

Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 730,

Manchester, MD 21102

410 374-2727

www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Trinity Times

October 2021

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear ones,

These last four months as your pastor have flown by and reminded me why I love ministry. It is a pleasure to do this work with a church of people of enthusiastic to live into the values Jesus taught. At the same time, I know there's a weariness setting in. Not a weariness in the work of ministry itself, necessarily, but a world-weariness. I don't know about you, but I feel like even after a good night of sleep, I still wake up exhausted. We're living through a time that feels chaotic and it's taking a toll. Still, as we head into the fall months and continue to make plans for the future of Trinity UCC, I am filled with a renewed sense of hope!

Hope is no easy sentiment at the best of times, but it is especially challenging when we think of all that's happening around us. A glance at the newspaper gives the impression that the world is in a state it's never been in before and that we are destined for ruin. Of course, that's not true, we have been in similar states before, but we might feel that there's nothing we can do to make things better. We might want to give into despair. Hopelessness is easier than hopefulness. With damaging storms, wildfires, violence, viruses, social discord, political divisiveness, economic woes, and sundry other issues, it's no wonder we all feel weary.

So, how can I feel any sense of hope in these chaotic times? The answer to that question is two-fold. First, as a Christian, minister, and mom of two little guys, I have a call to be filled with hope. After all, it was the Apostle Paul wrote, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the holy Spirit you may abound in hope" (Romans 15:13). There is joy and peace in believing

because in that believing, we place our trust in the One who gives us life and breath and all things. We don't go it alone. In that, there is hope.

Second, I see signs of hope as I do my work at Trinity. Hope, because we are looking forward, not back, as a church family. Paul told the Corinthian church (who, by the way, we are discussing in our Bible study. Join us!), that no matter what is happening outwardly, "inwardly we are being renewed day by day." Exciting things are on the way, it's true, but exciting things are *already happening* in our midst. Those things have nothing to do with a new pastor. Those things are the result of your dedicated lay leadership who sacrificially give of themselves week after week to make Trinity the Body of Christ in the world.

My message this month is to remind you to **keep the faith and hold onto hope**. There are signs of hope all over our ministry together! Over the summer, we held vespers service, relaunched prayer shawl blessings, reignited our children's ministry, hosted a blood drive, served the community at the farmer's market, and celebrated Vacation Bible School. In September, we rallied, blessed backpacks, fed children in need, and opened a new bible study. As you read through our newsletter, you'll see much is happening in October, too.

There's no better time to come check out what Trinity UCC is doing in Manchester and beyond! If you haven't been to church in a while and are looking for a sign to return: **here's your sign!** Be an active part of sharing Christ's message of hope and love to a community and world starving for it. I will see you soon!

In peace,

Pastor Jessica



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/04 Lauren Rice
- 10/11 Susan Davidson
Lorne Hemlock
- 10/12 Kelly Rhoten
- 10/22 Patricia Warner
- 10/23 Madison Hudgins
- 10/25 Andrea Haines
Ashby Haines
Alexander Wolfgang-Fantone
- 10/26 Sue Myers
- 10/29 Lane Saunders
- 10/30 Fynn Krawczyk
- 10/31 Leon Miller
Livi Saunders

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 11/06 – Gordon Persinger
- 11/08 – Jackie Nave
Jamie Nave
- 11/10 – Norma Lee Reed
- 11/14 – Alice Hann
- 11/18 – R. Michael Miller
- 11/20 – Karen Haines
- 11/29 – Adriana Brown
- 11/30 – Judy Miller



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/01 Sarah and Jeff Krawczyk
- 10/04 Karen and David Haines
- 10/10 Leslie and Jeff Brooks
- 10/14 Nickie and Rob Saunders
- 10/19 Penny and Ken Ludwig
- 10/25 Michelle and Dale Wolfgang-Fantone
- 10/30 Susan and Wayne Davidson
- 10/31 Belva and Earl LaMotte

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/15 – Shirley and Ron Zumbrun
- 11/19 – Charlene and Doug Rhoten

Contacting the Pastor and the Church Office

To reach Pastor Jessica in an emergency, please call her at 240-285-9357 (cell).

DAYS OFF SCHEDULE: Pastor Jessica will be off on Friday (her Sabbath day) and Saturday. She plans to be in the church office in October Tuesday and Wednesday, but subject to change. Working from the home office Mondays and Thursdays.

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

Church Communications Submission Dates

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
November Newsletter– Monday, October 18



HELPING HANDS OCTOBER

Greeters for the month of October:
Robert & Deb Miller

October 3

Ushers: Marge Bailey

October 10

Ushers: Deb Persinger

October 17

Ushers: Deb Persinger

October 24

Ushers: Deb Persinger

October 31

Ushers: Deb Persinger

Lay Readers:

- Oct. 03 – Sue Myers
- Oct. 10 – Leslie Brooks
- Oct. 17 – Marge Bailey
- Oct. 24 – Amy Schultz
- Oct. 31 – Pam Marchand

Media Operator:

Oct. 03 – Karen Haines, MB Brainerd
Oct. 10 – Karen Haines
Oct. 17 – Elwin Wagner, Sandy Sanders
Oct. 24 – Elwin Wagner, Sandy Sanders
Oct. 31 – Sue Myers, Sandy Sanders

Children's Church Leaders, Helpers:

Oct. 03 – Leslie Brooks, Lexi Larson
Oct. 17 – Amy Schultz, Lexi Larson



October Meeting Dates Zoom

Consistory – Wednesday, October 6 @ 7pm
PPR – Monday, October 20 @ 7pm
Worship Committee – Tuesday, October 26,
@ 6pm

Reorganization of the Pastor Parish Relationship Committee

The PPR Committee met on Wednesday,
Sept. 15. They will meet again on October 20.

Trinity UCC Covid Protocol

With Covid-19 cases on the rise, primarily due to the new Delta variant, in order to protect the most vulnerable among us, including children who cannot yet be vaccinated and those who are immunocompromised, we strongly urge everyone to **wear a mask inside the building at all times.**

We appreciate everyone's understanding, and thank you, as we try to safely navigate through these uncertain and unpredictable times due to this pandemic.

Worship Schedule: October 2021

October 3, 2021 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: Job 1:2, 2:1-10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

Sermon by: Rev. Lucy Bracy

What do we believe? A Series on the Apostle's Creed

October 10, 2021 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost 10:45 a.m.

Week 1 – Creator of Heaven and Earth
Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5; 1 John 4:7-13; Matthew 6:25-34

October 17, 2021 – 21st Sunday after Pentecost 10:45 a.m.

Week 2 - Jesus
Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-7; John 1:1-14

October 24, 2021 – 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 10:45 a.m.

Week 3 - The Holy Spirit
Scripture: Acts 3:1-10, John 4:4-26

October 31, 2021 – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost 10:45 a.m.

Week 5 - The Forgiveness of Sins & Resurrection
Scripture: Romans 5:12-21; Luke 24:36-49

November 7, 2021 – All Saint's Sunday 10:45 a.m.

Week 4 - The Church: the Communion of Saints
Scripture: Acts 4:32-37; Matthew 28:16-20

November 14, 2021 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost 10:45 a.m.

Week 6 - What's the UCC Got to Say?
Scripture: Hebrews 4:12-16; John 17: 20-25



Pastor Jessica would like to invite all who are interested to join her on **October 13 and 27** will be via Zoom at 7pm for a *LISTEN UP! Bible Study of 1 Corinthians*.

The *LISTEN UP! Bible Study* series is not just about learning information about the Bible, but also, about listening for the voice of the Still Speaking God in our sacred scriptures. This study will prompt us to listen to the Bible, to our own questions and responses, and to honest sharing between members of our group.

Please contact Pastor Jessica if you need more information or have questions. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Cammeron's Notes

Christmas Time Is Here!!!!

Christmas will be here soon. I am in the Holiday Spirit. As I listen to Advent and Christmas music, I am so excited to present a Christmas Program to Trinity UCC. Throughout this pandemic, I have learned how to have JOY in distressing times. This pandemic has taught me to live with no regrets, ask questions without fear, embrace others fully, and to have joy. Christmas can bring joy or despair to many people. I have decided to enjoy Christmas with JOY. From this day forward, I will have unspeakable JOY. When things don't go my way, I will have JOY. When loved ones pass on, I will have JOY. When my body is wrapped with pain, I will have JOY. Why, you ask? My answer will be, "the JOY of the Lord is My Strength." It seems that JOY only appears during the Christmas season. But JOY can appear in any season in your life. Take hold of the unspeakable JOY; I know I will.

Be Bless
Cammeron

September 2021 Consistory Meeting Highlights

Pastor's Report: Pastor Jessica continues her outreach with members via phone calls and notes. Community engagement continues with Tuesday and Thursday morning devotions and updating Facebook page each week. "Let Us Pray for You Ministry" has begun and prayer box is being used. Pastor Jessica has continued planning for worship series for October and Bible Study on 1 Corinthians beginning in September on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays for six sessions. One week of study leave is planned for September 27-October 5 for Advent planning/study. Pastor Lucy Brady will lead service on October 3rd. She has been asked to serve on the Central Atlantic Conference board and will be attending annual

CAC meeting in October. She has been asked to lead a Wednesday prayer service from Trinity to be attended by association virtually as part of the association 40 days of prayer for our conference churches. Trinity will be highlighted on November 11th.

Treasurer's report: New copier was purchased for \$3,878.72 and paid for out of the fundraising/improvement checking. Farmers Market made over \$1,250.

Committee Reports

Property: Doug Rhoten advised we are in agreement that we want to match the brick on the church building, not to the existing flower bed brick.

Finance: No Report

Personnel: No Report

Evangelism: Belva LaMotte is planning for a kid related treat on Rally Day September 12th when we will be blessing backpacks

Christian Education: No report

Worship: MariBeth Brainerd advised September 12th will be Rally Sunday and will include blessing of the backpacks. 911 Banner was hung on the front of the church, and Pastor will include a prayer to recognize the 20th anniversary, we will need to schedule and plan Jessica's installation service. Cammeron is hoping to engage children during advent with performing hand motions like they did for VBS music.

Caring Ministry: No Requests

PPR: Meeting will be held on September 15th.

Unfinished Business

Red Cross Blood Drive: There were 17 donors and 15 units collected.

Food Bags for Backpacks: Pastor Jessica will bless bags on the 19th, Doug Myers will deliver to school

Community Yard Sale: We are not joining in this activity with Lutheran Church.

Latest Covid Protocols: We are happy with the wording strongly urging people to wear masks inside to protect the vulnerable among us.

New Business

Rally Day/ Return to Regular Hours: On September 12 service will begin at 10:45 AM

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 7:00 pm via zoom.



FUNDRAISING TEAM UPDATE

SCRIP GIFT CARDS

Support Trinity UCC! Use gift cards to turn everyday shopping into earnings. Pay with gift cards and support Trinity at the same time. Physical gift cards and eGift cards can be used for gas, groceries, dining, clothes, travel, movies, etc. It's easy and it's rewarding!

Orders will be submitted the 2nd Sunday of the month and you'll receive your cards the 3rd Sunday. If you haven't participated in the program and would like more information please contact Sue Myers, 443-375-6788, wsmdem@comcast.net.

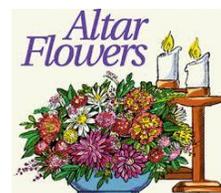


Instant Potatoes, Jell-O, Pudding, Stuffing, Mixed Veggies, Applesauce, Helper, Canned Chicken, Soups, Canned Potatoes, Gravy, Breakfast Bars, Juice/Drinks, Jelly, Pasta Sides, Canned Fruit, Brownie Mix, Breakfast Bars, Cake Mix/Frosting, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Shampoo, Diapers Sizes 4,5,6



Food Bags for Backpacks

Trinity UCC will restart our Food Bags for Backpacks donation program for Manchester Elementary School this September. Trying to be as careful as possible, we will once again just ask for Monetary Donations. Please mark "Food Bags" on any checks or giving envelopes that you wish to go to this program. Thank you, your support is greatly appreciated.



Dedicating Flowers as a Part of Worship
There are a number of options for dedicating flowers in honor of a loved one, and having the flowers placed on the Altar and/or elsewhere in the Sanctuary:

- ✚ A vase of arranged flowers
- ✚ A single rose in a bud vase
- ✚ Cut flowers that you will bring in and arrange in a vase

Please sign up on the flower dedication sign-up sheet that is pinned to the bulletin board in the lower narthex and specify your selection. Diane,

the church secretary, will call you to arrange the flower order. If you want to bring cut flowers to be placed on the altar rather than order an arrangement from one of the local florists that will make a flower delivery to the church, please contact a member of our altar committee - Deb Persinger at 410-746-5475 or Sandy Sanders at 443-974-6723. For more information regarding ordering and dedicating flowers please call Diane, the church secretary, at 410-374-2727. Thank you!!



Announcement:

Join Pastor Jessica on "Facebook LIVE" each **Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m.** for a short devotional or thought for the day and prayer time together.

It's a great way to connect to community throughout the week!

Facebook –

www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC



The Blessing of the Pets

Blessing Our Animals!

Sunday, October 10, we will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi with a Blessing of the Animals to take place from 2pm-3pm in the parking lot at Trinity. Bring your furry (and non-furry) loved ones to receive a special blessing!

Though this is not limited to furry pets, please avoid bringing your aquatic friends as we do not wish to harm animals of any kind, especially our beloved fishies.



Christian Education

Children's church is on the 1st and 3d Sunday of every month.

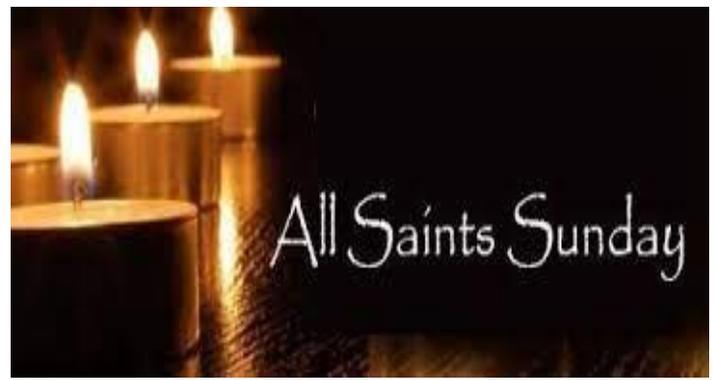
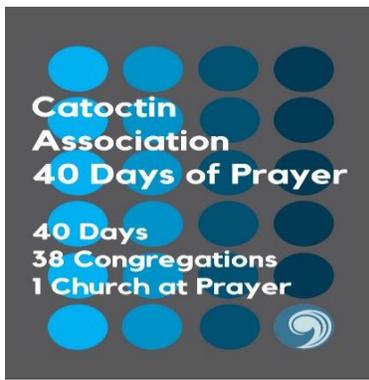
The children will have a separate time during the Sermon and rejoin the congregation for communion and closing prayers. We are running the race with Jesus and are exploring three verses from various sections of the Bible. Crafts, snacks, and prayers fill up our time also. The children talked about how perseverance helps us do hard things and how Jesus was able to keep going with his message. They have made batons and enjoyed creating relays with each other showing that the helping hands of Jesus can help us keep finishing difficult tasks. We will be talking about elements of the worship service too. Acolytes and bringing in the light is our first focus.

The Community Rock Garden to be launching on October 3, 2021. We will begin painting rocks for sharing and will be inviting the congregation to join in. Rocks can be added to our 2 designated gardens outside at the cross or carried by members of the congregation and the community to spread the good word of our faith. We want to make this a permanent mission of our youth. We will gladly accept any donations of Rocks (river rocks) and rock paints. We will have printed instructions and a rock for anyone that would like to join in on October 3d. and we pray it is a whole bunch of our members. Rock on Jesus!!

All members that help are practicing Covid precautions during Children's Church: Adults and youth all wear masks, sanitize their hands and areas, and keep a safe distance.

We welcome anyone who would like to assist and contribute time to our youth and the special times we are planning. Please contact Leslie Brooks or Amy Schultz via the new mailbox for the group and we will answer your questions, give you information, etc.

TrinityChristianEducation2727@gmail.com



"Pray for us...that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ..." Col. 4:3

Even Paul knew that the mystery of Christ, the Kingdom of God, was irrevocably tied to prayer.

The Catoclin Association is 38 churches - a wide diversity of geography, faith, and practice, and yet one body.

On **Oct. 11**, we will launch 40 Days of Prayer, praying publicly for each congregation, by name. We want to kneel in prayer as one association in prayer for each other through 40 days, to practice our covenant commitments to each other to love and support one another as siblings in Christ, to strengthen and encourage each other as a new chapter of faith emerges in our region. More information to come!

Calling All the Saints!

Sunday, **November 7**, is All Saints Sunday. In memory of those Saints in our lives who have gone on before us, we are calling for everyone to **bring in a photo of a loved one** so that we can remember them during worship. A special "All Saints" prayer will be said during worship with a time for lifting up the names of those pictured.



Trinity United Church of Christ
Receipts and Disbursements

| | Aug 21 | Jan - Aug 21 |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | |
| Income | 5,577.00 | 44,084.14 |
| Expense | | |
| Educational Ministries | 50.00 | 337.62 |
| Evangelism | 26.49 | 323.71 |
| General | 765.41 | 19,208.41 |
| Personnel | 9,044.30 | 59,518.20 |
| Property | 0.00 | 2,949.31 |
| Music | 0.00 | 277.00 |
| Worship | 99.90 | 747.78 |
| Total Expense | 9,986.10 | 83,362.03 |
| Net Ordinary Income | (4,409.10) | (39,277.89) |
| Other Income/Expense | | |
| Other Income | | |
| Grant Income | 0.00 | 15,448.00 |
| Care Fund Activity | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Endowment | 0.00 | 550.73 |
| Cemetery | (800.00) | (4,053.50) |
| Interest/Dividend Income | 0.00 | 1,180.37 |
| Fundraising | (1,710.42) | (23,495.64) |
| Special Offerings Received | 0.00 | 1,710.00 |
| Total Other Income | (2,510.42) | (8,560.04) |
| Other Expense | | |
| Special Offerings Disbursed | 117.93 | 1,347.23 |
| Transfers | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Expense | 117.93 | 1,347.23 |
| Net Other Income | (2,628.35) | (9,907.27) |
| Net Income | (7,037.45) | (49,185.16) |

October 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|-----|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion Worship 10:45 am Children's Church Neighbors in need Offering | 4 | 5 | 6 Consistory 7pm | 7 Choir 7pm | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am Blessing of the Prayer Shawls Blessing of Pets 2-3pm | 11 Columbus Day | 12 | 13 Bible Study 7pm | 14 Choir 7pm | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am Children's Church | 18 November Newsletter articles due | 19 | 20 | 21 Choir 7pm | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am | 25 | 26 | 27 Bible Study 7pm | 28 Choir 7pm | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am Last day to submit names for All Saint's Day | Church office: Open 9- 1 pm Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Always subject to change. | | | | | |

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P. O. BOX 730
MANCHESTER, MD 21102

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



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