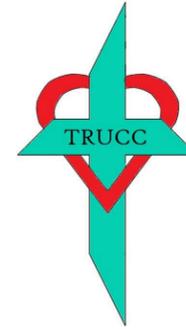


**TRINITY REFORMED UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST
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The Tablet

JANUARY 2019

Trinity Reformed
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Peggy J. Stout, Pastor
Rev. Jaha Seechang, Lahu Worship Leader
Mrs. Cathy Higgins, Dir. Children's School
Mr. Joe Hart, Financial Secretary
Mrs. Tamara McCarter, Church Secretary
Mr. Marty Light, Organist
Ms. Sonya Starnes, Nursery Supervisor
Mrs. Stacy Helton, Housekeeper
Mr. Rick Helton, Custodian

Prepared Especially For:

Pastor's Chatter:

Have you ever stopped to think that the New Testament in the Bible is really a collection of letters? The Gospels are a collection of four different people basically telling others—"so, you want to know about Jesus? Here's what happened." The rest of the New Testament has a pattern—a pastor, an apostle, an evangelist, a church leader, or someone who started a church, writes a letter to people he loves and wants to see grow in the faith and shares spiritual vision and wisdom from God to help them. Imagine receiving one of those letters if you were living in the early days of Christianity and you had to meet behind locked doors or in someone's basement for fear of being discovered and persecuted. But, you met anyway and waited to read that letter of encouragement, and comfort, and challenge. That letter inspired, comforted, and challenged you.



Today, I want to share a pastoral letter with you—words of encouragement, gratitude, and challenge. It is my hope and prayer that these are not just words on paper, but they will give shape to who we are as the people of God at Trinity Church, in 2019.

In 2018 one of the things that crystallized for me about our church is: **we are a church that definitely prioritizes local missions.** We care about our community; we engage our money and our time in ECCCM, the Corner Table, the Salvation Army, the Family Guidance Center (especially the Abused Women's Shelter), Newton Conover High School (hygiene kits), Neighbors Network, and so many other ministries here. We also care about our country and those victimized by the hurricanes; we sent money and cleanup buckets and continue to pray for the people hurt and the people helping. Our youth group is even planning a mission trip this summer to help with disaster relief from Hurricane Florence in Conway, SC. Thank you for reaching out to our local neighbors. Jesus said, "inasmuch as you have done it unto others, you have done it unto me". ***I encourage us in 2019 to continue to look around our community and see how God wants us to minister to the needs—through our time, our talents, and our monies. Maybe there are other places yet to be discovered!***

We are also a church people who believe in prayer and the power of God! We are always asking our church to join us in praying for something or someone. ***So, in 2019 I want to challenge each of us to spend a little more intentional time in prayer.*** Every time God has gotten ready to do something big in the world, He prepared the way by calling His people to pray. Our lives will not have the power we need to face adversity, to overcome temptations, to make life-changing decisions, or to be the church God desires for us without the help of the Holy Spirit and prayer. ***So, I encourage you to pray for those in your spheres of influence—in your family, at school, at***



EACH SUNDAY

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30am**

**THE TRADITIONAL
& LAHU NATIVE
LANGUAGE SERVICE
10:30 am**

**(various Sundays)
"FAITH ALIVE!"
WORSHIP
5:00 pm**

**CHECK OUT our
Website (updated daily):
www.trinitytoday.org**

Please welcome our newest members in Christ!!



**Joan McClain
Williamson**
June 26, 2018



Jacob Eric Conner
July 22, 2018
*(Parents: Eric &
Kristi Conner)*



**Harper Banks
Kaup**
August 5, 2018
*(Parents: Jimmy
& Holly Kaup)*



Olivia Renee Herman
November 25, 2018
*(Parents: Jason &
Lisa Herman)*

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:30am - 3:30pm

Email: trinityucc@trucc.net



Web: www.trinitytoday.org

work, in your leisure activities. We need to pray for people who don't know Jesus as Savior and Lord. We need to ask for God's help for ourselves and for others. Pray for our church - for our staff, for the person God is preparing to be our next youth and Christian education director. *May you make a more intentional effort to spend time in prayer and let us see what God does in our individual lives and our life as a church body in 2019!*

We are also becoming known as a very warm and welcoming church. When visitors come, they tell me they are graciously welcomed by you, and my heart radiates with joy and gratitude. **I pray that we will take that welcoming, inviting spirit to those outside our church doors—to those in our neighborhood, or family, or acquaintances.** There are folks who are waiting to be invited to church and want to know that someone cares enough to offer the invitation. Let's reach beyond our comfort zone to invite some folks to church. *If you are excited about something our church does, please share it with someone -via texting, Facebook, in person, etc.* Church is about meeting God and growing in fellowship with one another. So, let's help others to know the love of God that we know and have experienced.

Lastly, I want to call us to continue to give sacrificially as a church. Giving is one of the most joyful ways we can tangibly proclaim our trust in God's provisions for us. You have shown such strength in financial stewardship over the years as well as in stewardship of your time and talents. *Whenever there has been a need, you have graciously and generously stepped up to the task. So, in 2019, may we give as we are each able and may God help us as a church to go beyond our expectations! Give from your heart—not because you have to, but because of God's goodness and grace to you.*

As we begin this New Year, let us fix our eyes on Jesus and together grow into the individuals and the church God desires.

With ever increasing love, appreciation, and gratitude,
Rev. Peggy

Worship in January:

JANUARY 6: EPIPHANY SUNDAY/COMMUNION/INSTALLATION OF DEACONS & ELDERS

10:30am Sermon: *"What Gift(s) will you give Christ this year?"*

Liturgist: Joye Lane

Lay Reader: Todd Dickerson

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

5:00 PM—FAITH ALIVE! WORSHIP

JANUARY 13: THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

10:30am Sermon: *"Feeling Special or Chosen"*

Children's Sermon: Jessica Spain

Liturgist: Bruce Rockett

Lay Reader: Jayne Abernethy

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 118:1-4, 11-16

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:21-22

NO FAITH ALIVE! Services Tonight!

JANUARY 20: 2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10:30am Sermon: *"Witnessing a Miracle"*

Children's Sermon: Jessica Spain

Liturgist: Dawn Kilby

Lay Reader: Shuford Abernethy

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 36:5-10

Gospel Reading: John 2:1-11

NO FAITH ALIVE! Services Tonight!

JANUARY 27: 3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY & MINISTRY OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

10:30am Sermon: TBA *(with Rev. Sandi Hood)*

Liturgist: Kelly Barringer

Lay Reader: Lawrence Warf

Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:14-21

5:00 PM—FAITH ALIVE! WORSHIP



CHURCH STAFF LUNCHEON MEETING with Rev. Peggy
Sunday, January 13th—11:45am—in the Sun Room
(Please bring your calendars and scheduled activities for Jan. 30 until June 30).

Remember In Prayer (& with your cards, calls, visits):

- Recuperating at Home—Sarah Hoffman, Garland & Darlene Whittaker
- Homebound—Peggy Miller, Odessa Whitmire, Paul & Lula Towery, Mary Tuttle, Martha Sigmon, Caroline Bryan, Bobbie Whisenant, Wanda Sue Ammerman
- Abernethy Laurels—Joan Williamson, Peggy Hollis
- Also, please remember:
Mary Schell RJ York Mike Kilby Peggy Smith Wally Davis
Terry Settlemyre *Jonathan Paige *Johnny Smith *Lynn Jenkins *Calvin Cooper

Kidz Club (3 year—5th Grade):

- Sunday, January 20: Kidz Club FROG (Fully Rely On God) Activities; 11:45am. We will have lunch, Bible Lesson, Craft, and finish up with a trip to Sweet Frog! Children will need \$5.
- Mark Your Calendars:
 - Sunday, February 10: Kidz Club Activities; 11:45am. Kidz Club will be held during the Valentine's Banquet—to allow any parents who are helping with Youth or attending the dinner to have a place for their young child. Stacy Helton will be leading in Valentine crafts, games, and Bible Stories.

Youth (6th—12th Grade):

- Tuesday, January 8th: Youth Confirmation Class; 6:00pm. We will be reviewing and preparing for our Confirmation Service. Also, we will be reading pages 59-65 in our Confirmation books and reviewing the Apostle's Creed.
- Sunday, January 20th: Potato/Salad Bar Fundraiser Lunch; 11:45am. Cost: By donations only! All proceeds will go toward our 2019 Mission Trip. We will be traveling to South Carolina to assist families that were affected by Hurricane Florence.



Scholarship Applications—for the Dewey A. Houston and the Graves Family Memorial—are now available in the Church Office.

Please pick-up yours today!!
Deadline for return is Friday, April 12, 2019.

Singles:

- January 28th: Potluck & Gift Exchange; 6:00pm (at the church). Please bring your favorite side dish to share with the group and a gift \$15 or under.
- Mark Your Calendars:
 - February 25: Dinner Outing to Julia's Talley House in Troutman; 6:00pm
 - March 25: Dinner and Trivia at McGuire's Pub in downtown Hickory; 6:00pm

Senior Adults:

- Tuesday, January 22: Good Timers Meeting—ALL Church Members are Invited!! We will be meeting in the Parlor at 11:30am to watch some "Hee Haw" tapes and fellowship! Please bring a snack to share with the group.