

January 2024

## Trinity UCC Topics

Trinity faithful!

Paul's letter to the Philippians is my favorite. In Philippians 2:1-5 he shares his own statement of faith. Think of this as a sort of condensed commercial for what it means to live as a person of faith. It is also a fitting New Years resolution for people of faith!

"Does your life in Christ give you strength? Does his love comfort you? Do we share together in the spirit? Do you have mercy and kindness? If so, make me happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and having one mind and purpose. When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves. Do not be interested only in your own life, but be interested in the lives of others. In your lives, you must think and act like Christ Jesus." -Apostle Paul in Philippians 2:1-5

Memorize or tape Paul's statement of faith somewhere where you will read it often as Spiritual resolution for the New Year.

The Church has been described in many different ways throughout human history. In our time, we often hear people say something like "I don't worship because I just wasn't getting anything out of it." Too often it seems that our own personal enjoyment has become the new "Golden Rule" of life in America in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Discipleship grows from what we "give", not from what we "get".

We are shaped by the things we choose to love.

Service and humility are strengths not weaknesses. How might you expand your service to others? We must be part of something bigger than ourselves. We are part of something that is bigger than any one of us. Martin Luther King said it best! "A person has not begun to live until they rise above their own particular concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity."

Your Partner in Christ's Ministry,

Dr. Franklin

Prayer of St. Augustine; "O Lord, You have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You."



**Financial Position November, 2023**

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

General Operating Fund Financial Snapshot

	<u>**Current Month**</u>		<u>**2023 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	\$21,277	\$43,236	\$189,370	\$261,255	\$219,127
Expenses	<u>\$24,893</u>	<u>\$28,553</u>	<u>\$320,618</u>	<u>\$335,710</u>	<u>\$300,063</u>
Net	\$(3,615)	\$14,683	\$(131,247)	(\$74,454)	(\$80,936)

**Comments:**

Contribution income was stronger this month, yet under budget due to the fact that the budget held some of our annual contributor donations. We still expect to see some annual contributor donations in December. On the expense side, we were overall \$3500 under budget. Our office supplies were \$300 over budget and our electric was over by \$234.

With a special year-end mailing, we asked Trinity members and friends to help us out with an additional year-end gift to help us closer to balancing the budget for 2023. We have been struggling more these past few years and hope to be able to change this trend.

**Building Repair Fund Balance: + 6,287**

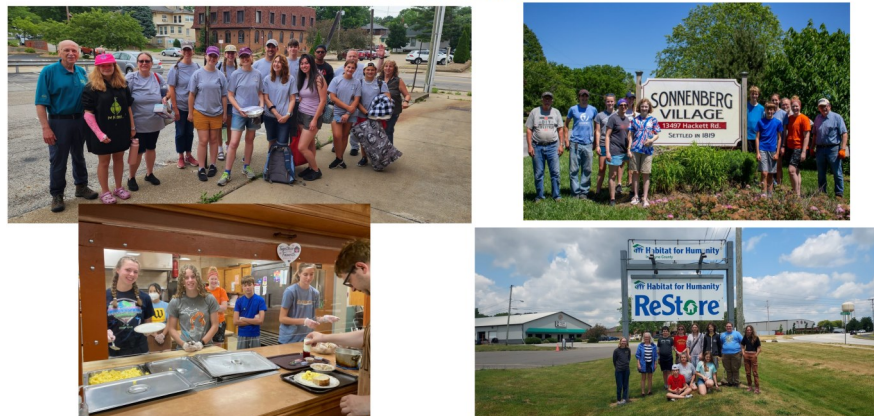
We have combined this building repair fund with the Kitchen Renovation project. This then, uses the same accounting procedures that we have used for renovations starting with the major Trinity renovation of the mod 1990’s. We received strong donations of \$14,135 in November. We also paid for the first Kitchen Renovation invoice as we paid to have our stove upgraded instead of buying a new one (we paid \$2,028)..

BREAKFAST PROGRAM BALANCE: \$21,972

**Trinity Breakfast program – 28 years**

**Established in the summer of 1995.**

**North Street Mission**



Trinity hosts a mission trip opportunity for youth and adult groups, on the third floor of our church, called North Street Mission. Groups come and stay for a week. They work in our breakfast program each morning then go to other agencies around the Wooster area. Groups learn about homelessness and the issues impacting a large part of our population. Please promote

North Street Mission to your family and friends that live out of the area. Visit:

[www.northstreetmission.org](http://www.northstreetmission.org) - or contact Pastor Kevan Franklin, Suzanne Feltner or Phil Starr.

## ***Mind, Body and Spirit at Trinity      January, 2024***

If you are like most people after the holidays, you might have made New Year's Resolutions to take better care of yourself, lose weight, eat healthy etc. This is a very good thing, indeed, but sometimes it is better to be with a friend or two, to help yourself keep making smarter decisions and also to talk about things that are troubling you. With this in mind, ***Trinity's Wellness Program*** is one way to do this. Our gathering time is on Thursdays at 9:00am in the Parlor, but for those who need an afternoon time or evening time, please let me know so we can put one together. Our Parish Nurses will be coming up with fun plans to help us make wiser decisions and get ourselves in better shape to serve our God, families and friends in other ways.

One way that is good to relax our minds and allow time for prayer and meditation is through ***knitting or crocheting***. It is a good way to create prayer shawls, scarves, blankets or whatever else you would like to create. You are invited to join us in the Parlor on either Wednesday evenings at 7:15 or Friday mornings at 11:00 for a time of yarn work, fellowship and conversation.

Another thing that is very good for our minds and lungs is ***singing!*** We would love to have you join in singing together at 5:30pm in the Chapel on Thursdays. It is a wonderful way to sing praise and prayers to God and to share in fellowship with other people. And again, it is good for the health of our minds, bodies and spirits. So, think about it, be brave and give it a try!

If you really don't want to sing, but are interested in learning to ***ring bells***, please join us at 7:00pm on Thursdays in the church's balcony. We really would love to have a couple more ringers so we can use all our bells and make different music to praise our God.

A way to help our minds and spirits is through Bible and book studies. You are invited to join us on ***Tuesdays at noon*** in the Parlor for a class. And a new gathering will be happening on ***Tuesday evenings at 6:30*** in the Narthex. ***Creation Care Café*** will be a wonderful way to connect with others and of course, discuss a book. Also, Sundays after worship, a book study will be happening in the Parlor.

Continue to take care of your mind, body and spirit in a variety of ways so you can serve God.

Peace, Suzanne Feltner








*May the  
glow of  
God's light  
touch our  
hearts.*

Dear Trinity UCC family  
Thank you - from the bottom of  
my heart! I arrive in Uniontown  
surrounded by your love. I cannot  
imagine being equipped for this  
call without you. I will pray  
for your ministry of love  
and justice - the ministry  
in which we will always  
share.

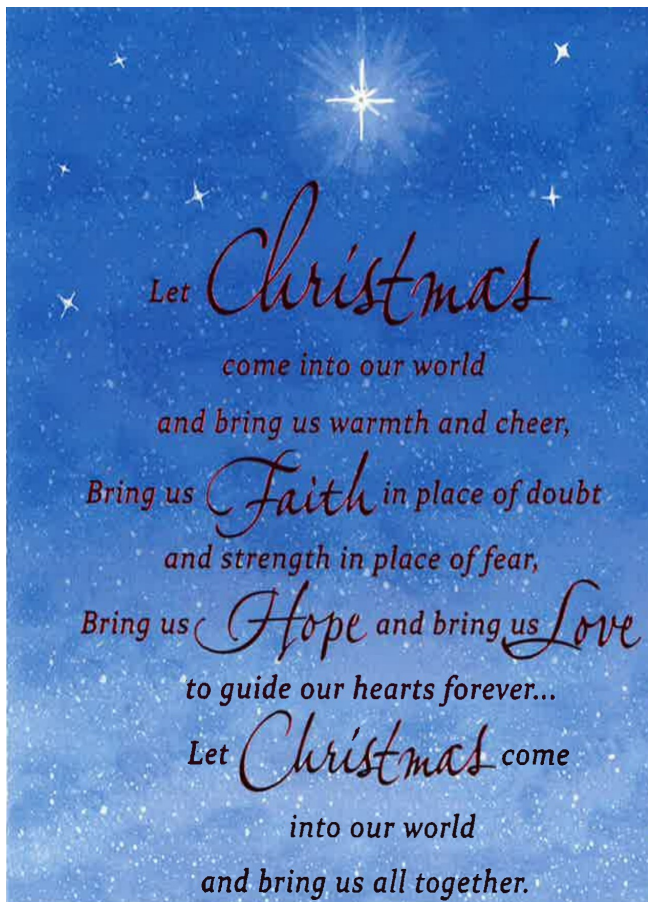
In Christ, yours -  
Emily

12-4-23

*May the joys and blessings  
of the season be yours.*

  
Wishing Trinity UCC - Wooster Merry  
Christmas! With gratitude from  
Chapel Hill Community for your  
continued support of our mission:  
to transform aging by building a  
culture of community, wholeness  
and peace for our residents.

Rev. Tracy Glaser-Bacon, Chaplain



Let *Christmas*

come into our world  
and bring us warmth and cheer,

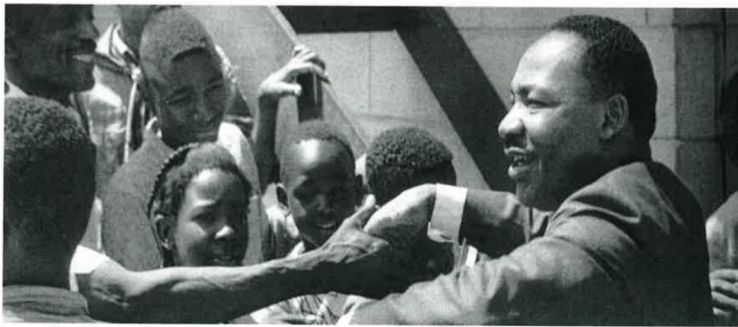
Bring us *Faith* in place of doubt  
and strength in place of fear,

Bring us *Hope* and bring us *Love*  
to guide our hearts forever...

Let *Christmas* come

into our world  
and bring us all together.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.  
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION  
SERVICE 2024



MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 7pm

First Presbyterian Church  
621 College Ave., Wooster

**\*Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ric Sheffield\***

Professor Emeritus Kenyon College

Author: ***We Got By: A Black Family's Journey in the Heartland*** (2022)

Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Contest Winners for  
2024 will be presented with their awards.

*More Details forthcoming closer to the event*

*Sponsored by the Wooster-Orrville NAACP*

**Plans to renovate the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen and alleviate the water problem in the basement are underway!**

Moving days with the Renovation Team will soon be here! We have set the months of April, May and June as the timeframe for the renovation of the kitchen and fellowship hall. Before that can happen, we hope to have a French drain installed in the basement. The items in the hallway, pantry and beneath the stairs will need to be cleared out first for the French drain. To help us, please save newspaper and bubble wrap to pack glassware and bring it to the church office. If you have any totes to lend to us, please put your name on them and bring them in too. Keep an eye out for moving dates so you can help. Thanks ahead of time for your help.

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR  
JANUARY  
BIRTHDAY'S

DANIEL MONTELONE	3
LINDA BANEY	4
LARRY PATTERSON	6
CLAUDE GRINDSTAFF	7
JEANETTE ZIEGLER	8
JODI KIRK	9
JOE KIRK	10
VICKI ANDERSON	11
MARC BERTSCH	11
CAROL EBERHART	11
GABRIELLE WRIGHT	11
THOMAS SARBACH	18
MARK BLOUGH	19
SOFIA BROWN	19
JENNY SHOOTS	23
VALERIE ANDERSON	26
JIM NEWMAN	26
GARY STAIR	28
KATIE DOSSI (HOLLAND)	31



Creation Care and Justice Team  
Trinity Topics, January 1, 2024  
Happy New Year

“If the Earth is a mother then rivers, are her veins.” – Amit Kalantri

We invite you to join us on a book journey to explore...

***A Field Guide to the Bible: Speak with the Earth and it Will Teach You***, by Daniel Cooperrider.

At: The CREATION CARE CAFÉ!

Bundle up and venture out for the first cozy, calm and cool Café on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

When: 6:30 PM

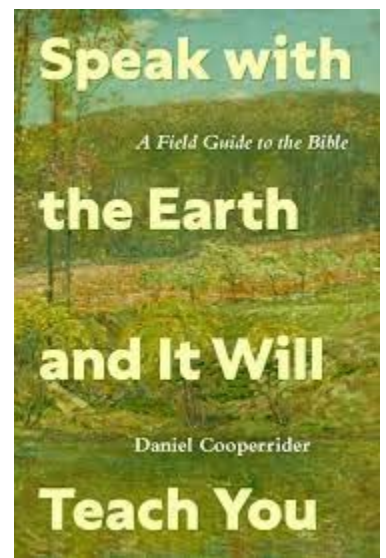
Where: Church Narthex

Who: Anyone and All who are curious and open

We will be serving Coffee, Tea and Treats both savory and sweet.  
Also on the menu will be the first chapter of our journey...

CREATION ELEMENT INTERLUDE: WATER  
THE SOURCE, RIVERS OF PARADISE

“By the word of God heavens existed long ago  
and an earth was formed out of water  
and by means of water.”  
-2 Peter 3:5



Do you need a book? If so, please contact Lin Wierwille. But even if you won't be able to read the chapter, please come anyway! Knowledge can be gained by sitting back, sipping your tea and listening to the lively discourse while also sharing ideas of your own.

Indeed, for this first element of water, we are also asking for you to bring your favorite memories and experiences with rivers. Did you swim or float on a river, do you have a pleasant fishing spot, did you ever hike along a riverbank, or camp within the sound of running waters? What has been your experience in life with rivers?

This book journey at the Creation Care Café will continue all the following Tuesday evenings in January. On the 16<sup>th</sup> with Mountains, the 23<sup>rd</sup> will be Trees, and on the 30<sup>th</sup> we will contemplate Clouds. Always at 6:30 in the Narthex.

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# DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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**10:30am**



**All Services are available online on Facebook and YouTube**  
**Live services are available on our website at**  
**Trinity UCC.org**

## **January 7th**

Holy Communion

“What can I do?: Our Covenant of giving and getting”

Matthew 2:1-12, Ephesians 3:1-12

## **January 14th**

“Who is this guy?”

John 1:43-51

## **January 21st**

“Where are you going?”

Mark 1:14-20

## **January 28th**

“When is this?!”

Mark 1:21-28

## **February**

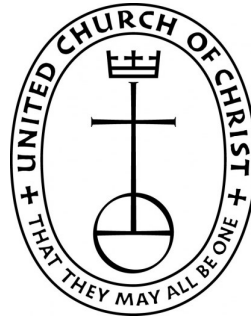
4 Annual meeting and Worship in Fellowship Hall @ 10:30

14 Ash Wednesday Worship with imposition of ashes. 6:30 pm

18 First Sunday of Lent

**Trinity United Church of Christ**  
*"Embracing and Celebrating God's Love"*  
150 East North Street  
Wooster, OH 44691-4350

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**Rev. Dr. Kevan Franklin**, *Senior Minister*

**Suzanne Feltner**, *Faith Formation and  
Arts Director*

**Jennifer Lendon**, *Administrative Assistant*

**Luke Tegtmeier**, *Organist*

**Phil Starr**, *Business Manager*

**Yulia Allison**, *Nursery Staff*

**Custodian**, *Connie Plant*



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Visit us online at  
[www.trinityucc.org](http://www.trinityucc.org)



[www.youtube.com/  
trinityuccwooster](http://www.youtube.com/trinityuccwooster)



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