

# Trinity Tidings

Newsletter of Trinity United Methodist Church  
September 2009

## A COOL CHURCH

The other day I was reminded of something: we have a really cool church.

During a meeting, we began talking about the space that we share with a variety of different community groups. We have Shaarei Shamayim (Jewish Reconstructionist synagogue), Snowflower Sangha (Buddhist meditation group), the Boy Scouts, a home school group, MSCR exercise group, Folklore Village Dancers, a violin teacher, and Brownie troops. Oh, yeah—let's not forget we're United Methodists (from minimally two previous congregational/ denominational mergers...).

In that moment, Galatians 3:28 came to mind:

*"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."*

So although not everyone who uses our building is Christian, certainly our conduct—in accepting and welcoming all who come through our doors—is a bold and faithful act in knowing the unifying nature of life in Jesus Christ.

So as we begin to enter another busy fall, let's be reminded of how Jesus draws us together once more. Scattered from the summer months, we come back together to share in the joy of community, with hopes of becoming a more faithful people. Scattered we look to gather once more, inviting other new friends and members of the greater area to join us in this wonderful place. Scattered, we come to be refreshed and return to the world full of life.

I look forward to seeing you all again—here at our cool church where we live out our own interpretation in the spirit of Galatians 3:28:

***"Trinity United Methodist Church is to live out God's hospitality by welcoming and loving all people. We are to be a home of spiritual renewal and a source for Christian transformation."***

In ministry with you,

Pastor Amanda

*It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.*

*— Author Unknown*

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Maggie Guetschow  
02 Emily Stangel  
06 Dana Evans  
09 Diane Bradley  
12 Sheri Alexander  
14 Scott Spoolman  
19 Katherine Loving  
22 Bethany Alwa Shaw  
23 Cari Chadwick  
25 Jean Willett  
28 Andrea Ballard



## THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

*James Fountain...* concerns for his brother's poor health

*Rita Bloomfield...* for her mother with Parkinson's

*Marge Clark...* for her son, Denny

*Ike Nelson...* for brothers Milo and Don

*Bob and Bobbi Jones...* for their grandson, Payton

*Tina Itson...* continued love

### Join the St. Mark's Community

Food, dancing and DJ!

Welcome Pastor Mary's return from sabbatical! Celebrate the Backyard Mosaic Women's Project's mural, mosaic & garden

September 9, 5-8:30pm  
605 Spruce St.

## ETHNIC FEST

Eileen Tifft

A big THANKS to all the Trinity good will ambassadors who worked at Ethnic Fest and retrieved the balls and handed out candy to the kids. We may never know what impact we have in the Triangle Community but I'll bet the kids will remember our games and the candy with fondness. Since I bailed out on this project at the last minute, I'm especially grateful to the Guetschows for setting up and to the Evachencko/Chadwick team for closing up the booth.

## COINS FOR CHRIST – TRINITY'S NEW SIGN

Eileen Tifft

As you will recall, a couple months ago we revived our Coins for Christ campaign to replace the old United Methodist Church sign on the corner of Park Street and Vilas Ave. I'm happy to announce that we surpassed our goal of \$300, collecting a \$340.29! Amen! Thank you!

## MONTHLY MISSION

Please put Saturday, October 10 on your calendars. This is the date for our Circuit Service Day. This is the one day a year where United Methodists from all around the city are sent out to help clean, serve, sweep, and paint! John Itson is our contact person for this event. Look to sign up during worship. Thanks!

## NOTES IN THE MAIL...

Dear Pastor Amanda,

I had a wonderful time at the School of Christian Mission. There was plenty of fellowship, food, and faith. My studies were purposeful and intriguing. Could you please send a HUGE Thank You to Administrative Council for their support in this opportunity? I look forward to sharing what I have learned with ALL of you at Trinity.

With regards – Angela Jones



Dear friends,

Thank you so much for dinner and for letting us keep our belongings here (on Move Out Day). We really appreciate it and we are planning on stopping by sometime really soon.

Thanks again – Laura & Mike

P.S. Thanks for the bananas!

The deadline for the next issue of the Tidings is:  
**Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Articles submitted after this date are not guaranteed to print.  
Email ([office@tumcmadison.org](mailto:office@tumcmadison.org)), fax (268-1502) or drop off your article.

## TRINITY AUTHOR – JEAN WILLETT

Come celebrate the launch of Jean Willett's second book "**Dear Cousins—Staying Connected the Old-Fashioned Way**". Join her Saturday, September 12 at the Sequoya library at 4340 Tokay Boulevard. Refreshments and visiting from 1:00-4:00pm with a short informal program at 1:45pm. Congrats, Jean!

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## DO YOU LIKE TO SING? JOIN THE CHOIR!

It is about time to start thinking about dusting off your vocal cords and singing in Trinity's Adult Choir! Our first rehearsal for the fall will be Wednesday, September 9 at 6pm. at Carol Compton's house – 3301 Westview Lane, Madison. We will have a potluck dinner followed by rehearsal.

Please e-mail Carol (parishcompton@charter.net) to let her know what food items you will bring.

Our first performance for the school year will be Sunday, September 13. All new and former members are strongly urged to attend! Rehearsals for this small group are Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and Sundays before worship at 8:45 a.m. If you would like to join us for the fall, please e-mail Julie: jstalheim@gmail.com

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## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

As of Sunday, (8/23) we have \$7223.06 in the Capital Campaign checking account. Our mortgage payment is \$1121.65 every month so we have enough money to pay at least through February 2010. We have about \$111,400 left on the mortgage principal to pay off yet. Thank you to all who have been making contributions to the Capital Campaign to reduce this debt. If you are new or a visitor to our church and would like to make a contribution, just put it in the offering plate and designate it as a CC contribution. We ask that you remember, however, that this gift must be over and above your weekly contribution for the church operating expenses. Thank you!

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## THANK YOU STAFF!

The Staff Parish Committee and Pastor Amanda would like to take the opportunity to both mention and thank our amazing TUMC staff:

Sara – Administrative Assistant, Janet – Organist,  
Julie – Choir Director, Sharon – Custodian

## MUSIC AND WORSHIP NOTES

Bill Guetschow



Even though the choir takes the summer off at Trinity, that doesn't mean there's a shortage of music on Sunday mornings. Thanks

to Janet Huenink for coordinating special music and to all the singers, songwriters, instrumentalists, and dancers who shared their gifts during worship this summer. Trinity is blessed to have such a pool of talent to draw from.

Fall is fast approaching and there is much in store on Sunday mornings. Even though the launch of a second worship service has been postponed, some changes are still being made this fall as we continue to discern how to best serve our congregation and our community. The most notable change is that, beginning September 13, worship will start at 9:30am rather than 10:00am. Pastor Amanda and members of Trinity will start a four-week sermon series that day, drawing on their experiences this summer in Guatemala. The series will culminate on October 4 with the U2 Eucharist.

Finally, we welcome the choir back starting in September. Interested in participating? If so, please contact Julie Stalheim. The more the merrier!

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## PRAISE GOD, THE VAN HAS BEEN SOLD!

And nobody could be happier about it than Jerry Tift and John Evachenko. They spent many hours answering telephone calls, listing it on Craig's List, buying batteries for it so it would start up etc. when Jerry showed it to a customer. They also met up with customers at church and waited around at church for customers who didn't show up as promised! When you see them, please tell them thanks. We received \$2,500 for the van. The funds will go to the Capital Campaign to help pay off our building debt. Thanks to Gary Grinnell's family for this gift.