

Apostle Paul writing to the Romans Chapter 12

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ **For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God;** But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. **Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness;** for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ We know that **all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.**

Nels Ferre and his wife were members of Trinity several decades ago. He was also a great Biblical scholar. He wrote some marvelous books, and in one of those books he tells about a dream his wife had which gave him his philosophy on worrying. She was sitting at a table with pen and paper, and she had been given the task of writing down the answer to the question, "How can I quit worrying?" In her dream she wrote at great length, but when she woke up, she could remember only the three words of her outline; they were: **WORSHIP, WORK, and WAIT.** That's a pretty good formula: worship, work, and wait.

The going gets tough for all of us at times. Yet our lives are easy compared to St. Paul's who never lost his enthusiasm or dedication to a cause larger than himself. His faith allowed him to keep going and to overcome obstacles that confronted him. Paul's patience, persistence, perspective, prayer, and perspiration allowed him to worship, work and wait and to just keep hanging in there. And keep in mind the promise that sustained St. Paul: "I consider that the sufferings of the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." Christianity is about doing our best in a broken world and living in a community that welcomes us back. Thriving churches worship, work and wait. Hang in there!

Your Partner in Christ's Ministry,
Dr. Franklin

Let's pray this prayer together,

O God, make the door of our house of worship wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship; narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling-block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. God make the door of this house the gateway to thine eternal kingdom.

-Posted at St. Stephen's Walbrook church, London; written by Bishop Thomas Ken (1637-1711)



Financial Position February, 2024

Trinity UCC Wooster – *“Embracing and celebrating God’s Love”*

General Operating Fund Financial Snapshot

	<u>**Current Month**</u>		<u>**2024 Year to date**</u>		<u>**Last year actual**</u>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$19,716	\$22,752	\$32,510	\$44,665	\$30,552
Expenses	<u>\$24,743</u>	<u>\$28,896</u>	<u>\$50,575</u>	<u>\$57,725</u>	<u>\$56,983</u>
Net	(\$5,027)	(\$ 6,144)	(\$18,066)	(\$13,060)	(\$26,431)

Comments:

We start 2024 in better shape than we were in 2023, as our YTD deficit through February is \$8400 less. Income was almost \$2k over 2023 and our expenses were \$6k under. On the expense side, there were no extra ordinary expenses to report.

Building Repair Fund/Kitchen Renovation Balance: - (\$10,353)

There were no payments made during February and we received \$3825 in donations

BREAKFAST PROGRAM BALANCE: \$28,493

Trinity Breakfast program – 28 years

Established in the summer of 1995.



Join us Sunday’s for worship at 10:30 am. Our on-line service starts approximately at 10:35 after prayer requests.

This picture is from the Childrens Moment, on Sunday 3/10/24:

“The banner of God’s love over us”

April

Birthdays

Christie Franks	1
Jack Frichtl	1
Susan Muskopf	3
Lori McCollum	4
Ashley Ickes	6
June Louttit	7
Julie Vizzo	8
Kevin Cantrell	10
Bobbie Angerman	11
Luke Franklin	11
Linda Lowe	12
Barbara Richard	12
Jenny Seman	12
Lucy Schmidt	13
Lola Franks	14
Shane Bureau	16
Dee Carter	16
Mariah Whitman	18
Troy Chipka	19
Sara Rostetter	19
Sue Ann Fouche	22
Andrew Muskopf	25
Vinny Anderson	26
Adam Dettra	26
Ada Pyers	28
Shelley Smith	29

Housing & Homelessness in Wayne County

The 3rd Annual community meeting providing updates from city officials and agencies on strategic solutions to ensure housing for all.

- Overview of Current Housing Challenges
- Presentation of Strategic Solutions
- Community Input and Q&A Session

Let's work together to create a more inclusive and supportive community for everyone.



Thursday - April 11, 2024

7:00 pm

621 College Ave
First Presbyterian
Church, Wooster
Bruch Hall

Years of wanting something to be done, Months of planning to do it, Days until it really happens!!

The Renovation Team is excited to announce the project for the kitchen/fellowship hall renovation is about to begin. Mariola Construction's quote for an excess of \$242,000 has been approved by Consistory. The following sub-contractors under Mariola's supervision have provided or will be providing additional products and services- HLH Engineering Consulting LLC, Martins Interiors, Tri-Mark appliances, EcoSeal waterproofing and more unknown to us. The project is to take 10-14 weeks so the church's calendar has been greatly reduced for events that usually use the kitchen or take place in the Fellowship Hall. The Breakfast Program will continue in a format similar to what was done during the Covid epidemic only relocated to other areas of Trinity. The back entrance will be part of the construction zone so for your safety avoid that area and use the front entrance. Please continue to "shop" in the Renovation Catalogue, participate in the fundraisers that are being planned and send donations to the kitchen renovation. A huge **"Thank You"** to the Renovation Team members and all who have helped empty the kitchen and pantry in preparation for the renovation. It is time! Get Ready, Get Set, Go!

Susan Muskopf, chair of the Renovation Team

Creation Care News

Welcome to spring! The Vernal Equinox is today, Tuesday March 20th and as I look out the window, I see green fields and snow squalls. A typical March day in NE Ohio. By the time this is published in April, Easter will have been celebrated and the church calendar will not have a special occasion to celebrate until Ascension Day in May. However, this year might be a good year to mark Earth Day Sunday as a special event on the church calendar. Just as we need reminders and guideposts for our faith practice, we need a day to renew our love for all creation and pledge our commitment to be stewards of God's green Earth.

The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970, when a United States senator from Wisconsin, Gaylord Nelson, organized a national demonstration to raise awareness about environmental issues. Rallies took place across the country, and by the end of the year, the U.S. government had created the Environmental Protection Agency. By 1990, Earth Day was an event celebrated by more than 140 countries around the globe. Since the first Earth Day, despite efforts and laws, we are in some ways worse off, and the threat of climate change and global warming are never far from our thoughts. Unbelievably, there are some people, who would like to see the environmental regulations passed by the EPA rolled back. Indeed, there are many who deny there is a worldwide environmental crisis caused by human activity. Let's make a difference and let the Church be heard and lead the way to a future on our planet where all creatures great and small can live how God intended in abundance, beauty, and peace.

On April 21, 2024, we are honored to have Rev. Michael Howard as a special guest speaker giving the sermon, "What's Love Got to do with It?" Rev. Howard is eminently qualified to bring us a message of God's good work and vision for the Earth. Together, we will give God praise and gain hope in a future for all the interconnected creatures, plants, rivers, mountains, and air of our Earth. Please join us in welcoming Rev. Howard to Trinity United Church of Christ.

There will be a reception for Rev. Howard following the service.

Margaret Bourne
Creation Care Team



Mind, Body and Spirit at Trinity April, 2024

The month of April continues to be the Easter Season and it is important to continue to try to take care of your mind, your body and of course, your spirit. Why? We need to remember that what Jesus called his disciples to do, he is also calling us to do. We are to serve others, feed others, clothe others, care for others in many different ways, but also, we are to connect with others and build small communities. I so appreciate the people who connect in small groups, like the Sunday A.C.T. group; the LIFT Lenten gatherings we had on Tuesdays; the Soup and Bible Study gatherings each week; the C.A.T. group of kids on Wednesdays; the people who gather to knit, crochet and talk with each other; the people who gather to try to handle our “wellness” and the people who come to lift their voices and ring bells to our wonderful God and Savior. I love that people will be gathering on Fellowship Fridays for a variety of different things. Please, as followers of Jesus, think of how you would like to connect with others and care for your mind, body and spirit. Peace to all of you. ~ Suzanne

Scripture & Title:

"What's Love Got to Do with It?"

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

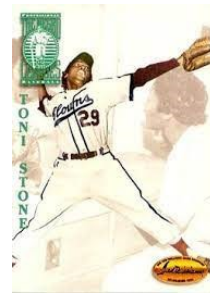
Earth Day Sunday April 21st



Bio:

Michael Anthony Howard has been serving as the Minister of Faith in Action since March 2019. From the wooded knobs of the Kentucky countryside, Michael is a teacher, community organizer, and prophetic Christian leader. He has taught and served around the world, including Peru, Brazil, India, Malaysia, Korea, and Ethiopia. He has also served in traditional pastoral ministry in Kentucky, Virginia, and New Jersey. Additionally, Michael has coached and co-founded several community organizations, nonprofits, and small businesses. Michael is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and has a Master of Public Administration from Morehead State University and an MDiv from Drew Theological Seminary.

During this Women's History month, The Anti-Racism Coalition at Trinity (ACT), are highlighting women of color who might not be well known but have played a role in the history of this country. This time of year, many turn their thoughts to the Spring Season and the blossoming of flowers, well my thoughts turn to my favorite sport – Baseball. I can hear the sounds of the bat hitting the ball and anticipate the roar of the crowds and the glorious baseball season begins. I would like to introduce you to Toni Stone. Many likely have not heard of her but Toni Stone was an American female professional baseball player who played in predominantly male leagues.



Toni Stone was born as Marcenia Lyle Stone on July 17, 1921, in West Virginia. Her family moved to Sanit Paul, Minnesota when Toni was 10 years old and she enjoyed playing baseball with the boys in the neighborhood. Her mother, who worried that baseball was not ladylike, bought a pair of figure skates for Toni. Although Toni performed well in city wide figure skating competitions, she had a strong interest in baseball. Toni would often skip school to play baseball. Toni's parents looking for help turned to their Catholic Priest in hope his guidance would help them steer Toni towards something else. The Priest recognizing Toni's strength as a pitcher encouraged her to try out for the Claver Catholic Church boy's baseball team in the Catholic Midget League, which is similar to today's Little League. Because it was a church activity, her parent's consented to her playing. Unfortunately, the coach of the team had no interest in cultivating Toni skills, so Toni taught herself by reading the rule books, in hope of learning how to be a better player. Toni joined the girls' softball team, HighLex, but was not satisfied with playing that sport. Still searching for instruction on playing baseball, she would show up and watch the baseball school run by the St. Paul Saints' manager, Gabby Street. At the age of 16, Toni Stone was playing weekend games with the barnstorming Twin City Colored Giants. She got paid about \$2-\$3 a game, so her parents let her play. She eventually dropped out of high school with the hope of making a living playing baseball.

In 1943, Toni moved to San Francisco where her sister lived. Making a living doing odd jobs while living in the Fillmore District, she took on the name "Toni Stone" which she felt was more fitting of her identity than "Marcenia". In 1950 she married her husband Captain Aurelius Pescia Alberga, whom she had met while working at Jack's Tavern, the first black-owned nightclub in the area. Spending time at Jack's Tavern on Sutter, Toni became friends with one of the owners, Alroyd "Al" Love. Love introduced Toni to the local American Legion Baseball team which was part of the national network of amateur baseball teams for teenagers. Although Toni was 27 years old at the time she claimed that she was 17. She played with the team from 1943 to 1945.

In 1953, she became the first woman to play as a regular on an American major-level professional baseball team when she joined the Indianapolis Clowns in the previously all-male Negro Leagues (two other women would later play on the team). Toni played second base, the position Hank Aaron played for the team before he joined the Milwaukee Braves. Toni also played for the San Francisco Sea Lions in 1949, the New Orleans Creoles from 1949 to 1952 and the Kansas City Monarchs before retiring from baseball in 1954. Toni reported that she retired from baseball because the manager of the Kansas City Monarchs barely let her play. Throughout her playing career, team owners and manger often suggested that Toni wear a skirt on the field because they felt it would boost attendance and she refused. It was widely reported that attendance at games increase because fans wanted to see how she would do. Toni played 50 games for the Indianapolis Clowns in 1953 and ended the season batting .243.

In 1993, Toni Stone was inducted into the Women's Sports Hall of Fame as well the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame.

Submitted by Joe Kirk



APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE



All Services are available online on Facebook and YouTube

Live services are available on website at

Trinity UCC.org

April 7th

Holy Communion

Acts 4:32-25

Sermon "Choose Trust"

April 14th

1 John 3:1-7

Sermon "No Doubt"

7pm Sonnenberg Station Concert

April 21st

Guest Preacher Rev. Michael Howard, "Earthcare"

Dialogue after worship in the Parlor with Michael by
the Trinity Green team

April 28th

1 John 7:21

"Dear Friends"

Looking Ahead:

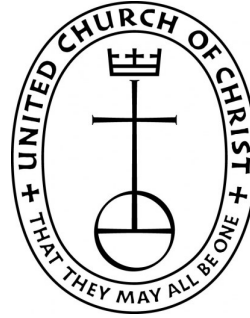
Outdoor Worship at Christmas Run

June 23

August 18

Trinity United Church of Christ
"Embracing and Celebrating God's Love"
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Yulia Allison, *Nursery Staff*
Custodian, *Connie Plant*



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Our Worship Service is Broadcast-
ed on WKVX 960 AM every
Sunday morning at 8:30AM.