

# Trinity Times

NOVEMBER  
2016

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. It is with great pleasure and anticipation that I begin my call as the Pastor to the Trinity Presbyterian Church. The excitement has been building in the community for several months now and we have begun a new season together serving and worshiping our God.

I would be remiss if I did not take a brief moment to express my thankfulness and gratitude for all those who have helped my family and I transition here to Ashtabula. Many have helped us, both materially and spiritually, make the change from Cincinnati to Ashtabula and I thank God daily for the blessings they have given us.

I wish to thank the Pastoral Nominating Committee for being a wonderful resource when it came to finding a house and settling in. They were not only helpful but also never complained about my incessant phone calls and emails.

I wish to thank the Jepson's for housing Liz and the boys during their first week of school. I was greatly relieved to have the ones dearest to me in such capable and gracious care.

I wish to thank the moving committee who spent a cool but humid morning, not only moving boxes but setting up beds and unpacking our things.

I wish to thank the food committee for providing such delicious and enjoyable food for our first week in Ashtabula.

I wish to thank the welcome committee for hosting the meet and greet events for both Liz and myself. We enjoyed our time of fellowship and appreciated the opportunity to get to know people.

Lastly, I wish to thank to thank you, the reader. You have endured and persevered as a part of the Trinity circle whose life has been at times been difficult but also rewarding. We have made a new beginning together and together we will move more forward into the Kingdom of God which awaits us in Christ Jesus. With excitement for a new opportunity and with a little trepidation for an unknown future, we have set sail together. Let us weigh anchor, let loose the lines, and hoist the sails. But, most importantly let us all get on board and set sail together!

In Christ,  
Rev. Mark

**Note from Session:**

Your session is moving ahead with Rev. Mark, looking for ways God is calling us to share His love.

Jessie Smith has graciously accepted the task of heading the Christian Education committee, with assistance from Rev. Mark.

Session has approved several projects (updating our security system, AC for the office area, getting quotes for repair of the front sign and front window) suggested by the Property and Finance committee all of which are part of a generous gift from the Jill Huggins estate.

There will be an elder on call each Sunday following the worship service to hear any suggestions or questions you may have for session. Please let us know what your concerns and joys are.

At the Installation Service on October 2, we, as members of Trinity, made promises to our new pastor. Among them were: we agree to pray for him, to encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is head of the church.

We will provide for his welfare, stand by him in trouble and share his joys. We will listen to the word he preaches, welcome his pastoral care, and honor his authority as he seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord.

It is my prayer that we will keep these promises, trust Mark, and help him any way we can.

Blessings,

Mary Belding, Clerk of Session

**Treasurers Report for September 2016**

Income: \$ 8,537.00

Expenses 16,165.08

- 7,628.08 Shortage for September

Our deficit amount for January-September is -\$31,483.80. Expenses for September are not the norm mainly because of some transition expenses. We are using withdrawals from our Investments to manage this deficit.

The good news is our income is more than expected and our expenses are less than expected. The deficit for the year was predicted at -\$49,532.28. Lets try to make it look much better by the end of the year.

On a personal note, I am very excited about the changes that have come about just since Pastor Mark has started to lead us. More people in church. More children in church. New things happening. Excitement everywhere. We have a great future in front of us.

Treasurer,

Lois J. Fassett

## **Community Outreach**

Santa's workshop will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 10 a.m. to Noon at the Woodman Avenue Estates Community Room. We will be asking for assistance in providing merchandise and wrapping supplies as well as anyone who would like to join us with Santa's shop. The preparation for this will be held on Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at Trinity starting at 6 p.m.

## **Eden Project**



We had a good season!

Much produce has been taken to the Dream Center and shared with our congregation on Sundays. Thanks to all who helped!

A special thank you to Beth and David Adams for the memorial benches which have been placed in the garden. These benches are in memory of Beth's parents, Molly and Phil Hoffman. What a great addition to our green space!

Speaking of "green", the benches are made of recycled plastic jugs.

Dale, Mary, and Liz put them together, and Todd McGill "planted" them.

Stay tuned: We want to add raised flower beds in front of the benches. If you are thinning out perennials, we will happily incorporate them into our "Friendship Garden".

Blessings, Joyce and MaryB

## **Trinity Book Club**



Trinity Book Club will meet on Tuesday, November 15th, at 7:00 pm in the Hoyt Room to discuss *The 13th Gift* by Joanne Huist Smith. The book is a heartwarming Christmas story about how a random act of kindness transformed one of the bleakest moments in a family's history into a time of strength and love. It is a true story and takes place in Dayton.

Pat Strock will be the hostess and Melanie Todd will lead the book discussion. Please RSVP to Meghan Davis at [992-8362](tel:992-8362).

## Christian Education

### Adult Education Class

During Sundays in Advent from 9:30 – 10:15am, Rev. Mark will be having an adult education class on our basic Presbyterian beliefs. The topics for those classes will be as follows:

- **November 27th**      **Revelation**
- **December 4th**      **Creation**
- **December 11th**      **Sin**
- **December 18th**      **Incarnation**

Everyone is invited to attend and no prior understanding of scripture or doctrine is necessary. Just come as you are. Childcare will be provided.

### Advent Cluster Worship

On Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, Trinity will be hosting our Cluster's Fall Gathering. We will be celebrating the Advent Season with a cluster worship service in our sanctuary. The participating pastors and congregations will be leading us in a time of Christmas Carols and Christmas Lessons. Following the service, we will be enjoying a time of light refreshment and conversation. Please join us in a time to worship God as Presbyterians in Ashtabula and as a time to strengthen the bonds of fellowship as Presbyterian Congregations.



## LOOK AT THESE FACES!

Please consider helping with our growing Sunday School. These kids deserve it! Our nursery is also in need of volunteers. Please sign up or speak to Jessie Smith for more information.

## Stewardship

The Stewardship committee has been very busy. We had four speakers giving information about the Peace and Global Witness offering. 75% of this offering goes to the Presbytery of the Western Reserve and 25% was earmarked to the Dougherty River Project. Can you believe –\$625.00 was given for this project. Thanks to everyone!

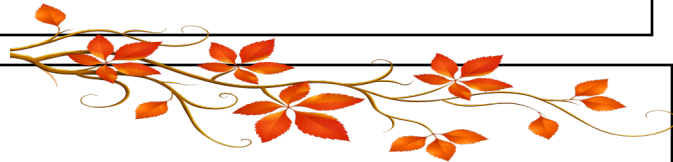
The annual Stewardship campaign began on Oct. 16th and will end on November 6th. Pledge cards can be turned in or mailed at any time. Letters and pledge cards have been mailed to members and friends of the church.

Our Sunday School children have made the wonderful hands of Abundant Joy. This has taught the children about the purpose of stewardship, as well as providing reminders of the campaign for everyone.

Stewardship will host a soup fellowship on October 30th. Soups will be provided by a member of each committee.

Please prayerfully consider your pledge. With your help, Trinity Presbyterian Church will be able to continue to grow and carry on God's

ABUNDANT JOY...OVERFLOWING GENEROSITY  
2 Corinthians 8:1-7



Stewardship---an act of thanksgiving and gratitude for what God has done and is doing. Stewardship is a response we make in gratitude to God for what God has given to us. It is an intentional, planned, proportionate giving of our time, talent and treasure.

Trinity Presbyterian Church has a strong reputation for being a deliberate, consistent church whose members express their gratitude in so many different ways. These include everything from financial obligations, to volunteering within and around the church (especially these past months). It means baking a pie for a special function or preparing a meal for a shut in. It means helping out with a funeral meal. It means sharing the evening with bicyclists from all over the United States or preparing lunches for those less fortunate. It means discipleship.

This year our Stewardship Committee has chosen "Abundant Joy...Overwhelming Generosity" for our campaign theme. The campaign begins on Sunday, October 16 and will conclude with Pledge Sunday on November 6. Our Stewardship Campaign covers four components that you will hear about in the coming weeks: Giving Our Day ~ Giving the Sabbath ~ Giving of our Spiritual Gifts ~ Giving of our Money. Many of you know from your own giving experience, whether it is time, talent and/or treasure, the joy and fulfillment you receive from giving back in gratitude. We have witnessed overwhelming excitement, joy and blessings at Trinity this past year. As we look ahead to the future, we need to prayerfully plan for the journey that God is leading us toward. No matter where or how we want to go, let us plan on getting there together.

Being a strong steward for Christ, living a life based on the principles of stewardship, is the purest way to deepen our faith. Your Stewardship Committee looks to all of you at this time in our church life to commit yourselves by giving your time, talent and treasure. These three, when added all together, total a "life is good" attitude that affirms our spiritual growth with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Gathering together... November 20th after worship!  
We are thankful to our Trinity Men. They will be preparing turkey, potatoes, stuffing and gravy. You are asked to bring your table service and a dish to share. Coffee and water provided.

**Gobble till you wobble!**

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**Attention  
Everyone!**

The kitchen is being organized and cleaned out. Please do your part. If you are using the kitchen for any reason please take home everything you brought with you. The amount of food that is being thrown out is really sad. Please **DO NOT** leave opened packages of food in the cabinets, on the counters or in the refrigerator. Food left after an event will be thrown away. We are not responsible for items left behind.  
Thank you for your help!

### *Christmas Poinsettias*



*In Memory  
Or  
In Honor*

If you wish to have a poinsettia in the chancel for services December 11, 18 and Christmas Eve please complete this order form . Plants will be grown by Ash/Craft. The cost per 6" pot is 5.00, they are available in red, pink and white. 10" pots are also available for \$20.00 available in red only.

Please take your donated poinsettia home with you after worship on Christmas Eve.

In Memory of

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order the following poinsettia (s): **6" pots**

\_\_\_\_\_ Red

\_\_\_\_\_ Pink

\_\_\_\_\_ White

Total plants ordered \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**10" pots RED only**

\_\_\_\_\_

Total plants ordered \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

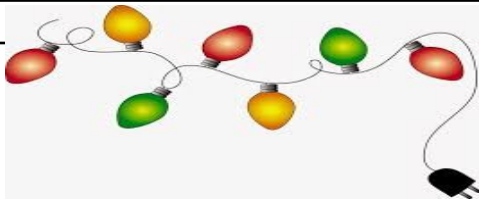
**Orders MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 1, 2016 with payment.**

**Checks made payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church; Mail or drop off in the church office.**





**FOR CHRISTMAS!  
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26,  
2016  
10:00 AM**



Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$125.00 worth of Scrip gift cards for the children at University Hospitals Rainbow Pediatric Oncology Unit. I delivered them on October 20th and the staff was thrilled. Again, thank you so very much.

Greatfully,  
Liz Evans



**Under the Rainbow**

## **KIDS DAY OUT!**

Being ever thoughtful of our time restraints and, often times stress, of the holiday season, the Deacons are planning an activity for the youngsters of our church family.

The event, Kids Day Out, will be on Saturday, December 10th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

We are planning several activities including a surprise for everyone the following day. No fair peeking or bribing your little ones to "spill the beans!"

We also hope this will give parents time to do some last minute holiday preparations!

We hope to see LOTS of little people at this event! Hopefully, Kids Day Out will become an annual event!

Mary Ann Jordan & Jane Wallace  
Co-Chairs of the Deacons

A Christmas Thank you for Rev. Mark Mong

If you would like to help in presenting Rev. Mong with a 'gift of gratitude' from the Trinity Family, please give your contribution to Mary Belding or Lynne Mukina before Wednesday, December 14th. Please mark on your envelope "GIFT". This gift will be presented to Rev. Mong during worship on December 18th.

Checks made payable to Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Thank you!





Blake enjoying Rev. Mark's Installation!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR  
DECEMBER  
WILL BE MONDAY, NOVEMBER  
29, 2016

9:00 AM NO EXCEPTIONS!

Email to:

[trinitypresbytn@windstream.net](mailto:trinitypresbytn@windstream.net)

Billy and Wiley what a great job guys!



**Kids can participate in worship too!**

If you are interested in being an acolyte please let the church office know.  
We will come up with a schedule so everyone can participate.

**Trinity kids are awesome!**

November 5, 2016  
Lion Club Spaghetti Dinner  
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm- Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Tickets are \$8.00 each.  
See Rich or Dale Fassett for more information.  
Tickets also available at the door.

**A Day of Creativity...the date has  
been changed to November 12, 2016  
from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm here at  
the church. Join Trinity's Card mak-  
ing group for a day of creativity, fel-  
lowship, and fun! No prior card making  
experience necessary! Questions and  
reservations please contact Beth Adams  
at 992-8428.**



# November 2016

**DEACON ON CALL: DONNA SHIFLET**  
**969-1536**  
**ELDER ON CALL: MARY BELDING**  
**964-6073**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11:30 Game Day	2 Deacons Mtg. 6:30 Card Ministry 6:30	3 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 6:30 Bell Practice	4	5 Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner 4:00—7:00 \$8.00 Tickets
<b>6 TIME CHANGE COMMUNION All Saints Sunday</b> 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	7  5:30 Weight Watchers	<b>8 ELECTION DAY</b> ROMEOS at Deb's  7:00 Al-Anon	9  Card Ministry 6:30	10 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 6:30 Bell Practice 7:30 Prop./Finance	11 10:00 Brown Bag Ladies/packing	12 Fall Fun Make It Take It! 9:00-1:00
<b>13 2¢ A Meal Collection</b> 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School Stewardship Mtg. After worship	14  5:30 Weight Watchers	15 11:30 Game Day  7:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Book Club	16  6:00 Comm. Council 6:30 Card Ministry 7:00 Session Mtg.	17 Prayer Group Thursday Ladies 6:30 Bell Practice	18	19
20 9:00 Choir 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School  <b>Thanksgiving Dinner after worship.</b>	21  5:30 Weight Watchers	22  7:00 Al-Anon	23  6:30 Card Ministry	24 <b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b>  <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>	25 <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26 <b>DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS 10:00 AM</b>
<b>27 Advent Begins</b> 9:00 Choir 9:30 Adult Ed. Class 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	28 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  Presbytery Meeting at Forest Hills 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:30 CE Meeting	29 11:30 Game Day  7:00 Al-Anon	30  6:30 Card Ministry			