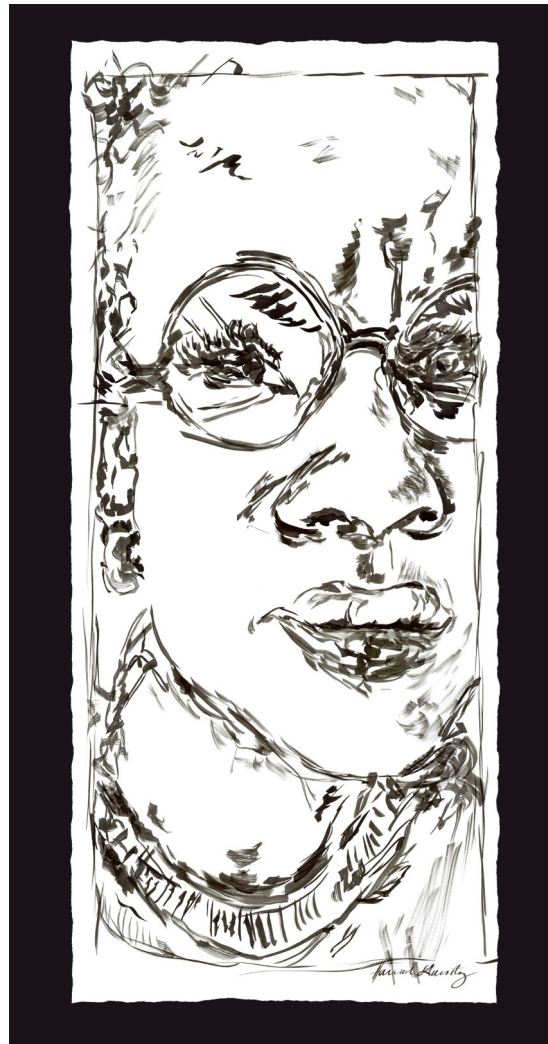


THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

■ UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN TRYON ■



Where?, Hannah Garrity

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Easter Sunday

31 March 2024 ❖ 10:00 in the morning

Welcome to this service of worship. Open your heart to the familiar and the new, and may your spirit relax into the peace of God's presence as we share this time together.

For those worshipping in-person: While masks are optional, for the safety of our community and congregation, we urge you to wear a mask if you may have been exposed to COVID-19 or are experiencing any symptoms, regardless of vaccination status. Please respect those who may wish to social distance.

Live Stream: Please be advised that our service is live streamed. You may appear on camera.

Worship Response Cards & Prayer Requests: Please complete the weekly Worship Response Card on our website or by using your phone to scan the QR code to the right. Paper copies may be found in the back of the sanctuary and placed in the offering plates. Submit prayer requests via the response card or to the Pastor.



Restrooms: Restrooms are located down the hallway, behind the sanctuary.

Children: Children are always welcome to join us in the sanctuary for worship. If you choose to use it, our family worship space is located in the front right of the sanctuary. Our Fellowship Hall and downstairs nursery is also available for parent use. See usher for directions.

Worship is at the center of the life of The Congregational Church, UCC. Please prepare your heart and mind for worship.

Whether you are a long time member or first time visitor, we are glad you are here. If you would like to discuss matters of faith or learn more about our church, we invite you to contact our pastor at (828) 859-9414.

The people's responses are in bold.

Kindly silence your devices upon entering the Sanctuary

†Please rise in body or in spirit as you are able.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together to prepare our hearts to worship as the people of God.

MORNING MEDITATION

Logan Neal, French Horn

Resurrection Joy - G.F. Handel

¶ *Please quietly recall the presence of God and prepare yourself for worship as you receive the gift of our prelude music.*

WELCOME & GREETING

¶ *By introducing ourselves and sharing a warm greeting, we express the hospitality of our congregation. Please share a welcoming word with those around you.*

†HYMN #205

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Yesterday we thought death had won.
Yesterday we thought all was lost.
Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

But not today.

Today we know that love has won.

Today we know that hope is real.

Today we know that Christ is here.

We have a reason to hope.

We have a reason to sing!

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Christ is risen today.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM, *Insert*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The stone is rolled away!

We assume it is a mistake.

The angels say, "He is not here!"

We assume their news is fake.

The women tell the story,

but we do not want to hear it.

Peter runs to the tomb,

but we do not understand.

Forgive us, God, for thinking an empty tomb is nothing more than a prank.

**Forgive us for seeing discarded burial cloths
and still holding tight to death.**

Forgive us for pushing away reasons to hope when you are alive and well in the world.

Teach us to see what you see.

Unravel the threads of our unbelief.

Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

†THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

¶ Passing of the Peace confers the blessing and peace of God as a spiritual act of unification. Please turn to your neighbors, in the pew next to you, and offer a sign of Christ's reconciling peace with the words "the peace of Christ be with you" and a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).

SUNG RESPONSE #341

Peace I Leave with You

Peace I leave with you, my friends, peace the world cannot give.

Peace I leave with you, my friends, so that your joy be ever full.

Listening

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song as we listen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Psalms:

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the LORD.

The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (NRSVue)

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

¶ *The People stand as the Word is brought among the People to be heard and received.*

†SUNG GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, #209, vs 1

Alleluia! The Strife is O'er

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun: Alleluia!**

†THE GOSPEL

Let us listen for the Word of God. **Our ears are open.**

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke:

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Luke 24:1-12 (NRSVue)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON, *And I hope*

Rev. Meghan D. Young

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We may weep through the longest nights.

We may stare at the empty tomb with more questions than answers.

We may run our fingers over the burial cloths and still long for more.

But today, we are a people of hope.

We believe in new beginnings.

We believe that the God who created the world is stronger than death.

We believe that Jesus abides among us,

healing, teaching, and leaving fingerprints throughout this world.

We believe that a tomb could not hold him.

We believe that the sun does rise.

We believe that Peter was there with questions, awe, and faith the size of a mustard seed.

We believe that the story is not over yet, for God is among us. Today we are a people of hope.

Responding

We respond to the hearing of God's word through prayer.

GIFT OF MUSIC The Chancel Choir & Logan Neal, horn
Resurrection Victory - Lloyd Larson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: JOYS & CONCERNS

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

†HYMN #407 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

CALL TO COMMUNITY

THE OFFERTORY

To contribute, you may put your gift in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary, click on the "Give" tab at ucctryon.org, scan the QR code, or mail in your pledge. Reflect on the blessings you have been given, and how you are called to bless others.



†SONG OF GRATITUDE #49 *Easter Doxology (OLD HUNDREDTH)*

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord.
The life laid down, the life restored; Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

†PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Sending

God blesses us and sends us out into the world to love God and our neighbors.

†HYMN #216 *The Day of Resurrection*

†BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

†SENDING SONG, *see music in pew*

Hallelujah! - Excerpt from "Messiah" by G.F. Handel

POSTLUDE Logan Neal, horn

Praise to the Lord - Arr. Charles Callahan

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED. NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS.

Thank you to those assisting in today's service.

Worship Leaders:
Dr. Susan Lyle
Rev. Meghan Young

Ushers:
Anna Bucher
Rose Bucher
Astrid Meng
Gary Poague

Liturgists:
Sign-up online or in the Narthex.

Music:
The Chancel Choir
Logan Neal, horn

Sound & Video:
Ray & Lisa Owens

Community Hour:
Gary Poague

Flowers:
Easter Lilies, please see insert.

Sign-up for worship leadership positions or to donate flowers, online or in the Narthex.

Pastor Meghan's door is always open, so please email or call if you would like to schedule a time to meet. Friday is her sabbath day, but she can be reached by cell (860-966-2432) in case of pastoral emergencies.

There will be no Community Hours this week.

UPCOMING MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check eblasts for more information about upcoming gatherings, volunteer opportunities, and ways to participate in community care. Get involved, connect, and enrich your spiritual life and your relationships in the church community.

Easter Brunch Invitation

TODAY, Sunday, March 31

All are invited to a pot-luck Easter brunch at Sherril Wingo's home in Columbus. RSVP is requested by Good Friday, but all will be welcomed regardless.

Identify what you will be bring and in what quantity. To RSVP, please contact Sherril.

Landline: (828) 894-6081, Text/Mobile: (828) 817-1668, Email: sherrilwingo@gmail.com.

Church Beyond The Walls Sunday

Sunday, April 7, 10 AM–1:30 PM

- 10 AM, Gather for worship and sending
- 10:15 AM, Service projects begin
- 12:30 PM, Lunch in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for a Sunday of service projects as we live out the Resurrection. There will be projects for all ages and abilities. Check this week's eblast for more information. Following the service projects we'll gather for lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

Order Your Church Shirt

Orders must be placed by Tuesday, April 9

We are placing another order for church shirts. T-Shirts are \$15. Long-sleeve shirts are \$17. Shirts are a great way to support the church and get our name out there.

Church Office Hours - Monday & Thursday, 9:30 AM - 2 PM. Tuesday & Wednesday, hours vary. If you want to drop something off at the church outside of set office hours, or discuss a church matter, please contact Pastor Meghan at 860-966-2432.

Get help with Breeze. Contact the church office for help registering or getting set up on your phone. Breeze will better connect you with the congregation and our ministries.

WEEKLY & MONTHLY GATHERINGS

Church Fun Contract Bridge—Wednesdays, 1:30-4:30 PM, 4th floor of the church

Social bridge group. No fee, just fun. Open to all. Contact Miles Southworth to RSVP.

Connect Groups

Connect groups are small groups that gather monthly, from September to May. Connect groups



Looking Ahead This Week

March 31 - April 7, 2024

Sunday, March 31

11:00 am ~ Community Hour

11:30 am ~ Easter Brunch

Monday, April 1 - Office Closed

Wednesday, April 3

12:00 pm ~ Online Prayer Group

1:15 pm ~ Church Contract Bridge

4:00 pm ~ Choir

5:00 pm ~ White Chapel Ringers

Thursday, April 4

9:00 am & 12:30 pm ~ Bridge

Friday, April 5 - Office Closed

9:00 am ~ Bridge

Saturday, April 6 - Office Closed

9:00 am ~ Tryon Thrift UCC

Sunday, April 7

10:00 am ~ Church Beyond The Walls

Full calendar listings in our weekly "Be The Church" email and on our website.

create space to connect, share, and learn together. Contact Pastor Meghan for more information.

Monthly Game Night & Dinner- 3rd Saturday of the month 5-7 PM Fellowship Hall
Bring your favorite game! Free will offering for dinner. Sign-up appreciated.

Prayer Group - Wednesdays at 12 PM on Zoom (link in weekly eblast)

Join us as we pray for the congregation, the community, and the world.

Support Group for LGBTQIA2S+ Youth and their Parents

Meets every last Tuesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall & Parlor. Parents meet from 7-8 PM, Youth from 7:30-8:30 PM with time to socialize beforehand. A therapist will be present.

Tryon Thrift at UCC - Saturdays, 9 AM–3 PM, enter through the back parking lot

A youth run thrift store to benefit the ministries of the church and area non-profits. Donations of clothing, shoes, accessories (jewelry, bags, hats, etc.), books, CD's, & records are always being accepted.

WISE Book Club - 1st & 3rd Mondays at 2 PM in the Church Parlor

Any and all interested women are welcome. The group is currently reading and discussing, "Learning To Walk In The Darkness" by Barbara Brown Taylor.

*We are a church that believes life is worth living,
people are worth loving, and God is worth trusting.*

Prayer List

Prayer requests are submitted by filling out the Worship Response Card with a prayer request and placing it in the offering plate, or notifying the Pastor.

Joys: The birth and baptism of Stevie Juniper Haynes, March birthdays and anniversaries.

Ongoing Concerns: Chris Bartol, Gratitude for the warmth and light of spring, wanderers, Adam Gumble, Marty Morgan (*cancer*), Witt, John Short (*cancer*), Madeleine Crolla, Kory Hemenway (*cancer*), Brett Surret, Bob Brueckner, Meredith, Sharon Maynard, Tom Rounds, The Mullin Family, Eloise, Marge Short, Ginger Leavitt, Ruth Foy. All the CAREGIVERS among us who affect and touch so many lives.

Grieving: The Family & Friends of: Bob Reynolds, Ernst Heubach, (*Christel Walter's brother-in-law*), Libby Boone, Carol Lawrence, and Susan Gautsche.

United Church of Christ: The ongoing work of the United Church of Christ, including our General Minister & President The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, our Southern Conference minister The Rev. Dr. Edward Davis, our Interim Western North Carolina Association Associate Conference Minister, The Rev. Warren Casiday, and of our partner churches in the Western North Carolina Association, Eastern North Carolina Association, and Eastern Virginia Association.

Global Ministries: The work of our partners in Global Ministries Mission serving in Greece.

Those Who Serve: For teachers, health care workers, first responders, poll workers, essential workers and all who sacrifice and serve. For those who serve, our military, deployed personnel and their families. For veterans and their families, who have given and sacrificed so much.

Our Neighbors: The people of Israel and Palestine - we pray for a just peace. Those suffering from climate change. Those impacted by the evils of gun violence. The people of the Ukraine. For those impacted by climate disasters. All seeking refuge, peace, and justice. Those lacking adequate shelter, food, safety, and assistance in Polk County and beyond.

An Open and Affirming Community

Founded in 1891



The Congregational Church of Tryon welcomes persons of all ages, races, social and economic circumstances, sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions, abilities and church backgrounds to participate in the life and ministry of our church.



“WHOEVER you are and
WHEREVER you are on life’s journey,
you are **WELCOME** here.”

The Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

210 Melrose Ave, Tryon, NC 28782 ❖ 828.859.9414 ❖ www.ucctryon.org

Ministers, *The Members of The Congregational Church, UCC in Tryon*

Learn more about our life of faith together on our website or on Facebook.

Pastor, *The Rev. Meghan D. Young* ~ pastor@ucctryon.org

Minister of Music, *Dr. Susan Lyle* ~ music@ucctryon.org

Interim Church Administrator & Accountant, *Lisa Owens* ~ accounts@ucctryon.org

Custodian, *Brittany Plumley* ~ custodian@ucctryon.org

Community Gatherings Coordinator, *Lindsay Lewis* ~ faithformation@ucctryon.org

The Sacrament of Baptism

Sunday, March 31, 2024

We celebrate God's gift of new life in Christ
through the Sacrament of Baptism for

Stevie Juniper Haynes
Born February 5, 2024

Parents

Emily Taylor Haynes & Robert Anderson Haynes Jr.

Brother

Baxter Anderson Haynes

Pastor

Rev. Meghan D. Young

Welcome

Questions

Pouring of the Water

Prayer of Consecration

Sacrament of Baptism

Prayer for the Baptized

Presentation of the Baptized

Baptismal Response

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits, into joy and laughter lead.

Receiving of Gifts



The Congregational Church, UCC in Tryon, NC

Easter Lily Dedications

- Mary Bucher..... In memory of Irene Ontko.
In memory of Tim Ontko.
- Amy Correll & Jamie Smith..... In memory of loved ones.
- Patricia Gass In memory of Ken Yeager.
In memory of Libby Boone.
- The Franklin Family In memory Dick and Ray Franklin.
- Leslie Lewis In memory of Susan McLeod.
- Carol Meeske In memory of Hazel and Pete Venema.
- Lisa & Ray Owens In memory of our father, Ronnie Grindstaff.
- Ed & Ginny Rostick In memory of our parents.
- Lisa Schulenburg & Meghan Young In memory of Gladys Dykstra.
In memory of Shirley & Vincent Gagliano.
In memory of Mary & Roland F. Young Jr.
- Jackie Weedon..... In honor of John and Patty Short.
- Sherril Wingo In memory of Ron Wingo.
In memory of my Mom & Dad, Marilyn and Bill Luff.
- Priscilla Yeager..... In memory of Ken Yeager.
In memory of Libby Boone.