

# Trinity Tempo

December 2018

tumctrafford.org  
Justin Judy, pastor

office@tumctrafford.org  
pastor@tumctrafford.org

church: 412.373.0835  
pastor: 724.594.4073

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Merry Christmas,

I am not shy about my love for Christmas. My house, as a child, was almost always filled with Christmas music from Thanksgiving all the way to the very end of December. If you listened at the right moments you could even hear it in the summer, occasionally. We celebrated Christmas very similarly to how most people did it. We had baking, gift wrapping, decorating and lots of traditions.

Those traditions dictated much of our schedule. We knew exactly what to expect every year on Christmas day: 5 a.m. wake up, get baby Jesus, wait at top of steps, come down to living room lit only by Christmas lights, youngest gets family Bible, oldest puts Jesus in nativity, we sit in our assigned seats near our pile of presents, Dad reads Christmas story, we sing “Happy Birthday” to Jesus, then open gifts from youngest to oldest (no playing with anything until all are done), stockings get opened in the evening just before bed.

It was a routine that I love the more I look back on it. It was familiar, enjoyable, and helped to put Jesus at the center of Christmas. As a child I knew without a doubt why we celebrated Christmas. And that truth helped to color everything we did. The presents, the traditions, the cookies, and especially my family, were all gifts that I thank God for.

My children have some traditions around this time of year. Nothing quite so elaborate. We read the Christmas story in the morning and sing “Happy Birthday.” But every day I try to teach them that Jesus is in the center of all we do. Not just at Christmas time, but at all times. We have many gifts in our lives, I pray we are able to use them to show God’s love to all we encounter.

As we close this year with a joyous celebration I hope we prepare ourselves for a Jesus-centered life for next year. 2018 had its challenges and its joys. I think 2019 will have some of the same. I want to live and love Jesus next year better than I did this year.

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy



## The Prayer Chain

(by Donna Piper)

The prayer chain is a group of people in our church who are willing to pray for someone who has been injured, is being operated on, has lost a loved one, or for whatever reason. God is always ready and willing to hear our prayers. Just as Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, “Not my will but yours be done.” Luke 22:42

God is at work here. It has been a while since anyone has asked to join the prayer chain. So develop your strength and relationship with your Heavenly Father and He will fill you with courage, joy and love. If you want to be a prayer warrior or you have a request for prayer, call me at 412.372.3971.

## Help Yourself

Trinity will be hosting a Giveaway/Help Yourself event on Saturday, December 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for residents of Trafford and Level Green.

On Friday, we are hosting a private night for recipients of the local food bank from 5-8 p.m. During this time we will offer sandwiches, cookies and beverages. Guests can wrap Christmas gifts at a wrapping station.

We are doing this as a public ministry; a way of expressing our Christian love and appreciation.

**If you can bake cookies for the event or donate Christmas wrapping paper, contact Beverly Piper.**

## Summer Camp!

(by Beverly Piper)

Yes it’s winter. What a great time to think about Summer Camp! For many years our church has made it our mission to send young people to camp and pay their entire camp fee because we know the value and blessing of the camp experience. The generosity of our church family has been nothing short of amazing! We sent four young people to camp this year. In 2019 we may have the opportunity to send three or four young people, several families and maybe a young person from our community to camp. This is fabulous! It is also a challenge as camp fees could total \$4,000. Individual camp fees range from \$200 to \$600. Family camp fees range from \$800 for a family of two to \$1,500 for a family of four.

Yes, this is a lot of money (includes lodging, food, and activities for three days to a week). Yes, it is money very well spent. Adults, youth and children can attend camp and meet Jesus, explore their faith, have an adventure, discover how much God loves them, find a friend, find hope, be awestruck by our awesome God, have fun, change their life.

Please prayerfully consider donating to our church campership fund. We do receive money for camperships from the clothing that is donated through the blue bins outside the church. However, that does not cover all of our camp costs. You might want to consider sponsoring an individual young person. Or just give to the campership fund. Every dollar counts! Perhaps you look for a good cause to donate to at Christmas. If so, consider our campership fund. Thank you.

Want to go to camp? 2019 campership brochures will be out soon. Some camps start filling up by April. Check out [jumonville.org](http://jumonville.org), [campeallegheny.org](http://campeallegheny.org) and [wesleywoods.com](http://wesleywoods.com). You can also talk with Pastor Justin or me about attending camp.



## Come to the Manger

The children from the Sunday School classes will perform their play *Come to the Manger* on Sunday, December 16 at 4 p.m. in the church social hall. It will be followed by a covered dish dinner.

So bring your favorite dish and come share in the joy and fellowship of the Advent season.

## Library News

(by Beverly Piper)

On display on the table in front of the library are books and calendars of daily devotions for a year. You are welcome to take a book or calendar and keep it for the whole year. Enjoy a daily Bible passage and reading. The books are not a blessing to anyone just sitting on the shelf; they need to be used!

Please take a look and take one home. If you have a daily devotional book or calendar at home that you have already read and won't be using again, bring it to the library to share—let someone else enjoy it! There are adult, children and family devotionals. What a good way to start 2019 and continue encouraging conversations with God.

## Your Opinion Counts

Ad-Council is considering how to make distribution of the newsletter more efficient and cost effective. In the November issue of *Trinity Tempo* we laid out a possible plan for distribution of the newsletter. We have heard from a few of you, but we need more feedback before making a decision. Consider the proposed plan (below) and tell us what you think!

### Proposed Plan

- Trinity will continue to publish the *Tempo* monthly.
- Trinity will stop bulk mailings.
- For locals and those attending church: Printed copies will be available in the church (at the information center or in the vestibule). The newsletter for the next month would be available the last week of the current month. For example, you would be able to pick up February's issue the last week of January.
- For those who live out of the area or who are unable to attend worship regularly due to



health reasons you will have three options: 1) receive it by email, 2) access and read it via the church website, or 3) request to receive a printed copy via first class mail.

We can email the newsletter to those who wish to receive it in an electronic format, or you can access it via the church website. If you wish to receive it via email, you will have to provide the church office with your email address. Distribution will be done as a blind copy to protect your privacy.

**Please give us your thoughts on this proposed plan by December 14.** Speak with Linda Yocum, Pastor Judy or any member of Ad-Council. The board will decide on a direction at the December Ad-Council meeting.

## Helping Hands for Trinity

(by Thelma Johnson)

Seven members attended the November 13 meeting. The hostesses were Ora Mae Lovre and Jean Swick; the program was given by Evelyn Felmlee. The topic of the program was "Thanksgiving." Everyone has something to be thankful for at Thanksgiving and all the blessings we have received over the year.

The next meeting will be on December 11. It is our Christmas luncheon and will be hosted by the Traveling Tea Party. We will collect for our free-will offering, pastor's white gift, and dues which are \$10. We also will have our \$10 gift exchange. The program will be given by Donna Piper.

## Thank You

Hi, my name is Jude Lovre and I went to Jumonville's Summer's Last Blast for the fifth time this year. I've enjoyed myself so much at camp these past years that I'm going back to Jumonville in the spring to become a mini CIT [Counselor in Training].

I can't thank my church family and others enough for paying my way and my friend Maddie's way to go to summer camp. I enjoyed myself so much and I'm very excited to go back next summer! Thank you so much again. — Jude Lovre



*Maddie Penney (left) and Jude Lovre (right) at Summer's Last Blast.*

To me, Jumonville is a place full of love and support. It taught me that God always has a plan for everyone, and to not fear the future because it is in his hands.

Every time I go to Jumonville, it feels like everything I've ever been stressed or worried about no longer matters. I feel absolute happiness there. Thank you to the greatest church ever that gave me such an opportunity to go and learn more about God. I really appreciate it from deep down in my heart. — Maddie Penney ♥

I would like to thank those who helped me move from Independence Court to Lincoln Gardens Court. Your help was greatly appreciated. I love you all. — Judy Mason

Thanks to everyone who so generously contributed to a new snow blower for the church. We received sufficient funds to purchase the snow blower that best fits our needs. — Trustees

## Poinsettia Order

Once again Trinity is accepting orders for poinsettias to grace and decorate the sanctuary for Christmas Eve. The cost of a plant is \$12, payable to Trinity UMC. Use the order form below and place your order by Sunday, December 16. You may pick up your poinsettia after the 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

### Poinsettia Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12 = \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_



## Spaghetti Dinner

Save the date now! Saturday, January 26, 2019 Trinity is holding a spaghetti dinner. Rich sauce, pasta, tasty meatballs, fresh bread. Doesn't that sound good in chilly January! Money raised will be added to our campership fund. More information will be coming.

## State of the Church

*(by Pastor Justin Judy)*

2017 was a great year for Trinity UMC. We spent the year focusing on seeking the Lord in prayer and fasting. Prayer and fasting often lead to moments of responsibility and action. This has been our experience. Throughout 2017 we came up against many obstacles: financial obligations and realizations, sickness, many different transitions for our members, mental health topics, and death. But no matter what hand we have been dealt, the Lord has given us the strength and means to handle it. We have been able to show love, compassion, and hope-filled resolve in many difficult encounters.

I believe God has answered our prayer for direction moving into 2018 by using us in so many ways in 2017. We decided to live 2018 in nurture to our part of the church body and to our community as the opportunities arise. It was clear to many of us on looking back at the 2017 challenges that we could learn how to be better prepared to face the darkness of life with the light of hope and grace. Our personal care for those experiencing transitional issues has gravitated to providing

rides, dinners, and company, among other needs that should arise. Some of our members have taken training classes to help give "first-aid" in poor mental health situations. The church will also be giving away items to those in need this Christmas season and are looking at how to continue providing the experience of summer camping to those in our midst who would like to go.

We also recognize that there is much we cannot prepare specifically for so we remain in constant prayer, leaning on God to help us live with love and grace for

whatever may lie ahead.

Though we do not know all that we may face tomorrow, we have been preparing the best we can for those few uncertainties we are aware of. Our financial situation is always a concern, but these past two years of receiving equitable compensation has helped us get to a better place than we have been at. But the help will not last forever, so we must continue to trust the Lord and be faithful stewards of our blessings. The need for a new roof is also ever before us and the day will come when we must act on that need. We have been putting a little aside through "feed the pig" each Sunday. We have also been keeping the congregation aware of the LGBTQ issue within the United Methodist denomination. I have been keeping the leadership and the rest of the church informed on the conference's three ways forward. And there will be more opportunities planned so that each person has all the information they need to make a decision come next spring if we need to. I pray that in all of these situations we are able to move forward in love for Jesus and one another, so that we can be a proper witness to the light of the Lord for each other and Trafford.

My studies this year will continue to lean toward nurturing of the community of faith and the community at large. I will also be persistent in taking online courses through PTS [Pittsburgh Theological Seminary] as well as helping us transition into the future, however it may look.



# Joys and Concerns

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

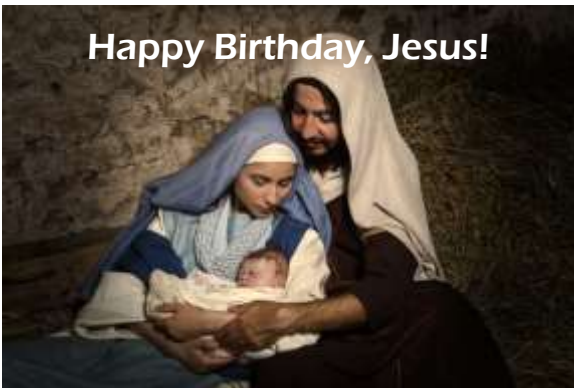
## Pray for

Patty Aubele  
JoAnn Booher  
Bill Ebner  
Paul Madaras (Mary Ann Casper's brother)  
Dale McCune (Garlan McCune's brother)  
Gary Peters  
Kris Peters  
Jay and Vicki Stokes  
David Whitfield (Peggy Whitfield's brother)  
Peggy Whitfield

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

## December Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> Jean Swick  
3<sup>rd</sup> Gloria Stultz  
5<sup>th</sup> Linda Yocum  
7<sup>th</sup> Dana Hainsey  
8<sup>th</sup> Bailey McLaughlin  
12<sup>th</sup> Caleb Baker  
15<sup>th</sup> Bryce McLaughlin  
16<sup>th</sup> Janis Mills  
18<sup>th</sup> Greg Keefer  
21<sup>st</sup> Noell Stultz  
26<sup>th</sup> Judy Cromer  
28<sup>th</sup> Joan Vowler  
29<sup>th</sup> Susan Rising  
30<sup>th</sup> Anthony Keefer, Jay Stokes



## December Anniversaries

1<sup>st</sup> Jerry and Darlene Williams  
8<sup>th</sup> Les and Donna Race  
31<sup>st</sup> Jerry and Sharren Breakey

## December Schedules

### Greeters

2<sup>nd</sup> Thelma Johnson  
9<sup>th</sup> John and Jeanne Ruccio  
16<sup>th</sup> Linda Yocum  
23<sup>rd</sup> Les and Donna Race  
24<sup>th</sup> Paul and Joanne Ondulich  
30<sup>th</sup> Donna Piper

### Liturgists

2<sup>nd</sup> Beverly Piper  
9<sup>th</sup> Stephanie Judy  
16<sup>th</sup> Nick Mallik  
23<sup>rd</sup> Jane Pogue  
30<sup>th</sup> Bob Lovre

### Nursery

2<sup>nd</sup> Joan Vowler and Donna Race  
9<sup>th</sup> Jane Pogue and Sandy Chiappetta  
16<sup>th</sup> Dana Venturo and Noell Stultz  
23<sup>rd</sup> Stephanie Judy and Cindy Graw  
30<sup>th</sup> Ashley Kitchen and Donna Race

### Altar Flowers

2<sup>nd</sup> Ondulich/Lovre Family  
9<sup>th</sup> open  
16<sup>th</sup> Cliff and Evelyn Felmlee  
23<sup>rd</sup> Larry and Becky Mallik  
30<sup>th</sup> open



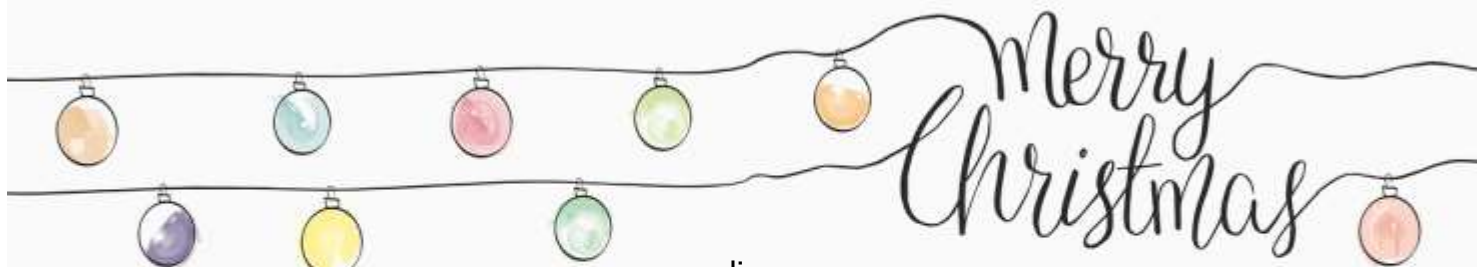
# December Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						<b>1</b> 10 a.m. Hanging of the Greens 12-4 p.m. Help Yourself Drop-off
<b>2</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship/Communion <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> <b>Scrip Order Day</b>	<b>3</b> 1-2 p.m. It Ain't Easy Getting Old!	<b>4</b> 10 a.m. Crafts	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5-9 p.m. Help Yourself Setup 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>7</b> 1-5 p.m. Help Yourself Setup 5-8 p.m. Help Yourself: Private 7:30 p.m. Crafts & Games Night	<b>8</b> 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Help Yourself: Public
<b>9</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship/Healing Service <i>Doorways to Hope at Home</i> <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> <b>Scrip Order Day</b>	<b>10</b> 1-2 p.m. It Ain't Easy Getting Old!	<b>11</b> 12 p.m. Helping Hands Pot Luck Holiday Party	<b>12</b> 7:15 pm. Immersion Bible Study	<b>13</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>14</b> 7:30 p.m. Crafts & Games Night	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 4 p.m. Christmas Play/Covered Dish Dinner <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> <b>Scrip Order Day</b>	<b>17</b> 1-2 p.m. It Ain't Easy Getting Old!	<b>18</b> 10 a.m. Crafts 6:30 p.m. Trustees 7:30 p.m. Ad- Council	<b>19</b> 7:15 pm. Immersion Bible Study <b>Tempo Deadline</b>	<b>20</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>21</b> 7:30 p.m. Crafts & Games Night	<b>22</b> 9:30 a.m. Cantata Practice
<b>23</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship/Cantata <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>24</b> 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 11:15 p.m. Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day (office closed)</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship <b>Scrip Order Day</b>	<b>31</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i>	<b>1</b> <i>New Year's Day (office closed)</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir (tentative)	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10 a.m. Unhanging of the Greens

Trinity United Methodist Church  
407 Duquesne Avenue  
Trafford PA 15085

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  
January issue are  
due Wednesday,  
December 19, 2018.



## Holiday Happenings

**Saturday, December 1**

Join your friends and neighbors  
as Trafford celebrates the  
holidays with its annual  
festivities including the parade  
and lighting of the tree.

