



# The Christian Flame

March-April 2024

Freeport, Grace Natrona Heights  
Trinity Brackenridge

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

**Serve the LORD with celebration! Ps 100:2a**

**<sup>4</sup>While it's daytime, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work. John 9:4**

Siblings in Christ,

This New Year of 2024 is marching right along; we are already in the midst of the Lent. Our Lord Jesus encourages us to serve God while we have time before His imminent return and the Bible encourages us to do this with gladness and celebration in our hearts. This Lenten Season let us not necessarily give anything up but rather let us take something meaningful on. Let each of us eagerly and joyfully render service to others in a way that will make a permanent difference in their lives.

For the Lord our God has proclaimed in **Isaiah 58: 6-7:**

**<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?**

**<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?**

Yes, it may be that others need to hear the gospel message from you that Jesus Saves! Bring to light the good news to another that His arms are open wide to embrace them in love as this other would have a change of heart about who should be in control of the life that they live. As you have opportunity express to others who are suffering in pain the words that “God’s Way is the Best Way” to live this life. Ask them to make Jesus their Lord and Savior through surrender of their will to His will. Let them know that this is all that it takes, a surrender to Him. Jesus will show them the Way, the Truth, and the Life as that is exactly who Jesus is.

It may be that they need to hear the gospel message that Jesus Cares! Jesus has come that all might have life and that more abundantly through the caring Jesus gives to others by our service to them. He has proclaimed to come and set aright the injustices of the world. Jesus has come to relieve the poor in order that the same poor might relieve other poor in service to Him. Jesus has come to set the oppressed and marginalized of society free through the service of our works against injustice of all kinds: gun violence, atrocity of war, climate change, voting rights, racism, gender inequality, and in my heart and mind also, senseless abortion.

The joy and gladness of Lent is that it is an opportunity for each of us to set our hearts aright from sin and to set our lives aright in service to the Lord; it is a season of renewal for us to maintain as we move forward throughout the year.

Blessings,

Pastor Diane



**Ecumenical Ministerium Lenten Series**  
**Thursdays, 12:00 to 1:20 pm, 2024**

Date	Host	Worship Leader/Preacher
Thursday February 22	Trinity Lutheran FRPRT	Rev Adam Clever
Thursday, February 29	UPC Freeport	Rev Diane Randolph
Thursday, March 7	UMC Freeport	Rev Jeff Truscott
Thursday, March 14	Trinity UMC, Brackenridge	<i>From St Mary's FRPRT*</i>
Thursday, March 21	<i>St Mary's RC FRPRT*</i>	<i>From Sower's Chapel*</i>

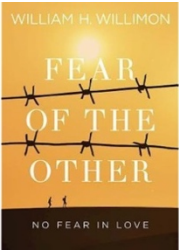
\* To be confirmed

A simple lunch will be served in the church social hall from 12:00 – 12:50.  
 A worship service will begin at 1:00 and last no more than 20 minutes.

**Volunteers are needed** to donate sandwiches, salads, or desserts for the March 14 Lenten Lunch. Monetary donations are also welcome. Volunteers are also needed to set up, serve and clean up. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Questions, see Karen Fazio.

**Wednesday Lenten Study**

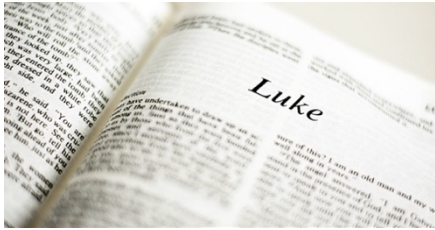
Now Through March 20<sup>th</sup>  
 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
 Parsonage, 126 Elbrook Dr, Natrona Heights



Pastor Diane is leading a study of the book, Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love by Bishop Will Willimon.

**Thursday Lenten Study**

Now Through March 21<sup>st</sup>  
 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
 Andre Room of Grace Church



*Donuts With Disciples* Lenten study, Rev. Sally Jo Snyder is offering a study based on the Gospel of Luke.



**Holy Week**

- Mundy Thursday Service
- Community Good Friday Service
- Easter Sunday Services

- 6:30 pm Grace United Methodist Church
- Noon-3pm Trinity United Methodist Church
- 9am Trinity, 10am Grace, 11am Freeport

This year during Lent the Sunday school is hosting a fundraiser called “Cluck Cluck Give a Buck”. This year we are raising funds for much needed items for the church, everyday items that are needed constantly during the year. This fundraiser will go on throughout lent.

*Submitted by Amanda Bartel*



## ***From the Treasurer***

In the event that you need to be reimbursed for purchases, a voucher form must be submitted. Completed vouchers requesting reimbursement for expenses must be turned into the treasurer as soon as possible. Reimbursement vouchers are paid based on budgeted expenses, available funds, and chairperson authorization. All vouchers must be signed and have a receipt, billing statement, or invoice attached.

Blank vouchers are available in the mailbox in the downstairs hall outside of the office. Voucher mailbox is directly under the Treasurer’s mailbox. Requests submitted without a voucher will not be paid.

Thank you, Colleen Rudolph

	Item	Price		Item	Price
<b>Bathroom:</b>			<b>Hospitality:</b>		
	toilet paper	(12 M.R.) \$45.80		Coffee	(25.9 oz) \$10.47
	hand soap	(refillable)\$5.97	<b>Janitor:</b>		
<b>Kitchen:</b>				Vacuum Cleaner	\$150 - \$300
	13 gallon garbage bags	(40 ct) \$7.72	<b>Office:</b>		
	45 gallon garbage bags	(10 ct) \$14.59		copy paper	(1 Ream) \$5.32
	Bottled Water	(40 ct) \$5.63		envelopes	(40 ct) \$5.99
	Dish Soap	(75 fl oz) \$5.64		stamps	(1 book) \$13.6
	Paper Towels	(24 ct) \$45.80			

# **Policies & Procedures**

The following policies and procedures have been approved by the Administrative Council of TUMC. Copies of complete policies are on file in the church office.

### **Accountable Reimbursement Policy**

Sets forth what expenses the pastor can seek reimbursement for and the procedure for doing so.

### **Designated Funds Policy**

Sets forth conditions under which TUMC may accept designated gifts. This policy aligns the financial operations with the mission of the church and in compliance with the IRS regulations. The following funds have been approved: General Fund, Camp Scholarship Fund, Capital Repair and Improvement Fund, Good Samaritan/Mission Fund, and Noah/Rainy Day Fund.

### **Disbursement Procedures**

Procedures for disbursing funds and assigning authority to the treasurer for regular financial transactions in alignment with the Book of Discipline.

### **Event Counting Procedure**

Procedures for handling money collected at activities, events or other ministries conducted in the name and for the benefit of TUMC.

## EASTER FLOWERS 2024

The Worship committee will be decorating the altar with flowers for Easter Sunday. You may order flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one. In lieu of a flower, you may donate to the NOAH fund.

The person you are honoring will have his/her name printed in the list of those who are being honored.

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Please place a flower/s on the altar at Easter \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a contribution to the NOAH fund \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers available: Circle Color # you are ordering.

Lilys - white	\$12.00	_____
Mums – white, yellow, purple, or pink	\$11.00	_____
Tulips – yellow, red, pink, or orange	\$10.00	_____
Hyacinths – purple, pink, or white	\$10.00	_____
Daffodils – yellow	\$10.00	_____

Flowers will be available for pick-up after the 9:00 am Easter service.

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024**  
**ANY QUESTIONS – SEE KAREN FAZIO**



**Confirmation Classes** will begin on March 14th, 4:30pm-5:30pm, for all interested teens. Contact Pastor Diane for attendance from any church, Amanda Bartel for attendance from Trinity or Linda Shaefer from Grace. *Submitted by Pastor Diane*

*Submitted by Amanda Bartel*

**Children’s Sunday School:** Our Sunday school has been doing the Superbook series and our kids absolutely love it. They are growing in their faith and knowledge of the bible. Superbook is good for literally all ages! If you are interested in learning how you can get the Superbook at home for your children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews etc.... it is easy. Download the Free Superbook Bible App for Kids or go to the website at: <https://us-en.superbook.cbn.com/> Children’s Sunday school will not meet during the summer last day for Sunday school will be Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup>.



**Adult Christian Education Opportunities:** Disciple 1, Disciple 3, and Sunday morning



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. So far, we have four kids between our charges that are going to church camp. We will be reaching out to AVAC for grants and Jumonville for grants as well. There are already funds left over from last year. This still will not be enough as costs keep going up. The education team will be looking at other ways to raise funds for kids to go to camp. 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.

Amanda Bartel: 724-504-7876 or bartelkaw@gmail.com

Church Camp Youth 2024					
Name	Camp	Dates	Price	Event Name	Age Range
Kolten	Jumonville	June 30 - July 5	\$623	Ultimate games	13-16 yrs
Ava	Jumonville	June 30 - July 5	\$533	Middle school sampler	11-13 yrs
Weston	Jumonville	June 30 - July 3	\$289	Mini camp	6-8 yrs
Jaysa	Whitehall	June 23 - June 27	\$250	Elementary camp	3rd - 5th
		Total:	\$1,695		
		Raised:	\$507		

**Help a child go to camp. Donate to the Camping Scholarship fund today.**

# TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH EASTER COOKIE TRAY ORDER FORM

**For Pick-up Sunday, March 24, 2024**

Order your Holiday cookies now! 14" trays with five (5) dozen cookies per tray. Cost is \$40.00 each.  
12" trays with (2 ½) dozen cookies per tray. Cost is \$20.00 each.

Note – Due to the large variety of cookies available, all trays will be different. You may, however, order trays with no nuts. All cookies are home-made. **DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS SUNDAY, MARCH 3.** PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYBLE TO TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. **PAYMENT IS DUE WITH ORDER FORM.** **TRAYS WILL BE WRAPPED IN CELLOPHANE WITH RIBBON AND CAN BE GIVEN AS A GIFT.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_ Large Tray (s) at \$40.00 each (specify type below)

\_\_\_\_ Small Tray (s) at \$20.00 each (specify type below)

\_\_\_\_ Mixed Tray  
(includes cookies WITH nuts)

\_\_\_\_ No Nuts  
(all cookies made WITHOUT nuts)

**COOKIE TRAYS WILL BE LIMITED, SO GET YOUR ORDERS IN EARLY. THIS WILL BE BASED ON WHEN WE RECEIVE YOUR ORDER FORM. FIRST COME BASIS.**

## Soup Sale

Place your order for quarts of soup on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Call Evelyn @724-353-9042 with any questions or to order soup by leaving your name, telephone number and how many quarts you want. Thank You to all our soup makers.

March	Stuffed Pepper Soup	\$ 8
April	Cheesy Potato Soup	\$ 8
May	Tomato Basil Soup	\$10
June	Chicken Noodle Soup	\$ 8



Editor: Chris Steele Proofreaders: Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph Assemblers: Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph, Beth Sarver
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### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 Claudia Stewart	16 Taylor Homa	24 Ronald Collins
4 Howard Stewart	17 Jeanne McDonald	24 Trisha Denny
7 Dara Nolen	18 Alexandra Bonnett	24 Arlene Graham
8 David Hazlett	18 Janice Cowan	25 Colleen Cousert
8 Erin Hepler	19 Diane Blucher	26 Brian Bartrug
8 Mary Jane Jack	19 Kara Bowser	26 Nicolet Ruediger
10 Amy Helgert	19 Madyson Deyo	27 Tracy Tindall
11 Madelynn Callender	19 Kierstin Howells	27 Suellen Faustini
11 Karen Fazio	19 Loretta Null	27 Juanita Graham
13 Anthony Homa	20 Brenden Kovel	28 Kajsa Siewczak
14 Denise Cousins	21 Dawson DeAngelis	28 Lucas Bernstein
14 Linda Jentgens	21 Lynette Deyo	28 Virginia Ross
15 Madison McGough	21 Jason Ruediger	28 Dawn Stobert
15 Roma Pilston	23 Amy Hall	29 Timothy Mackowski
15 Cory Sofaly	23 Deontae Lucas	29 Stephanie Rommes
15 Sarah Wagoner	23 Heather Slike	29 Betty Ruediger

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3 William Kovel	9 Jaci Bowser	24 Casey Collins
4 Jamee Bonnett	12 Elizabeth Buco	25 James Morris
4 Erica Mell	12 Dylan Eberle	25 Kris Stover
4 Rosemary Tritschler	14 Marion Mortimer	25 Trevor Uhrich
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 Buco
7 Dustin Gentile	19 Theodore Tomson	30 Joseph Tritschler
7 Jeffrey Vanderhoff	22 Jodi Bowser	30 Carol Wolfe
8 Joshua Mell	22 Jeane DeAngelis	

If we missed your birthday, please contact Colleen Rudolph at [trinitybrackenridge@gmail.com](mailto:trinitybrackenridge@gmail.com)

### In Honor and Memory

The following donations to the General Fund have been received:

**In Memory of:**

**Robert Hunter McKinley and the Dawson Family** by Steven Hang McKinley



# March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6PM Girl Scouts	2 10AM NA
3 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School COOKIE ORDERS DUE	4 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts	5 9AM Heavenly Crafters	6 2PM Disciple III 6PM Lenten Study 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	7 12PM Ecumenical Lenten Series FUMC 6:00PM Education Meeting 6:30PM Bible Study Grace UMC	8	9 10AM NA
10 8:45 M Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School SOUP ORDERS DUE	11 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts	12 9AM Heavenly Crafters	13 2PM Disciple III 6PM Lenten Study 6:30PM SPR Meeting 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	14 12PM Ecumenical Lenten Series TUMC 6:30PM Bible Study Grace UMC 6:30PM Finance 7:30PM Admin. Council	15 10AM AVAC Board 6PM Girl Scouts	16 10AM NA
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY						
17 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School FLOWER ORDERS DUE SOUP PICK UP	18 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts 6:30PM Trustees	19 9AM Heavenly Crafters	20 2PM Disciple III 6PM Lenten Study 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	21 12PM Ecumenical Lenten Series St. Mary's 6:30PM Bible Study Grace UMC	22	23 10AM NA
24 PALM SUNDAY	25 9AM AVAC Easter Distribution 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts	26 9AM Heavenly Crafters	27 2PM Disciple III 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	28 6:30PM Maundy Thursday Service Grace UMC	29 12PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 6PM Girl Scouts	30 10AM NA
8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School EASTER						



# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts	2	3 2PM Disciple III 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	4 6PM Education	5	6 10AM NA
7 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School	8 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts	9 9AM Heavenly Crafters	10 2PM Disciple III 6:30 PM SPR Meeting 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	11 6:30PM 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 SOUP ORDERS DUE	15 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts 6:30PM Trustees	16 9AM Heavenly Crafters	17 2PM Disciple III 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	18	19	20 10AM NA
21 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School SOUP PICK UP	22 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts	23 9AM Heavenly Crafters	24 2PM Disciple III 8PM A.A./AI-Anon	25	26 6PM Girl Scouts	27 10AM NA
28 8:45AM Fellowship 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School 10:15 Visitation Meeting	29 6PM Disciple I 6PM Marital Arts	30 9AM Heavenly Crafters				



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
847 Tenth Ave, Brackenridge PA 15014



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Trinity United Methodist Church

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PERMIT #5**

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Mail to:**



**An outreach ministry for teens** will begin at 2:30pm - 4:00pm on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at the Freeport 1833 Coffee Shop. It will consist of refreshments, song, scripture, a question-and-answer session, and possibly an icebreaker fun game. More info to come on whether it will occur bi-weekly or monthly. More to follow on any expansion to the Natrona Heights and Tarentum coffee shops.

*Submitted by Pastor Diane*

**Story Time in the Park**, is a summertime program held at Brackenridge park on Wednesdays from 11am to 12pm. All are welcome! Story, craft, and lunch are provided for all who attend. If you would like to volunteer to read a story or help set up please reach out to Education Coordinator Amanda Bartel at 724-504-7876 or [bartelkaw@gmail.com](mailto:bartelkaw@gmail.com). Start date is TBD.



**Storytime  
in the Park**