



# The Christian Flame

April-May 2025

Freeport, Grace Natrona Heights  
Trinity Brackenridge

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trinitybrackenridge@gmail.com  
[www.trinitybrack.org](http://www.trinitybrack.org)

Pastor: Diane Randolph

The mission of the United Methodist Church is “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

The apostle Paul reminds us In **1 Corinthians 15:55-57**:

**“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

Siblings in Christ, Resurrection Sunday is the cornerstone of our faith. For each of our individual lives, the resurrection means that Jesus conquered death “*once for all*” upon the cross such that all who believe may transition from this life unto life eternal (Heb. 7:27). The resurrection also means that as we live in the here and now, no darkness is too deep, no sorrow too heavy, and no sin too great that the resurrection power of Jesus Christ cannot overcome. The cross speaks of His sacrifice that pays for and provides eternal life for us as well as the empty tomb proclaims His victory over all struggles in and of this life that we now live.

This Easter lets renew our hearts with hope and peace within to lift our spirits with joy. Let us carry this message of resurrection to all. The Mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. As Christians, Jesus commissions us to share the good news of the grace of God in Christ. “*Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.*” (John 20:21).

Happy Easter!

With Resurrection Hope,

Pastor Diane

## Freeport Ministerium Lenten Series

There are still two more weeks where you can take part in the Freeport Ministerium Lenten Series

Date	Host Church	Leader/Preacher
April 3	Srader Grove UPC	Fr. Kosisko
April 10	St. Mary's RC Freeport	Rev. Adam Clever

Soup and sandwiches served in the church social hall from approximately 12:00 to 12:50 pm.

Worship Service begins at: 1:00 pm. Duration: 20 minutes. Service includes song, scripture reading, message, and prayer.

### Way of the Cross Walk

Sunday, April 13th--the "Way of the Cross Walk" which is an ecumenical event that gathers the community of Christ together with Jesus in a solemn prayer walk through downtown Freeport as each pastor leads the crowd in this journey to remember our Lord's sacrifice as He walked to the Hill of Calvary.

The walk begins at 2:00p from St. Mary, Mother of God Church, 608 High Street, Freeport, PA 16229.

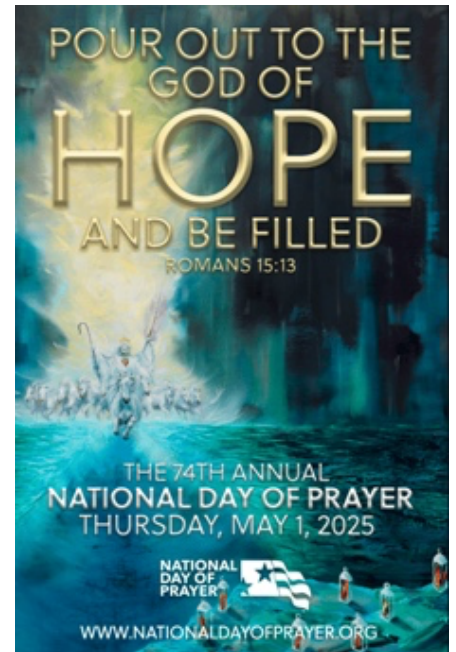
The walk ends at approximately 3:00p for a "Cookie Refreshment" at Freeport United Methodist Church, 211 Fourth Street, Freeport, PA 16229

Trinity Lutheran Church and United Presbyterian Church will also be stops on the walk with other positional points as well as will each of the four pastors participate in liturgy and prayer.




Cheesy Broccoli Soup will be available for purchase in April for \$8 a quart. PICKUP April 17 or Easter Sunday.

Tomato Basil Soup will be available in May for \$10 a quart. PICKUP May 15 or Sunday May 18. Place your order for quarts of soup on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



Thank you to Lisa and Cori Distilo for making coffee, preparing water for tea and all the other duties that go into setting up the hospitality table each Sunday. We appreciate you.

We also appreciate all those who have donated donuts, sweet rolls, cookies, and other treats. If you are enjoying these goodies, please consider signing up to donate if you are able. If you are unable to provide goodies, consider dropping a donation in the basket on the table. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex.



# Christian Education

Trinity's Sunday School walked through the first 8 books of the Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, 1 Samuel. By our last session of the year the Sunday school children will finish 2 Kings.

We will be taking a break from our normal curriculum, on Palm Sunday, to take a journey through holy week and experience everything that Jesus did on his way to the cross. On Easter Sunday, during our regularly scheduled Sunday school time, we will have an Easter egg hunt downstairs for the kids with games and prizes. *Submitted by Amanda Bartel*



Available in the Narthex are helpful curriculum packets, exactly like we use in Sunday school, that help break down the books of the Bible. These packets are good for those that are just starting out and those who are further along in their Bible knowledge. They are also good for visual learners. If you would like more information and curriculum packets, please reach out to the education team. *Submitted by Amanda Bartel*



Church camp for kids is vital to help children grow in their faith. For some children church camp is the only chance they get to hear the Word of God. Enrollment for camp is still open Please contact Amanda Bartel, Education Coordinator, for assistance in finding the best fit for camp for your child, niece, nephew, or grandchild. Jumonville, Camp Allegheny, and many others are available. If you would like to help send a child to camp, place your donation in the offering and mark it Camp Scholarship.



**Featured Picture: Weston came to church dressed like Samson, learning hands on what it means to be a superhero for God.**



The Education Team is looking for anyone who would like to help the team in any way. All help will be utilized.

Sadly, Trinity will not be doing **Storytime in the Park** at Brackenridge Park this summer. The need is no longer there as it once was. There is some money left over from the grant and our education team has decided to plan a Funday of interactive learning at Trinity church. More info to come. Volunteers and donations will be needed, and greatly appreciated. Amanda Bartel is the contact person.



## Cluck Cluck Give a Buck

Throughout the season of Lent, Trinity's Sunday school does a fundraiser to raise funds for a need. This year, the Sunday school is raising funds to make purchases from the Heifer International Project.

Heifer International distributes animals, along with agricultural and value-based training, to families in need around the world as a means of providing self-sufficiency.

The kids will decide what they want to purchase once they know how much money is raised.

*Submitted by Amanda Bartel*

GIFTS	PRICE
Flocks of chicks	\$20
Honeybees	\$30
Garden Seeds	\$60
Share of Garden Seeds	\$10
Pig	\$120
Share of a pig	\$10
Sheep	\$120
Share of a sheep	\$10
Goat	\$120
Share of a goat	\$10
Water Buffalo	\$250
Share of a water buffalo	\$25
Send a Girl to School	\$275
Clean Water	\$300
Fish	\$300
Share of fish	\$30
Heifer	\$500
Share of heifer	\$50



There will be several opportunities for you to get your hands on some cookies. The Daisy troop will have a drive through cookie sale in the top parking lot of Trinity church on **Friday, April 5th from 12pm to 2pm**. The Cadet troop will also be selling cookies after church one Sunday. The date is still TBD.

Cookies are \$6 a box and the Cadet Girl Scout troop 28807 also takes orders for donations. The girls are choosing to donate some boxes of Girl Scout cookies to the Ronald McDonald House this year.

This is the last year to get GIRL SCOUT S'MORES! Cookies that are available are

Adventure Fulls  
Lemon-ups  
Do-si-dos

Trefoils  
Tagalongs  
Samoas

Thin Mints  
Girl Scout S'mores  
Toffee Tastic (gluten-free)

*Submitted by Amanda Bartel*



The Mission Ministry, recognizing there are many in need in our community, has initiated two projects. They are:

1. Each month we will collect a food item most needed by the AVAC Food Bank. This Item of the Month can be placed in either the basket in the Narthex or in the basket next to the Office. In April the item is **cereal** and in May it is **toothpaste**.
2. We are asking for volunteers to help provide meals for Promise House. This is the homeless shelter run by the Allegheny Valley Association of Churches of which we are a member. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for anyone interested in helping those in need. We will have a meeting of the volunteers on April 6, 2025 following the 9AM service to discuss ways in which we can provide these meals.

If you have any questions about either of these projects, see or call Betsy Buco 724-224-1062. Jesus reminds us that whatever we do for the least among us, we do it for Him. Let us join together to serve our fellow brothers and sisters and be serving our Lord. What a blessing!

*Submitted by Betsy Buco*



## **CLEARANCES**

The education team is in the process of collecting clearances from those of you that have them to keep copies on file at the church. It is important to have clearances for anyone who helps with children. Please turn them into Kathy Flis. If you want to get your clearances, please reach out to Amanda Bartel. The clearances needed to volunteer are State Police Criminal and Child Abuse clearances. They can be done online at

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/default.aspx>.



## A Welcome Grant Some Helping Hands

In December of 2023, Trinity received a \$5,000 grant from the Ira and Frances Wood Charitable Trust. The purpose of the grant was to provide funding assistance for the installation of a Boiler Alarm System. After our experiences with boiler failures over the last several years, the Trinity trustees realized that we could benefit from a system that would immediately alert us to any failures in the system. If we find out about failures soon enough, then we increase our ability to take early action and avoid costly damage. In December of 2024, the installation of the alarm system was completed. The new system monitors numerous critical points in the system and, if necessary, sends alert messages to the proper individuals.

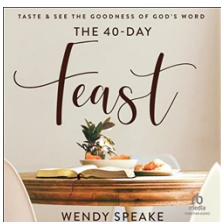
Trustee chair Bill Barnett and fellow trustee Alan Fisher contributed many hours to the effort by assisting the alarm company with the installation of cables and sensors. By using their own tools and time, this work helped to reduce the alarm system cost, saving Trinity several thousand dollars. In addition to the installation work, the trustees also coordinated with our phone company and internet provider so that the new system can properly perform the remote alerts.

Working together with our own members and with help from institutions like the Ira and Francis Wood Charitable Trust, we are all insuring the future of Trinity United Methodist Church.

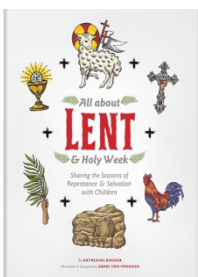
*Submitted by Dale Cepull*

### RECOMMENDED LENTEN READING

*Submitted by Amanda Bartel*



*"The 40-Day Feast*, a book by Wendy Speake that helps you taste and see the goodness of God's Word. Learn how to read, digest, and apply whole passages of Scripture to your daily life."



Explaining both the biblical roots of the season of Lent as well as the liturgical rites and rituals that we celebrate, *All about Lent & Holy Week* provides answers to what we believe and how to put those beliefs into practice.

### What You Can Find at Trinity Church

*Submitted by Amanda Bartel*

- Notepads: Located in the pews to take notes on key points in the sermon
- Kids Church bags: available in the narthex to the left as you walk into the sanctuary for little ones to enjoy during church containing Bible coloring pages and books etc...
- Prayer request cards: available in the narthex. Please complete and give to usher.
- Visitor to church cards: available in the narthex. Please complete and place in offering plate

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3	William Kovel	9	Jaci Bowser	24	Casey Collins
4	Jamee Bonnett	12	Elizabeth Bucu	25	James Morris
4	Erica Mell	12	Dylan Eberle	25	Kris Stover
4	Rosemary Tritschler	14	Marion Mortimer	25	Trevor Uhric
5	Christopher Freehling	16	Lisa Gemperlein	26	David Graham
5	Derek Ruediger	16	Casey Hemphill	26	Morgan McGough
6	Jonathan Alter	18	Sara Fisher	28	Ray Miller
6	Letitia Kus	18	Thomas Fisher	28	Oliveah Rae,
7	Alecander Alter	18	April Moore	29	Allie Elizabeth Bucu
7	Dustin Gentile	19	Theodore Tomson	30	Joseph Tritschler
7	Jeffrey Vanderhoff	22	Jodi Bowser	30	Carol Wolfe
8	Joshua Mell	22	Jeane DeAngelis		

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	Susan Barnett	8	Vicki Dlubak	19	Ann Rummel
1	Kristin Beal	8	John Fetchko	21	Matthew Homa
4	Dara Nolen	9	Alexa Schrag	25	Ava Bartel
4	Lauren Gezo	11	Marissa Acre	28	Nolen Fetchko
6	Nina Przybelik	17	Marlene Campbell	30	Allen Graham
7	Ray Schmaus	17	Kamryn Cornuet		

## In Honor and Memory

The following donations to the Noah Fund have been received:

### In Memory of:

Howard & Ernestine Sarver by Howard & Beth Sarver

Harold & Vivian Meanor by Howard & Beth Sarver

Mildred Meanor by Howard & Beth Sarver

Elaine & Jerry Sarver by Howard & Beth Sarver

My parents: Gerald & Bonnie Robinson by Robin Robinson



Editor: Chris Steele

Proofreaders: Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph

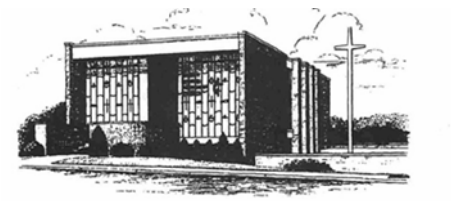
Assemblers: Betty & Bill Ruediger, Charlie Steele, Colleen Rudolph, Beth Sarver

# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	2 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	3 6PM Brownies & Daisies	4 6PM Cadets	5 10AM NA 12 PM Drive thru Girl Scout Cookies
6 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School 10AM Promise House Meeting	7 6PM Marital Arts	8 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	9 6:30 PM SPR Meeting 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	10 6:30PM Finance 7:30 PM Admin Council	11 10AM AVAC Board	12 10AM NA
13 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School PALM SUNDAY	14 6PM Marital Arts 6PM Education	15 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	16 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	17 6PM Brownies & Daisies 6PM Maundy Thursday Service	18 12PM AVAC Community Good Friday Service 6PM Cadets	19 10AM NA
20 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School EASTER SUNDAY	21 6PM Disciple I 6:30PM Trustees	22 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	23 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	24	25 6PM Girl Scouts	26 10AM NA
27 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School 10:15 Visitation Meeting	28 6PM Marital Arts	29 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	30 8PM A.A./AI-Anon			

# May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pastor Diane may be contacted by phone 412-716-8392 from 9:00am to 9:00pm for regular communication and any time for emergencies, illnesses and deaths. Her regular office hours are on Wednesdays 10:00-12:00 Trinity, 1:00-3:00 Grace, and 3:00-5:00 Freeport. You may make an appointment to meet in any office.						
4 8:30 Hospitality 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	5 6PM Martial Arts Class	6 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	7 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	8 6:30 PM Finance 7:30 Admin Council	9 6PM Girl Scouts	10 10:00AM NA
11 8:30 Hospitality 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School MOTHERS'S Day	12 6PM Education Meeting 6PM Martial Arts	13 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	14 6:30PM SPR Meeting 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	15 6PM Brownies & Daisies	16 10 AM AVAC Board Meeting 6PM Cadets	17 10:00AM NA
18 8:30 Hospitality 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	19 6PM Martial Arts 6:30PM Trustees meeting	20 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	21 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	22	23 6PM Girl Scouts	24 10:00AM NA
25 8:30 Hospitality 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:15 Visitation Meeting	26 6PM Martial Arts Memorial Day	27 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV	28 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	29	30	31



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TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

847 Tenth Ave, Brackenridge PA 15014

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Mail to:**



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**Trinity United Methodist Church**

Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM Palm Sunday Service  
 Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM "Way of the Cross Walk" details inside this issue  
 Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service at Trinity UM Church  
 Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00 PM AVAC Good Friday Service at Trinity UM Church  
 Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM Easter Sunday Service at Trinity UM Church

