

Trinity Times

March 2017

Trinity United Church of Christ

3229 York St, PO Box 730, Manchester, MD 21102 410 374-2727 <u>www.trinityuccmanchester.org</u>

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,

As Robert Miller likes to say, "What a day! What a day!"

Lately it's been more like, "What a life! What a life!" It's never boring and it's never dull around Trinity.

Lots going on with worship as we move into Lent, children's church, the building, midweek Lenten Soup and Study gatherings, Vacation Bible School, and congregational care. And in the midst of it all, God is faithful and so are you!

As I said in a sermon recently, it is not easy to claim being a Christian in these times (or any other times for that matter.) Being a disciple of Christ is not for the faint of heart. It takes courage to swim against the rest of society. So pat yourselves on the back for staying the course and being a light for Christ!

You never know when you will be called upon to shine God's light in the world. Last Sunday, I drove through McDonald's (rare occurrence) at 2 pm after the VBS meeting. I ordered a very plain breakfast sandwich (considered a "special order") so I had to wait for the sandwich to be delivered. When the employee showed up with the sandwich, she asked if I could pray with her as her mother was in the hospital and needed prayer. So we prayed in the McDonald's parking lot. Afterwards, I asked if she knew that I was a pastor (thought maybe it was written across my forehead). She said, "No! But I was desperate for someone to pray with me." So be prepared. You never know who might need your prayers.

Looking ahead...the Worship Committee is starting to plan for Holy Week. Watch for details in next month's newsletter. We are hoping that the children will sing on Easter Sunday. And we plan to have fellowship that Sunday.

In the early Christian Church, new members were received on Easter Sunday. I like the symbolism of that so we are going to welcome new members on Easter Sunday. If this is of interest to you, please plan to attend a two part new member class after worship on March 5 and March 12. If you would like to join our Committed to Community Congregation, please let me know. We welcome you with open arms.

May God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you!

Pastor Suzanne



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/02 Dorothy Gardner

3/05 Mason Brown

3/09 Sandra Sanders

3/15 Nichole Saunders

3/18 Andrew Wagner

3/23 Janet McAlpine

3/26 Cristal Fortino

3/30 Arlene Nott

3/31 Colby Wagner

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

03/13 Shirley & James Wood



Prayers for the family of Tom Shaffer, who died suddenly. Tom is the nephew of Sandy Sanders and Sue Myers cards may be sent to: Sandy, 2414 Mt. Ventus Rd. #1, Manchester, MD. 21102 and Sue, 2631 Bert Fowler Rd., Manchester, MD. 21102.

Contacting the Pastor and the Church Office

To reach Pastor Suzanne in an emergency, please call her at <u>301 601-1990</u> (home office) or <u>301 802-2862</u>(cell).

For non-emergencies, please call the church (410) 374-2727. Please notify church of any hospitalizations in the congregation.

Daylight Savings Time Begins March 13





HELPING HANDS MARCH

Offering Stewards are Robert Miller and Sharon Girvin-Davison

Deacons at the door are Michelle Wolfgang-Fantone and Sue Myers

Offering Ushers are Logan Nave and Sandy Sanders

Greeter is Thomas Williams

Lay Readers:

March 05 – Robert Miller

March 12 – Claire Vey

March 19 – Sharon Bonner

March 27 – Sharon Girvin-Davison

Acolytes:

March 05 – Lane Saunders

March 12 – Laci Saunders

March 19 - Alex Fantone

March 27 – Adriana Brown

Projector Operators:

March 05 - Karen Haines

March 12 – Elwin Wagner

March 19 - Sandy Sanders

March 27 – Karen Price

Children's Church Leaders:

March 05 - Rev. Lucy Brady

March 12 - Karen Price/Pam Marchand

March 19 – Karen Haines/Michelle Wolfgang-Fantone

March 27 – Nickie Saunders/Jessica Larson

Church Communications Submission Dates

Sunday Worship bulletin – Wednesday April Newsletter – Monday, March 20

March Meeting Dates

Consistory - Wednesday, March 8 @ 7:15 pm ONA - Tuesday, March 14 @ 7-9 pm Bible Study – Will not be meeting during Lent VBS – Sunday, March 19, following worship Worship Committee-Tuesday, March 21 @ 6 pm



Ben's Notes

Lent represents the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert, enduring Satan's temptation. For us, it is a chance to look inward and discern what we need to do to improve our relationship with God and live a more Christ-like life. Lent is a tremendous opportunity for us to enrich our lives through self-examination, reflection, and spiritual practice.

During Lent, I hope for our music ministry to enable all of us to improve our lives and our relationships with Christ. As we examine the works and teachings of Jesus this Lenten season, we will sing our praise and gratitude as well as meditate on our personal and collective spiritual journey.



Trinity United Church of Christ Lent 2017 Worship Series Looking for Love

Data Francisco					
Date	Focus/Scriptures				
March 5	Look for the Resistor				
	Psalm 32				
	Matthew 4: 1-11				
March 12	Look for the Helper				
	Psalm 121				
	John 3: 1-17				
March 19	Look for the Thirst-				
	Quencher				
	Exodus 17: 1-7				
	John 4: 5-42				
March 26	Look for the Shepherd				
	1 Samuel 16: 1-13				
	John 9: 1-41				
April 2	Look for the Liberator				
	Psalm 130				
	John 11: 1-45				
April 9	Look for the Unexpected				
Palm	Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29				
Sunday	Matthew 21: 1-11				

Worship and Children's Church @ 10:45 am



One Great Hour of Sharing

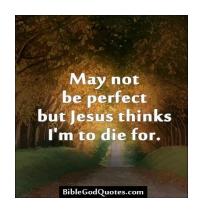
This offering will be received on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 26.

Supports partners in countries with ministries that fund health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries and both international and domestic disaster response. It is administered by Wider Church Ministries, Global Sharing of resources.

People who have been helped by the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, frequently comment that "you were here" after the flood, the earthquake, or the fire, or "I can't believe the church showed up for me during my time of need." Some even say, "I have given to this offering, but never thought it would help me."

Our gifts through the offering allows the church to show up and be here when people need it most. What's more, OGHS works with congregations and organizations locally, those vested in the affected communities, so we can be present quickly, and help the people living in those communities rebuild their lives.

The OGHS Offering will be taken on March 26. Special envelopes will be provided the Sunday of the offering.



Committed to Community Within and Beyond Our Walls

Food Bags For Backpacks Project

Trinity UCC is preparing for March donations for "Food bags for Backpacks" to Manchester Elementary School. A sign-up sheet is now available for donations that are due at the church by Sunday, March 19.

Food items may be placed in the box in the Sunday School Room. You may also write a check to Trinity UCC and note Food Bags for Backpack Project in the memo line.

helping the homeless

Cold Weather Shelter Service Opportunity

Cold Weather Shelter Service opportunity 2017
Even as we enjoyed some unseasonably warm weather, the cold weather shelter weekly update from February 17 reports with six weeks to go they have already served as many individuals (160) as were served all last winter. They are having a nightly average of 33-43 guests with and large number of women, 12-14. Trinity will check in guests and provide their meal on Thursday, March 30th. We will be asking for food donations and volunteers to assist. You may speak to Deb Seal, Karen Haines, Pastor Suzanne or anyone who has helped before. New volunteers are welcome.

2017 Hampstead/Manchester Business & Community Expo

March 11, 2017 from 9 am – 2 pm. (snow date March 18) Manchester Valley High School 3300 Maple Grove Rd. Manchester, MD. 21102

Our church and Team Hope will both have booths at the expo. See Pastor Suzanne if you would like to help staff the TUCC booth.

Lenten Offering

This year's Lenten offering will be donated to the Educational Ministry of the Syrian Refugee Children.

Ash Wednesday Labyrinth Cans Donated to Local Foodbanks

We received many cans which the members of our Children's Church will deliver to Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church on February 26. The members of both churches will build the labyrinth and after Ash Wednesday the students of the Road to Respect Club at Manchester Elementary School will pack the cans to be delivered to Tree of Friends Foundation in Manchester and NESAP in Hampstead. A BIG THANKS to all who donated cans and help build the labyrinth.



2017 Vacation Bible School Update

I am so excited to be the new director of VBS this year and I thank you all for the opportunity to serve the children of this community!

As you can tell by the above logo, we picked the theme for VBS 2017!

The dates will be:

Sunday, July 30- Friday, August 4, 6:30pm-8:45pm.

We are still looking for volunteers who can help us during these times.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions you may have.

Email me at: candicebvfc@gmail.com

Next meeting will be March 19th after worship.

Thank you, Candice Brown

News from the Central Atlantic Conference

After serving our association since 2012, Rev. Marie Bacchiocchi will become interim Conference Minister for the Southeast Conference. Although she is sad to leave this area, she is pleased for this new opportunity as it fits with her long-term call.

In the next few months, leaders from our association will meet with the interim Conference Minister, Denise Mason Bullitt to discuss the needs of churches in our association as plans are formulated for conference support for our association.

Rev. Bullitt started her ministry in the Central Atlantic Conference and has family in Heritage UCC in Baltimore. She attended Lancaster Seminary and holds her Masters of Divinity from Howard University. For the last 16 years, Rev. Bullitt has served as lead pastor of the Community of Reconciliation Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In addition to her parish work, she has served on the National Staff of the UCC, as the Minister for Church Life and Leadership. Rev. Bullitt is committed to interfaith and justice work, serving on Interfaith Councils for Chatham College, University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. She has also served as Adjunct Faculty for Religious Studies at The Neighborhood Academy, a private high school in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Rev. Bullitt began her work with the conference on January 24. She has been part of the "moving opportunity" of the CAC staff as they relocated from their offices on Rolling Road to the building next door. The staff seems very pleased with the move.

In addition to welcoming Denise, saying goodbye (for now) to Marie, moving their offices, and developing new working relationships, the CAC staff has their hands full with the details of the upcoming Synod gathering Baltimore this summer. Please keep them in prayer during this time of transition and challenge.

2017 Annual Congregational Meeting

The 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting was held on January 29 after church service. Each attendee was provided with a printed copy the 2016 Annual Report. Pastor Suzanne and each committee chairperson reviewed their 2016 accomplishments.

The following topics were then discussed in New Business:

- The Sanctuary ceiling is bowing in some areas due to some cracking and splitting of trusses in the ceiling / roof structure. Major restoration repairs will be needed and will cost more than \$100,000 and will not allow the Sanctuary use for several months. The target date to start this restoration work would be right after Easter Sunday. A loan from Cornerstone will probably be needed to pay for the repairs and then hopefully we will get some grant money and begin fundraising efforts to repay the loan.
- Trinity's VBS Program was discussed and determined that someone will need to take over the Leadership for 2017. It was also decided that a VBS meeting needs to be held to decide how VBS will be handled this year if the Sanctuary isn't available for use.
- It was discussed that an effort will be made to eliminate more items in the weekly bulletin if they are projected on the screen.
- The 2017 Lenten Services were discussed. These services will begin on Ash Wednesday and will alternate each Wednesday between Trinity and Immanuel Lutheran.

The meeting concluded at 2:00 P.M.



Consistory Meeting Highlights for February

The monthly meeting of the Consistory was held on February 01, 2017

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Sue Myers, treasurer, presented and explained two reports, Assets and Liabilities and Income and Expenses.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Suzanne reported that this past month that:

- The worship committee is preparing for Lent and Easter
- A Lenten guide will be used in the Bible studies being offered during the Lenten season.
- Immanuel Lutheran and Trinity UCC will share a meal, study and worship on Wednesdays during Lent. Participants may choose to attend at 12 noon or 6:00 p.m.

PROPERTY

Robert provided the following update from the Property Committee:

- Waiting on the delivery and installation of the handicap accessible door for the front entry.
- Lights outside of the door will need to be installed by an electrician when the door is installed.
- Structural engineers, Skarda and Associates, from Baltimore have sent a proposal to inspect the ceiling. A second company, TAI from Owings has been on site and Robert is awaiting their estimate.
- Attendees then reviewed a proposal from Diverse Management and Planning, LLP (DMAP) for grant writing services.
- The boiler has been off three times and some of the water pipes froze.

FINANCE

- Chairperson, Sue Myers, had nothing to report for this meeting.

PERSONNEL

- Chairperson, Deb Seal, had nothing to report for this meeting.

EVANGELISM

Chairperson, Marge Bailey stated that:

- Approximately 40 persons attended the congregational luncheon held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2017
- Plans are in progress for the Shrove Tuesday pancake and sausage dinner on February 28, 2017 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Chairperson, Michelle Wolfgang-Fantone, announced that Candace Brown has stepped forward and volunteered to lead VBS (Vacation Bible School) this year. The first VBS planning meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2017.
- Michelle reminded this group that a bowling party is scheduled for February 12, 2017.

WORSHIP

- Pastor Suzanne provided the following report from Sharon Girvin-Davison. The next Worship Planning meeting will be held on February 21, 2017. Sharon and Pastor Suzanne co-facilitated the Lenten Planning Retreat on January 28, 2017.

CARING MINISTRY

- Plans are in progress for the March 30, 2017 Cold Weather Shelter which Trinity has agreed to host.

PPR

- Liaison, Marge Bailey, reported that a date for the next meeting needs to be scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Shrove Tuesday plans are progress.
- Ash Wednesday: canned goods are needed to build the labyrinth.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ben Starr and Nancy Wilke have developed a plan for sound support.
- A date of July 21, 2017 was agreed upon to attend a Frederick Keys baseball game.
- Consistory members were asked to prepare to recommend potential candidates for a fundraising Advisory Committee at the March consistory meeting.
- This year's Lenten offering will be donated to the Educational Ministry of the Syrian Refugee Children.
- The next meeting of the Consistory will be on March 8, 2017 starting at 7:15 p.m.

<u>Catoctin Association Churches Are Asked to</u> <u>Donate Snacks for Synod</u>



We are writing to request all the churches of Catoctin to donate snacks for General Synod. In past Synods, they have been homemade. However, they now must be prepackaged.

We would like to have at least 9 dozen individually wrapped snacks per congregation. We are asking that 3 dozen of which would be gluten free.

REGULAR SNACKS

Cookies Cereal bars

Graham Crackers

Multigrain bars

Cracker Jacks

Rice krispie treats

Fruit and grain bars

Garden veggie straws

Smartfood popcorn

Pretzels

Corn chips

Doritos and Fritos

Crackers and cheese

Sun chips

Goldfish crackers

GLUTEN FREE

Live G free snacks (found at Aldi's)
Fruit snacks – Welches, Motts
Raisins and Craisins
Skinny-pop popcorn
Snyder's gluten free pretzels
Fruit crisps

We will need these by May 22, 2017. There will be a box in the Sunday School Room marked Synod snacks. Thanking you in advance

Judy K Bowman 301-491-4559 Jkb1750@aol.com Sue Myers 443-375-6788 wsmdem@comcast.net Note from your pastor:

Two years ago, someone at Synod had to leave the convention center floor because of the smell of cookies with nuts. As a person who has trouble with nuts, I encourage no snacks with nuts!!

Emergency Pastoral Care from March 16-20

Pastor Suzanne and Dan are off to Steamboat Springs, CO for their annual trip to see the grands. Grampa D will ski while Oma reads in preparation for messages during Lent and makes soup. During this time, emergency pastoral care will be provided by Pastor Charlie Marshall of Immanuel Lutheran. First point of contact is Robert Miller who may be contacted at 410 374-4455. Robert will then be in touch with Pastor Charlie.

Pastor Lucy will preach on March 19.

Trinity U.C.C. Contact Information

Pastor – Suzanne Adele Schmidt Home office phone: 301-601-1990

Cell/Text: 301-802-2862 E-mail: <u>sasphd@verizon.net</u>

Church Office 410-374-2727

Church e-mail -

trinityuccmanchester@comcast.net

Website - www.trinityuccmanchester.org

Facebook -

www.facebook.com/ManchesterUCC

Director of Music Ministry-Ben Starr

Cell: 443-814-5402 E-mail: bstarrr@gmail.com

Children's Church Coordinator-Pastor Lucy

Brady

Email: 1lucybrady@gmail.com

Consistory President – Robert Miller Vice President – Sandy Sanders Secretary – Sandy Sanders Treasurer – Sue Myers Assistant Treasurer – Debra Seal



Sponsoring Flowers and Roses

The 2017 sign-up sheets for sponsoring altar flowers and roses are on the bulletin board by the entrance to the main Sunday School room.

The cost to purchase flowers is now:

- Two altar vase arrangements \$40 total It is possible to share the cost of altar flowers. However, those sharing are asked to communicate with one another and Claire.
 - Single rose in an altar vase \$3.50
 - Single rose in a bud vase \$11.00
 - Two roses in a bud vase \$14.00
 - Three roses in a bud vase \$17.00

Please prayerfully consider sponsoring flowers this year. What a meaningful way to remember or honor someone and add beauty to our sanctuary. Orders are usually called in about one month in advance.

The sign-up list is not always checked weekly. If you sign up on one week for the following week, please call Claire Vey @ 410-239-8053 or 443-340-7145 before Thursday. This allows her to place your order is placed.



Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen emergencies, the decision to

close the church will be made two hours before Children's Church/worship/meetings/workday begin. You can find out whether or not the building will be open in the following possible ways:

- 1. Calling the church at 410 374-2727 (The voice mail message will reflect the decision to close or remain open.)
- 2. Checking your email. (Those with email will receive a message.)
- 3. Listening to WBAL 1090 AM
- 4. Receiving a call through the phone tree



EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

The cost of each plant is \$10.50. Deadline to place ar order is Sunday, April 2, 2017. Payment must be made when you place your order. Specify: In Loving Memory of or In Honor of by Any further questions, please see Claire Vey. Please make checks payable to: Trinity U.C.C.					
I / We wish to sponsor flowers for Easter.					
Name:					
Lily					
Tulip(red)(yellow)(orange)					
Mums(white)(purple)(yellow)(mixed)					
Azalea(red)(pink)					
Total Amount Due: \$					
IN HONOR OF:					
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:					
BY:					

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HAS BEEN BUSY!!

We have:

- learned about Epiphany and stories of ways God appears to different people.
- helped fill care boxes for College students.
- attended an Acolyte Training. We now have six new trained acolytes!
- joined the congregation at the end of worship and helped bless backpacks, food bags, and prayer shawls.





CHILDREN'S CHURCH had a GREAT DAY Bowling February 12th!!









CHASING IT



- A compelling and riveting documentary of the worst drug crisis in United States history
- Chasing It tells the story of the people affected by opioid abuse and why heroin use has such a devastating reach

SPEAKERS:

Linda Auerback, Substance Abuse Prevention Supervisor, Community Updates

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Jeremy Simons, Person in Long-term Recovery Heather Press, Peer Support Specialist Beth Schmidt. MD Coalition of Families/MD Heroin Awareness Advocates

Monday, March 13, 2017

6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.

Carroll Arts Center

91 W. Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Information Booths Food Provided

Community Service hours for students/Lions Club visitations

Hosted by The Roaring Run Lions Club In Partnership with Carroll County Health Department

For more information, contact Linda Auerback at 410.876.4803

ROARING RUN



The Shepherd's Staff's First Annual



of Carroll County

A simple meal of soup, bread and water, and a handcrafted bowl to take home as a reminder of those whose bowls remain empty.



March 26th, 12pm-2pm

St. Paul's United Church of Christ 17 Bond Street, Westminster

\$10 per person

(Children 5 and under free)

- Desserts and Beverages available for additional donation
- Fun Silent Auction and Children's Craft Corner

Featuring:

*

Rock Salt Grille
Oscar's Ale House
Buttersburg Inn
Forbidden City
and more!

Participating Churches:

- St. Paul's UCC, St. Mary's UCC, St. John's Catholic,
- St. George's Episcopal, St. John's Lutheran,
- St. Joseph's Catholic, Grace Lutheran



For tickets or more information, please call The Shepherd's Staff at 410 857-5944

Proceeds benefit The Shepherd's Staff's Emergency and Crisis Assistance Programs.

Two Spiritual Retreats for Lent



OPEN MY EYES THAT I MAY SEE

DATE: Saturday, March 11, 2017 TIME: 9:00 Arrival/Coffee/Tea

9:15 – 12:15 Retreat 12:15 Lunch (optional)

FACILITATOR: Sister Mary Therese

DESCRIPTION: We take in sights and information constantly with our eyes. In this retreat, we learn to

look deeper and see with our soul. We will also consider our blind spots that prevent us from seeing God in some areas of our life. Retreat will include presentation, visual reflections, quiet time and creative experiences.

COST: \$35.00 including lunch; \$30.00 retreat only

REGISTRATION: Email sistereileen23@gmail.com, Phone 410-239-7138

WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER MY PRAYER?



DATE: Saturday, April 8, 2017 TIME: Coffee/Tea 9:00-9:30.

Retreat program begins at 9:30 and ends at 3:00.

Lunch included.

FACILITATORS: Sisters Eileen and Mary Therese DESCRIPTION: We pray fervently and sometimes

nothing seems to happen. We get discouraged and wonder what's wrong with us, or we suspect that God is angry with us. This retreat will invite us to open our understanding of what we expect when we pray and how to perceive God's response. The day will include presentations, time for contemplative prayer, visuals, music and conversation.

COST: \$50.00 per person

REGISTRATION: Email sistereileen23@gmail.com, Phone 410-239-7138

Aisling Retreat House, 4800 Hoffmanville Rd, Manchester, MD 21102 www.aislingretreathouse.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
Notes: Office opened Mon, Tues, Thur. (9am – 1pm) except where noted			1 Church office closed Lenten Soup and Study noon or 6pm Ash Wed. Worship 1 or 7pm @ Immanuel		3 Church office opened	4			
5 First Sunday in Lent Holy Communion Worship/Children's Church 10:45am	6	AA meets 8:30pm	8 Lenten Soup Study and Worship noon or 6pm @ Immanuel Consistory 7:15pm	9 Choir 7pm		11 Hampstead/Manchester Business & Community Expo from 9 am-2 pm Manchester Valley High			
in Lent Worship/Children's Church 10:45am Scrip orders are due Blessing of the Prayer Shawls	13	ONA meeting 7 – 9pm AA meets 8:30pm	15 Lenten Soup Study and Worship noon or 6pm @ TUCC	16 Choir 7pm	17	18			
	20 Church office opened April newsletter articles due		22 Church office closed Lenten Soup Study and Worship noon or 6pm @ Immanuel		24 Church office opened	25			
in Lent Worship/Children's Church 10:45am Blessing of the Foodbags OGH offering Pastor Suzanne and Ben lead worship @ Longview Nursing	27	AA meets 8:30pm	29 Lenten Soup Study and Worship noon or 6pm @ TUCC	Choir 7pm	31	Notes:			

Trinity United Church of Christ Income and Expenses

	Jan 17
Ordinary Income/Expense Income	
Communion Offering Improvement Fund Loose Offering Miscellaneous Regular Offering	140.00 245.00 13.00 0.03 5,925.00
Total Income	6,323.03
Expense Educational Ministri Evangelism General Personnel Music Worship	100.95 740.73 2,201.58 6,766.46 175.00 514.45
Total Expense	10,499.17
Net Ordinary Income	(4,176.14)
Other Income/Expense Other Income Willing Workers Memorial Fund Fundraising	(4.00) (79.98) 78.50
Total Other Income	(5.48)
Other Expense Capital Improveme Transfers	817.81
Total Other Expense	817.81
Net Other Income	(823.29)
Net Income	(4,999.43)