



The Christian Flame

October November 2024

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

Stewardship: A Calling to Care for God's Gifts

As followers of Christ, we are called to live as stewards of the many blessings God has entrusted to us. What does stewardship really mean for us today as a community of faith at Trinity United Methodist?

At its core, stewardship is about recognizing that everything we have—our time, talents, and treasures—comes from God. We are not owners, but caretakers, of these gifts. In Psalm 24:1, we are reminded, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” This passage reminds us that we are part of God’s creation and are responsible for caring for the resources, relationships, and opportunities He provides.

Time - One of the greatest gifts God gives us is time. Each day is a new opportunity to serve Him and others. As stewards of our time, we are called to prioritize our relationship with God through prayer, worship, and service. Whether it’s volunteering at church, reaching out to someone in need, or spending time in spiritual growth, using our time wisely is an essential part of stewardship.

Talents - God has uniquely gifted each of us with talents and abilities meant to be shared with others. In 1 Peter 4:10, we read, “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, as faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” Whether you provide special music, serve as a liturgist, teach Sunday school, or greet people at the door, your talents play an important role in building up the body of Christ.

Treasure - When it comes to financial stewardship, we are reminded that our resources, like everything else, belong to God. The act of giving is not just a financial transaction; it is an act of worship and trust. In giving back to God, we acknowledge that He is our provider. Proverbs 3:9 instructs, “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.” Whether it is tithing, supporting missions, or helping a neighbor, our financial contributions reflect our commitment to God’s work in the world.

A Heart of Gratitude - Stewardship is ultimately about gratitude. When we give of our time, talents, and treasure, we are expressing thanks to God for His many blessings.

This season, we invite you to **prayerfully consider how God is calling you to be a faithful steward. How can you use your gifts, resources, and time to further His work here at Trinity and beyond?** Together, let’s embrace stewardship as an act of worship, trusting that as we give, God will multiply our efforts for His glory.

Source: Assisted by Open AI. [ChatGPT https://chat.openai.com/chat](https://chat.openai.com/chat)

#BeUMC

“When John Wesley was beginning to realize the full extent of the reformation he was leading in the Anglican Church, he began to develop fundamental principles upon which his reformation would stand. Three of the very important pillars he conceived were that the **church should be connectional, clergy should be itinerant**, and the **church should have doors that are wide open** to all believing Christians and to people yearning to discover how to move toward a Christian life...

Through the years, the connected churches of John Wesley’s time have become the United Methodist Church we know today. The principles on which it was built are as vital today as they were then. We are **CONNECTED**. Our global reach in support of disasters, the disadvantaged, those seeking to find their way into a Christian life and those continuing the mission of disciple-making are supported by every member of the world-wide United Methodist community through our Apportionment system.

Although much larger, more global and more diverse, our Connectional Apportionment system today “connects the dots” between our local churches, Conferences and the denomination to Kingdom-building efforts in our communities and throughout the world. Our resources are marshaled at various places such as our own Mission Barn and other United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) depots, colleges, global missions and ministry centers.

We don’t often see all of this from [Trinity] but be assured that it is working and effective and each and every one of us is united in outreach as we work to fulfill our great mission of “providing resources to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” (From [What Are We Paying For? Why?](https://www.wpaumc.org/blogdetail/what-are-we-paying-for-why-4329705) By Larry Bridge <https://www.wpaumc.org/blogdetail/what-are-we-paying-for-why-4329705>)

Trinity is benefiting directly in the following ways:

- ❖ The Freeport, Grace, Trinity Charge is currently receiving an Equitable Compensation Grant of \$1,049.78 monthly. This money assists in paying our monthly bills.
- ❖ Covered the cost of substitute preachers during Pastor Diane’s leave of absence.
- ❖ Provided an interest-free loan to cover the cost of Pastor Greg’s benefits from November 2022 to June 2023. His policy was not cancelled, and Pastor Greg did not experience a lapse in his health care coverage.
- ❖ Received a grant in the amount of \$921 that was used to pay for the Storytime in the Park program.

ALLEGHENY VALLEY ASSOCIATION
OF CHURCHES

Walk For Hunger

All the proceeds go to support local hunger needs of the Allegheny Valley through the AVAC Food Bank and Emergency Assistance programs.



Sunday, October 6, 2024



Church Charge Conference

The date of the annual Charge Conference for this year is **Saturday, October 10, 6:30 pm** at **Grace UM Church**.

All who attend the three churches in the charge are encouraged to attend, and all church members have the privilege to vote on matters before the charge.

At this meeting we will set the pastor's support for 2025, elect church leadership, and discuss the state of the church and denomination. All are welcome, please join us.



Submitted by Evey Callender

There will be no soup sale in October. Visit the Holiday Country Store November 2 to get a variety of soups. Call Evelyn @724-353-9042 with any questions.

Thank you to all our soup, stuffed pepper and stuffed cabbage roll makers.



Keep Your Contact Information Current

Recently we have discovered that some of you have changed phone numbers, addresses, or email addresses. If you have made any of these changes over the past year, please let us know so that we can keep our records up to date.

Additionally, if you wish to be contacted by email when there is important church information such as a cancellation or closing or other happenings or events, let Colleen know you want to be added to the group list. Your email address will not be shared with anyone outside of the church

Please call Colleen at 724-224-7329 or email information to Colleen Rudolph at trinitybrackrenridge@gmail.com to update your information.



All Saints Day is **November 3**. We invite everyone to give a **SPECIAL OFFERING** to Trinity Church in Memory of Family members, Friends, and Saints who have been meaningful in your life. Mark your envelope All Saints.

We will publish the list of all gifts received by November 3 in our Worship Announcements and the December January Newsletter.



Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Sunday, October 27.

We need someone to organize this popular event. Let's not miss this opportunity to welcome the community to Trinity.

Monetary donations to cover the cost of pizza and water are also needed.

See Amanda Bartel to offer your help.

DISCIPLE

BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

Submitted by Craig Jerome

What is the most important decision of all our lives?

To make sure 100% we have salvation so we can be raptured before the Tribulation starts on this earth

How do we get it?

By studying the Bible, understanding scripture, and knowing Jesus and who the Holy spirit is and what he does in our daily lives.

Where? Disciple class

It's never too late to join our Disciple IV class which meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm. Questions, call Craig Jerome @ 724-980--6060



Before heading back to school our children and their backpacks were blessed by Rev. Darlene Ryniec. Each child received an angel to carry with them.

Children's Sunday School has begun. The children are learning to see the Bible as a source of answers to life's questions. They are currently working through the stories found in the books of the Old Testament.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets every Sunday at 10:15. The group is discussing **The Fruit of the Spirit: The Measure of Christian Maturity**, written by Andy Ripley. It is a profound guidebook that explores the ways in which Christians can develop and showcase their spiritual maturity. All are welcome.



You Can Help Create a Beautiful Worship Environment

Submitted by Karen Fazio

The Worship Committee wants to welcome all to our church family tradition of Hanging of the Greens. It is a great start for kicking off the holiday season.

Please join us after the church service on November 24th as we decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season.

Everyone can help us beautify the church for the Holy Holiday Season! Whether you are 2 or 92 there are ways you can help. You are needed to help decorate the Sanctuary, Social Hall, Parlor, Choir Room, Hallways,

Bulletin Boards, and outside the building.

Ask or call Karen Fazio 412-266-5626 with any questions. Hope to see you all there.

The Worship Committee welcomes everyone to decorate the altar for Christmas with the purchase of beautiful red poinsettias. Poinsettias will be arranged on the altar for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

You can purchase plants individually, as a dedication in honor of someone, or in memory of a loved one. Cost for poinsettias is \$12.00. In lieu of a poinsettia you may donate to the Noah Fund ("rainy day" monies to meet unexpected and emergency needs). Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 15th. Please include cash or checks made out to TUMC with your order form.



2024 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Cost \$12.00 each. Check or cash due with order. **Write Poinsettias on the check and envelope please.** All orders due by Sunday, December 15, 2024. Please pick up your flowers after Christmas Eve worship.

Name of Donors

Telephone Number

Check off one of the following: Poinsettia on the Altar

Donation to Noah Fund

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Number of plants ordered: _____ @ \$12.00 each _____ Total Enclosed

\$ _____ Noah Fund Donation in lieu of a poinsettia



Altar Flowers

Submitted by Karen Fazio

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.

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.



As a person of faith, ... Pledge to honor [your] spiritual commitment to justice, love, and community by exercising my right to vote... Commit to:

Grounding [Your] Vote in Faith: ...Seek guidance from [your] faith traditions, scriptures, and engage in holy conversations with others to inform [your] decisions at the polls, ensuring that your vote aligns with the principles of justice, mercy, and compassion.

Praying for Wisdom: ...Pray for discernment and wisdom as [you] engage with candidates and issues, asking God to guide [your] heart and mind in choosing leaders who will work for the well-being of all people.

Standing for Justice: ...Vote for policies and leaders that promote equality, dignity, and justice, particularly for those who are marginalized, oppressed, and vulnerable in our society.

Encouraging Your Faith Community: ...Actively encourage [your] fellow believers to participate in elections, reminding them of the power we have to effect positive change through our votes.

Seeking Peace and Reconciliation: ...Use [your] voice to support initiatives that foster peace, reconciliation, and the healing of divisions within our communities and nation.

Holding Leaders Accountable: ...After the election, hold elected officials accountable to the values of justice, love, and righteousness, advocating for policies that reflect our collective faith commitments.

Voter Toolkit: [Sacred Votes: A Guide to Election Participation, Justice, and Social Transformation](https://www.resourcesumc.org)
<https://www.resourcesumc.org>



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Janet Aftanas | 12 Kristen Cornuet | 23 Timothy Collins |
| 2 Harry Crytzer | 13 Gayla Wilson | 24 Steven Witucki |
| 2 Theresa Crytzer | 15 Lisa Rubendall | 25 Diana Lucas |
| 4 Dianne Baker | 17 Mary Ann Krysik | 26 Betty Reesman |
| 9 Bridget Snebold | 17 Ryan Snebold | 28 Alayna Collins |
| 11 Chris Steele | 20 Cody Collins | |

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Michele Marshall | 6 Shelley Eberle | 15 Erica Collins |
| 1 Kelly Robinson, | 8 Billie Godlewski | 16 Sandra Wilhelm |
| 3 Devan Chapman | 8 Kristin Wildi | 29 Grabielle Collins |
| 3 Christine Spencer | 8 Jan Witucki | 29 Connor Dlubak |
| 4 Sarah Connolly | 10 Sharon Rankin | |
| 5 Robin Robinson | 11 George Faltot | |

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

In Honor and Memory

The following donation to the general fund has been received:

In Memory of Viola Bibza by The Heavenly Crafters




Deadline for the December/January issue of The Christian Flame is November 20. Please give all articles to Chris Steele or send to her email at clsteele@gmail.com.

Editor: Chris Steele


Proofreaders: Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph

Assemblers: Linda Hughan, Betty Ruediger, Colleen Rudolph, Beth Sarver

October 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------------|
| Pastor Appreciation Month | | | | | | |
| 6 8:30AM Hospitality 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School Heavenly Crafters Clearance Sale | 7 6PM Martial Arts | 8 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV | 9 6:30 SPR Meeting 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 10 6:30PM Charge Conference Grace UM | 11 10AM AVAC Board 6 PM Girl Scout Troop Meeting | 12 10AM NA |
| 13 8:30AM Hospitality 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School Heavenly Crafters Clearance Sale | 14 6PM Martial Arts 6:30PM Trustees | 15 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV | 16 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 17 6PM Brownie & Daisy 6:30 Gospel of Mark Bible Study 6:30Finance Meeting 7:30 Admin. Council | 18 6PM Daisy & Cadet Troop Meeting | 19 10AM NA |
| 20 8:30AM Hospitality 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School 2PM Annual Martial Arts Gathering | 21 6PM Martial Arts | 22 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV | 23 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 24 6:30PM Gospel of Mark Bible Study | 25 6PM Girl Scout Troop Meeting | 26 10AM NA |
| 27 8:30AM Hospitality 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School Trunk or Treat | 28 6PM Martial Arts | 29 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV | 30 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 31  6PM Brownie & Daisy Troop | | |

November 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|---------------|
| | | | | | 1 6PM Daisy & Cadet Troop Meeting | 2 10AM NA |
| 3 ALL SAINTS DAY 8:30AM Hospitality 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School | 4 6 PM Martial Arts | 5 9AM Heavenly Crafters 6PM Discipleship IV | 6 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 7 6PM Education Meeting | 8 6PM Girl Scouts | 9 10AM NA |
| 10 8:30AM Hospitality 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School | 11 6 PM Martial Arts | 12 6PM Discipleship IV | 13 6:30 PM SPR Meeting 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 14 6PM Brownie & Daisy 6:30PM Finance Meeting 7:30PM Admin. Council Meeting | 15 10AM AVAC Board 6PM Daisy & Cadet Meeting | 16 10AM NA |
| 17 8:30AM Hospitality 9AM Worship 10AM Sunday School | 18 9AM AVAC Thanksgiving 6 PM Martial Arts 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting | 19 6PM Discipleship IV | 20 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 21 | 22 6PM Girl Scouts | 23 10AM NA |
| 24 9AM Worship 10AM Hanging of the Greens 10:15AM Visitation Meeting | 25 6 PM Martial Arts | 26 6PM Discipleship IV | 27 2PM Disciple III Class 8PM A.A./AI-Anon | 28  | 29 6PM Daisy & Cadet Meeting | 30 10AM NA |



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
847 Tenth Ave, Brackenridge PA 15014

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mail to:



How can you help? We are asking for baked goods, donations of groceries to aid in making the soup and other food, and monetary gifts to cover overhead expenses. Baked goods need to be at the church by Friday, November 1 or by 9 AM on Saturday, November 2. Look for sign-up sheets in the Narthex for baked goods and groceries, and, also, opportunities to volunteer in making this event be the best ever! If you have questions, see or call Betsy Buco (724-224-1062).

In Christian love, The Heavenly Crafters

The Country Store will be held on **Saturday, November 2** from 10AM-2PM. Once, again, the Heavenly Hands Crafters have been busy since February making many unique and creative items. These items as well as baked goods, soup, and delicious food will be sold during this church-wide and community-wide event.

Holiday Country Store

Planning and working toward this occasion are a labor of love for our Heavenly Father in whose church we come together to worship and fellowship. Your support over the years has been phenomenal, and we look forward to seeing you again this year.

Heavenly Crafters Clearance Sale

The Heavenly Crafters are having a sale of last year's Fall and Christmas items at bargain prices. These items will be available after Church in the Social Hall on October 6 and 13. Get an early start on your holiday shopping! The profits of this sale will help defray the cost of the annual Country Store which will take place in November.

