

Pastor & Staff:

Rev. Drew Baker, Lead Pastor
Debbie Miller, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Randi Gross, Administrative Assistant
Maddie Pfafman, Communications Administrator

Leadership Board:

Alisa Bloom, Judy Butler, Kelly Graden, Phill
Corbin, Jerry Warrenner, LouAnne Pillers, Sonja
Richards, Darlene Kandel, Mindy Hoffar

The Trinity Covenant

We at Trinity Church commit ourselves
to supporting fruitful discipleship in ourselves and each
other;
to prioritizing the well-being of people above all else as
God does;
to creating an environment where spiritual,
emotional, and relational hurts are healed;
and to breaking down the social barriers that keep people
from the unconditional love of Jesus.
Amen.

Trinity Church UM
229 S State St.
Kendallville, IN 46710
260-347-0056
TrinityChurchUM.org
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the Trinity In-Spire

Sunday Services

Series- Finding Hope:

Lent 2025

Every Sunday:

9:00 AM

Traditional Service

10:00 AM

Friendship Class "Adult
Sunday School"

11:00 AM

Contemporary Service

Children Ministry

It's never too early to
think about camp! Sign up
by April 20th to get an
early bird discount.

<https://impact2818.org>

Contact Debbie Miller for
questions or more
information

April Events

4th - Women to Women
will meet at Coffee and
Cream in South Milford
9 AM

7th - Easter Lily Orders
due.

**12th -Free Family
friendly movie at The
Strand: King Of Kings
2:00 PM**

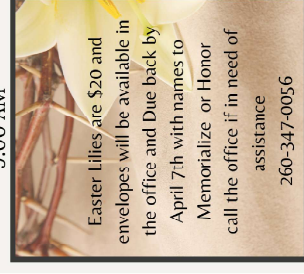
13th - Palm Sunday

18th - Good Friday Service
6:00 PM

20th - Easter Sunday

30th - Faucets
6:00 PM

2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th -
Women's Bible Study
9:00 AM



Lawn Care Team

Join the Trinity Lawn Care Crew! 🌱
Spring is here, and it's time to keep our church grounds looking
beautiful! We're building a team where each member will be
responsible for mowing one week per month. Substitute
mowers are also welcome and needed!

✓ All equipment is provided by the Church
✓ A great way to serve your church!
📅 Sign up today! The sign-up sheet is available at the Ministry
Center.

Thank you for helping us keep Trinity's grounds looking their
best!



THE KING OF KINGS

On Saturday, April 12, at 2 pm, invite your friends, neighbors, and loved ones to a family-friendly movie event

at: The Strand Movie theater in Kendallville,

featuring the animated film

The King of Kings.

Starring Oscar Isaac and Kenneth Branagh, and featuring an all-star voice cast, King of Kings depicts classic author Charles Dickens telling his children the story of Jesus.

THIS IS AN EVENT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND ADMISSION IS FREE!

See Monica Corbin if you have any questions or call the office

FINDING HOPE: THE LIGHT STILL SHINES

A Message From Rev. Drew Baker

This Lenten season, our series “Finding Hope” is well underway, and it will take us right up to the celebration of Easter! So far, we have discovered that the Light of Jesus can never be snuffed out by the live-suppressing darkness. That belief is that “the light shines in the darkness but the darkness has not overcome it” is the foundation of our hope.

We know that The Light of Jesus is the wisdom and enlightenment from God that guides our steps, keeping us from stumbling in the dark. We know that even when we feel alone and abandoned, we have the hope that God is always there with the warmth and love of a good parent. Continue this journey with us, which will culminate in the celebration of Easter on Sunday, April 20!

Congratulations to the Winners of our 2nd Annual Soup-er Sunday!!

Thank you to all who participated in and attended Trinity's 2nd Annual Soup-er Sunday on March 9th! We had a great turnout!!

Extending a BIG Congratulations to our 2025 “Soup-er” Champions:

Best Chili - Phill Corbin with his TexMex Chili

Best Soup(s) We had a tie between **Monica Corbin** with her Creamy Corn Chowder &

Fred Fusco with his Creamy Tuscan

Best Dessert- Joyce Bowen with her Banana Split Dessert!

Be on the lookout for the names to be added to the trophy!

We have all of the recipes available in Narthex area at the church & upon request
Via email: office@trinitychurchum.org or call Randi in the office at 260-347-0056



PSSST!!

(In case you missed it)

Don't forget to get a freshly designed Trinity Mug!

There is enough for everyone to get one, not only visitors!

The Mugs are made possible by members who contributed the following:

Watercolor paintings by Sandy Flack, produced by Monica Corbin's Betty Lou's, and sponsored by Larry & Betty Allen



However, a major part of my strength as a preacher/teacher is my ability to dive deeply into Scripture, to navigate it's cultural, historical, and linguistic dimensions, to keep my mind open, to discern what a given text is communicating, and to see how it fits within both historic testimony of Christianity and the story I see God telling his people today.

My neurodivergent brain lends itself to navigating that complexity, recognizing patterns and connections others miss, and communicating what I discover with others. I consider it a privilege to be used by God in this way.

It is also my pleasure to serve as your pastor. I never thought that I would be able to serve a community of faith where I felt comfortable sharing this part of myself. You have heard me say that my family and I have experienced church trauma before. Unfortunately, both William and I have suffered persecution within the church for what makes us different, and the whole family felt the pain of that experience. I thank God that we finally found a place where we are loved, accepted, and embraced just as we are!

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

A few weeks ago, I shared something about myself from the pulpit that, up to that point, I had not publicly shared. Like my son William, I am on the autism spectrum. As I said in that moment, many of you are likely surprised, while others of you probably thought, “That makes a lot of sense!”

William was diagnosed six years ago, right before he started kindergarten. The behavioral pediatrician, noting that autism is hereditary, suggested that I was likely also on the autism spectrum. Two years later, I spent months consulting with a licensed mental health counselor who, in collaboration with her colleagues, diagnosed me with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

William and I both have Level 1 Autism, often called “high-functioning,” or more appropriately, “low-support-needs” autism. All autistic people have difficulty meeting various social and cultural expectations, but low support needs autistics meet those expectations with less difficulty than their high support needs counterparts.

In fact, many low support needs autistics, like me, reach adulthood before they are diagnosed. This is unfortunate because “low support needs” isn’t the same as “no support needs.”

Autism is classified as a neurological “disorder,” meaning that it is derived from how one’s brain is naturally wired. Unlike behavioral disorders, autism—along with other forms of neurodiversity like ADHD—is an in-born characteristic rather than a pathology that develops later in life. In fact, the case could be made that neurodivergence is merely another type of human diversity and not a disorder at all. After all, autistic people function just fine when they don’t have to conform to the expectations of a neurotypical society! So why do autistic people have trouble? What’s different about an autistic brain?

As the expression goes in the neurodivergent community, “If you’ve met one autistic person, you’ve met one autistic person.” It’s called a “spectrum” because there are significant variations in how autism expresses itself. Think of the various functions of the brain as a soundboard in an auditorium. In neurotypicals, the sliders all tend to be somewhere in the middle. In autistics, some sliders are turned way up, and others are turned way down. The difference between individual autistics depends upon which sliders are turned up or down and to what extent.

Common challenges among autistics are sensory sensitivities, trouble transitioning from one task to another, difficulty navigating social situations, and black-and-white thinking, however, there are strengths that often appear among the neurodiverse as well.

We are excellent at tasks that involve intense concentration and focus, we excel at pattern recognition, and, since we are rarely limited by conventional thinking, we are often capable of remarkable critical thinking and insight.

Based on my own experience, I believe that the core difference between the neurotypical brain and the autistic brain is this: The former is built for efficiency, and the latter is built for complexity. We need both.

As the expression goes, “It takes all kinds!”

You may be wondering how this impacts my service as a pastor. True, some pastoral responsibilities are more challenging for me and require more effort from me than might be required from a neurotypical pastor. That doesn’t mean that I can’t fulfill those responsibilities; it simply means that I need to take good care of myself before and after fulfilling those responsibilities.