CREATION OF AN INTERIM PLANNING TEAM.

The following people will serve on this new team: Marge Bailey, Leslie Brooks, Lorne Haines, Belva LaMotte, Robert Miller, Jackie Nave and Doug Rhoten

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.

For a Study of Five Parables of Jesus
Led by Pastors: Hanberry and Marshall
Wednesdays in LENT: April 3 and 10, 2019
Day – 11:30am Soup/Bread – 12pm Parable Study
@ Immanuel Lutheran Church
Evening – 6:30pm Soup/Bread – 7pm Parable Study
@ Trinity UCC

“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.
APRIL BIRTHDAYS
4/05 – Donna Alban
4/07 – Stanley Hamilton
4/13 – Edward Phelps
4/15 – Jessica Larson
4/18 – Wayne Sanders
4/24 – Larry Burgoon
4/26 – Helen Sweisford

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES
4/01 – Debra Miller and Robert Miller
4/03 – Marge and David Bailey
4/15 – Sue and Doug Myers
4/20 – Lori and Scott Drumheller

Prayers of Thanksgiving and of Concern
Ron Larson Sr., father-in-law of Jessica, in need of prayers during his recovery from a stroke.

In recognition of Pastor Gerry Hanberry’s 30 years of service as an ordained minister.

Prayers are needed for Pam Marchand, she had emergency surgery Wednesday evening and is still in Carroll Hospital, Room N 302. Cards may be sent to: 4841 Hillock Ln, Hampstead MD 21074.

Shiley Zumbrun had a brief visit to Carroll Hospital. She is home now and contunues to recover. Cards may be sent to: 1207 Emory Church Rd., Upperco MD 21155.

Prayers are still needed for Belva LaMotte, she is home and having reahbition. Cards may be sent to: 3293 Grafton St., Manchester MD 21102.

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.

April Meeting Dates
Consistory – Tuesday, April 2 @ 7pm
Worship Committee – Thursday, April 4 @ 5:30pm
VBS – TBA

Lenten Bible Study
Wednesdays, April 3, and 10. @7pm
Thursday – April 18, Maundy Thursday Service 7pm
Friday – April 19, Good Friday Service 7pm
Saturday – April 20, Prayer Vigil 8am – 4pm
April 21st, “There will be fellowship time after church on Easter Sunday. Please make plans to join us.” Marge Bailey – Evangelism Committee

HELPING HANDS APRIL
Offering Stewards are Karen Haines and Michelle Wolfgang-Fantone.
Deacons at the door are Marge Bailey and Ron Zumbrun.
Greasers are Gordon and Deb Persinger.
Offering Ushers are Gordon and Deb Persinger.
Lay Readers:
April 7 – Karen Haines
April 14 – Marge Bailey
April 21 – Robert Miller
April 28 – Candice Welsh
Acolytes:
April 7 – Adriana Brown
April 14 – Mason Brown
April 21 – Lane Saunders
April 28 – Alex Fantone
Projector Operator:
April 7 – Elwin Wagner
April 14 – Karen Haines
April 18 – Sandy Sanders

Church Communications Submission Dates
Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
May Newsletter – Monday, April 22
**Interim Pastor’s Column**

Last night, waiting for sleep to come, I was thinking about this column and what I needed to say about Lent. I was also thinking about the two Bible study sessions I had led during the day and evening yesterday, the first Wednesday of the first week of Lent.

Along with Pastor Charlie at Immanuel Lutheran for the noon session and then last night at Trinity with 14 folks (two from Immanuel Lutheran and the others from Trinity) we began a study of the “Short Stories of Jesus,” or Jesus’ parables. In telling the parables, Jesus almost always is seeking for spiritual growth or at least what one might call “a deepening of our faith.”

The closer I got to sleep, last night, the closer I got to thinking or re-thinking some of the parables of my own spiritual journey. As I shared with the study group last night, many of our own stories on our journey are like the stories or parables of the gospel writers. Maybe we don’t think they are helpful to others or that we have no “right” to call the stories of our own experiences “parables.” Nonetheless, I want to urge you to lay claim to your stories as valuable and credible for others to hear; for others to add to their collection of sometimes life-changing or even transforming chronicles of a life of faith.

Lent is a journey. Indeed, lent is a journey, but what kind of journey? For Trinity UCC this Lent, we are hoping for a journey of spiritual transformation. I hope my dreams of the night are not any indication of my journey this lent. I don’t have a need to share those dreams, or what I even remember of the blur of dreams I can faintly remember now; however, I remember something in the night reminding me that “journey takes our feet a-walking; journey moves us; journey leads us to some destination; journey is the destination.”

I remember waking up one Lenten morning in the past hoping for a beautiful day to take a hike or bicycle ride, but remembered looking out the window to snow; snow melted and refrozen several times that week, and there were footprints frozen in the snow. Someone had trudged through the ice covered snow this way and that way--footsteps going back and forth, then over there and in no particular path. I couldn’t imagine what kind of journey this person was on. *Looked like some of my Lenten journeys.*

As sleep cleared from my eyes, I remembered: Those footprints tell the story of Pat’s (my wife) shared journey with the birds and squirrels who resided in our yard. That winter, Pat had five or six bird feeders. She even fed choice corn to four squirrels. I didn’t get it then and I still don’t get that. As a youth, my mom fed me squirrels. Yum! In our former house in Libertytown before we moved last year, this journey with these lovely and interesting little creatures was one of Pat’s great joys. Even harsh weather never kept her from showing hospitality to the cardinals, blue jays, woodpeckers, gold finches, et.al.

Our footsteps during this Lenten time tell the story of our journey? I suppose the ultimate hope is that we will travel along in the footsteps of Jesus – from his journey from the mountain of transfiguration to 40 days in the desert, to the temple, to the garden in desperate prayer, to the hill called Golgotha, and ultimately to resurrection morning.

For sure, the footprints we leave behind will tell the story of our shared journey this Lent. May the journey bring us—each of you and all of us—closer to the One who gives us the journey in the first place.

*Faithfully, Pastor Hanberry*

**Congratulations to Pastor Gerry**

At the spring meeting of the Catoctin Association, Pastor Gerry was awarded a certificate to recognize that he will be celebrating 30 years as an ordained minister on December 8, 2019.

The Trinity UCC family congratulates Pastor Gerry on this significant career milestone.
Food Bags for Backpacks Project
Trinity UCC is preparing for donations for the April “Food bags for Backpacks” to Manchester Elementary School. A sign-up sheet is now available for donations that are due at the church by Sunday, April 14. 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.

Lexis Notes
We are midway through our Lenten Journey of Spiritual Transformation. For me, the return of the temperate weather of spring gives me new hope in my journey. As we move toward Easter and celebrate new life in Christ, let us continue our journey keeping in mind the sacrifices Christ made for us. I hope that our music during this time will encourage contemplation, reverence, and praise.

Frederick Keys Baseball & Fireworks
Mark your calendars for the Frederick Keys Baseball Game on Friday, August 16, @ 7pm. There will be fireworks immediately after the game.

If we buy 25 or more tickets, the cost for reserved seats will be:

 Adults - $10 (ages 13 – 59)
 Seniors - $7 (60 & over)
 Youth (ages 3-12) and Active Military - $7

Kids who sign up for Kids Club will receive Club Drawstring Bag, Free Hot Dogs and Free Fun Zone ticket!

Please let Robert Miller know by May 26, if you are planning to attend and whether you would be interested in riding the bus. There is a possibility that bus transportation will be provided and subsidized by the churches attending.

Save the Date…
Vacation Bible School
July 21-26, 2019
Trinity UCC
Watch the Trinity UCC website for registration Information
More information to follow.
Any questions call the church 410-374-2727
Is there some change you’re seeking to make in your life? Is there some passion or joy you’re hoping to expand or share? Are you floundering around in the dark, mired in the stress of life? Are you spinning without direction? How do you seek to transform yourself?

The word “transformation” is popular these days. In molecular biology, transformation is the genetic alteration of a cell resulting from the uptake and expression of foreign genetic material (DNA). In information technology, data transformation is the “process of converting data from a source into a destination format.” Psychologists speak of transformation as fundamental change in a person’s emotional state or personality. As we age, our minds and bodies undergo physiological as well as physical changes. In many instances, these changes can be readily observed.

But what about your spiritual life? How is it with your soul these days? In this 7-week series, we will explore aspects of spiritual transformation and questions like these: How is your inner life transformed by the Lenten and Easter seasons? How do you make known your spiritual renewal to others? How can it transform other areas of your life? What is the impact of this transformational change on your life as a person seeking faith and as a follower of Jesus Christ? I invite you to join us on this journey of discovery Sunday mornings at 10:45am. Learn more about us at www.trinityuccmanchester.org and on Facebook. May you be blessed by the transforming grace of the season.

Worship Schedule

April 7 – Lent 5: Transformation – From Death to New Life
Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Phil 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
Sermon: “Lazarus, Mary, Martha and Jesus: Friends in Faith”

April 14 – Palm/Passion Sunday
Transformation – From Triumph to Tragedy
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Ps 31:9-16; Phil 2:5-11; Luke 19:28-40
Sermon: “Palms, Passion, and a Donkey”

April 18 – Maundy Thursday – 7:00pm
Transformation – In the Darkness Again
Homily: “The Power of the Meal”

April 19 – Good Friday – 7:00pm
Transformation – Into the Darkness of Death
Selected readings from the Gospels of Matt., Luke, & John
Worship around the “Seven Last Words of Jesus” from the Cross

April 21 – Easter Sunday Celebration
Transformation – From Death to Life
Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Rev 1:4-8; John 20:19-31
Sermon: Fully Alive!
March 2019 Consistory Meeting Highlights

The monthly meeting of the consistory members was held on March 12, 2019

Minutes: February consistory minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer’s Report: January report was distributed and accepted as written.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Gerry submitted his monthly report. Pastor Charlie and Pastor Gerry have worked together on Lenten Bible study series. Pastor Gerry will be away March 17th; Rebecca Shillinburg will be guest pastor. Plans to have Interim Planning Team meet soon.

Property: Ron Zumbrun reports minor outside gas leak was repaired today.

Finance: No report

Personnel: Lexi Starr has spent time on creating instructions for how to do a power point.

Evangelism: We had about 80 people for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Sausage Dinner. The committee is organizing soup, bread and desserts for Lenten Bible study gatherings for the five Wednesdays in Lent. There will be fellowship time after church on Easter Sunday, April 21st.

Christian Education: No report

Worship: MB Brainerd submitted detailed report that was shared.

Caring Ministry: We discussed volunteering next year at Cold Weather Shelter.

PPR: No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
Lenten Offering: Will look at ideas and discuss at April meeting.
VBS: is scheduled for July 21-26, materials have been ordered.
Fredrick Keys: Date is Friday, August 16, cost is $7.00 for kids and seniors, others $10.00. We will invite the other churches and check on getting a bus.

Engraved Pavers: March 31st is the deadline for ordering the bricks.

New Business:
Easter Vigil: will be held April 20th from 8-4
Service in the Park: Sunday June 2nd, the pavilion is being reserved.

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 2, 2019 at 7:00 pm

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

The cost of each plant is $11.00. Deadline to place an order is Sunday, April 7, 2019.
Payment must be made when you place your order. Specify: In Loving Memory of and or In Honor of and by whom.
Any further questions, please see Sandy Sanders. Please make checks payable to: Trinity U.C.C.

I / We wish to sponsor flowers for Easter.
Name:

Lily _____
Tulip _____(red) _____(yellow) _____(purple)
Mums _____(white) _____(purple) _____(yellow) _____(mixed)

Total Amount Due: $___________________

IN HONOR OF:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

BY:
Fundraising Events:

BINGO:

Our 2nd annual Cash Bingo will held Saturday April 27th, 2019.

We will be selling baked goods and will need donations of desserts pre-packaged in $1 single serving size and dropped off to the Activities Building by 4pm on 4/27. Suggested serving sizes, 5 cookies, 2 – 2x2” brownies, rice krispie treats or fudge, 1 slice of pie or cake.

Please share this event with family and friends and help us increase our ticket sales. If you’re able to help with the event; please contact a committee member.

Banquet Bingo

CASH PRIZES

2 - $500 Jackpot Games

Saturday April 27, 2019

Doors Open at 4:00PM
Dinner at 5:00 PM
Hot Roast Beef or Turkey Sandwiches w/sides
Bingo starts at 6:30 PM

$40/per person includes
Dinner and Games

Manchester Activities Bldg
3297 York Street, Manchester, MD 21102
For info and tickets:
Call/Email Leslie Brooks:
717-654-1499  lesliebingo19@aol.com

“Buy A Brick” Fundraiser

The brick walkway and cross garden flower bed, which are used by members, and town residents as well, are in desperate need of repair.

A special thanks to everyone who purchased a brick for our new walkway; we've sold approximately 50 brick to date. We will be meeting with the brick layer on March 21st to discuss plans for the walkway and to set a tentative start date.

Brick orders were due March 31st; if you have a question about an order, please contact Karen Price at 410 967 4102, or at kjprice@live.com.

We also plan to replace the large wooden cross in the garden as it’s somewhat rotted and has seen better days. If you are able to suggest ideas for replacing it, help to build it, or can provide the pressure treated lumber please let Karen Price know.

As always, we thank you for your support; we are very excited about this restoration project.
Trinity United Church of Christ  
Receipts and Disbursements

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# April 2019

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<td>Red Cross Blood Drive @ Immanuel Lutheran Church 2:00 pm to 7:30pm Consistory 7:00pm AA meets 8:30pm</td>
<td>Lenten Bible Study Immanuel Church 11:30 am soup/bread 12:00 pm Parable Study Trinity UCC 6:30 pm soup/bread 7pm Parable Study</td>
<td>Worship Committee meeting 5:30pm</td>
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<td>Fifth Sunday of Lent Holy Communion Worship/Children’s Church 10:45am</td>
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<td>Lenten Bible Study Immanuel Church 11:30 am soup/bread 12:00 pm Parable Study Trinity UCC 6:30 pm soup/bread 7pm Parable Study</td>
<td>Choir 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Sixth Sunday of Lent Palm/Passion Sunday Holy Communion Worship/Children’s Church 10:45am Blessing of the Prayer Shawls Food for Foodbags due</td>
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<td>Easter Sunday Holy Communion Worship/Children’s Church 10:45am Blessing of Foodbags</td>
<td>May Newsletter articles due Earth Day</td>
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<td>Second Sunday of Easter Worship/Children’s Church 10:45am</td>
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Notes: Church Office opened: Mon, Tue, Thur, (9am -1pm) except where noted.
TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
P. O. BOX 730
MANCHESTER, MD 21102

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
3229 York Street
P.O. Box 730
Manchester, MD 21102
Office Hours: 9am - noon
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
410-374-2727 (Church office)
(Email) trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net
Web site: trinityuccmanchester.org

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!
Happy Easter

Earth Day