



22 No. 12 Newsletter

December 2022

Trinity United Church of Christ
8919 S. St. Rt. 53, PO Box 126
McCutchenville, OH 44844-0126

Phone: 419-981-5808
Website: www.thetrinityucc.com
Church Email: trinityucc@bright.net
Pastor: Pastor Elyse Cramer



Thank You

Dear Pastor Cramer and Members of the Congregation,

At the November 2022 regular meeting of the Mohawk Local Board of Education, your donation of \$457.75 for outstanding student lunch charges was accepted by the board. On behalf of the board, we would like to sincerely thank you for this donation. Forty-six students benefitted from your generosity.

Thank you for your support of Mohawk Local Schools and its students. It is genuinely appreciated.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Holbrook
Superintendent
Mohawk Local School
District

Trinity UCC Women's Guild,
Thank you so much for the beautiful card. Thank you for the gift of a picture frame and wood plaque of the church and cross saying. We really appreciate it, and it was very thoughtful.

Mikayla (Clifton) & Josh Vanichek

Special Thanks!

To ... those who contributed in many ways and to those who gave their time and talents for a successful Election Day Dinner. We appreciate everyone's support. We made a profit of \$1,592.50

To... those who brought items for our Harvest Home Celebration which will be used to share with those in need through our Caring Community Christmas totes.

To ... Dave Weininger for the Thanksgiving service he organized and his meditation on the Five Thanksgiving Commands.

To ... those who completed Christmas cards for the Ohio prisoners for our Card Challenge. Thank you for reaching out to make their Christmas a little brighter knowing someone cared enough to send them a card. (Note: Sunday, December 4 is the final day for Christmas cards to be returned to church.)

To ... Sharon and Anna for taking poinsettia orders.

To ...Erin Sherwood and Jeff Watson for helping our young youth, Jace Sherwood and Evie Wertz, acolyte, making them feel part of the worship service this past month.

To ... Nira for setting up the Advent Wreath.

To ...Linda Gottfried and Gina Dutcher for their

part in the Lighting of the Advent Wreath for the first Sunday of Advent.

To... Steve Tanner for ringing the church bell making a joyful noise reminding us that it's time to gather for worship and acknowledging God's presence in our world.



Robin (Heilman) Hough (rehab hospital), Dan Gucker (extended care), Jim Rinehart (extended care), Mike Inbody

(waiting on kidney transplant), Tracy Frankhart Brown (extended care), and to our Homebound: Phyll Barth, Alice Earl, Donna Warnecke, Cora Bour, Clarabelle Clark, and Ruth Pennington. And those known and those unknown only to God who are homebound... hospitalized... those who are undergoing treatments... surgeries... and those with illnesses... and hurting spirits... and to all others who struggle and suffer in our world.

JOYS!



ROSE DEDICATION

A red rose was dedicated in honor of the birth of Myles Joseph Cramer, son of Pastor Elyse and Matt Cramer. The dedication prayer was

given by our guest pastor, Rev. Paul Stark. Myles was born October 28, 2022, weighing 7.9 pounds, and measured 21 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Denny and Marty Everhart. Paternal grandparents are Dick and Elaine Cramer. God's blessings to this new family.



Jannie Snyder became a great grandmother! Bella was born in November, and we wish Bella and her family God's blessings.

We received a check in the amount of \$1416.67 for working the Wyandot County Fair gates in September as a fundraiser. Again, thank you to all that worked the gates!

A new furnace has been installed. We are incredibly grateful to the Colleen Shaffer family for their monetary gift to the church in remembrance of Colleen's son, Gary Cheney, which allowed us to replace our furnace sooner than anticipated.

While Pastor Elyse is on Maternity Leave



Pastor Darrin Harvey from Sycamore UCC will continue to be on call for any pastoral emergencies through December 10, 2022. Pastor Harvey may

be reached at either the church, 419-927-9707, or his cell 419-560-6579.

We look forward to Pastor Elyse's return to the pulpit on December 11. Hopefully Myles will make his debut that Sunday too. ❤️

Advent Devotional Books Available

Advent Devotional booklets, provided by the Society of St. Andrew, are available at either the front or back vestibules of the church. Or please let the office know and we will be happy to mail one to your home. Also available are coin boxes and envelopes for your Advent donations to the Society of St. Andrew. The Society of St. Andrew provides the devotional booklets to us free of charge. But they also suggest that we help others by giving back to the Society of St. Andrew which is a nationwide faith-based nonprofit entity that focuses on providing healthy food to the hungry.

Please return any donations or coin boxes to the church by January 1, 2023, and we will

collectively send our donation from Trinity to the Society of St. Andrew.

We hope you use and find these daily readings, reflections, and prayers it provides to prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ-child.



December 18th Christmas Talent Show at Trinity

Trinity is seeking your talents. Can you sing, play the piano, organ or any other musical instrument? Maybe you dance, do gymnastics, or read poetry? If you have a talent that you are willing to share with us, then Trinity needs you for our Christmas Talent Show on Sunday, December 18 during the 10 a.m. worship hour. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the trophy case for those who are willing to participate. We hope you will consider sharing your talents with us on December 18. It is open to everyone.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



We will celebrate the holiest of nights, the birth of Jesus, by gathering for a special

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service beginning at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 24. Everyone is welcome to this special time of worship.



Your Help is Needed for the Christmas Eve Luminaries

We need your help filling, placing, as well as removing the Christmas Eve luminaries. We will gather on Wednesday, December 21 at 4:30 p.m. in Steve Tanner's barn located at 98 St. Rt. 53 in Scutch. Come and stay for however long you are able to help fill the luminary containers with sand. Then at 6:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, your help is again needed to place the luminaries around the community. Lastly, following the 8:00 Christmas Eve service, we will need help removing the luminaries from around the community. There is a signup sheet posted on the church trophy case if you can help, or just pop by any of the time help is needed when your schedule allows. It will be greatly appreciated for this big undertaking.

Christmas Totes Available



Through your generosity, a collection of non-perishable food, personal items, and paper products were gathered during our

November 20 Harvest Home worship service. If you know of someone who can benefit by receiving a Christmas Tote filled with items, please give the name(s) and contact information to either Erin Sherwood, Char Carrick, Kathy Russell, Steve Tanner, Dale Pennington, Rachel Wertz, or to the church office. Names given are kept confidential. We want to share our bounties and reach out to those in need in our community, so please help us do so.

Dartball Season to Begin



A preseason 4-man Dartball Tournament is set for Thursday, December 1, at Heritage Church, followed by the regular season opening game on Thursday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. against Wharton in Forest. If anyone is interested playing dartball, please see Dale Pennington.

Stewardship Pledge Cards

Pledge cards were mailed last month to the members of Trinity asking to prayerfully reflect on your 2023 financial commitment to Trinity. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible.

McCutchenville Christmas & Christmas Parade



Join in on the holiday fun and participate in McCutchenville's Community Christmas and Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 10 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Join Trinity along with the choir on our float singing Christmas songs and spreading Christmas cheer throughout Scutch. The parade line up begins at 12:15 in the parking lot of Heritage Co-op and it will travel down St. Rt. 53 for a quarter of a mile to County Highway 35. Following the parade, all kids are invited to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the "Scutch Tree Lot" on the corner of County Highway 35 and State Route 53. Santa will pass out "goodie bags", compliments of First National Bank, as well as cookies. Beautify McCutchenville will

provide hot chocolate to help warm you from the winter chill. There will also be some pop-up vendors for last minute Christmas shopping as well as food trucks! Live Christmas trees will also be for sale with profits going to spread Christmas cheer throughout the Scutch community.

Please join in on the fun December 10 for a very wonderful time of the year for McCutchenville!

News & Notes

Join us for Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.
All are welcome!

Secretary's Office Hours
Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Choir Practice every Wednesday evening at
6:30 p.m. All are welcome to sing.

Consistory will hold its monthly meeting
December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

~ **To help protect and respect the privacy** of those sick/hospitalized/care facilities, be sure to obtain the family's permission first before announcing or requesting prayers. Be sure to let Jan know if their name may be added to the bulletin and newsletter prayer lists.

~ **Please help the office** stay up to date with your have current contact information. If your email address, phone numbers or address has changed, please let Jan know so she may update the records. Thank you!

~ **Check out the hall bookcase** for new books and puzzles.

~ **Poinsettia orders** are due Thursday, December 1 by 12:00 noon.

~ **Annual Reports** are due to the office by Wednesday, January 18, 2023. The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 29, 2023.

The Upper Room Daily Devotional

Please help yourself to these free daily devotional booklets found in both the front and back vestibules

**Good luck to our youth
involved with Winter Sports**

Jr. High Sports:

Basketball - Mylie Clifton and Brady Hannam

Gymnastics – Tori Stansbery

High School Sports:

Cheerleading - Jordynn Sherwood

Basketball - Allison and Anna Russell

Band - Aiden Plott

December Ushers

Gina Dutcher and Roger McGuire

December Stewardship Project

The Christmas Fund

This is one of the 5 for 5 UCC offerings. This fund cares for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the UCC, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities, health premiums, and Christmas thank you gift checks to our lower-income retirees.

Take a moment to read the below article from the Heartland Conference.

Remembering People

Author Rev. Paul Ramsey, Pension Boards UCC

“Have you ever heard the story about the time Fred Rogers--“Mr. Rogers” -- spoke at a National Press Club luncheon? I read about it in a sermon by Thomas Long years ago and searched for it recently to share with you.

Here’s Thomas Long recounting the story:

“When Fred Rogers stood up to speak, he said that he knew the room was filled with many of the best reporters in the nation, men and women who had achieved much. Rogers then took out a pocket watch and announced that he was going to keep two minutes of silence, and he invited everybody in the room to remember people in their past—parents, teachers, coaches, friends, and others—who had made it possible for them to accomplish so much. And then Mister Rogers stood there, looked at his watch and saying nothing. “The room grew quiet, and as the seconds ticked away and before Fred Rogers tucked away his watch, one could hear all around the room people sniffing as they were moved by the memories of those who had made sacrifices on their behalf and who had given them many gifts.” (Thomas G. Long, *Testimony: Talking Ourselves into Being Christian*, p. 110). Mr. Rogers’ call to remember was a gift to everyone in attendance. The tears shed were of gratitude for the memories. We often focus only on the good our generosity will accomplish out in the world. Our gifts truly make a difference. But these gifts also have an impact on us; to make a gift touches our heart too.”

As Rev. Ramsey suggests, take a moment to remember the pastors, choir directors, other lay church workers, and leaders and their families, who taught, mentored, inspired, loved us, and meant so much to us over the years, and who have helped each of us get to where we are today. Then if so inclined, give to the Christmas Fund. Christmas Fund envelopes may be found in each of the front and back vestibules for your Christmas Fund giving.



Saturday, December 3rd
8:30 a.m.– 10:30 a.m.
Church parking lot
Continue to compact your items
as best as you are able.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...



DECEMBER

- 1 Hillary Swartz, Angie Harr
- 4 Makenzi Clifton
- 7 Reya Kimmet
- 8 **Pastor Elyse Cramer**
- 10 Lisa Keller, Kaden McClain
- 12 Jerry Barth, Taylor Leonard, Dan Cleland,
Kathy Tanner, Averie Barth
- 13 David Jones, Stacy Meadows
- 15 Taylor Nye
- 16 Kay Karg, Allison Russell, Anna Russell,
Oaklee Blanton
- 17 Joan Morehart, Diane Schirack,
Scott Stover
- 19 Zoë Morehart
- 20 Troy Russell, Reese Hannam
- 21 Kenneth Arter
- 22 Chester Fitch, Andrea Steinmetz,
Brooke Theis, Kelsey Russell, Kole Russell
- 23 Rachel Leonard
- 24 Peg Beidelschies
- 26 Mikayla Vanichak
- 28 Brooke Weininger
- 30 John Schirack, John Stansbery,
Thomas Allen, Cris Theis
- 31 Sue Dunlap, Jim Troha

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...



DECEMBER

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| 3 Denny & Shelby Morehart | 29 years |
| 5 Ed and Brenda Thomas | 13 years |
| 18 Chris & Danielle Beidelschies | 12 years |
| 23 Jim and Judy Goeller | 64 years |
| 23 John and Diane Schirack | 35 years |
| 31 Chester and Dawn Fitch | 30 years |
| 31 Carl and Helen Shinn | 16 years |

*We wish each of you the blessings
the Advent season offers:
Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.*



TREASURY REPORT
October 2022

INCOME:

Tithes/Offerings	\$	7,215.00
Other Income	\$	<u>10.00</u>
Total Income/Gross Profit	\$	7,225.00

PASTORAL EXPENSES:

Salary	\$	960.50
Housing	\$	1,988.38
Life Insurance/Disability	\$	44.26
Health & Dental	\$	250.00
Pension	\$	425.58
Car mileage	\$	<u>20.06</u>

Total Pastoral Expenses \$ **3,688.78**

ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES:

Secretary	\$	903.50
Custodian	\$	298.15
Organist	\$	207.80
Columbia Gas	\$	227.47
Electric AEP	\$	452.75
Telephone	\$	85.07
Worker's Comp	\$	25.99
Employees w/holding & SS	\$	1,281.15
Copier/Duplicator	\$	98.73
Supply/Postage	\$	114.98
Janitor Supplies	\$	119.26
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>85.00</u>

Total Administration \$ **3,899.85**

Total Expenses \$ **7,588.63**

NET ORDINARY INCOME \$ **- 363.63**

CHECK BOOK BALANCE: \$ **24,623.28**

Average October worship attendance = 32
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CONSISTORY NOTES
October 5, 2022

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Elyse's mileage was 34.
- Boy Scouts' Fundraiser will be announced in the bulletin.

- Sycamore UCC is not interested in doing a combined Christmas play at this time.
- Discussed having a talent show, open to all.
- The church will participate in the Christmas parade on December 10.
- McCutchenville Trick or Treat is Oct. 30 from 5:00 – 6:30pm. The church will hand out candy bags, hot dogs, and hot chocolate. The candy bags will be put together on October 19.
- Advent begins Nov. 27 with Dr. Kathryn Helleman as guest pastor. Volunteers needed for the Advent Wreath lighting liturgy. Gina and Linda will do the 1st Sunday of Advent followed by Dave & Lynda Weininger.

Committee Reports:

Memorial: Funds available and could be used to help pay remainder of the new furnace/AC.

Old Business

- Trinity did very well covering the gates at the Wyandot County Fair and Roger complimented everyone who helped.
- Dave Weininger will replace outdated items in the church's first aid kit.
- Election Day Dinner is set for Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

New Business

- The 2023 budget was discussed. The Elders (Dave, Roger and Leigh) will meet November 16 at 2:00 p.m. to begin the process.
- 2023 Consistory nominees were discussed. One elder is needed with Roger going off at the end of the year.
- Discussed what to do with 7 years of Sunday school records.
- Permission granted to Erin Sherwood to use the new fellowship hall as a backup for the Christmas parade vendors if inclement weather.
- Next Consistory meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gina L. Dutcher, Secretary

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Recycling 8:30am - 10:30am
4 2nd Sunday of Advent Worship – 10:00 Welcome Rev. Paul Stark Ball Assoc Meeting 6:30	5	6	7 Choir 6:30 Consistory 7:00	8 Happy Birthday, Pastor Elyse! Dartball-7:30 at Forest	9	10 Scutch Christmas Parade 1:00 pm (12:15 line up at Heritage Co-op)
11 3rd Sunday of Advent Worship – 10:00 Welcome Back Pastor Elyse!	12	13 Cub Scouts 6:30	14 Pastor’s Office Hours 4-6 Choir 6:30	15 Dartball – 7:30	16	17
18 4th Sunday of Advent Worship – 10:00 Talent Show	19	20	21 Pastor’s Office Hours 4-6 Fill luminaries- 4:30 -Choir 6:30	22	23	24 Set out luminaries-6:30 Christmas Eve Service 8:00 pm Collect luminaries
25 Worship – 10:00 Merry Christmas!	26	27	28 - Pastor’s Office Hours 4-6 -Choir 6:30	29	30	31 Happy New Year!