



**June 2023  
Trinity UCC  
Topics**

Trinity Friends,

It's difficult for us mortals to believe that God works things out in the end. This is a particular temptation when it comes to the things in our lives that mean the most to us.

I am disappointed in the condition of our world, our nation, and our hope for the future. It seems in our time, people are centered in themselves. How did mass shootings become normalcy? When will we recognize our social ills and come to our senses and "turn things around"? These are biblical questions. They are a call to action.

I noticed recently that Paul's letter to the Philippians sounds like the kind of commercial that we all need to hear in our own time. Imagine the Apostle Paul writing these words to the Philippians as a commercial to convince them to follow the teachings of Jesus.

"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 it does, then 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."



Your Partner in Christ's Ministry,

Dr. Franklin



## Associate Pastor's Message

Dear friends,

A few years ago, when I came to Trinity UCC, I worked two jobs, 7 days per week. It wasn't permanent. I quickly learned how hard it was to do for my body and mind. Unfortunately, it took me even longer to learn the gift of Sabbath is not one I have to earn. I need Sabbath. It needs me, too. The Sabbath is a gift from God, not one we earn. I take one day per week now and do not work. Sometimes I turn off my phone and email. Sometimes I don't. It's not easy for me to do.

I celebrated a week long Sabbath by going on vacation. It is not easy for me to leave the church. Because I love the church. But I left it.

It all reminds me of a slogan from twelve step recovery that is dear to many - "Let go and let God." It is so hard for us to do. But the trust we place in a Higher Power when we let go is never, never unmerited. And until we let go, we are not giving space for God to do what ONLY God can do. I love seeing the results.

For me, as a Pastor and professional, Juneteenth service happened when I personally let go. On June 18, the ACT group will share with you a special worship service that they created. I had nothing to do with it but letting go. Come and see, every week, what God has done. Feel the blessings that pour out when God does what God can do.

Love,

Rev. Emily Howard

## *“Mind, Body and Spirit” at Trinity UCC*

As Director of Christian Education and Arts, I truly feel that God is guiding me to reach out to our church family and community to help us learn to care for the bodies, minds and spirits we have been given. A good way to do this, I am finding, is to gather in community with other people, whether there is one or two (remember, “where two or three are gathered in God’s name, God is there...”) or a larger group. It is extremely helpful for us to care for ourselves and each other.

Of course, it is important for us to worship God; study the word of God and become closer to God in different ways. This can be done through attending Bible study gatherings; reflecting on God by walking out side in nature or a labyrinth; doing art work together; playing instruments or singing; and listening to music concerts. Even quilting and knitting together are wonderful ways to meditate and feel closer to God. And, of course, gathering together for a meal and fellowship is a wonderfully important thing. God is there in all these things!

I truly would like to offer gatherings to do the things I mentioned above, plus a lot of other activities that you may like to do. Please, let me know what you might be interested in trying and when works better for you- mornings, afternoons, evenings? What day works best? You can contact me at the church: 330-264-9250 or email: [suzannefeltner@yahoo.com](mailto:suzannefeltner@yahoo.com) or even in person. I look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you for reflecting and praying about this.

In Christ’s love, Suzanne Feltner

**P.S. the activities we have this month are on the Topics calendar.**



**Financial Position April, 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>Budge</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$15,924	\$17,516	\$63,039	\$70,263	\$57,913
Expenses	<u>\$27,745</u>	<u>\$28,461</u>	<u>\$122,456</u>	<u>\$124,749</u>	<u>\$115,061</u>
Net	\$(11,821)	(\$10,945)	\$(59,417)	(\$54,487)	(\$57,148)

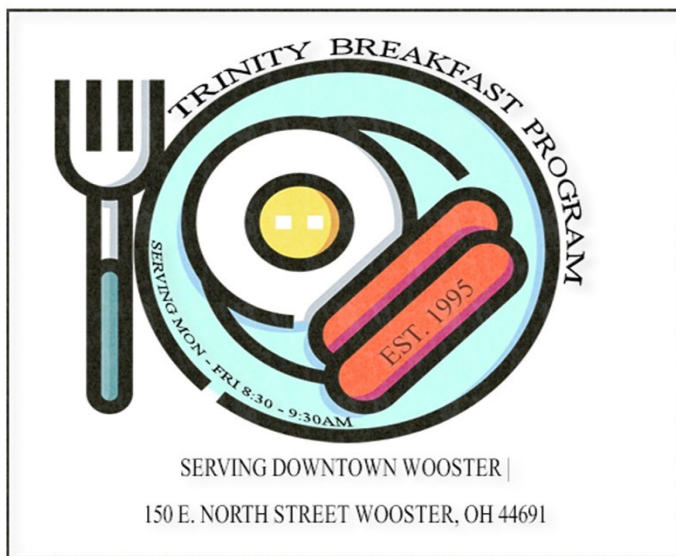
Comments:

During April our contribution income was \$1400 under budget. On the expense side, we were slightly over budget as our copier usage was high by \$230 due to the extra Easter services and our utilities are still over-budget but getting closer to budgeted levels.

**Building Repair Fund Balance: - (12,300)**

BREAKFAST PROGRAM BALANCE: \$28,620

**Trinity Breakfast program – 27 years  
Established in the summer of 1995.**



**Trinity Breakfast Program Partners**

- Akron/Canton Foodbank
- Buehlers
- Breakfast program volunteers
- Central Christian Church
- Church member & community donors
- College of Wooster
- First Church of God
- First Presbyterian Church
- Hartzler Family Dairy
- OneEighty Inc.
- Panera Bread
- Salvation Army
- Seman Corporation
- Servant Partners
- St. James Episcopal Church
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
- Viola Startzman Clinic
- Wayne Holmes Mental Health
- Westminster Presbyterian Church
- Wooster Friends Program
- Wooster Homelessness Task Force
- Wooster United Methodist Church

**Trinity breakfast program, serving free hot breakfast since 1995. Serving from 8:30 – 9:30 am Monday through Friday, in Historic Downtown Wooster. We are proud to be supported by so many community partners. (We’ve tried to list all of our partners. If we’ve missed you, please let us know and we will add you to our list)**



## Trinity Climate Crisis Article

### Creation Care Article

“What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?” —Vincent Van Gogh

I just returned from a four- day expedition to Lake Erie for the BIG WEEK OF BIRDING in Ohio. We went there to see migrating warblers at Magee Marsh, the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, Metzger’s Marsh, Howard’s Marsh, the Maumee Bay boardwalk, and finally Oak Openings near Toledo. I am lucky indeed to have been with expert birders who knew birds by their song as well as sight. Our bird lists expanded each day, and I was amazed at the multitude of different species, not just in name, but in their multivariied color patterns, wing markings, beak shapes, head crests, and flight patterns. It was an exercise in paying attention and being patient for the perfect moment to watch and wonder at the beauty of creation.

The hobby of bird watching has exploded across all parts of the country and the world. In the parking lot at Magee, for example, the cars sported license plates from many states almost as varied as the birds’ own markings. Everyone seems to want to watch warblers, I kept thinking, but why is it that the canary in the coal mine still seems to be ignored, no matter how much it seems now to be gasping.

And then I said, Come on, Margaret. It is true that climate change is not just on the horizon, but already here. And it is also true that many of us are already very anxious and worried about this fact. But what to do next? Yes, we must still keep watching the birds, watching our precious planet in motion in its still immense and varied beauty. But what else?

Janet Burkhart taught a class this spring using the study series from Christianity Today, “Creation Care.” I did not attend this class, but I wish I had. Luckily, a member of that class visited me at home and shared some ideas from the book with me. Basically, Creation Care focuses on our responsibilities as stewards of God’s creation in ways that represent our own behavior in our own homes and communities. One of my favorite chapters in the book is “Kitchen-Sink Environmentalism,” which explores what we can do at home to keep the canary singing.

I am excited and motivated to explore these ideas about Creation Care with our Trinity congregation, and to invite individual members into the conversation. Over the summer I would love to have a brainstorming session with a committed group to look closely at the ideas this book has to offer. I will be proposing a date and time to meet in the near future. I hope many of you will accept the invitation to join us. Our members can make a positive difference supporting God’s creation right here at home.

For those of you who are interested, here are specific details about the book: Christianity Today Study Series: Creation Care, 2008. ISBN: 13: 978-1-4185-3413-4

for the New Creation Care Team  
Margaret Bourne, May 15, 2023



ON JUNE

18

WE CELEBRATE

JUNETEENTH

As we remember our past, let us also protect our future.

As the fight against racism continues, we must teach the future generation to be proud and united.

The Anti-Racist Coalition at Trinity will lead us in celebrating Juneteenth in worship on June 18.

Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States.

Newly-freed slaves first celebrated Juneteenth in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865.

The Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in 1862 and, 3 years later, Union army troops shared the news. The following year, the freed slaves commemorated the day with a holiday. We now recognize this day as a federal holiday in the U.S.

**OUTDOOR**  
**WORSHIP & LUNCH**  
 IN THE LOWER PAVILION

AT CHRISTMAS RUN PARK  
 25 JUNE, 2023. 10:30AM

SPECIAL MUSIC AND ACTIVITIES.  
 PICNIC TO FOLLOW: PLATES AND UTENSILS,  
 SANDWICHES AND BEVERAGE PROVIDED.  
 BRING A DISH TO SHARE. YOU MAY ALSO BRING  
 A LAWN CHAIR FOR EXTRA COMFORT.

JUNE 11, 2023  
 AFTER WORSHIP

**"SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE"  
 FUNDRAISER  
 LUNCHEON**

## JUNE 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**

### **June 4**

Graduation Sunday  
Holy Communion  
Matthew 28:16-20  
“The End”

### **June 11**

Genesis 12:1-9  
“The Journey”

### **June 18**

Father’s Day  
“Juneteenth Service”  
Led by ACT: Anti-Racist Coalition at Trinity

### **June 25**

Outdoor Worship and Picnic  
at Christmas Run Park 10:30 AM  
Psalm 8  
“How Majestic are your ways”

**Trinity United Church of Christ**  
*"Embracing and Celebrating God's Love"*  
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### **Church Staff**

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

**Rev. Emily Howard** - *Associate Pastor*

**Suzanne Feltner**, *Director of Christian Education and Arts*

**Jennifer Lendon**, *Administrative Assistant*

**Luke Tegtmeier**, *Organist*

**Phil Starr**, *Business Manager*

**Brandi Stevenson**, *Assitant Business Manager*

**Alyssa Kamp**, *Custodian*

**Yulia Allison** *Nursery Staff*



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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.