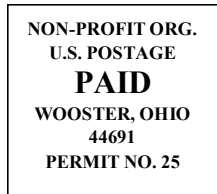


Trinity United Church of Christ
"Embracing and Celebrating God's Love"
150 East North Street
Wooster, OH 44691-4350

Office Hours: M-F 9:00a - 5:00p
Phone (330) 264-9250
Email: trinityuccwooster1819@gmail.com
Website: www.trinityucc.org



October 2025
Trinity UCC Topics

Trinity Friends,

I intentionally slide opportunities to remind you about the church's core values and what it means to be a member of the church. His core value was "Creating caring community".

A number of years ago a "door-to-door" salesman stopped at my home to sell "Home Grocery Services". The plan provided a box of meals dropped off at your door for a monthly fee. They gave you the first box free to "try it out". The salesman began his pitch by saying, "You don't have to **"put up" with the hassles of shopping with other people.**" That struck me as an odd way to make a pitch. It made me wonder if most people prefer NOT to be around other people?

A decade ago, they called that behavior "Cocooning". Studies show that people are not engaging in social uplift organizations as in the past. We need one another to create a caring community: Nations, Service clubs, Churches, and families are trending away from genuine community. This is not sustainable.

I like to shop for groceries. We all have to eat right? It takes a long time for me every time I do because every time I shop I run into someone that I know, and we catch up with one another.

If you resonate with my sentiments, I encourage you to read Michael Sandel's book, "What Money Can't Buy". OK, I admit, this does also have something to do with baseball. Sandel writes, "The more things money can buy, the fewer occasions when people from different walks of life encounter one another. We see this when we go to a baseball game and gaze up at the skyboxes, or down from the cheap seats, as the case may be. The disappearance of the class-mixing experience once found at the ballpark represents a loss not only for those looking up but also for those looking down. **We live and work and shop and play in different places.**

Embrace Diversity! **What matters is that people of different backgrounds and social positions encounter one another, and bump up against one another, in the course of everyday life. For this is how we learn to negotiate and abide our differences, and how we come to care for the common good.**" The next time you grocery shop, "Say Hello"!

Your Partner in Christ's Ministry,

Dr. 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

OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
10:30am



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

October 5

Neighbors in Need Offering
“World Communion Day”
Luke 17:5-10
“Watch Yourself!”

October 12

Access Sunday/Disability Awareness

October 19

Children’s Sabbath/Laity Sunday
Suzanne Leading

October 26

“Earth Care”
Pastor Brendt Brooks Leading Worship
Lunch After Worship

November 2

“Totenfest” Memorial Sunday
Holy Communion

Financial Position August 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 | \$24,565 | \$19,329 | \$212,632 | \$211,603 | \$125,816 |
| Expenses | \$35,161 | \$37,688 | \$235,646 | \$264,267 | \$213,400 |
| Net | (\$10,597) | (\$18,359) | (\$23,014) | (\$52,664) | (\$87,584) |

Comments:

Contribution income was about \$5800 over budget for August! Our copier maintenance was high being \$240 over budget. Our legal fees were high as we paid for one of our music licenses. August was a three pay period month, adding \$8k to expenses. We have two three pay period months twice a year, and they are budgeted.

With this third quarter deficit of \$23,014, added to our YTD deficit covered by Endowment for the first half of \$80,852, brings our YTD deficit to \$103,866.

Building Repair Fund/Kitchen Renovation Balance: - (\$247,453)

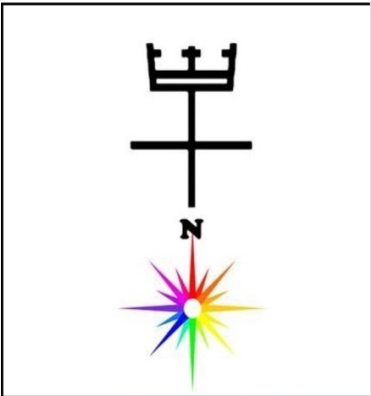
Please continue to give towards the Kitchen Renovation. 2025 is the second of a three year fundraising campaign. Many thanks for those who have contributed towards the project.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM BALANCE: \$28,245.

Trinity Breakfast program – 30 years

Established in the summer of 1995.

Our breakfast program is 30 years old!



“Big City
Mission in
a Rural
Community”



www.northstreetmission.org

Help us to promote North Street Mission!



Faith Formation and Arts at Trinity UCC

October, 2025

So many opportunities to join with other people! Hope you participate in at least one thing.

Bible Study at Noon on Tuesdays in the Trinity Parlor. It is good to gather to chat, eat our lunch we bring and of course, study the Bible together.

C.A.T. is a fun gathering each **Wednesday**, any time after **4:30 until 7:00** for kids ages K-8th grade. We do music, art, story- time and percussion and of course eat supper together!

Join us at **2:00 on Sunday, October 12th** at **Stoney Creek Farm** to ride in a wagon, gather a pumpkin, spend time together and maybe even eat a snack. The address is: 14826 Stratton Road, West Salem. This is for all ages!! Hope to see you there!



Trinity Women's Lunch Gathering will be on **Wednesday, October 15th** at The Amish Door Restaurant in Wilmot. This starts around 11:30.

Choir meets at 5:30 on Thursdays in the Chapel. **Bell Choir** meets at 7:00 in the Sanctuary. Good to sing and play music to God and of course, spend time with each other.

Fellowship Friday Game Night will be on **October 24th from 7:00-9:00pm**. So good to play games together, eat snacks and have conversations!



Other things are happening too! Check on the calendar:)



October Birthdays!

Matthew Schaeffer 1st
Jannette Miller 1st
Jim Butler 2nd
Marilyn Meigs 2nd
Benjamin Wright 4th
Louie Carter 8th
Dave Lueschen 8th
Roxann Long 9th
Richard Goodright 10th
Cheryl Clever 10th
Vaughn Robison 10th
Marina Albright 11th
Rowan Brown 11th
John Schmidt 12th
Adam Kirk 12th
Kristine Murray 13th

Allyson Amstutz 16th
Janet Burkhart 17th
Kane Murray 17th
Dakota Thomas 18th
Garret Davis 18th
Cameron Reed 19th
Braylon Wenger 19th
Jacob Donelson 20th
Ken Flinner 20th
Patty Dickason 22nd
Megan Donelson 23rd
Bob Mairs 23rd
Matthew Newman 23rd
Michelle Young 24th
Jeff Vizzo 24th
Adam Briggs 25th

Sharon Reed 25th
Joyce Swinehart 25th
Lisa Aultz 26th
Abigail Reed 27th
Elaine Reed 27th
Judy Snyder 27th
Rob Hradek 27th
Alexis Gunn 27th
Jeff Aultz 28th
Jeanne Browning 29th
Frank Hall 30th
Martha Boyer 31st
Matthew Bricker 31st

October's Fall Fellowship Gatherings

Our Faith Formation Team has been working hard to discover new ways to connect, learn, grow and share.

With crazy schedules and endless to do lists, it is sometimes difficult to commit to weekly Bible or book studies, or team meetings or even Sunday worship so we have decided to plan a few pop in gatherings each month as a way to strengthen ties, share experiences and have some fun!

October's Fall Fellowship Gatherings include a member dinner at El Campesino's and an afternoon at Stoney Creek Pumpkin Farm.

Join fellow members at El Campesino's on Friday, October 4th at 6:00 p.m. for snacks, dinner, and perhaps a margarita. Everyone will be responsible for their own meal cost—just come, enjoy the food, and share in wonderful fellowship.

Soak in the beauty of the season as we gather at Stoney Creek Pumpkin Farm at 2:00 on Sunday, October 12. Go for a hay ride, buy your perfect pumpkin, sit by a campfire and relish time spent with your church family.

Let Suzanne know if you are planning to join in the fun or just show up. Your presence is welcome!!!

Our super awesome October volunteers!

Lay Readers

October 5 -
October 12 - Liz Harris
October 19 - Joan Cooper
October 26 -

Coffee Hour

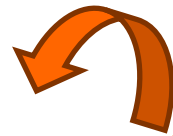
October 5 -
October 12 -
October 19 - Sweet Sunday in Fellowship Hall
October 26 -

Flowers

October 5 - Joanne Leaman
October 12 -
October 19 - Jon & Peggy Vizzo
October 26 - Jeff & Julie Vizzo

Ushers

October 5 -
October 12 -
October 19 -
October 26 - Jeff & Julie Vizzo
Joanne Leaman



Our church is amazing—and that's all thanks to *you!* The heart, the laughter, the helping hands... it all comes together to create the community we love.

Want to be part of the fun? Jump in and volunteer! Whether you're ready to fill a spot now or plan ahead for November, the sign-up sheets are waiting for you in the outer Narthex. Let's make it happen—together!



Looking Ahead!

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

On Sunday, October 26th there will be a celebration service for the new gardens designed and planted around our church. This service will be held in the Fellowship Hall followed by a luncheon served by the Mission Committee and Suzanne Feltner.

Pastor Brooks Brendt, the Heartland UCC's Environmental Justice Minister will be our guest speaker. Pastor Brendt will share with us the "Five Big Reasons" to become a Climate Justice church. *The Pollinator is an Environmental Justice online newsletter written and edited by Pastor Brendt and available through the Heartland Website. He also co-hosts monthly Climate Justice Webinars which have featured everyone from the climate scientist Katherine Hayhoe to Senator Cory Booker. Under his leadership the UCC received a Climate Leadership Award from Eco-America for its advocacy work, the World Council of Churches nominated the UCC's Environmental Justice program for a UN Prize and the American Climate Leadership Summit jointly awarded \$10,000 to the UCC's Environmental Justice Program and the People's Justice Council as a finalist for the 2021 American Climate Leadership Award. We are honored that he will share his knowledge of Climate Justice programs with us and show us how we can enhance our spiritual lives through this important work.*

But, that is not all! Also, that Sunday morning, Eva D'Intino from the Faith and Sustainability Initiative at The College of Wooster will share with us her vision for the Buckeye Street Pollinator Garden. Indeed, on September 28th a crew of college students in her program helped prepare the soil in all the garden areas around the church. They even came back in early October and helped plant the perennial prairie plants she grew and gathered for this project. Eva's support, inspiration and garden expertise have been a critical part of this project. So, I look forward to giving her a warm Trinity welcome.

We will also have a chance to thank the many church members who have helped and given their time, talent and know how to make this project a reality. It will be a wonderful time to extend fellowship to our guests and to celebrate God's creation together.

Please save the date and join us for worship and lunch in our beautiful fellowship hall.

Margaret Bourne
Climate Justice Team

Pull Tabs with a Purpose:

Trinity's Gift to Ronald McDonald House

With joy and gratitude, we celebrate a milestone of generosity! Thanks to the efforts of our Trinity family and friends in the wider community, Dee and Louie Carter recently delivered more than a quarter-million pull tabs an incredible 193.8 pounds to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeast Ohio on behalf of the church. For more than a decade, Dee and Louie have faithfully led this ministry, collecting hundreds of thousands of pull tabs with the support of our congregation each year.

When recycled, these little pieces of aluminum provide housing, meals, and support for families with children in the hospital living out the RMHC mission of keeping families close. Please continue to collect tabs from items such as pop cans, pet food cans, and soup cans, and drop them off in the outer Narthex by the stairs. Many thanks to the Carters for their faithfulness to this cause and to everyone who has contributed!

*“Together, we’re making a difference—
providing love one tab at a time.”*



I know it is early, but I am hoping you can help celebrate Christmas with our sister church, St Stephanus in Borchten Germany.

In 2018 Kevan, Ella, Steve and Joyce Schroer and John and I were able to attend the German Forum held in The Haus Villigst in Schwerte, Germany where world issues were discussed. The topic in 2018 was discrimination.

After the Forum we spent a week with our hosts in Borchten and visited St Stephanus and other surrounding sister churches. On Sunday we attended St Stephanus worship service and celebrated a baptism and joined in communion. That afternoon, we were guests at a ceremony where Pastor Sabina was presented an award. She was the representative for Borchten and the leading activist that enabled Borchten to become a Fair Trade Town. During the week we attended their mission meeting where they discussed World Bread Day, cook books, a hike across Germany for the environment, people against wind turbines and coal strip mines that take away all the trees. We also attended confirmation class where the 30 students asked us questions about our worship-like how do we take communion and baptize, how long is our confirmation course, and politics in the United States. St Stephanus also operates a small refugee house but we were not allowed to go in there for the security of those staying there.

As you can see, St Stephanus has many interests that are common with the interests of Trinity. I've printed out some info from their web page that is the equivalent to our Trinity Topics and it is on a chipboard in the narthex.

Earlier this summer, our members reported on their trip to the General Synod in Kansas. They told us about a resolution that was passed to reinforce the relationship between the UCC in the states and the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland. The relationship now awaits the German church's vote on a similar resolution.

Some of the issues that will be voted on are as follows-

Full communion is not a merger or union. Rather, the World Council of Churches has laid out a vision for this kind of relationship between churches. It involves:

- * common confession of Christ
- mutual recognition of members
- common celebration of the Holy Communion
- mutual recognition and reconciliation of ordained ministries, and
- common commitment to mission.

I was happy to hear this because I had already felt this bond in 2018. These German churches have been ancestral homes for many of us in Trinity. We visited these churches that were the ancestral church homes for Steve and Joyce Schroer, Paul and Linda Varno and Dale and Bobbie Angerman. (Ella Franklin also found an ancestral castle that she visited!)

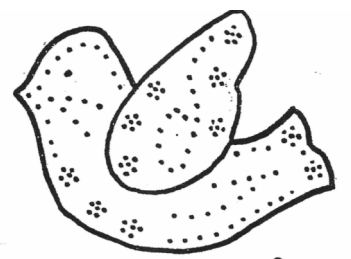
After the passage of these resolutions, we will have mutual recognition and common celebration of baptism, communion and other celebratory events.

So now I want to share a Christmas celebration with St Stephanus. I have paper punch dove ornaments for us to make and send to St Stephanus. The supplies are on a table in the narthex so you can take some home to complete. Then return them by the end of October so we can send them to Germany.

If you have any questions see me.

I am wishing you an early Froeliche Weihnachten!

Susan Muskopf





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
9:00AM - 2:30PM



VENDORS | BINGO | DOOR PRIZES

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!

Rev. Kevan Franklin

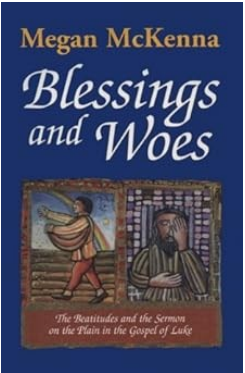


September 17th Wednesday Adult Bible Study

“Blessings and Woes” by Megan McKenna Sept 17th to November 12th in the Chapel each Wednesday; 6 PM to 7PM

Books Are Free!

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



ACT Book Talk
Join Us on Zoom!



Sundays, October 5
Chapters 10&11 &
October 19
Chapters 12&13
8:00 AM

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 connection 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)

For more info Please check for email from ACTatTrinity@gmail.com or post on the Facebook group for any last minute changes.

NEIGHBORS = NEED

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



Adult Book Study Abigail Reed

September 28th Sunday Adult Book Study

“Building Up A New World” Edited by Anna Dunlap and Vahisha Hasan September 28th to November 2nd in the Parlor each Sunday 9:15-10:15AM

Books Are Free!

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

