

TRINITY MONTHLY

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



Graduations

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

It is the season for graduation. It is time for high school grads to walk across the stage to receive their diplomas, college grads will receive their degrees, and all of them will be moving on. The graduation ceremony celebrates accomplishment. We speak of what or where we have graduated from, but what about what we graduate to? Some are moving on to the next step, be that furthering their education or into employment.

Graduation is meant to be more than what one is doing; it is who one is becoming.

Did you know that Christians are supposed to graduate too? We don't mark such an occasion with the pomp and circumstance of an academic commencement, our graduation doesn't even happen all at once. The author of Hebrews describes a graduation, a change away from easier teaching, and into deeper teaching, and ultimately into a life properly lived.

(continued)

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

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TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

He says: *“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.”* (Hebrews 5:12-14).

God desires for us to graduate from simple understandings to deeper understanding and ultimately into a Godly life that distinguishes good from evil. You have been called into class by the one who called you into faith, Jesus Christ. Saved by his grace we are now called to learn from him, follow him, and put away childish ways. Paul also teaches the same way: *“But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?”* (1 Corinthians 3:1-3).

Have you graduated yet? It is easy to see where we have grown in our faith, putting away the ways of the world. One who has graduated from those former ways now walks according to the one who taught them. They work for peace and unity, they love neighbor and even enemy, they do not gossip or slander, and are not quarrelsome. They have moved on from what belongs in the past and walk into a future that is filled with promise. This month let us celebrate our graduates, and let us all become one ourselves.


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

Of course, you are always
welcome to stop by
Trinity's office:

Monday - Thursday
9am-5pm!

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH



CELEBRATING JUNE BIRTHDAYS



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

Mary Lou Mackenzie | June 5th

Gretchen Wilson | June 15th

Nancy DeLong | June 15th



HELP SUPPORT VBS!

As we look forward to Scuba VBS coming up in June, there are several ways that our community can get involved and help support this amazing ministry! Visit the Kids Ministry section to learn more about what's still needed to make this year's VBS a success, and how you can help!

JUNE HYMN OF THE MONTH:

'WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER (IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL)'

Our hymn of the month for June is *When Peace Like a River (It is Well With My Soul)*. We look forward to worshipping God together through shared song!

If you haven't already, you can check out our 'Hymn of the Month' playlist on Spotify. Worship isn't just for Sundays! Let these cherished melodies draw you closer to God and each other. So whether it's in the car on the way to work or in the church pew, join the Trinity family in worship to our Lord! Scan the QR code below to be connected to the ever-growing playlist.



SUMMER MISSION TRIPS

ALBANIA: JUNE 26TH - JULY 15TH | SLOVAKIA: JULY 11TH - 22ND

Fifteen members of Trinity are scheduled to travel to Slovakia and Albania over the next two months to host English Bible camps and team camps, similar to VBS, for over 220 elementary and high school students. We are honored for the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus and bring the Gospel to those who have been raised in a Muslim culture or have no faith at all. Our team has completed seven weeks of preparatory training, learning to serve as teachers, sports ministers, crafts and small group discussion leaders. We are confident that with God's grace, our efforts will bear fruit and positively impact the lives of the students.

We are grateful for your continued support and daily prayers, which mean a lot to us. Your support in sending us is needed and will serve as a rich blessing to our team. We would like to thank those who have already given and included us in their daily prayers. Our Mission spaghetti dinner on May 1st was a huge success and raised over \$3,800. However, if you haven't contributed yet and would like to do so, please check the giving instructions and SONetwork STM link in our May newsletter.

We are excited about this mission and look forward to sharing our experiences with you. Thank you for being a part of our journey, and we appreciate your endless support. You can financially support the missions teams that are going by giving through the QR code.

Warm regards,
Trinity Summer Missions Team



HOW TO SUPPORT THESE MISSIONS

- **PRAY:**
 - Pray that the Lord would give us opportunities to share the Gospel and that lives would be changed.
 - Pray that we would encourage the local church and Christian workers located in each area.
 - Pray that God would bring salvation and healing which is only possible through Jesus.
 - Please pray for the 21 Trinity members who are traveling to Albania and Slovakia. Pray for their safety, strength, and growth in faith.
- **SUPPORT:** You can financially support the missions teams that are going by giving through the QR code:





VBS CREW LEADER MEETING

Wednesday, June 5th | 5pm | Jack's Place

We will go over the changes to VBS this year, best practices for discipline and all the information you need to have a great week at VBS. *Dinner is provided!* Watch for an e-mail to RSVP for the dinner.



VBS SNACK DONATIONS NEEDED

By June 9th | Jack's Place Kitchen

There will be a different display in the VBS area of Jack's Place that will have our snack needs on little fish. We feed over 200 people each day at VBS and we need your help! There is a new display outside of Jack's Place that has the daily needs listed on little cut out fish. Simply take a fish and bring the item back to the church office by the date listed. Thank you in advance for your support!

VBS CREW LEADERS STILL NEEDED

June 10th - 13th | 9am - 12pm | Jack's Place

As of the writing of the June newsletter, we have enough crew leaders to minister to 130 children at VBS. Normally, we see a much higher VBS attendance than this! If you are willing to share time with children teaching them the love of Christ, please contact one of the VBS directors: Amy Atterholt, Angela Baker, Karie Emmons, Kristen McClain, or Dawn Forbes. We are especially in need of Preschool crew leaders!



SUMMER YOUTH HANGOUTS

June 23rd, July 21st, August 11th | 6-8pm | Trinity Lutheran Church

We had an awesome hangout on May 19th, and we're excited for more this summer! All youth grades 7-12 are invited to join us for monthly Youth Summer Hangouts. We've got all kinds of summery fun planned, and look forward to seeing you and your friends there!

SENIOR MINISTRY

LUTHER CLUB

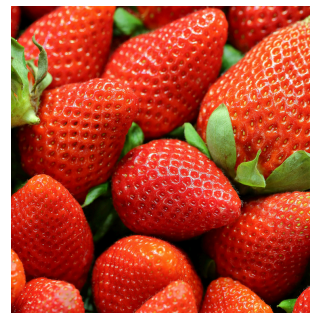
Thursday, June 6th | Noon | Jack's Place

Interested in fellowship? Join us for Luther Club! Our menu for the gathering will include chicken a la king over mashed potatoes, a roll, and watergate salad. Our speaker will be announced soon. Cost for the lunch is \$7. Please RSVP to the church office.

MNM'S LUNCHEON

Tuesday, June 18th | Noon | Jack's Place

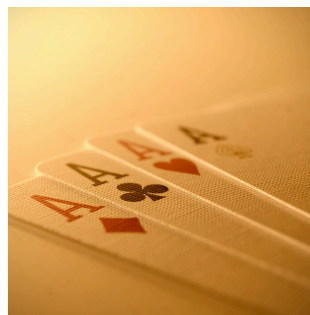
If you are a woman on your own, we would love for you to join us at our next luncheon on June 18th. We will enjoy a salad bar, baked potato bar, and strawberry pie. The cost for the luncheon is \$5. Please RSVP to the church office.



EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH

Friday, June 21st | 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.



EUCHRE NIGHT

Thursday, June 27th | 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.



SUMMER GARDEN SERVICES

Sunday, June 23rd | 8:45am | Rose Garden

We invite you and your friends to an outdoor garden service on Sunday morning, June 23rd, at 8:45am in the Church Home Rose Garden, the first of three planned for this Summer. The Sunrise Singers and the Trinity Brass will provide special music. Those attending the garden service should park in the lots on Walnut and Chestnut streets and use the sidewalk to the Rose Garden. In case of rain, the service will be held inside. The Rose Garden and the church sanctuary are ground-level accessible.



KIDS' CHOIR CAMP: PRAISE LIKE FIREWORKS

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

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



THANK YOU KILLIAN MURRAY!

After more than two years of faithful service to our Beacon kids and their families, Killian Murray is stepping down from her role as Director of the Beacon After School Program. Killian brought a wealth of first-hand knowledge of the Beacon program, having gone through it during her childhood. Her love and compassion for the kids have been a blessing to us! We wish Killian well as she pursues full-time employment in the Child Care field.





PART-TIME OPPORTUNITY

Do you love being with preschool children? We are looking for a caring, patient person to join our team two days a week during the school year. If you want to learn more about this fun, rewarding opportunity, please get in touch with Cindy Duffey at (567) 261-0670 or email montessori@trinityashland.org.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



STEPHEN MINISTRY INFO SESSION

Sunday, June 9th | 10-10:50am | North Patio Room



Do you know someone who needs a little extra help or someone to listen? We can help. Stephen Ministry is centered around caring through compassionate listening. Stephen Ministry is a distinctively Christian caregiving ministry. Lay ministers are extensively trained to help through listening, prayer and conversation.

If you would like to become a Stephen minister, or simply learn more about the ministry join us for this informational gathering.

COOKIES, COFFEE, & CONVERSATIONS ABOUT CHRIST

Sundays, June 16th - July 21st
10-10:50am | Olive Tree Cafe

Bring your Bible and a friend, get some goodies from the cafe, and use conversation cards on the tables to guide you through studying the book of James. This will be a meaningful time of connection, discussion, and growth together!

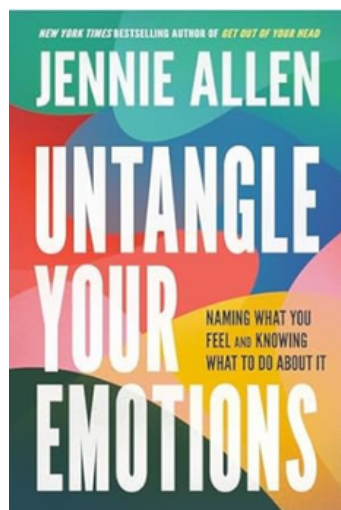


GOD WITH US: CHILDREN'S SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

June 16th–August 18th | 10–10:50am | Assembly Rooms

During this Summer series, our children will learn about how God has made a way to be with His people from the beginning until now and why that is so significant. This is a curriculum made in-house and will be very interactive and fun—something your kids will not want to miss!

This series will be offered for children pre-k through 6th grade. Please register using the QR code.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULT BOOK STUDY: 'UNTANGLE YOUR EMOTIONS'

June 16th–July 28th | 10–10:50am | North Patio Room

Join us for this book study as we untangle the emotions that bind us from embracing Christ. This will be a journey of clarity and compassion. The book *Untangle Your Emotions* by Jennie Allen will guide our times together. Please register using the QR code.

Adult Sunday School Dates: June 16th, 23rd, & 30th

Children's Sunday School: June 16th, 23rd, & 30th

***Please note that there will be no Sunday School on Sunday, June 9th.**

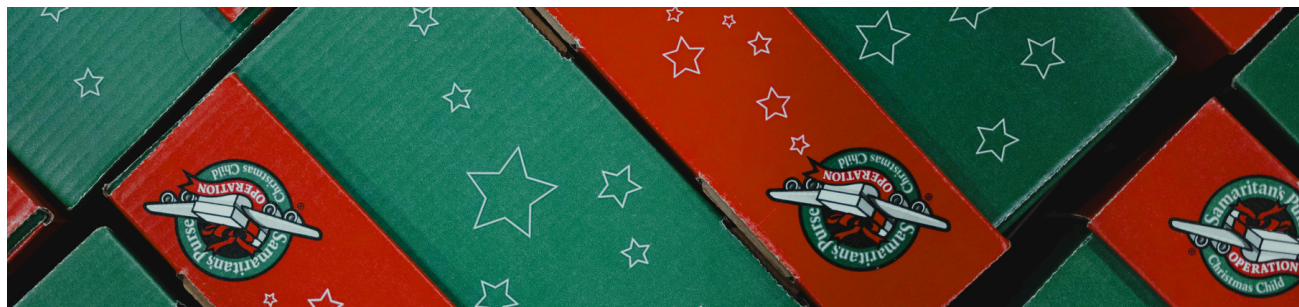
GET INVOLVED

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: SUMMER COLLECTION

Summer Collection

Summer is here, and it's time to remember children around the world who need to hear the good news of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. All it takes is a shoebox filled with small toys and gifts, which will be added to "The Greatest Journey," a Bible story booklet that teaches children about Jesus Christ. Trained teachers will help these children understand the teachings of Jesus, and with prayer, these children will accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. This small box has the power to change whole families.

Would you like to be a part of this ministry? You can bring donations of small toys or notebooks for school studies to your church. This may seem like a small thing, but it can make a big difference in the lives of children who need salvation. Be a disciple in the name of Jesus.



SEEKING MEDIA VOLUNTEERS

A chance to use your creative gifts

Join Our Media Team! Are you passionate about photography and videography? Our church is looking for creative individuals to help capture and share the vibrant life of our community through visuals. Whether you're a seasoned expert or have a keen interest and willingness to learn, we'd love for you to join our Media Team.

This is a fantastic opportunity to use your talents to make a meaningful impact and tell our church's story in engaging and inspiring ways. If you're interested in contributing your skills and becoming a key part of our visual storytelling journey, please reach out to Raelene Harris at rae@trinityashland.org.



ATTENDANCE & GIVING

March 2024 Church Services		
DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	CHURCH SERVICES
Mar 2-3, 2024	114	336
Mar 9-10, 2024	114	439
Mar 16-17, 2024	120	303
Mar 23-24, 2024 Palm Sunday	113	456
Mar 28, 2024 Maundy Thurs	N/A	178
Mar 29, 2024 Good Friday	N/A	239
Mar 30-31, 2024 Easter	N/A	629

March 2024 Receipts	
DATE	AMOUNT
Mar 3, 2024	\$21,060
Mar 10, 2024	\$25,512
Mar 17, 2024	\$13,679
Mar 24, 2024	\$25,111
Mar 28-31, 2024	\$28,976

Operating Fund YTD	
INCOME	\$262,995
DISBURSEMENTS	\$368,715
DEFICIT	-\$65,382
WEEKLY INCOME NEEDED FOR OPERATION BUDGET	\$28,363

COUNCIL NOTES & NEWS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE UPDATES FROM THE MAY MEETING

Pastor's Report:

Trinity Council,

Let's all extend a warm welcome to our newest council members who begin serving with us this evening. This month is one of our busiest months of ministry at Trinity. You were installed last weekend as the Council of the church. This weekend we prepare to confirm nine confirmands who are exceptional young people, who did phenomenally well on their exams. We are preparing to welcome a half dozen new members into our congregation on the weekend of the 26th. We will also continue the tradition of recognizing and honoring our High School Graduates in our Senior Recognition Service the weekend after that. Baptisms continue and there are a few more scheduled in the next month or two. This time of year is akin to the First Fruit Offering of Leviticus 23. In it the people of God wave (that is hold out before God) the first hint of the full goodness that will come. You are a part of that offering, filled with promise as leaders, just as our baptized babies, and growing young people represent the beginnings of God's faithfulness, but not the end.

In Christ,
-Pr. Kevin

Pastor Kevin opened with Matthew 5, a devotional focusing on the Beatitudes, and prayer.

Reports and Items Needing Action

Visitors:

Welcoming Council members/introductions

Pr. McClain:

Discussion of Pr. Georg Warnecke's sabbatical at Trinity involves ongoing visa proceedings managed by a lawyer, pending his visa interview and travel arrangements, with considerations for a coordinator due to potential visa fees and his recent inner ear issue.

Discussion on costs and sources for Stipend, Travel, and Insurance for Pastor Warnecke's visit was held. A detailed cost list will be created for Council approval.

Staff:

Rae Harris seeks council approval to send a "Letter of Intent" to our graphic designer, affirming our intention to retain their services at a similar rate. Motion was approved.

Ron and the staff are discussing plans for late summer/early fall, including Rally Day, and considering a mid-week worship/prayer time during the summer.

Old Business:

Survey committee updates:

Surveys to be mailed by May 31st.

Envelope stuffing volunteers needed on May 28th at 7pm, tentatively in Rooms A & B.

Christian Education:

May 19th Confirmation Sunday

June 2nd Senior Breakfast

June 10th-13th VBS

Finance:

At our April 30th meeting, Kate Strine provided detailed financial oversight information, and Scott Saner from Whitcomb and Hess will serve as our primary contact until a new bookkeeper is hired.

Dan Wierbiki will now give final approval to bills.

Dan W. proposed to approve retroactively the hiring of an Immigration lawyer, for Pastor Warneke's sabbatical. Approved.

Grounds:

Ryane reported complaints about unmowed grass between the Center Street Parking Lot and the neighboring AirBNB; Jeff Gray will address the issue.

Kitchen:

Wednesday Night Suppers ended successfully on May 8th, 2024.

Only fourteen vouchers were used for the Ashland County Cancer Association in April.

Luther Club is ongoing.

MNMs had its largest meal serving 27 people.

The Mission Trip Fundraiser raised \$1,336, mostly from donated food except for \$38 worth of salad dressing.

A snack sale/lunch was held at the Rummage Sale.

Upcoming events include:

Congregational Breakfast on May 19th.

Senior Breakfast on June 2nd for High School Graduates.

Planning for VBS with Dawn.

Shirley Wolfe's funeral and luncheon scheduled for June 1st.

Missions:

\$3,819.15 raised for mission teams through various events was distributed among fifteen individuals traveling to Albania and Slovakia, with donations still accepted until June.

Montessori:

The last day of the school year is Thursday, May 23rd. Families will be celebrating with lunch and games.

Currently have sixteen enrolled students for next year and several more have expressed interest.

Waiting list for children under three years of age.

Looking for a teacher to take two days per week for next school year.

Nurture:

Nurture Committee met on May 9th, discussing the Gratitude Goodie program and planning groups to receive goodies through September.

Plans for assisting with the May 19th confirmation breakfast were coordinated in collaboration with the kitchen crew and Youth Committee.

The committee collectively formulated a new mission statement and outlined their future objectives.

Outreach:

Steve Strine has resigned from the Outreach Committee.

Gail Warnes, who was on the committee before, has agreed to serve another three year term. Trinity initially funded a joint Youth Bible Study program last summer, but due to limited contributions from other churches, Trinity now shoulders most of the financial responsibility, prompting consideration of continued support despite the venue change. The study has approximately fifty youths weekly. \$3,000 from the Outreach Fund was allocated to the study.

Personnel:

Review committees and make committee selections.

Three interviews were conducted, two bookkeepers and one Director of Christian Development. Offer being made for a bookkeeper candidate.

Kate Strine's last day was May 9th.

Charity Wolfe's last day is May 31st.

Property:

Motion to approve tile installation in lower level hallway. Approved.

Motion to approve installation seven receptacles in alcoves outside of

Jack's Place with new breaker in existing panel. Approved.

Motion to approve installation of five occupancy sensors in lower level corridors to replace toggle switches. Approved.

Motion to approve two coats of sealer on the entire Center St. parking lot. Approved.

Motion to approve replacement of twelve large round tables. Approved.

TLC Properties updates.

Request from Christian Ed. for a motion to purchase white boards and associated cork boards, tables, chairs, and clocks. Approved.

Women and Children:

VBS planning is moving along nicely.

Early stages of planning a father-son camping weekend closer to fall.

The rummage sale was May 10th and 11th. Huge success and raise over \$8,000 for Operation Christmas Child.

Worship and Music:

Continuing with hymn of the month.

Confirmation May 19th.

Senior Recognition June 2nd

Children's choirs finished up with their performance at the Mother's Day service in Jack's Place

Children's choir camp July 29th-August 1st

Meeting coming up on May 20th

Youth:

The High Praise Youth Choir trip to Buffalo on April 20th-21st fostered a time of praise and fellowship, with thirty students and eight adults attending, featuring performances at Prince of Peace church and visits to Niagara Falls and the Buffalo Zoo.

Confirmation Sunday, May 19th with a congregation-wide celebratory breakfast afterward.

May 19th - Youth Hang out night 6-8pm in the youth rooms

June 2nd - Senior Recognition Service, 8:45am service. Nine seniors will be recognized and given prayer shawls/blankets.

Call Committee:

Steve Strine resigned from the call committee.

Election of Officers:

Lay Leader - Kenny Oberholtzer

Secretary - Stephanie Bragg

Committee Assignments:

Call - Lorna Ross and Brian Owens

Personnel - Becky Schaaf, Rob Hendrix, Kenny Oberholtzer and Kim Pool

Worship and Music - Angela Baker

Communication - Julie Guenther

Strategic Planning - Kim Pool and Kenny Oberholtzer f.

Finance - Kenny Oberholtzer and Dan Wierbiki

Outreach/Benevolence - Tim Merkel

Property - David Morr, Jeff Gray and Gary Goon

Kitchen - Stephanie Bragg

Missions/Community Partnerships - Kim Pool

Nurture - Kim Oberholtzer

New Member/Assimilation/Volunteer - Stephanie Bragg m. Christian Education - Jenny Pence

Senior Ministries - Ann Emmons

Women and Children - Lorna Ross

Young Adult - Ryane Briggs

Youth - Sara Paddags, Ryane Briggs, Jenny Pence