

# Countryside Trinity Church Connections

**August 11, 2020**

## From Pastor Brant...

This Sunday morning marked a new first here at Countryside Trinity as we presented our first live streamed service on our new YouTube channel at our regular worship time of 10:30 am. Other than my forgetting to turn on the mike for the benediction and my messing up the order of worship by skipping over the offertory and going right into the prayer of dedication, the service went well. We felt as if we had resolved the issues with the sound system, though we will continue to work to get the balance just right. Thanks to Duncan Redfield and Kathy Loviska, who volunteered their time so that the camera's connection to our YouTube channel could be set up. Asher Neville ran the camera, Duncan provided technical assistance, Andy played, and Dan and Kathy sang.

We placed on our FB public and group pages our order of worship for the day, and we are hopeful that it enhanced your worship experience on Sunday by offering the words to the hymns so that you could sing along. We will continue to provide this information to you on a weekly basis as well as links to our YouTube channel on Facebook.

This week we anticipate the installation of our new video equipment which will include two 75" TV monitors installed in the corners above the chancel, and the wiring and equipment needed to connect these to our computer. We will be testing and practicing how we might use the camera to focus on these screens in order to convey the words to the hymns, prayers, and liturgies we use in worship onto our live stream. Presently we will have to accept the imperfections of this setup with the knowledge that we are working to improve our computer capabilities to display this information onto the YouTube presentation without distortion or glare. We have purchased a licensing agreement which allows us to broadcast the music played on Sunday as well as to provide copies in our emails.

We continue in our excitement to provide our Digital Outreach Ministry. There is a learning curve, and we're fully committed to grow in our use of technology to advance the mission and vision of Countryside Trinity. We ask that you are patient with us as we work out the kinks in the technology and learn the finer details of creating audio visual presentations. If you have feedback about any of our digital outreach content, we'd love to hear your gently phrased criticisms.

We ask that you continue to be in prayer for these and for all the volunteers who are wading out into new waters, as well as for new volunteers to step up for these new positions we are in the process of defining. If you have an interest in serving in the ministry of the gospel as a camera person, a computer assistant, or a worship planner working with media, please contact the pastor so that you can review the job description and the responsibilities of these positions.

Pray we can continue to trust in the gospel to keep our heads above water, and in God's power to use our efforts to touch people's lives with the good news of Jesus Christ.

### **Watching our online Worship Service**

In talking with many of you over the past few years, I have been told by some that you do not own a computer and have no way to get email or online. I want to share some information with you that might surprise you and if not surprise, might be of interest to you.

If you own a "Smart TV" and your TV provider is Charter or AT&T you can probably watch CTC's Live Stream Worship Services on your television. And, if you wanted to, you can even sign-on to the Internet on your "Smart TV" and get email and surf the net too. This is at no additional cost as both Charter and AT&T provide you with free email and the ability to access the Internet.

Now, I know that there are some of you who will say surfing the net is not of interest to you - it is likely that having the ability to watch the Sunday Worship Service might be of interest during these uncertain times of Covid-19.

Here is the interesting part. If your TV is a flat screen tv and it is within 5-10 years old - there is a pretty good chance that your TV is a "Smart TV". If it is less than 5 years old - there is a very good chance it is a "Smart TV".

In order to access Youtube to allow you to watch the worship service requires two things. They are: 1) Internet service in your location; and 2) A device on which you can access the internet.

It is not necessary to have a computer if you have one of the following: 1) a "Smart" TV (with either Charter or AT&T as your television provider); 2) a tablet; or 3) a "Smart" telephone.

The following is a set of instructions on how to access YouTube on your "Smart" TV. If you have any trouble setting this up - please do not hesitate to call Kathy Loviska (989) 270-7725 and she will assist you. It may be possible for her to guide you through the process over the telephone.

## Watch YouTube on your Smart TV (newer models)

If you're using YouTube on a Smart TV from 2013 or newer, you likely have the [youtube.com/tv](https://www.youtube.com/tv) app. If you do not have it, it can be downloaded from whatever play store is on your device.

### Sign in to use YouTube features

When signing in to Youtube for the first time, open the YouTube app on your TV and select **Sign in**. You will be prompted to select one of two choices: 1) Sign in Using a Smart Phone or 2) Sign in on your TV. Follow the instructions below for which option you wish to use:

#### Sign in with your mobile device

1. Make sure your mobile device is on the same Wi-Fi network as your TV.
2. Select Sign in with your mobile device.
3. Open the YouTube app on your phone.
4. Follow the instructions below under [Search for and discover videos](#) to locate the Countryside videos and livestream worship services.

#### Sign in directly on your TV

1. Select Sign in on your TV.
2. Use the keyboard to enter your email/phone for your Google account.
3. Click Next.
4. Verify your account.

### Search for and discover videos and livestreams

1. Search for and discover videos and livestreams. Video would be if you are watching the service at a later date and livestream would be if you are watching as the service is being sent to Youtube in real time.
1. Select Search  and enter in **ctc Saginaw** and enter or click the  button to find Countryside Trinity Church videos. This will also take you to the live stream worship services. Make sure you put a space between ctc and Saginaw. You can then click on the one you want to watch and it should open automatically. You may have to adjust your volume on your device or on the bottom of the video itself in the controls. There should be a control bar at the bottom of the screen which allows you to control the playback of the video. If it isn't there automatically, you may need to take your cursor and hover over the screen for it to pop up. These are the controls which you would most likely want to use: Play  will play your video.  Clicking this button will pause your video. The **Play** and the **Pause** buttons are toggled so when you click one - it becomes the other automatically - so they are in the exact same location on the screen. Clicking on the red line will move you either forward and backward in the video (if you are watching after the fact - not during livestreaming). Closed captions  will show the video's closed captions, if available.  Clicking this button will increase the size to full-screen.

## **Suspension of Inside Worship Continues**

At its meeting on July 28th, the session, following the recommendation of the presbytery and the guidelines set out by the Governor, authorized the continued suspension of indoor worship for an indefinite period.

## **Financial Report**

Your faithful giving empowers us to continue our witness to the work of Christ in the world as it allows you to strengthen your relationship with God. Our goal for August is \$10,500. Please remember you can make an online donation through the Give Plus app. If you want to run your donation by the church, please call first to insure that someone is at the office to receive it. Our online service will include a time of thanksgiving and dedication for our gifts, so you may want to have your money and envelopes or perhaps even your phone ready so that you can more fully participate in this time.

## **Christian Outreach**

Please remember our local ministries during this time. Because we are not able to collect our Least Coin Offering, our support of the three ministries supported by this offering, the Presbytery of Lake Huron Hunger Fund, the Michigan Conference Hunger Fund, and the East Side Soup Kitchen, is down. These and many other local ministries are providing additional resources to our community in this time of pandemic and need your support.

Our Mission of the Month for August involves school supplies. From a report from Channel 5, WNEM Saginaw, the Saginaw Township School System *board voted 5-2 to have at least the first month of school be online when school starts September 1, with the goal... to be back in the classroom full time by October 26.* In addition, it reports, *The superintendent plans to get Chromebooks and internet capabilities to all families and students that need them.* The Christian Outreach Team is reaching out to Weiss Elementary to get a good understanding of what its needs might be.

## Thank you

Pat Denno wishes to thank everyone for their cards, telephone calls, and support over the past several weeks. She continues to improve after her fall and surgery for a broken wrist but it is going to take time to heal.



**Greeting Cards:** Beginning Wednesday, August 5, 2020 Shirlee Scovill will be selling cards each Wednesday in the church parking lot from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Proceeds from the sale of these cards will support the mission work of the Women's Association.

Please wear a mask and remember to practice social distancing. The cards will be arranged differently than in the past and will be on tables next to her van. The cards will be self-service with a container for the money at the tables. Shirlee will be there to answer questions.

Shirlee has kept busy during the time we have been home and, therefore, has many cards to choose from – Birthday, Get Well, Sympathy, Thinking of You, Wedding, Anniversary, Retirement, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hope to see you on Wednesdays in the near future.

Don't forget to let Kathy in the office know about any change of yours or a family members address, phone numbers or email addresses so she can update the church records and mailing lists. You can email changes to her at [countryside@ctcsaginaw.com](mailto:countryside@ctcsaginaw.com) or call and leave a message at 989 793-0125. Thank you.





### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Taylor Hansen (M = Dana Woodke)
- 4 Marianne Bird
- 4 Kathryn Barnum
- 5 Dan Groom
- 8 Chad Parker
- 10 Randy Jacob
- 12 Fran Prueter
- 13 Kyle Redfield
- 15 Ainslee Mahan
- 15 Aubree Mahan
- 17 Joan Comstock
- 21 Karla Parker
- 21 Casey Redfield
- 22 Brooke Vernon
- 31 Jim Lorenz

### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Becky Pequignot
- 3 Rob Halase
- 3 Dora Fitzgerald
- 5 Charles Davis
- 6 Jerry Brachear
- 13 Louis Diechman
- 14 Michael Patrick Groom
- 17 Lois Krzak
- 22 Amanda Dean Groom
- 25 Thomas Kennedy
- 28 Brant Piper
- 29 Tom Ladner
- 30 Vincent Martinez

### **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Zachary Plater
- 2 Drew Pequignot
- 2 Dan Groom
- 3 Joseph Ruth
- 5 Mary Longstreth

- 6 Amanda Josephine Groom
- 11 Dick Easlick
- 13 Ethan Parker
- 13 Ruth Marsh
- 13 Charlotte Armstrong
- 13 Jerry Paquette
- 14 Mike Yusaf
- 14 Tania Yusaf
- 16 Randy Groom
- 17 Elizabeth Jacob
- 19 Christopher Davis
- 22 Jean Anne Miller
- 22 Pat Denno
- 25 Ezra Yusaf
- 25 Aaron Plater
- 27 Marie Lemmer
- 29 Scott Jacob
- 29 Lori Halase



### **AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

- 8 Louis & Jean Diechman
- 11 Dan & Barb Groom
- 17 Dallas & Jackie Williams
- 29 Darren & Joann Woodke
- 29 Duncan & Sandy Redfield

### **SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 9 Roy and Nancy Erndt (1967)
- 9 Shirlee & Roger Scovill (1978)
- 16 Peter & Isabella Dominguez (1961)
- 20 Sidney & Kermit Diggs

### **OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Aaron & Paula Plater
- 8 Robert & Marie Lemmer
- 10 Eric & Sue Smith