

# 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**

**May 2024**

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

*Notice how the flowers have grown.*

*They neither labor nor weave,*

*yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor  
was robed like one of these ~Luke 12:27 (Inclusive*

*Bible)*

I love dandelions. I love their vibrant color, as they spread through the green grass. I love the promise they hold of the flowers and fruit that will soon come bursting forth.

When I was in first grade, on a beautiful Spring day, I spent my entire recess picking the biggest bouquet of dandelions that I could. Clutching it in both hands, I went into my classroom and gave this precious gift to my teacher. With a look of disgust, she threw them all out the window and declared: "I will not have weeds in my classroom!" I have remembered that moment periodically, when small children have come to me, clutching their own bouquets of dandelions. I have always tried to treasure these gifts in the spirit for which they were given. One person's weed is another's beautiful flower.

One of my favorite signs of Spring is when the dandelions show their sunny faces. I smile as the dandelions blanket my lawn because I am reminded that everything and everybody that God created is beautiful and valuable in God's eyes. And, everything was designed with a purpose.

We can learn valuable lessons from the dandelion. Every gift is valuable and worthy of a smile. We should honor every gift given, just as God honors our gifts. No matter what we bring to the table, God never throws us out of the window and declare us worthless!

Bright, yellow dandelions have blanketed lawns all over the world. They are strong and resilient, withstanding gardeners' attempts to annihilate them. No matter how hard we try, they always seem to spring forth the next morning full of life. And then, when a strong wind blows, their seeds are spread far and wide,

So let us try to live our lives like the dandelion – small and hearty and full of life. And when it is time, our gifts and our love will be blown to bring hope and healing to the farthest corner of the world, our neighborhoods, and our homes.

So, this year try to remember, even though you can't see the dandelions at dawn's break, that doesn't mean they are not there. Just like our faith, which is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things unseen. The dandelion springs forth with new life when exposed to the morning sun, just as our faith becomes alive when we're exposed to the light of God's love. And only then are we ready to fully love God's purpose for us.

*~Pastor Katie*





**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 05/08 – Louise Ruby
- 05/11 – Linda Hamilton
- 05/15 – Eddie Blue
- 05/20 – Ben Hamilton
- 05/24 – Don Garmer
- 05/25 – Elwin Wagner
- 05/31 – Karen Price

**Meeting Dates - Zoom**

Consistory – Wednesday, May 1 @ 7pm  
 Worship Comm – Third Thursday of each month @ 3:30.



**HELPING HANDS MAY**

**Greeters for the month of May:**

- May 05 – Sandy Sanders
- May 12 – Sue Myers
- May 19 – Sue Myers
- May 26 – Sandy Sanders

**Ushers for the month of May:**

Deb Persinger

**Lay Readers:**

- May 05 – Sue Myers
- May 12 – Jackie Nave Kulp
- May 19 – Karen Haines
- May 26 – MB Brainerd

**Media Operator**

- May 05 – Karen Haines/MB Brainerd
- May 12 – Elwin Wagner/MB Brainerd
- May 19 – Elwin Wagner/Sandy Sanders
- May 26 – Karen Haines/Sandy Sanders

**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  
 Janie Dell, friend of Karen Price  
 Lisa Frederick  
 Eva Gebhardt, member of Trinity  
 Matt Goon, cousin of Karen Price  
 Bonnie and Norman Greenholtz  
 James Penick, Pastor Katie's father

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

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



**MAY ANNIVERSARYS**

- 05/01 – Norma and Ken Reed
- 05/08 – Lucy Brady & Eddie Blue
- 05/14 – Andrea & Alex Loren
- 05/27 – Bonnie and Noman Greenholtz

**JUNE ANNIVERSARIES**

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

**Church Communications Submission Dates**

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday  
 June Newsletter– Monday, May 20

**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

Mary and George Pietsch  
Leah, friend of Donna Alban  
Andrew Readyoff  
Carol Sheffler, friend of Belva LaMotte  
Martha Tallent, Pastor Katie's Godmother  
Robert Yeoman, friend of Pastor Katie

## **Book Study!**

**If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? When *New York Times* bestselling author Rachel Held Evans found herself asking these questions, she embarked on a journey to better understand what the Bible is and how it's meant to be read. What she discovered changed her--and it can change you, too.**

Evans knew firsthand how a relationship with the Bible can be as real and as complicated as a relationship with a family member or close friend. In *Inspired*, Evans explores contradictions and questions from her own experiences with the Bible, including:

1. If the Bible was supposed to explain the mysteries of life, why does it leave the reader with so many questions?
2. What does it mean to be chosen by God?
3. To what degree did the Holy Spirit guide the preservation of these narratives, and is there something sacred to be uncovered beneath all these human fingerprints?
4. If the Bible has given voice to the oppressed, why is it also used as justification by their oppressors?

Drawing on the best in biblical scholarship and using her well-honed literary expertise, Evans examines some of our favorite Bible stories and possible interpretations, retelling them through memoir, original poetry, short stories, and even a short screenplay.

We will gather by Zoom on Tuesdays at 7 pm.  
Our final meeting will be in person.

Meetings:

Tuesday, May 7 – 7 pm

Tuesday, May 14 – 7 pm

Tuesday, May 21 – 7 pm

We will finish the book study in June date TBA

## **Worship Schedule: MAY**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful for Our God?

Abiding in Love

**May 5, 2024**

**First Reading** Psalm 98  
*Sing Praise to God*

**Second Lesson** 1 John 5:1-16  
*All who believe are children of God*

**Third Reading** John 15:9-17  
*Becoming Friends*

**The Message** *Pay it Forward*

Ascension Sunday

Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful for Our God?

New Beginnings

**May 12, 2024**

**First Lesson** Acts 1:15-17  
*The disciples chose the twelfth disciple*

**Second Reading** Luke 24:44-53  
Jesus ascends to heaven

**The Message** *Growing in God*

Pentecost Sunday

Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh On Us

**May 19, 2024**

**First Lesson** John 3:16-21  
*God's love*

**Second Lesson** Acts 2:1-21  
*God gave us eternal life*

**The Message**  
*Prayer Stations and Spiritual Gifts*

First Sunday after Pentecost

I Love To Tell The Story

**May 26, 2024**

Pastor Lucy Brady is preaching

# Bedtime Stories and Prayers



Snuggle up for story, go forth with a blessing!

Wednesdays, 7 pm  
beginning 4/24  
on Zoom

pajamas optional,  
stuffers encouraged!



## April 2024 Consistory Meeting Highlights

**Treasurer's report:** Shows the congregational giving income is on track to match what was budgeted for the year. Also Trinity's expenses closely match what was budgeted for the year. Sue transferred \$6,000 from the Endowment to the General Checking for expenses.

### **Pastors Report:**

There were five Sunday morning worship services this month, two with communion. Our Easter morning service was held on March 31.

We held Maundy Thursday services this year. Members of the congregation also participated in the ecumenical Good Friday crosswalk. The Lenten Book Study continued each Tuesday of Lent, and will continue after Easter on April 9<sup>th</sup> in partnership with St. Matthews. Pastor Katie met with the ONA and Crossroads workgroups, the YES (Youth Engagement Squad) planning group for conference wide youth programming, Catoclin Association Council and the CAC Board of Directors.

### **Upcoming Events**

- April 8 – Crossroads meeting
- April 14 – ONA meeting
- April 21 – Barbara Kershner Daniel preaches  
Pastor Katie's Installation (2 pm)
- May 19 – Pentecost
- May 22-30 – Pastor Katie on vacation (tentative)
- May 26 – Rev Lucy Brady preaches

### **Committee Reports**

**Property:** Sue reported for Doug M that the pest control company has assessed the church ant problem and has begun treatments to rid us of the problem.

**Crossroads:** The team continues to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday every month after worship.

Free Yoga Class" at 10:00 am, Trinity fellowship hall, on the following 5 Saturdays: April 6<sup>th</sup>, April 13<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup>, April 27<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>. Trinity Bingo, Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>



## **Worship in the Park June 2**

We will be holding our annual Worship in the Park followed by a pot-luck church picnic on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:45. **Please note** - there is a change in the pavilion – we will be using Pavilion No. 2 which is much closer to the front of the park and restrooms. If able, please bring a dish to share!



Summer Worship Hours Begin on **June 9 @10:00 a.m.** No Children's Church in the summer but it will resume on **Rally Day in the fall.**



**Personnel:** Director of Music job description has been updated.

**Evangelism:** Marge reported fellowship was held on Easter Sunday. Fellowship continues on the third Sunday of every month after worship.

**Christian Education:** No report

**Fundraising:** Bingo is being planned, save the date May 18<sup>th</sup> at Lineboro Fire Hall. If you are willing to sponsor a basket for the raffle at the bingo, please contact Leslie Brooks

**Worship:** Pastor Katie provided copies of prepared order of worship for Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup>.  
3/24/24 Palm Sunday was discussed  
3/28/24 Maundy Thursday; Repairing: For Such a Time as This, Light into Darkness

3/31/24 Easter Sunday; Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful for Our God? Faith

4/7/24 The Second Sunday of Easter; Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful for Our God? Trust

4/14/24 The Third Sunday of Easter; Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful for Our God? Hope

4/21/24 Day of Installation Service

Rev. Barbara Kershner Daniel will preach at the morning service.

A luncheon is planned following the morning service.

The Installation Service will start at 2:00 pm  
Rev. Lucy Brady will read the scripture and preach for the service.

The Charge to the Pastor will be given by Pastor Debra Peters Wilcox

Pastor Katie requests a hymn that is special to Trinity's congregation.

Next Meeting: April 18, 2024 at 3:45 pm

**Caring Ministry:** No Report

**PPR:** Next meeting, TBT

## Unfinished Business / Updates

Pastors Installation – Sunday, April 21, 2024 @ 2:00, Lucy Brady to preach  
Discussion Debbi and Robert's future Consistory Obligations  
Lenten Offering – ½ going to Tree of Friends ½ to a TUCC Mission

## New Business

Worship in the Park is June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:45 am. This year worship will be held in the pavilion closest to the restrooms.

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday – May 01, 2024 at 7:00 via Zoom



## BINGO

May 18<sup>th</sup> is just a couple of weeks away! Make sure to tell all of your friends to come out to the new location **Lineboro Vol Fire Hall, 4224 Main Street, Lineboro, MD. Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> – doors open at 5:00 pm – games begin at 6:30pm.** Cost is only \$30 which includes a 6 pack of 20 regular games cards with cash prizes \$100 and 2 jackpot games with \$500 cash prize! See Sue Myers if you would like to purchase your tickets before May 18<sup>th</sup> or if you would like some to sell to your friends!

We are looking for donations of baked goods that can be sold at the bake table along with donations of gift cards to be raffled off and gift baskets to be raffled off. This is our largest fundraiser for the year so please help if you are able.

If you can prepare some baked goods, please contact Sandy Sanders so we can get an idea of what we will have to sell.

If you would like to donate a gift card or 2 for our Gift Card Raffle Boards, please see Sue Myers. We would like to order them on May 5<sup>th</sup> through our Scrip gift card program.

If you would like to donate a basket, please contact Leslie Brooks or Sue Myers. Baskets that are already being put together include Basket of Cheer, Pet Basket, Bakers Basket, Maryland Basket, Beach House Basket, Yoga and Spa Basket. Other ideas for those who want to donate a basket or help fill one are, Barbecue grill basket, Car care, power tools, etc.

### **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.

### **GIFT CARDS**

We are on a path to a record year of rebates from our gift card fundraiser! If you shop, there's no reason not to participate. Cards can be used for on-line purchases, at the gas pumps, in the grocery stores, for airline travel, hotels, etc. If you would like a list of the retailers that participate just let Sue know and she'll send you the list. Call 443-375-6788 or email [wsmdem@comcast.net](mailto:wsmdem@comcast.net). Orders go in the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month.

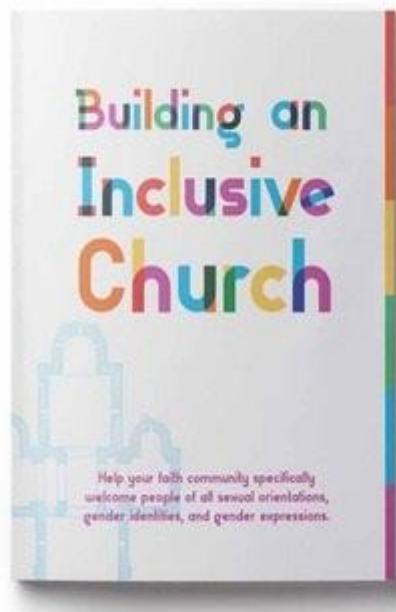
### **LENTEN OFFERING**

This year our Lenten offering went to 2 different groups. We locally supported Tree of Friends and on a national level, donated to the One Great Hour of Sharing, a UCC mission. Thanks to those that contributed to the Lenten offering this year.

### **Trinity's Prayer Shawl Ministry**

We are in need of people to make prayer shawls for our ministry. Do you know how to crochet or knit? Or do you want to learn how to crochet or knit. Do you or someone you know have time and would enjoy doing something to help another person? Any questions, please call the church office and leave your name and number. I will be happy to answer any questions about the ministry.

Thank you,  
Belva LaMotte



Beloved Trinity UCC Community:

The Trinity UCC ONA (Open and Affirming) Core Team has been meeting for almost 6 months, and we thought it a good time to provide an update on where we are and what we are planning for the next few months to extend our conversation into the larger Trinity community about what it means to be a truly inclusive ONA church, a church that welcomes everyone, specifically inviting those in our families and community that identify as LGBTQI+.

The ONA Core Team is in the midst of planning activities that we will open up to the larger Trinity UCC community to promote discussion and Q&A. One activity will be to invite Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel back to continue the conversation she began with us, as our invited preacher, on Sunday April 21. Other planned activities include films and a speaker from the Westminster PFLAG – Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Check out the “Crossroads & ONA” bulletin board and desk area in the fellowship hall by the kitchen doorway for upcoming event flyers, brochures, books, and additional ONA-related materials.

*A Safe Place to Be* – That is what it means to be an Open and Affirming Church. When the time comes that we vote, and, God-willing, we vote to affirm the Trinity ONA covenant (that we write

ourselves!), we will be publicly declaring, to the UCC ONA Coalition, the greater Manchester community, and the World, that we are Open and Affirming... that yes, whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are fully and truly welcome here at Trinity UCC-Manchester, no exceptions... THEN we have become a safe place to be: a Sanctuary for all.

*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 Q 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, even beyond the letters listed.*



### **Food Bags for Backpacks**

We will continue providing foodbags and snacks for the children at Manchester Elementary School. We want to thank everyone that has generously donated cash to help us continue this ministry, as well as the hands that have physically purchased the food and delivered to MES. Our intention is to continue this ministry so please continue your financial support.



### **Vacation Bible School**

Save the date – we are joining Immanuel Lutheran Church this summer for VBS. The dates are July 7-11. Plan to join us – more information to come!





# Central Atlantic Conference Youth Retreat

FRIENDS TOGETHER

Friday, May 10 at 7:30pm till Saturday, May 11 at 4:30pm  
Camp West-Mar, Sabillasville, MD.  
Contact [bkdaniel59@aol.com](mailto:bkdaniel59@aol.com) for more information.

"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.





# TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST MANCHESTER MD

ANNUAL

# MONEY BINGO

Join us for an evening of excitement, camaraderie, and the thrill of the win.

\$ 100 prize per game and \$500 jackpot games.

Tickets presale and at the door - \$ 30

## RAFFLES | FOOD | FUN

GIANT GIFT BASKET RAFFLES, GIFT CARD BOARDS AND MORE  
FOOD FOR SALE BY LINEBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT  
BAKED GOODS BY TRINITY



**SATURDAY MAY 18**

**6:30 PM**

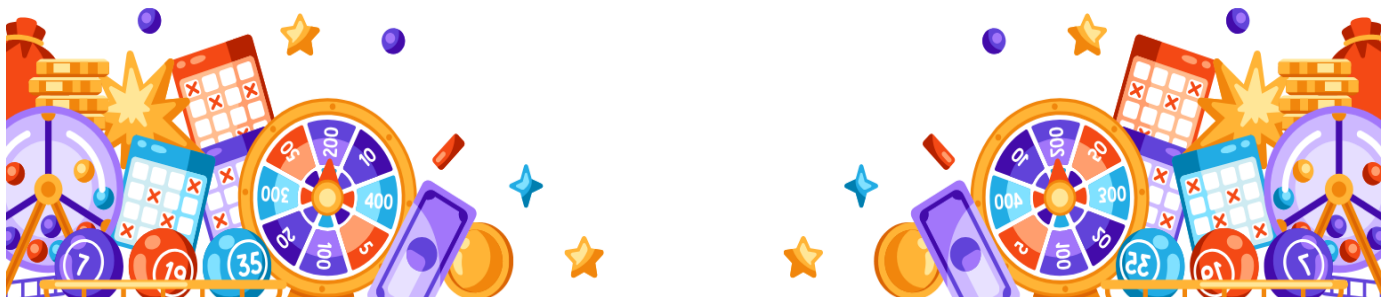
**DOORS OPEN 5 PM**



**LINEBORO FIRE**

**DEPARTMENT**

**LINEBORO MD**



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

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Presales S. Myers 443-375-6788

## May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Church office: Open 9 – 1pm Monday and Tuesday.  Always subject to change.</p>			<p>1 Consistory 7pm Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom</p>	2	3	4
<p>5 Sixth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion 10:45am</p>	6	7	<p>8 United Health 4-6pm Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom</p>	9 Ascension Day	10 Central Atlantic Youth Retreat 7:30pm	11 Central Atlantic Youth Retreat 4:30pm
<p>12 Seventh Sunday of Easter 10:45am <i>Mother's Day</i> Blessing of the Prayer Shawls</p>	13	14	<p>15 Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom</p>	16	17	18 Bingo at Lineboro Fire Dept 6:30pm
<p>19 <b>Pentecost Sunday</b> 10:45am Fellowship after worship Strengthen the Church Offering</p>	20 June Newsletter articles due	21	<p>22 Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom</p>	23	24	25
<p>26 Trinity Sunday 10:45am Blessing of the Foodbags</p>	27 Memorial Day  Office Closed	28	<p>29 Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom</p>	30	31	

Trinity United Church of Christ  
Receipts and Disbursements

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	Mar 24	Jan - Mar 24
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Communion Offering	63.00	143.00
Loose Offering	235.00	345.00
Miscellaneous	432.69	944.48
Regular Offering	5,372.80	18,697.97
Total Income	6,103.49	20,130.45
Expense		
Educational Ministries	267.80	656.76
Evangelism	0.00	239.70
General	4,267.70	10,844.21
Personnel	6,672.77	21,617.72
Property	0.00	325.22
Music	0.00	530.90
Worship	116.70	132.18
Total Expense	11,324.97	34,346.69
Net Ordinary Income	(5,221.48)	(14,216.24)
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Cemetery	0.00	(740.00)
Interest/Dividend Income	264.95	272.55
Fundraising	(525.01)	(3,230.50)
Special Offerings Received	664.38	1,115.63
Total Other Income	404.32	(2,582.32)
Other Expense		
Special Offerings Disbursed	185.33	460.40
Transfers	0.00	0.00
Total Other Expense	185.33	460.40
Net Other Income	218.99	(3,042.72)
Net Income	(5,002.49)	(17,258.96)

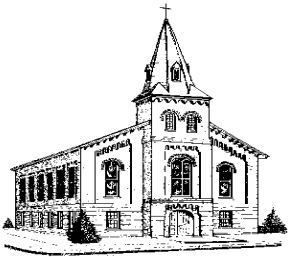


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P. O. BOX 38  
MANCHESTER, MD 21102

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



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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](mailto:trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net)  
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