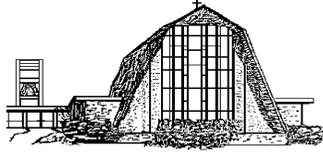


TRINITY TIMES

September 2020

Rev. Matthew J. Wissell, Pastor



HOLY TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear HTUMC Family,

We are now in our sixth month of struggling with the impact of this pandemic. It has been a challenge for all of us. I am grateful for the continuing support you have given the church during this time. Thank you for your financial stewardship. Thank you for joining us for the Facebook Live worship services.

The Leadership Team had set a target date for September 13th to return to in person worship. They are working on a plan that would follow the guidelines of both the Commonwealth and the Annual Conference. The Annual Conference is not pressuring any church to resume in person worship. The only thing the Bishop is asking is that virtual worship be maintained. It is up to each local church to decide when the time is right for in person worship to begin again.

The Team is not of one mind on whether now is the time to hold in person services again. Some would like to remain only virtual for the time being. Others would like an outdoor service (limited to 50). Some would like to return to indoor worship (limited to low 60's with social distancing). This is not an easy decision to make. Personally, I have two comorbidities and have been avoiding doing anything with groups as much as possible.

We would like some feedback if you are willing to share with us. Are you ready to return to in person worship (wearing masks, no singing)? If yes, would you prefer outside or inside? Knowing there would be no Sunday School or child care, would you bring your children to worship? You can email the office (htumchurch@gmail.com) or call the office with your thoughts.

We will need to continue to offer a virtual service. I know many of you wish the service was different. If you have some knowledge of making videos/webcasting and are willing to help out, please let me know. The times and style of the worship may be impacted by a decision to return to in person worship.

Know that I am praying for you all and I thank you for your help.

Under the mercy,
Matt

FALL FAIR – SPRING IN BLOOM

We've made a difficult decision to postpone the Fall Fair scheduled for October. Although no explanation is necessary, our decision was made to keep everyone safe. *Postpone* may not be the most accurate word for what we are doing. *Replacing* may be a better description.

We are meeting soon to discuss holding something in the Spring - maybe **SPRING IN BLOOM** 🌸🌸🌸.
We don't know what it will look like, have a date or any

details yet, but we are convinced it will be equally as fun as the Fall Fair. As things develop, we will keep you posted. And as we've always done, we ask for any suggestions or ideas you may have for this new adventure. Love to hear from you.

Thank you, Linda Ramsdell
blberamsdell@yahoo.com
Marsha Trott
marsha.trott@yahoo.com
Co-chairs

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE FOOD PANTRY

Currently the People to People Food Pantry remains closed to the general public, meaning clients are not allowed entry to the building. However, a number of the volunteers continue to operate the Pantry supporting clients via "Pickup & Delivery". The Pantry provides pickup / delivery service on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 - 12:00 and Wednesday afternoon from 3:00 - 6:00.

Clients requesting assistance have completed forms indicating preferences for food items and volunteers pack bags based on individual family preferences. Clients have been preassigned days for pickup/delivery twice per month. In addition to shelf stable groceries, we continue to provide, chicken, ground beef, ground turkey, hot dogs, fish, cheese and eggs. On occasion fresh produce is provided as well.

We are currently delivering to 50 clients while another 150 clients pick groceries up at the Pantry. With the discontinuance of the federal weekly unemployment subsidies we are beginning to register new clients on a weekly basis and welcome back others who have been inactive during the Pandemic.

Donations of shelf stable groceries have been on hold for some time. Most of our food is purchased from the Greater Boston Food Bank at a very steep discount compared to purchasing them retail. A donation of \$100 allows us to purchase food from the GBFB which would have a retail value close to \$350- \$400.

That said, once HTUMC opens for services, we would once again welcome donations via the "Red Bags". Tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, canned vegetables and personal care items are always in demand.

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church has been a long time Partner of the Food Pantry and donations of all kinds have always been more than appreciated and allow us to continue to support those in need.

Thanks for all that you do!!!!!!

Paul Brown

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

CHURCH PRAYER LIST: John Ferris, Tuckerman Ferris, Brian Funchion, Bob Gabrielski, Kris Haboran, Barbara Henning, Kim Henning, Dawn Knipple, Marge McClelland.

CELEBRATION!

Marigeri Parks and her late husband, Robert joined Holy Trinity United Methodist Church 50 years ago this month!

