

March 2024

Volume 66

Number 3



The Lamplighter

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

In a world that tells us “bigger is always better,” how do we deal with the reality that most congregations aren’t big, even if at one time they were larger? A pastor named Brandon O’Brien has written a book titled, *The Strategically Small Church: Intimate, Nimble, Authentic, and Effective*. Small congregations, he says, “are uniquely equipped for ministry in the twenty-first century.” He singles out five strengths of small congregations:

Authentic: Some research has shown that the number one reason people return to churches after an initial visit is because they deem the church “authentic.” Larger institutions run more like businesses don’t involve the members as directly as smaller churches, which tend to function more like a family. Being clear about purpose and always striving to keep Jesus Christ at the center of our life together supports this authenticity.

Lean and Focused: You don’t have to be a “mega-church” to be effective. Focusing on strengths, channeling limited resources into a few areas, small congregations can respond with great depth and effectiveness to the needs of their community. Forming partnerships with other local churches can extend the reach of their efforts. The work of E-Connect in researching and affirming the gifts on the congregation helps with identifying what we have rather than what we don’t have. The Souper Bowl of Caring really showed the strength of partnership with our neighboring congregations in meeting needs of our community. Praise God for these blessings.

Equipping people: With less congregational programming, a small church can have a great impact in its community by equipping and encouraging people to serve effectively where they are already active serving within the community. God’s work happens in many contexts, and such work has value if it cares for the needs that we encounter.

Intergenerational relationships: Young people stay more involved when they have had meaningful relationships with adults in the church besides their parents. “Those who had been given opportunities to serve as younger children in the church were also more likely to view the church as important to their lives. In other words, intergenerational relationships within the church are an important factor in making sure young people keep the faith.” Nurture the connections that you have, even if that isn’t within the four walls of the church building.

Leadership Training: There are more opportunities for taking on new leadership roles in a small congregation, and people can grow into leadership in a more nurturing web of support. You have capable and committed leaders, and whether or not you end up sharing pastoral leadership with St. Mark congregation, this will be an important asset to your ministry

O’Brien’s wise and supportive comments speak to small congregations like Trinity. “We must learn to see strengths where conventional wisdom has taught us to see liability. We must learn that when it comes to faithful and effective worship and mission, bigger is not always better.”





REMINDER! Please check the church calendar in the office before scheduling an activity at the church.

If you would like an event/meeting on the calendar, please ensure that the office knows about it! **THANK YOU!**



- 3/5 Ray Bloomer
- 3/7 Sherri Southwick
- 3/9 Daniel Goldsworthy
- 3/16 Larry Hawn
- 3/19 James Pendergast
- 3/20 Isabel Rodenberger
- 3/27 Michael Stewart
- 3/28 Kristen Goldsworthy
- 3/30 Dalton Brown

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3/18 Sean & Sheri McLennan
- 3/22 Brian & Nicole Stewart
- 3/31 Bruce & Karol Martindale

THANK YOU TO THE FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Recording/sound engineers: Adam & Jody Pomfret;
Andrew & Elizabeth Eichmiller.

Lay assistants: Sue Gosse, Gayle Bland, Patricia McIntyre, Gordon Afdahl, Carol Hawn

Ushers: Marvin & Barb Mericle, Bob & Denise Taylor, Gordon & Linda Afdahl, Tom & Kathy Weir, John & Kim Schoffstall

Altar Care: Jody Pomfret, Sue Gosse, Denise Taylor

Communion Bread: Barb Mericle, Gayle Bland, Jody Pomfret, Denise Taylor, Kim Schoffstall

Please Note:

Council Items Due - Thur, 3/14 @ 9:30a

Council Meeting - Mon, 3/18 @ 7:00p

Newsletter Items Due - Wed, 3/20 @ 9:30a



- 4/1 Harry English
- 4/3 Tom Yeagley
- 4/5 Tim Seitz
- 4/7 James Rodenberger
- 4/13 Kim Schoffstall
- 4/21 Eli Moffett
- 4/28 Eve Rodenberger
- 4/29 Suzette Bloomer
- 4/30 Mallory Pendergast



ANNIVERSARIES

- 4/11 Lynn & Angie Branz

VOLUNTEERS FOR MARCH



Counters for March: Bob & Denise Taylor

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Lay Assistant</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Communion Assistants</u>
3/3/24	Linda Afdahl	Pete & Donna Gustafson	Jody Pomfret/Pat McIntyre (set up/clean up) Donna Gustafson (bread)
3/10/24	Pete Gustafson	Ray & Suzi Bloomer	Denise Taylor (set up/clean up) Denise Taylor (bread)
3/17/24	Gayle Bland	Marv & Barb Mericle	Suzi Bloomer (set up/clean up) Barb Mericle (bread)
3/24/24	Patricia McIntyre	Bob & Denise Taylor	Jody Pomfret/Sue Gosse (set up/clean up) Jody Pomfret (bread)
3/28/24	Carol Hawn	Andrew & Elizabeth Eichmiller	Denise Taylor (set up/clean up) Carol Hawn (bread)
3/29/24	John Neuenschwander	Gayle Bland & Jody Pomfret	Gayle Bland (bread)
3/31/24	Gordon Afdahl	Marv & Barb Mericle	Jody Pomfret (set up/clean up) Denise Taylor (bread)

Private Faith, Public Square

What do the two religion clauses of the United States Constitution mean? How do we separate church and state yet guarantee free exercise of religion by individuals? Where are the boundaries of free exercise when one person's faith expression is the direct opposite of his/her neighbor's? The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) of Indiana State University presents a 4-part inquiry into this problem in April, 2024. Lead by Constitutional scholar, Trinity's own Dr. Patricia McIntyre, the 4 sessions will trace the historical roots and the explore present conflicts that put religion right in the center of today's electoral politics. OLLI courses are open to anyone (\$10-\$40 per year depending on program choices).

For information, ask Pat McIntyre or call the OLLI office at ISU (812) 237-9040.

EASTER GARDEN ORDER FORM 2024

Easter is March 31st this year and quickly approaching!

Trinity folk, you can help cut costs by using this order form so that we can submit one multiple-plant discount order.

Final orders are due to The Apple House by March 11th.

Lily/Daffodil given to glorify God by: _____

In ___ memory of or ___ honor of: _____

Number of Lilies _____ @ \$12.25 each = Total cost for Lilies _____

Number of Daffodils _____ @ \$8.50 each = Total cost for Daffodils _____

Final total: _____



QUILTERS will meet Sat.,
March 9 at 9am. Bring your
scissors and rested hands!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Cackleberries on
Tuesday 3/12 & 3/26
@ 8:30am.



FIRST FRIDAY CARDS: Our February evening of a friendly game of cards turned into a den of sin. Yes, we were at church in the fellowship hall and you would think we would all be better behaved. In a month when we celebrate love, we didn't. There was lying (folks who knew better made unreasonable bids that they knew they wouldn't keep) and there was cheating (some people think if you tell that you are cheating, it isn't really cheating) and there was stealing (cards that were meant for an individual were grabbed up by a different individual) and there was gluttony (well, with all that good food, who can really blame us for this one—we felt it the next day, some of us the next hour!) and there was inattention (have you ever imagined that one spouse would ignore the other one as if they weren't even there) and there was tardiness (you know them, the ones that just can't get there on time and everyone else is just sitting around waiting—we didn't really wait because we were back at the gluttony). In spite of all of our sins (with many prayers of forgiveness that followed) we had a wonderful evening of fellowship with a little game of cards and some food thrown in. Join us in March on Friday, March 1 at 6 pm in the fellowship hall. We will try to do better!

TRINITY RINGERS continue rehearsals on Wednesday at 5:15pm (except during Lent). Bring your rested and relaxed hands and wrists, your sharp eyes, and be ready to laugh and play some music. Thanks for your dedication and willingness to play.



Questions, see Suzi Bloomer (812-877-4273).

TRINITY WOMEN: Our regular meeting is on a Mid-week Lenten service night so, we will meet in March on **TUESDAY, MARCH 12**, at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. Kenna Hittle will have the program from Isaiah 40:25-31. Denise Taylor will be the hostess. All women are invited.

GIVE THE CHOIR A TRY FOR LENT AND EASTER!

Consider adopting a Lenten discipline and sing in the choir for Lent and Easter. New voices are always welcome. Rehearsals are on **Wednesday Evenings**. Our normal rehearsal time is 6:30 but during the Lenten season we will rehearse following the soup/salad supper and program at approximate 7:15. If you have any questions please speak with our music director Sara Johnson or any choir member. You can speak with Sara following worship on Sunday mornings, reach her by phone at (812)360-0897 or email at sarajjohnson72@yahoo.com.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!



Lent Special ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

A GREAT Lenten discipline would be to join this *lent focused 4 week* series ZOOM Bible study beginning Feb. 20! Online class meets **11:30am-12:30pm** each **Tuesday**. Led by Pastor Donna Glazier, we have significant and lively discussions.

FREE materials provided in the office. Talk to Pastor Donna, Pastor Karen, or Sue Gosse if questions.

John Neuenschwander maintains the **zoom room** Send your e-mail & cell phone number to John and he will send you a link: jrnipaq@gmail.com 812-249-0384

Held every Tuesday at 11:30am.



We extend our gratitude to those who have helped to provide music for our 10 am worship services in February. Bill Strecker blessed us with a vocal solo on February 4th; The Trinity Ringers provided prelude and offertory music on February 11th; Elizabeth Eichmiller shared her beautiful soprano voice and her guitar playing skills with us on February 18th and The Trinity Choir provided offertory music on both Ash Wednesday and February 25th. We also thank our guest flutist Amanda Fallon for sharing her flute playing skills with us on Ash Wednesday.

Thanks are also offered to our corps of cantors: Elizabeth Eichmiller, John McIntyre, Patricia McIntyre, John Neuenschwander, Charles Parks, Bill Strecker, and John Moon for their faithful service throughout the year.

Thanks be to God for Jenna McFarland, our Parish Administrator, for providing all our printed and online worship materials, keeping us informed of our schedule of activities and performing many unseen but necessary tasks. A special thank you is extended to Sue Gosse who helped out in the office when Jenna was ill.

And last, but certainly not least, our gratitude is extended to Pastor Karen for her leadership of our worship on Sunday mornings, her guidance of our congregation, her meaningful messages and her pastoral care. We are blessed to have her leadership of Trinity.

Trinity is blessed to have many talented people sharing their talents in service to Christ throughout the year. Thank you all!



BE PRAYING FOR...

Christina Browne, Carla Chapman, Corrine Erickson, Brenda Hamand, Braden Hunt, Kristan Hunt, Jade, Janet, Don Johnson, Kris Johnson and Debbie, P.K. Johnson, Mary Lee, Deval Lennon, Bruce and Karol Martindale, Richard Martindale, Pastor Dana and Susie Newhouse, Briar Osborn, Charles Parks, Pastor Ben and Pastor Susan Stallings, Sarah Stroik, Pastor Bob Swanson, Sarah VanSell, and Rhoda Wood.

Trinity Lutheran Church Council President's Report: Sue Gosse



Advent, Christmas and Epiphany

Installed December 3rd, 2023 this report through February 14, 2024

Many exciting events are ahead as we Celebrate a Century of Amazing Grace! More information will be in a letter coming to your home in March. EACH ONE Bring ONE-is our outreach program. More to come.

Service to the Council

- Met with council officers before the council retreat to review agenda for the retreat
- Planned and led the Council Retreat on January 13 with great attendance, discussion.

Service to the congregation:

- Assisted with December Holiday Market, organized by Amelia Pomfret—good attendance for the first year of this outreach. Lots of sweet treats and crafts, walking tacos, I think I sold around 40 of these. Leftover chili donated.
- Wrote letter to the congregation to encourage giving for Christmas bonus to our Interim Pastor, Organist/Music Director, and Parish Administrator. Also sent email to remind—good response.
- Conducted the Annual Meeting of the Congregation January 21, 2024. Helped Jenna organize the Annual Report, I think a good representation of our ministry in 2023! It was a warm meeting with adoption of the budget, positive feelings toward goals and events ahead.
- New contract with Small World Learning Center signed
- Sent out birthday greetings to members in February
- Active in E-connect Team, wrote article for newsletter on the activities of the group, especially with respect to adapting new mission statement and guiding principles. Team meets monthly.
- Helped secure in town housing for Pastor Husby.
- Facilitated new contract with Pastor Husby, sent to Bishop Bill Gafkjen, signed and returned.
- Assisted member with needs around surgery.
- Participating in shared ministry team—2 meetings. Communication with St. Mark UCC consistory president Mike Morrison.
- Participating in weekly Bible Study via zoom—led by Pastor Donna
- Participated in I-K Synod webinar re: Call process—shared info with council at the retreat
- Centenary Team: A Century of Amazing Grace! Attended 2 meetings, planning for special events/projects for 2024—spent sometime looking thru the church. Found a box of old Newsletters—Sandy T. took these to glean information.
- Mutual Ministry luncheon February 14. Discussion of needs with church staff.
- Began looking for Grant opportunities.
- Assisted Call Committee with updates to MSP
- Preparing for Feb 19 council meeting

Cookers AND Eaters NEEDED



Mark your calendars now and join us on **Easter Sunday, March 31st**, for Trinity's traditional Easter breakfast! The breakfast will be served **8:30**. Charlie Parks (supervising chef) and "crew" do a fantastic job and, ladies, they clean up, too!

A sign-up sheet will soon be placed in the Narthex for food contributions and for attendance.

MEN, if you are available to be of assistance to Charlie on the "breakfast crew," please let him know.

UCM Souper Bowl of Caring

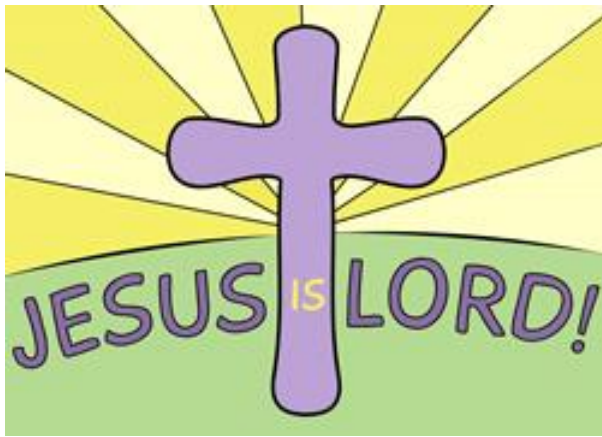
Between all 8 participating churches, a total of 4,110 pounds of food was donated to United Campus Ministries! That is over TWO TONS of food for those in need!

Thank you to everyone who participated and who helped to organize this event!

UCM Souper Bowl of Caring
winner
St. Mark UCC
429 pounds collected and an average Sunday attendance of 20
21.45lbs/congregant

Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.' - Deuteronomy 15:11





2024 PENNY POWER OFFERING

On the last Sunday of each month, our pennies are donated to Lutheran World Hunger in order to buy milk for children in a developing country.

- January 60.90
- February 60.82
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December



2024 Total: 121.72

Equals 12,172 cups of milk for needy children!!

Pastor's Discretionary Fund assists with individuals in need of assistance, primarily utility needs by working with the Salvation Army. Any help replenishing this fund is greatly appreciated. Mark your offering envelope .



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Operating Budget Summary at January 31, 2024

	2024			2023		
	Actual	% of Budget	Budget	YTD Actual	% of Budget	Year End Actual
Giving/revenues received for budget	\$10,747.20	7.4%	\$ 144,816.00	\$16,478.30	11.0%	\$ 150,419.52
Expenses for budgeted items	\$14,470.99	8.9%	\$ 163,385.00	\$14,733.95	9.8%	\$ 150,890.77
Revenues over/(under) expenses	(\$3,723.79)		\$ (18,569.00)	\$1,744.35		(\$471.25)

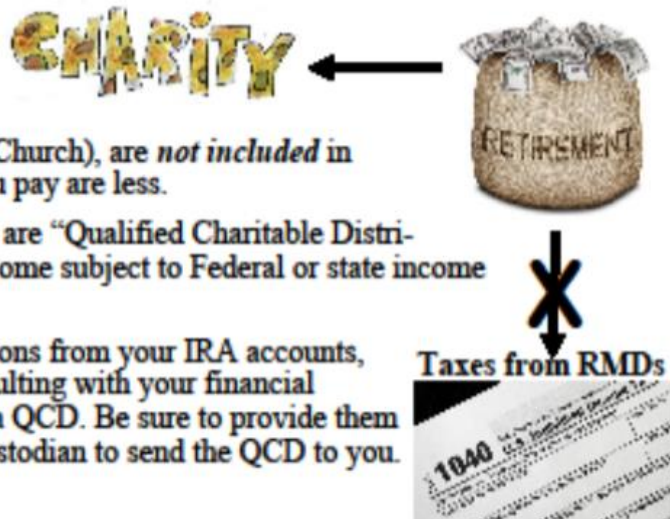

At January 31, 2024, unified giving and other revenues were \$5,731.10 lower than the previous year, and were \$1,320.80 lower than budget for the year. Expenses were \$855.57 higher than budget for the year, but \$262.96 lower than the previous year. Year to date expenses exceeded revenues by \$3,723.79 Please note there is a budgeted deficit of \$18,569 for the whole year.



Did you know?
 An "RMD" is a *Required Minimum Distribution* from your Traditional IRA. RMD is required beginning with tax year after you become 72 years old. RMDs remitted *directly* to a Qualified Charity (such as Trinity Lutheran Church), are *not included* in your taxable income. Consequently, the income taxes you pay are less.

RMDs sent by the IRA administrator directly to a charity are "Qualified Charitable Distributions" (QCDs) and are not included in your taxable income subject to Federal or state income tax. QCDs are not deductible as an itemized deduction.





If you are required to have Required Minimum Distributions from your IRA accounts, speak to your Financial Advisor about QCDs. After consulting with your financial advisor, let your IRA custodian know you wish to make a QCD. Be sure to provide them with the information they request. Do not ask the IRA custodian to send the QCD to you. They must send the QCD directly to the charity.

The **2024 Sign Up** sheets are now posted in the Narthex!!

Recycling and the Blessing Box are great services our church offers, and it can't be done without *YOUR* help!

The flower chart is also posted with a lot of availability!

BLESSING BOX ITEMS

We continue to collect non-perishable food items and personal care items for the blessing box. Please see the list posted in the narthex of acceptable items. No perishable food, please. Items can be left in the basket in the Narthex. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Earthquakes in Turkey and Morocco have cause widespread devastation. Lutheran World Relief is prepared to serve here as we continue to help in Maui following devastating wildfires.

Your help is needed.

Give to Lutheran Disaster Response
 P O Box 1809
 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009
 Give by phone: 800-638-3522
 Give online: disaster@elca.org



He is Risen

Good news flags

Use batik, a unique fabric-dyeing method, to create flags celebrating the good news of Christ's resurrection.



What you need:

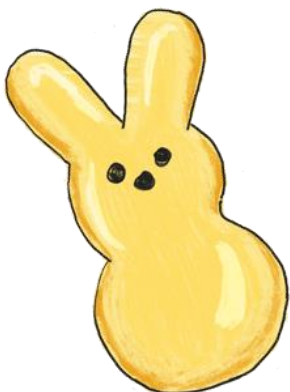
- Colored chalk
- White linen fabric
- Washable gel glue
- Acrylic craft paint
- Textile medium
- Paintbrushes

What you do:

1. Cut fabric to the desired size and shape. Set it on a flat, protected surface. With chalk, lightly sketch an Easter design or message.
2. Completely cover the chalk lines with gel glue. Let dry.
3. Mix equal parts paint and textile medium. Paint the flag with that mixture, which makes paint permanent. Let dry.
4. Soak the dried fabric in warm water a few minutes. Then gently peel away the glue to reveal the unpainted areas. Lay flat to dry.
5. Hang the flags and celebrate!

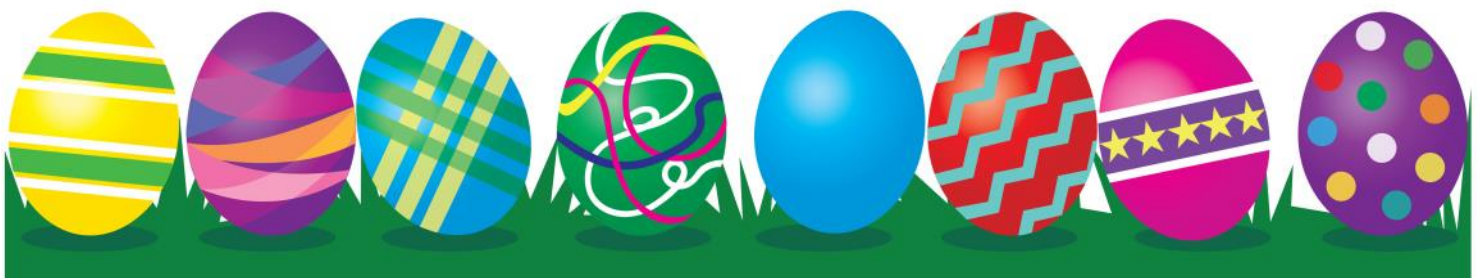
A Small Timeline of the Easter Bunny










- ◆ 1700s - German Lutheran immigrants bring the Easter Hare tradition to America.
- ◆ 1878 - The 1st White House Easter Egg Roll is hosted by President Hayes.
- ◆ 1934 - The 1st appearance of Bugs Bunny in a cartoon short.



DID YOU KNOW?!

- ⇒ An average of 5.5 million Peeps are made every day!
- ⇒ It used to take 27 hours to make a Peep...and they were made by hand!
- ⇒ Yellow chicks are the original Peep, and still the favorite!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		20  24			1  6p First Friday Cards	2 9a Altar Cleaning 10:30a Call Committee
3 10a Worship	4 6p Lucky Losers	5 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	6 5:00p Handbells 6p Soup & Salad + Lesson 7:15p Choir	7  National Cereal Day	8	9 9a Quilting 
10 10a Worship	11 5:30p 100th Anniv. Committee 6p Lucky Losers	12 8:30a Men's Breakfast 11:30a Zoom Bible Study 7p Trinity Women	13 5:00p Handbells 6p Soup & Salad + Lesson 7:15p Choir	14 9:30a Council Items Due	15	16
17 10a Worship  Saint Patrick's Day	18 6p Lucky Losers 7p Council Meeting	19 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	20 9:30a Newsletter Items Due 6p Soup & Salad + Lesson 5:00p Handbells 7:15p Choir	21	22	23  National Puppy Day
24 10a Worship Palm Sunday	25 6p Lucky Losers  International Waffle Day	26 8:30a Men's Breakfast 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	27 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir	28 7p Service Maundy Thursday	29 7p Service Good Friday	30
31 Easter Breakfast 10a Worship Easter Sunday Penny Power	 Happy Easter!	IMPORTANT NUMBERS Pastor: Karen Husby: 812-230-2628 President: Sue Gosse: 812-299-5251 Vice President: Andrew Eichmiller: 812-797-2720 Secretary: Jody Pomfret: 812-243-1130 Financial Secretary: Greg Essig: 812-230-3208		Treasurer: Gordy Afdahl: 812-877-0903 Organist/Music Director: Sara Johnson: 812-360-0897 Administrative Assistant: Jenna McFarland: 812-240-3970 Church: 812-232-7628		

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Phone: 812-232-7628

Pastor Husby: 812-230-2628

TLC email: office@trinityterrehaute.org

TLC website: <https://trinityterrehaute.org>

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:30a-1:30p

Sunday Services

10a IN-PERSON &

ONLINE SERVICE

<https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranchurchterre4439>



TRINITY'S PURPOSE STATEMENT

Growing in
Grace,
Sharing
Christ's
Love.



Accompanying Guiding Principles

- Rooted in the Grace of Christ
- Listen, trust, and move with the Holy Spirit
- Generously share God's Gifts
- Love our neighbors
- Accept and welcome all

Trinity Lutheran Church
2620 Ohio St.
Terre Haute, IN 47803



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