



trinity
united church of Christ

**Sunday Worship @
10:00 am each week**

Sermon Series:



August 28th:

Modern Virtues
Integrity

September 4th:

Modern Virtues
Gratitude

RE
ALIGN M E N T
trinity

September 11th:

New Series -
Re-Align
Your Place
in the World
& Sunday School
Kick Off!!!

Trinity Tidings

VOLUME 96, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2022

Alignment Check

Fall is here! This time of year often acts as a reset for many families as they put aside the carefree days of summer and get "back to normal" in the routines of school and family life. The season often becomes marked by a routine to focus and consistency. Using this same thinking, it's also often the time when the church does some examinations of ourselves. We encourage everyone "back to church" and set about on the routines of small groups, Sunday School, and Bible study.

I have been blessed to serve this congregation for over three years now. When I arrived here the church had gone through two seasons of relatively short pastorates. Many people in the church had stepped up, lead, and guided the church in those uncertain times. I remember gathering town hall style meetings to try to answer some simple questions about Trinity.

"What has God uniquely called Trinity to do?"

What is our passion and purpose given from God?"

It's already been amazing to see how those conversations have fueled our ministry. Sparks of ideas from those days have inspired us to return to Sunday School, resume Adult Sunday School, and invite the community to our VBS programs. Ideas from those meetings changed the emphasis we put on our Benevolence giving, now committing more than ten percent of our operating budget to missions each year. Prioritizing a few building projects like more handicap accessibility and air conditioning were discussed at those meetings. We've accomplished a lot.

But this isn't where we sit back and say job well done. This is when the work truly begins. The honeymoon is over from our "new phase" together. After three years it's time again to ask, what is our purpose? This question can be answered both personally and congregationally.

YOU HAVE A PURPOSE. God has given YOU specific and unique gifts in order to be a part of the good work God is doing to seek and save lost people. Some are teachers, some are preachers, some have admin skills, some are encouragers, some are compassionate care givers, some are given wisdom, some are given knowledge. But each person and their gift are vital to the Kingdom of God

All of them will take care of one another. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honored, every part shares in its joy.
1 Corinthians 12:25-26

As a congregation, we need each other! We are better when we have many different spiritual gifts and use them collectively for God's kingdom. When we work together, acknowledging that one is a better care giver while another is a better admin, we can use these gifts to compliment each other.

Our congregation, and congregations like us, can often fall victim to the "warm body burnout." What I mean is this, someone comes into the church and wants to serve. The church has existing ministries that it cares about, the new person wants to help so they plug in to fill the void. All we need is a "warm body" to help. They might not be passionate or gifted by God in that area, but it's the place they can help! Except it doesn't feed their spirit or match their calling. Eventually they find themselves burnt out, tired, and not wanting to serve at all. They might end up saying things like "I did my time" as if church service were a prison sentence! Sound familiar? What if, instead, we found people with their unique spiritual gifts and passions and let them use their calling from God! What if we realigned our ministry to take advantage of our passions and giftedness. You might find serving doesn't feel like "work" at all. You might find yourself happy to be aligned with a vision. You might be happy to be a part of what God is doing. You might find a purpose as a congregation, as well.

This is how we are designed to operate. But just like your car or your back might occasionally need an adjustment, so does your spiritual life. So does the church. We're going to use this season to call ourselves back to our purpose, back to our joy, back to our God given mission, and I pray we will find the answer "What has God uniquely called and equipped Trinity to do?" For His kingdom and His glory! Amen!

People go about making their plans, but the Eternal God has the final word. Even when you think you have good intentions, He knows your real motives. Whatever you do, do it as service to Him, and He will guarantee your success. The Eternal God made everything for a reason. -Proverbs 16:1-4 (The Voice)

Pastor Ryan Shields

Council Minutes: July

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Church Council met on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 7 pm. Luke Sutter, President, called meeting to order. Pastor Ryan opened with prayer. Those in attendance were as follows: President Luke Sutter, Vice President Rebecca Rife, Ashley Gahler, Connie Gahler, Brice Gahler, Janene Lattimore Sam Sutter, Nate Diekman, Brianne Perry and Mary Muntz

Reports:

Recording Secretary: Meeting minutes from June meeting were read prior to the meeting by members. Motion to accept the minutes was made by first Luke Sutter, second by Brianne Perry, MC.

Secretary Report: Mary reviewed her monthly report and duties

Pastor Report:

- Combined worship with Zion to celebrate 4th of July
- Motion to no longer combine the 4th of July service with Zion by first Brianne Perry, second by Rebecca Rife, MC.
- Scott Williams will be leading worship music at least once a month going forward
- Turnow Pond weekend August 14
- Summer picnic/outdoor service August 28

Committee Reports:

Worship Team: no report at this time

EFY- Branching Out and Thrive

- new candidate for Youth leader position was interviewed
- at this time leaning toward tightening up the job description and splitting into 2 roles; a young children leader and jr. high/high school aged leader to better meet the needs of the growing number of youth in the church

- VBS July 31-August 4
- Decorating for VBS will be done July 24th at 5pm

Mission

School supply drive donations will be split up to individual school districts to be used as needed

Trustee Report

- Scrubber and polisher can be purchased for \$950 and be used as needed by custodian
- Motion to purchase equipment by Janene Lattimore, second by Luke Sutter, MC.
- Quote from Stripe It Up in Toledo to repaint parking lot lines \$590
- Handicap spots need rezoned during this project
- Motion to accept quote from Stripe It Up with a buffer to include rezoning and repainting handicap spots by Rebecca Rief, second by Brice Gahler, MC.

Pastoral Relations Committee

- Pastor Ryan and VP Rebecca Rief met for NWOA annual review
- Approval needed for pastors license renewal
- Motion by Rebecca Rief to renew Pastor Ryan’s license, second by Brianne Perry, MC.

Church and Ministry: no update

2030 Team: wrapping up AC project

Old Business: AC/boiler project

All work should be completed soon. Roger Sheehan communicating with IPS to ensure their work is thorough and complete in timely manner

New Business

- Discussion on how to use chicken BBQ earnings
- Keeping fund to help church members in need
- Mission projects
- Pit update
- Going forward will need to establish where earnings will go
- Motion to adjourn meeting by first Brice Gahler second by Connie Gahler, MC.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:49 by Desirae McCloskey.
- Respectfully submitted, Ashley Gahler, Recording Secretary.

*Council meets
at the Church
monthly on the
2nd Monday at
7:00 pm*

*Reminder:
Per our
Constitution,
all
expenditures
over \$500 must
be approved
by Council.*

General Operating Fund Report (Council approved 7/11/22)

Beginning Balance 07/01/2022	\$21,741.27
Offering/Income	\$13,193.24
Expenses	\$10,909.29
Transfers	\$0.00
Balance 07/31/2022	\$24,025.22



Be in prayer for the following:

The families of Sue Fahle (mom of Pastor Ryan's best friend Brody) and Edith Magnone (mom of Karen Sims) who both recently passed away.
Rayna Perry, hospitalized with blood sugar issues
Steve, who is known by many in the community and battling ALS.

Those with long-term health concerns:

Don Weaver, Don Hoefft, Deanna Vizi, Riley & Ren Baumert, Joel Marquart

Those battling cancer: Dustin Schmidt, Jackie Pelton, Logan Murphy

Thank You!

Dear Trinity UCC, Council & Staff
Thank you for the card, the congratulations, the best wishes and for believing in me.
God be with you, Dylan Mahaney



Thank you

Dear Church Family,

Over this past year we have greatly appreciated all of the love and support we have received from our church! The power of prayer brought our boys home to us safe and healthy and guided us through this difficult time. Thank you all for thinking of us and helping us in so many ways.

The financial gifts have helped us pay towards medical bills and the gas cards and restaurant gift cards were greatly appreciated during our time of traveling back and forth to the hospital every day. Also, so many of you supplied us with wonderful meals each week during my pregnancy while I was put on bed rest and during the time the boys were in the hospital. All of this allowed us to focus on our boys and we can not thank you enough. It feels so good to be a part of such a close and caring church family. We are extremely blessed!

The boys are 1 year old now and doing so well considering all they have been through in their young lives. They are truly miracles! Riley is pretty on track with their adjusted age (9 months) while Ren is usually about 2 lbs smaller and achieves developmental milestones a few weeks after Riley masters them. They are both crawling and standing, have two teeth each and say "Momma". Riley's first word was "Dadda", but Ren hasn't figured that one out yet. Riley will also walk along furniture and take steps holding hands.

We hope to bring them to church soon!

Thank you all for the continuing love, support and prayers!

Love, Kelsey, Shane, Jed, Riley and Ren

AC / Boiler Update:

Adjustments will be made soon to the air conditioning system to rectify the condensation issues in the gym and sanctuary after which the project should be complete.

We would like to thank those who sacrificially gave of their time and also financially to make this project happen!

THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU HERE

Fall
Kick-Off
September 11
9:00 am



17955 W 3rd Street • Elliston, OH 43432
419-862-3417 • tucc1862@gmail.com • www.trinityelliston.org

Sunday School for all ages and Kid's Church will begin Sunday, September 11th at 9:00 am! This includes Confirmation Classes and Adult Classes too! Come, bring friends and find a place for you here!

Confirmation

Confirmation Class will begin on September 11th at 9:00 am. Any new 7th graders are welcome to join us!

All students and a parent should plan to attend Confirmation Orientation on September 11th at 9:00 am in the Confirmation Classroom (far side of the gym, last door from the kitchen).



CHURCH CAMP OUT

at Turtle Creek

September 8 to September 11 (or longer)

Call for reservations: 419-898-7745

Hosted by Brad Jess

We will order pizza for Friday night at Turtle Creek to eat between 5:30 & 6:00 pm.

Everyone is welcome - come and camp or just come for the evening!

Let Brad or the church office know if you plan to come by September 8th.

Kids Fishing Derby will be on Saturday around 11:30 am with prizes!

After the Derby, we'll have a Poker Run for the adults!

Again, everyone is welcome to come camping or just come for the day!

Ham will be provided for Saturday lunch. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

We may have live music on Friday & Saturday as well!

5 to 8 pm

YOUTH NIGHT

October 2nd

Games, Food, Devotions
Bring Friends!

Coffee Fellowship

Tuesdays
8:00 am

Everyone Welcome!

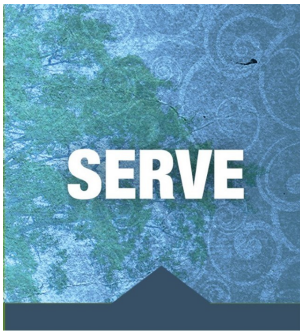


Mission SPOTLIGHT

During September our Mission Spotlight will be to bolster the Pastoral Compassion fund.

These funds are used at the Pastor's discretion to assist church members and families in crisis or that have known needs.

To give to this fund simply write "Mission Spotlight" on your envelope or check memo.



Branching Out Needs Teachers & Helpers!

Branching out is our Kid's Church program that meets during the 10:00 am Church Service each week. Volunteers may sign up to teach or help once a month. Arrangements can be made if you'd like to teach or help on a different schedule. Contact Mary in the church office (tucc1862@gmail.com or text 330-416-7140) if you are willing to help with Kid's Church time! Sign-up sheets are also available at church on Sunday.

Greet Other Church Go-ers on Sunday Mornings!

Greeters are on duty at 9:45 am each Sunday to welcome those coming to worship at both the North and South doors.

Additionally, greeters on the south side of the building can assist with use of the elevator. During inclement weather greeters may assist people walking on snow or take an umbrella to them in the parking lot. Greeters are one of the first faces of Trinity visitors see. Additional guidelines are given to help greeters assist worship attendees feel welcome and comfortable while they are in the building. Would you like to be a greeter? We are re-aligning our teams and would love to add you! Contact Mary in the church office (tucc1862@gmail.com or text 330-416-7140) to join a greeter team!

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.

Trinity Logo Wear

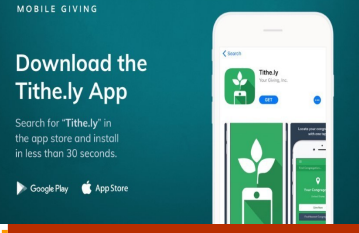
You can now order items directly from bit.ly/trinityunitedchurchofchrist. If the item you would like is not listed simply call R&R Identification at 419-355-8206 or visit their shop at 160 S OH 590 Fremont, OH 43420 and tell them what you would like with the Trinity Elliston logo on it and they will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

Medical Lending Supplies

Many supplies have been donated to the church in hopes someone has a need and can use them. They are located in the basement kitchen. Should you, a family member, neighbor or friend have a need please feel free to take what can be used! There is no fee or need to sign out items - just come get what you need!



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

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

End of 2nd Quarter Benevolence Goals

Remaining Need for 2022:
\$9,177 overall

- \$3,000 Food Pantries
- \$3,000 Northwest Ohio Association Benevolence
 - \$715 Toledo Ministry Partners
 - \$1,250 Missions Spotlight (12 Groups)
 - \$112 Jay & Zina Herman (Missionary in Slovenia)
- \$900 Ben & Mandy Wood (Missionary in Orlando)
 - \$200 Other World Missions

STUDENT-LED MOVEMENTS SLOVENIA

cru⁺



Letters from
Ljubljana

July 2022

CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO PRAY?

This month we sat down with Matej (who we met in May, and has been reading the Bible for the first time in his life) and as we were talking he asked my coworker and I, "Can you teach me how to pray?" It's pretty rare that a student asks a question to us almost verbatim to that which the disciples asked Jesus, so we turned to Luke 11 to see how Jesus answered. As we talked Matej observed how Jesus likened God to a good father, who desires to give good gifts, and we talked about how we can talk with God in prayer.



He committed to praying once daily at night. That night he prayed for the first time, and he said he prayed for bigger life things, for future job, wife, etc. When he woke up he was sick for the next 3 days! We talked to him about spiritual warfare, and how the enemy wants to keep him from knowing and having a relationship with God! It was so clear that this was the work of the enemy to discourage him from prayer. Though despite that, he said being sick reminded him to pray more "daily bread" prayers, for things more simple like health each day, thankfulness for weather and being able to go for walks with his dog. In the end he said it was encouraging for him in prayer, and it was good for us to be able to discuss the challenges of spiritual warfare.

Pray for Matej, that he would continue to discover God through His word, that the enemy would be powerless to blind him from seeing and receiving the truth. Pray that he would be faithful in prayer, to pursue God and His will in his life. Pray that he would find openness in the people around him, that he could start a group of people who want to read the word with him, people he can share his excitement for the Bible with.

PRAYER REQUESTS

While we are discussing prayer, here are a few extra ways that you can be praying for our family and ministry over the next month. Thank you!

- Pray for Ari! We celebrated his second birthday this month, so pray for his growth, that he would become wise and mature, and know and love the Lord all the days of His life.
- Pray for Zina's pregnancy, that the Lord would knit him in His image, and that she would continue to be healthy and without complication.
- Pray for our team, as the summer winds down and we begin planning for the next year, pray that we would be united, and have wisdom from the Holy Spirit and see where He is working and leading us
- Pray for the Moldovan staff, while the war continues in Ukraine, the staff in Moldova continue to serve refugees, many long-term now. Pray that they would continue to shine the light of Christ to those in need.



With love in Christ, Jay, Zina, & Ari Herman

Trinity UCC

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Watch the Service Online We have created a direct link on our website for our weekly services! http://www.trinityelliston.org/livestream.html</p>						
10:00 am Worship Greeters: Team A Trustee: Michael Sager Lorraina Reif (B)	Labor Day	8:00 am Coffee Fellowship Baya Laffimore (B)	Shelby Tabbert (B)	Church Camp Out @ Turtle Creek	Church Camp Out @ Turtle Creek Kate Hayes (B)	Church Camp Out @ Turtle Creek Don Bittner (B)
Fall Programming Resumes 9:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation & Adult Classes 10:00 am Worship & Kids Church Greeters: Team B / Trustee: Brice Gahler Carson Tabbert (B)	7:00 pm Church Council	8:00 am Coffee Fellowship Tidings Information Due Brice Gahler (B)	14	15 Emma Ashley (B)	16 Keaston Reif (B) Susan Rothert (B) 5:00 pm GC Wedding Rehearsal	17 Mikey Denko (B) 2:00 pm GC Wedding Kitchen: Mathews
9:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation & Adult Classes 10:00 am Worship & Kids Church Greeters: Team C / Trustee: Steve Turnow Cierra Ashcraft (B) Nate Diekman (B)	19	8:00 am Coffee Fellowship Tidings Information Due Brice Gahler (B)	21	22	23	24
9:00 am Sunday School, Confirmation & Adult Classes 10:00 am Worship & Kids Church Greeters: Team D / Trustee: Jim Laughlin Dustin Tabbert (B)	26	8:00 am Coffee Fellowship	Dan & Connie Gahler (A)	Keaston & Rebecca Reif (A)	30	

There's a place for you here!

**All classes begin
September 11th!**



419-862-3417
TrinityElliston.org

Sunday School
9:00 am
Nursery through
Adult Classes

Sunday Worship
10:00 am
Nursery & Kids'
Church Available



trinity
united church of Christ

17955 W Third St
Elliston, OH 43432

Phone: 419-862-3417
Email: tucc1862@gmail.com
Website: trinityelliston.org
Facebook: [facebook.com/TUCCElliston](https://www.facebook.com/TUCCElliston)
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YouTube: [TrinityElliston](https://www.youtube.com/TrinityElliston)
Livestream: trinityelliston.org/livestream

Pastor: Ryan Shields
Pastor's Email: ryandshields@outlook.com