

TRINITY TIMES

MAY 2018

Faith and Trust
in
God

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our world has much to be worried about. Without delving into world or national politics, we still have much to be anxious and fret about. In Ashtabula alone, we could worry about the poverty and addictions we struggle with. Many are wrestling with health issues, and/or dealing with loss. Schools are restructuring, elections are beginning, and worse of all, I worry about getting my grass mowed before my lawn turns into a hay field. We have many things to worry about and many things to be concerned over.

Worry seems to be a fundamental part of our human nature. While our modern world has many technologies, our forebears did not have these assets to increase our standard and length of life. But, while we have these new things, our technology and progress has not been able to remove our worries. In the ancient world, famine was an everyday reality, but while we might be able to change grocery stores when they have no milk, money is still needed to buy groceries. In the ancient world, clothes were made by hand, but while today's malls have 30 clothing stores, one needs credit to purchase them. In the ancient world, doctors and medicine were unreliable at best and con artists at worst, but while we have capable specialists and facilities, insurance and finances are still needed to procure the best medicine. While our world is far better than it was, we still have many an opportunity to worry.

Worry was and is such a problem, Jesus speaks directly to it, *do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Look at the birds of the air, they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth more than they?* It is this last verse that strikes us the hardest, *Are you not worth more than they?* The flowers and birds have all they need from the hand of God; will God not be faithful in caring for you? Worry it seems, comes from a human heart that fails to trust in a faithful God.

Not much has changed. While our circumstances may differ greatly, the human heart still fails to trust in our faithful God. When in a time of trial or testing, we tell ourselves maybe God isn't going to give us what we need. Maybe this is the time that God forgets us and fails to come through. Perhaps the most sinister thought is that God must be mad at me and has withheld his care and faithfulness.

It is this troubled heart, whether in Galilee or Ashtabula, that receives the work of Jesus Christ. *If God clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you? Therefore, do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will drink?" or "What will we wear?" Your Heavenly Father knows that that you need all these things. But, strive first for the Kingdom of God, and its righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.* It is the worried heart that has the Word of God given in the Spirit of Jesus Christ, planted deep within. When the heart becomes worried, it is My friends, we are already recipients of God's Peace which can calm every anxiety we can possibly have. We are ever reminded that God chose as Jesus of Nazareth to baptize us with God's own Peace. If we truly possess this peace, then we have nothing to worry over; because God is faithful. Let us therefore, be calm amid our everyday trials. Let us seek God's Kingdom first and its righteousness. Let us not worry about the things we need. But let us do so, because we trust in our Faithful God to give, instead of trusting instead in what we already have. And we just might find that everything else has already been added unto us.

In Christ,

Rev. Mark

DEACONS:

The Deacons of Trinity Presbyterian Church are “tuned in” to the needs of many of our church members. We keep in touch with others; sometimes a card, sometimes a phone call, and many times a visit. It's important to us that our church members call one of us, or the church office, if there is a church member who is sick, or not able to come to church, or simply has a special need that we can help with.

We wish our college students (and adult college students !) who are taking their finals and looking forward to a break in the book work and all the studying.....GOOD LUCK and Continued Success, wherever the direction takes you !! The Deacons recently remembered the students with cards of encouragement and Dunkin' Donut Gift Cards !

We began our Deacon's Meeting on May 2nd, with a Devotion from Psalm 51: 10. “Create in me a pure heart, Oh God, and renew a steadfast Spirit within me.” Take the time to look into the rooms of your soul and be ready to invite change and Spring cleaning of your heart! God continually brings us forgiveness and transformation into our lives !

God's Blessings.....

Jane Planisek, Moderator

Note from Session:

Work is being scheduled on our buildings. There will be landscaping on the east side of the sanctuary. Hopefully, we will be having a new parking lot this year.

Your session is overseeing the scheduling of several events here at Trinity this spring.

We have the wonderful dilemma of trying to pack several events into a crowded schedule and church building.

The church will be busy on Pentecost Sunday (May 20). That day we will also honor our graduates. So plan to come honor, feast, and play on that day!

Kathy Depp is gathering marvelous merchandise for the rummage sale which will be June 2. We are having to store things in the garage until Faith Builders and others who will be using the Hoyt Room are done in there.

Community Outreach will be serving lunches here during the last week of May and first week of June.

Bike and Build will again be staying here on June 25 and 26—look for upcoming announcements on ways you can help!

With Sessions approval, there is a new committee who will be working a liaisons with the pastor and the congregation. There is a note from them in this newsletter.

Please remember that if you have any questions or concerns about anything related to Trinity to talk to any of your elders.

Blessings, Mary Belding, Clerk

MINISTERIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

Session has approved the formation of a new group: the Ministerial Relations Committee. The MRC will meet regularly with Rev. Mark and work together to address and resolve issues and concerns of the congregation.

Our goal is to nurture, strengthen, and build the relationship between Mark and the congregation by providing a vital communication link and promote healthy dialogue with all.

We will work with him to find out what is good and what can be better for Rev. Mark and Trinity.

The committee members are Mary Belding, Pam Bloom, Beth Dougherty and Dale Fassett. Please see anyone of us or reach out to us by phone if you have anything you would like to talk about or have any questions.

PLEASE contact: Mary Belding 440.862.6786 or 964.6073

Pam Bloom 440.344-7277 or 440.576.7305

Beth Dougherty 440.812.5748

Financial Report for March 2018

Income: \$ 8,586.00
Investment withdrawal 10,000.00

Total Income \$18,586.00

Expenses: \$10,046.35

Our actual March loss -1,460.35

Add investment withdrawal 10,000.00

We show a positive amount 8,539.65 which is what is left of that investment withdrawal after paying the March loss.

Hopefully the April income will come closer to the expenses for the month.

So far this year we have withdrawn \$22,000.00 from investments to help with expenses. For 2018, we have budgeted \$47,394.57 to be withdrawn from investments for the operating expenses. Hopefully we can stay within that budget for the rest of 2018.

So far this year we received \$1,245.32 for per capita. Our per capita expense for 2018 is \$3,450.00. Per capita amount is \$30 for each member.

Lois J. Fassett, Treasurer



Christian Ed

Nearly 80% of people in our Churches today decided to follow Jesus before the age of 18. 50% decided before the age of 12.

There is a season in a person's life, sometime between 4-14, when they are most open to learning what it means to trust God. This is called the 4-14 window. Most of our Faithbuilder children fall within this "season". What we do during this window may be the most important thing Trinity does. Now I ask you this, "Are you showing these Children to put their trust in Jesus? " WE can be a part of shaping the future of this Church in these amazing, and yes loud, children.

Agenda reviewed:

- **Pentecost- A Birthday Celebration-May 20**

Immediately after Church

Pizza Potluck. Fellowship will provide the pizza, beverages, cake, and ice cream.

*Please bring a dish to share

There will be a sequence tournament

We also hope to have "Just Dance" tournament

"Get the Rev" (**Guess you'll have to stick around to see what this game is**)

Fun times for all

- **Faithbuilder/Graduate Recognition-May 20 during Worship service**

Make sure to submit your high school or college graduates name for recognition

- **Summer help with Children**

Consider offering one Sunday during the summer to help with the DPY's and Little Lambs of the Church.

*Read books, watch movies, play games

*No kids-no worries-stay in Church

Give our Faithbuilders Teachers the summer off

- **VBS**

Monday-Friday, 6/18-6/22, 9 AM – 11:30am

Lunch immediately following

Still need helpers-Please donate your time!

**It's going to be so much fun-come to the island! Don't worry about being Ship Wrecked-
Jesus rescues!**

COMMUNITY COUNCIL APRIL 2018

The Baby Shower was once again a huge success, thanks so much to everyone that contributed! The babies cared for through the help of G.O. Ministries REALLY thank you!

We are hosting lunches for the first two weeks of summer break for children and adults. This will start Tuesday, May 29th through Friday, June 8th. If you would like to help out by serving or providing food or a treat, please let us know.

We have heard from the bike and build riders and they will be arriving June 25th and will be staying for 2 nights this year. They have a build day here in Ashtabula at a Habitat for Humanity site. They are a great group of young people so mark your calendar to come and enjoy great conversation and laughter.

Note from the Eden Project

Spring is upon us!

It is time to begin work in our gardens.

The Faith Builders have started seeds for the garden. You may have noticed them through the south windows! It is a delight watching little hands learn the joy of gardening.

We will also gladly accept any help in the garden. We have fourteen separate planting areas. Get a friend, and take charge of one of them! If your bones are not willing to bend and stoop, ask a couple of the young folks to do the work under your guidance. What a treat to grow food and relationships together!

It is finally warming up and we can start cleaning up the beds, cleaning up the yard and planning our garden. In a month, maybe we can plant!

Blessings, Joyce Kren and Mary Belding



SET UP MAY 30, 31 AND June 1

DATE OF SALE JUNE 2ND FROM 9 UNTIL? Lunch available.

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO HAVE YOUR TREASURES DROPPED OFF BY MAY 30TH!

Help is needed. See Kathy Depp or Lynne Mukina if you have stuff to be picked up or can help with the sale!



ASHTABULA COUNTY
CLUSTER OF PRESBY-
TERIAN CHURCHES

- ♦ Saturday—May 19th
- ♦ 1:00 pm at Lake Shore Park
- ♦ Overlook Pavilion (off of First Street)
- ♦ Bring a dish to share, a cold beverage if you would like, table setting and a chair.
- ♦ Coffee will be furnished.
- ♦ WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST

FUN

FOOD

Trinity Book Club will host a joint meeting with the book club from the Ashtabula First United Methodist Church on Tuesday, May 15th, at 7:00 pm. The book discussion will be about *The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland* by Jim DeFede.

For questions, please contact Beth Adams.

GERANIUM ORDER TIME!

Geraniums will be a part of our Pentecost Celebration. After the service they will be planted outside beautifying the church grounds.

Please send or drop off your order to the church office as soon as possible. You may also place it in the collection plate.

Geraniums will be \$3.00 each. Last day to order is MAY 14th!

Checks made payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church.

CONGRATULATIONS 2018 GRADUATES

HIGH SCHOOL:

DYLAN ROWE—EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

COLLEGE:

KALEB MUKINA—Ohio Northern University
Doctor of Pharmacy

TAYLOR ROWE—Lakeland Community College

MATTIE STOWELL—The Ohio State University
Doctor of Dental Surgery

RACHEL VAN'T VEER—Kent State University Early Childhood
Education Pre K-3rd grade

May 2018

DEACON ON CALL: SUE KARVONEN 992-3640

LITURGIST: LINDSAY HALL

USHERS: BEATTY/LADU TEAM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11:30 Game Day 8:00 Al Anon Mtg.	2 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Card Ministry 6:30 Deacons Mtg.	3 10:00 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies	4	5
6 Communion 9:00 Choir 10:00 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Faith Builders 6:30 Youth Group CE MTG. A.W. FELLOWSHIP MTG. AW	7	8 ELECTION DAY 8:00 ROMEOS @Deb's VBS MTG. 6:30 8:00 Al Anon Mtg.	9 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:30 Card Ministry	10 10:00 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 6:30 Property/ Finance Meeting (note time change)	11 10:00 Brown Bag Ladies	12
13 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! 24 A Meal Collection 9:00 Choir 10:00 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Faith Builders 6:30 Youth Group	14 <u>GERANIUM ORDERS DUE!</u>	15 11:30 Game Day 7:00 Book Club 8:00 Al Anon Mtg.	16 10:00 Adult Bible Study 6:00 Comm. Outreach 6:30 Card Ministry 7:00 Session Mtg.	17 10:00 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies	18	19 <i>CLUSTER PICNIC 1:00 Lake Shore Overlook Pavilion</i>
20 PENTECOST 9:00 Choir 10:00 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Recognition Sunday CELEBRATION AFTER WORSHIP	21	22 8:00 Al Anon Mtg.	23 10:00 Adult Bible Study	24 10:00 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies	25 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR AAC DISTRICT	26
27 9:00 Choir 10:00 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Faith Builders 6:30 Youth Group	28 <u>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</u> MEMORIAL DAY CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED	29 11:30 Game Day 11:30 12:00 Lunch Program 8:00 Al Anon Mtg.	30 10:00 Adult Bible Study 11:30 12:00 Lunch Program RUMMAGE SALE SET UP Presby. Mtg. 6:00 Medina	31 10:00 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 11:30 12:00 Lunch Program RUMMAGE SALE SET UP		