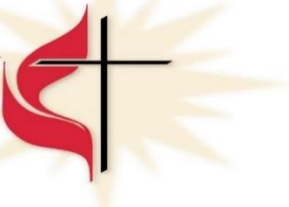


open hearts
open minds
open doors



The people of The United Methodist Church

SEPTEMBER 2017

When my father joined the Navy during World War II, it was at the height of the war. He served on a Landing Ship as a signalman, gunner, and as the ship's barber.

Dad grew up in rural southern Indiana. He often rode a horse from the family's farm to the small town school he attended, leaving the horse hitched outside.

In the Navy, my impression was that Dad's experience with African-Americans and Asians was not always positive. Like many at that time, he was thrust into a new and very different world. Understanding is not something we always grasp immediately.

From little things Dad said, I could tell he carried a little bit of residual bias about those experiences. I'm of the mind that many of us have some kind of prejudice like this. Nevertheless, I never once saw Dad treat anyone poorly or disrespectfully because of a color or ethnic difference.

Over the years, our home was a place of hospitality for traveling missionaries and evangelists, most of whom were very different from the people I saw in our small town. Always, always, Dad and Mom welcomed them warmly and they sat at our table as brothers and sisters in Christ.

I remember Father going to Haiti to visit so that he could then represent CROP and communicate the devastating problems that existed there. Again, Dad's imperfect heart was full of love and concern for a very different people. And again, we had Haitians in our home.

Christ's love challenges us to replace the fear and bias in our lives with a love and respect for others. Hate can never be a part of genuine Christianity. Rather, love casts out fear and hate.

I am so very thankful for the few special people of color who have played an important role in my life. I truly thank God for them. I'm thankful for my college euchre buddy, Gene, who I ate lunch with almost every day. I'm thankful for Arthur Pressley, a counselor who became more like a brother. I learned to love Charlie Underwood, my boss when I worked as a custodian. Colleagues in ministry, like Michelle Cobb, have also been a rich blessing in my life.

I am very concerned about our current American climate when it comes to the recent conversation about race and ethnicity. Let us stand for what is true, right, and good for people of color and people of other ethnic backgrounds. They are from the beginning of time our brothers and sisters. Let us not stand by quietly while others seek to tear down bridges and build up barriers.

Pastor John

50th Wedding Anniversary Open House



Tom & Diane Nesius will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Monday, September 4th from 1-4 p.m. (EST) at the Wolcott House in Wolcott, IN. Join us!

Reach for the Moon Preschool



Preschool begins on Tuesday, September 5th. Our inquiry based approach to learning has been quite rewarding.

Our Christian lessons

contribute to the lifelong building of positive character traits that make our hearts happy. Please call the church office if you are interested in learning about how your child can join us this fall (219-866-7271). There are a few spots left!

Needed: Choir Director & Pianist



Trinity will need a choir director for this next choir season.

Claudia Earnest, after serving us faithfully and well for several years, will be stepping aside. If you, or someone you know, is

interested in serving in this way, please have them contact the church office (866-7271) to apply.

Helen Teach also served us faithfully as our choir pianist.

After retiring this past year, Mrs. Earnest worked as both our director and pianist. We are therefore also looking for someone to serve in this position as well.



Both positions receive a modest stipend.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



The United Methodist Women will meet on Wednesday, September 6th at 12:00 noon for a luncheon and business meeting to follow. All women of the church are welcome to come

and join us. Bring a covered dish to share.



SEEK

SEEK will kick off the fall semester on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 @ BAZZ'S ROLLER RINK, from 5:30 to

7:30 p.m. Everyone (skaters and non-skaters) is invited to come eat a burger, laugh, and have an all-around great time.



This fall the adult class at SEEK will be studying Max Lucado's new book, *Anxious for Nothing*. The study will begin

Wednesday, September 20. If you will be joining this study please let the church office or Tammy Wisley know you will be coming. A free will donation will be taken to offset the cost of the materials.

Study the Bible with us

BIBLE STUDIES

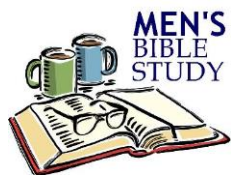
It is time to dive into God's Word.

Monday evenings, 6:00-7:30, beginning September 18th. The

study will include the Book of Romans. You will be responsible for daily readings and as a group we will discuss God's Word. The cost to participate is FREE.

Thursday evenings, 6:00-7:30, beginning September 21st. The study will include two of Kyle Idleman's books; *Aha* and *Gods at War*. This study has a DVD and a study guide. The cost to participate is \$12 to cover the cost of materials.

Contact the church office if you will be participating in either of these studies.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men, now is your time to open your Bibles, gather with a few other men, and explore God's

Word together. A Bible Study will be held on Sundays beginning September 17 @ 11:30 in the Chapel. The study will be HAPPY?



What if you knew where all of your money was going each month? What if you were debt-free, investing and

making wise spending decisions? With Dave Ramsey's class Financial Peace University, you CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future.

Financial Peace University will be offered September 20 – November 8 this fall. Class will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings during SEEK. Cost for the materials is \$95 through the church or you can register and purchase online through

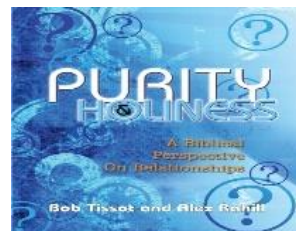
www.daveramsey.com. If you already have materials, the class is no charge. This is an outreach program to our community so please pass this information along to someone you know.



Painters Needed

Calling all painters! Our service project for September will be helping the JCYC daycare.

They have some rooms that need to be freshened up. We will be taping and prep work on Friday, September 22nd, and Painting in shifts on Saturday, September 23rd. Then Sunday, September 24th during Sunday School hour. We will go around and pray in each of the rooms and make sure all is cleaned up and ready for Monday morning. Please call Stacy Webb 219 866-8899 if interested.



HOLINESS AND PURITY RETREAT -- Jr High and Sr High Youth mark your calendars. The Holiness and Purity Retreat will be held NOVEMBER 10-11. Watch the church

bulletin, future newsletters, and the mail for more details.

EAGLE FLAG POLE PROJECT



I am currently working on obtaining my Boy Scout Eagle rank. In doing so, I will be completing my eagle project here at Trinity UMC and excited to do so! I will be installing a 35' flag pole on the south side of the sanctuary and east side the sign. This project requires me to fundraise approximately \$5,500 from family, friends and community members. If you are interested in making a donation, checks can be made out to Boy Scout Troop 149 and dropped by the church or given to me. A receipt will be provided for your donation. Thank you so much for your support!

Ben Olson

THANK YOU NOTES



Dear Trinity Church Family,
Thank you so very much for the phone calls, prayers, encouragement and the beautiful prayer blanket. I love it. I am feeling better and thankfully all the radiation treatments are over.

Linda Parker

Dear Trinity Church,
Thank you so very much for the beautiful handmade quilt. It is very nice and warm. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.



Hollis Hayes

Dear UMW



Thank you for the \$200 grant. It will be very beneficial for college. Also, thank you for the wonderful breakfast, the rose, the bookmark, and the gift card.

Sincerely,

Zach Wamsley



To: Trinity United Methodist Church,

Thank you for the support during my father's passing. The lunch you served and for Pastor John doing the service. I am proud to be a part of the church family. (Thanks Nicole Bufkin and family).

My mother, Pauline, was so touched by how your ladies came together to make a hard day better. Your kindness and sympathy will always be held in grateful remembrance.

Pauline Amsler and Family

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Jason & Angie (Miller) Dobson on the birth of a daughter, Amelia Grace Dobson, who was born June 20, 2017.



Sympathy is expressed by the members and friends of Trinity to the following families:

- † Sympathy to Dale & Barbara Streitmatter and family at the death of Dale's sister, Edith Streitmatter, who died July 29, 2017.
- † Sympathy to the family and friends of John S. Amsler who died August 5, 2017.
- † Sympathy to the family and friends of Dr. John Philip "Phil" Posey.

Let us not
become weary
in doing good,
for at the proper time
we will reap a harvest
if we do not give up.
Galatians 6 vs. 1



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

These birthdays are in our computer. If your birthday is in September and not listed, please call the church office (866-7271) so we can get the information. Thank you!

- September 2..... Don Amsler, Barbara Miller
- September 4..... Paeton Arnett, Barbara Streitmatter
- September 6..... Adam Lyons, Ayla Zacher
- September 7..... Amy Gembala, Paige Morris
- September 8..... Nason Spangler, Kristi Zobel
- September 9..... Sean Halligan, Stacy Springsteen
- September 10..... Brenda Green, Karen Wilson
- September 11..... Delores Schuttrow
- September 12..... Marvel Fenwick, Kristina Russell
- September 13..... Scott Barton, Mackenzie Flanigan, Deb Sizemore, Jagger Wuethrich
- September 14..... Jackson Nunemaker
- September 16..... Tyler Bayly, Jon Wilson
- September 17..... Caleb Schanlaub
- September 18..... John Davis, Cheryl Torbet
- September 19..... Hannah Amsler, Milo Gilmore, Marsha Gratner
- September 20..... Tony Carroll, Ruth Stath
- September 21..... Nathan Amsler, Chad Gutwein, Mac Hannon, Rob Pfaff,
Shannon Rodibaugh
- September 22..... Caleb Wamsley
- September 24..... Rick Prater, Bryney Webb
- September 25..... John Clapp, Mya Holbrook, Kelly Scher
- September 27..... Marilyn Kuyrkendall, Mike Weems
- September 28..... Randi Raff
- September 29..... Karri Morris, JoAnn Shook, Helen Teach
- September 30..... Jeanne Hendon, Alma Molenaar



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

These anniversaries are in our computer. If your anniversary is in September and not listed, please call the church office (866-7271) so we can get the information. Thank you!

- September 1..... Marvin & Barb Olson
Charles & Opal Rayburn (45)
Frank & Pat Wright (60)
Cecil & Josie Zacher (54)
- September 6..... Larry & Joan Brooks (9)
Bill & Kara Parker (20)
Jay & Terri Phegley (37)
- September 10..... John & Julia Conn (41)
- September 12..... Steve & Ginny Carter (30)
- September 16..... Rod & Julie Hesson (17)
Steve & Cay Jordan (45)
- September 19..... Brandon & Abagale Culp (2)
Dale & Ruth Stath
- September 20..... Rich & Tina Moore (3)
- September 23..... Don & Gloria Waymouth (61)
- September 26..... Spencer & Karly Alvey (2)
- September 27..... Nathan & Jody Knoth (14)
Jason & Katrina Robinson



Military Personnel

Andy Allen, Justin Bednar, Nic Chapman, Patrick Crum, Myles Debshaw, David Fish, Andy Meyer, Michael "Rusty" Molenaar, Chris Northcutt, Kaitlyn Paulsen Guss, Kevin Raber, Josh Risner, Katie Shearer, Ian Shepherd, Josh Sorba, Dr. Wakefield.

