

# Trinity United Church of Christ

Volume 3, Issue 2

July 2016

## *A Message from Our Pastor:*

Forrest Gump said, "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you are going to get." I was thinking about that Whitman Sampler assorted chocolate box and how I always immediately turn to the diagram inside of the box, to make sure I am getting the piece of candy goodness that I want. I was recently offered a piece of candy from a different sampler box, and to my dismay, there was no diagram telling me which chocolate was which, and so I declined the offer. Most of us like to know just what we are going to get, not only in that box of chocolates, but in our life; but as we all know too well, that just is not how life works. Sometimes we bite into the perfect piece of candy, a nice caramel for me, and sometimes we bite into that chocolate covered gel that I am not quite sure who likes. Sometimes we may be anticipating that delicious nut filled candy, only to have things spoiled by cracking a tooth on the very nut we were dying to have. Life is like a box of chocolates, we never know what we are going to get; but isn't it wonderful to have that box offered to us. God has given us a life filled with many different flavors; some we love, some we don't like very much, and some we thought were wonderful but found an unexpected consequence that we had not anticipated. Our lives may not always give us what we expect, but it is how we deal with the unexpected that helps us to grow and helps us to appreciate what we have. In the book of Job, when Job lost everything, he got down on his knees and he gave thanks to God.

When we bite into that piece of chocolate that we did not want may we give thanks to God for the gift of the chocolates.

Peace and blessings,  
Pastor Sean

*"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High."*

*Psalm 9:1-2*



### News From The Council

The Trinity Council would like to invite everyone to our Annual Church Picnic. The picnic will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2016 at 6 PM at the Thurmont Community Park at the Pavilion. Fried chicken, scalloped potatoes, drinks and a place setting will be provided. You may wish to bring a dish to share. Everyone is invited to bring a friend if you would like.



If you have suggestions that you would like the council to address, please see Alice or call her at 301-271-2929.

Alice and Andy

Co-presidents

### *Lost and Found*

*There has been a Pittsburgh Panthers insulated mug left on one of the radiators in the back of the church for quite some time. If it belongs to you, please let me know and I will be sure it is returned (240-818-1317, Tara).*

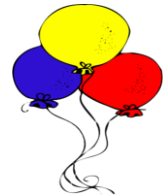
## **UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

### JULY

Austin Frushour - 7/9

Ross Lillard - 7/13

Darlene Wastler - 7/30



### AUGUST

Lindsay Tokar - 8/2

Donna Shriner - 8/2

Dorothy Plumer - 8/2

Catherine Ann Hahn - 8/2

Gloria Clabaugh - 8/13

Ivy Sauble - 8/25

### SEPTEMBER

Bev Frushour - 9/29

### OCTOBER

Chubbie Lillard - 10/3

Dot Mackley - 10/3

Lana Sorenson Emery - 10/11

Donna Crouse - 10/22

Joe Eyler - 10/24

Sue Clabaugh - 10/31

★ HAPPY ★  
BIRTHDAY!

## **NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN**

*Just a little update on the activities of the kitchen these last few months. Catoctin Orchard reopened on May 1st and we are still making apple crumb pies and a few pies with fruits they have in excess, but we have certainly scaled back quite a bit. We did not make apple pies for them last year and this year we stopped making the many pans of apple dumplings which they sold in the market. It was just getting much more than we were willing to take on. So, consequently, you will notice a substantial change in the amount of income for this year in our kitchen which means less funds to work with.*

*The last weekend of January we partnered with the Lions Club and hosted a benefit breakfast for Diane Spalding Miller who was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig disease. It was a tremendous success serving approximately 650 breakfasts and lots of extra donations. We were very proud to be able to hand over a little in excess of \$11,000 for which the family was very appreciative of our efforts. Then in April, Wyatt Black was taken very ill and we again held a breakfast jointly with the Lions in an effort to help this family with the many medical bills as Wyatt was hospitalized about 3 months fighting for his life with viral meningitis. We were able to hand this family approximately \$6,700 from the many breakfasts sold as well as extra donations. So with all of this you can see when the need is there we do all we can to come to their aide. And we must acknowledge and say how much we really enjoy working with the Lions members. When you are serving this many people it takes lots of cooperation and dedication and they always come through and stick with us until the job is completed. Very rewarding!!*

*We still keep busy taking care of orders from Red Horse Restaurant, Airways Inn, the Lewistown Fire Company banquets and dinners, the Lewistown Ruritan Club's Chicken Barbeque, Brian Smith's horse sales, several church picnics, and just this week we baked 104 ALL AMERICAN APPLE PIES for Manpower of Frederick which they distribute to their clients for July 4th weekend. And mostly every day there are people just coming in or calling in orders for pickup at a designated time.*

*We have experienced more deaths in such a short time this year and we have answered their calls for a luncheon following a memorial service. It began with Charlie Lenhart, then Roy Clabaugh, Eugene Myers and just this week John Dewees family requested our services for their luncheon. We never turn anyone down, whether member or not, as we can see it is always most appreciated by the affected families. We also have the opportunity to help other people in the community that are just in need of some help with food or maybe even funds. This is what we are here for!*

## **KITCHEN NEWS CONTINUED**

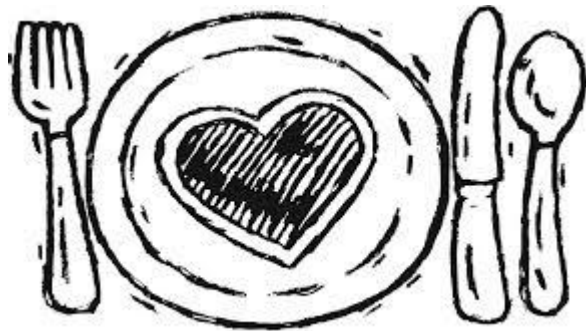
*On a lighter note, MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC to be held Thursday evening, July 21st at the town park at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited – fried chicken, scalloped potatoes, place setting and drink will be provided. If you wish you may bring a dish to share.*

*The large door at the back of the church was very weather beaten and rusting. Siegi very graciously volunteered to sand and repaint this door and did a beautiful job in doing so. You may want to look at it and give a big THANK YOU TO SIEGI.*

*Hopefully, in another month there will be a good corn crop and we will be soliciting help to husk and cut corn for our soups next winter. We also are now looking forward to the fall months which bring us to the Frederick Fair and our festivities here at Trinity for the annual Colorfest.*

*We again want to thank Larry, Siegi and Margaret as they continue to come and help clean up the apples and other tasks as needed. We also have Betty, Joann, Nancy and Shirley who we call on quite frequently when doing chicken pies, fruit pies or any other task we need help with. Great help is the only way to describe them – and we thank these people very much!!*

### **RUSS AND TOOTIE**



## Worship Committee

The Worship Committee will hold Communion on Sunday, July 3, 2016 and Sunday, August 7, 2016 starting at 11 am during the Worship hour.

We'd like to express a special thank you to Lana for the beautiful organ music that she provides for us each Sunday morning. If you have a special hymn that you would like to hear, please let Lana know.

Irene is reading "The Secret of Happiness" by Billie Graham. He feels that GOD gives us the secret in the beatitudes found in Matthew Chapter 5.

Hope you can join us.

## Christian Fellowship & Education Committee

On Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>, after a wonderful performance by our Hand Bell Choir, everyone was invited back to Alice Stambaugh's house for a delicious lunch. Afterwards, a group of about 13 members, including Pastor Sean went on an afternoon hymn sing. The group traveled around our community and sang familiar hymns to our shut-ins as well as those members residing at St. Catherine's nursing home in Emmitsburg. A great time was had by all. Our shut-ins enjoyed having us visit and some even sang along! We continue to provide Sunday School and Nursery during the worship service on an as needed basis.



### Growth Committee

For several years, at the church's annual meeting in January, the congregation has been discussing the issues of church membership and concern about church growth. Meetings were held last year in cooperation with St. John's UCC to generate ideas to help church growth. One outcome of the meetings was to start the church website and facebook page to reach out to younger people who rely on social media for information. The website is being administered by Tara Tokar and the facebook page is managed by Carol LaRiviere. A CD of the service is recorded each week and added to the website for the benefit of shut-ins and those who cannot make it to the service. Photos of church activities are placed on the website and facebook page.

In May of this year the church council continued their discussion of growth and decided to form a committee to address the issue on a more consistent basis. Alice Stambaugh and I were asked to form the committee. The committee members are Alice, Andy and Sally Tokar, Lindsay Tokar, Irene Miller, Sarah and Meghan Tokar, Pastor Sean, Tara Tokar and Kenda O'Brien. The committee has met three times to date.

The council first asked us to prepare a letter to the inactive members to ask if they want to remain on the membership list. The letter has been finalized and will be mailed in about one week. Our inactive membership list has not been updated for many years, and this is a good opportunity to update the list and the addresses as best we can. This will also give the council a more accurate membership number to help with our annual reporting to the Central Atlantic Conference. The membership list has been edited to excel which allows easy updates and sorting of the list as needed.

The growth committee is also reviewing the book "Real Good Church". The book is about the success story of a New England church that grew its average weekly attendance threefold in a ten year period. It is important to note that growth does not occur quickly. It needs consistent, ongoing work. We also realize growth is a challenging task in this age of decreasing church attendance and the many alternate activities available on Sunday mornings. We will be reviewing the ideas in the book and deciding which may help Trinity and how to start implementing them. We want to help make Trinity a welcoming church to provide a place for spiritual formation, fellowship, and a good relationship with God.

Please feel free to contact us if you have ideas for the committee or if you would like to join us.

Ross Lillard



## Calendar of Events

- July 21, 2016 – Church Picnic

**July  
Newsletter**

Trinity United Church of Christ  
101 East Main Street  
Thurmont MD 21788