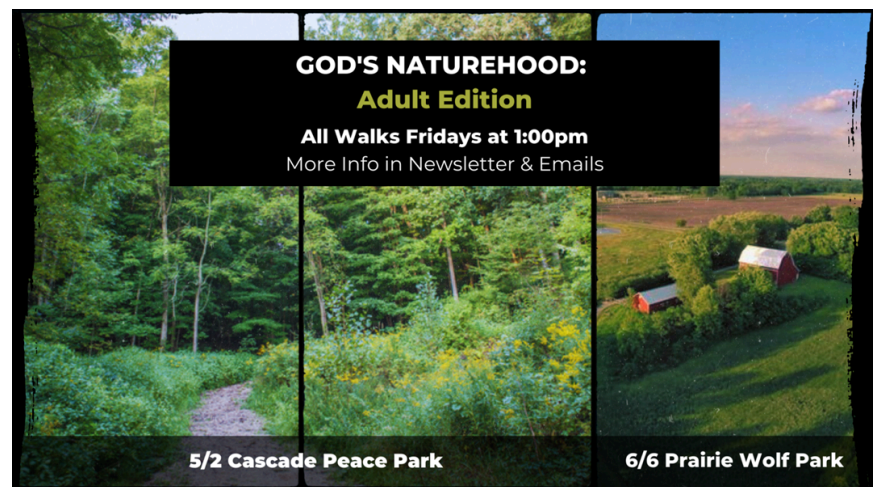
Saturday, June 14 from 10:00am-11:00am

Huff Park at 1500 Aberdeen St NE, Grand Rapids 49505.

Meet at the southeast corner of the parking lot off of Aberdeen Street NE near the playground.

This meet-up will feature a walk on the amazing board walk trails and some time at the nature playground! Great for those young families and those school age kiddos with lots of extra summer-time energy.

Designed for Trinity families & friends ages 18 & up, God's Naturehood: Adult Edition is a great opportunity to visit a new park, get to know members of your Trinity family better, and get your daily steps in. We're off for April, but the details of our May & June meet-ups are below:



Friday, May 2 from 1:00pm-2:00pm

Cascade Peace Park at 8900 Grand River Dr SE, Ada, MI 49301.

Park in the main lot off of Grand River Dr SE and meet at the trailhead.

The trails at Cascade Peace Park have some uneven surfaces & elevation change.

Friday, June 6 from 1:00pm-2:00pm

Prairie Wolf Park at 8555 Kalamazoo Ave SE, Caledonia 49316.

Park in the south corner of the Sheriff's Department lot and gather near the trail sign.

Reservations are requested but not required for all God's Naturehood walks. Contact Laura Johns, Director of Discipleship, at l.johns@grtumc.org with questions or to RSVP.

COMING TO ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We have a variety of Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation classes coming in April & May...



The Chosen: Season Four
Sundays, February 16 - April 13 from 11:30am-12:30pm
Adult Faith Formation Class | Discovery Room
Join us as we continue watching this unique show about the life of Jesus of Nazareth.


Join us as we continue The Chosen on April 6 & April 13. This unique show about the life of Jesus of Nazareth takes us deeper into the gospel stories by retelling and expounding on the character & intentions of Jesus and those who knew Him.

On April 20 – Easter Sunday – there will be no Faith Formation Hour offerings for children, youth, or adults. Enjoy the fellowship & family time as we celebrate!

After Easter, we're really excited to Meet the Friar on April 27 & May 4. Read on below for more details!

On May 11 – Mother's Day – there will be no Faith Formation Hour. We've found in past years that many folks have conflicts this week between celebrations and other commitments.

And then, it will somehow be the end of another program year. Where do the Sundays go?! On May 18, we're hosting a discussion called: It's a Wrap. What's Next? All Trinity adults are invited to connect about what we've explored this program year and dream about the future together. There will be summer updates and fall teasers! The Adult Ministries Council wants to hear from you, so an added incentive is that there will be treats! That's right, extra snacks – so plan on joining us!



It's a Wrap. What's Next?
Sunday, May 18 at 11:30am
Adult Faith Formation Class
Discovery Room

Let's connect about what we've explored this program year and dream about the future together. There will be opportunities for feedback as well as summer & fall teasers!

EXTRA SPECIAL SNACKS
That's right! The Adult Ministries Council wants to hear from you and are not above a little bribery. Join us for food, fellowship & discussion!

Have you heard about FoRT - the Friends of Rohr at Trinity? Are you curious who Franciscan Friar Richard Rohr is and why folks continue to delve into his works?

During the Adult Faith Formation hour (11:30am-12:30pm) on Sundays April 27 and May 4, we will gather together to Meet the Friar. Through video, a look at some of Rohr's extensive writings, and group discussion, we will seek to answer two questions: Who is Rohr? How do we integrate action and contemplation into our lives?

Whether you're new to Rohr or a long-time member of FoRT, join us in the Discovery Room as we discover what the Friar has to offer each of us!

And a reminder that outside of Meet the Friar, there are regular small group gatherings you can be a part of. Join the "DBC" Small Group on Sundays at 5:00pm where we are reading The Divine Dance or the Thursday "Everything Belongs" Small Group at 6:15pm where we are working through Breathing Under Water.

Questions about FoRT, any of these acronyms, or the amazing groups of people they represent? Contact Merrita Tumonong at tumonongmsw@gmail.com.



Meet the Friar
An Introduction to Richard Rohr

Sundays, April 27 & May 4
11:30am-12:30pm
Adult Faith Formation

Join us for a glimpse into what Father Richard Rohr offers us in his extensive writings & videos!

Illustration by Ohni Lisle



Whitecaps Game

Sunday, June 22, 2025 at 2:00pm

"Take me out to the ball game; take me out with the crowd!"



Join your Trinity family at LMCU Ballpark on Sunday, June 22 as the West Michigan Whitecaps take on the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers.

NEW THIS YEAR: With changes to the ballpark, the Lumbermen's BBQ Area with the all-you-can-eat BBQ buffet is no longer available to groups. Other group options include new deck or suite tickets with meal plans that are much more expensive. We will be trying something new this year, knowing we can always reevaluate before next summer...

We have reserved seats for the 2:00pm game. We will be in the same area on the third base side (Section 120) as last two years ensuring protection from the sun most of the afternoon and accessible seat options for anyone who needs them.

To ensure no one goes hungry – a Methodist tradition – we are adding an option for you to select a special group voucher to add to your tickets. You can mix & match options with your tickets, but once our tickets are reserved in late May, you will not be able to change your selection. Options are:

\$17 – Box seat ticket only

\$23 – Box seat ticket and one hot dog & one 16oz soda

\$33 – Box seat ticket and your choice of one hamburger, cheeseburger, or brat plus chips & one 16oz soda

All the vouchers save you on taxes and are less than the face value of the food items with the hot dog & soda voucher representing a 50% savings! You can turn in the voucher at any point before or during the game at concessions to collect your items.

Purchase your tickets and vouchers today! Trinity has options for a 20% discount as well as additional accommodations should anyone need them. The deadline to purchase your tickets is May 14 at 12:00pm.

Use our online form at tinyurl.com/TUMCWhitecaps2025 or contact Laura for help registering.

Spiritalk Book Club

Join us as we discuss & dissect a new book each month!

Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at Trinity.

Contact Joy Murphy for more info at joymurphy@grtumc.org.

January 14

[The Cloisters](#)

Katy Hays

February 11

[Vanishing Half](#)

Brit Bennett

March 11

[The Women](#)

Kristen Hannah

May 13

[Horse](#)

Geraldine Brooks

Spring 2025



Sign Ups

We know there's a lot going on at Trinity and sometimes it gets tricky to keep all the things straight. So here's a list of important registration and sign-up links for the next few months. Not sure what something is? Check the rest of the newsletter or contact your Trinity Staff. We're happy to answer questions!

Family Camp Registration (May 23-26)

Sign up for Family Camp including paying for single day food options.

tinyurl.com/TNTDinnersSpring2025

Whitecaps Game (June 22)

Get your Whitecaps tickets and food vouchers here. Deadline is May 14.

tinyurl.com/TUMCWhitecaps2025

Acolyte Sign Up (January-May)

Is your child interested in helping to light the candles at Trinity during worship on Sunday mornings? Here's your chance to sign them up!

tinyurl.com/TUMC-AcolyteSpring2025

TrinityKids Fellowship Leaders (January-May)

Volunteering with TrinityKids is a great opportunity to build relationships with other adults while facilitating fun activities for our PreK to 5th grade kids. No long term commitments; pick your Sundays!

tinyurl.com/TrinityKidsSpring2025

Second Adults in Youth Group (January-May)

Volunteering as a second adult in Youth Group is a great opportunity to support our 6th-12th grade friends. Youth Director Annie leads each week, but she needs a second grown-up to keep us Protection Policy compliant! No long term commitments; pick your Sundays!

tinyurl.com/TUMCSpring2025

Weekly TNT Dinner Reservations (January-May)

Sign up for Thursday night meals each week using this online form. Can be submitted multiple times!

tinyurl.com/TNTDinnersSpring2025



Pints with the Pastor
Select Sundays at 6:00pm at Taco Borracho

Jan. 26

Feb. 23

March 23

April 27

May 18

2025

You're invited to join us this spring for Pints with the Pastor. This gathering is an opportunity for all of us to get a drink, get some dinner, and get to know each other better. Upcoming dates are April 27 and May 18 and they will both be at Taco Borracho (755 Michigan St NE). No RSVP required. Contact Pastor Mike at m.desotell@grtumc.org with questions.



Light the fire in my weary soul.
Fan the flame make my spirit whole.
Lord You know where I've been,
so light the fire, in my heart again.

Light The Fire | Song by Sonicflood

Come to Family Camp this year – give your weary soul rest, feel the spirit move, and let God reignite the fire in your heart. Come sit by our campfire knowing God loves you – no matter where you've been and no matter where you're going. Come – light the fire with us!

Registered Campers: The reservations are in and we have an amazing group signed up this year! It's going to be a fantastic weekend on the West Michigan lakeshore. Laura will be emailing you lodging & meals confirmation, as well as a pack list, schedule of events, and other key info by mid-May. If you have questions in the meantime, do not hesitate to reach out.

All Trinity Members: Join our overnight campers for a day around the fire! On Saturday, you can stop by for a whole host of activities including crafts, games, and a brats & dogs dinner. On Sunday, join us at 11:00am for worship in the South Pavilion featuring camp music favorites. A delicious lunch will be provided after the worship service to all campers and visitors. After lunch, stick around for family activities, a hike to the lake, and more!

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per person for any camp meals. Please RSVP with number of visitors and any dietary needs / allergies by using the food section of our online registration form or by emailing Laura.

Interested in Registering? Contact Laura ASAP about options. There may still be a spot or two available as part of our group booking.
Contact: Laura Johns, Director of Discipleship, ljohns@grtunc.org

Community Ministries



Winter Wrapping Up...

This winter has been so cold...it's been like an actual winter this year. While most people cozied up with a cup of hot cocoa and a nice book, we continued to stay hard at work with the Community Ministries Program.

For our second year in a row, Faith on the Fly Program, taught our Fly Tying 101 class led by our own Gary Roelofs with a great group of new tyers from both inside the church and in our community. This year we added a Fly Tying 201 class for those who were in the Fly Tying 101 class last year. We were taught by local Fly Guide, Matt Kettner, and enjoyed continuing learning the art of imitating nature through tying flies. Both classes are building community with those involved and gaining an appreciation for the artistry involved in attempting to imitate nature.

The Community Ministries Program Kid's Club and Transitions Programs have been busy meeting on Wednesday Nights with children from Congress Elementary School and local middle schools. We have been doing art projects, engineering projects, science experiments and spending time burning off energy in the gym. We've shared homestyle cooked meals together, built stronger connections with our student families and simply spent time together. These evenings are truly something special and if you are interested in volunteering next year please reach out to Matt Witkowski, Community Ministries Program Director at (616) 550-2418 to learn more or email, m.witkowski@grtunc.org.

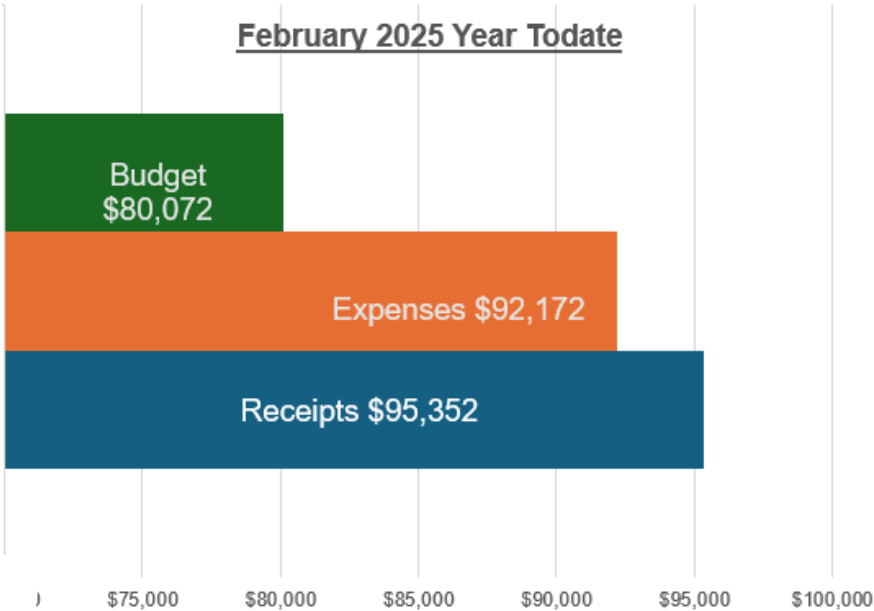




As we emerge from the winter landscape to the busyness of spring, we continue to stay connected by supporting the staff and students at Congress through donating prizes for March is Reading Month, helping send children to the John Ball Zoo, donating a composite bench in memory of a beloved teacher from Congress who passed away from cancer last year, Advocacy 101 workshop, My Life in Pieces (Upcoming Event)..A Refugee Story and Faith on the Fly New Adult Group and planning summer children fishing workshops. Work never ends, it simply shifts from one season to another, and we love it!

Want to learn more about the amazing work that the Community Ministries Program is doing? We will be talking about it more at Trinity UMC on CM Program Sunday, May 4th. Also, keep your eye out for our Community Ministries Program Spring Appeal Newsletter coming out in late April to see more stories, more pictures and more behind the scenes insights about the work that we do. This important work we do is only possible because of generous supporters who wish to see Trinity UMC connected to the neighborhood and seen as a vital resource to Congress Elementary School, its families and other nonprofit organizations in our community.

Finances



Dear Trinity Members and Friends,

Thank you for your faithful support. Your giving, prayer, and participation are vital resources that enable Trinity to be the conduit of God's justice, hope and love to our neighborhood and beyond. We are more than grateful that because of your generous giving, receipts surpassed expenses; however, we have to adjust the budget to match unexpected increased expenses.

Monthly financial reports are available in the church office and you may contact our treasurer, Joy Murphy for a copy or if you have any questions.

Submitted by: Pros Tumonong, Chair-Finance Committee