

CTC CONNECTIONS

Countryside Trinity Church - 4690 Weiss Street - Saginaw, Michigan 48603

FROM THE PASTOR

---- Rev. Dr. Jane Lynn Young

It was a very cold winter. It seemed like we would never be able to go outside for any length of time again! And then we had some warm weather, and little glimpses of hope. Of course, as always, it has been followed by cold weather. But, it will get warm and stay warm for a few months! I have had my windows open for a few days here and there lately. And it seems especially delicious to be able to open the windows. I love having the fresh air both inside and outside!

The fresh breezes remind us of the winds of the Holy Spirit, blowing new life into us! It will be Pentecost soon! May 19th is the Sunday we celebrate the gift of God's Holy Spirit being given to us. Be sure to wear something red on that day!

Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit means that we are willing to let God change us, to whisk us away to a new place. Not a literal new place, of course, but rather to a new way of being a witness to God's love. The message has been the same since the beginning of creation - God is love. What changes is how we say that to our neighbors!

On the first Pentecost, the disciples proclaimed God's love in many different languages. We have the opportunity as a church to speak of God's love for all in many different ways. Each mission of the month speaks the language of love. Our open acceptance of all people speaks the language of love. For God's love includes all of us! And the gift of God's Holy Spirit allows us to proclaim love in many different ways.

I'm excited! The gift of the Holy Spirit brings the winds of change. Our hearts are open to the new ways God calls us.

Grace and truth,

Pastor Jane



UPCOMING LECTIONARY READINGS

<p>May 5, 2024 Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17</p>	<p>Gentiles receive the gift of the Spirit; they should be baptized too. Make a joyful noise to the Lord; give thanks for God's victory. Trust in Jesus, who came by water and blood, and be born of God. Jesus says: This is my commandment, that you love one another.</p>
<p>May 9, 2024 Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Or Psalm 93 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53</p>	<p>Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus ascends into heaven. Clap, shout, and sing with joy: the Lord reigns over all the earth. The Lord reigns in majesty, high above the mighty waters. Christ is seated at God's right hand, above every earthly power. Jesus interprets the Scriptures; then he is carried up into heaven.</p>
<p>May 12, 2024 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-17</p>	<p>Matthias is chosen as one of the twelve apostles, replacing Judas. Happy are those who delight in the law of the Lord. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the gift of eternal life. Jesus prays for the protection and sanctification of his followers.</p>
<p>May 19, 2024 Acts 2:1-21 Or Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104; 24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 Or Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27 16:4b-15</p>	<p>On the day of Pentecost, God pours out the Spirit upon the earth. In a valley of dry bones, Ezekiel has a vision of hope for Israel. The Lord of creation sends forth the Spirit to renew the earth. Creation groans in labor pains; the Spirit intercedes for us. On the day of Pentecost, God pours out the Spirit upon the earth. Jesus promises: I will send you an Advocate, the Spirit of truth.</p>
<p>May 26, 2024 Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17</p>	<p>Isaiah has a vision of the Lord and cries: Here I am; send me! In the wilderness and in the temple, give glory to the Lord. By the Spirit we are children of God and joint heirs with Christ. We must be born of the Spirit; God sent the Son to save the world.</p>



PER CAPITA DONATIONS

As church members we are reminded annually that we must pay a per capita tax to our denomination. This money usually goes toward paying expenses at the higher level than our own immediate church. Since we are a two-denomination church (Presbyterian and United Church of Christ), we receive two bills for per capita. . The denominations base the total per capita on the number of members that the church reports. Also, please bear in mind that since we are two denominations, all of our membership statistics that are submitted to the two denominations annually are divided in half. For instance, if we have 100 members, the report to each denomination will be 50 members. The Presbytery bill for us covers 50 members, so it is actually to our benefit. We also receive a bill for a lesser amount from UCC based on 50 members.

With this in mind, the Session has approved a request to be made to the members to pay \$30.00 per capita for 2024. Just a gentle reminder that the per capita is per member, not per household. So, if you have four people in your household that are members of Countryside Church, you are asked to pay for all four people a total of \$120.00. In order to defray the expense of the per capita, the Session is asking that members assist the church by paying their own per capita of \$30.00/member for 2024. We do not want to put a hardship on anyone, but these bills must be paid whether our treasury gets help from the members or not. There will be an envelope marked "per capita" in your box of contribution envelopes that you will be receiving in the next few weeks that you can use.

The Session appreciates your help in this matter.

TREASURER'S RREPORT – MARI MCKENZIE

Countryside Trinity Church					
Changes in Equity					
January 2024					
	Beginning Balance	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Ending Balance
NET ASSETS					
UNRESTRICTED					
Memorial Fund	20,782.13	115.00	-	-	20,897.13
General Fund	29,570.75	6,180.53	(11,321.78)	1,450.00	25,879.50
Bricks Fund	1,335.85	-	-	-	1,335.85
Mission Fund	37.50	-	-	-	37.50
Minister Compensation Fun	77,350.10	-	-	(535.00)	76,815.10
Endowment - Expendable	83,850.11	897.99	-	(915.00)	83,833.10
Subtotal Unrestricted	<u>212,926.44</u>	<u>7,193.52</u>	<u>(11,321.78)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>208,798.18</u>
DONOR RESTRICTED					
Food Account	839.52	60.00	-	-	899.52
Good Samaritan	1,750.64	-	-	-	1,750.64
Youth Experience Fund	65.81	-	-	-	65.81
Parking Lot Fund	996.24	-	-	-	996.24
Muriel Lakey Scholarship	6,370.01	323.10	-	-	6,693.11
Endowment Nonexpendable F	<u>153,477.00</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>153,477.00</u>
Subtotal Donor Restricted	<u>163,499.22</u>	<u>383.10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>163,882.32</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	<u>376,425.66</u>	<u>7,576.62</u>	<u>(11,321.78)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>372,680.50</u>

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC

CTC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The next
CTC
Women's
Association
Meeting is
Saturday,
May 11th
beginning
at 11:30
a.m.



CTC'S MISSIONS OF THE MONTH FOR MAY ARE THE FOLLOWING

- BLANKET SUNDAY, CELEBRATED ON MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 12TH
- PENTECOST SUNDAY, CELEBRATED ON MAY 19TH
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, CELEBRATED ON MAY 26TH

MARK YOUR ENVELOPE ACCORDINGLY

Please donate to the one or ones you have an interest in supporting. If you have a suggestion for a Mission that we can support, please let Kathy in the office know. Mark your donations accordingly.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.



Lunch with Pastor!

Pack your lunch each Wednesday and join Pastor Jane for fellowship and Bible Study. Come each Wednesday, or the Wednesdays you can. Together we can grow in understanding. **NOTE: PASTOR JANE IS ON VACATION AND THERE**

WILL BE NO LUNCH WITH PASTOR ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 1ST.

PHOTOGRAPHS: We are working on a new project to add members' and friends' photographs to our Telephone Directory. Our member, Tom Ladner, has graciously agreed to be our photographer. We have a few times scheduled for taking photos. The scheduled dates are as follows:

Sunday, April 28, 2024, following worship service.

Sunday, May 12, 2024, following worship service.

If you are unable to come to the church at any of those times and wish to have your picture in the directory – please call Kathy Loviska in the office at (989) 793-0125 Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and she will make other arrangements to get your photo taken.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC?



YOUR CHRISTIAN OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

We had our annual baby shower on Saturday, April 13th. A great time was had by all. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch – and delicious desserts – and played games. The following gifts were given:

- Baby blanket
- Bath Towel
- 5 Play/Sleepers
- 3 Rompers
- 2 Jacket/Pants Sets
- 4 T-Shirts
- 2 Shirt/Short Sets
- 2 Tights/Shirts Sets
- 2 Tights
- 1 Vest/Shirt/Pants Set
- 3 Boxes of Diapers
- 3 Packages of Diapers
- 7 Packages of Wipes

Thanks to all who donated. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Facebook Prayer Group: Don't forget we have a Facebook Prayer Group on our FB Page. It is a private group where only those who are invited can see the messages posted for those in need of prayer. If you are on Facebook and would like to be invited, please call Kathy in the office so she can invite you to join. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Kathy in the office to do so.



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC?



SPECIAL OLYMPICS SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY RYDER CENTER

On Friday, April 19, 253 Special Olympics Athletes gathered at Saginaw Valley State University's Ryder Center to take part in Track and Field and Swimming competitions. Athletes ages 8-62 from Saginaw County and Bay County were assisted by over 750 volunteers and teaching staff.

From our own Countryside Trinity Church members Ron Platt and Lou Diechman' Optimist Club provided the chips for our lunch. Ron helped oversee the packing of lunches for the 1000 attendees. This is the 44th year the Optimist Club has helped with lunches for Area 22 Special Olympics.

Roger Scovill and John Van Arsdale safely oversaw busing drop off and pick up of athletes and their teaching staff. Roger picked up McDonald hamburgers for our meal. CTC member, Aaron Plater from Saginaw Medical has provided lifts to help with student needs during the day for over 30 years. I help coordinate the schools and athletes and work with SVSU students in the Cardinal's for Special Olympics student organization. With great help, the Games come together for an exciting day for our athletes and their families!

Special Olympics provides a year-round sports program for persons 8 and older with an intellectual disability or delay. We are a non-profit so there is no cost to our athletes or their families to participate. We rely on fund raisers and donations, like the rummage sale and hotdog sale at this year's Walleye Festival. The golf fundraiser on June 1 is also a fund raiser for Special Olympics if you are a golfer or would like to be a sponsor. If asked to donate or if you give a memorial gift for Special Olympics, please know that your money will only help local athletes if your check is made out to **Area 22 Special Olympics**. Area 22 includes all of Saginaw and Shiawassee Counties. Money given to Special Olympics goes directly to the State Special Olympics office and not to our local area.

Carol Van Arsdale, Area 22 Management Team.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC?



Please consider hosting a coffee hour following worship service. There is a chart on the Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall – check for available dates if you are able to be a coffee hour host. For those who would like to help, but don't think they would be able to handle it – help is always available. Check with Kathy Loviska, Barb Groom, and Marcia Lacker. Thank you.

Our "Cake Fund" is a little low! If you enjoy celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries during the coffee hours following worship, please consider giving a donation to the "Cake Fund" so this tradition can continue. Envelopes marked "Cake Fund" are on the table in Fellowship Hall, or just indicate "Cake Fund" on the memo line of your check or on your envelope. Thank you.



SESSION COUNCIL	DEACONS
Class of 2024 Sidney Diggs Debbie Davis Sandy Redfield	Class of 2024 Lynne Groom Jackie Williams Ron Platt
Class of 2025 Darren Woodke Becky Pequignot Bethany Scovill	Class of 2025 Pat Denno Ronda Otway Duncan Redfield
Class of 2026 Roger Scovill Kathy Loviska Chuck Davis	Class of 2026 Barb Groom Dan Groom Paige Pequignot



Join us on Pentecost, May 19th, as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. Don't forget to wear your red!

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC?



John & Leore Bethune @ Home	Dawn Curtis @ Home	Floyd & Lois Krzak Floyd @ St. Francis Home Lois @ Home
Avis Leach @ Roosevelt House/Hemlock	Marilyn Leffler Traditions of Saginaw, West Formerly New Hope Valley	Marie Lemmer Wellspring Assisted Living
Fern Evon Little Swan Haven Manor	Virginia Lyon Roosevelt House/Hemlock	Norma Meacham Grand Haven, MI
Elaine Miner @ Home	Elaine O'Keefe Great Lakes Rehab	Fran Prueter @ Home
Judi Westendorf The Bickford		Dick Woodke @ Home

NOTE: NORMA MEACHAM HAS A NEW ADDRESS. IT IS AS FOLLOWS
 Norma Meacham, Medi-Lodge at the Shore, 900 S. Beacon Blvd., Grand Haven,
 Michigan 49417.

If you wish to call her, her phone number is (616) 502-0638.



6th Annual 18-Hole Fundraiser Special Vision Golf Outing
 Benefiting Special Olympics & Choroideremia Research Foundation
 Saturday, June 1, 2024 - Valley View Farms Golf Course

\$70.00 per person includes Golf, Cart, Lunch, Door Prizes and Raffles
 4-Person Scramble Format-9 a.m. Registration with a 10 a.m. Shotgun Start



Flyers are on the table in Fellowship Hall – or Call Kim: 989 860-5309 or David : 989 245-7226

DOWNTOWN SAGINAW MARKET



203 S. Washington

You'll find us under the outdoor pavilion
at the SVRC Marketplace.

2024 Season

**Wednesday and Friday
10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Saturday
10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 22
THROUGH
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30**



203 S.
Washin
gton

You'll find us
under the
outdoor pavilion

at the SVRC Marketplace.

2024 MARKET EVENTS

May 22/24/25 OPENING WEEK

Wednesday & Friday 10 am - 3 pm - Saturday 10 am - 1 pm

--Live Entertainment, Customer Giveaways, Saturday is Kids Day

(Wednesday) June 19 JUNETEENTH - FREEDOM DAY - CELEBRATION

1 pm - 7 pm

--Live Entertainment Including Local Choirs, Dramatic Spoken Word Poetry and MORE! Customer Giveaways, Family Friendly Games and Activities & MORE

(Wednesday) July 24 A VERY MERRY MARKET CHRISTMAS IN JULY

1 pm - 7 pm

--Live Entertainment (including a local choir), Customer Giveaways, Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest, Pie Baking Contest, Family Friendly Games and Activities & MORE

(Sunday) August 4 National Farmers Market Week Kick-Off

10 am - 3 pm

--Live Entertainment, Customer Giveaways, Food Preservation Demonstrations, Family Friendly Games and Activities & MORE

(Friday) August 23 (Annual DSFM) MID-MICHIGAN HARVEST DAYS

1 pm - 7 pm

--Live Entertainment, Customer Giveaways, Hot Pepper Eating Contest, Family Friendly Games and Activities & MORE

(Friday) September 27 DSFM ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

Registration and drop off 9 am -10:30 am

Public Tasting 11 am - 1 pm

Judging 12 pm

(Saturday) October 26 HALLOWEEN AT THE MARKET

10 am - 1 pm

--A SPOOKTACULAR Trick-or-Treating Event for EVERYONE! Treats, Family Friendly Games & MORE 11 am - 1pm



BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS MAY

- 1 Gwen Henderson
- 4 Joshua Gonzales
- 5 Sue Smith
- 6 Marcia Lacker
- 12 Barbara Groom
- 18 Doris Ruth
- 21 Seth Diggs
- 24 Katlyn Hanson
- 26 Charles Ohmer
- 26 Lore Woodke
- 28 Sue Paterson

ANNIVERSARIES MAY

- 4 Tom & Chong Ladner
- 7 Floyd & Lois Krzak
- 18 Randy & Lynne Groom

BIRTHDAYS JUNE

- 2 Michael Groom
- 3 Eric Smith
- 11 Robert Bortner
- 11 Dana Hansen Cooper
- 19 Kitty Blehm
- 20 Marilyn Leffler
- 30 Darren Woodke

ANNIVERSARIES JUNE

- 11 Rylan & Katlyn Hanson
- 21 Edward & Lori Halase
- 29 Ronald & Jean Anne Miller

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Elaine O'Keefe
- 5 Dawn Curtis
- 11 Graham Parker
- 13 Jean Bortner
- 18 Sidney Diggs IV
- 23 Bobby Diggs
- 24 Zayden Evans (Alexa Mahan)
- 24 Dick Mallette
- 29 Holly Furlo
- 30 Lynne Groom
- 31 Rachael Barerra

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 28 Charles & Irene Ohmer



COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH

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Saginaw, Michigan 48603

Telephone: 989 793-0125

Email: countryside@ctcsaginaw.com

Website: ctcsaginaw.com



Original:

“Whan that Aprill, with his shoures soote
The droghte of March hath perced to the roote
And bathed every veyne in swich licour,
Of which vertu engendred is the flour;”

Translation:

“When in April the sweet showers fall
That pierce March’s drought to the root and all
And bathed every vein in liquor that has power
To generate therein and sire the flower;”

While Chaucer speaks of April in relation to March rather than April, it could certainly be said that while Thomas Tusser may be the father of this saying, Geoffrey Chaucer is certainly the grandfather.