



Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 38,

Manchester, MD 21102

410 374-2727

www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Trinity Times

January 2026

From the Pastor's Desk:

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" ~ Philippians 4:4.

From a prison cell 2,000 years ago, Paul's words of encouragement echo out to us, reminding us that no matter what, we are loved, we are worthy and we are chosen. So rejoice!

No matter how difficult life can be,, God won't stop loving you. Sometimes things go your way and sometimes everything seems to go wrong, but no matter what... God's love will never end. So rejoice! God is on our side!

In fact, God's loving presence should be one of the most important sources of joy in your life!

When my daughter was a little girl, whenever we crossed the street she put her little hand in mine and we walked out together. She knew I would not let her go and that I would protect her – no matter what. And that is still true, all these years later (although she will no longer let me hold her hand when we cross the street).

In the same way, God takes our hand and holds it and won't let it go. God promises to stay with us and protect us from harm – no matter what. Even when we try to pull loose and go our own way, God keeps a protective eye upon us and holds us in God's sacred hand.

God will not ever let us go! We are loved, we are worthy and we are chosen. So rejoice! And may you share that love with one another as we enter into a New Year.

Blessings,

Pastor Katie



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/05 – Earl LaMotte
 Doug Myers
 O'Neil Rivera
 01/20 – Charlene Rhoten
 01/23 – Nancy Koerner
 01/24 – David Bailey
 01/25 – Clara Hemlock

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/04 – Carolyn Brooks
 02/06 – Eva Gebhardt
 02/08 – Cody Calabrese
 02/09 – Sam Martin
 02/14 – Robert Saunders
 02/17 – Penny Ludwig
 02/19 – Ken Grim
 02/26 – Margaret Bailey
 02/28 – Mark Gardner
 Robert Miller



02/ 24 – Judy and Leon Miller

Church Communications Submission Dates

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday
 February Newsletter– Monday, January 26th

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

Pastor Katie Sabbath Day will be on Fridays!
She will not be available on that day. If there is
an emergency text, her @ 240-418-8028



Meeting Dates – some by Zoom

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



HELPING HANDS JANUARY

Greeters for the month of January:

Belva LaMotte

Usher for the month of January:

Deb Persinger

Lay Readers:

Jan. 04 – Sue Myers
 Jan. 11 – Marge Bailey
 Jan. 18 – MB Brainerd
 Jan. 25 – Shana Clark/Sylvia Calabrese

Media Operator

Jan. 04 – Karen Haines/Sandy Sanders
 Jan. 11 – Karen Haines/Sandy Sanders
 Jan. 18 – Elwin Wagner/Sue Myers
 Jan. 25 – Elwin Wagner/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:

Joanna Garber
 Eva Gebhardt, member of Trinity
 Shannon Gettman, daughter of Diane
 Meg Grim, daughter of Pastor Katie
 Sandy Hall, sister of Deb Miller
 George Harman, nephew of Karen Price
 Jerry Krebs, friend of Deb Persinger
 Michael Kulp
 Ash Van Nuys
 Dewey Parks
 Jennifer Penick
 Gordon Persinger
 George Pietsch
 Marc Pulido

Leah, friend of Donna Alban
Beth Robert
Jean Simmons
Becky & Willy Smith, niece of Karen Price
Dan and Terry Smith
Randy Smith
Kathleen Stevens
Gina Tollini
Ronnie Williams
Nora Renee Winters
Shirley Wood

Worship Schedule: January

Worship Theme: Unfolding Possibilities!

January 4 – Epiphany Sunday

Installation of 2025 Consistory

Communion

First Lesson – Matthew 2:1-12

Second Lesson – Isaiah 60:1-6

Third Lesson - John 1:1-14

Message – Eternal light

January 11 – Baptism of Christ Sunday

First Lesson – Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Lesson - Matthew 3:1-17

Message – Backwards Baptismal Promises

January 18 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson – Isaiah 49:1-7

Second Lesson – John 1:29-42

Message – A Call to Relationship

January 26 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Lucy will lead this service

Thank You

Thank you for the beautiful Christmas cards and gifts. I always appreciate your kindness.
Diane



Sunday Morning Bible Study

Will be starting January 11th

at 9:15 a.m.

@Trinity and by Zoom

Zoom links are available for all Bible Study



**Bedtime stories on
Wednesday at 7 pm.**

Media Help Wanted

The media team is looking for persons to assist with the live stream of our Sunday services on the church's Facebook page.

You do not need to commit to every Sunday. Our current operators, Karen & Elwin will provide training and support.

Please see Sandy Sanders, Karen Haines or Elwin Wagner for more information.

Thank you in advance for considering to help with this valuable piece of our worship service.

Please pass on to any one you know in High School who may need community service hours.



SCRIP GIFT CARDS

We will be going back to our regular schedule of ordering gift cards on the 1st Sunday of every month. We had a record year for participation and contributions! We received over \$1,270 from the program in 2025!

We hope you will continue to support this program in 2026 and if you haven't yet begun, please contact Sue Myers at wsmdem@comcast.net or 443-375-6788 to find out how you can! It doesn't matter how much you purchase in gift cards, every little bit helps. I'm sure there are stores on the list that you frequent. Thanks!

ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting will be held 2/1/26 immediately following our church service. All committee reports should be sent to Sue Myers by 1/14/26. If you need any information related to your specific committee please let Sue know.



What's Happening with ONA at Trinity

Through the fall, we continued the Trinity community's journey of ONA discernment by sharing and singing a hymn of affirmation on the 3d Sunday of the month. We will continue sharing a 3d Sunday Song of Affirmation and also welcome having anyone who wants to share a moment of affirmation. If you are interested, we ask that you speak with Pastor Katie or Hannah, to set up a Sunday that works for you.

On Sunday December 14 Lucy's former parishioner and friend – Alta Horn – was scheduled to visit us to tell her story of her own spiritual transformation, as she found herself changing in her outlook and understanding of God's word, going from opposing becoming an ONA church to supporting and voting to approve her church's ONA covenant statement. December 14 was a snow day, so we hope we can reschedule her to visit in 2026!!

The ONA taskforce team will meet next on Sunday January 4, 2026, after worship. Anyone who is curious about ONA and wants to join our conversation is welcome to attend. Also, if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of the ONA Taskforce team members: Pastor Katie, Pastor Lucy, Hannah M., Ashby H., Tiffany F., and MB Brainerd.

Peace and Blessings!

MB Brainerd

Co-Chair, Trinity ONA Taskforce



On Wed October 29th, the Carroll County Health Department mobile health clinic came to Trinity's south parking lot to distribute bags filled with integrated health resource info for services available across Carroll County, as well as assorted health paraphernalia to the *community residents* waiting in line for the Wed morning food distribution at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Health services and information resources range from getting Flu Vaccine (provide insurance info and ID), Respiratory Illness Prevention, Blood Pressure screening, Naloxone training & distribution to prevent death from Opioid overdose, STI Screening, HIV & Hep C Testing. The next mobile health clinic will be sometime in

early 2026 when we expect that the mobile unit will also be here, with clinicians available to provide services. We'll keep you informed!! **Any questions? Please contact either MB Brainerd or Sandy Sanders.**



**Nonviolence Resistance Training 2.0
Taking the 6 Principles & 6 Steps of
Nonviolence Resistance and Putting them into
Practice!!**

Saturday Jan 24 1-4pm

To be held at the Exploration Commons,
Westminster Branch of CCPL

The Carroll County Interfaith Alliance for Racial Justice (CCIARJ) is planning a free 3-hour Nonviolence Resistance Organizing training: Putting the 6 Principles & 6 Steps into Practice, on Saturday January 24, 1-4p.m. It will be held at the Exploration Commons, Westminster Branch of CCPL, 50 E. Main Street, Westminster. Those who have not attended the introductory training can still attend the Jan 24 training, so long as they complete some foundational reading and/or watch an introductory video.

The Nonviolence Resistance training 2.0, limited to 50 participants, will be conducted by Dr. Pam Zapardino and Dr. Charlie Collyer, co-directors of the Common Ground on the Hill "Ira & Mary Zepp Center for Nonviolence and Peace Education." Pam and Charlie are fully certified trainers following the Kingian school of resistance training and organizing, which combines the principles of Peace, Nonviolence, and Justice.

If you are interested in attending this next step in putting nonviolence resistance into practice, contact MB Brainerd or Pastor Katie, or email ccinterfaithalliance4@gmail.com



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



Trinity United Church of Christ
Receipts and Disbursements

| | Nov 25 | Jan - Nov 25 |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | |
| Income | | |
| Regular Offering | 4,876.48 | 54,496.38 |
| Loose Offering | 10.00 | 302.00 |
| Communion Offering | 56.89 | 583.90 |
| Improvement Fund | 125.00 | 1,950.00 |
| Food Ministry | 76.16 | 685.08 |
| Rental Income | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| Childrens' Church | 0.00 | 20.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 276.95 | 606.95 |
| Total Income | 5,421.48 | 58,744.31 |
| Gross Profit | 5,421.48 | 58,744.31 |
| Expense | | |
| Administrative | 7,230.67 | 107,919.29 |
| Community Care | 0.00 | 420.50 |
| Faith Formation | (41.99) | 563.26 |
| Mission & Outreach | 187.80 | 4,370.46 |
| Worship | 179.63 | 1,768.97 |
| Total Expense | 7,556.11 | 115,042.48 |
| Net Ordinary Income | (2,134.63) | (56,298.17) |
| Other Income/Expense | | |
| Other Income | | |
| Grant Income | 0.00 | 2,625.00 |
| Cemetery | (150.00) | 600.00 |
| Interest/Dividend Income | 113.84 | 780.90 |
| Fundraising / Building Imp | 97.91 | 4,318.27 |
| Special Offerings Received | (90.00) | 1,401.90 |
| Total Other Income | (28.25) | 9,726.07 |
| Other Expense | | |
| Special Offerings Disbursed | 0.00 | 1,281.91 |
| Transfers | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Expense | 0.00 | 1,281.91 |
| Net Other Income | (28.25) | 8,444.16 |
| Net Income | (2,162.88) | (47,854.01) |

January 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|-----------------------------|--|---|-----------|-----------|
| Church office: Open 9 – 1pm Monday and Tuesday. Always subject to change. | Each Week Children's Church during worship | | | 1 <i>Happy New Year</i> | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Second Sunday after Christmas 10:30 a.m. Installation of Consistory Communion | 5 | 6 Epiphany | 7 Consistory 6pm Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Baptism of Christ 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:15 Prayer Shawls | 12 | 13 | 14 Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Second Sunday after the Epiphany 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:15 Fellowship | 19 | 20 | 21 Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Third Sunday after the Epiphany 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:15 Pastor Lucy to do the message | 26 February Newsletter articles due | 27 | 28 Bed Time Stories 7pm by zoom | 29 | 30 | 31 |

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)
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Web site: www.trinityuccmanchester.org



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