

Trinity Tempo

September 2023



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We already find ourselves at that seasonal transition where summer ends and fall begins. The temperature changes, the leaves will turn and start to fall, our wardrobes will even change (more layers).

I always appreciate the reminder that few things in life stay as they are. Which is one of the reasons our planning meeting is held in August. It gives us an

opportunity to reflect on what we have done and seek the Lord's guidance on what we can do in the future. That means that some of our past events will stay the same and new things will be added.

This year we took our time looking at a few important points when it comes to the Church, our piece of the Church (Trinity) and our community. The body of Jesus, the Church, according to Bonhoeffer, has one key purpose. That purpose is to live and reflect Jesus. If a church isn't reflecting Christ in all it does, both internally and externally, then it isn't living up to its reason for being. Of course, this has important implications. It begs us to ask the question of any event, "Does this represent/reflect/offer Jesus in some way?"

Looking at our church we found three characteristics that help to show us who we are. We have a love for and care of our building. It is important to be good stewards of what we have been given. But we always must be careful to keep Jesus as our main purpose. Sometimes love for the building can get in the way of that. We also have a love for the community in which we live. No matter how you feel about the current condition of Trafford, we have been blessed with the opportunity to live here and to serve here. The third is our love and respect for the individual regardless of background and present reality. Trinity does a wonderful job at loving people where they are. I pray we continue to improve upon this strength.

Trafford is ever changing. It provides us with a safe place to walk and fellowship. There are many who want to see it succeed and flourish. But it isn't like the place it used to be. The town is split when you compare downtown with the outskirts toward Level Green. Central Trafford

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Trinity Happenings

mornings (before the worship service) if you are coming to the picnic.

Take care, and see you there! (If you need directions, just call me at 724-864-2858.)

Accelerated Reader Program

The librarian at the Trafford Elementary School runs an accelerated reader program designed to encourage students to read. The reading program rewards children who meet their goals and pass their Accelerated Reading quizzes with gift cards to popular stores such as Target and Walmart.

Last year, Trinity donating \$300 worth of gift cards to the program. Our Board has committed to do the same this year and we cannot do it without your support!



It's Picnic Time!

BY JANE POGUE

The annual church picnic is again at my house on Friday, September 22 starting at 6 p.m. And everyone knows when Methodists get together the food is fantastic. We still have our bonfire with s'mores, couples corn toss game, and many comfortable chairs for those whose expertise is observing! And kids, bring your suits for the hot tub!

We don't get enough opportunities to hang out with church friends, so make a point of joining us this year. Sign up for the picnic in the vestibule. Don't worry about what you will bring to eat—there is always a wonderful assortment. For those who use ZOOM, please let me know on Sunday



Special envelopes are available in the vestibule for those who would like to help Trinity with this commitment. You may also use your regular envelope; just record your donation as Reading Program. For more information about the program, contact Beverly Piper.

Bible Journaling

BY PATTY AUBELE

Bible Journaling will resume on Friday, September 29 at 6 p.m. If you haven't given it a try, join us and see what it is all about.

Bible journaling helps you spend more time in your Bible and reflect on what the

scriptures are saying. Adding your personal touch helps to reinforce the scriptures and gives you a chance to become more personal with God's Word.

We will have brief devotion of a specific scripture, followed by suggested artwork which will be provided for you to try. We will explore different types of mediums including colored pencils, watercolors, stamping, stickers and markers.

Please, prayerfully consider this opportunity to get even closer to God. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!** We look forward to seeing you!



Halloween Candy Giveaway

Yes, it is only September, but we wanted to give everyone a heads-up about this annual community outreach event.

Trinity will be collecting funds and bags of individually wrapped candy for Halloween. This year, the goal is to assemble and distribute 125 bags to Trafford trick-or-treaters.

Treats will be passed out on Halloween night from Trinity House porch. For more information about the program, or if you are interested in helping prepare the bags or distribute the candy, please contact Beverly Piper at (724) 607-1759.

Charge Conference

Trinity's annual Charge Conference will take place on Sunday, October 8 at 4:30 p.m., and will be held at Christ UMC, North Huntingdon. The address is 2800 Coulterville Road, McKeesport, PA 15131.

Craft & Vendor Show

Trinity's annual Craft & Vendor Show will be held Saturday, November 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables may be reserved through Joanne Ondulich. If you know of any crafters or vendor who would might be interested in participating, ask them to contact Joanne by email at joanne.ondulich@gmail.com. The cost of an 8-foot table space is \$30.

Of course, we will also have our concession stand and bake sale going on during the show. As always, we will need volunteers to assist the crafters and vendor as they set up and break down, and people to staff the food area. Sign-up sheets will be in the vestibule in mid-October.

Get the Facts

More than 35 million pounds of candy corn are sold each year. That's the equivalent of about 9 billion kernels! Candy corn has been around for more than 130 years. It was originally called "Chicken Feed" and was marketed in rural areas. (Sources: Wikipedia and Microsoft Bing)





Pastor's Letter

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has a growing lower economic population. Homelessness is present and there are other challenges that exist. As you get closer to Level Green on Route 130 you find a higher economic class that also presents challenges in itself, one of them being that Trafford is viewed by some as a bedroom community and because of that there is lack of community involvement. If there are other observations you have, please let me know.

With these factors in mind and the Lord as our guide we dreamed the following list of possible ministries and undertakings.

- Lunch program for children of the community
- Homeless kits providing for hygiene and the like
- Expand food bank support to include those with special dietary needs
- Increase focus on Sunday School and education programs
- Rent an empty storefront for coffee/tea fellowship
- Ethnic food booth/festival
- Greater focus and encouragement on involvement with present community programs and committees
- Younger youth group program activity weekly or monthly
- Renovate church kitchen
- Operate a thrift shop
- Air condition the church
- Offer additional activities for seniors

I encourage you to pray over this list. Pray where God may be

calling you, or add more to the list if you feel the pull to do something more. Is there something that is close to your heart that you see or do not see on this list? Please share that with me. We will have another meeting on Saturday, September 30 at 10 a.m. to shorten this list to two or three items that we will focus on in the year 2024.

I love you and am very excited about what God will do with us in the years to come.

PTL,
Pastor Justin Judy

Joys & Concerns

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

Pray for

Caleb Baker
Mary Ann Casper
Sandy Chiappetta
Family of Roberta Cuttler
Harry and Marge Little
Donna Piper
Family of Ken Simmons (Vicki Stokes' brother)
Vicki Stokes
War in Ukraine

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

Birthdays

- 1 David Nigro
- 2 Margie Little
- 3 Dyanna Jartin
- 5 Justin Judy
- 9 Colleen Divito, Laney Baker
- 10 Bill Jones, David Zimmerman, Laura Musser, Zack Lloyd
- 11 Sarah Musser
- 13 Sandy Yamamoto
- 17 Rylie Felton
- 20 Joe Antoon
- 23 Beverly Beam
- 24 Gavin Dulemba
- 26 Julia Beam
- 27 Kevin Knopf
- 30 Bentley Thoma

Anniversaries

- 2 David and Josie Nigro
- 18 Brett and Gina Lloyd
Rob and Janet Conlogue
- 20 Brent and Jess Clausner
- 25 Randy and Diane Kerrigan

September Schedules

Scrip Program Ordering

September 10 and 24

- 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

- 3 Evelyn Felmlee
- 10 open
- 17 Brent and Jess Clausner
- 24 Jane Pogue

September Calendar

Christian Education Sunday, September 3

Reflect on our own educational programs and the teachers who provide guidance and support throughout the year. Your gifts on this Sunday support educational ministries of the Western PA Conference including training, resources and laity scholarships.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
27 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship Scrip Order Day	28	29	30 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	31 7:15 p.m. Choir	1	2
3 11:15 a.m. Worship/ Communion <i>Christian Education Sunday (special offering)</i>	4 Labor Day (church office closed)	5	6	7 7:15 p.m. Choir	8	9
10 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship Scrip Order Day	11 1 p.m. Senior Friends	12 7:30 p.m. Ad-Council	13	14 7:15 p.m. Choir	15	16
17 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship Tempo Deadline	18 1 p.m. Senior Friends	19	20	21 7:15 p.m. Choir	22 6 p.m. Church Picnic	23
24 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship Scrip Order Day	28 1 p.m. Senior Friends	29	27	28 7:15 p.m. Choir	29 6 p.m. Bible Journaling	30 10 a.m. Focus 2024 meeting

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Tempo Deadline

Articles for the October issue of the newsletter are due in the church office by Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023.



Trinity United Methodist Church

407 Duquesne Avenue • Trafford PA 15085
tumctrafford.org

Justin Judy, pastor

(724) 594-4073 • jjudy79@gmail.com

Church office

(412) 373-0835 • office@tumctrafford.org

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.

Bible Study Groups

Women's Wednesday Night

This Wednesday night group is taking a break during September and will resume meeting on Wednesday, October 4 at 6 p.m. Contact Beverly Piper for more information about this study group.

Pastor-Led

This Bible Study will resume meeting in October. Pastor Justin will provide more information about a topic and start date later in September.