



The Christian Flame

August -September 2025

Bairdford, Janes
Trinity Brackenridge Charge

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

Eat What Is Set Before You

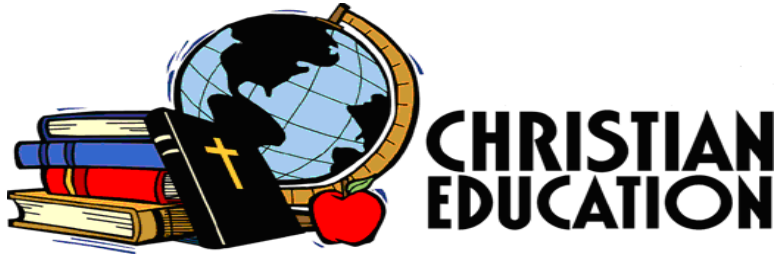
The days continue to fly by, yet I have been finding myself struggling to move on from the very first scripture from Luke 10 which we examined together in worship on July 6th. The richness of Jesus’ sending of his disciples ahead of him might have something more to speak to me, and maybe us, in this season of life and ministry.

The Church in America and “anxiety” have become synonymous as of late. The ways we did church in years past have begun to feel less and less resonant with the communities that we serve and cultivate. Church decline has become a significant financial, relational, and organizational challenge. There is a palpable disconnect and so much uncertainty with how to “fix” all we think of as broken. The problems are too big for us, and I think the answers just might be as well. The Church became experts at throwing our own parties and setting our own tables. I love a good party and am thankful for the hospitality I have witnessed already in the short time I have been with you, especially our welcome picnic. It is good to be together in community!

Jesus gives the 70 in Luke 10 a basic orientation to live as guests as they are sent out. I wonder if that might be where we find sustenance in the days to come: to live as *guests* of the world instead of *hosts* of the party. God might be calling us to practice better table manners as the sent, not as people huddled around a closed table. This is a nerve-wracking way of living, and Jesus seems to know it. He gives comfort and assurance that the disciples will be participants in an ecosystem of gift and care, that as they offer the peace and presence of God, they will discover people of peace and presence. Christ promises his disciples that they will find people of reciprocity. I think we frequently stay put because we simply do not trust Jesus. We like the comfort and control of our spaces, and the familiarity of our tastes and preferences. We struggle to eat what is set before us because we fear it will look unappetizing.

In what ways might the Holy Spirit be inviting us into the same trajectory and trust that Luke attests, and will we begin again in confidence that God in Christ is right behind? Archbishop William Temple is quoted as saying “The Church is the only institution that exists primarily for the benefit of those who are not its members.” I am excited to see all of the ways our local church is serving those who are not yet a part, and I am trusting in these new and nerve-wracking days that there is still yet more work which we are being called into. Let’s dwell with God and see what we might be served up in the world!

Pastor Zack



Submitted by Amanda Bartel

Sunday school is out for the summer but will tentatively start back up in the middle of September. Back to school is a busy time with lots of schedule adjusting and back to school nights etc.... An actual date will be set in August, watch out for more info.

Run by Kathy Flis and Amanda Bartel, our children's class is a one room Sunday school for ages 1 to 99.

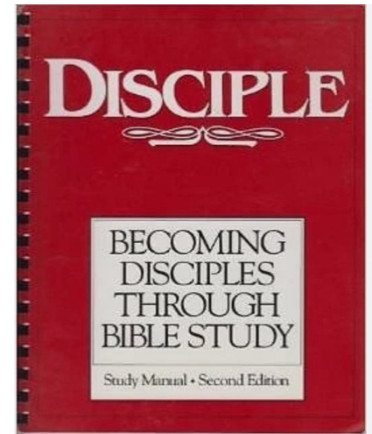
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Submitted by Craig Jerome

The adult Sunday morning Bible study will begin September 21. The class meets after the church service every Sunday for 45 minutes. At the first class, members will pick what to study. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex. Any questions contact Craig at 724-980-6060.



All teachers and students bring your backpack to our worship service Sunday morning, August 24.



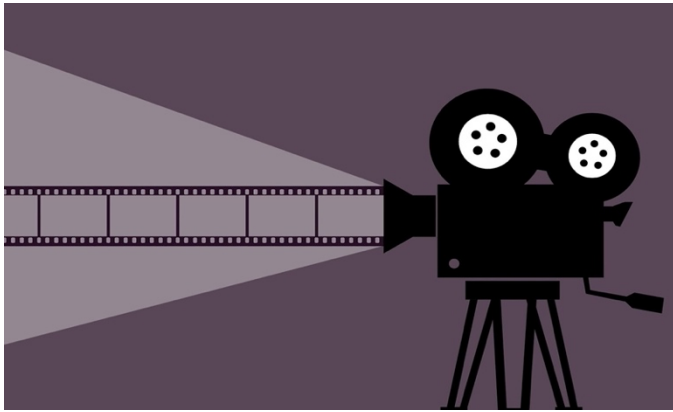
DISCIPLE CLASS

Submitted by Craig Jerome

At Trinity our mission is to, "Make Disciples of Jesus Christ." Beginning the third week of September we will be offering Disciple classes to all three charge churches. Details and dates and time will be decided once discussed with all who sign up.

The Disciple Bible Study series includes four in-depth studies designed to help you grow in faith, knowledge, and relationship with God. Disciple I is an in-depth journey through the entire Bible, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as a revelation of God. The study draws upon the work of scholars, the personal Bible reading and study of the participants, a time of Q & A, and transformational spiritual growth.

Sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Any questions contact Craig Jerome 724-980-6060.



LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION!

Submitted by Amanda Bartel

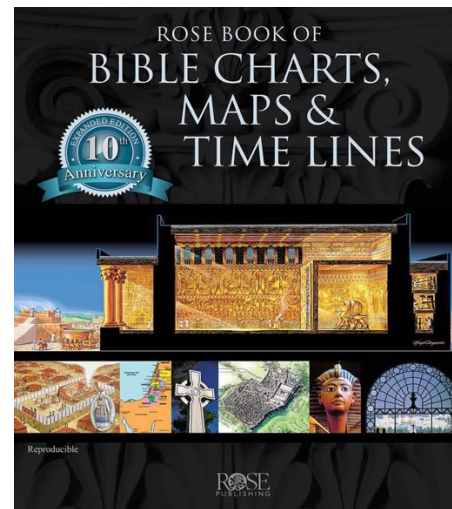
Blanket Hill Productions creates Christian movies and are in the process of making one right now. Aaron Dunbar and his team are looking for volunteers to be extras in their new film. They need to fill a theater. They are looking at Penn Theater in Butler for the shoot. The date is not yet set but will be sometime in August. More information will come when the venue is 100% set.

Please reach out to Amanda Bartel via email or phone at bartelkaw@gmail.com or 724-504-7876 if interested. This may be an all-day obligation, but the opportunity to experience movie making and be a part of creating family friendly entertainment is the experience.

SPECIAL BOOK FIND:

Submitted by Amanda Bartel

If you are like me, I am always looking for anything that will help me dive deeper into the Bible and learn more. Right now Walmart has my special book find, that I am excited to share with you. **Bible Charts, Maps & Time Lines** has just what the title says. Breaking down parts of the Bible to give you a visual resource so you can dive deeper and grow in your knowledge of the Bible. It can be yours for \$29.99 at Walmart or \$22.62 on Amazon.



Who are United Methodists?

The United Methodist Church is a global denomination that opens hearts, opens minds and opens doors through active engagement with our world. The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

A United Methodist is someone who joins in that mission by putting faith and love into action. We believe that God loves all people, and that we share in expressing that love. So the United Methodist tradition emphasizes God's grace and in serving others. We believe that Jesus Christ is the fullest expression of God's love--showing us the fullness of God's care through Jesus' teachings, death and resurrection.

John Wesley started the Methodist movement in 18th century England. His teachings on practical divinity (living out our faith) and appeals to reason and experience form important aspects of United Methodist practice today.

Learn more about our rich theological heritage at <https://www.umc.org/en/who-we-are/what-we-believe>



Submitted by Betsy Buco

The Mission Ministry would like to thank everyone who contributed to Item of the Month for June and July. We have been able to provide the AVAC Food Bank with some much-needed groceries. We received a letter from AVAC thanking us for our generosity and sharing "the warm heart of Christ." Thank you, as well, for donating food items needed for preparing the monthly meals for Family Promise House which is the AVAC homeless shelter in Brackenridge. This is an exciting and rewarding outreach of the Mission Ministry. We are always open to discussing and possibly initiating new programs. There is much need in the local area. Our meetings are the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30. New team members are always welcome. Watch for announcements in the bulletin for ways you can help, too. Thank you for caring!

FOOD BANK

The Item of the Month for August is canned tuna and boxed mac and cheese and for September is toilet paper. These items are needed by the AVAC Food Bank. Please place your donations in the baskets in the Narthex. We are the Church with the warm heart of Christ!

COMMUNITIES OF TRANSFORMATION

Communities of Transformation is a United Methodist ministry that empowers those living without enough income, emotional support, education – without enough hope. Thank you to all who provided ingredients for the meal Trinity provided in July. The sausage quiche, fruit salad and Texas sheet cake was well received. Your generosity is much appreciated.



YOU ARE INVITED

The third Wednesday of each month everyone attending a charge church is invited to join the "Lunch Bunch". This month's "Lunch Bunch" will meet at the New Kensington Dairy Queen, 2100 Freeport Road on August 20th at 11:30. The place for the September 17^h lunch will be decided then. No RSVP necessary.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2	Gayle Mosley	16	Michele Vertosick	24	Susan Denham
4	Tom Fannie	17	Craig Jerome	24	Janet Valasek
8	Maryella Acre	17	Ariella Ruediger	27	Cynthia Fisher
10	Arlene Hill	19	Matthew Beale	28	Cameron Callender
10	Karen Humes	19	Terry Cousins	28	Joshua Denham
13	Donald Rummel	19	Bonnie Fisher	28	Natalie Homa Susan Lutman
14	Robert Gibson	20	Charlie Steele	29	Linda Hughan
15	Kayla Beale	21	James Collins	29	Bill Ruediger

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Becca Bowser	17	Robert Swiklinski	25	Sarah Witucki
1	Bethanne Henry	19	Lisa Uhric	26	Barbara Johnson
6	Cindy Hooks	20	Kelly Gezo Lisa Distillo	26	Jackson Spencer
9	Dennis Aftanas	20	Rocco Przybylek	27	Cynthia Slike
9	Jerry Johns	23	John Fetchko	28	Kolten Bartel
10	Jon Logan	24	Audrey Rogacki	28	Brian Schmitt
14	Melissa Beale	24	Linda Rummel	29	Lisa Cook-Proco
15	Bethany Boberg	24	James Stewart	30	Marlena Ruediger
		24	Michael Huston	30	Joselyn Schrag

If we missed your birthday, please contact Colleen Rudolph at trinitybrackenridge@gmail.com

In Honor and Memory

The following donations to the General Fund have been received:

In Memory of **Vivian Meanor** by Howard & Beth Sarver

In Memory of **Joel Logan** by Homer & Joan Logan

Editor: Chris Steele

Proofreaders: Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph

Assemblers: Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph,
Beth Sarver

**IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY
CALL 9-1-1**

If you ever need to call 911 to get emergency help to the church it is important that you provide the following information: **Church name**, Trinity United Methodist, **Address** (847 Tenth Avenue, Brackenridge), **Entrance** (Front Door or Lower Side Door). Also mention the church is across the street from Prospect Cemetery. 911 dispatch is located near the Pittsburgh airport. Simply saying help is needed at Trinity Church is not enough.

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6PM Disciple II	2	3 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	4	5	6 10AM NA
7 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	8 6PM Martial Arts	9 9AM Heavenly Crafters	10 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	11 10:30AM-12:30PM Hoagie Pickup 6:30 PM Finance 7:30 PM Admin Council	12 10AM AVAC Board 6PM Girl Scouts	13 10AM NA
14 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	15 6PM Martial Arts 6:30PM Trustees	16 9AM Heavenly Crafters	17 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	18 6:30PM Admin. Council	19	20 10AM NA
21 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	22 6PM Martial Arts	23 9AM Heavenly Crafters	24 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	25 6:30 PM Missions	26 6PM Girl Scouts	27 10AM NA
28 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	29 6PM Martial Arts	30 9AM Heavenly Crafters	Pastor Zach office hours Tuesdays 9:15 - 3:00			



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
847 Tenth Ave, Brackenridge PA 15014



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Trinity United Methodist Church

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mail to:



Pick up your Marianna Hoagie fundraiser form beginning August 3. All orders are due Sunday, August 31. Orders will be delivered September 11 with pick up from 10:30-12:30 in the social hall. All hoagies are \$10.00.
Contact Evey at 724-316-7414 if you need an alternate pick-up time.

Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously

A NEW VISION FOR
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

