Journeys

This week has been the first of two weeks of General Conference for our United Methodist Church. Equal Lay and Clergy delegates from all over the world are gathered in Charlotte, NC to chart the direction of our church for the next four years. Any UM member or clergy can submit a petition to make a change to our Book of Discipline that is our basic rule book on how and why we do things. This time, as usual, there are over 1000 petitions submitted. This week, those petitions will be divided into sub-committees. They must be discussed and approved in committee to make it to the main floor for a vote next week.

My wife and daughter have been to several General Conferences as delegates or alternates for the Nebraska Conference. So I have attended a few as an observer. And I have mixed feelings about this one. I can only describe what I'm feeling as a mixture of hope and dread. Hope, that my denomination will finally become an all inclusive church, treating everyone as equals, regardless of race, gender or sexual preference; with equal honor and dignity as humans in God's Kingdom. Dread, that my beloved church will once again approve policies out of fear, that exclude and do harm to those who are seen different than us. My self diagnosis is that I'm experiencing some form of PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) that's muddling my heart and my brain.

For most of my 40 years as a UM pastor I've gone into General Conferences like a good Husker football fan, saying, "This is the year . . . Forget the past . . . This is the year we go all the way!" I suppose this cultural view arises out of a farm background that believed that next year's crop was going to be better than last year's. Three years of drought; next year will be better. Hailed out right before harvest; next year will make it up. So we mid-westerners hope for the best and prepare for the worst.

I invite you to pray with me for our world United Methodist church family. Either way, this General Conference is going to be historical. And I'm getting too old to wait for next time!

Grace & Peace.

Want to write an article? Sign up here or on Facebook

Order Of Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come to the vineyard of God.

P: We seek Christ, the vine of great love.

L: Drink from the waters of life.

P: We live in the light of God's grace.

L: Come to the vineyard of God.

P: All are welcome here.

#397 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

OPENING PRAYER

† OPENING HYMN

(UNISON)

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

2130 "The Summons"

† SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 15:1-8 (NIV)

SERMON "The Vine and the Branches"

by Pastor Anny Kapundu

CALL TO PRAYER

#2128 (Vs. 1) "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys & Concerns One: "For this we pray..."

"Lord hear our prayers"

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(UNISON) Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love; you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with love so strong, with such growth toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ is the vine. We are simply branches. If we abide in Christ, Christ's words will abide in us. AMEN

OFFERTORY

+ DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON) Generous God, may the gifts we return to you cause your name to be

celebrated among the nations. May the lives that we live cause your name to be celebrated in all generations. May our offerings be signs of our praise to you, forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #98 "To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done!"

BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

+ - Please stand as you are able to



5TH SATURDAY OF EASTER 9:30AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE APRIL 27TH, 2024

SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Kelly Karges (402) 239-9507

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Pastor Anny Kapundu (308) 370-9465

NEW VISITORS

FOLLOW UP PASTOR: Carla Gunn

DIRECTOR OF

FAMILY MINISTRY: Christina Landenberger

PASTORS EMERITUS: Del Roper, George Wheat

MINISTERS: All Members

ADDRESS: 511 North Elm Street,

Grand Island, NE 68801

OFFICE: (308) 382-1952

EMAIL: trinity@trinityumcgi.org

WEBSITE: trinityumcgi.org

FACEBOOK/YOUTUBE: @trinityumcgi

SATURDAY WORSHIP IN GOLLAHER CHAPEL

Traditional: 6 p.m.

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN SANCTUARY

TOGETHER WORSHIP: 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME * CONNECT * DISCOVER

Announcements

Confirmation

Please join us in Miller Hall for a reception honoring our confirmands following 9:30 am worship.

Graduation Sunday

Join us as we recognize seniors at 9:30am worship who are graduating this school year. Seniors get a breakfast provided by the United Methodist Men at 8:30am.

More Announcements inside

Volunteers For Service

Greeter	Usher	Reader	Organist
Dixie White & Dan McMullen	Mary Scott	Linda Harris	Kim Wilsey

Announcements



2024 YOUTH GROUP SUMMER MEETING DATES

The Youth are invited to join us for these fun times together.

Saturday, May 11th (8:30 - 11:30 am)	College Park	Loaves and Fishes
Saturday, June 15th (TBA)	Hastings	Movie out at Golden Ticket Cinemas
Wednesday, July 17 (3 - 5 pm)	Wood River	Swimming Pool
Friday, August 2nd (3 - 5p m)	Trinity UMC	Water Balloon fights with Ice cream

Popcorn & Bingo

We will meet in Miller Hall after worship on Sunday, May 19, for food, fun, and prizes! This is an intergenerational GIFT event.

Summer Camp

It's time to register for Camp Fontanelle! Remember that Trinity UMC pays HALF the cost of camp for children and grandchildren of members and for students participating in our ministries. We also have three FULL SCHOLARSHIPS for first-time campers. Contact Christina for more information.

UWF: Cake/Salad Tupperware & Pecans for Sale

The United Women in Faith is appreciative of everyone who donates cakes and salads for funerals. They would like to remind everyone who donates to pick up their pans and dishes. Margie Balderston is very thankful of all the people who bought pecans from the 2023 Christmas season and is finished for the season. The money from the sale of these pecans goes towards the United Women in Faith. Thank you all.

Announcements



Food Distribution:

May 11th, 2024, at College Park 3180 W Highway 34. Enter Tech Boulevard. Distribution is at 9:30 am until Food is gone. It is best to arrive between 9 am and 11 am. Do not arrive before 7:30 am.

Miss Today's Sermon? Here are some options:

- Call (308) 210-2183 Most Popular!
- Visit our YouTube channel
- Visit our Facebook page
- Visit our website
- Pick up a printed copy from the office patients to the church.

Hospital Visits & Prayer Chain

If you or a loved one is in the hospital and would like to be visited or put on the prayer chain for prayer, please get in touch with the office. Due to HIPAA security rules, Regional Medical Center cannot release the names of

Sympathies to the Family and Friends of:

- † Joyce R. Fix, 76, April 19
- + Derlin F. Wooden, 83, April 20





Write Your Sermon Notes Here:

Calendar

April 29th – May 5th 2024

4:30pm	Senior Wii Bowling, Youth Room	2 9	
		M	
		O N	
10 – 11am	Staff Meeting, The Gathering Place	3 0	
1 – 2:30pm	Mathetes Study Group, Youth Room	T	
		U	
		E	
6 – 7pm	Handbell Practice, Bell Room Downstairs	1 W	
7 – 8pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	E	
		D	
11 – 12pm	Lectio Divina, Zoom	2	
1 – 4pm	Prayer Shawl Group, The Gathering Place	T	
		H	+
			prı
7 – 8am	Men's Study, Shady Bend Cafe	3 F	
1 – 1:30pm	Bulletin Folding, Parlor	R I	
2 – 3pm	Coloring with Rev. Kelly, The Chocolate Bar		
5 – 6pm	Scripture Discussion, Parlor	4 S	
6 – 7pm	Worship, Gollaher Chapel	A T	
7 – 7:30pm	Fellowship Time, The Gathering Place	1	
9:30 – 10:30am	TOGETHER Worship, Sanctuary, Nursery	5 S	
10:30 – 11:30am	Plarn Weaving, Rooms 1 & 2	U	
	Fellowship Time, The Gathering Place	N	
	Growing In Faith Together (GIFT)		
	Sharing Our Life Stories, Youth Room		
	Way Seekers Study, Room C		