

# Trinity Tempo

## February 2017

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Dear Trinity,

“You can’t teach an old dog new tricks.” It is a saying that resonates with many people. There seems to be a certain point in life where it gets difficult to break out of habits we have had for many years. Life takes on a certain quality of sameness. For many, this has become a source of comfort. Tomorrow can be trusted because it’ll look much like today.

But I am learning something from the conversations I am having. This saying

may not be as set in stone as it first seems. I have talked with many people who have told me, “You are never too old to learn something new.” These conversations have come from people who have experienced a sense of joy and wonderment at times in their lives where they thought things were basically figured out. No matter what stage you are in your life, it is always beneficial to step outside of your comfort zone and experience new areas of the Lord’s love.

Recently I was reflecting on a season of change in my own life. In 2013, a few of us decided to grow our hair for Locks of Love, an organization that uses donated hair to make wigs for cancer patients. They require at least an 11-inch ponytail. It took us about two years to complete and was such a joy to have that experience (I have pictures, just ask).

Letting my hair grow was a difficult change to undergo. But it was well worth it. God is calling us to change in one way or another, as individuals and as a church. I can’t say for sure how. But through our prayer and fasting the Lord can lead us to the path that is being prepared for us. We have to walk it. I have said it before, “I get excited when I think about what God has done through us as a church. I look forward to tomorrow.”

I pray we find comfort in the arms of God and excitement in what God brings. And remember, it’s never too late to learn. It’s never too late to get involved in areas God may be calling you.

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy

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## We Pray for...

(by Linda Yocum)

Considered to be the first nation to formerly adopt Christianity (early 4th century), Armenia is located in the mountainous Caucasus region between Asia and Europe. Armenia was part of the former Soviet Union and is bordered by Georgia, Azerbaijan, Iran and Turkey.

On a mountaintop, more than 7,500 feet above sea level, lies Meghradzor, known to locals as “the valley of honey.” Wild beehives abound and supply honey to humans and local wildlife. Meghradzor also is home to a relatively new agricultural cooperative.

In 2015, UMCOR helped the villagers form the cooperative; UMCOR Armenia provided the co-op with a startup grant, equipment, training and technical assistance. A vital part of the project is an irrigation system to support agricultural activities. In partnership with U. N. Development Program’s Global Environment Facility, UMCOR built a collection pond in the valley of honey and reconstructed nearly 1,000 feet of irrigation pipeline replacing the Soviet-era open-channel system. The new closed-channel system supplies water to 30 hectares of farmland.

These improvements have made it possible for local farmers to diversify crops and to make the newly irrigated land productive. They also serve to hold back desertification.\* Due to the success of the program, UMCOR Armenia is planning another watershed project that will provide drinking water and irrigation to two communities.



Even with these recent agricultural successes, Armenians face difficulties. Armenia is in a long-running conflict with Azerbaijan over the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Mainly populated by Armenians, this region was assigned to Azerbaijan in the 1920s by Moscow. The dispute started in 1988 and escalated in 1991 after both countries attained independence from the Soviet Union. This conflict led to closed trade borders with Azerbaijan (1991) and Turkey (1993). Ceasefire agreements are made and then broken. In April 2016, more than one hundred soldiers, volunteers and citizens were killed during intense fighting.

Throughout February, please pray for Armenia; for the work being done through UMCOR; for a peaceful resolution to the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan; and for improved relations between Armenia and Turkey.

*\*The United Nations defines desertification as “the persistent degradation of dryland ecosystems by human activities—including unsustainable farming, mining, overgrazing and clear-cutting of land—and by climate change.”*

### References

CIA. The World Factbook. Middle East: Armenia. Retrieved January 15, 2017, from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/am.html>

Jaeger, Nicholas. Agricultural Development in Armenia’s “Valley of Honey,” UMCOR News Archive. Retrieved January 15, 2017, from <http://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2015/november/1120agricultural-development>

United Nations. World Day to Combat Desertification. Retrieved January 19, 2017, from <http://www.un.org/en/events/desertificationday/background.shtml>



## The Nose Knows

The month of February is frequently a peak month for the flu. To help out our neighbors, we will collect boxes of facial tissue for the Trafford/Level Green food bank. Contributions are due by Monday, February 13. Place your donation in the box set up in the vestibule.

## Disability Awareness

According to the Western PA Conference website, 20 percent of the population live with some type of disability. Gifts to this special offering fund grants to congregations with accessibility projects—like our chairlift. Projects like these in churches throughout Western PA allow all people to attend worship and to participate in church activities. It strengthens and enriches their faith and, in turn, strengthens and enriches ours. On February 19 please use the envelope insert in your bulletin and give to Disability Awareness.

## Helping Hands

*(by Thelma Johnson)*

Our first meeting of 2017 will be on February 14, weather permitting. The meeting is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. and lunch at 12 p.m. Please bring your sandwich; dessert will be provided.

Hostesses will be Donna Piper and Thelma Johnson. Ora Mae Lovre will have the program. Everyone is invited to join us.

## Financial Snapshot

Each year, the Finance Committee presents a budget for the upcoming year to the Ad-Council for approval. The budget reflects what is needed to operate the church for that year. The following categories and more are factored into the operation of Trinity.

- Connectional Apportionments
- Church programs
- Outreach areas and programs
- Administrative expenses—salaries, pastor's health insurance, worker's compensation, employer Social Security and Medicare taxes, and pastor's accountable reimbursement
- Church and parsonage insurance, taxes maintenance & repairs, and utilities
- Supplies
- Subscriptions and memberships
- Software, equipment lease (copier)

The budget for 2017 is \$153,139; an average of \$2,945 per week.

Offering envelopes have a few specific accounts listed. When you give toward General Budget, your money goes to help cover all of the lines in the budget. When you give toward Connectional Apportionments or account lines not listed such as Church Utilities, School Kits or other specific areas, your money is used for that specific thing, nothing else.

When Trinity does not receive sufficient funds to cover basic operations, then the Finance Committee and Ad-Council have to consider where expenses can be cut or what projects can be delayed. We ask that for 2017 you prayerfully consider your planned giving. If you would like to see a copy of the 2017 budget, contact Linda Yocum or Les Race.

## Sarris Candies

Our annual Easter candy fundraiser is going on now. Forms are available here, at the information center or via the church website. Orders will be accepted through Monday, February 27. You may turn orders in to the church office or to Jan Keefer. Make checks payable to Trinity UMC.



# Joys and Concerns

Please keep Trinity family, friends and neighbors in your prayers.

## Pray for

Patty Aubele  
Emma Chichilla  
Beecher and Kay Dale  
Beverly Frank (friend of Beverly Piper)  
David and Carol Grubb  
Paul Madaras (Mary Ann Casper's brother)  
Judy Mason  
Lloyd Myers  
Julie Pampenna (daughter of Jan Bodnar, coworker of Linda Yocum)  
Kris and Gary Peters  
Joyce Rogers and her sister Carol Jean  
Blanch Seiple (Peggy Whitfield's aunt)  
Laurie Weisberg (friend of Shirley Fisher)  
Peggy Whitfield

Also take a moment and give thanks for friends and family who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month.

## February Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> Becky Mallik  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sandy Keller, Diane Kerrigan  
10<sup>th</sup> Donna Piper  
11<sup>th</sup> Ashley Kitchen  
16<sup>th</sup> Roger VanRyn  
27<sup>th</sup> Gianna Armao, Peggy Whitfield, Richard Allen Aglietti  
29<sup>th</sup> Cliff Felmlee

## February Anniversaries

14<sup>th</sup> Kevin and Beverly Beam  
19<sup>th</sup> Lou and JoAnn Booher

# Prayer Partners/Prayer Quotes

## Prayer Partners

In February, Pastor Justin will be speaking to the congregation about prayer partners. Congregants will be invited to sign up to become prayer partners. If you are unable to attend worship services and would like to be part of this endeavor, contact Pastor Justin at 724.594.4073 or the church office at 412.373.0835 by February 26.



To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

*Martin Luther*

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?

*Corrie Ten Boom*



# February Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			<b>1</b> 7:15 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>2</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>3</b> 6 p.m. Craft Night (Judy residence)	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship/Communion	<b>6</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall)	<b>7</b> 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study	<b>8</b> 7:15 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>9</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>10</b> 6 p.m. Craft Night (Judy residence)	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship/Healing Service <b>Scrip Order Day</b>	<b>13</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall)	<b>14</b> 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study <i>Valentine's Day</i>	<b>15</b> 7:15 p.m. Women's Bible Study <i>Tempo Deadline</i>	<b>16</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>17</b> 6 p.m. Craft Night (Judy residence)	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship <b>Disability Awareness Day</b>	<b>20</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall) <i>President's Day</i>	<b>21</b> 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7:30 p.m. Ad- Council	<b>22</b> 7:15 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>23</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>24</b> 6 p.m. Craft Night (Judy residence)	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Transfiguration of the Lord <b>Scrip Order Day</b>	<b>27</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall)	<b>28</b> 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study				

## February Schedules

### Greeters

5<sup>th</sup> JAM 'n Kids  
 12<sup>th</sup> April Beam and Beverly Beam  
 19<sup>th</sup> Bob and Sandy Chiappetta  
 26<sup>th</sup> Genny Triponey

### Liturgists

5<sup>th</sup> Julie Sippel-Silowash  
 12<sup>th</sup> Sandra Chiappetta  
 19<sup>th</sup> Joanne Ondulich  
 26<sup>th</sup> Beverly Piper

### Nursery

5<sup>th</sup> Stephanie Judy and Ashley Kitchen  
 12<sup>th</sup> Cindy Graw and Noell Stultz  
 19<sup>th</sup> Jane Pogue and Donna Race  
 26<sup>th</sup> Lynn Antoon and Beverly Beam

### Altar Flowers

5<sup>th</sup> Lily and Dante Venturo  
 12<sup>th</sup> open  
 19<sup>th</sup> Lou and JoAnn Booher  
 26<sup>th</sup> Peggy Whitfield

Trinity United Methodist Church  
407 Duquesne Avenue  
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*Return service requested*

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Trinity United Methodist Church

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Healing Service: second Sunday of the month following the worship service

## Tempo Deadline

Articles for the  
March issue  
are due Wednesday,  
February 15, 2017.



## Pastor Justin Recommends

One of God's greatest blessings in our lives is the opportunity we are given to grow closer to Jesus. The word of God is made available to us so we can know God more fully. We can take advantage of this grace in a variety of different ways. Daily Bible readings, worship, memorizing scripture, Bible Studies. Another way is to listen to the testimony of another's experience with God during difficult moments in life. RightNow Media has *Shaken* for you to watch. *Shaken* is four 10-15 minute sessions of Tim Tebow telling how rejection and disappointment helped him to depend more on God.

If you do not have access to RightNow Media, please contact Pastor Justin and he will see that you get it.

