

Christmas Eve Service

Please join us for our candlelight communion service on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24. Music begins at 7:15pm and the service begins at 7:30pm. Morning services at normal times – 8:30 & 10:30am.



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Facebook Change

Our name changed on Facebook. We had to change from Trinity Umc to Trinity Methodist due to an issue with Facebook. If you are already our friend on Facebook, there is nothing you need to do. If not, find us and friend us today!



**Trinity United Methodist Church
200 N Summit Street
Bowling Green, OH 43402**

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Bowling Green, OH
Permit No 56



Or current resident

Christmas Music

Heritage Corners has asked Trinity to share Christmas music with their residents on Sunday, December 17 at 3pm. The Handbell Choir, Greg Hernandez and Evie Van Vorhis will be performing. Join us or send a prayer for this special event.



Men's Group

The Men's Group will meet at Big Boy on Wooster at 9am on Saturday, December 16th. Invite a friend and join us for this time of good food and fellowship.



Esther Circle

Esther Circle will hold its Wednesday, December 13 meeting in Fellowship Hall beginning at 10:00am. There will be a short meeting after which Christmas cards will be addressed for mailing to Trinity's nursing home residents and shut-ins. A potluck lunch will follow at noon. Bring a dish to share and enjoy this time of Christmas fellowship. All Trinity women are welcome.



December Worship Volunteers

Ushers

Andy Drumm Mathias Drumm
Gary Manning Joan Manning
Bill Kale Nicki Kale
Chris Sabo

Liturgists

12-3 Tom Ehmke
12-10 Harald Wyndham
12-17 Betty Jones
12-24 morning – Becky Fallon
12-24 evening – Beverly Miner
12-31 Gaynelle Predmore

Greeters

12-3 **Need Volunteer**
12-10 Marilyn White & Kay Bell
12-17 Jerry & Janet Markin
12-24 morning – **Need Volunteer**
12-24 evening – Beverly Miner & Doug Dunipace
12-31 – **Need Volunteer**

Acolytes

12-3 Abby Oswald & Evie Van Vorhis
12-10 Mathias Drumm & Grace Swaisgood
12-17 Grace Swaisgood & Evie Van Vorhis
12-24 morning – Savannah & Shelby Janes
12-24 evening – Allie & Katie Parish
12-31 Luke Hart & Abby Oswald

Coffee Hour

12-3 Sue Butler
12-10 The Swaisgood Family
12-17 The Hart Family
12-24 **Need Volunteer**
12-31 **Need Volunteer**

Advent Wreath Lighting

12-3 Yaa Tawiah Wonkye
12-10 Harald & Jane Wyndham
12-17 The Swaisgood Family
12-24 morning – The Janes Family
12-24 evening – The Pullins Family

Thank you for your service!



19 Sandy & Tony Aspacher
20 Marge & Al Wilder
Nancy & Dick Otley
Lesley & George Riker



7 Sandy Aspacher
8 Chris Rutter
9 Helen Dukes
11 John Hart
13 Marlyn Bender
17 Fred Fether
18 Jerry Milnor
19 Ellen Farison, Carol Allison, Phyllis Pickering
20 Sandy Stoots
23 Doug Stoots
28 Melissa Hart, Buzz Benschoter

Bob Evans Fundraiser

The Missions team has a fundraiser at Bob Evans in Bowling Green on Monday, December 11, from 6:30am to 9pm. Present a flyer when you pay for your meal and Trinity will receive 15% of your purchase. Flyers can be found in the bulletin and on the information station table in the sanctuary. All proceeds go to support the missions of the church. Thank you!





Three Words... “Wrestling With Christmas” **By Pastor Dana Ward**

The month of December can be the best month of the year. It can also be very stressful. This year, our worship times will focus on “Wrestling With Christmas,” and how we can best deal with some of the things that might keep us from enjoying this holy season of celebrating Christ’s birth.

Whether it is the passing of a loved one or the frustrating desire to find the perfect gift, we may find that our feelings around the holidays are not as positive as we wish they were.

But, this is not what God envisions for us, nor what Jesus’ coming into the world is all about. While our feelings are valid – even our sadness or resentments – they need not rob us of the hope and healing that is at the heart of the Christmas celebration.

I hope you will join us during the Sundays of December as we use the sacred space of the church to examine, deal with, and ultimately gain insight into how we can overcome some of the issues people face at this time of year. Such issues include grief, decorating within a budget, and covering a greeting card list that is five pages long.

We may never be able to totally stop “Wrestling With Christmas,” but I do believe we can allow this month to be a time of celebrating the birth of Jesus, encouraging peace on earth, and focusing on charity and compassion. So, may we do this at Christmas and always.

Financial Report for October, 2017

Here it is the middle of November as I write this financial report for October even though it will be December before it's in your hands to read. But you understand how the system works.

October was another very difficult month for the numbers at Trinity Church even though we finally ended the month in the black. The revenue side of the equation continues to be the problem; our expenditures were consistent as expected, however. The only, although anticipated, large expenditure was the quarterly insurance payment for the building. It was \$1,913.75. And as anticipated, the utility costs are beginning to rise again as the weather turns colder. On the bright side of things, I was able to send over \$6,000 to the Conference to pay down our Apportionments obligation. However, we still have a balance due there of \$13,231.

Because you are now reading this in December, I'd like to encourage you to put Trinity Church on your Christmas giving list. Obviously, our family members are on our lists because we love them and they mean so much to us. Some of our friends are on the lists as well. We love them, too. How about the church? Is it on your list?

Our church will appreciate your Christmas gifts. Your generosity at this time of year will help us pay off the apportionments and give us a financial jump start into the new year. It's very important and it's needed.

You have my very best wishes for a joyous and meaningful holiday season.

Tim

Estimate of Giving Cards

Thank you to everyone who returned their estimate of giving cards for 2018. We are so blessed by the generosity of our congregation.

If you have not yet returned your card, we are still accepting them in the church office or you can place them in the offering plate through the Sundays of December. Thank you for helping us with this important information!



Youth Group

Below are our activities for December. Invite a friend and join the fun!

December 3 – 3p – Meeting at Trinity

December 17 – 3p – Christmas Party at Trinity

December 19 – 6:30p – Pack Christmas Baskets at Trinity



Sunday School

We will not have children's Sunday school on December 24 and 31 due to the holidays. Adult classes will decide on their own if there will be changes in their meeting times. There will still be

Jr. Worship every Sunday throughout the holiday season.

Thank you!

Christmas Poinsettias

The Maumee Watershed District UM Men are selling Poinsettia plants again this year for the ministerial scholarship grant fund. Carrying on a tradition, since 1950 the district UM Men have used funds from these flower sales to support the district students going into ministry. Many candidates have been helped over the years with the proceeds that each sale generates. These students have been helped by each individual church that participates in the sale. Please help and show we are truly UNITED for the students in our district. This year's poinsettias are a choice of red, white, pink and marble. They will be foiled and sleeved and cost \$8.00 each. **The Trinity deadline for orders, money and dedications is Sunday, December 3rd. Please submit them to the office or the information station table. Thank you!**



Christmas Baskets

The Missions team is continuing to collect items for the 50 Christmas baskets we will give to those in need at the holidays. Items being collected are below:


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| Large box of instant potatoes | Canned vegetables |
| Cereal (12-18oz box or more) | Cans of meat |
| Soup | Blankets |
| Hot chocolate packets (8-10pk) | Bar soap |
| Vegetable oil | Tissues |
| Shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush | Dish soap |
| Paper towels | Noodles |

Please drop the items in the basket next to the lobby entrance and mark the items "Christmas baskets." Thank you!

Please help us pack the baskets on Tuesday, December 19th at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are also needed for the pick-up times on Wednesday, December 20th from 9am-noon.



December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9a-4p Deck the Halls 11a-1:30p Lunch	2
3 8:30a Service 9:15a Sunday school 10:30a Trad Worship 3p Youth Group Poinsettia Orders Due!	4 9a Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:30p Dartball Home	5 3p Worship at Heritage Corner 5:30p Habitat Mtg 6:30p Habitat Mtg	6 5:30p Habitat 6p Ben's Recital 6p Bell Choir	7 7p Chancel Choir & Christmas Party	8 6p CRU	9
10 8:30a Service 9:15a Sunday school 10:30a Trad Worship	11 6:30a-9p Bob Evans Fundraiser 7p Finance Meeting 7:30p Dartball Home	12 3p Worship at Brookdale	13 10a Esther Circle Potluck at Trinity 6p Bell Choir	14 7p Chancel Choir	15	16 9a Men's Group at Big Boy
17 8:30a Service 9:15a Sunday school 10:30a Trad Worship 3p Music at Heritage 3p Youth Christmas Party	18 9a Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30p Committees 7:30p Dartball Home 8p Ad Council Mtg	19 3p Worship at BG Manor 6:30p Packing Party Christmas Baskets	20 9a-noon Christmas Basket Pick Up 6p Bell Choir	21 7p Chancel Choir	22	23
24 8:30a Service 9:15a Adult SS 10:30a Trad Worship 7:15p Music 7:30p Service	25 Christmas 	26 3p Worship at BG Care Center	27 3p Worship at Wood Haven 6p Bell Choir	28 7p Chancel Choir	29	30 Private Party in Fellowship Hall
31 8:30a Service 9:15a Adult SS 10:30a Trad Worship						