Trinity Times

**5151 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507** **www.trinityunitedpc.org**

**810-720-5152 Sundays @ 10am**

**MAY/JUNE 2022, VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2**

***PASTORS ARTICLE***

Members and Friends of Trinity United Presbyterian Church,

Grace to you and peace from our God who was, who is, and who is still to come.

So much has happened since last we saw each other at the beginning of May. Happy and celebratory things, such as graduations and end of the year celebrations… as well as difficult and hard things. As I write this on Wednesday, May 25th, news is still being released about the mass shooting and murder of children at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas. In the midst of mourning the loss of those shot and killed in racially motivated attacks in Buffalo, New York, and at one of our very own sibling congregations in California, senseless, unnecessary violence and hatred has yet again struck many us to our very core. We once more find ourselves crying out, “how long, O Lord, until we, your children, learn to love and care for each other”?

We find ourselves at the beginning of a new chapter. A new chapter for TUPC, a new chapter for myself as a minister, and a new chapter as we begin our life and journey of faith together. I want you to know up front that I do believe that this is a journey that we all take together. I do not know, nor will ever claim to know or have all of the answers. There will be many times when you will know things that I do not. To me, this is the beauty of living in community, as we respectfully walk along in our lives together, helping each other to learn and grow. In moments that are difficult, may we find ways to sit with each other, in grief, sorrow, and despair. In moments of celebration, may we sit with each other in excitement and expectation. In all moments in between, may we strive to be a community that loves and holds each other, praying for one another, and working toward building and bringing God’s kin-dom on earth, just as it is in heaven.

Live, Love, Laugh,

Rev. Kate Morritauk



***PASTOR LIFE UPDATE!***

Just a quick update that Coulter and I are in the process of purchasing a home within the city of Flint. However, we will not be able to move in until around August 3rd as the current owner needs a few months to get ready and moved out. We’ve secured temporary housing for June and July in Flushing, Michigan, so I’ll only be about a 20 minute drive from the church. We’ll be making what we’re calling a “mini-move” on June 1st, bringing only clothes and the barest necessities for a few months. Come August, I’ll be taking some vacation so that Coulter and I can travel back to North Carolina to pick up the cat, pack up the rest of our belongings, and make the big move north and into our home! We’ll keep you posted as things continue to fall into place.

***LET’S MEET!***

Rev. Morritauk’s first official day at TUPC will be Sunday, June 5th, and she would love to meet you! Within the first few days of Kate’s arrival, we’ll have some sign up sheets available in the Narthex, as well as an online form, for you to schedule a time to meet with the Pastor. These visits can we held wherever you are most comfortable (your home, favorite coffee shop, restaurant, outdoor park, at the church, etc). Wherever you pick, Kate looks forward to being with you and getting to know you and the TUPC community better!

***FLEXIBILITY***

Within the first few months of our time together, Rev. Morritauk will be doing a lot of observational work, chats, etc., with the members, staff, leadership, and friends of TUPC in order to learn more about the church and how we can all best function together. With this, Kate will be waiting a month or so to establish her regular office hours, Sabbath day, and day off. However, in the meantime, you are always free to call the office or call / text Pastor Kate to set up an appointment or check to see if she is currently in the office. Thank you for your understanding as we seek to find the best ways of staffing and working with everyone’s schedules!

***FIXING THE PLAYGROUND***

Sarah’s Circle is working on fixing up the playground at the church. They are going to be selling popcorn during the craft show to help fundraise for this.

If anyone has lawn furniture or a picnic table, they are looking for one to add to the playground as well.



***SPRING CLEAN UP***

If you want to get your hands dirty, here is an opportunity for you!  The Building and Property Team is having its spring cleanup on Wednesday. June 8th starting at 10 a.m.

There are a number of things you can do from weeding and brush trimming outdoors to cleaning and organizing cupboards inside.

If that day doesn't work for you, feel free to come by at any convenient time to do outdoor work.  If inside work is more of your interest, and your availability is outside of Church business hours (9a.m. to 1 p.m.) let Greg Bolduc know and we'll try to set up a convenient time for you to come in.

***SUPPORT THE TROOPS***

We will be doing a support the troops card writing campaign for Veterans Day. Kathy will get the cards and they will need to be completed by early September to be distributed Nov 11th for Veterans Day.

***PER CAPITA***

WHAT IS PER CAPITA?

PER CAPITA has been part of our funding history for over 150 years. When presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly meet, they are conducting the legislative and judicial business of the church and incur necessary expenses. There are also some necessary administrative expenses involved which enable these ecclesiastical, legislative and judicial functions to be performed. Historically, per capita has been used to fund these. Importantly, per capita funding enables governing councils to make decisions regarding distribution of mission dollars without itself being funded by those same dollars.

The whole church shares in these expenses since everyone who is a member shares in the benefits of this system of church government. Per capita provides for the financial participation of all local churches as part of a connectional and representative church, thus providing for unity and mutual responsibility within the church.

HOW IS PER CAPITA COMPUTED?

The Per Capita Apportionment in the Presbytery of Lake Huron is based on a portion of certain salaries and expenses which are part of the operating expenses of the Presbytery.

Per Capita is the cost of being a Presbyterian, and if each member pays the per capita amount above their pledge or regular giving, pressure on the local budget is reduced.

Paying per capita is similar to:

-contributing one’s dish to a potluck meal

-paying to be connected to the internet

-paying for benefits of utilities, such as electricity, gas or water

-pitching in with others to pay for gasoline on a road trip

In order to keep presbytery’s per capita rate from escalating the per capita portion of the budget is subsidized with a distribution from Presbytery’s investments.



WHERE DO OUR PER CAPITA DOLLARS GO?

The amount that is set for per capita apportionment is a calculation based on the number of church members and the budget established annually by each governing body. At the presbytery level per capita pays for a number of items including:

-the mortgage payment on the presbytery office

-the office of the Stated Clerk including their salary and that of the Recording Clerk

-salaries of the Financial Secretary, Treasurer and the Administrative Assistant

-insurance coverage, legal counsel, annual audit

-costs associated with operating the presbytery office

-meeting costs for our standing units

***CRAFT SHOW***

The Craft Show is back this year! Join us Friday October 14th and Saturday October 15th from 9am-4pm.

Membership is doing a bake sale during the craft show. If you would like to donate make sure all goods are covered or individually wrapped with potential allergies labeled.

We need crafters. A table costs $30 for 8 foot space including the table. Please contact Sharon Auger at 810-653-8735 for an application.

***GREETINGS FROM CRAIG AND ROBERTA HARDY***

Bobbie and Craig live in a Presbyterian housing facility in Evanston, Illinois near their daughter’s family. Craig is close to a facility that specializes in the treatment of Parkinson’s, which he has. He is doing very well and Bobbie keeps a close eye on his vitamins and nutrition.

Bobbie, a nurse practitioner, continues to counsel individuals who seek her advice. She also does presentations on recent health research to keep people “in the know” as she did for Trinity.

Craig was the wordsmith who put together TUPC’s vision statement, which is printed on our bulletins. That motto was compiled from congregation input as one activity to meld our churches.

***REMEMBERING OUR OLDEST MEMBER***

Malvina Middleton passed away January 12, 2022 at the age of 101. She was our oldest member of Trinity United and was part of the congregation for over 60 years. She devoted her life to God and her family, always putting them first. She lived a long and full life and we will continue to miss her.



 ***PRAYER LIST***

Prayers are needed for all members and friends of TUPC. We pray for the sick, the caregivers, the bereaved, mission workers, our leaders, our veterans, for racial peace and peace among nations.

We lift up those from the prayer chain:

Jackie McClellan, Phyllis Scales, Debbi Deming, Corey Greenlee and his family, Kathy’s family, Karen Fischer and family, Julie Muehring, the family of Edna Franklin, Dr. Goodman, Gayle Kettler, Sharron Alexander, Alice Shirley, Doris Diaz, Bonnie Pierce, The Griffin family, Michael Jackson, Zoltan and Beth Sutto, Phoenix Lyttle and the Peterson family, Ora Galloway, Barbara Sturdivant, Shola, Sandy Hale, Sue Murray, Linda Smith, Bob Budae and family, Ethel Bowen, Rev. Annie Duncan and Patience Duncan, Dick Foor and family, Randy, Ernestine Jackson, Donna Jones, Catherine Ainsworth, Millie Arbor, the Turner family, Phillis Kendrick, Autumn Marsh, Marvin Farrow, Sharon Bonney, Bob Winkler, Kenny Ross and all others who need our prayers.

*Send a card, give a call say a prayer, or make a meal and let us continue to offer care and love to those who are grieving and struggling in one form or another.*

***UPCOMING EVENTS***

-July 20-21: Vacation Bible School

-July 31: Church Picnic at Elms Park at 10am

-Oct 14-15: Craft Show

-Dec 10: Night in Bethlehem

If you have a submission for the July/August *Trinity Times*, please send your article or information to Alysha Fleming or Ryan Wier at trinityunitedpccom@gmail.com by no later than July 31st. Thank you.