

News update for August 3, 2023

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Letter from Pastor Kathy

Pastor Kathy has written a group letter for us about the future of our church. Things have changed and will continue to change for Methodists in Idaho Falls, and we should be informed about it.
Info on page 7

This Week at Trinity

- Thursday** (August 3th, 2023)
 • 9:30am UWF Executive Board meeting
- Friday** (August 4th, 2023) *Office Closed*
 • 7:00pm N.A.
- Saturday** (August 5th, 2023) *Office Closed*
- Sunday** (August 6th, 2023)
 • 8:30am Donuts and coffee
 • 9:00am Sunday Worship
 • 10:15am Potluck soup brunch
 • 6:00pm N.A.
- Monday** (August 7th, 2023)
 • 7:00pm N.A.
- Tuesday** (August 8th, 2023)
 • Trustee Meeting-Zoom
 • 7:00pm N.A.
- Wednesday** (August 9th, 2023)
 • 10:00am Upper Room Study
 • 6:30pm Finance meeting-Zoom
 • 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting
 • 7:30pm Scouts BSA

All Church Meeting
August 10th at 6:30pm
At St. Paul’s UMC
 Everyone is encouraged to join us.

All Church Meeting

August 10th at 6:30pm

At St. Paul's UMC

This will be a joint meeting with St. Paul's congregation to have presentations from the committees of both churches about the state of the churches. It is a chance to understand the workings, finances, and missions of the two churches. How are they different? How are they the same? How do we complement each other? How are we redundant? In the future you will be asked to decide on the future of Methodism in Idaho Falls. To do that you will need to understand the reality of the current finances, resources, and missions of the two churches.

Be Informed About your Churches!

Walk to End Alzheimer's

The Alzheimer's walk will be held on Saturday, September 23th. The Trinity team "Memory Methodists" is participating in the 2023 walk. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 to fight Alzheimer's.

To join the Trinity team sign on to:

https://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2023/ID-GreaterIdaho?fr_id=16521&pg=entry

Register for:

[Memory Methodists](#)

Team Captain: Don Rohde



Parsonage Project

Now that the Trinity parsonage is not being used, a decision was made to fix it up and rent it out with the proceeds going to pay apportionments. The trustee team accomplished this with the help of a property manager and the July rent check of \$1,620 is being sent in as apportionments.

The effort to get the parsonage ready to rent cost about \$4,500 which is not bad since we have not put money into the parsonage for the 9 years that it was in use. The fixup included:

1. Rekey the doors
2. Haul the junk out
3. Clean the carpets
4. Restore the landscaping, mow, trim, cut bushes
5. House cleaning service
6. Replace downstairs bedroom carpet
7. Power bill for 6/30 to 7/20
8. Replace cracked window in dining room
9. Repair the sprinkler system
10. Replace 7 smoke detectors

After the fixup the parsonage is valued at about \$354,000. The trustees had to verify the church's insurance policy would still cover the building as a rental and that the assessor's office was aware it was no longer exempt from property tax. The parsonage is rented out until June 30, 2024, when it might be used again to house a pastor.



Sunday Morning Fellowship

There is always food and fellowship after church

- **Every 1st Sunday: Soup Potluck**
Bring your favorite Soup.
- **Every 2th Sunday: Regular Brunch**
Bring your favorite dish
- **Every 3rd Sunday: Scout Brunch**
This is a fundraiser for Troop 6 and a wonderful meal to share as we visit.
- **Every 4th Sunday: Regular Brunch**
Bring your favorite dish

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - June 30, 2023



Income	\$111,831
Expenses	<u>\$106,305</u>
Current net income	\$5,526

Birthdays

June

McCall, Alasdair	08/03
Wooten, Al	08/03
Oliver, Ben	08/04
Milam, Linda	08/05
Osteen, Olivia	08/06
Brochu, Rob	08/07
Eld, Sharon	08/07
Nobles, Wendy	08/07
Wade, Patti	08/07



Sanctuary Restoration

One of the joys of being the curators of a 107-year-old church building on the National Register of Historic Places is that normal repairs become restoration. We are so fortunate to have Rob who has become a master at working to restore the plaster over brick and lath and plaster ceilings used 107 years ago in building our church. Rob is now working at the 15-foot level building up the surface thickness where 107 years of paint thickness have peeled off. When he has restored the thickness and texture of the wall surface it will get a primer coat and a finish coat of paint. The north side of the sanctuary will be next.



John Wesley Quote

“A Methodist is one who has the love of God shed abroad in his heart by the Holy Ghost given unto him, one who loves the Lord his God with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his mind, and with all his strength. God is the joy of his heart and the desire of his soul, which is constantly crying out...”



~ *The Character of a Methodist*

Summer Camp Scholarships

We had 14 kids go to the three sessions at Camp Sawtooth. We are excited to have this many children participating this year. 8 of the 10 children from last year are returning and the others were new campers. They were partially paid for by parents and family, but we still need to raise scholarship funds for the remainder of the cost.

Trinity has had a long tradition of assisting with scholarships. Please give what you can to the fund so these youths can have a life-changing experience. We will continue to accept donations through the summer.

Call Betty at 208-521-3039

UWF NEWS



United Women in Faith

Our next unit meeting will be August 10 in the church parlor. It will be our ice cream social. Hopefully many of you will be able to join us.

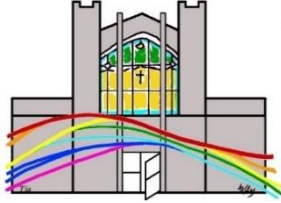
A big thank you to Don Rohde and Sherry Newey for all of their help with Mission U. Couldn't have done it without you. We had a great group.

See you soon,
Lyndell



Trinity Leadership

Below are the leadership positions for the next leader year. Please let the appropriate person know how you are willing to serve: **Chair of Admin Council;**
Open Position



Chair of Staff/Parish Relations
Bev Kemp-(208)569-6149
bevmkemp@gmail.com

Chair of Trustee
Don Rohde (860)810-3227-
donrohde@aol.com

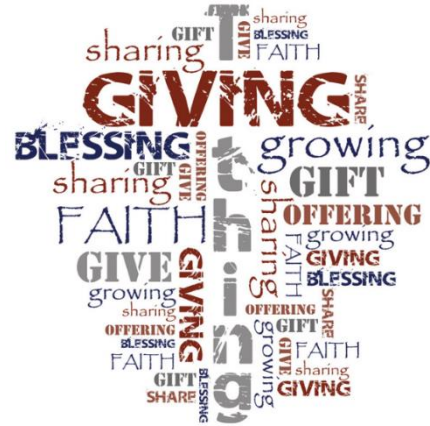
Chair of Finance
Scott Taylor (208)201-5593

Homeless Services

In July there were 147 homeless services supplied in the 17 days we were open. This represented services to 48 unique persons. The services provided included 131 showers, 33 loads of laundry, and 9 requests for supplies. The supplies included emergency food, hygiene kits, socks, underwear, gas, mail, dog food and WIFI. The clients ranged in age from 19 to 74 with an average age of 47.5. Time in the church varied from 2 min to 276 minutes with an average of 49 minutes. 17 visitors were new clients for us. 75% have cellphones and 90% had valid ID.



Apportionment Payment Made



For many years Trinity has been struggling to pay apportionments to the Idaho-Oregon Annual Conference. Apportionments are the “United” part of United Methodist church. Apportionments go to support the Sage district office, the programs from the Oregon-Idaho conference offices, programs from the nationwide UMC, conference leadership and the bishop’s leadership team. If you are interested in the details, they can be found at:

<https://www.umo.org/apportionmentcalculator>

Select “Idaho Falls: Trinity” from the pulldown menu.

Trinity’s share of the apportionments for 2023 is \$25,906. The July rent check from the parsonage (\$1,620) is being sent in as apportionments. The plan is to make \$8,700 in apportionment payments from rent checks by the end of the year.

Real Talk~From Pastor Kathy

People younger than me have an expression they use these days: “real talk.” Real talk, as opposed to small talk, is conversation or writing that gets right to the point with no fussing around. I’d like to share some real talk with you in this article. Normally, as the new pastor I would ease into sharing the information below, but we don’t have time for such small talk. It’s got to be real talk, right now.

The situation we find ourselves in is that United Methodist ministry in Idaho Falls has reached a crossroads. If we continue to do what we are doing, *and nothing else*, there will be no United Methodist ministry in Idaho Falls in just a few years. I won’t list a bunch of statistics here (please come to the Aug. 10 meeting to hear the details) but the truth is our congregations do not have a lot of time left to continue the ministry they are engaged in right now. The advanced age of our congregants, and the lack of people under 40 years of age, are the most obvious signs that we are facing shortened lifespans as viable churches. Less obvious is the fact that our ways of expressing of the Christian faith are no longer relevant to our neighbors. I see already how important Sunday morning worship is for the folks who attend our worship services. However, our neighbors are not joining us because they don’t want to join us. They don’t have the desire to express and fulfill their spiritual needs the way we do. Singing hymns, absorbing lectures on scripture passages, and partaking in communion rituals are strange, uninteresting customs to them. Here’s the hard truth: *all the people who want our kind of Christianity are already participating in our church ministries. Our congregations are not going to get any bigger.* No advertising campaign, no charismatic young






pastor, no aftermath of a horrible national tragedy will bring more people into our churches to worship as we do, or study the Bible as we do, or participate in charity projects like we do. We are it. And we are no spring chickens.

Our situation is not unique. Indeed, most of our UM churches in the greater northwest area face the same reality we do. Aging congregations, and older, irrelevant (to younger folks) expressions of Christianity mean most of our churches are on a path toward closure. The question before us is, if we can’t “grow” our existing congregations, can we develop new ministries that are relevant to our neighbors, making the love and grace of God that already is present in our neighborhoods more visible and real?

Please hear me clearly: **one** facet of our future as United Methodists in Idaho Falls is the ministry of care and support for the saints of our churches. Our saints have given their time, energy and resources to the ministries of our churches for decades, and we must provide them with the care and support they need in the latter part of their lives. This is the Christian thing to do.

However, this cannot be the main or only ministry we engage in. God is calling us to be and do more. This year we are going to explore, experiment, and research new forms of ministry that might lead us into our new future. We will start by meeting our neighbors. Not to ask them to come to “our” church, but to find out what God is doing in their lives. We want to partner with God in whatever God’s new plans are for folks in Idaho Falls. Sounds scary, right? It is. But with God’s help, all things are possible. I think this is enough “real talk” for now. May God strengthen us for the journey ahead.

~Pastor Kathy Neary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			2 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Gather at the Table 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	3 9:30am UWF Executive Board meeting	4 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	5 Office Closed 
6 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Potluck soup Brunch 6:00pm N.A	7 7:00pm N.A.	8 6:30pm Trustee Meeting 7:00pm N.A	9 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Finance meeting 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	10 1:00pm UWF Ice-cream social 6:30pm All church meeting	11 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	12 Office Closed
13 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Potluck Brunch 6:00pm N.A	14 7:00pm N.A.	15 6:30pm Administrative Council 7:00pm N.A	16 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Gather at the Table 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	17 	18 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	19 Office Closed
20 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Scout Brunch 6:00pm N.A	21 7:00pm N.A.	22 7:00pm N.A	23 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	24 	25 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	26 Office Closed 10:00am Auditions: Idaho Falls Opera Theatre
27 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Potluck Brunch 6:00pm N.A	28 7:00pm N.A.	29 7:00pm N.A.	30 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA	31 	1 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A	2 Office Closed