



TRINITY UMC

August 2026 newsletter

MANY ADVISORS--

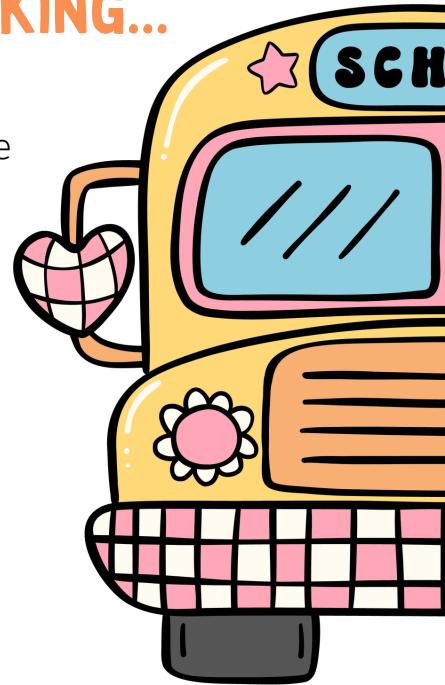
NATIONS, PLUMBING, GUITAR PAINTING, COOKING...

An old proverb states that "too many cooks spoil the soup" cautioning that if too many people tell you how they would make the soup you are attempting and if you do what each one tells you, the soup will taste awful. When I hear this proverb I envision a young woman hosting a first Thanksgiving Dinner for her and her new husband's families. As she is preparing the food she receives advice from mothers, grand mothers, aunts, sister-in-laws maybe a grandad or uncle too...

She wants to do her best but needs some clarity and purposeful direction in the midst of it all...

So she goes on YouTube and gets the real answer--oops sorry wrong parable.

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BACK TO SCHOOL

Kids will be going back to school this month, so watch for them on their way to school and home. Also consider helping to buy the school supplies that the NOW committee is gathering.

See Page 3 for the list.



MANY ADVISORS CONTINUED

The Bible actually recommends having many advisors or counselors but they all are needing to have the same end-goal in mind and be guided by the Ultimate Counselor, the Holy Spirit.

Proverbs 29:18a "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint." NIV
 "Where there is no vision, the people perish." KJV

Proverbs 11:14 "For lack of guidance a nation fails, but many advisors make victory sure."

Proverbs 15:22 "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisors they succeed."

There are many things you can YouTube and find how to proceed. For other entities, like churches, something more appropriate like the CAT Survey can be used. We will be meeting after church on Sunday August 26th to hear from our Conference advisor, Michaela Craigmile, about what the CAT Survey revealed. The Church Council has reviewed your anonymous responses in the survey and has some thoughtful suggestions for all of us counselors to consider. I'm looking forward to how The Counselor; the Holy Spirit will lead us forward in this process.

Together let's discern the vision & direction that the Holy Spirit inspires in us as we look forward to the next 50 years. Thanks for all you all do! Pastor Bobb

(you can ask me about the guitar painting if you are interested--I have pictures)

PICNIC AND PONTOON BOAT RIDES AT BIG CREEK

Sunday August 2nd friends of Pastor Bobb & Shelley have offered to give pontoon boat rides starting at 2pm at Big Creek Beach & Marina Shelter #3 which is reserved for us. Picnic starts at 5pm.

Bring a dish to share and your own drinks & table service. Bring yard games, lawn chairs and usual picnic items. We appreciate you signing up but if that doesn't happen come anyway. Bring friends.



NOW COMMITTEE UPDATES

****Our July/August Mission Focus Project is school supplies for Ballard Students. See the list below.**

PLAN TO JOIN IN THE TUM FUN at Big Creek State Park: Shelter #3, Sunday, August 2nd, 2:00 pm - ??? Pontoon boat rides, potluck at 5:00 pm, playground and beach. Come as you can and bring the family, a dish to share for the potluck, table service, and your own drinks.

- Noisy Offering and Brown Bag collections will take place on August 16th. Our current Heifer Project is the Milk Menagerie. This project will provide two goats, a water buffalo and a heifer, plus farmers will also learn to care for the animals. Goal \$1,000.
- Our August Social Dinner location will be at Olive Garden in Ames, at 6:00 pm on August 27th. You can sign-up at the church or send a note to the church office to add your name to the list. You are always welcome to join at the last minute as the list just gives us a general idea of how many to plan for.
- August 23rd will be the next Did You Know Sunday. Let us know if there is something that should be announced.
- On-going projects: Plastic bag collection for sleeping mats, stuffed animals for the Huxley PD, personal hygiene items for the Clothes Pantry, yarn for baby blankets and paper tubes (toilet paper/paper towels) for the Blank Park Zoo Trinity Kids Mission Project.
- We have resumed collecting cans and bottles. The trailer was recently emptied again - thanks to all that helped!!

Future events for your calendar:

Prairie Festival Parade August 29 - more information to come as plans are being made to participate and promote our 50th Year Celebration on September 20th.

Prairie Festival Ice Cream Social - evening of August 29

Back to Sunday School - September 13th

Annual Craft/Vendor Fair - Saturday, November 7

****We will be collecting the following items in August which can be dropped off on the table outside of the Pastor's office.**

BALLARD SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

Backpacks	Elmer's Glue Sticks	Trapper Keepers	Index Cards
Art pads	Crayons (24 count)	Spiral Notebooks	Markers (8 count)
1" or 2" binders (white/black)		Yellow Highlighters	2 pocket folders
Colored pencils	Pens (red & black)	Pink Erasers	Dry Erase Markers
#2 Pencils (Ticonderoga)		Watercolor paint	



Ballard Summer Meal Program



We need your help to feed the children.

Ballard Summer Meal Program feeds any child up to the age of 18. There are no financial requirements. Typical cost range for a month of feeding a child is around \$275–\$480. For families living paycheck to paycheck the summer months without school lunch is too expensive. We serve 7 lunches each week to the children.

Each meal includes a protein, such as chicken nuggets, hamburgers, fish sticks. Also there is milk, fresh veggies, and fresh fruit or fruit cups.

The average cost of the meals is \$4.00. We serve on average 135 meals each day. That's 945 meals or \$3,780.00 per week. We could use your help to keep feeding the kids until they go back to school.

Financial Donations:

<https://www.zeffy.com/donatio.../ballard-summer-meal-program>.



Sign up for Volunteering

If you want to help, sign up to volunteer to help make the meals or deliver them to Slater and Cambridge. We also need volunteers to distribute the meals to the families at the Cambridge Memorial Library and the Slater Senior Center.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4FAEAB2EA3F4C52-56904694-ballard/183319843#/>

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

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JULY 10, 2026, COUNCIL NOTES

Thank you to everyone for their time and contributions to make our church run smoothly. There continue to be opportunities to get involved. Social events are August 2nd Pontoon Picnic event at Big Creek Lake and social dinner August 27th at Olive Garden.

Help is needed for our Ice Cream Social at Prairie Fest on August 29th. The week of August 31 and the week of September 6 will be clean up sessions for the interior and exterior of the church in preparation for the 50th Anniversary celebration September 20th.

Pastor Bobb attended Annual Conference and reported a 1.5% increase in apportionments. He has attended family events and will go to Sharon Center, his former parish, to celebrate their 150th anniversary.

Conversations with insurance carriers continue to find the most economical property coverage for us.

The landscape areas need to be cleared out before the new landscape project begins the first week of August.

The Ballard Summer Meals program is going well but needs volunteers and donations. August 2nd we will collect a special offering for the meals program. Simply write checks out to TUMC and designate the meals program in the memo line.

The 50th Anniversary celebration plans so far include a church service following the first bulletin, special music, church history, and a catered meal will be provided.

Financial Report as of July 10, 2026: We have taken in \$1,500 more than we have spent year-to-date. Account balances: as of July 10, 20206 are checking-\$3,376.86; Money Market-\$22,331.50 (Trustee's - \$6878.93, Memorial - \$13,909.94, Heifer - \$42,63, NOW - \$1500), Investments-\$112,429.14, and sidewalk loan remains at \$3,758.00. Apportionments have been paid through August.

Submitted by Loa Christensen

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUM Fun at Big Creek, August 2nd

Prairie Fest August 28th - 30th

Ice Cream and Pie Social August 29th

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 13th

LANDSCAPING PROJECT

Are you asking yourself, "What Landscaping Project?"

You may have noticed that the bench by the main entrance is not level or that the railroad ties were falling apart? Everyone wants the church to look great for the 50th Anniversary Celebration, so we are going to have those items repaired/replaced.

The company, Earth and Bloom will be doing the work. They are a local Huxley company. They will be starting the first week of August, weather permitting. The plan is to install a drainage pipe to run the water from the downspouts to the field to the west of the church so it will not flow into the parking lot. They will also be replacing the railroad ties with cement block and resetting the bench, so it is level again. The funds are coming from memorial money to pay for the project.

Thank you to everyone who helped remove the plantings by the fellowship hall exterior and pulled out the railroad ties. It was very hot, back breaking work and you are greatly appreciated.

ANNIVERSARY PARTY PLANS

Trinity United Methodist Church's 50th Anniversary Celebration will be September 20th. The worship service will follow the same format that the very first service followed. Cheryle Harmon is working on music for the service. Comfort Foods will be catering the meal and Drinks and desserts will be provided by the TUM committee.

We are working on getting names and addresses of former members, so if you have any of that information, please contact one of the planning committee members. The members are Kathy Parmenter, Cheryl Harmon, Jeannie Henry, and Amber Weeks. Invitations will be going out the 1st of August.

HAPPY
TRINITY 50th