The Martinsburg Cooperative Parish of United Methodist Churches



Otterbein St. Luke's **Trinity**

March



One parish, three church campuses working together to be a bridge to the fullness of life in Christ. Come share, worship, connect, serve, and learn alongside us.

Greetings, Martinsburg Cooperative Parish!

I'm thrilled to share that the Zoom Bible Study went well! It was such a wonderful experience. We explored the Epistles of Colossians, I and II Thessalonians, and I and II Timothy, engaging in enriching discussions. Thought-provoking questions ignited a more profound journey into our Christian discipleship.

I look forward to our May Bible Study as we continue this inspiring path through the scriptures. Thank you to everyone who participated in the study.

> Peace & Blessings! Pastor John Mayden, Jr.

For the pastor on call, day or night, dial 304-664-4141



Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before bed as time springs forward in the early morning hours of Sunday, March 9th, 2025.

Don't forget!

Bishop Easterling will join us for an MCP Combined Worship Service on Sunday, April 6th, 10 AM, at St. Luke's!



Vacation Bible School

SAVE-THE -DATES

July 20th - 24th Special Celebration on July 25th Time: 6:30 PM-8 PM Where: Trinity UMC's Orchard House 4599 Shepherdstown Road Martinsburg, WV

A Lenten Invitation

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent:

by self-examination and repentance;

by prayer, fasting, and self-denial;

and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

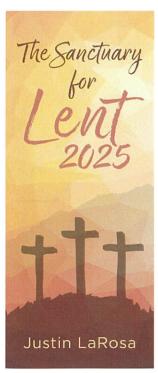
These are the words a pastor says during the Ash Wednesday Service, inviting those within the community of faith to be more intentional in their spiritual practices as they continue on their discipleship path.

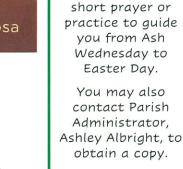
In the November 2024 edition of the "The Bridge," we printed a copy of the Intentional Discipleship Pathway grid that has been developed by a group of dedicated folks from across the parish. We are reprinting the grid in this newsletter to remind us of the need for intentionality in our growth as

disciples of Jesus Christ. Some of the spiritual practices mentioned in the invitation to an observance of a Holy Lent, such as prayer and study, are part of the grid. Others, while not cited, are also ways for us to become more deeply steeped in the habits that help us to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We commend these practices to you and invite you to engage us in conversation about how we might offer as a parish community more opportunities to participate in these holy disciplines.

Lenten Blessings, Pastors Mayden and Sims





The 2025 Sanctuary

for Lent by Justin LaRosa will be

available at all MCP

campuses

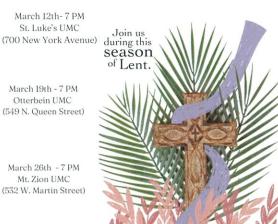
beginning the first Sunday of March.

Each day's reading

includes a

scripture, a short devotion, and a





Good Friday

April 18th

10:30 AM - Community Crosswalk beginning at Trinity UMC's front steps 7 PM - Worship Mt. Zion UMC

April 9th - 7 PM
St. Luke's UMC
(700 New York Avenue

Maundy Thursday
April 17th - 7 PM
TBD

April 2nd - 7 PM

Trinity UMC



Summer Camp 2025



It's time to start planning for Summer Camp 2025!

I thought the best way to get across the most information was to do a FAQ of common camp questions.

Q: What summer camp programs are available in the BWC?
A: We currently have 3 camps: Harmison—located in WV.

Manidokan—located in Knoxville, and West
River—located on the Eastern Shore. Each has its own

unique camping style.

Q: What types of camps are offered at each site?

A: Harmison offers Camp Joy, a service project camp for 2 weeks during the summer. Manidokan offers a Mini Week, Day Camp, and Adventure Camps. West River offers Sailing Camp along with Discovery Camp.

Q: How much does camp cost for a week for a camper?

A: Manidokan—Mini Week is \$330, Day Camp is \$350, and overnight camps are \$595. West River—Mini Week is \$435, Sailing Camp is \$605-\$625, and Discovery Camp is \$595.

Q: Camp seems expensive. Are there ways to get some assistance with the price of camp?

A: Yes. Every year we get as much money as we can through a BWC Campership program. We can get full scholarships for those children who receive free or reduced lunch from the local school system. We also can get up to \$175 per camper up to 15 for all other campers going for a full week. No child will be turned away to attend camp based on their financial situation.

Q: What time is check-in and check-out for camp?

A: Manidokan has drive thru check-in on Sunday at 4 PM and pick-up is at 4 PM on Friday. West River, last update was drive thru check-in, based on last names, starts at 3:30 PM on Sunday. Check-out is at 6 PM on Friday.

Q: How do I register my child for camp?

A: You can register your camper through the camper site link to take you to the Campwise System. https://www.bwccampsandretreats.com

Q: Is there a deposit required for camp?

A: Yes, there is a \$100 deposit to hold your child's spot for camp. We do have funds available if the deposit is not financially affordable.

Q: What activities will the campers be participating in?

A: Each day campers will start with Bible Study, end with worship, they will also go on hikes, swim in the pool, take a river trip whether in a canoe or raft, team building exercise, and some high ropes. All activities are challenge by choice, but campers are encouraged to participate and try new things.

Q: What is the housing situation at camp?

A: All elementary and middle-high campers will stay in the lodges with roomates and an in-room bathroom. Based on numbers, most high school students will stay either in the lodge or cabin with the bath house being a short walk.

Q: Who will be with the campers during the day and at night?

A: There will be volunteers or staff that stay with the campers 24/7. There are also staff members that lead activities during the day with all groups.

Q: Do the staff/volunteers have to have a background check?

A: Yes, all volunteers and staff go through extensive background checks and training.

Q: Is there a nurse or qualified person providing the health needs of all campers?

A: Yes, there is a health coordinator at camp overseen by a Nurse for all treatment and care for campers.

Many people also ask, how can we help during the summer camp season?

Here are ways you can help:

Donate! We can always use funds to send our campers to camp! We always try to make sure if the parents pay the deposit, we work on fundraisers to pay the rest! There is also a wish list on the website, please check it out and if there is something you have and don't need think about donating those items!

Volunteer! We, as the MCP, work with the Ebenezer UMC in MD to provide volunteers for one week during the summer. This summer, we will be at Manidokan from July 13th to 18th, providing volunteers for elementary, middle, and high school. If you are interested in joining us, please let me know!

There are also **work days in the Spring**. If you have the skills and abilities to repair and build, consider helping those days!

Pray! Pray for the staff, volunteers, and campers!

I hope this answers most of your questions and if you have any other questions or concerns, please reach out to me! I will be happy to give as much information that is needed.

Thank you!

Sabrina Merrill MCP Camping Coordinator Cell: 304-839-1794 Email: smerrill82@gmail.com



THE MARTINSBURG, WV COOPERATIVE PARISH OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ST. LUKES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OTTERBEIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Stages of Growth

Maturing	Worshipping the Lord in everything I do and wherever I may be. Invites others into communal worship.	Leads/helps others in developing a habitual prayer life. Understands prayer as listening; is patient with "answers." Casts all upon Jesus.	Actively seeks enlightenment by engaging scripture daily; interprets and contextualizes content so they may grow in understanding of God's promises and purposes.
Growing	Develops a pattern of weekly worship with others and looks for additional worshipping communities/small groups; starts to lead worship.	Daily prayer that includes seeking divine guidance. Starts to pray with and for others.	Applies biblical understanding of divine to life – "revelation to application."
Beginning/Reaching	Develops a pattern of worshipping with others; feeling of "missing out" when absent.	Starts to pray beyond immediate needs. Intermittent prayers. Becomes more regular in prayer life.	Seeks to deepen knowledge and understanding of scripture and how it might apply to one's life.
Exploring/Inquiring	Attends less sporadically; feels welcomed and encouraged.	Wants to learn how to pray. Sees prayer as transactional.	Starts to listen/hear/read the Bible. (Do they own a Bible?).
Searching/Seeking	Questions: Is there more to life? Attends occasionally.	Curious about why to pray. Allows others to pray for them.	Curious about God and Jesus as told in the Bible.
Characteristics of a Disciple	Worship	Prayer	Study

Understands servanthood as a calling. Uses own gifts and invites others to use theirs in service for God's purposes.	Tithes. Effort to move beyond tithing (i.e.: perhaps sacrificial giving). Invites others to give.	Continues to share their story in various contexts (both inside church and beyond). Actively encourages others to explore the teachings of Jesus.	Invites others into shared community; is willing to assume leadership within the community.
Participates regularly in long term or multiple service projects. Seeks ways to use gifts as a servant leader in church.	Gives more regularly. Strives to tithe.	Willingly and appropriately shares own story with others — realizing it may encourage them in deepening their own relationship with God.	Having gained a sense that they are part of something bigger than themselves, now feel a part of church community (i.e. family); commits to one or more groups.
Asks "Whom can I serve?" Begins serving intentionally in some capacity and notices impact.	Gives regularly to a "cause" they believe in.	Shares aspects of one's story within a small group.	Attends events on one's own volition. May join a small group having realized Christ's love as a foundation for shared community.
Asks "How can I serve?" Serves if asked.	Exploration of multiple aspects of giving – time, talents, treasures.	Listens more intensely to others' stories, then seeks relationship to begin to share out of a desire for deeper meaning in life.	Starts to feel a sense of community here; attends a church event after being invited.
Asks "why would I serve?"	Questions merits/benefits of giving and gives occasionally – "gives change in their pocket."	From listening to others, wonders about God's message for them and if their life story has meaning for God.	Desire to be part of something bigger than oneself and to fit in.
Serve	Give	Share/Witness	Community/Life Together

Perfecting in Love Nurturing Connecting Responding Inviting/Welcoming promotes growth How the Church/Parish

parish Info

Let's Go on a Mission Trip!

We have an opportunity to take a day trip on Thursday, March 20th to Mission Central Warehouse in Mechanicsburg, PA. We will be preparing UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) kits, school kits, and flood buckets. If interested in joining us, call Mary Lee Vandevander at 330-831-5773 or the St. Luke's church office, 304-263-2788.

Learn more at missionscentral.org.

Mission Central is collecting adult rain ponchos, liquid concentrate household cleaner (no spray) 16-40 oz., dish soap 16-34 oz., laundry detergent 32-64 oz., travel size: lotion, shampoo, conditioner, and deodorant. Donations should be dropped off at St. Luke's UMC, M—Th, 9 AM—1 PM. Call Mary Lee Vandevander or St. Luke's church office.



The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be on Tuesday, March 4th from 5—7 PM at St.
Luke's UMC, 700 New York Avenue,
Martinsburg, WV. Price will be by donation.
The donations will support something in our community or our youth.
Stay tuned for further information.

Things You Can't Eat Free Giveaway Wed., March 26th 9:30 AM at Otterbein UMC

1 bag per car. If more than 1 bag is requested, proof of address will be required to prove you are in different households.

We will be giving out items such as Laundry detergent, soap, toothpaste, and paper products.

Anyone who has a need for any of these items is welcome! Must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Please come to the back entrance of the church off Pennsylvania Avenue.

Thank you!

Celebrating Our Members...

Otterbein Birthdays

Mar 2 Donald Beard Tina Roach

Mar 5 Jason Roach

Mar 8 Jean Butts

Mar 12 Kody Welch

Mar 13 Reenie Raines

Mar 17 Bill Baker

Mar 18 Weston Roach

Mar 20 Marsha Spickler

Mar 21 David Elliott

Mar 24 Stephen McBee Lydia Ann Ahrens

Mar 26 Andy Day

Mar 27 Stan Corwin-Roach

Mar 28 Josiah Corwin-Roach

Mar 29 Gary McDaniel
Aidan Robert Ahrens

Mar 31 Charla Frye

St. Luke's Birthdays

Mar 4 Corey Stephens John Yost

Mar 5 Petie Albright

Mar 6 Eva Whitman

Mar 7 Deb Hartley

Mar 9 Cassie Tiffner

Mar 22 Shelley Hamilton

Mar 24 Nolan Cave

Mar 28 Mary Lee Branhas Darla Grove

Anniversaries

Mar 25 Eddie & Jo Ann Roy Mar 27 Chuck & Susan Engle

Trinity Birthdays

Mar 2 Daniel Frank "Alex" Dell III

Mar 9 Dennis Edwards

Mar 18 Ellie Dell

Mar 28 Karen Collins

Mar 29 Emily Bethel

<u>Anniversaries</u>

Mar 8 Bill & Elizabeth Adams Mar 19 Daniel & Skylar King



Parish Info



Four of our youth, Claire Mulledy,
Patrick & Peyton Edwards, and Nate Rinard
are joining with four youth from Mt. Zion
UMC and six youth from Arden UMC in
preparing for their confirmation of
baptismal vows

sometime this spring. The group will meet on Sunday afternoons for ten sessions, alternating between

Arden UMC and Mt. Zion UMC. They are learning about
The Story of God (the title of the curriculum being used, which
was developed by pastoral and educational staff from the
Church of the Resurrection [UMC] in Kansas City. Five pastors,
Ed Hall, Bob Kells, John Mayden, Dawn Reidy, and
Mary Jo Sims are leading the sessions.

Hanging out and shooting some hoops with Pastor Mayden!



DISTRICT WIDE Refrest

AT MANIDOKAN CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

MARCH 21 - MARCH 23 2025

A weekend experience for all youth in Confirmation to gather, worship, learn, and claim their faith.

The retreat will cover the "United Methodist" parts of the typical Confirmation curriculum who we are, what we believe, why it matters.

\$140 PER PERSON

This will be a great time to learn, but there will also be time to relax and have fun.

If you have a group of 10 or more - bring them! If you have a group of 1 - bring them! If you have middle or high-school youth who aren't being confirmed - bring them! There's room for all!

Each child or group of youth must be accompanied by chaperones for the entire duration of the retreat.

PLEASE USE THE LINK BELOW TO PRE-REGISTER.

I WILL THEN REACH OUT TO GIVE YOU THE
ADDITIONAL DETAILS INCLUDING PAYMENT DETAILS!





Otterbein UMC

Marsha Spickler

Marvin Ashby

Bill Queen

Lana Tonalli

Larry Clemons

Randy Hess

Nancy Kief

Jean Fulk

Arlene Mauck

Mike Emery

Gary McDaniel

Carol Shimel Lester Brining

Christie Heaton

Susan Cookus

John Kesecker

Gisler Girls

Janice Dodson

Catherine Neel

Candi Keiter-Johnson

Pat Wilson

Barbara Lancaster

Jim LeMaster

Mike Wheeler

Jeremy Duke

Mike Shipe

Carol Wilson

Brenda McDaniel

Kathryn Ford

Carol & Bucky Hensler

Betty Ann Keiter Tabler

Darlene Robertson

St. Luke's UMC

Contact the Prayer Team

By phone, contact Bobbi Rogers (304-263-8746)
By phone, contact Pat Isner (304-754-9644)
By email, contact Nancy & Allen Barr
(nanal69@frontier.com)

Please remember to contact the Prayer Chain with updates on your prayer requests. They love to know how they can continue to pray or celebrate a praise with you!

Thank you.

You may also leave a message on the church phone (304-263-2788) or email (stlukesumc700@comcast.net)

Extended Prayer Concerns: Michelle McDonald, Isabella Munoz, Cooperative Parish Teamwork, Emily Nagley, Jay Parlett, Marvin Parlett, Eddie Roy, Josh Roy, Jeanne Tederick, Joyce Triggs, Roy Tucker, Mary Ann Wright.

Please update the church office with any changes to the extended prayer list.

Martinsburg Healthcare Center: Sue Sims Willow Tree Healthcare Center: Doris Dick Countryside Assisted Living: Emily Nagley,

Jeanne Tederick

Celebration Villa: Joyce Triggs

Harmony at Martinsburg Assisted Living:

Anne Lea Rannells, Jean Watson
Williamsport Retirement: Sonny Boyd

Homewood: Margaret Bane

Trinity UMC

Those unable to attend worship:

Anne Keller (Celebration Villa), Mildred Wilson (Celebration Villa), Lana Tonalli (Hospice at Home).

Those in our congregation: Sandy Barron, Jean Eriksen, Geneva Hollida, Barbara Humes, Linda Humes, Sue Leatherman, Diana Ropelewski, & Mary Snyder, the Cooperative Parish.

Friends & Family of our congregation: Dr. Barry Dutton, Barbara Elliott, Chuck Fouke, Maggie Jackson, Ava Mae Lillard & family, Carole Newsome, Justin Price, David Tichnell, Pastor Angela Wells, Henry Wendt, Susan Wiltbank, Larry Winegarden.



Healing Prayer Service

The MCP monthly prayer service for healing will be held at Otterbein UMC on Wednesday, March 19th, at Noon.

Martinsburg Cooperative Parish

Glow-in-the-Dark Egg Hunt -Ages 2 - 5th Grade

Glow-in-the-Dark Youth Activity -Middle & Senior High

Fun for the Whole Family! Saturday, April 5th

7-9 pm

@ Trinity's Orchard House

4599 Shepherdstown Road, Martinsburg, WV

RSVP:

Trinity UMC 304.263.9215 umctrinity@comcast.net by March 30th



In case of rain, event will take place at Trinity UM Church



March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morring Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morring Worship @ TUMC 11:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC	24	25 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ 7:00pm Boy Socouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC	26 12:00pm MCP Bible Study on Zoom 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC	27 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal	28	-
2 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:10am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC	3 4:00pm MCP Serving our Neighbors @ Immanuel's House 6:30pm District Boy Scouts @ TUMC 7:30pm Potomac Chapter Boy Scouts @ TUMC	4 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC'S Orchard House 5:00pm MCP Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper @ SLUMC 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:30pm MCP Bridge Builders Meeting @ SLUMC 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	5 Ash Wednesday 12:00pm Mid Week Lenten/Ash Wednesday Service ® TUMC 5:30pm STEM ® SLUMC 7:00pm Mid Week Lenten/Ash Wednesday Service ® TUMC	6 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Ignite Youth Conference in Ocean City, MD	8 Ignite Youth Conference in Ocean City, MD
9 Ignite Youth Conference in Ocean City, MD 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Sunday School @ SLUMC 9:05am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 10:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC	10 5:30pm MCP Worship Meeting @ OUMC 7:00pm TUMC Ad Council	11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC	12 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm BSA Order of the Arrow Meeting @ TUMC 7:00pm Mid Week Lenten Service @ SLUMC	4:00pm Horses with Hearts 4:00pm Horses with Hearts Volunteer Training @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal	7:00am Horses with Hearts & Ramp Up @ TUMC's Orchard House	15 10:00am Horses with Hearts Volunteer Training @ TUMC's Orchard House
16 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 12:30pm Blood Pressure Checks @ SLUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC	17	18 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm Bay Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC	19 12:00pm Horses with Hearts Leadership Adventures Training Set Up @ TUMC's Orchard House 12:00pm MCP Monthly Prayer Service @ OUMC 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:30pm Dove's Landing Ministries in Followship Hall @ TUMC 7:00pm Mid Week Lenten Service @ OUMC	7:00am Horses with Hearts Leadership Adventures Training @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir	21	22
8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC	24	25 10:00am Pack for TYCE ® OUMC 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op ® TUMC'S Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC'S Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	26 9:30am MCP Things You Can't Eat Giveaway @ 0UMC 12:00pm Horses with Hearts Leadership Workshop Set Up @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm Mid Week Lenten Service @ Mt. Zion UMC	7:00am Horses with Hearts Leadership Adventures Training @ TUMC's Orchard House TEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal	28	29
30 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC	31	1 1:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC	2 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm Mid Week Lenten Service @ TUMC	3 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal	4	5 7:00pm MCP Glow-In-Dark Easter Egg Hunt @ TUMC's Orchard House

The Martinsburg Cooperative Parish Of United Methodist Churches Pastor John C. Mayden, Jr. Pastor Mary Jo Sims



Otterbein UMC
549. N. Queen Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401
304.263.0342
Sunday Worship –9 AM
secretary@otterbeinumc.net



St. Luke's UMC
700 New York Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25401
304.263.2788
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship—11 AM
stlukesumc700@comcast.net



Trinity UMC
220 W. Martin Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401
304.263.9215
Sunday School 8:45 AM
Sunday Worship—10 AM
umctrinity@comcast.net