

Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 730,

Manchester, MD 21102

410 374-2727

www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Trinity Times

April 2022

From the Pastor's Desk



“Be still, and know that I am God.”

-Psalm 46:10

Spring is a time of new beginnings and rebirth. It is a resurrection season, so it is fitting that we get to celebrate the most important day of the Christian year during this season: Easter. In this season of reawakening, we are invited to observe all that is beautiful in the created world as the abundance of God's grace takes brazenly visible form all around us in the bright colors of this time. There's no missing the Easter metaphor as we continue to celebrate the gift of Creation on days like April 22: Earth Day.

As resurrection people, Christians can find deep meaning even in secular holidays like this. We can see from the very start, that the writers of scripture were concerned with our call to be good and faithful stewards of all that God has provided (see the creation stories in Genesis). The declaration of the Holy One that the vast quantity of things in the created world is “good” is more than lip service; it is a reminder, lest we forget, that nothing we are gifted should be taken for granted or abused. That's why it makes sense for us to find faithful ways to serve God in honoring Earth Day, not as a political statement, but as a declaration of

our commitment to stewardship of our natural resources.

When we are children, we naturally know how important it is to have reverence and care for creation. We understand the gentleness with which to approach a flower and, as we are closer to the ground, learn quickly how to pay attention to those little things. But as we grow, sometimes we need to be reminded to “stop and smell the roses,” To be still and know that God is present, alive, and active in every part of our lives.

This spring, I invite you to take time to pay attention. Stop and marvel at all the beauty and wonder of the earth, an offering by God meant to sustain and nourish as well as exist harmoniously together in the created order of things.

Mary Oliver, in one of her most beloved poems, reminds us:

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and
exciting --over and over announcing your
place in the family of things.

(from *Wild Geese*)

As we continue through the resurrection season and approach our Easter celebration of the living God-with-us, let us take some time to be still, know *God is*, and look for ways we can honor and love thoroughly those parts of the family of things God so benevolently created. From the wild geese to puppies, the forest to the gardens, and families as well as our neighbors in need, God calls us to share our love with the world beyond ourselves. And so we shall!

Pastor Jessica



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4/05 – Donna Alban
- 4/07 – Stanley Hamilton
- 4/13 – Edward Phelps
- 4/15 – Jessica Larson
- 4/16 – Nathan Schultz
- 4/18 – Wayne Sanders
Ron Larson
- 4/28 – Jasmine Carter
Amy Schultz
- 4/29 – Megan Marchand

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5/08 – Louise Ruby
- 5/11 – Linda Hamilton
- 5/15 – Eddie Blue
- 5/25 – Elwin Wagner
- 5/31 – Karen Price



APRIL ANNIVERSARYS

- 4/01 – Debra Miller and Robert Miller
- 4/03 – Marge and David Bailey
- 4/15 – Sue and Doug Myers

MAY ANNIVERSARYS

- 5/01 – Norma and Ken Reed
- 5/27 – Bonnie and Noman Greenholtz

Contacting the Pastor and the Church Office

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

Pastor Jessica plans to be in the church office on Tuesday and Thursday and will continue to work from home the rest of the week. This remains subject to change.

She is off on Friday (her Sabbath day) and Saturday.

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

Church Communications Submission Dates

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
May Newsletter– Monday, April 18



April Meeting Dates Zoom

Consistory – Wednesday, April 6, @ 7pm
Worship Committee – Tuesday, April 12 @ 6pm
PPR – TBA



HELPING HANDS APRIL

Greeters for the month of March:

- April 03 – Robert Miller
- April 10 – Robert Miller
- April 14 – Amy Schultz
- April 17 – Belva LaMotte
- April 24 – Sandy Sanders

Ushers for the month of April:

Deb Persinger

Lay Readers:

- April 03 – Sue Myers
- April 10 – Amy Schultz
- April 14 – Robert Miller
- April 17 – Robert Miller
- April 24 – Marge Bailey

Media Operator:

- April 03 – Karen Price/Sandy Sanders
- April 10 – Elwin Wagner/MB Brainerd
- April 14 – Karen Price/Sandy Sanders
- April 17 – Karen Price/Sue Myers
- April 24 – Elwin Wagner/MB Brainerd

Children’s Church for the month of April

April 3,2022: Leslie Brooks Continuing on with the 40 Days of Lent activities

**April 10,2022: Leslie Brooks
The Holy Week Journey**

April 17,2022 Amy Schultz He is Risen.

Pastor-Parish Relationship Committee

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee met on March 23. The committee meets every few months and the content of these meetings is confidential.

Trinity UCC Covid Protocol

- While masks are no longer required, we strongly **recommend that you wear a mask** while inside the building, particularly if you are unvaccinated or immunocompromised.

- **You are welcome to sing in worship**, however, we ask that family groups remain socially distanced from one another in order to limit exposure.

We appreciate everyone's understanding these last two years of pandemic and joyfully look forward to what's to come!



Get Involved in Worship

We are seeking more volunteers to serve in various roles.

If you are interested in serving as a **lay reader, media operator, greeter, usher, or helping with children's church**, please let Pastor Jessica know.

Even if you are unable to make it to worship in person, there are ways you can **serve as a reader from home**. Many hands make much lighter work for everyone!



Food Bags for Backpacks

Trinity UCC continues our Food Bags for Backpacks donation program for Manchester Elementary School. 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.

Worship Schedule: April 2022

April 3, 2022 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Theme – Wrestling with Belief

Scripture: Genesis 32:22-30; Luke 22:29-44

April 10, 2022 – Palm Sunday

Theme – The Both/And of Faith

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-10, 31; Luke 19:28-40



April 14, 2022 – Maundy–Thursday 7 p.m. Holy Communion

Theme – A New Commandment

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; John 13:1-17, 31b-35



April 17, 2022 – Easter Sunday

Theme – Rooted and Blooming!

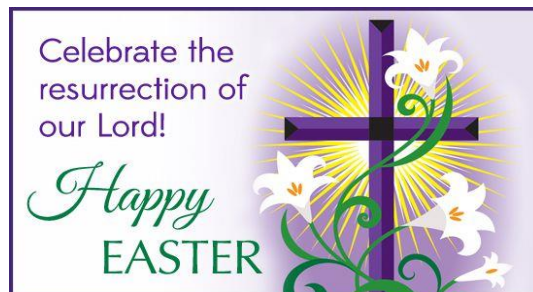
Scripture: Acts 10:34-43; Colossians 1:1-4; John 20:1-18

April 24, 2022 – Second Sunday of Easter

Baptism

Theme – Life Giving Faith

Scripture: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; John 20:19-31





Cammeron's Music Notes

Greetings to all,

Easter time is coming. We will rejoice in knowing that Jesus died and lives again. At Trinity, we will sing songs of praise. We will worship because Jesus died for our sins. We will know how great He is because He has allowed us to live through the pandemic.

Let's take the time to reflect on Jesus' goodness. Let's take time to say, Thank you. Let's come together and worship the true and mighty Lord and Savior with songs of Praise and Thanksgiving.

March 2022 Consistory Meeting Highlights

Previous Minutes: February 09, 2022 minutes were accepted

Treasurer's report: Sue Myers reported giving through February was a little above what we had budgeted. \$5000.00 was moved from Endowment to Checking to cover expenses.

Pastor's Report: Both the Baptism on February 27 and Ash Wednesday service went well, Began Lenten worship series and book study.

Easter planning: Trinity Kids: Holy Week Mindfulness Walk, Saturday, April 9, 2022
Maundy Thursday planning and Palm Sunday planning (giving masonry nails for Holy Week to help people reflect on Jesus's sacrifice, to be given back in exchange for communion on Easter Sunday, serving communion by having people come forward to receive the pre-packed cups)

Confirmation: will hand out "*Manna and Mercy*" for teens to read over the summer in preparation for confirmation program to begin in the fall.

Committee Reports

Property: Doug Rhoten reported that Peter Allen came to church looking at the altar steps and will be giving us ideas on handrails to give increased safety when using those steps.

Finance: No report

Personnel: Doug Rhoten reported Ellen Nash-West has agreed to be our substitute organist when Cammeron is on scheduled time off

Evangelism: No report.

Christian Education: Leslie and Amy reported children were given "The Most Important Prayer of All - Stella learns the Lord's Prayer" book for reading. There are worship bags with activities and crafts for children for the opposite weeks of Children's Church as well as printouts on clipboards for the children each week of church.

Children's Church many special activities for the Lenten season and Earth Day Giveaways: have been ordered to include Globe Shaped Dog Tag Necklaces and Earth Day / Recycle Rubber Bracelets.

Worship: Discussed the upcoming Baptism for Sadie on February 27th

Harper Haines will be baptized on April 24th. Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, drive through for imposition of ashes, worship service will be at 7:00pm.

Palm Sunday- April 10th, discussed a palm processional by the children.

Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, April 14th. There will be no service on Good Friday and no Easter Vigil this year.

Installation Service, May 21st, Rev Rob Apgar-Taylor will be the preacher.

Next Worship Meeting, Tuesday, March 15th at 6:00 p.m.

Caring Ministry: No report

PPR: Meeting will be March 23, 2022

Unfinished Business / Updates

Latest Covid Protocols: We voted to change from “Masks Required” to “Mask Recommended”

2022 Consistory Members: Doug Myers has agreed to be on the consistory, he will be Chairperson of Property

Cross / Walkway Dedication: Discussions continue for possible spring / summer dedication as Covid positivity percent continues to decline.

Pastor’s Microphone: Still working on why the mic cuts out.

New Business

Lenten Offering: Join other UCC Churches in support of RIP Medical Debt funds to alleviate medical debt in West Virginia and Ukraine Relief.

Worship in the Park: Sunday, June 5th, service will begin at 10⁴⁵ a.m.

Rental Space: All is going well with our renter and we are receiving \$300.00 monthly for use of space we are sharing

Next Meeting: Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 06, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom



Morning Prayers:

Join Pastor Jessica on “Facebook LIVE” each **Tuesday and Thursday at 8 a.m.** for a short devotional and prayer time together.

Find us on Facebook –

www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Scrip Gift Cards

Gift cards will now be ordered on the first Sunday of every month. If you are interested in purchasing cards, contact Sue Myers 443-375-6788 wsmdem@comcast.net. With every purchase the church earns a rebate and you get full face value of the gift cards you order.



NEEDS FOR NESAP

- Jell-O
- Pudding
- Stuffing
- Applesauce
- Muffin Mix
- Mac & Cheese
- Tomato Sauce
- Cup of Soups
- Baked Beans
- Instant potatoes

- Hamburger Helper
- Soups
- Canned Potatoes
- Breakfast Bars
- Juice/Drinks
- Shampoo
- Gravy
- Canned Pasta
- Canned Tomatoes

- Jelly
- Pasta Sides
- Brownie Mix
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Diapers Sizes 2,3,4,5,6
- Cake Mix/Frosting
- Body Wash



Christian Education

April 2022 Newsletter Christian Education

Trinity Youth will gather during Children's Church time on the first and third Sunday of each month.

For April we will be having additional time together on Palm Sunday (April 10, 2022)

On communion Sundays, we will always return to worship in the sanctuary for communion.

Lent begins Wednesday March 2, 2022, and our time will reflect the Lord's Resurrection.

April 3, 2022: Leslie Brooks Continuing on with the 40 Days of Lent activities

April 10, 2022: Leslie Brooks The Holy Week Journey

April 17, 2022 Amy Schultz He is Risen.

(Helpers TBD)

On March 20th Lucy Brady led the Trinity Youth in a Praise worship beginning with lighting of the praise candles, the story of prayer and assembling the Lord's Prayer puzzle. We grooved to the prayer sung in the Caribbean version and listened to it recited in many languages.

Worship bags for each of our youth can be picked up when entering the church on the Sundays when we do not gather downstairs. There is a bag labeled for each of our kids and they have crafts and other unique items for use during worship. Kids keep the contents inside and return the bags to be refilled. Eventually each young person will design their own bag to keep, and it will house items that they have chosen. Pick up your bag on the way in look for your name or age group.

The book "THE MOST IMPORTANT PRAYER OF ALL: Stella learns the Lord's Prayer by Adam Hamilton. The books have been distributed to our

youth. Understanding this prayer concludes with participation in Easter Services. Each child receives their own copy. If you would like a copy(ies) to pick up or delivered to your home, Call the office, or contact Leslie lcbrooks1011@outlook.com.

The Little Free Library has returned after much needed repairs. There are a variety of books in there. Please take a book and spring into reading. Kudos to Amy for maintaining this outreach to the community.

After Easter we will be traveling all over the world with Passport to Peace lessons. Watch our classroom area for where our world travelers go.

Leslie has begun the researching a large screen TV for Children's Church and future events. She has provided a monitor and laptop for videos and music during gathering times

We continue to have printed activities, crayons, and clipboards available very Sunday. Our Thanks to Diane who keeps this up to date. We are now providing Welcome bags for visiting youth. They are next to the worship bags and have crafts, puzzles, etc. The bags for under 3 years of age have a small 3 in the bottom right and for those over 3 have a small 5. Greeters can help the youth find the appropriate bag.

Amy is spearheading Earth Day and children's church will begin a yearlong mission in reflection of this. Her gardening talents will be shared via potting soil, seed plantings, flower booms and maybe some harvesting.

As we grow in the Grace of God, we welcome anyone who would like to assist and contribute time to our youth and the special times we are planning, this includes activities and vacation bible school. Please contact Leslie Brooks or Amy Schultz.

Sincerely,

Leslie, Amy, and Lucy

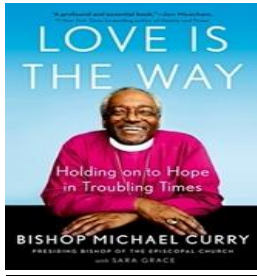
LENTEN BOOK STUDY



Thursdays at 7pm on ZOOM
MARCH 3-APRIL 7

Thursday evenings, we are meeting at 7pm via Zoom to discuss Barbara Brown Taylor's book *Learning to Walk in the Dark*.

Our Final session is April 7.



Church-Wide Read!

There's still time to join our church-wide read!

Easy as A-B-C:

- A new book each quarter.
- Read at our own pace.
- Attend one Zoom session to discuss what we loved/learned/wondered about as we read our selected book.

Current book:

Bishop Michael Curry's *Love is the Way: Holding onto Hope in Troubling Times*
Zoom Meeting in early May.



Christian Education Fund Raiser

SAVE THE DATE

Community Shred Event

The community shred event hosted by Manchester Trinity United Church of Christ is on **Thursday, May 12 from 5-7 pm** at the church. We have teamed up with the SHRED MILL to provide the community the chance to securely. Get rid of all those papers and documents that have been piling up.

Bring all those papers and records you have saved for two years to disappear. The Shred Mill will be providing the equipment and personnel to do this safely and securely by just driving through.

Good will donations will help fund our Christian Education opportunities.

We are asking for 8 sponsors at 25.00 each to be listed with the advertisements to offset the cost of the truck. We have already had 3 businesses reserve spots. Spargo's, MJ's café, and Cooke & sons. If you know a business that wants a lot of advertising for a wee bit of money, contact Leslie as there is only 5 spots left. You can also help sponsor in the name of your family. Contact Leslie Brooks or call the church office for a sponsorship. The event will be shared on social media, newspapers, posters and banners.



Vacation Bible School 2022

FOOD TRUCK PARTY... On a roll with God
July 26,27 28 and finale with local Food Trucks on July 29. 6-8:30 pm.

Ready to cook up some fun? Food truck Party invites children of all ages to get on a roll with God as a parade if Food trucks roll into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party.

"At the center of the Food truck Party is a special truck called "On a Roll." Here kids (or chefs) will learn from the food trucks top Chef along with DJ cupcake about the Daily specials (daily learnings) which are lines from the well-loved prayer that teaches us to turn to God to meet our needs."

A donation of 25.00 will provide a t-shirt and CD for each participant along with all the fun and games and lessons from both the old and New Testament.

Volunteers for one or all four evenings are needed and appreciated.

Contact Leslie, Amy, or the office.

Trinity United Church of Christ
Receipts and Disbursements

	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>Jan - Feb 22</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Rental Income	300.00	300.00
Childrens' Church	4.03	4.03
Communion Offering	95.00	120.00
Loose Offering	89.00	207.00
Miscellaneous	20.00	30.00
Regular Offering	5,440.00	11,102.00
Total Income	<u>5,948.03</u>	<u>11,763.03</u>
Expense		
General	1,661.85	6,294.26
Personnel	6,509.09	16,927.91
Property	1,815.00	2,130.16
Music	0.00	349.00
Worship	11.90	311.90
Total Expense	<u>9,997.84</u>	<u>26,013.23</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(4,049.81)	(14,250.20)
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Cemetery	(30.00)	(135.00)
Interest/Dividend Income	0.00	0.00
Memorial Fund	375.00	375.00
Fundraising	274.00	638.25
Special Offerings Received	220.00	470.00
Total Other Income	<u>839.00</u>	<u>1,348.25</u>
Other Expense		
Special Offerings Disbursed	137.94	405.92
Transfers	0.00	0.00
Total Other Expense	<u>137.94</u>	<u>405.92</u>
Net Other Income	<u>701.06</u>	<u>942.33</u>
Net Income	<u><u>(3,348.75)</u></u>	<u><u>(13,307.87)</u></u>

April 2022

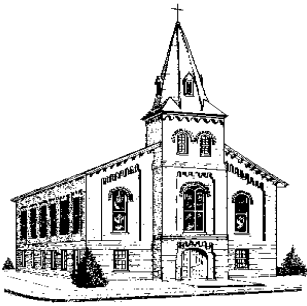
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Notes: Church Office opened: Mon, Tue, Thur, (9am -1pm) except where noted.					1	2
3 Fifth Sunday of Lent Holy Communion Worship 10:45 am Children's Church	4	5	6 Consistory 7:00pm	7 Lenten Book Study 7pm Zoom	8	9
10 Sixth Sunday of Lent Palm/Passion Sunday Holy Communion Worship 10:45 am Blessing of Prayer Shawls	11	12 Worship Committee 6:00 pm	13	14 Maundy Thursday 7:00pm Holy Communion	15 Good Friday	16 Holy Saturday
17 Easter Sunday Holy Communion Worship 10:45 am Children's Church	18 May Newsletter articles due	19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23
24 Second Sunday of Easter Worship 10:45 am Baptism Blessing of Foodbags	25	26	27	28	29	30

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P. O. BOX 730
MANCHESTER, MD 21102

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

April

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Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
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