

Trinity United Methodist Church

Worship each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Ryan Gephart, pastor

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Trinity United Methodist Church
434 E. Main St.
Roaring Spring, PA 16673

Trinity Tidings

Roaring Spring, PA 16673

June/July 2024

May 12 & May 19, 2024 Baptism & Confirmation Celebrations Grace & Peace to you from Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ,

Sisters & Brothers in Christ, what a joyous May we experienced at TUMC! On May 12, we had two celebrations at Canoe Creek State Park. Levi Thomas Wareham was baptized and our Confirmation Families enjoyed a picnic. The day was very holy and not only did we worship together, we also had a time of fellowship.



On May 19, we celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, the confirmation and full professing membership of three wonderful young men. Andrew John Bassler, Jesse Bradley Muthler, and Levi Thomas Wareham all joined TUMC. What a joyous day punctuated by a wonderful church brunch!



These special events remind us all that as the psalmist stated: *“For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.”* (Psalm 139:13-14, NRSV) No matter what, may we always celebrate and agree that we are special gifts of God!

With Thanksgiving for TUMC in Christ ~ Pastor Ryan



OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS: Judy Bowers, Roger and Kay Bowser, Tanna Byler, Lorie Davis, Marsha Demchak, Bud Evans, Glenda Fowler, Mike Galbraith, Ione Hammaker, Jeff Hetrick, Norm Hostetter, Ruth Imler, Pastor Evie Madison, Barbara Mingle, Bob & Doris Musselman, Barry & Connie Musselman, Dee Rodland, Mike Seiler & Family, Gary Shank, Katlyn Wren Somogyi, Christine Thompson, Bob & Dorothy VanNatta, Claudia Weise

Anniversaries:

June

- 1. Bob & Doris Musselman
- 5. Ryan & Misty Gephart
- 16. Fred & Carol Hetrick
- 19. Roger & Kay Bowser
- 27. Charles (Bud) & Jeanne Evans

July

- 1. Robert & Dorothy Van Natta
- 2. Walter & Kathy Shehan
- 14. Doug & JoEllen Mingle



Birthdates:

June

- 10. Neil Smith
- 13. Noah Gartland
- 14. Matt Elliott
- 15. Kelly Bassler
- 21. Anna Gephart
- 25. Sophia Holt
- 29. Julia Williams

July

- 2. Janessa Goins
- 4. Barry Musselman
- 6. Alex Elliott, Isaiah Gartland
- 8. Audrey Butler
- 10. Izabella Finocchio, Jake Goins
- 11. Walter Shehan
- 17. Stephanie Holt
- 22. Pastor Evie Madison
- 30. Kathy Shehan



June & July 2024 Sermon Topics & Scriptures

Some Changes May Happen to Dates in June/July Newsletter plus Church Council may or may not meet in June (it will not meet in July)

Most dates and schedules in this Newsletter are set. There are two possible changes that could happen. They are:

1. Sunday, July 21, 2024 & Sunday, July 28, 2024 schedules may be flipped for Sermon Topics & Scriptures.
2. For the Fall/Winter Pastor's Bible Study, Pastor may request that Wednesday, September 11, 2024 & Wednesday, September 18, 2024 schedules be flipped as he might have a District Committee meeting that cannot meet on the 18th & will need to meet on the 11th.

Please stay tuned to upcoming bulletins and newsletters as we get closed to those dates.

Additionally, Church Council will decide if we will need to meet in June at our May meeting. We will not be meeting in July but we will definitely meet in August.



BLUEBERRY SALE

10 # Box for \$33

Can be picked up at TUMC

On July 2nd.

Order & Money are due June 16th.

Cash or Check made out to MCHUB will be accepted.

Drop off in the church office or give to Ruth Adams.

2nd Sunday after Pentecost & Graduate Recognition ~ Sunday, June 2: “Graduates, It Is Always Legal to Do Good” (1 Samuel 3:1-20 & Mark 2:23—3:6)

3rd Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, June 9: “Trinity UMC Thank God is a Family of Special Gifts from God” (1 Samuel 8:4-20 & 11:14-15 & Mark 3:20-35)

4th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, June 16: “The Nature of God, God Sees Us Differently” (1 Samuel 15:34—16:13 & Mark 4:26-34)

5th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, June 23: To Be Determined, Doug Mingle, Certified Lay Speaker, Preaching

6th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, June 30: “Just a Touch of Faith” (2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 & Mark 5:21-43)

7th Sunday after Pentecost & Independence Day Recognition ~ Sunday, July 7: “Independence in Pursuing Sharing the Gospel” (2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 & Mark 6:1-13)

8th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, July 14: “Who Do You Dance For?” (2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 & Mark 6:14-29)

9th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, July 21: To Be Determined

10th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, July 28: “A Youth Supplied Them” (2 Samuel 11:1-15 & John 6:1-21)

Pastor's Bible Study – Three Sessions for Wednesdays @ 10:30am

Fall & Winter 2024

Our Bible Study group will be taking the summer off. We will restart on *Wednesday, August 28th, 2024* for our Fall & Winter Sessions. Bible Study will have three sessions for the rest of 2024 with the schedule listed below. Anyone is welcome to attend at any time, for any and/or all the sessions.

Session #1: Finishing J. Ellsworth Kalas' book *Beatitudes from the Back Side: A Different Take on What It Means to be Blessed*

Wednesday, August 28: Chapter 9 of the Book (Read Matthew 5:9)

Wednesday, September 4: Chapter 10 of the Book (Read Matthew 5:10-12)

Wednesday, September 11: Chapter 11 of the Book (*end Session #1*)

Wednesday, September 18: 9:30am Ladies' Coffee & Conversation

Wednesday, September 25: Pastor @ Training

Session #2: Studying Rueben P. Job's book *Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living*

Wednesday, October 2: Preface and Introduction

Wednesday, October 9: Chapter 1 of the Book

Wednesday, October 16: 9:30am Ladies' Coffee & Conversation

Wednesday, October 23: Chapter 2 of the Book

Wednesday, October 30: Chapter 3 of the Book (*end Session #2*)

No Bible Study in November due to Pastor's Vacation, Various Meetings & Thanksgiving Holiday

Wednesday, November 20: 9:30am Ladies' Coffee & Conversation

Session #3: Studying The Four Songs of The Gospel of Luke

Wednesday, December 4: Mary's Magnificat & Zechariah's Song

Wednesday, December 11: The Angel's Praise to the Shepherds & Simeon's Psalm of Worship (*end Session #3*)

Wednesday, December 18: 9:30am Ladies' Coffee & Conversation

Wednesday, December 25: Merry Christmas!

All are welcome to attend!



A Time for the Young at Heart Presenter in Worship

June & July 2024

Schedule

June 2: Pastor Ryan (Graduate Recognition)

June 9: Pastor Ryan

June 16: Kate Muthler

June 23: Doug Mingle (Doug Mingle Preaching)

June 30: Misty Gephart

July 7: Pastor Ryan

July 14: Pastor Ryan

July 21: Kate Muthler

July 28: Doug Mingle



Youth & Children's Sunday School 2023-2024

Youth & Children's Sunday School will be on a break for the summer months. We will resume after Labor Day. Our first classes in the fall will be Sunday, September 8, 2024 at 10:45am. Please pay attention to the August/September 2024 Newsletter for future details.

The Trustees Committee has two large projects coming up in the next few weeks:

1. The parsonage needs a new gas furnace that will be installed by Knisely & Sons at \$8,131.00
2. The parking lot/alley are in need of repairs and sealed. The work will be done by the Mattas group at \$4,093.00

Donations to these projects would be greatly appreciated. You can mark your envelope or check with "Improvements"

Free Summer Lunch Program

(all meals are in person)

June 3, 2024 – August 16, 2024
Monday – Friday: 12:00 – 1:00 pm



Trinity United Methodist Church

Manna on Main Street

Trinity United Methodist Church
434 East Main Street, Roaring Spring

Saturday, June 8th 5:00-6:00

MENU: Pulled Pork
Cheddar Potato Casserole
Black Bean & Corn Salad
Cake

May 3 wrap-up: Historic conference comes to a close

By Joey Butler

May 3, 2024 | CHARLOTTE, N.C. (UM News)

On the final day of a General Conference eight years in the making — the Rev. Gary Graves, General Conference secretary, referred to it as “the multipurpose 2020 and 2024” meeting — delegates set the budget that will fund the ministries of the denomination for the next four years, a budget significantly lower than the one it set in 2016.

It could be argued that this was the most consequential General Conference since the 1968 assembly that created The United Methodist Church. The church going forward from here is different than it was just a few weeks ago. Not all agree with the more inclusive stance the delegates took, but the passage of worldwide regionalization ensures all may continue ministry in their own context while remaining part of the connection.

Church leaders are already looking at how members can remain united despite having different views, and delegates created a path for churches that have left the denomination to return in the future.

The votes that changed the church’s stance on sexuality may have garnered the most attention, but they were not the only actions taken in Charlotte.

During the 10 days, delegates considered more than 1,000 petitions. Among other actions, they approved a new retirement plan for clergy, granted deacons authority to offer Holy Communion and conduct baptisms in their ministry setting, celebrated church milestones, agreed to a full communion relationship with the Episcopal Church, and approved the departure of four Eurasian annual conferences that plan to become the autonomous Christian Methodist Church.

The final action was a 324-338 vote against reconsidering an earlier petition that would have added fossil fuels to the list of companies in which Wespath is prohibited from investing.

Drawing the assembly to a close with a centering moment after presiding over the final plenary session, Bishop Tracy S. Malone told everyone gathered:

“As you go forward from this General Conference, tell the world about Jesus. As you go, tell them about his love. As you go, be love. ... Let’s walk together, beloved, and let us never grow weary of doing the work of the kin-dom.”

GC delegates pass budget, reduce number of US bishops

Delegates on May 3 approved a denominational budget with a bottom line that will vary by about \$20 million, depending on giving collection rates over the next two years.

By a vote of 647 to 31 (a 95% majority), this year’s delegates approved a 2025-28 denominational budget of \$373.4 million. That total is contingent on collection rates being at 90% or more for the next two years. If giving is below that percentage, the budget bottom line will be \$353.6 million.

Reflecting the effect of the loss of a quarter of U.S. churches to disaffiliation, the budget will be between 38% and 41% lower than the one set by the 2016 General Conference.

Delegates also approved a plan for distributing 32 bishops across the U.S. — which represents a reduction from the 39 active bishops currently serving.

United Methodists remove same-sex wedding ban

United Methodist pastors no longer face potential penalties for being in a same-sex relationship or officiating at same-sex weddings, nor can they be compelled to officiate one.

During the afternoon session of General Conference’s final day, delegates approved four changes to church law that together end remaining bans related to homosexuality and protect the rights of pastors to choose which weddings to perform or not to perform.

They also approved a change to the requirements that clergy practice “celibacy” in singleness — an addition made in 1984 that targeted gay candidates for ministry.

Instead, the delegates supported adding after the requirement of integrity in all personal relationships, “social responsibility and faithful sexual intimacy expressed through fidelity, monogamy, commitment, mutual affection and

mission of Jesus Christ. Our commitment to the local church and the mission of Christ has not changed. Your district superintendent will continue to be your primary contact on appointment related issues.

These recent decisions at the General Conference, reinforce the primacy of God’s love in our lives and the world, and add complexity to our life together as United Methodists.

We realize this General Conference decision may bring about various emotions and reactions within our congregations and the broader denomination. There will no doubt be some who are disheartened and pained by this decision as well as some who welcome it. As we collaborate and work together, we feel sure that we can navigate the complexity and respect one another.

The removal of the language around human sexuality returns us to the Book of Discipline that we have had from the founding of the church in 1784 until 1972 when the General Conference first added the restrictive measures into the Book of Discipline.

As United Methodists in the Susquehanna Conference, we remain committed to upholding our Wesleyan values of love, grace, and inclusivity. While we may not all agree on every issue, we are called to continue embodying the love of Christ in our interactions with one another. We invite you to strive to maintain a spirit of unity. Our unity is in Christ and therefore, it is more important than ever to engage in respectful dialogue, compassionate listening, and prayerful practice with one another.

The church is the only institution that exists for those who are not yet a part of it. It exists so others can come to know Christ. It exists to make disciples. Our communion table is open, and so are our hearts. We have important work to do — together. Without fear, and with the joy of the Lord, let’s get to the work Jesus calls us to do. Let us be people who share the transforming power of Christ with the world.

In Ministry with you, Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball & Bishop Cynthia Moore-
Koikoi
Resident Bishops

change allows churches and clergy to operate according to their conscience, without consequence.

There are some important things about this decision that we want you to know. First, pastors have always decided who they will marry. This is based on several factors including the couples' preparation for the marriage covenant. This has not changed. Pastors will continue to decide who they will marry. No one will force a pastor to officiate a marriage ceremony for any couple.

Second, churches will continue to determine what weddings are held in their church buildings. This is the decision of the local church's Board of Trustees. Further, the desires of all clergy and congregations in this matter are to be honored and not judged by others.

Specifically, the change will include new language in ¶ 419.12 Book of Discipline that states:

13. The superintendent shall not penalize any clergy from performing, or refraining from performing, a same-sex marriage service.

14. The superintendent shall neither require any local church to hold or prohibit a local church from holding a same-sex marriage service on property owned by a local church.

We know that different people have different opinions on these matters and the diversity of perspectives needs to be respected.

The delegates of the General Conference also voted to remove prohibitions that prevented a Board of Ordained Ministry from recommending a gay or lesbian person for ordination. Gay persons may enter the process to become candidates for ministry, and if approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry, can now be licensed, commissioned, and ordained.

Please be assured that the Bishop and Cabinet will continue to work with churches and clergy to ensure we have the best match possible when making appointments.

We want everyone to have a VITAL ministry, not a ministry defined by conflict. We have always worked to place all pastors in appointments where they will be accepted and will be able to work in partnership with the laity to further the

respect, careful and honest communication, mutual consent, and growth in grace and in the knowledge and love of God.”

Panelists look beyond General Conference

The decisions made at this General Conference are a “testimony” to The United Methodist Church, said Bishop Tracy S. Malone, president of the Council of Bishops.

“We are a church where everyone can belong,” she said.

Malone was part of a panel discussing the future of a church where not every member approves of its new inclusive stance.

Removing condemning language on homosexuality opens the church to be in a worldwide conversation, said Greater Northwest Area Bishop Cedric D. Bridgeforth, adding that he hopes that local churches “will not grow weary in well-doing” because these decisions made at General Conference will call for a cultural shift and hard conversations.

‘Get out of God’s way,’ bishop urges

During the final morning worship at General Conference, Council of Bishops President Tracy S. Malone said the work done at General Conference the past 10 days is not as important as what the church will do next.

The resident bishop of the East Ohio Conference grounded her sermon in the words of Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11 (NRSV). She echoed David’s bold proclamation that God is our refuge and our strength.

She asked delegates to imagine a United Methodist Church where hope is reborn, and where people are reconciled to one another and committed to build God’s beloved community.

“Let us imagine a church where no one, nobody, is marginalized,” Malone said. “Let us imagine a church that transcends geography and cultures and languages and borders and barriers and differences. I’m talking about a beautiful mosaic that reflects the kin-dom, the kingdom of God.”

Church apologizes for sexual misconduct

General Conference issued a heartfelt apology to all who experienced sexual misconduct in The United Methodist Church.

Submitted by the United Methodist Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the apology was part of a resolution passed in the last hour of General Conference on May 3.

Not only was the apology statement read in its entirety during General Conference, but all United Methodist bishops around the world are to read the apology at their own upcoming annual conferences.

Delegates keep church court busy at assembly's end

The Judicial Council released five decisions and a memorandum on May 3 in response to a flurry of requests for declaratory decisions — basically rulings on questions about the meaning, application and effect of church law.

Votes of note

- “Sent in Love,” brought forward as the official denominational statement about nature of the church (ecclesiology), was referred back to the Commission on Faith and Order for additional revision to reflect current realities of the church as it undergoes regionalization and to be presented in a more accessible manner.
- The majority of legislation supported by climate justice activists within The United Methodist Church was passed by General Conference on the consent calendar in the early part of its second week. Some of the petitions passed would direct churches to conduct annual audits of the carbon footprint of their buildings, grounds or facilities, encourage annual conference sessions to reduce energy waste and consumption, and update or readopt existing church resolutions on creation care.

In other news

- During the hurly-burly of General Conference, delegates paused to mark an important United Methodist 100th birthday: that of The United Methodist Building in Washington. The building, near the offices of the

Supreme Court and the U.S. Capitol, was completed in 1923, so it has been there for 101 years. But with General Conference delayed nearly a decade by COVID-19, this year was the first chance to recognize it in that forum.

- Ashley Boggan D., top executive of the United Methodist Commission on Archives and History, announced at General Conference May 2 that David Worthington, former global ambassador at John Wesley’s New Room in Bristol, England, has been hired as global ambassador of Methodist heritage sites. “The United Methodist Church’s history is teeming with brick-and-mortar buildings that, if they could talk, would tell the rich stories of our denomination,” Boggan said. “At (Archives and History), our role is to promote and preserve those stories.”
- Wheeled into the auditorium for the General Conference opening worship service, Sara Martin carried the Council of Bishops banner. The message was clear: The United Methodist Church’s global gathering is open and accessible to all. In previous years, people with mobility issues often were restricted by the massive size of convention centers and the long walks from one area to another. This year, assisted by crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, rollators and motorized scooters, dozens of attendees traversed the Charlotte Convention Center.

Butler is a multimedia producer/editor for UM News. Contact him at newsdesk@umcom.org or 615-742-5470. UM News staff, Rick Wolcott, executive director of communications for the East Ohio Conference, and South Carolina United Methodist Advocate editor Jessica Brodie contributed to this report.

Special Announcement Regarding General Conference Decisions

May 1, 2024

Dear Siblings in Christ of the Susquehanna Annual Conference,

After years of intensive and prayerful debate, the General Conference delegates from all over the world voted to remove language that prohibited United Methodist clergy from performing weddings for same-gender couples. This