

Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 730,

Manchester, MD 21102

410 374-2727

www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Trinity Times

May 2022

From the Pastor's Desk: Mayflowers

“Whoever is faithful in very little is faithful also in much.” -Luke 16:10

When our theological ancestors, the Pilgrims, fled England and made their way to the New World, they walked down a set of steps so that they could board their ship, the Mayflower. Those same steps still exist today in the city of Plymouth, UK. “The Mayflower Steps,” as they are known, are boasted about in Plymouth’s tourism industry. On my first trip there, I was eager to get a look at them. What I found when I got there, however, was underwhelming. If you blinked strolling along Plymouth’s famous shoreline, you could easily miss them. This gem of our shared history with England was the humblest landmark you can imagine.

As I prepare to return to England this summer with my wife for our belated honeymoon, I began to think about my first visit there. How many things in our lives are like the Mayflower Steps? How often do we stroll right by something so seemingly ordinary, missing its potential story or significance? Hidden gems like this often go overlooked in our lives and just as easily in our faith. Yet, our Triune God has shown throughout scripture that he cares deeply not just for the big things, but for all the small things.

God shows up, not just for the big moments in our lives, but also for the little ones. We make a big deal of our faith on as we gather in the sanctuary, worshipping God with beautiful tapestries, flowery words, and loud, rich music, surrounded by gorgeous stained glass. But, as our youth found during our recent Earth Day event, we know God also shows up in the little things. In the busy-ness of our lives, the astounding beauty and wonder of nature becomes so common place that, if we blink, we miss it. As we spent time outside, the kids listened to the birds of the air, smelled the flowers and fresh cut grass, and felt the pebbles and stones along our way. As they did that, we talked about God who created all things, who shows up in the untouched natural world as well as the world so heavily handled by humankind. God shows up on good days and bad, just as God does in the sunshine and storms. As the psalms tell us, God is faithful and abounding in steadfast love.

If God can be faithful in things great *and* small, so can we. As we continue through the season of warmth and growth, let us remember those small things God provides and be thankful. Like the Mayflower steps, sometimes it’s the things without much fanfare that have golden, hidden stories. God is there, too. Where is God showing up in the little things for you today?

Pastor Jessica



MAY BIRTHDAYS

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

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 6/02 – Bonnie Greenholtz
- 6/03 – Sarah Krawczyk
- 6/05 – Lucy Brady
- 6/08 – Nathan Krawczyk
- 6/09 – Kelsey Hemlock
- 6/14 – Shirley Wood
- 6/16 – Ralph Keeney
- 6/19 – MariBeth Brainerd
- 6/25 – Shirley Zumbrun
- 6/26 – Cammeron Williams
- 6/30 – Harper Hemlock



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5/01 – Norma and Ken Reed
- 5/08 – Lucy Brady and Eddie Blue
- 5/27 – Bonnie and Noman Greenholtz

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 6/08 – Jamie and Chadd Schneeman
- 6/15 – Sandy & Wayne Sanders

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.

Pastor Jessica will be on Study/Planning Leave from May 23-29. Please contact Robert Miller with any issues or prayer concerns.

Church Communications Submission Dates

- Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
- June Newsletter– Monday, May 23

Important Dates



March Meeting Dates Zoom

- Consistory – Wednesday, May 4, @ 7pm
- Worship Committee – Tuesday, May 10 @ 6pm
- PPR – Wednesday, May 11, @ 7pm



HELPING HANDS MAY

Greeters for the month of May:

- May 01 – Robert Miller
- May 08 – Belva Lamotte
- May 15 – Amy Schultz
- May 21 – Robert Miller
- May 22 – Robert Miller
- May 29 – Belva Lamotte

Ushers for the month of May:

- Deb Persinger
- May 21–Sandy Sanders/Deb Persinger

Lay Readers:

- May 01 – Marge Bailey
- May 08 – Amy Schultz
- May 15 – Sue Myers
- May 21 – Clergy
- May 22 – Leslie Brooks
- May 29 – Robert Miller

Media Operator:

- May 01 – Karen Haines/Sue Myers
- May 08 – Elwin Wagner/Sandy Sanders
- May 15 – Elwin Wagner/MB Brainerd
- May 21 – TBA
- May 22 – Karen Haines/MB Brainerd
- May 29 – Karen Haines/MB Brainerd

Children's Church for the month of May

May 01 – Leslie Brooks

May 08 – Amy Schultz

May 15 – Amy Schultz

June 05 – Leslie, Amy, and Lucy

Save the date

Saturday, May 21st @ 3pm

Trinity UCC

for the Installation of our pastor

Rev. Jessica M. Ashcroft-Townsley

Rev. Rob Apgar-Taylor presiding

Worship Schedule: May 2022

May 1, 2022 – Third Sunday of Easter

Guest Preacher: Rev. Lucy Brady

Scripture: Acts 9:1-6(7-20); John 21:1-19

May 8, 2022 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Theme – Mothering God

Scripture: Isaiah 66:12-13; John 10:22-30

May 15, 2022 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Theme – Disciples Together

Scripture: Acts 16:9-15; John 14:23-29

*Baptism

May 22, 2022 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Theme – Mental Health Sunday

Scripture: Acts 11:1-18; John 13:31-35

May 29, 2022 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Guest Preacher: Rev. Rebecca Schillingburg

Scripture: Acts 16:16-34, John 17:20-26

Pastor Parish Relationship Committee

The Pastor Parish Relations Committee met on March 23 and meets again on May 11. The content of these meetings is of a confidential nature in order to facilitate a healthy relationship between the pastor and congregation.



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

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!



Cammeron's Music Notes

Greetings to all,

I'm going to say Happy Mother's Day in advance. Mother's Day should be celebrated every day. Mothers are the ones that sacrificed themselves for their children. Our needs are on the back burner. Enjoy taking some time for yourself. Listen to music that will get you energized, calm and think on the goodness of God.

Happy Mother's Day to you

Cammeron

April 06, 2022 Consistory Meeting Highlights

Previous Minutes: March 09, 2022 minutes were accepted

Treasurer's report: Giving for the first 3 months of the year remains a little above the anticipated budget for 2022

Pastor's Report: Putting together "Welcome" bags for visitors, Pamela Coon (her mom) has put the logo on tote bags for free as a donation to the church. Palm Sunday planning finalized – procession with the palms, Palm/Nail exchange.

Maundy Thursday communion service 7:00 p.m. Easter worship (procession, pre-packed cups for communion, children will lead singing of Lord's Prayer). April 24: Baptism of Baby Harper. April 24: Trinity Youth Mindfulness Walk after church (Rain date May 15). Respite Sunday: May 1 (Lucy Brady preaching)

May 5 or 11: Zoom discussion of Church Wide Read book. May 21: Installation service at 3pm. May 23-29: Planning Week for Summer and Fall activities (Rebecca Shillingburg to preach May 29). June 5: Worship and Picnic in the Park

June 20-July 4: Vacation (Lucy Bracy preaching June 26 and July 3)

Fall 2022: Confirmation: Manna and Mercy to be given to teens to read over the summer in preparation, program to begin in the fall.

Committee Reports

Property: Doug Rhoten is waiting for Peter Allen's estimate of the Altar railings
Doug Myers is planning on cleaning the interior of our outdoor sign.

Finance: No report

Personnel: No Report

Evangelism: No report

Christian Education: Trinity Youth will gather during Children's Church time on the first and 3 third Sunday of each month. **April 3** Continuing on with the 40 Days of Lent activities, Lucy taught the pretzel prayer and had the kids bake pretzels.

April 10 The Holy Week Journey. **April 17** He is Risen. **April 24** Mindfulness Walk & Earth Day after worship service. **May 01** Personalize Youth Worship Bags

Fund raiser for Christian Ed - Shred Day May 12th from 5 pm to 7 pm

Vacation Bible School last week of July.
Volunteers needed.

Worship: - New and Continuing Business:

Palm Sunday- Palms have been ordered. Holy Week Maundy Thursday (Apr 14): Everything will be removed from the altar. Pastor will carry out the cross. The cross will be draped in black.

Easter Sunday: Karen Price has confirmed she will purchase Easter flowers and decorate the rail around the altar. Attendees will be ushered forward the Communion table, drop their nail in a basket, and receive the elements, taking the elements back to their seats. Installation Service, Saturday, May 21 at 3pm. Rev. Rob Apgar-Taylor will preach. Pastor Jessica will lead worship. Cammeron will provide the music. Communion will be served. Next Worship Meeting, Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Caring Ministry: No report

PPR: Meeting will be May 11, 2022

Unfinished Business / Updates

Pastors Installation will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. Postcard invitations will be mailed out.

Cross / Walkway Dedication: Discussions continue for possible late summer / early fall

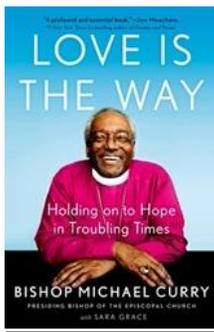
Worship in the Park: Sunday 5th at 10:45 a.m. Pot Luck Meal "**Bring a Dish - Share a Dish**" This is also Pentecost Sunday.

New Business

Acolyte Training to begin later in the year.
Mother's Day, Sunday May 8th, we will be handing out carnations out to all women who attend.

Next Meeting: Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 04, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

Church-Wide Read!



It's almost time for the discussion of our first Church-Wide Read!

Quarterly church-wide reads help include people for whom a weekly Bible study is harder to make time for. It goes like this:

- a. A new book each quarter.
- b. Read at our own pace.
- c. 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*

We will meet on May 5th at 7pm to discuss the book via Zoom.

Please let Pastor Jessica know if you need the link! Next book will be announced at this meeting.



May 2022 Newsletter Christian Education

Trinity Youth will gather during Children's Church time on the first and 3rd Sunday of each month. **For May we will be having additional time together on Mother's Day**

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

May 1, 2022: Leslie Brooks

May 8, 2022: Amy Schultz EARLY POP UP WITH THE GRATEFUL GARDNER

May 15, 2022: Amy Schultz

**June 5, 2022: Leslie, Amy, and Lucy
PICNIC IN THE PARK**

(Helpers TBD)

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. On May 1, 2022, each young person will decorate their own bag and it will hold the items they have chosen. The Trinity Youth Club and Children's Church kids all joined Cameron for musical rendition of the Lord's prayer for Easter Worship. It was a happy time.

The Earth Day Event kicked off with pizza and fries, a mindfulness walk and planting lots of seeds in lots of dirt. More Earthly times coming this year. We love us some potting soil!!

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



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 destroy those papers and documents that have been piling up.

The Shred Mill will be providing the equipment and personnel to do this safely and securely by just driving through.

It is free for area residents and good will donations will help fund our Christian Education opportunities.

Our outreach ministries include - prayer shawls, food bags for students, make and take community rock garden, and a little free library. We hold a unique youth time for all ages on the first and third Sunday of the month during worship time. Our Vacation Bible School "Food Truck Party" is July 26 through July 29 this year and there is not cost for attendees.



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



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.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

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 out, clothes, travel, movies, etc. It's easy and it's rewarding! Last year we had 10 participants and received \$853 to support our fundraising.

Orders will be submitted the 2nd Sunday of the month and you'll receive your cards the 3rd Sunday. If you would like more information please contact Sue Myers, 443-375-6788, wsmdem@comcast.net.

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Get Involved in Worship

As COVID numbers continue to decline and we feel safer 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!



Worship in the Park on June 5

The service begins at 10:45 am, followed by the annual church picnic (More details to follow in the bulletin.)



Summer Worship Hours Begin on **June 12**
@10:00 a.m. (Children's Church TBA)



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



Trinity United Church of Christ
Receipts and Disbursements

	Mar 22	Jan - Mar 22
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Rental Income	300.00	600.00
Childrens' Church	0.00	4.03
Communion Offering	60.00	180.00
Loose Offering	0.00	207.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	30.00
Regular Offering	5,810.50	16,912.50
Total Income	6,170.50	17,933.53
Expense		
Evangelism	95.00	95.00
General	1,155.71	7,449.97
Personnel	6,689.40	23,617.31
Property	0.00	2,130.16
Music	0.00	349.00
Worship	0.00	311.90
Total Expense	7,940.11	33,953.34
Net Ordinary Income	(1,769.61)	(16,019.81)
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Cemetery	(60.00)	(195.00)
Interest/Dividend Income	0.00	0.00
Memorial Fund	0.00	375.00
Fundraising	272.38	910.63
Special Offerings Received	455.00	925.00
Total Other Income	667.38	2,015.63
Other Expense		
Special Offerings Disbursed	95.63	501.55
Transfers	0.00	0.00
Total Other Expense	95.63	501.55
Net Other Income	571.75	1,514.08
Net Income	(1,197.86)	(14,505.73)

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Third Sunday of Easter Holy Communion Worship 10:45 am Children's Church	2	3	4 Consistory 7:00pm	5	6	7
8 Fourth Sunday of Easter Worship 10:45 am Blessing of Prayer Shawls <i>Mother's Day</i>	9	10	11 PPR 7:00 pm	12 Shred Mill 5-7pm	13	14
15 Fifth Sunday of Easter "Baptism" Worship 10:45 am Children's Church	16	17	18	19	20	21 <i>Installation of Pastor Jessica 3 p.m.</i>
22 Sixth Sunday of Easter Worship 10:45 am Blessing of Foodbags	23 June Newsletter articles due	24	25	26 Ascension Day	27	28
29 Seventh Sunday of Easter Worship 10:45 am	30 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	31	Notes: Church Office opened: Mon, Tue, Thur, (9am -1pm) except where noted.			

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ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



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