

Trinity Tempo

January 2024



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, 2023 has come to a close and 2024 is upon us. An old tradition for this time of year encourages us to make a New Year's resolution. We are to reexamine our lives and if we find something we don't like, we make a promise to change it for the coming year. I can't rightly tell you when this tradition started or where it came from. I do think, however, that it exists because the start of the

New Year feels like a new beginning. It seems like a time we can rewrite our stories into something we can be proud of.

But the New Year isn't a new beginning for us. We can't ignore all that happened in 2023. In fact, many of those events helped us to grow, gave us strength, or at least taught us something. If anything, it is a new chapter. We take all we encountered in 2023 and seek to live in such a way that builds on the previous chapter of our life and continue to walk down our path.

What were some moments this past year that challenged you to the breaking point? How did you endure? What did you learn? Have you changed because of it? For good or ill? What were some moments of great rejoicing? Did you celebrate them? Who has encouraged you this past year? Have you thanked them? Where have you seen God at work in your life? Has it been difficult to go where God has been leading? What do you hope to accomplish in 2024? What do you hope to leave in 2023? Are you ready for whatever is next?

We will face challenges in 2024. Some challenges will seem easy to handle and others will seem nearly insurmountable. But God will see us through—leading us, holding us, and strengthening us. And we have each other. I end with an old AA closing I am fond of, "Abandon yourself to God...Admit your faults to God and to others. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the road of happy destiny. May God bless you and keep you until then." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 164)

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy

Trinity Happenings

Warm Hearts, Warm Coats

BY JANE POGUE

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Warm Hearts, Warm Coats campaign. We collected 24 coats and delivered them to Burlington in Monroeville.

There was a very strong need for these coats this year, so thank you for helping with this outreach program.

Financial Statements

BY JANE POGUE

Your 2023 financial statements will be available on January 15. If you attend the church worship service, they will be available in the vestibule. If you are on Zoom or unable to attend church, statements will be mailed to you. If you want your statement at a different time, please contact me and I will make sure you receive it.

Reading Program

At the start of the school year, Trinity committed to donate \$300 in gift cards for the Trafford Elementary School's accelerated reader program. We have not only reached that goal, we surpassed it, raising \$320!

Thanks to everyone who contributed money or gift cards to this project. Your commitment to Trinity and the

community in which we reside and worship is a blessing.

Scrip Program to End

Trinity began the TUMC Scrip Program in July 2008 as a way to raise funds for the church by selling gift cards. Participation in the program was good and Trinity saw steady profits. Over the past few years, participation in the program has dropped for several reasons. Consequently, profits have declined but shipping fees have risen. After consideration, the Ad-Council voted to cease operation of the scrip program effective January 31, 2024.

We will accept orders for gift cards on January 14 and 28.

Thanks to everyone who supported this fundraising program over the years. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Yocum through the church office or at (412) 372-6808.



Special Sunday

Human Relations Day, January 14

“Human Relations Day is a denomination wide Special Sunday designed to celebrate and raise awareness to further the development of better human relations by involving congregations in community and youth outreach. A special offering taken the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday. Gifts received for the offering build King’s vision of “the beloved community” through programs such as Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Services and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs.”

Camping Sunday, January 28

Your gifts on this special Sunday support camping programs across Western PA.

Prayerfully consider giving to these two special Sundays offerings. Envelopes are in the vestibule.

What is Human Relations Day? Retrieved December 20, 2023 from <https://www.umc.org/en/content/human-relations-day-Sunday-ministry-article>

MLK Jr. Worship Service

A special Martin Luther King Jr. service will be held on Sunday, January 14 at 4 p.m. at Monroeville UMC. The guest speaker will be LaKeisha Wolf, executive director of Ujamaa Collective. MUM is located at 219 Center Rd, Monroeville.

Winter Blast Youth Retreat

Gaga ball (in the snow!) and sledding down the mountain are just two of the activities to enjoy during Winter Blast Weekend at Jumonville. The retreat takes place January 26-28 and is open to kids ages 12-17. The cost is \$135 per person. Visit [Winter Blast – Jumonville Camp & Retreat Center](#) for more information or to register.

Women’s Bible Study

The women’s group will resume meeting for Bible Study on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 6 p.m. Contact Beverly Piper for more information about this ongoing Bible study group.



Joys & Concerns

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

Pray for

Patty Aubele
Caleb Baker
Mary Ann Casper
Sandy Chiappetta
Steve Dorko
Bryce Dulemba
Harry and Marge Little
Kris Peters
Donna Piper
Tom Puckey
Vicki Stokes

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

Birthdays

- 1 Kayla Eiseman, David Yocum
- 3 Bob Chiappetta, Josh Keefer, Eric Zigarovich
- 4 Sebastian Silowash
- 8 Sophia Kalanja
- 10 Erin Kennison
- 11 Marlene VanRyn
- 12 Brett Lloyd
- 18 Donna Race
- 23 Aiden Johnson
- 25 Kara Soles, Scott Ebner
- 26 Drew Dulemba, Jeff Johnson
- 27 Art Loutsenhizer III, Kevin Beam Jr.
- 28 Gina Lloyd
- 30 Elijah Judy, Chris Kerrigan

Anniversaries

- 5 Harry and Marge Little

Wanted: Teachers and Aides

Trinity has a long-lived Sunday School program, offering classes from nursery to adult. Currently, the program needs someone to teach (or facilitate) an adult class and aides for one or more of the children classes.

If you are interested in exploring how you can support or help with the Sunday School program, speak with Pastor Justin or Beverly Piper.

January Schedules

Scrip Program Ordering

January 14 and 28

- 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

- 7 open
- 14 open
- 21 Matthew Knopf
- 28 open

January

Bible Journaling resumes the fourth Friday of January at 6 p.m. Contact Patty Aubele for more information about this activity.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
31 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship <i>New Year's Eve</i> Scrip Order Day	1 <i>New Year's Day</i> (office closed)	2	3	4 7:15 p.m. Choir	5	6 Epiphany of the Lord
7 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/Communion <i>Epiphany Sunday</i>	8 1 p.m. Senior Friends	9 7:30 p.m. Ad-Council	10 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	11 7:15 p.m. Choir	12	13
14 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship <i>Human Relations Day (offering)</i> Scrip Order Day	15 1 p.m. Senior Friends <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday observed</i>	16	17 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study Tempo Deadline	18 7:15 p.m. Choir	19	20
21 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	22 1 p.m. Senior Friends	23	24 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	25 7:15 p.m. Choir	26 6 p.m. Bible Journaling	27
28 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship <i>Camping Sunday</i> Scrip Order Day	29 1 p.m. Senior Friends	30	31 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	1 7:15 p.m. Choir	2	3



Tempo Deadline

Articles for the February issue of the newsletter are due in the church office by Wed., January 17, 2024.



Trinity United Methodist Church

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Church office

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Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.

Altar Flowers

The 2024 Altar Flowers Calendar is available in the vestibule. Choose dates to honor or remember friends, family and other loved ones, or to celebrate or commemorate a special occasion. The cost has increased to \$20 per vase or \$40 for the pair of vases.

If you are unable to be in church and want to reserve a date, then email or write to the church office and include the date, the name of the person, group, etc. being honored or remembered.

Payment is due on the reserved date(s). Please contact the church office if you have any questions.