**Trinity United Church of Christ**



***June 2024***

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***Worship: 9:00 am***

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**June 2nd – Mark 2:23 to 3:6**

 **“Going Against the Grain”**

**June 9th – Pastor Karen out of the Pulpit**

**June 16th – Romans 8:14-17 & Galatians 4:4-7**

 **“A New Daddy”**

**June 23rd – Mark 4:35-41**

 **“The Other Side”**

**June 30th – Mark 5:1-20**

 **“Solve our Problem; Save our Pigs”**

**Communion: Please pick up your communion wafer & cup as you enter the sanctuary.**

**Offering: Please place your gifts in the offering box as you enter or leave worship.**

**Contact Information**

**Pastor: Rev. Karen Fraser Moore**

welwoman@hotmail.com, 618.920.3592

**321 W. 8th Street … Jasper, Indiana 47546**

(Corner of Clay & 8th Street)

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 386 Jasper, 47547-0386

**Office Phone:** 812-482-4090

**Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

9am – 1pm & 2pm - 3pm

**Office Email:** ***trinityofficejasper@gmail.com***

**Website:** htps://www.trinityjasperucc.org

**YouTube:** Trinity UCC Jasper IN



**Monthly Calendar**

**SU 2** 9:00 am Worship & Communion

**W 5** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**TH 6** Pastor Karen gone this week until Wednesday (12)

**F 7** 9:30 am Mommy & Me Playgroup

7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 9** 9:00 am Worship

**M 10** 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

**W 12** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**F 14** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 16** 9:00 am Worship

 10:15 am Special Congregational Meeting

**T 18** 4:00 pmSunset Extension

**W 19 1:00 pm *Church Office closes***

7:00 pm AA Meeting

**TH 20 *Church office closed today.***

**F 21** 9:30 am Mommy & Me Playgroup

 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 23** 9:00 pmWorship

**W 26 June Newsletter Sent!**

7:00 pm AA Meeting

**F 28** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 30** 9:00 am Worship

**Karen’s Karen – Do We Know?..**

The denomination we call the United Church of Christ includes people from a variety of spiritual backgrounds, beliefs, understandings and concerns. There are often folks who regularly attend worship in a UCC congregation that do not know how we came into being or the importance of our common values and beliefs.

 As Trinity prepares to call and welcome a new pastor, it seemed appropriate to review some important understandings about our denomination as a whole.

**Who We Are?**

 The United Church of Christ is an inclusive and diverse community of Christians connected by faith that calls us to build a just world for all. Our ministries advocate at a national and global level, yet our roots are planted firmly in our local congregations in communities like ours.

**A Church of Extravagant Welcome, Seeking a Just and Peaceful World**

 For over 400 years, the United Church of Christ has been a Church of firsts, weaving God’s Message of hope and extravagant welcome with action for justice and peace. We are a Church where Jesus, the Healer, meets Jesus, the Revolutionary, and where together, we grow a just and peaceful world. Our history is filled with ways our faith and call for justice have effected change in our communities, and our response to the demands of our faith is woven into the history of our country.

**Our Mission: WE WELCOME ALL. WE LOVE ALL. WE SEEK JUSTICE FOR ALL.**

**Our Structure**

 The UCC is comprised of 36 conferences across the United States. Each conference is composed of associations of congregations. (usually connected geographically) who meet on a regular basis to share needs and concerns and make decisions that apply to the congregations within the association. Every two years, conference delegates come together at General Synod to discuss suggested resolutions for all congregations across the United States. These resolutions are not binding upon local congregations in any way. Basically, resolutions provide a direction and guide for the future of the denomination as a whole.

**Our Beliefs**

 We believe in the Triune God: Creator, Resurrected Christ, the sole Head of the church, and the Holy Spirit, who guides and brings about the Creative and Redemptive Work of God in the world.

 We believe each person is unique and valuable. It is the Will of God every person belongs to a family of faith where they have a strong sense of being valued and loved.

 We believe each person is on a spiritual journey and each of us is at a different stage of that journey.

 We believe the persistent search for God produces an authentic relationship with God, engendering love, strengthening faith, dissolving guilt, and giving life purpose and direction.

 We believe all who are baptized belong body and soul to our Lord Jesus Christ.’ No matter who – no matter what – no matter where we are on life’s journey – notwithstanding race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, class or creed – we all belong to God and to one worldwide community of faith. All persons baptized – past, present and future – are connected to each other and to God through the Sacrament of Baptism. We baptize during worship when the community is present because Baptism includes the community’s promise of ‘love, support and care’ for the baptized – and we promise we won’t take it back – no matter where your journey leads you.

 We believe all people of faith are invited to join at Christ’s Table for the Sacrament of Communion. Just as many grains of wheat are gathered to make one loaf of bread and many grapes are gathered to make one cup of wine, we, the many people of God, are made one in the Body of Christ, the Church. The breaking of bread and the pouring of wine reminds us of the costliness of Christ’s Sacrifice and the discipleship to which we are all called. In the breaking of bread, we remember and celebrate Christ’s Presence among us along with a ‘cloud of witnesses’ – our ancestors, family and friends who have gone before us. It is a great mystery; we claim it by faith.

 We believe the UCC is called to be a united and uniting church. “That they may all be one.” (John 17:21) “In essentials–unity, in nonessentials–diversity, in all things–charity,” These UCC mottos survive because they touch core values deep within us. The UCC has no rigid formulation of doctrine or attachment to creeds or structures. Its overarching creed is love. UCC pastors and teachers are known for their commitment to excellence in theological preparation, interpretation of the Scripture and justice advocacy. Even so, love and unity in the midst of our diversity are our greatest assets.

 We believe God calls us to serve others and be good stewards of the earth’s resources. ‘To believe is to care; to care is to do.’

 We believe the UCC is called to be a prophetic Church. In the tradition of the prophets and apostles, God calls the Church to speak truth to power, liberate the oppressed, care for the poor and comfort the afflicted.

 We believe in the power of peace, and work for nonviolent solutions to local, national, and international problems.

 We are a people of possibility. In the UCC, members, congregations and structures have the breathing room to explore and to hear. After all, God is still speaking,…

 May these reminders or what we are, what we believe and what God calls us to be and do provide us with encouragement and determination to continue what our ancestors in the faith foresaw and strived to create. May the UCC continue to thrive and flourish as we continue to be who God calls us to be. Amen.

In Christ’s Love and Kare,

*Pastor Karen*

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 **Pray without ceasing…**

* *Pray for ALL in need of healing; may God grant them strength and patience.*
* *Pray for those impacted by the devastations from wind, fire & water.*
* *Pray for those families and communities where the young and elderly have been killed by senseless violence in various places in our country, including children in schools, those getting groceries, and those attending worship.*
* *Pray for our military, first responders and those in law enforcement.*
* *Those confined to their homes and/or receiving ongoing medical treatment.*
* *Families grieving the loss of loved ones, family members and friends.*
* *Those who struggle financially and emotionally because they do not have enough of basic human needs, especially those in this community.*
* *Those who are awaiting answers that can change their lives.*
* *We hold Bill Danhafer, father of Melissa Blackgrave in our daily prayers.*

**If you or someone you know is in need of our congregation’s prayers, please let Taylor know in the church office via email or phone call.**

**Mission Alive at Trinity**

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**Adopt a Family: Year-to-date** we have collected **$150.25**

**“Meet” our 2024 Adopt-A- Family**

 Our 2024 **Adopt-A-Family** consists of Mom, Dad, and their 5 children. Dad is a plumber and has worked with the same company for 10 years. Mom has been a CNA for 8 years. She hopes to someday attend Nursing School, when they can afford it. Their daughters are 12, 11, and almost 10 and their 2 sons (described by Mom as rambunctious) are 9 and 6. All of them attend Jasper Schools.

 They recently moved to a rental house in the country where as Mom puts it, “the kids can just be kids”. They enjoy spending time with their chickens, rabbits, 2 cats and a dog! Mom and Dad admit they can’t afford many luxuries, but spend time with their children by playing in the yard, playing board games or watching movies together. They say “we aren’t rich but the memories we make together, we will always cherish.”

 Despite both parents working they are finding it stressful trying to make ends meet. Through your gifts we can reduce some of their stress by helping pay a few bills for them.

 The “**Change Jar**”isin the Narthex. We hope you will continue to put your spare change/ dollars (or a check) in it. The money collected each month will be applied to a bill or bills of the family’s choice. Your pocket change can help make a “change” for our **Adopt-A-Family.** Please remember them in your prayers, also. Thanks for your loving gifts.

 ~ Outreach Team

**ADOPT-A-FAMILY ACCOUNT**

 Carry-over from 2023 $849.00

 Donations year-to-date $138.25

 Monthly gifts ($450.00)

 Balance as of 5-15 $537.25

 **Mission Alive at Trinity**

**Food Bank**

In the month of May, the Trinity Family has provided 28 bottles of shampoo/soap, 1 box of pop tarts, 4 toothbrushes, 1 can of hairspray, and 13 cans of vegetables. We have also donated several plastic bags. Your continued support for the Dubois County Community Food Bank is greatly appreciated.

**June items: Boxed Macaroni and Cheese**

**2024 Lenten Project**

**S.A.R.A. “Sharing America’s Resources Abroad”**

 The total collected for our project to help the St. Michael’s Children’s Home and the Good Samaritan Children’s Home was **$4,300**. The check has been sent to the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ. S.A.R.A. is a mission of that conference. Thank you so much for your donations showing love and support for these children.

**MAY OUTREACH – ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

“One Great Hour of Sharing” is one of the 5 special missions of the United Church of Christ. The resources collected are used to help people and refugees suffering from floods, wildfires, earthquakes and other natural disasters. These gifts make a difference for neighbors near and far. Due to the delayed start of the mission in the month of May, we will extend the offering collections into the first 2 weeks of June.

**This year’s mission goal is $500.** The Outreach Team is always impressed with the Trinity generosity, and we thank you in advance for your gifts.

**Collected so far – $220**

** May Council Highlights**

|  |
| --- |
| **May Council Decisions:** |
| **- Approval was given for:** |
| * Quotes provided for the update to the parsonage roof ($15,000) and gutters ($5,500), totaling near $21,000.00 provided by Rabbit Roofing.
* Other parsonage updates provided. John McGovren is to prepare a report regarding the parsonage needs to be provided for next council meeting.
 |

**The next Council Meeting will be held on June 10th at 7:00pm.**

**REPORT FROM THE FINANCE SECRETARY AND TREASURER**

Please consider – as of May 12th

 Giving to date 2023 - $60,132

 Giving to date 2024 - $51,634

**UPDATE FROM SEARCH TEAM**

We are receiving profiles of candidates that are interested in learning more about Trinity UCC. The committee has studied the profiles and has compiled a list of questions for the candidates. We continue to hold interviews to discern if there is a call and if there is a match on the skill sets of the candidates and the skills needed for us. Thank you for your prayers as we continue on this journey.

**A meeting will be held on June 16th after Worship to vote in the proposed amendments to our Church’s Constitution. Throughout the remainder of 2024 the Church Council will be working on additional updates to our Constitution.**

**Propose Constitutional Changes to the Trinity United Church of Christ, Jasper Indiana**

**May 13, 2024**

These changes below have been approved by the Trinity United Church of Christ Church Council. The next step will be to call a special congregational meeting. We will follow provision in our current constitution, which states changes to the Constitution may be made at any duly called congregational meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present. Public announcement of the text of the proposed amendment(s) shall be made at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting.

**Change 1 – ARTICLE IV - FAITH AND COVENANT**

 Section 1 – Faith – *no change*

 Section 2 – UCC Statement of Faith – *no change*

 Section 3 – Covenant – *as follows*

 Current paragraph 1 – *no change*

We covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and the will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshipping God and striving for truth, justice, and peace. As did our forbearers, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

Add additional paragraph 2, 3 and 4

*We acknowledge our diversities ... and we welcome, respect and support people of every race, ethnicity, economic status, sexual orientation, age, gender, marital status and physical as well as mental ability. We are a community where all are equal, all are loved, and all are respected for who and what they are — and for what they can become.*

*We acknowledge that our fears and ignorance sometimes hinder us. We challenge one another to follow the teachings of Jesus, who denied no one and welcomed all: We strive to live our faith by supporting inclusiveness and justice for all humanity, and we invite all who gather here to participate in our ministries of service, word and sacrament.*

**Change 2 – ARTICLE V –MEMBERSHIP**

Remove current paragraphs

*Membership in this congregation shall be open to any person who has been baptized, confirmed or has made public confession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in the presence of the congregation. In accordance with the gospel covenant which binds into a unity “faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.”, membership is open to all.*

*Members shall pledge themselves to attend the regular worship of the church and the celebration of the Lord’s Supper; to live the Christian life; to share in the life and work of the Church; to contribute to its support and benevolences: and to seek diligently the spiritual welfare of the membership and the community.*

*Any member may, on his/her own request, be granted a letter of transfer to another church or a release from membership.*

*The Council shall review the membership roll based upon criteria and in a frequency that the Council shall establish from time to time.*

Replace with the following,

*Membership in this congregation shall be open to any person as described in Bylaws for Trinity United Church of Christ of Jasper, Indiana.*



 **Help With Worship Needed**

We need to recruit a few more people to our team. The team helps support the pastor on planning Sunday morning Worship. We normally meet on a monthly basis.

A few additional tasks are listed below that can be done by volunteers:

1. **Changing Paraments** (Altar Cloths) - changes take place according to the calendar or for a funeral.
2. **Altar and Christ Candles** – checking oil on the Christ Candle, changing altar candles and cleaning the candle sticks.
3. **Hanging Banners** – change out the banners as needed.

If you are interested in serving on the team or helping with any of the tasks above, please see Pastor Karen after Worship or send her a message via email. Thank you!

 **Worship Attendance**

 **May 5th – 53**

 **May 12th – 45**

 **May 19th – 42**

**Usher & Bible Readers!**

The new Bible Reader and Usher schedule for July through December will be emailed to you in the next couple of weeks. As always, if you cannot participate on your scheduled date, you are responsible for finding a replacement. Thank you for your time and talents!



**June 2024 - Worship Participants**

**June 2nd –**

**Bible Reader:** Doreen Lechner

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Heather Goodhue

**Media Producer:** Kurt Vonderheide **Media:** Adam Roth

**Usher & Lock-up:** John and Janis Schnarr

**Communion Prep:** Rod & Jan Kalb

**June 9th –**

**Bible Readers:** Susan McGovren

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Heather Goodhue

**Media Producer:** Mark Blackgrave **Media:** Kurt Heise

**Usher & Lock-up:** Larry LaGrange

**June 16th –**

**Bible Readers:** Dan Sergesketter

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Pastor Karen

**Media Producer:** Nichole Lechner **Media:** Nichole Lechner

**Usher & Lock-up:** Dan and Sarah Sergesketter

**June 23rd –**

**Bible Readers:** Jim Patterson

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Heather Goodhue

**Media Producer:** Doreen Lechner **Media:** John Kahle

**Ushers & Lock-up:** John and Susan McGovren

**June 30th –**

**Bible Readers:** Sabrina Peters

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Pastor Karen

**Media Producer:** Kurt Vonderheide **Media:** Kurt Vonderheide

**Ushers & Lock-up:** Kurt Vonderheide

**June Birthdays**

**Name Date**



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Jack | Campbell | 1 |
| Amanda | Schnell | 3 |
| Pat | Seng | 4 |
| Ansel | Adams | 4 |
| Becky | Armstrong | 5 |
| Emma | Emmons | 5 |
| Mya | Uebelhor | 5 |
| Jenny | LaGrange | 8 |
| Kurt | Vonderheide | 12 |
| Nick | Seng | 13 |
| Mary Ann | Weisheit | 15 |
| Kennan | Cole | 17 |
| Earl | Neukam | 18 |
| Lillian | Hulsman | 19 |
| Dallas | Knies | 20 |
| Nolan | Jahn | 22 |
| Heather | Schnaus | 23 |
| Kami | Hopster | 23 |
| Anna | Grant | 26 |
| John | McGovren | 26 |
| James | Goodhue | 27 |

**June Anniversaries**

**Names Date Years**

Geoff & Sarah Mauck 6/7/2003 21

Bill & Elaine Small 6/16/1973 51

Kevin & Melissa Blackgrave 6/23/1990 34

John & Susan McGovren 6/24/1973 51

Tricia & Bill Cole 6/27/1998 26

Heather & James Goodhue 6/27/1998 27

Dan & Sarah Sergesketter 6/28/1980 44

Jerry & Sylvia Adams 6/30/1973 51