

Dear Trinity Church,

Summer is coming to a close and fall is quickly approaching. Before we know it, the weather will cool, the leaves will change color, and of course, school begins. Summer, although leaving, still has time to share its gifts with us. We still have more than a few warm days left, the sun will be shining, and though the days are getting shorter, there will be enough light to enjoy the evenings.

Sometimes when we know a great change is coming, our focus is diverted to what is going to be different. We tend to lose focus on what we have in this moment. We sometimes do all we can to try and prevent future change that we don't recognize present blessings.

2022 could mark the beginning of something new for the United Methodist Church. I want us to be as prepared as possible for what looks to be almost certain. I hope we are able to talk about the issues, discuss our differences, and seek God in prayer with what our next steps may look like given the possibilities, individually and as a local church. I hope we can do this all the while loving and respecting one another.

But while we are preparing, we can't lose sight of the blessings and responsibilities we have now. We are to continue to love and support each other. Help one another grow in faith and hope in Christ. Share the Gospel message with the community. Go where the wind of the Holy Spirit sends us.

Future change can be scary and yet a blessing. Present reality is the same. I thank God for whatever tomorrow may bring, because through it we can see God's love. But I also thank God for the moment which is now, a moment that we can look around and see God at work in each of our lives as we are being called to serve the Lord.

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy

# Trinity Happenings

## Senior Spotlight

(by Jane Pogue)

Our seniors in the spotlight this month are our New England Patriots-loving couple Joan and Bill Vowler! This is one couple that has had many changes in married life!

Joan was born in Scranton, PA, and graduated from Clark Summit High School. Bill was born in Hazelton, PA and graduated from Hazelton High School. He entered the Navy in 1963 and studied electronics and computers on submarines. One weekend his Navy friend set Bill up on a blind date. Yes, it was Joan. She was 15 at the time. They knew they had something special but didn't marry for three years because Bill's mother wouldn't allow him to get married until he turned 21!

Right after they got married Bill and Joan moved to Hawaii. After four years, they moved to San Francisco and then Connecticut where Bill worked on the newest submarines made. Thev remained there until his retirement from the Navy (nine years of service). While in the Navy, their children, Pam and Billy, were born.

Bill joined the corporate world in 1970 and worked for Digital Equipment Corp. He traveled extensively, and Joan was pretty much a single parent. Bill remained with this company for 20 years. His territories took Arizona him to Tucson, where, unfortunately Pam, at the age of 12, was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. But as Joan says, "God was with them always," In Tucson, Pam had the best with doctors who, Bill's computer knowledge, developed equipment that Pam would need. Their third child, Jimmy, was born at this time too.

The family eventually moved to Michigan and then Massachusetts where they became avid Patriots, season-ticket-holding, fans! Bill became a district manager of the general International Area, and traveled all over the world. The kids were older and Joan was able to travel with him at times. Part of his travels took him to Asia, Egypt, and Australia. My, what they saw of God's world.

Bill eventually changed jobs to work for a security company called Sensor Matic which took them to Florida and back to Michigan.



Again, he was traveling a lot; Joan could be in Florida and Bill would be in England! Joan carved out careers wherever they went. She worked in marketing testing different products; she worked as the assistant to the Vice President of Semans; and, when in Milwaukee, worked as a Highmark Executive Assistant.

In 2005, Bill left the security industry and they moved to Trafford to help their son, Jimmy, franchise his pizza and sub company with Bill helping with marketing and Joan handling payroll. What wonderful work ethics they both have!

He said that now all they want is to be entertained! Whether it's watching football games, TV, or grandkids' sporting events, that's all they need; **no more flying!** 

Bill always said Joan was the backbone and the true hero of their family. All his traveling helped him truly appreciate the United States of America. He saw what other countries had, and realized how lucky we are. Joan always said that God never left her side her entire life. As a teenager, she had a "husband list" and her man had to be a Methodist and not too tall! When she pulled out that husband list when getting married, Bill fit every one of her categories! God was with her through the tough times, like Pam's illness, and Jimmy's stabbing while in college. God brought them to Trafford and to our church. She said that the moment she walked through our doors, she felt the love and support.

Thank you, Joan and Bill, for sharing your journey with us. May God continue to guide you as he has done your whole life.

#### **Altar Flowers**

(by Justin Judy)

Trinity of Trafford has many ministries in the church, both big and small, seen and not easily seen. One of those smaller ministries that helps to remind us of the life, love, and vibrancy of Jesus is the flowers on the altar. Each set of flowers is dedicated to a person, memory, or a part of the community. This calls to mind the fact that the church is much bigger than time and space, but reaches far beyond ourselves. A small ministry, perhaps, but one that says so much with so little. A true loaves and fish miracle.

Anyone can be a part of this ministry by contacting the office or filling out the altar flower schedule in the vestibule to reserve a set of flowers on a Sunday of your choosing. The first Sunday of September is in honor of all those with birthdays in that month, while the second Sunday is in dedication and blessing to all who teach, both school and Sunday School.

Currently there are six Sundays open for the remainder of the year: October 17, November 14 and 21, and December 5, 12, and 26.

Flowers are \$25 for a set and are yours after the service. If you are unable to pick them up after worship they can be picked up on Monday afternoon or we can arrange another way for you to get them. Some flowers can also be donated to local shut-ins or someone who may need them on that particular Sunday. Thank you for supporting this ministry and being a part of the love that it brings.

## Joys & Concerns

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

### **Pray for**

Jerry Williams

Family of JoAnn Booher
Mary Ann Casper
David Divito (friend of Les and Donna Race)
Family of Cliff Felmlee
Tom Puckey
Vicki Stokes

Jamie Thomas (Drew Thomas' nephew)

Sunday, September 5 is **Christian Education Sunday**. Your gifts on this special Sunday provide laity scholarships and support other educational ministries of the Western PA Conference.

**Thank you** to everyone who donated funds and items for school kits. Trinity will be sending 42 school kits to UMCOR this fall! Also take a moment and give thanks for friends and family who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month.

### **Birthdays**

11<sup>th</sup>

27<sup>th</sup>

1st David Nigro
 2nd Margie Little
 3rd Dyanna Jartin
 5th Justin Judy
 9th Laney Baker

10<sup>th</sup> Bill Jones, David Zimmerman, Laura Musser, Zack Lloyd

12<sup>th</sup> Barb Messina
 13<sup>th</sup> Sandy Yamamoto
 17<sup>th</sup> Rylie Felton
 20<sup>th</sup> Joe Antoon
 23<sup>rd</sup> Beverly Beam
 24<sup>th</sup> Gavin Dulemba

Sarah Musser

#### **Anniversaries**

Kevin Knopf

6th David and Josie Nigro
18th Brett and Gina Lloyd,
Rob and Janet Conlogue
20th Brent and Jess Clausner
25th Randy and Diane Kerrigan

## September Schedules

#### **Scrip Program Ordering**

September 5 and 19

☐ 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**

5<sup>th</sup> Justin Judy

12th Jane Pogue

19<sup>th</sup> Thelma Johnson and Family

26th Yocum Family

If you would like to reserve a date for altar flowers, contact the church office.

## September Calendar

You can help Trinity and Manor with their social media presence by sharing your photos for use on Trinity's social media sites and Manor's Facebook page. Bring in photos for scanning or email digital files to <a href="mailto:office@tumctrafford.org">office@tumctrafford.org</a>. Contact Pastor Justin or Matt Knopf for more information.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
29 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	30 1 p.m. Senior Friends	31	7 p.m. Immersion Bible Study	2	3	4
5 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/ Communion Christian Education Sunday Scrip Order Day	1 p.m. Senior Friends Labor Day (office closed)	7	8 7 p.m. Immersion Bible Study	9	10	11
12 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	13 1 p.m. Senior Friends	7:30 p.m. Ad-Council	7 p.m. Immersion Bible Study	16	17 Tempo Deadline	18
19 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship Scrip Order Day	1 p.m. Senior Friends	21	7 p.m. Immersion Bible Study	23	7 p.m. Bible Journaling	25
26 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	27 1 p.m. Senior Friends	28	7 p.m. Immersion Bible Study	30	1	2

## Tempo Deadline

Articles for the October issue of the newsletter are due Friday, Sept. 17, 2021.



#### **Trinity United Methodist Church**

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#### Justin Judy, pastor

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Church office

412.373.0835 • office@tumctrafford.org

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.

# Holiday Craft & Vendor Show

The annual Holiday Craft & Vendor Show returns to Trinity UMC on Saturday, November 13, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you know of crafters or direct sale vendors that might be interested in participating, have them contact Joanne Ondulich.

We will have a concession stand and bake sale during the show. Bakers will be needed to make some tasty treats to sell. Others will be needed to help set up, staff the concession stand and bake sale, and clean up. Sign-up sheets will be in the vestibule in October.

