

Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 730,

Manchester, MD 21102

410 374-2727

www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Trinity Times

October 2022

From the Pastor's Desk:

"The beginning of love is the will to let those we love be perfectly themselves, the resolution not to twist them to fit our own image."

- Thomas Merton

Thomas Merton was a Christian mystic, American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, and priest. His work has been influential, especially for those who subscribe to the Christian imperative of social justice and what it means for our life together. Merton's contemplative writings have contributed to my spiritual growth, as well. His understanding of love is particularly moving as we think about the work of disciple making in the church.

When I came across the quote above a few years ago, it seemed to me an apt reading of the place where real love for others begins. We cannot love others until we are willing to let go of the need to bend them to our way of being, seeing them instead Divine image-bearers in their own right. If we are only interested in converting people or making them carbon copies of ourselves, we cannot really love them, because to do so is merely to love another version of ourselves.

Recently, my youngest son started 4th grade and decided to play the saxophone. I would be lying if I didn't say this instilled a sense of motherly pride: I played saxophone when I was his age. To think that my son chose to follow in my footsteps is exciting. Yet, I tempered my excitement just a little around him because I did not want my opinion to influence his. He is his own person, a beloved child of God created to be a unique individual.

Many parents refer to their children as that which the *Austin Powers* character "Dr. Evil" termed "mini-me." We hope our children will be like us because it affirms positive aspects of our own self-image. On the one hand, this is a nice homage to our own sense of worth. On the other, it can tip into egotism and may perpetuate undesirable traits in future generations. There's a fine line between having healthy self-esteem and wallowing in arrogant pride.

Reading this quote from Merton should help us dispense with the fiction that our children will be our "mini-me." Watching them grow, we should encourage them to find their own sense of self, even as pertains to their faith. In the UCC, we do not all hold identical theological belief systems. Our denomination allows us to be our own people with our own relationship with God. In church and at home, we give our children the tools to grow their faith so that, when it is challenged by the diversity of the world, they have a solid foundation from which to discern what the still-speaking God is saying to them.

This may sound scary to we who want our children to subscribe to our brand of Christianity, but ultimately, it is the Spirit who leads us to figure out *whose* we are at the core. It is good that we foster faith in our young people as they discover who God made them to be, because they, too, are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139). As they grow, let us entrust our beloved children to the loving, eternal Spirit of the living God with the knowledge that we have raised them with a solid foundation, just as we were given.

Pastor Jessica



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/04 Lauren Rice
- 10/10 Alex Loren
- 10/11 Susan Davidson
Lorne Hemlock
- 10/12 Kelly Rhoten
- 10/22 Patricia Warner
- 10/23 Madison Hudgins
- 10/25 Andrea Loren
Ashby Haines
- 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 – Jamie Scheeman
Jackie Kulp
- 11/10 – Norma Lee Reed
- 11/18 – R. Michael Miller
- 11/20 – Karen Haines
- 11/30 – Benjamin Krawczyk
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
- 10/30 Susan and Wayne Davidson
- 10/31 Belva and Earl LaMotte

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

Church Communications Submission Dates

- Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
- November Newsletter– Monday, October 24

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 Tuesday/Thursday and work from home on Monday/Wednesday. *This is subject to change.

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



Meeting Dates - Zoom

- Consistory – Wednesday, October 5 @ 7pm
- Worship Committee – Wednesday, Oct. 26 @ 6pm
- PPR – TBA



HELPING HANDS OCTOBER

Greeters for the month of Sept:

- Oct. 02 – Amy Schultz
- Oct. 09 – Robert Miller
- Oct. 16 – Belva LaMotte
- Oct. 23 – Leslie Brooks
- Oct. 30 – Belva LaMotte

Ushers for the month of Sept:

Deb Persinger

Lay Readers:

- Oct. 02 – Robert Miller
- Oct. 09 – Amy Schultz
- Oct. 16 – Sue Myers
- Oct. 23 – Jackie Nave Kulp
- Oct. 30 – Robert Miller

Media Operator:

- Oct. 02 – Karen Haines/Sue Myers
- Oct. 09 – Karen Haines/MB Brainerd
- Oct. 16 – Elwin Wagner/Sandy Sanders
- Oct. 23 – Elwin Wagner/MB Brainerd
- Oct. 30 – Karen Haines/Sandy Sanders

Going once, going twice: It's a Hymn Auction!

Do you have a favorite hymn you'd like to hear in worship? This fall, you will have the opportunity to hear it. You are invited to a silent hymn "auction!"

Simply choose a hymn, gather a donation, and "bid" on a Sunday (first come, first served).

Cammeron and Pastor Jessica will work together to ensure you hear that hymn during worship on your selected Sunday.

An auction bid (sign-up) sheet is available in the narthex.

Pastor Parish Relationship Committee

The Pastor Parish Relations Committee met on September 27. The content of these meetings is of a confidential nature in order to facilitate a healthy relationship between the pastor and congregation. These meetings continue to be positive, fruitful discussions.



Morning Prayers: Hiatus

Morning Prayer time with Pastor Jessica remains on hiatus.

Be on the lookout for once weekly "Faithful Five" devotional time to be shared via our Facebook page.

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!



Trinity UCC Prayer Garden Dedication/ Cross Walk

Please join us for the dedication of our beautiful prayer garden, featuring our new brick walkway, planter and hand hewn wooden cross.

This dedication will be held on **Sunday, October 02, 2022 at 12:00 noon** immediately following our regular Sunday service.

This dedication is to recognize and thank all those who purchased brick back in 2020 and also those who contributed to the building of the original cross and flower garden.

Worship Schedule: October 2022

October 2 – 17th Sunday After Pentecost, Cross Walkway Dedication

Theme – World Communion Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 37:1-9; Luke 17:5-10

October 9, 2022 – 18th Sunday After Pentecost, St. Francis Sunday/Pet Blessing

Theme – All God's Creatures

Scripture: Psalm 66:1-12; Luke 17:11-19

October 16, 2022 – 19th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Psalm 121; Luke 18:1-8

October 23, 2022 – 20th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Joel 2:23-32; Luke 18:9-14

October 30, 2022 – 21st Sunday After Pentecost

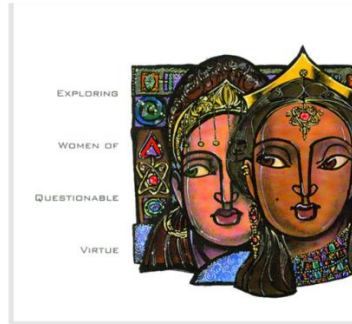
Scripture: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Luke 19:1-10

Bad Girls of the Bible Study

Bible Study: **BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE** BASED ON THE BOOK

by *Barbara J. Essex*

**TUESDAYS 7PM
VIA ZOOM
OCT 4-NOV 8**



Cammeron's Music Notes

SINGERS WANTED!!!!

SINGERS WANTED!!!!

SINGERS WANTED!!!!

Greetings Trinity UCC Family,

Do you miss congregational singing? Do you want to sing? Then, I am looking for you. As the Advent/ Christmas seasons arrives, we need voices to participate. I would love to have a season, where we have children and adults involved in the Music Ministry.

If you like to participate in the Music Ministry, please feel free to contact me at 410-235-5960 or cammeron.williams86@gmail.com.

****Allow your voices to be heard****

St. Francis Sunday Pet Blessing



OCTOBER 9 AT 1PM

Join us at 1-1:30pm on October 9 in the parking lot of the church for our annual blessing of the pets! You may bring your animals in person or simply bring photos for the blessing.



September 2022 Consistory Meeting Highlights

Previous Minutes: August 03, 2022 minutes were accepted with two corrections

Pastor's report: Pastor Jessica reported she has been doing pastoral care by phone but would like to start a few visits provided Covid numbers stay low. Pastor will be doing "Faithful Five Devotionals" prerecorded and shared as time allows (hopefully once a week). Class of 5 for Confirmation will begin using the program "Confirm not Conform" UCC Edition". Hymn Auction and People's Choice Series begin Sept 25th (to run through the end of October"

Looking ahead:

October 2: Cross / walkway dedication at Noon after church

October 9 – St. Francis Sunday and Pet Blessing.

October-November— Bible Study: *Bad Girls of the Bible* by Barbara Essex

Advent: The Heart that Grew 3 Sizes (“The Grinch” series)

Committee Reports

Treasurer’s report: Sue reported so far our 2022 yearly income is on track to exceed the \$60,000.00 that was budgeted for 2022.

Property: Doug R reported he sent pics of wooden altar railings to Darby Renovation. (We would like to have wooden rails matching or similar to our existing wood railings)

Finance: No Report

Personnel: No Report.

Evangelism: Belva reported planning muffins and orange juice for the kids on Rally Sunday, September 11th, also refreshments for the October 1st Prayer Garden Dedication

Christian Education: Leslie reported finished worship bags and filling them with goodies. Movie night in planning

VBS donations of food were delivered to NESAP and the monies of \$518.68 were split evenly between Tucc Food Bags for Backpacks and Immanuel Lutheran Food Pantry. Training of Acolytes to begin September 25th

Trinity Youth Schedule: Sept 4th and 11th, October 2nd and 16th, November 6th and 30th (Advent starts November 27th) and every Sunday during the month of December.

Worship: The Assistance Conference Minister, Sheresa Simpson-Rice will preach on Sunday, September 18. There will also be Blessing of the Prayer Shawls on 9/18.

Rally Day, September 11th Teachers blessings and blessing of Backpacks

Next meeting, Tuesday September 27th at 6:00 pm

Caring Ministry: No Report

PPR: Next Meeting September 27, 2022

Unfinished Business/ Updates

Cross / Walkway Dedication October 2nd starting at 12:00 pm after Sunday Service
Service Time Change from 10:00 am to 10:45 am beginning Sunday Sept 11th “Rally Day”
Blessing of the Backpacks will be on St Francis Sunday, September 11th “Rally Day”
Blessing of the Pets will be October 9th at 1:00 pm so folks can go home and come back with their pets.

New Business

Restarting MES Food Bags for Backpacks
9/11 Banner – Robert will put the banner up on the white board and take it down the week of Sept 19th

Next meeting – Wednesday – October 05, 2022 at 7:00 via Zoom



Christian Education Newsletter Trinity Youth Club

Rally Day Sunday September 11 was well attended. The Holy Moly film festival, showing the stories of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, and Rebekah, kicked off our fall lesson from the Old Testament. We were joyfully led by Cammeron in the closing song finale “Forever and Ever, Amen” at the end of Worship.

New videos from Holy Moly for Trinity Youth Club during Children’s Church time on the first and third Sunday of every month. The big screen tv is amazing to watch the stories from the Old Testament told by Holy Moly figures.

ART works needed..... We want our youth to decorate and enhance their area with their own

created art works. We have so much talent and creativity.

Books for all ages FREE, FREE, FREE... please take any books from our bookshelves in the youth area of the fellowship hall and enjoy them at home. We have way too many books and want to share them anyway we can besides the little free library.

Acolyte training has begun.

Trinity Youth meeting schedule

- October 2nd ,16th
- November 6th ,20th
 - Advent starts Nov 27th

Worship bags

Worship bags are ready for the youth on the Sundays when there is not a gathering time of youth. There are extra bags for guests or if someone has forgotten theirs. Inside each bag is a special bulleting following up on our Holy Moly sessions and there is a game code printed for online games. There is an insert in each bulletin with directions to access our own Trinity game site! Diane will continue to print the Children's Worship Bulletins and placed on the clipboards, only the bulletins in the worship bags are different and have the game code.

We love any volunteers to help with our club, projects and events coming up. Email us at trinitychristianeducation2727@gmail.com or check in with us at worship.

Sincerely, Leslie and Amy



B-I-N-G-O

It's been 2 years since our last bingo so let's have another! Looking for a couple of folks that will be willing to help out with planning and the night of the

games. The date will most likely be after the 1st of the year but we need to start now in order to get a space and start the planning. Contact Sue Myers, 443-375-6788, wsmdem@comcast.net with your availability to help.

GIFT CARDS

We continue to sell gift cards the first Sunday of every month. There are over 500 stores that you can pick from – I'll be glad to send you the list, just ask. You can use the cards to purchase your groceries, gas, pharmacy needs, retail, etc. Some of the local shops that are available include – Weis, Giant, Safeway, Walmart, Target, Kohls, Boscov's, Marshall's, Home Goods, CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid, Sheetz, WAWA, Shell, Lowe's, Home Depot, Taco Bell, Applebee's, Olive Garden, Panera, Texas Roadhouse, Burger King, Bob Evans, Michael's, Staples, Big Lots, Amazon, Visa, etc, etc.

And if you'd like to get on the recurring list, I'll be glad to order your standard gift cards on the 1st Sunday of every month so you don't need to remember to ask me. And then on the 2nd Sunday you can just pay for the cards when I give them to you.

Using gift cards to make purchases is more secure than using your own bank card plus Trinity receives a small rebate from the stores that you visit and the rebate Trinity receives from your gift card purchases may be tax deductible on your tax return.

For more information contact Sue Myers, 443-375-6788, wsmdem@comcast.net. Thanks and happy shopping!



Trinity UCC has restarted 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.

New Partnership with MES (Manchester Elementary School)

Trinity UCC has begun a new monthly assistance program with MES to provide snacks for students who are on early or late lunch schedules. Students who have early lunch may need an afternoon snack and those students having late lunch may need a midmorning snack. Our program will provide boxes of snacks in 10 homerooms for students who may not have brought a snack from home. Many of these students are those who are on the FARM (Free and Reduced Meal) Program who could use our support.



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!



FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Food, cleaning supplies, personal care items or gift card donations may be dropped off at the Food Pantry during store hours. Stop in the Thrift Store and ask a staff member to assist you.

Canned potatoes, canned pasta, oatmeal, jelly, pasta sides, pasta sauce, gravy, rice sides, cups of soup, baked beans, mac & cheese, paper towels, toilet paper, soap bars.



Trinity United Church of Christ
Receipts and Disbursements

	Aug 22	Jan - Aug 22
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Rental Income	300.00	2,100.00
Childrens' Church	0.00	485.03
Communion Offering	33.00	381.00
Loose Offering	2.00	555.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	30.00
Regular Offering	5,086.50	43,307.19
VBS Donations (Educational)	0.00	425.25
Total Income	5,421.50	47,283.47
Expense		
Educational Ministries	156.85	905.30
Evangelism	0.00	414.47
General	1,819.26	18,744.58
Personnel	9,100.52	58,456.15
Property	0.00	3,250.66
Music	0.00	1,049.00
Worship	0.00	1,394.25
Total Expense	11,076.63	84,214.41
Net Ordinary Income	(5,655.13)	(36,930.94)
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Cemetery	(1,250.00)	(4,520.18)
Interest/Dividend Income	0.00	337.45
Memorial Fund	0.00	375.00
Fundraising	300.01	2,588.06
Special Offerings Received	518.67	2,337.87
Total Other Income	(431.32)	1,118.20
Other Expense		
Special Offerings Disbursed	100.00	1,732.39
Transfers	0.00	0.00

October 2022

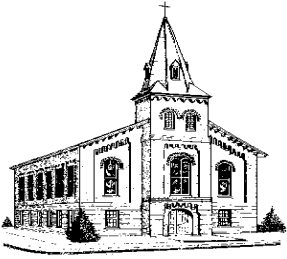
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion Worship 10:45 am Children's Church NIN Offering Dedication of Crosswalk Noon	3	4	5 Consistory 7pm	6	7	8
9 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am Blessing of Prayer Shawls	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am Children's Church	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am Blessing of Foodbags	24 November Newsletter articles due	25	26 Worship Committee 6pm	27	28	29
30 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:45 am	31	Church office: Open 9 – 1pm 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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