

MAY 2017

TRINITY TIMES



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Security is big business. Think of all the financial institutions designed to give their clients financial security: retirement accounts, insurance policies, and loans. Think of all the groups that offer physical security: alarms, cameras, armed guards, guns, martial arts. Think of all the technologies that offer emotional security: anonymous phones, texts instead of talking, e-mails instead of conversations. Think of all the authors that offer mental security: TV hosts with the truth, book writers with proof, bloggers with evidence. Think of all the government officials who offer security from terrorists: armies, bombs, snooping, firewalls. Security is big business.

But, one of our societies major problems is not our capitalistic endeavors, but the deeper and more sinister problem: fear. We are a fearful people. We are afraid of scarcity so we entertain the services of a financial entity that promises our financial resources will never run out. We are afraid of assault on our person or upon our possessions, so we purchase the services of a security firm to put alarms and cameras over our belongings and weapons over ourselves. We are afraid of people so we purchase electronic devices to protect ourselves from becoming emotionally vulnerable. We are afraid of terrorists setting off bombs in the stores we purchase goods, or refugees moving in our neighborhoods, or drug dealers dwelling across the street, and because we are afraid, we bomb them first, we close our borders, we build walls and hide behind them, with one in the chamber. We are a fearful people.

Perhaps then we can understand the situation of the disciples traveling in a boat upon the Sea of Galilee in a typhoon. The boat is sinking from the waves pouring over the deck, the winds are battering the boat into oblivion and land is nowhere in sight. The disciples are panicked, the disciples are gripped by fear, the disciples have been overwhelmed with dread, the disciples are consumed with worry because Jesus is asleep on the cushion and not helping. Like the disciples of old, we know fear on a first hand and personal basis.

Maybe Jesus' words still speak to his disciples, both then and now, *why are you so afraid? Have you no faith?* It would seem to us, that God desires us to not be consumed by worry about our finances, nor gripped by fear of being shot nor overwhelmed by the threats of terrorists. God desires us in Jesus Christ to be consumed by faith, gripped by trust, and overwhelmed with assurance that God is faithful and gracious and most importantly that Jesus is Lord; the storms in life are not. It would seem to us that Jesus still needs to calm the storms of life in this world, but none more poignant than the storm in us all. The good news for us is that Jesus does have the power to do so, but Jesus also has the will. Long may he reign as Lord and King this Easter Season and long may he reign in our hearts instead of dread.

In Christ,
Rev. Mark

NOTE FROM SESSION:

We have an active church with committees being led by your elders.

Your Session is leading prayerfully and with guidance from Rev. Mark. We are in the process of creating needed policies concerning sexual misconduct, as well as setting guidelines for committee moderators.

Session will be working with Rev. Mark on creating guidelines and policies for baptisms, funerals, and marriages.

There is an Elder on Call for each month, as named in the weekly bulletin. That person will gladly listen to any questions, concerns, and joys you may have concerning Trinity.

Blessings,

Mary Belding, Clerk

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

March Financial Report

Income: \$7,267.73

Expenses: 10,463.68

Difference of -3,195.95

Pledges and current income are ahead of our prediction for the first quarter of 2017. Help us each month by keeping your pledges up to date.

Remember that Per Capita is \$29 per member. We have collected \$1,163.00 toward our \$5,046.00 that is due to Presbytery.

Lois Fassett
Treasurer

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE:

The Committee needs volunteers to be Liturgist for the months of August and December.

We also need people to serve as ushers during the month of July, August, September, October, November and December. If you are able to fill any of these positions, please sign up in the fellowship hall.

We are also looking into purchasing new Bibles for the Lectern and the Communion Table as these are becoming worn from frequent use.

Shalom,

The Worship and Music Committee

STEWARDSHIP:

Stewardship! What an awesome name, but also so misunderstood. The Stewardship Committee is embarking on a new approach for understanding and contributing to stewardship. First we must understand our relationship to stewardship.

What are the problems we are dealing with? We are struggling with fatigue (being asked for financial help), our economy as many of us are on fixed incomes, competition from work, sports etc., apathy, conflict due to differences of opinions, and lack of trust with the younger generation. These problems will be addressed in the future.

Giving for the One Great Hour of Sharing was \$983.50 as of April 23.

We are now approaching the season of Pentecost. This begins May 13th and concludes on June 4th with the receiving of our gifts. 40% of our Pentecost gifts remains in our church to be used to benefit a need of our children in the community, 25% goes to ministries with youth and 10% goes for advocates for at – risk children. Please open your hearts to these needs. We must have faith to do what God has called us to do. He has a plan for us.

Stewardship Chair

Susan Hogle

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The 2016-17 Sunday school year will come to a close on Pentecost Sunday, June 4. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church and there are many "CELEBRATIONS" planned:

- ⇒ Graduating students of high school and college will be recognized;
- ⇒ Sunday school students will be recognized for their attendance;
- ⇒ A cookout during Coffee Hour will satisfy your after church hunger and celebrate our men of the Trinity.
- ⇒ Outdoor activities are being planned for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

The Sunday school children have begun working with the Eden Project to get seeds started for the garden. Once mature, the seedlings will be transplanted to the garden next to the church on the corner of Summer Avenue and Prospect Road. All plants should be in place by May 28.

Coffee Hour on May 7 will be hosted by the children. They so enjoyed hosting in March and interacting with the parishioners. These amazing kids look forward to speaking with more of the adults in May.

A sign-up sheet is posted outside the Nursery for summer volunteers for child care. Please sign-up for a Sunday or two.

Other arrangements will be made for when classes resume in September.

Rev. Mark's adult classes on Sundays and Wednesdays have been well attended. Our thirst for knowledge of Jesus Christ is never ending and we are pleased to have the opportunity to learn all that we can.

The Christian Education Committee will meet throughout the summer to plan for next year's classes that will begin in September.

Lastly, but most importantly, I would like to thank the **wonderful** teachers and volunteers who have taught our children the word of God this session through stories, activities and more. **These are the Christians of our future!**

Respectfully submitted by

Jessie Smith, Christian Education Chair



WE WANT TO INVITE YOU TO...

Graduation Sunday

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

JUNE 4, 2017

DURING 10:30 WORSHIP

LOCATION

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1342 WEST PROSPECT ROAD, ASHTABULA

WE WILL BE HONORING OUR COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GRADUATING IN 2017 DURING OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 AM ON JUNE 4TH. IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE GRADUATING THIS SPRING, WE WOULD LOVE TO CELEBRATE ALL THEIR HARD WORK AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS. IF YOU WOULD PLEASE LET THE CHURCH KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND AND LET THE CHURCH KNOW FROM WHERE THE STUDENT IS GRADUATING, WITH WHAT DEGREE (IF APPLICABLE) AND WHAT PLANS FOR THE FUTURE. THANKS, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: CHURCH OFFICE @ 440-993-7111

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

Community Council is exploring ideas for a new vision for outreach in our community. We recently have had some input from an up and running missions project at the Plymouth Methodist Church. We are praying to hear God's voice, please pray with us.

A Bike and Build group leader has been in contact with Trinity to provide a meal and lodging for the night of July 1, 2017, please mark your calendars!!

School is almost out for the summer. The last day for Lakeside students is May 26. We will not be hosting the summer lunch program again this year. Again this year, Community Outreach will be providing lunches from May 30th until June 9th from 11:30 pm until 12:00 pm. Lunch is open to all ages.

Please note our meeting is not on the 17th of May, tentatively scheduled for May 3rd, 6pm and May 24th.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:

The Fellowship Committee is working on the all Daughters Lunch on May 13th. Please sign up if you are planning to come, so we can plan accordingly.

Pentecost Sunday will be a very active day. We celebrate the birthday of the Church, honor our graduates and honor the Sons of our Church. Please plan to join us on this special day. It will be filled with lots of fun and food.

Yours in Christian Love
Nancy Sabo

TRINITY BOOK CLUB:

Trinity Book Club will meet on Tuesday, May 16th, 6 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church 4506 Elm Avenue. This is our annual joint meeting with them. Book selection is Tender at the Bone by Ruth Reichl.

Appetizers and desserts will be offered from recipes by Ruth Reichl.

Members are asked to bring a favorite food memory from their childhood to share with the group and an apron, pot holder or other kitchen item from their mother.

ORDER YOUR GERANIUMS TO BE PLANTED ON CHURCH GROUNDS

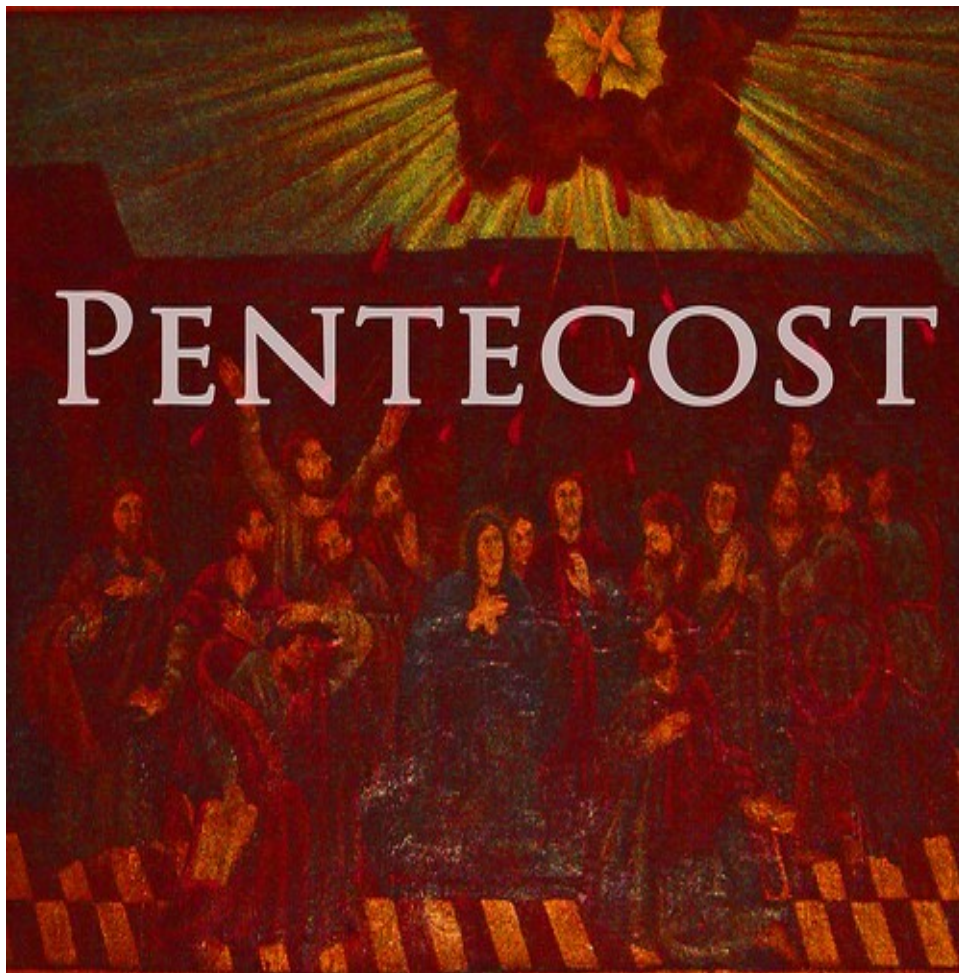
\$2.75 each—checks made payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church

We will honor and celebrate your loved ones on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th.

_____ geraniums X \$2.75 each = _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____



JUNE 4TH

Pentecost

Birthday Celebration

We would like to invite you and your family to share in the birthday celebration for the Church of Jesus Christ. We will be celebrating the feast of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came down from Heaven and the Church was born. We will be having a special worship service, a birthday party, a picnic and activities for kids. Please join us!

**Special
Worship
Service with
Children's
Message**

**Birthday Party
for the Church**

Picnic

Beverages

hot dogs

hamburgers

cake & ice cream

will be provided
bring a dish to
share!

**Kids activities
outside**



GET **YOUR**
RED OF
STUFF

DATE CHANGE:

JUNE 24TH FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL
2:00 PM

LUNCH-BAKE SALE

Proceeds benefit the general fund

TRINITY RUMMAGE SALE

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Monday, May 22
this will be a combined
June and July newsletter!

PLEASE SAVE....

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION (The container is
located in the fellowship hall.)

COUPONS... IF YOU DON'T USE THEM, PLEASE
SAVE THEM. (Container is located in the fellowship
hall.)

Bags for the rummage sale.

*Schedule
Now!*

**Church
Pictorial
Directory**

**JUNE 27TH
AND
JUNE 28TH
2:00 PM
UNTIL
8:30 PM**

PLEASE CALL AND
SCHEDULE with Lynne in
the church office.

Complimentary 8X10 and
directory. No purchase
required.

Submitted photos will cost
you \$10.00 each and a
directory will be \$15.00.

First come first serve for
appointments.

**Members and Friends will
be included.**



Lynda Bennett
Bess and Roger Dibble
Jim Hakkarainen
Bobbi Lesperance
Don Maginnis
Duane Urch and family
Jean Waldron
Fran Wilson

Trinity College Students—Praise

God the year is almost complete!

Trinity Military Family-Thank you for your service!

**MEETING MAY 10TH AT 6:30 PM—YOUR
HELP IS NEEDED TO PLAN PENTECOST
SUNDAY.**



May 2017

DEACON ON CALL: KAREN REITER 992-8658

ELDER ON CALL: Call the church office

LITURGIST: DIANA ADKINS

USHERS: JEFFERIES TEAM

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 ELECTION DAY 11:30 Game Day 8:00 Al-Anon	3 10:00 Adult Study 6:00 Comm. Council Mtg. 6:30 Deacons Mtg. 6:30 Card Ministry	4 10:00 Prayer Group/ Thursday Ladies 12:00 National Day of Prayer Cornelius Park 7:00 Transformation Group Meeting	5 7:00 Concerts of Prayer Breakfast (ticket required)	6
7 COMMUNION 9:00 Choir 9:15 Adult Study 10:30 Worship/SS No Fellowship Mtg. Kid's hosting fellowship	8	9 8:00 ROMEO'S @ Deb's 8:00 Al-Anon	10 10:00 Adult Study 6:30 Pentecost Planning Meeting All Welcome 6:30 Card Ministry	11 10:00 Prayer Group/ Thursday Ladies 6:30 Property/ Finance Mtg. NO BELL PRACTICE	12 10:00 Brown Bag Ladies	13 11:30 His Daughter's Luncheon (bring a salad to share)
14 24 A MEAL MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 Choir 9:15 Adult Study 10:30 Worship/SS	15 Rev. Mong on vacation Retired Teacher's Luncheon	16 11:30 Game Day 6:00 Book Club @ First United Methodist 8:00 Al-Anon	17 NO ADULT STUDY 6:30 Card Ministry	18 10:00 Prayer Group/ Thursday Ladies 2:00 Worship/Music Mtg.	19	20
21 9:00 Choir 9:15 No Adult Study 10:30 Worship/SS Hobart Shiflet Stewardship Mtg. A.W.	22 GERANIUM ORDERS DUE Rev. Mong Return 6:30 CE MEETING	23 8:00 Al-Anon	24 10:00 Adult Study 6:00 Comm. Outreach 6:30 Card Ministry 7:00 Session	25 10:00 Prayer Group/ Thursday Ladies 7:00 Transformation Group Meeting	26	27
28 9:00 Choir 9:15 Adult Study 10:30 Worship/SS Baptism	29 MEMORIAL DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	30 11:30 Game Day 11:30—12:00 Free Lunch Here 8:00 Al-Anon	31 10:00 Adult Study 11:30—12:00 Free Lunch Here 6:30 Card Ministry			