

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

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September 2025
Trinity UCC Topics

Trinity friends,

In Colossians 3:13, Paul writes, "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." In Ephesians 4:32, Paul writes, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ forgave you."

Forgiveness is essential in every community. If you want spiritual growth, practice forgiveness. Our spiritual well-being is tied to what we give not what we get. Jackie DeShannon tells the story about how she wrote the lyrics to her popular 60's song "Put a little love in your heart". "My brother Randy was playing his guitar and I said, 'Gee, I really like that riff, that's great.' All of a sudden, 'Think of your fellow man, lend him a helping hand, put a little love in your heart,' came just like that. I owe that to my mom, because she was always saying that people should put a little love in their heart when things are not so good. I'd like to say it was very difficult, but it was one of those songs you wait a lifetime to write."

"Think of your fellow man. Lend him a helping hand. Put a little love in your heart." Jesus teaches us to pray "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" as a regular, spiritual practice and a requirement for disciples.

"And the world will be a better place For you and me You just wait and see!"

We want the world to know. We won't let hatred grow. Put a little love in your heart!

And the world (And the world) will be a better place

All the world (And the world) will be a better place

For you (For you) and me (And me)

You just wait (Just wait) and see, wait and see

Take a good look around. And if you're looking down

Put a little love in your heart. I hope when you decide

Kindness will be your guide. Put a little love in your heart!

Sing a few verses! You will be glad you did! Put a little love in **your** heart!

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

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
10:30am



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

September 7

Philmon 1:1-21
Holy Communion
“Desiderata”

September 14

Celebrating “Faith Formation Sunday!”

September 21

1 Timothy 2:1-7
“Strong in Faith”

September 28

Luke 16:19-31
“Cleverly disguised as a reasonable Adult”

October 5

Neighbors in Need Offering
“World Communion Day”

Financial Position July 2025

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

General Operating Fund Financial Snapshot

	Current Month		**2025 Year to date**		**Last year actual**
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	YTD
Income	\$14,157	\$23,243	\$188,067	\$192,274	\$114,870
Expenses	\$26,574	\$30,153	\$200,484	\$226,580	\$183,851
Net	(\$12,417)	(\$6,910)	(\$12,417)	(\$34,305)	(\$68,981)

Comments:

Contribution income was under budget by \$8k for July. On the expense side, we were \$3k under budget. Equipment maintenance was over budget by \$200 as we repaired the air conditioning in the kitchen and Stinky’s cleaned out the new grease trap for the first time.

With July deficit of \$12,417 for the third quarter, added to our YTD deficit covered by Endowment for the first half of \$80,852, brings our YTD deficit to \$93,269.

We continue to operate as expected.

Building Repair Fund/Kitchen Renovation Balance: - (\$249,838)

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: \$28,245.

Trinity Breakfast program – 30 years
Established in the summer of 1995.
Our breakfast program is 30 years old!



Join us for special events like
Sonnenberg Station



Visitors to North
Street Mission

2025 Stewardship Theme
The Gift You Are
Trinity is a place where we come together to celebrate gifts. We come together in our darkest hour and come together to dream about a bright tomorrow. In all the craziness today, Trinity is the place to come to be a ray of sunshine for each other.

From the song, “The Gift You Are”

“Remember your darkest hour with dawn still far away.
Remember the way that you longed for morning’s light.
And think of yourself as a candle in the night.

**The gift you are, like the very first breath of spring.
The gift you are, all the joy that love can bring.
The gift you are, all of our dreams come true.
The gift you are, the gift of you.”**

Help us in this 2025 Stewardship campaign so we can continue and expand our ministry!



Join us in worship in person
or on-line



Kitchen Renovation

Faith Formation and Arts at Trinity



With Fall coming just in a couple weeks, and schools and colleges back in session and of course fairs happening around the area, I must say I am happy that we at Trinity can start to do more gathering together. Praying you find ways to join with others to learn about and worship God in many different ways.

Here are some opportunities:

C.A.T. (Creative Arts at Trinity) will be back in session each Wednesday from 4:30-7:00pm. This is for kids in kindergarten through 8th grade. It is a great way to create art, music, eat together and read good story books.



Choir will be rehearsing in the Chapel on Thursdays from 5:30-6:30. All are invited! **Bell Choir** rehearsals will also be on Thursdays at 7:00-8:00. This will be in the Sanctuary. It is really good to ring the bells together.

“Knit, Pray, Crochet” continues to meet on Fridays at 11:00 in the Parlor. It is a good connection for conversation while doing work with yarn.

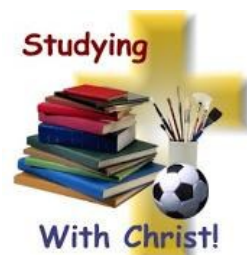
“Drop in and Sing” will be happening on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We will gather at 10:00 in the Chapel, learn an easy piece or hymn to sing for the worship service that day. All are invited to come and sing together for just one Sunday a month.

Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 14th! We will have worship, conversation and of course food in Fellowship Hall as we learn about our Fall sessions. Pastor Kevan will be leading a book study **“Blessings and Woes”** at 6:00pm on Wednesdays, beginning September 10th.

Trinity Women are invited to gather at 11:30 at The Olde Jaol on Wednesday, September 17th. It is good to eat and talk with each other.

Children ages 3- 6th Grade are invited to **Sunday School** from **9:00- 10:00** each Sunday, beginning September 21st. It will be a fun-time!!

Adult Sunday School classes will be posted soon.



September Birthdays!

Dee Dee Carlisle 2nd
Amanda Stermer 2nd
Tony Heard 3rd
Don Hange 5th
Gene Dettra 5th
Jamie Gilmore 7th
Cindy Henshaw 9th
Dru Ely 10th
John Johnston 11th
Daniel Darling 11th
Elijah Franklin 12th
Jacqueline Feltner-Duncan 13th

Carol Thompson 13th
Pat Mairs 14th
Mark Neil 15th
Katy Shaver 16th
Scott Griffin 17th
Kim Cantrell 18th
Lynn Taylor 18th
Melinda Thomas 19th
David Hradek 21st
Samantha Timbs 22nd
Bruce Slater 22nd
Kayla Murray 23rd

Doug Anderson 24th
Terry Snyder 25th
Katy Reynolds 25th
Dan Vizzo 27th
Heidi Derflinger 27th
Jillian Perry 28th
Mary Cornelius 29th
Doug Henshaw 29th
Chuck Vizzo 29th



Please come join us as we honor and celebrate the life of Carol Thompson

*A Celebration of life will be held at Trinity United Church of Christ
September 14, 2025*

1:00pm

*Friends and Family will gather to remember the beautiful legacy Carol
leaves
behind — One filled with love, grace and resilience.*

Our super awesome June volunteers!

Lay Readers

September 7 -
September 14 -
September 21 -
September 28 -

Coffee Hour

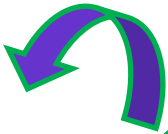
September 7 -
September 14 -
September 21 - Sweet Sunday (FH)
September 28 - Rich & Sharon Brigham

Flowers

September 7 -
September 14 -
September 21 - Susan & Gary Friend 50 Anniversary
September 28 -

Ushers

September 7 -
September 14 - Jeff & Julie Vizzo/
Joanne Leaman
September 21 -
September 28 -



Looking Ahead!

NAACP Unit Freedom Fund Dinner (Kittridge Hall College of Wooster) - Sept. 28
Saturday Morning Men’s Breakfast 8am (Fellowship Hall) -October 4
World Communion Day/Neighbors in Need Offering-October 5
Access Sunday and Disability Week - October 12
Biloxi Back Bay Mission Trip - October 18 - 25
Children’s Sabbath /Laity Sunday - October 19
Brendt Brookes Speaking in Worship - October 26
“Totenfest” Memorial Sunday Holy Communion - November 2
Stewardship Sunday - November 9

September 2025 – Daily U.S. Observances

Each day is a gift. May we celebrate, serve, and reflect as one body in Christ.

September 1: *Labor Day* – Give thanks for the dignity of work and pray for those seeking jobs
September 2: *National V-J Day* – Remember the end of WWII and pray for peace among nations
September 3: *National Skyscraper Day* – Appreciate human creativity and pray we use our skills to honor God
September 4: *National Wildlife Day* – Thank God for his creation and pray for wise stewardship of the earth
September 5: *International Day of Charity* – Pray for generosity toward those in need
September 6: *National Read a Book Day* – Give thanks for learning and literacy
September 7: *National Grandparents Day* – Honor grandparents and pray for their health and joy
September 8: *International Literacy Day* – Pray for access to education for all children
September 9: *National Teddy Bear Day* – Pray for comfort for children in distress
September 10: *Suicide Prevention Day* – Pray for hope and healing for the hurting
September 11: *Patriot Day* – Remember and pray for those impacted by 9/11
September 12: *National Day of Encouragement* – Encourage someone today with God’s Word
September 13: *National Peanut Day* – Give thanks for God’s provision of food
September 14: *National Live Creative Day* – Celebrate the Creator by creating something beautiful
September 15: *International Day of Democracy* – Pray for justice and freedom in all nations
September 16: *National Guacamole Day* – Enjoy fellowship over shared meals
September 17: *Constitution & Citizenship* – Pray for leaders and new citizens
September 18: *National Cheeseburger* – Give thanks for shared meals and community
September 19: *Talk Like a Pirate Day* – Celebrate joy and humor in fellowship
September 20: *World Clean Up Day* – Encourage acts of community care
September 21: *International Day of Peace* – Pray for an end to conflict
September 22: *American Business Women’s Day* – Pray for women in the workplace
September 23: *Sign Language Day* – Pray for accessibility for all
September 24: *National Cherries Jubilee Day* – Celebrate God’s abundance
September 25: *National One Hit Wonder Day* – Remember that everyone has unique gifts
September 26: *National Pancake Day* – Share breakfast with someone in need
September 27: *World Tourism Day* – Pray for safe travel and cultural understanding
September 28: *National Good Neighbor Day* – Show kindness to those nearby
September 29: *National Coffee Day* – Thank God for fellowship over coffee
September 30: *National Love People Day* – Show Christ’s love in word and deed

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Gifts to Neighbors in Need (NIN) support the United Church of Christ's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). The other two-thirds of the offering support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, direct service projects, and grants. Neighbors in Need grants are annually awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities.

The UCC Office of Public Policy and Advocacy in Washington D.C. is funded in part by gifts to Neighbors in Need. The goal of the UCC Washington D.C. Office is to make a better world possible by addressing the systemic injustices we face as a country and as part of the world.

Trinity United Church of Christ will collect this offering on World Communion Sunday, October 5, 2025. Contributions can also be made online through Trinity's website.



This summer the Climate Justice Team has been busy with a major project. Maybe you have noticed that the garden spaces around the church have been weeded and are being prepared for a major renewal. At Trinity we welcome and nurture not just our congregation but a wide variety of guests, including visiting church groups for North Street Mission, the breakfast program guests, AA members, and many more. The front of our church is the first impression we express to the outside world. There is no doubt that this area presents a challenge to keep clean and welcoming. The job we have undertaken is a big one. Not only is there the preparation and planting to be accomplished, but the larger issues of keeping the grounds clean and sanitary after the garden is planted.

Over the summer a plan for the landscaping has developed thanks to our team of dedicated gardeners. A few experts in the field including Doug Anderson, Terry and Greg Moore, Eva D'Intino from the college and all our experienced gardeners have contributed to the vision of a lush and vibrant space around the church. We also appreciate all the work Mike Lilburn has done including finding the water source for a hose and getting the storage area secured.

Here are a few highlights of the plan. The front will be planted in a variety of evergreens and shrubs that will add structure, texture, color, and a more formal appearance facing North Street. These plantings once established will be sturdy and need little maintenance beyond watering and heavy layers of mulch applied yearly. The Buckeye side of the church will be a pollinator garden rich with native plants and habitat creating wildflowers for butterflies, bees, birds, and other desirable inhabitants. A beautiful bench has been donated by Jamie and Justin Gilmore. We have also been granted through the church, an anonymous donation to help fund this project. Eva D'Intino also donated funds from her operating budget for the Faith and Sustainability program at the College. We are grateful for all the financial help and gifts. We are also thankful for the creative thinking, hard hands-on weeding and digging, and the shared knowledge of plants and landscaping that have contributed to building a vision for making our church grounds beautiful.




Our plans for keeping the gardens clean and tidy will involve ongoing efforts by our team and the congregation at large. One of the pieces of the upkeep will be to bring ownership to the members of the various groups and guests that frequent our church and spend time outside in front of the church.

There will be several phases to go through until this is all accomplished and we will keep the updates coming. On Sunday October 26th Reverend Brook Berndt, the Climate Justice minister from the Heartland Conference will be our guest and give a talk on what being a Climate Justice church means and how to make a difference. There will be a luncheon with questions and answers after church.

Margaret Bourne
for the Climate Justice Team

TRINITY'S QUILTERS ARE BACK!

Join us for the first meeting of the fall on:

 **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We'll continue to meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

Mark your calendars: **SEPTEMBER 24**
OCTOBER 8
OCTOBER 22
NOVEMBER 12
DECEMBER 10

Bring your quilting projects, ideas, and fellowship spirit—whether you're an experienced quilter or just curious to learn, all are welcome!

Save the Date SENIOR FORUM

OCTOBER 21, 2025
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM



EVENT DETAILS

Join us for an educational experience learning about resources available for you in our community. We will have Vendors, Speakers & Bingo. A complimentary lunch will be provided for attendees.

RSVP BY CALLING
UNITED WAY
330-263-6363
SELECT OPTION 1
DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
OCTOBER 1, 2025

GREYSTONE
EVENT CENTER
50 RIFFLE ROAD
WOOSTER, OH 44691

Adult Bible Study returns this fall!

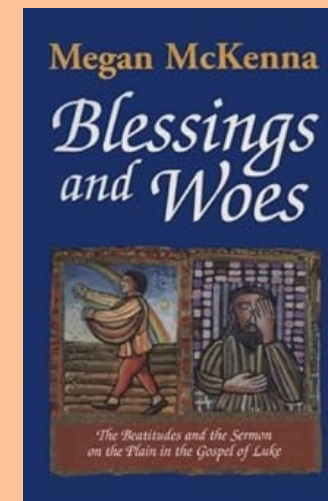


September 10th Wednesday Adult Bible Study “Blessings and Woes” by Megan McKenna Sept 10th to November 10th in the Chapel each Wednesday; 6 PM to 7PM

Sign up in the narthex or call the office to join!

Megan McKenna explores the meanings for Christians of our time of the blessings and woes pronounced by Jesus on the plains of Galilee. She calls us to the heart of the Gospel and to be converted to discipleship in Jesus’ kingdom of God.

We will consider together the teachings through his parables as well as through inciteful stories about Zen masters, Jewish Rabbi’s, Japanese gods, Sufi Mystics, and stories told by well-known people such as Thomas Merton and Leo Tolstoy. You will learn that compassion, the source of blessings, means being with others in their pain and suffering and knowing their pain as our own.



ACT Book Talk Join Us on Zoom!



Saturdays, September 14 & 28 at 8:00 AM

nection as we explore faith and justice together. Whether you’ve read the book or not, all are welcome!



Time: 8:00 AM



Location: Zoom
(link in weekly email or available upon request)

Start your Saturday morning with meaningful conversation! The ACT Team invites you to join our book talk on zoom.

We’ll gather for thoughtful discussion, spiritual reflection, and con-

For more info or the Zoom link, contact Jennifer Faust



September 14

We will have Worship, conversation and of course food in Fellowship Hall

Rally Sunday is not just an event it’s a chance to rally around each other and the mission of the church. Bring a friend, invite a neighbor and come ready to participate in what God is doing in and through our congregation!

Let’s start this new chapter strong, together. **SEE YOU RALLY SUNDAY!**