

# THE MESSENGER

Trinity United Methodist Church, Lapeer

January 2023

## THE LOBBSTER TALE

New Year's Resolutions. Some people love them; most do not. Some people keep them; most do not. Yet almost everyone talks about them and will ask people if they have compiled a New Year's resolution list!

Many of our resolutions deal with ways that we can improve ourselves: lose weight, read more, eat healthier, spend less time with television/computer/smart phone, exercise more, spend less, save more, and the lists go on and on.

What if we trimmed down our lists to just one or two things? What would 2023 look like if we seriously committed to do all we can to make a positive difference in our world? What would the New Year look like if we decided to do all we can to grow in our Christian faith and our knowledge of the Bible?

Instead of trying to improve ourselves this year, let us ask the Holy Spirit to grow us and show us ways to invest in people and relationships, rather than things. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to make our resolutions for 2023. It may not be a totally "happy" new year, but it just might be a very blessed, productive, and joyful year!

See you in church or on screen!

*Pastor Grant*



### *Inclement Weather Cancellation Policy*

*The church office will be closed and all other activities and meetings canceled whenever the Lapeer Community Schools are closed for any type of inclement weather (temperature, snow and/or ice).*



## PRAYING IN THE NEW YEAR

This new year is going to bring a number of challenges... and opportunities... for those of us who are a part of Trinity Church. 2023 will potentially bring momentous decisions for many United Methodist Churches all around this country regarding their future with our present denomination... or with a new denomination.

Some of you have been reading a great deal about what is going on, while others involved in Trinity Church hardly know anything regarding what has occurred, and continues to occur, in the United Methodist Church.

False rumors have been shared. Misunderstandings abound. Emotions run high. Some are passionate about wanting to leave the UMC, while others are passionate about staying in the denomination. Some have made their feelings known by no longer attending worship at Trinity on Sundays = some because they assume which way Trinity will go, others because they think that the leadership is taking too long to call for a vote and make a decision.

Hopefully, everyone will take a breath... and **pray**. Those who make up Trinity Church need to spend time in prayer about specific things:

- 1) Needing the Lord's help for all of us to love & support each other in this difficult process.
- 2) Needing guidance from the Holy Spirit for when a Disaffiliation vote should happen in 2023.
- 3) Needing wisdom for financial decisions connected to a possible Disaffiliation.
- 4) Needing to pray for, and speak in love to, everyone, including those who have left.
- 5) Needing to stay up to date on articles, announcements and information that will be shared in the Messenger, Sunday Bulletins, Sanctuary Screens, plus occasional emails and/or texts.

Finally = pray, pray, and then pray some more! This entire process needs to be bathed in prayer and led by the Holy Spirit. If there was ever a time to pray for Trinity... this is it!

## UNDECORATING THE CHURCH

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the Church for Christmas to glorify God and celebrate the birth of His Son, Jesus. This was not only a workday but a day of fellowship.

We will undecorate on Saturday, January 7th at 9:00 a.m. We hope to see you there!



The Trinity Men's Ministry will meet for dinner on MONDAY, Jan. 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at LEO'S RESTAURANT and we invite all men (bring a friend!) to be in attendance! We look forward to a new year. Bring ideas with you for programming.

## NOTE FROM THE OFFICE

### **2023 Altar Flowers**

Availability calendar and envelopes are located on the bulletin board across from the office. Please complete the information on the envelope in full with payment and return to the office or offering box. The cost of the flowers is \$25 and they can be taken home with you after second service. If you are able, please return the vase to the office after you have enjoyed your flowers.



Trinity Christian Women (TCW) thank all the ladies who have been a part of this awesome group. We have had some great meetings and programs and our fund-raisers have been very successful. Thank YOU! And because of the support we received, the TCW were able to distribute monies to the following mission projects at the end of the year:

LACADA: \$500	Kids Street Ministry: \$500
Reach the Forgotten: \$200	InterHOPE: \$500
The Refuge: \$800	Methodist Children's Home: \$100
Women at Risk: \$300	Amy Schlusler-Schmitt: \$200 (Mission Trip to Guinea-Bissau)
Missionariess: Forans: \$400	Love, INC: \$500

For a Grand Total of \$4,000. What a blessing!!

We look forward to 2023 and the programs that are beginning to come together. Stay tuned for that news! We invite all ladies of Trinity to join us in this new year!

Our January meeting on Monday, January 9th at 1:00 p.m., will include a craft project to bless our shut-ins. All ladies are invited to join us.

Happy New Year!

## Great Reads @ Trinity

By Jean Best



I picked up a book in Trinity's library and read this on the back cover: "A twenty-six word parade of hope: beginning with God, ending with life, and urging us to do the same. Brief enough to write on a napkin or memorize in a moment, yet solid enough to weather 2,000 years of storms and questions. If you know nothing about the Bible, start here. If you know everything in the Bible, return here."

Do you have any idea which scripture is being described? It's John 3:16, and the book is "3:16 The Numbers of Hope" by Max Lucado. I have my own copy on my bookshelf at home. It was a Christmas gift in 2008 from my nephew, Steve, and I have read it again and again, gleaning something new each time.

The book begins with what Max says is, "The most famous conversation in the Bible". It's the one early in the ministry of Jesus when Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader, seeks out Jesus after dark one night. He recognizes that Jesus is special and wants to know more. Part of what he hears is John 3:16. Chapter by chapter the book follows in detail that 26-word scripture and ends with a chapter that speaks of the hope we are given in John 3:16 that in believing in Jesus we will have eternal life in heaven with Him.

There is a wonderful bonus at the very end of the book—forty days of devotions. Lucado says of these devotions: "Having dedicated the book to the deep drilling of one of Jesus's statements, I want us to conclude with a flyby read of His entire life—from the Bethlehem manger to the vacated tomb," I have read the devotions every time I have read the book, and I hope you will too. Please don't worry about how long you have had the book. Just soak it all in.



### CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

01/01	Richard Brinker
01/01	Bob Exelby
01/04	Jessica Finch
01/08	Bill Gentry
01/10	Tom Coon
01/10	Mike Honsinger
01/10	Marty Wolfe
01/11	Linda Maitland
01/14	Shirley Terbruggen
01/17	Janet Running
01/17	Shirley Stuewer
01/19	Bob Weir
01/21	Summer Blackmer
01/22	Diane Sheridan
01/23	Art Baldwin
01/27	Ben Daveluy
01/27	Diane Ritter
01/28	Evening Buccaneer
01/28	Kristy Prentiss
01/28	Tonya Rosebush
01/29	Chris Steiner
01/30	Christian Miller
01/30	Samantha Shelton
01/31	Chuck Bennett

### CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

01/04	Susan & Rick Medellin
01/06	Michael & Sally Krostue
01/22	Robert & Terri Huether
01/23	Gordon & Nancy Bade
01/26	Joseph & Vera Richard

Please continue to pray for those in the church who are experiencing health issues and going through treatments.

Continue to pray for our shut-ins and those with compromising health issues.

Pray for Trinity Church and the leadership team members.




The Church staff wishes to thank all of you for your generosity this Christmas season with the gifts that were shared! We truly, truly, appreciate the kindness given to us. We look forward to 2023 and in our shared ministry together. Blessings!

Rev. Grant and Debi send their thanks for all the cards and gifts shared with us this Christmas Season! We are so blessed to be in ministry with all of you at Trinity!

# January 2023

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 9 - 3 p.m.

Preaching Schedule: Jan. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29—Rev. Grant R. Lobb

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10:00a Worship	<b>2</b> 10:00a Pantry Activities 4:00p Food for Families 6:30p TMM Dinner @ Leo's	<b>3</b> 6:30p Handbells	<b>4</b> 10:00a Bible Study 1:00p TCW Card Recycling 7:00p Choir Practice	<b>5</b> 9:00a TCW Ex. Board	<b>6</b> 9:00a In Stitches 10:00a Praise Moves	<b>7</b> 9:00a Taking Down the Greens
<b>8</b> 8:45a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 12:00p Youth	<b>9</b> 10:00a Pantry Activities 1:00p Trinity Women 4:00p Food for Families 6:30p SPRC Meeting	<b>10</b> 9:00a MOPS Leadership 6:30p Handbells	<b>11</b> 10:00a Bible Study 1:00p TCW Card Recycling 7:00p Choir Practice	<b>12</b> 6:00p Special Ad Bd Task Force	<b>13</b> 9:00a In Stitches 10:00a Praise Moves	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:45a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship 12:00p Youth Group	<b>16</b> 10:00a Pantry Activities 4:00p Food for Families 6:00p Finance Committee 7:00p Worship Committee	<b>17</b> 9:00a MOPS 6:30p Handbells	<b>18</b> 10:00a Bible Study 1:00p TCW Card Recycling 3:30p Kids Street 5:45p Night Time @ Kids Street 7:00p Choir Practice	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:00a In Stitches 10:00a Praise Moves	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:45a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship	<b>23</b> 10:00a Pantry Activities 4:00p Food for Families 7:00p Council on Ministries	<b>24</b> 6:30p Handbells	<b>25</b> 10:00a Bible Study 1:00p TCW Card Recycling 3:30p Kids Street 5:45p Night Time @ Kids Street	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00a In Stitches 10:00a Praise Moves	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:45a Worship 10:00a Sunday School 11:00a Worship	<b>30</b> 10:00a Pantry Activities 4:00p Food for Families 7:00p Special Administrative Board Meeting	<b>31</b> 6:30p Handbells				

*The Messenger*

Trinity United Methodist Church

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### **Church Staff**

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**Ann June, Nursery Coordinator**

**Velma Watson, Head Cook/Soup Kitchen:** Ext. 107 Kitchen

**Pat Schlaud, Custodian**