

*To make disciples
of Jesus Christ
for the
transformation
of the world.*



Trinity UMC

Trinity United Methodist Church

838 North 25th Street

Fort Dodge, IA 50501

515-573-3519

www.trinityumcfd.org

 facebook.com/trinityumcfortdodge

September 2017

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Year to Date

07/31/2017

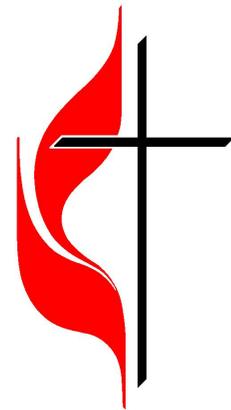
2017 Receipts– General fund	\$ 126,629.06	
2017 Budgeted Bills paid to date	<u>\$ 145,307.07</u>	
	\$ (18,678.01)	Additional 2017 receipts needed-to date– if all 2017 Budgeted Ministry is to be carried out.

Additional responsibilities:

2017 Annual Apportionments	\$ 35,984.06
Trinity UMC General expenses	<u>\$ 4,549.68</u>
TOTAL UNPAID	\$ 40,533.74

Sanctuary renovation loan balance: **\$ 118,976.84**
Sanctuary long term loan payment: \$ 1,427.86 per month
(Maturity on loan June 5, 2029)

Loan payments are made from the Building and Maintenance Fund income



There are other non-planned incomes such as memorials, bequests, and various givings designated for special needs and purposes. They will be noted in another manner in our newsletter and an appropriate “Thank You” given. A complete copy of the financials can be looked at or made at the office.

September—2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2 5:30 Wor- ship service Communion
3 9:30 Wor- ship Service 10:40 S.S.	4 LABOR DAY Church offices closed	5 Quilters— all day	6 6:30 Trinity Singers practice	7 6:30 Praise Team practice	8	9
10 9:30 Worship 10:40 S.S. 2:00 Sunday Before Dark 6:00 4-H	11 3:00 Coffee with Friends	12 Quilters— all day	13 3:35-5:15 Middle School Youth Group	14 3:30-8:00 Boy Scouts 6:30 Praise Team practice	15	16 9:00 am— UMW NC District meeting
17 9:30 Worship 10:40 SS 4:00— HS Youth group picnic	18	19 Quilters— all day	20 3:45— MS Youth Group 5:00 Mary Circle 5:30 Wed. Nite Live 6:30 Trinity Singers	21 3:30-7 Girl Scouts 6:30 Praise Team practice	22	23
24 9:30— Worship ser- vice 10:40— S.S. HS Youth	25	26 Quilters— all day 6:30— Trustees meeting	27 9:15-Ruth Circle, 3:45— MS Youth group, 5:00— Rachel Circle, 5:30— Wed. Nite Live, 6:30— Trinity Sing- ers practice	28 6:30 Praise Team practice	29	30

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Saturdays—5:30 p.m.

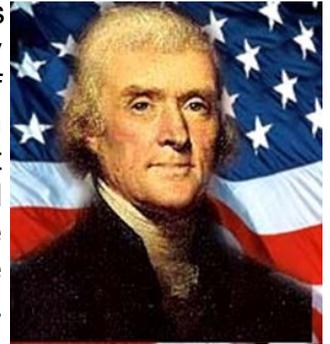
Sundays— 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School— 10:40 a.m.

TWO ENIGMATIC FIGURES: JEFFERSON & GREGORY

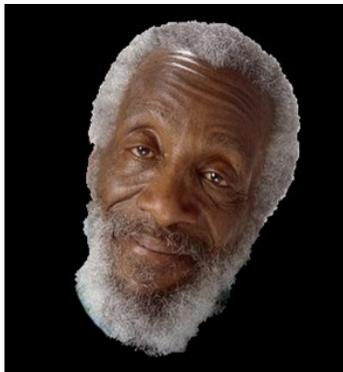
By Dr. B

Last year, a colleague and friend of mine, upon retirement, had on his bucket list to read a book on each of the U.S. presidents. He had seen my collection of bobbleheads of some presidents, browsed an assortment of presidential biographies in my personal library, and received a gift from me on the legacy of a president over whom we debated, i.e., Richard Nixon. He just completed Jon Meacham's *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power*. It is a book I had purchased and read when it first was published in 2012. So we are looking forward to engaging in some lively discussion about this public figure who is routinely numbered among the top three-to-five presidents in U.S. history.



Just about when he had finished this book, another kind of figure passed away: Dick Gregory. Dick Gregory was a comedian by profession and was probably the first African American who was able to cross over into the mainstream entertainment market. He started performing before the likes of Bill Cosby, Richard Pryor, Eddie Murphy, and Dave Chappelle, and was a contemporary of Redd Foxx and Moms Mabley as well as Lenny Bruce, Sid Caesar, Charlie Callas, Steve Allen, Shelley Berman, Joan Rivers, Mel Brooks, and the like.

I hadn't heard of Dick Gregory until 1968, when he was arrested for protesting the escalation of the war in Vietnam, went on a hunger strike until he had lost seventy pounds, was hospitalized, and was subsequently freed by a Superior Court judge. Who was this crazy man who refused to cut his hair until the crisis in Vietnam would end? I had asked myself. It was eye-opening to discover that Gregory sacrificed earning millions of dollars to help support the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. Along with entertainers such as Harry Belafont, Marlon Brando, Diahann Carroll, Joan Baez, and others, Gregory performed with the purpose of giving financial support to the cause. In 1967, he had run for mayor of Chicago, but lost to Richard Daley. In 1968, after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert F. Kennedy, he became a write-in candidate for president on the Peace and Freedom Party ticket, receiving over 45,000 votes.



Gregory was born into poverty in 1932 in St. Louis. Jefferson was born into a prominent family in Virginia in 1743. Both were concerned about civil and human rights, generally speaking. Jefferson, the primary drafter of the Declaration of Independence, owned slaves. Gregory, a victim of systematic, structural racism wrote a book about growing up poor called *Nigger*. During his nightclub act, where he played primarily to black audiences, he was making about \$250.00 a night. When he was invited to Jack Paar's *The Tonight Show* in 1962, Gregory said he would not go on unless he was able to sit on the chair next to the host. No black artist was ever allowed to sit and engage in conversation with the host before. The show agreed. Almost immediately, because of his acceptance on par with white performers on Paar's variety/talk show, Gregory began subsequently to make \$5,000 per night. Within a year and a half, he was earning nearly \$4 million annually!

The kindness of Jack Paar was paralleled two centuries earlier by the attitude of Jefferson to his slaves. He put them in cabins, allowed them days off, and even encouraged them to cook outside, have church, and sometimes even to earn some cash. He promoted good workers from the field to service projects in the house. He chose dialogue over brutality when addressing issues involving slaves. In addition, he was attracted to some of his slaves, and the longstanding tryst with Sally Hemings is accepted by most historians, who acknowledge his fathering of her six children. It is well known that Jefferson sought not to expand slavery into the new western territories; however, it did occur in some as he simultaneously destroyed the lives of countless indigenous peoples and Mexicans, or Chicanos, with the purchase of the Louisiana territory.

It is well known that Jefferson sought not to expand slavery into the new western territories; however, it did occur in some as he simultaneously destroyed the lives of countless indigenous peoples and Mexicans, or Chicanos, with the purchase of the Louisiana territory.

Despite his ostensible benevolence, Jefferson still believed people of color to be inferior intellectually and physically. He partially supported the sending of people of African descent to Liberia or Sierra Leone. It is arguable that Jefferson is primarily responsible for the end of the slave trade in 1807.

Starting in the 1980s, Gregory focused a lot on health issues. He became a vegetarian and sponsored a Bahamian beverage that was as tasty as it was nutritious. Over the last thirty years, we've gotten used to his slender figure. But at one point in his life, Gregory weighed over 350 pounds, smoked constantly, and enjoyed a fifth of Scotch on a daily basis. His fasting and abstention from sex, alcohol, and cigarettes from time to time became his modus operandi for protesting and raising awareness about social and public policies. Gregory criticized soul food as a route towards heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, cancer, and a host of other maladies.

These two renowned public figures had a spiritual side, although they were not religiously orthodox by any means. Some mischaracterize Jefferson as being an atheist. He probably believed in God, but he emphasized God's transcendence over God's immanence. In this regard, he is best identified as a deist. While president, Jefferson was a regular churchgoer. Gregory despised hypocrisy in religion, and he roundly criticized the idea that the United States is a Christian nation or was founded on Christian principles--given its evil treatment of people of color, women, the poor, and so forth. He demonstrated his belief in God by exposing the unchristian-like ways in which so-called believers behaved.

It is not my opinion that these two lives should be equated in some way. Their 80+ years were very different, both superficially and substantively. But the sacrifice each of them made in their idiosyncratic ways to forge a better nation can scarcely be argued. I am grateful they each had lived!

THANK YOU

From Renee Maulsby: Thank you to everyone for your prayers during my mother's passing. She will be missed.

From Missions Committee: Thank you to all who donated to the Lord's Cupboard during our "Fill A Sack" drive. The outcome was wonderful!!

From Gayle Reed: Glen Thompson and family would like to thank you all for your prayers and for your birthday greetings. He is back to their apartment and doing well after his knee surgery.

TRINITY SINGERS

Love to sing? The Trinity Singers practice on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30. They welcome new members. Help us make a joyful noise unto the LORD!!



Gladys Long
Ilene Smith
Rowena Bastian
Shane Corey
Lloyd Corey
Carol Corey
Joe Lennon
Craig Christensen
Doris Ross
Harold Jones
Deb Shelton
Linda Pingel
The family of
Frances Netz
The Family of
Caroline Summers

Prayers requests are updated on a regular basis. Please let us know if there is anyone you would like added. Thank you and have a blessed month!

All members of our congregation

Service Men & Women

TUMC College Students

**Give a call
Show you care!**

*******WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE*******

Wednesday Night Live begins Wednesday, September 20th at 5:30 p.m.!!

Come and share a meal and fellowship with your Trinity family. Each week offers a meal prepared by our awesome kitchen crew followed by a brief devotion. Why cook when you have this option?! This is a wonderful way of connecting with each other in a relaxed, fun atmosphere.

Wednesday, September 20– POTLUCK KICK-OFF

To start the season, we will be having a potluck on our first night of WNL. Bring a dish to share. Meat, dessert and drink will be provided.

The September/October issue of The Upper Room is available in the Narthex. Pick yours up this weekend.

We will be cleaning out our church library in October. We will be taking some of our older books off the shelves. If you have books that you donated to our library that you would like back, please get them before September 30th. Those books that have not been claimed will be given away or put on our church rummage sale after that time.

In Concert

Chuck Crain

Otho UMC

August 30, 2017

7:00 p.m



Chuck Crain is a Southern Gospel vocalist known for his performances at Presleys' Branson and RFD TV. He sang with the Blackwood Brothers quartet for 11 years, and has performed at the Albert City Threshermen Show.

A Love offering will be taken.

NEEDED: Hosts/Hostesses to provide and serve cookies and coffee for Sunday morning coffee time following the worship service.

Sign up in the Gathering room.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OUTREACH TEAM

The Outreach Team is working on several projects to help connect with our congregation, our community and further. We would like your help with the following projects:

AID TO TEXAS: We are collecting funds to help fill cleaning buckets that will be sent to aid those affected by the current hurricane in Texas. Your money will be sent to UMCOR through our Iowa District Disaster Response Coordinator. You will find a bucket in the Narthex over the next few weeks that you can drop a donation in. Just a note: each clean-up bucket has a value of \$65. If we collect \$650 we would be donating the equivalent of 10 buckets.

HELP OUR SCHOOLS: Throughout the school year, our schools see a need for clothing, shoes, jackets for kids who come to school with inadequate attire or a need arises during the school day. We would like to be an outlet where the school counselors/nurses could contact us of particular needs and we could supply them with what is needed. Their most common needs are sweat pants, sweat shirts/T-shirts, shoes, light weight jackets and hoodies. If you have clean items that are in good shape in sizes small child through teens, please drop them off at the church. We are not taking any adult clothes.

Thank you from the Outreach Team

FALL SCHEDULE

Our fall schedule will begin Saturday, September 9th.

Saturday Worship– 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship– 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School– 10:40 a.m.

(Coffee fellowship at 10:30 in Gathering Room)

We are continuing with one service on Sunday mornings, with a few changes. We've combined our Traditional and Contemporary services into one. Each week will include our traditional hymns and readings, along with the Trinity Singers and the Praise Team. Our order of service will look like this:

Prelude (played by organist)

Introit (Trinity Singers, Praise Team on week 3)

Call To Worship

Opening Hymn (Congregation)

Responsive Reading

Time of Prayer

Children's Message

Anthem (Trinity Singers– Praise Team on week 3)

Scripture Reading

Welcome/Announcements

Preparatory Hymn (Congregation)

Sermon

Offering (Praise Team)

Doxology

Closing Song– Praise Team

Benediction

Postlude

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday school will begin on September 10th from 10:40 -11:30 a.m. There will be classes for preschool through adult. We have lots of interesting things planned for the year as well as special projects. Please plan bringing your children and help them grow in God's love.

Confirmation

Confirmation classes will begin in October for those students in 8th grade, or any older student who has not yet been confirmed. If your child, or someone you know is an 8th grader, and you or they have not received a letter, please contact the church office.

Middle School Youth Group

The middle school youth group will once again meet after school on Wednesday afternoons from 3:45-5:15. On early release days, the time will be 1:30-3:00. This is for 5th through 7th grade. 8th graders will have the option of joining this group or the high school group.

High School Youth Group

We will be having a high school get-together (BBQ) on Sunday, September 17 at 4:00 p.m. Families are invited to come as well. We will be discussing meeting times, projects and possible trips. Regular meeting times for the year will be decided at this time.

**North Central District United Methodist Women
Annual Meeting**

September 16, 2017

Faith UMC, 2020 Superior St. Webster City, Iowa

Registration and coffee: 8:30-9:30 a.m

Meeting: 9:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m.

Speakers: Rev. Harlan Gillespie, District Superintendent

Skit by Conference Officers

Bring gift cards from Walmart or Target or bring monetary gifts for Bidwell Riverside. Love gifts will also be received. Make checks payable to: North Central District UMW.

Loose change can be contributed for Penny A Day collection.

Cost of lunch: \$9.00 (\$8.00 lunch + \$1.00 coffee/rolls)

Give your registration and money to Marge Ellerbeck by **September 5th.**

CERAMIC SOUP BOWLS

ARE NEEDED BY OCTOBER 27 AT BIDWELL RIVERSIDE

**These will be part of a new fundraiser on November 2,
called "Empty Bowls", focusing on the food pantry.**

IF YOU HAVE SOME YOU DON'T NEED ANYMORE BRING THEM TO OUR

DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

in SEPTEMBER

THANK YOU!



Trinity currently has 3 Circles that meet regularly:

Mary Circle meets every 3rd Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.

Ruth Circle meets every 4th Wednesday at 9:15 a.m.

Rachel Circle meets every 4th Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.

We would love to have YOU join one of our Circles. Check out the UMW bulletin board in the hallway across from the office, or call the church office for more information - 573-3519.



838 North 25th Street
FORT DODGE, IOWA
50501

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Ft. Dodge IA 50501
Permit No. 448

Return Service Requested

