



301 W. Market Street
Lima, Ohio 45801

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LIMA, OHIO 45801
PERMIT #77

“In the heart of the city, sharing the heart of Christ.”

Pastor

Rev. Jim Nathan

Associate Pastor

Lori Wright

***Director of Student and Family
Ministries***

Kyle Ley

Director of Music

David Schneider

Church Accompanist

Dean Altstaetter

***Director of The Center for
Creative Child Care (CCCC)***

Christina Vorhes

Church Secretary

Crystal Hunnaman

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Webpage:

www.limatrinityumc.org

Podcast:

www.iheart.com

Lima Trinity UMC Weekly

Lima Area Freedom Schools Creates Safe Space for Students

In recent years, opiate abuse and deaths have risen across Ohio. Lima, Ohio, is no different. This crisis has shattered families, including leaving some children without parents.

Awareness of that reality informs the Lima Area Freedom Schools, with which Trinity Lima United Methodist Church is affiliated. Several of the 40 students have lost one or both parents to overdose.

Freedom Schools are multicultural, empowering spaces that emphasize social action, servant leadership, and self-esteem building. Understanding the reality of some students, program director Bliss Hairston prepares her Student Leader Interns (SLIs) in advance. "I tell the SLIs to show up as their authentic selves and to have patience to know kids are growing up in a different climate," Hairston said.

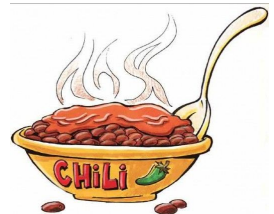
As leaders teach the core Freedom School curriculum, they prioritize creating a safe space for students to express pain or anger and to share if they are having a difficult day. Hairston, who has led this program for many years, remains because she believes in its mission and how it can enrich lives.

"By the end of the program, students feel safe enough to let you know if they need to take a time out or just talk to an adult," Hairston said. She also reinforces that students deserve to learn where they have come from and to know their future is limitless.

Lima Area Freedom Schools ended on Saturday, Aug. 1, with a community celebration at the Bradfield Community Center.



Meow Mission (benefits Crate Escape) - any Friskies and Purina indoor (green bag) food, paper towels, Odo-ban cleaning detergent, bleach and kitty litter. Deadline is October 12th.



3rd Annual Chili and Soup Cook Off Nov. 9th at Shawnee UMC Solid Rock Cafe - \$5.00 to sample all the soups and chili's with cornbread/roll and a cookie and drink. Church members can 'vote' on their favorites using dollars and change!

Trinity United Methodist Church Calendar - September 2025

*All events and activities listed are subject to change please visit our website for updated monthly calendar. *

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 7:30am Breakfast 10:30am Worship 12pm Radio Broadcast 1pm Hispanic Worship	1 6:30am MMMen Church office and CCCC closed for Labor Day!	2 1:30pm Lima Music Academy	3 7am Men's Bible Study 11:30am Soup Kitchen 4pm TOPS	4 11am Staff Meeting	5 6pm Wedding Rehearsal 7pm Hispanic Worship	6 3:30pm Non- Member Wedding
7 7:30am Breakfast 10:30am Worship 12pm Radio Broadcast 1pm Hispanic Worship	8 6:30am MMMen 10am MMWWomen 3pm Primrose Worship	9 1:30pm Lima Music Academy	10 7am Men's Bible Study 10am DS 1 on 1 5:30pm Finance Meeting	11 6pm Worship Team Meeting	12 7pm Hispanic Worship	13
14 7:30am Breakfast 10:30am Worship 12pm Radio Broadcast 1pm Hispanic Worship	15 6:30am MMMen 10am MMWWomen Church Office Closed	16 1:30pm Lima Music Academy 5pm CUP Meeting 6:30pm LACB Banquet	17 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm TOPS 6:30pm SLB Meeting	18	19 10am Literary Ladies 7pm Hispanic Worship	20
21 7:30am Breakfast 10:30am Worship 12pm Radio Broadcast 1pm Hispanic Worship	22 6:30am MMMen 10am MMWWomen 3pm Primrose Worship	23 1:30pm Lima Music Academy	24 7am Men's Bible Study 4pm TOPS	25 11am Staff Meeting	26 7pm Hispanic Worship	27
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(Re)Introduction to the Servant Leadership Board

Gentlepeople, many of you know of and know who the Servant Leadership Board is, but there may be some that do not so I am writing a short introduction to the SLB. First, understand that I am not a Book of Discipline scholar, so, if I am a bit off in the details, please forgive me. The SLB is the governing body of our local church. The SLB is a small group of volunteers (please remember that bit) that takes on all the responsibilities for the life of our church. Ideally, the SLB has 12 members (a familiar number) but that is not a requirement (I think). The members of the SLB DO have some specific responsibilities, but the entire board discusses the mission, the administration, and the maintenance of the church. So.... if you have any input for any of those areas of the church's life, you can contact any member of the SLB, but contacting those with the area of responsibility might be more appropriate. How do you know who has what responsibility? I'm glad you asked. I have listed the members of the SLB below.

Chair	Paul Myers
Lay Leader	Dick Fulmer
SPRC (personnel)	Jeff Wright and Jim Bowlus
Trustees (facilities maintenance)	John Mulder and Dennis Hefner
Finance (finances – of course)	Kevin Reeks and Sharon Walsh
Reach (Hospitality)	Sally Allen
Connect (Worship)	Matt Boutin
Form (Discipleship)	Beth Bartels
Send (Missions/Outreach)	Sharon Wildermuth
Care (Nurture)	Valerie Thompson

Three others have a voice but are non-voting. Those are Pastors Jim Nathan and Lori Wright and our Secretary, Kim Wright.

Paul Myers
Chair, Servant Leadership Board

Highlights from Trinity's August Servant Leadership Board Meetings

FINANCE REPORT

1. Budget Report shows that overall things are good and there are no glaring issues.
2. The SLB approved a "Credit Card Use and Monthly Reconciliation Policy" along with an "Acknowledgement Form" to be signed by all staff members with Trinity credit cards with the caveat that an appeals process be created for lost receipts as well as a process for adjusting spending limits for exceptional circumstances.
3. The SLB assigned the Finance Team with the task of clarifying the relationship and financial obligations between Trinity and the CCCC since they share a 501(c)(3) tax number, and noted that there should also be a re-establishment of regular meetings of the CCCC Board with 50% Trinity membership and that there should be regular CCCC reports to the SLB.

TRUSTEES REPORT

1. The Trustees shared that the following projects have been completed are in progress:
 - A. Water damage inside the parsonage was repaired and a bid from Schoolcraft Holmes Construction for \$2610 was accepted to repair the issues on the outside of the parsonage that caused the original damage inside.
 - B. An inspection by the city water department of the water lines to Trinity's building was completed and okayed.
 - C. The city fire department plans to conduct a training session at Trinity to familiarize the firemen with the building.
 - D. Work has been completed to repair a drainage issue in the sink in the third-floor girls' restroom.
 - E. Some finishing work on the island in the basement kitchen is coming off and needs repaired, and while there is a warranty covering the kitchen's initial renovation, it is a graduated warranty so Trinity and the responsible company are in negotiations as to which percentages each entity will cover.
2. SLB approved a motion to accept the bid from Winegardner Roofing for \$9,243.00 to repair the decking on the church building's south side roof over the multi-purpose room.

MINISTRY UPDATES

1. Missions: Personal care emergency kits were collected.
2. Worship: A shared worship experience with Shawnee UMC is being planned for "Worship in the World" on October 5.
3. Discipleship: The youth had a very successful summer mission trip.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. SLB approved the selection of the following people as members of the upcoming Capital Campaign Committee: Kevin Reeks, Paul Myers, Larry Webb, Mary Elmquist-Lane, Randy Bartels and Stephanie Roop. The chairperson is yet to be determined.
2. SLB also approved the selection of the following people as members of the re-organized sanctuary update group: Jeff Reed, chair; Jeff Wright, Lisa Hagerman, Bill Boutin, Ralph Hubbel, Dennis Hefner.

NEXT MONTH

September 17, 2025 @ 6:30P in Conference Room 2. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Trinity Family News & Notes . . .

Dear Trinity Church,

I want to thank you for the wonderful gift that was brought to me of a lovely vase of flowers and the Joyce Meyer book titled "The Joy of Believing Prayer". What a sweet surprise—so very thoughtful too! Delivered by Valerie Thompson and we enjoyed a great visit together!

Love,

Carol Brown

Thank you to my church family for the gift. Thank you to Mike and Sharon Wildermuth for the wonderful visit. I enjoyed it very much!

- *Carol Wilkerson*

C.U.P. has asked for member churches to donate hygiene items. There is a box in the narthex area to place donations.

September - toilet paper
October - soap



Free Store

We are in need of sheets, towels, blankets, and kitchen items (dishes, silverware, pots & pans). Also, men's tee shirts, jeans, socks and backpacks.

- Thank you



Sept. and Oct. Anniversary 50+

Paul & Susie Shin - Sept. 7th - 67 yrs.

Richard & Barbara Cheney Jr.-
Sept. 9th - 52 yrs.

David & Jennifer Shanks -
Oct. 18th - 50 yrs.

Jim & Arlene Robertson - Oct. 24th - 55 yrs.

Sept. and Oct. 90+



Jean Wright Sept. 14th - 96 yrs.

Kenneth Justus Sept. 17th - 92 yrs.

Patricia Mills Sept. 29th - 96 yrs

Shirley Wolford Oct. 5th - 93 yrs.

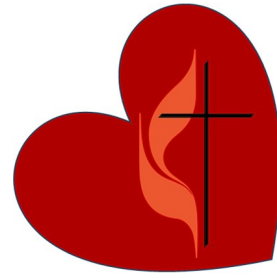
Connie Graham Oct. 8th - 91 yrs.

Shirley Hill Oct. 13th - 90 yrs.

Mary Reams Oct.. 15th - 92 yrs.

The Chimes

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In other words.... Toby James (our first grandchild) is now almost two months old. After his somewhat challenged start in the world, he is doing well and up over 12 pounds. Having been a parent, I now understand the real joy of being a grandparent. But there is another side to that, as I watch my son and daughter-in-law struggle at the job of being new parents. A certain comic actor used to observe that there was no manual for being a good parent. And the best life lesson at learning how to be a good parent was not the thing you paid attention to as you yourself were growing up.

In the same way, there is not much out there in training on how to be the Church these days. The landscape has changed dramatically over the past several years. The general decline that the church has seen over decades has swiftly overtaken us in the midst of COVID. The ups and downs of denominational drama has culminated in the recent disaffiliation of our neighbor in this region. We are ready to move on, but at the same time we are not sure in which direction to go. Even if we had the road map, would we have the energy to make the journey?

I have often said, if I had the answer, I could write the book (and be rich!).

I think I do have the answer . . . No, unfortunately, no book (and I am not going to get rich).

We must change the way we look at the problem. The real problem is our reference point. We are too focused on what has been, mourning a bygone day that is not going to return. Scripture has never suggested that we should be so focused on the events of this world, but rather be focused on what God has done within this world. Our faith is not based on the number of people that surround us on a Sunday morning worship (or at least I pray not!). Our faith is based on the salvation made possible through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

So, what if we got back to making that be what church is about and not about how many people happen to be in worship? What if we got back into the business of focusing on the message and the ministry and not about the numbers. We tend to think that we have to create the next great program to bring in 50 new people to the building so that maybe we can entice them to come back. I think we need to get back to authentic faith and worship of God and let God convict the hearts of people by our faith.

After all, that is how the Book of Acts tells us how the church was born in the first place.

See ya in church!

Pastor Jim