

September 2022

TRINITY CALLING

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Grace and Peace to you all!

I happened to hear the cicadas talking with one another last night. What a lovely signal that summer is coming to an end! This month we will begin our Fall schedule, and I wanted to draw your attention to a few things.



Pizza with the pastor (Sundays, Sept. 11, 18, & 26, 12:30-2:30 p.m.): These are small group conversations where we will talk about what you love about your church, how it has added meaning to your life, and your hopes and dreams for our future. We will eat pizza, pray, and converse about what is on our hearts regarding our ministry. Please sign up in the resource room or by calling the office.

Heartland Conference Annual Gathering (September 22-23): This gathering will be held in-person with an online option at Westerville Community Church in Westerville, Ohio. Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins will be installed as our Conference minister. We'll hear great music and powerful speakers and share meaningful worship. It would be great to have a cohort from Trinity attend together.

Registration is now open! The cost of attendance will be covered by Trinity UCC's faith formation funds. If you are interested or have any questions, call our office today.

"Be the Church" sermon series: On Just Peace Sunday (Sept. 18) we will begin a worship series looking some different ways the church can be active in

our community and world. This series was inspired by our banner facing Perry Street. Here are the themes for a few weeks, just to give you a heads up.

September 18 – Just Peacemaking

September 26 – Fight for the powerless

October 2 – World Communion, Celebrate diversity

October 9 – Forgive often

October 16 – Protect the environment

October 23 – Reject Racism

October 30 – Share earthly and spiritual resources

That's all for now! I hope you all had wonderful summers. See you at church!

Pastor Karsten



Dear Trinity Friends,

Thank you for the flowers from Wilma Farmer and to TWT for the donation to the organ fund in honor of my birthday. And also thanks to Rick and Donna Dorsch who delivered the card from TWT.

Bill Borgen

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous monetary donation of \$1,000 for the Ecumenical Sharing Kitchen. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. Your continued support is a blessing to those in need in our community.

Sharing Kitchen board members

Dear Trinity,

On Sunday, June 26, we received the beautiful altar flowers that Susan Melter had lovingly given to the church in Jim's honor. We also enjoyed the chance to visit with Kathleen Rose when she kindly delivered them. Our hearts are filled with thankfulness to all of you for your thought and prayers.

Dave & Jeanne Fodor

Dear Trinity,

Thank you so much for the graduation card and gift. It is greatly appreciated.

John Bosler

Stewardship – in a New Dimension

Larry Clausing, Pastor Karsten and myself met on July 28 to discuss our Stewardship Campaign for this year. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss (with our new pastor) the history of our stewardship campaigns and to provide him with some background information and then give him some time to look it all over before our Stewardship Committee meets in September.

Everyone has a say in future planning for stewardship/generosity in our church. We will be moving into a new direction with the Stewardship Campaign over the next year or two in keeping with a changing church. Before we make any recommendations, though, we need to do a series of studies that will assist and enhance our spiritual work. You may be called upon to provide information for or take part in one of the actual studies. Thank you in advance for your participation.

We invite all our chairpersons/representatives of the church committees (and anyone else) to mark your calendar for Thursday, Sept. 8 for our Stewardship Campaign kick-off meeting. We will meet in the conference room at 3:00 p.m.

IF YOU CANNOT COME, PLEASE CALL TO DISCUSS. Having included committees' input in this campaign has proven to be very valuable.

KICK-OFF MEETING AGENDA:

Decide on the theme, pick out the materials, schedule the Stewardship Moment; Program Titles and Speakers. And, as always, we will need volunteers to stuff congregation letters that need mailed on two different dates.

Please plan to attend this meeting at 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8 in the Conference Room

Stewardship Committee

Dian Ewald, Larry Clausing and Pastor Karsten Snitker



Dear Trinity,

I would like to thank our friends at Trinity for the beautiful yellow flowers and an enjoyable visit with Shari Beidelschies while recuperating from a fall and injured knee.

Dan Johnson

What are *Kind Conversations*?

If you're like me, then you doubt that an online posting is at all conducive for conversation that could be called *kind*. But, what if this is an area our communities are needing the witness of the church? What if the church could provide an example of how to have conversation that is kind and curious and respectful, even in disagreement? What if our theology of Love, which God has for everyone, could be translated into generous and graceful conversation, that presupposes the inherent dignity of everyone and seeks to embody this through words and interactions?

We will practice this kind of conversation during our Kind Conversations posts. Each week a question about how our spirituality meets our daily lives will be posted. Feel free to respond on our Facebook page as you see fit. Feel free also to share this question with others in your life and see what they think. This is an effort build community and practice conversation that is worthy of who we all are as children of a loving God.

Here a few guidelines to keep in mind:

Share in a way that invites more conversation. There is no need to share open wounds and/or rant about what has been stressing or upsetting you lately. Share in way that invites others into your thought or perspective.

Practice curiosity. Especially if you find you disagree with someone else, rather than shut down, take moment to explore their perspective with them.

Practice generosity. It is hard to talk about our beliefs and feelings. It is hard to find the right words sometimes. And without hearing a person say something, it can be easy to misunderstand what that person is trying say. If you're curious, ask for clarification.

Practice presence, not perfection. It is a given that we will mess up, even despite our best intentions. Don't give up. The grace of God is with you! Try to recognize it as an opportunity to grow and learn and try again.

Together we can model the kind of conversation the builds community, not hurts it.

Join us in the presence of God every week as we learn from one another what it means to follow Jesus in our own time and place.

Peace be with you.
Pastor Karsten

Church & Ministry

The mission of the Church & Ministry committee is primarily to function as the liaison between the pastor and the congregation. In addition, another very important duty of the committee is to work as the personnel team.

The music department had two major changes occur at the beginning of summer. Lynsey Hord decided to resign as interim choir director for the upcoming choir season because of the heavy load she carries as band director at Mohawk High School. Luckily, she will still be singing and playing here at Trinity. David Cotter left the area so the bell choir was in need of a new director.

We are so pleased to announce that Vicki Ohl has been hired as the Interim Choir Director for the upcoming choir season and Lynn Huenemann has been chosen as the new Hand Bell Director. They join Blake Depinet at the organ and Pat Powers with the Praise Band to form a strong music department. How fortunate Trinity is to have such highly trained and talented staff to lead our Music Ministry

Barbara Zinn, chair



Dear Trinity UCC,

On behalf of the Seneca Council of Homelessness, I would like to thank you for your gift of \$2,500 which was donated toward the creation of the Transformation Life Center.

Clayton J. Bailey, treasurer

Dear Friends at Trinity,

We want to thank Rev. Karsten for his visit. We also want to express our condolences for his uncle who recently passed away and to wish Rev. Karsten and Katie a happy anniversary.

Tom and Inez Emerson



REPORT FROM Church & Ministry

September Emphasis

Grace Community Center

For many years Trinity has supported the Grace Community Center in West Toledo. Your Mission Committee is asking you to continue your support of the Center in its effort to improve the lives of needy people of that city. Grace United Church of Christ started this Toledo center in 1969 to be funded by the UCC churches in the greater Toledo area. It is now incorporated as an independent nonprofit center and part of the Toledo United Way. It serves a neighborhood of about five thousand residents with a poverty rate of 48%. Single parent families head over 60% of the households with school-age children.



The Center's mission is to enhance community improvement through encouraging self-determination by its neighborhood residents and providing supportive services for every person. They provide after-school programs for school-age children as most of their parents are at work. This meets the needs of children from ages 4-18 who would otherwise be unsupervised at home or on the streets. Adults are served through educational and job training programs. Its summer gardens provide fresh vegetables for area residents who either do not have a garden or do not have access to a store with fresh produce.



Music Memorial Fund

David Fodor by Vicki Ohl

General Memorial

David Fodor by Norman and Kathleen Rose

David Fodor by Dale Schwochow Sr.

David Fodor by Barbara and Roy Zinn

Praise Band

David Fodor by Jon and Dian Ewald

BLESS THIS NEST

Summer is racing by! I think we should take this time, this very moment, and thank God for the gift that is summer! Go ahead, I'll wait!



Oh there are lots of fans of winter and the awesome beauty that it provides, so we are all trying to fit in vacations, reunions, swimming, walking in the peace and quiet of the closest park, smelling the fragrance of flowers and enjoying family!! If you were able to have a garden you may be enjoying the fruits of your labor by now. When you taste that first fresh green bean, pea or sweet corn and fresh tomatoes!! We thank God for giving us the essentials that he provided such as the soil, rain, and the sunshine. So July flew by and August is quickly coming to an end and we hope everyone is ready to refresh and get ready to resume some of the normal. We can't forgot to thank all the talented folks that provided special music during choir's absence. It's such a blessing to have that kind of musical talent and be able to share with us.

Don't forget Traditional Service returns to 10:30 on September 11, when we will welcome our choir back.

Oh, and you may be aware the organ is missing from the choir loft. It is in the process of getting extra love and care as they do maintenance so we can continue to have the beautiful music we have always enjoyed. It should be back in service in October or so. But Blake is doing a wonderful job using his talents on our piano! Thanks Blake for all you do!

So as we get back to a less hectic schedule, (I'm not sure when that actually happens) please join us as we learn to maintain the teachings of the church, create a support system for church family, and learn how to make our community a better place. Church is more than just a meeting, it's about being a community where we share inspiration and be refreshed to begin another week. Contemporary continues to meet at 8:30 a.m, and Traditional will return to 10:30 a.m. Sept. 11

See you in church!!
Shari Beidelschies

Church Council August meeting Report

Church & Ministry



1. Recommended two minor changes to job descriptions
 - a) Joan Nelson, office administrator add a line stating that she will obtain the copyrights and licensing for music used in the services
 - b) Karen Halcomb, Church Treasurer delete the first duty listed which is to attend monthly Council meetings and annual meeting.

c) Bell director, Interim Lynn Huenemann, delete item #2 which states the director will work with at least 2 bell choirs as we only have one.

Mission

1. June Mission: Strengthen The Church Fund stands at \$500; July Mission: Cliff Farmer Earth Literacy Scholarship: August mission if Back Bay Mission.
2. Habitat for Humanity had an open house on their 54th house on June 29.
3. Approved a tithe to Habitat in Haiti of \$2400.

Property

1. 4 toilets were replaced in the bathrooms; one old on scheduled to be removed permanently.
2. Parking Lot will be sealed on September 21st.
3. Roof which had a leak on East side of building has been fixed.
4. The air conditioner unit which cools the offices was not working for some time, and the manufacturer had to be called. Work is currently being done.
5. Heidelberg freshman students will be doing a service project for Trinity (they visit several businesses as incoming freshman) and will be helping property with cleaning and maintenance. Expecting about 9 students.

Worship and Music

1. Vicki Ohl has agreed to serve as Interim Choir director beginning in September, and Lynn Huenemann will serve as Interim Bell Director beginning in September.

Pastor's Report

1. Pastor reported on officiating Funeral Services for Catherine Bennett and Dave Fodor.
2. Will be doing a baptism for Liam Kuhn, son of Bryce and Morgan.
3. Pastor has been working with a worship team discussing community building, paperless singing and how to incorporate community building into our worship.
4. A recital featuring music composition students from Heidelberg students is in works for February 2023.
More discussion will follow as dates are set.
5. Informed Council members of several websites which can be used for training. He will share information to those interested.
6. Please notice the bulletin in the Resource area which will share information for our national office, conference, association and our congregation.
7. Heartland Conference Annual Gathering is September 22-23. It can also be accessed online.
8. Pastor will be installed at 3 p.m. October 23.
9. Pastor Karsten is planning small group conversations during which the congregation share what looking ahead for Trinity may be. Groups will be 12-15 people and pizza will be served. Dates are September 11, 18, 25 from 12:30 to 2:30. Sign up in the resource area or call the office.
10. Looking for Tiffin University/Heidelberg intern to update our website to make it more appealing and user friendly.

Old Business

1. Discussed resuming funeral dinners if requested. If Worship and Music recommends it be approved, Council agrees it can be resumed.

Council Secretary
Shari Beidelschies



Dear Trinity,

Thanks so very much to Howard and Janet Beisner for providing the flowers and to Shari Beidelschies for delivering them to me. They brighten up my living room for more than a week. It was so thoughtful of both the Beisners and Shari. I really enjoyed the visit with Shari.

Bernie Durer