

ON BEHALF OF REV. ALLISON AND THE STAFF
OF TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Mandy

Chet

Clem

Ross

Arnando

Mike

Betty

Taffy

Dennis

Nancy



Knowing How To Be Rich and How To Be Poor

*"I know how to abound and I know how to be abased."
(The Apostle Paul to the Churches at Philippi; Philippians 4:12)*

"Now ... Jesus ... asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son Of Man is?' ... 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ... 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it.'" -- Matthew 16: 13ff

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Matthew 6: 19ff

Relative to the rest of the world, as if from a great height looking down on the planet spread flat, and with ability to see the material and spiritual wealth of everyone everywhere, someone said that you would see the greatest percentage of such wealth within the boundaries of the Americas and there within the bounds of the United States and there within the Church of Jesus Christ.

The above words of Jesus as The Christ have great existential power and especially at that one supreme moment when Peter was faced with a decision that would forever change his destiny. He had called Jesus *The Christ*. He had testified. He made a commitment. To which Christ told Peter that his testifying commitment was a magnifying obsession and in no way a strictly human assessment: *"Blessed art thou, Simon Son of Jonah,"* blessed to have the power of the very Force of all creating break in upon your heart and soul and mind and might. Blessed to have driving within you a transforming faith, a new life hope. And on the strength of your confession, and for that matter any such confession anytime, anywhere, a church will be born and a church will be built and the very gates of hell will not contain or keep out the prevailing, transforming strength of that church.

Words of great power.

And not with any less power are His words of treasure. Note that treasure is not denounced, decried or diminished. It's an investment. Expecting return on investment. But what it is, and the wealth of it -- *it's where you store it that defines it*. There in Scripture and beyond, historical testimony to the magnificence of a new "heart" treasure that comes from the liberating, gate-breaking, Truth-setting-free engagement of life only found within Christ's Church. *Blessed are you*.

The Word, then, creating a Church against which those hell gates will not hold is what made The Apostle Paul thankful for the generosity of the churches in Philippi. And he wrote to them the following, *"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."*

Those words are worth reading again. *"I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have lots. And anywhere I am and whatever it is that I face I have learned the secret of having plenty and the secret of having want. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."*

Gate breaking treasure. *Blessed are you.*

What is the point of the Church? Why work to make it? Why give it anything at all -- sense, or time or dollars and cents. For just this reason. Those who are the called to be the church respond to -- or deny -- an obsession through the Power of the Spirit to make disciples, to teach, to baptize, to make systematic sense of the complex character of Christ, and by making sense meeting needs, the needs of the "least of these," Matthew 25 and Mathew 28, breaking down gates, releasing, setting free, saving.

And we need that now. We need to know just what church The Trinity United Presbyterian Church is and what it will be in the days ahead. What we do now, what we can do as we are so enabled to do it by the grace of God, what we do will determine what we will be.

On the financial end the Trinity church has been running deficits, lately significant deficits, for a number of years. These are daily program expense deficits. And it's not unusual for deficit spending to occur upon the departure of a pastor, during interim periods, so on. Transitional times are unilaterally challenging times. But also new life times.

Daily program expenses are not extraordinary "crisis" expenditures. A new furnace is, or a parking lot resurfacing, or musical instrument replacement. Daily expense is staff compensation, utilities, education, the day-in day-out maintenance of the sacred place and its mission -- gate-breaking expenses.

This is the time of year that our church considers such things and you will be receiving correspondence from leaders and it is my suggestion that we look hard and long to see what we can do, what we're empowered to do, what heart-transforming investment we might make. The leaders of our church need to look at what the church is spending and why, and is it being the best steward of its resources given by you who give with such dedication and determination. And likewise the members -- all of us -- need to look at what we're giving and why, and are we being the best stewards of the grace by which we've been empowered and sustained.

Washington Gladden served the First Congregational Church in Columbus, Ohio. He once gave, on two successive Sundays, some sermon thoughts about *Knowing How To Be Poor* and *Knowing How To Be Rich*. And when he thought with his church about how to be rich, he had one particularly lyrical passage that resounds with treasure storing and gate breaking, which I would like to include here:

It is commonplace to say that the one who knows how to abound must be one who knows how to make his abundance tributary to the welfare of his fellow men and women. ... The gift without the giver is always bare, and may be baneful. But money can be made to serve if wisdom and love go with it, and this is the great problem of the man or woman of wealth -- to find ways of dispensing his benefactions so that they shall express a true wisdom and a genuine goodwill. ... a difficult but not an impossible task, and the one who works it out becomes the heir of many beatitudes. It is a great thing to have -- such power as is concentrated in large wealth -- and to know what it

is for and how to use it. What a happy one must he or she be who is able to turn the streams of abundance into the channels of life; to give health to the sick, and comfort to the careworn; to send light into darkened homes; to clear the paths of opportunity before those who are hedged in by poverty and ignorance, and lift up the beacon of hope before their eyes; to replenish the torch of the lightbearers and strengthen the hearts of those who are working to fill the earth with the beauty of the Lord. In all our communities we have such men and women, and their works will follow them."

"Treasure," and "the gates of hell unable to contain" -- these are elements of the Word, the rock of Christ's Church. And relative to the rest of the world we have a chance to be numbered among, ultimately, those unique ones, "such men and women, and their works will follow them."

Grace and Peace and Joy in this Christmas time.

Dennis Allison

In the weeks ahead the Leadership will be communicating specifics about church expenditures and church needs.

Some suggested opportunities for financial stewardship:

Weekly, monthly or other regular giving.

Lump-sum toward year-end deficit reduction.

Designated giving to particular mission causes.

Endowment giving, such as in designating interest only to be used for ongoing day-to-day ministry and mission.

Endowment giving designating interest and/or principal to be used for a particular need.

Giftng of stocks or bonds to the church with instructions to liquidate upon receipt and use funds as indicated. Upon the advice of an accountant it may be tax-advantageous to give stocks or bonds to a church as opposed to selling and distributing proceeds.

Trinity United Presbyterian Church
830 Military Road
Zanesville, OH 43701
Unicameral Session Minutes
For October 20th, 2013

On Sunday, October 20, 2013, at 12:00PM we met in the Chapel for devotions led by Elder Tim Patterson. At the conclusion of the devotions and prayer, we moved to the High School classroom for the business portion of the meeting. Our Moderator Rev. Dennis Allison called us to order and service. A quorum was declared with 11 Elders present:

Clerk's Report: The agenda for October 20, 2013 was approved as amended along with the minutes from the September 15, 2013 meeting as amended. The Special Congregational Meeting of September 15, 2013 minutes were also approved. Various publications received have been placed in the library.

Facility Use Requests:

Cindy Sheets requests use of the Youth Room for a Stamp Camp meeting on November 9, 2013 from 9AM to 4PM. Approved.

Moderators Report: Rev. Allison had no report.

Pastor Allison was excused as moderator. Lew Sidwell served as temporary moderator. Elder Walburg moved that session approve the covenant of expectations and terms of call. The motion was seconded and discussed. The motion was approved, unanimously.

Pastor Allison returned as moderator.

Motion to call a special congregational meeting on November 3, 2013; that the congregation be asked to concur with the Pastor Covenant of Expectations and Terms of Call, as recommended by session and the pastor nominating committee. The motion was seconded, discussed, and approved.

Deacon Report: Minutes received.

Presbytery: Elder Frank Walburg and Rev. Allison attended the last Presbytery meeting.

Old Business: None

Worship and Music Report: Reported with no action items. On Sunday, October 6, 2013, 92 received Holy Communion.

The choirs are preparing for the services of Thanksgiving Eve, Advent and Christmas.

The Northside Churches' Thanksgiving Eve service will be held at Trinity at 7PM on November 27. We ask one member from each church to share personal Thanksgiving reflections about their church.

Outreach: No Report.

Christian Education: No Report.

Trinity United Presbyterian Church
Session Minutes for October 20th, 2013

Finance: The monthly finance report was presented. The balance figure for SeptemberError! Reference source not found. was negative.

We have filed for tax exemption on the shelter property. Our Treasurer has been instrumental in researching the issue with the past requests.

The committee will meet with Pastor Allison regarding the upcoming stewardship campaign.

Reminder to Committee chairs to please turn in budget request by December 1, 2013.

Report was accepted.

Personnel: No Report

Nominating & Membership: Working on candidates for 2 elder positions and 4 deacons.

Building and Grounds: No Report

Missions: No Report

Youth Committee: The youth are working at the Souper Bowl event today.

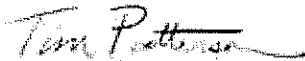
New Business: A question was raised about some members who are no longer attending.

Time of Sharing Joys and Challenges: We thank God for all the blessings at Trinity.
Joy - The youth group from New Jersey who stayed at our church donated \$500 to Trinity.

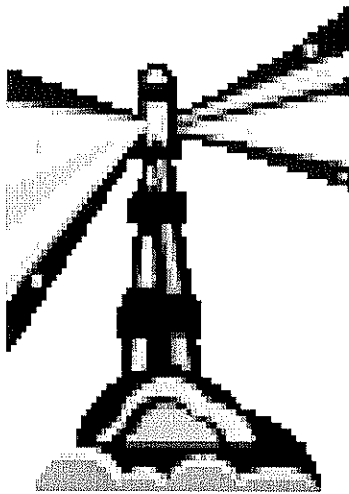
The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer at 1:05PM by Rev. Dennis Allison, Moderator.

Next scheduled Session meeting is November 17, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Patterson, Clerk of Session



DEACONS BEACON

December meeting is on Dec. 10th at 6:00 p.m. The Deacons on duty for December are: Duane Bunker, Marsha Mortimer and Charlene Noland.

The cookie coffee for December will be a holiday theme one on Dec. 1st.

We would like to thank

the Deacons that have fulfilled their term and are leaving the board. Again, thank you for your dedication to our church.

We will be welcoming the following Deacons in January. Emily Sheets, Mary Flanagan and Katie Sidwell.

P.A.W.S. COOKIE WALK

Once again, we will be hosting the annual PAW Cookie Walk. This benefits the local Animal Shelter. The cookies will be brought here on Dec. 12-13th and iced and decorated for the sale on Dec. 14th. The sale begins at 9:00 a.m. This is a great way to get your holiday cookies and no mess for you. They also have treats for the pets in your family.



MITTEN TREE is up and in the narthex for collection of the hats, scarves, mittens of all sizes. What we collect will go our Salvation Army for distribution.

Per Capita for 2014

Have you paid your per capita for 2013? This is what is due each member of the church each year. The amount is \$28.48. The church is responsible \$7291.00 for the year 2013. As of October we have collected \$2228.41 If you have not paid yet, please consider paying

before the end of the year.

Per Capita for 2014 is \$28.63. It is broken down as GA \$7.02, Synod \$3.25, Presbytery \$18.36 for the total.

YOUNG AT HEART

CHRISTMAS PARTY for the Young at Heart group will be held here at the church on Dec.10th. at 11:30 a.m. This will be a potluck and a white elephant.

Following the Christmas party we will be taking the winter off.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

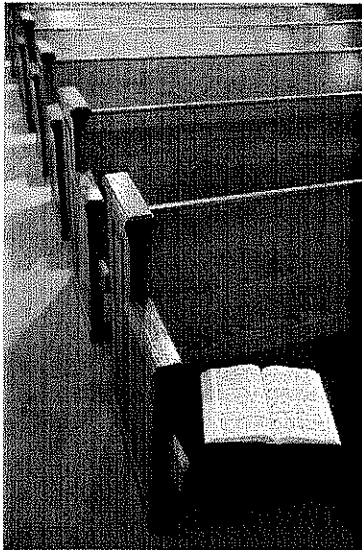
Do you like to sing and have fun? We are going Christmas Caroling on Dec. 8th. following the potluck. If you are interested, please meet in the youth room at about 12:30 p.m. We will re-

turn about 2:30– no later then 3:00 p.m. Please sign up in the narthex or call the church office (452-8482) so we don't leave without you!

If you know of a person that doesn't get out

much, please contact the office with their information (name, address, phone) and we will try to visit them.





A VIEW FROM THE PEWS

LADIES OF THE CHURCH you are cordially invited to an Advent Tea on the first Sunday afternoon in Advent, December 1, 2013 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Couburn United Methodist Church in the Wilson Center (gym) 3618 N. Maple Ave. Please come and share in this time of

fellowship. Music provided by Pure Heart.

ARE YOU A CAREGIVER? A Caregiver is anyone who provides help to another person in need. Join us for a monthly Caregiving Support group! We are open to any person caring for a loved one of any age or diagnosis. Learn about care issues, mechanics, community services and taking care of you! The group meets at The Carr Center 1035 Beverly Ave. on November 21st from 1:30-3:00 p.m. This group meets the **THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH** at the Carr Center. For more information, please call 453-5417.

Tithe options are available. If anyone is interest in having their tithes transferred from their bank account to the church bank account on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, please pick up a form from the church office. Date options will be the 5th and 20th of each month and you can select to have your tithe transferred in a once per month or twice per month amount. Please note this is strictly voluntary. We are doing this for your convenience. A report will be given to Nancy twice a month so your individual contribution accounts will be accurate.

For any additional questions on this option, please call Taffy Tippett, Treasurer, at 454-1052.

CONGRATULATIONS to Bill and Joan Miska for being chosen as the Volunteers of the Year at The Wilds. They donate many hours during the year to this wonderful facility.

Also, Betty Ward has been chosen as a Hometown Hero for Education. She was recently honored at a breakfast at North Terrace Church of Christ.

SNOW DAYS as we have done in the past. If a level 2 snow emergency is declared on Sunday, the church is closed. We will try to make an announcement on the radio. If you feel that you can't safely drive to church, please don't try. We want you to be safe!

THANK YOU Bill and Melissa Cook and family would like to "Thank" the congregation for the many cards, calls and prayers during Bill's recent accident. He is home now and has been back to church.

NORMA Adams has reported that she is "cancer free" and would like to thank everyone for the cards and prayers.

THANK YOU to everyone who stayed and helped decorate the church on Nov. 24th. Many hands makes light work. The church looks fantastic!

DID YOU KNOW? Our own Clem Burton has a scholarship in his honor for organ studies in the amount of \$1000. This is for musicians between the ages of 15 and 25 to engage in organ study for the purpose of training to become church musicians. Applicants shall be resident of southwestern Ohio.

Clem was a organist at First United Methodist church in Middletown, Ohio for thirty two years.

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Eileen Bagent who passed away in November.

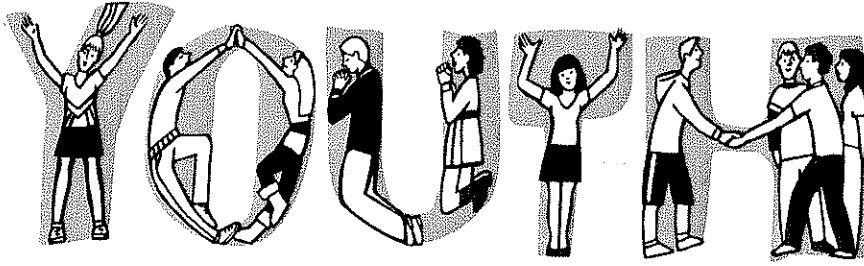
Eileen was the secretary for the church for 30 years. She also was involved in the Women's Circle of the church.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 4	Kelly Foster
8	Gigi Monath
13	Arlene Crooks
15	Amanda Allison
18	Donna Steinman
19	Krista Starkey
20	John Dixon
21	Emily Monath
22	Jane Reed
24	Mary Pollock , Emily Sheets
25	Marshall Hightower, Katie Sidwell
26	Mary Flanagan
30	Margaret Ware
31	Clem Burton



50+ Anniversaries for December Bob & Ann Nicholas
1854 Norwood Blvd # 351
Dec. 27, 1952



YOUTH GROUPS-YOUTH

COMMITTEE-PARENTS

**** Youth save the 1st Sunday of each month for Youth group and Parent Committee meeting following the church service.

YOUTH BAKE SALE

Nancy Thompson

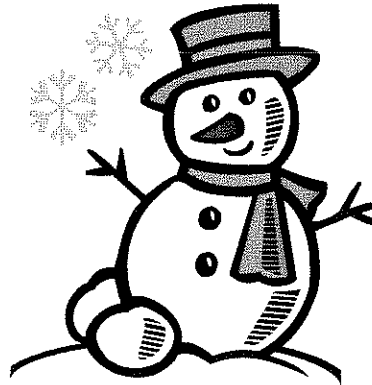
The bake sale money went to the "Angel Tree." The Youth have "adopted" 3 children of the tree.

Dec. 1st we will meet in the Youth room to travel to the mall to shop for the gifts. We will come back to the church to "show and tell" and be finished by 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8 the Youth will be reading Scripture at the Christmas program.

We will taking the rest of December off.

On January 5th we will be meeting and eating and discussing plans for 2014. We will be having an fellowship hour. Please mark your calendars now!



POINSETTIAS TIME

If you would like to give a Poinsettias for the Christmas Season, please return this slip to the office by **December 1st**. The cost is \$7.00 each. The same as last year.

Name: _____

_____ Given in memory of:

_____ Given in honor of:

Total number of poinsettias ordered: _____

_____ I want my poinsettias and will pick them up on Christmas Eve after the service.

_____ I do not want my poinsettias and would be happy for our Deacons to take them to the sick and the different nursing homes and hospitals.



What's happening this month

Christmas Program

Our annual Christmas Pageant is just around the corner! Please plan to be in church on December 8th to encourage the children and to enjoy the Christmas story with us. There will be a pot-luck luncheon after the service. The church will be providing table ware, beverages and Marilyn's famous baked chicken!

Caroling

There will be caroling after the potluck on December 8th. Learn how to play the chimes and add your voice to this wonderful yearly event! Everyone is welcome. You don't need to know how to read music- all you need is a willing heart and an enthusiastic attitude!

Sunday school on December 29th

We will be enjoying our usual after Christmas movie again this year for Sunday school on December 29th. This year we will be watching the new Superman movie starring Henry Cavill.

"A young boy learns that he has extraordinary powers and is not of this earth. As a young man, he journeys to learn where he came from and what he was sent here to do. But the hero in him must emerge if he is to save the world from annihilation and become the symbol of hope for all mankind."

We will look for the purposeful Christian symbolism in the movie and use it as a starting point for some great discussion! This class is intended for kids 4th grade and up as well as the adults. We'll see you December 29th in the youth room at 9:00!

Acolyte Schedule

December 1st

Emily Founds and Miranda Geis
Sub: Mark Patterson

December 8th

Connor Allison and Jonathan Patterson
Sub: Tillman Hawk

December 15th

Emily Ferry and Katherine Allison
Sub: Mark Patterson

December 22nd

Kenzie Vandembark and Taylor Ferry
Sub: Mark Patterson

December 29th

Carolyn Geis and Aaron Johnson
Sub: Tillman Hawk


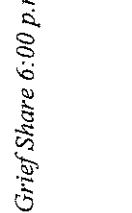
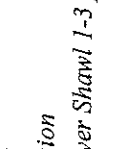
Snacks after Service

I'd like to give a big thank you to everyone who has signed up with the snacks after service! What a great way to visit and catch up with people each Sunday.

To clarify who brings what; the church will provide coffee, water, plates, napkins and silverware (if needed). If you would like to bring punch, the church will provide a punch bowl and glasses. While it is cold the church will have hot water for cocoa or tea as well.

The person who signs up gets to bring any kind of snack they would like! Snacks can include cookies, breads, veggies, fruit, cake, cheese, or anything you would like to share! If you have questions call Amanda at 740-624-1217.

December 2013 Events & Meetings

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1st Sunday of Advent Cookie Coffee Youth to shop Last day for Poinsettia.	2	3 9:30 a.m. Staff Presbytery meeting 10:00 a.m. Coshocton	4 Choir 7:00 p.m.	5 Men's Brkfst 8:00 Prayer Shawl 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible 11:00 a.m. WW 5:30 p.m. Men's Bible 7:00	6	7
8 2nd Sunday of Advent Christmas Program and potluck	9 Red Cross 1-7 Grief Share 6:00 p.m.	10 Young at Heart Christmas party 11:30 Deacons 6:00 Christian Ed 7:00	11 Worship & Music 6:15 p.m. B & G 6:30 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. Nutrition Class 7:00	12 PAWS Cookie Walk set-up	13 Cookie Walk set-up	14 PAWS Cookie Walk 9:00 a.m.
15 3rd Sunday of Advent Session Prayer Shawl 1-3 p.m.	16 Zemba 6:00 p.m.	17	18 Choir 7:00 p.m.	19	20	21
22 4th Sunday of Advent Bells playing and Children choir	23 Red Cross 1-7	24 Christmas Eve 	25 	26 Office closed,	27	28
29	30	31 Office closes at noon 		Each Sunday 8:00 Bells 8:30 Children's Choir 9:00 SS 10:00 Youth Choir	10:30 Worship	Narco M-S-F 7:00 p.m.

**Trinity United Presbyterian Church
Financial Recap**

Oct-13

INCOME

LOCAL MISSIONS:

General Fund	\$10,682
Memorial Fund	\$0
Youth Fund	\$20

Total Local Mission Income	\$10,702
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WORLD MISSIONS:

Total World Mission Income	\$514
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TOTAL INCOME	\$11,216
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EXPENSES

LOCAL MISSIONS:

Personel	\$13,023
Office Costs	\$342
Music	\$60
Education	\$167
Property	\$6,166
Congregation	\$130
Youth Fund	\$91

Total Local Missions	\$19,978
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WORLD MISSIONS	\$24
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World Mission commitment remaining	\$11,258
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TOTAL EXPENSES	\$20,002
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NET GAIN/LOSS	-\$8,785
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TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

830 Military Road
Zanesville, Oh 43701
Office hours M-Thurs. 8:30-3:30
Friday 8:30-12:30

Phone 740-452-8482
Fax 740-452-8483
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. for all ages
Worship 10:30 a.m.

We are on the web.

www.trinityup.org

NEW YEAR GIVING ENVELOPES

If you ordered offering envelopes for 2014, they will be in the narthex in the month of December.

Check your weekly bulletin for the exact date.

