



THE MESSENGER

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Embracing all to experience and share God's love.
trinitylafayette.org

Newsletter

APRIL 2025



Worship With Us This

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 20 at 10:30 A.M.

WHAT KIND OF SAVIOR ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

By Rev. Ben Cassiday

Last month's newsletter article was about Lent. Those 40 days began on March 5 this year, and in April, this season of preparation will end April 20: Easter Sunday.

Easter is one of those interesting days for the church. Yes, we sing the fun upbeat hymns from the hymnal, and many will do Easter Egg hunts, but we also hear this strange story about a tomb being empty and a man being raised from the dead. There are countless reasons why Easter is an important and interesting day for us as Christians, but I have to admit that someone with the power to bring their self back to life certainly leaves one scratching their head,

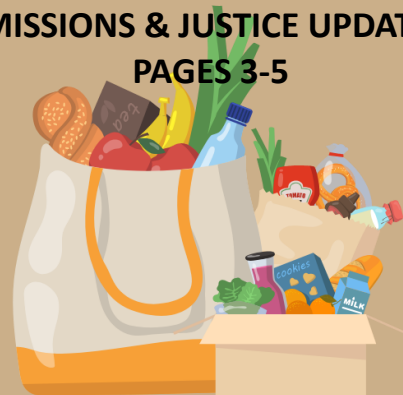
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WHAT'S INSIDE?

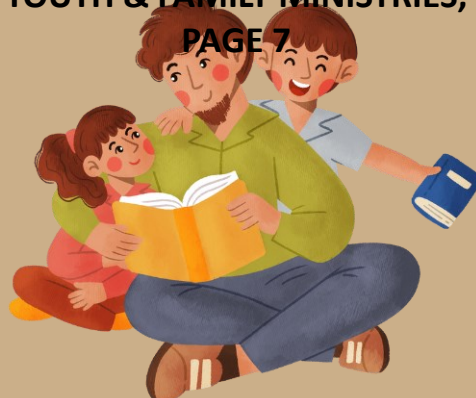
HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES,
PAGE 2-3



MISSIONS & JUSTICE UPDATE,
PAGES 3-5



YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES,
PAGE 7



which is precisely what happened with those who showed up to the tomb.

Depending on the Gospel you are reading, you find different tellings of this discovery that left so many flabbergasted (to say the least). In John, we find a footrace between Peter and John after Mary Magdalene shared that the tomb was empty. In the original ending of Mark, we find the women running from the tomb in fear and amazement, but choosing to stay silent. In Luke, the women found two men (angels) in the tomb, but in Matthew, there was only one angel that came down from heaven to declare the good news. There wasn't even an angel in John's gospel — it was Jesus himself, but Mary Magdalene didn't recognize him and believed him to be a gardener.

In the midst of our season of preparation, you may well be encountering these different stories of this same event. So, when you're reading and hearing these contradictory stories, how do you prepare? One thing that I am appreciating about the Lenten Study The Final Days I get to explore with others on Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings is that we get to look at passages of the same stories but from very different perspectives. It's been a good reinforcement that even though we encounter Jesus in different ways — Jesus as a King, a Prophet, or a Priest — these are all valid experiences of how we interact with Jesus at different moments in our lives.

Sometimes we are in need of a savior in a kingly role that flat out gives us directions on how to get out of our current predicament. Other times, we need a savior that helps us learn what it means to forgive others or how to better love by showing love and compassion — the priestly kind of savior. Then there are other moments in our lives where we need a prophet that calls us to task and shares with us that if we want to get to a certain place in life, then we need to change our actions and behaviors. If you have been honest with yourself and where you are at spiritually in your life during Lent, you might be realizing that you are particularly in need of one of these kinds of saviors particularly at this moment.

We still have some weeks in April before we get to April 20. If you haven't already, as you explore these different tellings of Jesus's ministry amongst the Gospels, perhaps a good question to ask yourself is, "What kind of savior do I need to encounter this Easter?"

HOLY WEEK

GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER STATIONS & SERVICE

Pastors Ben and Mack are teaming up again this year to bring us our Good Friday prayer stations and service. ***This service will be held on Friday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m.*** The service will begin with Pastor Mack's famous interactive prayer stations designed to engage participants of all ages uses multiple senses. Then, Pastor Ben will lead participants in a traditional Tenebrae service. During the Tenebrae service, Pastor Mack will have a lesson and activities for any kids in attendance. All are welcome to join us as we close out the Lenten season and welcome Easter.

EASTER OFFERING BENEFITING GREENHILL AMANI SCHOOL LIBRARIES

During our Easter Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. on April 20, we will be collecting a special Easter offering to benefit the Greenhill Amani school libraries.

Our District Superintendent Lore Gibson and her daughter Maia were on a team trip to Ekereny, Kenya. As Maia sat with some students on the side of the mountain she offered to read to them. When the 5th grade student returned to the group with a Grade 1 reader book, which they had her read several times, she realized the school did not have books or text books available to them. As the team brainstormed on their way down the mountain, they decided to raise funds for a classroom library shelf in each of the classrooms so students can check out books. If contributing financially is not possible for you right now, Maia invites you to be in prayer for the eight classrooms and eight teachers of the Greenhill Amani School. You can also give from Easter through the end of April via our online giving platform.

MISSIONS & JUSTICE

INUMC ADVOCACY AND MINISTRY PARTNERS NETWORK CALLS

If you're wanting to grow in your capacity for advocacy, there are several upcoming UMC opportunities.

Advocacy Calls take place on the first Tuesday of the month from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. The next one is April 1. Whether you're new to advocacy or a seasoned participant, join us in making a difference through faith-led justice work. Click here to register.

Have you been interested in learning how to advocate with your senators and representatives over the phone, via email, or even in-person? Join us for a training on April 8 to see just how easy it can be to stay informed about justice issues and how to make change happen. Join the Zoom at the following link: <https://inumc.zoom.us/j/5106004017>. For more information, contact Rev. Jen Huff via email at jennifer.huff@inumc.org.

LUM "WE'VE GOT TALENT" FUNDRAISER

The We've Got Talent fundraiser talent show will be held on Friday, April 11 to benefit the Good Samaritan Financial Assistance Fund at Lafayette Urban Ministry

- 5:30 p.m. – Registration Starts – drinks & select appetizer
- 5:45 p.m. – Doors to Great Hall open, heavy appetizers & desserts
- 6:30 p.m. – Performances Start
- 8:00 p.m. – Performances Done
- 8:15 p.m. – Awards and Wrap Up

Trinity has reserved a table for 8. Cost is \$35/ticket. Designate your payment to Trinity for this. This is also an opportunity to donate to the Good Samaritan Fund. Can't attend? Monthly communion offering supports this fund. **Submit your payment and reservation to Trinity by Sunday, April 6.** Checks can be made payable to Trinity with "We've Got Talent" in the memo line.

YWCA "CLAY BOWL PROJECT"



On April 30, the YWCA will be holding their annual Clay Bowl Giving Project from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 605 North 6th Street. This event will benefit the YWCA life saving programs. Lunch provided by Revolution BBQ and Sweet Revolution Bake Shop – cost \$35 in advance, \$40 day of. This event is also being held on Denim Day, so those in attendance are encouraged to wear denim in support of combating victim blaming and educating others about sexual violence. If you want to have lunch as a group, meet Kathy Manwaring in the Trinity p

TRINITY CONTINUES TO SUPPORT LOCAL FOOD PANTRY



Trinity is active in food relief in our community, right downtown meeting our neighbors where they are. Kathy Manwaring and Pastor Suzanne prep the pantry with other volunteers on Monday, March 24.



DONATION DRIVE

Items needed for sack lunches supporting Lafayette Urban Ministry!

Trinity's kids will be packing 40 sack lunches for LUM to pass out to people in need, but we need your help purchasing items. To sign-up to bring items, scan the QR code below or reach out to Pastor Mack (mack@trinitylafayette.org). We need all items by Sunday, 4/6.

ITEMS NEEDED:

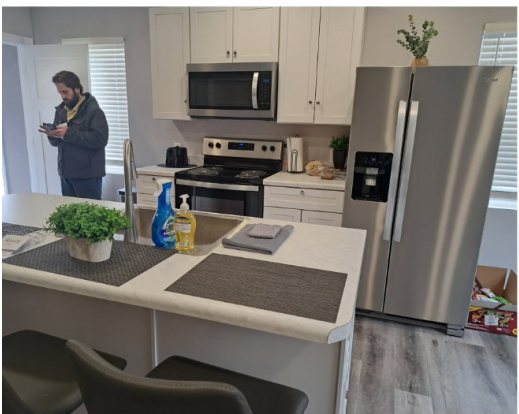
- Individually Packaged Salty Snacks (Chips, Pretzels, Peanut Butter Crackers, etc.)
- individually Packaged Sweet Snacks (Dessert Cakes, Rice Krispies Treats, Cookies, etc.)
- Individually Packaged "Later" Snacks (Granola Bars, Cereal Bars, Soft/Chewy Snack Bars)
- Individual Fruit Cups
- Bottled Water
- Ready-to-Eat Proteins (Individually Packaged Tuna, Chicken, Vienna Sausages, etc.)



LEBANON CHILDREN'S HOME

On March 4, Bishop Tracy Malone of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church blessed the Lebanon Children's Home Independence Project residences. These residences are a majorly renovated house and two apartments which can house five young people. This project includes a Home Like Skills supervisor who provides instruction of time and money management, banking skills, meal planning and grocery shopping, and car purchasing. The young adults who reside in these homes have jobs and two are presently enrolled to further their education. Thirty percent of their income goes into a "dream fund." At the end of their residency, they receive of fund of their dream contributions. The housing rules have been devised by the young adults.

Trinity members who attended and toured the homes were Norma Singley and Kay Franscoviak, who are both members of the Home's Auxiliary Ambassadors Executive Committee. Chris Lilly and Judy Robbins are also on this committee.



YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

PINE CREEK CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

The United Methodist Church has a special heart for camping ministries. There are seven church camps in the state, including Pine Creek Camp which is located just 25 miles away. This summer, your kids or grandkids are welcome to get involved with camp. Church camp is a special experience that helps our young people to grow in their faith and to have fun in the great outdoors. Many adults at Trinity have attended church camp or volunteered as part of camp staff. Here are some of the camp opportunities at Pine Creek this summer:

- Day Camp: Open to kids entering Kindergarten through 5th grade; June 2—August 1 with daily check-in from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and daily check-out between 4:15 p.m. and 5:45 p.m.
- Middle School Impact Camp (Sleepaway): Open to kids entering 6th grade through 8th grade; July 6—July 11.
- Elementary School Impact Camp (Sleepaway) Open to kids entering 3rd grad through 5th grade and entering Kindergarten through 2nd grade; July 6—July 11.

The cost for sleepaway camps is \$375 per child if registered before April 20 and \$405 per child after April 20. If financial assistance is needed, please reach out to Pastor Mack about possible scholarships.

You can learn more about Pine Creek by visiting impact2818.org/pine-creek-camp.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Children's Church this Lenten season is helping our kids learn more about Jesus through the story of Lent (see one of our bulletin boards pictured below) and through the spiritual discipline of service. Our kids decorated brown paper bags that they will later pack sack lunches into. These sack lunches (see page 5 for more info on how you can help) will be passed out to people in need through Lafayette Urban Ministry.



WOMEN'S RETREAT RECAP

WOMEN'S RETREAT:

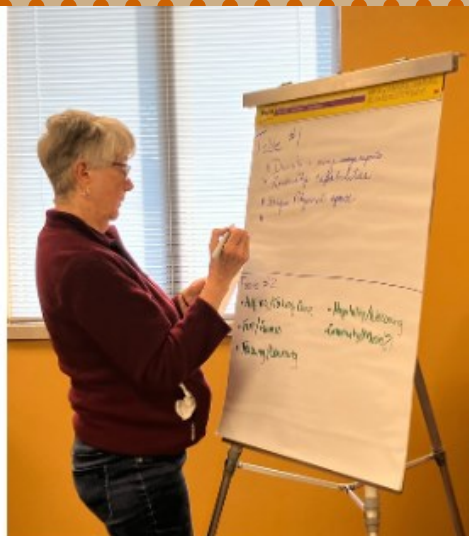
On Saturday, March 8, Pastor Suzanne and Missy Schroeder led a spiritual retreat for women at Trinity and Our Savior Lutheran Church. This retreat took place at First UMC in West Lafayette.



FAITHFULLY FORWARD UPDATE

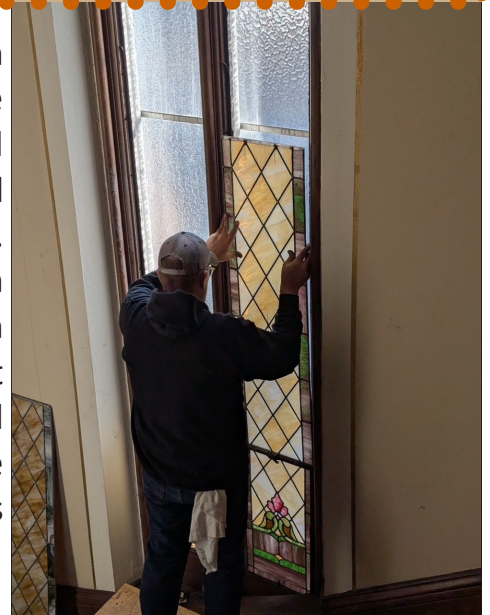
FAITHFULLY FORWARD:

Recently, Trinity's board and staff gathered for the next step in the Faithfully Forward discernment process where we discussed insights and information gleaned throughout the process thus far.



STAINED GLASS RESTORATION

The stained glass window restoration project continues, with focus on the east wall of the Sanctuary. This wall includes the church entrance and the huge window above the balcony and sound booth. Completion of the east wall windows will conclude restoration of all of the windows in the sanctuary. Those on the south and north sides have already been restored. You have probably noticed the frame wooden structure that's been built over the sound booth (it's hard not to notice). This platform will allow access to the large stained glass window for removal and replacement of panels. The wooden platform will be removed after restoration of this window.



After the stained glass windows have been removed, rebuilt and reinstalled, interior plastic glazing will be placed. The old glass glazing outside will be removed, the woodwork smoothed, caulking around the window frames replaced, and the woodwork painted. The result is a dramatic improvement in the appearance of the stained glass windows, just as is now seen in the south and north wall windows, especially from the outside of the building.

This phase of our project is partly funded by a generous grant from Sacred Places of Indiana, supported by funds of the Lilly Endowment. Matching funds for the project are being provided by donations from our congregation and the Building Endowment. We are grateful for all of these contributions, and thankful to the numerous craftsmen in the local community who dedicate their skills to preserving the striking beauty of stained glass art.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music at Trinity

Do you play an instrument? Do you sing? Share your musical gifts with us by signing up to perform special music this summer. Reach out to Monica Shaeffer at music@trinitylafayette.org

JANE NICHOLS MEMORIAL

A memorial service for Jane Nichols will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, May 4th. More details to come.

TRINITY'S PICTORAL DIRECTORY

As Trinity celebrates 200 years, we are publishing a new pictorial directory, and we want everyone to be included. You can sign up for a time slot to get an updated picture taken by Emily Sheetz and Griffin Smith at church, by contacting the office, or by visiting the online sign-up form at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805044AAAAA2AA7FB6-55859943-trinity#/>



There are time slots available Sunday, April 6 (after service) and Sunday, April 27 (before and after service). We will also be updating contact info, so look for forms on the table by the elevator to ensure your info is correct. Once the directory is complete, everyone who desires a printed copy will be able to receive one. Please participate so that we can have a record that includes all of our Trinity individuals and families in our bicentennial year! If you have questions, reach out to Emily Sheetz at emsheetz10@gmail.com.

YOUNG ADULT GATHERING

The Young Adults will be gathering at Trinity UMC for a meet & greet on Saturday, April 26 at 3 p.m. in the Great Room. We will have the opportunity to connect with each other over games and conversations! If you have questions, please reach out to Emily Sheetz at emsheetz10@gmail.com.

ONLINE GIVING



Looking to contribute to our offering, missions needs, etc.
but need to do so via card?

Use the QR Code provided to access our online giving platform!
Our online giving platform can also be found on our website:
trinitylafayette.org/give

HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

APRIL BUILDING OPENERS:

4/6 — Brooks Leftwich
4/13 — Brent Clemenz
4/20 —
4/27 — Nate Yoran

APRIL USHERS:

4/6 — Brooks Leftwich
4/13 — Weng Chew &
Chew Chin Phua
4/20 —
4/27 — Jeff Caster

APRIL GREETERS:

4/6 — Jenny Taylor
4/13 — Claudia Alenduff
4/20 — Chris Erwin,
Kay Franscoviak,
& Norma Singley
4/27 — Jeff Caster



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Nate Yoran	04/03
Lynn Yoran	04/09
Tracey Leslie	04/19
Brian Youkey	04/21
Dinah Dalder	04/23
Robin Young	04/23
Gloria Thompson	04/24
Jenn Agnew	04/25

Is your birthday missing? We're sorry about that! Please reach out and let us know, so that we can celebrate with you and update our records.



LOOKING AHEAD TO GRADUATION SUNDAY

Do you have any 2025 grads in your family? Let us know! On Sunday, May 11, we will celebrate our students who are graduating from all levels of education (e.g., high school, college, graduate school, trade/vocational programs, etc.) Please send names of graduates to Pastor Mack as soon as possible via email at mack@trinitylafayette.org

TRINITY'S BOARD

- Chairperson:** Kristi Evans
- Vice Chair:** Kathy Manwaring
- Treasurer:** Wanda Fisher
- Lay Leader:** Kay Franscoviak
- Finance:** Lynn Guptill
- Trustees:** Steve Ash
- Staff Parish:** Hannah Starr
- Secretary:** Emily Sheetz
- Endowment:** Ryan Wynkoop
- At-Large Member:** Brooks Leftwich
- Missions/Outreach:** Kathy Manwaring & Betty Jackson

COMMUNICATIONS

Have pictures from church events or a story to share? Send them to Monica in the office at info@trinitylafayette.org.

Website: www.trinitylafayette.org

Facebook: [Trinity United Methodist Church, Lafayette, IN](#)

Be sure to like us on Facebook and share posts and events on your own wall and invite your friends! This is a great way to spread the word about our outreach events.



OFFICE INFO

Trinity's office is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. During office hours the inner office door will be locked to better manage visitors and ensure safety for office staff.

APRIL 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9:30A Staff Meeting (Office) 11:15A Fowler Study (Fowler) 6P Pastor Ben Study (GR)	2 6P Choir (Choir Room)	3	4	5
6 9A Pastor Ben Study (GR) 10:30A Worship (Sanc) 8P Connect (Zoom)	7 10:45A Pastor Suzanne Small Group (GR)	8 6P Pastor Ben Study (GR)	9 6P Choir (Choir Room)	10	11 5:30P LUM We've Got Talent (St. Andrew UMC)	12
13 9A Pastor Ben Study (GR) 10:30A Worship (Sanc) 11:30A 2nd Sunday Lunch 8P Connect (Zoom)	14 10:45A Pastor Suzanne Small Group (GR)	15 9:30A Staff Meeting (Office) 11:15A Fowler Study (Fowler) 6P Pastor Ben Study (GR)	16 6P Choir (Choir Room)	17	18 6:30P Good Friday Service (Sanc)	19
20 10:30A Worship (Sanc) 8P Connect (Zoom)	21 OFFICE CLOSED FOR EASTER MONDAY — ALL STAFF VACATION	22	23 6P Choir (Choir Room)	24 6:30P Gov. Board (GR)	25	26 3P Young Adult Gathering (GR)
27 10:30A Worship (Sanc) 8P Connect (Zoom)	28	29 9:30A Staff Meeting (Office) 11:15A Fowler Study (Fowler)	30 11A Clay Bowl Project (YWCA) 6P Choir (Choir Room)	<div style="border: 2px solid brown; padding: 10px; background-color: #f4b084;"> <p>Don't forget to sign up to get your picture taken for Trinity's pictorial directory! See page 10 for more info!</p> </div>		



509 North Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

Sunday Worship Service

In-Person Worship (Sanctuary) at 10:30 a.m.

Office Hours

Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Church Office Contact

Phone: (765) 742-1288

Email: info@trinitylafayette.org

www.trinitylafayette.org

Trinity's Mission Statement:

To make disciples of Jesus
Christ for the transformation
of the world.

Trinity's Vision Statement:

Embracing all to experience
and share God's love.

Our Team

Pastor Ben	ben@trinitylafayette.org
Pastor Suzanne	suzanne@trinitylafayette.org
Pastor Mack <i>(Youth & Families)</i>	mack@trinitylafayette.org
Monica Shaeffer <i>(Music)</i>	music@trinitylafayette.org
Monica McDougal <i>(Admin)</i>	monica@trinitylafayette.org
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