

Countryside Trinity Church Connections

August 05, 2020

From Pastor Brant...

Using the lingo of the Hollywood producer, the first one is in the can. On Sunday afternoon, we uploaded to our new YouTube channel our first recorded worship service from our own sanctuary. Though it was later than we had hoped, as we were limited by the speed of our computer's processor and of our internet connection, by 3:30 we had a new online presence.

The new camera, through which the service was recorded, was authorized for purchase by the session at its stated meeting on June 16th. It was delivered and installed on Thursday. On Saturday we gathered to receive the first stage of training, and created a welcome video to test our sound and practice camera techniques. On Sunday morning we recorded the service at 9, and then uploaded the service to our YouTube Channel. This Sunday we are working towards live streaming our service, which will start at our usual time of 10:30 am.

We're excited to start this chapter of 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 are waiting for our new video equipment to be installed soon and it will allow us to project the words to the hymns, prayers, and liturgies we use in worship. We have purchased a licensing agreement which allows us to broadcast the music played on Sunday and are learning to navigate copyright laws to encourage further use of other audio and visual resources.

We recognize the present issues with the quality and volume of sound and worked this last week with our technology equipment partner, Simoni Systems, to use some of our contracted training time to improve the quality of sound you hear.

As we reach out to our community through technology we become ever more aware of the challenges before us. The limitations we have encountered with our present computer system and internet network, are present in our sound system, which is over 20 years old. Improvements to all

of these systems are being explored; each will have a financial cost, which will have to be measured relative to its value to our ministry. A faster internet speed will allow for smoother audio and visual signals and quicker uploads. A new computer system will allow for greater creativity in the use and the production of audio visual presentations. New sound equipment will allow for greater clarity and balance between the different sources of musical and spoken audio.

As the church of Jesus Christ, we trust that the Spirit will lead us into and through these new opportunities, and with each there will be the invitation to grow in skills and maturity. Worship is understood as the "work of the people," and we are aware that many people are needed to make our worship services inspirational and celebrative. Changing paraments, lighting candles, providing flower arrangements, practicing music, preparing liturgies, there are all activities in which we share. We will now be expanding our volunteer efforts into camera technicians, sound technicians, computer technicians, all working together to give honor, praise and glory to God, and to witness to our community and world our belief in God's redeeming power in the world.

We are thankful to those who have offered their time and energy and talents to make our efforts in ministry more effective. Dan Groom continues to play a pivotal in administrating the music and the flow of our worship services. Andy Glynn, our accompanist, brings his creativity and time in presenting our service music. Jerry Paquette provides musical accompaniment and pieces for our service. Kathy Loviska keeps track of details and processes we are learning. Duncan Redfield has offered his wisdom during these last few months in helping to translate computer geek to English so that we understand the different technologies with which we are dealing. Asher Neville has boldly stepped up into the role of one of our camera operators.

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. 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.

We have posted links to both Facebook and the YouTube stream on our website. If you have a way to access the website, you would only need to click on one or the other of those links to go directly to the sites to watch the service. Our website can be found at www.ctcsaginaw.com and the links are on the home page.

Ways to watch our online Worship Service

In order to access either Facebook or 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; 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.

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 Using a Web Browser. 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.

Sign in with a web browser

1. Select Sign in with a web browser.
2. On a phone, tablet, or computer, open a browser and go to youtube.com/activate.
3. Enter the code shown on your TV.
4. Sign in with your Google account.






Search for and discover videos

1. Search for and discover videos
2. 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.

Play and control videos

Once you select a video to play, a player control bar will open, allowing you to perform the following actions:

1. Home  returns you to the home screen.
2. Play  will play or resume your video.
3. Forward  will advance the video by 10 seconds.
4. Rewind  will rewind the video by 10 seconds.
5. Captions  will show the video's closed captions, if available.

When playing a video, you can find more options by selecting More actions. You can get to the following options from the More actions menu:

1. Subscribe to the channel which is beneficial for Countryside for you to do so. Please click "Subscribe" which only needs to be done one time. After that - Countryside will appear under your Subscriptions.
2. Rate the video
3. Flag the video for violating Community Guidelines.

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.

Live Stream Worship Service This Sunday

This Sunday, August 2nd, we will start live streaming worship services from our sanctuary.

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. As there is a great deal of uncertainty around when school might start and what form it will take, the Christian Outreach Team is reaching out to Weiss Elementary to get a good understanding of what its needs might be. Watch this newsletter for more information.



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 so she can update the church records and mailing lists. You can email changes to her at 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