

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1342 WEST PROSPECT ROAD  
ASHTABULA OH 44004

SEPTEMBER 2023  
NEWSLETTER

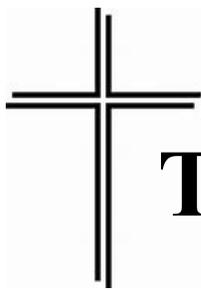


‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.’

Matthew 11:28



**LABOR DAY**



# Trinity Times

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We find ourselves in football and marching band season once again. The sounds of the drums playing the cadences. The sun reflecting off the sousaphones. The color guard twirling flags and batons. The brass section providing deep tones while the woodwinds creating a soaring descant. But for the performance to be moving to the soul, all the performers must mesh. No one section or group is enough to drive home the music, they must all contribute and do so complementing each other. When the band works well together the result is breath-taking and soul-forming. The band must mesh.

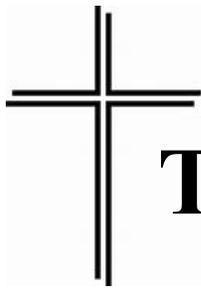
Just as it is with a marching band, so too is it with the church. People and congregations must mesh. Each person or group or community is insufficient by themselves but must contribute to the greater whole and must do so complementing each other. Ministers administering Word and Sacraments. Elders leading in wisdom and discernment. Deacons giving care and compassion. Teachers nurturing in patience and knowledge. Advocates working toward justice and peace. Each provides an invaluable piece of the whole and only when each contributes and complements each other does the result become breath-taking and soul-forming. Each must mesh.

But we all too often imagine the connections in our own congregations and how each person must contribute and complement each other. The dynamics can also be across congregations. We at Trinity and Eastside have come to learn and perceive this dynamic. Elders mesh with elders. Deacons mesh with deacons. Teachers mesh teachers. Advocates mesh with advocates. Cooks and planners mesh with cooks and planner. Each provides an invaluable piece of the whole and only when each contributes and complements each other does the result become breath-taking and soul-forming. Trinity and Eastside must mesh.

Over the summer months, we at both churches have begun exploring what it means to mesh as one Church across congregations. We worshipped together in rotating worship spaces. We combined mission committees rotating meeting spaces. We shared our various activities with the other church. We learned to be hosts and guests to the other church. We ate together, we prayed together, we assembled around God's Word together. We worshipped together and we worked together. Trinity and Eastside meshed.

In the next six months, how do we continue to mesh and perhaps even expand? Could it be more integrated worship? Could it be more fellowship activities? Could it be sharing duties across boards and committees? Could it be including the other churches in the city or even county? Yes, it could be. But it will take you, and it will take you choosing to mesh with others instead of choosing isolation. I know too well the anxiety and risk it takes to enter such a space. But, if we are following Christ in faith, we push through the fear and vulnerability and follow anyway in courage. And the results might just be breath-taking and soul-forming. We just might mesh. Let the Church play on! Amen.

In Christ,  
Rev. Mark



# Trinity Times



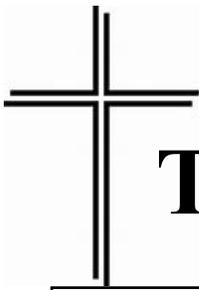
2023 per capita is \$36.50

## **REPORT FROM SESSION**

On Wednesday August 16th Session met. The normal business was carried out, including:

- Approval of minutes of June session meeting.
- Approval of the financial reports.
- Session approved use of the Fellowship Hall on the afternoon of June 8, 2024 for Dylan Northrup's graduation celebration.
- Letters of thanks to our congregation from Faith Lutheran Food Pantry for our financial assistance and our continued donations of food.
- Session accepted, with regrets, Kathy Fassett's resignation as church secretary. She will continue to assist with phone, mail and newsletter.
- Approval of minister's report which included:
  - ◇ We will worship with East Side with September worship at Trinity. Services to begin at 10:00. Rev. Mong continues to record services.
  - ◇ A reminder that Christmas Eve service will be at East Side this year. Mary Burnham may be starting a bell choir.
  - ◇ Bible Studies are Wednesday at 10 at East Side and Thursday at 7 at Trinity.
  - ◇ Rev. Mark listed his calls and visits.
  - ◇ Rev. Mong is using the coaching services of Chip Low to help continue his personal transformation.
  - ◇ Rev. Mong continues as Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery. He serves on the Moderator's Committee and the Coordinating Cabinet.
- Committee reports were approved and included:
- Worship & Music: Ushers for September will be Pam Bloom and Craig Reiter. Peg LaDu will be liturgist.
- Fellowship:
  - ◇ The worship service and picnic with East Side on August at Lake Shore Park was well attended and the fellowship was enjoyed.
  - ◇ Ruth Allen and crew were thanked for their contribution to the success.
- Community Outreach:
  - ◇ Trinity continues to generously give food to the Faith Lutheran Food Pantry.
  - ◇ The committee will meet August 20<sup>th</sup> with East Side's outreach committee.
  - ◇ July's meeting was held at Hundley Winery with the several from East Side. Food and fellowship was enjoyed.
  - ◇ Our Blessing Box has been installed thanks to Dale Fassett. It is filled on Thursdays and is being used by our neighbors.
- Property and Finance:
  - ◇ Minutes from their meeting were distributed.
  - ◇ There was discussion about the tree on the south-east corner of our parking lot. It is encroaching on the neighbor's property. We are in discussion with him.
  - ◇ There was discussion about the over-spray paint on the building. We will tend to it because the perpetrators probably won't.





# Trinity Times

## REPORT FROM SESSION (Continued)

- Deacons: Barb Beatty was thanked for attending.
  - ◊ Deacons will host Coffee Hour on September 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - ◊ Deacons will meet next on September 6th at 3:30.
  - ◊ Ruth Allen volunteered to attend as the Elder representative.
- Presbytery will meet in Sept. with a hybrid meeting. Rev. Mong will be the moderator.
- Nominating Committee is looking for three Elders and 3 Deacons. Please prayerfully consider answering a call to serve.
- Kathy Fassett will serve as the Elder-on-Call for September.
- At our Sept 20<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be looking at the membership rolls and discussing worship times and place.

Mary Belding, Clerk of Session

## GLOBAL PEACEMAKING OFFERING

Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering are helping our neighbors in need—those who live next door, down the street, and across the globe.

25% of this offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.

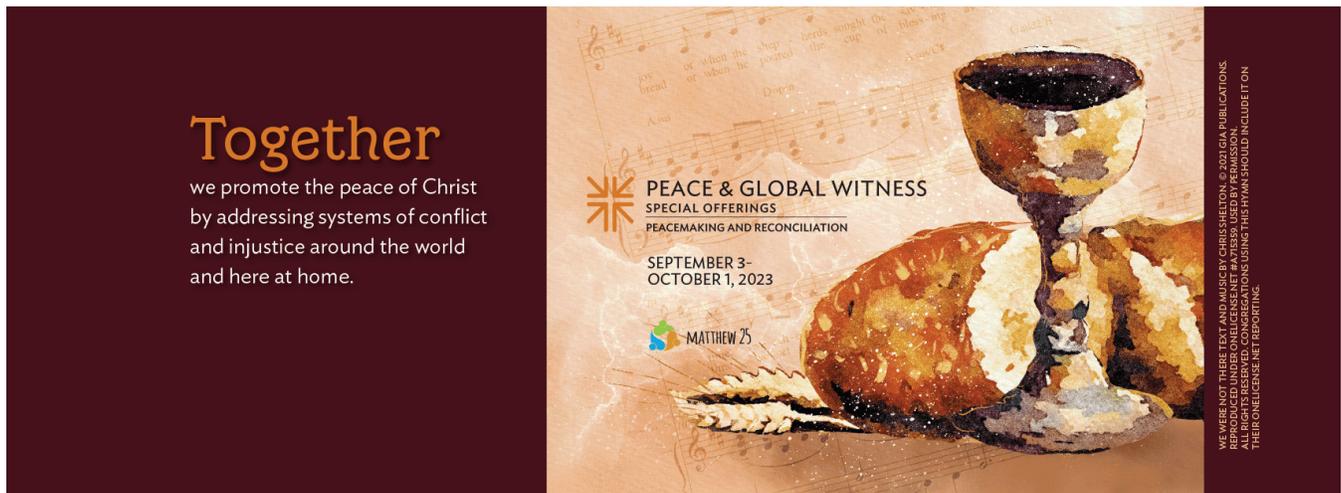
25% of this offering goes to our mid-council to join with other congregations to support peacemaking work in our region.

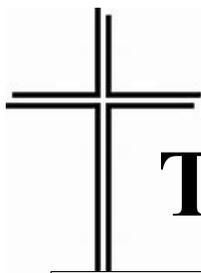
50% of this offering supports the work being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Our neighbors need us. Please give what you can to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

Ways to Give:

- 1.) Through the pew envelopes
- 2.) Donate by credit card online at [pcusa.org/peace-global](http://pcusa.org/peace-global)
- 3.) Text PCUSAPEACE to 41444





# Trinity Times

## REPORT FROM COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community Outreach met jointly with East Side Presbyterian on Sunday, August 20, 2023.



The Blessing Box is up and operating on the north side of the parking lot at Trinity. It is being used and the needs are being assessed as we go. Thanks to Dale and Kathy Fassett for installation and upkeep.

## Craft Club



A Craft Day is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 12:30 p.m. at East Side Presbyterian Church. Craft for the day will be with buttons, so empty your button box and join in. See Edie Makynen for any additional details.

We are working on Raffle Baskets for Homesafe's Annual Fund Raiser. The following themes were decided:

Car Wash Products: Mary Belding

Cleaning Products: Edie Makynen & Becky Cleveland

Dog/Pet Basket: Barb Beatty & Pam Bloom

Bath & Body Basket: Kathy Fassett

Halloween Basket: Sara Wetzel



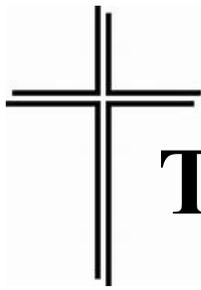
The baskets will be completed and turned in Sunday, September 3, 2023 at Trinity.



Together with East Side we will again be collecting blankets and bedding for Catholic Charities for the month of October through November 13th at which time they will be compiled for a blessing during Thanksgiving Fellowship at East Side.

We are discussing Christmas outreach and are forming a subcommittee to finalize this Christmas season projects. 2024 Mission calendar will be developed also by a joint subcommittee. Next meeting will be Sunday, September 17, 2023, following worship at Trinity.

With much appreciation to all who support these worthwhile missions....  
The Community Outreach Committee



# Trinity Times

## REPORT FROM PROPERTY/FINANCE



2023 per capita is \$36.50

The side parking lot, Summer Avenue, has had somewhat of an update. The Contractors that were using the lot to park machinery while Route 20 was being worked on have added a gravel mixture and leveled it out.

Panic buttons have been installed in the Church. These can be used in the case of an emergency to alert the police. They will then be dispatched to the Church to assist. See Craig Reiter for more information.

A big thank you to Dale and Kathy Fassett. Dale recently built and installed a Blessing Box near the parking lot of the church. Kathy has been making sure the box has food and other items that a person in need might be able to use.

Continue keeping the committee in your prayers. God continues to lead us to do amazing things.

Thank you for your support!

Beth Dougherty, Rich Fassett, Craig Reiter, Norm Jepson, Josh Hall, Terry Karvonen, Mark Mong, Hobart Shiflet

## REPORT FROM TRINITY SCRIP FUND

### **Report July 2023**

Dee Fassett and Mary Belding continue providing gift cards that, in turn, provided rebates that make it possible for the Scrip Program to contribute to Trinity.

<b>Beginning balance 7/01/23</b>		<b>\$ 326.07</b>
<b><i>Income from sales :</i></b>	<b><i>Apr</i></b>	<b>\$ 3,095.00</b>
<b><i>Cost of cards</i></b>	<b><i>Apr</i></b>	<b>\$ 2,498.56</b>
<b><i>Shipping</i></b>	<b><i>Apr</i></b>	<b>\$ 21.00</b>

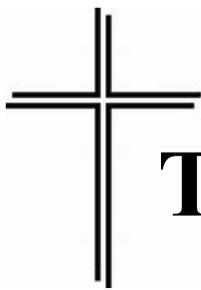
**Ending balance July 31, 2023      \$ 901.51**



Thanks to all who support this mission.

Mary Belding

Dee Fassett



# Trinity Times

## FROM THE EDEN COMMITTEE

Our motto is "Growing Food, Growing Faith".

We have been able to provide some nutritious enjoyable food again this year. As in past years, we have been able to donate produce to the International Harvest soup kitchen located at the Dream Center at West 57th Street and Washington Avenue. We have brought produce into the church to share with the congregation whenever possible.



Ruth, Dee, Dale and Kathy have spent time watering, weeding and harvesting. Besides being able to share food, working in the garden is a great way to meet our neighbors and to get to know each other.

Share blessings, be blessings, be blessed.

## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



During the months of June to September, Eastside and Trinity will be combining to have a single worship service. Below is the dates and times of our Summer Worship:

September 2023—10am at Trinity

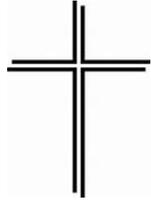
## POT LUCK

We will be having a pot luck lunch in celebration of Rev. Mark's 7th year anniversary of Installation as Trinity's Teaching Elder and of his 14th year anniversary of Ordination on Sunday, September 10th following worship. We ask that you bring a covered dish to share and your own place settings. Come help us celebrate.



## PRAYER LIST

Beverly Cigani, Lynda Bennet, Caren, Bill Skarlinski, Dale Fassett, John Lockhart, Brad, Arnold Brown, Barb & Family, Esther Northrup, Joyce Cala, Teachers & Students, Bob Wick, Dave Burch, George Sabo, Kevin Havens, Mary Shellhammer, Cindy Crowther Fish



# September 2023

Website [www.trinityashtabula.org](http://www.trinityashtabula.org)

Email [trinitypres04@gmail.com](mailto:trinitypres04@gmail.com)

**Elder On Call: Kathy Fassett 440-997-7490**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Church Office Hours</b> By appointment Only</p>						<p>2 Lions Club Breakfast 9am-12 noon Saturday Night Delight 7pm One Addict Helping Another 10 pm</p>
<p>3 <b>Worship 10:00 am</b> <b>at Trinity</b> <b>Video Worship</b> <b>Communion</b> Open Arms Sobriety-7 pm</p>	4	<p>5 Knitting Group - East Side 10-12 noon Romeos 9 am Debs Diner Al-Anon 7 pm</p>	<p>6 Bible Study 10 am East Side Cardmaking 6:30 pm Clean and Free 7 pm</p>	<p>7 Bible Study 7pm Trinity</p>	8 Crystal Meth Anon 6:30 pm	9 Saturday Night Delight 7pm One Addict Helping Another 10 pm
<p>10 <b>2¢ A Meal Collection</b> <b>Worship 10:00 am</b> <b>at Trinity</b> <b>Potluck 11:00 am</b> <b>Video Worship</b> Open Arms Sobriety-7 pm</p>	<p>11 <i>Marks 7 year</i> <i>Anniversary</i> <i>Grateful</i> <i>Thankful</i> <i>Blessed</i></p>	<p>12 Al-Anon 7 pm</p>	<p>13 Bible Study 10 am East Side Property &amp; Finance 6:30 pm Clean and Free 7 pm</p>	<p>14 Brown Bag Lunch packing 10 am Bible Study 7pm Trinity</p>	<p>15 Eastside rummage sale  Crystal Meth Anon 6:30 pm</p>	<p>16 Eastside rummage sale  Saturday Night Delight 7pm One Addict Helping Another 10 pm</p>
<p>17 <b>Worship 10:00 am</b> <b>at Trinity</b> <b>Video Worship</b> Open Arms Sobriety-7 pm</p>	<p>18 Cardmaking 6:30 pm</p>	<p>19 Button Art 12:30 Eastside Knitting Group - East Side 10-12 noon Trinity Book Group Al-Anon 7 pm</p>	<p>20 Bible Study 10am East Side Session 7 pm Clean and Free 7 pm</p>	<p>21 Bible Study 7pm Trinity</p>	<p>22 Crystal Meth Anon 6:30 pm</p>	<p>23 Saturday Night Delight 7pm One Addict Helping Another 10 pm</p>
<p>24 <b>Worship 10:00 am</b> <b>at Trinity</b> <b>Video Worship</b> Open Arms Sobriety-7 pm</p>	25	<p>26 Trinity Book Group Al-Anon 7 pm</p>	<p>27 Bible Study 10am East Side Clean and Free 7 pm</p>	<p>28 Bible Study 7pm Trinity</p>	<p>289 Crystal Meth Anon 6:30 pm</p>	<p>30 Saturday Night Delight 7pm One Addict Helping Another 10 pm</p>