March 2022 ISSUE 3 VOL. 36



*From Your Pastor's Heart* My dear Calvary-bound friend,

A couple of days ago I was privileged to be at a table with two remarkable veterans. One had served in WW II and the other had served in the Korean war. During our conversation one of them spoke of the mystery of surviving war. He talked of a question that has troubled him over a lifetime, "Why did some of my comrades never make it, and why did I?"

It can be especially difficult to process a question like that when you think of spouses, children and loved ones who were awaiting the return of those fallen heroes. Our conversation around that table lingered in my mind.

As we approach another season of Lent and Easter, I think of another question: Why me, Lord?

To reflect a little more about that question, let me share something that has been a deep and intense blessing to my soul. Over the years since I was a teenager, it has been my practice to travel with Jesus down the Via Dolorosa – the path that he traversed that first Good Friday from Jerusalem to Calvary. In my quiet times of prayer, I have consciously walked the path that Jesus took as I meditated upon the texts of the Gospels. I have heard the mocking of the soldiers, the sighing of the crowd, the lament of the women and the sweet voice of the Savior. The One who was beaten, humiliated, spat upon, ridiculed, nailed to a crude wooden cross radiates a love that is truly amazing. Over time my journey to Calvary has been made all the more precious as I have sung and reflected upon the words of hymns like 'Alas and did my Savior bleed', 'When I survey the wondrous cross', 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?', 'Jesus, keep me near the cross', 'On a hill far away' and 'the old Rugged cross'.

The words of Elizabeth Cecilia Clephane in the hymn "Beneath the cross of Jesus" best describe my feelings at times like that:

Upon the cross of Jesus, Mine eye at times can see, The very dying form of One, Who suffered there for me: And from my stricken heart with tears, Two wonders I confess, The wonders of redeeming love, And my unworthiness.

Why some people don't experience this love, and why I do... is a mystery of grace that is baffling and propels me to a lifetime of gratitude.

I pray you will be truly blessed in your journey to Calvary during this Lenten season beginning Ash Wednesday (March 2). I want to invite you to consider embracing this season as a time for deeper intimacy with Christ, for deepening relationships and for serving the community and the world. To help you practically take steps towards those goals, I have shared some Lenten disciplines that you might want to follow. Be blessed my friend!

Jesus, keep me near to the cross, Arun

### ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent 2022 will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd. We will have a 7 PM service in the sanctuary at Trinity. It will be a service of confession and introspection.

The Chancel Choir, led by Director of Music Todd Davis, will minister in music.

Due to COVID concerns we will not have imposition of ashes.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10

## **EASTER FLOWER ORDERS**

We will be decorating the church with flowers for Easter again this year. Orders are due in church office, along with your cash or check made payable to Trinity United Methodist Church (showing "Easter Flowers" in the memo) by April 3, 2022. Please put the number of each type of flower that you wish to order. The cost is \$10.50 each for Tulip, Daffodil, Mums, and/or Easter Lily.



## **MARCH THEME**

# NEED A PROMISE FROM THE CROSS?

March 2 Ash Wednesday Have mercy on me, O God! Scripture: Psalm 51:1-12

#### March 6

**Need an advocate for your soul? Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.** Scripture: Luke 23:32-34

March 13 Need a miracle in your mess? Today shalt thou be with me in paradise. Scripture: Luke 23:32-43

March 20 Need a tender-hearted Savior? Woman, behold, thy son!... Scripture: John 19:25-27

#### March 27 Need a friend when the pain meds fail? My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Scripture: Matthew 27:45-56

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### INVITATION TO CONSIDER PRACTICING LENTEN DISCIPLINES LIKE:

- Including an extra 10-15 mins for prayer each evening.
- 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?
- Setting aside a dollar or more a day to support homeless people in the Harrisburg Area through Starfish Ministries, families battling cancer through Vickie's Angel Foundation, helping families in our school district through the ASK project or any other ministry that the Lord lays on your heart.
- Setting aside one item from your possessions either daily or weekly through the season and give them away to those who may benefit from them
- Praying 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.
- Praying for one nation a day by using the prayer highlights at: https://operationworld.org/prayer- resources/countries-alphabetically/
- Spending 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.
- Writing that card, note, letter, text, e-mail or make that call to someone you needed to reconcile with or to seek forgiveness from. Or communicate just to encourage someone.
- Using the days of the week to guide us in prayer especially at 8.30 pm:

Monday (M): Pray for mothers who are single moms

Tuesday (T): Pray for teenagers who face difficulties, loneliness and temptations

Wednesday (W): Pray for world concerns and governments

Thursday (T): Pray for the transmission of the Gospel through media, print, music, etc.

Friday (F): Pray for Families that are going through hard times

**Saturday** (S): Pray for Church **services**. Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit's work of transformation and empowerment.

Sunday (S): Take time to be in silence. Think of your week gone by and thank God.

Look ahead to the new week and commit yourself to be his witness in all you do.

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The congregation again has the opportunity to sponsor altar flowers. Due to the rising costs of florists, Trinity member Sharon Immel has graciously consented to use her flower arranging talents for the glory of God and arrange the altar flowers. The prices are \$45 for altar vases and \$35 for a centerpiece. Sharon will continue to have silk flowers in the vases when flowers have not been sponsored. We thank Sharon for being willing to take on this commitment. Please phone the office if there is a Sunday when you wish to have flowers on the altar in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one.

## MIDWEEK MUSIC CONCERTS

Midweek Music concerts continue! I am thankful to God for the opportunity to present these programs. We will soon eclipse the 100-concert mark. I hope, in sharing these concerts, the programs are a blessing and inspiration to all. Music has the tremendous power to stir us in deep and profound ways. It has the amazing power to bring our hearts to praise, and to prayer!

Why not join us for these times of music? On Wednesdays at noon, there is always a variety of music, and musicians!

#### THE PRAISE CORNER

by Todd Davis, Director of Music Ministries

"Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light."

Words: Ancient Irish; Music: Trad. Irish melody

Happy March!

I have placed above the words to "Be Thou My Vision." (It is found in the Methodist hymnal, #451.) This beautiful Irish hymn is even a more beautiful prayer with phrases such as, "thou my best thought," and in following verses, "Lord of my heart," and "heart of my own heart." These elegant phrases remind us that when we allow God to have priority in our lives, we no longer seek after "man's empty praise." He becomes our most valued treasure.

Another well-known charming and picturesque Irish hymn is, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is." (It is found in the Methodist hymnal, #138.) It is an exquisite paraphrase of Psalm 23.

"The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever."

Words: Henry W. Baker; Music: Irish melody

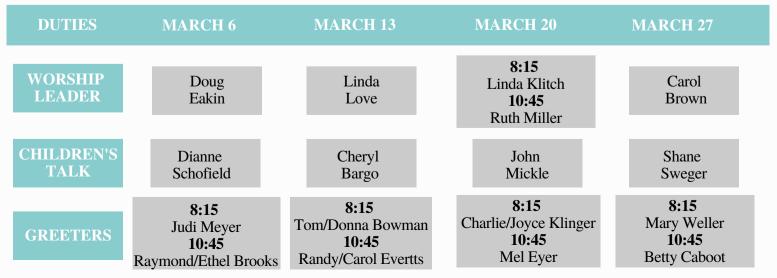
God's goodness never fails. His love endures. Let us seek after Him, let us follow Him, so that in whatever we do, we do through his awesome power and love! Soli Deo Gloria! Todd

**DOWNTOWN DAILY BREAD** 

Trinity is serving March 1 & March 15 A sign up sheet is on the table across from the mailboxes. ADDITIONAL HELP NEEDED

We are also providing sandwiches and homemade desserts for each of our dates. If anyone would like to provide dessert for 80, please sign up. Starfish is willing to cover your expenses. If 80 is too much for you, perhaps several of you can each do something equaling 80 servings. They LOVE our homemade desserts, no matter what they are! Contact Carol Crossley with any questions.

### **DUTIES FOR MARCH 2022**



# ORGAN RESTORATION



In the upcoming months, the organ restoration work will soon begin! Currently, many issues plague the instrument. These issues continue to have a deteriorating effect on the instrument, so much so that only one of the keyboards seen in the picture is usable. This restoration work, by the Peragallo Organ Company of Paterson, NJ, will breathe new life into the instrument! Pipes, large and small, will be removed, repaired, and revoiced. Other work to be completed includes repairing crushed wind lines, worn leather, and non-functioning parts. Somewhat disappointing is that this work is not 'seen' because the instrument is located behind the walls. Access to the organ chambers is in the sacristy and the hallway leading to the sanctuary from the youth room.

The organ, unlike any other instrument, is capable of so much, including leading worship, accompanying others, and presenting its own unique repertoire. As mentioned previously, there will be a time, during the restoration process, when the organ is unusable. Yet, when it comes back to life, we will praise the Lord with the grandeur of its remarkable palate of sounds!

#### **CHOIR**

Last month, the Chancel Choir sang an arrangement of "Standing on the Promises" by Stan Pethel. We had quite a good time singing it, with it's relaxed and rhythmic feel! Following in the theme of "Standing on the Promises," set forth by Pastor Arun, we take time in rehearsals to ponder the promises found in the anthem texts.

On February 6 and February 27, the choir sang "How Firm a Foundation," arranged by John Carter. A formidable promise we find in this hymn anthem comes from Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am your God, and will still give you aid." This is a favorite hymn of mine.

As we continue rehearsals, we will continue to look at the anthem texts on a deeper level. It is our hope to understand and convey the message through the music we present.

Thank you, Lord, for your promises. You are faithful. We live in and by your Word. Amen.

#### WORDS OF WELLNESS

by Barbara Zimmerman

It's March 2022 - already - still the beginning of a "new"year; time for a fresh start - and still a time of endless possibilities... But, do you continue to live in the darkness of the past? Are you - discouraged, disillusioned, disappointed, depressed... Think nobody hears you or cares? Haven't we all felt "we are in the dark", sometimes?

Isaiah 40:18-19 reminds us: "Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. Behold, I will do a new thing."

And then, we remember the wonder and majesty of Genesis' crest In the beginning - <u>all</u> was darkness. Our Creator said, "Let there be light..." Life first began in the dark... It begins anew with

each seed in the ground ~ a lost treasure - found~ a baby in the womb~ our Jesus in the tomb.~

Because it was Jesus who brought the light of our salvation and for each of us - new life. It is HE who bids us now, "Shine the light." Are you "a little light" for someone?

You can be...

Standing on His Promises -Your Parish Nurse, Barbara Z.

A great idea is successful - only when it leads to action.

# **CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2022**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Monthly Prayer Focus When you hear the radio, watch television or listen to the news on an app, would you pray for the advancement of the Gospel. Stop & Pray at 8:30 pm		1 10 AM TMWG (FH) 12 PM DDB 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	2 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 7 PM Ash Wednesday Service	3 10 AM Sewing Group (WR)	4 9 AM Prayer Breakfast (Ickler's)	5 9 AM Communion Prep
6 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 6 PM Youth Group	7 10:45 AM Grandparents in Prayer	8 10 AM TMWG (FH) 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	9 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 6:30 PM Bible Study	10	11	12
13 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 12:30PM Starfish 6 PM Youth Group	14	15 12 PM DDB 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer Tidings Deadline	16 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 6:30 PM Bible Study	17 9 AM Love Boxes (FH) 10 AM Sewing Group (WR) 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)	18	19 10 AM Secret Sisters (FH)
20 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 6 PM Youth Group	21 10:45 AM Grandparents in Prayer 2:30 PM Pray & Go	22 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	23 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 6:30 PM Bible Study	24 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)	25	26
27 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 6 PM Youth Group	28 6:30 PM Leadership Team Mtg (SJ)	29 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	30 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 6:30 PM Bible Study	31 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)	March 19 Fellow Do you no Would you li prayer daily?	<b>T SISTER</b> <b>9th @ 10 AM</b> <b>vship Hall</b> eed a friend? ke to be lifted in Come join us a ister's meeting.

## **STARFISH MINISTRY**

March 13, 2022 from 12:15 p.m - 1:30 p.m. Citizens Bank Building, Harrisburg If you want to help out, please contact Carol Crossley.

#### **CURRENT NEEDS**

Deodorant, nail clippers, travel size toothpaste, Sternos men's new white T-shirts, bath towels/wash cloths, bar soap, puzzles, books.

n at the Secret Sister's meeting. Contact Vicky Forman with questions.

#### GRANDPARENTS IN PRAYER

March 7th and 21st 10:45 - 12 in Fellowship Hall.

Contact Beth Sider for more information.

## NEXT PRAY & GO

The next scheduled gathering at the church for Pray & Go is Monday, March 21, 2022 @ 2:30 PM Contact Sharon Sheffer for where to Pray & Go.

#### **LOVE BOXES**

Dear Friends, We appreciate your kindness in helping with the Love Boxes. Your generosity provides food for many needy people. Letting you know that we have given 2,300 Love Boxes to families. Is that not amazing? Blessings to all of you. Carol and Harry and our great hard working team.

#### **Monthly Needs:**

Spaghetti sauce, fruit, snack cookies, potato chips, pretzels, peanut butter crackers, peanut butter, jelly, soups, tuna fish, marshmallow, breakfast foods ex: oatmeal, pop tarts, nutrient bars, canned veg. corn, peas, mixed veg., beets etc., ketchup, mustard, miracle whip, spaghetti noodles, macaroni etc. Contact Carol Evertts for more information.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

**Thursday, March 17th,** April 14th, and May 19th Pick up and food drop off 9:00 am to 11:30



# **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

March 2022	Please submit articles for the APRIL 2022 TRINITY TIDINGS by March 15th.					
Trinity Tidings	EASTER FLOWER ORDERS    We will be decorating the church with flowers for Easter again this year. Orders are due in the church office, along with your cash or check made payable to Trinity United Methodist Church (showing "Easter Flowers" in the memo) by April 3rd. The cost is \$10.50 each. Please put the number of each type of flower that you wish to order in the space provided.   Tulip Daffodil Easter Lily    In Memory Of:					
	Given by: Take Flowers: Leave for Homebound: If you are planning to take your flowers, they should be taken home on Easter Sunday unless prior arrangements are made with Joyce Klinger at 774-3471. Your Name: Amount Enclosed: \$ Phone #: Check Cash					