

Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 38,

Manchester, MD 21102

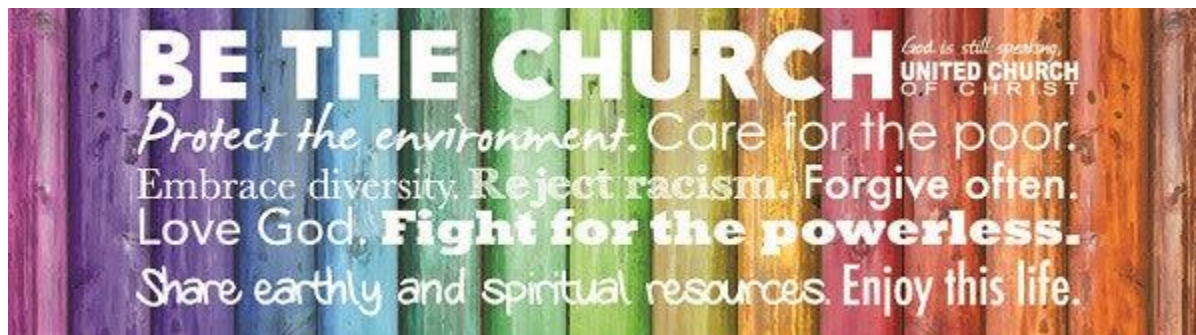
410 374-2727

www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Trinity Times

March 2024

From the Pastor's Desk:



Beloved,

What does it mean to be an Open and Affirming (ONA) Church? We are a few months into this process and some people in our congregation wonder why we are doing this. "Aren't we already a welcoming church... haven't we already shown that we love one another?"

And the answer is yes, we are... and that is why we are doing this. LGBTQ+* people of faith and their families often experience emotional and spiritual injury in churches that condemn their capacity to love and seek love. Too many have learned the hard way that "All Are Welcome" doesn't always apply to them, LGBTQ+ folks can't assume that every church will be safe for them and their families, and they look for places that will intentionally welcome them with arms wide open.

A pastor I know serves a church with a "Be the Church" banner hanging on the outside wall. This banner has a rainbow background and is often displayed at ONA churches. One day, a man walked into the church office and asked to speak to the pastor. "I have been walking my dog by your church for years and I've noticed your banner. Last week my husband of 40 years died and I'm feeling so alone yet seeing your banner told me that this must be a safe place for me to be."

A Safe Place to Be – That is what it means to be an Open and Affirming Church. Over the next year, our Core Team will meet monthly to explore what it means to be ONA. Eventually these discussions will expand to include the entire church. When we publicly declare that we are Open and Affirming... when we open up our arms and say that yes, you really are welcome here, no questions asked... then we have become a safe place to be: a Sanctuary.

*Accept one another,
just as Christ accepted you,
in order to bring praise to God.*

Romans 15:7

* LGBTQ+ is a shorthand for "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning." The word "queer" has often been adopted by people who don't want to be constrained by the identities of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. The plus symbol reflects the diversity of sexual and gender identities in the human family.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 03/02 – Dorothy Gardner
- 03/09 – Sandy Sanders
- 03/15 – Nickie Saunders
- 03/18 – Andrew Wagner
- 03/19 – Jen Garmer
- 03/31 – Colby Wagner

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 04/05 – Donna Alban
- 04/07 – Stanley Hamilton
- 04/10 – Jean Simmons
- 04/15 – Jessica Larson
- 04/16 – Nathan Schultz
- 04/18 – Wayne Sanders
Ron Larson
- 04/28 – Amy Schultz



MARCH ANNIVERSARYS

- 03/13 – Shirley & James Wood
- 03/14 – Pastor Katie & Ken Grim

APRIL ANNIVERSARYS

- 04/01 – Debra Miller and Robert Miller
- 04/03 – Marge and David Bailey
- 04/15 – Sue and Doug Myers
- 04/27 – Jackie and Michael Kulp

Church Communications Submission Dates

- Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
- April Newsletter– Monday, March 18

Contacting the Pastor and 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 - Zoom

Consistory – Wednesday, March 6 @ 7pm
Worship Comm – Third Thursday of each month
@ 3:30.



HELPING HANDS MARCH

Greeters for the month of March:

- March 03 – Robert Miller
- March 10 – Sandy Sanders
- March 17 – Amy Schultz
- March 24 – Sandy Sanders
- March 28 – Robert Miller
- March 31 – Sandy Sanders

Ushers for the month of March:

Deb Persinger

Lay Readers:

- March 03 – Sue Myers
- March 10 – Amy Schultz
- March 17 – Robert Miller
- March 24 – MB Brainerd
- March 28 – MB Brainerd
- March 31 – Robert Miller

Media Operator

- March 03 – Elwin Wagner/Sandy Sanders
- March 10 – Karen Haines/MB Brainerd
- March 17 – Elwin Wagner/Sandy Sanders
- March 24 – Elwin Wagner/Sue Myers
- March 28 – Karen Haines/Sandy Sanders
- March 31 – Elwin Wagner/MB Brainerd

March 9, 2024



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.

Prayer requests:

Jeff Brooks and family by Leslie Brooks
Mike Brooks, cousin of Jeff Brooks
Anna Butch, friend of Sue & Doug Myers
Lisa Frederick
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
Ken Plummer, brother of Gloria Nethkin
Leah, friend of Donna Alban
Pat Robinette, sister of Gloria Nethkin
Carol Sheffler, friend of Belva LaMotte
Martha Tallent, Pastor Katie's Godmother
Claire Vey, member of Trinity
Robert Yeoman, friend of Pastor Katie



On March 10th One great Hour of sharing offering will be collected

Worship Schedule: March

Third Sunday of Lent

**Repairing: For Such a Time as This
Week Three: Justice
March 3, 2024**

First Reading Exodus 20:1-17
Moses receives God's Commandments

Second Reading John 2:13-22
Jesus cleanses the Temple

The Message *Where Do We Find God?*

Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Repairing: For Such a Time as This
Week Four: Loved
March 10, 2024**

First Reading Numbers 21:4-9
God saves the people from the serpents

Second Reading John 3:14-21
For God so loved the world

The Message *So Loved*

Fifth Sunday of Lent

**Repairing: For Such a Time as This
Week Five: Covenant
March 17, 2024**

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34
A New Covenant on Our Hearts

Second Reading John 12:20-33
Jesus Speaks of His Death

The Message *Written on Our Hearts*

Palm Sunday

**Repairing: For Such a Time as This
Redemption
March 24, 2024**

First Reading Psalm 118:1-4, 14-17, 21-24
*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands
and voices*

Second Reading Mark 11:1-11
The hour has come

The Message *Welcome to the Palm Parade*

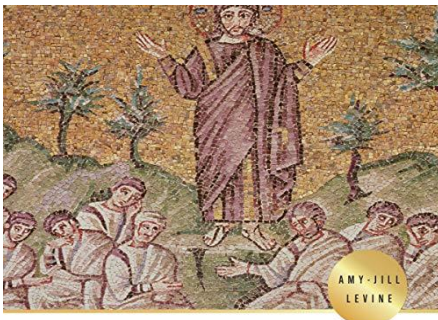
Easter Sunday

**Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful For Our
God?
Faith
March 31, 2024**

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-9
God will wipe away our tears

Second Reading Mark 16:1-8
The empty tomb

**The Message – Who Will Roll the Stone
Away?**



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:

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

February 2024 Consistory Meeting Highlights

Treasurer's report: Sue reported \$9,000.00 was transferred from other accounts into the general checking account to cover expenses.

Pastor Report: Funeral services were held for Kenneth Ludwig on January 20th. Worship Committee met this month and began to look towards Lent, which begins in February. ONA Core Group met on January 14th. Met with Board of Directors of Charlotte's Quest on January 8th, discussed a variety of ways Trinity and their organization can support one another in the future.

Upcoming Events

- Feb 20 – Lenten Book Study begins (7:00 pm)
- Mar 24 – Palm Sunday
- Mar 28 – Maundy Thursday Service
- Mar 29 – Good Friday Cross Walk
- Mar 31 – Easter Sunday

Committee Reports

Property: Doug M reported Walton Company is adjusting the boiler to maintain 180 degrees to get us through the winter. Doug is getting estimates to repair and/or replace the necessary parts..

Finance: No Report

Personnel: Need to write up new job description for the Music Director

Evangelism: Belva reported on the following:
January 28, 2024 – New Members celebration, Cake, punch, chips, pretzels, coffee, tea, about 17 people attending.
February 4, 2024 – Congregational meeting and Potluck dinner, 21 people attending
Upcoming – Shrove Tuesday, February 13th

Christian Education: Leslie and Amy reported Cristian Education has moved to Wednesdays at 430, via Zoom. Elizabeth Christie leading the time meeting together with Trinity and 3 other churches, are as follows:

- Jan 31, 2024 04:30 PM
- Feb 07, 2024 04:30 PM
- Feb 14, 2024 04:30 PM
- Feb 21, 2024 04:30 PM
- Feb 28, 2024 04:30 PM
- Mar 06, 2024 04:30 PM
- Mar 13, 2024 04:30 PM
- Mar 20, 2024 04:30 PM
- Mar 27, 2024 04:30 PM

We will be joining the Lutheran Church in VBS this year.

Fundraising: Working on Shred Event the end of April. Keeping the Walkway Brick fundraising opened until the end of March. Planning on Bingo sometime in May, date to be determined. If you would like to donate a themed basket for raffle tickets sales please check with Leslie.

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

No drive through ashes are being offered this year, however Doug M mentioned possibly asking Pastor Katie or the Immanuel's pastor about drive through ashes for those coming through the Wednesday food line.

Sandy advised Palms have been ordered for Palm Sunday, also that Easter Lilies and Tulips will be offered to the congregation to purchase. Sandy is looking into purchasing new Communion linen.

Worship in the Park is being planned for Sunday, June 2nd

Discussed about clearing out the choir robes, donating them somewhere.

02-11-24 Transfiguration Sunday

02-14-24 Ash Wednesday, 6:30 service

02-18-24 First Sunday of Lent

Books have been ordered for Lenten Bible Study

Next Meeting: February 22nd, 2024 at 4:00 pm

Caring Ministry: No Report

PPR: Next meeting, TBT

Unfinished Business / Updates

Health on Wheels – Next date Friday, February 23rd

2024 Consistory Installation – 3 members, date to be determined

February 04, 2024 Congregational Meeting – meeting and pot luck meal went very well

New Business

Shrove Tuesday – February 13th / Marge will organize

Ash Wednesday – Service at 6:30 pm

Pastors Installation – Date to be determined

Easter – Sandy advised Palms have been ordered for Palm Sunday

Next Meeting – Wednesday – March 06, 2024 at 7:00 via Zoom

Marge Bailey 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

Spring is on it's way and what better way to get ready for those Spring projects – purchase your gift cards now for Lowes, Home Depot, Walmart, Target, etc – anywhere you like to buy your spring cleaning or sprucing up supplies.

Orders go in the 1st Sunday of every month. Contact Sue Myers at 443-375-6788 or wsmdem@comcast.net for more information or to place your order.



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 Again!!!!

Christian Education has moved to Saturday at 10 am.

Make new friends from 4 different churches in this all-new zoom fun now known as the Breakfast Club all through Lent.

Tots, Tweens, and Teens

To register for the zoom link email:
trinitychristianeducation2727@gmail.com

SHOW ME THE MONEY



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

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY, OUR CONGREGATION AND OUR CHURCH

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.

BINGO IS COMING.

Date and Time will be announced very soon. **100 \$ win per game and 500 \$ Jackpot game.**

Just Bingo, a bake table and light snacks.

Raffles will be for the Great Gift baskets and the famous Gift Card Boards (value each over 200.00 each)

Baskets in the works:

- Basket of Cheer
- Pet Basket
- Bakers Basket
- Maryland Basket
- Beach House
- Yoga Basket

Ideas for those who want to donate a basket or help fill one are, Barbecue grill basket, Spa basket, Car care, power tools, etc.

Donations for the Gift Card Boards can be made on line or even better is doing it through the scrip cards, you not only donate to a great cause, you also send a percentage back to the church. Who doesn't love free money??



TUCC Exploring Partnership with Charlotte's Quest: The UCC 3 Great Loves

The 3 Great Loves of the United Church of Christ: ***Love of neighbor, love of children, and love of creation*** all come together in a new partnership with Charlotte's Quest (CQ) that the TUCC Crossroads team is exploring this Spring. Pastor Katie and MB Brainerd attended the January CQ Board meeting to learn more about what intergenerational activities we might share and co-sponsor. Opportunities for connecting with CQ include weekly monitoring of the CQ Bluebird Bird Houses for nesting activity, doing ground-testing of a cave, which could lead to further exploration, led by Ashby Haines, and star-watching the night sky using the telescopes at the CQ Star Shed. Also, we hope to start a walking group that will walk from TUCC to the CQ Nature Center, possibly connecting with the CQ bluebird monitoring initiative. If you are interested in being part of this intergenerational TUCC Love of Creation initiative, speak with Pastor Katie or MB Brainerd.



March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Christian Ed meeting 10 a.m.
3 Third Sunday in Lent 10:45am Holy Communion A Brief Congregational meeting after worship to vote on the boiler Crossroads meeting after worship	4	5	6 Consistory 7pm	7	8	9 Christian Ed meeting 10 a.m.  Daylight Savings Time Begins
10 Fourth Sunday in Lent 10:45am One Great Hour of Sharing offering Blessing of Prayer Shawls	11	12	13 Christian Ed meet 10 a.m.	14	15	16 Christian Ed meeting 10 a.m.
17 Fifth Sunday in Lent 10:45am St. Patrick's Day	18 April Newsletter articles due	19	20	21 Worship Committee 3:30pm	22	23 Christian Ed meeting 10 a.m.
24 Sixth Sunday in Lent Palm/Passion Sunday 10:45am Blessing of Foodbags	25	26	27	28 Maundy Thursday	29 Good Friday	30 Christian Ed meeting 10 a.m... Holy Saturday
31 <i>Easter</i> 10:45am 	Church office: Open 9 – 1pm Monday and Tuesday. Always subject to change.					

Trinity United Church of Christ
Receipts and Disbursements

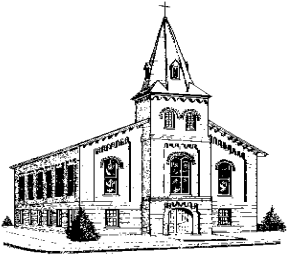
	<u>Jan 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Communion Offering	50.00
Loose Offering	20.00
Miscellaneous	30.00
Regular Offering	<u>6,891.49</u>
Total Income	6,991.49
Expense	
Educational Ministries	357.98
General	4,915.44
Personnel	8,258.87
Property	181.37
Music	238.00
Worship	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>13,951.66</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(6,960.17)
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Cemetery	(725.00)
Interest/Dividend Income	0.03
Fundraising	298.50
Special Offerings Received	<u>175.00</u>
Total Other Income	(251.47)
Other Expense	
Special Offerings Disbursed	141.51
Transfers	<u>0.00</u>
Total Other Expense	<u>141.51</u>
Net Other Income	<u>(392.98)</u>
Net Income	<u><u>(7,353.15)</u></u>

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

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

MARCH

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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
Web site: www.trinityuccmanchester.org

