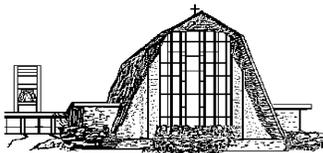


# TRINITY TIMES February 2019

*Rev. Matthew J. Wissell, Pastor*



**HOLY TRINITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
16 Sylvan Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
978-777-7408  
htumchurch@gmail.com

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

The end of this month could mark a watershed event for the United Methodist Church. For those unaware, the denomination is holding a special session of General Conference in St. Louis. It is a one subject session with human sexuality being the topic. The 2016 General Conference voted to refer all the debate around this issue to a special meeting. For the past two years preparations have been made for this event.

A "Way Forward" Commission was established to present a consensus resolution to the session that all could agree to live with in connection. This did not happen. There are multiple proposals that will be brought before the Conference for deliberation and vote. Some of them would lead us in a more conservative direction. Some are more progressive. Others would enable each church family to decide for themselves. Some would require strict adherence, others are more open.

At the beginning of this article I used the word "could." I was very intentional to use that word. While any variation of legislation could pass, there is the possibility that none pass. The Conference could discuss and debate for the entire time and make no decision and implement no changes at all. I am not sure how people would feel if that happened. I know it would be incredibly frustrating for me personally.

The Special Session of General Conference may or not have a direct impact on me and you as a church family. What will happen, if anything, has yet to be determined. I ask that you pray for the delegates as they go about their work. Ask that the Holy Spirit work in and through them. May they find God's heart in the midst of their time together.

Under the mercy,  
Matt



## FEBRUARY CALENDAR



**Sundays:** Worship Service & Nursery Care – 9:30am  
Sunday School – 9:45am Children's Choir – 10:45am  
February 10<sup>th</sup>: Cookie Walk during coffee hour

**Mondays:** Weekly: The Gathering – 6:45pm  
Marijuana Anonymous Meeting – 7:30pm

**Tuesdays:** Feb. 12: Samaritan Circle – 12:30pm  
Feb. 12 & 26: Children's Bereavement  
Group 5:45-7:45pm

**Wednesdays:**  
Feb. 6: The Friendship Ring – 7:30pm  
Feb. 13: Trustees Meeting – 7:00pm

**Thursdays:** Senior Choir Rehearsal – 7:00pm

**Saturdays:** Weekly: AA Support Group – 8 pm  
Feb. 2: Lifebridge - noon

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Matthew J. Wissell  
Christian Ed Director.....Lisa Higgins-Smith  
Music Director.....Dr. Karl Henning  
Organist.....Rev. Barbara Otto  
Children's Choir Director..... Anne Bennett  
Infant and Toddler Educator.....Jodi Armstrong  
Office Administrator..... Carol Mortimore  
Sexton ..... Linda Lima

## OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

As most of you know, our choir director, Karl Kenning, suffered a severe stroke and is, thankfully, on the road to recovery. Your continued thoughts and prayers are very much appreciated. His wife, Maria, writes, "I have no choice now but to ask for financial help for Karl to get proper long-term therapy, good specialists and care to give him a chance to return to his life fully, especially his musical life. Any amount will help. Thank you for your generosity." A donation can be made by going to: [www.gofundme.com/helping-karl-to-recover-from-stroke](http://www.gofundme.com/helping-karl-to-recover-from-stroke).

Please do NOT write a check out to the church for Karl. Thank you so very much for your support.

## CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Linda Phillips, Pauline Couillard in Sunrise Rehab in Peabody, Florence Drupal, John Douglass, PJ Brooks, Steven Herbert and Stephen Bouchard in US Service, Doris Franssen (Jean Ebb's sister), Burton Rubin, Eric Page, Tuckerman Ferris, Steve Fisher, Bobbie Douglass, Ed Fudge, Elizabeth Parks-Proud, David Hatch, Susan Webb, Joyce Seaborg, Judy Hart, Sally Tilton, Kevin Ayotte, Jerry Crowley, Harold Demouses, Erin Uber, Joanne Bossler, Dan Watson, Kerry Golding, Michael Williams (Dick Smith's son's father-in-law), Linda and Paul Carney, Alex and Nicole Fluster, Lt. Col. Michael Hunter, Ret. former ROTC instructor at Salem High School, Abby Wiremen, Shirley and Charlie Theriault, Dodie and Jordan Theriault, Kristin Bronstein, family and friends of Steve Theriault, Carol and Bruce Carter (friends of Shirley Sayer), Mary and Chris Franklin (daughter and son-in-law of Dorothy Pickett), Maude Perry, Graham Kiltie, Ron Henderson, "Chico" Ellenberger (grandson of Marge Miller), Connie King, Gloria LeBlanc, Karl Henning, Heidi Ushakoff, Sandy Gray, Lisa Dunbar-Link, Shirley and Jack Sayer, Dave Johnson (at home), Barbara Bent and her mother, June Fabrizio, Linda Kulju.

## MEET THE GREETERS

Each month the Membership Committee will highlight our Sunday morning greeters. It is strictly voluntary and is not a requirement. Please see Shirley Teague if interested.

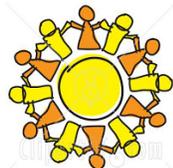
Marj and her husband, Doug, have been with us ever since Marj retired from her ministry in Beverly and Ipswich. Although Doug works at Beverly Hospital, they still have time to travel around the world - Australia, Alaska, the Mediterranean and the Caribbean. They enjoy having five grandchildren, two of which they babysit for two afternoons a week. They feel blessed to be a part of our worship at Holy Trinity. Marj is often our Sunday morning liturgist and she leads our annual Native American Sunday service each year.

**Rev. Marj W. Stark  
and  
Douglas Spanks**



## SAMARITAN CIRCLE

The Samaritan Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm. Please see Winona Hachey if interested in attending.



## FRIENDSHIP RING

The Friendship Ring will meet at 7:30pm Wednesday, February 6 in the church library. All women are welcome!



## FINANCE CORNER

You may have noticed that following our recent storms that our replacement of the roof and corresponding work to the outside of the new wing of our church building left the building dry and snug. The roof portion was done fairly quickly, but the outside finish work took a bit longer due to weather and availability of the contractor. The damage to the choir room was repaired by some dedicated members of the congregation and that saved the church a good deal of money. The building work is now complete, but we are left with the task of re-paying the loan taken.

The total cost of the project was \$28,175 of which \$18,675 has been repaid due to the generosity of some of our congregation members as well as a contribution from Jack and Jill and a few of its parents. We have a commitment of a donation of \$3,325 from the Elliott Children's Fund and are grateful for that.



**The reality is that we still need help from the congregation to close the gap of \$6,175, which is what is needed to pay off the short-term loan and make things whole.** As I previously mentioned, the upkeep of our church building is the responsibility of the whole congregation on not just a handful of people. All of us have participated in some activity in the building whether it be to come worship, as a member of the choir, attended Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, the church fair or had a family event such as wedding, Confirmation, and possibly a funeral for a family member.

Our church building is the center of all that activity and we need to join together to support it. If you have not made a contribution, I ask that you reflect on what the church has meant to you and your family and consider making one. Thank you.

## COOKIE WALK

**Sunday, February 10:** Sponsored by the Samaritan Circle during coffee hour. Cookie donations are welcome. Please see Winona Hachey if you would like to contribute.

