



Trinity Tidings

Trinity United Church of Christ
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News From Pastor Kyle

Happy New Year! (Unless you are reading this days prior to the actual New Year).

If you haven't realized this about me, I'm really into planning, casting vision, and working towards goals (though I may not always reach them).

It's good to plan and have vision for the Christian church.

Proverbs 29:18 says, "Where there is no vision, the people will perish."

We must have a vision for Trinity UCC. How do grow our congregation spiritually and how to reach the communities around us.

Therefore, I propose a few goals for each of us this new year:

1. Try to be as regular as you can at worship.
2. Be a "part" of the church. Don't just fill a pew, sit on a team, attend events, help with projects.
3. Invite new people to church regularly.
4. Pray & read your Bible daily. Journal your prayers and readings to help keep yourself more accountable.
5. Increase your giving (financial, resources, time).
6. Talk to your pastor about how you can be more involved in worship (reading scripture, using musical gifts, helping with other portions).
7. Attend the Pastor's Sunday class after church, or another Bible Study or group.
8. Practice the spiritual disciplines (in addition to prayer & reading your Bible), loving others,

performing acts of kindness, being patient with one another, etc.

These are just some things you can do spiritually and for the church as we continue to grow in our faith, in our love for one another, and in our communities.

Have a GREAT New Year! - PK

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of Trinity UCC will be on Sunday January 8th, 2017 at 10:30 am with a potluck lunch to follow.

\$5 offerings



Trinity's \$5 offerings have blessed many lives and missions' projects over the years. Let us continue to be generous in our support.

In December, the \$5 offerings collected were \$312.00 for the Church Camp and \$200.00 for Josh Hegemier for his mission trip.

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.

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 November 14th, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Amy Mathews, President called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. and 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 – Doug Avery, Marty Hoeft, and Dale Bodnar, Deacons – Dwayne Hoeft and Jim Buhro
Secretary Rhonda Mahoney was present as well.
Not Present – Trustee Steve Turnow, Pastor Kyle

Reports:

Recording Secretary:

Meeting minutes from the council meeting on 10/10/2016 were read prior the meeting, one amendment was made to the minutes based on review performed. Motion to accept the minutes for the past meeting was made by Dale Bodnar, 2nd by Doug Avery. MC.

Meeting minutes from the congregational meeting on 11/6/2016 were read prior to the meeting. Motion to accept the congregational minutes was made by Ken Gahler, 2nd by Jim Buhro. MC.

Secretary Report:

- Wanted to thank everyone for the ‘Week of Thanks’ from this past week.
- Easy Worship, a software program to run the screens, has been brought to the attention of the church to see if it would be beneficial for the church to consider. Kyle is going to look into it to see if it is something he would be interested in using.
- Three pieces of the nativity scene will be ordered based on donations made by the congregation members.
- Connie made a motion to purchase the remaining pieces of the nativity scene to save on shipping.

Donations will then be requested to cover the costs of the additional pieces. 2nd by Doug Avery. MC,

Financial Report:

- Financial information was reviewed for the prior month. Desirae McCloskey moved to accept the financial report. Ed Gahler 2nd. MC.
- 2017 Budget was presented to council (see new business below)

Pastor Report:

- Not present

Committee Reports:

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

EFY – 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.

Thank you to everyone for donating drinks and snacks, we have plenty at this time.

Mission – Boo Festival was a huge success.

Next event Missions will help with is the Youth Holiday dinner on December 10th at 4:30 pm.

Church & Ministry – Janitorial job has been filled at this time by Abby David.

Search Committee – The committee has discontinued meeting as the responsibility for Kyle’s first year have been met.

Trustees -

- A quote for snow removal has been obtained by Spurgeon’s Snow Removal. Trustees will obtain additional quotes and will determine the best quote to go with on a call basis for snow removal. Trustees will let Pastor Kyle know his responsibility of contacting the snow removal contact.
- Lots of lights need changed around the church.
- An inside and outside workday will be planned for the spring.

Parsonage Committee - Congregation approved the selling of the parsonage for \$100k as is, with the right of first refusal. No further discussion at this time.

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.

Old Business:

- Reminder to council to contact Bob Jensen for annual maintenance of the front doors. Ed Gahler will follow up with Mr. Jensen for next steps, if any.
- Thanksgiving dinner will continue on November 20th, although Zion is unable to attend.
- Church camp will be held from January 20-22, 2017. Full payment is due by December 1st. The \$5 offering will help support the children of the church to attend church camp.

New Business:

- 2017 Budget was discussed. A motion to accept the 2017 budget as correctly amended based on discyssions. was made by Ed Gahler. Nyla denman 2nd.
- Congregational meeting will be on December 4th – the following items will be discussed.
 - 2017 table of organization
 - 2017 budget
 - 2017 council member acceptance

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm by Amy Mathews. Respectfully submitted, Desirae McCloskey, Recording Secretary

Treasurer's Report (approved) **General Operating Fun**

Balance as of 11/1/16	\$19,575.78
Offerings/Income	\$8,623.67
Expenses	\$14,880.53
Balance as of 11/30/16	\$13,318.92

Congregational Meeting –

Congregational Meeting – December 4th, 2016
The following items were discussed during the congregational meeting held on December 4th, 2016:

1. The 2017 financial budget was presented to the congregation for approval. No discussion was held relative to the budget presented.

Ed Gahler moved to accept the 2017 financial budget as presented, seconded by Jackie Bast. 2017 financial budget approved by majority vote of congregation. MC

2. The 2017 slate for church council was presented to the congregation as follows:
 - Vice President – Desirae McCloskey*
 - Recording Secretary – Veronica McMonigle
 - Elder – Ann Diekman
 - Trustees – John Bast and Dan Gahler
 - Deacon – Dan Mathews

*An amendment to the constitution will have to be made in order to allow Desirae to continue on council for another two year term.

Steve Turnow moved to accept the 2017 slate for church council as presented, seconded by Sara Zibbel. 2017 slate for church council approved by majority vote of congregation. MC

Meeting adjourned by Janene Lattimore,
Respectfully Submitted,
Desirae McCloskey
Recording Secretary

Women's Fellowship

Trinity Women's Fellowship held their annual Christmas Party on Thurs. Dec 8, 2016 at noon in the fellowship hall beginning with a pot-luck lunch. There were twelve present.

In the absence of our President, Vice President Sue W. was in charge of the day. She began with the opening prayer and the table blessing.

The devotions and program was "Or Advent Journey" and "Spreading Joy, Love, and Hope" with Christmas songs and readings.

Sue then had a short business meeting. She thanked Eva for the lovely decorations and everyone for the delicious food. It was good having Marilyn A. and Dawn G. with us today. A motion was made by Sara, sec by Evelyn and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The treasurer's report was given accepted and will be filed.

Correspondence - a memorial thank you note was received from the Doug Avery Sr. family. Thank you from Kelly (outpatient) and Carol (foot surgery) for our thought and prayers. Also, thank you letters from Salvation Army and Ottawa Co Holiday Bureau for our donations.

Ten attended the St. John's, R. R. Advent Brunch and program on Saturday, Nov. 26. Twelve attended the Ecumenical Christmas pot-luck and program at St. John's Williston on Thursday Dec 1.

Jackie P. was the Sunshine chairman. New chairman will be Ina D.

Prayer partners were revealed and new names drawn.

After the Holiday Bureau collection be sure to remember the OH Food pantry with your donations.

Next month we will meet on Thurs. Jan 12 at 1:00 pm. Program - Suzanne B. Host - Jackie P.

Meeting adjourned & Norma shared some readings.

~Suzanne Buhro, Secretary

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

Memorial Thank You

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

Mr & Mrs Jan Grieger

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
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

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 sent a batch in December in.

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



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.

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Thank you to everyone that has donated and help to purchase pieces for our life-sized nativity. We have all the pieces purchased! There is still a balance of around \$600.00, if you would like to help with offsetting the installation/lighting of the project, please let the office know.

We would like to thank the following people for their purchases:

Towards Lighting in memory of Carl Appelhans

Towards purchase of the wise men set:

In memory of Jim Beard and Rollie Gahler by Connie and Dan Gahler

Contingent Fund

As we are ending the year, we are still running a negative balance of -\$4640.00 from the elevator repair. If you are looking for a place to make a donation yet this year, please consider our Contingent Fund.

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

Mark your 2017 Calendars

Church Camp (January 20-22) –

Hillsdale, Michigan

Valentine's Day Dinner (February 12th)

Men's Banquet (March)

Chicken BBQ & Rummage Sale (April)

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*), newsletter s, and bulletins.



Greeters

<u>January 2017</u>		
8 th	North	Kelsey Gahler
	South	Jay Hellwig
15 th	North	Kristi Hoeft
	South	Marty Hoeft
22 nd		Ron Geisler
29 th	North	Jared Lattimore
	South	Janene Lattimore
<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

Christian Education

Please look through some of the ideas below and see if there are any classes you are interested in attending. Also, please prayerfully consider if you could take turns rotating (hopefully once a month) to teach Branching Out.

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.

Pastor's Bible Study/Sunday School -

We meet in the Sunday School room across from the church office to discuss each week's sermon and to dig a little deeper into the message. All ages are welcome to attend. Class will meet after church (around 11 am) and will last about 40 minutes. We will also post a schedule outside of the classroom for Sundays that we will not meet (special Holidays, etc).

Women's Bible Study &

Fellowship – Bunco & a Verse concludes Sunday, January 15th @ 6:30 pm. All women are invited to join us.

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.

Food Pantry

Let's remember to continue to support the food pantry as they will need to restock after the holidays. Let's see about collecting canned vegetables for the month!



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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

Wishing everyone a
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year.

Enjoy the holiday time with
friends and family.

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