



Trinity News

SEPTEMBER 2011

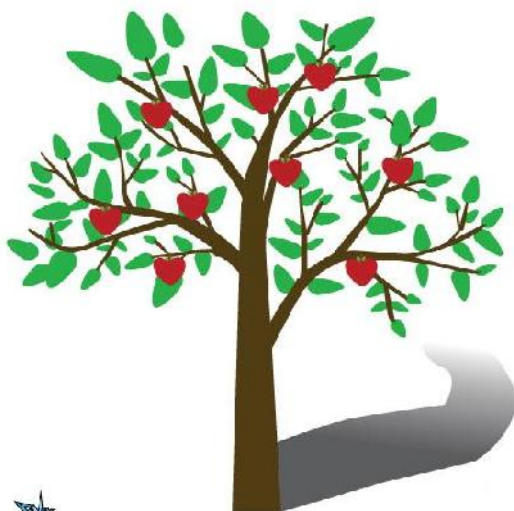
and

Branch Hill Banner

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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 E-mail: trinitymilford@fuse.net Trinity Web Site: trinitymilford.org Fax: (513) 831-3870
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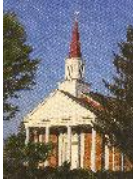
BRANCH HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 370 Bridge St., Loveland, OH 45140 E-mail: branchhillumc.org
 Pastor: Ed Fisher, E-mail: fishered@fuse.net

Real Life Groups



INSIDE

From Pastor Kirk.....	page 3
Branch Hill Banner.....	page 12
Church Council Meeting Minutes	page 13
Stone Soup Menus.....	page 16



**COME
WORSHIP WITH
US EVERY
SUNDAY**

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE
8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
Nursery during all services

SEPTEMBER SCRIPTURES AND SERMON TITLES

**September 4 Labor Day Sunday
Communion**
Scriptures: 1 Thessalonians 1:2-5
John 6:26-29
Message: "The Work of God"
Kirk Peterson preaching at 8:15 and 11:00
Laura Saunders preaching at 9:30

September 11 10th Anniversary of 9/11
Scriptures: 1 Peter 5:6-11
Luke 7:1-10
Message: "One Nation, Under God"
Kirk Peterson preaching at 8:15 and 11:00

Scriptures: John 16:28-33
Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11
Message: "The Day that Changed the World"
Laura Saunders preaching at 9:30

September 18 All-church study begins
Scriptures: Galatians 4:8-9
Matthew 7:21-23
Message: "The Difference Is Knowing God"
Kirk Peterson preaching

September 25
Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17
Romans 5:1-11
Message: "The Difference Is God's Assurance"
Laura Saunders preaching

To avoid embarrassment,
please remember to turn off
your cell phones before ser-
vices begin. Thank you.

SUNDAY: Young Adult Studies meet at 9:00 a.m. led by Dean Engleman in the parlor. **Adult Studies** meet at 9:30 a.m. led by Ed Fisher in Room 2.

MONDAY: Men's Study Group will resume September 12 in Room 5. All men are welcome. We will begin discussion of the Christian atheist on September 19.

TUESDAY: Women's Bible Study Group meets at 9:15 a.m. in the Parlor.

WEDNESDAY: Pastor Laura's PSS (Post Stone Soup) Bible Study meets at 7:00 p.m. in Room 3. We will be discussing the Christian atheist beginning September 21.

THURSDAY: PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY The Pastor's Bible Study continues working through the Minor Prophets and is presently in the book of Amos. On September 22, we will shift to the all-church study with the book the Christian atheist. Meeting each Thursday at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the conference room, the Pastor's Bible Study is a beneficial and enjoyable time of study, sharing and discussion. You are welcome to come and participate in the study at any time.



Real Life Groups design by Ashley Marie Barringer



FROM THE PASTOR

What's the difference between ignorance and apathy? I don't know and I don't care. What's the difference between a cat and a comma? One has claws at the end of its paws and the other has a pause at the end of its clause. What's the difference between a healthy rabbit and a bad joke? One is a fit bunny and the other is only a bit funny.

The premise for our fall all-church study is no joke. The Christian atheist addresses the serious issue of "believing in God but living as if He doesn't exist." We are challenged to deal with the question, "What's the difference?" What's the difference between believing in God but living as if He doesn't exist, and believing in God and living as if He does exist?

I would venture to say that we all have our struggles in living the Christian life. Maybe we believe in God but don't really know God. Possibly we believe in God but don't think He's fair. Perhaps we believe in God but won't forgive. These are just a few examples of the struggles we may have in living the Christian life which draw us into the danger of being a Christian atheist.

The Christian atheist is a study based on Scripture and inspiring toward the experience of believing in God and living as if He does exist. Such a lifestyle recognizes and acts upon what makes the difference for not only believing in God, but also faithfully and obediently living for God. We have our struggles, and with God's help we can be victorious over our struggles.

The all-church study begins September 18. Including worship, the study provides many opportunities for us to be learning and growing together. In addition to worship, if you are not already participating in a small group, you are highly encouraged to join one at least for the duration of the study. Group listings are available and you get more information by contacting Betsy Williams, Sally Meyer or the pastors.

Christian atheists do exist. Our fall all-church study will help us address the issue of believing in God but living as if He doesn't exist. We can know, grow and go in believing in God and in living as if He does exist. We can fulfill the Scripture: "Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions in truth." (1 John 3:18)

Live it,
Kirk

CHARGE CONFERENCE Mark your calendar early for our Charge Conference that will uniquely take place on October 20 at Ginghamburg UMC during the Change the World Conference. You are invited to take part in an inspiring time together for the ministry of the church. Please let the pastors know if you would like to attend.

TRINITY IN MINISTRY

Fall Book Study: the Christian atheist

I love, love, love the book selected for our fall study this year. “It’s all about me!” We hear that phrase meaning that people think the world revolves around them. That’s not what I mean. It’s a book about my personal weaknesses. It’s a book that challenges me to truly think about my relationship with Christ – and others.

Even the font of the print on the cover is great! Take care to notice that the “t” in “Christian” is black among the remaining white letters – AND it’s slightly tilted off-balance.

In the introduction to his book, the Christian atheist, pastor Craig Groeschel, identifies with the book’s title, so that made me feel better.

You will enjoy Groeschel’s writing. Each chapter flies by - filled with humor and stories we all can relate to. He has a delightful way of phrasing his sentences that encourages you to keep reading – and thinking.

Pre-ordering is not necessary this year, so come pick up your book in the breezeway on Sunday or in the office during the week. Cost is \$10 to cover the book and shipping, plus the reading schedule and study guides. These two aides, based on the chapter-combinations of the 7-week sermon series, will help you be better prepared and learn more than merely reading the book. Make checks payable to Trinity.

If you prefer an e-book version, go to www.cbd.com. Cost is \$9.99 and if you need assistance, they have a special e-book section under Frequently Asked Questions. If you would like a larger font, they explain how to download that. There is an e-version available on amazon.com as well.

A great way to enjoy the book if you’re busy or have difficulty reading is the audio CD for \$16.49 + shipping. Check the CBD web-site or phone them at 1-800-CHRISTIAN.

For those who have drive time, the CD is also great – and a safer option than using your car time for cell phone calls, texts, e-mails, putting on make-up and other activities that take one’s hands off the steering wheel and eyes off the road. Play it safe. Listen to a Christian CD like the Christian atheist.

I highly encourage you to join a study group during the series beginning the week of September 18. See the article elsewhere in the newsletter about new Real Life Groups that are forming. We always learn more when sharing viewpoints we may not have thought of on our own. If you have any questions, stop me at church or contact me. *Rita Fisher*

FOUNDATION CAMPAIGN A GREAT SUCCESS

The Foundation fundraising campaign was initiated by action of the Church Council to correct problems with the foundation at the north side of the sanctuary and related issues. The response has been amazing. In the very first week \$12,759.95 was given. The second week \$7,065 was given. With the addition of \$2,251.25 in memorial funds, the Foundation campaign giving stands at \$22,076.20 as of August 22, 2011. The total cost stated for the projects is \$22,365.50. Hopefully there will not be additional costs resulting from the exterior work for interior plaster repairs and painting. Projects are being contracted and will be done as soon as possible. Thank you for your incredible generosity in giving and giving promptly. Thanks also to Duane Lil-bridge for his leadership in the campaign.

TRINITY IN MINISTRY

REAL LIFE GROUPS

NEW for this fall! Trinity is introducing an expanded small group ministry named “Real Life Groups.” Would you enjoy the opportunity to engage in meaningful fellowship that invites laughter, friendships, and mutual support? Would you like to explore how God’s Word relates to your everyday life? Would you appreciate a safe place to ask questions of faith? Have you ever wondered what special talents God gave you to use to help others? Then Real Life Groups is the place for you.

Jesus intended that his church would be a haven where no one walks alone. “The whole church is like a large ship, and the small groups are the lifeboats.” (S. Gladen) Life is messy, filled with joys and sorrows. Only Christian faith and fellowship offers a true perspective on the real issues of life.

You will get to choose from a number of new groups with a variety of meeting times. Group leaders include Charlie & Barbara Boersig, Dean and Lynne Engelman, Caroline Fabisiak, Diane Lenz, Jane Loomis, Don Lynn, Sally Meyer, Laura Saunders, and Anna Sheets. Check Trinity’s website or the bulletin board right outside the Sanctuary for additional details. Groups begin the week of September 18 with the all-church book study and last through the first part of November. **The registration deadline is September 11.** Questions? Contact Pastor Laura, Betsy Williams trinitybetsy@fuse.net, or Sally Meyer trinitysally@fuse.net.

VISION TEAM The Vision Team met on July 5 for another important time of seeking God’s preferred future for Trinity—discerning God’s vision for us. We continue to look forward into our faith full future. You are invited to continue submitting your thoughts, ideas and visions to the team. You are also encouraged to seek implementation of things that can be done now that will help move us toward God’s future for Trinity. The team has laid much groundwork in the discerning process and is moving toward putting more “meat on the bones”. The next meeting of Trinity’s Vision Team is scheduled for Monday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.



TENDER MERCIES MEAL

Trinity provides the evening meal for the residents of Tender Mercies (www.tendermerciesinc.org) on the first Sunday of each month. Our next meals will be on Sunday, September 4 and Sunday, October 2. The Boy Scouts will be preparing and serving the meal on both of these Sundays. September’s meal will be a vegetarian bean and cheese bake with Texas Toast, applesauce and bananas. Ingredients are needed for the September as well as the October meal. Please see the sign up sheet in the hallway for a list of what is needed. (Ingredient sign up sheets are generally posted the second Sunday of the month for the following month’s meal.)

We are in need of large plastic containers with lids (plastic ice cream pails work great) in which we can leave leftovers for the residents. Items can be left in the Tender Mercies cabinet in the kitchen area (next to the chest freezer). Your generosity is always a blessing. We couldn’t do this ministry without your help. The residents of Tender Mercies are always so thankful for what we provide. The 2012 sign up sheet will be posted shortly. If you would like to help out or learn more about what we do, feel free to sign up or contact Mary Sheer at sheermm@hotmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

KIDS R.O.C. SUNDAY SCHOOL –

Education Director: Dora Slyder

September 2011 Teachings – The Ten Commandments!

The Ten Commandments: Exodus 20: 1-17

Our new Sunday School Year begins September 11th at 9:30 a.m. Our theme for the 2011-2012 year will be **Teachings**. Rotation Sunday School workshops at 9:30 for K - 6th grade will be learning that the 10 Commandments are laws (**Teachings**) from God on how to live and love one another. God calls us to live lives full of joy and the fullness of life.



God gave us laws to free us so that we would not have to live in fear of God or of each other. We are covenant people of God and are called to follow God's commandments out of gratitude for what God has done for us.

Next Month: We will learn about the 23rd Psalm in some very fun ways.

Teacher sign-ups are going on NOW! This year we have some exciting new classes we are sure you would love to help with. You can sign up for 1 month or for the whole year. So don't delay, Dora is waiting to hear from you.

Please use the '**Name Badger**' computer each week for a Sunday School Name tag. This wonderful program helps us to keep attendance of not only our kids but the teachers. So 'check-in' each week.

Children's Choirs:

F.I.S.H.I.E.S (preschool-3rd grade): >Director Needed< We will rehearse every Sunday morning from 10:30-11:00 a.m. in room 1. Children interested in attending choir will be dismissed to choir from Sunday School. FISHIES Choir begins September 11.

F.I.S.H.I.E.S. Director Needed: We are continuing to look for someone to lead this important part of our children's Christian education for the 2011-2012 school year.

J.A.M Choir (4-6th grade): led by Kathy Fuhrman and Chrissie Womack and will rehearse every Sunday morning from 10:30-11:00 a.m. in Room 3. All children, ages 4-6th grade are welcome!!! Children interested in attending choir will be dismissed to choir from Sunday School. JAM Choir resumes September 11.

Sunday Evenings: JAM Jesus And Me (4-6th grade): JAM is Trinity's Youth Group for kids in grades 4, 5, and 6. JAM stands for Jesus And Me and that really sums up what our group is about.

We help our kids make a real connection between church and their day-to-day lives. We get together weekly for exciting object lessons, fellowship, mission work, fun and games. Come check it out! Room 2 Sundays at 6:00-7:30 p.m. (special activities might go longer).

VBS REPORT 2012 SonSurf Beach Bash 2011 Vacation Bible School was an awesome success. This year, we turned the church into a California beach. Despite the road construction, we were joined by 85 kids (K - 5th grade) on a great vacation having fun in the Son, learning about Jesus. The kids learned five essential Bible verses including John 14:6, "*Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'*"

We also had 54 full and part time volunteers from our Trinity family that completed the newly required training and joined us on our adventure. And for the 1st time, Betsy Williams provided lunch for the volunteers and their families for a small cost (Stone Soup helped with keeping the cost per person low). This year, we were not able to have our Family Fun night, and it was missed (we'll be looking for volunteer to lead this effort in 2012).

One of the student's favorite crafts during the week - tie-dying t-shirts- was back. We had t-shirts printed with Trinity United Methodist Church on them and the kids each tie-dyed their shirt in ocean blue colors.

Of the 85 total registered kids 29 were from Trinity and 55 had also attended last year. The Sunday after VBS, we dedicated the service to celebrating the week. The kids sang, did skits, shared memory verses and Jennifer Horning shared her thoughts on the Mission on directing Vacation Bible School. The kids loved being able to participate in planning the service

Vacation Bible School is the largest activity Trinity (alone) provided. We had at least 75 kids for 3 hours a day for 5 days. This is the equivalent of more than 3 months of Sunday School. This wouldn't have been a success without all the volunteers and the prayers from our Trinity Family!

The pictures are posted on the Trinity website if you would like to see all the fun we had.

M-Squad *The M-Squad is the "Seniors" fellowship at Trinity. All seniors are invited to attend our monthly functions. Branch Hill seniors are invited to join us for all M-Squad functions.*



M-SQUAD TRIP SEPTEMBER 26, 27, 28, 29, 2011

Monday, Sept. 26: Depart Trinity 9:00 a.m. OYO (On your own) Lunch at the Boone Inn at Berea, KY. Tour Sgt. Alvin Yorks home at Pall Mall, TN. Check in at the Grand Vista Hotel at Helelwood, TN. OYO Dinner at the Fire Side Restaurant .

Tuesday, Sept. 27: Continental breakfast at the Grand Vista. Depart at 9:00 a.m. for Historic Rugby Tennessee. Tour Rugby lunch at the Harrow Road Café finish the tour of Historic Rugby. OYO Dinner at Preston's Steak House.

Wednesday, Sept. 28: Continental breakfast at the Grand Vista. Depart at 9:00 a.m. for a tour of American Museum of Science & Energy at Oak Ridge Tennessee. Then off to Museum of Appalachia lunch at the museum restaurant. OYO Dinner at Country Style Restaurant.

Thursday, Sept 29: Continental breakfast at the Grand Vista. Check out and Depart 9:00 a.m.. for historic Stears, KY. Tour Historic Stears KY. Board the Big South Fork Scenic Railway Train trip To the coal mine (about a 3 Hour round trip.) Bandana Lunch included. Depart for Berea Ky. and OYO Dinner at the Boone Tavern. Back to Trinity about 9:00 p.m. About 800 miles and 16 hours on the bus.

Cost Single occupancy \$392.00 Double occupancy \$295.00 each.

Call Herb Ruffley E-Mail her723@cinci.rr.com if you are interested in going on the trip. Space may still be available.

On **Wednesday, October 19**, the matinee show at La Comedia is "Church Basement Ladies Sequel." You are invited to go with us. Group rates are \$38.00 per person. Please call Don or Audrey Koester for reservations. Audrey (5512 St. Rt. 132, Batavia , OH 45103) is accepting checks made out to her. Payment is due by September 18.

On **Tuesday, November 15**, we are having our annual Thanksgiving dinner at Touch of Elegance on Kellogg Avenue. The price per person is \$17 which is all inclusive. We will meet at the church to carpool at 11:00 a.m.

On **Wednesday, December 14**, the matinee show is "A Christmas Carol." The last scene transforms a humbug into a hero and La Comedia presents its traditional Christmas Carol, "O' Holy Night." Details will be supplied later.



MMM REPORT The summer months have been very busy at MMM. There has been a great need for food to keep our pantry stocked. Thank You for being so generous with your support. A special thank you to the V.B.S. kids. That help came at a critical time for us.

School supplies have been sorted, and by the time you read this they will also have been distributed to all the schools. Children were able to pick them up at their open houses. Thank you for all the donations and the help in sorting.

Mark the date—FRI. OCT 21---will be the Nelson chicken dinner fund raiser for MMM. On Trinity's lawn. There will also be a silent auction. Tickets are \$8.00 for half a chicken, two sides and a soft drink. Tickets will be sold at the welcome center between all services beginning September 25, or contact *Nancy Seng* or *Dorothy Ruffley*.

Activity for July: Financial aid--17 clients: \$2163.28; Pantry--88 clients.



United Methodist Women's News

If you have decided to join the United Methodist Women, this is a wonderful time to do so. **Esther Circle** will meet in the Parlor on **Thursday, September 8, at 9:30 a.m.** The earlier time change is because we will be watching a DVD film entitled "Amish Grace" that requires more time than our usual program. Our leader is Dorothy Ruffley. Please bring any item listed in the bulletin for MMM. We will brown bag for lunch.

Susanna Circle will be meeting **Tuesday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m.** This will be the start to our 2011-2012 year a perfect time to come to a meeting if you have not been to one in a while or would like to see what we are about for the first time. Contact Jennifer Horning at horning@fuse.net for more information.

Anna Circle will meet in the home of Freda McMillion on **Wednesday, September 21 at 7:30 p.m.** Nancy Carter will open with devotions and Diane Lenz will present the program. We welcome guests.

Lydia circle will resume in September. Lydia started this past spring and is dedicated to being a circle for our ladies who may have time constraints, but still want to be active and participate in a meaningful way. If this is something you are interested in, then please consider joining us on Sunday evenings once a month during the school year. I hope we have recharged with some great ideas about what you want to do this year! We will continue to meet in the parlor from **6:00-7:00 p.m.** on the second Sunday of each month. Our first meeting will be **Sunday, September, 11.** Please see or email Holla Sandlin (hollasandlin@gmail.com) with any questions. I hope we have a very productive and meaningful year all in the name of Christ.



THREADS OF LOVE GROUP The Trinity Threads of Love Group will meet on **Wednesday, September 28** from 10:00 a.m. to about 3:00 p.m. Feel free to come for the whole day or part of the day as your schedule allows. If you have questions please call Dee Brown (248-1808).

SCRAPBOOKING Trinity has a no-frills Scrapbooking night the first Friday of every month in the Fellowship Hall. Join us Friday, September 2 and October 7 at 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. All Scrapbookers are welcome; bring your supplies and join us. There is no cost and no reservations. Contact Jennifer Horning for more information (email: trinityjlh@yahoo.com).

Cookies for Kiaros – Once again Trinity (and Branch Hill) can help in the Kiaros Prison ministry weekend at Lebanon Correctional Facility, September 22-25. One of the powerful ways that God's love is shown on the weekend is by flooding the prison with 10,000 dozen home-baked cookies. We can help. Package the cookies in 1 gallon zip lock plastic bags 2 dozen per bag (mixes and pre-made dough can be used – but please - no raisins, icing or powdered sugar) and bring them to the church on Sunday, September, 18.



STARTING ON A GOOD NOTE The Chancel Choir season began with rehearsal on August 24. New choir members are invited to join in this ministry of music. No experience is required, just a heart to worship God and a lending of your voice in worship. Rehearsals are each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.



BELL RINGERS NEEDED! We rehearse on Monday evenings at 6:30-8:30 p.m. We rehearse weekly and play about once a month. New participants don't have to have rung before, but being able to read music would be a BIG plus.

T. U. M. Y. NEWS

The TUMY (Trinity United Methodist Youth) group is open to youth from 7th through 12th grades. This is a God centered, Mission minded group that typically meets on Sunday evenings. If you have any questions concerning the Youth Group, see Scott King.

Friday, September 02 - Football Parking 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 03 - TUMY come join us for the start of our 2012 fund-raising fund OTR (Over The Rhine) Soup Kitchen Dinner 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Join us for the first mission outreach of the season. The cost is \$10 per student and remember the TUMY release form is necessary for this trip. Wear your 2011 gold TUMY tee and closed toed shoes

Sunday, September 04 - No TUMY

Sunday, September 11 - Messy TUMY 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Wear your old clothes that you will not mind getting dirty - because YOU WILL GET DIRTY!!! Come join us for some guaranteed laughs and fun evening to start off our TUMY season!

Friday, September 16 - Football Parking 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 18 - Regular TUMY 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. New Student Leadership Team will be voted on during this evening. Are you a student leader in your grade? Up to two representatives will be elected from each grade. Also, do you have a good idea for our 2012 TUMY tee shirts? Start thinking about your design!

Sunday, September 25 - Regular TUMY 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. 2012 TUMY tee shirt designs are due this evening.

Friday, September 30 - Football Parking 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. (Youth Night).

If anyone has any questions about what TUMY is doing or about, please let me know. I love talking about our kids and the exciting program that we have assisting our Lord in making Disciples of our youth!

TUMY Shepherds for 2011 – 2012: Laura Saunders, Sherri Barringer, Karla Wilson, Phil Codding and Lee Saunders!

Monthly Scripture: *“I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing the gospel from the first day until now. I am now confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.”* Philippians 1: 3-6 *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.* - Galatians 6:9

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Christian care is never outdated. God's command that we love one another is the same now as it was thousands of years ago. There is a lot of work to do in God's kingdom. Caregiving is one of the most important jobs God calls us to do -- to love others in His name. Our congregation's Stephen Ministry is one way we accomplish God's caring work. Perhaps God has blessed you richly and you're at a place where you can give something back by serving and blessing others. Roll up your sleeves and explore your role in Stephen Ministry by contacting one of the pastors or Karen/Rich Bell. A new training class for Stephen Ministers is starting at the end of October. How about joining us?



TRINITY EVENTS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

Let us so live that when we tell someone we are a Christian, it confirms their suspicions instead of surprising them.
Leonard Sweet

<p>4 5 8:15, 11:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday School 2:00 Tender Mercies Preparation 6:00 JAM</p>	<p>5 LABOR DAY Office closed</p>	<p>6 9:15 Women's Study 6:30 TL Planning 7:00 BH Bible Study 7:30 Contemp. Practice</p>
<p>11 8:15, 11:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Safe Sanctuary Training for VBS 6:00 JAM 6:00 Messy TUMY 6:00 Lydia Circle 7:00 New Member Orientation</p>	<p>12 6:30 Bell Choir 7:00 Men's group 7:00 Vision Team</p>	<p>13 9:15 Women's Study 7:30 Contemp. Practice 1:00 BH Book Club</p>
<p>18 ALL CHURCH BOOK STUDY BEGINS 8:15, 11:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday School 6:00 JAM 6:00 TUMY Newsletter deadline</p>	<p>19 6:30 Bell Choir 7:00 Men's group 7:00 TRUSTEES</p>	<p>20 9:15 Women's Study 7:00 Susanna Circle 7:00 BH Bible Study 7:30 Contemp. Practice</p>
<p>25 8:15, 11:00 Traditional Worship 9:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday School 6:00 JAM 6:00 TUMY 6:00 Stephen Ministry</p>	<p>26 9:00 M-Squad trip departs 6:30 Bell Choir 7:00 Men's group</p>	<p>27 9:15 Women's Study 7:30 Contemp. Practice M-Squad trip</p>

SEPTEMBER 2011

**Join a Real
Life Group**

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	1 10:00 Pastor Study 6:30 Pastor's Study	2 6:00 TUMY Football Parking 7:00 Scrapbooking	3 1:00 TUMY OTR meal
7 10:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Stone Soup Supper 7:00 Chancel Choir	8 10:00 Pastor Study 9:30 Esther Circle 6:30 Pastor's Study	9 7:00 Wedding rehearsal	10 6:30 Wedding
14 10:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Stone Soup Supper 6:30 SPRC 7:00 Chancel Choir	15 10:00 Pastor Study 6:30 Pastor's Study	16 6:00 TUMY Football Parking	17
21 10:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Stone Soup Supper 7:00 Chancel Choir 7:00 PSS Adult Study 7:30 Anna Circle	22 10:00 Pastor's Study 5:00 Wedding rehearsal 6:30 Pastor's Study	23	24 6:30 Wedding
28 10:00 Prayer Group 10:00 Threads of Love 6:00 Stone Soup Supper 7:00 Chancel Choir M-Squad trip	29 10:00 Pastor's Study 6:30 Pastor's Study 9:00 M-Squad returns	30 6:00 TUMY Football Parking	

For a more detailed calendar including other groups using facilities please visit our website at Trinitymilford.org.



BRANCH HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.branchhillumc.org.

NEWS/NOTES

- ▶ - The Women’s Book Club followed their reading last month of “The Help” with a great outing to Crackerbarrel and then to see the movie.
- ▶ - Congratulations to the Springer family with the new baby, Hank (9 lb. 14 oz). He and his mother, Alice, are both doing well. He has been in church the last 2 Sundays.
- ▶ - Victoria Steele is getting back to good health after an emergency hospital stay out in Montana. She has found a job and is getting adjusted there. Susannah is off to college in S. Carolina. We have much appreciated her work with the little ones through the summer. Mike and Anne were able to enjoy a much deserved few days vacationing at the beach after taking her to college.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ - Again this fall we will be doing a study series (for 7 weeks beginning September 18) along with Trinity. The book is “the Christian atheist” by Craig Groeschel. The books cost \$10. Both the Sermons, and Bible Studies will use this material. Contact Ed if you would like a book, but they are not necessary.
- ▶ - The September Bible Study series (continuing in the book of John – Chapter 8) will be on the 1st Tuesday (September 6) at 7:00 p.m. We will begin the book study discussion related to the Fall study on Tuesday, September 20.
- ▶ - Book Club on September 13 at 1:00 p.m.) will discuss “Half-broken Horses” by Jeannette Walls.
- ▶ - We are thinking about an outdoor service or picnic for early fall. Options include a Sunday at Riverview park (only available in Oct.), a picnic after Church at the Church, or a Harvest Party (potluck). Let Mary Lou Smith know which of those options appeal to you.
- ▶ - We are planning a church outing (to Butterbee’s) sometime in Sept. Watch for the date/time to be announced.
- ▶ - We will be helping Bob Henery with Cookies for Kiaros – needed by Sunday, September 18.

*The Golden Scroll
Prayer List*

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Bob Conley | Leslie May | C.B. Green |
| Don McSwain | Hazel Marvelle | Jim Campbell |
| Bill Green | Pat Smith | Gerry Bishop |
| Larry Green | David Cobb | Alice Taylor-Clift |
| Ed Armacost | Victor Mallott | Chuck Henry |
| The Russo Family | Frank Gilbert | Michelle Morris |
| Dave Crock | Bud Stamper | Norton Stanley |
| Ellen Kurtz | Tom Hanrahan | Rich Campbell |
| J.T. Green | Sondy Steele | Robert Marsh |
| Jack Marsh | Alisha Werner | Elva Capozio |
| Carl Gant | Danny Morse | Janice Barrows |
| Steven Miro | Kevin Raffel | John Pearson |
| Colin Zinn | Greg Crabtree | Betty Hurd |
| Denver Kidner | Giselle Sonders | Jamie (6 mon old) |
| Pat Adleta | Carolyn Morgan | Judie Stumpf |
| | Carolyn Rogers | Miracle Owens |
| | Tim Buckner | Kelly Sears (and Linda) |
| | Barb Marsh | |
| | Marilyn Weir | |

*Look who's having a
Birthday!*

- SEPTEMBER**
- 9/12 Gordon Roat
 - 9/15 David Cook
 - 9/16 Hannah Barre
 - 9/26 Ruth Campbell

**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM JULY 27, 2011**

Attendees: Eileen Gronberg, Allen Holmes, John Burleigh, Bill Loomis, Marye Jo Burleigh, Joyce McKinniss, Pat Essex, Jane Loomis, Don Koester, Audrey Koester, Laura Saunders, Peter Gerdom, Bob Essex, Ron Ellison, Betsy Williams, Sandy Elsass, Kirk Peterson

Call to order at 7:02 p.m.

Devotions were given by Pastor Kirk--thoughts about the transformation of lives.

Treasurer's Report: Review of the figures through the end of June 2011. Actual income to date listed as \$248,027.57 and actual expenses listed as 220,017.14.

Motion: Approve the financial report. Moved by Allen Holmes, second by Peter Gerdom—Motion approved unanimously.

Finance Committee: Budget requests for 2012 are to be submitted by September 25. The Stewardship Campaign will run during the month of October.

Trustees: The church was dropped as of July 20 by Selective Insurance. New insurance has been secured through Guide One Insurance. With a 5,000 deductible the new insurance actually has more coverage and is less expensive. A Risk Management Committee to be formed has been suggested. Thank you to trustee Charles Boersig for all his work on the insurance issues.

The Trustees were in agreement on \$4600 bid proposal from LTD Landscaping for work on the north and south sides of the sanctuary in connection with the foundation project.

Electric has been installed to facilitate a sump pump which is to be included in the foundation project.

Scoping for drainage line problems and bidding is to be done.

New transformer for the kitchen stove is on order.

Essential sanctuary foundation and related issues were discussed in detail.

Motion: To solve the sanctuary foundation problem and related issues, to launch a fundraising campaign to raise an estimated \$25,000 with project items to be completed as the money is received. Moved by Allen Holmes, second by John Burleigh—Motion approved unanimously.

Christian Education: VBS was very successful with 85 children in attendance and the blessing of plenty of volunteers!

Staff Parish Relations Committee: Keeping with last year's schedule, evaluations of the pastors were completed in June and submitted to the District.

UMW: Betsy Williams reported about the upcoming General Meeting on August 4th with Pam Harris as the speaker. There is a need for new UMW leadership.

Missions/Outreach: Jane Loomis shared about Sharefest. There were 318 volunteers on 60 projects. The Sharefest Village brought over 1,000 people in for the Free Sale, consequently items were nearly depleted. 800 meals were served. The Blood Drive drew 66 donors. \$211 was collected from the volunteers for Teen Challenge. The scouts from Trinity did a project. Stephen Ministers were involved with prayer. There was a city commendation for all the volunteers.

Jane announced that a new mission project is in the works for Trinity.

Pastor Kirk gave a report about the Mexico Mission Trinity has served in the past several years. For the time being, threats have forced mission leader Larry Cox and his wife, Doctor Nancy, to seek safety in the U.S. The mission continues to operate but it is not known when Larry and Nancy can safely return. The outlook for a February mission team from Trinity going to Mexico is very bleak. Running the mission costs about \$3,000 a week and donations are welcome.

Scouts: No report at this time.

Youth: The Youth took a mission trip to Appalachia Tennessee where they worked on a variety of projects and enjoyed some fun activities. The new TUMY year kicks off August 28.

Pastor's Reports: Pastor Laura (with Betsy Williams) reported on the small group initiative underway—Real Life Small Groups. There is diligent effort to provide for assimilation through the initiative. A feedback session with present small groups was held with helpful information received for small group ministry. The curriculum for the fall all-church study and the new small groups is the Christian atheist. At least 6 new small groups will kick off this fall. A training session for new small group leaders is scheduled for August 14.

Pastor Kirk reported on the Vision Team's ongoing efforts of discernment and visioning. The fall all-church study will include a 7 week worship series as well as the small groups. Stephen Ministry will hold classes this fall for those interested in becoming new Stephen ministers.

Old Business: No other old business was raised.

New Business: No other new business was raised.

Respectfully submitted, *Pastor Kirk*

FINANCIAL REPORT			
<u>1/01/2011 Through 7/31/2011</u>			
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Offering	\$251,659	\$252,112	\$453
Total Income	\$286,393	\$272,062	\$14,330
Total Expense	<u>\$261,905</u>	<u>\$274,194</u>	<u>\$12,289</u>
Net	\$24,488	\$(2,132)	\$26,619

Total Offering of \$251,659 is \$453. less then planned budget. This includes plate, pledges and Sunday School Offering. Pledges are \$7,932 less than planned budget. Total expenses are \$24,488 less than the total income. Total expenses are also \$12,289 less than the planned budget of \$274,194. Apportionments are paid up through August 2011.

THAT TIME OF THE YEAR! The Finance Committee cordially requests that all budget requests for 2012 be submitted to them by Sunday, September 25. The proposed budget will be coordinated with the results of the Stewardship Campaign held in October. For ongoing budget items, if no request is received it will be assumed that the amount being requested is the same as it was for 2011.

ShareFest - Why We Do It A lot of good will was created as many homeowners and non-profits benefited from the efforts of volunteers during the three day ShareFest outreach this year. One mother of three, whose husband abandoned the family, was adopted by one congregation who provided supplies and labor, and totally repainted the inside of her old house while she was at work. She dissolved into tears as she tried to express her gratitude on the phone for her "new" house to the team leader. The City of Milford was especially pleased with the work the Trinity Boy Scout troupe did at one of the parks, and the school board gave special recognition to those who spread mountains of mulch. Over 1000 people attended ShareFest Village on Saturday. At the front of the line, Jamie Bryant waited for hours for the rope to drop so he could run to get a bicycle. Do you recall his name? We have been praying for him for a couple of years since the then 23 year old was diagnosed with cancer, then had a major heart attack as a result of chemo and blood clots, and then, to add insult to injury, had his old car totaled while it was parked outside his one room apartment, by a hit and run offender. He never had a bike as a child, but had recently learned to ride a friend's. The "gift" he got was not only the bike and regained freedom, but a new attitude. Joy and excitement replaced the depression which had nearly paralyzed his mind and kept him in bed until mid afternoon. Jamie, not a particularly religious person, now wants to volunteer in Over the Rhine because "those people really need help." Just a few examples of the many that could be told, but this is why we do ShareFest.

Quarter Auction to benefit ShareFest 2012
ShareFest 2012 will be the beneficiary at the Quarter Auction event which will be held at Greenies' Restaurant on Sept. 6 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Get a head start on Christmas shopping! Money received will help provide materials for projects the homeowners need done but can't afford.

CONSTRUCTION INSTRUCTION We've already had the challenges associated with road work on Wolfpen-Pleasant Hill Road. Beyond groans and frustrations, we can be creative, constructive, and building upon our experience together. Maps to help avoid the construction are available in the Narthex.

TRINITY PEOPLE



Welcome to the family of faith

Congratulation to Christopher and Katherine Shaw on the baptism of their son Derek Ryan Shaw on July 10, 2011. Derek is the grandson of Michael and Pat Shaw and John Shockley. David and Leah Stricker were his godparents.



Congratulations to James and Paige Mathews on the July 11, 2011 birth of their son William Patrick Mathews. He is the grandson of Martin and Melody Gulleman and greatgrandson of Rosetta Brewer.



Thank you for all the prayers, cards, phone calls and to Pastor Kirk and Pastor Laura for their visits during my recent hospital stays. *Rosetta Billhimer*

NEW MEMBERS New members are scheduled to be received on Sunday, September 18 during worship. An important orientation session will be held Sunday evening, September 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the church, please contact the church office or the pastors.

COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP (NOMINATIONS) The annual process of finding and inviting gifted and called persons into “servant” roles within the church is underway. Three committees which have “classes”, a three year commitment of service, are the Committee on Lay Leadership, Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and Trustees. In addition to these servant roles, there are several others needing to be fulfilled. Please keep the committee in prayer in this important task and feel free to give the committee suggestions of persons to invite into servant roles.

	TRINITY ATTENDANCE					TRINITY ATTENDANCE			
	8:15	9:30	11:00	Total		8:15	9:30	11:00	Total
May 22	53	147	162	362	July 10	39	138	94	271
May 29	45	129	92	266	July 17	46	143	83	272
June 05	46	149	92	287	July 24	48	125	84	257
June 12	45	130	74	249	July 31	47	118	68	233
June 19	59	136	102	287	August 07	35	137	93	265
June 26	33	140	92	265	August 14	48	132	86	266
July 03	47	127	85	259	August 21	39	142	64	245

Welcome Center Volunteers Needed to man the visitors booth in the breezeway before and after services. Only a welcoming personality is required. Call Anna Fabisiak if you can help.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS		
9/01 Troy Pierce	9/12 Savannah Bumgarner	9/20 Martin Gulleman
9/02 Michael Backs	9/12 Kevin Jones	9/22 Patricia Murray
9/02 Peter Pierce-Jones	9/12 Sandy Lynn	9/22 Madeline Jones
9/02 Trish Wilking	9/12 Emily Tudor	9/23 Nancy Seng
9/03 Andrew Chaney	9/14 Leah Slyder	9/23 Mildred Jones
9/03 Gary Clemons	9/14 Linda Warren	9/23 Linda Schmidt
9/03 Anders Michelson	9/14 Jim Williams	9/24 Frederick Hester
9/03 Anna Sheets	9/15 Rosetta Billhimer	9/25 Evelyn Westfall
9/05 Debbie Brady	9/16 Paige Gulleman	9/26 Ronald Burkhardt
9/05 Thom Hoeweler	Mathews	9/27 Terry Diercks
9/05 Eric Holmes	9/16 Andrew Haggard	9/28 Jean Cox
9/06 Janet Olige	9/17 Geoffery Pattison	9/28 Craig Rees
9/06 Hunter Termuhlen	9/17 Holla Sandlin	9/29 Bea Faul
9/08 Lauren Murray	9/17 Curt VanValkenburgh	9/29 Luke Wasserman
9/08 Sabrina Hinners	9/18 Beverly Chaney	9/30 John Calhoun
9/08 Erin Horning	9/18 Mitchell Cox	9/30 Dora Slyder
9/09 Mary Douglas	9/19 Patrick Federle	
9/09 Kim Rees	9/19 Carole Kenner	

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES
09/02/00 Sheer, Richard and Mary
09/08/73 Schmidt, Leonard and Linda
09/09/78 Hadley, Tom and Connie
09/15/73 Henize, Jim and Marilyn
09/19/09 Mathews, James and Paige
09/22 Kellum, Kyle and Lauren
09/26/98 Dutro, Brad and Amy
09/28/58 Joslin, Donovan and Mary Ann


Please send birthday and anniversary information for your family to Lyn in our office, including month/day/year.

Your old hearing aids can be restored to be used by deaf children. Give them to Pete Pierce-Jones.

STONE SOUP SUPPERS

6:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings. Bring a dish to share. Great Food, Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, September 7 Vegetarian
Wednesday, September 14 Sloppy Joes
Wednesday, September 21 Trinity Cookbook
Wednesday, September 28 Sliced Ham






Keep these people in your prayers



<p>CONTINUAL PRAYERS Vera Brown, Martha Chalk, Wanda Covert, Bob Craig, Thelma Faul, Patrick, Federle, Morgan, Fuhrman, Frank Honebrink, Pat, Honebrink, Lenore, Jeffers, Donovan Johnson, Nella Johnson,</p>	<p>E. K. Keller, Earl Keys, Julia Kostyn, Clarence Lynn, Joanne Marohn, Shirley Rose, Maxine Van Aken, Jack and Eva Wilsey, Lillian Wilson,</p> <p>REMEMBER IN PRAYER Nelson and Susan Smith</p>	<p>The Fuhrman family Tilley family Zak Sence Barb and Tim Wilson Carol Hume Landon Chris Pray Melissa Carrier Lorene Rowe Leah Ann Satzger Russell Hoffard Sr. Helen Thatchs Mary Brown Rose Billhimer</p>	<p>Don Lynn Abby Lynn Sonolra Jan Hester Sandra Neimann Julie Clifford Lora Bodley Ron Schleaper Leah Satzger Linda B.</p>
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Our deepest care and sympathy go to the families and friends of those who we have lost this summer

To the family and friends of Adna Aicholz in his passing.
To the family and friends of Julia 'Judy' Haines in her passing.
To the family and friends of Wanda Hessler in her passing.
To Mary Ecton and her family and friends in the passing of Paul Ecton.
To the family and friends of Harriett Duckwall in her passing.

USHERING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The 9:30 a.m. service is looking for ushers! If you are interested in helping out, please contact Brian Horning. A friendly personality is the only requirement. We are scheduling for Fall now.

If you would like to help usher during any of our services, contact the church office (831-0262), sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or contact Brian Horning for the 9:30 a.m. service, or contact *Herb Ruffley* for the 11:00 a.m. service.



Helping Hands Ministry is Reaching Out Need some help with some simple household tasks or transportation? Call or e-mail Pastor Laura, and she will pair you up with someone that will help you. (If you would like to be the help, let Pastor Laura know.)



NOTICE: To have items included in the **October** issue of *Trinity News* you need to submit them by **Sunday, September 18**. They can be given to the Church office, or e-mailed directly to Gene Wagner at ewagner3@cinci.rr.com.

TAKE A MOMENT.....Gene Wagner

GOD LOOKS AFTER FOOLS

“Wisdom is a fountain of life to one who has it, but folly is the punishment of fools.” Proverbs 16:22

Considering what happened to us this summer, I am convinced that God takes care of fools. It occurred one evening when I happened to be working in the basement. I was in that room on the north end of the house where the window is set below ground level in a window well. It was also the evening when we were having a major downpour of rain giving us over 2 inches in a half-hour. For some reason, I glanced at the window and noticed a foot of water outside and copious amounts were pouring in down the wall. Apparently it was coming into the window well from beneath the metal casing faster than the drain there could take it away. *Fortunately*, I was there when it started coming in. *Fortunately*, we had just cleared out a lot of things to sell in our upcoming garage sale that would normally be in that area being flooded. *Fortunately*, I had an 18 gallon wet-vac ready to go. *Fortunately*, Betty was able to come down and help me. *Fortunately*, I also had a ladder there so I took out the window and let the water that was there come into the basement. While Betty cleaned up the floor, I had to bail out the window well as fast as it filled up to keep more from coming in. When I filled the pail, I rushed it over to the utility sink and emptied it, but by the time I got back, the window well was filled up again. I figure we cleaned up at least 60 gallons of water or more in that frantic episode. We also have a floor drain, but I noticed that all the water that came into the basement floor went somewhere but not toward the drain.

The problem was that over these past years, with dry weather, the soil around the window well had subsided. The water coming from the neighbor’s lot up the hill from us all flows past this area and now was flowing into the window well. It just took a little redirecting and soil addition to resolve the problem outside. I thank the Lord for orchestrating this so that we could handle it or we would have had a bigger mess. He let me know that I had a drainage problem that needed to be solved, not ignored as I had been doing.

An atheist would also say these are all just coincidences. A Christian sees God’s hands in so many coincidences all at once.

An atheist might ask, “What good is God if he doesn’t keep these kinds of troubles away from us?” But if we believe that God does exist, we know that he does not give us escape from our problems, but the strength to get through them, to endure. William Barclay said that as long as we regard faith as escape, “nothing but bewildered disappointment can result; but when we regard it as the way to conquest and the divine dynamic, things happen.”

And you can see why I’m convinced that God even looks after fools.

Just for Fun!

"Humor is the prelude to faith, and laughter is the beginning of prayer." Reinhold Niebuhr

"Three months in Purgatory?" the priest exclaimed, "I spent my life preaching missions all over Australia!"

"Please be calm, father," St. Peter said. "You won't have to work. We have a comfortable chair for you in a comfortable room. You won't have to do anything except listen to your own sermons day and night. We taped all the sermons you preached on those mission."

The priest woke up in a sweat. *Fr. Jim Carroll. OMI, Australia*

Deacon Sims comes down the aisle,
I wish Deacon Sims would smile.
Deacon Sims looks slightly bored—
Not like one who loves the Lord.

Lois Grant Palches

A vacation is when you pack seven suitcases, three small children, a mother-in-law, two dogs and say, "It's good to get away from it all."

Rev. James A. Simpson

Question: Who played tennis in the Bible?

Answer: Daniel—he served in Nebuchadnezzar's court.

Paul Thigpen

When a Bible salesman was asked how he consistently sold more Bibles than anyone else, he replied: "I jjust aaasked eeach ppprospect if he wwanted to bbbuy a Bbbible, or hhhave me rread it to hhhim."

Jim Reed

MarkTwain once attended a church service where a missionary appealed for funds to evangelize the heathen in a foreign land.

"After 10 minutes of a description about their unhappy plight, I wanted to give \$50," Twain wrote. "The preacher kept on another 15 minutes and that gave me time to realize that \$50 was an extravagance, so I cut it in half. At the end of another 10 minutes, I had reduced it to \$5. When at the end of an hour of speaking the plates were finally passed, I was so annoyed that I reached in and helped myself to a quarter."

A cake decorator in New Zealand was asked to inscribe 1 John 4:18—"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." on a wedding cake. The decorator misread the instructions, and when the cake arrived at the wedding reception, it was discovered that the decorator had inscribed John 4:18 on the cake instead.

It's church budget season—time for the Sermon on the Amount. *Rev. Denny J. Brake*

Sunday morning golfer: a person more interested in a hole-in-one than the Holy One.

A church in Kansas City has this slogan in their bulletin: "Wake up, sing up, preach up, pray up, stay up, pay up, but never give up or back up or shut up until the cause of Christ in the church and in this world is built up!"