

# TRINITY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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TRINITY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
2016 CONSISTORY MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Designations: D=deacon E=elder – year in which term ends)

Fred Hooper (E-17 2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	President
Lori Leaman (E-16)	Vice President
Chuck Romberger (D-16)	Treasurer
Sharon Smaling (D-16)	Secretary
Mark Cote (E-16 2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	
Mary Ann Price (E-15)	
Nancy Henry (E-16 2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	
Janie Kaminsky (E-17)	
Christine Macready (D-17)	
Andy Sheaffer (D-17)	
Gail Crissey (D-17)	

ELDERS: Rachel Bates, Don Braungard, Pat Braungard, Jean Brown, Phyllis Cliff, Mark Cote, Mark Crockett, Bonnie Crone, Gladys Drybred, Joanne Duke, Tom Duke, Trudy Eisenberger, Tierney Elsager, Lois Getz, Helen Gainer, Ann Groff, Jean Haines, Nancy Henry, Fred Hooper, Mary Ibach, Janie Kaminski, Dee Koller, Lori Leaman, Esther Markey, Laura Miller, Donna Moore, Mary Ann Price, Karen Robinson, Tom Robinson, Shirley St. Clair, Helen Yohe, and Charlie Youtz.

ELDERS EMERITUS: Rachel Bates, Don Braungard, Pat Braungard, Phyllis Cliff, Dot Dietrich, Harold Dietrich, Trudy Eisenberger, Helen Gainer and Ann Groff

STAFF FOR 2016

Don Fenestre –Marek, Pastor	Shannon Edwards, Music Director
Dan Molkenthin, Bell Choir Director	Eileen Littell, Administrative Assistant
Nick Rienhold, Nursery Attendant	Kevin Robinson, Nursery Attendant

**BOARDS, COMMITTEES & FUNCTIONARIES OF TRINITY REFORMED UCC**

Acolyte Coordinator	Tierney Elslager/Lori Leaman
Altar Guild Coordinator	Bonnie Crone
Called to Care Program Coordinator	Tierney Elslager/Mary Ann Price
Fund Raising	Charlie Mille/Bonnie Crone
Children's Christian Education	Pastor Don Fenestre-Marek
Christian Education	Pastor Don Fenestre-Marek
Church Treasurer	Chuck Romberger
Internet/Social Media	Charles Miller/Lori Leaman/Zak Geyer
Communications/Advertising	Mary Ibach
Elders Chair	Tom Robinson
Feed the Hungry	Karen Robinson
Food Bank Coordinator	Tom Robinson
Financial Records Administrator	Jean Haines
Guild Co-Chairs	Diane Fiebert/Katie Crockett
Guild Secretary	Alice Heitmueller
Guild Treasurer	Helen Yohe
Kenya/Mercy Home Orphanage	Bobbie Poteau/Chuck Romberger
On-site Facility 'Watch-Care'	Mark Cote
Prayer Shawls	Janie Kaminski/ Sandy Neiss/Alice Heitmueller
Property Coordinator / Grounds	Lori Leaman
Sexton	George Himpsl
Spaghetti Supper Coordinator	Christine Macready/Gail Crissey
Sound System	Mark Cote/Charlie Miller/Shannon Edwards
Stewardship Committee	Tom Duke
Wedding Coordinator	Lori Leaman
Worship Census Counter	Charlie Miller/Mark Cote
Worship/Music	Shannon Edwards/Dan Molenthin

## 2016 Pastor's Annual Report to the Congregation of TRUCC

During my first full year as pastor of TRUCC I have focused primarily on community outreach as a way of establishing both opportunities for ministry and name-recognition in the local community; in addition, I have become involved in the work of the Lancaster Association and its ministerium so that our church has a basis solid relationships of support and collaboration as we continue to develop our mission and ministry. Pastoral care has also been a primary focus during this first year of my ministry, and has provided me with many opportunities to understand the values and priorities of the members of this congregation.



### COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- Participation in Church World Service's annual CROP walk to end world hunger
- Hosted NAACP religious affairs committee meeting
- Invited to participate in Lancaster Inter-Church Peace and Justice Witness
- Participation in Lenten services with Mountville Ministerium
- Organized YWCA Racial Justice Institute Mission Moment
- Assisted with planning of Mountville Days game "TRUCC's Ducks"
- Began work with NAACP Religious Affairs Committee
- Involvement with Lancaster Interfaith Coalition
- Organized Love, INC. Mission Moment
- Participated in Millersville Community Parade with members of TRUCC

### PASTORAL CARE:

- Baptism: Brayden Edwards
- Funerals: Kate Dodds, Vicki Bellish, Darlene Siple
- Administered home communions
- Hospital visits

### ASSOCIATION:

- Invited to participate in Lancaster Association Mission and Ministry team
- Hosted Lancaster Association ministerium meeting
- Attended Lancaster Association spring meeting
- Attended Lancaster Assoc. UCC fall meeting & assisted in planning and organization of Mission/Ministry team peace walk.
- Attended Rev. Liza Garcia's installation @ Willow Street UCC
- Attended Rev. Wade Pond's installation @ First Reformed UCC

(Continued on page 6)

In addition, I have enacted administrative duties, participated in opportunities for professional development, and served as worship leader in the following ways:

#### ADMINISTRATIVE:

- Invited Corporal Ober from West Hempfield Twp. Police to speak to consistory re: emergency safety plans
- Assisted with revision/updating of congregational mailing list
- Updated/filed state mandated child safety clearances
- Offered recommendations to consistory regarding alternate models for congregational administration and consulted with executive team to revise constitution/by-laws to facilitate a team-based congregational administration

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Received ministry review from Lancaster Association
- Participated in PCC Ezekiel group
- Attended clergy leadership series sessions with PCC
- Attended Parish Resource Center “opioid addiction and its effects on communities” panel discussion

#### WORSHIP:

- Planned 911 service for local first responders
- Meet with Shannon re: planning special music across liturgical seasons
- Planned Pentecost worship with congregational volunteers
- Held special services for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, and Christmas Eve

As with the Lancaster Association, I have worked toward developing connections between this congregation and the Penn Central Conference, so that the resources of the conference may be readily available to us in times of need. I have also worked with the deacons to attend to matters of stewardship, and with volunteers of the Christian Education team to develop a sustainable children’s Christian education program.

#### CONFERENCE:

- Attended PCC annual conference
- Attended UCC homes luncheon to gather information about this ongoing ministry
- Attended annual mid-winter clergy convocation

#### STEWARDSHIP PLANNING:

- Consulted with contractors re: audio/video update/installation; welcome area
- Attended PCC stewardship supper
- Consulted with deacons and national denomination resources to set schedule for special offerings (5 for 5 offerings)

(Continued on page 7)

## CHRISTIAN ED:

- Offered chalk talk for Guild
- Held ongoing Bible discussion groups, along with “UCC101” sessions for prospective new members
- Gathered resources to assist in selection of curriculum for children’s Christian education

There were two special projects that a few members of the congregations expressed interest in during the past year, but that, for various reasons, did not come to fruition. If interest in developing these projects remains, I am willing to coordinate any efforts to revive them:

## SPECIAL PROJECTS:

- Started oral history project by recording interviews with church members
- Met with members who were interested in planning an on-site labyrinth

My hope for 2017 is to continue with the project of defining the term “church growth”, supporting the transition to a team-based congregational administration, and focusing more energy and creativity on stewardship projects.

Peace and grace,

Pastor Don

1/2017



## Elders Report 2016

The Elders at TRUCC continued to meet on a quarterly basis in 2016. This was our first full year working with Pastor Don. The Elders worked with our Pastor and Consistory to determine what other roles the Elders could play in the life of the Church. Currently, the Elders continue to serve communion on a monthly basis and have assumed the Head Usher duties in 2016. Both duties are always done on a volunteer basis by the Elders.

The Elders continue to help maintain the spiritual well-being of our congregation and the conduct of worship at Trinity. Two new elders were added in 2016, Bonnie Crone and Dee Koller. Any member in good standing at Trinity can become an Elder if they wish. An Elder Meeting report was made available to the consistory after each quarterly meeting in 2016. Tom Robinson also made an oral report to the consistory and gained insight by attending their meetings in 2016.

The Elders at Trinity are always available to our members and each other regarding any concerns that we may have regarding the life of the church. We hope that we can all continue to move forward in 2017 at Trinity and build on the good year that we had in 2016.

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Robinson, Elder Chairperson.

## Called to Care

**Chair persons:** Tierney Elslager & Mary Ann Price

**Caregivers:** Diane Fiebert, Phyllis Cliff, Carol Youtz, Bill Sklarosky, Bobbie Poteau and Janie Kaminski

**Alternates:** Gladys Drybred, Bonnie Crone (also handles hospital visitation)

**Activity:** Individuals or teams visit homebound members. Communion may be offered; church bulletins, Our Daily Bread pamphlets, treats or baked goods may be provided. Holiday and get-well cards are sent when applicable. Poinsettias and cards are delivered at Christmas.



Presently, our homebound members are: Deb and Candi Hower at Masonic Village , Elizabethtown.  
Trudy Eisenberger, Manor Street in Columbia.

Mary Ann Price

## Music Ministries



2016 was a successful year for the music ministry at Trinity. The Chancel Choir and Bell Choir both remained steady with the number of members in each ensemble, and we started once again to look at the “new beginnings” of a Praise and Worship team.

I started a new concept this past year in regards to teaching new Praise and Worship songs to the congregation. Since we do not currently have a worship band, per se, I decided to implement the idea of “choir led Worship”. Essentially, it is a choral arrangement of a new and popular praise song designed to be sung by congregation and choir. We implemented the use of a vocal praise team to lead and assist the choir as both led the congregation in song. Soon we will be able to add power point presentations as we have upgraded the technology in the sanctuary that will allow us to use both audio and video to assist in teaching these songs as well. The choir also sang a wide variety of other anthem styles that included hymn arrangements, spirituals, as well as some choir favorites. The Bell Choir continues to choose selections that are fitting to the size and abilities of the current ringers. Christmas Eve services this year for the Chancel Choir were very special. The music that was chosen for the evening included selections that were mostly about peace.

As we move into 2017, there are going to be some exciting things happening in the music ministry. Please feel free to let me know what you think about the music ministry and let me know of any things that you would like to see changed or what you like to hear!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Shannon Edwards

Director of Music Ministries



# Guild Report



## Monthly meetings:

January — At January's business meeting we made plans for the year.

February — Pastor Don did a Chalk Talk and continued the piece during worship for a few Sundays.

March — Was another business meeting.

April — The Mueller twins came and helped us create beautiful beaded night lights. It's always a fun time with the Mueller twins. The guild also had a rummage sale.

May — Was the Mother's Day Banquet. 60 people enjoyed a delicious meal made by our own Gail and Wanda (with help from Wanda's sister, Joanne). We were well entertained by Christine and Co. and by the McKonly sisters.

June — Was the Guild Night Out at the Centerville Diner. 25 people attended. It was a nice evening . Also in June the guild ventured out to do fund raising for the church at the Fossil & Mineral Club event at Solanco Fair grounds.

\*The guild does not meet over the summer months but continues to do things like purchasing 40 dozen ears of corn. Husking it, blanching it and freezing it for making soup all year.

September — Was a business meeting to plan the rest of the year.

October — At this meeting Karen Robinson talked about CASA (court appointed special advocate) that she is a part of. The Guild also had a rummage sale.

November —The Mueller twins came again to share their own grown and dried flowers with us. They helped us create dried flower trees. Other then a few hot glue gun burnt fingers we had a great time.

December —The meeting was the Guild Christmas party. About 30 people attended. The Guild purchased a ham to share and everyone brought a covered dish or dessert. We were entertained by the singer Peggy Keller. We did a \$5.00 gift exchange. It was a nice evening for all who came.

The Guild continues to raise money for the church and contributes to missions. We also like to have speakers and have programs to encourage fellowship.

Ideas are always welcome. Please come and join us the 1st Tuesday of month. Everyone is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fiebert and Katie Crockett - Co Presidents

## ANNUAL GUILD TREASURER REPORT FOR 2016

January 1, 2016 BALANCE		1945.68
INCOME:		
Offering	111.00	
Birthdays	15.00	
Soup sales	1745.74	
Gertrude Hawk candy sales (2)	1980.00	
Rummage sales (2)	1913.07	
Mother's Day Dinner	349.00	
Fossil sale proceeds (2)	1561.66	
Deposit slip correction	1.00	
RADA sale proceeds	455.95	8132.42
EXPENSES:		
Donation to General Fund	3500.00	
Purchased two benches for entrance	578.00	
Purchased stainless steel table for kitchen	347.19	
Purchased new window blinds for Fell. Hall	164.67	
Easter Candy for children & crosses for newborns	25.92	
CASA donation	100.00	
Soup ingredients and containers	725.59	
Memorial Fund Donation & Dep. Slips	33.00	
ENTERTAINMENT FOR MEETINGS	213.71	
Mother's Day Dinner	551.68	
Fossil sales (2) food & change	996.39	
Gertrude Hawk 991.73 & RADA 299.75	1291.48	8527.63
January 1, 2017 BALANCE		1550.47

Respectfully submitted by Helen Yohe, Treasurer

## **2016 Annual Report of the Property Committee**

During 2016 we took the following initiatives to maintain the church property:

- For spring cleanup we sought volunteers again. WIGGS lawn care was re-hired to do grass mowing and trimming. Tom Robinson has kindly tended our flower beds. Chuck Saylor is contracted to do snow plowing.
- We resigned our maintenance contracts with Trago Mechanical for our new heating/cooling system. This will put the new systems on a regular maintenance schedule.
- George Himpsl continues to do multiple jobs, his time is invaluable and we are grateful! Plumbing issues, outside assistance, Rummage sale set ups, shed upkeep, did countless other tasks... and is our general "fix-it Guru!" Thanks as always George!
- Wilco Electric continues to do our major electrical work and bulb replacement 1-2 times a year with their large lift. We are investigating alternative lighting options, length of bulb life, low energy consumption and cost savings.
- We are upgrading our IT infrastructure with new Comcast cabling into the building. This should boost our Wi-Fi and connectivity abilities.



**We did many capital improvements.** Thanks to the Mae Haller trust we were able to: Pay off the mortgage. Replace roof, new 40 year shingles. Install a new energy star efficient HVAC system. Install and improve a new sound system, wireless, and with expanded capacities and AV screens. Install a new ADA front door with exterior push button capability. We replaced flooring throughout the fellowship hall and narthex. (Issues with clean-ability and proper adhesion are still being worked out in fellowship hall.) The narthex was painted, and soon the stairwell and trim will be as well. We installed two new drinking fountain and bottle/cup filling stations. These are ADA compatible, as well as being more eco-conscious as everyone can bring their own water bottle, instead of using plastics or cups. We had a new drive way and parking lot paved/resurfaced. We need to back fill and re-seed higher drops in spring. Keener insulating filled the entire attic with insulation, and protected the sanctuary lights. This should help our heating and AC costs, and lower electric bills. George updated all toilets with manufacturers recommended upgrades.

### **The following are things we need to consider for the New Year and going forward:**

Replacing the 6 windows in sanctuary. These are original, take extreme weather beatings, and are beginning to rot out. The nursery needs more storage, perhaps a small entertainment center for TV/DVDs and toy storage. The narthex needs reimagined and designed, it's not neat, organized or visitor friendly— new furniture has been quoted by Benjamin Roberts LTD. George will work on replacing the basketball nets for spring use. A sound desk that incorporates all new technologies, plus the computer and AV needs. This can be crafted to match the current pews, and design of sanctuary. The steeple will need painted in the next year. George will take care of small masonry needs. A capital campaign or fundraiser may want to be considered to replace the gas (residential ranges in the kitchen) with a more heavy duty commercial grade range. This would eliminate the performance problems we encounter during dinners. They range from \$2,000-4,000.

Respectfully,

Lori Leaman

## Communications, Advertising and Public Relations Report

2016 was a busy year with routine and new assignments. I continue to design, print and post many flyers to get the word out to the community for our church fundraising events. As in prior years, Trinity continues to budget our paid display advertisements costs, by switching to black and white display advertising. We welcome the good coverage of our special events with free press releases from The Engle Publishing Co., Lancaster Newspapers and space on local retail and email neighborhood bulletin boards. I am grateful for this publicity.



### **FREE PR OR PAID DISPLAY ADV. & INTRA-CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS ARE LISTED BELOW:**

TRUCC Installs Pastor Donald Fenestre-Marek as Pastor, January 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Rummage Sales, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. April, 22<sup>nd</sup>. & 23<sup>rd</sup>. July 22<sup>nd</sup>. & 23<sup>rd</sup>. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>. & 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Spaghetti Dinners, February 27<sup>th</sup>. & Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Easter Worship Service and Holy Week, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Palm/Passion Sunday through March 27<sup>th</sup>.  
Gertrude Hawk Easter Candy Fundraiser, March 4<sup>th</sup>.  
Mother and Daughter Banquet, May 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Chicken BBQ, April 23<sup>rd</sup>., June 18<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, Chicken Bar BQ & Community Yard Sale Rentals  
Guild Dine Out Night June 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Guild Food Sale for Lancaster. Fossil & Mineral Club, June 17<sup>th</sup>. & 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Guild Father's Day Celebration, June 19<sup>th</sup>.  
NAACP'S Community Forum and Discussion, September 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Guild Food Sale for Lancaster Fossil & Mineral Showcase Nov 12<sup>th</sup>.  
Gertrude Hawk Christmas Candy Fundraiser December 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>. & 25<sup>th</sup>.  
YTD 2016 Guild monthly meeting notices and fundraising news coordinating with church news

### **IN 2008, IN ORDER TO CUT COST, TRINITY CHANGED THE POLICY FOR PAID ADVERTISING OF OUR EVENTS AS NOTED BELOW:**

#### **PURPOSE:**

*It is the purpose of this policy to ensure that Trinity Reformed Church of Christ retains enough money from its various fundraisers to allow for sufficient paid publicity and advertising without having to deplete resources from other line items or operating expenses.*

*A "fundraiser" shall be defined as "any event which charges for admission or participation" or "the sale of items for profit to benefit the operating or mission budget of the church." This definition shall exclude "fundraising" done by individual members of the congregation for outside groups (Boy Scouts, Brownies) or any sub-group of the church (Women's Guild).*

#### **POLICY:**

*Funds for publicity and advertising shall be allocated using the following guideline:*

*Ten percent (10%) of all profits (after expenses) shall be set aside by the Treasurer to be used for future publicity or advertising. There shall be no limit to the amount that can be "banked", but if funds should exceed what would ordinarily be deemed "prudent" for a publicity/advertising fund, an amount may be withdrawn and placed in the operating or building funds of the church. This amount shall be decided upon and voted by the Consistory and allocated by the Treasurer.*

*Disbursements for advertising shall be made by the Treasurer after a cost analysis by the Chair of the fundraiser and the Pastor, or the members of consistory during a regularly scheduled business meeting, or by the Pastor and others who may hold responsibility/accountability for said fundraiser.*

*The Treasurer may request further details regarding the disbursement or a vote of the Consistory should he/she deem the amount to be excessive and beyond the boundaries of responsible stewardship.*

*First Draft—12/07 Amended Adopted by the Congregation*

*Adopted by the Congregation*

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ibach, Communications, Advertising and Public Relations



Volunteers had the opportunity to serve and fellowship six times this year at Salem UCC's free breakfast. Free warm clothes from our Tree of Warmth and Rummage Sale donations were made available on several occasions. Our goal is to physically and spiritually nourish with this "hands on" activity. The ministry will continue in 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Robinson



## Food Bank

In 2016 our congregation continued its support of the Columbia Food Bank. We have established a monthly routine of taking our food and cash donations to the Food Bank, where they are distributed to the needy in our area. There continues to be a growing need for basic food items such as: rice, beans, pasta, peanut butter and canned goods of all kinds. Special foods and treats for children are also appreciated. The Food Bank must supplement donations by purchasing basic items from the Central Pa. Food Bank and local markets. The Food Bank director has been very grateful for the generous cash donations that Trinity members have given in 2016. The Columbia

Food Bank is open each week, Monday through Wednesday. Please continue your generous support of our Food Bank Ministry. Along with many baskets of dry goods in 2016 Trinity donated \$1,644.

Tom Robinson

## Church Office

In 2016 the responsibilities of the church office was to format and print the Sunday bulletin, special event bulletins, the monthly newsletter, monthly calendar, weekly prayer list, sign up sheets when needed and ordering office and miscellaneous supplies.

It's also responsible for keeping member information in Trinity's data base current, the church's website updated and to pass on announcements and any information that concerns the church congregation.

In the beginning of 2016 under Pastor Don's direction and using Trinity's data base I began to collect photographs to make a new church directory, but due to a lack of interest it has been put on hold. If at any time interest returns the project can be started right back up.

My hope is to always be a help to the staff and congregation in anyway the church office is needed.

Eileen Littell  
TRUCC Administrative Assistant

