

TRINITY TIDINGS

Newsletter of Trinity United Methodist Church
November 2009

THANKS & GIVING

Dried leaves, brisk air, golden colors. It's hard to come to terms that autumn is here already. Wasn't it just summer? But whether we're ready or not, we now turn the corner from light into darkness and huddle closer to loved ones for warmth of body and soul.

For a faith community whose spiritual gift is hospitality, this is our season to shine! The Fall Dinner, gift boxes, and caroling—these are tremendous ways that we welcome people into our hearts and love them up.

In these moments of living out our mission, we also give thanks for this community. For this special calling of hospitality, for the great people with whom we share this mission, and for the hope that brings us together.

I invite you over the next month to celebrate with me and others of Trinity Church. Let's give thanks for this terrific place, and take pleasure in all that is good. We'll highlight our joy by sharing together at our "Thanks and Giving Celebration" on Sunday, November 22. See you then!

MONTHLY MISSION – TRINITY FALL DINNER!

This event is not only a fundraiser— but a demonstration of our congregational generosity!!

Here's how you can help...

- Signup to volunteer on the 13th or bake a pie.
- Make a homemade craft and food item donation for our accompanying Bazaar.
- But ALSO— we need one or two people to deliver meals to our homebound friends. Or, could you coordinate that effort? We have Trinity homebound members who remember the fond days of the dinner, when they too, would eat or serve with us. Let's connect with them!
- OR— if you're willing to donate \$10 a person, Pastor Amanda appreciates being able to offer meals to those in our community who can't afford to pay for a meal. Simply place a check or bill in a Trinity envelope and designate it "Dinner on Us." Thank you!

Wear your blessings with thankfulness so they don't unravel. — Author Unknown

U2 EUCHARIST ROCKS TRINITY CHURCH

*Bill Guetschow, Music and Worship
Committee Chair*

We didn't have Bono, the Edge, Larry, and Adam in person, but on Sunday, October 4th we had several talented singers and musicians performing the music of U2 for the second annual U2 Eucharist at Trinity. The "U2charist" capped off the four-week worship series about the experiences of the Guatemala delegation this past summer. Once again, an offering was taken in general support of the UN Millennium Goals: specifically, \$750 was raised for the clinic in Chacula, Guatemala.

A big *Thank You* to all the people who made this year's U2 service a success: musicians and singers David Cradler, Kaelan Guetschow, Janet Huenink, John Itson, Julie Stalheim, Alicia Thomas, Anna Vogelzang, Sarah Whitt, Andrew Young, and the Trinity Choir. Thanks also to: Harry Harris for the equipment loan, Steve Bloy and Jerry Tifft for the heavy lifting, and Mark Morgan for help with PowerPoint. Finally, thanks to Anna Vogelzang and Erin Macleod for sharing their Guatemala stories and to Pastor Amanda for her support and leadership.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Carol Compton
Debbie Aldrich
06 Jen Southworth
19 Jason Stein
20 Rom Maczka
21 Leslie Morgan
22 Ninel Struzska
Kristen Guetschow
23 Jim Evans
Bob Branstad
26 Helen Murphy
28 Mary Garrett
29 Laura Bloy
Stephen Mayeshiba



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THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

About the Callens...

For those of you who've been keeping up with former members Bonnie and Mike Callen, here's their most recent address in Ireland:

A2 St. Kilda's
Western Road
Cork Ireland

The deadline for the next issue of the Tidings is: Monday, November 30th
Articles submitted after this date are not guaranteed to print.

FALL DINNER 2009

Steve Bloy

The Annual Fall is set for Friday, November 13, 5pm-7pm. As in prior years, this is a group effort, and we're asking for your help to make our fund-raiser a success. Sign-up sheets and posters are available in the Narthex. Sign up to help decorate, serve, clean up or make a pie— put up a poster at your neighborhood library, grocery or convenience store and help get the word out. Thank you in advance.

IN THE MAIL...

Trinity received a generous gift from a student with a note that read... *"Dear Trinity, I hope that this helps as I love you so."* It is good to be loved. Thank you, dear student. Trinity loves you, too!

CHANGE IS COMING...

Pastor Amanda Stein

Many of you have recently received news of staffing changes that we're making here at Trinity. For years Trinity, like the rest of American society, has been living outside of its means. These, along with other changes, will be part of our new reality. There is not a moral judgment on these shifts—we just can't do everything we used to do. Changes—small, thought-filled changes can also be good stewardship.

As one of several upcoming changes, Trinity will no longer be publishing the Trinity Tidings. This decision is in part because of the costs involved in paper and printing. However, it actually has more to do with the stewardship of my and Sara's time. We both spend approximately 3 days a month on the writing, editing, publishing, and distributing the newsletter. While we feel that the communication with our members and friends is important, we also feel that it is essential for the burden to not fall on staff, but rather on you, to connect with our fellow Christians. Each week in worship we have extensive announcements and updated information. It is important for you to stay connected, not only with our printed content, but with our spiritual body. We need you in church and we hope you'll take us up on the invitation to be with us more often.

We also recognize that not everyone, particularly our homebound members, cannot attend Sunday morning worship. Sara and I are currently looking at ways that we can stay in touch with this demographic. This can include updates on the website, mailings of our bulletin and announcements, but also visitation team. This way YOU can be in touch with our older adults to share them what's going on in church. They'd love your visit too!

Change is coming. And it's going to be ok. Thanks for your shared interest and cooperation.

HELP WANTED

Trinity is looking for two or three people to clear sidewalks and entrances to our building for this winter season. If you are willing to help or know of someone please call Trinity office 257-4591 or Jerry 273-0466.