

Worship with us: 9:15am Sunday School 8:30am Communion Service and 10:30am Traditional Worship

God's Love is for Everyone!

I remember back when I was in grade school, around Valentine's Day our teachers would assign us to make a Valentine box for the party in class. Usually it was some sort of shoe box, covered in pink or red paper with a slot cut in the top. In that slot students would place paper valentine cards with candy treats or small gifts. Maybe you did something similar when you were in school, or maybe your grandchildren or children create these



boxes each year too. It was always one of my favorite assignments. I was always very creative with my boxes. I would decorate them to look like my favorite animals or once I even made my box into a robot. I would take great care in writing out my valentine cards to my classmates and picking out what gift to give each one. For me, Valentine's day was never about the gifts I received but rather the gifts I could give. I was eager to show my appreciation for my teacher and my classmates. I was also always excited to have the sweet treats that accompanied the holiday. From chocolate, to conversation hearts, to sweet tarts, I would carefully unpack my Valentine box at the end of the party and revel in each candy snack!



Valentine's Day really is one of my favorite holidays. Not because of Hallmark reasons you might think of or the sugar rush after I devour all my candy and chocolates but because I think on Valentine's day we get to see a glimpse of God's great love for us. And here's the thing, God's love is for EVERYONE, not just those with a significant other or a spouse or a close family, but God's love is for all people. It's a gift that we are given that far outshines any candy treat we might give or receive.

This year in February we have a few special opportunities for you to experience the Love of God. The first is our **"Sweetheart**

Dinner" on Sunday February 10th after worship. As a family of faith we will gather to share a meal and appreciate the love of God as shared through the creations of our youth and children in our annual art show! Then on **February 27th at 6:00pm we will join together in our first Dinner Church** worship night. Dinner church will take place in the Fellowship Hall and will be a casual gathering to share food, fellowship, and fun! All are welcome to come and encounter the love of God in this new *Fresh Expression* of church! I hope you'll join us in February as we grow together as followers of Jesus Christ and as a faith community. And I hope you know that God Loves You more than you will ever know!

In God's Grace, Pastor Andrea

Upcoming Events



Jesus is EVERYONE'S Valentine! Come share a special lunch with your church family on **Sunday, February 10th** after worship as we celebrate the love of Christ for us all. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or a dessert to share.

Please join us for **Trinity Taco Tuesday** on February 5th at 6pm. We will meet in the back room of Guajillo's Cocina Mexicana on Wooster. This will be an information Bible study led by Pastor Andrea and Helen Dukes and we are inviting the community.

Join us Saturday, February 23rd for a fun-filled **Game Night** starting at 7pm. Please bring your favorite board game and a snack to share.

Come skate and twirl your way around the ice. Trinity Church is having an **Ice Skating Party** from 3:30-5:30pm on Sunday, February 24th at BGSU Ice Rink. This is for ALL ages (unless you fear breaking a hip). Please sign up at the Information Station so we know how many to expect.



All children and youth are invited to participate in **Trinity's Art Show**. Create art pieces that depict *"The love of God is for everyone."*. Each person may submit more than

one piece and you may use any type of materials for your artwork. If you would like to participate, but do not have materials, please let Beth know. Remember to submit the artist's name, age and the title of the art piece. We will display the artwork in the Fellowship Hall for a full week (starting with our Sweetheart Dinner) and then



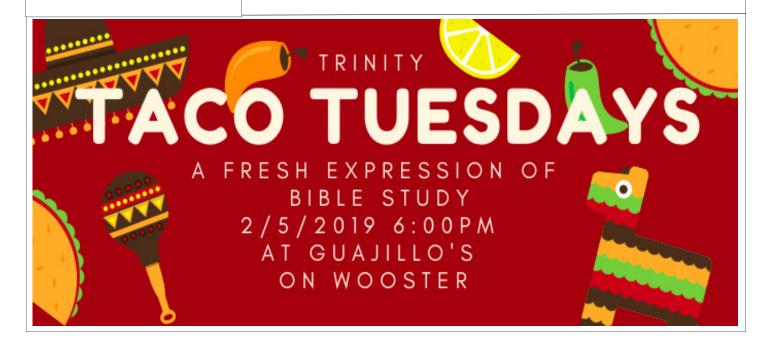
you can take your work home after church on Sunday, February 17th. Everyone receives a prize for participating, so be creative and join the fun! Submissions are due by Wednesday, February 6th.

"GOD, BEING RICH IN MERCY, BECAUSE OF THE GREAT LOVE WITH WHICH HE LOVED US, EVEN WHEN WE WERE DEAD IN OUR TRESPASSES, MADE US ALIVE TOGETHER WITH CHRIST - BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED." ~ EPHESIANS

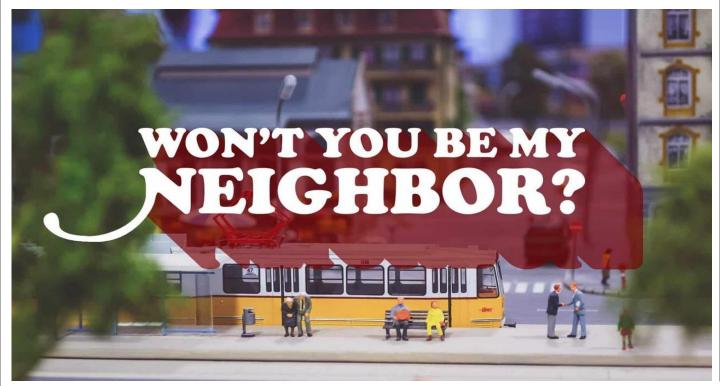
2:4-5

Mark Your Calendar For These Upcoming Events

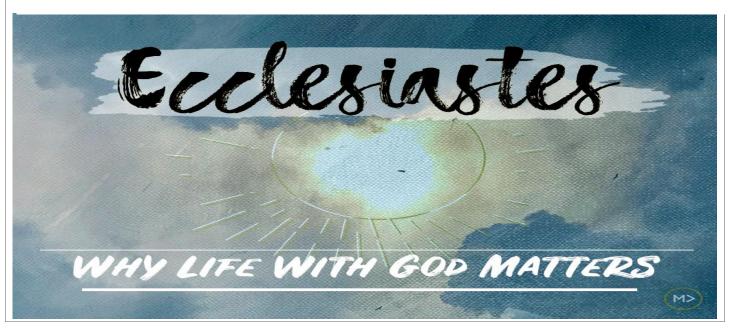
Tuesday, March 5th at 6pm—Trinity Taco Tuesday Wednesday, March 6th—Ash Wednesday Wednesday, March 13th at 3pm—Ecclesiastes Bible Study Sunday, March 17th from 3-5pm — Youth Group Wednesday, March 20th at 3pm—Ecclesiastes Bible Study Wednesday, March 27 at 3pm—Ecclesiastes Bible Study Wednesday, March 27th at 6pm—Dinner Church Sunday, March 31 at 11:30am (after 2nd service) — Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle (Youth Group Sponsored) Sunday, March 31st from 3-5pm — Youth Group Tuesday, April 2nd at 6pm—Trinity Taco Tuesday Wednesday, April 3rd at 3pm—Ecclesiastes Bible Study Sunday, April 7th from 3-5pm—Youth Group Wednesday, April 10th at 3pm—Ecclesiastes Bible Study Saturday, April 13th at 10am—Easter Egg Hunt (Open to the Community) Sunday, April 14th—Palm Sunday Sunday, April 14th from 3-5pm—Youth Group Thursday, April 18th—Maundy Thursday Friday, April 19th— Good Friday Sunday, April 21st — Easter Sunday Wednesday, April 24th at 6pm—Dinner Church



Beginning in February, Pastor Andrea will be sharing a worship series entitled, **"Won't you be my Neighbor?"** Each week we will look at scriptures that teach us what it means to be a good neighbor. Together we will learn how we can support our neighborhood and share the light of Christ around Bowling Green as followers of Jesus. Join us as we begin with the parable of the Good Samaritan on February 3rd.



During Lent, with the book of Ecclesiastes as our guide, we will explore why "**Life with God Matters**" in our weekly Bible study. We will begin meeting for this study on Wednesday, March 13th at 3pm in the Loyal Hearts Room.



Page 4

Do you like to sew, knit or crochet...or just chat with friends?

Trinity's Sew/Knit/Crochet Group has been incredibly busy providing lap quilts, prayer quilts and shawls, bibs and shirt savers, walker bags, wheelchair bags, etc. to nursing homes, hospice, and congregational members who are shut in, ill or recovering from surgery, etc. However, many hands are desperately needed to keep up with the demand. We welcome YOU to join us in the church library on Thursdays at 1:00pm. Ability to sew, knit, or crochet is



NOT necessarily a requirement (although highly appreciated); we can use you in other capacities as well! The door will always be open to new, interested members!

Breakthrough Goals for 2019

Each year as a church we are asked to set goals for the year that will help us reach out and share the love of God with new people. Our Ad Councils discussed these goals in the fall of 2018. While these goals are numerical, please remember that each number has a life attached to it, a life that can be transformed by the grace of Jesus Christ, if we as his disciples will be willing to live into his call on our lives! In order to meet and exceed these goals we will need to work together as a community of faith remembering that we are called to serve others and lead them to faith in Christ.

These goals are based around the 5 practices of fruitful congregations:

Passionate Worship: Average weekly worship attendance of 130

Radical Hospitality: Total professions of faith 7; Total baptisms 5

Intentional Faith Development: Total number of small groups/Sunday school classes 10, Average attendance in small groups 65

Risk Taking Mission and Service: Average number of members in outreach/missions 20

Extravagant Generosity: Average weekly giving to the annual budget: \$5400; Percentage of apportionments paid 100%



PAGE 6

Fresh Expressions Update

In February we are launching 2 new Fresh Expressions! These will be opportunities for our church to reach out into the community to share the love of Jesus with others in BG. Our first launch will be Trinity Taco Tuesdays beginning on February 5th, at 6pm. This will be an informal Bible study led by Pastor Andrea and Helen Dukes. The group will

be in the back room at Guajillo's Cocina Mexicana on Wooster St. next to Dairy Queen to discuss the Bible and how it relates to today's world. All are welcome.

Our second launch will be the launch of our Dinner Church worship community. Dinner church will begin on February 27th, at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a FREE meal, music, faith conversations. and communion on the 4th Wednesday of each month. All are welcome. If you are interested in helping with Dinner Church please contact Pastor Andrea.

The Fresh Expressions Team invites you pray for us, to join us in serving, and to share these great opportunities with your friends, family, and neighbors. This is an exciting time and we are looking forward to see what God has in store for the future as we grow in faith and community.

DINNER CHURCH

February 27, 2019 6:00pm



What is Dinner Church?

A casual gathering for sharing food, fellowship, and fun. A safe place for all people to encounter the love of God. February Calendar HERE

"This is how God SHOWED HIS LOVE AMONG US: HE SENT HIS ONE AND ONLY SON INTO THE WORLD THAT WE **MIGHT LIVE THROUGH** HIM. THIS IS LOVE: NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD, BUT THAT HE LOVED US AND SENT HIS SON AS AN ATON-ING SACRIFICE FOR **OUR SINS.** DEAR FRIENDS, SINCE GOD SO LOVED US, WE **ALSO OUGHT** TO LOVE ONE AN-OTHER. NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN GOD; BUT IF WE LOVE ONE ANOTHER, GOD LIVES IN US AND HIS LOVE **IS MADE COMPLETE** IN US." ~ JOHN 4:9-12

General Conference 2019-St. Louis

The Council of Bishops has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. The

purpose will be to receive and act on a report the from Commission on a Wav Forward based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops. The 32member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and ap-



2019 SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

pointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.

At the General Conference at least 3 plans for the future of the UMC will be discussed, debated, and voted on by the delegates of the conference. Those three plans are: The One Church Connectional Plan. The Conference Plan, and the Traditionalist Plan. For more information about the plans http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/thevisit: please commission-on-a-way-forward-report-what-you-shouldknow

As links for live streaming become available we will share those in the bulletin and via Facebook. Bishop Gregory Palmer, our West Ohio bishop has called our annual conference to a time of prayer leading up to GC2019. Please keep the global church, the GC2019 delegates and the members of the UMC worldwide in your prayers over these next week as we prepare for what is sure to be an impactful event for the future of our denomination.

Relay News...

Girls Night Out – Glitz, Glamour and Girlfriends – March 15, 2019 – Hey ladies. Are you ready for winter to be over? Need something to look forward to? Tickets are available now for our 3rd annual girl's night out event. The event will be held at the Stone Ridge Golf Club and doors open at 5pm. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$300 for eight and include dinner, bingo cards and a gift. (Additional bingo cards can be purchased at the event.) For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Bev Robie at 419-409-0207 or bev@applied-imagination.com Save the Date cards are located at the Information Station table. Don't miss this opportunity for a fun-filled evening with friends and to support a great cause.

Daffodil Days – Hope blooms in our hearts. – Daffodil Days are coming the week of March 18, 2019. For a \$10 donation, receive one bunch of daffodils as a thank you. For a \$15 donation, receive potted mini-daffodils as a thank you. For a \$25 donation, instead of receiving flowers, you can support the Gift of Hope program where volunteers deliver daffodils to local hospitals and nursing homes. Order deadline is February 10th. Order forms are located at the Information Station table and can be turned in to any of our team members.

Relay For Life will be Saturday, May 18th, at the Wood County Fairgrounds. If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Bev and Ken Robie, Joanie and Gary Manning, or Gretchen and Dave Avery or you can sign up for our team at www.relayforlife.org/woodco All are welcome. Thanks again for all your support.



What Are Those Kids Up To???

This past month, our Youth Group started a Bible Study using Bible Journaling. This is a way of reading the Bible and taking time to respond to the insights you receive (often artistically). It allows a new way to engage with God's Word at a pace that allows you to pause, reflect, and respond to the wisdom you are receiving. We will continue our study throughout the year.

Our Jr. Worship has been studying "Shine Bright, Little Light!" which pairs up with Pastor Andrea's sermon series, "Jesus: the Light of the World."

On January 12th, it was great to see so many Trinity Folks join us at Al-Mar Lanes for a Church Bowling Party. *(See photos below.)* In February we will have chances to "party" together again though a Sweetheart Dinner on February 10th, Game Night on February 23rd and an Ice Skating Party on February 24th.

(In Sunday School one week, the kids made "royal necklaces" to remember the story of 8year old King Josiah and his decision to worship the Lord rather than idols.)





Winter Weather

Now that the winter season is upon us, we urge you to use good judgment when coming to church for a service or meeting. We always hope to hold service on Sundays, but if there is a snow emergency or the weather is severe, please check our Facebook Page and Channels 11 and 13 for cancellations. Thank you!





A big **thank you** to all of our returning committee officers and members for 2019. We couldn't do all we do without your willingness to serve and share your gifts and time with Trinity. We look forward to a great year for our congregation!

Our committee officers are: Administrative Council—Sandy Stoots Trustees—Drew Oswald Staff Parish Relations—Heather Janes Missions—Sheryl Sabo History— Beverly Miner Lay Member to WOC - Bob Miner Lay Leader - Amanda Parish Finance—Nicki Kale Worship—Joan Manning Relay for Life—Bev Robie Sew, Knit and Crochet—Jane Wyndham and Becky Fallon Bereavement—Jane Wyndham Fair Gates—Dennis Donley and Andrew Janes United Methodist Women—Helen Dukes

Thank you to ALL who helped with Martha's Kitchen this past Friday. Whether you helped cook, helped serve or helped to supply food... your support was very much appreciated!

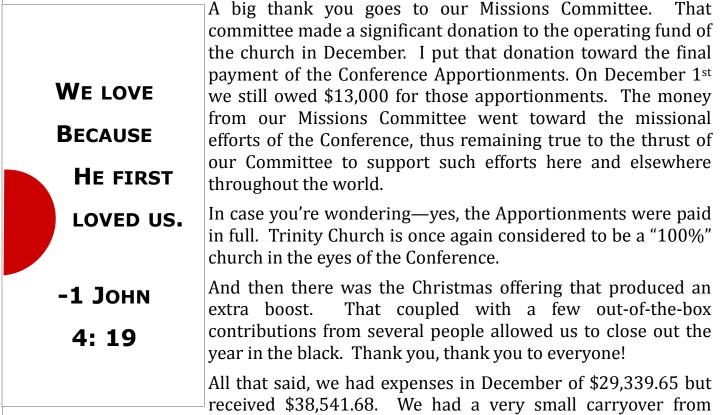
"Feeding The Hungry With Dignity"

Thank you, Trinity, for the food basket. I always share it with others. - Kathy Wittman

Finance Report for December, 2018

During 2018 I seemed to have not only used this column to keep you up to date on the financial situation of Trinity Church but also to sometimes encourage, cajole, and even beg you to assess your financial commitment to the church, hoping that its bank account would always be written in black ink.

Some months were really a struggle. A few months were somewhat better. But I'm pleased to report to you that we ended the year in a positive position.



November of \$225.98 and together all that gave us a start into January, 2019 of \$9,428.01.

Now \$9,000 sounds like a nice cushion going into a new year—and it's appreciated but it's not a lot. Each January year-end payroll taxes are due, the insurance on the building is due as well as several other smaller expenses that always become payable in that month.

Bottom line: while I appreciate everything you did for the church in December, I need—the church needs—you to continue your financial commitment to God's house. Many of our people are trying their best to do some good things in house and throughout the community, and they need our support to grease their skids.

Think about it. Pray about it. *Tim*

Esther Circle

Esther Circle will have its' February meeting on the morning of Wednesday, February 13th at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall. The program will be given by Marge George. After the meeting, our fellowship will be continued with lunch at a Bowling Green Restaurant for anyone wishing to join in. All Trinity women are welcome to attend.





Please join us for our Youth Group meetings — Sundays, February 3 and 10 from 3-5pm at the church. And also for our Church Ice Skating Party on February 24 from 3:30-5:30pm at BGSU Ice Rink.

February Worship Volunteers

Liturgists 2/3—Becky Fallon 2/10—Gaynelle Predmore 2/17—*Need Volunteer* 2/24—Laura Drumm

Greeters 2/3—Need Volunteer 2/10—Need Volunteer 2/17—Need Volunteer 2/24—Need Volunteer

Acolytes 2/3—Abby Oswald 2/10—Allie and Katie Parish 2/17—Evie Van Vorhis & Abby Oswald 2/24—Mathias Drumm

Coffee Hour 2/3—Ruth Ann Kramer 2/10—*Need Volunteer* 2/17—*Need Volunteer* 2/24—Bob & Beverly Miner

> Ushers Tony Aspacher Jeff Tipton David Avery Andrew Janes Bev Robie Ken Robie

14 Beverly & Ken Robie Sharon & George DeMuth Claudia & Tom Ehmke Heather & Nate Terry

jver



1 Marge Terry 3 Lois Mills 4 Al Wilder 5 Tim Smith 6 Lynne Hall 7 Deb Dunipace 9 Chris Sabo 10 JoAnn Herringshaw 11 Angela Beardsley 16 Dick Strickland, Drew Oswald 19 Mary Rife 20 Sandy Bauman 23 Jim Augsberger 25 Sharon DeMuth, Rosie Korn 26 Alan Kramer

Trinity has a new look!

Check out our new website <u>www.bgtrinity.org</u> for our latest news.

Also be sure to *"Like"* and *"Follow"* us on Facebook at **Trinity United Methodist Church**. Stay connected!

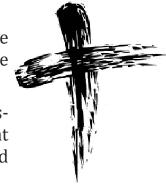
Ash Wednesday, March 6th

"Turn away from sin and believe the Good News" this is the invitation of Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent is a time in the life of the church when we are invited to consider our commitment to Christ. It is a time when we are offered an opportunity at a fresh start with God. This year we will be trying something new for Ash Wednesday. Pastor Andrea will offer "Drive Thru Ashes" from 8:00am-1:00pm. As you "Drive thru" the parking lot near the door with the maroon awning, Pastor Andrea will come and pray with you, give

you a Lenten devotional to use throughout the season of Lent and impose ashes on your forehead or hand.

Then at 7:00pm we will have a traditional worship service in the sanctuary that will offer music, prayer, communion and the imposition of ashes.

Each of these opportunities are meant to make Ash Wednesday accessible for all people. As we live into what it means to be a church that reaches out to our community, we will find that we can make the good news of Jesus Christ available in new and exciting ways!





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