

## Worship With Us

SUNDAY:

Traditional Service 9 am

Contemporary Service 11 am



# TRINITY

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The  
Christian Flame

847 Tenth Avenue, Brackenridge, PA 15014 / Web: [www.tumc-brackenridge.org](http://www.tumc-brackenridge.org) / Office: 724-224-7300

## Recurring Events

### Sundays

- 10:15 am Prayer Ministry
- 2 pm Disciple 1 Bible Study
- 6 pm Youth Group

### Mondays

- 6 pm Martial Arts (free class)
- 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study  
(2nd Monday only)

### Wednesdays

- 4 pm Spaghetti Dinner (\$1)  
(3rd Wednesday only)
- 6 pm Tai Chi (free class)
- 7 pm Chorus Rehearsal
- 8 pm AA/AL-ANON

### Thursdays

- 6:30 pm Disciple 3 Bible Study

### Fridays

- 6:00 pm Girl Scouts (every other)

### Saturdays

- 6 pm Praise Rehearsal



Beginning the year on a light note with an evening of fellowship at Tube-A-Palooza, a group of TUMC people hit Seven Springs resort. After each high-speed slide down one of the 11 snow tubing lanes, the Magic Carpet whisked the tubers back to the top of the mountain for round after round of fun!

In addition to experiencing an exhilarating winter recreation, everyone also enjoyed a bonfire, free pizza, free hot dogs and free hot chocolate.

# LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE



### **New Year – New Beginning**

Do you know what is the most important part of the nativity/Christmas story for people in every generation? It is not the angels, shepherds or wise men. What matters most is not the event, but what comes next. If all we had was the nativity story, it would not help much. It is great that God comes to be with us in the form of Jesus, but what matters most to God, is what happens because of it.

Shepherds (not known for faith), go through the streets praising God. Wise Men from the east, obviously from other cultures, upon seeing the Christ child, drop to their knees, give the best treasures they had, and went home, telling the story. A man with leprosy, when healed tells everyone. A tax collector devotes himself to caring for everyone with whom he deals. Repeatedly, through history, we hear stories of people, whose lives change upon meeting Christ. Filled with joy, they share the good news with everyone they can. **The story of Christmas is about new life and response to God with us.**

At Trinity, we have been working hard to bring new life and spirit. Like many churches, for decades we experienced a steady decline toward closing. We lost spirit, purpose, vitality and life. Then God came, and we are blessed to see the Lord empowering and helping our church to be saved from destruction. Physically, financially, spiritually, in fellowship, popularity with the community and restoration of discipleship, God is reviving, restoring, and renewing Trinity church. Joy is increasing in our fellowship. The community is taking notice. Christ has come into our midst and many are seeing him anew. The life of our church is changing. In joy, like the faithful before us, we are sharing the good news.

**What is vital for those of us who care about the present and future of church, fellowship, faith and ministry of Trinity Church, is to unite in God's vision and purpose for our church and us.**

God does not want churches to close. The Lord wants (and the world needs) the churches to grow and thrive. It is up to us to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. We are to care enough for God and people that we share the Good News so others may come to meet, know the Lord, and gain the joy and blessing we cherish. **It is not about us, but the people/community for whom we are given to care.**

**We need everyone to support our church, ministry and purpose with prayer, finances, service, and most of all, sharing the good news of God in our midst, with everyone, and with the same excitement, gratitude and enthusiasm as those who have gone before. THIS IS OUR TIME!**

God's goal (and ours) is for "peace on earth, good will toward everyone," in peace, harmony, love and joy, with and through our Lord Jesus Christ. When God is with us what happens next can be the most wonderful things, in which both heaven and earth rejoice.

***Happy New Year!***



---

## TIDBITS

---

### Look Back and Smile

---

In the past year, we devoted a great deal of attention to increasing fellowship and outreach to the community. What an increase in positive attitude and spirit we have seen blossoming in our church through it. Can you remember these highlights?

Formation of a new youth group	Re-starting our Sunday School	
Formation of a new Hospitality Team devoted to fellowship activities for the whole church.		
Establishing a Movie Nights Ministry Team (and regular monthly presentations).		
Antique Car Show	Risen to Save Concert	Moon Landing Concert
Laser Light Show	Classical Music Concerts	Acoustic Music Concert
Open Mic Afternoon	Christmas Dance	Steelers Tailgate
Summer Riverside Picnic	Christmas Church Dinner	Monthly Spaghetti Dinners
Bus Trips	Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise	Ice Skating at PPG Place
Youth Trip to the Coolspring Corn Maze	Marianne Cornetti Concert	

**Just think of what we can look forward to through 2020 and beyond.**

### The Gift that Provides Ministry

---

**Always! Remember the church endowment fund in your will.**

If you would like to donate to the church (particularly in your will and estate planning), please consider giving to the Trinity Church Endowment Fund. This permanent fund provides quarterly income to the church from the interest and dividends earned.

### Stewardship

---

**Do you know what “Stewardship” means?**

The first commandment from God, in the Bible, and continues to this day, is what God told Adam and Eve: “Tend the Garden”. **“Stewardship”** means faithful people being responsible with their time, talents, skills, and resources to “Tend the Garden,” which, in this case, means the ministry and fellowship of the church, outreach to the community, care for people and planet, and helping the kingdom of God to Grow, and grow healthy.

**The first step of stewardship is the Tithes**, which is giving the first ten percent (10%) of our income and financial resources to God. The Second Step is to support and participate in the ministries of the church with time, talent, skill and enthusiasm. Practically speaking, our first gift should be to the General Fund and, in addition, to a Designated Fund, the top two being: (1) Roof and (2) Heating.



---

## EMBRACE YOUR MINISTRY

---

In the past some forgot or perhaps never knew, that Christian Discipleship is for all Christians, not just those paid. All are called by God to participate in ministry and service to God and one another in both church, community and around the world. The church and pastor's role in this is to provide inspiration, education, motivation, opportunity and resourcing to "equip the saints for ministry" (Ephesians 4:12). We are neither called, nor expected to be sheep. We ARE expected to identify, embrace and offer ourselves in ministry to one another.

In this new decade, beginning in the first quarter (January through March) Here are some of the resources, training, education, and opportunities we pray will help you become a full disciple of Jesus Christ, and provide your own ministries, with, for, and through our church.

### **Classes:**

How to become a Contagious Christian

Learning how to be the best Christian Disciple you were created and called to be.

Disciple Bible Study

An International Trip to the Holy Land (2021)

### **Ministry Training:**

How to run and maintain an effective commercial Kitchen (certification)

How to operate the church sound systems

How to organize Group Trips

How to sponsor and promote Special Events for church and community

### **Ministry and Missions Opportunities**

Visitation Ministry

Worship and service at a soup kitchen

Hospitality Ministry

Posters, Banners, Social Media, Promotions

Movie Night

Fine Arts Ministry

Story Time

Vacation Bible School

### **Fellowship Opportunities**

Ballroom/Square and Country Line Dancing

Picnics and Outings

Fundraising Events

Summer Car Show

Small Groups



## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Band Together

Generally, the Open Mic events are the second Sunday of the month 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Steamworks Creative Listening Room, Route 8, Butler. (The Spencers attend regularly.) Plans are being made for 2020, which will include events at TUMC. **These events are open to all.**

For more information, see or call Pastor Greg.

### Homebound or Sick

Please remember to call, visit, or send a card to our friends who are permanently or temporarily "shut-in." Call Sue Barnett (724-226-3512) for details and addresses.

Margaret Anderson, Charles Voscamp, Patricia Trettel, Joe Witucki, Cathy Callender, Gladys Sorenson, Tammy Laux.

### Heavenly Crafters Soup Sale

Mmm! Mmm! Good! There are two more opportunities, February and March, to purchase Trinity's homemade soups. Check the following schedule:

**February 14** - Chicken Noodle Soup  
Ham, Cabbage, and Potato Soup

**March 13** - Stuffed Pepper Soup

Please sign-up on the sheets in the Narthex. Deadline for each month is the Sunday before the soup is made. The soup is \$7 per quart with a two quart limit. Pick-up is from 4-5 pm on the day the soup is made or the following Sunday between 10-11 am. Profit from this fundraiser is used to support the church and its programs.

Orders can, also, be placed by calling the Church Office, 724-224-7300. Thank you and enjoy your soup in good health!

### Welcome to our New Members!

Welcome, Susan & John Lutman!

### Souper Bowl of Caring

Founded in 1990 and committed to giving 100% of its donations to local charities, the Souper Bowl of Caring will hold its campaign on February 2nd. By donating a can of soup or other food item or by contributing money, you can help change the nation's biggest weekend of football into a bigger weekend of caring.

### February Birthdays

2 - Lou Ann Homa, Jan Miller, Madison Shuss; 3 - Trevor Reilly; 5 - Michael Wagoner; 8 - Viola Bibza, Ronald Reckhart; 10 - Donovan Carson, Kylee Mack; 11 - Jaycey Rankin; 12 - Brooke Sciscianni, Charles Voskamp; 14 - Kim Fetchko; 15 - Janie Collins, Lois Scholl; 16 - Jody Przybylek; 17 - Tom Baker, Cliff Beattie, Matthew Callender, Lynn Sontum, Linda Staug, Ted Tomson; 19 - Toby Crytzer, Emma Sarver, Cathy Schmaus; 20 - Frank Budz IV, Tony Gephardt, Emma McLafferty, Trinity Lang; 21 - Brooke Thimons; 22 - Michael Gezo, Jennifer Milisits, Bonnie Robinson; 24 - Mark Marshall; 25 - Judy Jarosinski, Meghan Russell; 26 - Kris Przybylek, Isabel Shuss; 27 - Daniel Miller, Mindy White; 28 - Pastor Greg, Dianne Mackowski, Bruce Mahan.

### March Birthdays

1 - Valjean Armor; 2 - Heatherlyn Mackowski; 3 - Heather Patterson; 4 - Tristen Newell, Howard Stewart, Claudia Stewart; 5 - John Wilhelm; 6 - Gabrielle Blayden, Minday Bowser, Wayne Perry; 7 - Dara Nolen; 8 - David Hazlett, Erin Hepler, Mary Jane Jack; 9 - David Beattie; 10 - Amy Helgert; 11 - Madelynn Callender, Jalynn Milisits, Karen Fazio; 13 - Tony Homa; 14 - Linda Jentgens Denise Cousins; 15 - Ronna Pilston, Cory Sofaly; 16 - Wilson Haller, Taylor Homa; 18 - Alexandra Bonnett, Janice Cowan, Marlene Haller; 19 - Kara Bowser, Madyson Deyo, Loretta Null; 20 - Brenden Kovel; 21 - Lynette Deyo, Jason Ruediger, Mardell Walter; 24 - Ronald Collins, Trisha Spece, Arlene Graham; 26 - Nicolet Ruediger, Tracy Tindall; 27 - Suellen Faustin, Juanita Graham, Kajsa Siewczak; 28 - Lucas Bernstein, Virginia Ross, Dawn Stobert; 29 - Don Ikenberg, Betty Ruediger.

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Choir

Anyone wishing to join the Trinity Choir, please see Evelyn Callender or give your name and phone number to Pastor Greg or our church secretary, Sherry.

The choir decides when they are singing and rehearse for that Sunday. Our next time to sing will be Easter and we will begin practice again on the first Wednesday of March at 6:30 pm.

### Heavenly Crafters Resume

Ready to chase away those winter blues? Join the Heavenly Hands Crafters beginning Tues., Feb. 4! We meet every Tuesday from 9-11 am to fashion craft items for our Country Store in November. Our group begins with prayer and we support the mission work of Deb Gephardt with voluntary donations. No talent is needed; supplies and fellowship are provided. As a special perk, we go to lunch afterward. We are looking forward to seeing you on Feb. 4. Questions: call Betsy Buco at 724-224-1062.

### Altar Flowers

The 2020 flower chart is posted on the office door. If you wish to purchase flowers in memory of or in honor of someone, there are many dates available. Flowers will be placed on the altar. Please sign-up at least a month in advance. The cost is \$25 for one vase and \$40 for two vases. If the date you want is not available, call Betsy Buco at 724-224-1062 as we can accommodate your request. Please remember to mark your payment to Altar Flowers before you place it in the offering plate. Let's endeavor to make our altar beautiful to enhance our worship experience.

### Staying in Touch

To contact the church, you may call 724-224-7300 (office) or 724-858-5587 (Greg) or you may email the following people at the following addresses - Pastor Greg: ([greg@tumc-brackenridge.org](mailto:greg@tumc-brackenridge.org)); Secretary: Sherry ([sherry@tumc-brackenridge.org](mailto:sherry@tumc-brackenridge.org)); Treasurer: Jim ([jim@tumc-brackenridge.org](mailto:jim@tumc-brackenridge.org)).

*If your street address, email address or phone number(s) have changed, please contact us and let us know so that we can make sure your correct information is in the upcoming church directory.*

### Meeting Dates

February			March		
Date	Time	Committee	Date	Time	Committee
2 <sup>nd</sup>	12:30 pm	Education	8 <sup>th</sup>	12:30 pm	PPR
8 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	Finance	10 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Missions
11 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Missions	14 <sup>th</sup>	11:30 am	Finance
17 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Trustees	15 <sup>th</sup>	12:30 pm	Education
			16 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Trustees
			19 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Admin Council
			24 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	Worship

# The Church in Action



---

# THANKS TO YOU

---

## HEARTFELT THANKS FROM THE PASTOR AND STAFF

---

Thank you members and friends who have been so gracious by your Christmas gifts. Some individually gave cards, some Christmas cookies, and there was even a special offering given while we were away on vacation. My family and I are honored and blessed by your love and support. I also want to thank you all for your generous gifts to our lay staff. Your gifts of love and gratitude for their service are deeply appreciated.

Thank you, God bless you, and God bless our church throughout this New Year!  
Sincerely, Pastor Greg, Chris, Benjamin, and Jackson Spencer

\* \* \* \* \*

We - Bob, Evey, Jim and Sherry - would like to thank the congregation for the "Christmas check" each one of us received. We were utterly astonished and astounded and filled with a profound sense of gratitude and appreciation. We all feel very blessed to be working at Trinity United Methodist Church and we were touched by your kindness and generosity.

## THANKS TO ALL VOLUNTEERS, LEADERS, STAFF

---

**Thanks to All Volunteers, Helpers, Leaders and Church Staff** for all you did and provided in 2019 to help our church in our ministry together. We are grateful for your service and ministries to us and our community. God bless you.

## THANKS TO ALL JOINING MINISTRY TEAMS

---

**Thanks to all Persons Joining Ministry Teams for 2020!** We are grateful for your faith and service. God bless and help you as you facilitate our ministry and growth through this New Year.

---

---

### *IN HONOR OF / IN MEMORY OF*

Unless you specify that you want your "in memory of / in honor of" donation to go to paying off the roof repairs, the church will use your gift where it is most needed.

To be used to pay for the roof repairs \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

## EASTER LILIES

The Worship Committee will be decorating the altar for Easter Sunday with Lilies. You may order a lily in honor of or in memory of a loved one. In lieu of a lily, you may make a donation to the General Fund.



The person you are honoring will have his/her name printed in the list of those who are being honored. A small portion of the monies collected will be placed in the Flower Fund.

Please place a lily on the altar at Easter \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a contribution to the General Fund \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

Price of Lily (\$9.00) . . . Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_

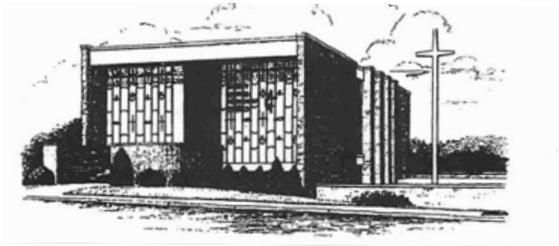
General Fund contribution . . . Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

Lilies will be available for pick-up after the 11 am Easter service or during the following week from 9 am - 1 pm.

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERS: Sunday, March 29, 2020**

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



From:  
Trinity United Methodist Church  
847 Tenth Avenue  
Brackenridge, PA 15014

TO: