



**trinity**  
united church of Christ

**Sunday Worship @**  
10:00 am each week

**Sunday School  
& Branching Out**  
Sunday School for all  
ages @ 9:00 am &  
Branching Out Kids  
Church during Worship

Sermon Series:  
10:00 am Worship



November 5:  
We Have Nothing

November 12:  
Oak Harbor High School  
Choir

November 19:  
We Have What We Need

November 26:  
We Have Abundance

# Tidings

VOLUME 97, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2023

## Happy Fall!

November is upon us, and it's a wonderful time to reflect on the many blessings we've received and remind ourselves that God always provides. As we dive into this month, let's embrace an attitude of gratitude. Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and while it's a time for turkey, pumpkin pie, and quality time with loved ones, it's also a season to remember the abundant provision of our Heavenly Father.

It's easy to forget the simple blessings that surround us. As we start a new series called "More Than Enough" let's work together to focus on the things we HAVE not the things we HAVE NOT. It's incredible how a grateful heart can transform our outlook on life. Remember, it's not just about the material things but the people, moments, and experiences that bring joy and love into our lives. God provides in countless ways, and when we acknowledge this, our hearts overflow with thankfulness.

One of the most beautiful aspects of our church family is the way we come together to support one another. During difficult times, we've seen God's provision through the acts of kindness, prayers, and love shared among us. We are truly blessed to have a supportive community that stands by us in both joys and sorrows. Our church is beginning to reach out more and more to those who have needs in the community, and the holiday season is a perfect time to lift people up!

This November, let's make an effort to share our blessings with others. It's amazing how a simple act of kindness can brighten someone's day. As God provides for us, we can provide for others in our own unique ways. Consider donating/volunteering at one of our local food pantry partners, volunteering your time to serve a meal at Vision kitchen, visiting one of our elder members, or simply offering a listening ear to someone who needs it. In sharing our blessings, we not only reflect God's love but also deepen our connection with Him.

In all things, let's remember the power of prayer. Take time this month to talk to God, thank Him for His provision, and share your concerns and joys with Him. It's through prayer and reflection that we can find peace and guidance in our lives. As we embrace the spirit of gratitude this November, let's remember the words of Philippians 4:19: "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." Indeed, God always provides. May your November be filled with love, gratitude, and the assurance that God is with us, providing for our needs and filling our hearts with His endless blessings.

Wishing you a wonderful month of giving thanks!

*-Pastor Ryan Shields*

## Council Minutes: September 2023



The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Church Council met on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 7:00pm. Rebecca Reif, President, called the meeting to order, and Pastor Ryan Shields opened with prayer. Those in attendance were as follows: Rebecca Reif, Eric Gahler, Susie Shaffer, Sam Sutter, Kim Traver, Emily Burcin, Nathaniel Diekman, Marty Hoefl, Steve Turnow, Brice Gahler, Pastor Ryan Shields, Secretary Mary Muntz

### Reports

#### Recording Secretary:

Meeting minutes from August meeting were read and reviewed prior to meeting  
Motion to accept the minutes were made by first Nathaniel, second by Brice. MC

#### Administrative Assistant + Financial:

Reports were reviewed. Motion to accept reports made by first Brice, second by Susie, MC

#### Pastoral:

Block Party was chilly but great turn out for the day  
Coordinating efforts to start up Praise Band  
7 Confirmation students this year  
Firm Foundation Campaign launched  
See written report for additional information

### Committee Reports

#### EFY

Sunday School – HS Sunday School needs volunteers to team teach  
Sunday School – May look at starting a 2<sup>nd</sup> Adult Class  
Branching Out – Preschool Class needs teachers  
Branching Out – Elementary new routine going well in basement  
Planning for Stellar Christmas Program and Family Retreat Camp

#### Missions & Outreach

Volunteer opportunity October 14 – Build a Bed at St. Luke’s Blackberry

#### 2030 Team

Will meet in September to prioritize Firm Foundation items

#### Care Team

Team will meet soon  
Bible study starting at Genoa Care Center 1 day a month Nov-Dec-Jan

#### Church & Ministry

All evaluation rubrics streamlined for October/November process

#### Staff Relations

Adding Brittany Wittman to the team

#### Trustees

Propane secured through NWO for \$1.599/gallon for the season  
Dug up tile in Courtyard & cleared blockage  
Nathaniel will gather landscaping team for a meeting  
Gathering bids for Snow Removal this winter

### Old Business

Motion to purchase BBQ rack from Danny Tabbert for \$600 made by first Kim, second Nathaniel, MC

### New Business

Annual Congregational Meeting set for January 7, 2024  
Council volunteers needed for 2024 for Vice President, Financial Secretary, Elder, Deacon, 2 Trustees (see descriptions on page 6)

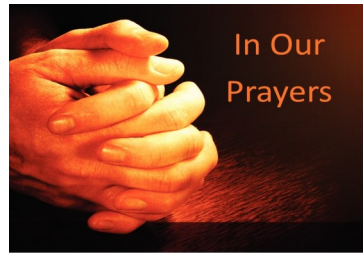
### General Operating Fund (Council approved 10/09/23)

Beginning Balance 08/01/2023	\$32,862.91
Offering/Income	\$10,649.87
Expenses	\$10,514.69
Transfers	\$0.00
Balance 07/31/2023	\$32,998.06

Next meeting October 9 at 7pm.  
Motion to adjourn meeting by first Brice, second by Nathaniel. MC.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm by Rebecca.  
Respectfully submitted by Mary Muntz, Administrative Assistant/Treasurer

Council regularly  
meets at the  
Church monthly  
on the  
2nd Monday  
at 7:00 pm  
in the Coffee  
Room next to  
the Kitchen

Congratulations to Dakota & Allison (Brown-Teneyck) Sparks who were united in marriage October 7, 2023.  
 Nichole Clapsaddle's mom is doing well with her rehab at the Genoa Care Center.  
 Jackie Pelton was in the hospital but is now doing recovery in the Genoa Care Center.  
 Sean Hall is having further complications from his brain cancer.  
 Kathryn Drummond is home recovering from an infection.



November's focus will be the Angel Tree & Christmas Help

Our Mission Team will provide more information on these annual projects very soon.

To give toward the Angel Tree & Christmas Help projects, simply write "Mission Spotlight" on your envelope or check memo.

**At Genoa Retirement Village:** Don Hoeft, Jackie Pelton, Norma Reif

**Those with long-term health concerns:** Dawn Baker, Rev. Don Corbin, Emeli Gahler, Joel Marquart, Rayna Perry, Chuck Vizi, Deanna Vizi, Don Weaver, Steve Welling, Jamison (Jamie) Zimmerman

**Those battling cancer**

Todd Hablitzel, Logan Murphy, Jackie Pelton, Dustin Schmidt

A gift has been given to our outdoor landscaping projects in honor of Suzanne Buhro, 95 years and 60+ in the Happy Hobby Garden Club. A second gift to our outdoor landscaping projects has been received in memory of Hazel Tabbert and her 60+ years in the Happy Hobby Garden Club. The Club greatly appreciates your kindness in opening the church for their meetings through the years.




**Firm Foundation Campaign Goals:**

- \$50,000 starting funds for preservation and repair of Sanctuary Wing and Steeple (doors in the wings, brick work, water proofing, eavestroughs, flashing, etc)
- Cleaning, Organizing & Supplying Basement and Kitchen for ministry use
- Launching at least two smaller groups meeting monthly to improve church community and connection (one group for individuals/couples with children, one group for individuals/couples without children). Training and equipping leaders to see these through.





**Coffee Fellowship**  
Tuesdays  
8:00 am  
Everyone  
Welcome!

**Vision Kitchen Serving Opportunity**  
**November 10th**  
Serving from 5:30 to 6:30 pm  
(arrive between 5:00 & 5:15 pm)

Casseroles & Cookies needed (pans and recipes provided)

Food items must be to the church  
by 8:00 am November 9th

Contact Emily Burcin for more information

**People Serving People**



Do you feel called to visit with some of our older congregation members? Handbooks are available to help you with conversation starters as you get to know some of our older congregation members. Contact Nancy Turnow for more information.



**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
FOOD x FELLOWSHIP x FAITH  
**November 12th @ 7:30 am**



**2024 Openings**

- Vice President
- Financial Secretary
- Deacon
- Elder
- 2 Trustees

Contact Eric Gahler or a Council Member for more information

**Church COUNCIL**

Job descriptions for each position are listed on page 6 in this newsletter.

**Older Adult Devotional & Fellowship Time**

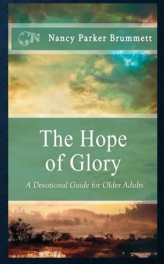
November 14<sup>th</sup> & December 12<sup>th</sup>

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Hosted by Nancy Turnow & Nyla Denman at the Genoa Care Center Assisted Living 300 Cherry Street - Genoa

Residents of the Care Center/Assisted Living & Older Adults residing in their own homes are invited

If a ride is needed, please let Nyla or Nancy know & they will make arrangements to pick you up.



Enter the Assisted Living #1 doorway and the room we will use is directly across from the door.

**Oak Harbor High School Choir**

Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
@ 10:00 am

Cookie & Punch reception to follow

**How Do I Give to the Church and Its Ministries**

Giving to your local church using [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) is super easy! We offer a number of different ways to give to your church, as listed below:

**#1 - Give on your Church Website at [www.trinityelliston.org](http://www.trinityelliston.org)**

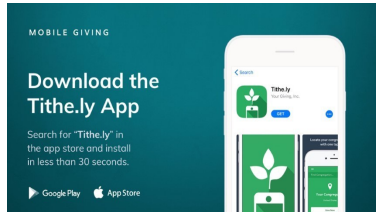
Click on the link provided and it will take you to our secure Tithe.ly page to set up your contribution.

**#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://www.tithe.ly/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://www.apple.com/app-store) (iPhone) or [Google Play Store](https://www.google.com/play-store) (Android). Once you've downloaded the app, create an account or log in, locate your church and tap "Give Now" to complete your contribution!



MOBILE GIVING

Download the Tithe.ly App

Search for "Tithe.ly" in the app store and install in less than 30 seconds.

Google Play App Store



# Family Church Camp at Michindoh

January 19-21, 2024

Reserve your spot today!!

Games  
Activities  
Adult Sessions  
Fun for Every Age

Kids 5 and under - FREE  
Kids Ages 6-12 - \$95.50  
Adults & Kids 13+ - \$157

It is our mission as a church to allow families to attend this camp without the financial burden! We want to raise enough to allow all kids 0-18 to attend free! Donations can be made to the church office and marked "Church Camp Donation."

Reserve your spot by following the link below or by contacting Janene Lattimore

<https://forms.gle/A2F8WSu2txL99YRJ8>



Our STELLAR Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 17th during our 10:00 am Church Service.

If you have children or if you would like to help in any way with the program, please follow the link below and enter some information that will help connect you and/or your children with this event. Contact Janene Lattimore with any questions.

<https://forms.gle/7LDDaHWTiz1WmKLHHA>



Sunday, December 10th @ 4:00 pm

Cookies needed, contact Michele Avery with questions

# THANK YOU



Thank you to our Children's Director Janene Lattimore and all who donated items for or helped with our Boo Fest on Sunday, October 29th.

Thank you to all who served at the Genoa Food Pantry and also to those who served at the Let's Build Beds Project Day in Curtice in October.

Myron and I would like to thank all the parents and grandparents that assisted us on the trip to Lancaster, PA. The play was a wonderful experience. The girls and one boy on the trip were great. Special thanks to Kylene for chauffeured services and especially Jan for the wonderful walking stick. GOD BLESS ALL! You gave us a memory that will last forever.  
~Myron & Sara Zibbel

The generous donation of \$715.00 has been received by the Genoa Area Community Food Pantry and is greatly appreciated. The generous donation and support of the Pantry makes it easier for us to continue to serve those in need. Thank you,  
~Robin Miller, Treasurer

Thank you for your donation of \$500.00 to the Elmore Food Pantry. The generosity of people like you is what feeds our hungry neighbors. Your donation is appreciated by all of us who volunteer at the pantry and by those whom we serve. May you be blessed in your giving. Sincerely,  
~Elmore Food Pantry, Jean Weng

This is the *Day* that the Lord has made, let us *Rejoice* and be glad in it.  
Psalm 118:24



# Trinity UCC Elliston Council Job Descriptions

## President

- ...see that all meetings of the Council are regularly called, to open and conduct such meetings, and to see to the execution of all resolutions.
- ...is empowered, with other members of the Council, to sign all contracts, loans, vouchers, and deeds in the name of the congregation. According to our Incorporation, the Council President, or his/her designate, shall be agent for the Corporation.
- ...shall be ex-officio member of all Church Committees.
- ...shall make elected officers aware of their responsibilities.

## Vice President

- ...shall preside at all meetings where the President is not present and also when business pertaining to the President and his administration is before the congregation.
- ...shall be chairman of the Pulpit Search Committee and chief liaison agent between the Board of Christian Education, Family Life and Youth, and the Church Council, presenting Board recommendations for Council action.

## Recording Secretary

- ...shall keep a record of all transactions at the meetings of the congregation and the Church Council, attend to all correspondence, and keep a list of all members and their addresses.
- ...shall sign all minutes of the meetings of the Council and congregation.

## Financial Secretary

- ...shall be the Financial Officer of the Church.
- ...shall render a monthly report to the Council and an annual report to the Congregation based on the Treasurer's accounting.
- ...all records shall be audited bi-annually.
- ...shall bring all unpaid bills to Council for approval.
- ...shall call together the Audit Committee.
- ...shall be the Budget Coordinator for the Church.

## Elders

- ...shall assist and support the Pastor in the spiritual affairs of the Church.
- ...shall be responsible for providing the elements for Holy Communion and their distribution.
- ...shall take heed in the high calling of their office, guarding faithfully all spiritual interests of the Church, visiting the sick, and ministering to the edification and comfort of all.
- ...shall endeavor to prevent strife and discord in the Church. If discord and disputes arise they shall try to adjust the difficulty in order that peace prevails.
- ...shall, as care-takers of the Church, be responsible for the visitation and counsel with members on the conditional list, trying to re-establish them as active members.

## Deacons

- ...shall provide a schedule of ushers for all services, with the Senior Deacon serving as the head usher.
- ...shall be responsible for acolytes and instructing them.
- ...shall maintain order and good behavior at all services of worship of the congregation and other meetings of the Church.
- ...are responsible for affiliated services which they are to render to their Church.

## Trustees

- ...shall see that all property of the congregation is adequately insured against loss or damage and shall provide for adequate liability insurance.
- ...shall see that the buildings are kept in good repair.
- ...shall be responsible for janitors in case of absence of regular janitors.





## Women's Ecumenical Christmas Service

### *Take Me To The Manger*

Thursday, December 7, 2023

St. John's United Church of Christ  
(1213 Washington Street, Genoa)

Registration: 5:45 pm | Service 6:00 pm

Holiday Buffet following the service

Offering will go toward Ottawa County Family Advocacy's  
GrandLove (Grandparents raising Grandchildren)

Call 419-855-3906 or email [office@stjohnsgenoa.org](mailto:office@stjohnsgenoa.org) by November 30th to RSVP if attending.



## Christmas Wrappings 26th Annual Advent Brunch for ladies

@ Rocky Ridge St. John Lutheran Church  
Saturday, December 2, 2023  
9:30 am

with guest musicians *A Change of Plans*

Brunch and Fellowship immediately following the program

Cost \$10.00 per person

RSVP by November 19, 2023

RSVP by mail with name and payment to  
Ann Schimming, 12351 W SR 105, Oak Harbor, OH 43449  
Make check payable to "Women of the ELCA"



## Medical Supply Closet

Available free of charge to anyone with a need.

There is first aid equipment and supplies in the basement kitchen for your use. There is also some first aid equipment in the kitchen pantry and an AED in the connecting hallway near the restrooms. We also

are blessed to have many members in the health field who can assist as needed (and they've been needed!) at times.

At this time, there is no need for further donations of medical supplies. We have a few wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, slings, bandages, ice packs, etc. that would help in a medical situation in the building or for someone in immediate need. Let me know if we can help in any way.

Thanks for all the support and understanding!  
Robin Hansen

## Contingent Fund

Do you know what the Contingent Fund is used for? This is the fund that ALL building and maintenance items are paid out of. So when something breaks, we pay for it out of this fund. Examples of other items that are paid out of the Contingent Fund include:

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Maintenance work on the boilers            | Batteries       |
| Light bulbs and new lights                 | Paint           |
| Parts to fix & repair things in the church | Carpet Cleaning |
| Snow Removal                               | Lawn Care       |

Thank you for remembering to contribute to our Contingent Fund as you are able.



# LAUNCHING MOVEMENTS SLOVENIA

cru<sup>+</sup>



Letters from  
*Ljubljana*

September 2023

## EUROPEAN MOVEMENT CATALYSTS

This month we were invited to a conference which gathered people who are serving the Lord by starting Bible Discovery movements in their communities. There were people there from more than 35 different countries, serving in 27 countries across Europe. It was encouraging to hear where and how God is working in different places and people groups, as we shared strategies and stories with one another.

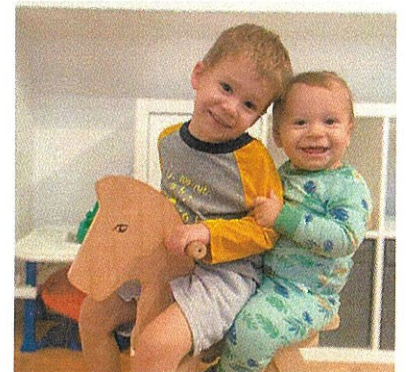


One man, Youhanna, became a Christian and was forced to flee his country of Afghanistan to Germany. He now seeks other refugees from the Middle East and shares the Gospel with them, and finds those open to reading the Bible and starting groups. He is connected with groups all across Germany, and has seen many people receive Jesus as their savior. While he was at the conference, he went out to talk with people, and while he found one person that was a bit receptive to him, another man, an Iranian, threatened him for being a Muslim convert. This kind of persecution is not unfamiliar to Youhanna, but he continues to be faithful to those the Lord has called him.

Another man I spoke with, Thibaut, is French, and living in southern France, he is starting groups among North African immigrants, who land there by the hundreds. He shared about a Moroccan girl that they had been sharing with for nearly a year, and finally prayed to receive Jesus as savior. Shortly after, she had to return to Morocco for a funeral, and was praying with them for boldness as it was her first time returning as a Christian. These are just two of many stories of people working to see Bible Discovery groups start among every tribe, tongue, and nation across Europe. We ended our time at the conference praying with people from Central Europe and the Balkans, and it was a wonderful glimpse of the Kingdom to come. Please pray with us for the people of Europe, that God would cause revival across the continent, that many people would be open to our Savior, and that they would start groups among their families, friends, coworkers, and communities.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray for health for our family! Since Ari has started school our family has been passing around sickness, with at least two of us sick at any time. Pray for the Lord to restore our health, and protect us from further disruption.
- Pray for Matej, that the Lord would bless him as he is transitioning apartments and jobs. Transitions are hard for him with his mental health struggles, so pray for the Lord's protection.
- Pray for safe travels, we have a few different events and trips throughout the fall, pray for safe and smooth travels for us.



With love in Christ, Jay, Zina, Ari, & Milo Herman



# Trinity UCC

# NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>All Saints Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation &amp; Adult Classes 10:00 am Worship &amp; Kids Church</p> <p>Greeters: Team A / Trustee: Steve Turnow Christopher Tabbert (B) Kylene Liphart (B) Meredith Reif (B) Nathan Tabbert (B)</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship 7:00 pm Dartball @ Genoa St. John's UCC</p> <p>Election Day Joshua Kish (B) Ashley Hansen (B)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Genoa Care Center Assisted Living Devotional &amp; Fellowship Time 1:00 pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Wedding: Haynes/Lavelle (6:00 pm Rehearsal)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Wedding: Haynes/Lavelle (3:30 pm Ceremony)</p> <p>Analisa Williams (B) Lauren Milbrodt (B) Heidi Jensen (B) Christopher &amp; Kyleene</p>
<p>Veteran's Day</p> <p>7:30 am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation &amp; Adult Classes 10:00 am Worship w/ OHHS Choir &amp; Kids Church (Cookie &amp; Punch Reception after Church)</p> <p>Greeters: Team B / Trustee: Marty Hoeft</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 pm Church Council</p> <p>Morgan Turnow (B)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship 7:00 pm Dartball @ home vs Elmore St. Paul Methodist</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Jed Kish (B) Tammy Asher (B)</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>Thanksgiving Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation &amp; Adult Classes 10:00 am Worship &amp; Kids Church</p> <p>Greeters: Team C / Trustee: Brandon Kincaid</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Tidings Information Due</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship 7:00 pm Dartball @ home vs Rocky Ridge St. John</p> <p>Brianne Perry (B) Sam Witt (B)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Thanksgiving</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</p> <p>9:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation &amp; Adult Classes 10:00 am Worship &amp; Kids Church</p> <p>Greeters: Team D / Trustee: Brice Gahler Sam Sutter (B)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Vera Sager (B)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship 7:00 pm Dartball @ Elliston Zion United Methodist</p> <p>Karen Lick (B) Amelia Sutter (B)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Jan Grieger (B)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Myron Zibbel (B)</p>		

**There's a place for you here!**

**CONNECT**

**GROW**

**SERVE**



**419-862-3417**  
**TrinityElliston.org**

**Join us in person or via livestream on Sunday mornings**

**Sunday School**  
**9:00 am**  
Nursery through  
Adult Classes

**Sunday Worship**  
**10:00 am**  
Nursery & Kids'  
Church Available

Hearing Assistance Devices  
Available  
from the  
Tech Booth  
Upon Request



**trinity**  
united church of Christ

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Instagram: [trinityellistonucc](https://www.instagram.com/trinityellistonucc)  
YouTube: [TrinityElliston](https://www.youtube.com/TrinityElliston)  
Livestream: [trinityelliston.org/livestream](http://trinityelliston.org/livestream)

Pastor: Ryan Shields  
Pastor's Email: [ryandshields@outlook.com](mailto:ryandshields@outlook.com)  
Children's Ministry Director: Janene Lattimore  
Janene's Email: [janenelattimore11@gmail.com](mailto:janenelattimore11@gmail.com)