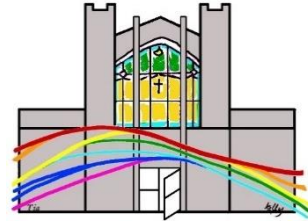


Trinity Times



“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

News update for July 18, 2024

New Bishops Elected



Stoneking (left) and Olewine (right)

Taken from articles published on the Council of Bishops and Western Jurisdiction websites.

The Western Jurisdiction delegates on Friday, July 12, 2024, elected two elders to the episcopacy, Kristin Stoneking and Sandra Olewine.

The Rev. Kristin Stoneking, United Methodist studies professor at the Pacific School of Religion, was elected a bishop of The United Methodist Church on the 11th ballot at Western Jurisdictional Conference in Spokane, Washington.

She received 65 votes out of 94 valid ballots cast. She needed 63 to be elected. Western Jurisdiction rules require that candidates receive at least two-thirds of valid ballots to be elected.

Stoneking was the first bishop elected at the July 10-13 meeting. She is the denomination's third

openly gay and married bishop – all elected in the Western Jurisdiction.

“Western Jurisdiction, you love - you love big. And it's messy sometimes, but you love,” Stoneking said. “I'm so humbled at this time, at this incredibly momentous time. May we all be humble learners. I commit to you to be a humble learner and to love.”

The Rev. Sandra K. Olewine, assistant to the bishop in the California-Pacific Conference, was elected a bishop of The United Methodist Church on the 17th ballot at the same conference.

Delegates elected Olewine, 66, on July 12 at the jurisdiction's meeting at the Centennial Hotel in Spokane on the 17th ballot. She received 84 votes out of 85 valid ballots cast. She needed 57 to be elected.

In her post-election remarks, Olewine thanked her fellow siblings seeking election as a bishop and acknowledged the church still has work to do. “We did amazing work at General Conference, but we are not yet an inclusive church,” Olewine said.

She said there are people in cities and rural communities who are hungry and in need of housing. There are people needing a sense of belonging. And, she emphasized, with Christian nationalism on the rise, the collective church needs to rise up against it.

Olewine has been assigned to the California-Nevada Conference, and Stoneking to the Mountain Sky Conference.



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This Week at Trinity

Thursday (July 11) *Office Closed*

Friday (July 12) *Office Closed*

- 7:00 pm N.A.
- 7:00 pm Candlelight N.A.

Saturday (July 13) *Office Closed*

Sunday (July 14)

- 8:30 am Fellowship Coffee and Donuts
- 9:00 am Sunday Worship
- 10:30am Potluck Brunch
- 6:00 pm N.A.

Monday (July 15)

- 7:00 pm N.A

Tuesday (July 16)

- 7:00 pm N.A.

Wednesday (June 17)

- 10:00 am Upper Room Study
- 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting
- 7:30 pm Scouts BSA

Come see us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>
 We livestream every service!

Elizabeth's Epiphanies



Last Sunday, after the horror of the attempted assassination of former President Trump, there was nowhere else I would rather be than worship, thanking God for the gift of life and clinging to Christian community for support.

The realization that our country has reached a boiling point in the political rhetoric was sobering. The opportunity to be together in community is precious. Let's not take it for granted. I look forward to worshipping with you- in person or online!

Blessings,

~Rev Elizabeth

Christmas in July Fundraiser



St. Paul's will be serving chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, rolls, and dessert following worship service on July 21st. All donations will provide families with hope, love and joy at Christmastime!

Third Sunday Workshop



The next gathering of Idaho Falls United Methodists: Better Together will take place on Sunday, July 21, 4:00pm at St. Paul's.

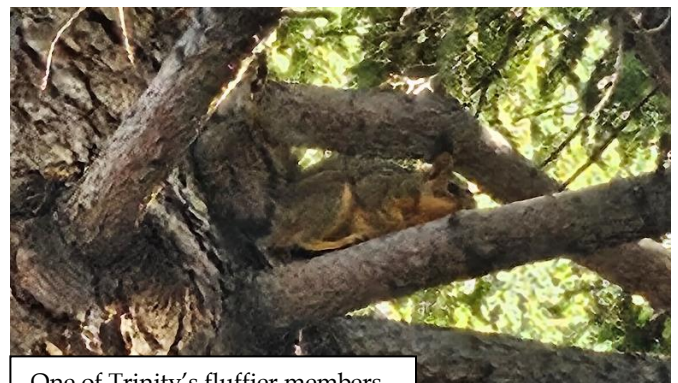
Come be part of these monthly conversations to learn what is happening as the two churches work together even as we maintain two worship sites, and help guide the direction.

Specifically, this meeting will discuss different models of cooperative parishes that have developed in other communities.

Some questions have been raised as to whether the churches are "merging." Merging for me implies that there is a winner and there is a loser.

We are not "merging." We are cooperating to create a win-win situation where both churches are stronger and we can focus on our mission to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

I hope to see you there! ~Rev Elizabeth



One of Trinity's fluffier members.

UWF News:



United Women in Faith

The mission study was completed this weekend and was a wonderful experience. From our zoom count, we had over 27 participants from the Oregon/Idaho conference.

Pastor Lura Kinder-Meisen led our study with a lot of preparation and incite. With a deeper understanding of the proximity of accessing God’s kin-dom, we embraced the opportunity to be at home with God. Abiding in God’s safety and dwelling in God’s provision, we opened our hearts and minds to a fuller embrace of the power and presence of God.

Learning and living in God’s kin-dom gave us an interconnectedness and celebration of each other and on God. For those planning to attend the later session in July, I hope you have such a wonderful weekend as we experienced.

Our next UWF meeting will be our ice cream social August 8 at 1:00 in the Trinity parlor. The UWF Executive Board will host. This will be a celebration of summer and a kickoff for our fall events. Save the date!!!

CASA Volunteers Needed




CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA 7 OF IDAHO

The Judicial District VII CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Program needs volunteers to assist in helping judges make good decisions regarding placing children in foster care and permanent homes; requirements include a background check and interview, 30 hours of training, a 2-year commitment, 5-15 hours per month and attending court proceedings; for more information call 208-523-6525 or email info@CASA7.org.



Daily Prayer
 Relax and breathe deeply for just 60 seconds!
 Visualize the breath of God filling every pore and all that is old, negative and stale being released.
 Lord, give me an Open Heart.
 Lord, give me an Open Mind.
 Lord, may our gathered fellowship always have an Open Door.

**A THREEFOLD CORD IS NOT QUICKLY BROKEN.
 ECCLESIASTES 4:12**

Lay Servant Ministries



Are you looking for a way to grow in your faith? Are you a leader in your congregation? Do you want to know more about the United Methodist Church? If so, Lay Servant

Ministries courses are for you!

Lay Servant Ministries is one of the significant lay leadership development programs available within the United Methodist connection. Through this system of equipping and empowering, lay servants have the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go and make other disciples. Lay Servant ministries can be a significant component of any discipleship system providing training in Hospitality, Offer Christ, Purpose and Engagement.

There are three opportunities to participate in the "Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course" this summer. One on Monday afternoons and two on Tuesday evenings. Courses coming this fall include "Spiritual Gifts - Each One a Minister," "Preaching - From Pew to Pulpit," "Social Principles - Justice in Everyday Life," "Polity - Life Together in the UM Connection," and "Leading in Lay Pastoral Care." You can find the schedule here. If you are seeking certification or annual recertification as a Lay Servant or Lay Speaker, make sure you keep track of your classes and submit a report at your fall charge conference.

The "Introduction to Lay Ministry: The BASIC Course" is the foundational course for Lay Servant Ministries. It can be part of your discipleship plan to acquaint you with your gifts, calling, and responsibilities as a follower of Christ. This course is perfect for anyone serving in church leadership. Learn more about this class

here and register with Emilie Kroen by July 1 or ask her about classes starting mid-July and in August.

An advanced course "Discover Your Spiritual Gifts: Each One a Minister" will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning September 19. This course helps you understand spiritual gifts and how the church uses them to fulfill its mission and ministry. You will learn what it means to be a spiritual leader and be equipped to lead others in exploring and using their spiritual gifts. Learn more about this class and register with Emilie Kroen before September 10 (register early as the class could fill up before then).

If you want to know more about Lay Servant Ministries or see what classes are offered through Be a Disciple online, check out this catalog.

To learn more contact Emilie Kroen at ekroen@yahoo.com

Island Park Sunday - July 28



On July 28th St. Paul's will provide music, greeters, ushers, readers and cookies for the Little Church in the Pines at Island Park. The service is at 10:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is at St. Paul's in the hall outside the office for those who would like to help. We will gather for lunch at Pond's Lodge after the service. Email the St. Paul's office at StPaulsUMCoffice@gmail.com for more information.

M-I-L-E-liminating Racism



DS Karen at Jurisdictional Conference

Taken from the Sage District News Letter

Last week I attended Jurisdictional Conference for our Western Jurisdiction of the UMC. Worship is always a highlight for me at events like this! At a few different times over the course of the conference, worship leaders would give instructions like this, "Please join in prayer using the language of your heart to pray as Jesus taught us." Then, rather than hearing the gathered body of believers speaking in one voice with unity, it was a little garbled. Our words didn't align. While most of the group spoke in English, there was also Spanish, Korean, Tongan, Japanese, and other indigenous languages being spoken at the same time, and we were praying the same thing. For those brief moments, we could hear a bit of Pentecost.

I enjoyed every moment of worship, but not all of the conference was enjoyable. After a brief and intense time of discernment, I offered my name for consideration in the episcopal elections. (I suspect that many of you know the feeling: I was extremely anxious about offering myself, but God would no longer let me rest on my laurels

and dismiss the opportunity either. Discernment is hard, exhausting work, isn't it?!) Without a doubt, it was the most difficult thing I have ever chosen to do. While each of the 22 initial candidates had their own unique experience, the intensity and vulnerability of it didn't escape any of us.

Before candidates addressed the conference, I was talking with a colleague who had also offered up themselves. We were commiserating about how nerve-racking the process was, even in light of the tremendous support around us. I felt like I was just barely holding myself together when my colleague said, "Yes, and I'm so nervous that English is even harder for me right now." And with that, I snapped into awareness of my privilege and our system's bias. Moments later I would introduce myself in the first and only language I speak. Both before and after me, candidates did the same thing in their second, third, or even fourth language.

After several years of dabbling in Spanish with no urgent need, it's hard for me to imagine ever being fluent in another language. In a circumstance in which merely introducing myself was unbelievably intimidating, some of my colleagues were experiencing all of that stress and then communicating in another language. Their heart languages are diverse, but our process only allowed them to participate in English. And that is systemic racism.

In a church that purports to celebrate diversity and inclusion, we give preferential treatment to native English speakers. In an institution that desperately needs diverse perspectives, new ways of thinking, and creative visions for the future, we are operating within a system that maintains the

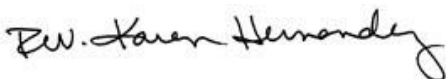
church that is rather equipping us to become the church we are called to be.

I don't think it's on purpose. I do not see ill will in our leaders. Rather I think there is great care, generosity, and thoughtfulness in this process of episcopal elections...and there's surely room to improve.

This unintentional use of white privilege isn't limited to this process; it's all around us. Can you spot it? Can you think of examples in your community, your congregation, your workplace, or your life? Recognizing privilege and bias in our systems is an important step, but it's not enough. What will you do about it?

I'm interested pursuing unity without uniformity. I am seeking more Pentecost moments and glimpses of the colorful, diverse kin-dom of God in my life! Will you join me?

Walking this MILE with you,



~Rev. Karen Hernandez
Sage District Superintendent



2024 Episcopal Candidates

Community Quilting Workshop

Community Quilting Workshop

Get to know your friends & neighbors better as we team up to create quilts for refugees and families in crisis locally & worldwide.

July 20th

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
1235 Juniper Dr., Idaho Falls



Facebook @IFCommQuilt CommunityQuilting.IF@gmail.com

Want some time to sew and make new friends? And at the same time spread across the world the love and comfort that comes from the gift of a quilt? Come learn and share your knowledge.

IF Community Quilting Workshops is teaming with Lifting Hands International to create twin size or larger quilts for refugees and families in crisis around the globe.

Quilting and sewing experience is helpful, but not necessary. Ages 13-103 are invited. Talented volunteer mentors will be there to help and instruct you through the different steps of quilt making. Workshops will be held every three months.

River Concert Series



Members of St. Paul's and Trinity UMCs attending the River Concert Series

Members of St. Paul's and Trinity will be attending the Summer River Series Concerts as a group. The concerts are presented by the Idaho Falls Arts Council and held every Tuesday evening at 7:00 at the Greenbelt Stage located between D&E Streets on Memorial Drive. The concerts are free and open to the public, and the Idaho Falls United Methodist meetup is open to members of Trinity, St. Paul's, friends, family or anyone else who'd like to join us. Bring a chair and enjoy some free entertainment as we fellowship together and enjoy Great Music.



On July 9th, Audience members dance to the Southern Rock and Country stylings of Lil' Red.



Schedule

- July 23rd - **McMurphy Brothers & Co.** - Americana
- July 30th - **40 Somethin' Band** - Classic Rock
- August 6th - **22nd Street** - Jazz
- August 13th - **Snake River Strings Band** - Strings
- August 20th - **Idaho Muscle** - Audience Request
- August 27th - **Mike Banks Jazz Quartet** - Jazz



Above: On July 16th, Teton Skye entertained the audience with traditional Celtic music.

Below: On July 23rd, McMurphy Brothers & Co. will take the stage.



Brunch for Homeless Services



This Sunday, July 21st, we will have a brunch following worship service to benefit our homeless services.

This brunch will be similar to the brunches usually served by the scouts, with pancakes eggs and sausages, but donations will go towards to help pay the costs associated with running our weekday services for the homeless and others in need.

Trinity offers laundry and shower services for members of our community from Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 2 pm. Unfortunately, there are costs involved. All those showers and loads of laundry add up to a lot of shampoo, conditioner, body wash, detergent, razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes etc. Not to mention the cost of paying our Services Coordinator to be here 20 hours a week to make sure people get the help they need while still keeping our church safe for all.

At the current status of the Compassionate Care account that funds the services, we estimate that we can only run services for a few more months, so we need your help to make sure we can continue to offer these services to those who need them most.

Homeless Services

In June there were 163 homeless services supplied in the 16 days we were open. This is fewer than May's count of 195 in 18 days, but considering we closed early on Thursdays in June, this is actually more people served per hour at 2.4 people per hour, compared to May's 1.8 people per hour average. This represented services to 48 unique people (down from 63). The services provided included 142 showers (down from 155), 33 loads of laundry (down from 44), and 8 requests for supplies (Down from 9).

Supplies included socks, underwear, sleeping bags, blankets, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, and gallon bottles of water. We also worked with FISH to provide Gas Vouchers, and helped provide bus fare for a woman who needed to travel out of state to visit her daughter in the hospital and take care of her grandchildren. The clients ranged in age from 18 to 78 with an average age of 51. Time in the church varied from 1 min. to 190 minutes with an average of 39 minutes. Most were returning clients, with 4 new clients. 68% have cellphones and 64% have valid ID.

We also received a letter from a gentleman expressing his appreciation for the work done at Trinity. At one point in 2021, he was overcome by the troubles of life, and had decided to come to commit suicide. He came to Trinity and spoke to Reverend Ruth who gave him a listening and compassionate ear. He credits that conversation with saving his life. It may seem like we are just providing folks with showers and laundry, but we are doing so much more for folks who really need our love and support. Thank you to all of you for supporting this ministry.

News from Sawtooth Methodist Camp



The Senior High Youth were at camp July 7-13. The Theme for this year's camp program for all ages was "Fruitful Faith". The letters Paul, an apostle of Jesus, wrote to the Galatians about "The Fruits of the Spirit" came alive during this week as 31 youth plus counselors and staff of about 50 people, learned about the fruits.

They were Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Self-Control and Faithfulness. The days were filled with worship, prayer, praise, Bible study, discussions of each day's theme, songs, play, arts and crafts, as well as food, fun, rest, seeing old friends, making new friends, helping in the kitchen and so much more.

The Dean and Staff work very hard to keep the youth "Safe" and tend to the individuals of each youth.

I want to express my thanks to the Sr. High Camp dean, Matthew Gaskill. Matt grew up

here in Idaho Falls at Trinity UMC, and attended camp as a youth. As a young adult, he returned to be a counselor for many years and then moved into the leadership role as Dean the past few years. This has become his passion, and he did a terrific job as the leader of this group of youth.

Rev. Elizabeth and I visited the camp for two days and so enjoyed being there. We loved the trip to the camp, exploring the fabulous surroundings, the fresh air, the blue sky and mountain peaks, the Boise River, learning the history as well as staying in a cabin and sharing many activities with the kids. Rev. Elizabeth, was able to Baptize, Hunter Warnke, one of our Idaho Falls youth in the Boise River, as he requested. Rev.

Elizabeth also led a Worship Time and Communion with the Youth during Monday evening worship.

There were eight youth from Idaho Falls attending, and they had all been to camp last year and some for even more years. They were very excited to return again this year. Several of them took youth leadership roles for the group as part of a youth counsel too.

Next week, July 21-27, we will have 3 youth attending the Elementary camp, most of them for the first time. There are opportunities for people of all ages to attend one of the many sessions of camp that are held each year. More information will be forthcoming on what is next.

~Betty E. Anderson

Camp Sawtooth Sessions

| | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|---|
| Summer camp in the Sawtooth mountains for junior high students (ages 12-14). more → | | | |
| Sawtooth Elementary I | Completed Grades 3rd-6th Summer Youth Camps | 7/21/2024 - 7/27/2024 | Subsidized Rate: \$445 Full Rate: \$499 (A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. This deposit will not be refunded but may be transferred to another session.) |
| Sawtooth Backpacking Adventure Camp | Completed Grades 7th-11th Summer Youth Camps | 7/21/2024 - 7/27/2024 | Subsidized Rate: \$445 Full Rate: \$499 (A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. This deposit will not be refunded but may be transferred to another session.) |
| Sawtooth Elementary II | Completed Grades 3rd-6th Summer Youth Camps | 7/28/2024 - 8/3/2024 | Subsidized Rate: \$445 Full Rate: \$499 (A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. This deposit will not be refunded but may be transferred to another session.) |
| Sawtooth Outpost Camp | Completed Grades 5th-8th Summer Youth Camps | 7/28/2024 - 8/3/2024 | Subsidized Rate: \$445 Full Rate: \$499 (A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. This deposit will not be refunded but may be transferred to another session.) |
| Sawtooth "Senior Shindig" | Age 55+ Adult Retreats & Camps | 9/9/2024 - 9/13/2024 | Regular Rate: \$216 Senior Rate: \$199 (A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. This deposit will not be refunded but may be transferred to another session.) |



Sunday Morning Fellowship

We are updating our Sunday morning fellowship schedule.

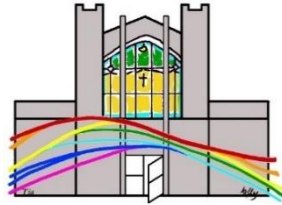
- **Every 1st Sunday: Soup Brunch**
Bring your favorite Soup.
- **Every 2nd Sunday: Potluck Brunch**
Bring your favorite dish to share
- **Every 3rd Sunday: Scout Brunch**
This is a fundraiser for Troop 6 and a wonderful meal to share as we visit.
- **Every 4th Sunday: Potluck Brunch**
Bring your favorite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

Trinity Leadership

Below are the leadership positions for the next leader year.

Chair of Admin Council;

Gene Summers
Joke2boy@aol.com



Chair of Staff/Parish Relations

Sherry Newey-(385)405-5011
ladylevi12@aol.com

Chair of Trustee

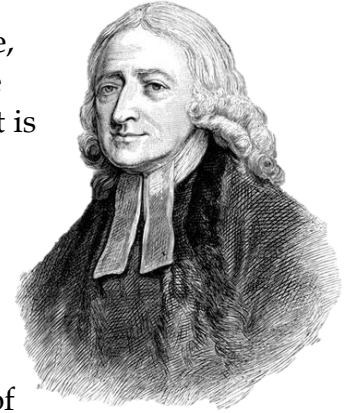
Don Rohde (860)810-3227-
donrohde@aol.com

Chair of Finance

Open

John Wesley Quote

"Let it be carefully remembered all this time, that God, not man, is the physician of souls; that it is He, and none else, who giveth medicine to heal our natural sickness; that all "the help which is done upon earth, he doeth it himself;" that none of all the children of men is able to "bring a clean thing out of an unclean;" and, in a word, that "it is God who worketh in us, both to will and to do of his good pleasure."



~ *On the Education of Children.*

Financial Statements

Our church's financial status January 1 - June 30th, 2024



| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Income | \$ 81,186 |
| Expenses | <u>\$ 76,472</u> |
| Current net income | \$ 4,713 |

Birthdays

July

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Marybeth Eikelberger | 07/20 |
| Jade McMurtrey | 07/21 |
| Ben Davenport | 07/25 |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|--|---|---------------------|
|  | | | 17 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA | 18 | 19 Office Closed 9:30 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A | 20 Office Closed |
| 21 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Brunch for Homeless Ministries 4:00pm Better Together Workshop @ St. Paul's 6:00pm N.A | 22 7:00pm N.A. | 23 7:00pm River Concert 7:00pm N.A | 24 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA | 25 | 26 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A | 27 Office Closed |
| 28 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Potluck Brunch 6:00pm N.A | 29 7:00pm N.A. | 30 7:00pm River Concert 7:00pm N.A | 31 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA | 1  | 2 Office Closed 7:00pm N.A | 3 Office Closed |
| 4 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Soup Brunch 6:00pm N.A | 5 7:00pm N.A. | 6 7:00pm River Concert 7:00pm N.A | 7 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA | 8 1:00pm UWF Ice Cream Social | 9 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A | 10 Office Closed |
| 11 8:30am Fellowship Coffee & Donuts 9:00am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Potluck Brunch 6:00pm N.A | 12 7:00pm N.A. | 13 7:00pm River Concert 7:00pm N.A | 14 10:00am Upper Room Study 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:30pm Scouts BSA | 15 | 16 Office Closed 7:00pm Candlelight N.A 7:00pm N.A | 17 Office Closed |