



The Christian Flame

May - June 2023

Trinity United Methodist Church
847 Tenth Avenue, Brackenridge, PA 15014
724-224-7300

trinitybrackenridge@gmail.com
www.trinitybrack.org

Pastor: Greg Spencer (glspncr@gmail.com) 724-858-5587

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

Dear Friends, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we live into this season of transition of ministry at Trinity Church it is a good time to look back, and to look forward. Looking back, perhaps we can see how God has been with us, moving among us, guiding, blessing, empowering, delivering and commissioning us in and through our ministries. Looking forward, we have options on what and how we will see; which in turn will affect how we think, what we will do, and who we will come to be. My advice: look back with gratitude; look forward with hope.

I look back over our season of ministry together with gratitude to God. We have had to face, and persevere through some major challenges together. Some were physical, some emotional, some spiritual. Nearly every aspect of our lives as Christians, church, and ministry for Jesus were challenged. I am grateful for how the Lord blessed and helped us to come through learn from, and rise above them all! We have made improvements in building, and ministry, in faith and hope, love and discipleship. We have protected and developed church building and its effectiveness as a tool for ministry. We have inspired, encouraged and grown each other in faith, depth, experience and vision. New vitality has started and is emerging. I am excited and grateful! Yes, we have had to endure and to adapt, but Trinity Church has and is growing through it, and it continues to have a purpose and future, for the sake of God’s Kingdom, and the community we serve, so much in need of faith, hope, love, Christ and joy.

I look forward with hope for you and your future as part of a charge. The church is already adapting. There is vision and enthusiasm for new possibilities in relationships, experiences and ministries. Many hold positive vision for the future, so much brighter than some may have thought or feared. God is good!

Like many life changes this is a time when we hold multiple thoughts and feelings simultaneously: grief and concern; hope and determination; confidence and vision. Because we have endured, we know we can. Because we have trusted, and have been blessed, we know we will. And because we see the needs in and around us and know God cares, we are already working on ways to be faithful to meet these needs, certain that God has purpose and place for us and Trinity Church. Praise the Lord!

I thank God for our time together in life, fellowship, and ministry; for all we have learned; how we have grown; friends we have made; and the good that has happened. Chris, Benj and I look forward with thanksgiving and hope. We know in all things God works together for good, and we know our time together has and will help us all, living into the future. We give thanks to and for you; for faith and ministry (past, present & future) for both our family and for you!

God bless you, and this new day of life, faith, and discipleship with Pastor Diane Randolph.
In all things praise the Lord! Amen!

Pastor Greg

Trinity UM Moves to a Three Point Charge

Beginning July 1, 2023, Trinity will be sharing a pastor with Grace UM and Freeport UM churches. Trinity UM welcomes Rev. Diane Randolph as our new pastor.



“Diane Curry Randolph is Pittsburgh born. Raised in Mt. Calvary Church, she is an honors graduate of Wilkinsburg High and Geneva College (Christian Ministry Leadership B.S). She attended Greater Works Outreach School of Ministry, focusing on outreach ministry and pastoral counseling. She matriculated at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and earned her M.Div (including a Missiology Intensive, an Urban Ministry Certificate, and field education at Charter Oak UMC).

Math, science, computer preoccupied, Diane has worked as an Engineering Apprentice, Research Technician and Control Teller for Westinghouse Electric; in physics and Artificial Intelligence at Carnegie Mellon; in Magee and Presbyterian Hospital Laboratories; and for Mellon Bank and Allegheny County.

Randolph currently serves as Senior Pastor of Freeport/Grace Natrona Heights charge. She has also served as Associate Pastor of South Hills Partnership and Senior Pastor of Millvale UMC. Diane serves on the UM Church Union Board and previously ministered at Miracle COGIC, Christ Church at Grove Farm, Greater Works and missioned to Jamaica, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, and Lesotho.

Diane sensed her calling to The United Methodist Church for the holiness of its Wesleyan theology and dedication to justice and understands her call to ordained servant leadership as a sacred calling and responsibility. Her passion is worldwide justice; ethical, social, and economic. Her pedagogic talents toward spiritual growth and her coaching approach to leadership reflect this passion. Philippians 2:13 is her favorite scripture.

The granddaughter of a Methodist pastor, Diane accepted her call to ministry as a young wife and mother of three and is now the proud grandmother of three young children.”

From <https://www.wpaumc.org/appointments>



Your Summer Adventure Begins Here

Jumonville, Wesley Woods Camp Allegheny, and Olmsted Manor, are all dedicated to serving the diverse population of Western PA by offering unique experiences for connecting with God, having fun, and developing spiritual maturity in a natural setting.

Registration and the full calendar of camps can be found on the camping website at wpaumc.org/camping.

Help a child go to camp by donating to the Trinity Camping Scholarship fund today.

Contact Amanda Bartel, if your child is interested in going to camp. bartelkaw@gmail.com

724-504-7876

AVAC SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are due by May 19, 2023. SEE Amanda Bartel for an application.

The scholarship program is intended to financially assist children to attend a faith-based summer camping program. Scholarships of \$50-\$100 are given based on family need.



ALTAR flowers

Two florists offer special pricing for TUMC altar flowers.

Lehman Flower Shop. The price for a single vase is \$25.00. The price for two end vases is \$50.00. Flowers include mini and large carnations and daisies in your choice of colors along with baby's breath and greens.

Bailies Flower Shop price for a single vase is \$35 and \$60 for two end vases. Flowers include carnations, daisies, and mums in your choice of colors along with greens.

Karen Fazio is available to help with any questions. She can be reached at 412-266-5626.

Sign up for flowers on the chart in the Narthex or call Karen. When signing up, please include the florist, name, phone number, name of person you are honoring or remembering, whether you want a single center or two end arrangements and choice of flower colors. Payment must be made by the Sunday of display. Checks made to TUMC can be placed in the offering plate with your name, date of display and Flower Fund on the envelope.

You may also purchase flowers directly by calling Kathy Bailie 724-224-9557 or Joyce Lehman 724-224-3770 to order any other type of arrangement. For donation credit please submit a copy of the paid invoice. *Submitted by Karen Fazio*

MEANINGS OF DIFFERENT COLOR ALTAR CLOTHS

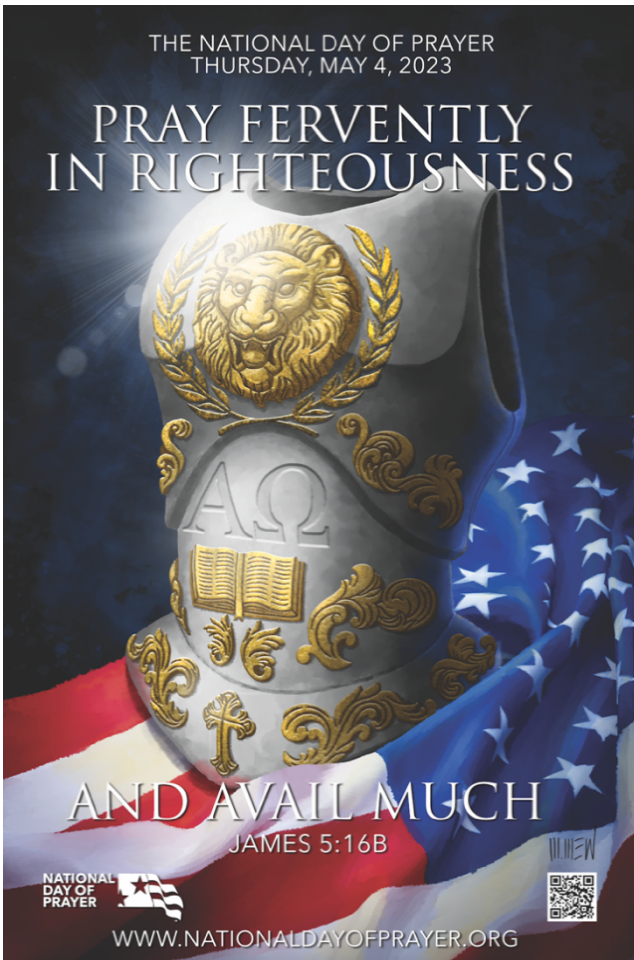
Purple, representing both royalty and penitence, is traditionally used during Advent and Lent.

Blue symbolizes hope and may also be used during Advent.

White and **gold** are used at Christmas and Easter to symbolize joy and festivities.

Red symbolizes the color of fire to represent the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and times when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized.

Green represents growth and is used during Ordinary Time (the season after Epiphany and the season after Pentecost.)



7:00 pm National Day of Prayer Community Service Hosted by Allegheny Valley Association of Churches Natrona Height Presbyterian Church 1428 Broadview Blvd. Natrona Heights, PA



Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship applications are available at high school guidance offices throughout the valley. If you are a high school senior planning on furthering your education, please contact your high school guidance counselor or the AVAC office.

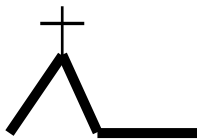


Submitted by Evey Callender

We will be taking orders for Chicken Noodle Soup the first two Sundays in May. Order forms can be picked up or called into Evelyn @724-353-9042 and leaving your name, telephone number and how many quarts you want. Soup will be made the second week of the month and available for pick up the third Sunday of May. Tomato Basil Soup will be for sale in June. Soup will be made the first week of June for pick up on June 11.

The Fundraising Committee will be taking a break in July due to the heat. Hoagies will be for sale in August. Look forward to ordering Ham Cabbage and Potato Soup in September.

Thank You to all our soup makers; Cookie Cousert and friend Karen Vandenheavel, Jan Valasek and friend Kathy McPherson, Linda Rummel, Dara and Buff Nolen, Mary Carol Stitt, Arlene Hill, Ruth Ikenberg, Susan Lutman, Karen Fazio, Betsy Buco and Evelyn Callendar.



DID YOU KNOW?

In 2018 TUMC borrowed \$180,000 to repair the roof of the church. The money was borrowed through Common Roots Credit Union. Common Roots serves the financial needs of United Methodist clergy, as well as all United Methodists and their family members, UM churches, and UM organizations throughout the Western Pennsylvania Conference.

Using the church's endowment fund as collateral the interest rate for the loan is 2.697%. The current balance as of March 31 on the loan is \$103,547.67. We pay \$1,500 per month on the loan.

**We Love You. We Care About You.
We're Here For You.**



At the April Administrative Council meeting TUMC voted to become a Lighthouse Congregation.

“**Lighthouse Congregations** are local churches in the Western PA Conference that are particularly equipped to welcome anyone whose church has closed or disaffiliated and who wish to remain in the United Methodist Church. These congregations will act as a resting place for those seeking a new United Methodist faith community, with people who will care for and provide a haven of peace and grace.

Lighthouse Congregations will:

- **Provide** a welcoming place to belong during this time of grief and transition, **which might be for just a season or for a lifetime.** This includes a safe space with caring relationships, listening hearts, and unconditional love within a congregation that is confident it is remaining in the UMC.
- **Offer** ministry opportunities in which to engage – or not. There will be no pressure.
- **Organize** groups by proactively finding and connecting with individuals and groups displaced by disaffiliating churches.
- **Connect** individuals or groups with Conference and District resources to help them discern their next steps as they consider a new church home.”

From: <https://www.wpaumc.org/lighthouse-congregations>

Storytime in the Park

Submitted by Amanda Bartel



The Education Team is looking for volunteers to help with Storytime in the Park. Held at Brackenridge Park between 10:30-12:30 during the summer months, Storytime in the Park is an outreach to local families. In the past, a story or two was shared with the children, followed by a craft and snack. If you are interested in sharing a story, helping with crafts or snack, contact Amanda Bartel.



Submitted by Amanda Bartel

Currently the children attending Sunday School have been earning tickets for a prize by memorizing scripture, finding scripture in the Bible, being able to interpret what they are reading, encouraging, and helping others to read and memorize scripture. They are so motivated they have asked for additional homework throughout the week. The children have been giving power point presentations on Sunday mornings of research they have done on the disciples and saints. WOW I am truly blown away. Some kids have earned almost 50 tickets in a month.

All are welcome to join the adult Sunday School Class! The class meets in old choir room after church every Sunday.

Thank You from the Education Team

to **Kathy Filis** for joining our team, donating drinks and snacks and helping to teach Sunday School.

to **Linda Hughan** for her wonderful snack donations.

to **Craig Jerome, Karen Fazio, and Dale Cepull** for all their support, help and care they give education.

to **Chris Spencer and Pastor Greg** for all the hard work, time, love, and care they have given our education team during their time at Trinity.

Thank you from Amanda to the entire **Education Team** for all their help, donations and hard work for the Easter egg hunt and Easter treat bags.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED



For making the Crockpot dinner a huge success: Bonnie and Alan Fisher, Karen Fazio, Craig Jerome, Linda Hughan, Dale Cepull and Bill and Sue Barnett.

We celebrate John Wesley's birthday on June 28. How much do you know about Wesley?

1. John Wesley's parents were...

- a) Samuel and Susanna
- b) Henry and Anne
- c) William and Mary
- d) Charles and Diana

2. At the age of five, John Wesley was rescued from...

- a) A well he had fallen into
- b) A devastating fire in his home
- c) The sea, following a shipwreck
- d) A terrible flood

3. John Wesley had a famous conversion moment on London's Aldersgate Street. Why was he there?

- a) To see a tailor about a new clergy robe
- b) To purchase a new saddlebag for circuit riding
- c) To hear his father give a sermon
- d) To attend a Moravian society meeting

4. What was the name of the first Methodist chapel John Wesley used?

- a) The New Room
- b) Methodist Central
- c) St. George's
- d) Epworth

5. What did John Wesley call his outline for discipleship?

- a) The Wesleyan Quadrilateral
- b) The Bermuda Triangle
- c) The General Rules
- d) The Common Book of Prayer

Editor: Chris Steele
Proofreaders: Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph
Assemblers: Karen Fazio, Linda Hughan, Colleen Rudolph

Time of Transition

submitted by Pastor Greg

Here are just a few of the things the congregation must do as we live between pastors and move into life as part of a charge. Let us all pray and consider what God may be calling each of us to do, and how we can help the church in our ministry together.

(In no particular order)

- Person or persons to learn how to operate the church video camera (for online worship)
- Person or Persons to learn how to upload church worship videos to internet.
- Person or persons to learn how to prepare, duplicate and distribute Worship Materials (order guides, announcements, etc.).
- Person or Persons to check and distribute church mail and drop box submissions.
- Person or Persons to answer phones/voicemail and route messages.
- Person or Persons to keep and communicate church calendar.
- Person or Persons to be church contact for Martial Arts; A-A, Al-Anon; N-A; other groups.

Sick & Shut-in



Our sick and shut-in need your calls, your cards, and your visits...but most of all they need all of our prayers.

Addresses and phone numbers can be found in the directory.

Ron & Linda Altany, Viola Bibza, Maxine Carnathan, Timothy & Mary Ann Cornuet, Beverly Frantz, Lucille Hoover, Donald & Ruth Ikenberg, Mary Jane Jack, James Lesky, Homer & Joan Logan, Kathryn Lydick, Janet Mack, Maureen Marianna, Eileen Reckhart, Bonita Robinson, Gwendoline Rose, Lois Scholl, Howard Stewart, Patricia Trettel, Donna Waltenbaugh, Sandra Wilhelm, and Irene Witucki .

Answers: 1a, 2b, 3d, 4a, 5c



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 | |
| 7 Ray Schmaus | 17 Kamryn Cornuet | |

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 3 Howard Sarver | 11 Susan Pungratz | 28 Dartlin Lucas |
| 4 Evan Faltot | 12 Daniel Fetchko | 30 Nancy Fannie |
| 4 Mia Ruediger | 14 Colleen Rudolph | |
| 5 Linda Altany | 18 Penny Ritter | |

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

In Honor and Memory

In addition to the Easter flowers and Noah Fund donations that were listed in a special booklet, the following donations to the General Fund have been received:

In Memory of Marty DeAngelis from:

Aimee Miller
Mark & Kim Miller,
Patrick, Ashley and Sadie Jo Fields
Betsy & Ron Buco
Lisa Faloon
JoAnn Slagle
Sherry & Bill Lauer
Beth & Howard Sarver

In Memory of Mabel Parker from:

The Estate of Mabel Parker

In Memory of Harold & Vivian Meanor, Mildred Meanor, Howard & Ernestine Sarver, and Elaine & Jerry Sarver from:

Howard & Beth Sarver

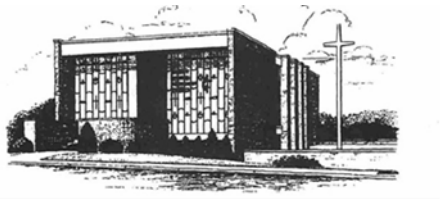


May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 National Day of Prayer 7:00 PM Community Service-Natrona Hts. Presbyterian Church	5	6 10:00AM NA
7 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	8 10AM PPRC 6PM Disciple II 6PM Marital Arts Class	9 9AM Heavenly Crafters	10 9AM-12 Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	11 9:00 AM Finance	12 6PM Girl Scouts	13 10:00AM NA
14 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School MOTHER'S DAY	15 6PM Disciple II 6PM Marital Arts 6:30PM Trustees meeting	16 9AM Heavenly Crafters	17 9AM-12 Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	18 6:30PM Council	19 9AM-12PM Pastor's Office Hours	20 10:00AM NA
21 9:00 Worship SOUP PICKUP 10:00 Sunday School	22 6PM Disciple II 6PM Marital Arts	23 9AM Heavenly Crafters	24 9AM-12 Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	25	26 9AM-12PM Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Girl Scouts	27 10:00AM NA
28 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	29 6PM Disciple II 6PM Marital Arts	30 9AM Heavenly Crafters	31 9AM-12 Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon			

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 10:00AM NA
4 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	5 6PM Disciple II 6PM Martial Arts Class	6 9AM Heavenly Crafters	7 9AM-12 Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	8	9 6PM Girl Scouts	10 10:00AM NA
11 9:00 Worship SOUP PICKUP 10:00 Sunday School	12 10AM PPRC 6PM Disciple II 6PM Martial Arts	13 9AM Heavenly Crafters	14 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	15 9:00 AM Finance	16	17 10:00AM NA
Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference – Erie, PA						
18 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School FATHER'S DAY	19 6PM Disciple II 6PM Martial Arts 6:30PM Trustees meeting	20 9AM Heavenly Crafters	21 9AM-12 Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	22 6:30PM Council	23 9AM-12PM Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Girl Scouts	24 10:00AM NA
25 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	26 6PM Disciple II 6PM Martial Arts	27 9AM Heavenly Crafters	28 9AM-12 Pastor's Office Hours 6PM Disciple I 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	29	30	



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
847 Tenth Ave, Brackenridge PA 15014



Follow us on Facebook at
Trinity United Methodist Church

**Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
Tarentum, PA 15084
PERMIT #5**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mail to:



RISEN TO SAVE Benefit Concert
Sunday May 21, 2023 2:00 pm
Trinity United Methodist Church
*Free Will Offering to Benefit
The Allegheny Valley Association of Churches*