

Trinity Tempo

September 2024



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Bible is full of wonderful acts of power that stir the imagination: Noah and the ark, the parting of the Red Sea, Jonah and the whale, the water from the rock, the burning bush, and so many more. They remind us that nothing is too difficult for God to handle. There is no obstacle that can stand in God's way. If God wants something accomplished, it will get done. These acts of God should be a reminder to us that there is

always hope no matter how dire the situation looks. We are also reminded that the hopeful outcome is best defined by God and not by us.

One of the most striking images in the Bible is found in Ezekiel 37:1-14. The Valley of Dry Bones. Go ahead and read it now. I'll wait until you're done.

The context of this passage is Judah (the southern kingdom, which includes Jerusalem) has been crushed, the temple destroyed, and many taken into exile under Babylon. Prior to the exile there were many prophecies about God liberating Judah and protecting the temple. But they were not from the Lord. The people's rebellion toward God had reached a point where God acted so completely, they felt abandoned and alone. The first part of Ezekiel was written to warn Judah of the certainty of the coming exile. These prophecies, of course, were not met with joy or gladness. The second part of Ezekiel shifts more toward hope. Though God left them to their punishment, God will never forsake them completely. There will be a return.

Ezekiel 37 is one such message of hope. What I find most fascinating about it is the setting. We stand with the prophet and God walking through a valley filled with nothing but bones long since removed of their flesh. We each have stood in some beautiful places, surrounded by life and have thought about God's goodness and love. We have our hope renewed when watching deer eat in a field, an eagle fly by, or watching people help people. These are places of life and hope. However, Ezekiel and God stand in a place filled with death and despair. Hope is far from our thoughts, only destruction and finality reign.

Some of us have stood in places similar to this valley, hope seemingly so distant. The message God gives Ezekiel in that valley is similar to the message we receive seeing Jesus hanging on the cross. The story does not end in death; where there is God there will be life.

Through Jesus Christ, we are not a people who judge life with our eyes. We allow faith in Jesus to lead us through the valley of death, were Psalm 23 reminds us that we will fear no evil, for He is with us.

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy

Trinity Happenings

Holiday Craft & Vendor Show

Trinity will host the annual Holiday Craft & Vendor Show on Saturday, November 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Contact Joanne Ondulich if you or someone you know is interested in leasing table space for the event. As always, we will operate a bake sale and concession stand during the show. We look forward to seeing you there! Here are just a few items available at last year's show.



Photos courtesy of Linda Yocum



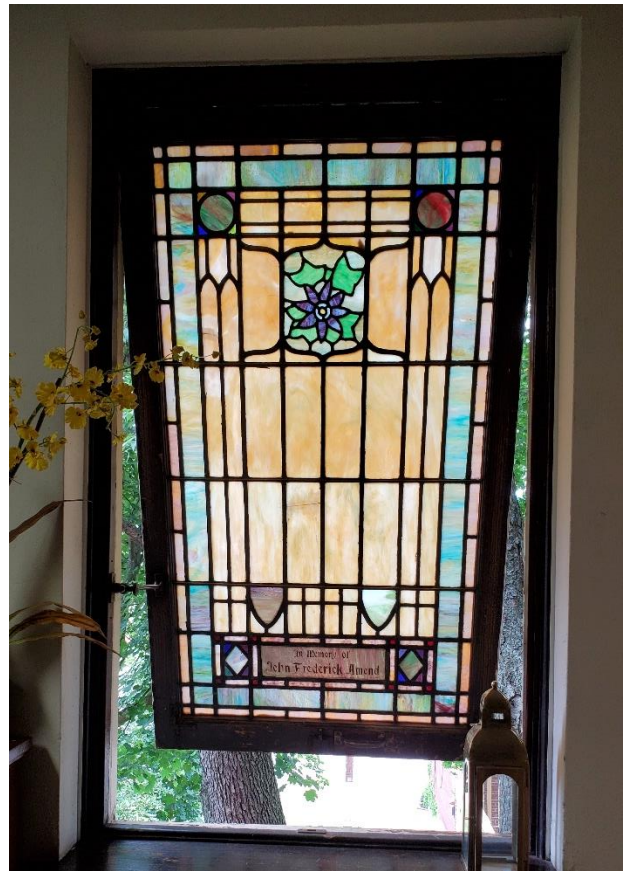
Mats for the Homeless

Trinity continues to collect plastic bags to make mats for the homeless. Plans are being made to hold a training session for this program. Volunteers will be taught how to prepare the bags and make the plarn, how to crochet the plarn into mats, and how to work the loom.

Please continue to bring in your plastic bags and place them in the box at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to learn more about this outreach program, contact Pastor Justin. Thank you for your support of this new TUMC ministry.

Homeless Kits

We continue to make kits available for the homeless. Pick up a kit or two to keep on hand for when you might meet someone who is homeless. The box of kits is in front of the Cry Room.



Be a Good Steward

September usually brings cooler temps, but it is still warm enough to open doors and windows and turn on ceiling fans. Be good stewards. When holding a meeting or event in the church, remember to close and lock windows and doors. Turn off fans and turn off lights before leaving the building.

Christian Education Sunday

On Sunday, September 8, we recognize those dedicated servants in our church who teach and inspire children and adults to grow and learn as disciples of Christ Jesus. We also take a special offering to support the educational ministries of the Western PA Conference.

Prayerfully consider donating to this special offering in September.

Church Picnic

BY JANE POGUE

Another successful church picnic...and NO rain! It was so nice to see Olga, her husband Volodymer, and their daughter Maryna, as well as Josie & David, and Stephanie's Aunt Sherry.

As usual we had great fun, great food, and relaxation in the hot tub! For those who couldn't make it, we hope to see you at the picnic next year!



Photos courtesy of Jane Pogue

Top right: Colleen, Jeanne, Donna R and Josie enjoy a conversation.

Middle Right: Stephanie and John are more interested in their discussion than the game.

Below: Pastor Justin takes part in a game while Johnny, Maryna and Volodymer watch.





Above: Beverly B, Donna P, Evelyn, talk at one table while Beverly P, Olga and Volodymer do the same at the next table.

Below: April, Les, Matthew, John and Dennis watch the action on the lawn. David, Olga and Stephanie are deep in conversation.



Joys & Concerns

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

Pray for

Mary Ann Casper
Sandy Chiappetta
Bryce Dulemba
Mark Graw (John Graw's brother)
Dana Hainsey
Taryn Kline (Jeanne Ruccio's sister-in-law)
Harry and Marge Little
Paolo (Olga's brother)
Vicki Stokes
Bill and Joan Vowler

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 Collen DiVito, Laney Baker
- 10 Bill Jones, David Zimmerman, Laura Musser, Zack Lloyd
- 11 Sarah Musser
- 13 Sandy Yamamoto
- 17 Rylie Felton
- 23 Beverly Beam
- 24 Gavin Dulemba
- 26 Julie 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

Altar Flowers

- 1 open
- 8 open
- 15 open
- 22 open
- 29 open

September

Women's Bible Study will resume meeting in October.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1 11:15 a.m. Worship/ Communion	2 <i>Labor Day</i> (church office closed)	3	4	5 7 p.m. Choir	6	7
8 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship <i>Christian Education</i> <i>Sunday (offering)</i>	9 1 p.m. Senior Friends	10 7:30 p.m. Ad-Council Meeting	11 7 p.m. Being UM Christians Bible Study	12 7 p.m. Choir	13	14
15 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	16 1 p.m. Senior Friends	17	18 7 p.m. Being UM Christians Bible Study Tempo Deadline	19 7 p.m. Choir	20	21
22 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	23 1 p.m. Senior Friends	24	25 7 p.m. Being UM Christians Bible Study	26 7 p.m. Choir	27	28
29 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	30 1 p.m. Senior Friends	1	2 7 p.m. Being UM Christians Bible Study	3 7 p.m. Choir	4	5

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Tempo Deadline

Articles for the October issue of the newsletter are due in the church office by Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024.



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Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.

Altar Flowers

Several Sundays are still open for altar flowers. The cost is \$40 for the pair of vases (\$20 per vase). Available dates are September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
November 3, 24
December 1, 8, 29.



To reserve a date, complete the space on the altar flower calendar (in the vestibule) or contact the church office. Payment is due on or before the Sunday you have reserved.