



Dear Trinity UMC,

I am having a hard time believing that this is the December issue of the *Tempo*. By the time you get this, Thanksgiving will probably be done and much of our planning will turn toward Christmas. In fact, the next letter I write to you will be focused on New Year!

It's basically Christmas already! That usually brings me such a

joyful feeling. I truly love all that Christmas entails: the baking, the traditions, the gift giving, and, most especially, celebrating the joy, hope, peace, and love through Jesus' birth. But this year, I feel more uncertainty than usual. I know that many of the Christmas traditions that we all love and have taken for granted may not happen this year. I know this has already happened with Easter. Our Thanksgiving was marked by only one family gathering and it was so small when compared to previous years.

All of this restructuring of how I celebrate holidays does make me rethink what makes that holiday special and important. For me, Easter was a time to walk with Jesus to the cross. To witness through the scripture the death and resurrection of Jesus. It was a time to rejoice at the new life we have been given because of the divine love. You know, I was able to celebrate that, even though it didn't look "normal." Thanksgiving is all about—surprise!—giving thanks. Our traditional plans went up in smoke this year. But what we were able to do is give thanks. We thanked God for the blessings we have received and for the strength to endure.

I have been spending a lot of time thinking about the core of Christmas. We probably will not be able to celebrate it like we used to as a church. Something different may be needed. The other holidays have taught me that we can celebrate the core meanings in different ways. So, what does Christmas have in store for us? Honestly, I don't quite know. I have a question for you, though. What is the core of Christmas for you? What is the one thing that makes

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Trinity Happenings



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Hey, You Forgot Your Coat!

(by Jane Pogue)

Every year we hold our Warm Hearts, Warm Coats drive in conjunction with Burlington. There has never been a year like 2020, and if ever we need to help each other out, it is now. In the past, we have brought our coats to the church and kept a record of all our donations. This year we will be doing something different. If you come to the church and have coats to donate, just bring them with you. On Mondays I will gladly take them to Burlington. If not, you may take any coats you have straight to Burlington yourself.

Unfortunately, we no longer get 10 percent coupons for each coat donated. We get one coupon for every *bag* of coats donated. So far I have gotten three coupons for the three bags I have delivered. If anyone would like one of these coupons please let me know. They are for one use, and I would hate to see them go to waste. I will be glad to get the coupons to you immediately. Thank you

for your generosity. It is so needed right now. We are so blessed, and God wants us to pay it forward! Happy Holidays!

Senior Spotlight

Our seniors this month were supposed to be JoAnn and Lou Booher. However, they had some unexpected troubles these past few weeks, so we are going to save their spot for next month. JoAnn and Lou, you take care, and we

are glad you both are now at home. God bless you this holiday season.

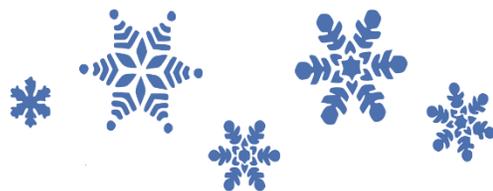
Pastor's Letter

continued from front cover

Christmas, Christmas? That thing, if you don't have it, then it wouldn't be Christmas? And what does it mean to you?

I will be making announcements soon detailing our plans for Christmas Eve. Please keep your eyes on the website or your ears open for a phone call. Whatever it is, I look forward to celebrating Christmas with you. I pray that you are all able to have a very blessed Christmas this year, however it may look.

PTL,
Pastor Justin Judy





Lou and JoAnn Booher
406 Fairmont Ave
Trafford PA 15085

Mary Lou Booher
1009 Noble Pine Ct
Trafford PA 15085

Roberta Cuttler
4506 Regent Dr
Wilmington NC 28412

Don Guyaux
1650 Rosedale St, Apt H21
N Versailles PA 15137-1672

Joan Hartley
Concordia of Monroeville
4363 Northern Pike, Rm 226
Monroeville PA 15146

Bill and Stephanie Jones
2515 Crockett Circle
Guntersville AL 35976

Christmas Cards, Please!

(by Jane Pogue)

We are so wrapped up in our own world right now due to the pandemic, the election, the economy... It's easy to forget there are many people that we don't see who could really use some Christmas spirit this year. Remember, many of our elderly friends have not been outside since March. I'm sure you have extra cards laying around that you have collected over the years. Following are the names and addresses of some members who would love to hear from you and know they aren't forgotten, along with some friends who now live out of state. It's amazing how good you will feel when you make someone else feel special. If you need an address for someone not on this list, contact me (724.864.2858) or the church office (412.373.0835). Take care, and Merry Christmas to you!

Jan Keefer
Woodhaven Care Center
2400 McGinley Rd
Monroeville PA 15146

Harry and Marge Little
127 Saunders Station Rd
Trafford PA 15085

Judy Mason
The Palms at O'Neil
1 Glendale Ln, Rm 227
McKeesport PA 15132

Kay Meadowcroft
Concordia of Monroeville
4363 Northern Pike, Rm 230
Monroeville PA 15146

Marjorie Myers
821 Lake Port Blvd, Apt M510
Leesburg FL 34748-7671

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Ronda Powell
328 Cavitt Ave, Apt 2
Trafford PA 15085

Tom and Pat Puckey
5721 County Line Rd
New Bern NC 28562

Silowash Family
60 Slate Ave
Northfield VT 05663

Jay and Vicki Stokes
1409 Lyons Chase Circle
Murrysville PA 15668

Jean Swick
130 McElroy Dr
Trafford PA 15085

Roger and Marlene VanRyn
101 Short St
Trafford PA 15085

Community Christmas Card

Speaking of Christmas cards, Trinity will not set up for our annual Christmas card exchange this year because of the pandemic.

Instead, we would like to create a giant Christmas greeting for the community. We

are asking each of you to take a piece of paper, roughly letter-size (8 1/2" x 11"), and create a Christmas greeting (one side only) for the community. Use color, construction, or plain white paper. Decorate the card as you like along with a holiday greeting and be sure to sign your name. Be bold, be colorful; make it a family project and have fun! Use pens, colored pencils, crayons, paints or markers.

The cards will be laminated to protect them from the weather, so please do not add beads, bells or anything else that won't go through a laminator. If you are artistically challenged, try cutting up some old Christmas cards to create a new one. Just remember, keep it to one side of the paper.

Send or bring the completed cards to the church office by December 18. We will mount the cards side-by-side on large boards which will be placed in the front lawn of the church. So get started; we look forward to seeing your holiday cheer.

Sermons Available on YouTube

As a reminder, we now have video

recordings of our sermons on YouTube. You can find Trinity's YouTube channel by going to <http://tinyurl.com/tumctube> or searching "TUMCTrafford" on YouTube. Audio recordings are also posted to the sermon archive on our church website and can be found at http://www.tumctrafford.org/?page_id=89.



Image by [Gerd Altmann](#) from [Pixabay](#)

Altar Flowers

The 2021 altar flowers calendar is in the vestibule and ready for you to reserve dates. The cost of the flowers remains the same, \$25 for two vase arrangements. To reserve a date record the information on the calendar in the vestibule or send your request in writing to the church office:

- By mail to 407 Duquesne Ave, Trafford PA 15085
- By email to office@tumctrafford.org
- By text to Linda Yocum at 412.952.7848

Please put your request in writing (no phone calls). If sending the information by mail, email or text, include the date, name of the person giving the flowers, and the name of the person you are honoring or remembering.

Poinsettias

Trinity will not be ordering poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary this Christmas. The grower was not able to get the cuttings needed earlier in the year—businesses were closed because of the pandemic.

(Greenhouse growers take small cuttings from parent plants. These cuttings are nursed to grow roots and sold to other growers who then grow them into full-sized, blooming poinsettias.)

Certainly you can always purchase a poinsettia from one of the many retailers. This year, you might want to try something different. Take the money you would have spent on a poinsettia purchased through the church and make a donation to Heifer International or Church World Service. Both organizations have gift catalogs filled with opportunities to help someone

improve their life. If you are looking for something local, consider donating to an area food bank, women's shelter such as Blackburn Center in Greensburg, Light of Life Mission in Pittsburgh, or even a community library. If you have shopping to do, consider purchasing gifts through a fair-trade organization such as SERRV.

Christmas Candy Fundraiser

Sarris is accepting online orders for the holiday fundraising program through December 21. Go to SarrisCandiesFundraising.com.

- Click on **Online Ordering**.
- Enter the Group ID # **10-0582**.
- Start shopping.

Every online purchase you make earns 25% profit for Trinity. Orders ship directly to you for free; no minimum purchase is needed this year.



Image by Ondřej Šponiar from Pixabay

Joys & Concerns

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

Pray for

Elaine Abrams (Jane Pogue's friend)
Darlene and Chuck Bolena (Les and Donna Race's daughter and son-in-law)
Lou and JoAnn Booher
Carol Borland (Jane Pogue's friend)
Donald Guyaux
Rob Kalanja and family
Jan Keefer
Ed Keller (Donna Race's brother)
Norm Keller (Donna Race's brother)
Kevin Knopf
Kris Peters
Carol Piper
Jamie Thomas (Drew Thomas' nephew)
David Yocum
Family of Dorothy Yocum
Geri Zigarovich

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

Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

1st Jerry and Darlene Williams
8th Les and Donna Race
31st Jerry and Sharren Breakey

December Schedules

Scrip Program Ordering

December 6th, 13th and 20th

- Place orders by 5 p.m. on Sundays.
- Give orders and payment to Linda Yocum or mail them to the church office.
- Make checks payable to TUMC Scrip Program.
- Contact Linda (412.372.6808) or the church office (412.373.0835) for details.

Altar Flowers

6th open
13th Cliff & Evie Felmlee and Family
20th Chancel Choir
27th Susan Gibson and Sandy Yamamoto

If you would like to reserve December 6th for altar flowers, contact the church office.

December Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
29 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 1st Sunday of Advent Scrip Order Day <i>UM Student Sunday</i>	30 6 p.m. Sunday School (ages 9-13) 10 p.m. Manna Monday	1	2	3	4	5
6 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/Communion 2nd Sunday of Advent Scrip Order Day	7 6 p.m. Sunday School (ages 9-13) 10 p.m. Manna Monday	8 6:30 p.m. Ad-Council Meeting	9	10	11	12
13 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 3rd Sunday of Advent Scrip Order Day	14 6 p.m. Sunday School (ages 9-13) 7 p.m. Charge Conference 10 p.m. Manna Monday	15	16 Tempo Deadline	17	18	19
20 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 4th Sunday of Advent Scrip Order Day	21 6 p.m. Sunday School (ages 9-13) 10 p.m. Manna Monday	22	23	24 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 11:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day (office closed)	26
27 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	28 6 p.m. Sunday School (ages 9-13) 10 p.m. Manna Monday	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day (office closed)	2

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
407 DUQUESNE AVENUE
TRAFFORD PA 15085

Tempo Deadline

Articles for the January issue of the newsletter are due Wednesday, December 16, 2020.



Trinity United Methodist Church

407 Duquesne Avenue • Trafford PA 15085
tumctrafford.org

Justin Judy, pastor

724.594.4073 • pastor@tumctrafford.org

Church office

412.373.0835 • office@tumctrafford.org

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.

Where in the Church Are We?

The church building has many beautiful, interesting and even quirky parts to its physical makeup and its character. So as space permits in the *Tempo* you might find a picture, like the one below, taken somewhere inside or outside the building.

When you see a picture, can you answer the question: ***Where in the church are we?***

