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Trinity Times

609 Putnam St. Fort Wayne, IN 46808

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From The Desk of David Abbott

so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.
-Romans 12:5 (NLT)

The month of July is known for a few different things: the dog days of summer, vacations, the heat, and most notably, July 4. The 4th of July, the day when we celebrate our independence from mother England. We mark the day with family, cookouts, sports, and fireworks. We celebrate being a free nation.

As a believer, it is not our independence that we should celebrate, but our dependence. There are four different people(s) we must be dependent on to understand True Freedom! So here is what I am calling the July 4.

First, we are dependent on our Heavenly Father. The Creator of all things, including mankind, we are dependent on God for everything. From our first breath until our last, God takes care of us. Philippians 4:19 tells us "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Our very existence, let alone everything this life entails, is dependent on our Heavenly Father.

Second, we are dependent on His Son Jesus Christ. Our salvation and our forgiveness of sins is only possible because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. John 3:16 reminds us "that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life." Our relationship with God, our eternal home in Heaven, is dependent on accepting what Jesus did for us on Calvary.

Third, we are dependent on the Holy Spirit. It is He that makes us more like Christ. John 14:26 tells us "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." It is God's Spirit in us that makes living the Christian life possible. Without God's Spirit, we are powerless.

Fourth, we are dependent on one another. Many people, during and after COVID, have forsaken getting together with other believers. This is actually wrong and against what God commands. In Hebrews, God commands us "And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." Like jumbo shrimp or pretty ugly, the idea of a Christian who does not fellowship with others is an oxymoron.

What is amazing about us being dependent on these four people(s) is that it's our dependence on them that actually sets us free. Now that is something to celebrate with fireworks.

Grace and Peace

Trinity Kids

During June we continued to have Sunday School. For the month of July, we are going to be taking the month off.

During this time, I will be figuring out curriculum and what Sunday School is going to look like going forward.

This is also the time that I would like anyone who would like to volunteer in Sunday School to talk with me and we will get you on the schedule.

As far as the nursery goes, I am going to be talking with all the volunteers and we will be figuring out how that is going to be going forward as well.

As of right now we have one child in the nursery, but I believe that it will be growing soon and very quickly. If you would like to volunteer, please come and see me.

Lynessa

Break Free Ministries

Break Free Ministries is on a ROLL! We just placed our 17th woman, thanks to the hard work of Brittney, our COO! We currently have 9 at our partner houses. 8 were placed by Brittney, but then were denied by the court and had to serve prison or jail time before being released. We need prayer for one of our friends.

One of our penpals had a stroke less than 24 hours after being released from prison. She's currently undergoing therapy and will be there for at least another week. Please pray that God opens doors for us to find her a handicap accessible program for her upon release from therapy.

We received our first grant from the UMC that is designed for Ministry to the Poor. We used some of the grant already to purchase Bibles and devotionals for the remainder of our penpals. We hope to use the remainder of the grant to pay for two amazing classes to help the women upon release from prison. The first class is called Integrity Works, and it's taught by Eric and Tomeka Grimes. It focuses on healthy relationships, parenting, marriage, and finding out who you are and whose you are. The second class is a financial class taught by Kevin and Leslie Rainear and Dennis and Laurie Voegelé. It's called the Financial Freedom Express, and it helps teach the basics of budgeting as well as being good stewards financially of what God has put us in charge of. We chose these two classes because they are incredible curriculums that will help set our women up for long term success, and they are both taught from a Christian perspective.

We are so excited to hear about what God does through these classes and these amazing partners!

Although we did receive a grant to help with some of this, we are always in need of donations. We are receiving letters every day for people needing help, and we want to provide all of our women with Bibles, devotionals, and a welcome bag when they are released. When our friends are released, they are given nothing. We simply want to provide them a little something to let them know we are thinking of them. This includes toiletries, towels, sheets, a Bible and devotional, and an outfit or two. Any donations you give will go directly to the women we serve. You can donate at www.breakfreeministriesin.org, or you can simply write a check with Break Free in the memo line. Thank you so much for all of your continued support!



Love God.
Love People.
Make Disciples.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (MYF)

Back in the late 50s and 60s, several of us were active in MYF. We met every Sunday, afternoon and evening, in the Fellowship Hall (gymnasium). We always dressed in our "church" clothes - boys in nice slacks and shirts - girls in skirts or dresses and "heels". We elected our officers and they met with the adult leaders to plan activities. Our weekly programs consisted of three parts - religious programs and discussion or working on a special project, snacks or a light meal, and games and fellowship.

The snacks consisted of whatever our mothers decided to make for that week. It was often desserts (a lot of cupcakes) and a drink (Kool Ade or fruit juices). The programs were varied and sometimes were related to what the general congregation was involved with at that time. Community involvement,

Halloween UNICEF collections and spooky activities were yearly activities. Christmas and Easter were often given over to helping those in need. MYF also donated money and project time to the church. The eternal presence light in the sanctuary is an example. The fellowship time consisted of playing games - 4-square was very popular - or visiting while parents interacted with the youth and tried to keep track of the group. This was not always successful in all cases. MYF was a time of fun activities and talk. It was a time the young people looked forward to each week.

Pat Hippensteel-Historian



July Youth News

We had a blast at our Ultrazone Party on June 24th.

There were 8 students that came to play laser tag and were treated to ice cream afterwards. We are excited to continue growing and improving our Thursday night event throughout the summer. If you are interested in volunteering to chaperone, or cook, on a Thursday evening, please contact me. While the volunteers take a break from Sunday kids classes, we are working to have a middle school class ready for when school starts back up.

Worship

If you have been in the sanctuary recently you may have noticed that we have new tech! While we are still waiting for a final part to come in before we can fully use our new system, there have already been some wonderful improvements. Our new soundboard is up and running, with help from our trusty trustee.

Once we have a better grasp on everything, we will begin training for all who are interested in helping. In the meantime, we are still in need of help with slides and cameras. If you are interested in being put on a schedule for one Sunday a month, please let Kaleela know.

Trinity United Methodist Church
609 Putnam St
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Upcoming Events

Worship & Prayer

July 13th 6:30pm

Block Party

July 30th 12-3pm