**Trinity United Church of Christ**



***July 2023***

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***Worship: 8am & 10:15am***

**------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**July 2nd – Genesis 22:1-14**

 **“The Faith of Abraham and Isaac”**

**July 9th – Matthew 11:25-30**

 **“My Yoke is Easy”**

**July 16th – Matthew 13:1-8, 18-23**

 **“What’s The Point?”**

**July 23rd – Matthew 13:23-30, 36-43**

 **“A Good Strong Healthy Crop”**

**July 30th – Matthew 13:31-52**

 **“God’s Kingdom is Like….”**

**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:** PO Box 386

Jasper, Indiana 47547-0386

**Office Administrator**: Taylor Popp

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

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

9am – 1pm & 2pm - 3pm

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



**Monthly Calendar**

**SU 2** 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship

**M 3** *Church office closed this week*

**T 4 *Happy 4th of July!***

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

**F 7** 10:15am Mommy & Me Playgroup

7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 9** 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship ~ Communion

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

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

**TH 13** 6:00 pm Bridge Team

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

**SU 16** 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship

**T 18** ***Newsletter Articles Due***

 4:00 pm Sunset Extension

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

**F 21** 10:15am Mommy & Me Playgroup

 7:00 pm AA Meeting

**SU 23** 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship

**W 26 *Newsletter Sent***

 7:00 pm AA Meeting

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

**SU 30** 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship

**Karen’s Kares (with some help from Carey Nieuwhof)**

 **Creating a New Mission Statement for our Congregation** is a vital part in helping us gain **clarity** as we respond to questions included in the Congregational Profile (which will help our congregation attract the best pastoral candidates). **Who would like to help create a New Mission Statement for our congregation?**

 Such **clarity can help us provide a structure for decision-making** and **help us create a story to motivate and encourage our leaders.** A clear Mission Statement will help us **clarify our congregation’s identity and what sets us apart from other congregations**. It can help us **clarify our unique role in the Broader Body of Christ.**

 **Not having a mission statement can raise a flag.** Almost everyone in our congregation has their own idea of what God calls us to be about. If 100 people attend our congregation, we may have 100 competing visions. So, **which vision or idea will attract the best pastoral candidates or could help sway a candidate to consider becoming the pastor of our congregation?** Ministry is complex, so developing clear, concise, and compelling mission, vision, and value statements matters. Candidates will want to know our congregation is clear about: **“Who are we? Who are our neighbors? What is God calling us to do in this community?** (All questions to be answered in our Congregational Profile).

 **So, what is the difference between VISION, MISSION, AND VALUE Statements?**

 **Our VISION STATEMENT will define where we are going.** It is a single sentence that highlights the major, long-term change our congregation aims to achieve.

 **Our MISSION STATEMENT will define what we do**. It is a single sentence that describes what our congregation does.

 **Our VALUES STATEMENT will describe how we behave**. Typically, it is a series of 3-7 memorable statements expressing the behavior we encourage and the [congregational culture](https://careynieuwhof.com/guide-on-how-to-create-an-amazing-church-culture/) we want to create.

 **Here are some questions to help us in our small group meetings to begin creating a compelling Mission Statement for our congregation (for our Congregational Profile)!**

* What ultimate impact do we want our congregation to have?
* How do we see the future of our congregation in 5, 10, or 20 years? Where will we be? What will have changed?
* What spiritual legacy do we want to leave in our community through our congregation?
* Why do we do what we do?
* How will our vision inspire and motivate us and our community?
* What is the unique role our congregation plays in the lives of our members and in the wider community?
* What do we do?
* What is the fundamental purpose or reason for our congregation’s existence?
* What unique spiritual and community needs is our congregation called to address?
* Is our mission statement clear, concise, and easily understood by all stakeholders?
* Does our mission resonate with our congregation’s community and those we seek to reach?

In Christ’s Love and Kare, **Pastor Karen**

**Important News From Your Transitional Pastor:**

As we near the end of June, I will have served as your Transitional Pastor for one year. The following is a list of issues, situations and needs where I have observed “gaps” which I believe will need attention, discussion and action before the congregation calls a new pastor.

1. **All Teams will need to create a written document to explain their mission and purpose, including the specific duties and special promotions in which the team is involved.** This document will need to be submitted to the Church Office so By-Laws for the congregation can be compiled before a new pastor is on board. **If possible, new Co-Chairs for each team should be considered and trained during the remainder of 2023 to be ready to function at the beginning of 2024**. The Outreach Team is currently in the process of designing such a document including various details about how special emphasis for offerings are coordinated.
2. **A Team should be created to review and update the congregation’s Constitution.**
3. The **Christian Education Team** will need to propose and design **a new approach to Confirmation,** preferably to begin as students enter the 7th grade (rather than the 6th grade). Working with the new pastor, this team will need to make the decision about whether the class is one or two years, and what important topics should be included.
4. The **Christian Education Team** will need to propose a **new approach for Children’s Education**, including Sunday School and/or another education program for children (ages 4 to 12) such as an idea we have shared about a mid-week opportunity for elementary children at the middle school. It will most likely be necessary to **recruit new people to serve on this team** in order to re-energize the Team for future successes.
5. The **Christian Education Team** will need to form **Sunday School classes for adults.** This is a request I have received frequently over the past year. The Team will also need to choose appropriate curriculum for those interested in attending a class and decide when to hold the class.
6. A **Radical Hospitality Team** needs to be formed to specifically **promote how to welcome and involve new worship attenders**. This team would train greeters and encourage ways for all worship attenders to reach out to the community to welcome folks who are not currently involved in another congregation. This team would also need to **follow up with all new attenders to obtain their contact information** so such information can be added to the Church Database so those folks will be able to receive phone calls, text messages and emails and be included on other lists.
7. **A Congregational Care Team** needs to be formed to **attend to the needs of those who live in residential centers**. This team would work together to cover the needs of those who cannot attend worship on their own. Such needs could include visits and serving monthly communion, making sure cards and other communications from the congregation are being sent, and alerting the pastor of hospital stays.
8. **The Worship Team** may need to design some new **alternative approaches for new, and occasional special worship services**, which could include the use of art, drama, upbeat music, interpretive dance, etc. In addition, this team could find new ways to include **various types of music** in regular Sunday worship. The music of each service needs to reflect the mood the pastor sets at the beginning of the service and coordinate with the theme of the service chosen by the pastor.
9. **The Parish Life Team** will need to design a **monthly approach to bring all worshippers together for times of food, fellowship and fun (**i.e., Movie Night, Board Game Night, Holiday meals, Free Meals for the Community, Bowling, Skating, Talent Night, Open Mike Night, etc.)
10. **The Media Team** will need to continue to promote how to create **an online presence for our congregation** so we can begin to stream our worship services and other meetings. This team will also need to make sure our streaming services **comply with CCLI copyright requirements.**
11. **The Personnel Team** will need to clarify, update and possibly redefine the job descriptions for the Office Manager/Secretary, Custodian and Organists. At some point, the congregation may need to consider additional part-time staff, more specifically, a Visitation Pastor and/or a Youth Pastor.
12. There is **the issue of the parsonage.** Should it be updated or sold? I am not sure your best candidates will want to live in the church’s parsonage.
13. There is the issue of how to settle the issue of **having one worship service rather than two**.
14. Consideration should be given to the **advantages and benefits of becoming an “Open and Affirming” Congregation.**
15. Serious consideration should be given to **providing an on-line giving opportunity.**
16. **A Nominating Team** composed of one member from each of the five functional teams will need to meet in August or September to “nominate” co-leaders for each of the functional teams and possibly “nominate” a liaison from each term to serve on the Council.

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**Jack Astrike** *4213 Baden Strasse, (812-634-7920)*

 *Jasper, IN 47546*

**Corrine Clark** *Legacy Living, 1850 IN-56, Rm. # 202 (812-482-3482)*

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**Sherry Malone** *660 Rumbach Ave. Apt. #322 (812-582-2721)*

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**Claire Rohleder** *Legacy Living, 1850 IN-56, Rm. # 220 (812-482-3185)*

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**Violet Ruckriegel** *Scenic Hills, 710 E Sunrise Dr. Rm. # 503 (812-504-2578)*

 *Ferdinand, IN* *47532*

**Alene Frank** *Good Samaritan Society (Garden Ridge) (812-482-1722)*

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**Janice Sunderman** *1850 W State Road 56, Apartment 134* *(812-559-0560)*

*Jasper, IN 47546*



 **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.

**Mission Alive at Trinity**

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**Adopt a Family: Year-to-date** we have collected **$640.05**

 This year’s family is a single dad and his middle school son. They have given their permission for us to share a bit of their history with you.Both parents were together when the boy was young, but Mom eventually moved to Texas with him because Dad was struggling with drugs and had spent some time incarcerated. Dad has overcome his past issues and has been able to stay away from drugs for 5 years now!!! A job brought him to the southern Indiana area and he settled in Jasper. Recently, Mom notified him and indicated she did not feel capable of raising their adolescent son. The child also has been diagnosed with autism, so there are challenges besides the “usual” pre-teen issues. She wanted to send him to Jasper to live with Dad, who was eager for the chance to be with his son full-time. He is a great kid who enjoys school, Legos and drawing. They have enjoyed their time together, and Dad is determined to provide a safe, comfortable and loving home for them both.

 When contacted about becoming our new Adopt-A-Family, he was overwhelmed. It will help him to continue “to climb his way out of the hole” (his words) he created for himself. He has much gratitude for our kindness. Already, we have provided Christmas gifts for both Dad and son (they say THANKS!!) plus the January change jar gift, a $150 gift card to IGA to be used for groceries and/or gas.

 We appreciate your continued change jar support of our new family. Please remember them in your prayers, as well. We feel confident Trinity’s generosity will make 2023 a wonderful year for them!

 With gratitude, The Outreach Team



 Some pieces of jewelry were found in the church parking lot!

 If you have lost something, please call the church office and

 identify what you lost. (812) 482-4090

**Mission Alive at Trinity**

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING –**

 Thank you for your gifts of **$583.00** toward the special offering **One Great Hour of Sharing.** This year’s theme was “It’s Time to Share”. With a goal of $400, the Trinity Family has indeed done that. Thank you for your generosity!

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY –**

Our **Christmas in July** mission gives us the opportunity to help our Adopt-a-Family on a larger scale than our monthly “spare change/dollars” gifts. This year’s family is a single dad and his son. Our gifts each month have been GREATLY appreciated by them.

We would like this year’s **Christmas in July** dollars to help them with rent, school clothing, and utilities.

We will collect your kind donations during the month of July. **Our goal is $500.**

**The Christmas tree and envelopes are in the Narthex.** If you would like your money directed to a specific “cause”, place the appropriate tag in the envelope with your gift. There are also envelopes in the pews.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to this dad and his son.

 Gratefully,

 The Outreach Team

**Food Bank**

**Thank you again for being a generous church!**Last month we were collecting shampoo, and we received 3 more large bottles of shampoo.  This month our item has been boxed mac and cheese. I was able to take **86 boxes of mac and cheese** to the Community Food Bank so far in June, and 2 jars of marina sauce. Thank you for continuing to bless others!

**July item: Canned Fruit**

**Jasper Strassenfest**

 The Jasper Strassenfest is coming quickly! The Strassenfest will again take place behind the Jasper Library. It takes the help of many members of the church to make this happen each year. I look forward to working with you to make this event successful.

**Please mark your calendars for the days of August 3rd - August 6th.** During that week, we will need help with setting up the booth, making cobblers and helping in the booth during the Strassenfest.

 If you have any questions, please contact David M Peters.

Email: dpeters@masterbrand.com Cell: (812) 631-4686

**Cobbler Baking –**

In the foyer, you can find a list of needed ingredients for the cobbler baking.  Since there will not be any peaches available this year due to the harsh winter, we are in need of more blackberries.

Please contact Ellen Vonderheide, Sylvia Adams, or Susan McGovren if you have any blackberries available.  Thank you for your donations!

** June Council Highlights**

|  |
| --- |
| **June Council Decisions:** |
| **- Approval was given for:** |
| * **providing a $150 honorarium for Barb Dellihay to serve as our supply minister on Sun., July 2, 2023**
* **moving Communion Sunday to Sunday, July 9 instead of July 2**
* **adding new authorized items to the Memorial Fund list for families to consider**
 |

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

**Date Worship Attendance**

**June 4** 8:00am 18 10:15am 44 **Total 62**

**June 11** 8:00am 15 10:15am 47 **Total 62**

**June 18** 8:00am 11 10:15am 42 **Total 53**

**June 25** 8:00am 13 10:15am 40 **Total 53**

**The Upper Room Booklet –**

The Upper Room is a small booklet that has Daily Devotionals for each day of the month. We have several Trinity members who receive an Upper Room booklet every 2 months. If you would like to start receiving an Upper Room Booklet in the mail, please call the church office to let Taylor know.

When new booklets become available, they are placed on the credenza. Free to all!

If you already receive an Upper Room booklet and want to pass yours along to someone else, please call the church office.

Thank you! Feel free to call the church office with any questions. **(812) 482-4090**

**THANK YOU LETTER –**

Thank you Trinity UCC family for your generous support toward my first Wildlife Camp. It was a week I will never forget. I’m already looking forward to next year and growing my faith and love of Jesus Christ even more. I feel so lucky to have such a great church to build my faith as well.

 ~Karsen Roth

**Listening Sessions**

Starting in July through the middle of August, the Bridge Team will hold Listening Sessions. These sessions will be mainly on Sundays at 9 am and 11:15 am. We will offer a few other sessions during the week. Each session will be one hour long. We are asking everyone who cares about the future of our congregation to attend one of these sessions. These sessions will be led by a Bridge Team member, along with a host and will be in the Chapel Room, the room next to the foyer.

The topic of the sessions will be **“What Type of Ministries to Offer”** at Trinity. The same set of questions will be asked at each session. We will also talk about our Worship Services. These sessions are being held to help prepare the church’s profile. The profile will be the instrument God uses to connect Trinity and the potential candidate for our Pastor. These sessions are not designed to discuss what type of Pastor we want or need, but the future ministries of our congregation.

Things we are doing to prepare our Congregation’s Profile:

1. Completed the written surveys of the values of our congregation.
2. Completed the interviews with some key community leaders.
3. Study the Demographic/Statistics of our Community.
4. In progress – Listening Sessions on the Church’s Ministries.
5. All the above information will be put into a written document, the Church’s Profile.

Again, everyone is welcome, who shares in the life of this congregation and who cares about the future of Trinity United Church of Christ. Sign-up sheets are in the Foyer.

Bridge Team

**Streaming**

Have you ever been on vacation and wanted to listen to worship? Do you have family members that live away from Jasper, but would like to listen to worship? Have you ever felt bad on Sunday morning but still wanted to participate in worship?

We have the answers for you! Hopefully soon, you will be able to watch Trinity’s worship services on the internet. This is a new ministry we want to start here at Trinity. We are accepting donations now to defray the cost of the start-up of the streaming of our worship services, please clearly mark your donations for Streaming.

**REMINISING……………** by Mary Ann Weisheit June, 2023

 I just had a birthday and it brought to mind that I have been a church organist for 70 years. And how did that happen? When I was still young, Mom and Dad had a piano on one side of their living room and an organ on the other side and I took a shine to playing. They saw I loved the keyboards and had our neighbor, Anna Kennedy, give me lessons. These were NOT lessons with fundamentals--I just played. Because of my desire to learn how to play organ, Mom and Dad took me once a week from our home in Lamar to Jasper for organ lessons from a lady named Dorothy Collins. (In retrospect, this was a huge undertaking for them as we were farmers and money was tight.) Dorothy’s house was right next to Headquarters and her husband had a prosthetic leg that was kept outside their front door. What a shock to my system to see that as I had never heard of one! (Reinforcing the fact I was a dumb country farm girl.) Dorothy was beautiful inside and out, had a great personality, and had a two-keyboard Hammond organ. She played like a dream. I loved that lady! We even had a recital at, of all places, Trinity United Church of Christ in the Parish Hall. I still have a black and white picture (no colored pictures at that time) of me at the organ recital in my formal. Now, THIS was big time!!!

 Four or five of us from St. Peter’s E&R Church in Lamar, (now UCC), were going into confirmation school at age 13 and there was a new Pastor in town, fresh out of seminary school, that answered a call from the church. Being new and given his personality, Rev. Donald Buckthal was a mover and a shaker and had the three of us that played piano sit at the new pipe organ and learn to play. Well, the rest is history—two of us still play for church. Incidentally, that is where Rev. Buckthal and Ruth started their family of three and I was privileged to babysit a lot for them.

 We three confirmands took turns playing at church. When I went to business school I would still come home on weekends just to play. Coming home from Evansville was no piece of cake at that time. I would lug my heavy suitcase without wheels (again in the olden days) to school (8 blocks from my apartment) and after the last class, lug the suitcase to the bus station (another few blocks) for the bus trip to Troy, Indiana, where Mother would pick me up.

Then on Mondays we had to find a way to get me back to Evansville. Many times, my Dad would take me in his stock truck with the smelly cattle. We would start out EARLY in the morning and pick up livestock from various farms and deliver them to the stockyard. Daddy would let me out near the stockyard and THEN I would walk with my suitcase to my apartment and then walk on to school, all before 8:00 a.m.

 Later on I took lessons from Bob Schroeder (yes, Mary Ann’s husband), at the Methodist Church in Huntingburg. That didn’t last long because by then I had met the love of my life and Allen took center stage. After Allen and I married and moved to Jasper, we became members of Allen’s church. Rev. Craig Reed, Pastor at Trinity, visited me one day in August of 1964 and stated that the organist at Trinity was moving away and he needed an organist. I jumped at the chance because events had happened at Allen’s church that left us disenchanted. I was thrilled to go back to an E&R church. Then the rest is history at Trinity. Being the organist, I was the last one to walk out of the old church in preparation for a new church to be built. I also didn’t play one Sunday because Kent decided to be born early that morning in 1970. We had a wonderful couple, Vic and Nancy Geiger, join the church and I happily turned everything over to them as Vic and Nancy had gone to college for music. What a welcome addition they were! And Bob Schroeder later came and played—it was like old home week!

 I have filled in through the years while raising our four children. I have always felt like a “jack of all trades, master of none” as I never had formal training and did not excel at playing, but I was reliable and have always loved music, and in my world, that seems to be enough.



**July 2023 - Worship Participants**

**July 2nd – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Bible Readers:** Mark Blackgrave

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Casey Uebelhor

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

**Usher & Lock-up:** David Hubster

**July 9th – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Bible Readers:** Selena Vonderheide, John Schnarr

**Organist:** Mary Ann Weisheit, Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Heather Goodhue

**Media Producer:** Doreen Lechner **Media:** Adam Roth, Mark Blackgrave

**Usher:** Selena Vonderheide

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

**Communion Prep:** The Roth Family

**July 16th – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**Bible Readers:** Mary Ann Weisheit, Melissa Blackgrave

**Organist:** Mary Ann Weisheit

**Time with Young Disciples:** Pastor Karen

**Media Producer:** Kurt Vonderheide **Media:** Kurt Vonderheide, Nichole Lechner

**Usher:** Mary Ann Weisheit

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

**July 2023 - Worship Participants Continued…**

**July 23rd – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Bible Readers:** Connie Schmitt, David Hubster

**Organist:** Mary Ann Weisheit

**Time with Young Disciples:** Casey Uebehlor

**Media Producer:** Nichole Lechner **Media:** Kurt Vonderheide, Adam Roth

**Usher:** Connie Schmitt

**Ushers & Lock-up:** Jan and Rod Kalb

**July 30th – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Bible Readers:** Selena Vonderheide, Doreen Lechner

**Organist:** Sarah Sergesketter

**Time with Young Disciples:** Heather Goodhue

**Media Producer:** Mark Blackgrave **Media:** Kurt Heise, John Kahle

**Usher:** Selena Vonderheide

**Ushers & Lock-up:** Alexander Thomas



**July Birthdays**

**Name Date**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Greg | Kincer | 1 |
| Candy | Berger | 3 |
| Christine | Dodd | 6 |
| Ann Fleck | Schroeder | 9 |
| Doug | Bawel | 10 |
| Josh | Premuda | 11 |
| Josh  | Blackgrave | 11 |
| Zachariah | Astrike | 12 |
| Diane | Kapp | 14 |
| Mason | Mauck | 14 |
| Ron | Blackgrave | 16 |
| Chad | Brinkman | 16 |
| Linda | Kahle | 17 |
| Harriet | Monahan | 18 |
| 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**

**Name Date Years**

Rod & Jan Kalb 7/3/1971 52

Jeff & Melissa Adams 7/4/2009 14

Dean & Ellen Vonderheide 7/14/1989 34

David & Rhonda Scherer 7/18/1981 42

Lisa & Phil Schmidt 7/18/2003 19

William & Cheri Cox 7/22/1978 44

Audra & Brandon Jahn 7/22/2006 16