

Trinity UCC  
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March 2020  
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## News From Pastor Ryan:

Hello Friends,

Greetings as we begin the season of Lent! In churches all around the world this is a season of remembrance, of self-control, humility, and sacrifice. People take a 40 day journey with our Savior through the wilderness and temptation in preparation for Easter morning.

This year, we are excited to again partner with Zion UMC for a variety of Easter activities. Both our Wednesday night services, and our Sunday morning worship will be centered around the “I AM” statements of Jesus. When Jesus uses the phrase “I AM” all through the New Testament Book of John, He is drawing a direct connection from Himself to God the Father in the Book of Exodus.

*Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” (Exodus 3:13-14)*

What a strange and compelling way for God to answer this question. “Who sent you? Who gave you this power?” and God says “I AM”. Scholars and theologians have searched for meaning in these words for centuries. Some say this was God commenting on His eternal nature, as in “before the beginning and after the end, I AM” while others focus on the physical nature, as in “In the formation of all that exists, I AM”. The reality is both things are true. God has created everything, exists beyond time and space, and trying to come up with WHO or WHAT God is becomes undefinable. What is God? The great “I AM”. The Lord over every moment, and everything in existence.

So, when Jesus starts to share His “I AM” messages, you can imagine a Jewish listener thinking that it was pretty loaded language. Who is this Jesus guy who is connecting Himself to the great “I AM” God? Of course, in the very beginning of the book, John makes it clear who Jesus is.

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. (John 1:1-3)*

Jesus is the same God from the very beginning. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jesus is the “I AM”. Before the world was created, Jesus Is. After the world ends, Jesus Is. Soon, we will prepare together for Easter and as we do, remember the glory of Jesus Christ. Jesus is Lord. Jesus is Alive. It’s so powerful to remember we don’t serve a God only at work in the past, or worship a savior who has been long dead. They are active. They are alive.

“I AM”

Remember that as we go through this Lenten season. Through all of our struggles, through all of our doubts, God is with us and ready to guide us through.

*Pastor Ryan Shields*



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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ◆ March 1st Men’s Breakfast
- ◆ March 1st THRIVE
- ◆ March 4th Lent—Zion
- ◆ March 9th Church Council
- ◆ March 10 & 11—Picture Directory Days
- ◆ March 11th Lent—TUCC
- ◆ March 15th THRIVE
- ◆ March 18th Lent—Zion
- ◆ March 25th Lent—TUCC

## WORSHIP SERVICE INFORMATION

March 1st— I AM: The Bread of Life

March 8th—I AM: The Light of the World

March 15th—I AM: The Door

March 22nd—I AM: The Good Shephard

March 29th—I AM: The Way, The Truth, and The Life

April 5th—I AM: The Vine

April 12th—I AM: The Resurrection and the Life

## 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

March 1st

Team A

Brad, Lou Ann, Curt, Dorothy, Ed, Jane, Ken, Kylene

March 8th

Team B

Jared, Janene, Jay, Joanne, Jim, Jen, Steve, Nancy, Vi

March 15th

Team C

Don, Bonnie, Kelsey, Michaek, Keriann, Mike, Ann, Robin

March 22nd

Team D

Casi, Matt, Eric, Ashley, Fay, Nate, Nyla, Jim, Shirley

March 29th

Team B



## OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

Would you like to be a part of a fun team that invites people to learn about and visit our church? For 2020 to help achieve our vision, we are looking for outgoing personalities to serve on this new team. This team will throw fun food and fellowship events and much more. If you are interested, please contact the office.



## 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

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY:

On March 29th, following our regular Sunday service, we will have a cake reception in honor of Rev. Corbin's 50th Anniversary of Ordination.

If you would like to be a part of the hospitality team for this event, let the office know.



## 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.

Join us on March 1st and March 15th.



## BRANCHING OUT NEWS TEACHERS

Date	2-3 Nursery	PreK Teacher	K-2 Teacher
March 1.	Lou Ann D.	Desirae M.	Rebecca R.
March 8	Nyla D.	Ashley G.	Kylene L
March 15	Jen L.	Ashley Z.	Janene L.
March 22	Brianne P.	Brittany W.	Mathews
March 29th	Faith S.		

# *Christian Education News!!!!*

## CHILDREN EASTER ACTIVITIES

Easter is right around the corner! We are looking to do a couple activities for our children during our Easter celebration. If you Preschool and Elementary students, consider staying after church March 15<sup>th</sup> for a rehearsal as Pastor Ryan would like to sing praise songs with the kids on Palm Sunday which is April 5<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, we are seeking someone who would be willing to coordinate an Easter Egg Hunt for our children Easter morning before the 9:30 AM service. For our adults, remember the Lenten Services, including this Wednesday at Zion at 6 PM. If you would be interested in performing special music or participating as a vocalist for Easter Sunday service, see Pastor Ryan.

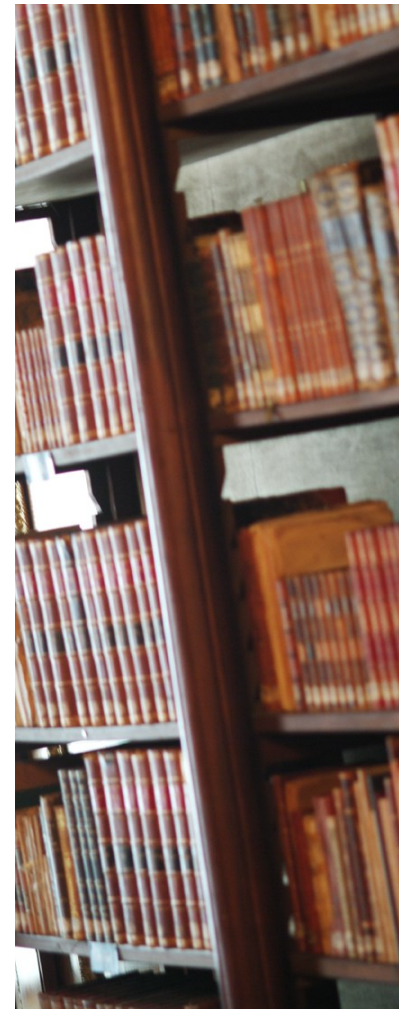
## VBS

Vacation Bible School

June 14-18 6-8:30 pm

We have met our goal!!! Thank you to all that have supported our VBS efforts this year so far.

We are seeking volunteers to be Crew Leaders, a Game Station Leader, and to lead our Pre-School Room.





# Church Council Minutes

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Church Council met on Monday, January 13th, 2020. At 7:09 pm. Nyla Denman, President, called meeting to order, and Pastor Ryan Shields opened with prayer. Those in attendance were as follows:

President Nyla Denman, Vice President Desirae McCloskey, Faith Sutter, Bonnie Weaver, Nate Diekman, Troy Wittman, Marty Hoeft, Brad Jess, Jayson Hayes, Pastor Ryan Shields, and Church Secretary Rhonda Mahaney were present. Eric Gahler, Ed Gahler, and Jim Buhro were absent.

## **Reports:**

**Recording Secretary:** Meeting minutes from the December council meeting were read prior to the meeting by members. Motion to accept the minutes were made by first Nate Diekman, second by Desirae McCloskey, MC.

## **Secretary Report:**

End of year taxes, W-2's, UCC Yearbook report, and giving statements completed  
Working on annual report currently

## **Financial Report:**

Review of budget  
Approval of financial report by first Nate Diekman, and second by Desirae McCloskey, MC.

## **Pastor Report:**

Worship  
Conducted all worship services for December for Advent  
Children's Christmas program was 12/22 led by Jan Corbin  
Communion served 1/5  
Continued working with Jennifer Laughlin on Special Music/Live Praise Music  
Baptism for Meredith Kay Reif on 1/12  
Led Christmas Eve Worship Service on 12/24  
Special thanks to Rev. Corbin for filling in on 12/29 and also handling Pastor Care

Events/Activities  
Attended Christmas Caroling for our senior members. A wonderful time of songs and cookies with a great turn out!  
Attended Missions Team Meeting  
Met with EFY  
Worked with Marty to install and troubleshoot new sound system elements  
Attended and led devotional Men's Breakfast on 1/5

Pastoral Ministries  
Several care visits this month. Multiple home communions as well as two members spending a lot of time in the hospital/hospice.  
Phone calls/texts/emails for health concerns

Met with Excellence in Ministry support group  
Connecting with reformed Oak Harbor Clergy group  
Attended various church meetings  
Check in's via Facebook, E-mail, and phone calls with members/friends of the church  
E-Mail prayer chain connecting with 42 current subscribers  
Enjoyed vacation days! Thank you!

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Worship**

Nothing new at this time  
Working on meeting

### **EFY**

Discussed Branching out curriculum  
Possible VBS this year  
Will be working on getting team together  
THRIVE youth ministry program meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month

### **Mission**

Served at the Genoa Food Pantry 12/21 and will again on 2/15  
Discussed Mission Spotlights and Compassion Fund Planning Spring and Summer projects  
"Lend a hand" service day for senior members of the church  
Working with Nyla's Oak Harbor student food program

### **Church & Ministry**

Nothing new at this time

### **Trustee Report**

Utility Pole  
Called and notified Frontier  
Barrel placed in front of it for now

### **Nominating Committee**

Church council member slots filled

### **Pastoral Relations**

Nothing at this time

### **Old Business:**

Changing from Frontier to Spectrum  
In process  
Keeping our old number  
Contacted PUCO  
Rhonda to follow-up  
2030 Vision Team approved by church  
Smaller group of individuals  
Pastor Ryan to seek out potential individuals  
Will discuss next month

## **New Business:**

Plan to look at Constitution

Will break up in sections

Discussed how to check in with the various committee's of the church

A member from each committee to notify a council member of what was discussed

A representative from each committee to come to a council meeting at some point

Invite one member at a time each month

Conducting outside baptisms

Children's baptisms scheduled from this point forward will be conducted on Sunday morning services only including non-members

Motion by first Faith Sutter, and second by Nate Diekman, MC.

New System for chairs to be hung

\$320 a piece

Need 2 units

Motion to buy by first Brad Jess, and seconded by Troy Wittman, MC.

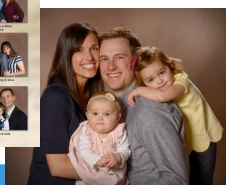
Phase Two of Kitchen

Includes lighting, ceiling tiles, and hood  
Will work on gathering quote

Motion to adjourn meeting by first Desirae McCloskey, and second by Troy Wittman, MC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm by Nyla Denman.

Respectfully submitted, Faith Sutter, Recording Secretary.



Each participating family receives a

**Free directory & complimentary 8x10 photograph**

**Lifetouch**

## **General Operating Fund Report (approved)**

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

Beginning 1/1/20	\$14,809.97
Offering/Income	\$8,606.17
Transfers	(\$5.00)
Expenses	\$9,747.00
Balance 1/31/2020	\$13,664.14

## *Men's Banquet*

This year's Men's Banquet will be held on Friday, March 13th at 6:30 pm. The menu will be Swiss Steak, potato, salad, veggies and homemade desserts. Adult tickets are \$10, Children ages 3-6 are \$6, Children under 3 are free. Please contact the office by March 8th to purchase tickets..

The guest speaker will be Deputy Millner and Officer Finn.

The women of the church are in need of homemade desserts for the evening and help in the kitchen and serving the meal. If you are able to help, please contact the office, or sign up on one of the sheets located on the bulletin board.



## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

### Ina David

April 4, 1933 - January 30, 2020

Ina M. David, 86, of Graytown, Ohio died Thursday, January 30, 2020 at Otterbein of Perrysburg, in Perrysburg, Ohio. She was born April 4, 1933 in Graytown, the daughter of Ory R. and Della H. (Freimark) Bittner. She was a graduate of Elmore High School. While working for the former Rossford Ordinance, she met her future husband, George J. David and they were married on November 18, 1956. He preceded her in death on July 30, 1968.

Ina was a secretary for the Ohio Division of Wildlife for 17 years, retiring in 1996 and had also worked for the Bank of Elmore during the 1970's and at the Title Bureau at the courthouse in Bowling Green, Ohio. She was a devoted member of the Trinity United Church of Christ in Elliston, Ohio where she served as Historian of the church. She had also taught Sunday School for many years. When her sons were young she enjoyed watching them play in their sporting events and later in life she liked to watch Ohio State Football games and was a big supporter of her grandchildren in their school activities.

Ina is survived by her sons and their wives, Lee O. (Tracey) David and Raymond G. (Ann) David; grandchildren, Benjamin and Abigail and siblings, Don (Lavonna) Bittner, Ann Pfeiffer and Eva (Dwayne) Hoef. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

#### Memorial Thank You

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Ina David. We would like to thank the following for their memorials given in her name.

Steve & Nancy Turnow, Myron & Sara Zibbel, Melvin & Norma Reif, Doug & Karen Lick, Jack & Ann Chio, Eloise Hellwig Family, Marty & Kristi Hoef, Dan & Connie Gahler, Don & Bonnie Weaver, Danny & Kathy Appelhans, Ed & Jane Gahler, Vi Gahler, Ken Gahler, Doug & Tammy Asher, Jim & Shirley Buhro, Don & Jan Corbin, Donna Witt, Women's Fellowship, Jackie Pelton, Fay Bolander, Suzanne Buhro, Richard & Nyla Denman, Lauren & Faye Milbrodt

## NEW MEMBER CLASS

April 5th: Following our regular Sunday service, we will have a new member class. If you are interested in joining Trinity as a new member or would just like a refresher on the beliefs and history of Trinity, please consider attending!

## COUPONS

Grace Lutheran church in Elmore was thrilled to receive this month's food pantry items. As always thanks for the coupon inserts! I've also put a box of baby coupons in the cry room. Thank you so much for helping me with this project!!

~Karen L.

## 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

## 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



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Trinity Women's Fellowship got together for their Christmas Party on Thurs. Dec 12, 2019 for luncheon at noon at Granny's Restaurant in Woodville.

Norma began the day with prayer and the table blessing. After lunch we were so pleasantly surprised with a card from Ina David and she treated us with pie. We hank her so much.

We decided not to meet in January and February. In March we will meet on Thurs. Mar. 12, 2020 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Program—Norma R, Host Eva H.

Prayer partners were revealed and new names drawn.

Then Sunshine report was given by Eloise H. and she will be chairman again this month.

The Christmas program was "Spreading Joy, Love and Hope" with Norma in charge. She also had several readings during the day.

We then had our gift exchange.

Submitted by Suzanne B.

WF Treasurer's Report	
Balance on Hand as of Jan 1	\$1,314.21
<b>Total Income &amp; Balance</b>	<b>\$1,314.21</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Balance on Hand Jan. 31st</b>	<b>\$1,314.21</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

"Thank you to the Community Card Club for their donation of \$100. We used that donation towards the purchase of children's Bibles for Branching Out."

"Thank you for your donation 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

"We just want to say a huge thank you to the missions team for the Marcos Gift Card for an easy dinner and all the cards and gifts we received from our church family after Hesston was born! The old saying that it takes a village to raise a child. We are so blessed to have our church family as a huge part of our village!"  
Love—Jared, Janene, Tori, Janene, Baya, and Hesston

"Those served at Cherry Street need a meal, a bed, turkey on the holidays AND are still hungry. They are Hungry for change...Hungry for a career...Hungry for success... Working together we can address the needs of those who are hungry and together we can start Feeding Futures. Your donation is enabling Cherry Street Mission Ministries to provide the vital resources needed to start Feeding Futures. Thank you for your generosity to Cherry Street Mission Ministries."

"Thank you so much for your recent contribution to the Genoa Area Community Food Pantry. We are so grateful for your generous gift. This gift will help the food pantry to continue its goal of feeding community members in need."

~Ellen Bergman, Genoa Food Pantry



Men are invited to join us on Sunday, March 1st at 7:30am for the men's breakfast.

If you are interested in serving a meal, or would like more information, please contact Ed G.

## EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

### Orders Due: March 22nd

Please contact the office or fill out a form at church to purchase flowers in memory or honor of loved ones.

This year we have available to purchase:

Lily  
Tulip (Red, Orange, Yellow, Pink)  
Daffodil  
Asiatic Lily (Yellow, Red/Orange, Orange)

Money is due at the time of order.

## MARCH MISSION SPOTLIGHT: THE DAUGHTER PROJECT

God has inspired a group of people, The Daughter Project family to love and serve children and women rescued from sex traffickers. We have been doing this wholeheartedly since 2009 - motivated by the words of Jesus Christ found in the Gospel of Matthew chapter 25: "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

We are presently working in many areas to fight sex trafficking:

- Developing loving relationships with adult survivors at our Drop-In Shelter and providing food, clothes, counseling, and Bible studies.
- Developing a Christian Foster Family network to love and care for adolescent survivors
- Partnering with the nationwide Open Table ministry to provide healing and recovery services to the women God brings to us.
- Speaking about sex trafficking at churches, businesses, community service clubs, schools and any other interested groups.

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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