

Trinity UCC
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News From Pastor Ryan:

HE IS RISEN!

Greetings church family,

I write you today in the middle of Holy Week! Easter is just around the corner! I have been so excited to see things in the church start to go back to (mostly) normal over the last few weeks! We are looking forward to a wonderful spring and summer! Hopefully all of our favorite church activities will soon be back and this time of Covid will slowly slip into our memories!

As we prepare for Easter I'm struck by how the disciples changed after the Resurrection. A hodge podge band of hot heads and undesirables suddenly become organized, inspired, and mobilized! In just a few years after Jesus' resurrection the disciples would find themselves traveling to far away places to proclaim the good news of Christ!

What changed? Well, they met the risen Savior, of course! Meeting Jesus changes the way we view the world. It changes our priorities. We might think we were created for one thing, or we were meant to have one kind of life, but when we meet Jesus we end up going a different direction! It was true for the disciples, it was true for Paul, it was true for me, and it was probably true for you as well! As we start to enjoy the newness of spring, the newness of our post-pandemic world, we should also look at the newness within our Spirit when we meet Jesus. Paul would tell us in 2 Corinthians:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! – 2 Corinthians 5:17

We can't stay in the grave, God has called us to something new. Whoever we were before Jesus isn't necessarily who we are supposed to be going forward. When Jesus taught He loved to challenge the way people were told to honor God, and try to show them how to truly honor God. Jesus would say "you've heard that you shouldn't murder...but I tell you, you also shouldn't hold hatred in your heart" or "you've heard that you should love your neighbor, but I also want you to love your enemy." Jesus can flip our normal ways of thinking around and when we truly follow him, we often find ourselves doing radically different things.

This month we're going to talk about a changed life in Christ by looking at Discipleship and the Parables of Jesus. Jesus loved to teach by telling stories. Often, the person we relate to in the story can change depending on when we hear it! I remember being younger and more rebellious and relating to the Prodigal Son who received forgiveness after making terrible mistakes, when I got older I found myself relating to the "good" Son who stayed home but then harbors resentment when his brother is forgiven! Shouldn't we want everyone to receive forgiveness? Of course! It's easy to think forgiveness should be given when we need forgiving! It's much harder when we need to forgive someone else!

The stories of Jesus challenge us to a new way of life. We're not people of the grave. We're not people of "the way it was". We're resurrection people. God has done something amazing and something new!

Happy Easter, church. May you live today in the power of the Resurrection. May you be made new!

-Pastor Ryan



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- April 1st at 7:00pm
Maundy Thursday Service
 - Sunday April 4th at 7am
and 9:30am Easter Service (identical services)
 - 9:00 Easter Breakfast
 - April 12th at 7:00pm
Church Council
 - April 18th Chicken BBQ
-
- Reminder to RSVP to the church office for Easter Service and if your interested in breakfast

Church Council Minutes

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Church Council met on Monday, February 9, 2021 at 7 pm. Desirae McCloskey, President, called meeting to order, and Pastor Ryan opened with prayer. Those in attendance were as follows:

President Desirae McCloskey, Vice President Luke Sutter, Ashley Gahler, Ed Gahler, Brianne Perry, Troy Wittman, Connie Gahler, Brad Jess, Michael Sager, Jim Laughlin, and Church Secretary Rhonda Mahaney were present. Jordan Moore was in attendance briefly.

Reports:

Recording Secretary: Meeting minutes from January meeting and were read prior to the meeting by members. Motion to accept the minutes were made by first Ed Gahler, second by Troy Wittman, MC

Secretary Report:

Photo directories are ready and available to be picked up
Property insurance by current insurer, Insurance Board, going up by 21%. New quotes are coming in from other insurance companies to switch if beneficial
Rhonda will be in office on Tuesday, Thursday, and half days on Fridays going forward

Financial Report:

Rhonda reviewed balance sheets.
Motion to approve financial secretary report first by Luke Sutter, second by Troy Wittman, MC.
Jordan Moore, of Genoa Bank, reviewed investments we have with Genoa Bank.
Money invested is currently up 16%
There are no liquidity needs at this time
Jordan will continue managing these investments
Discussed possibility of adding funds to these investments. Council will ask Jordan to present a new proposal for adding funds

Pastor Report:

Reviewed the structure of Trinity UCC
Plans for Lent and Easter are being worked on
Continues to “check in” with individuals who can not make it to church or get out the house at this time
Thanked everyone for thoughts, cards, and well wishes after surgery

Committee Reports:

Worship Team

Working on Lent and Easter plans, Easter activities, and communion all being done safely with considerations of Covid-19
Easter Breakfast- will come up with a final decision and

present to council

EFY- Branching Out and Thrive

Branching out resumed on February 7th
Ideas for summer family retreat, possible date of June 11-13 depending on status of Covid-19
VBS plans going forward. Team will meet soon to regroup and discuss plans that were put on hold last March due to Covid
Remodeling classrooms and assessing needs of each room for different groups of children
Planning to do a walkthrough of rooms at next meeting scheduled for February 21st
Discussed bringing back “Promotion Sunday” to celebrate children moving up to new classes and receiving gift of a Bible at a certain age

Mission

Mission ambassadors assigned to groups to help build relationships with Ministry partners and help put faces to organizations the church works with
Possibility of a spring/summer service day to help elderly members with home and yard projects
Easter cards will be sent to some individuals to help boost spirits

Trustee Report

Pump in boiler room went out on Saturday 2/6. Marty worked and fixed issue without need to call in weekend service
Discussed possibility of having a backup pump on hand in case this happens again. Currently holding off and purchasing a backup pump
Jim Laughlin is getting another quote on AC

Pastoral Relations Committee

No update

Church and Ministry

no update

2030 Team

discussion on Christian education and bringing adult Sunday School back

to meeting

Old Business:

Evelyn Schimming will
No new news since last meeting

New Business:

New computer and camera with streaming abilities needed. Laptop or desktop, still researching which will be best fit for the needs of the church
Equipment is used for live streaming services to be viewed online by those not able to attend services in person

Motion to adjourn meeting by first Connie Gahler and second by Jim Laughlin, MC.

**General Operating Fund
Report (approved)**

Beginning 2/1/21	\$112,141.64
Offering/Income	\$11,910.98
Expenses	\$8,427.80
Balance 2/28/21	\$15,624.82



From Trinity Tidings of Years Gone By –

April 2021 (from April 1959)

Soon to be heard from the steeple of our church will be the sound of chimes, organ, and bells, as they peal forth the tunes of many of the beautiful hymns of the church. This will be mad possible by Mr. William Reif, who has purchased for the church, as a memorial to his recently deceased wife, Minnie Augusta Reif, a Schubmerich Tower Music System. This wonderful gift will enable Trinity Church to send the sound of hymns across the countryside each day – and it will be done automatically as often as we might choose to have them played. Reproduced automatically will be the sound of bells and chimes, whereas the organ and its chimes, will be able to be played manually at any time and amplified through this same system. A recent letter from the company states that our installation should be complete by June 14th. Certainly it is with a great deal of anticipation what we await the arrival of this new electronic instrument. The definite date of installation and dedication will be announced later.

SERMON SERIES

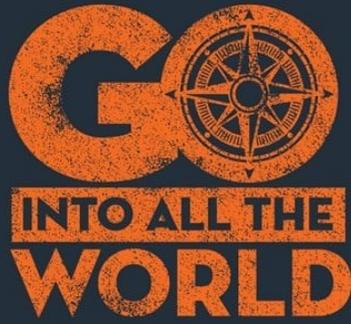
April 4th (Easter Sunday): The Final Word "He Has Risen"

April 11th—Discipleship Revisited

April 18th—Storytime: The Wedding Feast

April 25th—Storytime: Two Debtors

May 2nd—Storytime: A Pharisee and a Tax Collector



Missions Giving Update:

2021 GOAL: \$13,000 | CURRENT: \$5,000

Jay & Zina Herman: \$1,600 FULLY FUNDED

Toledo City Partners (GCC & TNC): \$1,500 FULLY FUNDED

Mission Spotlights: \$750 given to Keerstin Pelow, GCC, & Family House

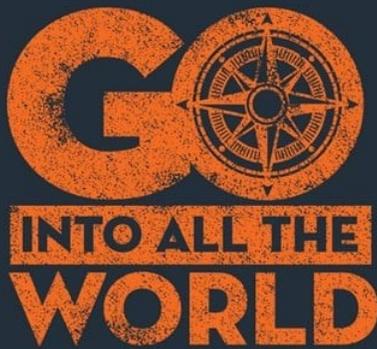
NWOA: \$400

Food Pantries: \$500

That Neighborhood Church: Additional \$250



Benevolence: God's Love in Action



Missions Giving Update:

2021 GOAL REMAINING: \$8,000

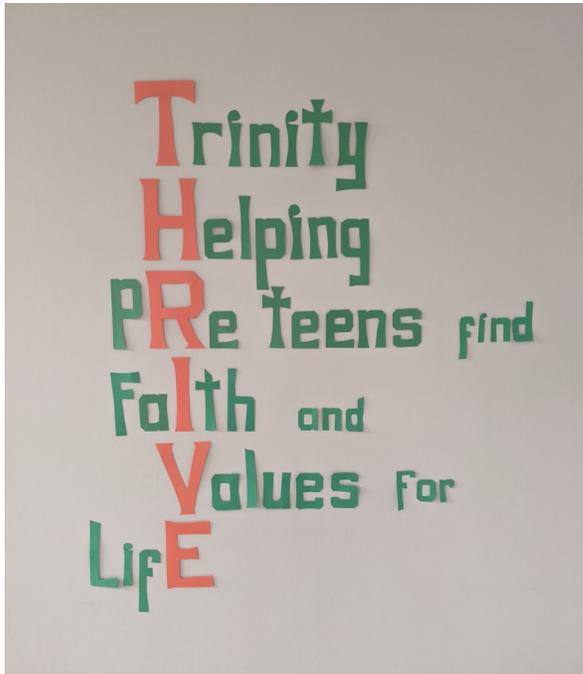
Missions Spotlight: \$1,650

NWOA: \$2,600

Local Food Pantries: \$3,500

World Missions: \$500

Christian Education News!!!!



Date	2-3 Nursery	PreK Teacher	K-2 Teacher
Week 1	Rebecca R.	Desirae M.	Kylene L.
Week 2	Faith S.	Brittany W.	Janene L.
Week 3	Jen L.	Ashley G.	Ashley Z.
Week 4	LouAnn Z.	Casi J.	Jamie K.

TEACHERS

THRIVE Teachers: Dan G., Nyla D., Jan C.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

ROCKY RAILWAY

July 25th-29th

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

MATERIALS NEEDED! Please consider donating:

Butcher Paper, Green/Brown/Red/Black Spray Paint, Green/Yellow Paper, Large Cardboard Boxes, Cardboard/Plastic Barrels, 4x8 Foam Insulation Boards, Grey/Brown Craft Paper (large rolls), Luggage, Blue Tarp, Green/Blue/White Streamers, Sponge Balls, Large Buckets, Cotton Balls, Velcro Strips, Bright Colored Duct Tape, Beach Balls, Balloons, Spray Bottles,



CONSTRUCTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VBS:

We have 3-4 Special Construction Projects that require building with Wood or PVC. If you would like to help construct some set pieces, please see Pastor Ryan.

MEMORIAL THANK YOU

We have created a direct link on our website for our weekly services!

If Facebook would happen to have any issues, please use the link below to find the service.

[http://
www.trinityelliston.org/
livestream.html](http://www.trinityelliston.org/livestream.html)

TABLE & CHAIR SIGN-OUT

Just a reminder with holidays and family gathering season upon us, 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. The tables and chairs that can be taken out, are all located in the shed.

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.

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Memorial Thank You

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families of Marilyn Appelhans. We would like to thank the following for their memorials given in her name.

Fay Bolander, Doug & Karen Lick, Jay Hellwig Family, Frances & Jerome Allyn., Don & Jan Corbin, Ron & Kathy Giesler

Memorial Thank You

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families of Ken Gahler, Eveyln Schimming, Susie Whittman, Lavonna Bittner, and Glen Sager. We would like to thank the following for their memorials given in her name.

Don & Jan Corbin



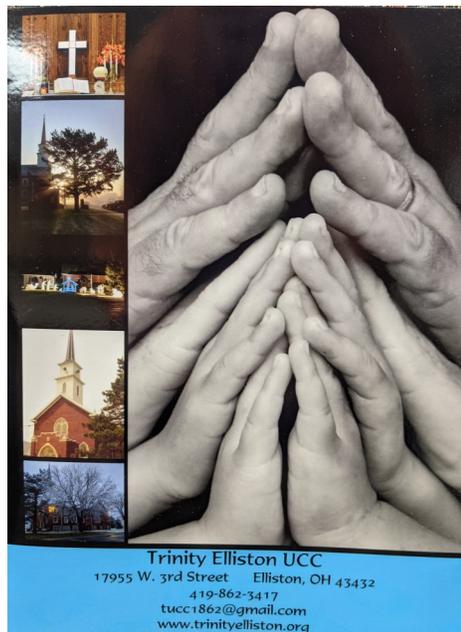
Join us on Sunday, April 18th for our annual Chicken BBQ from 11:00 am till sold out. ½ chicken will be \$10.00.

Meals include baked potato, cole slaw, dinner rolls, and homemade dessert.

If you are interested in helping out, please let Connie Gahler or Shirly Buhro know.

MEDICAL LENDING SUPPLIES

It has been wonderful to see the medical supplies donated to Trinity. The basement kitchen area is nearly overflowing, thanks to all of you. That being said, it also bears repeating that those items are available for YOUR use! There are a few wheelchairs, arm slings, compression stockings, and even a shower bag for a cast, to name a few. How about a massage cushion? Some items might come in handy for first aid such as Ace wraps and Band-Aids. So please think of TUCC for yourselves or those loved ones in times of need. Ask any of our medical professionals for help if needed. Thanks! Robin Hansen.



Just a reminder that the photo directories are in!

If you had your photo taken/turned in a photo, you have a book with your label on it waiting for you on the table by the elevator.

If you didn't get your photo taken, there are extra books on the table as well.

Enjoy our new directory!



"Thank you to everyone who gave a memorial in memory of mom and for all the prayers, cards, and kind words that we received. A special thanks to Pastor Ryan and Don Corbin for leading her service, Ava for playing the organ, and to Rhonda for streaming the service. I'm sure mom was very pleased and was smiling down on all of us. And probably was singing those beautiful hymns right along with us.

Much love,
Dawn Grieger & family

TITHE.LY

Giving to your local church using [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) is super easy! We offer a number of different ways to give to your church, which we'll outline in this article.

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



Men's Breakfast Is Back!!!!
Men are invited to join us on Sunday, May 2nd at 7:30am. If you are interested in serving a meal, or would like more information, please contact Ed G.

APRIL MISSION SPOTLIGHT

MISSION SPOTLIGHT: THAT NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH

“Our ministry model came out of years of experience, collaboration, and trial and error. We focus on two areas of Ministry, Church Ministry and Real Needs Ministry. We view this as two overlapping circles. One circle represents our Church ministries. These are the ministries that draw others to lean in towards God through a relationship with Jesus Christ. (Worship services, Adult Bible Studies, Children’s Ministry, Youth Ministry.) The other circle is our Real Need ministries. (Food Pantry, Free Health Clinics, Clothing Closet, School Co-Op, Empowerment Housing.) Because we live in one of the most impoverished neighborhoods in all of Ohio and Southeast Michigan, many of our neighbors are in need of the basics like food, clothes and healthcare. If we only focus on the needs side, we become just another social agency without the power to really change someone’s destiny. If we only focus on the church side, we can easily become a noisy gong and clanging symbol. In order to avoid being irrelevant to our community, we are committed to creating both environments at the same time. This allows relationships to be built and trust created allowing us to have a voice in the lives of our neighbors.

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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