



Trinity United  
Church of Christ  
17955 West 3rd Street  
Elliston, OH 43432

September 2019  
Volume 93, Issue 9

## News From Pastor:

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

In churches across America, September becomes a time of renewal within the church. Church schools, Sunday School, small groups, and activities seem to always kick off in the fall after a more relaxed summer. This fall will mark something very special in the life of Trinity UCC Elliston, as it will be the first time you and I go on this adventure together. I want to make sure we start this season on the right foot. So, if no one has ever told you this, I want to make sure you know.

We want you here. We want you to be a part of this community. We want to grow in God with you.

It's an easy thing to say. It's a hard thing to live out! People are flawed, people are emotional, people have a million reasons to divide and separate. I believe God's purpose is calling us together. If our church is going to continue to have an impact for Jesus Christ in our region, the only way we get there is together. We want you here. Whether you are a person who is in the pews every single Sunday without fail, or someone we haven't seen in years, we want you here. We are all a part of the body of Christ. While we may have a wide variety of opinions and backgrounds, the message of Christ is the great unifier. The Lord, our God, is one and calling us to His Oneness!

*"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:2-6 NIV).*

We're asking that September 8<sup>th</sup> be an opportunity for all members and friends of Trinity UCC Elliston to come back together. It's a Back to Church Sunday. Reconnect with old friends. Help build the vision of the future for this church. We want everyone to have a place in this congregation, not for our glory but that God might use us to proclaim the hope of Jesus Christ to all people.

We want you to experience the love of Christ. Any group of people can get together in friendship. However, when the church gets together, we share in the transformational power of Christ. No longer shall we walk in darkness, but instead we share the light of life! We want to serve the needs of the community. Often the only way people know of a need is by sharing it in community. I have already witnessed this church serve others. This is part of our mission and we want you to join us as we take up the needs of this community.

We want you to make a difference. We believe that the love of Christ can make a difference in our lives, in our homes, in our schools, in our workplaces, and in our whole world. Once we have it, we're called to share it. Our duty is to share that love with others. That includes you.

Whether Trinity has been your home forever or you're brand new. Whether you are old or young. Whether you are shouting with joy or feeling completely broken. We want you here. You can find belonging in Christ here. Our church is not full of perfect people, but people who are going to focus on the restorative power of Christ in our midst. I pray you will join us for this journey.

See you in church!  
Pastor Ryan Shields



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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- September 1st—MudHens Game
- September 8th—Branching Out KickOff
- September 11th—7pm Adult Bible Study
- September 15th—All Church Clean Up Day

## WORSHIP SERVICE INFORMATION

### COVENANT SERMON SERIES

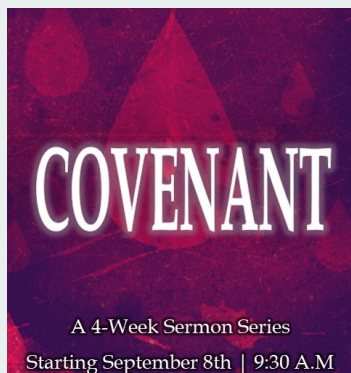
September 1st—Give It a Rest!

September 8th—The Smoking Firepot (Abraham)

September 15th— The People of God (Moses)

September 22nd—Behold the King (David)

September 29th—The New Covenant (Jesus)



## 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.

## GREETERS

September 1st—Mike & Ann Diekman

September 8th—Vi Gahler & Ken Gahler

September 15th—Ed & Jane Gahler

September 22nd—Dan & Connie Gahler

September 29th—Kelsey Gahler & Nyla Denman

October 6th—Jay & Joanna Hellwig

October 13th—Krista Hellwig & Casi Johnson

October 20th—Dwayne & Eva Hoeft

October 27th—Marty & Kristi Hoeft

## \$5 OFFERING

The Missions' Team has generated a new schedule of \$5 offerings for the year. They include:

1st Sunday of Month - Supporting Church Camp

2nd Sunday of Month – Mission Team Event

3rd Sunday of Month - Supporting a local mission/need

4th Sunday of Month - Supporting an outward mission/need

5th Sunday of Month - As needed

If you have suggestions for where our 3rd or 4th week offerings could go, please let the office know.

## MEMORIAL THANK YOU

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Dorothy Tabbert. We would like to thank the following for their memorials given in Dorothy's name.

Blanche Batesole

## MONTHLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Date	07/07/2019
# in Attendance	115
Last Week's Current Offering \$	5,036.00
Weekly Current Budget Needed \$	2,715.00
Budget Needed YTD \$	73,305.00
actual Current Offerings YTD \$	65,220.40
Ahead/Behind \$	(8,084.60)

Date	07/14/2019
# in Attendance	85
Last Week's Current Offering \$	2,319.00
Weekly Current Budget Needed \$	2,715.00
Budget Needed YTD \$	76,020.00
actual Current Offerings YTD \$	67,539.40
Ahead/Behind \$	(8,480.60)

Date	07/21/2019
# in Attendance	62
Last Week's Current Offering \$	1,331.00
Weekly Current Budget Needed \$	2,715.00
Budget Needed YTD \$	78,735.00
actual Current Offerings YTD \$	68,870.40
Ahead/Behind \$	(9,864.60)

Date	07/28/2019
# in Attendance	92
Last Week's Current Offering \$	3,427.00
Weekly Current Budget Needed \$	2,715.00
Budget Needed YTD \$	81,450.00
actual Current Offerings YTD \$	72,297.40
Ahead/Behind \$	(9,152.60)



## BRANCHING OUT NEWS

Branching Out will return September 8th. We'll be kicking off this day with a special blessing for Branching Out teachers and a family themed service. Invite the whole family as we sing some childhood favorites and worship in joy with our children!



# *Christian Education News!!!!*

## SERMON SERIES NEWS

We have a lot of great things coming to kick off the fall. One is a series on Covenant starting on September 8th. Covenant is a HUGE word in the Bible, but do we understand what it means? Pastor Ryan will take us through from Genesis into the New Testament and see how the relationship between God and His people develops leading to the ultimate moment, Jesus. We hope you'll come. Bring a friend. Be a part of our community. All are welcome. Whoever you are, you're welcome here.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us for our 5-Week Adult Bible Study on Wednesday Nights at 7 PM starting September 11th. We will be looking at a video series called "Everybody, Always" based on the book by Bob Goff.

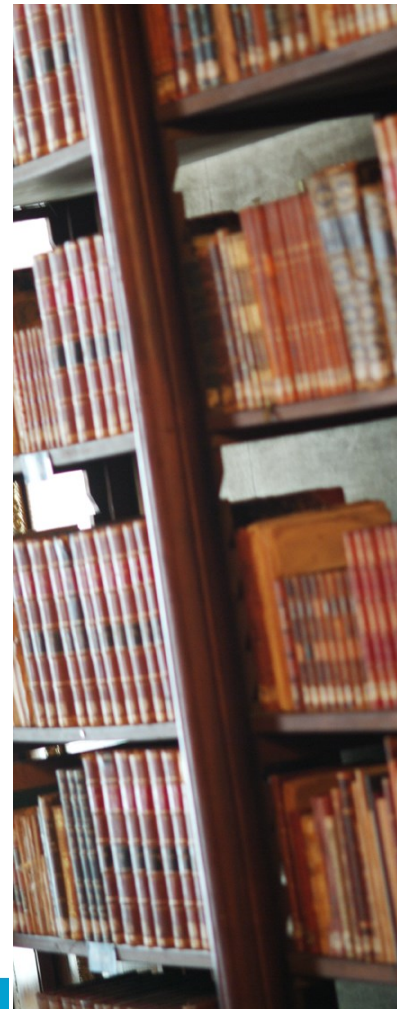
What does it mean to love one another during difficult times and with difficult people? This study asks the participant to dig into God's Word to find out.

No need to buy any resources, simply come join us in the Fireside Room and join the discussion.



Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People  
by BOB GOFF

**5-Week Discussion Series beginning  
September 11th @ 7 PM**





# Church Council Minutes

The Trinity United Church of Christ, Elliston Church Council met on Monday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:03 pm. Ben Sutter, President, called meeting to order and opened with prayer by Pastor Ryan Shields. Those in attendance were as follows:

President Ben Sutter, Vice President Nyla Denman, Faith Sutter, Shirley Buhro, Marty Hoeft, Ken Gahler, Jennifer Laughlin, Nate Diekman, Curt Reiff, Jayson Hayes, Church Secretary Rhonda Mahaney, and Pastor Ryan Shields. Eric Gahler and Brock Hansen were absent.

## Reports:

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

## Secretary Report:

- Working on updating info, taxes, etc., with Pastor Ryan
- Will need new operating system and Publisher
- Nate Diekman motion to get a new computer (under \$1,000), and publisher
- 1<sup>st</sup> by Ben Sutter 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marty Hoeft. MC.

## Financial Report:

- Money was moved in the mission's account to cover last year's negative church camp balance. Approved by Ashley Zimmerman
- GOBA
  - \$1,568.30 was put in the mission's account under water-blast
  - Can move money if needed
  - Motion to move \$300 to general fund 1<sup>st</sup> Shirley Buhro 2<sup>nd</sup> Jen Laughlin. MC.
  - Will get with Rhonda on rest of the funds and where to place them
- Kitchen Remodel
  - Money is being collected for funds from various groups
  - TLC donating \$5,000 if grease trap is fixed (WOJO's to look at)
  - Rummage sale donation for kitchen remodel

## Pastor Report:

- Worship
    - Lead services on July 7<sup>th</sup>, my first Sunday morning as Pastor
    - Presided over communion 7/7
- Met with worship team on 7/8 to discuss worship service plans
- Events/Activities
    - Attended my first coffee and breakfast Tuesday morning
    - Will be in/out during the Rummage Sale to check in, greet people, etc.
  - Pastoral Ministries
    - Several lengthy meetings and discussion in my office as I get caught up on the recent history of the church. I appreciate those who shared ideas, encouragements, and concerns.
    - Working with Rev. Don Corbin to get an active list of

shut-in's and visitation needs. Rev. Corbin to provide me with his report soon.

- Working with Rhonda in the office as she has already been a great help. Talking through a lot of things in the office such as website, Facebook, PowerPoint, Bulletins and so on.

- Appreciate greatly the work of Nate and Jordan on the new sign, as well as a walkthrough of the building I had with Ron Giesler.

- Have to discuss with council the wording in my call agreement in terms of the Constitution and send to NOWA.

- See in New Business

## •Quick Observations

- A new Pastor will always be burdened with trying to use the momentum of a new era to change things up and give new direction vs. changing too much too soon and making people feel uneasy. I have made the following "quick observations" and would like to know your thoughts on these small changes/ideas that can start the ball rolling as we look at the direction of the church! I will not be offended if any of these fall into a category of "don't do that/I don't care"!

- Connection Cards/Pens/Business Cards/Brochures/Welcome Center

- How do we identify geographically, school district, community events, mission's projects?

- Email updates and Prayer Chain (Continual list of prayer concerns and shut-ins)

- Online giving

- Funerals and Weddings as "outreach" (Relationship with area funeral homes)

- Active directory

- Reaching out for visitors, mailers, Facebook, community event. Visitor gifts/New Member class

- CCLI

- List of long term projects active/inactive both for the spiritual well-being of the church and the grounds.

- Any type of meetings for visioning of the church? Town hall style?

## Committee Reports:

### Worship

- Met with Pastor Ryan on July 8<sup>th</sup>

### EFY

- Camp Michindoh
- Location of church camp
- Moving forward down payment to reserve
- Will discuss with Janene

### Mission

- GOBA was successful
- Boo Fest and Back to School Drive coming up

## General Operating Fund Report (approved)

Beginning 7/1/19	\$48,976.65
Offering/Income	\$12,463.00
Expenses	\$6,886.15
Balance 7/31/19	\$54,553.50

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

### Church & Ministry

- Nothing new at this time

### Search Committee

- Nothing new at this time
- Will need to meet up with Pastor Ryan in the future

### Trustee Report

- The orange wall is to come down in the bathroom
- Kitchen Remodel
  - Money approved by congregation
  - Kitchen committee will need to meet to pick out colors
- Mold
  - Money approved by congregation
    - Wash with bleach and water to fix
    - Quote received from Mauder
    - 2 units (\$6,000 per unit) can help prevent future mold through dehumidifying
    - Trustee's to meet and address
    - Will take a closer look at the issue and come up with various solutions if possible
  - Garden worked up by Brock
  - Light in the sanctuary needs to be changed

### -Old Business:

- Nothing to address

### New Business:

- Working on safe for church offering
- Will bring up giving away kitchen cups and plates
- Hot in the quiet room, discussed ventilation
- Call agreement conflicting statements on termination or resignation of Pastor
  - Church council can vote at anytime to remove Pastor
  - NWOA recommends that 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote of active membership congregation
  - Motion to address call agreement to state 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote of active congregation required
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Faith Sutter 2<sup>nd</sup> Shirley Buhro. MC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm by Ben Sutter.

Respectfully submitted, Faith Sutter, Recording Secretary.

## Contingent Fund

Do you know what the Contingent Fund is used for? This is the fund that ALL building and maintenance items are paid out of. So when something breaks, we pay for it out of this fund. Ideas of other items that are paid out of the Contingent Fund include:

- Maintenance work on the boilers
- Light bulbs and new lights
- Batteries
- Paint
- Parts to fix & repair things in the church
- Carpet Cleaning
- Snow Removal
- Just to name a few

Please remember to contribute to our Contingent Fund.



## Benevolence: God's Love in Action

### Benevolence

If anyone knows of an organization or individual that is in need of giving's, please let us know. Quarterly we disperse the benevolence money and are always looking for worthy causes to donate to.

So far this quarter we have donated to: The Northwest Ohio Association.

## 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.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Trinity UCC Congregational Meeting  
At the conclusion of church service on July, 7<sup>th</sup> 2019, President Ben Sutter called a congregational meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. This meeting was to discuss and seek approval from the congregation for upcoming expenses.

### Kitchen Remodel

- Still seeking quotes but we have rough numbers \$12,700 total
- Counter \$6,850
- Paint \$800
- Stoves \$3,200
- Sink \$300
- Faucets \$800
- Hardware \$750

•Floor was opened up for questions regarding remodel

- Q: Will the drain under the sink be included in kitchen remodel?
- A: Discussed various times in church council and trustees are looking into it.
- Q: How soon will the renovation be
- A: ASAP, and the kitchen will be

closed for 30 days.

- Q: Have trustees approved this?
- A: All have approved, seeking congregational approval.
- Asked if there was a motion to approve. Motioned 1<sup>st</sup> by Janene Lattimore and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz Marquart. MC.

### Mold

- Asked if there was a motion to approve financial costs to fix the mold within the church.
- Motion by 1<sup>st</sup> Ann Diekman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Janene Lattimore. MC.

### Laptop for Pastor Ryan

- Unsure of exact cost at this time, but wanted to bring it forth to the church to see if we could purchase Pastor Ryan a new laptop for his ministry.
- Motion by 1<sup>st</sup> Ed Gahler and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jennifer Laughlin. MC.

No further questions, and the meeting was adjourned.

## BOOK LENDING LIBRARY

I just read a fabulous book called "The Things I would have said. The chance to say what you always wanted them to know" by Jackie Cooper. Hope you enjoy this book as much as I did!

## COMMUNITY MARKET RECEIPTS

Please bring in your receipts and place them in the box located on the table between the North glass doors. Every little bit helps!

## COUPONS

This month's food pantry contributions went to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Elmore. They have a very organized room where everything is set up like a mini grocery store. They are very appreciative of anything that is donated. And I am very appreciated of the coupon pages that everyone give me every month!!!! Thanks.

~Karen



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Trinity Women's Fellowship met on Thursday, Aug 8, 2019 at noon for the last of our summer outing series. We went to Frisches Big Boy Rest. On Woodville Road. There were eight present.

Norma began with a prayer and the table blessing and we enjoyed a nice lunch. She had several readings which served as our devotions.

A church prayer chain letter from the computer was read and brought everyone up to date.

Ina gave the Sunshine report and she will be the chairman again next month.

Next month we will be meeting at church, as we begin another season of our regular meetings, at 1:00 pm. Program—Eloise H. Host Sara Z. Come & join us! All are welcome.

We played our summer bingo and enjoyed our fellowship together.

~Suzanne Buhro, Secretary

Balance on Hand	\$257.95
Offering	25
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$282.95</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Balance on</b>	<b>\$257.95</b>
<b>Savings</b>	<b>\$1,888.25</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 my Trinity Family. All the cards and prayers and Best Wishes are greatly appreciated. I miss worshiping and visiting with you all. The recovery is taking longer than I had hoped.”

~Eloise

### OUTSIDE INFORMATION

St. John's UCC in Elmore invites youth and adults to a special program featuring Andra Moran, Nashville singer/songwriter. On Saturday, September 14th, a concert for all youth and adults, church folks from area churches, and our community will take place at 7:00 pm. There will be a free-will offering for the concert. Hope to see you for this special program.





## WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH



Join us Sunday, September 15th after church for all hands on deck workday here at the church. Come in your cold clothes, bring your tools, and come ready to lend a hand.

We are going to have a multiple of projects that will fit just about everyone's ability level.

We will provide hot dogs, chips, and lemonade.

If you have any questions, please contact the office. If you know of a project that we should do, please contact the office as well.

Trinity United Church of Christ  
17955 W 3rd Street  
Elliston, OH 43432

Phone: 419-862-3417  
E-mail: [tucc1862@gmail.com](mailto:tucc1862@gmail.com)  
Facebook:  
[trinityunitedchurchofchristElliston](http://trinityunitedchurchofchristElliston)  
YouTube: Trinity Elliston  
Website: [trinityelliston.org](http://trinityelliston.org)

Pastor Ryan Shields  
[ryandshields@outlook.com](mailto:ryandshields@outlook.com)  
419-410-5309

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

