



trinity
united church of Christ

Tidings

VOLUME 97, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2023

Sunday Worship @
10:00 am each week

Warriors

Greetings friends!

This summer as a church we are going to be looking at what it means to be a warrior of faith! Heading into summer we often see fitness programs or even local 5k's centered around pushing ourselves to the physical limit. Being a physical warrior with strength, endurance, and speed. But this summer I'd like to start out by looking at what it takes to be a spiritual warrior. This month I'd like to explore the virtues that define a true warrior - patience, strength, courage, and honor.

Patience: A Warrior's Steadfast Endurance

I think the physical equivalent to patience might be endurance. The ability to continue to press toward the goal without quitting or getting distracted. As warriors of faith, we are called to practice patience, trusting that God's plans unfold in perfect harmony with His divine will

Strength: A Warrior's Resilient Spirit

Ironically for spiritual warriors our strength is often found in the moments we feel weakest. In our weakness, God's power is made perfect. Like Samson, who found strength in his surrender to God's purpose, we too can draw strength from our dependence on the Almighty. As we face trials, let us tap into God's limitless power, knowing that His strength is made perfect in our weakness.

Courage: A Warrior's Fearless Resolve

True warriors are marked by their courage in the face of adversity. They are not exempt from fear, but they rise above it, knowing that God goes before them. Gideon, though initially fearful, displayed courage as he followed God's instructions to lead the Israelites against the Midianites. In the same way we can move forward boldly in faith, trusting that God will equip us with the courage to conquer any battle we face.

Honor: A Warrior's Noble Character

Honor is the foundation of a warrior's character. It encompasses integrity, humility, and a commitment to righteousness. In a world that often prioritizes personal gain and self-interest, we are called to remain faithful and virtuous in the face of temptation. As warriors of Christ, let our lives radiate integrity, reflecting the love and grace of our Heavenly Father.

As we study these virtues of spiritual warriors, let us pray for God's Spirit to empower us to be steadfast in our daily battles. May we be shining examples of God's power by the spiritual power He gives to us!

-Pastor Ryan Shields



June 4th
Patience

June 11th
Courage

June 18th
Strength

June 25th
Honor

““Pardon me, my lord,” Gideon replied, “but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian.” The Lord turned to him and said, “Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?””

Judges 6:13-14

Council Minutes: April 2023

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Ellison Church Council met on Monday, April 10 at 7pm. Rebecca Reif, President, called the meeting to order, and Pastor Ryan Shields opened with prayer. Those in attendance were as follows: Rebecca Reif, Pastor Ryan, Secretary/Treasurer Mary Muntz, Eric Gahler, Brittany Wittman, Nathaniel Diekman, Janene Lattimore, Brice Gahler, Marty Hoeft, Sam Sutter, Steve Turnow, Susie Shaffer

Recording Secretary Report:

Meeting minutes from March meeting were read and reviewed prior to meeting. Revision made to financial section. Motion to accept the minutes was made by first Brice, second by Nate. MC

Administrative Assistant Report:

Fire extinguishers inspected – will be tested and possibly replaced.

Financial Report:

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

Pastoral Report:

Easter went well.

Nancy Turnow launching Visitation team this month + will be looking for volunteers.

Upcoming events – 4/16 Chicken BBQ, 4/23 Confirmation Paper Readings, 4/30 Confirmation

EFY Report: Working on VBS. All leaders in place.

Missions & Outreach Report

Graytown park cleanup beginning of May. Participating in Genoa Homecoming + Apple Festival parades.

Looking for a wagon to decorate for float.

Mission Spotlight going toward paying off local school lunch debt. Motion by Janene to use \$2100 from previous BBQ funds to evenly distribute between 3 schools (Oak Harbor, Genoa + Woodmore) to pay toward lunch debt. Susie 2nd. MC.

Worship Team Report: Working on forming team

2030 Team Report

Constitution: team agreed that it needs to be addressed and modified. Mary offered to provide a simplified, paired down version for consideration.

Missions & Outreach: adopting the landscaping area at Graytown park including placing a sign “this area maintained by Trinity UCC”

Shared list of recommendations with council including:

Replacing windows on South side of the building. Competitive quote received from Radiant Windows. Janene motioned to pay for windows out of Memorial Fund. Susie 2nd. MC to take to Congregational Meeting on May 7th for approval.

Starting a capital improvement campaign to address ongoing issues, improving spaces such as the basement to make it more functional and usable. “Firm Foundation Fund”

Church & Ministry Report

Met + decided to standardize rubrics. Working on being consistent across all of them. Decided on having staff complete self-evaluation prior to annual review. Meeting again 4/23.

Trustees Report

Basemen boiler not working

Received quotes for tuck pointing for steeple + basement concerns

Landscaper suggested ripping out bushes and putting rock down

Steve motioned to hire Brad Jess to cut grass for \$80/month. Brice 2nd. MC.

Old Business – None

New Business

Need to find Elder replacement for Janene for 6 month term starting June 1.

Next meeting May 8 at 7pm.

Motion to adjourn meeting by first Brice, second by Eric. MC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm by Rebecca.

Respectfully submitted by

Brittany Wittman, Recording Secretary.

General Operating Fund (Council approved 05/08/23)

Beginning Balance 04/01/2023	\$28,858.32
Offering/Income	\$16,024.19
Expenses	\$12,285.54
Transfers	\$0.00
Balance 04/30/2023	\$32,596.97

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



Trinity UCC Congregational Meeting

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Special Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, May 7, 2023 following the church service. The meeting was called to order by President, Rebecca Reif with a prayer.

Rebecca presented that the Trustees, Council and 2030 Team approved a proposal to replace 12 windows in the hall area. All committees/teams felt that the quote received from Radiant Windows was competitive. The approval of \$15,000 was requested. A question was asked if the windows will match the current ones in other rooms. The answer was that the interior is not wood, but could be done for an additional \$300 per window. The quote reflects a white interior. The exterior will match. Existing Memorial Funds will be used for this project.

Janene Gahler motioned to approve the proposal + spending \$15,000 to replace the windows.
Sarah Zibbel 2nd. MC.

Rebecca introduced the Capital Improvement Firm Foundation campaign. This campaign will begin in the future to raise funds for maintenance and care of the church + hall for years to come.

Motion to adjourn meeting Nicole Clapsaddle.

Respectfully submitted by Brittany Wittman, Recording Secretary.



May's focus will be

Local School Lunch Debt Relief

for Woodmore, Benton Carroll Salem (Oak Harbor) and Genoa Schools

To give toward these needs, simply write "Mission Spotlight" on your envelope or check memo.

Be in prayer for the following:

- | Kathy Appelhans (having surgery soon)
- | Izzy Britt (recovery from knee surgery)

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, Jennifer Ducet Smith



Trinity Reminders and Answers to How Do I... and What's That For...Questions

Got An Item To Submit For The Next Newsletter ?

Do you have good news or thank you's to share?
Drop a note off or email them to the church office by the 20th of each month!

Use of the Church Hall or Basement

The church calendar of events is hanging on the wall outside the main office door. You can also view scheduled events on the church website calendar (www.trinityelliston.org). If you would like to reserve the hall or basement take a form from the pouch under the calendar outside the main office, complete it and return it to the office to be scheduled. You are now required to fill out a form for any event that you would like to have in the church (including any rollover events from year to year for holiday parties). Please do not just write on the calendar - we ask you complete the form first. Once the form is reviewed we will add it to the calendar. If you have any questions, please contact Mary in the office.

Trinity Logo Wear

You can now order items directly from bit.ly/trinityunitedchurchofchrist. If the item you would like is not listed simply call R&R Identification at 419-355-8206 or visit their shop at 160 S OH 590 Fremont, OH 43420 and tell them what you would like with the Trinity Elliston logo on it and they will be happy to make it to your specifications.

Table & Chair Sign Out

Sign-out sheet for tables and chairs is located in the closet across from the main office (on the back of the door). Contact the office to make sure you are on the list for the date you would like to use the tables and chairs. The only tables that are to leave the property are the older wooden style tables. The only chairs that are to leave the property are the wooden chairs. Both tables and chairs that may be taken out are located in the shed by the kitchen entry.

Congratulations

Trinity UCC congratulates the following graduates:



Morgan Turnow



Brayden Hayes



Claire McMonigle

Morgan Turnow

Daughter of Steve & Nancy Turnow

Morgan graduated on May 6, 2023 from the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine with her medical degree. She will continue with a 5 year residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Ohio Health in Columbus.

Brayden Hayes

Son of Andrea and Jayson Hayes

Brayden is a 2023 graduate of Oak Harbor High School. He will attend the Ohio State University at the Wooster Agricultural Technical Institute in the fall where he will major in Agri-Business.

Claire McMonigle

Daughter of Neil & Veronica McMonigle

Claire is graduating from preschool! She will be in Kindergarten at Genoa next year.

Rhett and Jacob Reif

Sons of Thomas & Kim Reif and Great Grandsons of Norma Reif

Norma Reif along with the rest of the family would like to congratulate her great-grandsons in graduating from Quincy High School in Michigan. The boys were born 26 hours apart and have been known as "Reif Squared" in the newspapers remarking about their accomplishments in many different sports events. Both boys have excelled in cross country. Rhett qualified in all four of his high school years to the state meet. He holds several all-time school record times and has his name affixed on the wall at school. Jacob qualified two times for the state meet and was in the all-academic class each time.

Rhett trained at the Branch Area Career Center in Coldwater as a welder and has been participating in an on-the-job training program that has led him to a full-time position offer with the company after graduation. Jacob has achieved an academic scholarship to Ohio Northern University where he has been accepted into the civil engineering program and will also wrestle for the Polar Bears



We would like to take a minute to thank each of our Sunday School, Confirmation and Branching Out Teachers for this past year. Thank you for sacrificing your time and energy to share the love of Jesus and the message of salvation with our kids!

Sunday School: Janene Lattimore, Kylee Liphart, Jan Corbin, Sarah Edwards, Don Corbin

Confirmation: Pastor Ryan, Nichole Clapsaddle

Branching Out: Ashley Gahler, Jennifer Laughlin, Faith Sutter, Rebecca Reif, Nancy Turnow, Elishia Sutter, Sophie Sutter, Anna Sutter, Amy Sutter, Veronica McMonigle, Casi Johnson, Kim Drummond, Ashley Zimmerman, Emily Burcin, Dawn Kovac, Kim Traver, Desirae McCloskey, Jamie Kincaid, Nyla Denman, Dan Gahler

Visitation & CareMinistry

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.

Coffee Fellowship

Tuesdays
8:00 am

Everyone
Welcome!



Be A Bible School Volunteer
Sunday, July 30th through Thursday, August 3rd
Please use the following link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0448ABA92CABFC1-vbsvolunteers>

(or type it into your web browser) to sign up
OR
Contact Janene Lattimore (419-656-5845)
We would love your help!
It's going to be Stellar!!!



Walk with Me

740-586-7715

Tuesdays and Thursday's at 5:30pm.
Meet in the parking lot of
Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge on OH-2.
Let me know to look for you by texting or calling.

Sometimes the idea of talking to someone in an office can seem intimidating. Let's go for a walk and see what happens. I'm here to listen, talk, and pray.

A new ministry
offered by
Sarah Edwards

Pray for our
MISSIONARIES


Ben & Mandi Wood
Elliana, Jonathan & Noah

Serving in Florida
as trainers for 



Pray for our
MISSIONARIES

Jay & Zina Herman
Ari & Milo

Serving in Slovenia
through 



VBS Donation List:

VBS STELLAR will be July 30th through August 3rd this year!
We are looking for a few items to be donated:

- Canvas Drop Cloths
- Silver Metallic Spray Paint
- Aluminum Foil (the thicker the better)
- Crafting Wire
- Florescent Cellophane Tape

If you would like to donate any of these items, please leave them on the counter in the church office. Thank you!



June 1 We Welcome Children's Ministry Leader Janene Lattimore to Our Staff

I am so excited to start this month as the new Children's Ministry Leader! I have been creating ongoing lists of the things that we can do here at Trinity to support our kids ministry and make the kids experience here at church the best it can be! First up is continuing the new tradition of Vacation Bible School! We have already begun the planning stages! We are looking for MANY volunteers to help in different ways! Please reach out to me if you are able to assist during VBS July 30th- August 3rd! It's going to be Stellar!!!

Anchored in Christ,
Janene

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

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

The recommended way to give is to go through your church's website. They likely have a section titled "Giving" or "Online Giving" where you can give using the Tithe.ly platform. If they do not have that, you can use one of the methods listed below.

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



Justin (our coworker) was praying for his landlord, who was in the hospital after a stroke, and he felt the Holy Spirit prompt him to do something; he would buy flowers for his landlord's daughter, Alija. Here in Slovenia, there are few landlord-tenant relationships that are very good, and so this would be hugely counter-cultural, but in obedience he called her, and met her to offer his prayers for her and her family, and to give her the flowers. She was understandably shocked by Justin's kindness, and she asked him why he would do this?



Justin explained to her that he and his family were followers of Jesus, and he felt Jesus encourage him to do this for her, and her response... "Which Jesus?" Justin laughed and as they talked she was very open and interested in what our team does. She seemed interested in the idea of personal Bible Study and application, as its something she had never really experienced growing up as a cultural catholic without personal relationship with God. Immediately after Justin left, she called her parents and excitedly shared her experience.

This whole story reminds me the importance of why we are here. We are here living lives in obedience to Jesus, which often puts us at odds with the culture around us. But this difference often reveals to people the longings in their own lives, and causes them to ask, who is this Jesus, and how can I know Him as well?

In one week we will be flying to the US for the summer. We look forward to meeting with you to share more stories of God's faithfulness, and update you on how your investment is brining Jesus into the lives of people across Slovenia. We will be in Ohio for most of June, and in Texas for most of July. We are excited for this season of connecting with you, it always brings such joy to us and our family. For those of you from Ohio, we will be contacting you soon to begin to set up meetings. We are really excited to meet with you, and for you to meet Milo! You are and have been a significant part of our ministry and family, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Prayer Requests...

- Pray for our travel day, that God will give us grace with ourselves, the boys, our fellow passengers, and everyone else along the way. Pray for safe, timely flights, and for a quick transition to the US.
- Pray for Alija, that her heart would be open to Jesus, and to discovering who He is in the Bible
- Pray for our first few weeks in the US, that we will spend great time with family, friends, and each of you.



**Sent with love from Jay & Zina,
thank you for your partnership in God's work in Slovenia!**

Trinity UCC

JUNE 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Watch the Service Online at http://www.trinityucliston.org/livestream.html</p>						
<p>4</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Greeters: Team A / Trustee: Brandon Kincaid Jed Phillips (B)</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship Donna Witt (B)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Jack & Barbara Chio (A)</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Holly Shields (B)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Greeters: Team B / Trustee: Brice Gahler Tim & JanNay Lastivka (A)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 pm Church Council Abigail David (B) Lexi Hayes (B) Jaxon Sager (B) Lily Rotherert (B)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship Maddison Ankreney (B) Timothy Mathews (B)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Danny Appelhans (B)</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>David Lick (B)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Hall: Town & Country Crew 4-H Amy Mathews (B) Darrell Opfer (B) Steve Batesole (B) Molly Mathews (B) Dylan Gahler (B) Jim & Shirley Buhro (A) Memo & Tiffany Hernandez (A)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>10:00 am Worship Greeters: Team C / Trustee: Steve Turnow Erica Mauder (B)</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship Ava Bodnar (B) Zachary Diekman (B)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Brittany Wittman (B) Michele Avery (B)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Don & Shelly Tabbert (A)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Brayden Hayes (B) Ed & Jane Gahler (A)</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>10:00 am Worship (Praise Band) Greeters: Team D / Trustee: Marty Hoefft Hunter Burdge (B) Jamison Zimmerman (B)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Jan & Dawn Gieger (A)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:00 am Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Andrea Hayes (B)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Tina Bowman (B) Dan & Kathy Appelhans (A) Eric & Ashley Gahler (A)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Matthew Tabbert (B) Jack Chio (B)</p>	

VBS 2023



July 30th - August 3rd
6:00 pm to 8:15 pm



Trinity UCC Elliston

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Register ahead of time online 

Register Online




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YouTube: [TrinityElliston](https://YouTube.com/TrinityElliston)

Livestream: trinityelliston.org/livestream

Pastor: Ryan Shields

Pastor's Email: ryandshields@outlook.com