



Trinity Tidings

Trinity United Church of Christ
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News From Pastor Kyle

The Psalmist declares, "Better is one day in His courts than a thousand elsewhere."

I wonder how many of us really believe this. How many of us really look forward to one day in eternal glory with our Creator, Savior, Comforter, loved ones and more.

The reason I ask this is because over the years I've been asked many questions about Heaven and I've heard many remarks about Heaven and Hell.

Scripture paints many images of what Heaven will be like. Whether it's Jesus Himself, the apostles, or John in the book of Revelations, we know many things about what Heaven will be like.

With that knowledge in hand, are we looking forward to it? If so, does our excitement about our eternal home overflow into the lives of others that we live our lives to share with our neighbors, friends, family, etc. the importance of having a relationship with Jesus?

I truly believe that when people are excited about something and truly are passionate about it in their hearts, they want to tell everyone they come in contact with.

I pray that we are Christians that don't keep the Good News to ourselves. I pray that we, as Christians, share with everyone the joy of salvation

and the hope we have because we know where our eternal destiny is.

May it be so.

PK

Valentine's Day Dinner & Game

(Sunday, February 12th - 5:30 pm)

All adults are invited to join us for our annual Valentine's Day Dinner. Cost is \$10/person and includes Chicken Cordeon Bleu, home-style noodles, green bean casserole, salad, bread and dessert. Please make reservations with the church office before February 8th. After dinner, we will be playing "Match Game."



Copies

If you would like color copies made, you don't need to travel all the way to the store anymore! With the new copier we have, we can print very nice color copies for you! We will charge \$0.50 per color copy, which is less than you would spend at the store, and \$0.05 per black & white copy. Just stop during office hours and we will help you out.

Lent

Ash Wednesday Service & Lent information

While the official Lent schedule will not be printed until the March edition of the Tidings, just a reminder that the 1st Wednesday in Lent is March 1st.

Ash Wednesday service will be at 7 pm

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found Table (located in the coat room by the north entrance) will be emptied at the end of each month. It will be donated or put in garbage.” Thanks Amy

Table and Chair Sign-Out

Just a reminder, with parties and outside family gathering season upon us, that 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.

Church Council Minutes

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Church Council met on December 12th, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Amy Mathews, President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. and Steve Turnow opened with prayer. Those in attendance were as follows:

President – Amy Mathews, Vice President – Ed Gahler, Recording Secretary – Desirae McCloskey, Financial Secretary, Nyla Denman, Elders - Connie Gahler and Ken Gahler, Trustees – Marty Hoeft, and Dale Bodnar, Deacons – Dwayne Hoeft and Jim Buhro

Secretary Rhonda Mahoney and Pastor Kyle was present as well.

John Bast and Dan Gahler from the 2017 council slate were also in attendance.

Not Present – Trustee Doug Avery

Reports:

Recording Secretary:

Meeting minutes from the council meeting on 11/14/2016 were read prior the meeting. Motion to accept the minutes for the past meeting was made by Ed Gahler, 2nd by Dwayne Hoeft. MC.

Meeting minutes from the congregational meeting on 12/4/2016 were read prior to the meeting. A discussion was held relative to amending the constitution in order to allow a council member to continue on council for an additional two year term, council has determined at this time that we will not amend the constitution, in hopes that someone will step up and fill the Vice President role. Motion to accept the congregational minutes* was made by Nyla Denman, 2nd by Jim Buhro. MC.

*Council still voted on minutes due to the accuracy of the meeting minutes, although discussion by council after the congregational meeting will take precedence.

Secretary Report:

- Check from the sale of the parsonage has been received by the church. Marty Hoeft made a motion to deposit the check into the ‘Genoa Estate Savings’. The ‘Genoa Estate Savings’ will then be changed to ‘Genoa Savings’ with sub-categories (Estate and Parsonage). Additionally, the parsonage balance will then be moved to that savings account as well. 2nd by Nyla Denman. MC.
- NWO Association UCC has asked for our mission goal for 2017, we will follow the approved budget for the giving to the association.
- Committee reports are due by the end of December.

Financial Report:

- Financial information was reviewed for the prior month. Dale Bodnar moved to accept the financial report. Connie Gahler 2nd. MC.
- An audit needs to be completed for the last six months of 2016, it will be performed in January 2017.

Pastor Report:

- Discussed the two Christmas Eve services, communion will be served at both services.
- Wednesday Re-Kindle services attendance has been low, it was discussed regarding continuing or postponing to Lenten services. It was decided to keep it on the calendar in hopes that attendance picks up.
- Year-end review video is being worked on.
- In contact with missions agencies for missions trip in June.
- Road signs will be ready in January.
- Deacons – can you please look to see who the greeters are the following week to help reminder next week’s greeters of their assignment.
- Benevolence Fund – Currently has \$1,500 – which needs to be given by the

end of 2017. If anyone has any organizations to donate to, please let Rhonda/Kyle know.

- Elevator Update – Nothing has been received in regards to the re-buttel of the letter that was received from the church regarding the initial bill to repair the services.
- Floors – Still in progress of cleaning the remaining floors – will be done by the end of January.

Committee Reports:

Worship – Nothing to report, as they have not met.

EFY –Doing fantastic, having 20-26 on average of participants. Still looking for teachers! PLEASE SIGN UP! For all of those interested in teaching either one Sunday or several Sunday. Please sign up outside the door.

Christmas Program organized by Ashley Zimmerman was great and was well attended. Dinner was excellent led by Amy Mathews, which fed approximately 130 individuals. Income for the evening was \$725, once the expenses have been paid, the remainder will be given to the EFY fund. However, an individual has stepped up to cover the expenses, therefore the total amount given will be deposited into the youth group.

Mission – Assisted with the Christmas Program dinner, was very successful.

Church & Ministry – Nothing to report, as they have not met.

Trustees -

- It was determined that Pastor Kyle will be in charge of contacting snow removal contact on an as needed basis as we head into the wintery season.
- Basement wall in the stairwell is getting fixed this week.
- Basement floors and walls need to be kept on the radar as the basement could use some sprucing up.
- Kitchen needs caulking all along the backsplash.
- Light sensors outside coming in to the church are not coming on.
- Nativity scene was set up by the trustees (and Ed Gahler).

Parsonage Committee - Parsonage has been sold, final check received was \$98,431.77 after closing costs and miscellaneous expenses.

Window Project – Earliest they would be able to come out is February 2017. Council has determined that isn’t the best time for Ohio weather, therefore, will be contacted the company to reschedule as we get close to the February date.

Old Business:

- 15 tables have been purchased by the church
- Ed Gahler contacted Bob Jenson for annual maintenance of the front door – proposing we have redone in March.

New Business:

- Parsonage garage needs to be cleaned out – will be looking into what to alternative storage considerations we have at this time.
- Custodial Position:
Ed Gahler presiding as President (as Amy was not in attendance during this item): Jim Buhro made a motion of accepting Amy Mathews to be the custodian of the church, Dale Bodnar 2nd. MC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm by Amy Mathews. Respectfully submitted, Desirae McCloskey, Recording Secretary

Treasurer’s Report (approved)

General Operating Fun	
Balance as of 12/1/16	\$13,318.92
Offerings/Income	\$10,988.28
Expenses	\$13,032.10
Balance as of 12/31/16	\$11,275.10

Congregational Meeting –

The following item was discussed prior to the congregational meeting on January 8th, 2017:
Ed Gahler informed the congregation that council has decided not to amend the constitution to allow a council member to continue on council after their first two year term is up. Therefore,

Ed Gahler proposed to nominate Robin Hansen as Vice President of Council. Mike Diekman 2nd. MC.

Congregational/Annual Meeting – January 8th, 2017

The purpose of the congregational/annual meeting was to accept the committee reports for the year. No discussion was held. Kathy Giesler made a motion to accept the reports. Desirae McCloskey 2nd.

Informational discussion points:

1. Ed Gahler informed the congregation that there were open positions for various committees and urged the congregation members to volunteer for committees. Nancy Turnow volunteered to be on nominating committee while Janene Lattimore volunteered to be EFY chair and on Church & Ministry. Desirae McCloskey, Andrea Hayes and Jen Laughlin all joined the Missions Team.
2. Ed Gahler reminded the congregation that the parsonage sold in the past month and that the money is currently in a savings account.

Jane Gahler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Veronica McMonigle, Recording Secretary

\$5 Offerings - The Missions' Team has generated a new schedule of \$5 offerings for the year. They include:

- 1st Sunday of Month - Supporting Church Camp
- 2nd Sunday of Month - Supporting Youth Mission's Trip (June 4-9)
- 3rd Sunday of Month - Supporting a local mission/need
- 4th Sunday of Month - Supporting an outward mission/need
- 5th Sunday of Month - As needed

If you have suggestions for where our 3rd or 4th week offerings could go, please let Pastor Kyle or Amy Mathews know.

WF Treasurer's Report	
Balance on Hand as of Nove 1 st	\$439.15
Offering	\$16.00
From Savings	200.00
Total Income & Balance	\$539.15
NO UPDATED REPORT	
Total Expenses	\$460.00
Cherry Street Mission	\$50.00
Ottawa Co. Holiday Bureau	\$50.00
Trinity (Shepard & Boy)	\$300.00
Memorial Fund (Avery)	\$10.00
Salvation Army	\$50.00
Balance on Hand Nov 31st	\$195.15
Savings Account	\$1,316.75

Women's Fellowship

Trinity Women's Fellowship met on Thurs. Jan 12, 2017 at 1:00 pm. V.Pres Norma began the day with an opening prayer and the table blessing. There were eight present. Hostess was Jackie P. and she served snacks, dip and a delicious jello cake dessert.

The devotions and program was led by Suzanne B. Since this is the beginning of the new year, the topic was "The Gifts of the Months" with a candle being lit for each month and a reading reminding us of the love of God which ever glows in our hearts and filling us with a fresh desire to serve him.

A business meeting was held. Norma thanked Jackie for hosting today and Suzanne for the program. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. There was no treasurer's report. No correspondence.

There was discussion on whether we will be able to serve the banquets coming up. No decision made.

Ina D. gave the Sunshine report. Sue Wittman will be the new chairman.

Prayer partners were revealed and new names drawn.

Don't forget to bring your donations for the O.H. Food pantry to church.

Next month we will meet on Thursday Feb 9th at 1:00 pm Program will be Ina D and Hosts will be Sue, Carol, and Kelly.

Meeting adjourned.

~Suzanne Buhro, Secretary

Community Markets

Please bring in your receipts and place them in the box located on the table between the North glass doors. Every little bit helps! Thank you to everyone that has been bringing receipts, we just received a check for \$56.61.

Thank You

“Thank you to all that helped to make the Christmas Program and dinner a success! What a wonderful performance by all the children. Our Youth and Mission team all worked together to serve 132 people a wonderful dinner.”

“On behalf of Genoa High School, I would like to personally thank you for your remarkable generosity & partnership with our Pay-it-Forward service project. Over the last 8 years I have witnessed the amazing outpouring of love and support from our area communities. Thank you for your willingness to make a difference in the lives of 6 of our Genoa High School families this holiday season. Merry Christmas & God Bless”

~Cari & Genoa High School

“The B.C.S. Food Pantry wishes to express their Thanks for all your donations throughout the year 2016. It was greatly appreciated. Thanks again for all your help to make our food pantry a success.”

~B.C.S. Volunteers.

“We want to say a special thank you for the many joyous carolers bringing us the Christmas spirit. We truly enjoyed everyone. The plate of cookies was lovely. Many Thanks”

~Melvin & Norma

“I really enjoyed the Caroler’s visit and the cookies. Thank you to all for stopping by.”

~Suzanne Buhro

“Thanks to the chorales for coming and for bring cookies. They were delicious.”

~Don & Lavonna Bittner

“ Thank you for all the cards and well wishes sent to me.”

~Amy Mathews

“Thank you to the carolers for sharing the wonderful Christmas carols with me and the delicious goodies which I enjoyed very much. God Bless”

~Blanche

“I want to thank the carolers who came to my house and sang Christmas carols to me and I also wish to thank them for the plate of cookies which was very thoughtful of them. Thank you again.”

~Evelyn Schimming



Memorial Thank You

We would like to extend our thanks to the following people that donated to the Doug Avery Memorial Fund.

Ms. Marilyn Appelhans

Coupons

I would appreciate receiving any coupon pages (usually found in the Sunday newspaper). I use the coupons to buy items for the food pantry.

There is a white box on the corner of the coat rack across from the office for the coupon pages.

Please bring them in ASAP as they are very short-dated.

I will put any expired coupons into the coupon box for the military people. The rest of the papers will be recycled.

Thank you so much! ~~Karen Lick



Trinity Youth News

Children's Choir at Trinity

Jackie Timmons has started a children's choir at Trinity. Children in preschool on up are encouraged to participate.

Kids' Choir – Children wishing to participate in the Kids' Choir are encouraged to practice with the group the 1st Sunday of each month at 9 am. CDs are available at the church office for families to play at home or in their vehicles for their children to learn the songs. Call Jackie Timmons at 419-898-2045 if you have any questions.

Branching Out (Preschool - 1st Grade)

Branching Out (2nd - 5th Grade)

We are looking for a few teachers (men and women) to rotate teaching our Branching Out classes. Material and training will be available. Our children our vital to health of this congregation, both presently and in the future. Please prayerfully consider signing up to help Branching Out grow.

Several people have already stepped up to teach this fall, but we could still use 2 or 3 more individuals. This will allow teachers to attend worship the other three Sundays. If you are willing to teach, please let Pastor Kyle, Amy Mathews, or Ashley Zimmerman know as soon as possible.

Youth Mission's Trip (June 4-9) - Several students will be traveling to Cincinnati to participate in our summer mission's trip in June. If you have a student interested in going and haven't said anything yet to PK, please let him know right away.

While we will be receiving \$5 offerings to help pay for our students to attend, if you would like to help sponsor our youth to go, please see PK or Rhonda in the church office.

Youth Group Concert

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to attend a concert at Genoa St. John's UCC on February 24th.

We will meet at Trinity at 6:30 pm and go as a group.

Contingent Fund

As we are ending the year, we are still running a negative balance of -\$2,400.00 from the elevator repair. If you are looking for a place to make a donation yet this year, please consider our Contingent Fund.

Mark your 2017 Calendars

Men's Banquet (March 31st)
 Chicken BBQ (April 23rd)
 Rummage Sale (April/May)
 Women's Banquet (May)
 Youth Mission's Trip (June 4-9)
 Water Blast & Picnic (July)
 Turnow's Pond Weekend (August)
 Fall Festival & Boo Festival (October 29th)

*Stay informed about additions and changes in our calendar by viewing our facebook page (*Trinity United Church of Christ Elliston*), newsletters, and bulletins.



Greeters

<u>February 2017</u>		
5 th	North	Karen Lick
	South	Doug Lick
12 th	North	Amy Mathews
	South	Dan Mathews
19 th	North	Matt Perry
	South	Brianne Perry
26 th	North	Melvin Reif
	South	Norma Reif
<u>March 2017</u>		
5 th	North	Don Tabbert Sr
	South	Hazel Tabbert
12 th	North	Doyle Sommer
	South	Helen Sommer
19 th	North	Sue Timmons
	South	Jackie Timmons
26 th	North	Don Weaver
	South	Bonnie Weaver
<u>April 2017</u>		
2 nd	North	Myron Zibbel
	South	Sara Zibbel
9 th	North	Jackie Pelton
	South	Ina David
16 th	North	Doug Avery
	South	Michelle Avery
23 rd	North	John Bast
	South	Jackie Bast
30 th	North	Dale Bodnar
	South	Ava Bodnar

Re-Kindle (Mid-Week Service) - Everyone is invited to join us at 7 pm on Wednesdays for a midweek service with song, Scripture, and discussion.

Offering Envelops

Reminder to pick up your 2017 offering envelopes on the table as you leave the sanctuary. If you did not receive envelopes, but would like some, please contact the office.

Greeters

Each week we have a greeter at both the North and South door to help welcome everyone. The greeter also is there to greet our guests and welcome them and answer any questions they may have. If you haven't seen your name on the greeter list, and would like to be a greeter, please let the office know.

Food Pantry

Did you know that we collect items that get donated to the

local Food Pantry? Bring your canned goods, toiletries, non-perishable items and place them in one of the two baskets located at the church. One basket is located in the coat room (North side of the building) and the other basket is located at the entry way of the south doors. Thank you for giving to those in need.



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Mission

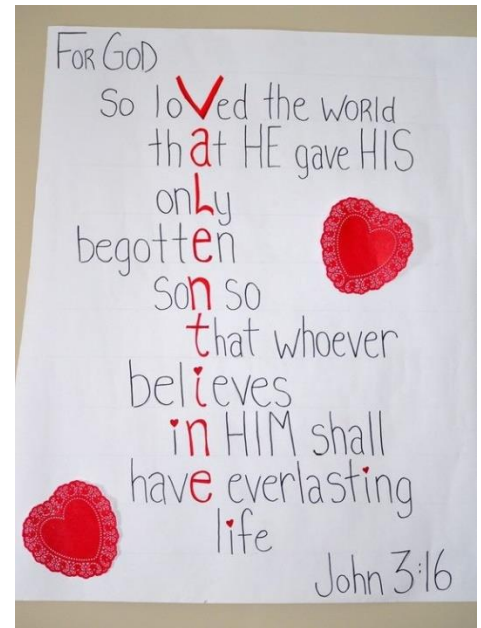
Promote Faith, Family, and Fellowship through the Father,
Son, & Holy Spirit!

Check out our website at:

www.trinityelliston.org

Message from the Office

By Rhonda Mahaney



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