

# Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 38,

Manchester, MD 21102

410 374-2727

[www.trinityuccmanchester.org](http://www.trinityuccmanchester.org)

**Trinity Times**

**February 2024**

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## ***From the Pastor's Desk:***

*Christ has no body on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours. Ours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ looks out upon the world. Ours are the feet with which he goes about doing good. Ours are the hands with which he blesses his people now. ~St Teresa of Avila~*

We are linked together as one. We are stronger together than we ever are alone, all members of the body of Christ. And as members, we are each called to do the work God needs in our community, the hands and feet, eyes and ears, the very heart of God.

Our interdependence is what keeps the body alive and vibrant. Paul tells us that we need one another, and the need is mutual. He is NOT just saying that the poor need the rich, the sick need the healthy, and the weak need the strong to protect or rescue them; he's saying that we ALL need one another... the rich and healthy and strong need the others just as much. Each and every one of us makes a vital contribution and no one is excluded. The Spirit has given gifts to each of us, and each individual gift is needed by all of us. Even the smallest, apparently weakest parts contribute to the health of the whole body. Each of us is indispensable. When one part is gone, the whole body grieves its loss.

Just as our physical bodies need all of the parts to be healthy... our arms and our legs, our livers and spleens, even each eyelash... in the same way, Christ's body needs each of us.

This is important because we are not just parts of \*a\* body; we're members of *the Whole Body of Christ*. The gifts given to us by the Spirit are needed for the health of the whole body, because who we are as God's people is connected inextricably with our call to work for God's mission in the world.

We are Christ's hands and feet, eyes and ears, heart and soul, in the world.

God has made us one Body, a sign -- a living sacrament -- for the world to see what God's grace is doing in the world.

In the coming weeks, I hope we will continue to discover what our gifts are, both as individuals and a community. I hope you will join me in exploring ways to share our unique gifts with each other, so we can continue to serve the one who loves us so much.

The presence of the Spirit continues in our lives: The same Spirit that descended at the Jordan and the same Spirit that lifted the people up at Pentecost blesses this beloved community today. That Spirit gifts us, and our gifts are special and unique. Our combined gifts strengthen us and make us whole. Each of us is important to the fulfillment of Jesus' words. We are the hands and the feet, the eyes and the ears, the heart and the soul of Christ.

Blessings,

~Pastor Katie



## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

02/04 – Carolyn Brooks  
 02/06 – Eva Gebhardt  
 02/14 – Robert Saunders  
 02/17 – Penny Ludwig  
 02/19 – Leslie Brooks  
 02/25 – Samuel Carter  
 02/26 – Margaret Bailey  
 02/28 – Robert Miller

## **MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

03/02 – Dorothy Gardner  
 03/09 – Sandy Sanders  
 03/15 – Nickie Saunders  
 03/18 – Andrew Wagner  
 03/31 – Colby Wagner



02/ 24 – Judy and Leon Miller

03/13 – Shirley & James Wood

## **Church Communications Submission Dates**

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday  
 March Newsletter– Monday, February 19

## **Contacting the Church Office**

For a non emergency call the church office  
 410- 374-2727.

In case of Pastoral Emergency call Pastor  
 Katie 240-418-8028



## **Meeting Dates**

Consistory – Wednesday, February 7 @7pm  
 Worship Comm – Third Thursday of each month  
 @ 3:30.



## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

"If you have any hidden talent, can knit or crochet, please consider helping our shawl ministry." Perhaps you have a neighbor or friend with time on their hands. I will be happy to answer any questions about the ministry.



## **HELPING HANDS FEBRUARY**

### **Greeter for the month of February:**

February 04 – Robert Miller  
 February 11 – Sandy Sanders  
 February 14 – Robert Miller  
 February 18 – Robert Miller  
 February 25 – Sandy Sanders

### **Usher for the month of February:**

Deb Persinger

### **Lay Readers:**

February 04 – Sue Myers  
 February 11 – Robert Miller  
 February 14 – Amy Schultz  
 February 18 – Amy Schultz  
 February 25 – MB Brainerd

### **Media Operator:**

February 04 – Elwin Wagner/MB Brainerd  
 February 11 – Elwin Wagner/Sue Myers  
 February 14 – Elwin Wagner/Sandy Sanders  
 February 18 – Karen Haines/MB Brainerd  
 February 25 – Karen Haines/Sue Myers

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concerns**

Prayers are needed for our World at this difficult time. Please give Pastor Katie or Secretary Diane the names of all those in need.

**Prayers are needed for the family of Kenneth Ludwig. Ken passed away on Monday January 15, 2024.**

## Prayer requests:

Jeff Brooks and family by Leslie Brooks  
Mike Brooks, cousin of Jeff Brooks  
Anna Butch, friend of Sue & Doug Myers  
Eva Gebhardt, member of Trinity  
Matt Goon, cousin of Karen Price  
Bonnie and Norman Greenholtz  
James Penick, Pastor Katie's father  
Mary and George Pietsch  
Leah, friend of Donna Alban  
Carol Sheffler, friend of Belva LaMotte  
Martha Tallent, Pastor Katie's Godmother  
Claire Vey, member of Trinity  
Robert Yeoman, friend of Pastor Katie

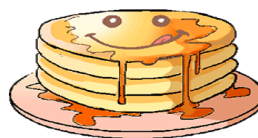
MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!

When Trinity UCC began its partnership with Pastor Katie last July, it was as a Designated Minister. This gave both parties time to get acquainted and determine what our mutual future would be.

At the February 3rd Consistory meeting, the Consistory voted to extend to Pastor Katie the offer to be our official Called Pastor, and she willingly accepted.

So immediately after regular church service on **Sunday February 4th**, the Congregation will be asked to vote to verify the Consistory's decision.

Join us in the fellowship hall for the annual meeting on **Sunday February 4, 2024** immediately following our service. There will be a potluck luncheon, so bring whatever dish you would like. We will have a meal and then go into our business meeting which will include a summary of the 2023 yearly activities, a look into what we are planning for 2024. Please plan to attend!



*Shrove Tuesday*

## Shrove Tuesday

Please join us for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake/Sausage Dinner on **February 13, 2024** from 5-7 p.m. The menu also includes doughnuts, applesauce, orange juice and coffee. Hope to see you there.



## Ash Wednesday

Join us Ash Wednesday, **February 14, 2024** service at 6:30 p.m.

## Worship Schedule: February 2024

### **Feb. 4 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

#### **Lifted UP**

Isaiah 40: 21-31

Mark 1: 29-39

Message – God if the Grasshoppers

### **Feb. 11 – Last Sunday after Epiphany**

#### **Transfiguration Sunday**

2 Kings 2: 1-12

Mark 9: 2-9

Message – Mountaintop Experiences

### **Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday**

Repairing ! For Such a Time as This

Imposition of Ashes/Sacrament of Communion

### **Feb. 18 - First Sunday of Lent**

Repairing ! For Such a Time as This

Week One: In the Wilderness

Psalm 25:1-10

Genesis 9: 8-17

Mark 1: 9-15

Message – Stuck in the Wilderness

### **Feb. 25 – Second Sunday of Lent**

Repairing ! For Such a Time as This

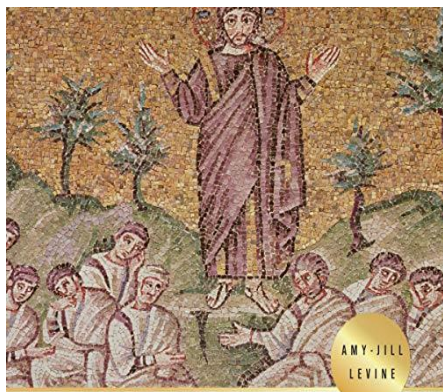
Week Two: Sacrifice

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

Mark 8: 31-38

Message – At Cross Purposes

# Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven



## SERMON *on* the MOUNT

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Join us this Lent, as we explore Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Using Dr. Amy Jill Levine's groundbreaking work, we will explore a variety of issues, including how the follower of Jesus to understand the words of the Old Testament, how those words are relevant to the New Covenant he established what the words of the Lord's Prayer might have conveyed to his earliest followers, and how does his words continue to inspire us today.

Please plan to join us. The first five sessions are by Zoom and the final session will be in person before worship on Palm Sunday. Please see Pastor Katie for more information or if you would like a book.

Sessions:

February 20	7:00 pm (zoom)
February 27	7:00 pm (zoom)
March 5	7:00pm (zoom)
March 12	7:00 pm (zoom)
March 19	7:00 pm (zoom)
March 24	9:45 am (in-person)

## January 2024 Consistory Meeting Highlights

**Treasurer's report:** Sue reported 2023 income was \$6,600.00 more than budgeted. Annual projected budgeted loss of \$73,000.00 turned out to only be \$41,000.00. 2023 Gift Card program raised \$1,000.00, \$200.00 over what was raised in 2022.

### **Pastor Report:**

There were five Sunday morning worship services this month and a Christmas Eve service, she also participated in the community-wide Blues Christmas Service at St Paul's UCC in Westminster

Officiated at the funeral service held for Shelley Keeney on December 15, 2024

Pastor Katie continued to connect with members through phone and home visits. She also attended meetings for Communities of Practice and CAC Board of Directors

Trinity provided 11 \$50.00 gift cards of the 37 to the Harpers Ferry Job Corp Holiday Project

### **Upcoming Events**

January 5 & 6 – Epiphany Retreat

January 6 – Welcome New Members / Install the Consistory

January 25 - host Ministerium at Trinity

### **Committee Reports**

**Property:** Doug M reported the steam release valve was replaced in the office  
Doug R will remove snow from the parking lot.

**Finance:** The Consistory voted to approve the Pastor's "Housing allowance compensation resolution"

**Personnel:** No Report

**Evangelism:** Pastries, Donuts or Cake were served on December 17<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> morning and 24<sup>th</sup> evening

Discussions on Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 2024

**Christian Education:** No Report

**Fundraising:** No Report

**Worship:** Ash Wednesday: February 14, 2024  
service 6:30 pm

Discussed mid-week mediation vs book study  
during the season of Lent

1/7/23 Epiphany Sunday- A Sunday for New  
Beginnings

1/7/24 First Sunday after Epiphany: Led by Star  
and Spirit

1/14/24 Second Sunday after Epiphany:  
Answering the Call

1/21/24 Third Sunday after Epiphany: Answering  
the Call

Next Meeting: January 18, 2024 at 4:00 pm

**Caring Ministry:** Debbi M received a text  
message from the family thanking Trinity for our  
generosity; know that you made this possible.

**PPR:** Next meeting, TBD

### **Unfinished Business / Updates**

Health on Wheels 10:00 to 1:00 on Fri 01/12/24 &  
Fri 01/26/24 2024 Consistory Installation will be  
Sunday, welcoming new church members,  
January 07, 2024 Welcoming New Church  
Members, January 07, 2024

Removing Christmas Decorations, Saturday 01-  
13-24

2024 Consistory Members and Committee  
Assignments discussed.

### **New Business**

2024 Consistory Installation, January 07, 2024  
discussed

Congregational meeting / Pot Luck Meal  
scheduled for February 04, 2024

Reverse Advent Calendar Items will be blessed  
and delivered to NESAP

The Consistory voted unanimously to offer Pastor  
Katie to be our next Called Pastor and she  
accepted. The congregation will vote on this call,  
February 04, 2024

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday – February 07, 2024  
at 7:00 via Zoom

Robert Miller has signed up next month's  
Consistory Meeting Devotional



### **Inclement Weather**

In the event of inclement weather or other  
unforeseen emergencies, the decision to close  
the church will be made two hours before  
worship/meetings/workday begin. You can find  
out whether or not the building will be open in the  
following possible ways:

1. Calling the church at 410 374-2727 (The voice  
mail message will reflect the decision to close or  
remain open.)
2. Checking your email. (Those with email will  
receive a message.)
3. Listening to WBAL 1090 AM
4. Receiving a call through the phone tree



### **GIFT CARDS**

WOW - 2023 was a banner year for rebates! We  
earned \$1,033 – this is the most since 2013!!!

When folks purchase gift cards, Trinity receives a  
rebate from the RaiseRight/Scrip organization,  
based on the percentages allowed by the vendors.  
This rebate is considered a charitable contribution  
from you to the church. If you participated in the  
program last year you will find this amount included  
on your annual giving statement.

Let's make 2024 even better! Remember – there  
is no cost to you – you get gift cards for the exact  
dollar amount that you pay. Let me know how I can  
help you get started - Sue Myers at  
[wsmdem@comcast.net](mailto:wsmdem@comcast.net) or 443-375-6788!

## **LENTEN OFFERING**

Each year we donate the money received in our Lenten envelopes to support wider missions. Over the past several years this has included NESAP, Ukrainian refugees, Syrian children, medical debt relief, Tree of Friends, American Cancer Society, etc. Our Lenten offerings will be collected all through the season. You will find the envelope in your box of envelopes in February – and if you don't receive envelopes we will have special ones next to the offering plates in the sanctuary or you can include it in your online giving as a special offering. This is just one of the ways we reach out to others in our community (near or far) to share God's blessing.



### **Food Bags for Backpacks & Snack Packs for Classrooms**

We continue to thank all those who helped in any way with the Food Bags program. Whether you contributed monetarily, helped in packing the food bags, helped with delivery of the bags and snacks to MES, designed and created cards to insert into the food bags, and joined in blessing these items, your positive support has been critical to continuing the program that benefits children on the Free and Reduced Meal Program at Manchester Elementary School.



### **Christian Ed is on the GO !!!!!**

Christian Education has moved to Wednesday at 4:30 pm

Make new friends from 4 different churches in this all-new zoom fun.

Introduction and online game fun then into Break out rooms by age group.

Tots, Tweens, and Teens

To register for the zoom link email:

[trinitychristianeducation2727@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychristianeducation2727@gmail.com)

## **SHOW ME THE MONEY**



**This is the section to read about the fund raisers for our beloved Trinity.**

### **Pathway to Prayer**

The Brick Garden is open for new bricks to be inserted. Same company, same price: No inflation for remembrance or honoring a loved one or special person or pet. Order forms and pamphlets are available in the Narthex. This is open for 6 months and the dedication will be held in the spring.

There is a rumor that a new type of custom paint night is coming.

Big Bingo will be back in the late spring. Start brainstorming about the raffle basket(s) to be donated. Basket of cheer, Baker basket, Gardening, Barb-que, Gift card, and Pet goods are just a few ideas. I am doing a summer beach house theme.

Ideas for events, gatherings or such can be written or printed on paper and put in Leslie's Mailbox. I will contact you back. All suggestions welcomed.

## **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT TEAM NEWS CENTRAL ATLANTIC CONFERENCE SAVE SOME DATES**

A team from CAC has been gathering to explore opportunities for youth in the conference, building on the conversation that was held at the annual meeting last October.

A first event is being planned for **Friday, May 10-11** at Camp West-Mar, Sabillasville, Maryland. "Friends Together" will be a gathering for youth and adult youth leaders on the theme of connection, empowerment and leadership. Cost will be \$20 per person. **More details to come.**

## February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
<b>4 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b> 10:45am Holy Communion Children's Church 10am Congregational meeting following Worship	5	6	7 Consistory 7pm  Christian Ed meet 4:30 pm Each Wednesday	8	9	10
<b>11 Transfiguration</b> 10:45am  Children's Church 10am	12	13	14 Valentines Day Ash Wednesday Service 6:30pm  	15	16	17
<b>18 First Sunday in Lent</b> 10:45am Children's Church 10am Blessing of the Foodbags	19 March Newsletter articles due	20 Sermon on the Mount each Wednesday thru March 24 <sup>th</sup> by zoom 7pm	21 Christian Ed meet 4:30 pm Each Wednesday	22	23	24
<b>25 Second Sunday in Lent</b> 10:45am	26	27 Sermon on the Mount each Wednesday thru March 24 <sup>th</sup> by zoom 7pm	28 Christian Ed meet 4:30 pm Each Wednesday	29	Church office: Open 9 – 1pm Monday and Tuesday. Always subject to change.	



## Poinsettia Sponsors 2023

### **In Loving Memory of:**

"Mom," Rev. Phyllis Frechette by MB & Sam Brainerd  
Marie & Paul Krichten by Donnie Garmer  
Charlotte & David Garmer by Donnie Garmer  
My wife, Susie Miller, by Robert Miller  
My son, Mark Miller, by Robert Miller  
Melvin & Ethel Myers, Dennis Myers and Martha Rill by Doug & Sue Myers  
Our parents, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Frock and our grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Bert Blevins and  
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Frock from Sue Myers and Sandy Sanders  
Our siblings, Geraldine Miller, William Bess and Richard Frock by Sue Myers and Sandy Sanders  
Our aunt, Virginia Funkhouser and nephews, Phillip R. Miller and Thomas P. Shaffer by  
Sue Myers and Sandy Sanders  
Family and friends who remain in my heart and prayers by Jackie Nave-Kulp  
Barbara Penick by Katie Penick  
Steve Tallant by Katie Penick  
Ray & Janet Persinger by Deb & Gordon Persinger  
Charles & Betty Callahan by Deb & Gordon Persinger  
Norman & Mary Ellen Green by Ken & Norma Reed  
Kenneth A. Reed, Jr. by Ken & Norma Reed  
Our parents, Donald & Georgia Rhoten and Robert & Hazel Matthews by  
Doug & Charlene Rhoten  
Our parents, Goldie & Duff Sanders and brother, Dennis Sanders by Wayne & Sandy Sanders  
My parents, Mr. & Mrs. Herschel Wagner and my siblings, Arnold Wagner and  
Rev. Melvina Stricklin by Elwin Wagner

### **In Honor of:**

To the Glory of God's Son by Leslie & Jeff Brooks  
Nicholas and Elizabeth Garmer by Don & Jen Garmer  
Our children and grandchildren by Doug & Sue Myers  
Family & friends who inspire me every day by Jackie Nave-Kulp  
Meg Grim by Katie Penick  
Our children and grandchildren, Kelly & Nickie & Rob and Lane, Laci, Lily & Livi by  
Doug & Charlene Rhoten  
Our daughters, Jackie & Jamie, and their families by Wayne & Sandy Sanders  
The engagement of Logan Nave & Lindsay Robert by Wayne & Sandy Sanders



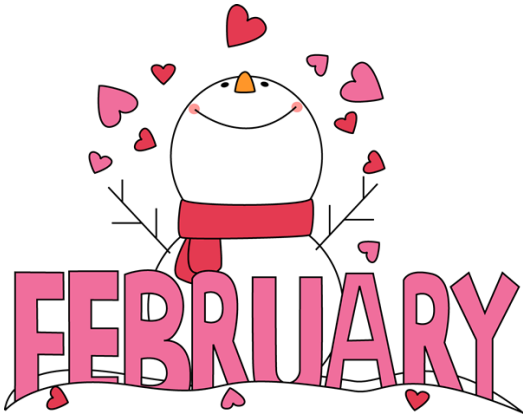
Trinity United Church of Christ  
Receipts and Disbursements

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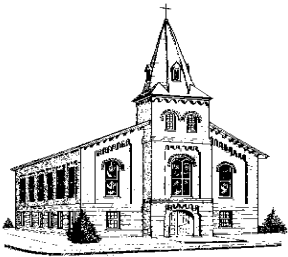
	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 23</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income	8,300.38	72,664.69
Expense		
Educational Ministries	10.59	624.85
Evangelism	626.96	1,258.30
General	2,332.37	30,150.25
Personnel	12,678.25	75,498.87
Property	0.00	3,382.85
Music	100.00	628.96
Worship	19.22	2,264.33
Total Expense	<u>15,767.39</u>	<u>113,808.41</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(7,467.01)	(41,143.72)
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Insurance Claim	(1,818.55)	1,330.00
Cemetery	(25.00)	(4,618.45)
Interest/Dividend Income	0.03	954.47
Memorial Fund	0.00	1,200.00
Fundraising	(2,730.34)	5,462.30
Special Offerings Received	677.00	3,909.23
Total Other Income	<u>(3,896.86)</u>	<u>8,237.55</u>
Other Expense		
Special Offerings Disbursed	441.65	3,814.95
Transfers		
Transfer to General Account	8,000.00	34,500.00
Transfer from Fundraising	0.00	(8,000.00)
Transfer from End. Fund-General	(8,000.00)	(26,500.00)
Total Transfers	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Other Expense	<u>441.65</u>	<u>3,814.95</u>
Net Other Income	<u>(4,338.51)</u>	<u>4,422.60</u>
Net Income	<u>(11,805.52)</u>	<u>(36,721.12)</u>

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
P. O. BOX 38  
MANCHESTER, MD 21102

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



## TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



3229 York Street  
P.O. Box 38  
Manchester, MD 21102

Office Hours: 9am - noon  
Monday and Tuesday subject to change  
410-374-2727 (Church office)  
(Email) [trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net](mailto:trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net)  
Web site: [www.trinityuccmanchester.org](http://www.trinityuccmanchester.org)

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

