

The Trinity Tower

May Newsletter is sponsored
in memory of my Father, Robert Kitzmiller,
by Bonnie Smith



2021

Volume 43 Number 5

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*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.
He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit"*

John 15:1-2

We will hear more on this scripture passage from John this Sunday, May 2nd, but until then, here is how Christ's words have made me ponder. When I read John 15 this week, the vine and branches imagery reminded me of our connections with each other and with Jesus. How, even in times of great sickness and chaos, we have remained one body in Christ. I also thought about the United Church of Christ and how, at our beginnings, 4 branches of the Christian Church came together with Christ at the center. We agreed to disagree on many things, but to remain in covenant as the branches of one vine.

Pastoral Care also came to mind. I know that many of you wonder when to call me. My quick response: if you think I should know, call me; if you think I may be able to help, call me; if you want to talk or just visit, call me! The Pandemic has tossed about our connectivity, but it hasn't destroyed it completely. Our prayer chain is a perfect way for us to remain connected to the vine. Prayer is powerful medicine. Sometimes knowing we are not alone is a huge help in times of crisis, illness, grief, loss and recovery.

I have compiled a list of times when you should call the church or the pastor:

- Times of illness or hospitalization
- Death of a loved one
- Hospitalization due to surgery
- Experienced trauma or other accident
- In times of sorrow, grief or depression
- When you are experiencing life changing events
- When you are faced with an important decision
- Life's celebrations such as weddings and baptisms

Of course this list is not exhaustive, but if you ever need to talk with me or any other member of the church, please do not hesitate to reach out! Together we are the branches all connected to Christ through each other.

Many Blessings!
Pastor Fred

**PASTOR FRED
WILL BE ON
VACATION
SATURDAY,
JUNE 5TH
through
SATURDAY
JUNE 12TH**



Financial Status as of April 25 2021

Envelope offering needed: \$61,251.00
Envelope offering received to date: \$56,662.34
Property Fund needed: \$5,236.00
Property Fund received to date: \$6,700.00

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET
TRINITY'S MUCH NEEDED
ON-GOING MINISTRIES:**

**The Blessing Box; Diapers for
TenderCare; Cancelled stamps for
the Brethren Home; Soda can tabs
for Hershey Medical Center; and
Ruth's Harvest. * * We are no
longer accepting Box Top Labels * ***

Consistory Meeting Synopsis - April 20, 2021

Regular monthly Consistory Meeting via Zoom – the following items were discussed:

Minutes from the March meeting were approved

Treasurer's Report: Karen Lentz reviewed the budget for March 2021. Scott Wehler provided a monthly report as well. Some of those points follow:

Envelop giving was below budget – year to date we are behind budget by over \$3000.

Contributions to the property fund were \$900 above budget, and over budget year to date

Parking space revenue continues strong. We are currently about \$1000 above budget

Utilities were above budget through March

Investment income continues to be below budget

Technology expenses were over budget as consistory approved some additional spending in January to help facilitate operating procedures

Parking lot maintenance is running over budget. This could be from snow removal expenses. Overall, we about \$1500 behind our budget in cash flow, but all of that difference and more is caused by unbudgeted IT expenses approved in order to improve our online worship service as well as some improvements in abilities to work from home.

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The endowment balance at United Church Funds as of 3.31.2021 was \$762,708.03 which is an increase of approximately \$5000 from February. The ACNB Trust account was at \$35,119.33 on April 2- up slightly from last month. These two balances would allow Trinity to tap that fund for capital improvements. By our policy, we need over \$647,500 to do so. That means that \$115,208.03 is available for a capital project. No new funds were added to the Endowment Fund in 2020 or 2021. The Payroll Protection Program loan that was received so that we could be assured that our staff would continue to be paid has been forgiven. We do not need to repay that money.

Pastor's Report: Wednesday outdoor prayer services continue through the Easter season. We welcomed 42 attendees at our Easter service at the Rec Park. The worship committee is also planning additional outdoor services as we inch our way toward resuming in-person worship at Trinity,

Technology: The technology committee has defined its purpose and areas of responsibility. Members are Georgia Hollabaugh (chair), Rayna Cooper (secretary) Kara Young, Luke Milhimes, Sue Churchill and Pastor Young. The committee meets the 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:30. *One pressing need is for additional people to be trained so that Trinity's on-line services can continue. Another team or two is needed so that these responsibilities can be shared and rotated. Please see/call/email Georgia if you can share your talents on Sunday mornings.*

COVID updates: Consistory continues to review current COVID conditions. There was a special meeting on Monday, March 29, 2021, to update our outdoor worship criteria. Another COVID meeting was held on April 6, 2021 to review the success of our procedures during Easter worship. There is another meeting scheduled for May 12 to determine when we will begin in-person worship in Trinity. Transmission rates have been consistently high; however many of our members are fully vaccinated. Consistory will review current data at that time and plan how these two conditions will affect our decision about returning to Trinity.

Church Empowerment Series – Pastor Fred, Rayna Cooper, Jane Malone and Joan Peck will attend (via Zoom) the third of three workshops outlining how to connect with new people in the “New Reality of 2021” on May 15. The sessions are led by Rev. Paul Nickerson who has done this work for many years. Remember the following information:

Personal invitations to others are the most effective way to bring new people to church.

Our first task was to identify **What is Trinity's purpose?** The overwhelming idea centered around service and worship. The team is currently working to develop a purpose statement that will tell others what Trinity is all about. Some current ideas are: “Inspiring joyful service”; “serving our still speaking God”.

Committee Reports – Representatives shared information from their various committees. The Property Committee has received all requested estimates. The priority repairs are roofs, masonry, parsonage front windows and parsonage bathroom which has not been updated for fifty years. Representatives from the stewardship, finance and property committees will meet on Monday, May 10, 2021, to discuss the best way to finance these projects. Then the committee will share the estimated costs of these projects.

Worship committee - planned to continue in-person worship opportunities on Wednesdays during the Easter season.

There will also be outdoor worship services scheduled for 9:00 a.m. at Rec Park on May 8, May 23, June 6, and June 20. An evening vespers service (7:00 pm) is scheduled for May 30 at Upper Temple at Camp Nawakwa

Education committee – Approximately 20 children and adults met at Rec Park on April 18 for our first Messy Church of 2021. Attendees tested their strength and endurance by doing the activities on the Biser Fitness Trail. Our next Messy Church is scheduled for May 23 at Under the Horizon on the Biglerville Rd. Pre-registration is required. Please call Deb at the office.

Consistory meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:45 pm. Additional meetings may be held as needed.

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 18 at 6:45 p.m. COVID discussion meetings are scheduled for May 12, and June 1 at 6:45.



Christian Education & Faith Formation Highlights!

May 23rd Scripture, Prayer and Pottery!!!
Under the Horizon Pottery
2650 Biglerville Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325



Messy Church is Intergenerational! Join us for worship!!!

RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT – Call Deb by May 14th



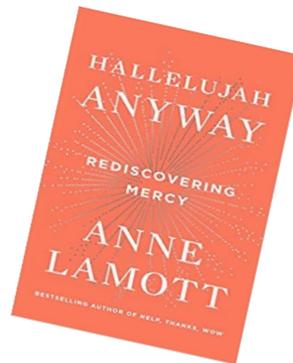
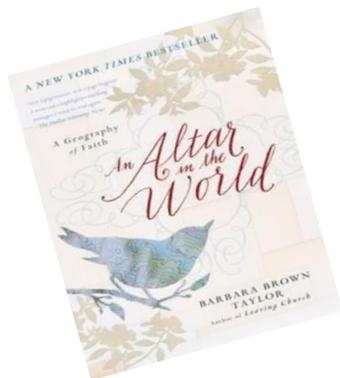
Faith Formation (our Education Committee) held its first Messy Church for this year on April 18 (3-5pm). It took place outside at the Kiwanis pavilion - Gettysburg's Rec Park. The theme was "Fit with Jesus".

We had a Bizer fitness trail activity at the Park. Different exercise stations were each marked with a different colored ribbon. After the mile long activity we met back under the pavilion to hand out small ribbons for completion of the course. (See the other picture on page 6) 11 children participated, along with family and helpers.

A banner and balloons added to a party atmosphere!

Summer Reading

Join us as we read two exciting books this summer at Trinity!



Mondays at 1PM

The Parsonage backyard!

Books are available at the church

June 21st through July 19th (Break on July 5th)

We will explore Barbara Brown Taylor's,
An Altar in the World

"I have no idea what you will see when you look at your life-but if you are tired of arguing about religion, tired of reading about spirituality, tired of talk, talk, talking about things that matter without doing a single thing that matters to yourself, then the pages that follow are dedicated to you. My hope is that reading them will help you recognize...some of the altars in this world."

August 9th through 23rd

We will read Anne Lamott's,

Hallelujah Anyway! Rediscovering Mercy

"I'm not sure I even recognize the ever-presence of mercy anymore, the divine and the human: the messy, crippled, transforming, heartbreaking, lovely, devastating presence of mercy. But I have come to believe that I am starving to death for it, and my world is, too."

Check out the Faith Formation link at
www.gettysburgtrinityucc.org for Children & Adults.

Property Committee Newsletter Notes

April 2021

The Property Committee met on April 19, 2021. Bruce Guiher reported on a number of issues. He has ordered mulch for the parsonage. A team of volunteers from the Property Committee will edge and spread the mulch on Monday, May 3. In addition, he will install a keyless lock at the back door of the UUG Church, a waterless trap cover in the baptismal tank and weatherstripping for the front door. We will hire a repairman to reattach loose fascia at the rear of the building. The loose fascia is close to electrical lines.

The Committee continued to review estimates. Terry Manning prepared a number of spread sheets to aid in comparison and interpretation of the various estimates. The following repairs were prioritized:

Roofing repairs:

- Replace roof over parsonage sunroom
- Replace seals between coping stones
- Replace upper EPDM roof
- Repair seams on EPDM roof over Fellowship Hall

Masonry repairs:

- Repair bell tower
- Repoint chimney on upper roof
- Repoint stone mortar joints in foundation
- Repoint other mortar joints where needed
- Repair crack in retaining wall by Fellowship Hall
- Wash repaired areas and apply water repellent to entire building

Replace front windows in parsonage

Renovate upstairs bathroom in the parsonage

The Committee will meet with both the roofing and masonry contractors to determine whether or not any of these repairs can be completed in stages so that the costs can be spread out over time. In addition, representatives from the Property, Stewardship and Finance Committees will meet on Monday, May 10, 2021, to discuss how to best fund these projects.

Other projects that will be scheduled in the future are as follows:

Air conditioning – our current unit that controls the air conditioning in the sanctuary is 32 years old. It has been recommended that this unit be replaced at the conclusion of this air conditioning season. This item could become high priority if the unit fails.

Exterior painting at Trinity and the UUG Church

Interior painting at Trinity

Flooring in classrooms, chapel, hallways and back stairway



HARTMAN CENTER SPIRIT WEEK UPDATED INFORMATION

We hope you are considering coming to Hartman Center Spirit Week this summer at Camp Mount Luther! If you aren't able to come for the whole week, that's ok! You can come for a day or a few days - or even for part of a day!

1. The brochure that was emailed last week for Mount Luther had the incorrect start day. ***The first day of this week of camp is Sunday, August 8*** (NOT Saturday, August 8). An ***updated brochure*** can be found [here](#).

2. ***Registration includes a Hartman Center Spirit Week t-shirt!*** When registering, please indicate the camper's shirt size: Youth: S, M, L, XL ; Adult: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, or 3XL

3. ***Penn Central Conference has agreed to pay 50% of camp registrations*** (after any other discount, scholarship money, or church contributions). When you mail in your registration, please enclose payment for your portion; the Conference will cover the rest.

MAY 2021 Camp Activities

April 30th - May 1st Men's Retreat at Kirchenwald

May 15th The Wittel Farm Growing Project Planting Day

May 16th Summer Camp Kick-off Worship & Picnic at Nawakwa



Jay Cutshall
May 18
Billie-Ann Guise
May 26
Francis Lyons
May 11
Marilyn White
May 16

2021 SPONSORS NEEDED!

Altar Flowers: \$25 Altar \$30 Piano
May 16, 23, & 30 September 12, 26
July 4, 18 November 14, 21
August 1, 29

Newsletters: \$50 a month
September November
October December

Times Monthly Ad:
\$35 to share the month
\$70 for the whole month

Coffee w/Friends

We hope to beginning meeting June 4th at the Ragged Edge

Lunch w/Friends

We hope to beginning meeting June 18th at Friendly's



Mark your calendars!

It is time to start thinking about and planning the Holiday Bazaar. We welcome your help, time, input and creativity. Please join us on Monday, May 3rd at 2pm

DIAPER DRIVE -TenderCare Pregnancy Center. A box is located inside the main doors at the church to drop of diapers. Any size, any brand. Cash donations accepted as well to purchase more diapers. **Outreach Committee**



Reminder: Knit for Kids

If you have questions or need the instructions, please contact me. The sweaters have tags in them that say they are knit by ladies at Trinity UCC, Gettysburg.

Need a baby gift? Baby blankets are available to help the Bazaar Coffers.

Call Suzy Miller (717) 334-0771 for more information or if you can help.



Do you have someone or know of someone graduating from high school, college, military basic training, etc, please contact the office by May 31st. We will need their name, where they are graduating from. What their plans are and/or their major/degree. We will celebrate them in June.



In our thoughts and prayers:

In our thoughts and prayers: Ashur Bowley, Dorothy Breininger, Thomas Busche, Darla Jean Christopher, Lois Grim, Joyce Golden, Mary Jane & Harry Hilbert, Lewis Hilbert, John Harrison Hoffman, Donald Hubbard, Sr., Evelyn Kretz, MacKenzie Kretz, Josh Langley, Mary Lovelace, Bob Miller, Kathy Murphy, Loel Rosenberry, Casey Mullooly, Ashlee (Black) Pyne, Tom Smith, Bill Swisher, Todd Taughinbaugh, Mary Timmins, Elizabeth & Sandy Topper, Mckenna Voss, Don Walsh, Teeyara Jo Weiant. *(Please notify the office when a name can be removed from the list).*



Our thoughts and prayers are extended to the family of Charles R. Kretz, Sr. who died Friday, April 23rd.

May God's loving embrace provide comfort and peace to the family during this time of mourning.



"Thanks to all that have expressed sympathies through cards and conversations on the passing of our father, **Charlie Kretz**. Your kindness will always be treasured. The family would also like to thank Pastor Fred for his visits with Charlie over the last couple of years and during his last weeks, as well as for the beautiful funeral service. In addition, thanks to Deb for helping to put the funeral bulletins together. Having Trinity to lean on has been comforting."

Terry Krietz/Pam Poland/Family

Dear Pastor & Congregation,

For more than 30 years the **Gettysburg Soup Kitchen** has been providing a friendly environment where adults and children can come to meet their needs for both food and fellowship.

We received your donation of \$500.00 and wish to extend our warmest thanks on behalf of our guests.

We look forward to you continued support. We greatly appreciate it! Thank you again!,

Sandy Lutz, Kitchen Supervisor

Dear Friends at Trinity United Church of Christ,

This past year has been a difficult one for all of us, ones that we have Never experienced before. As we all continue to navigate through these unprecedented times, we are deeply touched by your giving heart and your desire to help those most vulnerable in our community.

Your generosity enables us to continue to provide our traditional services, while expanding and creating new services as needs that we've never seen before arise. We thank you for your confidence in us, to be good stewards of the fund gifted to service others. Thank you for being a blessing,

Megan Shreve, Chief Executive Officer
South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP)



Thursday, May 27th @ 6:30pm.

The purpose is to look for needs of our neighborhood and community that our church may be able to help. It is actually how we came up with the idea of collecting diapers (7 years ago!). We will assemble at the church at 6:30pm and go from there. Please join us.

We will have our meeting following the walk.

Outreach Committee



Current ZOOM Meeting Schedules for May 2021

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 3rd @ 2:00pm | Bazaar |
| 5th @ 7:00pm | Pastoral Relations |
| 6th @ 7:00pm | Worship |
| 10th @ 7:00pm | Property/Finance/Stewardship |
| 11th @ 7:00pm | Personnel |
| 12th @ 6:45pm | Consistory - COVID |
| 13th @ 7:00pm | Finance |
| 17th @ 3:00pm | Called to Care |
| 18th @ 6:45pm | Consistory |
| 20th @ 7:00pm | Social Concerns |
| 26th @ 6:00pm | Christian Ed |

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Holy Communion	3 8:30a Mulching/Property 2p Bazaar	4	5 12p & 6p Prayer Service 7p Pastoral Relations	6 DEB OUT 7p Worship	7 DEB 8a-10a	8
9 Mother's Day 9a Rec Park	10 7p Property/ Finance/ Stewardship	11 7p Personnel	12 12p & 6p Prayer Service 6:45p Consistory COVID	13 7p Finance	14	15
16	17 3p Called to Care	18 6:45p Consistory	19 12p & 6p Prayer Service	20 7p Social Concerns	21	22
23 Pentecost Sunday 9a Rec Park 3p-5p Messy Church	24	25	26 6:30p Christian Ed 7:30p Property	27 6:30p Prayer Walk Outreach Meeting following walk	28	29
30 Trinity Sunday 7p Vesper Services at Camp Nawakwa	31 Memorial Day CLOSED					

Return Service Requested

Trinity United Church of Christ
60 E. High Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325—2319
(717) 334-7266

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Permit No. 199

Staff

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young, Pastor

Deb Guiher, Admin. Assistant

Karen Lentz, Account/Payroll Mgr.

John McKay, Director Senior Choir

Jane Eiker, Organist

Audrey Blackstone, Asst. Organist

Lisa Reinoehl, Housekeeper

Bruce Guiher, Bldg & Grounds Keeper

Joan Peck, Consistory Chair

Sandra Busche, Consistory Vice Chair

MAY 2021

Worship May 2021

May 2

Holy Communion

Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 9

Mother's Day

9am at the Rec Park

Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 16

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

May 23

Pentecost Sunday

9am at the Rec park

3pm-5pm Messy Church

Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 30

Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

7p Vespers at Camp Nawakwa

To access our on-line worship feed,
please go to our website:

www.gettysburgtrinityucc.org

or our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/GettysburgTrinityUCC

*Trinity truly believes that whoever you are,
and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

