**Trinity United Church of Christ**



***July 2024***

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

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**July 7th – “Travel Light”**

 **Mark 6:1-13**

**July 14th – “Tragedy Strikes”**

 **Mark 6:14-29**

**July 21st – “Ministry Continues”**

 **Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

**July 28th – “More Than Enough for All”**

 **John 6:1-21**

**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**

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**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**

**W 3 *Church office is closed today.***

**TH 4 *Happy Independence Day!***

 ***Church office is closed today.***

7:00 pm AA Meeting

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

**SU 7** 9:00 am Worship & Communion

**M 8** 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

**TU 9** 1:00 pm Women’s Group

**W 10** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**TH 11 *Church office is closed today.***

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

**SU 14** 9:00 am Worship

**M 15** *Newsletter Articles are due.*

**T 16** 4:00 pmSunset Extension

**W 17** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**TH 18** 10:00 am Terminix sprays

**FR 19** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 21** 9:00 am Worship

**W 24** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**TH 25 *Send August Newsletter!***

**F 26** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 28** 9:00 am Worship

**W 31** 7:00 pm AA Meeting

***Mommy & Me Playgroup will return on Friday, August 16th at 9:30am.***

**Karen’s Karen –**

Within the past 20 years, I have lived in Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio and Indiana. Those Midwestern states pride themselves on being “nice.” I quickly learned about “Iowa Nice,” “Illinois Nice, “Ohio Nice,” and now “Indiana Nice.” These specific references to “Nice” refer to how people spoke “nicely” to the faces of those they didn’t respect, until later it became clear how they truly felt (and it wasn’t “nice.”)

Recently I have been concerned about the ways some of our congregation is choosing to speak to and about one another. In doing some reading about “Kindness,” I discovered in some circles, “Being Kind” is more than “Being Nice.” Below I share with you an article that not only spoke to me. It challenged me to start to stand up and confront those who are not being nice or kind to others. I have seen people decide to drop out of participation in the congregation or to quietly withdraw in order to avoid being spoken to or treated by those who are not being “Kind.”

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SPEAK WITH KINDNESS?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **NICE** | **KIND** |
| Never wants to rock the boat | Willing to make waves |
| Most concerned with not upsetting someone | Most concerned with doing what is right. |
| Afraid to speak up when they witness unkind behavior | Willing to speak up and take a stand |
| Worried about being liked | Worried about being kind.  |

Kindness doesn’t mean ignoring people when they do things that are unkind, wrong, ignorant, racist or discriminatory. It doesn’t mean keeping quiet when you disagree with someone about a moral issue. It does mean treating people with respect.

Sometimes the kindest, bravest thing we can do is stand up to someone who is being unkind. Doing this may cause conflict. It will upset those we are confronting. A nice person never wants to rock the boat. A kind person knows conflict is possible and acts anyway. A kind person knows they may create waves and they are ok with that.

Imagine you are on the Metro. You see a group of teenagers picking on another teenager whose clothes are tattered and worn. They kick at his beat-up sneakers. They attempt to humiliate him for his appearance. What do you do?

A nice person sees this happening and keeps quiet. A nice person may notice the victim is getting off at their same stop and walks up to the victim as the doors close, with the laughter of the bullying crowd left behind. The nice person says, “I am so sorry that happened to you. They shouldn’t have done that.

In contrast, the kind person sees this happening and gets out of their seat. The kind person goes and sits next to the victim. The kind person looks directly at the group of teenagers and says, “What you are doing is not ok. It’s called harassment. Keep it up and I’ll call the police.

In both instances, the victim is supported. But in only one instance are those being unkind told their behavior will not be tolerated. In only one instance are the bystanders – those who witness the bullying behavior and the actions of the person who stepped in – made to think about their own actions and what they might do the next time they witness such behavior. In only one instance is there the possibility the bullies will think twice before acting that way again. Being kind in this way isn’t easy.

But sometimes kindness is really easy. It is sharing an unexpected compliment with someone. It’s taking the time to remember someone’s name and then using it the next time you see them. It’s saying, “Thank you,” “I appreciate you,” “You are valued and important. It’s going a little bit or a lot out of your way to make someone’s day better. Kindness is caring. It is love. It is understanding.

Whether it is easy or hard, kindness is something we can (and should) do every day. It is what we should value above all else as we seek to nurture community. Kindness should be one of the highest standards by which we measure our leaders, our teachers, our politicians, our police officers… anyone.

As Followers of Jesus, we must set the example for others, especially the younger generations. We must show them by our actions, our words and our choices what it means to be kind. For only by watching good examples will others learn what kindness really looks like. Whether we are aware or not, others are watching us. They are watching how we interact with others. They are watching to see what we do when we witness something unkind. They are looking at us to set the tone. They want to see who we really are.

Kindness is that little voice in our head saying, “That’s not right! You should do/say something!” when we witness unkindness, discrimination, bias, or ignorance. A kind person listens to that voice and finds the words to step in and stand up. Is that who we really are? If it is, in standing up, we must keep in mind Mahatma Ghandi, when he said, “Be the change you wish to see in the world.”

We won’t see change and inspire people to think twice about their words and actions by using disrespectful, condescending or hateful words to confront wrongdoing. If we are to inspire change, we must be the change. We must demonstrate how to respond to unkind behavior by being kind. Standing up with kindness can be firm. It can sometimes be loud. And it can be even harder to hear, because sometimes the truth hurts. But kindness is always respectful.

Kindness is a high moral standard. It is living a life that strives to always do what is right. It is understanding the impact our words and actions have on others (regardless of our intent.) Kindness is a constant goal. It is not something to be conquered. Instead, it is a life’s work. It is apologizing when we fail and it is committing to do better. Kindness is understanding that we are all human and kindness is also forgiving others when they fail at being kind.

Kindness isn’t always easy. Sometimes it can be messy. Sometimes it can be scary. But it is always the right thing to do. *@Kristen Caminiti, 2019*

I pray we will all take these words and ideas to heart in the coming days, weeks and months.

In Christ’s Love,

*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.*

**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.**

**![C:\Users\Jane\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\K2KY9B0Q\kids-saving-money-on-coin-jars[1].jpg]()****Mission Alive at Trinity**

**Adopt a Family:** We continue to help our Adopt-A-Family each month. Thanks to your generosity, so far this year we have paid their rent for 2 months and provided 4 Ruler gift cards for groceries. Keep up the “change jar” giving and the prayers. Both make a difference!! The family appreciates everything we’ve done to help. Peace and Blessings!

**Year-to-date** we have collected **$214.25**

**ADOPT-A-FAMILY ACCOUNT**

 Carry-over from 2023 $849.00

 Donations year-to-date $227.25

 Monthly gifts ($600.00)

 Balance as of 6-15 $476.25

**Church World Service – Blankets of Love**

Dear friends from Trinity UCC,

 Thank you for your generous gift to the CWS blankets program. As families and communities around the world recover from emergencies and struggle in the face of challenges, you are standing with them. Now, more than ever, we are so grateful for your generous support.

 Your contribution provides warmth, comfort, and hope to neighbors near and far. It provides a tangible reminder to migrant families that they are not alone as they seek safety. It wraps refugees in warmth as they arrive in the United States to build a new future. It provides comfort to our neighbors who have lost homes or are struggling in the face of extreme challenges. Around the world, your support means relief and hope.

 Because of you, church world service is able to respond when disasters occur and support is needed. Thanks to your compassion, we can and will change lives.

~ Sincerely, Rick Santos

President and CEO

Church World Service

**Food Bank**

In the month of June our church focused on macaroni and cheese for the community food bank collection. Through the generosity of the Trinity people, we have collected 24 boxes of macaroni and cheese and 4 bottles of shampoo so far in June. As always, we want to thank you for the continuing support of the local food bank.



 **July items: Canned Fruit**

**STRASSENFEST BOOTH**

 Is your mouth watering for a delicious slice of homemade peach, apple, or blackberry cobbler? To make these tasty delights we need two things – ingredients and bakers. In the foyer there is a sign-up sheet for donations of ingredients and a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help in the kitchen. Thank you for your donations of items and your time! Happy Strassenfest!!

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY**

Our Christmas in July mission gives us the opportunity to help our Adopt-A-Family on a larger scale than the month gifts. This year’s family consists of a dad, mom and their 5 school aged children. Despite both parents working, they are finding it stressful trying to make ends meet. Our gifts each month are helping to reduce some of the stress.

**We would like this year’s Christmas in July dollars to help them with groceries, back to school items, rent, etc. We will collect your kind donations during the month of July.**

The Christmas tree and envelopes will be set up in the Narthex. If you would like your money directed to a specific cause, place the appropriate tag from the tree in the envelope with your gift. You will also find envelopes in the pews.

Thanks in advance for helping to ease some of the stress for our Adopt-A-Family.

~ The Outreach Team

**BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE**

Parents Supporting Education School Supply Drive

Please help with this mission by donating school supplies. Help provide ALL students the supplies they need to be successful! Please place all donated items into the box in the back of church by the end of July. Thank you!

**Supplies needed include:**

* 1inch binders
* Folders
* Colored pencils
* Highlighters
* Notebooks
* Pens
* Earbuds/headphones
* Expo markers

For monetary donations: parentssuportingeducation.org

** June Council Highlights**

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| --- |
| **June Council Decisions:** |
| **- Approval was given for:** |
| **There were no minutes to be given at the time this was printed. 6/26/2024** |

**The next Council Meeting will be held on July 8th at 7:00pm.**

**REPORT FROM THE FINANCE SECRETARY AND TREASURER**

Please consider – as of June 15

Giving to date 2023 - $83,677

Giving to date 2024 - $72,344

**Property Report**

As we prepare to receive a new minister at Trinity United Church of Christ, we have been trying to focus on improving the parsonage. We hired a professional home inspector to review the property and grounds. There were multiple issues documented in the report that need our attention. Many of the repairs have been made or are in the planning stages. However, the parsonage roof will need our immediate attention. In July we will be putting a new roof on the house, repairing the flashing, adding new drains, gutter guards, and down spouts. The total cost for that work is around 18,000 dollars. To prevent any delays the council decided to utilize money from the Edna Joseph Account to pay for the repairs. It was also noted in the council meeting that if anyone wanted to donate money to help cover the cost of the roof, we would place those donations back into the Edna Joseph Account. Thank you.



 **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**

 **June 2nd – 33**

 **June 9th – 34**

 **June 16th – 61**

 **June 23rd – 46**



**July 2024 - Worship Participants**

**July 7th –**

**Bible Reader:** Selena Vonderheide

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Pastor Karen

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

**Usher & Lock-up:** Selena Vonderheide

**Communion Prep:** John and Janis Schnarr

**July 14th –**

**Bible Readers:** Mary Ann Weisheit

**Organist:** Mary Ann Weisheit

**Time with Young Disciples:** Heather Goodhue

**Media Producer:** Nichole Lechner **Media:** Kurt Heise

**Usher & Lock-up:** Mary Ann Weisheit

**July 21st –**

**Bible Readers:** Karsen Roth

**Organist:** Mary Ann Weisheit

**Time with Young Disciples:** Pastor Karen

**Media Producer:** Doreen Lechner **Media:** Adam Roth

**Usher & Lock-up:** The Roth Family

**July 28th –**

**Bible Readers:** Jamie Lofton

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Heather Goodhue

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

**Ushers & Lock-up:** Cindy Howard

**July Birthdays**

**Name Date**



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Greg | Kincer | 1 |
| Christine | Dodd | 6 |
| Doug | Bawel | 10 |
| Josh | Premuda | 11 |
| Josh  | Blackgrave | 11 |
| Mason | Mauck | 14 |
| Ron | Blackgrave | 16 |
| Chad | Brinkman | 16 |
| Linda | Kahle | 17 |
| Emily | Schnell | 20 |
| Corrine  | Clark | 23 |
| Jack  | Goodhue | 23 |
| Donna | Mattingly | 23 |
| Rich | Klem | 24 |
| Missy | Adams | 26 |
| John | Schnarr | 28 |
| Noah | Wright | 31 |
| Sydney  | Peters | 31 |



**July Anniversaries**

**Names Date Years**

Rod & Jan Kalb 7/3/1971 53

Jeff & Melissa Adams 7/4/2009 15

Dean & Ellen Vonderheide 7/14/1989 35

David & Rhonda Scherer 7/18/1981 43