

Trinity Tempo

December 2024



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

One of my very favorite seasons of the year has just started. Advent has long been a time of anticipation and joy for many. It brings to the surface many strong emotions and memories. The joy of family as a young child, the longing for a loved one who is now absent, the excitement of sharing gifts. There are any number of emotions that pass through our lives during the Christmas season of

Advent, but they all seemed to be magnified.

It has struck me that the last six weeks of the year are so full of activities. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve. Back-to-back-to-back. Not only is it a difficult time to start a diet, but it can also leave us very stressed and even breathless. After the holidays pass there seems to be a sigh of relief or a sense of being let down.

Being at the end of the year reminds us of the old saying: 'Save the best for last.' As we begin to look forward to a year new, we know that we will have moments to celebrate: blessings, the birth of our Lord and Savior, and a new beginning in a new year. It's almost as if we have worked so hard to make it through 2024 now it's time to party and celebrate as we close this year out.

However, the Christian liturgical calendar has a different way of looking at our year. Thanksgiving is the last holiday celebrated in the liturgical year with Christ the King Sunday being the last Sunday, usually right after Thanksgiving. This final Sunday reminds us that each week worshipping and learning about Jesus leads to the moment where we proclaim Jesus as our God and King. We praise Jesus our ruler and sovereign over all the earth.

After Christ the King Sunday the liturgical year begins again with Advent. From the Christian perspective the year starts with anticipating and preparing for the birth of Jesus Christ. While building any structure, it is important to have a solid foundation. The Christian year declares that there is no foundation firmer than Jesus Christ. Then, as we head into the new calendar year, we have already raised our house upon the Son of God, Jesus Christ. No matter what the year brings we have declared that Christ is with us, and we are with Jesus.

I pray everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy

Trinity Happenings

Angel Tree Program

Angel Tree Prison Ministries has been an important part our church's ministry for many years. For this year, Trinity has been assigned 24 children. Many of you have generously volunteered your time and/or money for this program. There are still children to shop for and gifts to wrap.

Once all the gifts are bought and wrapped, caregivers will pick them up on the chosen date (see Joanne Ondulich) so the kids can have them for Christmas Day.

Please let Joanne (412- 378-8074), Pastor Justin, or Linda Yocum know if you would like to help. Thank you for the support you have given and continue to give.

Christmas Candy Fundraiser

There is still time to get Sarris Candies treats for friends, family, or a special event. Just place an order online at SarrisCandiesFundraising.com.

Trinity earns 25% profit from all online orders. Candy is shipped directly to your home for a minimal shipping fee. December 15 is the last day to place an order online.

- Click on **I am supporting a Fundraiser**.
- Enter Trinity's Group ID # **10-0582**.
- Start shopping.

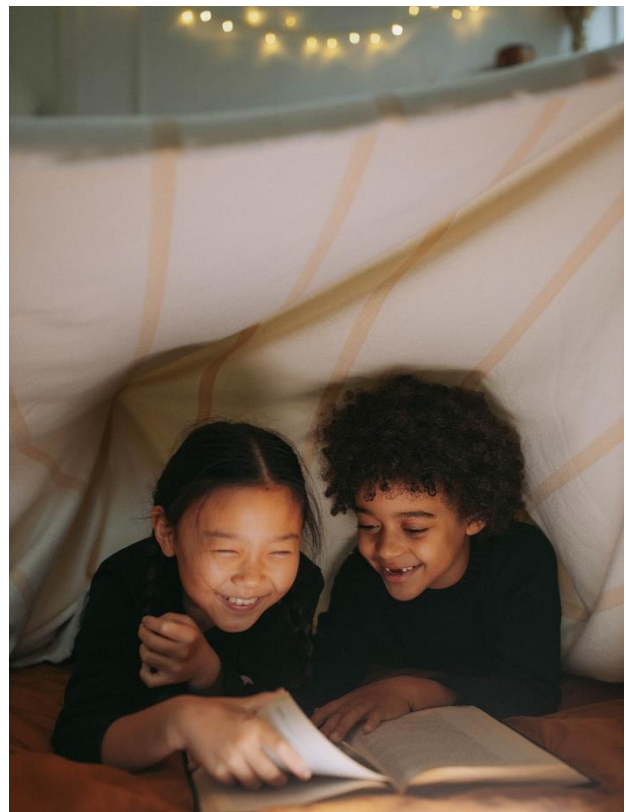
Advent Bible Study

Pastor Justin will lead a Bible Study that delves deeper into the Advent devotional, *The Word Made Flesh*. The study will begin on Wednesday, December 4 at 7 p.m. The group will meet in person and on ZOOM. Books are available now. A sign-up sheet is in the vestibule.

Accelerated Reader Program

We have already collected \$279 for this program managed by the librarian at Trafford Elementary School and need just \$21 to reach our goal of \$300! Thank you to everyone who has donated so generously.

To contribute, use one of the special envelopes available in the vestibule and place it in the offering plate. You may also give online through the church website or use your regular envelope. Be sure to record "Reading Program" on the envelope.



Community Happenings

Holiday Happenings

Trafford is hosting its annual Holiday Happenings Parade and Event on Saturday, December 7.

There will be a variety of things to see and do starting with a Holiday Market from noon to 4 p.m. in Trafford's American Legion Post 331 on Cavitt Avenue. Hungry? Indulge in a snack or meal; food trucks will be lining the 400 block of Cavitt Avenue from 4:30-8:30 p.m.

Carolers will entertain the crowd from 5-6 p.m. in the library parking lot. The parade starts at 6 p.m. After the parade, children can enjoy cookies while visiting Santa and Mrs. Claus in the Manchester Room. So, plan a family night out in Trafford and enjoy the festivities.

A Journey to Bethlehem

Walk through the story of Jesus' birth at Christ UMC, Bethel Park. Meet the Angel, shepherds, the Holy family, Herod, the wise men, and some animals. Interact with shopkeepers as you walk through the town. Your journey is free, but the tax collector will accept donations of boxes and cups

of macaroni & cheese to support the local food banks.

You can experience the journey Friday, December 6 from 5-8 p.m. or Saturday, December 7 from 10 a.m.-noon. Sign-up is required at Christmas.net/news.

Christ UMC is located a 44 Highland Rd, Bethel Park.

Messiah Sing-Along

Join fellow music lovers in a family-friendly sing-along concert performed at Calvary UMC. The Festival Choir will perform the "Christmas" portion of Messiah with the support of regional soloists and a chamber orchestra. The concert will be followed by a cookie reception in the Victorian Chapel.

The sing-along will be held Saturday, December 14 and Sunday, December 15 at 4 p.m. at Calvary UMC, 971 Beech Avenue, Pittsburgh. Purchase tickets through [Calvary UMC website](http://CalvaryUMC.com). General admission: \$20; students and seniors: \$15. Admission is free for military, veterans, and children aged 12 and under.

Calvary UMC is accepting non-perishable food items for the Northside Common Ministries Food Pantry.



Joys & Concerns

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

Pray for

Lou Booher
Mary Ann Casper
Sandy Chiappetta
Bryce Dulemba
Harry and Marge Little
Paolo (Olga's brother)
Family of Joan Vowler
David Yocum

Change of Address

David Yocum
Lynn Haven Personal Care
PO Box 484
Black Lick PA 15716

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

Birthdays

3 Gloria Stultz
5 Linda Yocum
7 Dana Hainsey, Brent Clausner
12 Caleb Baker
21 Noell Stultz
23 Rosalie Kitchen
26 Judy Cromer
29 Susan Rising
30 Anthony Keefer

Anniversaries

8 Les and Donna Race



December

Altar Flowers

1 open
8 open
15 Amy Keefer
22 Choir
29 open

December

Bible Journaling will not meet in December or January. It will resume in February on the second Sunday of the month at 4 p.m. in the Craft Room.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
<p>24</p> <p>10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Hanging of the Greens <i>United Methodist Student Day (offering)</i></p>	25	26	27	<p>28</p> <p><i>Thanksgiving (church office closed)</i></p>	29	30
<p>1</p> <p>10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/Communion 1st Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1 p.m. Senior Friends</p>	3	4	<p>5</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Choir</p>	6	7
<p>8</p> <p>10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 2nd Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>9</p> <p>1 p.m. Senior Friends</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Ad-Council Meeting</p>	11	<p>12</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Choir</p>	13	14
<p>15</p> <p>10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 3rd Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>16</p> <p>1 p.m. Senior Friends Tempo Deadline</p>	17	18	<p>19</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Choir</p>	20	21
<p>22</p> <p>10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship 4th Sunday of Advent</p>	23	<p>24</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Christmas Day (church office closed)</i></p>	26	27	28
<p>29</p> <p>10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship</p>	30	<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>	<p>1</p> <p><i>New Year's Day (church office closed)</i></p>	2	3	4

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Tempo Deadline

Articles for the January issue of the newsletter are due in the church office by Monday, Dec. 16, 2024.



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.

Women's Bible Study

The group is taking a break for the remainder of the year and will meet in January to decide a path going forward in 2025 Please keep them in your prayers.

Mats for the Homeless

Trinity continues to collect plastic bags to make mats for the homeless. Please bring in your plastic bags and place them in the box at the back of the sanctuary.

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 the overflow area.