

Trinity Episcopal Church
128 West Hardin Street
Findlay, Ohio 45840

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

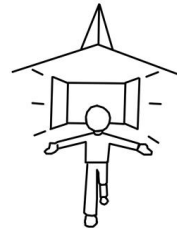
Trinity Tidings

*The Episcopal Church serving
Hancock County, Ohio...and beyond*



Trinity Tidings

2



OUTREACH

On Saturday, September 14th we had a parish work day. A lot was accomplished and many thanks go out to everyone who helped with jobs indoors and outdoors around the church.

We will be picking up trash on our stretch of adopted highway on October 26, starting at 9:30 a.m. Please let Annie know if you might be interested in being involved!

Many thanks for your support of our on-going collection of non-perishable food and taxable toiletries (toilet paper, diapers, sanitary items, cleaning and sanitizing products, shampoo, and soap) for area charities. Baskets are in the parish hall. If you would like to be involved with Outreach or have questions, please contact Annie at 870-307-9058 or stricklina@gmail.com.



St. Agnes Altar Guild

Altar Guild Welcomes a New Trainee

The members of the St. Agnes Altar Guild are happy to welcome Victoria Hansen for guild training. Victoria has started learning about how to set-up and clear by helping Guild members on Sunday mornings and on set-up days. She has proven to be a quick study and will be training during the coming months. She also appreciates that the Holy Water is stored in a plastic Kroger water jug – she will fit in just fine!

If you've thought about training for the Altar Guild but would like to know more, come talk to us in the Sacristy on Sunday morning when we're setting up and clearing – you won't bother us or be in the way. You can find Guild members in the Sacristy at 9:30 a.m. and after the 10 a.m. service.

Join the Aggies!

IN CELEBRATION OF THE SAINTS

Trinity will celebrate All Saint's Sunday on November 3rd. The book is in the back of the sanctuary for you to enter the names of those you would like remembered. Please **PRINT** the name(s) in the book (or you may e-mail to trinfin128@gmail.com) by October 27th.

CHRIST IN A STRANGER'S GUISE

For you never know when you might meet...

Thanks to Larry Funke, we had a wonderful breakfast after the 10 a.m. service on September 8th. Eggs, sausage, and pancakes, oh my!

CSG members continue to greet prior to the 10 a.m. service, welcoming 'regulars' and newcomers, each of whom is given a green bag with a small loaf of bread and some info about Trinity.

Our next meeting will be after coffee hour on Sunday, October 6. Grab a second cuppa and a friend and help us plan for upcoming activities.

Ginny Lee Pilstl, Chair

...Christ in a Stranger's Guise.



THE RECTOR WRITES

Making reference to Christ's Ascension, the anonymous author of the fourteenth century mystical text *The Cloud of Unknowing* wrote the following:

Yes, Christ did ascend upward and from on high sent the Holy Spirit but he rose upward because this was more appropriate than to descend or to move to left or to right. Beyond the superior symbolic value of rising upward, however, the direction of his movement is actually quite incidental to the spiritual reality. For in the realm of the spirit heaven is as near up as it is down, behind as before, to left or to right. The access to heaven is through desire. He who longs to be there really is there in spirit. The path to heaven is measured by desire and not by miles.

How often we think about the Kingdom of Heaven as being some place far off! This Medieval writer, however, reminds us of something Jesus said over and over in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). The Kingdom of Heaven has come near. We often speak of the spiritual life as being a journey, but I wonder if that particular metaphor might be misleading.

When one sets out on a journey one packs, but Jesus says to his disciples "Take no gold, nor silver, nor copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor a staff." Likewise, a successful trip usually depends on some careful planning, but Jesus says "When they deliver you up, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour." As popular as the journey metaphor is these days, Jesus never used it in describing the Kingdom of Heaven.

What metaphor should we use, then? Well, Jesus himself gave us plenty. The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field or a pearl of great value. It is like a lost coin or a lost sheep whose owners won't stop searching. What do all of these metaphors have in common? They all compare heaven to something whose acquisition depends on desire, just as the author of *The Cloud of Unknowing* did. The field and the pearl require sacrificing wealth in order to obtain them. The coin and the sheep require persistence in one's search. All of them, though, require that one really wants to get them. The means are already present. The pearl merchant and the landowner have the money to get what they want; the woman and the shepherd have time to look for their lost property. But without a strong enough desire, the pearl, the treasure, the coin, and the sheep will stay right where they are.

We've got everything we need to experience the love and grace of God if we really want it. The question remaining, then, is simple. Do we really want it? St. Augustine, during his younger, more hedonistic days said something like "Lord, make me a Christian, but not yet!" He didn't really want it. It's easy enough to say that we want God in our lives. It's another thing to really want it enough to change our approach to life.

This might sound fatalistic. One could say, "either I want it or I don't! If I don't am I out of luck?" I suspect, though, that deep down we all really want to be children of God. We all want this pearl of great value, even if we don't know it yet. We might get distracted by what the world says is valuable - money or prestige or some skewed version of self-reliance. We may not have been presented with a compelling account of what the Kingdom is and what it's worth, and I doubt God would hold that against us.

The good news is that when we recognize our innate desire for God and the Kingdom we've not got too far to look. "The path to heaven is measured by desire and not by miles." Jesus said, "seek and ye shall find." What an extravagant promise! What a comforting truth!

Yours in service to the Gospel,
John†

Trinity Tidings



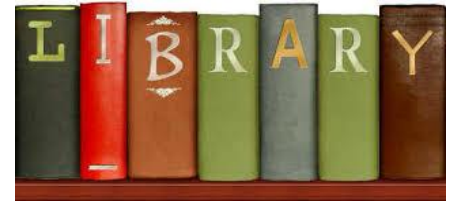
MUSIC NOTES

We welcome all who are interested in singing to join the choir!
Questions? Contact Barb Masterson.

Greetings from the Trinity Library in the parlor!

Reading Helps Us Grow

The Trinity Library in the parlor has hundreds of books that can help you learn about the foundation and history of the church. Take a look at some of the featured books for October, resources to help you grow your knowledge and your faith.



- Bowie – The Story of the Bible
- Rahner – Concern for the Church
- Rahner – Foundations of Christian Faith
- Wise, Abegg & Cook – The Dead Seas Scrolls
- Hebert – Scripture and the Faith
- Klauser – A Short History of the Western Liturgy
- Burns – Theological Anthropology
- Shepherd – The Worship of the Church
- Lewis – Christian Social Witness
- Crenshaw – Story and Faith



LUNCH BUNCH

September brought a road trip when we traveled to a farm outside Fostoria. On lovely day, we enjoyed a wonderful tour of our hosts' beautiful garden (think a miniature Schedel or Hershey) followed by a delicious and filling lunch on their patio. Thanks to Anne Butcher who suggested and arranged it and to Joe and Brenda Stearns who hosted us.



October will see us staying closer to home as we will go to a longtime Findlay fave: The Fern.

WHEN: Friday, October 11, 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Fern Café, 452 E. Sandusky Street

Please let Nancy O'Sullivan or Ginny Lee know no later than Wednesday, October 9 if you can join us.

YOU MAY request to receive *Tidings* by e-mail. Just let Deborah know you would prefer this method rather than picking up your copy or having it sent to you in the mail. Please include your up-to-date e-mail address! You may call, leave a note in the mailbox in the yellow room, e-mail (trinfnl28@gmail.com), or just stop in!

A Prayer for October

Heavenly Father, as we step into a new month I embrace it as a season of transformation and revelation. October marks a shift in the natural world, with leaves changing colors and cooler breezes, reminding us that change is an integral part of Your divine design. As nature reveals its beauty and prepares for the winter, let my spirit also be prepared for the shifts and turns that come my way. Lord, let this month be a time of introspection, growth, and renewal. Just as the trees shed their leaves, help me to let go of any burdens, regrets, or negative thoughts that might hinder my progress. As I witness Your creation transition gracefully, may I also move with grace, adaptability, and faith throughout this month and beyond. With a heart full of gratitude, I lean on Your understanding, knowing that You are my guide, my protector, and my ultimate source of strength. Amen.



ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER *TIDINGS* SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 28TH. THANKS!

TRULY KEEPING IN TOUCH...

Some parishioners not able to attend services, or attend regularly, would enjoy calls or cards from the rest of us, and visits especially from people who know them. Others have moved – so this is an update on their contact information:

Michael McCoy - 350 E 1st Ave, Ajo, AZ 85321 (winter address)

Catherine Albrecht & Michael Romary - 1229 Turner Meadow Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603

Romelle Aldrich - 83 Harwood Road, Monroe, NJ 08831

John and Paula Wolper - 2248 Dominion Drive, Fort Mitchell, KY 41017

Dave & Peg Bell – 779 Tupper Street, Brockville, Ontario, Canada K6V6A1

Bob & Mary Brater – 300 Woodhaven Drive, #2309, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Marjorie Weaver – 4931 Nettleton, #7105, Medina, OH 44256

Sue Ann Sandusky – 103 Willow Ridge Drive, Bluffton, OH 45817



Trinity Tidings

SERVERS

OUR GREETERS ARE BACK! The liturgical schedule now includes Lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and Greeters – and they are greatly appreciated! Especially needed are lectors for 8:30 a.m. and LEMs for 10 a.m. At present, greeters are scheduled through August. We welcome all to sign-up beginning in September. If you would like to take part in future services at Trinity, please let Fr. John or Deborah know.

The sign-up sheet for Sunday flowers is on the bulletin board in the parish hall.



WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

We all need a little prayer and Trinity provides a prayer list each week in the bulletin for those who could use some extra. Would you please take a moment to review that prayer list and help us keep it up-to-date? If there are names which should be removed, let Deborah know. If there is someone on your heart, we can add that person. Thank you!

Trinity Tidings

PERSONAL NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AND ABOUT THE TRINITY FAMILY. IF YOU HAVE ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SHARE, (BIRTHS, ENGAGEMENTS, GRADUATIONS, HONORS, AWARDS, WEDDINGS, PERFORMANCES, ACHIEVEMENTS, ACTIVITIES, ETC.) PLEASE SUBMIT THEM BY THE 3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR THE NEXT PUBLICATION.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 03 – Joe Boucher
- 11 – Ryan McConnell
- 13 – Grace McConnell
- 18 – Michael Romary
- 26 – Kent Asher
- 28 – Anna Miller, Cindy Whitson



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY

- 01 – Gayle Baltzel & Darin Boyles



COFFEE CORNER



OCTOBER

- 6th – Butchers
- 13th – Funkes
- 20th – Pilstl/Proctor
- 27th –

THERE ARE OPENINGS FOR HOSTS!

Please consider adding your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. You don't have to do it alone – several families or a group may host together and it may be as simple as making the coffee and bringing packaged cookies!

THANK YOU for the donations of coffee and decaf!

6

WHERE DO YOU FIT??

Everyone has special gifts – share yours with your church! Please consider lending your talents to a committee in an area of your interest or skill. Just contact a committee or vestry member or attend a meeting to join.



SUNDAY FLOWERS

Please let Deborah know by noon on Wednesday of that week what you would like printed in the bulletin for your gift of flowers. E-mail to trinfin128@gmail.com or call 419-422-3214. When providing flowers from a florist, they should be delivered to the church between 9 a.m. and noon on Friday. **If you bring flowers in a vase** and would like it returned, please tape your name to the bottom so it doesn't find its way into Trinity's collection and eventual donation. Thanks.



If ever there is a name omitted from one of these lists, or if an item is incorrect, please contact the church office with the info.



"Good morning, Mrs. Keith — you weren't home last night, so..."

Trinity Tidings



PARISH WORK DAY

THANKS to all those who helped! A lot was accomplished! We will plan another work day for the fall.

God's work, our hands.

Join the Volunteer Team at Christian Clearing House!

We're looking for compassionate, dedicated individuals to join our office team and make a difference in the lives of those in our community. If you have a heart for helping others and can commit to volunteering a minimum of 6 morning hours a month, we'd love to hear from you!

Requirements:

- Must be computer-savvy
- Enjoy working directly with clients
- Passionate about making a positive impact

Volunteers play a crucial role in assisting our clients, offering support, and ensuring they receive the help they need. If this sounds like you, consider joining our incredible team!

Ready to help? Call the office at 419-422-2222 or email hdavis@cchsupport.org.



Floral Designers Needed

The Altar Guild is looking to refresh/replace some of the silk flower arrangements we use on Sundays when no one has signed up for flowers. We hope to add one fall arrangement and two winter arrangements for use in early December, January, and February. If you might be interested in donating your talent and supplies for this, please see Jan Taylor, Sacristan. There are size and style guidelines we need to keep to for the arrangements.

SIGN UP FOR KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS



Money is donated to Trinity for use to support the community. Kroger Community Rewards program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. Here's how it works: Create a digital account. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose. Sign into your digital account, select the organization you wish to support, enter the name of the organization, select the organization and click 'save'. (Go to [Kroger Community Rewards.com](http://KrogerCommunityRewards.com) and follow the instructions.)

Trinity earned \$105.11 in the last quarter from a total of 27 households.