

Trinity United Church of Christ
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Church Chatter September 2026

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

- John 21:1-8

What do you do when someone leaves your life? There will no doubt be some feeling of loss, which increases depending on how important they were to you. We call the greater of these experiences mourning. Your life has to adjust to a new pattern of existing. If you used to talk with them regularly, they aren't there anymore to talk to. So, you have to retrain your habit of reaching out to them. How many times have you seen something you know would be of interest to a person you used to talk to regularly, and suddenly remember that they aren't around anyone to share it with them? Likewise, you will also miss the interesting things that they would share with you. You will miss their insights. You will miss their friendship. You will miss even just their presence.

Especially when the loss is the result of a death, the pressure you get is to quickly get back to your old sense of normal. Grieving is intrusive. It is inconvenient. It disrupts the normal flow. As the result, there is a push to get past it and to get over it quickly. You can try to ignore it and tamp it down within you. But, grieving doesn't work like that. It will come back to remind you it's still there, insisting you address it; insisting you face it.

After Jesus appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, Peter tried to go back to his old familiar activity of fishing. But, Jesus was not going to let him just walk away from the changes that had happened in their three years together. Peter had walked away from fishing to follow Jesus for a purpose. Jesus returned to impress upon Peter to fulfill that purpose. Yes, Jesus had left them, and was leaving them, but there was work that needed to be done; a mission to be carried out. Peter and the others would need to live with and adjust to the loss of Jesus no longer walking bodily by their side. But also, they would need to not forget what Jesus brought to them, and what Jesus gave them, to enable them to carry forward.

Thank you, and God bless you. Goodbye.

- Pastor Craig



Upcoming Choir Anthems

September 6, 2026	#427 You Are My All in All
September 13, 2026	#419 My Faith Looks Up to Thee
September 20, 2026	#474 I Surrender All
September 27, 2026	#436 Grace Alone

Save Our Steeple

The total received and reported during the August Consistory meeting is **\$45,027!** We are hoping to hear from the roofers very soon regarding their anticipated start date!

Thank you to everyone who has been contributing to this fund! We are nearly half way to our goal! Every little bit helps!



Church Activities and Gatherings



September 1st & 15th: Sewing Circle - 9:30 a.m.

The Sewing Committee will meet the first and third Tuesday of the month as they continue their ministry of care. All are welcome to join as items are made for patients and families in hospice care.

Each Wednesday: Breakfast Club - 9:30 a.m.

The Breakfast Club will continue to meet each Wednesday. There is always room around our table of fellowship for all! We hope you will join us!



August 30th: Farewell Service & Pot Luck Meal - 10:15 am

Please join us for a Service of Farewell and Pot Luck Meal for Pastor Craig and Ronni. This will be the last Sunday with Craig and Ronni and we would like for you to join us in wishing them a fond farewell as they head back toward Dayton to be ready to welcome their first grandchild! Drinks, fried chicken baked beans and table service will be provided. Please bring a dessert or side dish to share!

Say Goodbye to
Our Pastor and Family

September 2nd - 5th: Lemon Shake-Up Booth at the Sweet Corn Festival

If you haven't had a chance to help in the Lemon Squeezy Booth, don't fret! We have one last festival to complete this year! We need all hands on deck for this event! If you are free to stop by and offer a short break, that would be helpful as well! We'll see you in Millersport!



Mark your calendars for some of our events that will be here before you know it!

- ★ October 4th: World Communion Sunday
- ★ October 25th: Shoebox Packing Party
- ★ November 1st: All Saints Sunday
- ★ November 13th: Holiday Auction
- ★ November 22nd: Hanging of the Greens
- ★ December 6th: Ladies Holiday Luncheon

Mission & Outreach



Noisy Offering

Noisy Offering

The next Noisy Offering Collection will be **Sunday, September 6th** during the **Sermon on the Steps!** Help us make a JOYFUL NOISE as we collect change to contribute to the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry! **Last month we collected \$73.50!** THANK YOU for your continued support of the Noisy Offering!

October 25th: Operation Christmas Child- Shoebox Packing Party- 12:00pm

Stay after worship for a quick lunch and then help us pack all of the Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! Pizza, salad, drinks, and dessert will be provided! We will have all the supplies needed to pack at least 100 boxes! This is our only packing party this year so don't hold out for another opportunity! We would hate for you to miss out on this wonderful mission project! If you have any questions, please contact Terry Landis or John Walter!

Transitional Plans for Trinity

Dear Members of Trinity UCC,

As you are aware, Pastor Craig will lead his last worship service for Trinity on August 30th. The Consistory members have been discussing the transition and future pastoral leadership for our congregation.

After prayerfully discerning her call and receiving affirmation from many of you, Julie Walter has expressed an interest in serving our congregation during the transitional period as well as pursuing a role as a licensed pastor within the Central Southeast Ohio Association.

At this time, the Consistory has requested Licensed Ministerial Status for Julie to serve in this role while we begin the process of forming a new Search Committee for the purpose of updating our profile and exploring our options for a new called pastor. We are aware that the number of ordained pastors who are willing to serve Part-Time in rural churches has been on a decline for several years.

It is our hope that God will guide all of us through these next steps. Should you have any questions or concerns specific to pastoral leadership, please direct them to the Consistory.

Trinity Consistory



September 16th: Consistory Meeting - 7:00 p.m. (Fellowship Room)