



TRINITY TIMES

VOLUME 4

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

APRIL, 2024

General Information:

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service

9:00am

Fellowship Time

10:00am

Sunday School

10:30am

Office Hours:

Mon—Fri 9am—1pm

Telephone:

717 637-2233

Church e-mail

info@trinityucchanover.org

Mighty metaphor machine

While moving to a new parish, Rev. Watt A. Hardworker lost his metaphor machine. His friend, Rev. Hesa Goodpastor, wondered how Watt could preach without metaphors. Another pal, Rev. Bloomingwhere I.M. At, remarked, “There isn’t enough skill in all of us clergy to preach week after week without some metaphors! The ‘Old, Old Story’ has been told so often that people tune it out without metaphors to help them hear it afresh.” He suggested organizing a metaphor collection to sustain Watt.

Hesa was open to the idea but worried that, with Easter approaching, Watt would be at a total loss. “What a catastrophe, especially starting out in a new church,” said Bloomingwhere. “How can the poor pastor possibly preach Easter without any metaphors?”

Hesa added, “No ‘butterflies emerging from the cocoon,’ no ‘awakening of daffodil bulbs after the long winter,’ no ‘flight of the Phoenix,’ no ‘resurrection as an image for a fresh start.’”

“He’ll be left with nothing to say but that Jesus arose from the grave,” Bloom exclaimed. “Just imagine!”

—Stan Purdum



Living discipleship

Christian theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was hanged by the Nazis in April 1945, taught that Christianity and discipleship are intertwined. “Discipleship means adherence to Christ,” he wrote in *The Cost of Discipleship*. “An abstract Christology, a doctrinal system, a general religious knowledge ... render discipleship superfluous ...”

Bonhoeffer continued, “With an abstract idea, it is possible to enter into a relation of formal knowledge, to become enthusiastic about it, and perhaps even to put it into practice; but it can never be followed in personal obedience. Christianity without the living Christ is inevitably Christianity without discipleship, and Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.”



Easter Greeting to All,

We enter the month of April on the high note of celebrating the resurrection of our Savior. In him we have found redemption, mercy, and the wonderful words of life that God has for the people. No longer are we left in the darkness to live in regretful and destructive ways. Jesus has given us the ways of life through his teachings, his sacrifice, and his resurrection. Those teachings lead us to live in the light and move away from the harmful ways that hurt us, others, the community, and the world.

Furthermore, Jesus conquers death proving once and for all he is the Messiah, the Son of God and we can trust in his teachings about life and his promises about eternal life with him.

As modern-day followers, we are recipients of this faith that has been passed down through the generations of those who were eye witnesses to these things. We believe through faith and trust that Christ has conquered in all of these ways to save us from ourselves and from death itself through resurrection to eternal life with him. This is truly good news for all who believe. But to those without faith this is unbelievable news, as the Apostle Paul says *“the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God”* (1 Cor. 1:18). In this current age, the good news of the gospel is often treated as suspect or foolish by those who do not believe. But I say ‘let us be fools for Christ’ as the Apostle Paul alludes. “For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. (1 Cor. 1:25)

So as we begin the Season of Easter this April, let us be fools for Christ by spreading the good news in word and deed and by demonstrating our Christ-like nature in the way we treat others and the world. It is a fitting way to honor what Christ has done and glorify God who has kept the promise of a new Covenant written on our hearts.

May God bless us all with Easter joy and a Resurrection Faith,

Pastor Steve





Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
5	Barbara and Donald Jackson	59	23	Ellen and Jim Oaster	41
7	Anita and Dennis Rhodes	51	24	Angela and Andrew Krentler	42
10	Kim and Scott Rau	42	24	Joyce and Alan Zinneman	42
20	Ronald and Patricia Ruth	55			

Note: If your anniversary was omitted, please contact the office to update your records.



Mary McMaster April 20
Ray Hahn April 25
Charlotte Lobach April 29



Dona & Maynard Warner and family would like to express their sincere appreciation for the many prayers during our son Scott's illness and expressions of sympathy after his passing away.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your caring and helpful ways during my illness. The cards, phone calls, food, prayers, and many visits have all been very helpful and appreciated. I would also like to thank Pastor Steve for visiting and bringing me communion before my surgery.

Yvonne Dickert

Trinity Library

We kindly ask that you please refrain from putting used books in the church library. If you would like to donate a new book or purchase one in memory of someone, please contact either B.J. Rhodes or Dee Stauffer. The library committee thanks you!





It hardly seems possible but Vacation Bible School is just around the corner and planning is underway! Block out the week of **June 17-21** on your calendar. Volunteers will be needed so be thinking about how or where you can help. We hope your children, grandchildren, and neighbor kids will attend. Also, our friends from Emmanuel UCC will again be joining us. Stay tuned for more info in the coming weeks!

Change in Communion Schedule

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be offered Maundy Thursday and again on Easter morning. Please note there will be no communion on Sunday, April 7th. After Easter Sunday, communion will not be offered again until Sunday, May 5.

Highlights from March Mission & Outreach Meeting

- Discussed the neighborhood meal held on February 7. Meal was attended by 6 or 7 guests (one who came in after seeing the sign). Total meals served was 46.
- Next neighborhood meal will be Wednesday, May 15 at 6pm
- God's Meal Barrel food drive donations looking good. Drive will end on March 17.
- Discussed putting a more definitive name on the donation relief jar (UCC Relief).
- More info will be obtained by Lee concerning our future donation of some type of duffel bag to be used by transitioning residents of *Hoffman Homes*.
- M&O/TUCC will host the March *Roots for Boots* luncheon. In addition, a check for \$500 from the M&O budget will be presented at that time. The money will be used to specifically assist a disabled vet who is in need of possibly a motorized wheelchair or ramp, etc.
- Discussed possible aid to *Safe Home* clients who need child daycare assistance.
- Discussed the possibility of a future breakfast event at Trinity perhaps teaming with WOT or MOT.
- Discussed perhaps assisting the WOT with a "Trivia Night".
- M&O is still providing pizzas for Friday night supper at the HACC shelter.
- The *Church World Service* Hygiene Kit project is moving forward. Most all of the items needed have been procured and we are looking at assembling the kits after fellowship time on April 7. M&O will seek monetary assistance to help pay the shipping fee for the 200 kits. The total will be approximately \$400.

April Trinity Times

Trinity United Church of Christ

116 York Street
Hanover, PA 17331

Change Service Requested



Trinity's Mission Statement: Trinity United Church of Christ strives to be a warm, caring family of Christian believers. Our calling is to witness and strengthen the Christian faith through meaningful worship, Christian education, and Christian living in the home, the community, and the world.

Trinity Staff:

Rev. Steven Ostendorf, Pastor

Mike Blottenberger, Admin. Assistant

Betsy Bristol, Secretary

Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music

Tony Brallier, Ali Geiman, & Ruth Weaver, Sextons

Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

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**For May Newsletter Articles
April 15, 2024**