

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1342 WEST PROSPECT ROAD  
ASHTABULA OH 44004**

**MAY 2022  
NEWSLETTER**



### **PORTRAIT OF A MOTHER**

A mother can be almost any size or age, but she will not admit to anything over thirty. She has soft hands and smells good. A mother likes new dresses, music, a clean house, her children's kisses, an automatic dishwasher, and Daddy.

A mother does not like having her children sick, muddy feet, temper tantrums, loud noise, or bad report cards. She can read a thermometer (much to the amazement of Daddy) and like magic, can kiss a hurt away. She can also bake good cakes and pies, but like to see her children eat vegetables.

A mother can stuff a fat baby into a snowsuit in seconds and can kiss little faces and make them smile. She is underpaid, has long hours, and gets very little rest. She worries too much about her children, and no matter how old they are, she still likes to think of them as her little babies.

A mother is the guardian angel of the family, the queen, the tender hand of love. She is the best friend anyone ever has.

A mother is love.

*Author unknown-taken from May 1992 Harris Memorial Church newsletter*

### **Mother Day Trivia**



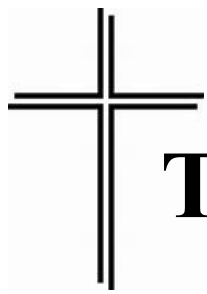
What is the official flower of Mother's Day?

What country was the first to recognize mothers with an annual day of celebration?

Mother's Day always falls on the:

What year did Mother's Day become official in the United States?

Which U.S President officially issued a proclamation to establish Mother's Day?



# Trinity Times

## My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A new neighbor of mine, after moving in, noticed that the neighborhood had many feral cats, who loved to torment his inside cat. To keep them away from upsetting his indoor cat, he built a fence from the ground up to about seven feet. The feral cats could not climb over it, nor dig under it, and his cat would not feel territorial and must fight off the “invaders.”

Just as my neighbor built a fence to keep the cats out, so too does the church. As is written in the Gospel of John, *when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews.* The disciples locked the doors to keep the Jews out, in order that what happened to Jesus may not happen to them and so they hid. In many times and in many places, the Church has been threatened by the community around them and in an effort of self-preservation, the church builds fences, the church locks its doors, and the church hides.

But, while the Church might be protecting itself by locking the doors to keep the world out, the flip side is that the Church also might be keeping Jesus out. To keep outsiders out, might just mean Jesus is treated as an outsider. To protect oneself from the world, might be to create a barrier between Jesus and the Church. To create self-security, might be to sever oneself from the covenant with God in Jesus Christ. To lock the doors and keep others out, might just mean Jesus is one of those others, and we unintentionally or intentionally keep Jesus out.

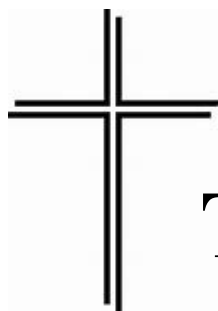
But no matter how hard the disciples tried to keep the Jews out, Jesus comes right on in, *Jesus came and stood among them.* No locked door could keep the Risen Jesus out. No barrier could separate the Risen Jesus from his people. No fearful will could push the Risen Jesus from his mission. The risen Jesus goes through them, around them, over them, and comes and stands among his people. Even when we push away, or build fences or walls, or lock ourselves away, we cannot create any obstacle or barrier to keep the Risen Jesus out. He comes right in and meets us in our time and space.

But he doesn't just come to be with us, he comes to give us gifts of Grace. *“Peace be with you. Receive the Holy Spirit.”* Blessings not condemnations are what Jesus brings. Peace, which is not the absence of conflict, but well-being is the gift Jesus brings. Peace to overwhelm our fears. Well-being which calms the anxious storms over our heads. Wholeness which grants courage to face life in freedom and responsibility. These are what Jesus gives while breaking through our defenses and locked doors. Jesus comes to us, through our walls and self-defense mechanisms to bestow the abundance of the Kingdom.

But the challenge lies in that after breaking through the locked doors and after bestowing the Holy Spirit and Peace, Jesus sends them out. *As the Father has sent me, so I send you.* Equipped with the Holy Spirit and Jesus' Peace, the disciples become apostles, sent with a mission and a purpose. No longer cowering the upper room, the apostles are emboldened to not only leave, but to courageously fulfill their mission. Jesus not only breaks through to us, not only give us Peace and Holy Spirit, but Jesus also sends us with a purpose and mission. To go out and speak in faithful witness. The ones who hid became the ones who went. Will we?

My friends, the good news of the gospel is that Jesus finds us, even through our resistances and our security measures to bestow Peace and Spirit for our fears and worries. But the challenge of discipleship is to no longer hide in our upper rooms, but to hit the mission path in faithful service. This is our calling as Resurrection people. Jesus is risen, in order to raise us. Let us no longer try to keep the world out in fear, let us go out into the world to proclaim the Gospel of the Risen Jesus. Amen.

In Christ,  
Rev. Mark



# Trinity Times

## A Note From Session

Session will be listening to reports and suggestions/mandates regarding safe Covid procedures. As things change, so will we. We will now Pass the Peace during worship, if you are comfortable with being close and shaking hands.

The Board of Deacons and Elders met jointly on April 20<sup>th</sup>. We were challenged, as the leaders of Trinity, to prayerfully discern where God might be leading all the work of Trinity.

Trinity's committees have been busy.

**Community Outreach**, with Pam Bloom as chair, is collecting Walmart gift cards (available through Scrip) to be donated to Homesafe of Ashtabula. Julie Sundquist from Homesafe will share a minute for mission with us during worship May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Bike and Build will be visiting us June 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>. Plan to share Saturday dinner with this amazing group of young adults.

**Property and Finance**, with Beth Dougherty as Chair, continue with projects to maintain the church property.

**Fellowship**, with Nancy Sabo as Chair is planning our summer worship/picnic at Lake Shore Park in August. East Side has been invited to join us.

**Worship and Music** – Session is in charge of the responsibilities at this time until such time that the committee positions are filled. We are blessed to welcome Eric Brewer to be our pianist during worship.

**Ministerial Relations Committee**, Mary Belding, Pam Bloom, Beth Dougherty, and Dale Fassett are available for any questions or concerns of the congregation and the pastor.

**Yoke**, Craig Reiter, Beth Dougherty, and Mary Belding will meet as needed with East Side' members of the committee (Cathy Burnham, Doug Gill, and Jim Booth). Please continue to pray with us for success in this endeavor.

If you have any questions or concerns for any of these committees, or want to join them in their work, please contact the chair of the committee.

We look forward to continuing to worship and work together to strive to discern where God would have Trinity move. Please keep us in your prayers.

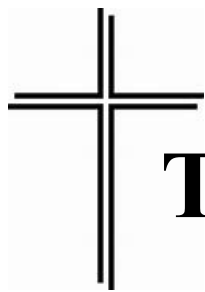
Blessings,

Mary Belding, Clerk

## Prayers

Annika Kelner, Eli Strock, Greg Elliot, Beverly Cigani, Ellen, Dale Albert, Chris Gurgel, Jodi Westover, Brian Mathers, Sarah Cantrell, Tracy Rowe, Family of Tom Luce, Ken Babcock, Marion Shipman, and Stephen McClure





# Trinity Times



2022 per capita is \$34.91

## **Property and Finance**

On April 3, a congregational meeting was held to vote on the session approved proposal brought forth from the Property and Finance committee. The congregation approved Gabor Enterprises, Inc. to perform the repairs to the bricks and mortar. The cost for this project will be \$35,850.00. To date, the Capital Improvement Fund balance is \$12,840.71. The Jill Huggins Memorial Fund has agreed to pay up to 50% by matching what we as a congregation can contribute. We are in the process of meeting with Gabor Enterprises to finalize the project and are hopeful that work will begin near the end of May, beginning of June.

We also have made contact with S&B Flooring who has been approved to stretch the chancel carpet. The carpet is in three sections. All furniture must be moved from each section so it can be stretched. By furniture I mainly mean the organ and piano! After this has been completed, it will be important to have the piano tuned. We are hopeful to get this scheduled soon also.

We continue to work on other needs to preserve the building and grounds and finances.

We are so grateful to all the people who have supported and continue to support the committee. Your monetary donations, muscles, prayers, and your time is greatly appreciated. Without YOU we would not be able to achieve all the great things from the past and those to come in the future.

God continues to lead us to do amazing things. Thank you.

Beth Dougherty, Rich Fassett, Craig Reiter, Norm Jepson, Josh Hall, Terry Karvonen, Mark Mong, Hobart Shiflet

## **Community Outreach**

The Community Outreach Committee did not meet in April due to the Joint Session and Deacons meeting.

For the months of April and May we are assisting Homesafe with donations of gift cards for their emergency use. Please purchase a gift card from Scrip and leave with Mary and/or Dee. We will then present all of the cards from Trinity to Homesafe at the end of May.

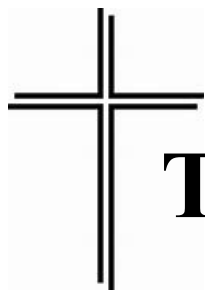
Julie Sunquist will be speaking during Church on Sunday, May 15, 2022, regarding what Homesafe does and how we as a Church community might be able to assist.

Bike and Build is able to be on the road again in 2022. They will be traveling through Ashtabula and into the doors of Trinity on Saturday, June 25, 2022, and back out before church on June 26<sup>th</sup>. We will have dinner and conversation with them on Saturday evening after which the entire group presents to the church information regarding their summer cycling tour and mission. Everyone is invited. If you are not familiar this is a group of young adults ages 18-29 bicycling across the U.S. learning about and raising funds to assist affordable housing organizations such as Habitat for Humanity.

In closing the Community Outreach Committee would like to thank Ruth Ann Ayers for many years of service to this committee and the Church, she will be missed.

Nancy Sabo, Ruth Allen, Ruth Ann Ayers, Kathy Fassett, Barb Beatty, Dee Fassett, Mary Belding, Rev. Mong, Joyce Kren, Pam Bloom

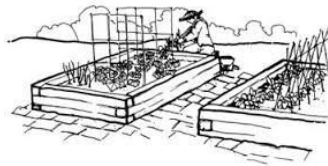
***Sharing Brings Joy to Us.... To Others.... To God***



# Trinity Times

## The Eden Project

Our motto is "Growing Food, Growing Faith".



Spring *is* on its way!!! Share some ideas of what you want to see in the garden.

You are welcome to join us in the garden. Help us plan and look forward to spending some time in the garden.

Hopefully, we will be able to provide some nutritious, enjoyable food again this year. The project started out with much help from many people. We have been able in past years to donate produce to the International Harvest soup kitchen located at the Dream Center at West 57th Street and Washington Avenue. We have brought produce into the church to share with the congregation whenever possible.

Our two wonderful benches donated in honor of the Hoffmans are on the north east corner of our garden area and are still as nice as new. Our Ashtabula neighbors respectfully use them.

I am proud that Trinity Presbyterian Church recognizes the need to provide nutritious food to those in need.

Respectfully submitted:

Joyce Kren and Mary Belding

## Scrip

Thanks to all who continue to purchase gift cards from scrip for gifts, groceries, gasoline, and more.

With spring projects coming up, keep the possibility of using scrip cards for large or small projects around your home. We can order your cards and have them within a week—so plan ahead!

Peace and Blessings,

Mary Belding

Dee Fassett



## Ministerial Relations Committee (MRC)

The MRC is available to discuss any concerns that you might have. This committee was formed to assist in providing a healthy and united congregation. If there is something you need to discuss, we will listen and react accordingly.

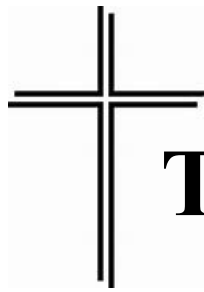
Please give us the opportunity to work with you for a resolution and not risk damaging relationships.

Dale Fassett, 440-228-4119

Mary Belding, 440-862-6786

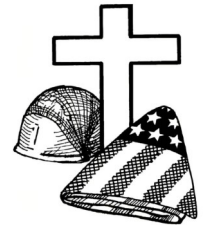
Pam Bloom, 440-344-7277

Beth Dougherty, 440-661-1416



# Trinity Times

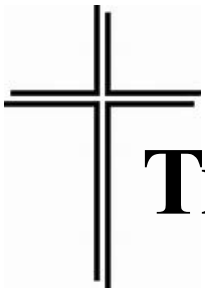
MEMORIAL  
DAY



AMERICAN  
ANTHEM  
CEMETERY  
CEREMONY  
COMMEMORATE  
DECORATION  
FALLEN  
FLAGS  
FLOWERS

FREEDOM  
GRAVE  
HALF MAST  
HEROES  
HOLIDAY  
HONOR  
MAY  
MEMORIAL  
OBSERVANCE

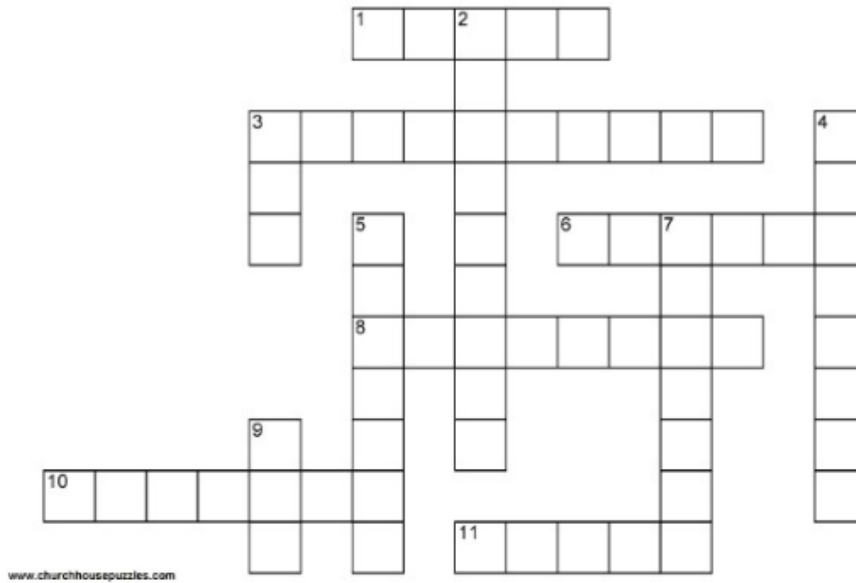
PATRIOTIC  
REMEMBRANCE  
SACRIFICE  
SALUTE  
SERVICE  
SOLDIERS  
TAPS  
VETERANS  
WAR



# Trinity Times

## Mother's Day

Matt 19:19 Honour thy father and thy mother...



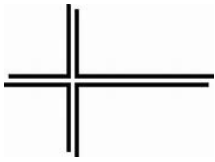
### ACROSS

- 1 Where did you get the information to honor your mother?
- 3 This is a special day to do things for your mother
- 6 If your mom drinks this you can make it for her
- 8 Tell your Mother this for the being the best mom in the world
- 10 Color one of these and give it to your mom
- 11 Tell this person thank you for the mom that you have been blessed with

### DOWN

- 2 You should try making this for you mom
- 3 This is the name of the person who gave birth to you
- 4 Give your mom a break and do this for her so she can have the day off
- 5 What book of the Bible has the scripture about honoring your mother?
- 7 This is something you can pick and give to your mother for Mother's day.
- 9 This should be the first thing you do when you see your mom.

**WORD BANK:** Bible, breakfast, cleaning, coffee, flowers, hug, jesus, matthew, mom, mothersday, picture, thankyou.



# MAY 2022

Website [www.trinityashtabula.org](http://www.trinityashtabula.org)  
 Email [trinitypres04@gmail.com](mailto:trinitypres04@gmail.com)  
 Elder On Call: Mary Belding 440-862-6786

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <i>May Day</i> Communion Face-Face Worship 9:30am	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Al-Anon 7pm	<b>4</b> Bible Study 10am East Side Card group 7pm	<b>5</b> National Day of Prayer Bible Study 7pm <i>Cinco de Mayo Day</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Mother's Day</i> 24 A Meal Collection Face-Face Worship 9:30am Video Worship 	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Al-Anon 7pm	<b>11</b> Bible Study 10am East Side Property and Finance 6:30pm N/A 7pm	<b>12</b> Bible Study 7pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Face-Face Worship 9:30am Video Worship	<b>16</b> MRC 6:30pm	<b>17</b> Al-Anon 7pm	<b>18</b> Bible Study 10am East Side Session 7pm N/A 7pm	<b>19</b> Bible Study 7pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
<b>22</b> Face-Face Worship 9:30am Video Worship	<b>23</b> Presbytery meeting 6:30 pm	<b>24</b> Al-Anon 7pm	<b>25</b> Bible Study 10am East Side Book Club 7pm N/A 7pm	<b>26</b> Bible Study 7pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Face-Face Worship 9:30am Video Worship	<b>30</b> 	<b>31</b> Al-Anon 7pm		<b>Mark's Office hours</b> <b>Beginning 5/1/2022</b> 	<b>Trinity</b> Tuesday and Thursday 8:30am-11:30 am 12:00pm-2:30pm	<b>East Side</b> Monday and Wednesday 8:30am-11:30 am 12:00pm-2:30pm