



23 No. 3 Newsletter

March 2023

Trinity United Church of Christ
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Pastor: Pastor Elyse Cramer

Thank You

To my Trinity family and friends,
I think of all of you and miss everyone. Thank
you for all of your thoughtfulness.

As ever,
Clarabelle Clark

Dear Friends at Trinity UCC,

Thank you so much for your sympathy card
with so many words of love and support. You are
such a light to me and our family.

Much love,
Paul & Traci Sittason Stark

Dear Friends,

On behalf of UNICEF USA, thank you for your
gift of \$54 received February 1, 2023. We
appreciate your support. Your donation allows
us to continue protecting child rights, provide
health care, immunizations, nutrition, access to
safe water and sanitation services, education,
protection, and emergency relief.

Thank you for partnering with us to help the
children of the world.

Michael Nyenhuis
President and CEO

Special Thanks

To ... Andra Meyer for her kind gesture
providing transportation to the Women's
weekly Lenten luncheons in Upper Sandusky
each Wednesday of the Lenten season.



Donna Dorsch (hip replacement
recovery), Rev. Rick Dorsch
(broken ankle-surgery recovery),
Pat Ledwedge (health issues),
Mike Inbody (waiting on kidney
transplant), and to our Homebound: Phyll Barth
(company welcomed), Donna Warnecke, Cora
Bour, Clarabelle Clark, and Ruth Pennington
(Autumnwood #612). 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

- o Noisy Bucket Offering for the community
Blessing Box/Caring Community
totaled \$137.89
- o Spring arrives March 20! 😊



We extend our Christian Love and Sympathy to the

David F. Desmond family. David
passed on February 10, 2023. David and Joanne
Shober Desmond were married at Trinity and
were members from 1952-1970. Trinity also
sponsored David and Joanne as missionaries to
Ghana, West Africa from 1952 to 1975. Please
see the back bulletin board for his obituary and
pictures sent from his eldest son, Edwin.



Maundy Thursday, April 6

Trinity will host a joint Maundy Thursday service with Sycamore UCC at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 7

Pastor Elyse will offer an online Good Friday service through YouTube.

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8 at 1:00 p.m.
old McCutchenville School grounds.
(Watch for additional information in the bulletin and April’s newsletter)

Easter, April 9

Sunrise Service at 9:00 a.m.
Regular Easter Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 am.

***The Chosen*
Lenten Bible Study**

Pastor Elyse invites all to attend a 5-week Lenten Bible Study offered on Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. beginning February 27 through March 27. The topic, *The Chosen*, Season 1 of the series, is about the life of Jesus and his disciples. All are invited to attend as we watch parts of this series each week, followed by a discussion time.

Women’s Weekly Lenten Luncheons

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 120 N. Eighth St., Upper Sandusky, is hosting weekly Lenten luncheons each Wednesday of the Lenten season (February 22 through March 29) from noon to 1:00 p.m. A \$4 donation is suggested for

each meal. As part of each luncheon, a guest speaker from the area churches will talk. If you are interested in attending and would like to carpool, please see the signup sheet posted on the trophy case so we may have an idea for transportation purposes. Andra Meyer has volunteered to provide the transportation. Please meet here at Trinity at 11:15 a.m. each of the Wednesdays to carpool with Andra.

Daily Lenten Devotionals

Daily Lenten Devotionals are available in both the front and back church vestibules. We hope these devotionals will help feed your spirit during the season of Lent. They are provided by the Society of St. Andrew free of charge. In return, they ask us to give back to the Society of St. Andrew to help them meet the physical needs of those less fortunate. With your monetary donations, we help provide healthy nourishing food to the people in greatest need here in the United States through their gleaning and feeding ministries. If you are so inclined, take a money box or envelope found in either vestibule for your Lenten offering for the Society of St. Andrew.

The below article, written by Rev. Dan Busch, was recently published in NWOA’s newsletter, *The Vine*. With the start of Lent, we hope you will find his message meaningful.

BLESSINGS ALWAYS

February 22, 2023
Association Minister Message
Rev. Daniel L. Busch

TEMPTED. “Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be TEMPTED by the devil.” (Matthew 4:1). We live in a time of contrasting TEMPTATIONS that entice us to make choices. While watching the Super Bowl recently, even though local teams did not make it into “the” game, watchers made a choice as to who they thought should win. There were some who were

only interested in the half-time show with all of its razzle-dazzle and many who did not have any interest in the game.

Christians have begun another journey into the Lenten Season: 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter, not counting Sundays. It is a time of self-reflection about one's faith in Jesus Christ and how to live that faith in covenant with spiritual communities and the world. So much is said about "Giving up something for Lent." However, what is overlooked is the deeper faith issue of "What is going to be received as a Lenten lesson." TEMPTATION draws us away from being faithful followers of Jesus Christ. In some ways it is easy to give up chocolate or broccoli during Lent and then after Lent is over to indulge in them again. The "giving up" is meant to self-reflect on those things that make life precarious and detrimental to physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. Lent is a time to give-up those habits that make us less than what God would want us to be and choosing God's love in word and deed. It is receiving God's Spirit to live the abundant life with gifts and graces from God to share with others. "There is persistent hope in working to create a community based on belief in a loving God." (from Heidi Haverkamp's "Search: A Novel").

Notice in the text that "the Spirit" led Jesus "into the wilderness to be TEMPTED by the devil." Comic Flip Wilson famous line is, "The devil made me do it." Yielding to TEMPTATION is a personal response usually when we are most vulnerable. It was not until Jesus had fasted for forty days and was famished, that Jesus encountered the TEMPTER. At Jesus' most vulnerable time, He faced making choices that could affirm or deny who He was and whose He was. Jesus chose to be faithful and God's grace was triumphant. May we, also, chose to be faithful. BLESSINGS ALWAYS-

Donut & Coffee Hour to Return



Donut & Coffee Hour will return from 9am – 10am in the back of the sanctuary on the first Sunday of each month, beginning Sunday, March 5. A

signup sheet is posted for those interested in providing donuts. Funds are available for you to be reimbursed for your expenses. Please see the office for reimbursement. We hope you will enjoy this time of fellowship prior to the worship service each month.

Trinity Card Challenge

Once again, we are asking members and friends of Trinity to accept the challenge of completing 10 Veterans thank you cards and 10 Ohio Prisoner Christmas cards each month, through October for the Veterans, and through November for the Ohio prisoners. Examples of messages to include in each card are displayed on the back table of the overflow room. There are Christmas cards and church stationary thank you notes on the table in the back overflow room. When you have completed your cards each month, return them to the church and place them in the provided basket.

We are in need of Christmas cards if you have any extras to share for this project.

Thank you for reaching out to our Veterans and Ohio prisoners.

WyandotCares Events

WyandotCares, a weekday religious education school program, would like to share a couple of their upcoming events.

- March 12 at 5:00 p.m. School Prayer Walk. Meet at the flagpole of the school of your choice (Carey, Mohawk, Riverdale and Upper Sandusky).
- April 14 – Spaghetti Dinner. 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. at TEC, Upper Sandusky, OH

News & Notes

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

Pastor Elyse's
office hours and contact information:
Wednesdays 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and by
appointment.
She may be reached at 419-618-1837, or by her
email address,
trinityuccmccutchenville@gmail.com

Secretary's Office Hours
Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Email: trinityucc@bright.net
419-981-5808

~ **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 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!

The Upper Room Daily Devotional

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

March Ushers

Ken Palmer and Dave Weininger

March Stewardship Project

OGHS – One Great Hour of Sharing. This mission project is one of four special 5 for 5 offerings of the United Church of Christ. This mission allows you to provide financial assistance during

disasters, refugee/immigration, and development of ministries throughout the world. When people are displaced, you become part of the response and the recovery, and help provide relief to the most vulnerable. Special OGHS envelopes for your donations are provided alongside of the offering plate in the front and back vestibules.

Community Blessing Box

Non-perishable dry foods for the winter months (noodles, mac & cheese, pastas, oatmeal, cereals, cereals, hot chocolate, crackers, pancake mixes, etc.), toiletries, and cleaning items are needed on a continuous basis for our Community Blessing Box to help those in need this winter. There is a collection box under the trophy case for donated items. We are very appreciative of everyone's generosity, both from Trinity and the community, for keeping the Blessing Box stocked.

Palm Sunday Drive Thru Chicken or Ham Dinner

The Seneca County Opportunity Center will host their 65th Palm Sunday Drive Thru Chicken or Ham Dinner on April 2 at the Seneca County Opportunity Center located off St. Rt 100, south of Tiffin, at 780 E. CR 20. Meals are \$12 (cash or check only) and are available for pick up between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You must **PREORDER YOUR MEALS BY MARCH 20** by calling Joan at 419-447-7521, ext.1134. Menu includes Chicken Breast or Ham, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Roll w/butter, Coleslaw, and a Cookie. This is a Drive Thru service only. All proceeds will benefit individuals with disabilities in Seneca County.

Wyandot County Council on Aging

Be sure to check out the flyers posted around the church what Wyandot County Council on Aging offers. If you are 60 years or older and are a resident of Wyandot County, they offer a variety of activities, help with light

housekeeping services, provides hot (or frozen and shelf stable) home delivered meals five days a week focused on a balanced, low sodium diet., as well as transportation for both non-medical and medical transportation. Call 419-294-5733, or stop by their office at 127 S. Sandusky Ave, Upper Sandusky.

Dartball

Dartball season is coming to a close. Seneca County League for Trinity finishes March 6. Currently Trinity is tied for first place. Trinity will finish in the Wyandot League on March 9. At this time, they have 13 wins and 17 losses. Good Luck, Trinity, as you finish the season and with league tournaments!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

March

- 1 Della Chong, Elijah Danner, Kai Copley
- 2 Nathan Morton, Kevin Kingseed
- 3 Cheleste Thornton
- 5 Emma Arter
- 7 Helen Shinn, Clay Hoerig, Beckett Parker
- 9 Leslie Heimrick
- 10 Drew Weininger, Cohen Rhoad
- 11 Andrew Plott, Ava Walton
- 13 Sharon McGuire
- 14 Ottilyn Cleland
- 15 Joe Chester
- 16 Kenny Palmer
- 17 Elfriede Wagner, Trever Nye
- 20 Betty Fogle
- 23 Silas Keller, Jim Gucker, Jessica Hurt,
Erica Harper
- 24 Judy Goeller
- 26 Anna Meisner, Diane Baer, Piper Tobin
- 27 Natalie Troha
- 31 Mindy Walton, Gier Kuhn

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...

March

- 15 Gary and Susan Parker 48 years
- 26 Robert and Deb Morehart 29 years
- 30 Christin and Derek Lee 21 years

JANUARY'S TREASURY REPORT

INCOME:

Tithes/Offerings	\$	10,166.00
Transfer to a new CD	\$	- 10,000.00
Transfer to Saving Acct	\$	<u>-1.00</u>
Total Income	\$	165.00

PASTORAL EXPENSES:

Salary	\$	1,268.29
Housing	\$	1,697.09
Life Insurance/Disability	\$	44.26
Health & Dental	\$	250.00
Pension	\$	425.58
Car Milage	\$	11.68
Total Pastoral Expenses	\$	3,696.90

ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES:

Secretary	\$	930.60
Custodian	\$	360.21
Organist	\$	214.57
Columbia Gas	\$	1,138.31
Electric AEP	\$	202.13
Telephone	\$	68.27
Employee Withhold/SS	\$	1,299.87
Copier/Duplicator	\$	98.73
Supply/Postage	\$	32.58
Janitor Supplies	\$	22.95
Maintenance Inspect.	\$	114.25
Miscellaneous	\$	<u>264.00</u>
Total Administration	\$	4,746.47

Total Expenses	\$	8,443.37
NET ORDINARY INCOME	\$	- 8,278.67

CHECK BOOK BALANCE:	\$	23,491.71
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Average January worship attendance = 36

CONSISTORY MEETING NOTES

January 4, 2023

The Consistory members and their spouses/significant others were invited to David and Lynda Weinger's home for fellowship and a delicious meal prior to the January 4, 2023, meeting. After the meal, David called the meeting to order.

2023 Consistory Officers

It was determined that David Weinger will remain as President, Leigh Beidelschies as Vice President, and Gina Dutcher as Secretary.

Treasurer's Report:

Robin reported that the church's savings account is going dormant due to inactivity; it was agreed to put the \$10,000 memorial gift that was recently received into the account to re-activate it; and Robin is going to check into CD rates with the bank.

Pastor's Report:

Ash Wednesday Service will be February 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., and she is working on a Lenten Bible Study.

Committee Reports:

Caring Community: The committee is taking over the care of the Blessing Box.

Faith Formation: This year's Easter egg hunt will be held at the playground of the old school.

Maintenance: Jeff reported that the furnace is in and Gary will adjust the air conditioner portion when the weather warms up.

Memorial Committee – Ken agreed to be the Consistory representative of this committee.

Stewardship: David reported that a \$10,000 memorial gift was received on behalf of Elaine Kern, as discussed during the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business

- Reviewed the proposed 2023 budget.

- Discussed the January 29th Annual Meeting – will poll the congregation on Sunday to see how many would be interested in a potluck lunch after the meeting.

New Business

- We will do a Noisy Bucket collection for Scout Sunday on February 5th.
- Discussed 2023 Church Goals for Annual Meeting.
- Ohio Grange would like the use of our church for Rural Life Sunday on May 7th, between 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. There would be approximately 30 people in attendance (maximum) and they would pay the church to serve a meal. All members in attendance approved.
- Ushers for March through June will be addressed at the next meeting.
- Briefly discussed the upcoming Pork Tenderloin Dinner.

Respectfully submitted,
Gina L. Dutcher, Secretary



Turn your clocks **AHEAD** one hour
before bedtime on Saturday,
March 11.

MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 -Pastor's Office Hours 4:00 -6:00 -Faith Form. – 5:30 -Choir – 6:30 -Consistory – 7:00	2 Wyandot Dartball 7:30 at Angeline	3	4
5 2 nd Sunday in Lent Coffee & Donuts 9:00 Worship – 10:00	6 Bible Study 6:30 Seneca Dartball 7:30 - Home	7	8 -Pastor's Office Hours 4:00 -6:00 -Choir 6:30	9 Wyandot Dartball Tournament at Ridge Chapel 6:30	10	11 Turn clocks AHEAD 1 hour before bed for the start of Daylight Savings Time Sunday
12 3 rd Sunday in Lent Worship – 10:00 Daylight Savings Time Begins	13 Bible Study 6:30	14 Cub Scouts – 6:00	15 - Pastor's Office Hours 4-6 - Choir 6:30	16 Dartball Awards Banquet 6:30 @ Sycamore UCC	17	18
19 4 th Sunday in Lent Worship – 10:00	20 Bible Study 6:30	21	22 -Pastor's Office Hours 4-6 -Choir 6:30	23	24	25
26 5 th Sunday in Lent Worship – 10:00	27 Bible Study 6:30	28 Cub Scouts 6:30	29 - Pastor's Office Hours 4-6 -Choir 6:30	30	31	April 1 Recycling 8:30- 10:30 am