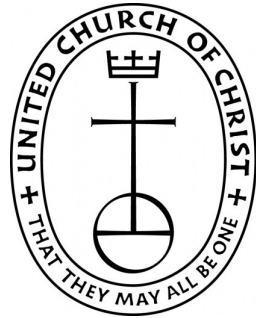


Trinity United Church of Christ
“Embracing and Celebrating God’s Love”
150 East North Street
Wooster, OH 44691-4350

Office Hours: M-F 10:00a - 2:00p
Phone (330) 264-9250
Email: trinityuccwooster1819@gmail.com
Website: www.trinityucc.org



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March 2025
Trinity UCC Topics

Trinity Friends,

Our book of worship begins Lent with a reminder;

Lent awakens us to hope in God whose "steadfast love endures forever" and to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. The Lenten disciplines of repentance, fasting, prayer, study and works of love are guides for returning to the steadfast love of God. During Lent we confess our mortality, our limits and our vulnerability so that we might be transformed and become the new life God calls us to be.

Lent begins in the wilderness. Dedication to God is demonstrated by our actions. We often think of Lent as a time for fasting and practicing self-control. Don't be misled by the notion that fasting is only about food. Lent is also about fasting from our everyday lives and delving deeply into how our lives can be more Christlike. You may want to choose a fast from harmful words or actions. You may want to spread a banquet of Peace, Love and Understanding! Mindfulness training helps us to see how our actions can be positive or negative.

Harry Emerson Fosdick wrote the words to the famous song “God of Grace and God of Glory.” This hymn was a song of hope for those living in the darkest moments of the Great Depression; “Cure your children’s warring madness, bend our pride to your control. Shame our reckless, selfish gladness, rich in things yet poor in soul.” John the Baptist would be proud!

Sometimes the Spirit leads us out into the wilderness, for Jesus, it was John’s death, and Herod’s oppression. Make me a captive Lord and then I shall be free.

Struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor.

Grace and Peace to you in this Holy Season!

Dr. Franklin



Rev. Dr. Kevan Franklin, *Senior Minister*
Suzanne Feltner, *Faith Formation and*
Arts Director
Joi Griffith, *Administrative Assistant*
Luke Tegtmeier, *Organist*
Phil Starr, *Business Manager*
Yulia Allison, *Nursery Staff*
Connie Plant, *Custodian*



<https://www.facebook.com/trinityuccwooster/>



Visit us online at
www.trinityucc.org



www.youtube.com/trinityuccwooster

March WORSHIP SCHEDULE
10:30am



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

March 2

Transformation Sunday Holy Communion
“God’s Glory” Luke 9:28-36

March 9

First Sunday of Lent (Daylight Savings time)
“Into the Wilderness” Luke 4:1-13

March 16

Second Sunday of Lent Luke 13:31-35
“Last Times”

March 23

Third Sunday of Lent Luke 13:1-19 “Amistad
Sunday”
“Get Your Hands Dirty”

March 30

Fourth Sunday of Lent Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
“One Great Hour of Sharing Offering”
“Embrace and Celebrate”

Financial Position January 2024
Trinity UCC Wooster – “Embracing and Celebrating God’s Love”

	Current Month		**2025 Year to date**		**Last year actual**
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	YTD
Income	\$17,265	\$16,707	\$17,265	\$367,402	\$355,276
Expenses	\$33,500	\$39,105	\$33,500	\$367,402	\$355,276
Net	\$(16,235)	\$(22,398)	\$(16,235)	\$(22,398)	\$(13,038)

Comments:

We start off the year, slightly over budgeted income for January. On the expense side, January was a three pay period month, so we always have a difficult time covering expenses on those months. The only notable expense item was out annual fire alarm monitoring cost of \$600..

Building Repair Fund/Kitchen Renovation Balance: - (\$260,769)

BREAKFAST PROGRAM BALANCE: \$26,295

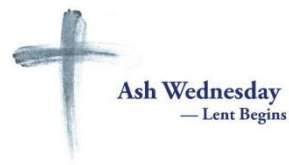
Trinity Breakfast program – 29 year
Established in the summer of 1995.
This summer our breakfast program will be 30 years old!



www.northstreetmission.org
Help us to promote North Street Mission!



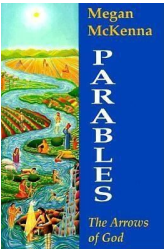
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper March 4th 5:00-7:00pm in Fellowship Hall. You are all invited to come to eat together and fellowship together!



March 5th **Light Lunch and Service at Noon**
Or 7:00pm Worship Service in the Sanctuary

People of all ages are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall after Worship each Sunday in Lent to eat together, craft together, study God’s word together and pray together. The schedule is:

- Week 1 (March 9th) *The Temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness*
- Week 2 (March 16th) *Jesus Teaches Nicodemus*
- Week 3 (March 23rd) *Jesus Talks with a Samaritan Woman at the Well*
- Week 4 (March 30th) *Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind*
- Week 5 (April 6th) *The Death of Lazarus*
- **Lenten Book Study Tuesdays at Noon in the Parlor** You are invited to bring your lunch to eat while we study together.



Book Study on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 with Pastor Franklin. The book is “**Parables: The Arrows of God**” by Megan McKenna. These begin on Ash Wednesday and go through April 30th.
Fellowship Friday Game Night!! March 18th 7:00-9:00pm Game and snacks!



March Birthdays!



- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Judy Montelione 4th | Byron Ernsberger 14th | Janet Snoddy 30th |
| Eric Browning 4th | Sherry Vizzo 20th | Nathan McCollum 31st |
| Curtis Briggs 7th | Rachel Ickes 21st | |
| Lois Wagner 8th | Madison Whitman 21st | |
| Nicholas Amstutz 10th | Will Parkinson 22nd | |
| Jil Condry 11th | Liz Graham 24th | |
| Chuck Vrotney 11th | Bob Eicholtz 25th | |
| Erin Rammel 11th | Tim Zuercher 26th | |
| Joyce Blanchard 14th | Angie Griffin 26th | |
| Jean Garver 14th | Dan Eagle 28th | |
| Doug Seman 14th | Danielle Bertsch 29th | |
| Daniel Kirk 14th | Carol Briggs 30th | |

Dear Members,

I want to thank you for all the prayers and cards during this painful event with my pinched nerves. I watch our church service every Sunday!

Donna Brown

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

DAY CENTER & SEVERE WEATHER SHELTER

HOMeward BOUND

Scan Me

<https://linko.page/shpztopc49yj>

Our Services

- Laundry Attendant
- Day Center Attendant
- Kitchen Server
- Severe Weather Shelter Attendant
- Weekend Maintenance

For more information or to sign up:

Scan Me

Day Center Volunteer

<https://qrcc.io/shxm62mvpkcp>

Scan Me

Severe Weather Shelter Volunteer

<https://qrcc.io/sjkhf41gbcfv>

981 Grosjean Rd. Wooster, OH 44691

volunteer@homewardboundwwc.org

Our super awesome January volunteers!

Lay Readers

March 2 -
March 9 -
March 16 -
March 23 -
March 30 -

Coffee Hour

March 2 -
March 9 -
March 16 -
March 23 -
March 30 -

Flowers

March 2 -
March 9 -
March 16 -
March 23 -
March 30 -

Ushers

March 2 -
March 9 -
March 16 -
March 23 -
March 30 -



Our church is so great because of the community we have created, and the hands that help us put everything together.

We encourage you to sign up to be one of our volunteers! If you are interested in filling one of the remaining spots, or planning ahead for the month of July, you can find the sign up sheets in the outer Narthex!



Looking Ahead!

Men's Breakfast 8a - March 1
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5-7p – March 4
Ash Wednesday Noon and 7p (Imposition of ashes) - March 5
Consistory 5:30p - March 11
Saint Patrick's Day - March 17
Fellowship Friday 7-9p - March 28
NA Speaker in Fellowship Hall 11-8p - March 29

Heart for the Home [tickets](#) are now on sale!

Join us for an inspirational evening filled with stories of life change, countless silent auction items, delicious food and heartwarming fellowship. All proceeds raised help children, adults and families experience hope, find healing and discover their worth in Christ.

HEART FOR THE *home*

Annual Benefit and Auction

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025
Greystone Event Center
50 Riffel Road · Wooster, OH 44691

 5:00pm • doors open, social hour, silent auction

 6:00pm • prayer, dinner, program

Tickets: \$50 each • Table of 8: \$375
For event, ticket & auction details, visit ccho.org/benefit

business casual attire • advance registration required



One Great Hour of Sharing® stands as a cornerstone of the United Church of Christ's special mission offerings. This Lenten initiative provides vital support for disaster relief, refugee care, and development work through Love of Neighbor ministries.

Your contributions to this offering are welcome year-round. To assist in promoting the effort, a variety of OGHS resources are available through UCC Resources.

Get Your OGHS Resources Today!

Leverage these materials to effectively advocate for the offering within your congregation. Place your order for One Great Hour of Sharing resources. On our webpage.

Be the Light: One Great Hour of Sharing Video

Save the date—March 30, 2025—for One Great Hour of Sharing Day!

Environmental Justice Tea

Hello Friends,

I have received notification from Eva D'Intino about two opportunities to hear speakers concerning faith and ecology. I am going to join in on both the Wild Indigo Guild 8 week formation series and the program on March 3rd, Climate 101: What God's Creation is Telling Us with The Rev. Dr. Jessica Moerman. I hope you can join in on these offerings for a new way to look at our faith and climate issues. Celebrate Earth Day 2025 by expanding your knowledge and your faith.

CLIMATE 101:

OC11LIMATE..

WHAT

GOD'S MONDAY, MARCH 3RD

7:00 PM, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WOOSTER

Join us for an evening of discussion and light refreshments as we explore complex environmental issues through a biblically-based Christian worldview.

The Rev. Dr. Jessica Moerman is a pastor, climate and environmental scientist, educator, and advocate. Jessica is passionate about leading church communities and regularly speaks on issues related to the intersection of science and faith.

OSG, D

CREATION IS

TELLING US

Sponsored by the Ex Uno Fonte Fund



Time to Order Easter Flowers

Order forms will be available
under the Narthex tv

Flowers available:

- ♦ Easter Lily
- ♦ Tulip
- ♦ Daffodil
- ♦ Hyacinth Mix
- ♦ Bulb Garden

\$12 ea.

Please turn in your completed form by
March 14, 2025

Bible Study with Kevan

Countless commentaries have been written on the parables of Jesus. Megan McKenna's *Parables: The Arrows of God* is one of the best. She understands how radical these stories were with their grounding in the commonplace and their calls to action. This Book study and discussion will be held at Trinity UCC beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 5th at 6 pm and continue on Wednesdays through March 30th.

Review from Spirituality and Practice;

McKenna, author of *Not Counting Women and Children*, views the parables of Jesus as "arrows of God" pointing toward the Kingdom. Here she discusses the stories of the prodigal son, the talents, the hidden treasure, the lost sheep, the laborers in the field, the seed falling on different soil, and the good Samaritan.

The author broadens her discussion of the parables with anecdotes, tales, and stories from Jewish, Sufi, and Hindu traditions. This imaginative strategy has a great payoff — we are challenged to think even more deeply about how our relationship with God is connected to others. It helps us see more vividly how the coming of the Kingdom has little to do with our agendas or security. And it throws in bold relief how God's generosity can animate our compassion.

Megan McKenna has delivered a big surprise to those of us who thought there was nothing fresh left to say about the parables of Jesus. These essays are bold, radical, and renewing. Best of all, McKenna's spin-off parables from other religious traditions will feed your soul for years to come.

Books are ordered and will be in soon. Put in your book request soon so that we have enough. For more information, questions or to enroll in the Parable study email Dr. Franklin at docksfaol.com or phone the church at 330-264-9250.

March 5 Introduction to the Study. Chapter 2 "Who is the seeker?"

March 12 Chapter 3 "The Sower and the Seed"

March 19 Chapter 4 "The First and the Last"

March 26 Chapter 5 "The Sheep and the Shepherd"

April 2 Chapter 6 "The Widow and the unjust Judge"

April 9 Chapter 7 "The Talents"

April 16 Chapter 8 "The Lost Son"

April 23 Chapter 9 "The Compassionate One"

April 30 Chapter 10 "Jesus, the Last Arrow and the Archer"

Megan McKenna's Postscript

The process of struggling with scripture is hard work. It takes practice and much love to make the stories come true in us in the world today. Other folks have started the digging and the work. The stories are unearthed and given to us. They are stories to make us all come true. There are many parables of Jesus that are not in this book. There are simple reasons for that. The reason is that I don't understand some of the others! They are problems to be solved, holes still to fall into and texts to be dug into with others in community. The ones included are gifts from communities that struggle with scripture and the works of mercy and justice.