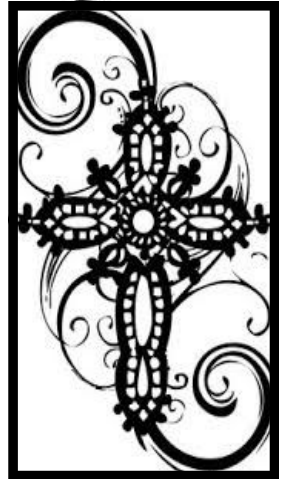


TRINITY TIMES



Pastor's Letter

“Why do you look for the living among the dead?” That, according to Luke’s gospel, is the question the two men in white asked the women who came to the tomb that first Easter morning. The women supposed that they would find a body that they could anoint and prepare properly, giving due respect to the dead. But there isn’t a body. Instead there are messengers telling them to look toward the future. All has changed. Life will be different from this time forward.

It took a while for the women and the other disciples to understand fully what that meant. Jesus was no longer with them in the flesh but they were empowered to go out and preach and teach in his name.

Living centuries later we still need to hear and understand the challenge of those words. We have a tendency to keep looking back at how things have been, how things were done, the way things used to be. There is value in history to be sure. But time moves forward. We need to look for where there is life and vitality. That is where we look for Jesus. In the church this is a particular challenge for us. There are old hymns and habits that are comforting and comfortable. BUT, they no longer help us tell the story of God’s love to a new generation. Of course we are to find and give comfort in the church. However, our primary task, after worshipping God, is to go out into the world to tell others about God’s love. That means we need to look at our forms of worship and music, our communications and programs and see what will not only support the present members but reach out to bring others into our fellowship.

Many of you may remember the strip film projector. We used to use that and flannel boards a lot in Sunday school. Now we know we need power point, social media thru i-phones and tablets to reach into the world. Songs that we remember make little sense to younger generations. “The way we’ve always done this” will no longer work. Our challenge is to look at each activity we do and consider whether it is the best way to proclaim the gospel. For proclamation in word and deed is our prime task. Perhaps dinners and suppers used to be a way to invite people in. Now we may need to consider barbeques, family movie nights or early evening activities.

Change is the order of the day. Our challenge is to discern what God’s will is for ourselves and for Trinity church. As we continue to plan for a new pastor, may we also plan for how we look for Christ among the living and develop ways to make the Good News available to more and more people in our world. Let us rejoice that Christ lives. He is risen indeed!

Godspeed,

Rev. June Begany

SESSION

Many thanks from Session to Rev. June Begany for all her work in leading us in worship through the Lenten season. She led us every Wednesday at our soup lunches, assisted with the Ashtabula cluster Sunday evening services, as well as Sunday services and Maundy Thursday service. Her leadership is greatly appreciated.

Session continues to meet with Rev. Jim Rimmer with helping our church family grow and work together. He will be in our pulpit on April 17th when Pastor June is on vacation. He will also spend a Saturday with us talking to individuals about their thoughts and hopes for Trinity moving forward.

Come join the Property and Finance led clean-up day at Trinity on April 23rd. there will be work for all skill levels!

Blessings and Peace, Mary Belding, Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT

Income \$ 6,547.96

Expenses 10,601.45

Difference (\$4,053.49)



As you see, our expenses for February were more than our income. We did have to draw from our investments to help us with that deficit amount. We will probably have to do that every month of 2016.

This may sound bad to some of you, but for the month we expected a deficit of -4,455.74. We were better than our projections. For the year we projected a deficit of -\$8,330.03 but we only have a deficit of -3,217.23 for the first two months of 2016.

Each month I give a copy of the financials to the office. I urge any of you to request a copy from Lynne and take a look at how your pledges are coming in and also to see our monthly expenses. Take a look at it by category to see what it takes for us to enjoy our church and its programs. Maybe you have some ideas that may help us. Your input is greatly appreciated. Feel free to talk to me or to a Session Member if you have any questions or suggestions.

Thank you,
Lois J. Fassett
Treasurer

TRINITY PNC

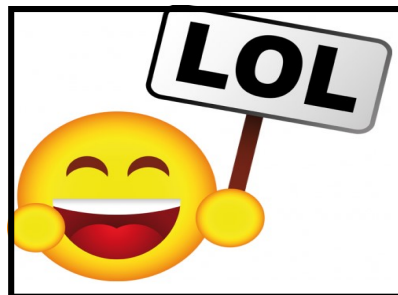
A lot has happened since the Congregational meeting. Trinity's MIF has received a number of PIF's for review. We have reached out to all for a possible interest and have received responses from quite a few. We are now in the process of reviewing the PIF's, listening to sermons and gathering as much information as possible about each candidate. We are praying that one of them will emerge as our next Pastor.

One thing we have learned is that the way we chose to communicate with you does not adequately represent our process. The steps the PNC undertakes to seek our next pastor are not linear. Perhaps we progress quickly for a time, then come to a roadblock. We must stop and reconsider our next step. Perhaps we progress slowly, then suddenly take a spurt. Searching for a pastor is more like walking a long, winding and hilly road than climbing a pyramid. However, through our journey we have felt God's hand steering us and we continue to seek His will.

We are not discouraged; We thank you for understanding about the necessity for confidentiality. It is so important for everyone to respect that need even though the congregation is all rightfully anxious to hear some "news." Please continue to pray for us as we do for you. We promise that we will update you as soon as we have some concrete news to share.

The PNC has hope. Hope for our committee, hope for our Church family, and hope for Trinity! The word "Hope" in the Biblical sense is not merely a wish; it is the antidote to despair. Our hope is based on the character of God, whom we know to be faithful. The choice of our new pastor, and the timing of that choice, is God's to make. The PNC team continues to be humbled by the opportunity to serve our church and look forward to seeing who God points us to as our next Pastor. May His will be done!

Blessings to all!
Trinity PNC



Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together during church services. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had enough.

'You're not supposed to talk out loud in church.'

'Why? Who's going to stop me?' Joel asked.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, 'See those two standing by the door?

They're hushers.'

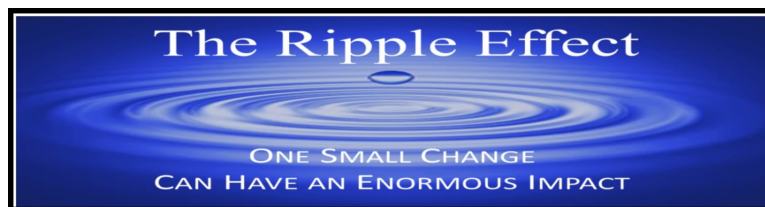
STEWARDSHIP

What do you think of when you see the word stewardship? Many of us think immediately of money. We remember that time in our church's life when we are asked to make a financial commitment for the coming year. However, we must be aware that stewardship is more than money.

Stewardship is how we use our God-given gifts. It is how we use our talents, our time and our treasure. These are very familiar words, yet they carry a ring of truth. Stewardship is the way we use all our resources to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world.

Friends in Christ, this is our privilege to love and support our church---Remember---Stewardship has a "Ripple Effect."

Respectfully submitted by
Susan Hogle
Chairman of Stewardship



TRINITY BOOK CLUB



Trinity Book Club will meet on Tuesday, April 19th, at 7:00 pm at the Three Sisters Tea Room, 1937 W. Prospect Road. Beth Adams will lead the book discussion of *What's So Funny?: My Hilarious Life*, an autobiography by Tim Conway, legendary comedian and Chagrin Falls native. Hostess for the evening will be Cheryle Chiamonte, and all are welcome. Please call Meghan Davis at 992-8362 for reservations by April 12th.

Members of the book club will also attend the 2:00 pm matinée of the musical *Nunsense* on Sunday, April 17th at the Ashtabula Arts Center. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students. Reservations are required by Thursday, April 14th. Please sign up in Shiflet Hall or call Meghan Davis.

Change In the 2 Cents a Meal Collection

For the next six months, the \$.02 a meal offering will be received in a different manner. Rather than having a second set of ushers and collection plates at the time of the offering, there will be a basket set out on the back table to receive your offering. This will still happen on the second Sunday of the month. There will be a note in the bulletin reminding you to bring your offerings and place them in the basket. Session thought this might eliminate some confusion in taking the offering. Session will re-evaluate this change at its September meeting.

Trinity's Future – Consultant Jim Rimmer

The Rev. Jim Rimmer, from Erie, has been serving as Trinity's consultant as we look at what happened last year and where we want to go. Rev. Rimmer will be preaching at **Trinity on Sunday, April 17** while Rev. Begany is on vacation. He will return on **Saturday, April 30** to interview members of the congregation. There will be a sign-up sheet at coffee hour for people who wish to speak with him. The interviews will last for 15 minutes. All those who had concerns last summer are encouraged to sign up for an interview time. If you need a different day we may be able to arrange some times on Sunday, April 17. We may also be able to find some other time, if there are enough who'd like to speak but could not come on April 30.

Cluster Pulpit Exchange

Sunday, April 24 is the day chosen for the Ashtabula Cluster pulpit exchange. Ken Ayers, who is at North Kingsville, will be preaching at Trinity. Rev. Begany will be going to preach at North Kingsville.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT



JUNE



JESSIE



DAN

MARJ

LYNNE



**SATURDAY, APRIL
23, 2016
10:00 AM
Something for
everyone to do!**



**HAM LOAF DINNER
APRIL, 14, 2016
4:30—6:30 PM**

\$9.00 ADULTS
\$3.50 CHILDREN

**Sign up in the Fellowship
Hall**

Please consider donating a
cake or pie.

See Peg LaDu for more
info.

We are on the Web!
trinityashtabula.org

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

**MONDAY
APRIL 25TH
EMAIL TO**

trinitypresbytn@windstream.net

CONGRATULATIONS TO RACHAEL COUTTS AND STEPHANIE DAVIS

They both have finished up their BSN Degrees at Kent
State University and are now
Registered Nurses.

Wishing you both all the best.



**SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2016
GRADUATION SUNDAY
HIGH SCHOOL—COLLEGE
ANY GRADUATION**

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
WE WOULDN'T WANT TO MISS SOMEONE.



SAVE THE DATE:

**2016 Ashtabula County Concerts of Prayer Breakfast
Friday, May 6th, 7:00 am**

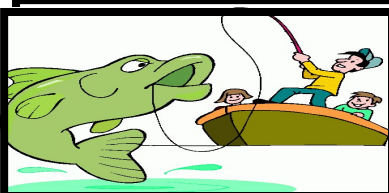
Featured Speaker...Dr. Phillip Hall

Ashtabula native, Clinical Professor at the Cleveland Clinic, Case
Western Reserve, Dr. Hall's father pastored in Ashtabula for over 40
years at United Brethren and Trinity Methodist church. Dr. Hall's
speech will center on:

"Christianity in a Scientific Culture"

We will reserve a table if we have enough people interested.

Contact Lynne ASAP!



**Interested in Chartering a
Fishing trip?**

**Special-Eyes Charters
Captain Dale Grimm
First Mate Dan Hotaling**

Contact the Church Office, we are going to try to come up
with a date that works for everyone.

Dates available in July or August.

See Dan or Lynne if you are interested!

DEACON ON CALL LITURGIST
RAY LAYLIN 440-536-5079 JESSIE SMITH
FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

APRIL 2016

ONE DAY, I SHALL BURST
MY BUD OF CALM
AND BLOSSOM INTO
HYSTERIA



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Lions Club Dinner	2 Emmy's Recital
3 COMMUNION 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship/SS <u>GO Ministries</u> Baby Shower after Worship/Coffee Hour	4 5:30 Weight Watchers	5 11:30 Game Day 7:00 Al-Anon	6 6:30 Deacons Mtg. 6:30 Card Ministry	7 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 6:30 Bell Practice	8 10:00 Brown Bag Packing Community Outreach	9
10 2¢ A Meal 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship/SS 11:45 Stewardship Mtg.	11 Rev. Begany Vacation 5:30 Weight Watchers	12 ROMEOS @ Deb's 7:00 Al-Anon	13 6:30 Card Ministry	14 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies FIA Dinner 4:30-6:30—Here 6:30 Bell Practice 7:00 Prop/Finance	15	16
17 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship/SS Rev. Dr. Jim Rimmer leading Worship 2:00 Nunsense/Ash. Art Center Book Club	18 5:30 Weight Watchers	19 Rev. Begany returns 11:30 Game Day Book Club @ 3 Sisters Tea Room	20 6:00 Comm.Council 6:30 Card Ministry 7:00 Session	21 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 6:30 Bell Practice	22	23 10:00 CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY
24 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship/SS Rev. Ken Ayers Pulpit Exchange	25 5:30 Weight Watchers	26 7:00 Al-Anon	27 6:30 Card Ministry 7:00 Stewardship	28 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 6:30 Bell Practice	29	30 Rev. Dr. Jim Rimmer Interviews—Call the church office for appointment times