



THEME FOR MARCH **FEARLESS** *to* **PRAY**



From The Pastor's Heart

My dear Church Family,

I hope you are doing alright through these challenging days. Let me take a moment to wish you and your loved ones a truly blessed season of Lent. As we think of all the Jesus has done for us, may we be compelled to think of all that we might do for him. He died for us so that we can live for him. He gave his all for us, so that we can give our all for him and the cause of the Great Gospel.

In our January series titled “Fearless to follow”, we considered the Lord Jesus and his challenge to us in Luke 9:62, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God”. We understood the Jesus was focusing both on our devotion to stay faithful and on the direction that we must keep.

Let me affirm that it has been an absolute delight to serve Christ and his cause alongside each of you in our congregation. You are a faithful group of people who embody that the church is not about soloists, but that it is about being a choir together for his praise.

Since January of this year, we have met twice (outside of our regular monthly meetings) as members of the leadership team of 2020 and 2021 to talk about faith, our mission, our opportunities and our vision for the future of Trinity. At these meetings we have enjoyed a precious time of trivia, prayer and conversation- honest, transparent and helpful conversation.

Here are some observations from our first meeting about Trinity in a post quarantine season:

- The percentage of New Cumberland residents who attend one of the various New Cumberland churches is low.
- During the regathering services in the sanctuary in October and November, very few of those in attendance were under the age of 60.
- It is predicted that nationwide, 20-30% of people who attended church before the pandemic, will not return after the pandemic has ended.

***Our
Devotion
and
Direction
Matter!***

- A fear: That the UMC vote with regard to human sexuality will split the church.
- A fear: The percentage of people who don't believe in God in our country.
- What are people looking for in a church?
- If you were to invite someone to Trinity, what would you tell them that Trinity has to encourage them to come?
 1. A pastor who preaches the Gospel
 2. A good music ministry
 3. A community of believers/fellowship/family
 4. Service to community

*Our Dreams
and
Visions Matter!*

At our second meeting, we looked at our dreams for the future and how we can continue to share the love of Christ and the Gospel as an 1873 established church in our Ole' Town that is seeking to espouse new times. Here are some of our thoughts with the names of those who shared them. I am sure we will have more as we go along.

- Use Technology/ Media. (Thanks Janice Ocamb)
- Find more ways to serve younger people as a church of older people. (Thanks Kathy Miller)
- Park moments with praise and worship, kids' moments, Skitguys, short message plus Food! (Thanks Scott Loomis)
- Outreach to assisted living/ seniors living through our media/ services. (Thanks Gary Foreman)
- Mission-Outreach-Meals-Ministry: MOMM (Thanks Barbara Zimmerman)
- Archery for kids/ youth. Center shot ministries. (Thanks Ken Gable)
- Martial arts connections. (Thanks Mary Herr)
- Rekindle our 'Young families and friends' program which we had started before the pandemic at the Winter Room. (Thanks Scott Loomis)
- Trustees and friends visit to Camp Hill Nursery and to children's areas of a few churches in the area for revisioning our space. (Pastor)
- Connect with military/ service people to celebrate them. Upgrade Fellowship Hall as new connectional space for younger families. Media - ideas Nihal has shared. (Thanks Rick Bittner)
- Young families - including and engaging younger parents. (Thanks Beth Sider/ Mary Herr)
- Youth have a need to connect with those of their age. How can we work towards providing that as a church? (Thanks Brian Weller)
- Promote church services/ online programs. (Thanks Dave Leppo/ John Mickle)
- Coffee hour/ Bible study for moms, dads and kids' times. (Thanks Shirley Sharpe)
- Promoting Trinity online in Facebook, Instagram and social media. Really promote the worship, fellowship and content. Also try to do things differently. Posting Video/ audio of short prayers led by folk from Trinity of all ages -wishing people a good morning and praying for a good day for them." Imagine folk from across American states enjoying the prayers? (Thanks John Mickle).

MARCH THEME

Fearless to pray

March 7

**How can I pray
when I make a mess of my life?**

Scripture: Luke 23: 32-43

March 14

**How can I pray
when duty calls?**

Scripture: John 19: 25-27

March 21

**How can I pray
when God seems far?**

Scripture: Matthew 27: 45-46

**March 28 | Palm Sunday
Celebrating the Savior**

Scripture: Matthew 21: 1-11

**April 1 | Maundy Thursday
How can I pray**

when my mission is daunting?

Scripture: Mark 14: 32-41

**April 2 | Good Friday
Tenebrae Service***

**How can I pray
when I face death?**

Scripture: Luke 23: 44-46

*We welcome Rev. Carl F.

Peterson and Rev. Rodney Miller

April 4 | Easter

Fearless when hope seems lost

Scripture: John 20: 10-18

I am reaching out to you for your help. We want to invite you as a congregation to think with us. Are there ideas and dreams that you have for Trinity? Are there thoughts that come to your mind about how we can serve our community and reach them with the love of Christ? Do feel free to write to us or to reach out to any of our leadership team members listed in this newsletter. We will be happy to receive your ideas and make our best effort to see what we could do with them. In dreaming and casting a vision, we must prayerfully be fearless. As the scripture declares in Proverbs 29:18: Where there is no vision, the people perish.

As the leadership team of 2021 we will be studying Thom S. Rainer's book, 'The Post-Quarantine Church: Six Urgent Challenges and Opportunities that Will Determine the Future of Your Congregation'. Please pray for us. I had written to the leaders after our second prayer, conversation and vision meeting on 02.15.2021. I noted: **Our planning will gain altitude not on the wings of our innovations but on the wings of prayer.**

Let me get back to the invitation of our Lord Jesus in Luke 9:62. Yes, our devotion and direction matter. In a recent leadership conversation, Shirley Sharpe, Chair of our leadership team shared about her father. He had grown up on a farm and had repeatedly worked at tilling the soil with the help of a plow and a mule. In his 20s, he left the farm and pursued a life of selling insurance. Shirley remembers him as a godly man who trusted the Lord and was a witness for him. Many years later, he was in a village fair when experienced farmers were participating in a mule plowing contest. Shirley's dad told them that he would easily win. They did not believe them and took him lightly. But when he got to the task, his was the straightest line there ever could have been that day. He sure did win! When they asked him how he did it, he said, "all I do is set my eyes on one point in the opposite direction and never take my eyes off".

As your pastor, I can sit back and say, "Things are going on well at Trinity. My people are working together and are appreciative. We received as many as about 80 new members in the last 5 years. The Gospel is touching lives. By God's grace we even became debt free as a church. We can take it easy." Or I can say, "Lord help us!! I can see the signs that are telling me that this church will either sink or sail 15-20 years from now depending on what we do or do not do now!"

I need your help. I need you to pray earnestly during this season of Lent for the life and ministry and future of Trinity and of the United Methodist Church. As someone who started working in this country only six years ago, I can honestly say that I have been more concerned about Trinity's future than about retirement plans for Miriam and me. Every time I serve at a funeral of one of our beloved members, my heart hears the urgency of the moment. We are losing faithful hearts and hands and are in urgent need of having new and younger families and individuals come on board. We need people who love the Lord, who will not compromise on his word and will be part of this faith community passionately.

Yes! It is a challenging place to be in by human standards for each of you as members and us as your pastoral family. On one hand, we are an aging congregation, on the other, we are part of a struggling denomination on account of our conversations surrounding human sexuality. As you are aware, my family and I left our homeland in response to a call from the Lord. In just six years of serving here, we find ourselves in a place where the United Methodist Church, of which Trinity is a part, may be poised for a denominational split – potentially during this year.

Even through such times we can be fearless. Not because we know the way – but because He is the way.

Would you be fearless to pray prayers that might move you? Move you from your comfort zone to deeper involvement? Move you from doing what you can to doing that which is your ultimate best? Move you to consider including Trinity in your will and in the disbursement of your estate? Move you from being a 'nice person' to being an unashamed witness for Jesus? Move you from the fear of talking about his love to being a heart on fire -telling and living the Gospel?

Let's get set.

Let's get to the plow- and fix our eyes on the One who is our gift and our goal! We will always be on target as long as we look unto HIM.

Fearless because of Jesus,
Arun

SAVE THE DATE:
Regathering in person for worship.
Easter Sunday: April 4 2021

Thank you for praying for me when I was in hospital recently. Thank you for all your love and concern and for the power of your prayer support. I am grateful for my church family.

Roger Estep

Thank you! We have received your generous gift through Susquehanna Conference UMC and are so very thankful for your support.

*Susan D. Jamison,
Donor Relations and Community Outreach
Albright Care Services*

Thank you for your contribution of \$5,000 dated January 7, 2021 from Trinity United Methodist Church. Your generosity energizes Downtown Daily Bread's mission to help hungry and homeless people in Harrisburg meet their basic needs and improve their lives.

Your support is a true blessing! It helps to keep our doors open for people in need. Today 34 checked in to our Day Shelter, 14 people took showers, 61 picked up mail, 40 enjoyed a breakfast meal, and 70 came for lunch!

*In gratitude,
Susan Cann
Director of Development*

*thank
you*

FASTING & PRAYER USING THE DANIEL FAST

Lent 2021 – Ash Wednesday through Holy Week March 28 – April 4 (Easter)

Well, we are into Lent and the Daniel Fast and it is not too late to start Fasting & Praying. The Daniel Fast is 21 days and there are 40 days in Lent. So, you can start your Fast at any time in the month of March. If you want to Fast for the full 21 Days, you will have to start your Fast the 10th of March. Listen to what one person said about the Daniel Fast:

"The Daniel Fast is my fast of choice when I need direction or refreshment, or desire to hear God's voice more clearly. This daily, living sacrifice is a wonderful way to establish a constant awareness that I am reprioritizing my life putting all idols away, and allowing God to reign in my heart. God has shown me time and time again that when we bring our appetites and flesh under the direction of His Spirit, He will reward. I am always touched by how God honors our efforts, no matter how small. Not because we have to work for His approval but because He is so full of grace and looks for opportunities to bless us. Fasting is one of those gracious opportunities." ~ S.Hord

(Feola Kristen, The Daniel Fast, page 36)

“Taste and see, that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.”

Psalm 34:8

God wants you to see Him more clearly and grow in His grace.

Ask Him today what He would have you do for Him.

Watch for the Daniel Fast videos throughout Lent and the testimonies of those who have fasted. Register online by filling out a short form found on the website to let us know you are fasting, so we might support you in prayer. You may also call Pastor Peggy directly at 717-433-1670 or email her at pastorpeggy@trinityumnc.com. Be sure to give us your telephone number and email when you signup. If you would like Feola Kristen's book, "The Ultimate Guide to the DANIEL FAST including 100+ recipes plus 21 Daily Devotions", just call me and let me know. I will order it and have it delivered to your home.

Pastor Peggy 717-433-1670

LENTEN DISCIPLINE PRACTICES

Inviting you to consider practicing some Lenten Disciplines like:

1. Including an extra 10-15 mins for prayer each evening
2. Including an extra daily Bible reading time focusing on the Gospel narratives leading to the cross. Ask questions like these to the Bible text: What does this tell me about human nature? What does this tell me about God's character? How can I follow the lesson that Jesus teaches me here?
3. Committing to follow the Daniel Fast as encouraged by Pastor Peggy.
4. Set aside cents/ dollars daily to support homeless people in the Harrisburg Area through Starfish Ministries, families challenged by cancer through Vickie's Angel Foundation, or any other ministry that the Lord lays on your heart.
5. Set aside one item from your possessions either daily or weekly through the season and give them away to those who may benefit from them.
6. Pray for the members of Trinity using the Church telephone directory. If you pray for 5 individuals/families daily through the 40 days of Lent, you will pray for 200 individuals/ families.
7. Spend quiet moments alone with the Lord. Write down a list of your spiritual, moral and social sins. Seek the Lord's forgiveness. Erase or blot out each of those sins from the list once you have repented and confessed them. Be free.
8. Write that card, note, letter, text, e-mail or make that call to someone you needed to reconcile with or to seek forgiveness from.

It is prayer that gives power to all these other things. Singing, giving, entertaining, teaching, sewing, working, serving: those are all good things if we set them a flame by prayer.

~ A. W. Tozer in "Fellowship of the Burning Heart"



THE LADDER

I was getting ready to leave for the sanctuary to record Sunday's sermon. It was a beautiful day on February 4, 2021. I received a surprise text from Carol Wilson with the picture that you see below.

The picture truly moved my heart because it embodies a great spirit of servanthood that you as the people of God at Trinity have reflected. Just as I received the picture, these words came to my heart and I wrote them down as a gift to remember: The ladder of success is often hidden in the ladder of service.

Hope this picture and thought inspires you. Thanks to every one of you who volunteer and serve at Trinity. Your service spells success!

Carol Wilson, please keep your camera handy always.

Arun

2021 LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

Shirley Sharpe (Chair)
Barbara Zimmerman
Janice Ocamb
Jed Beshore
Ken Gable
Rick Bittner
Gary Forman

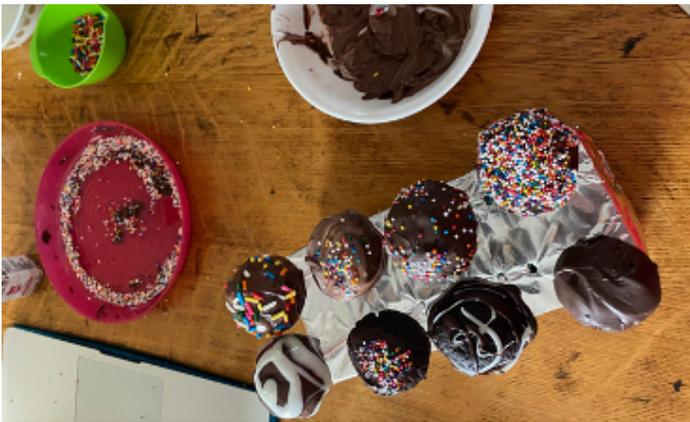
Gordon Taylor
Scott Loomis
John Mickle
Bill Northey
Dave Leppo
Brian Weller
Arun Andrews

TRINITY YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

by Haley Warner

Trinity Youth continue to get creative and stay connected through the pandemic.

Whether it's making cake pops together during virtual youth group on Zoom, or an impromptu day of sledding, these youth continue to make the most of each day while staying connected to God and each other. The youth studied the book of Proverbs through the month of January, and each youth group lesson centered on the topic of moralism and faith as we looked into scripture to answer deeper questions like how being a good person and a Christ-follower are different, and why who we choose to surround ourselves with matters. We were encouraged and challenged by the Valentine's Day lesson to "let our lives be the proof of God's love" and are looking forward to doing just that in the upcoming month!



Atlanta Missions Trip 2021 July 4 -11, 2021

The "Atlanta Dream Team" will be traveling to Georgia this July (God-permitting with the pandemic situation) to serve with the Atlanta Dream Center. Check out <https://frontlineresponse.org/about/> for more info on the ways we will be serving. Contact Haley Warner for more information about the trip or ways to support our youth who plan to attend.

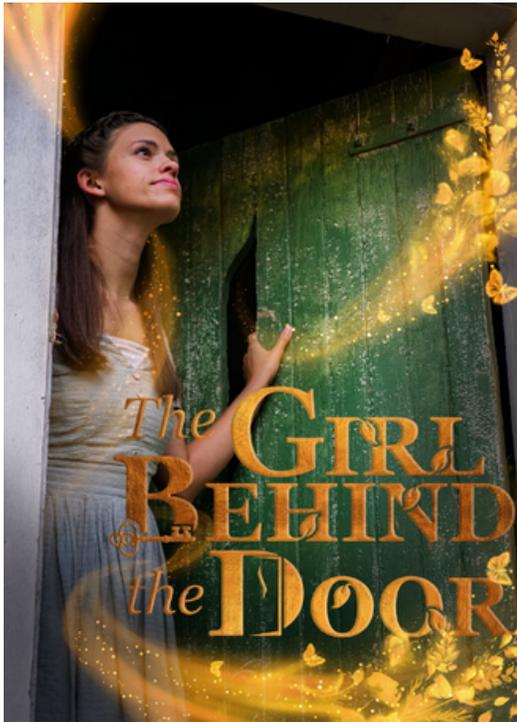


JULY 4TH-11TH, 2021
CURRENT 9TH-12TH GRADERS

"ATLANTA DREAM TEAM"
TRINITY YOUTH
MEDARD'S HOUSE
CEDAR CLIFF & RED LAND
HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE CLUBS

DUTIES FOR MARCH 2021

DUTIES	MAR 7	MAR 14	MAR 21	MAR 28
LITURGIST	Doug Eakin	Carol Brown	Robert Druckenmiller	Kaylynn Snyder
CHILDREN'S TALK	John Mickle	Marjie Creamer	Nehara Andrews	Betsy Miller



Zeteo 2021
“The Girl Behind the Door”
April 30 - May 1, 2021
Clipper Magazine Stadium | Lancaster, PA

“What if? This question can plague our hearts with its gripping uncertainties. What if I fail when it counts? What if I lose someone I love? What if the worst things I imagine become real? These "what ifs" build a door—a door through which anxious thoughts can sneak inside. And the thoughts grow into walls thick with fear, twisted vines of lies, locked windows of uncertainty, broken mirrors of insecurity. Suddenly, a seemingly innocuous question constructs a world of the mind—a world where nightmares dance, dangerous lies sing sweetly, and fear seems safer than freedom. Join us for Zeteo 2021, where we will peek behind our doors to explore the possibilities that fear wants us to forget.” Contact Haley Warner for more details!

PARISH NURSE NEWS

Throughout this time of cautionary isolation, the need of our people has not diminished – it has in fact become greater.

Trinity’s “outreach” has continued through our Love-Boxes and Starfish Ministry. Our homebound and recently hospitalized, however have been noticeably and negatively affected by the very practices designed to keep us safe... and so, with your help, the Senior-Homebound-Ministry Team would like to resume our Mission-Outreach-Meals-Ministry (aka: MOMM)

If you are called to this ministry or it has stirred your interest in sharing your culinary talent- as you prepare for family meals, place your “extras” in freezer safe containers and date the contents. Call Mary Herr or Barbara Zimmerman regarding distribution. Until delivery, MOMM offerings will be placed into Trinity’s freezer drawer and/or door marked Homebound.

As Pastor Peggy encourages our participation the Daniel Fast, this opportunity for self-sacrifice is also the perfect time for each of us “to show we are Christians by our love...” Thank You for caring and sharing, Barbara Zimmerman.

A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

Happy March! I have always enjoyed the month of March. Springtime soon arrives. Celebrating a birthday is always a blessing; although, it looks and feels very different with each passing year! Yet, the springtime, pressing on of years, and regrowth of God's awesome and beautiful creation inspires me to ponder that in my life where I can be reborn, renewed, and rejuvenated.

Perhaps this spring you are looking for something new to try. It is in this spirit that I invite you to take part in the music ministry! Why not let this be a time to try something new, offering another way in which you can serve and, at the same time, make a joyful noise to the Lord?!

If you feel that singing is not your gift, do know there are many other ways to make music! Instruments and many other musical sounds and movements are ways in which we can praise God. I am here to help and would love to have you join us!

Easter is early this year, April 4th! For Good Friday and Easter, I am planning an all congregational virtual choir. These will be anthems and an undertaking of significant proportions! Please do contact me to take part. Don't be surprised if you receive an invitation. Again, I would love to have you join us! If the hurdle of technology seems to great, there are many of us who can and will help you overcome the challenge!

I am always deeply thankful for those who so willingly serve in the music ministry. It is hard to believe that it has been one year since our first church closure due to Coronavirus. It is my hope that our closures turn into sustained openings and our openings into sustained weekly gatherings!

I have missed our time in worship together and look forward to taking part in our music and singing. From the softest pianissimos to the the most thunderous fortissimos, and even in the most reverent silences, this musical interaction is so profound and powerful. It's a task I take very seriously.

I continue to be hopeful that 2021 will allow choirs and the full spectrum of the music ministry to return to normal! 2020 pushed us into different approaches to making music. Perhaps in 2021, we can continue to capitalize on these ideas as we move forward together in faith.

Some of these ideas came through the use of social media and technology. Keeping in touch with everyone via Facebook live on Wednesdays has been a joy. Updating Scripture and Song on the website regularly has provided an extra opportunity for short musical prayers. And, working with Pastor and Nihal in planning and producing worship has offered new levels of musical creativity.

Following surgery, it's a great feeling to be back at church, on the organ and piano bench! I would not have thought in 2019 that in 2020 I would require two surgeries to fix a quickly ailing and deteriorating knee. Although it will require a full replacement sometime in the future, I will continue to praise the Lord, and climb on and off the organ bench, as long as I have breath, and strength!

I am grateful for the musical gifts He has given me, and for those who I am blessed to serve alongside. I am thankful for each offering in worship. I am thankful for each unique moment of praise. I am thankful for each special moment of prayer.

I remain aware of the needs and care the organ faces. The organ committee remains hard at work sorting through how to best take care of the pipe organ so that it serves the congregation for years to come!

In 2021, I look forward to pressing ahead and serving Him. I look forward to our worship. I look forward to our music.

To God be the glory!

Todd

RAVI ZACHARIAS

The report released by RZIM lately with regard to sexual misconduct has been utterly devastating. We pray for the Zacharias family and for all who have been hurt. We pray for the cause of the Gospel.

Personally this has been my most difficult season of life in a very long time.

Struggling to process. Sharing in the pain.

Keeping our eyes on you, Lord.

Arun

GIFT CARDS

Thank you for your participation in our gift card program.

DOWNTOWN DAILY BREAD

Downtown Daily Bread will not be utilizing volunteers through May. We hope we can begin serving again in June.

SECRET SISTERS

Dear Secret Sisters,

Just wanted let you know that on the March 20th Zoom meeting you are asked to bring a teacup with you to the meeting, tea optional. Keep on covering your Sister in prayer. See you on Zoom, stay safe and secure for the ones you love.

God bless you, Vicky

MARCH PRAYER FOCUS

Every time you drive through New Cumberland, would you pray for the local businesses of our town?

SAVE THE DATE!

We will soon begin making plans for National Night Out to be held Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

We're looking forward to another NNO celebration, COVID style!

SNOW CLEARING AT CHURCH

There is a lot of clearing to do when it snows. Thank you Harry Rodriguez, Daryl Potteiger, Scott Loomis and George Estep and team!

SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

A family and a young person in our congregation will be helped greatly to find a car, each at a low price. In case you have knowledge of or access to such vehicles, please contact Carol Wilson or Anne Mathews at the church office.

GRANDPARENTS IN PRAYER



This picture of the Grandparents in Prayer group was taken in the month before the pandemic hit us. We continue to meet bi-weekly on Zoom, some using a computer and some using the phone.

For more information on how to connect with Grandparents in Prayer please contact the office or Beth Sider. This is a prayer group with emphasis on praying for our grandchildren.

“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” James 5:16

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 10: 30 AM Grandparents in Prayer Zoom 7 PM Young Adult Bible Studies	2 10 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 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 Young Adult Bible Studies	9 10 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 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 10: 30 AM Grandparents in Prayer Zoom 7 PM Young Adult Bible Studies	16 10 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	17 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	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 Young Adult Bible Studies	23 10 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 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	29 10: 30 AM Grandparents in Prayer Zoom 7 PM Young Adult Bible Studies	30 10 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	31 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music			
<p>STOP & PRAY TIMES AT 8:30 PM</p> <p><i>Take it to the Lord in Prayer</i></p> <p><i>~ Joseph M. Scriven</i></p>						



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



Trinity UMNC

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

March 2021



Please submit
articles for the
APRIL 2021
TRINITY TIDINGS
by March 15th

STARFISH MINISTRIES

Starfish Ministries continues to grow in volunteers, donations and people being helped. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! Any questions about Starfish, please contact Carol Crossley at 717-379-9030 or 4starfishministries@gmail.com

We seem to have a good supply on hand but could use some more of the following items:

- nail clippers
- shaving cream
- men's belts
- deodorant
- foot/body powder
- cloth bags

