



## *From The Pastor's Heart*

My dear Church Family,

As we enter another season of celebrating Valentine's Day, we will be focusing on the theme "Fearless to love". Let us pray that we experience and share genuine love during this time and with God's help, all through our days. Let us also pray that our nation will experience an abundance of God's love and peace. As I have watched the trends in our political scenario lately, these words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr have appealed greatly to my heart, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

Life is indeed too short to hold grudges and to be ruined by bitterness. Oh! That we may experience a new wave and revival of God's grace and love! A season in which America will truly be seen as gracious again.

As part of our commitment to celebrate our present ministries and study future ministry possibilities we have begun meeting as leaders in informal times of joyful prayer and fellowship. In our first zoom meeting members of the leadership teams of 2020 and 2021 joined together in a precious time of prayer, affirmations and thinking together. At the meeting I recounted something special that God has done amongst us. You may recall that I stood before you as a congregation a few years ago and said, "Imagine that Trinity Church is closed for six months. What will the community miss about us?" I then went on to ask your help to think about things we can do for the community that they will miss if we were not around. Things that will bless them with God's love and the Gospel. In the days that followed Ken Puller spoke with me about the possibility of a soup fellowship – and that finally led to our hosting the New Cumberland Supper Fellowship. During that time Carol Crossley spoke with me about the idea of hosting the National Night Out at Trinity – and that led to the event becoming an annual reality. While these ministries have been affected temporarily by the pandemic, we look forward to days when we can get back to serving our community through these means. I had never imagined as I stood before you and made the request then, that we could actually come to a time when our church would be closed for more than six months!

Early in the pandemic, Carol Everrtts and I had a conversation. Carol was excited about the idea of sharing pre-reserved love boxes with the community. I believe this ministry has been a true blessing to families in our community. Thanks to all of you for your generous contributions to the care and share fund and to the team of volunteers who work with Carol and Randy Everrtts to create and distribute the most thoughtfully put-together love boxes. It is also a matter of gratitude that we can partner with and support the work that Carol Crossley and volunteers do through Starfish Ministries in Downtown Harrisburg and beyond. I believe we are all grateful for the work that Mickey Minnich and his team at Vickie's Angel Walk do for the people of our area who are challenged by cancer. On a personal note, I want to take a moment to thank Mickey for writing a note of encouragement to me every week during this pandemic. I have been moved and blessed dear friend!

Why am I recounting these stories? I am recounting them to ask you to think of new ideas that we can engage in to help reach our community with the love of the Lord Jesus. If you have an idea, do write to or call Shirley Sharpe, (Chair, leadership team) or me. We will be happy to hear from you, pray and think about your idea/s. Scott Loomis has just shared about how we could attempt to do more outdoor park services (the weather and guidelines permitting) with a focus on our potential guests than upon ourselves – could also include a foody interaction. Oh! For the days when we can lay our masks aside and even get back to coffee fellowship! Did I hear Jo Lower say, “Did you say coffee?”. Smile Jo. We should get there! Gary Foreman has just shared the idea of promoting our church services in local assisted living and elder care facilities. Great ideas! Please keep praying, thinking and sharing.

I heard recently that there is a fear that as many as 1 in 5 churches may face closure in our country on account of the pandemic's impact. This is indeed a challenging season – but let us not forget that it is a season in which we can also discover new opportunities as David did when he went on a food-carrying mission for his brothers and ended up being a giant-slayer. The age old saying, “Winners don't do different things, they do things differently” can be an inspiration. But we must not forget that our God is the God who makes new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17), sends us new mercies every morning (Lamentations 23: 22) and puts a new song in our mouths (Psalm 40:3). He is the God over old things, but he is also the God of new things. The intermingling of the old and the new with God's blessings can provide soil for significant fruit bearing in the Kingdom. Trinity is an example of this intersection – but we must also be bold to ask what we may want to stop doing and what may have to we start doing to especially reach younger families, young adults, youth and children from our communities around us with the Gospel. I must be honest with you. I am genuinely concerned for the future of this ministry (10-15 years from now), but I take encouragement in the promise from Numbers 13: 30 b: For we can certainly do it!

## FEBRUARY THEME

### Fearless to love

#### February 7

##### **How love can cast out fear**

Scripture: Perfect love casts out fear  
(1 John 4: 7-21)

#### February 14

##### **Finding romance in love and love in romance**

Scripture: Husbands love your wives...  
(Ephesians 5: 22-33)

#### February 17

##### **Ash Wednesday Service @ 7 PM**

Scripture: If we confess our sins, he is faithful....(1 John 1:9)

#### February 21

##### **How to love those you don't seem to like**

Scripture: Love your enemies  
(Matthew 5: 43-48)

#### February 28

##### **When love has the last word**

Scripture: Father forgive them.....  
(Luke 23: 32-34)

## SERVICE RECORDINGS

We are trying our best to help everyone in the congregation to participate in worship at home. If you do not have a computer or phone that can access the online services, here is another possibility.

If you have a smart TV or use a DVD player connected to your TV, we will be able to provide you recordings of the Sunday worship services after each Sunday. They can be posted to you in a pen drive or DVD.

If you are interested in this offer, kindly contact the church office at 717-774-7146.



On another note, I have been greatly concerned about congregation members whom we are unable to reach through our online services, Facebook Live prayer/music times and zoom interactions. If you are someone like that please know that you are thought about very much. I am so grateful for our circles of love at Trinity and for those who make the special effort to reach out – especially our homebound team and our retired pastors. Thank you!!!!

I want to invite all of you to continue to pray for the life and ministry of Trinity. I would also like to draw your attention to the Daniel Fast and prayer invitation from Pastor Peggy. It will be a great blessing for Kingdom causes if we all joined in.

Now for sharing another picture from the heart....

On Sunday the 10th of January a pastor entered an empty sanctuary and his heart ached as he missed his beloved people. Here are some words he wrote as he sat in the silence:

I come to the church alone,  
While the pew is still without faces,  
Of the kids and their smiles,  
Of youth with their graces,  
Loving adults and seniors too.

I come and I pray,  
For a new better day,  
When we shall gather once more,  
In his presence,  
To sing our songs, lift his name,  
Be his family - just the same.

I come to the Lord alone,  
I plead for healing to the nations,  
That the virus recede,  
And hearts be healed,  
And as I seek the unfolding of his will,  
I hear him whisper, "Be still....."

You don't need to look far. I am that pastor.  
I miss you very much my dear Church Family.  
We as a team in ministry miss you very much too!

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

Arun Andrews



## FEBRUARY PRAYER FOCUS

Every time we see something that reminds us of Valentine's Day, let us pray for families that are hurting and for individuals longing for love



*thank you*

*Dear Trinity Family,*

*Thank you for your care for me and your prayer concerns with my diagnoses of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. Your cards of encouragement are decorating my Prayer Room and are a reminder of the good people of Trinity. Please continue to pray for the rapid distribution of the Covid Vaccine, not just for me but for everyone! May it bring an end to this virus and all its strains.*

*Pastor Peggy*

*Thank you to all of my church friends for the thoughtful gift bag and all the cards and prayers during my time of recovery. God bless & Merry Christmas.*

*Connie Williams*

*Dear Trinity,*

*So enjoying the online music and services. And am truly enjoying the Christmas Upper Room with my devotions. Thank you all.*

*Marjie Creamer*

*Thank you for the goodies and gifts for Christmas. I really appreciated it.*

*Laura Wright*

*Dear Pastor Andrews,*

*We want to express our appreciation for all that you and the congregation of Trinity UMC do during this difficult time. May the peace of the Lord be with you, your family, and all of the Trinity UMC family.*

*Brian and Sue Wilbur*

*Dear Church Friends,*

*A special thank you to the "gang" that put the food boxes together. Especially Carol and the guys who stand out in the cold waiting for all of us to show up! The Thanksgiving box was perfect! Again, thank you.*

*Glenda Houser*

*Dear Pastor Arun & the Leadership Team,*

*Thank you so much for gifting us "The Peace & Promise of Christmas: 10 Christmas Reflections" from our Daily Bread sent in one of your mailings. I began reading and praying the devotions during the "12 Days of Christmas" (the season of "Christmas", the days between Christmas Day and Epiphany). I found them to be deeply inspirational and a fresh look at the Christmas we have just celebrated. I believe it is a good devotional for whatever season of the church year we are in as it provokes deep spiritual insights. My thanks and appreciation also go to Bill Crowder for these devotions taken from his book "Before Christmas" Again, thank you for your Spiritual leadership of Trinity.*

*Pastor Peggy*

## A CHURCH WIDE INVITATION TO A LENTEN DISCIPLINE

Beginning with Ash Wednesday,  
February 17, 2021

Fasting & Prayer Using the Daniel Fast



Every year we have special study groups and activities to prepare for Holy Week. This year, since we cannot gather together for study and prayer, Trinity Church is inviting you to participate in a Lenten Fast.

Last month I talked with you about the importance Jesus placed on fasting & praying. The article is on the Website right under the "Prayer Wall".

This month I would like to prepare you for the Lenten Discipline of Fasting & Prayer.

1. Pray: Ask God whether He is calling you to pray and fast at this time. It is important that your motivation is to seek God and grow in your relationship with Him. If it is, God will help you Fast. If God is not involved in your FAST then you'll soon lose interest or you will be fasting for your own agenda.

Now that you've agreed with God and are committed to Fasting & Prayer, we need to spend the first 2 weeks in February in preparation for your Fast.

1. If you have health issues, please contact your doctor and ask him about the Fast. Explain that you will be eating healthy foods. Show him a list of foods that you can and cannot eat. (See last month's article). This is a very healthy diet and should add to your physical wellbeing. You are still eating regular meals, only now more healthy.

2. Start to slowly wean yourself from caffeine. If you are heavy into coffee, tea, sodas etc. reduce your quantity each day until you are caffeine free by the 17th. An abrupt discontinuance of caffeine will cause headaches, this is why you don't want to stop cold-turkey.

3. Use these days leading up to Ash Wednesday, February 17 as days of food preparation. Shop for your foods (any God grows is good, see last month's article), prepare your meals in advance and freeze. Cut up vegetables ahead of time for snacks. The kids will love them. If there are members of your family that are not Fasting. Prepare and serve your fruits, vegetables (including high protein beans and nuts) and add a meat for those not Fasting.

That's it! Now that you're prepared, you can begin your Fast.

Let Trinity know you are fasting with us by registering online or calling the Church Office. We, as a Church Staff and our Prayer Partners from the Prayer Wall, will be praying and encouraging you. We may also have a daily devotion for you via your telephone each day. So be sure to give us your telephone number and email when you signup.

PS. If you would like a copy of "The Ultimate Guide to the DANIEL FAST including 100+ recipes plus 21 Daily Devotions, just call me and let me now. I will be ordering them online. Pastor Peggy 717-433-1670



## TRINITY YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

by Haley Warner

### Trinity Youth Seek to “Follow the Son, in 2021”!

Trinity Youth are staying safe, connected, and hopeful going into 2021! 2020 was a difficult year for everyone, but Trinity Youth continue to choose joy and see the good. They have mostly stayed connected virtually along with some outdoor in-person gatherings on the warmer winter days. They continue to gather for weekly youth group meetings and Bible studies. Their schooling is a mix of all-online, hybrid, and in-person. Several of them are navigating returning to activities, sports, music, theatre, jobs, etc. in the midst of the pandemic. We are so proud of our youth and are so grateful as a youth leadership team for your ongoing support of Trinity’s youth and youth ministry.

### What helps you hold onto hope and not lose faith or give up?

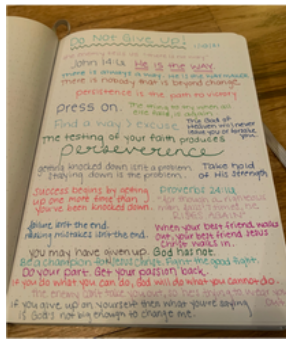
“Knowing that God is in control no matter what happens and the battle has already been won with Him.” ~ Rylee F.

“The fact that you can’t erase a God that already exists and has an impact.” ~ Owen R.

“Knowing that God won’t give up on you.” ~ Gabby M.

“Knowing God is always there and won’t let you fall and He’ll carry you to where you need to be.” ~ Nick E.

“Knowing Jesus has carried me this far, and trusting He is going to keep carrying me.” ~ Anonymous



## TRINITY'S CHILDREN MINISTRY: Thank you Miss Donna

We are thankful to God for the faithful service of Donna Ratulowski who has served as our children’s ministry coordinator over several years now. Donna will be moving to Greene County, Ohio. Donna has been working with Miriam Andrews over the last few months with regard to the children’s ministry. Miriam will presently lead the children’s ministry.

Thank you for your faithful service. Thanks also to all in our congregation who have served over the years to lead our children to Jesus and his love. We are thrilled to have the following individuals who have joined us in our efforts to serve and teach our children presently through our Zoom sessions: Wilma Rockey, Dianne Schofield, Marjorie Creamer, Jene Lupold, Mel Eyer, Vicky Foreman, Sharon Shaeffer, and Bruce Weist.

Thanks to Nehara Andrews for being our weekly host. Miss Donna will try and join us via Zoom and continue to share in our ministry as best as she can.



*You will be missed “Miss Donna”!!!*

## DUTIES FOR FEBRUARY 2021

DUTIES	FEB 7	FEB 14	FEB 21	FEB 28
LITURGIST	Peggy Spengler	Bob Rosenthal	Ruth Miller	Meredith Hetrick
CHILDREN'S TALK	Faith Saylor	Rev. Raymond Brooks	Owen Rynex	Cheryl Bargo

### REQUESTING YOUR HELP: Using the internet? Connected by e-mail?

If you are using the internet and are connected to Trinity by way of our e-mail communications, here is a way in which you can help. Would you be willing to make it a commitment to share prayer requests that you receive with one or two individuals/families of our congregation who do not use the internet/ e-mail?

This will not only help us reach those we are unable to with this information – it might also create opportunities to help more of us in the congregation to connect with each other. Thank you for your kind consideration.

### HOW TO HELP US REACH MORE PEOPLE ON SOCIAL MEDIA with God's love and word

We need your help. Would you be willing to try and help us in the following manner?

- Invite family and friends to subscribe to the Trinity United Methodist Church New Cumberland YouTube page. This will be a huge help. Subscribe yourself if you haven't. It is free.
- Make comments in the comment section as the church service is premiered at 8.15 am each Sunday. Comments are possible only in premiers. Your comments will also be a good way in which you can interact with those who are online in worship.
- Invite family and friends to "like" the Trinity United Methodist Church New Cumberland Facebook and Instagram pages
- Invite family and friends to join us in our Tuesday 7:00 pm Facebook Live prayer times.
- Invite family and friends to join us in our Wednesday 12 pm Facebook Live music times
- We understand that you don't need to have a Facebook account to view the Facebook Live events though you will need an account if you wish to key in requests.
- Click on the "Like" button if something makes meaning to you in what you are watching/ listening to in events on Facebook Live.
- Forward links of church services, prayer times and music times to friends.

Thanks for your love, encouragement and support to these online ministry opportunities. As you may imagine it takes the work of a team to do what we do. Lots of prayer, thought and effort. You can be God's ambassador for such a time as this.

Don't be afraid to try. Your friends might not mind your efforts to share blessings from the church you love. Who know how someone might actually be waiting for you to invite them into the experience! Who knows what an eternal difference your efforts can make!

If you need help with any of the steps listed above please contact Jocelyn MacMinn.



## A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

Thank you for your recent prayer support and encouragement following knee surgery! Pain has been minimal to none. The cards are very meaningful and greatly appreciated. I look forward to the day when I can be back on the organ bench!

Easter is soon arriving, and it is early this year, April 4th! For Good Friday and Easter, an all congregational virtual choir is being planned. These will be anthems and an undertaking of epic proportions! So, I'm inviting anyone who wants to join in music making to contact me or Pastor Arun.

If you are unable to sing at this time, or feel that singing is not your gift, there are many other ways to help. From tapping our feet to snapping fingers, patting our knees or dancing, all are musical movements and sounds that praise the One who loves us, sustains us, and never fails us!

*"Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory,  
raise the One who makes us one."*

CCLI Song # 3386431

From "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" Rusty Edwards  
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Kindly let me know if there is a musical gift you have that we may not know about and you can share in our services. Join us as we move forward in 2021 and beyond!

Soli Deo Gloria!  
Todd

## DIRECTOR OF MEDIA MINISTRY

The Trinity Leadership Team voted to add a part time salaried staff position at Trinity - the Director of Media Ministry. The Leadership Team also voted to offer this new position to Nihal Andrews and we are happy to add that he accepted the position!

In March we realized suddenly that we needed to have an online service. Nihal has experience with media, was available, and began to work for Trinity as an independent contractor. The staff/parkish representatives and entire Leadership Team saw that it was going to be important to have a Director of Media Ministry, not only for the on-line or live streaming service, but was also an exciting opportunity to branch out in utilizing media technology and capabilities. Thus, the salary was built into the budget for 2021, also passed by the Leadership Team, and a new position created. Among other responsibilities, the director will develop, recruit, train and spiritually lead a team of people to execute technology and use of equipment.

God's hand is seen in the timeline of the Trinity Media Ministry. The Pastor's vision that screens would enhance the worship at Trinity; Joyce Long's financial gift to Trinity; the congregations' realization and understanding of the benefits of screens; the Leadership Team's research and study of screens vs. Smart TVs and vote of company to receive the contract and do the project; the trustees amazing work at creating a media booth in the sanctuary using the modesty panels that were taken out of the choir loft when the platform was opened; Covid 19 strikes and we need an online worship service; Nihal Andrews is available to put together online services-the work is completed in the sanctuary and we are able to have in-person services and continue on with services and Midweek Music filmed from the sanctuary.

This is just the beginning of the Media Ministry at Trinity. May the Media Ministry at Trinity always have the vision to share the encouragement and hope of the Gospel through media expression.

Join us in welcoming Nihal Andrews to the Trinity United Methodist staff!



## CROP WALK

Thanks to each of you who contributed to helping people around the world through the Crop Walk. Special thanks to Mel Eyer and Missi St. Cyr for their leadership. What an inspiration that Parish Nurse Barbara Zimmerman could join the walk in spite of physical challenges. Your support to the Crop Walk raised a sum of \$1,300. The men were represented too - the Pastor was behind the camera.



## LOVE BOX

**February 16 | 9AM -12 PM**

For food pick up and drop off, drive through the parking lot and turn left onto Maple Alley. Stop at the first door at the back of the church. Harry or Daryl will take care of you. No need to get out of the car. Please wear your mask.

Contact Harry Rodriguez if you have any questions about food drop off or pick up.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

My dear church family,

At the beginning of the year, it is my privilege to pray with each of our staff members and to encourage them in their duties on our team. It was a joy to do that this year again.

Apart from this it was a very special privilege for us that the first action I could take from the pastor's desk in January 2021 was to send checks on behalf of the congregation to support people who are homeless. With the help of Carol Wilson, partnership of Gary Foreman and Gordon Taylor, we were able to send a sum of \$5,000 to Downtown Daily Bread and \$2,000 to Christian Churches United. Both these amounts were made possible because of your generous support to the mission and ministry of God at Trinity. I just want to thank you very very much.

God bless, Arun

## NEW RESPONSIBILITY

Pastor Arun has been serving over some years as the cluster leader of the Lower West Shore Cluster churches which includes Camp Hill UMC, Baughman UMC, Grace UMC, Community UMC and Trinity UMC. In 2021 Pastor Arun has been invited by District Superintendent Barry Robison to serve as the chair of the leadership team of the Harrisburg District.

## SUPPORT KEVIN QUINN FIGHT CANCER

We have been praying for Kevin, who has been battling a very rare form of cancer. We are inviting you to financially support Kevin and Joy (daughter of Rev. Carl and Linda Peterson). You can make your contributions to Trinity United Methodist Church with the memo line: For Kevin Quinn.

Drive: February 1, 2021 to March 15, 2021

Thank you for your support and a big thank you for the Petersons and for their ministry among us. Let us continue to pray for Kevin's healing. Thanks to Mary Herr for inspiring this drive to support Kevin.

## CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7 PM Young Adult Bible Studies	2 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	3 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	4	5	6
7 Online Worship Service 9:45 AM Children Ministry Zoom 7 PM Youth Group	8 7 PM "Zoe Mazi" Young Adult Bible Studies	9 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	10 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	11	12	13
14 Online Worship Service 9:45 AM Children Ministry Zoom 12 PM Starfish Ministry - HBG 7 PM Youth Group	15 Tidings Articles Due 7 PM "Zoe Mazi" Young Adult Bible Studies	16 9 AM Love Box Distribution 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	17 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 7 PM Ash Wednesday Service	18	19	20 10 AM Secret Sisters Group Zoom
21 Online Worship Service 9:45 AM Children Ministry Zoom 7 PM Youth Group	22 7 PM "Zoe Mazi" Young Adult Bible Studies	23 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	24 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	25	26	27
28 Online Worship Service 9:45 AM Children Ministry Zoom 7 PM Youth Group						
			<p><b>STOP &amp; PRAY TIMES AT 8:30 PM</b></p> <p>Imagine the power of 100 or 200 or 300 individuals praying united in Spirit for 5 minutes or more! Let us pray for unity, love and a true revival from the Holy Spirit.</p>			

## 2021 BUDGET

We thank God for His faithfulness and for your support to the ministry at Trinity in 2020. Thanks to each of you who have very faithfully supported the ministry financially. A special thanks to all of you who responded to our year-end appeal with your generosity. It has been greatly appreciated. May God return to you and your loved ones like the church can never do. Since we ended the year well, we will be retaining the excess of \$3,132 contributed by you to the Lenten and Christmas missions offerings in the Benevolence Fund. It will not be moved to the General Fund as mentioned in our Christmas appeal.

Copies of the approved budget for 2021 are available. You can request for a copy by post by contacting our church office by phone or email. You can also access the budget online in our Members section of the church website. If you do not have access to that section, kindly contact Jocelyn MacMinn, who can help you with it. Should you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact Gary Forman, Gordon Taylor, Carol Wilson or Pastor Arun.

Let us pray that the ministry plans, community outreach, mission support, Christian education, evangelism and the many other dimensions that our budget reflects as aspirations, will come true. May God give strength to all concerned to be able to fulfill our rolls and service in this ministry.

Many blessings to you and your loved ones.

“For we can certainly do it.” Numbers 13:30b

## THANKS FROM STARFISH

Starfish Ministries wishes to thank everyone and their support in 2020. All those who gave, donated, volunteers and sang! Even during Covid we were able to serve those in need. For 2021 we have many new volunteers and many ideas of how we can grow, reach out and serve our friends on the street in a bigger and better way. Please continue to pray for Starfish as well as those we help. God bless you all. Side note: Bombas blessed us with 1000 pair of warm socks so we're good on socks for a while! Our monthly needs are always: deodorant, used cloth bags, small toiletry items and blankets

February  
2021



Please submit  
articles for the  
MARCH 2021  
TRINITY TIDINGS  
by February 15th

## GRANDPARENTS IN PRAYER

Grandparents in Prayer resumed their Zoom meetings on January 18th. We meet every other Monday morning, gathering at 10:15, with the session being from 10:30 to 11:30. For those unable to use the video version of Zoom, call-in is possible with you participating by way of your telephone.

This is a prayer group with emphasis on supporting one another and interceding for our grandchildren. Our first prayer is for the salvation of our grandchildren and then that their faith will grow. We discuss how to be a Christian grandparent and how to be a good Christian model for our grandchildren. We also pray for our grandchildren's parents.

This is not a closed group. We welcome you to be a part of this group - grandmothers and grandfathers. Contact Beth Sider for more information or to receive a schedule of the meeting dates.