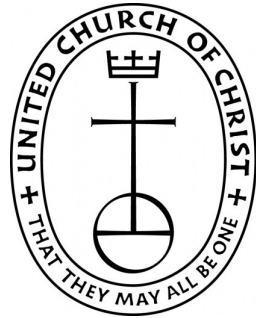


Trinity United Church of Christ
"Embracing and Celebrating God's Love"
150 East North Street
Wooster, OH 44691-4350

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



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July 2025
Trinity UCC Topics

Trinity Friends,

By the time you read this, I will be back in the saddle at Trinity after a 5-week Sabbatical. I appreciate this time for learning and respite. I have been visiting UCC churches each Sunday to experience worship and to bring a few ideas back to enhance worship. We worshipped each Sunday, attending churches in Medina, Akron, Canton and Columbus. Ella and I took several days respite renting a cabin in West Virginia. I enjoyed Star gazing every night, re-uniting with college friends, playing with Juni, reading and writing.

Reading books and studying has occupied most of my time. I found a great book that I hope to share with you as a book study, Martin Seligman's "Flourish; A Visionary New Understanding of Happiness and Well-Being". I like Seligman's word "Flourish". You were born for a purpose, and the most rewarding part of life is to live the best life possible. "Failure to thrive" can apply in various aspects of your life.

Seligman encourages readers to try the "WWW" philosophy of life. Instead of the typical question; "What Went Wrong" he found that seeing life through the lens of "What Went Well" is far more productive.

The thing that might surprise you most is that I have been so busy that I didn't even save time to attend an MLB Baseball Game! ...YET!

Sabbatical reminded me that I was born to do ministry! Remember who you are. Live with identity and purpose, and everything else will come together accordingly.

I hope you flourish. I hope you thrive. And remember "What Went Well".

Your Partner in Christ's Ministry,

Rev. Dr. Kevan S. Franklin



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



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



Visit us online at
www.trinityucc.org



www.youtube.com/trinityuccwooster



Pastoral Care and Prayer Support



If you or a loved one are preparing for a hospital stay, facing surgery (inpatient or outpatient), or experiencing an unexpected medical situation, we are here to support you.

Whether you'd appreciate a visit, a moment of prayer, or simply someone to talk to, please reach out to:

Pastor Kevan Franklin or **Suzanne Feltner, Faith Formation Director**

All requests are treated with compassion and can remain **confidential** if you prefer.



Church Office: (330) 264-9250

(If reaching out after hours, feel free to leave a message.)



Email: Trinityuccwooster1819@gmail.com

JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE
10:30am



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

July 6

“Pride and Prejudice”
Galatians 6:7-16

July 13

“Into the Mystical”
Luke 10:25-37

July 20

“Intimacy and Action”
Luke 10:38-42

July 27

“Being Evangelized”
Luke 11:1-13

Financial Position May 2025

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

General Operating Fund Financial Snapshot

	<u>**Current Month**</u>		<u>**2025 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	\$11,721	\$16,258	\$119,379	\$122,750	\$77,273
Expenses	\$24,514	\$29,472	\$142,403	\$164,590	\$132,092
Net	(\$12,793)	(\$13,214)	(\$23,024)	(\$41,840)	(\$54,819)

Comments:

Income for May was \$4,500 under budget. On the expense side, postage was \$245 over as we purchased stamps before the price increase and our copier maintenance usage was high because of Holy Week.

We Continue to Operate as expected.

Building Repair Fund/Kitchen Renovation Balance: - (\$254,624)

Please continue to give towards the Kitchen Renovation. 2025 is the second of a three year fundraising campaign. Many thanks for those who have contributed towards the project.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM BALANCE: \$31,855.

Trinity Breakfast program – 30 years

Established in the summer of 1995.

This summer our breakfast program will be 30 years old!



Trinity UCC Prayer Group (Wooster, OH)

Private group · 94 members

Trinity has a private Facebook group where we can share our concerns and joys with others in the congregation. This is a great way to support our congregation when they need it. These concerns and joys are kept private and not promoted.

Faith Formation and Arts at Trinity **July, 2025**

Thank you to all of you who took the Pentecost candle packet with you after church on Sunday, June 8th. It was very interesting for me to look up how to pronounce “hello” in many different languages and I like getting to keep my candle as a reminder that we are to **“shine your light brightly this Pentecost and always.”** So, just a reminder to all of you to shine your light in many different ways!

Ohio Light Opera Musicians are a gift to have during our Worship Services!

Bible Study at Noon on Tuesdays will be at **Christmas Run Upper-level Park**. All are invited to bring your lunch, enjoy nature and study the Bible together.

C.A.T. has been a very fun and interesting gathering each week on **Wednesdays** from **anytime after 4:30- 7:00pm**. The kids chose that we go by the letters of the alphabet for our meals and activities. I will say, the letter “P” was fun since we got to watch the movie “The Prince of Egypt” and enjoy pizza together. Thank you, kids, for coming up with the Alphabet ideas! It is also good because we are journaling each week with a scripture based on the letter of the alphabet. Good learning for all of us!

Trinity Women’s Lunch will be on **July 16th at 11:30**. Will keep you posted on where this will be. •

Speaking of food...okay, desserts... All are invited to join us to celebrate **National Day of Ice Cream** on **Sunday, July 20th**. We will have a light lunch after worship and then ICE CREAM Sundaes!! Yum!

Fellowship Friday Game Night will be July 25th from 7:00- 9:00pm. Hope to see you there!!



July Birthdays!

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Meg Vrotney 2nd | Janet Broda 11th | Daniel Myers 30th |
| Carol Ladrach 2nd | Dale Angerman 14th | Madison Blough 30th |
| Courtney Franks 3rd | Rebecca Schmidt 16th | Tom Montelione 31st |
| Debra Baney 4th | Paul Gunn 18th | |
| Richard Brigham 4th | Keri Vizzo 19th | |
| Tammy Hoffman 6th | Carol Bucher 20th | |
| Dianne Hange 7th | Ginny Gunn 20th | |
| Sally Griffin– Strader 8th | Zachary Sarbach 20th | |
| Morgan Wenger 8th | Jackie Smith 21st | |
| Joi Griffith 8th | David Muskopf 26th | |
| Emily Lowe 9th | Parker Schantz 29th | |
| David Kwon Lilburn 9th | Patrick Hoffman 30th | |
| Sam Franklin 9th | | |

A Grateful Acknowledgment

Honoring the Legacy of Faithful Members

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the families of **Doris Sigg** and **William & Marilyn Sparr** for their recent bequests to **Trinity** as part of their estate planning. Their generous and thoughtful contributions are a testament to their lasting faith and commitment to Trinity’s mission.

Trinity continues to thrive through the ongoing generosity of our members and friends—both during their lifetimes and through planned giving. We are deeply thankful for this enduring support, which helps sustain our ministry for future generations.



"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." – Matthew 6:21

Help Make Sunday Special – Volunteer Opportunities!

Be part of what makes our Sundays meaningful.

Be a blessing – and be blessed!

Each Sunday, it takes a team of dedicated volunteers to create a welcoming, worshipful experience for our church family—and we'd love for **you** to be part of it!

We're currently seeking volunteers for the following roles:

Layreader

Lead the congregation in scripture readings during the service.

Usher/Greeter

Offer a warm welcome, hand out bulletins, and assist with seating and the offering

Altar Flowers


Provide or arrange flowers to beautify the altar each week

Coffee Hour Host

Set up and serve light refreshments after the service to encourage fellowship.

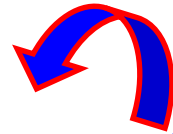
Whether you can serve once a month or just occasionally, your help is truly appreciated.

No experience necessary—just a willing heart!

 Visit the sign-up sheets in the **narthex**, or

 Call the **church office** to reserve your date.

Let's work together to make Sundays joyful, meaningful, and full of connection!



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 August, you can find the sign up sheets in the outer Narthex!



July National & International Holidays

July 1 - Canada Day

July 2 - I Forgot Day

July 3 - Dog Days of Summer Begins

July 4 - Independence Day/ National Country Music Day

July 5 - National Apple Pie Turnover Day

July 6 - National Fried Chicken Day

July 7 - National Strawberry Sundae Day

July 8 - Cow Appreciation Day

July 9 - Fashion Day

July 10 - Teddy Bear Picnic Day

July 11 - World Population Day

July 12 - Pecan Pie Day

July 13 - Oxymoron Day

July 14 - Shark Awareness Day

July 15 - National Give Something Away Day

July 16 - National Hot Dog Day

July 17 - Yellow Pig Day

July 18 - World Listening Day

July 19 - Women's Dive Day

July 20 - National Ice Cream Day

July 21 - Be Someone Day– Be a Lifesaver to a Child

July 22 - Hammock Day

July 23 - Picnic Table Day

July 24 - Tell An Old Joke Day

July 25 - National Chilli Dog Day

July 26 - All Or Nothing Day

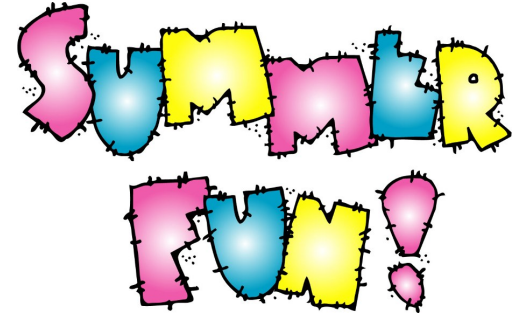
July 27 - National Love Is Kind Day

July 28 - National Waterpark Day

July 29 - International Tiger Day

July 30 - International Day of Friendship

July 31 - Mutt's Day– Go to a Pet Rescue Shelter



Looking Ahead!

Office Closed In Observance Of Independence Day - July 4

Holy Communion & Faith Formation Meeting - July 6

Consistory 5:30pm - July 8

North Street Mission Hosting Wadsworth UCC - July 13-16

Women's Lunch 11:30am - July 16

Fellowship Friday 7-9pm - July 25

Pastor Kevan Begins 2nd Round of Sabbatical - August 6-September 6

Member John Seman recently earned a Master of Arts in Higher Education and Student Affairs from the University of Louisville (Class of 2025), along with a certificate in Organizational Change in Higher Education. He currently is an active duty US Army Captain, serving as a Military Intelligence Officer for the Army Sustainment Command at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois.

He started his Army career as an artillery officer with the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York, which included a deployment to Afghanistan. Following that, he served as an Assistant Professor of Military Science for ROTC programs at several institutions: California State University, San Bernardino; Claremont McKenna College; University of California, Riverside; and California Baptist University.

Looking ahead, he plans to pursue a doctorate in History with the goal of teaching at the college level. He plans to transition from active duty while continuing to serve in the Army National Guard or Reserves. A 2019 graduate of Capital University (Bexley, OH), he earned dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in Spanish and International Studies (with minors in History and Military Science).

While at Capital, he was involved in the ROTC program, competed in high jump on the track and field team, and spent a summer abroad in Bulgaria working with a nonprofit organization. He is also a proud graduate of Hillsdale High School, Class of 2015.

A running enthusiast, he completed his first marathon this past fall and volunteered as a coach for the Alleman Catholic Schools' middle and high school track and field teams in Rock Island this spring. He and his wife, Hunter, share life with two energetic Australian Shepherds, Kiwi and Kipper, who keep things lively at home in Davenport, Iowa.

John is the son of Doug and Jen Seman and the grandson of Louie and Dee Carter.



Strengthening the Body of Christ

A Trinity UCC Congregational Care Survey: May 2025
For adults and youth age 13 and older



We want to hear from you!

As part of our commitment to fostering a stronger church family, we're **seeking your feedback** on how we can **better care for and support our congregation**.

This short, **anonymous** survey will **take just a few minutes** and will help shape future programs and initiatives. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the Consistory.

Please drop off the **completed survey** at the church office, in the offering plate, **or** use the QR code above or the URL below to complete an online version.

<https://tinyurl.com/4ts9pday>

Membership Needs

1. What are the **biggest challenges** to your faith journey at Trinity UCC?
2. What types of **support** would be most meaningful to you?
e.g., prayer groups, social gatherings/potlucks, shut-in care, grief care, pastoral visits, phone calls, etc.

Soul Care

3. What's one thing we could do to make you feel **more connected** to the church?

Programming Preferences

4. What types of **programs** or **events** would you like to see?
This may be the continuation of **current programming**, something that **you miss** and would like to see **return** or something **entirely new**, e.g. Bible studies and/or small groups, Family or youth programs; Social events and/or fellowship activities. Please be as specific as possible.

5. What days and times work best for you to **participate** in programming outside of Sunday worship? Please check all that apply.

<u>Days:</u>	<u>Time of Day:</u>	<u>Your Age Range:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday – Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-30
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> 31-61
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> 62+

Accessibility

6. Are there physical areas of the church you find challenging to access independently?

☐ Fellowship Hall ☐ Chapel/Parlor ☐ Elevator ☐ Entrance Doors ☐ Other (please list)

General Feedback

7. Do you have any other suggestions for how we can **strengthen our Body of Christ**?
Please note, another survey will be conducted soon to assess your interest in participation and contributions, as well as contact preferences.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts! Your feedback is **invaluable** as we work together to **grow in faith** and **strengthen our church family**. You are loved!

Trinity member Ben Wiest, son of Mark and Karen Wiest, has graduated summa cum laude from Akron University’s School of Law in May of 2025 and is currently studying for his bar exam. Previously Ben completed his undergraduate work at Ohio University earning his degree in Business Administration specializing in business analytics and accounting. He had worked at Schneider Downs accounting firm in Columbus.

Ben has developed a love for running marathons. Having completed the Cleveland Marathon, he is currently preparing for the half marathon in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. We wish him the very best in the race.

His future plans are to work for a Cleveland law firm, Jones Day.

