

# From The Pastor's Heart

My dear Trinity Family,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Precious Lord, Loving Savior and source of true life, love, hope, peace and comfort. This has been an unexpected season of global loss, pain, concern, fear, anxiety and even panic. As concerns and care about COVID-19 continue to be expressed globally, we join our hearts to pray for the receding of this international health problem. We especially remember those affected, medical and healthcare folk who are working tirelessly and those making legislations and decisions that affect the situation. We are very much concerned for our World, Country, State, County and Town. We feel the pain and uncertainty that people are going through and pray for relief, healing and better days.

As God's people, we do not panic, instead we take precautions. We do not become overanxious, instead we trust. We do not let fear rule, instead we live under that shelter of God's peace and protection. I pray you stay safe and healthy. Remember the promise of Psalm 121: 3: He who watches over you will not slumber. It seems a Christian was once very troubled and could not sleep at night. Then he heard the Lord whisper, "My child, I am awake, keeping watch over you. What use might there be if both of us stayed awake at the same time? Relax. Trust. Enjoy your sleep!"

I hope you do. Let us not live in fear but in the promise of Psalm 91 protection over our lives.

It is once again that special time in the year when we as disciples of the Lord Jesus focus on the Old Rugged Cross and the empty tomb. We join billions of people across the globe who will be drawn in some significant way to the carpenter from Nazareth who hung on a cross to change history forever.

The prophet Isaiah wrote these words about seven hundred years before Jesus was born. "He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not." Isaiah 53:2-3

Not too long ago, a person contacted me for some help. The person's physical appearance was reminiscent of a terrible accident that had left severe facial burn injuries and had caused the loss of an eye. The person had survived the accident -but the scars remained. As we strive to minister and reach out to people in our fallen, broken world, let us remember that there are many in whose lives, "the scars remain" - Scars in the body, heart, mind and soul.

The Resurrection narrative that John the Gospel writer scripted presents a poignant moment of revelation in John 20:24-31. In that passage, Jesus reveals himself to Thomas. As we read the scripture, we risk missing an important fact on account of our familiarity with the narrative. In order to help us not to miss the point, let me invite you to consider the many people that Jesus healed during his earthly ministry. There is no evidence that any of those individuals were only partially healed. Can you imagine what it would have been like if a blind person found eyesight restored in one eye and not the other. Or imagine a crippled person finding the restoration of one foot and not the other. Jesus never left his healings incomplete. When Jesus healed someone, the scars were gone too. But when it came to his own physical body, the scars remained.

Why would the scars remain? Why would Jesus tell Thomas in John 20:27, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."? The Great Physician endured permanent physical scars so that he could permanently remove the scars in our souls, hearts, minds and bodies. In her song, 'Just Give Me a Reason', singer Pink shares these words, "We're not broken just bent, and we can learn to love again. It's in the stars, it's been written in the scars of our hearts." At the cross, Jesus gives us reason to believe that we need not be broken or bent forever. He truly came to make us whole. He died to make us live. He endured hurt so that we could be healed.

It is possible that you are looking at the scars in your life and wondering why they ever happened in the first place. Some scars are inflicted by others, some by our own choices. To find our healing, we must be willing to allow God to soothe the hurts that others have caused. On the other hand, we must also yield to the surgeon of our souls who can remove the infections that our sinful choices have caused. *It is only in surrender to Christ that we can move from the "why?" of our pain to the "how" of our healing.* How can I heal from the pain? How can I forget what they did to me? How can I move forward into new tomorrows without the clouds of yesterday dampening my joy?

The prophet Isaiah wrote in 53:5: But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, *and by his wounds we are healed*.

His wounds are the remedy.

His scars are the reminders.

The scars remain to tell us that his love remains.

Yes, you can be healed by his wounds!

Yours in the love of our Crucified and Risen Savior, Pastor Arun When Jesus healed someone, the scars were gone too. But when it came to his own physical body, the scars remained.

### **APRIL THEME**

# WHAT'S YOUR STORY IN A WORD...

### April 5

...on Palm Sunday? Hosanna!

Scripture 1: Zechariah 9:9 Scripture 2: Mark 11:1-11

#### April 9

...on Maundy Thursday? Remember

Scripture 1: Mark 14:1-1 Scripture 2: Mark 14:12-26

#### April 10

...on Good Friday: Forgiven

Tenebrae service

### April 12

...on Easter: And

Scripture 1: Mark 15:42-47 Scripture 2: Mark 16:1-8

#### April 19

..on the Festival of God's creation: Awesome!

Scripture 1: Psalm 104: 1-18 Scripture 2: Psalm 104:19-35

#### April 26

...from a witness stand. Convicted?

Scripture 1: Acts 4:1-12 Scripture 2: Acts 4: 13-21

We welcome Rev. Dr. Phil Covert to our pulpit on April 19, 2020.

### PRECIOUS TESTIMONY

I don't believe in coincidences. I do believe in God's perfect timing and love.

March 15th felt strange for me to not go to church. It was my late mother, Ruth Romesburg's 95th birthday. Pastor Arun could not have known that day held special significance to me. But yet, as I listened to his sermon on 'A promise of peace in the midst of the storm,' he recalled my mother's courage through Christ and the faith that carried her past her final days. The words gave me comfort and peace at a time where I was feeling quite sad.

My mother cherished the scripture Philippians 4:13 that says "I can do all things though Christ which strengtheneth me." I reflected on those words as the world now faces so much uncertainty ahead. Some may call what happened Sunday pure coincidence.

I call it the power of Christ working in His way to send me strength. I look forward worshipping at Trinity soon.

God Bless, Jane Bittner

On March 15, our worship services were cancelled on account of precautions taken with regard to COVID-19. In view of not having services that day, we posted songs and a message on our website for the congregation to watch/listen. The sermon, titled "The promise of peace in the midst of the storm" was recorded in 2015. It was brought to remembrance in Pastor Arun's mind in the midst of all that was happening in our world and he requested that the sermon be posted as the online message for Sunday, March 15, 2020. Pastor Arun did not know about Ruth Romesburg's 95th birthday falling on that day but the recording had a story from her life that spoke of her fearlessly facing death. What an amazing gift to a daughter who truly loved her mother and just needed a reminder that the Heavenly Father cares. Yes! There are indeed no coincidences in God's plans!!

Thank You

We would like to thank Pastor Arun,
Pastor Carl, and Barbara
Zimmerman for their visits with
Mike's dad. Thank you to our church
family for their kind words of
support, phone calls and cards during
this difficult time. We hope you know
how much this has meant to us.

With gratitude, Dianne and Mike Schofield Dear Pastor Peggy,

The quiche and fruit were delicious. Thank you so much for your kindness and for sharing your goodies from your Alpha Group.

Blessing to all of you for sharing God's goodness in all you do!

Love Through Christ, Linda Young

Thank you Pastor Arun, Pastor Carl and Barbara Zimmerman for their visits with our dad, Jack Wiles. Thank you Carol Evertts and others for preparing the delicious luncheon. Thank you Ron and Beth Sider for Playing at his service. Thank you to my church family for the cards and words of support after the passing of our dad. It has meant so much to us.

Kathy & Marshall Brosius & Linda Knouse



# COVID-19 care and response:

We will continue to monitor conditions and guidance from authorities with regard to future services and programs. Kindly contact our office to be enrolled in our mass telephone calling system to receive voice messages from Trinity. This will be especially helpful to those who are not using e-mail.

# APRIL PRAYER CHALLENGE

Every time you see a sunrise or a sunset, pray for those affected by the Coronavirus. Pray for those making important decisions at the National, State and local levels. Pray for medical personnel battling to save lives on the frontline of this crisis. Pray that a cure and vaccine be discovered and the problem is overcome globally.

# ANNUAL CHURCH RETREAT

Postponed. Please await further notice.

# EASTER BASKET CANDY DONATIONS

The United Methodist Children's Home is requesting donations of Easter Candy to fill 60 Easter Baskets for the children. Examples are Hershey Kisses, Solid Chocolate Eggs, Chocolate Bunnies, Peanut Butter Cups, and etc. The children do not have any food allergies. Donations may be placed in the basket in the hallway.

The deadline for accepting Candy Donations is APRIL, 5th, 2020.

### EASTER FLOWERS

Due to the uncertainty as to whether we will be able to worship in church Easter Sunday, April 13, we have decided to cancel the Easter Flower Order this year. All persons who have already sent in an order with payment will be reimbursed. You are so faithful in all we do at Trinity for which we are thankful. Continue praying for this world of uncertainty, trust in the Lord and abide by the guidelines to keep you healthy. God Bless!

#### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Please await future announcment about when the church office will open.

In view of the present concerns, our office staff have been given the option of working out of home. Staff who work out of honme are submitting daily work logs for hours and duties complete. We want to be faithful steards of our time and resources - even at such a time as this. To know more talk to Pastor Arun or our Staff Parish team of Beth Sider (chair) or Rick Bittner (member).

## YOUTH SUNDAY

In view of not having service at Trinity on March 29, we will be celebrating Youth Sunday on another date.

# BAND AIDS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Annual Conference is requesting Trinity Church and others to donate 550 BAND AIDES to be used for Mission Central Health Kits. The size being requested is 3/4 or 1 inch. (plain band aides only, no character band aides) The deadline is Sunday, May 24th, 2020. Please look for the sign on table in the hallway with any information you may need. A container will be available to place the band aides. Any amount over 550 will greatly be accepted.

#### CLASS OFFERINGS

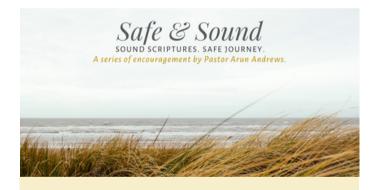
Harrisburg District Lay Servant Ministry
April 18th and May 2nd, 2020 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)
Otterbein UMC, 647 Forge Road, Carlisle, PA 17015

Classes offered:

GROW: Living as Spiritual Transformational Leaders Module 1, Equipping God's People Module II, Leading Preaching, Leading Worship

For more information and the registration form go to trinityumnc.com/resources/announcements.

Registration forms are due by April 4th.



Tune in each week to listen to a short track with church music by Todd Davis and a message from God's Word. On our website go to Resources > Audio Messages and click the "Safe & Sound" series to listen to each week's message. Share the link with friends and family beyond Trinity. Just one link you share, can touch a life with God's love.

### TRINITY YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

by Haley Warner

# **Trinity Youth Share their Gifts** in Spring Musical Performances

Trinity Youth shone on stage with their God-given gifts, talents, and passion as all of their hard work this season transpired in their schools' musical productions! They had so much support from family and friends, and from their Trinity Youth family of course!

# Rylee Sorrells Preaches first Sermon at Sunnier Side Service

If you heard Rylee Sorrell share her testimony or her sermon from the Sunnier Side, you know that God has undeniably been working in her life! At only 15 years old, she shared her first sermon at the Sunnier Side of Sixty service at Trinity Church, and her story and her faith has been a blessing to all of us! You can listen to her sermon on Trinity's website or watch it on Trinity's YouTube!

# **2020** Spring Battleball Champions (of the loser's bracket)

Trinity Youth won their first ever Battleball championship (of the loser's bracket) at Salt 'n Light's Spring Battleball tournament at Messiah College where tons of youth groups from the area met to compete and worship together all for God's glory!













# SUNDAY DUTIES FOR APRIL 2020

Depending on when we gather next

DUTY	APRIL 5	APRIL 12	APRIL 19	APRIL 26			
Altar Guild	Carol Evertts	Kathy Brosius	Sue Beshore	Sue Beshore			
Liturgist	To be supplied	To be supplied	To be supplied	To be supplied			
Children's Talk	No Children's Talk	Mel Eyer and friends	Jady Conroy	Rev. Raymond Brooks			
Nursery: 8:15	Sue Bishop	To be supplied	To be supplied	To be supplied			
10:45	Jady Conroy Nina Stoner	To be supplied	Barb Mickle Cherice Swick	To be supplied			
Ushers: 8:15 10:45	Ryan Wickenheiser*, Greg Cassimatic, Lori Young, Peddrick Young, Doug Eakin  George Karnes*, Raymond Brooks, Ethel Broks, Jim Strausbaugh, Shirley Hetrick  *denotes Head Usher						
Coffee Fellowship	Adult S.S. Class	Hospitality	Chancel Choir	Sing & Celebrate			
Adult SS Teacher	40 Days in the Word Bible Study	Richard Creamer	Grover Herr	Ruth Miller			
Elective SS Teacher	40 Days in the Word Bible Study	George Karnes	Rodney Miller	Betsy Miller			
Counting Team	Karen Brinton and Kathy Miller						



### THE ROCKY RAILWAY VBS

The Rocky Railway, where "Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through" needs your prayers, support, and presence.

Volunteers mark your calendars for the following dates: VBS June 7 through June 11 – 5:00 to 8:30 PM Closing Dinner June 12 – 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Training / discussion meetings......
Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 PM in fellowship hall

- Pastor Andrews will present "Disciplines That Make Disciples"
- Discuss and organize our plan for the VBS week.

Sunday, April 19 at noon in fellowship hall.

- Carol Evertts will prepare lunch.
- VBS discussion / planning.

Sunday, May 31 at noon in fellowship hall.

- Carol Evertts will prepare lunch.
- VBS discussion / planning.
- Classroom decorating.

A sign-up sheet will be posted across from the mailboxes. Please direct questions / comments to Donna Ratulowski, VBS Coordinator, 717-512-3365.

Thank you!

### SUPPER FELLOWSHIP

ON THE MENU:

April 3

Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, and Peas

April 17

Chicken & Waffles

May 1

Sloppy Joes and Crunchy Cole Slaw

Have you thought about volunteering but thought it would take too long? It really doesn't. You can come to set up (takes less than an hour). You can come to serve (takes less than an hour). You can come to clean up (takes less than an hour). You can do a mix of all 3 (takes less than 2 ½ hours). Also, we'll feed you! Where else can you volunteer and get that kind of service?

A sign up sheet is available on the information table across from the mailboxes or click the following link to sign up online.

https://trinityumnc.com/next-steps/volunteer-signup/

### SUMMER IN THE SONSHINE

Theme for 2020: Telling Your Story



July 1st 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

July 15th 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

July 29th 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

# NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 2020

#### PRAYER RALLY KICK-OFF

Wednesday, May 6th at 6:30 PM First Church of God

#### 24 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

7 PM Wednesday to 7 PM Thursday

#### PRAYER RALLY SEND-OFF

Thursday, May 7th at 6:00 PM front steps of Trinity

# HANDS ACROSS NEW CUMBERLAND

May 7th at 6:30 Prayer Chain Praying for America, for our community, and for ourselves





# Second Hand Sale Volunteer Opportunities May 2020

Accept Donations April 27, 28, 29, 30 a 9 a.m	nd May 1 — . to 12 noon)				
April 29 and 30 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	,				
Set up – Tables, racks, move items from storage Sunday, April 26 (10:30 a.m.)					
Opening boxes and staging April 27, 28, 29, 30 and May 1, 9 a.m	. to ??				
Work at Sale – Cashier, floor help	Daytime Evening				
Help in kitchen – provide food for volunt					
Donate food for volunteers  Type of food item					
Clean up – Wednesday, May 6 <sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. to ??					
Name:					
Phone Number:					
Email Address:					

Please place in the offering plate, give to Donna Ratulowski (717-512-3365), or put in her church mailbox. For planning purposes a <u>RSVP by April 19</u> is requested, however, your help will be accepted at any time. Your assistance is most appreciated!

Reminder – Sale dates & hours are May 4 - 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; May 5 - 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; May 6 - 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Mike Schofield at 717-938-3548. will coordinate pick up by request and appointment.

# APRIL 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SUNDAYS 8:15amWorship Service (S) 9:30am Sunday school For All Ages 9:30am Coffee Fellowship (FH) 10:45am Worship Service (S) 10:45am Kingdom Kids (JR)			WEDNESDAYS 6:30pm Sing & Celebrate 6:30-7:15pm. SONshine Singers	THURSDAYS 6:30-7:30PM United Bells 7:30pm Chancel Choir	Take 5 To Pray Daily At 8:30 PM	
			1	10am SF Cooking (K) 10am Sewing (WR) 10:30am Celebrate from H&S (L&L) 6:30pm VBS Meeting (FH)	9:00am Prayer Breakfast (Ickler's) (CANCELLED) 5:30pm Supper Fellowship (K& FH)	9:00am Communion Prep (WR)
PALM SUNDAY 6:00pm Youth Group	10:45am Grandparents in Prayer (SJ)	Caitlin's Smiles (CANCELLED) 7:30pm NCTB (FH)	8	10:30am Celebrate from H&S (L&L) 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	7:00pm Good Friday Service	11
12 EASTER SUNDAY 12:30pm Starfish Ministry 6:00pm Youth Group	0FFICE CLOSED 9:30am LIFT (MO)	14 7:30pm NCTB (FH)	15 9:30am LIFT (MO)	10:00am SF Cooking (K) 10:00am Sewing (WR) 10:30am Celebrate from H&S (L&L)	17 5:30pm Supper Fellowship (K& FH)	18 10:00am Secret Sister Meeting (WR)
9:30am Blood Pressure 12:00pm VBS lunch and meeting (FH) 6:00pm Youth Group	9:30am LIFT (MO) 10:45am Grandparents in Prayer (SJ)	6:30pm Safe Sanctuary Review (SJ) 7:30pm NCTB (FH)	8:30am Assemble Tidings (OC) 9:30am LIFT (MO)	23 10:30am Celebrate from H&S (L&L)	24	25 ALL CHURCH RETREAT (CANCELLED)
6:00pm Youth Group	9:30am LIFT (MO) 6:30pm Leadership Team Meeting (SJ)	1:00pm Retired Pastors meeting (SJ) 2:00pm Sunnier Side of 60 (S& MO)	<b>29</b> 9:30am LIFT (MO)	10:00am SF Cooking (K) 10:30am Celebrate from H&S (L&L)	CR - Creation Room L&L - Lion & Lamb Room JR - Junior Room FH - Fellowship Hall MO - Mt. Olivet Room OC - Otterbein Conference Room S - Sanctuary SJ - St. Johns Room	



# **Trinity United Methodist Church**

Susquehanna Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

415 Bridge Street New Cumberland, PA 17070 717-774-7146 www.trinityumnc.com

**Sunday Worship Services** 8: 15 AM and 10:45 AM

**Sunday School Classes** For all ages at 9:30 AM **Dated Material** 

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world



Please submit articles for the MAY 2020 TRINITY TIDINGS by March 15th

# SUNNIER SIDE OF SIXTY

We hope to see many of you at the April 28th Sunnier Side of Sixty Service. The service is planned for the Trinity sanctuary on Tuesday, April 28th at 2:00 PM. This service will focus on the theme "I Will Pray For You- No Matter What". Our speaker and musician will be Pastor Manny Valentin, pastor of Community United Methodist, New Cumberland. Pastor Manny will minister with the spoken word and saxophone music. We are in for a treat!

Thank you to all who assist with this service - from the retired minister friends to those who provide transportation. These are days of change. A decision will be made closer to the time concerning the serving of communion and Fellowship Time with the serving of refreshments. Praise God He is the same, yesterday, today and forever! All may change but Jesus never.