

The Martinsburg Cooperative Parish of United Methodist Churches

Otterbein
St. Luke's
Trinity

April
2025

The Bridge

One parish, three church campuses working together to be a bridge to the fullness of life in Christ. Come share, worship, connect, serve, and learn alongside us.

Greetings, MCP!

We feel revitalized after attending Ignite, the Youth Conference for the Baltimore-Washington, and the Peninsula Delaware Conference. The three-day event took place March 7th-9th in chilly Ocean City, MD, and was informative and inspirational. The conference's theme was "Go," a recurring message throughout the seminar. We received a call to go out, make disciples, and embody the transformation we seek.

The worship was uplifting; Bishop Latrelle Miller Easterling led us in a prayer time, and the sessions

included speakers who shared their testimonies and experiences. There were also hands-on workshops that encouraged us to apply what we learned in tangible ways.

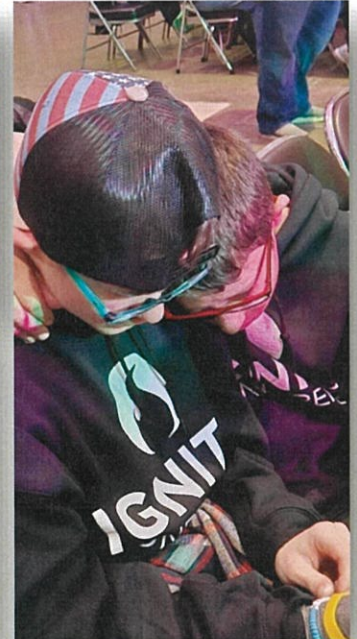
The MCP youth leaders and participants were energized, which led to meaningful and spirit-led conversations in the evenings.

We look forward to implementing what we learned and continuing the great conversations we started at Ignite!

Peace & Blessings,

Pastor John Clark Mayden, Jr.
Pastor Mary Jo Sims

For the pastor on call,
day or night, dial
304-664-4141



Parish Info

Join us for an exciting **MCP Combined Worship (10 AM) at St. Luke's UMC on Sunday, April 6th** as Bishop LaTrelle Easterling will bring the message! Stay after the service for some fellowship and refreshment with a potluck!



Bishop LaTrelle Easterling is the episcopal leader of the Baltimore-Washington and Peninsula-Delaware Area. She was assigned to serve the Baltimore-Washington Conference in September 2016, becoming the first woman to lead this historic conference. She became the bishop of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference in September 2021, when the two conferences were affiliated. Prior to being elected, she served as superintendent of The Boston Metro District, the most diverse and inclusive district within the New England Annual Conference. She was also selected to serve as Dean of the Cabinet. Easterling was elected a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences in 2012 and 2016.

Easterling was ordained an Elder in 1997, serving as lead pastor of three churches in Massachusetts beginning with Pearl Street UMC in Brockton, Old West Church, UM, in Boston, and Union UMC in Boston's historic South End, becoming the first woman to lead that church in its 190-year history.

Easterling is a native of Indianapolis, Indiana. The child of Mary and Walter Miller, she grew up attending University UMC. As an active United Methodist, Easterling sang in numerous choirs, and served as a youth group leader and Sunday school teacher. Upon moving to Denver, Colorado, she joined the African Methodist Episcopal Church, where she heard the call to ordained ministry. In living out her call, Bishop Easterling is committed to homiletical excellence, servant leadership and transformative justice.

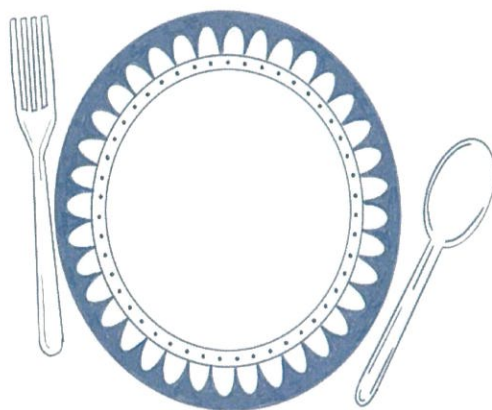
A strong proponent of education, Easterling received a bachelor's degree in Telecommunications and Political Science from Indiana University and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Indiana University School of Law. She graduated *summa cum laude* in 2004 with a Master of Divinity from Boston University School of Theology. In 2020, she was named a Distinguished Alumna of that school for her work in justice and advocacy, as well as her leadership within The United Methodist Church.

Prior to entering full-time ministry, Bishop Easterling served as an associate attorney in a leading law firm, as a prosecuting attorney for a municipality and as a human resources executive.

Easterling currently serves as chair of The Council of Bishop's Anti-racism Leadership Team, and as President of the National Plan for Hispanic and Latino Ministries.. She serves on the Council of Bishop's Immigration Task Force, the Justice and Reconciliation Leadership Team, and The Leadership Discernment Committee. She also serves on the Boards of Directors for Wesley Theological Seminary and American University, the Board of Child Care and The Jane Robinson Bancroft Foundation. Easterling also serves on The Boston University School of Theology Dean's Advisory Council and the Anna Howard Shaw Center Board. Upon arriving in the Baltimore-Washington Conference, she founded the Seeds of Security ministry, or SOS, which benefits people in crisis who are seeking to leave abusive relationships.

Easterling is a much sought-after speaker, preacher, poet and writer. She has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the 2017 Rainbow Push Trombone Award for Faith in Action, presented by the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

She is married to the Rev. Marion Easterling Jr., pastor of Locust UMC in Columbia. They have two grown sons, Garrett and Miles.



MCP Let's Eat Together!

Potluck Meal Honoring our Special Guests!

Sunday, April 6, 2025

St. Luke's UMC ~ Following Worship

RSVP by Thursday, April 3rd

Call (304) 263-2788 or email stlukesumc700@comcast.net

You may leave messages.

We need your name and how many will attend.



Please Bring as Listed Below:

SLUMC – meat and drinks

Trinity UMC & Otterbein UMC – side dishes or salads

Mt. Zion UMC - desserts



Parish Info



The total bags distributed for 2024 was 1,540 (families & individuals). For all those at OUMC, TUMC, & SLUMC, who help in any way, we sincerely appreciate this joint effort by the MCP to make this outreach a success!

St. Luke's UMC Family,

Words cannot fully express our gratitude for your love, prayers and support during Ava May's cancer journey. Your kindness and support mean more to us than we can ever say. During this challenging time, knowing we have people like you standing beside us gives us strength and hope.

Much Love,
Mike, Sarah Beth, Ava May, & Annalynn Lillard

Things You Can't Eat Free Giveaway Wed., April 23rd, 2025 9:30 AM at Otterbein UMC

1 bag per car. If more than 1 bag is requested, proof of address will be required to prove you are in different households.

We will be giving out items such as Laundry detergent, soap, toothpaste, and paper products.

Anyone who has a need for any of these items is welcome! Must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Please come to the back entrance of the church off Pennsylvania Avenue.

Thank you!

A BIG Thank You to the Youth at of Trinity UMC for giving TYCE the items from their "Giving Tree". They were greatly appreciated by the folks who came to the TYCE giveaway in January.

Also, thanks to the congregations of Trinity and St. Luke's for the generous monetary donations. We are so blessed by all those who contribute to this ministry.



Otterbein UMC received notice that their Grant Request, through the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation, for their Things You Can't Eat Ministry (TYCE), was approved for the full \$2,000.00 that was applied for. The funds should be available soon! AMEN!

Celebrating Our Members...

Otterbein Birthdays

Apr 2 Cody Lancaster
Apr 9 Virginia Hicks
Apr 11 Zachary Hammersla
Apr 12 Gisela Lilienthal
Apr 14 David Day
Apr 15 Brooke Spickler
Apr 18 Kathryn Ford
Apr 24 Sadie Gisler

St. Luke's Birthdays

Apr 4 Steve Kenney
Harry VanMetre
Apr 5 Tom Hartley
Sonny Kief
Geneva Yost
Apr 6 Josh Stark
Apr 11 Shelley Mullinix
Apr 26 Becky Franklin
Apr 27 Zachary Ostrowski

Anniversaries

Apr 8 Doug & Tara Gregory
Apr 30 Jim & Chris Curry

Trinity Birthdays

Apr 4 Basil Ceravalo
Apr 5 April Geyer
Brittani Unger Keel
Apr 8 Breigh-Anne Glover
Apr 20 Alex Botic
Diana Ropelewski
Apr 26 Ryan Sutherland
Jean Smith

Anniversaries

Apr 27 Steve & Diana Ropelewski

Parish Info



On March 20th, a group representing the MCP worked at the Mission Central warehouse in Mechanicsburg, PA. Pat Grinnan, Mary Lena Lefler, Mary Lee Vandevander, and



Pastor Mary Jo Sims had fun verifying UMCOR flood buckets. The many supplies donated to the warehouse were much appreciated!



Summer Camp @ SLUMC

A summer camp is being planned at St. Luke's UMC, June 30th—July 19th, for a production of The Hunchback of Notre Dame, with show performances on July 18th & 19th. For ages 10-20 with an additional adult choir.

For more information, contact Anthony Brooks at 304-886-2394, or visit www.brooks-productions.com



Vacation Bible School

SAVE—THE —DATES

July 20th – 24th
Special Celebration on July 25th

Time: 6:30 PM—8 PM
Where: Trinity UMC's Orchard House
4599 Shepherdstown Road
Martinsburg, WV

St. Luke's UMC

APRIL

(304)263-2788

stlukesumc700@comcast.net

Church Office Hours

M – Th, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Berkeley County 4-H STEM Club
Susan and Chuck Engle

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the St. Luke's UMC family for the many years of allowing us to use space in the church, and previously the parsonage. The impact on youth in our community cannot be overstated. As we remain the only source in the area for free access to equipment, technology, and expert mentoring, the club has continued to grow in both numbers and opportunity. The use of the basement space has allowed us to field 5 competition robotics teams which include more than 20 students. They are all coming off of amazing seasons, where our 4 younger teams are all at the top level in the state – one of those teams Lego Force, won the WV State Championship, and will be representing our area, the State of WV, and the US when we compete at the World Championship event April 16-19, 2025, against teams from 60+ other countries. We will be traveling to Houston to participate.

None of these amazing things would not be possible without the space to practice, train, and store all of our equipment. We want to say a sincere thank you to everyone here at St. Luke's UMC for the use of the space and thank you for supporting the amazing young people who are able to take on the world, from the church basement. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. We would love to set up a time for the STEM room to be open for anyone who would like to come down and see what is happening.
Thank you. ~Susan and Chuck Engle

Congratulations



MCP Camping Ministries

Soup and Sandwich

FUNDRAISER

Menu: Vegetable Beef and Chicken Noodle Soup, Grilled cheese, chips, pickles, desserts and drinks.

4/12/2025 11:30am-1:30pm

**St Luke's UMC
700 New York Ave
Martinsburg WV 25401**

Lunch by Donation!



Lenten Worship Series

We are one in Jesus Christ.

*Schedule subject to
change.

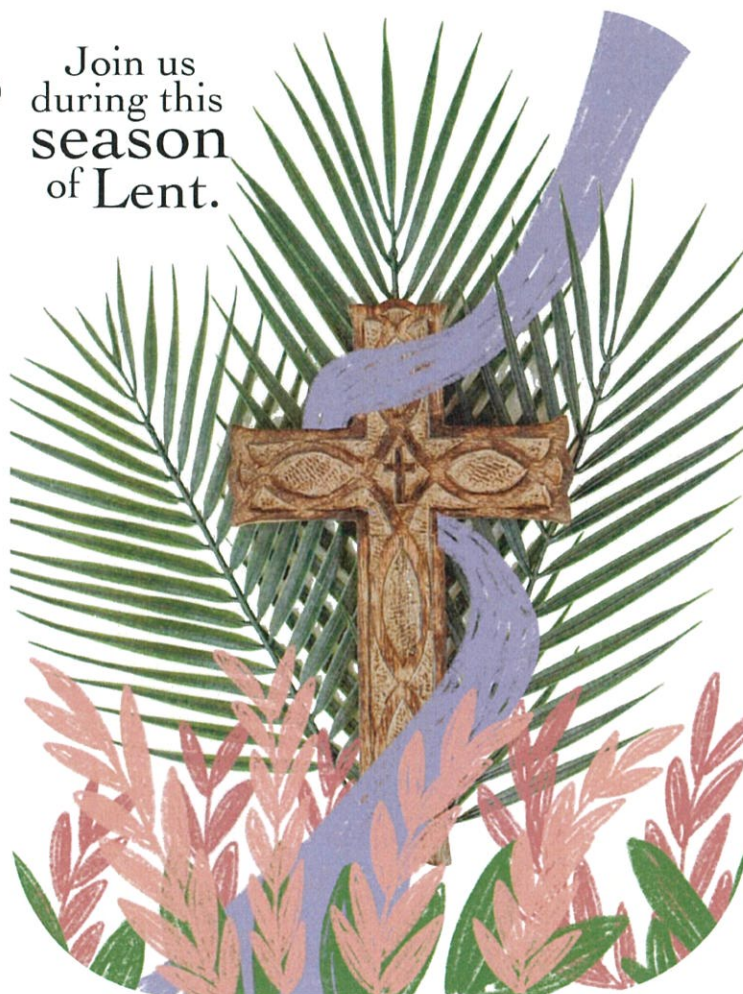
Ash Wednesday

March 5th - 12 PM & 7 PM

Trinity UMC

(220 W Martin Street)

Join us
during this
season
of Lent.



March 12th - 7 PM

St. Luke's UMC

(700 New York Avenue)

April 2nd - 7 PM

Trinity UMC

(220 W. Martin Street)

March 19th - 7 PM

Otterbein UMC

(549 N. Queen Street)

April 9th - 7 PM

St. Luke's UMC

(700 New York Avenue)

March 26th - 7 PM

Mt. Zion UMC

(532 W. Martin Street)

Maundy Thursday

April 17th - 7 PM

Otterbein UMC
(549 N Queen Street)

Good Friday

April 18th

10 AM - Community Crosswalk

(We will meet at Trinity UMC. Walk begins at 10:30 AM and will
end at Trinity Episcopal Church (200 W. King St.) around 12:30 PM

7 PM - Worship
Mt. Zion UMC



MCP Prayer List

Otterbein UMC

Marsha Spickler	Janice Dodson
Marvin Ashby	Catherine Neel
Bill Queen	Candi Keiter-Johnson
Larry Clemons	Pat Wilson
Randy Hess	Barbara Lancaster
Nancy Kief	Jim LeMaster
Jean Fulk	Mike Wheeler
Arlene Mauck	Jeremy Duke
Mike Emery	Mike Shipe
Gary McDaniel	Carol Wilson
Carol Shimel	Brenda McDaniel
Lester Brining	Kathryn Ford
Christie Heaton	Carol & Bucky Hensler
Susan Cookus	Betty Ann Keiter Tabler
John Kesecker	Darlene Robertson
Gisler Girls	

Trinity UMC

Those unable to attend worship:

Anne Keller (Celebration Villa), Mildred Wilson (Celebration Villa).

Those in our congregation: Sandy Barron, Jean Eriksen, Geneva Hollida, Barbara Humes, Linda Humes, Sue Leatherman, Diana Ropelewski, & Mary Snyder, the family of Lana Tonalli, the Cooperative Parish.

Friends & Family of our congregation: Dr. Barry Dutton, Barbara Elliott, Maggie Jackson, Ava Mae Lillard & family, Ben Manning, Carole Newsome, Henry Wendt, Susan Wiltbank, Larry Winegarden, friends of Lana Tonalli.

St. Luke's UMC

Contact the Prayer Team

By phone, contact Bobbi Rogers (304-263-8746)

By phone, contact Pat Isner (304-754-9644)

By email, contact Nancy & Allen Barr
(nanal69@frontier.com)

Please remember to contact the Prayer Chain with updates on your prayer requests. They love to know how they can continue to pray or celebrate a praise with you!

Thank you.

You may also leave a message on the church phone (304-263-2788) or email (stlukesumc700@comcast.net)

Extended Prayer Concerns: Michelle McDonald, Isabella Munoz, Cooperative Parish Teamwork, Emily Nagley, Jay Parlett, Marvin Parlett, Eddie Roy, Josh Roy, Jeanne Tederick, Joyce Triggs, Roy Tucker, Mary Ann Wright.

Please update the church office with any changes to the extended prayer list.

Martinsburg Healthcare Center: Tony Albright

Willow Tree Healthcare Center: Doris Dick

Countryside Assisted Living: Emily Nagley,
Jeanne Tederick

Celebration Villa: Joyce Triggs

Harmony at Martinsburg Assisted Living:

Anne Lea Rannells, Jean Watson

Williamsport Retirement: Sonny Boyd

Homewood: Margaret Bane



Bible 101 with Pastor Sims

Bible 101 and prayer service for healing will be held
at Otterbein UMC on Wednesday, April 16th, at Noon.

April 2025
(Subject to change)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>30 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC</p>	<p>31 7:00pm MCP Lenten Bible Study @ TUMC</p>	<p>1 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:30pm MCP One Board/Bridge Builder Meeting @ SLUMC 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC</p>	<p>2 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm STEM in Social Hall @ SLUMC 7:00pm Mid Week Lenten Service @ TUMC</p>	<p>3 3:00pm Horses with Hearts Leadership Adventures Training Set Up @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 8:00am Horses with Hearts Leadership Adventures Training @ TUMC's Orchard House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC</p>	<p>5 STEM @ SLUMC 8:00am BSA Wood Badge Staff Training @ TUMC 7:00pm MCP Glow-In-Dark Easter Egg Hunt @ TUMC's Orchard House</p>
<p>6 Bishop's Day - Bishop Easterling will join us for worship 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am MCP Combined Worship @ SLUMC with pot luck to follow 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC</p>	<p>7 4:00pm MCP Serving our Neighbors @ Immanuel's House 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:30pm District Boy Scouts @ TUMC 7:00pm MCP Lenten Bible Study @ TUMC</p>	<p>8 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 11:00am MCP Finance Meeting @ SLUMC 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC</p>	<p>9 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 7:00pm BSA Order of the Arrow Meeting @ TUMC 7:00pm Mid Week Lenten Service @ SLUMC</p>	<p>10 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>11 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC</p>	<p>12 11:30am MCP Camping Ministries Soup & Sandwich Fundraiser @ SLUMC</p>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>13 Palm Sunday 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am TUMC Trustees Meeting (Soft Reserve) 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC</p>	<p>14 7:00pm MCP Lenten Bible Study @ OUMC 7:00pm TUMC Ad Council</p>	<p>15 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC</p>	<p>16 12:00pm MCP Bible 101 & Prayer Service @ OUMC 6:30pm Dove's Landing Ministries in Fellowship Hall @ TUMC</p>	<p>17 Maundy Thursday 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service @ OUMC</p>	<p>18 Good Friday NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10:00am Good Friday Community CrossWalk beginning @ TUMC 7:00pm Good Friday Service @ Mt. Zion UMC</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 Easter Sunday 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 12:30pm Blood Pressure Checks @ SLUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC</p>	<p>21 Easter Monday - MCP Church Offices Closed 2:00pm MCP Book Club @ St Luke's</p>	<p>22 10:00am Pack for TYCE @ OUMC 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC</p>	<p>23 9:30am MCP Things You Can't Eat Giveaway @ OUMC 5:30pm STEM @ SLUMC</p>	<p>24 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 11:00am Foltz Funeral Reception in Fellowship Hall @ TUMC</p>
<p>27 8:45am Sunday School @ TUMC 9:00am Early Morning Worship @ OUMC 9:45am Sunday School @ SLUMC 10:00am Mid-Morning Worship @ TUMC 11:00am Late Morning Worship @ SLUMC 11:15am Youth Meeting @ TUMC 6:00pm NarAnon Meeting @ TUMC</p>	<p>28 10:30am Arts & Crafts Meeting at SLUMC 7:30pm Potomac Chapter Boy Scouts @ TUMC</p>	<p>29 11:00am Homeschool Co-Op @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Boy Scouts @ TUMC's Orchard House 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous @ OUMC</p>	<p>30 12:00pm Horses with Hearts Leadership Workshop Set Up @ TUMC's Orchard House</p>	<p>1 8:00am Horses with Hearts Leadership Adventures Training @ TUMC's Orchard House 6:00pm TUMC Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm TUMC Handbell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 7:00pm Martinsburg High School Prom Overflow Parking @ TUMC</p>

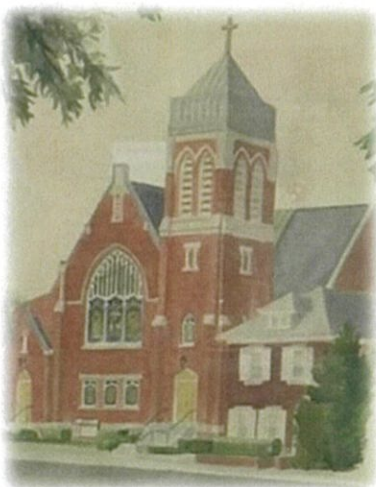
Happy Easter



The Martinsburg Cooperative Parish Of United Methodist Churches

Pastor John C. Mayden, Jr.

Pastor Mary Jo Sims



Otterbein UMC

**549. N. Queen Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401**

304.263.0342

Sunday Worship –9 AM

secretary@otterbeinumc.net



St. Luke's UMC

**700 New York Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25401**

304.263.2788

Sunday School 9:45 AM

Sunday Worship—11 AM

stlukesumc700@comcast.net



Trinity UMC

**220 W. Martin Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401**

304.263.9215

Sunday School 8:45 AM

Sunday Worship—10 AM

umctrinity@comcast.net