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## News From Pastor Ryan:

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Tom Perry famously sang “the waiting is the hardest part”. In our modern society, the whole concept of waiting and anticipation is often foreign to us. Recently, Disney launched their own streaming service called Disney+. As I looked through the catalog of movies I was struck by my instant access to movies and television shows that had been stored away for years. I could instantly relive my childhood watching DuckTales or old Mickey Mouse cartoons. My coffee is instant. I never have to wait for information, if I don’t know something I can pull out my phone and Google it. We’re long past the days of stacks of library books and searching through microfiche. I don’t even have to take the time to grocery shop anymore, I simply make a list with the Kroger app, arrive at the store and minutes later leave with a car full of groceries. It’s no wonder we often find ourselves increasingly impatient when waiting for things. However, some things are simply worth waiting for. Somethings get better as the anticipation grows. We still wait for new movies to arrive in theaters with excitement. We still wait in long lines for the thrill of a rollercoaster. We know that certain recipes for dinner and dessert are best done low and slow. We must wait.

As we enter Advent, we enter a season full of anticipation and preparation. Israel waited for their Messiah to come. The long promised King that would restore the covenant. Titans of the Bible like Abraham, Moses, and David pointed a direction. Prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah foretold the coming of God’s kingdom. The Israelites prayed for it to come, but often heard “wait”. Like a child on Christmas eve waiting for a morning filled with presents and excitement, we are often told “wait and see what God is doing.”

I ask that as a church we take seriously this time of Advent. It’s so easy to get caught in the fervor of Christmas that we forget that much of the Christmas story hinges on anticipation. John the Baptist was calling out “Prepare the way of the Lord” as the world waited to hear from Jesus. What can we do in this Advent season to prepare? Think of our Advent candles that remind us that this is a season of hope, peace, love, and joy. Do you have peace when you think of Christmas? Do you share in love, hope, and joy? Or is Christmas stressful and exhausting? Take some time to prepare your heart this Advent season. I look forward to Christmas day when the light of the world shines upon us. Come, see what God has done.

See you in church!

*Pastor Ryan Shields*

*"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

**Isaiah 9:6-7 (NKJV)**



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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ◆ Dec 1st —7:30 am Men’s Breakfast & Congregational Meeting & THRIVE
- ◆ Dec 14th—Cookie Making
- ◆ Dec 15th—Caroling & THRIVE
- ◆ Dec 22nd—Children’s Christmas Program
- ◆ Dec 24th—Christmas Eve Service at 7pm
- ◆ Dec 27-Jan 2 Office Closed

## WORSHIP SERVICE INFORMATION

Dec 1st—Hope in the Darkness

Dec 8th—So, Where's the Peace?

Dec 15th—An Unrelenting Love

Decr 22nd—Unspeakable Joy

Dec 24th—The Light of the World

Dec 29th—Guest speaker Rev. Don Corbin

### Want To Help Out?

We are also looking for Greeters, Liturgists, and Musicians for Sunday morning.

We are looking for a more community feel to our Worship Services.

If you are interested, please let the office know.

### HALL USE RESERVATIONS

There are forms on the wall next to the calendar. You are now required to fill out a form for any event that you would like to have in the church (including any rollover event for holiday parties-rollover dates will be allowed, but we would like the forms filled out as well). Please do not just write it on the calendar any more. Once it is reviewed, it will be added to the calendar. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda.

## GREETERS

December 1st  
Matt & Brianne Perry

December 8th  
Vera Sager & Evelyn Schimming

December 15th  
Doyle & Helen Sommer

December 22nd  
Myron & Sara Zibbel

January 5th  
Doug & Michelle Avery

January 12th  
John & Jackie Bast

January 19th  
Dale & Ava Bodnar

January 26th  
Jim & Shirley Buhro



## MONTHLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Date	10/06/2019
# in Attendance	106
Last Week's Current Offering \$	4,799.00
Weekly Current Budget Needed \$	2,715.00
Budget Needed YTD \$	108,600.00
actual Current Offerings YTD \$	97,644.40
\$	
Ahead/Behind	(10,955.60)

Date	10/13/2019
# in Attendance	94
Last Week's Current Offering \$	2,571.00
Weekly Current Budget Needed \$	2,715.00
Budget Needed YTD \$	111,315.00
actual Current Offerings YTD \$	100,215.40
\$	
Ahead/Behind	(11,099.60)

Date	10/20/2019
# in Attendance	132
Last Week's Current Offering \$	2,571.00
Weekly Current Budget Needed \$	2,715.00
Budget Needed YTD \$	114,030.00
actual Current Offerings YTD \$	102,786.40
\$	
Ahead/Behind	(11,243.60)

**HEAT:** Please remember to turn the heat down to 58 (or turn it off) after you are finished in the rooms and close the door. Everyone can help with this cost-saving; it's not a new idea.

### ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Trinity UCC will be on Sunday January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10:30 am with a potluck lunch to follow.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING & COOKIES:** Caroling will be on Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.

If you would like to make cookies with us for the baskets, please meet at the church on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am to make cookies.

## THRIVE

(3RD—6TH GRADE)

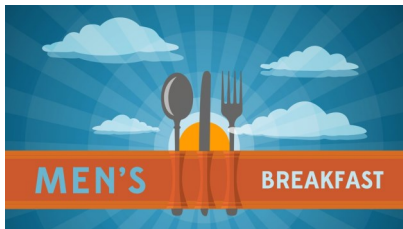
Will be meeting the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month after the 9:30 worship service. This is a group for our 3rd—6th grade youth to dig deeper into scripture and community.



## BRANCHING OUT NEWS TEACHERS

Date	2-3 Nursery	PreK Teacher	K-2 Teacher
Dec. 1st	Brianne P.	Desirae M.	Rebecca R.
Dec. 8th		Ashley G.	Kyleen L.
Dec. 15th		Ashley Z.	Janene L.
Dec. 22nd		Brittany W.	Mathews
Dec. 29th	Faith S.		

## Christian Education News!!!!



Men's Breakfast Is Back!!!! Men are invited to join us on Sunday, December 1st at 7:30am for the first breakfast of the season. If you are interested in serving a meal, or would like more information, please contact Ed G.

### TITHE.LY

Giving to your local church using [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.com) is super easy! We offer a number of different ways to give to your church, which we'll outline in this article.

#### #1 - GIVE ON YOUR CHURCH WEBSITE

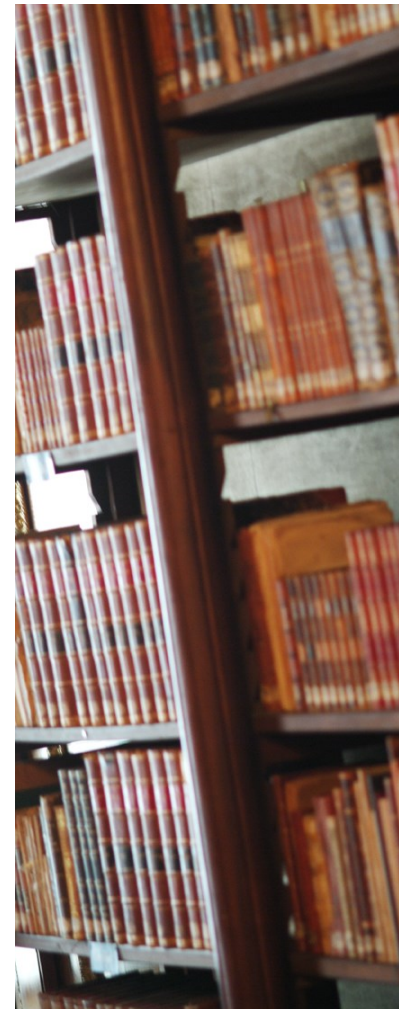
The recommended way to give is to go through your church's website. They likely have a section titled "Giving" or "Online Giving" where you can give using the Tithe.ly platform. If they do not have that, you can use one of the methods listed below.

#### #2 - GIVE ONLINE

If you're on a computer (or any device with an internet connection), you can easily give to your church by heading to [Tithe.ly/Give](https://tithely.com/Give). Once there, search for your church, and fill in the giving form.

#### #3 - GIVE IN APP

Want to give to your church using the convenience of your smartphone? No problem! Download the Tithe.ly App from the [App Store](https://apps.apple.com) (iPhone) or [Google Play Store](https://play.google.com) (Android). Once you've downloaded the app, create an account or log in, locate your church and tap "Give Now" to complete your gift!



# Church Council Minutes

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Church Council met on Monday October 14th, 2019 at 7:04 pm. Ben Sutter, President, called meeting to order and opened with prayer by Pastor Ryan Shields. Those in attendance were as follows:

President Ben Sutter, Vice President Nyla Denman, Faith Sutter, Shirley Buhro, Marty Hoefft, Ken Gahler, Jennifer Laughlin, Brock Hansen, Eric Gahler, Jayson Hayes, Curt Reiff, Church Secretary Rhonda Mahaney, and Pastor Ryan Shields. Nate Diekman was absent.

## **Reports:**

**Recording Secretary:** Meeting minutes from the September council meeting were read prior to the meeting by members. Motion to accept the minutes were made by first Shirley Buhro, second by Jason Hayes. MC. Minutes from the congregational meeting were also reviewed and a motion was made to accept the minutes by first Jason Hayes and seconded by Shirley Buhro. MC.

## **Secretary Report:**

Busy month with a focus on updating systems with I.T.

## **Financial Report:**

Transactions for the month of September reviewed

Motion to approve by first Jennifer Laughlin, seconded by Curt Reiff. MC.

Snow plow bids will need to be sent out

Discussion on having a \$50,000 13 month CD

Motion by first Brock Hansen, seconded by Jennifer Laughlin, MC.

## **Pastor Report:**

### Worship

Conducted all worship services for Sept themed on Covenant

New sermon series on Context started October 6th

Communion served 10/6

NWOA and TUCC Installation Service was held on 10/6

Working with Jennifer Laughlin on Special Music/Live Praise Music

Provided funeral services for Blanche Batesole on 10/10

Baptism for Jamison Doc Zimmerman on 10/6

Will ask for congregation participation in the celebrate of All Saints Day and Veteran's Day will small services of remembrance.

### Events/Activities

Adult Bible Study "Everybody Always" ran from 9/8-10/9. Decent size of 10-15 most weeks.

Missions team met and discussed BooFest, upcoming service opportunities at Food Pantries. Trinity will send a team to the Genoa Food Pantry on 11/16 from 9 am – 1 pm. Pursuing additional mission minded programs with Holiday Bureau, Family House Toledo, Habitat for Humanity, Grace Community Center, etc. Also ordering t-shirts so when we serve we can look like a team.

Attended Men's Breakfast and gave a brief devotional. Wonderful crowd of guys.

Attended Women's Fellowship meeting and shared in wonderful snacks and conversation around "Building Faith"

Church Work Day 9/15 cleared out a ton of old curriculum, books, and toys. Still more work that could have been done. Strongly recommend holding at least two of those a year to tackle forgotten projects or general clutter.

Attended Budget Meeting

### Pastoral Ministries

Trips to the Genoa Care Center and Hospice of Northwest Ohio.

Visitations including a visit with every person currently on our shut in or home care list. Lots of phone calls for health concerns, recent passings, etc.

Working with Genoa Clergy Cluster

Attended meetings with Missions Team, Budget Team, Men's and Women's groups.

Check in's via Facebook, E-mail, and phone calls with members/friends of the church.

E-Mail prayer chain connecting with 39 current subscribers.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Worship**

Next meeting is October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

### **EFY**

3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Jan Corbin is working on putting things together  
Class monthly, bi-weekly, TBD

### **Mission**

Boo Fest

October 27<sup>th</sup> at 4pm

Spotlight offering

Genoa food pantry 11/16 9am till 1pm

Mission T-shirts ordered

Genoa Holiday Parade December 1<sup>st</sup> 6pm

Line-up will be at 5pm

### **Church & Ministry**

Met as a group

Will send in final review sheets

Budget reviewed

Recommendations

Will bring to council with final thoughts

Nominations needed for members going off council

### **Search Committee**

Met in September

Happy with direction of church

## Trustee Report

### Kitchen Status

#### Phase 1

Hardware still needs to be put on

#### Phase 2

New refrigerators

Quote for lights

Will finish phase 1, continue raising money for refrigerators, and address rest of kitchen at a later date

### Sound System Issues

Pastor Ryan has a guy who could come look at sound board

Out of office till Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> but will contact Pastor Ryan, Marty, and Rhonda will get together to come up with proposed budget on action plan moving forward

### Witt and Gaines fixing boilers

### Gym lights

Some lights missing and need replaced

Change to LED

Quote about \$3,022

Will think about and discuss at later date

### Donated Garage

Need game plan on fixing up and future use

### Moisture Problem

Ventilation needed

Quote received from Witt and Gaines for

\$3,200

Trustee's to get together and come up with solution

Will bring final decision for council approval

## Old Business:

Tithe.ly is fully launched

Marty Sutter will talk about Bill Pay

### Internet

Spectrum cheaper than Frontier

Frontier contract up in end of November

Motion to change to Spectrum by first Faith Sutter, and seconded by Eric Gahler. MC.

### Cry Room needs updated

Motion for \$300 by first Marty Hoeft, and seconded by Nyla Denman. MC.

### 2030 Vision Team

Recommendations needed

Sub ministry and sub maintenance teams

### Pastoral relations team

5 members

Pastor Ryan to pick 2 nominee's and council to pick 3 nominee's

Ben Sutter

Pastor Ryan's first nominee

## New Business:

Financial approvals

Members to look at constitution and come up with game plan moving forward

Congregational meeting coming up in January

Closed in prayer by Pastor Ryan

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm by Ben Sutter.

Respectfully submitted, Faith Sutter,

Recording Secretary.

## General Operating Fund Report (approved)

Beginning 10/1/19 \$57,428.96

Offering/Income \$11,591.00

Expenses \$8,146.44

Balance 10/31/19 \$61,197.52

Full financial reports are available upon request in the office and are now posted on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.



## Guidelines for Weather Cancellations at Trinity

Ottawa County Level 1: Worship and church activities will be held as usual - please use common sense and precaution when traveling.

Ottawa County Level 2: All non-worship activities before and after worship are cancelled - this means no Sunday School/Branching Out, church dinners or meeting that may be scheduled, etc. The worship service will be held for those who choose to attend and feel they can travel safely. Please use common sense and precaution when traveling.

Ottawa County Level 3: No worship service or church-related activities

## FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE

We wanted to thank everyone for your support and participation in this event. We ended up delivering over 700 items to 3 local food pantries.

## COUPONS

As Always, thanks for saving the coupon pages for me! Last month we had an exciting race between Oak Harbor, Genoa, and Woodmore schools. Congratulations to Genoa for an exciting last minute victory! I'd love to help with another contest to help the food pantries. Thank you for a wonderful contest!

## BOOK LENDING LIBRARY

The weather is turning cooler. We have got some wonderful books in our lending library (across from the restrooms near the Fellowship Hall). Take them home and/or read in the comfy chairs at church. Got some good books that you'd like to share? Any contributions are welcome! Enjoy!!!

~Karen

We will be returning to Camp MICHINDOH for Church Camp.

## January 31<sup>st</sup> – February 2<sup>nd</sup>

We have rooms reserved within Merillat Lodge. Each room within the Merillat Lodge has a comfortable Queen bed, linens, towels, private bath, and Murphy bed. Some of the rooms have a twin bed in addition to the Queen and Murphy beds. These rooms are perfect for couples or families!

Please complete the bottom portion of this and return to Janene Lattimore or the office with payment by Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> to reserve your spot and room preference. Payment **must** be included to reserve your room. Space is limited this year, so make sure to get your reservations and money in as soon as possible. Rooms will be assigned in the order the reservation with payment is received. Collections will be taken in the efforts to provide some form of assistance for children under 12 in all families attending Church Camp.

We are excited to be attending Camp Michindoh on January 31<sup>st</sup> – Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>!!!

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Adults Names @ \$134.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_

Children Names ages 13-18 @134.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Children ages 3-12 @61.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Children under 2 \_\_\_\_\_

## HOLIDAY PARADE



All members are invited to walk in the Genoa Holiday Parade on December 1st. Line up begins in Veteran's Park at 5pm with the parade at 6pm. Trinity UCC will be walking along with members of the Genoa Clergy Cluster and we have been asked to wear costumes representing a Nativity Scene!



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Trinity Women's Fellowship met on Thurs. Nov. 14, 2019 at 1:00pm at the home of Norma R. It was a very cold day with snow and ice. There were seven present.

Jackie P. was hostess & had fall decorations. She served a delicious carrot cake with lots of snacks and a pumpkin cookie.

Sara had the program "For All Our Gifts", about giving thanks and sharing. We also had a dialogue about the first Thanksgiving and the first year of living in America, which was very interesting.

The Advent Program and Brunch is Sat. Nov. 30 at St. John Lutheran Church, Rocky Ridge.

A thank-you note was received from the Blanche Batesole Family.

We decided to again give our holiday gifts and a motion was made, sec and carried to give \$50 each to the Salvation Army, Cherry Street Mission, Grace Community Center, and Ottawa County Holiday Bureau for a total of \$200.

Sara gave the Sunshine report. Eloise H. will be the new chairman.

Next month for our Christmas Party with gift exchange, we decided to go to Granny's Restaurant in Woodville, where we have a nice room to meet in. Meet at church at 11:30am to carpool to the luncheon. ~Suzanne Buhro, Secretary

WF Treasurer's Report	
Balance on Hand as of June 1	\$277.95
Knives	35
<b>Total Income &amp; Balance</b>	<b>\$312.95</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
Mem. Dorothy T	10
<b>Balance on Hand Aug. 31st</b>	<b>\$302.95</b>
<b>Savings Account</b>	<b>\$1,491.45</b>

*Rada Knife Sale—The Women's Fellowship has an ongoing Rada Knife sale. If you are interested, contact them or the office.*

### THANK YOU

"The BCS Food Pantry wishes to thank you for your generous gift of \$250.00. Thank you."

~BCS Volunteers

"I'd like to thank whoever painted the picture of the church on the pumpkin that sits on top of the lending library. It is spectacular! Thank You!"

~Karen

"We are so overwhelmed and thankful with the generosity of our friends, neighbors, our Solomon church family, area churches and the Northwestern Ohio Synod of the ELCA. There are simply not enough words to share our thankfulness. Your kindness is so amazing!!!

We have secured rental housing, have a new vehicle, have rental furniture, and basic household needs. We are working through the claims process and deciding how to proceed from here. Please continue to hold my family in prayer as we navigate the process."

~Pastor Alan

### TABLE & CHAIR SIGN-OUT

Just a reminder with holidays and family gathering season upon us, the sign out sheet for the tables and chairs is located in the closet across from the office.

Please contact the office to make sure you are on the list for the date you would like the tables and chairs.

The ONLY tables that are to leave the building are the older wooden style tables. The ONLY chairs that are to leave the building are the wooden chairs. The tables and chairs that can be taken out, are all located in the shed.

### MEMORIAL THANK YOU

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Blanche Batesole. We would like to thank the following for their memorials given in his name.

Doug & Karen Lick,

### MEDICAL LENDING SUPPLY CLOSET

Please remember that we have a medical supply lending closet in the basement kitchen for anyone to use as needed.

I have recently added a new walker with wheels, "skis", and a tray, and also a shower-tub transfer bench.

Ash any of us medical folks if you need help. Thanks!

~Robin

## DECEMBER MISSION SPOTLIGHT

### SCRIP FUNDRAISER

**Do you have gift cards to purchase for the holidays? We have partnered with Scrip, an organization that gives non-profits a percentage when people buy gift cards through them. Family order forms are available now and we will place an order December 1st. There are order forms located on the entrance tables to the sanctuary.**

For December, TUCC Mission Spotlight will be Family House in Toledo.

We will be collecting infant items to fill the manger and donate to Family House. Established in 1985, Family House is a unique shelter dedicated to preserving the family unit during a time of crisis. Recognizing that many families were trapped in a cycle of poverty, Family House developed services needed to successfully move families from homelessness to self-sufficiency. Comprehensive programs such as family residence, emergency shelter, kitchen and food programs, clothing, health and financial education are all a part of Family House's model to restore the whole family out of poverty and crisis. Family House provides not only for the immediate needs of families, but gives these families the tools to become self-sufficient.

Specific needs for this drive include: *baby formula, diapers (infant and toddler pull-ups), pacifiers, diaper rash cream, baby bottles, baby powder, baby shampoo, baby soap and baby lotion*

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

#### Trinity UCC

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