

# TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Connecting People to God and One Another*

## DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Pastor: Kristen Lowe

608-297-2326

Office Hours:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

### WHAT'S GOING IN DECMEBER

Advent

Word Worms

Caroling

Live Nativity

Christmas Eve Worship

### REGULAR FEATURES

Usher/Greeter List

Calendar

Church Finances

Thrift Shop News

Prayer Concerns

## ADVENT/CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Advent begins on Sunday December 1 and continues through December 22. We have several fellowship activities planned for Advent and hope that you can join us:

**Christmas Caroling:** Geff Gardner is once again providing his wagon for caroling on Sunday December 15. We will leave the church at 4:00 PM, visit the Care Center and other shut-ins around Montello. Grab a blanket or 2 and join us.

**Live Nativity:** We are joining our friends at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church to present the Live Nativity on Wednesday December 18 from 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM. This is a great time for friends and family to come together as a group to show the birth of Christ to the world. Please sign up for a half hour slot on the clipboards or call the office. We are also looking for donations of snacks.

**Christmas Ever Service** will be held on Tuesday December 24 at 7:00 PM and will include traditional carols, candles and communion. Invite all your friends and family.

Thanks to Roger Eddingsaas, Ray Kriegl, Gary Cartwright and Wayne Reiche for having the foresight to put up our Nativity before the ground froze!



## CHURCH WEBSITE

With winter here remember to check out the church website, [www.montellotumc.org](http://www.montellotumc.org) for updates on cancellations and plans due to weather. While on the site check out all the great pages – if you miss church you can even hear the sermons, just click on the home tab and then the worship tab

## PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Dear Friends

As we move into Advent, we are going into the season with an ache in the pit of our being. Each year, we long for the pure excitement we once had as an innocent child... before we had the world's worries and concerns. Before we knew there was war and disease... before we had deadlines, heartache and disappointment. We long for the days when playtime lasted for an eternity and magic still existed.

Jesus extols us; "Let the children come to me for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." What he means is that its when our hearts are in line with those of children... when our hearts return to this kind of longing, we are able to recapture the magic and joy God intends for us.

This Advent we will be exploring what it means to be "Longing for Christmas." We are going to slow ourselves down and simplify our lives so that we can deliciously savor the good news. We are going to ache once again for what Isaiah the prophet predicts in the coming of the Messiah.

Walk with me in the next several weeks as we take slow and watchful steps toward the Christ child, and bring a friend along.

Centuries before Jesus, the prophet Isaiah perfectly predicted that a Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Please take time in the weeks ahead to read the two birth narratives found in Matthew Chapter 1, verse 18 through chapter 2 and Luke chapters 1 and 2. If you are new to reading the Bible, make this a special time to acquaint yourself with this special love letter from God. You were meant to drink in His word. You were meant to read and question and wrestle with and understand what God is saying to us today through the scriptures.

Each Sunday we will be celebrating one aspect of our Advent season. We'll light one candle each Sunday on our advent wreath to represent the journey toward the manger. It represents the centuries of waiting for a Savior. The first Sunday of Advent represents hope, the second Sunday represents peace. The third Sunday, which is represented by a pink candle is joy,

and the fourth Sunday is the day of love. Finally, we light the center candle on Christmas Eve. That candle is the Christ candle.

Advent is a time for our hearts and minds to snuggle into a spot that makes sense. God has prepared a place for us and waits for us to come. This is the place we are longing for.

May hope and faith and joy and peace be yours in the weeks to come!

Pastor Kristen

## POTLUCK AND PROGRAM

Join Pastor Kristen on Sunday, January 5th for potluck and short presentation of her trip to the Middle East and Asia Minor where she discovered some interesting facts about the Apostle Paul and the life of Jesus as she studied the ancient sites where the first churches were founded. Bring a dish to pass.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Eunice Hutchings
- 5 Ramona Hill
- 5 Wayne Reiche
- 6 Roger Davis
- 8 Pat McFarland
- 10 Todd Jahnke
- 12 Annie Busse
- 18 Courtney Gardner
- 19 Laura Moeller

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Cindy Lardy  
Celebrating 34 years  
December 28

Dennis & Sharon Schrimpf  
Celebrating 57 years  
December 29

Cody & Heidi Maass  
Celebrating 14 years  
December 31

## STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

*“But blessed is the one who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. (Jeremiah 17:7-8)*

Now that fall is here, perhaps you are making plans: plans for home projects and family get-togethers, plans for work and school projects, plans for a trip or vacation. What about your church plans such as volunteering, Scripture reading, and regular prayer? Right now, I am planning a retreat with my spouse, so we can recharge our spiritual batteries. And we are planning our giving for the coming year.

Do you have a plan for giving? If not, how will you know you have been successful in being generous? We set aside a percent of our income for church and charity, most recently about 13%, and judge our year as successful if we have given it all away. The giving plan is a spiritual discipline in that we think of God first, before we even have earned the money. By settling on a proportion first, we know exactly how much to pledge when the church’s stewardship campaign comes around in the fall.

Also, we never have to ask whether we have the money. It is set aside for the Lord. So, when there is a disaster, we are not wondering where to find a little extra. We have already designated it to the Lord’s work.

There is much freedom in deciding on percentage giving ahead of time. You are free of the anxiety over whether there is enough to share when the needs of others are raised up—backbacks for needy students, scholarships for seminarians, missionaries overseas, etc. Pray for direction on your giving percentage for the coming year.

Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation  
750 Windsor Street, Suite 305  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590-062  
1-888-903-9863 wumf@wumf.org

## CHURCH FINANCES

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Giving</u>
November 3	74	1021.50
November 10	61	1435.50
November 17	75	1024.70
November 24	57	1550.26

## 2020 GIVING ENVELOPES

Next year’s offering envelopes have been ordered and will be here later this month. To help cut down on mailing costs we will have them in the narthex for pick up. If you cannot get here to get yours please call the church office and we will get them to you.


## GIFT CARD SALE

We will be taking orders on Sundays for gift cards from SCRIP. If you use gift cards for Christmas gifts please consider buying them from the church. Also invite your friends and family to order theirs through our church.

You will still get the full face value of the card but the church buys them at a discount to help make money for the church. There are hundreds and hundreds of stores, restaurants and retailers. You can find them all at or talk to Susan Hutchings.

<https://www.shopwithscrip.com/shopwithscrip-retailers>

## SCRIP SHOPPING CARDS

 Many stores and businesses sell their shopping cards to the church at a discounted rate. If you buy these cards through the church you still get the full face value of the card and the church gets the discount, so it costs you nothing extra to support the church. If you are thinking of a large purchase such as a new TV or computer, why not ask Susan to order extra cards for you to pay for it. It would make a great addition to your giving to the church.

Susan usually has the basic Walmart and Kwik Trip cards on hand all the time. If there is a special store you are interested in purchasing cards from talk to Susan and she will see if they are available.

## ELECTRONIC GIVING



Do you have a hard time remembering your giving envelope each Sunday? Would you like to not have to write a check to the church each week? Then electronic giving might be for you. You can have funds transferred directly from your checking or savings account to the church account – it can be done bi-monthly, monthly or quarterly.

Only regular offering to the general fund can be done electronically all special giving must be done manually. Its safe secure and easy just ask someone who already does it. If you are interested ask Vikki for a form to fill out.

## KWIK TRIP REWARDS PROGRAM

If you use a Kwik Trip card to pay for your gas and purchases you know about the Kwik rewards program. Did you know you can have your rewards donated to a group of your choice? Trinity is signed up with their rewards program, our number is 150881. If you would like to supplement your church giving by donating your rewards just call Kwik Trip at 608-781-8988 and let them know. As a bonus Kwik Trip adds about 30% to the total donated. For more information, talk to Vikki in the church office

## INK CARTRIDGES AND ALUMINUM CANS



Remember the church recycles ink cartridges and aluminum cans. Just drop your empty cartridges in the box in the narthex, and your aluminum cans in the box next to the shed on the east side of the parking lot. We have volunteers who take them in for payment.



## GIVING ON LINE

You can now manage your giving online! Giving on line is easy and allows you to make a one-time donation or to set up recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit the church website at [montellotumc.org](http://montellotumc.org)
2. Click on the Giving Tab
3. Click on the link
4. Follow the on screen directions to create an online profile and to schedule your giving.

## DONATE FROM YOUR SMART PHONE



A mobile version of our online giving page is available to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the QR code you see here or in the Sunday bulletins using your smart phone's QR

reader and locate the online giving page.

For questions on any of our electronic giving options please talk to Vikki in the church office



## THANK YOU TO...

- Margaret Eddingsaas for being our church representative to the Montello Holiday Trail and for organizing the event for the church, it was a great success!
- Everyone who ordered poinsettias to decorate the church for the Advent season
- Those who have helped make the church look so beautiful for Advent and Christmas
- Mary Kramp and Vikki Trimble for all their work on the new church directory

## WOMENS' OUTREACH UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13                    10:00 AM-Word Worms  
January 10                    10:00 AM-Word Worms

### WORD WORMS

This month the book club will meet On Friday December 13 to discuss the book A Dog Named Christmas by Greg Kincaid.

**In this heartwarming novel, author Greg Kincaid tells the tender story of how one very special dog changed the lives of his adoptive family—and an entire town—forever.**

*“Todd, they always want you to adopt a dog. That’s what they do. Besides, we don’t need another animal around here, and most definitely not a dog.”*

When Todd McCray, a developmentally challenged young man still living on his parents’ Kansas farm, hears that a local animal shelter is seeking temporary homes for its dogs during the days leading to Christmas, he knows exactly what he wants for the holidays. His father objects, but Todd’s persistence quickly wins out. Soon the McCrays are the short-term foster family for a lovable pooch the young man names *Christmas*.

But what about all the other dogs who will be forced to spend the Yuletide season in cages? In the days that follow, Todd uses his special gifts of persuasion to encourage his hometown to participate in the “Adopt a Dog for Christmas Program.” What follows from his small act of kindness will teach his family, and his community, about peace on earth and good will toward men—and animals.

Join us for a cup of coffee and some lively discussion.

## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

*Our Country, Our Leaders, Our Military*

- Floyd Davis*
- Eunice Hutchings*
- Irene Lazar*
- Jon Ebert*
- Karlene Utke*
- Jerilyn Koelbl*
- Joan Lichtfeld*
- Alice Zellmer*
- Jan Ebert*
- Bob Murre*
- Karen Wilson*
- Gary Cartwright*
- Margaret Eddingsaas*
- Dennis Veleke*

- Tammy Shirley Dagner’s daughter & son-in-law
- Carl, Wayne Reiche’s brother
- Julie, daughter of Don & Nancy Roidt
- Dave, friend of Reiches
- Carrie, niece of Cheryl Kreigl
- Bob Vohland, Shirley Dagner’s brother
- Dawn, Bob Barton’s daughter-in-law
- Judy, Margaret’s sister-in-law
- Melissa Link’s Parents
- Gil, brother of Joan Lichtfeld
- Brenda, friend of Reiches
- Lowell, friend of Karlene Utke
- Mary, sister of Beth Turner
- Al, Mary Anderson’s brother
- Linda Daniels brother
- Betty Berg, Mary Kamin sister-in-law
- Chika Springer, Karlene’s grandson
- Tammy, Mary Anderson’s daughter-in-law
- Janice, friend of Iris Mueller
- Tom, friend of Roger Eddingsaas
- Debbie & Mary, friends of Sharon Ahles
- Dan, Baehler’s son-in-law
- Judy, Margaret’s sister-in-law



JANUARY  
NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINE  
DECEMBER 18

## BULLETIN DEDICATIONS

Each Sunday the opportunity is available to anyone who wishes to donate the bulletins for the worship service. The cost of \$12 (the cost of the bulletins) will allow you to have a message printed in the Sunday bulletin honoring a loved one, celebrating a special event – whatever you wish. Please sign up on the sheets on the bulletin board next to the office, or you can call the church office, 297-2326 to make a dedication.

## NURSERY AVAILABLE

Trinity is again offering supervised childcare for children 5 and under during church. You can bring your child in before church begins or at any time during the service. We are located in the Sunday School room on the left side of the hallway. Any questions, please ask or contact Tanya Daniels 608-369-0449.

We are looking for volunteers to supervise the nurse during worship. If you are able to help with one of the open days please call the church office.

Dec. 1 Kadie Raasch & Haidley Link

Dec. 8

Dec. 15 Courtney Gardner & Kendra Dahlke

Dec. 22

Dec. 29 Kadie Raasch & Haidley Link

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Anyone wishing to provide flowers for the altar on Sundays may do so by signing up on the sheet on the bulletin board next to the church office. You may bring flowers from your garden or have them delivered to the church on Friday from your favorite florist.

## PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Our new church directory is here and looks great! Everyone whose picture is in the directory gets a copy. Mary will have them at the table in the narthex on Sundays, so stop and get yours. If you can't get here call Vikki in the office and she will get it to you.

## MISSION NEWS

Our November Noisy can brought in \$96.65 for the food pantry. We also collected over 150 items for the shelves at the pantry. Thank you to all who were so generous.

For the month of December we are supporting the Salvation Army. We are selling the bucket pass pins for \$20.00 each. You wear this pin to show that you have donated when you pass a bucket at a local business. Our December Noisy can will also go to the Salvation Army so start saving your change.

We also encourage everyone to take an hour or two this month and volunteer to ring the bell at a collection point. To volunteer you can register at [registertoring.com](http://registertoring.com).

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### October 31, 2019

Checking Balance 9/30/19	4081.50
Giving	7522.50
Transfer from Savings	3000.00
Misc Income	4106.49
Kingston Church	<u>989.46</u>
Total Available	19699.95

Paid Outs	<u>11149.76</u>
Checking Balance 10/31/19	8550.19

## UPDATED FAMILY INFORMATION SHEETS

It has been 5 years since we have collected updated family information. Phone numbers change, email addresses change and sometimes home addresses change. We would like to have the most updated information for all our church families. There are pink sheets on a clipboard in the plastic holder on the office door, if you have not filled out a new one please take one, complete both sides of it and then return it to the church office.



## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

If you have an event or belong to a group in the community and you would like to share its happenings with your church family please let the church office know so it may be included in the newsletter.

# WISH LISTS

### CHURCH WISH LIST

- That people will continue to financially support their church
- Funds for Apportionments

### MEMORIAL WISH LIST

- Funds for Educational Scholarships
- Funds for Prayer Garden Endowment

### PRAYER GARDEN WISH LIST

- More plaques honoring loved ones on the memorial arbor

A plaque on the Memorial Arbor is a nice way to honor a loved one, especially one who has a connection to Trinity. Visit the garden and view the arbor. A plaque costs \$40 and if you would like order one, please call the church office.

Gifts are always welcome as memorials or in honor of special occasions. They may include insurance policies, IRA's, bequests and gifts included in wills. Such gifts may be designated or left to the Memorial Committee's discretion. It is suggested that one check with the committee before designating a gift not on the Wish List. Think about including a portion of your IRA, stocks or other assets in your will.



## CHRISTIAN RADIO

### STATIONS

With the new interest for contemporary Christian music here is a list of a few of the Christian Radio stations in Wisconsin. You might just hear some of the songs we use during worship.



Depending on where you are you might not get all of these:

- AM 1240 – WHWA
- FM 97.1 – WIXL
- FM 101.7 – WEMI
- Sirius XM 63 – the Message
- FM 102.5 WNWC
- FM 89.3 – WEQS
- FM 107.7 – WORQ

## POINSETTIAS

Thanks to all who bought poinsettias to make our sanctuary look awesome for Advent.

- Sharon Ahles (1) Merry Christmas
- Jim & Mary Anderson (2) Merry Christmas
- Dick & Jean Baehler (2) In memory of Harley & Vera Baehler and Bruce & Arbeulah Arthurs
- Nola Grace (1) Merry Christmas to All
- The Cartwrights (1) Merry Christmas
- Shirley Dagner (1) Merry Christmas
- Jody Daniels (2) I Love you-Merry Christmas
- Jon & Jan Ebert (1) Grateful, Thankful & Blessed
- Margaret Eddingsaas (1) To all the Saints, Merry Christmas
- Geff Gardner (1) Merry Christmas
- Gene & Susan Hutchings (2) Happy Birthday Jesus
- Mary Kamin (1) Merry Christmas
- Julie Kenney (2) In Memory of dad and my brother Jeff
- Sandy Kilbride-Becker (1) Merry Christmas
- Jerilyn Koelbl Family (1) In Memory of a great husband, father, grandpa, Ed Koelbl
- Mary Kramp (1) Christmas Blessings
- Ray & Cheryl Kriegl (1) Alleluia
- Alice Rueb (1) Merry Christmas
- Roxie Rygiewicz (1) Merry Christmas
- Elizabeth Smith (1) In Memory of my dad Joseph
- Victor & Vikki Trimble (1) O Come Emmanuel
- Beth Turner (2) Happy Birthday Jesus!

## December 2019 - January 2020 Schedule

	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Liturgist</b>
December 1	Andy Zellmer Sue Zellmer Gene Hutchings*	Jeff Link Melissa Link	Roger Eddingsaas
December 8	Morris Vinz Leta Vinz Gene Hutchings*	Sharon Ahles Sandy Becker	Mary Kramp
December 15	Mary Kramp Jan Ebert Gene Hutchings*	Kadie Raasch Maureen Becraft	Sue Zellmer
December 22	Cindy Bloom Robin York Gene Hutchings*	Richard Baehler Jean Baehler	Roxie Rugiewicz

December 24 PM

### V O L U N T E E R S   N E E D E D

December 29	Roger Eddingsaas Margaret Eddingsaas Gene Hutchings*	Gary Cartwright Maureen Becraft	Mary Reiche
January 5	Barb Steuck Beth Turner Shirley Dagner*	Haidley Link Robin York	Sue McFarland
January 12	Jack Daniels Tanya Daniels Shirley Dagner*	Maureen Becraft Noah Maass	Melissa Link
January 19	Cindy Bloom Robin York Shirley Dagner*	Mary Kamin Sharon Ahles	Mary Kramp
January 26	Sue Zellmer Susan Hutchings Shirley Dagner*	Chloe Stampfl Margaret Eddingsaas	Roger Eddingsaas

*If you are unable to perform this duty on the above date, please  
find a replacement and call the church office by  
Thursday morning. 297-2326. Notes: \* head usher*

### **COMMUNION HELPERS**

January 6, 2019

Mary Kramp &amp; Mary Kamin

February 3, 2019

Susan Hutchings &amp; Vikki Trimble

March 1, 2020

Melissa Link &amp; Beth Turner



December 2019

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<b>1</b> Confirmation 8:30 AM  Sunday School 9 AM  Worship 10 AM	<b>2</b> AA 6 PM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> TOPS 2 PM	<b>5</b> Al-Anon 5 PM	<b>6</b> AA 6 PM	<b>7</b>																																																																																																		
<b>8</b> Sunday School 9 AM  Worship 10 AM	<b>9</b> AA 6 PM	<b>10</b> Quilt Group 8 AM	<b>11</b> TOPS 2 PM  Wellness Committee 6 PM	<b>12</b> Al-Anon 5 PM	<b>13</b> AA 6 PM  Word Worms 10 AM	<b>14</b>																																																																																																		
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<b>15</b> Caroling 4 PM  Confirmation 8:30 AM  Sunday School 9 AM  Worship 10 AM	<b>16</b> AA 6 PM	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Live Nativity 5 PM  TOPS 2 PM	<b>19</b> Al-Anon 5 PM	<b>20</b> AA 6 PM	<b>21</b>																																																																																																		
<b>22</b> Worship 10 AM	<b>23</b> AA 6 PM	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Service 7 PM	<b>25</b> TOPS 2 PM	<b>26</b> Al-Anon 5 PM	<b>27</b> AA 6 PM	<b>28</b>																																																																																																		
<b>29</b> Worship 10 AM	<b>30</b> AA 6 PM	<b>31</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Nov 2019</th> <th colspan="7">Jan 2020</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td> </tr> </table>				Nov 2019							Jan 2020							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2				1	2	3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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