

TRINITY MONTHLY

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOD'S TRUTH THROUGH CHRIST'S LOVE



One of God's Gifts To Us Is Each Other

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

When we confess our faith using the Apostle's Creed we confess the identity and work of God. In the third article we say what we believe about the Holy Spirit, who is the third person of the Holy Trinity saying: "We believe in the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints..." These confessions mean that we believe that God has not only

made us his own, but that **God has made us each other's.**

In the Small Catechism Martin Luther explains the third article of the creed this way: *"I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the* (continued)

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

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TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

one true faith; in which Christian Church He forgives daily and richly all sins to me and all believers, and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead, and will give to me and to all believers in Christ everlasting life. This is most certainly true." We believe that God, of his own will and for our blessing calls each of us to him, and then calls all of us together. That means that **we are God's gift to each other**. Our fellowship is not happenstance, it is God's work and God's will. Do you treat all of the people in your life as part of God's plan for you? Do you see them all as God's gift to you? This is what we confess as God's people.

We are seeing some new faces crop up lately at Trinity. Rae Harris our new Communication Coordinator is a gift of God to help us get and stay connected with each other and our community here in Ashland! Rev. Georg Warneke will be arriving very soon from Germany to share the Gospel with us, to work alongside us and help us to grow and understand how we fit into the bigger picture of Christ's Church on Earth. He is a gift from God for us! We are preparing to welcome a number of new members to our congregation, and look at all of the baptisms lately. These people are God's gifts! Let us be sure to welcome and treat each other always according to our faith in Christ. It is after all the Holy Spirit who has brought us together.

It isn't just the new faces that are God's gift. **You are a gift from God**. Your presence, your help, your love, your humor, your kindness, even your struggles are a part of what God desires to be shared for the mutual blessing of all of us here at Trinity. I, for one, am thankful for you. You are God's gift to me, and I want you to know how important it is for me to live as a blessing to you. Let's celebrate this Easter season by rejoicing in the gifts God has given us and sharing our lives with each other.

In Christ,



Rev. K. McClain
Pastor Kevin McClain
 Lead Pastor

CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

-  508 Center Street
Ashland, Ohio 44805
-  Phone: (419) 289-2126
-  Fax: 419-289-1381
-  trinityashland.org

And of course, you are always welcome to stop by Trinity's office, Monday - Thursday, 9am-5pm!

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH



CELEBRATING APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Let's shower our cherished members 85 and over with lots of love and well-wishes as they celebrate their birthdays this month!

Bonnie Weygandt | April 7th

Marcelle Bragg | April 12th

Barbara Townsend | April 11th

Carol Burns | April 13th

Beverly Stetson | April 14th

WEDNESDAYS IN APRIL

What's On the Menu

5:15-6pm in Jack's Place
Suggested \$5 donation

**APR
3**

Chili

Chili, Salad and Oranges

**APR
10**

Hot Dogs

Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Mac Salad and Brownies

**APR
17**

Hamburgers

Hamburgers, Pasta Salad, Chips and Fluff Dessert

**APR
24**

Ham Dinner

Ham Dinner, Scalloped Potatoes, Corn, Roll and Pie

RSVP encouraged by Tuesday. Call ahead for carry-out.

Please call: Peggy: (419) 210-5226 | Robin: (419) 632-5097

**Please note all meals are subject to change.*

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH



WELCOME RAELENE HARRIS, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Trinity is excited to welcome Raelene Harris as the new Communications Coordinator. Raelene, or Rae as she is more commonly known, graduated from Liberty University and has worked with various nonprofits around the world as well as in pregnancy care ministry. She is an avid reader, loves to cook, and is passionate about people. Please extend a warm welcome to Raelene!

A VISIT FROM PASTOR GEORG WARNEKE

Beginning in April, Trinity will welcome Pastor Georg Warneke, a Lutheran pastor from Germany with extensive ministry experience. Georg, or George as he is known in English, has been granted a three month sabbatical by the Church. He wants to learn more about the Lutheran church in the United States and specifically reached out to Trinity due to the rich history of our church and how the Lord has been moving in our congregation. As he learns from us, we, too, will have much to learn from him. Georg is currently focused on helping churches thrive and grow in the midst of challenges and a changing culture. For the months of April, May, and June, he will be assisting with regular pastoral duties, preaching, teaching, visiting and more. Georg is a delightful, humorous, and wise man of God. I look forward to welcoming Georg into the beautiful church family here at Trinity. -Pastor Kevin

ECLIPSE DAY CLOSURE

The Church building and parking lot will be closed on Eclipse Day, April 8th. We urge you to stock up and stay home that day and enjoy the beauty of God's creation. More details to follow.

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS 2024

Are you passionate about making a positive impact in your community? Are you eager to grow spiritually, professionally, and personally? Join us on a transformative journey through our internship program, where you can grow in your spiritual giftings and professional skills, while being the hands and feet of Jesus. Scan the QR code to learn more and apply.



BIBLE STUDIES

YOUTH

Youth Bible Study (YBS)

Wednesdays | 6:30–7:30pm | Youth Area, Lower Level

YBS is an opportunity for 4th–12th graders to gather, worship and learn more about Jesus while building deep relationships. This year, the group will be studying the Book of John. Sign up using the QR code.



MEN

Men's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Groups:

Day Group

Meets on Tuesdays from 12–1pm at AU Convocation Center. All men 18+ are welcome to join. This year, the group will be studying the Book of John. Sign up using the QR code.

Evening Group

Meets on Mondays from 6:30–8pm at Trinity in the Community Room on the lower level of the church. All men 18+ are welcome to join. This year, the group will be studying the Book of John. Sign up using the QR code.

Men's Bible Study

1st & 3rd Thursday of the month | 8–9am | Meeting Rooms A & B at Trinity

All men 18+ are welcome. This study is led by a pastor. No sign up is required, just show up!



WOMEN

Women's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)

Thursdays | 9–10:30am | Mitchell Hall

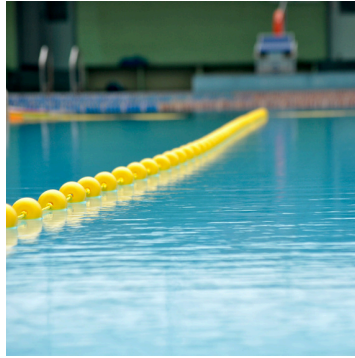
All women 18+ are invited to grow in their relationship with the Lord and gain a deeper understanding of the Bible while in community with other women. This year, the group will be studying the Book of John. A preschool program is also available for infants – age 6. BSF's preschool program is designed to give children a biblical foundation that will help them develop a love for God and spiritual matters. The program is led by loving, well-trained and committed leaders who teach little ones about God and the Bible in age-appropriate ways. Sign up using the QR code.

Bible Conversations

Wednesdays | 1:30–2:30pm | Meeting Rooms A & B

All women 18+ are welcome. This is a Bible study led by Pastor Kevin McClain. No sign up required, just show up!





GYM & SWIM AT 'THE Y'

Sunday, April 28th | 2-4pm | Ashland YMCA



Looking for a wonderful way to burn up some energy before the weather gets nice outside? Join Trinity families and friends at the Y for some swimming, gymnastics or running around in the gym. Cost is \$10 per family. Sign up for your favorite activities so we know how many for which to plan!



THANK YOU: MOMS & DAUGHTERS TEA

Trinity is incredibly thankful for all of the volunteers that made the Growing in Grace: Moms & Daughters Tea possible. Thank you to volunteers Kate Kaeser, Melinda Haag, Kari Emmons, Dan Forbes, and Todd, Owen, Heather and Ethan Jurjevic. This event was a special opportunity for mothers and daughters to celebrate the Lord's goodness and to bond over a variety of activities such as a manicure station, jewelry making, stuffing their own stuffed animals, and making picture frames. We are so grateful for everyone who made this day so special for our mothers and daughters!



SEEKING LEADERS FOR VBS

June 10th-13th | 9am-Noon | Trinity



At SCUBA VBS, kids will dive into friendship with God! We are looking forward to helping kids explore what it means to have a friendship with a real, loving, trustworthy God! We're seeking volunteers that love God and love kids! If you want to be part of this special program, register to help today! Please contact Dawn Forbes at (567) 203-2618 with additional questions.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



GIRLS' NIGHT OUT: BINGO WITH A TWIST

Monday, April 15th | 6-8pm | Jack's Place



Get ready for a fun-filled evening of Bingo with a TWIST! Join us for our LAST Girls Night Out of the season on Monday, April 15th from 6-8pm. Yes, we will be playing Bingo, BUT we will be adding a twist to the game that you don't want to miss! *Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.*

This is a ladies night out event, so slip into your favorite comfortable outfit and get ready for a night of fun bingo, good food, and great company. Please register using the QR code. We can't wait to see you there!

MOMS IN PRAYER INTERNATIONAL

Mondays | 8:30am | Church Home Dining Room

Moms, grandmothers and aunts can join us to pray for their children and their schools. For more information contact Michelle Vanderzyden or visit momsinprayer.org.



RUMMAGE SALE 2024 NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Week of May 6th | 9am-3pm Daily | Jack's Place

We need volunteers to help with this year's Rummage Sale! Collections will begin arriving on Monday, May 6th. Can you give a half day here and there to help us sort and organize our donations? We will also need cashiers during the sale on May 10th and 11th. Contact Dawn Forbes (567) 203-2618 or Ruth Ann Linder if you can give a bit of time.

SENIOR MINISTRY

LUTHER CLUB

Thursday, April 4th | Noon | Jack's Place

We will be hearing from speaker Mark Rafeld from the Ashland Eclipse 2024 planning committee. Our menu for the gathering will include pulled pork sandwiches, scalloped potatoes, cole slaw and cheesecake.



MNM'S LUNCHEON

Tuesday, April 16th | Noon | Jack's Place

It was such a wonderful time together on St. Patrick's Day at O'Bryan's Pub. If you're single, widowed, or on your own, we would love for you to join us at our next luncheon on April 16th. We will enjoy meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, and a cheesecake bar. Please RSVP by April 11th.

EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH

Friday, April 19th | Noon | Elevator Hallway, Lower Level

If you love creating original greeting cards, join us! Bring a packed lunch, and then craft handmade greeting cards to be used by staff and ministries at Trinity. We have supplies but feel free to bring anything you'd like to share. All donations received in April will be given to the Montessori Preschool.

EUCHRE NIGHT

Thursday, April 25th | 6:30-8:30pm | Jack's Place

Shuffle up and deal! Join us in Jack's Place for a lively game night of Euchre. All skill levels and ages are welcome, and you don't need a partner to attend. Contact the office at (419) 289-2126 to RSVP and come enjoy an evening of cards and camaraderie.



COMMUNITY RECITAL: *FRENCH IMPRESSIONS*

Sunday, April 21st | 3pm | Sanctuary

This public recital entitled *French Impressions* will feature music by Debussy, Gaubert, and Saint-Saëns, presented by the Astralis Chamber Ensemble. Angela Massey, flute; Laura Usiskin, cello; and Keru Zhang, piano. The Astralis Chamber Ensemble is an innovative and dynamic ensemble performing with much acclaim across the country. Through creative programming and presentations on the works performed, Astralis aims to make classical music more accessible and for audiences to make a lasting connection to the music.



KIDS' CHOIR CAMP

July 29th - August 1st | 9am-Noon | Trinity

At Trinity's Choir Camp, kids will learn about God and worship through singing, moving and playing instruments! All kids ages 4 (potty-trained) - completed Grade 6 are encouraged to join the fun! We will host a closing program for kids and their families on Thursday, August 1st. Come for lunch and a special presentation! More details to be announced.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



ART OF MARRIAGE CLASS

Sundays, Beginning April 7th | 10-10:50am | Trinity Room

Do you want to focus on your marriage again? Do you need to rekindle the flame? Would you like to get back to the basics and strengthen your relationship with your spouse? Join us as we walk you through a guided discussion to help you get back to the love you once had. This class is for both newlyweds and those who have been married for years. This is a time when we get to learn together and practice the love Christ has shown us.



NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Sundays, Beginning April 7th | 10-10:50am | North Patio Room

Newcomers are welcome to this introductory class. This will be a great opportunity to become informed regarding the fundamentals of Trinity and to get plugged into our community. Pastor Kevin's New Members Class will be held on April 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th and May 5th during the Sunday School hour.



'SEASONS, CYCLES AND SUCH'

Sundays, Beginning May 12th | 10-10:50am | Sanctuary

Whether you are new or familiar with the Lutheran tradition, you may wonder why we do some of the things we do. Join us to learn about the history and symbolism behind the things we do with Ron Marenchin. He is not only a musician, but also a compelling and captivating speaker. You won't want to miss this informative, 4-week class.



Sunday School Dates: Apr 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th

Trinity Kids Dates: Apr 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th

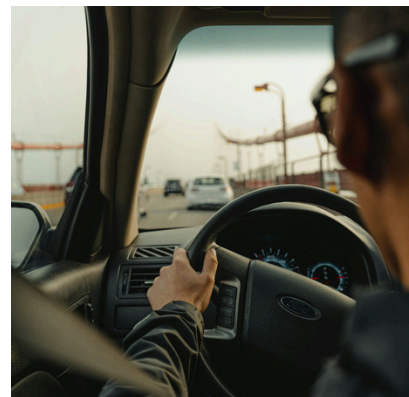
High School Sunday School Dates: Apr 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th

*Please note that the schedule has been changed from the schedule given at the beginning of the year.

GET INVOLVED

RIDES NEEDED

We have members in need of transportation to attend church events. Are you willing to be the hands and feet of Jesus by providing the occasional ride? Any time you can volunteer is greatly appreciated and makes a lasting difference. Please contact the church office if you can help or know someone who can. As a Trinity family, let's make sure transportation is not a barrier to participating in our church.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Have you ever wanted to know more about how the Outreach Committee selects projects for our November ballots? Would you like to assist with that work? If so, please contact Kenny Oberholtzer at (419) 651-0185 or oberholtzer1@zoominternet.net for more information.

STEPHEN MINISTRY: PROVIDING CARE



Join our Stephen Ministry Team! Do you have a heart for compassionate caregiving? We invite you to consider becoming a Stephen Minister, engaging in distinctively Christian caregiving that centers around caring through listening. Stephen Ministry is a caregiving program that focuses on providing emotional and spiritual support to those in need. As a Stephen Minister, you'll play a vital role in our church community, offering a listening ear and a caring presence to those facing life's challenges. Contact Michelle Vanderzyden at michelle@trinityashland.org or (419) 289-2126, or Dan Forbes at dan@trinityashland.org for more information about receiving the care of a Stephen Minister.

CALLING ALL GREEN THUMBS!

We need your help cultivating and tending to our garden fountain this spring and summer. The Rose Garden is such a beautiful area for reflection, worship, and gathering, and we need your help to keep it that way! Volunteers are needed for one hour a week, from May to September. Get the kids involved, or gather your Sunday school class for this outdoor project. Contact Ann Miller at (419) 651-6470, or Laurie Maurer at (419) 606-5157 to join the Grounds Committee fountain team. Spread the word and lend an hour to help keep Trinity beautiful!

SPRING CLEANING & BUILDING!

Spring is coming to Ashland, and you know what that means...it's time for spring cleaning! On April 13th, from 8:30am-2pm, volunteers are needed to help clean and move items for disposal. Volunteers are also needed to help build shelves for storage and organization!

If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact Michelle Vanderzyden at michelle@trinityashland.org or (419) 289-2126.



FRONT DESK VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Tuesdays, 9am-Noon

If you or someone you know has the gift of hospitality, we are looking for a volunteer to serve at our front desk on Tuesday mornings from 9am-12pm. This role will involve welcoming people with warmth and kindness, as well as performing other duties. If interested, please inquire via email at trinity@trinityashland.org.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Donations accepted at any time

During the month of April, we are going to focus our attention on donations of t-shirts and socks. Specifically, we are requesting donations for ages 2 to 14. Please, no war graphics or camo designs because these Shoeboxes could be delivered to war active countries. Packages of t-shirts or socks will be broken down to be added to more boxes. Look for sales or holiday-themed wear to help your dollar go further.

Community Shout Out: 38 Ashland County Cancer Association meal vouchers were used in February, and we are partnering again in March for up to 110 vouchers.

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

January 2024 Church Services

DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	CHURCH SERVICES
Jan 6th & 7th, 2024	106	296
Jan 13th & 14th, 2024	98	241
Jan 20th & 21st, 2024	109	300
Jan 27th & 28th, 2024	137	406

January 2024 Receipts

DATE	AMOUNT
Jan 7th, 2024	\$28,527
Jan 14h, 2024	\$10,359
Jan 21st, 2024	\$17,993
Jan 28th, 2024	\$13,883

Operating Fund January/YTD

Income	\$70,761
Disbursements	\$124,392
Deficit	-\$52,449
Weekly Income Needed for Operation	\$31,098

COUNCIL NOTES & NEWS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE UPDATES FROM THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Pastor's Remarks: Pastor Kevin reflected on the significance of Jesus' death and resurrection as we approach Easter. He encouraged us to consider the glory to come and how new life arises only after loss.

Staff: Georg Warneke is expected to arrive around April 8th, and lodging needs to be secured for him. Staff meetings are now held on Tuesday mornings. Rae Harris, the new Communications Coordinator, has started and is doing well.

Finance: Approval sought for finance committee members to have viewer-level access to QuickBooks Online. Transfers from Clark Fund to cover 2023 operating deficit, NALC support payment timing issue, and reimbursing Outreach Fund from Rybolt Fund.

Kitchen: 38 Ashland County Cancer Association meal vouchers used in February, partnering again in March for up to 110 vouchers. Jeff Gray recognized for quickly resolving ice maker drain issue.

Montessori School: Still looking for a new teacher.

Outreach: Still need someone to fill the vacant spot. New grant agreement to be signed with Windham Volunteer Fire Department.

Personnel: Bookkeeper interviews ongoing. New employee handbook accepted. Interviews for Director of Christian Development position upcoming. Staff evaluations completed.

Property: Discussing authorizations to hire contractors for basement classroom renovations after drainage work. Request to power wash walkways and walls, with cost estimates provided. April 13th work day, need volunteers to clean garage and build shelves.

Women and Children: Successful Mother Daughter Tea with over 60 attending. Girls Night Out Bunco night had over 30 women. VBS planning underway after a positive workshop.