

**Ash Wednesday**

**Two services –**

**February 14 at 12p & 7p**

Please join us for these meaningful services as we prepare our hearts for Lent.



*Happy Valentine's Day*

**Game Night**

**Saturday, February 24**

**at 7pm at Trinity**

Bring your favorite game, friends and snacks and join us for this fun night of fellowship.



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

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**Or current resident**

A contribution has been made to Trinity's Memorial Fund to honor our long-time member Clara Dukes. All of us enjoyed the times when Clara could attend our meetings. She had such a wonderful smile and pleasant disposition. She added much to our programs with her remembrances from days gone by. Clara will be missed by all of us.

Esther Circle U.M.W.

### Men's Group

The Men's Group will meet at Big Boy on Wooster at 9am on Saturday, February 17th. Invite a friend and join us for this time of good food and fellowship.



### Esther Circle

Esther Circle will hold its' February breakfast meeting on Wednesday, February 14 at 8:45 am at Wooster Street Big Boy Restaurant. Helen Dukes will lead a program about Valentine's Day and each member is asked to participate by bringing a valentine remembrance to share. All Trinity women are invited to enjoy this morning of food and fellowship.



### February Worship Volunteers

#### Ushers

Chris Sabo                      Tony Aspacher  
Gretchen Avery                David Avery  
Bev Robie                        Ken Robie  
Andrew Janes

#### Liturgists

2-4 Pat Breneman  
2-11 Gaynelle Predmore  
2-18 Greg Hernandez  
2-25 Betty Jones

#### Greeters

2-4 Beth & Evie Van Vorhis  
2-11 **Need Volunteer**  
2-18 **Need Volunteer**  
2-25 Jerry & Janet Markin

#### Acolytes

2-4 Savannah & Shelby Janes  
2-11 Evie Van Vorhis & Luke Hart  
2-18 Abby Oswald and  
Grace Swaisgood  
2-25 Allie & Katie Parish

#### Coffee Hour

2-4 Amanda Parish  
2-11 Marge & Jim George  
2-18 Beverly Magrum &  
Carolyn Waltz  
2-25 **Need Volunteer**

**Thank you for your service!**



Check out our website  
[www.bgtrinity.com](http://www.bgtrinity.com) for our  
latest news and friend us on  
Facebook at Trinity Methodist.  
Stay connected!



14 Beverly & Ken Robie  
14 Sharon & George DeMuth  
14 Claudia and Tom Ehmke



1 Marge Terry, Kaitlin Riker  
3 Lois Mills  
4 Al Wilder  
5 Tim Smith  
6 Lynne Hall  
7 Deb Dunipace  
9 Chris Sabo  
10 JoAnn Herringshaw  
11 Angela Beardsley  
13 Andy Van Vorhis  
16 Dick Strickland, Drew Oswald  
19 Mary Rife  
20 Sandy Bauman, Karlyn Riker  
23 Jim Augsberger  
25 Sharon DeMuth, Rosie Korn  
26 Alan Kramer

### Lenten Lunches

Be sure to join us for the Lenten lunches at noon on Wednesdays starting February 21<sup>st</sup> and running through the Lenten season. The program, sponsored by the BG Ministerial Association, includes a talk and lunch every week at Trinity. We hope to see you!





## **Three Little Words... "God Is Love"**

**By Pastor Dana Ward**

Well, the time of year for red hearts, pink roses, Mylar balloons, cards, and candy has come again. The store shelves are overflowing with these symbols of love and affection.

And while many people are looking forward to a card, a dinner out, or something else that expresses "I Love You" on the 14<sup>th</sup>, others may be dreading this time of year. Some people have lost their belief in the kind of love that comes in a card or a box of chocolate.

But, it's a good time of year to remember that "God Is Love." So – whether single, married, widowed, separated, or whatever – all people can connect to the best kind of love, which is God's love.

The Bible teaches that "God Is Love." And God does not simply profess love in words. God proves His love in action. Paul's letter to the Romans says, "God demonstrates love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ, God's only Son, died for us." (Rom. 5:8). What an amazing proof of God's everlasting, unconditional, unselfish love.

And while it means a lot when our loved ones share signs of love with us, God's love for us is infinite. God promises never to leave us or forsake us, and to answer us when we call, day or night.

Flowers will die. Balloons will get deflated or popped. Cards may get lost or thrown away, but the greatest love, God's love for us, will never pass away, because "God Is Love" on St. Valentine's Day and always.

## Winter Weather

Now that the winter season is upon us, we urge you to use good judgment when coming to church for a service or meeting. We always hope to hold service on Sundays, but if there is a now emergency or if the weather is severe, please check Channels 11 and 13 for cancellations. Thank you!



## Thank you

A big thank you to all of our new and returning committee officers and members for 2018. We couldn't do all we do without your willingness to serve and share your gifts and time with Trinity. We look forward to a great year for our congregation!



## We Can Be Heroes This Lent.

This year our Lent Theme will be "What Makes A Hero," based on the study by Matt Rawle.

Lent is the 40 Day season leading up to Easter Sunday. This year, it begins on "Ash Wednesday," February 14.

In worship beginning February 18, we will explore the themes of good vs. evil, right vs. wrong, and life vs. death drawing from popular comic book heroes and from scenes of Jesus' ministry.

Starting the 18<sup>th</sup>, there will also be a small group study each week of Lent, at both 9:15 a.m. on Sundays and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Watch the bulletin and website for more info.



## *Trinity Art Show 2018* *February 18-25*

All children and youth are invited to participate in our art show. Create art pieces that depict anything from the Bible. Each person may submit more than one piece and you may use any type of materials for your artwork. If you would like to participate, but do not have materials, please let Missy know. Remember to submit the artist's name, age and the title of the art piece. We will display the artwork in the lobby for a full week and then you can take your work home after church on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. Everyone receives a prize for participating, so be creative and join the fun!

**Submissions are due by Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!**



## Finance Report for December, 2017

I'm pleased to tell you that Trinity Church ended 2017 in the black. In fact, we were able to carry over about \$2,900 into the new year. And we always need that carryover due to the heavy bills we must pay every January.

Our ability to end the year in a positive position is thanks to the generosity of many of you who blessed the church with a more-than-usual contribution. It really helped! A special thank you is also due to the Missions Committee. That committee made a substantial contribution to the money we owed to the West Ohio Conference for our conference apportionments. The money received from our Missions Committee went toward the "mission" line items in those apportionments, thus honoring the tenants of our Missions Committee. It's always such a chore to pay our Apportionments in full and certainly a relief when we do. Bottom line: we are a "100% church" for 2017.

So here we go into the new year. I suppose it wouldn't surprise you if I told you that several line items in the budget have increased. Conference Apportionments and District Apportionments have both increased slightly. The Pastor's health insurance increased 9%, property insurance premiums on the church building and the parsonage went up, and postage increased as will the rental agreement on the copier. I'm only guessing on the cost of utilities and hoping that the cold weather will diminish quickly. That's some of the reasons the Pastor asked you last month to consider a "Step Up" in your financial commitment to the church.

If you can "step up," please do. We certainly need it and you can be assured that anyone who spends any of the church's money is doing so as conservatively as possible.

And thank you, yes thank you, for all that you do.

Tim

## A note from Melissa Hart...

As many of you know, I have been in the process of becoming a pastor for a while now and I am beginning seminary in February. I became a certified candidate last September, which made me eligible for an appointment this year. If you are not familiar with the system, an itinerant United Methodist pastor is appointed to a church, or churches, by their Bishop and District Superintendent who prayerfully match him or her with a congregation. Appointments are reviewed each year.

I have the honor of receiving an appointment this year to serve two churches, St. Paul's UMC in Rising Sun, Ohio, and Kansas UMC in Kansas, Ohio. Both communities are just southeast of Bowling Green. I will begin serving as their pastor on Ash Wednesday, February 14, so my last Sunday at Trinity will be February 11.

The two churches combined are considered a half time appointment, so I have talked to the Staff Parish committee at Trinity about continuing some of my current tasks. The committee and Pastor Dana are prayerfully reviewing my current list of tasks to see if I can be of service. For now, I am working with them to create as smooth of a transition as possible for the church. Then, if God so leads, I will continue some tasks to help Trinity further.

The past six years at Trinity have been a blessing for me and my family. When I first came, I thought I would just serve for a few years while I earned my Master's degree and then become a school principal. It was through my work at Trinity that God reminded me of his real call on my life. I have had a challenging time of growth and discernment while having a great time of serving alongside some really amazing people. John, Luke and I are grateful for the relationships we have made and the support and love you have shown us. We know that will continue as we move forward into the next stage of ministry.

So, more than anything, I would like to say, "Thank you!" Thank you for accepting me and my family so fully at Trinity. Thank you for supporting my crazy ideas and helping make them happen. Thank you for letting me be a part of your praises and problems. Thank you for your trust in sharing this faith journey so we could learn and grow together. And now, thank you for your prayers and care as God adds this new mission field to our lives. As always, may God bless you abundantly.

◀ Jan 2018		February 2018					Mar 2018 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1  7p Chancel Choir	2 Groundhog Day	3	
4 Super Bowl 8:30a Service 9:15a Sunday school 10:30a Trad Worship	5 9a Prayer Shawl  7:30p Dartball	6  3p Worship at Heritage Corner	7  5:30p Habitat Mtg	8  7p Chancel Choir	9	10	
11 8:30a Service 9:15a Sunday school 10:30a Trad Worship Art Show Items Due	12  7p Finance Meeting 7:30p Dartball	13  3p Worship at Brookdale 5:30p Habitat Mtg	14 Valentine's Day 8:45a Esther Circle 12p Ash Wednesday Service 6p Bell Choir 7p Ash Wednesday Service	15  7p Chancel Choir	16	17 9a Men's Group	
18 Art Show 8:30a Service 9:15a Sunday school 10:30a Trad Worship	19 Presidents Day Art Show 9a Prayer Shawl 6:30p Committees 7p SPR meeting 7:30p Dartball 8p Ad Council Mtg	20 Art Show  3p Worship at BG Manor	21 Art Show  12p Lenten Lunch  6p Bell Choir	22 Art Show  7p Chancel Choir	23 Art Show	24 Art Show  7p Game Night	
25 Art Show 8:30a Service 9:15a Sunday school 10:30a Trad Worship 3p 4-H Meeting	26  7:30p Dartball	27  3p Worship at BG Care	28  12p Lenten Lunch 3p Worship at Wood Haven 6p Bell Choir				