



# Flame Partners

Holy Trinity | St. Luke's  
**The United Methodist Church**

**Holy Trinity UMC**  
 1606 165th Avenue  
 PO Box 262  
 Centuria WI 54824  
 715-485-3363

**St. Luke's UMC**  
 100 Linden Street  
 PO Box 279  
 Frederic WI 54837  
 715-327-4436

**Pastor Freddie Kirk**

**Office Hours:**

- Monday— 1-3pm St. Luke's
- Tuesday— 2-4pm Holy Trinity
- Wednesday— 1-3pm St. Luke's
- Thursday— 2-4pm Holy Trinity
- Friday— Pastor's Sabbath

Office hours are subject to change in emergencies.

You are always welcome to call for appointments.

**Mary Pollock, Secretary**

**Holy Trinity Office Hours:**

Tue & Thu 12:45-4:45pm

**Phone Numbers**

Holy Trinity 715-485-3363

St. Luke's 715-327-4436

Freddie's Cell 920-470-2743

Parsonage 715-327-8383

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pastorfreddiekirk@gmail.com

Office: htslumc@gmail.com

## Pastoral Ponderings and Wonderment Wanderings

Happy and joyous New Year every one. Another year has arrived and I pray that all of you had a wonderful and glorious Christmas with friends or family, or both. I sure had a wonderful Christmas season, but I have to tell you, confidentially of course, that I am glad it is over so we can get back to normal again. I know, what is normal anyway??? Ha-ha!

I have been part of several conversations lately about when the judgement day comes. I have to admit that one of my favorite scripture is Matthew 25:31-46 where it talks about how when Jesus comes again, that he will separate us like a shepherd separates sheep from the goats. To one group he tells them that they are going to be rewarded with the kingdom, but to the other group that they will be rewarded with terrible things. When those to be rewarded ask the king why this was to be so, he answers, "When I was hungry, you fed me. When I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me." They can't understand when they had done any of these things for the king, but he reminds them that "whenever, you do this for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it to me."

Remember this story? I think that if Jesus were to show up right now and begin his separating judgement, we would be in the same boat as these in the parable. We would wonder when we had done for others as he says, or we might wonder when we hadn't done for others if we were in that part of the crowd. However, Jesus tells us that we all are called to do unto others as we would want to have them do unto us. It seems so simple when we think of it this way, but is it really?

We have just come through a season of the year when it seemed like every single non-profit out there was asking us to give. Give to the starving animals. Give to the Wounded Warriors. Give to St Jude. Give to Salvation Army. Give to... fill in the blank.

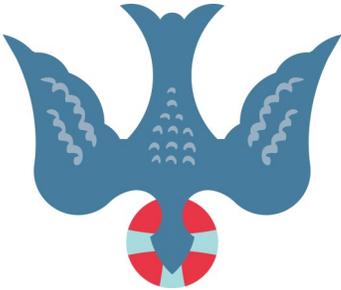
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## Pastoral Ponderings and Wonderment Wanderings

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### Christian Symbol



#### Descending Dove

A dove is a prominent symbol of the Holy Spirit. When the dove is shown flying downward, it reminds us of Jesus' baptism, when, the gospel writers tell us, the Spirit descended on him in the form of a dove. Doves also symbolize baptism in general, because many Christian denominations teach that the Holy Spirit and its gifts are bestowed at baptism. Sometimes a dove is depicted with a three-ray nimbus around its head, indicating that it is a member of the Trinity. Doves are also commonly used as a sign of peace.

I have to admit I grow tired and selfish when asked to give so much all the time, but then I get to witness something like the free Christmas dinner that we helped Sephonia's Breaking Bread Country Café put on Christmas Day at Tesora. It was a lot of work, but to see the faces of those who came to share the meal, or to pick out a toy for their Christmas present, it was precious. I began to see a little clearer what Jesus was talking about in this scripture.

Sometimes, giving things is needed and I want to thank all of you who went out of your way to help to supply the food and the toys for the event. Sometimes it is you that is needed and I want to thank all of you who came out to help with the prep, cooking and cleanup too. I think that Jesus smiled when he saw what we all did this Christmas. Thank you for all you do and all that you are, for I am sure God will count you blessed.

All for this month,  
Pastor Freddie

### Facing Our Future: Bishop Jung's New Year's Message

*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28*



Have you ever wondered what the week after Jesus' birth was like for Mary and Joseph and the new born babe? The shepherds were gone, Bethlehem had most likely cleared out of the visiting masses, and the wise men had not yet arrived. There was not yet a rumor of danger to the infant and no immediate reason to move. According to Luke's gospel account of the birth, Mary treasured all the many wonders that occurred, keeping them safely in her heart. Was it dawning on Mary and Joseph the incredible responsibility they now assumed? Think. Would you like to be given the responsibility for the care, safety, education and direction of the one true Son of God?

Modern day Christian believers sometimes miss the fact that Jesus was a product of his society, his culture, and his upbringing. The young man Jesus became owed much to his heritage and upbringing (yes, of course, his nature had much to do with it as well). Few of Jesus' teachings were new to Jesus. It was his method of teaching, his audience, and his radical inclusiveness that made his messages so powerful and

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## Facing Our Future: Bishop Jung's New Year's Message

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unforgettable. But, Jesus was a very Jewish teacher who had obviously been brought up right.

Joseph passes quickly from the story, while Mary makes infrequent appearances. We have virtually no sense of the home life of the parents of the Messiah, but it is not a far stretch to believe that normal parental anxieties, worries, concerns, and considerations were all greatly amplified. What ran through Mary and Joseph's mind when they needed to discipline Jesus? If Jesus was fully human and fully divine, then he was fully a normal boy growing up with all the challenges that brings.

It is a shame we don't have the stories of Jesus growing up (apart from the one incident in the temple when Jesus was twelve years old). It could be a great comfort to have insight into all the things that contributed to Jesus becoming the man he did. Even the nature of God, if ignored or abused, could have been channeled in a variety of different ways. It would be nice to better understand the influence Mary and Joseph had on Jesus.

In big and small ways, we all influence and affect others. Every choice we make in our relationships has immense potential power – for good or for ill. We speak often of the impact faith in Jesus Christ makes on our lives, but even the best of us fall short of living up to the standards we set for our discipleship. We need help. We need God. We need each other.

“Am I my brother's (sister's) keeper?” is the rhetorical question asked in scripture (the answer is “yes,” if you are wondering) that applies to each and every one of us. But what if we extended this thought to “and who is my child?” and looked at every other person on earth as someone we have a responsibility to and for? What if we defined our God-given vocation as receiving each new person as a beloved child, born of God, and entrusted to our care. Wouldn't this impact the ways we talk to and treat each other? If I look at those I meet as my charge, my responsibility, my offspring, and my family, I will engage with them in very different ways.

At the new year, it is quite normal to look ahead, to think about the days to come, and to long for a better tomorrow. Wanting a nicer, safer, kinder future is a noble wish, but God expects so much more from us. It is not enough to want, to wish, or even to pray. We must act, and we must act together. We must treat one another as we would treat the blessed Christ child. And to the extent we are successful, God's will is done, and the wondrous work of transforming the world occurs. How glorious it is when we face our future together! May you experience rich blessings in the New Year!

Grace and Peace,  
Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

### North West District Conference

Saturday, January 26, 2019

#### Mastering Difficult Conversations

Natasha Lapcinski and Lauren Thrift will be the learning leaders as we explore how to communicate when the topics are “hot” or conversations are difficult.

First United Methodist Church  
of Rice Lake  
1221 Wesley Drive,  
Rice Lake WI 54868

Registration 8:30 a.m.

Event 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Childcare provided  
Spanish Translation Provided

Special Guest:  
Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Registration Deadline  
January 19, 2019.

Please pre-register with  
Heidi Careaga at  
[hjcareaga@wisconsinumc.org](mailto:hjcareaga@wisconsinumc.org)

Cost \$20 includes lunch,  
Register online, pay at the door  
or by phone or mail.

Checks only, made payable to  
WI Conference UMC

North West District Office  
District Center  
750 Windsor Street  
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590



**St. Luke's  
Nurture Collections**

January

Coats for Kids Campaign  
(Contact Trevor Otto)

On-Going Missions

Serenity House & CRA  
Family Pathways

**Holy Trinity's  
Missions of the Month**

January

Jan 20—Human Relations  
Day (special offering)

School Supplies

Year-Round Collections

Food for Loaves & Fishes  
Local Food Shelf

Needed: Soup, Meat  
products (canned ravioli  
etc. with 8 grams protein  
or higher), Personal  
products

Monetary donations may  
be placed in the offering  
plate and items in the big  
box in the narthex.

**Holy Trinity UMC  
Mission Statement**

With Christ  
  
We Love,  
  
We Care,  
  
We Share

**January Celebrations**

**Holy Trinity**

**Birthdays**

- 1 Sheri Rasmussen
- 8 Jim Nelson  
Jesse Rich
- 13 Ann Randall
- 14 Kathy Linder
- 15 Laura Williams
- 19 Elmer Mabry
- 21 Lois Hunter
- 23 Heather Moore
- 27 Susette Peer
- 30 Marilyn Peterson

**St. Luke's**

**Birthdays**

- 1 Linda O'Donnell
- 6 Diane Barton
- 9 Carter Balcerek
- 10 Jori Braden
- 16 Timber Dodds
- 19 Sean Anderson
- 20 Kamryn Ramker
- 28 Angie Ones

**Ministry Team at St. Luke's**

**Greeters & Ushers**



If you are unable to serve on the  
date shown, please find someone  
to trade or to take your place.

**Hospitality**

- Wed, Jan 2
- Sun, Jan 6 Mary Young
- Wed, Jan 9 Nancy Jacobson
- Sun, Jan 13 Nancy Jacobson
- Wed, Jan 16 Linda Owens
- Sun, Jan 20 Linda Owens
- Wed, Jan 23 Cheri Moats
- Sun, Jan 27 Shirley Robb
- Wed, Jan 30 Cherrise Miller

**Ministry Team at Holy Trinity**

**Greeters & Ushers**

Lois Hunter

**Custodians**

Jerry Schroeder

**Reader**

Ann Randall

**Communion Steward**

Linda LaMere

**Hospitality**

Chairperson: Jeanne 715-557-2077

- Jan 6 Cris & Lynn Dueholm
- Jan 13 Carl & Lynn Golz, Carolyn Golz
- Jan 20 Hospitality
- Jan 27 Audrey Laue



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Offices Closed</div>	<b>2</b> 2pm Worship Committee at SL No Church School at SL	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Communion Sunday	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 3:45pm Church School & Confirmation at SL	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 3:45pm Church School & Confirmation at SL	<b>17</b> <i>Circuit at St. Luke's</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Human Relations Day Noisy Offering at SL Newsletter Deadline	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 3:45pm Church School & Confirmation at SL	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 11am Gene Kaiser Funeral <i>NW Dist Conf at Rice Lake</i>
<b>27</b> Mission Moment Noisy Offering at HT	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 3:45pm Church School & Confirmation at SL	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Communion Sunday	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 3:45pm Church School & Confirmation at SL	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>

### Regular Schedule

- ◆ **Sunday Worship**  
8:30am at Holy Trinity  
10:30am at St. Luke's
- ◆ **Mondays**  
1:30pm Bible Study at St. Luke's  
7pm AA at Pilgrim Lutheran, Frederic
- ◆ **Tuesdays**  
10am Al-Anon at St. Luke's  
6:30pm Grief & Loss Support at St. Luke's
- ◆ **Wednesdays**  
7am Bible Study at St. Luke's  
5pm Weight Watchers at Holy Trinity

HT—Holy Trinity  
 SL—St. Luke's  
 UMW—United Methodist Women  
 FNR—Frederic Nursing & Rehab  
 UPH—United Pioneer Home

February 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

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**St. Luke's UMC**

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100 Linden St W  
PO Box 279  
Frederic, WI 54837



«AddressBlock»



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**Regular Worship Schedule:**

Sunday 8:30am Holy Trinity  
with Sunday School  
10:30am St. Luke's

Wednesday 3:45pm Church School  
at St. Luke's



## Bible Quiz

What did Jesus say brings greater joy in heaven than 99 righteous people?

- A. The singing of angels
- B. One sinner who repents
- C. 100 righteous people
- D. None of the above



Answer: (See Luke 15:7.)