

Trinity United Methodist Church
808 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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Iron Mountain, MI 49801
Permit #81

May 2023

Camp Michigamme Youth Camp Schedule for 2023

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| June 14-17 | Elementary Camp, 3 rd -6 th grade |
| June 18-24 | Senior High Camp, 10 th -12 th grade |
| June 25-July 1 | Junior High Camp, 6 th -9 th grade |
| July 7-8 | Teddy Bear Camp, age 4-2 nd grade |
| July 9-14 | Disneyverse, 3 rd -9 th grade |
| July 15-22 | Games Leadership Camp |
| July 16-21 | Games Camp, 3 rd -9 th grade |
| July 23-29 | Science and Music Camp, 6 th -12 th grade |
| July 30-Aug. 5 | Water Games, 3 rd -9 th grade |



Register by visiting CampMichigamme.org/Register. Please call the church office, (906)774-2545, if you’ve registered for Camp Michigamme; our Camp Scholarship Fund will cover half of your camp fees!

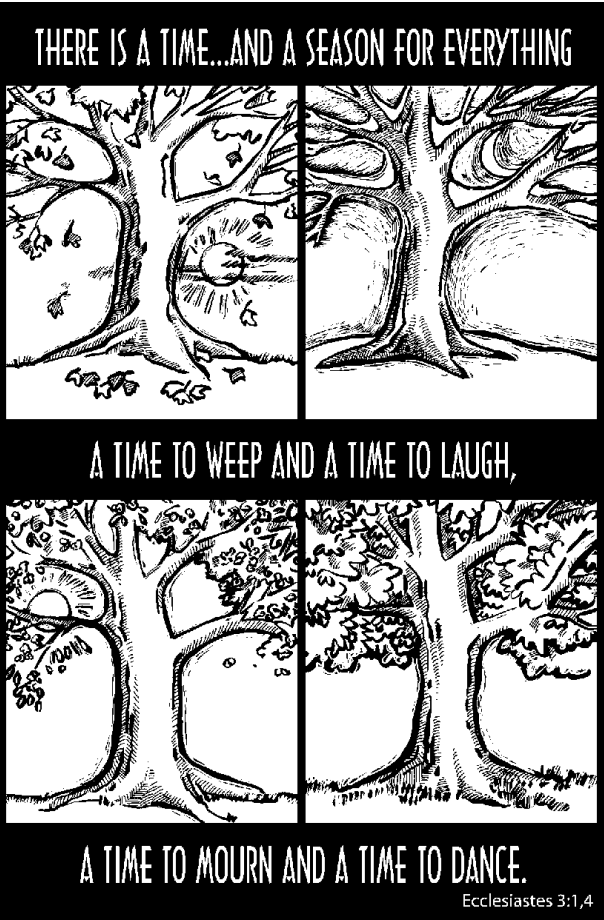
Thank you for continuing to turn in cash register tapes from Tadych’s Market Place and Super One Foods. Money that we receive for the tapes goes to the General Fund. In 2022, we received \$1,248.21 for these tapes. Collection boxes are near the Carpenter Ave. entrance and on the bulletin board by the west door to the Sanctuary.

Trinity Times

Sharing God’s love with those who hunger.

imtrinityumc@gmail.comwww.imtrinity.org

May 2023



Facebook Live Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Go to <https://www.facebook.com/imtrinityumc>

Trinity United Methodist Church, 808 Carpenter Ave., Iron Mountain, MI 49801 (906)774-2545
Church cell (906)282-3740 www.imtrinity.org imtrinityumc@gmail.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/imtrinityumc](https://www.facebook.com/imtrinityumc) **Pastor Geri Hamlen** **Secretary: Sally Verley**

Pastor's Ponderings

Nine years of Pastor's Ponderings and Newsletters—first 'The Tower' and now the 'Trinity Times.'

Nine years of worship and service with and for this Trinity United Methodist Church.

Nine years of visits and picnics, snowy winters and long summer evenings.

Nine years of Easters and Christmases. Nine years of Maundy Thursdays, All Saints Days, and Pentecost Sundays.

Nine years of committees and baptisms and funerals and confirmations and luncheons and potlucks and watering plants.

Nine special years with each and all of you...some who are no longer with us.

I am humbled by the honor of being your minister, your pastor, and your friend all of these many days and weeks and years.

My moving date hasn't been set yet, but the best guess at this point is that it will be sometime between June 15 and June 25. Between now and then, my intention is to be whole heartedly present to any and all of you who want a little more time with me. There are those who have talked about becoming members 'someday,' and I will find out if that can happen before I go. There are those who don't get out much, and I will contact them to see about visiting. An open house farewell party is being planned for early June, and the whole building will be available for one final gathering of the community while I am still here.

Not everyone will be able to come or even want to, but all of you will be in my heart and in my prayers in these weeks to come. Saying 'Farewell' can be complicated by unfinished business, a sour taste, a bitter memory—all of which is possible in any nine-year relationship. But let's remember that the word Farewell means: I pray you live (fare) well, even as I leave. The word Goodbye indicates Goodness even in the passing by of one from another. Adieu is the French word for 'Go with God.' Au revoir is another French word that means, 'Until we see again.'

In our Methodist world, there is always a connection that binds us one to another, as people, as churches, as Conferences...regardless of the distance and time that passes. In our Christian lives, we are forever connected by the love of Jesus, through our baptism, our joint mission of sharing God's love, through our common origin as the children of God. I will be leaving Iron Mountain Trinity, but in some holy and blessed way, I will always be part of who and how you are in Christ at this church.

In this Easter season, as we remember and celebrate the Resurrection Re-set of our lives through Jesus, let's be together a little while longer, with respect, with honor, with love, and in holy friendship. With gratitude and love for all we have shared.

Pastor Geri

Spiritual Reflections for Easter People

Opening Devotion for April 15 Council Meeting: Rev. 21:5 proclaims that the Lord is doing the work to make all things new...and that includes us and this Trinity church. God won't give up on us, even when we stumble and fall. Even when the current pastor leaves and a new one comes on board. God is by our side, there for us...present every step of the way. It will be easy for us to forget this at times when things get hard, but it doesn't stop being true.

When we get weary...and we do and will get weary at some point...tired of walking the path that God has called us to walk, it is crucial to remember that when God calls you into a good work, God will be the one to show us how to fulfill the work. Philippians 1:6 says, 'the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job.' You are not in this alone! Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place!

God knows and cares about every aspect of your life and of our life as a community of faith. Let's thank God for continually making us new and for leading us to freedom from fear and the joy of God's abundant love. *Saving Grace* Abingdon Press 2020 'Day 34' Lori Jamieson Jones AMENDED

“Quicken the Seed” By Philip Britts

Quicken the seed

In the dark, damp earth.

Nourish our need,

God of all birth.

Thou art the seed

That we bury now.

Thou art our need,

God of the plough.

Bury the spark

Of our own desire

Deep in the dark,

God of the fire.

After the night

When the fight is won,

Thou art the light,

God of the sun.

Easter 1948



The Worship Team needs help making Powerpoints for Sunday Service. Can you please help? Please contact the office if you are curious! (906)774-2545

A paper flower was given in memory of Louis Walters, from Patricia Staller. Please check out the Bulletin Board in the Gathering Room for the full display of beautiful and generous gifts honoring friends, family, neighbors!

Nurturing Community--continued

May Birthdays & Anniversaries *(Please pray for them on their special day.)*

- May 1 Keagen Aman, Robert Paupore, Lea Varda
2 Larry Trevillian
3 Kay Carlson, Renee Grunewald, Lori Sorensen
6 Joella Lindlbauer, Josh Thoney
7 Jill Volmering
8 Kirk Fortner, Lois Langsford
9 Gail Croci, Katelynn Grenier, Luke Ruble, William Uren
10 Sara Phillips
11 Roxanne Hudson, Rick & Ann Musgrove
12 Brock Grenier
13 Mary Ann Harding, Marcus Harry, Wendy Mulka
14 Adam Smart
15 Adam Hayes
16 Lindsey Sorensen
17 Debby Cavalieri
18 Greg Hunt
20 Carol Trevillian
21 Kevin Freeman, Addilynn Grenier
22 Cherie Winters
23 Heather Hayes, Gino Mariucci, Lucas Reddinger
24 Robert Cowling
25 Betsy Trumbell
26 Sophie Bancroft, Ashley Phillips, Jo Ann Richer
27 Stephen Blagec
28 Karen Fortner, Sandy Mutsch, Jayce Paupore, Sue Youngberg, Jon & Suzanne Harry
30 Neil Annear, Terry Barnes
31 Steve & Debby Cavalieri, Bryan & Jennifer Rietveld



Hospitalized since our last issue: Bruce Clark, Chris Santi James, Robin Rose, Deb Saul, Vance Uhazie

Our condolences to Rosemary Carlson, whose husband Ellsworth died March 25.

Our condolences to Don Rowell, whose wife Mary died April 1.

Our condolences to the family of James Byrne, who died April 1.

A new leaf is on the Living Tree in the Gathering Room, in memory of Bob Giombetti.

Nurturing Community

The Staff Pastor Parish Committee (SPRC) Minute Greetings Trinity!

Thank you, Pastor Geri, for nine years of faithful ministry and so many good memories! We look forward to a wonderful springtime with you before your new chapter begins.

The SPRC will be meeting with District Superintendent Scott Harmon on May 4 to provide input on what Trinity may need in the new pastor to be appointed, and what traits, skills, factors, etc. may prove to be a good fit. A decision about our next pastor should come quickly after that.

The SPRC does its best to reflect on this yearly, as part of the Charge Conference report. In addition, there is now a lock box near the church office for providing your notes and input...on this topic, or in fact for any input, questions, praises, comments, etc. you may have for the committee.

Also if you feel moved, the SPRC is collecting an offering in the office during May to provide a gift of recognition for Pastor Geri. (Later in the summer, we will also organize the same type of offering effort for our other church employees.)

Please contact any of us with questions or for conversation. God bless!



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Beth Clark: clarkbb616@gmail.com - (715) 696-3773
Pastor Geri: pastorimtrinity@gmail.com - (906) 282-3740



Graduation Sunday will be celebrated Sunday, May 21, and we want to include a recognition of high school, college, and community college graduates, and the completion of any other educational event in your life. Please call the office, (906)774-2545, by **Friday, May 12**, and let us know the good news of your achievement, so we can rejoice with you and thank God for your gifts and efforts. We are happy to include anyone who participates in the life of this Trinity UM Church, including grandchildren and adult learners!

Graduating high school seniors, please bring to the church office by **Friday, May 12** a few photos of yourself through the years (they'll be returned), and also tell us of your activities in high school and plans for the future, which we'll publish in the Trinity Times.



Vacation Bible School, Rocky Railway, is Sunday, June 25 through Tuesday, June 27, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. A light dinner will be served to the children at 5 p.m. Pre-registration is appreciated. Registration forms are available at church, or call the church office at (906)774-2545 or Lea Varda at (906)774-9569.

Hi, Pastor Geri and staff: Thank you for thinking of me and sending such a wonderful little package! It truly took me by surprise, and I appreciate it all so much!—Lily Wilcox

Dear Church family: Thank you very much for the college care package. The snacks were yummy.—Reece Fortner


Thank you so much for the snacks! It's always nice to get a treat, and it is appreciated that the church is thinking about me. Thanks again!—Kane Driscoll


Meaningful Service

Exciting News! On May 31, we will be serving in the building, the first community meal since 2020. This is a formidable concept, because so many of our team members are no longer available for service to the teams, and now others work on more than one team. The tentative plan is to serve the meal from 5 to 5:30. To-go meals will not be available until 5:20, and the people will have to come into the building to pick them up. This is a one-time-only event and not the start of weekly meals. It is also contingent on no Covid outbreaks. We will need help with meal preparation, table settings, serving the food, preparing meals to go, and cleaning up. If you are willing to help, please contact me at (906)774-9279. –Joyce Erickson

“**PJ's for People** is happy to announce collaboration with 4-H. Trinity will share our wonderful sewing ministry room and expertise. 4-H will share connections to youth groups, advertising, teaching resources, and volunteers. We will teach junior and senior high students how to sew. A pilot class is in progress. Students are gaining in skills, confidence, and pride.”–Mary Yeadon

May’s Mission of the Month is the Michigan Annual Conference Offering and Michigan Disaster Relief. This offering is given each year at the first worship service during the Michigan Annual Conference. This money goes to such programs as Michigan Disaster Relief, Grace Children’s Hospital and Pediatric Clinic and a Christian home for homeless children in Haiti, and the Bishop Judith Craig Children’s Village, a rescue center, and Ganta United Methodist Hospital. Your support is greatly appreciated. Please consider supporting these projects.

 **Noisy Offerings** are collected the second Sunday of each month. Your coins are appreciated and go toward the Mission of the Month. Thanks for your generosity!



COMMITTEE INFORMATION

- Staff Parish Relations Committee**, Thursday, May 4, time tbd
- Trustees**, Monday, May 8, 6:00 p.m., in person
- Engaged Ministry Team**, Tuesday, May 9, 10:00 a.m.
- Finance Committee**, Thursday, May 11, 6:30 p.m., ZOOM
- Church Council**, Monday, May 15, 6:30 p.m., ZOOM
- Staff Parish Relations Committee**, Tuesday, May 16, 4:00 p.m., ZOOM

Financial Stability

Goal: The current congregation provides offerings sufficient to meet current costs/expenses.

2023 First Quarter Financial Summary

As we ended 2022 with such an encouraging giving response from Trinity United Methodist Church members, the Finance Committee was optimistic that giving in 2023 would continue at a pace comparable to that wonderful finish to our finances in 2022. However, that is not the case.

To cover expenses budgeted for 2023, weekly offerings have to average \$3,924. So far in 2023, general offerings have been averaging \$2,652 per week. At that rate, we will finish 2023 at a deficit of \$66,144. We do have access to other income from such things as fees/rentals for using church facilities and grounds, along with distributions from the Bleecker and Sprague funds. However, those sources will come far short of the \$66,144.

The following chart gives a comparison of first quarter revenues and expenses for 2023 compared to those in 2022.

Comparison of First Quarter Finances		
	2022	2023
Beginning Balance:	1,999	4,205
Total Offerings:	35,562	34,481
Other Income:	4,193	2,827
Total Revenues:	41,754	41,513
Total Expenses:	51,550	53,751
Revenues - Expenses:	-9,796	-12,238
Bleecker Dist. Used:	9,500	12,500

As one can see, the Bleecker distribution and “Other Income” have helped us keep our heads above water. But, again, those are not sustainable for the rest of 2023.

When you make a
VOW
to
GOD,
do not delay
fulfilling
it;...

FULFILL
what you
VOW.
ECCLESIASTES 5:4

