



Trinity United Church of Christ
3229 York St, PO Box 730,
Manchester, MD 21102
410 374-2727
www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Trinity Times

February 2019

CREATION OF AN INTERIM PLANNING TEAM

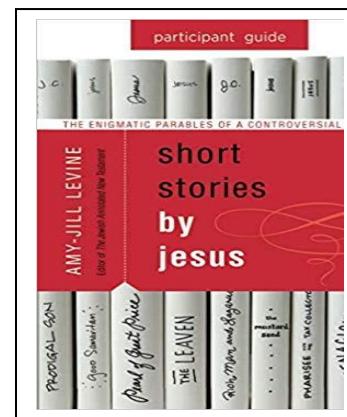
This team will do the following:

- Work with Pastor Hanberry in developing a variety of “study” and “planning” experiences for the congregation to revitalize Trinity’s Mission and Vision Statement;
- In revitalizing the Mission Statement of the church, the team will help point the consistory toward a longer-range vision for future pastoral staffing plans for the church;
- Help our Interim Pastor in planning to carry out some or all of the traditional Interim/Transitional Developmental Tasks: ► Heritage and History; ► Leadership; ► Mission; ► Renewal of Connections with larger church; and ► Vision for the future;
- Help the congregation to answer these three questions: **“Who are we?” “Who are our neighbors?” and “What is God calling us to do?” and finally, to** Carry out a “Story Project” that will create and share three types of stories: ► Celebration Stories; ► Renewal Stories; and ► Future Stories.

The Interim Planning Team will Consist of:

- a ‘temporary working team’ with a short-term time frame of about six months;
- 5-7 persons from a cross-section of the congregation
- The team will represent the demographics of the congregation.

If you are interested in being part of this team please contact Robert Miller, President of the Consistory, and/or Pastor Gerry Hanberry



SAVE THE DATES:

For a Study of Six Parables of Jesus Led by Pastor Hanberry

Six Wednesdays in LENT: March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3 and 10, 2019

Evening Program – Time to be Announced Later

“The Enigmatic (Mysterious, Hard-to-Understand) Parables of Jesus”

Jesus is a story teller, extraordinaire! His stories or parables are not only mysterious, they are challenging to both understand and to live by in these days of our lives. These parables “challenge us to look into the hidden aspects of our own values, our own lives.”

During these six Wednesday evening sessions, we will explore the hidden truths and translations of these six parables: ► Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son ► The Good Samaritan ► The Pearl of Great Price ► The Mustard Seed ► The Laborers in the Vineyard and ► The Widow and the Judge. The ONLY HOMEWORK will be to read the parable before coming to the session. Using a brief video, small group discussion Pastor Hanberry will lead us in an interactive, inspiring and informative experience of Bible study and spiritual growth. COME AND JOIN US THIS LENT.



Birthday Blessings

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/04 – Carolyn Brooks

2/06 – Eva Gebhardt

2/09 – Sam Martin

Bryce Davidson

2/12 – Michelle Stevens

Lori Drumheller

2/14 – Robert Saunders

2/17 – Penny Ludwig

2/19 – Leslie Brooks

2/26 – Margaret Bailey

2/28 – Robert Miller



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARYS

2/24 – Judy and Leon Miller

Church Communications Submission Dates

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday

March Newsletter – Monday, February 18

Contacting the Pastor and the Church Office

To reach Pastor Gerry in an emergency, please call him at 301-788-6546 (cell).

For non-emergencies, please call the church at (410) 374-2727. Please notify the church of any hospitalizations in the congregation.

February Meeting Dates

Consistory – Wednesday, February 6 @ 7pm

Worship Committee – Thursday, February 21

@ 6pm



Tuesday, March 5, 5-7pm Shrove Tuesday pancake supper.

Wednesday, March 6, Ash Wednesday Service hosted by Immanuel Church.

HELPING HANDS FEBRUARY

Offering Stewards are Ron Zumbrun and Marge Bailey.

Deacons at the door are Debra Miller and Karen Haines.

Greeters are Gordon and Deb Persinger.

Offering Ushers are Gordon and Deb Persinger.

Lay Readers:

February 3 – Marge Bailey

February 10 – Robert Miller

February 17 – Jackie Nave

February 24 – Pat Hanberry

Acolytes:

February 3 – TBA

February 10 – Adriana Brown

February 17 – Lily Saunders

February 24 – Mason Brown

Projector Operator:

February 3 – Sue Myers

February 10 – Elwin Wagner

February 17 – Karen Haines

February 24 – Sandy Sanders

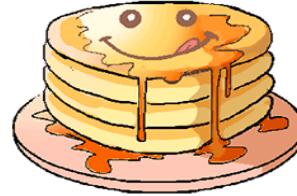
Children's Church Leaders:

February 3 – Michele Wolfgang-Fantone

February 10 – Nicole Saunders

February 17 – Candice Welsh

February 24 – Karen Price



Shrove Tuesday

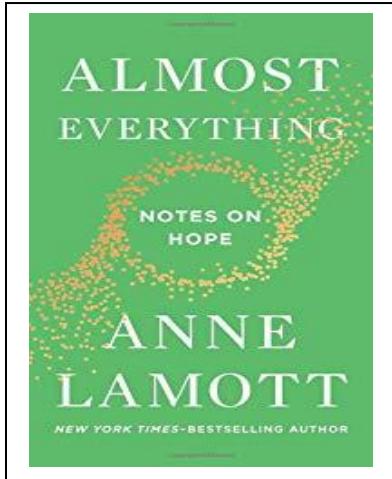
"Hope you can join us for the Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake/Sausage Dinner.

March 5, 2019 from 5 to 7 pm.

We will also have doughnuts, applesauce, juice & coffee.'

Marge Bailey
Fellowship Committee

Interim Pastor's Column



In my sermon this past Sunday, I introduced the theme ("What HOPE Looks Like in 2019 and Beyond") for our new sermon series for Epiphany. To aide in my study and preparation for delivering this series of six sermons, my wife gave me a Christmas gift of an intriguing and might I add 'precious little book' by Anne Lamott: Almost Everything – Notes on Hope.

Most of Anne Lamott's books are 'little' as much as they are 'precious.' Why do I say such an odd thing about a book? Well, because that's how I see Anne Lamott herself: precious. She has been writing almost all her life. Through hard times and good times, Lamott writes books about her spiritual life. Indeed, her last four books, Almost Everything included, are if anything, spiritual experiences, for her and for those who read these books. She writes about prayer (Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers), about grace (Small Victories: Spotting Improbable Moments of Grace) and about mercy (Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy).

For a little more than you might care about, the book that brought her to the forefront of spiritual writing or the book that made her famous, is about mercy. In Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith. Anne Lamott claimed her place in the world of spiritually oriented writing with this

book. These books give me hope, hope about myself, hope for the world, hope for what God is always trying to do in our lives. For instance, in "Traveling Mercies," Lamott says this about that: "*This is the most profound spiritual truth I know: that even when we're most sure that love can't conquer all, it seems to anyway. It goes down into the rat hole with us, in the guise of our friends, and there it swells and comforts. It gives us second winds, third winds, hundredth winds.*"

In these days of "the worst of times and best of times," what better reminder about our spiritual lives do we need? The spiritual truth that love conquers all. At least to me, this is the singular truth that still gives me hope, hope for this day and for the next and next.

I got an extra copy of Lamott's book, Almost Everything, and I will give that copy as a gift to the very first person who tells me in person that they read this column and would like to read this 'precious little' book. This is for real. I look forward to hearing from you.

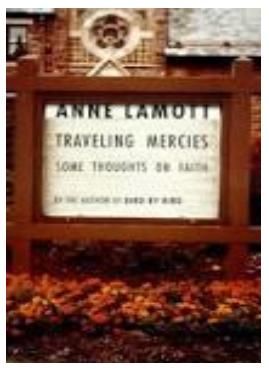
Faithfully, Pastor Gerry



Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen emergencies, the decision to close the church will be made two hours before worship/meetings/workday begin. You can find out if the building will be closed in the following possible ways:

1. Calling the church at 410 374-2727 (The voice mail message will only be changes if the decision was made to close.)
2. Checking your email. (Those with email will receive a message.)
3. Listening to WBAL 1090 AM
4. Receiving a call through the phone tree



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Bricks

We have been collecting orders for the engraved bricks to go around the brick walkway/cross garden, which is used by members, and town residents as well. As of 1/20/19 we have sold 20 bricks, including a few to non-members!

We hope to start this project in the Spring so be sure to place your order soon! The cost of the engraved brick is \$100. This covers engraving up to 3 lines with 14 characters per line. If you would like to include a symbol there will be an additional \$25 charge.

The order form is available in the newsletter or at the church. Any questions please see Sue Myers or Karen Price.

Bingo – Save the Date

The fundraising team will be holding their 2nd annual Banquet Bingo at the Manchester Activities Building on April 27, 2019. Watch for more details to follow!



Lexis Notes

In the coming month, Pastor Gerry is challenging us to answer the question, "what does hope look like?" I have been at Trinity for some time and experienced the resiliency of this congregation through ups and downs and trying times. One of my hopes in the coming year is to establish a children's choir at Trinity. We are beginning to reach out to families to establish interest. I am sure that something like this will bring great joy to many individuals and families in the community.



EPIPHANY WORSHIP SERIES

What Does HOPE Look Like in 2019 and Beyond?

Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

January 20 – March 3, 2019

Trinity United Church of Christ

Visit us: www.trinityuccmanchester.org

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, ..."

One might say that the opening line of Charles Dickens' novel, *A Tale of Two Cities*, is as apt a description of our time in 2019 as it was for 1859 Europe. Many of the same worrisome economic, social, religious and political issues plague us today. And yet, for many other reasons, 2019 will be the best of times in which to live. How do we reconcile these two realities? It is our trust in a nurturing God, in an equipping and leading Jesus, and in the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit that enable us not only to relish the good times but to embrace the difficult times, which provide the opportunity to experience renewal, change, and the promise and power of HOPE.

Times of transition are also opportunities to experience the power of HOPE. Trinity United Church of Christ is in a time of transition that requires the hard work of introspection and envisioning the future. As we navigate this process, there are no "right answers" but there are "right questions." Such questions as: How will Trinity UCC—a small, small-town, mainline protestant church—not only survive but actually thrive into the future? How will Trinity UCC reinvent itself to offer more for the community and for God? What will TUCC look like five years from now?

We invite you to reflect on these and other questions during our Epiphany Worship Series **What Does HOPE Look Like in 2019 and Beyond?** from January 20 – March 3. Together we'll spend seven Sundays focusing on the broad theme of HOPE, reflecting on what ingredients are necessary to build a HOPEFUL church and a HOPE-FILLED people.

Trinity UCC leadership challenges you to invite at least one person to join us for this worship series. That person might be a member of our church who has not been active recently or a friend, co-worker or neighbor. Invite them to join us on this journey.

Sermon Schedule

February 3 A Greater Act of Courage – Acting Boldly

Jeremiah 1:4-10; & Luke 4:21-30 (Jesus preaching in the synagogue)

Choosing Bold Over Mild: Jesus Always Did the Radical Thing

February 10 An Imagined Joy

Isaiah 6:1-8; & Luke 5:1-11 (Jesus calls his first disciples)

Choosing Joy Over the Mundane: "It's Like a JOY Moving in Us"

February 17 Made Out of the Blessings of Our Lives

Jeremiah 17:5-10; & Luke 6:17-26 (Blessings and Woes)

Who is a Blessing to You? For Whom are you a Blessing of Hope?

February 24 Changing the Present “Facts on the Ground”

Genesis 45: 3-11 & 15; & Luke 6:27-38 (Love your enemies)

Choosing Now Rather Than Later: Not Kicking the Can Down the Road

March 3 Adventure in the Future

Exodus 34: 29-35; & Luke 9:28-36 (Transfiguration)

Choosing Frontier Over Fortress: Sanctuary and Safe Places Build HOPE

January 2019 Consistory Meeting Highlights

The monthly meeting of the consistory members was held on January 02, 2019

Minutes: December minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: December report was distributed and accepted as written. It was noted that expenses were down \$11,800 from 2017. Total transferred from Endowment Fund in 2017 was \$39,000.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Gerry submitted his monthly report. All home bound and nursing home members were visited in December. A week of vacation is planned for January 7-13; Rev. Erin Snell will be guest pastor.

Officer and Committee assignments for 2019

President	Robert Miller
Vice President	Ron Zumbrun
Secretary	Karen Haines
Treasurer	Sue Myers
Assistant Secretary	Debra Miller
Assistant Treasurer	Debra Miller

Relational and Functional Committees

Finance	Sue Myers
Personnel	Debra Miller, Robert Miller
Evangelism	Marge Bailey
Christian Education	Michelle Wolfgang-Fantone
Worship	MariBeth Brainerd
Caring Ministry	Debra Miller, Karen Haines
Property	Ron Zumbrun, Robert Miller
PPR	Debra Miller

Property: Robert Miller reported we will be asking a plumber to fix leaking pipe in Sunday school area.

Finance: Sue Myers reminded us of the proposed allocation of housing allowance passed on December 17, 2018 during an electronic meeting.

Personnel: We reviewed a new job description for Music Director.

Evangelism: The next fellowship luncheon will be January 27, 2019 at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Christian Education: Michelle reports all is well using new curriculum.

Worship: A meeting is planned for January 03, 2019. Sandy Sanders will join Debbie Persinger and MB Brainerd on committee.

Caring Ministry: Giving Tree gifts were all delivered. We will serve at the Cold Weather Shelter on January 31st

PPR: No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2019 Consistory Installation: January 6, 2019

2019 Congregational Meeting- Discussion topics:

1. VBS
2. Bricks/Fundraising
3. BTSS Break the Silence Sunday
4. Interim Planning Team formation - Pastor Gerry to lead discussion
5. Lenten Bible Study

New Business:

Shrove Tuesday: March 5, 2019 pancake supper 5-7pm

Next Meeting: February 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm.



Food Bags for Backpacks Project

Trinity UCC is preparing to start our sixth year of donating "Food bags for Backpacks" to Manchester Elementary School. February donations are due at the church by Sunday, **February 10**. Items may be placed in the basket in the lower narthex. You may also write a check to Trinity UCC and note Food Bags for Backpack Project in the memo line.



I'm taking you with me to the Holy Land Feb 4-13!

By MB Brainerd

I invite all of you to travel with me to the Holy Land -- on Facebook!! I'm accompanying my 94-year-old mom, on her first ever trip to the Holy Land and each day I plan to post pictures of our travels and a short daily travelogue-devotional on the Trinity UCC Facebook site! We are travelling with my mom's church, the First Church of Marlboro MA (UCC), on an Educational Opportunities tour specially designed and led by their pastor Rev. Kaz Bem. Here's the itinerary: Feb 4-5 Fly out of Boston MA to Amman, Jordan via Frankfurt Germany. Our first day in Jordan, Feb 6, we visit one of the 7 modern wonders of the world: Petra, an ancient city in the south of Jordan, its buildings carved into the rose-colored mountainside along the eastern flank of the Arabah valley, which runs south from the Dead Sea (on the North) to the Gulf of Aqaba (on the Red Sea). Feb 7, we cross the border into Israel and travel up to Jerusalem, from where we make 3 day trips, first to Bethlehem (the Basilica of the Nativity), the second day to the Old City of Jerusalem, including the Western Wall (Wailing Wall) and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and then, on the third day, the Mt. of Olives and the Garden of Gethsemane. We then travel north to Nazareth and overnight in Tiberias, where, the next day, we go on a Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and visit the Mt. of Beatitudes, and then cross back into Jordan late in the day on Feb 12th, to return home from Amman, Jordan on February 13. It's going to be a bit of a challenge for my Mom and me to keep up with this active itinerary, but we'll stop and rest when we need to... and take lots of pictures!!

Cold Weather Shelter 2019

On Thursday, November 29th, ten folks from Trinity assisted 32 people checking into the Cold Weather Shelter in for the overnight. Thanks to the many people who provided food and drink items for a nutritious meal. We also took over warm clothing items including seven coats donated by our members. We were able to see the shelter coordinator, Clare, give a guest one of the heavy duty coats we had delivered. The young man was so grateful, he had a job doing outside construction and his current coat was not adequate for the cold temperatures.

Thank you to those who helped at the shelter, Sharon Bonner, Lucy Brady, Eddie Blue, Karen Haines, Pastor Gerry Hanberry, Karen Haines, Belva LaMotte, Debra and Robert Miller, Sue and Doug Myers. We will return on Thursday, January 31st and will continue collecting warm clothing items throughout the winter months. Thank you for your continued support.

Did you know?

- The number of homeless families with children is increasing
- The number of unaccompanied homeless adolescents is increasing
- Homelessness is an important risk factor for a number of health issues

Cold Weather Shelter – Most Needed Items

The following gently used or new clothing in all

Adult Sizes but **especially** Women's M, L, XL, and Men's L, XL, XXL.

Winter Coats, Fleece Jackets
Hooded or Crew Neck Sweatshirts

Sweatpants – Great need

Warm Hats, Snow gloves, T-shirts – white or color
Thermal shirts/long underwear
Warm Men's and Women's

Socks

New: All Adult sizes of:

Men's Boxers – Great need

Women's underwear, Bras (could be gently used)
School size backpacks (gently used or new)

Blankets/sheets – twin size only

Towels/washcloths (gently used or new)

Food/Misc Items:

Coffee/creamer/sugar

Individually wrapped bars and other to go breakfast /lunch items, Hand warmers

Razors – double blade preferred

Deodorant, Body wash – small sizes

Shampoo/conditioner – small sizes



Guests in Line at Carroll County Homeless Shelter

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4" x 8" brick, with up to
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14 letters or spaces or
punctuation on each line.



Please double-check the spelling and wording on your order,
as your brick will be engraved EXACTLY as it appears above.

FINAL APPROVAL _____ (*your initials*)

Please fill out one order form for EACH brick. Photocopy if necessary.

ORDERED BY (*please print*)

Name _____

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone ()

Please include your phone number in case engraving verification is needed

Enclose completed form and check for \$100 payable to Trinity UCC, P O Box 730, Manchester, MD 21102.

Thank you for becoming part of tomorrow!

Trinity United Church of Christ
Receipts and Disbursements

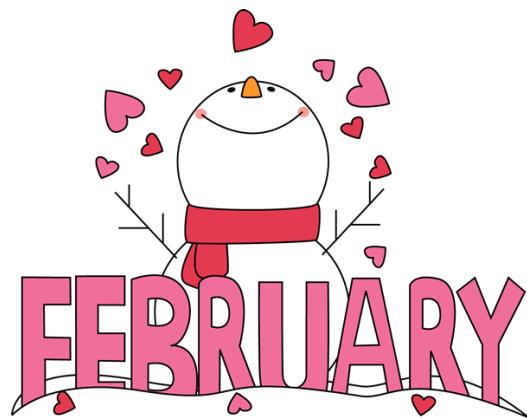
	Dec 18	Jan - Dec 18
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Childrens' Church	0.00	40.00
Communion Offering	189.00	1,705.00
Loose Offering	829.35	2,407.61
Miscellaneous	75.00	315.00
Regular Offering	8,810.00	72,893.21
VBS Donations (Educational)	0.00	1,205.00
Total Income	9,903.35	78,565.82
Expense		
Educational Ministries	24.26	3,798.93
Evangelism	104.84	1,782.04
General	3,106.86	21,152.87
Personnel	7,870.15	81,144.99
Property	455.00	3,985.78
Music	330.00	779.98
Worship	43.00	1,663.77
Total Expense	11,934.11	114,308.36
Net Ordinary Income	(2,030.76)	(35,742.54)
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Endowment	1.95	2,685.20
Willing Workers	0.00	(3,375.61)
Cemetery	(863.25)	(4,871.84)
Memorial Fund	0.01	50.12
Fundraising	3,749.70	(41,561.00)
Special Offerings Received	262.00	2,091.00
Total Other Income	3,150.41	(44,982.13)
Other Expense		
Special Offerings Disbursed	363.00	1,961.17
Transfers	0.00	0.00
Total Other Expense	363.00	1,961.17
Net Other Income	2,787.41	(46,943.30)
Net Income	756.65	(82,685.84)

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Holy Communion Worship/Children's Church 10:45am	4	5 AA meets 8:30pm	6 Consistory 7pm	7 Choir 7:30pm	8	9
10 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Worship/Children's Church 10:45am Blessing of Prayer Shawls Food for Foodbags due Scrip orders due	11	12 AA meets 8:30pm	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day Choir 7:30pm	15	16
17 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany Worship/Children's Church 10:45am Blessing of the Foodbags	18 March Newsletter articles due President's Day	19 AA meets 8:30pm	20	21 Choir 7:30pm	22	23
24 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany Worship/Children's Church 10:45am	25	26 AA meets 8:30pm	27	28 Choir 7:30pm	Notes: Church office opened: Mon, Tue, Thur, (9am – 1pm) Except where noted.	

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P. O. BOX 730
MANCHESTER, MD 21102

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



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Office Hours: 9am - noon
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410-374-2727 (Church office)
(email) trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net
Web site: trinityuccmanchester.org

Happy
Valentine's
Day

