# Trinity Tidings to know, grow and show the love of jesus

September 2020 ISSUE 9 VOL. 29



SEPTEMBER 2020 THEME A LOVE FOR ALL SEASONS

> 1 Corinthians 13 & Glimpses from Luke's Gospel



# From The Pastor's Heart

My dear ones in our Trinity Family, Here are some questions that come my way : "Pastor, when do you think the problems with COVID-19 will end?" "Pastor, why do people politicize wearing masks?" "Pastor, can we get back to church right now?" "Pastor, how long does it take to put an online service together?" "Pastor, how long does it take to put an online service together?" "Pastor, what do you think will happen in our upcoming elections?" "Pastor, is it harder in India with the coronavirus?" "Pastor, will they close down school after reopening?" "Pastor, are Indian spices all very hot?" "Pastor, do you polish your bald spot?" This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 1 John 4: 10-12

"Pastor, do you wear caps these days to our regathering because you fear that the little hair you have will fly away?" Questions.

I love questions. They make me think. They also remind me that people trust me to respond.

It was Dr. Ravi Zacharias who said that "behind every question there is a questioner."

I am sure you have faced your share of questions too. Some frivolous. Some deep and others of great consequence.

I want to invite you to think of one question this month. It is a simple, straightforward question. How can you show God's love to someone who is struggling with tough life-questions in September of 2020?

Yes! That's it. I have nothing more to ask of you in this pastoral letter.

I only ask if you might be willing to be an instrument of God's unfailing love to someone who really needs it.

Please pray. Please think. Please act.

Make that call. Write that letter. Send that card. Add a subscription to a daily devotional for a friend. Order a book for a friend. Purchase a Bible for someone who doesn't go to church. Share your testimony about how God has been helping you through the tough times. There's lots more you can do. Use your Instagram, Tick Tok, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, or Snapchat accounts to communicate God's love.

During my years in college, I always carried printed Gospel tracts in my shirt pockets and in my bag. I shared them with strangers and friends when I got an opportunity to interact with them on the streets, in buses, in trains or at the college cafeteria – just anywhere. After engaging in a conversation that turned to God I would ask, "Would you mind reading this little piece? It's about a love that changed my life". In later years I always carried books and audio CDs of Dr. Ravi Zacharias. I gave them away to people on flights, in trains, in parks and other places. Each time I shared a tract, a CD or a book in witness, I would pray earnestly that God would touch that life.

Sharing God's love is simple. It's an act of love shared in sincerity. What you share can make a difference in someone's life forever.

YES! You can make the difference!

Celebrating his love for all seasons, Pastor Arun



Every time you wash your plate or put it into the dishwasher would you pray for the people who are hungry around the world and think of what you can do for them. Also pray for the families we serve through our love boxes.

#### SEPTEMBER THEME

A LOVE FOR ALL SEASONS: 1 Corinthians & Glimpses from Luke's Gospel

September 6

Love keeps no record of wrongs: When pop goes over the top! Scripture 1: Luke 15: 11-31 Scripture 2: 1 Corinthians 13: 5

September 13 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth: Pharisees in Vegas! Scripture 1: Luke 7:36-50 Scripture 2: 1 Corinthians 13: 6

September 20 Love always protects, Love always trusts: Cop and robbers and good ole Sam! Scripture 1: Luke 10:25-37 Scripture 2: 1 Corinthians 13: 7

September 27 Love always hopes, Love always perseveres: When Daddy never gave up! Scripture 1: Luke 9:37-43 Scripture 2: 1 Corinthians 13: 7

Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

Proverbs 14:31

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS GOD'S GOALS

I don't know about you, but I've been using my time to read, study and pray! Too much TV, too much News is depressing and leads us to a lack of faith and joy in our lives. The Bible, however, lifts us up and connects us with God in a supernatural way that cannot be explained, but only experienced.

I hear many folks, me included, asking about God's will for my life. Well, His Will is that we would become firmly rooted in Christ and know who we are in Christ. Peter gives us an outline of Character Goals we need to adopt to fulfill the Will of God in our lives. Let's look at what the Lord instructs through Peter:

2 Peter 1:3-10 – "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you might participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. Now for this reason, make every effort to <u>add to your faith goodness</u>; and <u>to goodness</u>; and <u>to knowledge</u>, <u>self-control</u>; and <u>to self-control perseverance</u>; and <u>to perseverance</u>, <u>godliness</u>; and <u>to your godliness</u>, <u>mutual affection</u>; and <u>to mutual affection</u>. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The "Fruit of the Spirit" consists of nine characteristics: **love**, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, **goodness**, **faith**fulness, gentleness and **self-control**." (Galatians 5:22-23). We cannot cultivate one or two of these characteristics and imagine to have all of the Fruit of the Spirit. So it is with the list of "Godly Goals" Peter lists; we are called to build up our faith, step by step as we add one goal on top of the other. I've marked in "**bold**" the Godly Goals that are also part of the Fruit of the Spirit.

Why not list the Fruit of the Spirit and the Godly Goals on our refrigerator as a daily reminder of your walk with God? And then, get deeper in the Word to discover how we are called to live each one of these out in our daily lives.

In His presence and power, Pastor Peggy

### STARFISH MINISTRIES CURRENT ITEMS NEEDED

deodorant foot powder hand sanitizer razors and shaving cream toothpaste umbrellas and ponchos sweatshirts and lightweight jackets men's belts blankets ground tarps

For more information, please contact Carol Crossley at 717-379-9030

### VICKIE'S ANGEL WALK

In the face of the pandemic, Vickie's Angel Foundation had to cancel nearly every event they hold each year. Events that help sustain their support for local families battling cancer. We urge you to consider participating in their Mission Possible campaign to walk where you are and help us raise \$200,000 by October 10, 2020 - to help restore the funds lost this year.

To register as a virtual walker visit: give.vickiesangelwalk.org/campaign/2020-vickiesangel-walk/c255123

Donations may also be sent to the church office. Please specify "Vickie's Angel Walk" in the memo on your check. Thank you so very much pastor Arun! I received your text a few minutes after I had a video chat with mom. Her eyes were open and she was alert. She still has the full face oxygen mask on but was able to communicate. I do believe that the prayer that y'll did for her made that happen 😇! Please thank everyone for me for this. I am very grateful to everyone for all the prayers and support for my mother! I also want thank you and Barbara for taking the time to talk with me on the phone, I am very grateful! Please tell the congregation thank you from a very grateful daughter

Gwyn (the daughter of Ulie Robison)

Thank you for your messages on the Maximizing Life broadcast on WDAC Sunday afternoons. We appreciate your thoughtful presentations currently based on the Lord's prayer. May the Lord encourage you in His service.

In the Lord of all seasons of life, Paul & Evelyn Merriam Lancaster Thank you to all of you who joined us for the ZOOM Upper Room Devotional either online or via your phone. Also, a special thank you to Pastors Barbara Berg, Rodney Miller for leading each month.

Your feedback as to how we could improve next summer's devotionals or whether we should have them at all would be greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Jocelyn for making sure I was able to get online to Host and to Pastor Arun for his encouragement.

If God is leading you to a small group experience of bible study on a particular book of the Bible or another Christian study area, please email me at pastsorpeggy@trinityumnc.com or call me at 717-433-1670. My desire is to grow in Christ, and I need other Christians to join me in the journey.

In His presence, Pastor Peggy

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT CANCELLED AGAIN

The National Night Out rescheduled event on October 6th has also been cancelled due to the pandemic.

## SUMMER ALPHA 2020

SUMMER ALPHA 2020 is almost complete.

If you missed any and would like to catch up, please email Pastor Peggy at pastorpeggy@trinityumnc.com or call her at 717-433-1670 and she will arrange for a time for you watch them.

Please pray for ALPHA and when we should have the next classes.

Look for more information in the October Newsletter and on our Website.

## **REGATHERING IN THE PARK**

Please mark your calendars for September's Gatherings in New Cumberland Borough Park:

September 12th at 6:00 PM

#### September 26th at 6:00 PM



# FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS ~ PSALM 103:2

This is an extract from the Pastor's report submitted at the August Leadership Team meeting. It reminds us that though the church building is not open for services, God is at work - even now. Although we are not yet able to gather in our building – our ministries continue as best possible under the circumstances. Thank you, Lord!

- Gratitude to God for the safekeeping of all our people through COVID-19.
- Gratitude for ongoing ministries in this season since March 2020:
- Online worship services
- Regathering at Borough Park
- Telephone prayers and support of retired pastors
- Ministry of small groups
- Children's weekly ministry
- Youth weekly ministry
- Young Adult ministry
- Women's Tuesday morning Bible studies
- Upper Room devotions with Pastor Peggy and Trinity Pastors
- Facebook live prayer time on Tuesdays
- Facebook live music with Todd Davis on Wednesdays
- Zoom calls with choir/Sing & Celebrate
- Grandparents in Prayer
- Alpha
- Love Box ministry
- Support to Starfish Ministry
- VBS
- Heifer Project
- Continuing Homebound ministry through our team
- Zoom Leadership Team meetings
- Zoom staff meetings
- Radio ministry
- Blanket Sunday

#### Gratitude to:

- 1. Leadership Team for active participation and support through the season
- 2. Staff for their faithful and competent work

3. All our caring congregation members who keep reaching out to support at this time.

Special thanks to God for his provision of all the technology installed in our sanctuary and upcoming in Fellowship Hall. These are landmark investments to enhance our corporate worship and ministry of God's Word. We especially give God thanks for these provisions and possibilities during a time at which many churches cannot think of investing as we have been able to. A big thank you to Scott Loomis, John Mickle, Bill Northey, Dave Leppo and Brian Weller. We remember Joyce Long with gratitude.



Join us weekly on Tuesdays from 8:00 - 8:30 PM for a time of prayer on Facebook Live.



Join us weekly at noon on Wednesdays to listen to a variety of music performed by Todd Davis on Facebook Live.



Check out Trinity's Blog series "Scripture & Song" on our website. Comforting words of scripture and ageless hymns

# TRINITY YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

by Haley Warner



What Has God Taught You Through This Pandemic? Youth & Leader Responses

"How to be more patient."

"How important love is... for everyone!"

"To be patient with myself and the world around me."

"God has really reminded me I am strong, and I can get through my anxiety."

"Lots of patience."

"Responsibility"

"How to Find Hope."

"Patience"

"How to Keep Praising the Lord."

"No matter how hard things get; you will get through them."

"That I need to get better at having a relationship with Him that extends beyond the church and youth group."

"To praise in the midst of the trial and the storm, to praise before the breakthrough"



#### Trinity Youth Begin 2020-2021 School Year

Life looks different, but our mission remains the same! Love God. Love Others. Love Life.

You can keep up with upcoming events and what we're up to on the church website and on our youth Instagram, trinity.united.youth ! (Thanks, Jocelyn, for the awesome new logo!)



#### **End of Summer Fun**

After 5 months of quarantine and virtual connection, we have cherished the last month of in-person fellowship together on Sunday evenings at the Borough Park. We've enjoyed each other's company, being creative with social distanced games, and deep conversations on suffering, perseverance, and discipleship.

## A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

#### When in our music God is glorified...

September always feels like the start of a new year. With Hayden going back to school, Cathe resuming her work with the school district, and many other things that happen quickly, our schedules adjust accordingly.

Normally, September would signal the start of another choir year, and the music ministry continuing in full force from summer selections! Yet, with current conditions and guidelines, that is unfortunately unable to happen. Thankfully though, and with great appreciation to everyone, the music ministry has continued with tremendous offerings all summer!

#### How oft in making music we have found a new dimension in the world of sound...

Although we may not see the traditional rehearsal soon, or large musical group in person in a worship setting soon, new use of technology allows us to learn and find new ways of connecting and praising!

#### As worship moved us to a more profound, Alleluia!

Praise is the goal. May these new ensembles, quartets, varieties of instrumentalists, we will continue in many and various ways!

The Leadership team recently approved the purchase of a new synthesizer for the church. This new synthesizer is compatible with all facets of the music ministry. I am confident in its abilities to add variety and inspire worship with its many capabilities.

May our new use of technologies and every kind of music inspire us to more profound alleluias and to praise of God!

To God be the Glory, forever and ever! Todd

#### PROMOTION SATURDAY

Promotion Saturday will be celebrated on September 26 at 6:00 PM in the Borough Park, New Cumberland.

Family and friends are invited to attend to support our children as they move forward in their faith journey.

## THE 2020 ELECTIONS

Let us prayerfully exercise our privilege to vote. Your vote and voice matter! Let us also be respecting and reflect mature Christian character in how we express ourselves in words, in conversations, and in our social media posts during this season when America stands desperately in need of Christlike expressions and love.



### ZOE MAZI YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Zoe Mazi meets every Monday evening, and has had an awesome first two months! If you're a young adult in search of connection and Christ-centered community, please check out the Zoe Mazi ("Life Together") Facebook page.

For more information, email Shannon Zimmerman at ZoeMazi.LifeTogether@gmail.com.

# SOME RESPONSES TO OUR ONLINE WORSHIP

While our church buildings were closed, our opportunities for the Gospel were opened in new ways. Trinity's online worship services have been a part of our opportunity to reach people beyond our community. Thanks to all of you who have supported this cause by sharing links, liking our posts and speaking about what God is doing.

From April to July 2020 we have had 6369 unique views of our online worship services. The average weekly views are 335 views a week. If more than one person was viewing at any given time in certain instances that would increase the number of individuals benefiting from the services. Here are some select responses to the services :

I just finished listening to the sermon. What a powerful sermon. As he was finishing, my cup of praise was running over. It was the spiritual refreshment I was needing. Well, I can't thank you enough for staying with me till I got "connected". I will sleep better tonight. *Rev. Gerald Wingert* 

Excellent. Very diversified ministry trying to reach all. The message from your heart – crystal clear, biblically sound, bringing out your love for God, truth and people. Love and obedience – sum it all. Praise God. *Bishop C. V. Matthew, St. Thomas Evangelical Church, Kerala, India* 

I thank you for sharing the video of the celebration of Pentecost at Trinity. It is awesome! Your personal and bold but pastoral witness to the current racial pain and justice is so inspiring and transformative. The music from the New England Conference is fantastic. Indeed, Pentecost comes alive in and through the message, music, scripture readings, prayers and witness.

#### Bishop Jeremiah Park

Donna and I have worshiped every Sunday morning via the video service and via the one o'clock radio message. We find the services meaningful, informative, spiritual. I also attended the last Borough Park Service where it rained the whole service and then at its conclusion the Lord gave us that beautiful Rainbow. I believe he was giving us a message. He was probably saying "well done Arun", to the rest of us he was assuring us he was there with us and asserting that he is our Holy Father and cares for us. *Thomas Bowman* 

Pastor, thanks so much for doing this. Praying that you will keep up the international outreach of your church. I as a parent was so encouraged by the text and it allows me to continue the ministry that God has entrusted me. Please thank Mr. Davis for the hymn- it was familiar and kept the mind like we keep it in church even though it was online....music, camera, lights and the voice of God....what a perfect morning. *Tony Mammen, Bangalore, India* 

Thanks for God's message. Thankful for the reassurance that with God on our side, Goliaths like cancer are still being slayed today. *Jed Beshore* 

It was wonderful to hear God's Word, Pastor Arun *Padma Akamulla, St. Louis, MI* 

Lovely services. Enjoyed it from Tokyo. God bless! *Satish Rajkumar* 

God bless all your endeavors for the Gospel. *Christopher Darla, Abu Dhabi* 

Thanks to all of you who have supported this cause by sharing links, liking our posts and speaking about what God is doing.

# DUTIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2020



I shared your videos with our media team. We will share them through our media posts too. *Pastor Bobby Cherian, Chandigarh, India* 

Thank you for the wonderful service. Ramesh and I watched. The Bible reading was crisp and clear. Blessed by the sermon – sufficient grace and surely goodness. And the organ and piano was beautiful! *Sunalini Ramesh, Bangalore, India* 

Thank you for offering such a wonderful opportunity to worship this morning. I can't imagine the work it takes to put this together in such a seamless and uplifting way. The message from Pastor Phil was challenging and inspiring. *Jody Blacksmith* 

Nihal, Thank you so much for your talents of filming, editing, producing, technical knowledge,....etc that you have contributed to the Trinity congregation. Because we are not a mega church without you and your knowledge there is no way we would have had Sunday services online. Because your family said "Yes" to God to come to America all this happened. Mark 9: 41 : For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink...... Because you said yes (cup of water) I gave trinityumnc.com to my cousin Kathy, cousin Patsy, Aunt Mae, Aunt Shirley, Aunt Sara and shared with my mother. If your saying 'yes' had this effect on my family and I am only one congregant, can you imagine how much your spread the Word of God to all our congregants from Trinity and their family and friends? I am sure you will not fully know the extent of your "yes' to giving your talents to Trinity until we are home with Jesus someday. *Sharon Sheffer* 

Pastor Barbara Berg told us about your YouTube services at the beginning of the pandemic and we've been watching ever since. You and your congregation have done a most wonderful job and we look forward to your services and messages each week. Thank you all for trying to keep things as normal as possible in most abnormal time. *Brian and Sue Wilbur* 

Thank you for all your words of encouragement, dear friends. To God be the glory! A big "thank you" to all of you who pray, support and encourage – and to our team of staff and volunteers who make these offerings possible. We could never do it without you! Special thanks to Jocelyn MacMinn for helping us host our weekly online services on our website and social media pages.

Sincerely, Pastor Arun

# CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 11:45 AM Downtown Daily Bread 8 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	2 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 7:30 PM Alpha Zoom Summer 2020	3	4	5
6 Online Worship Service 7 PM Youth Group - Fishing Creek Salem UMC - Salt-n-Light Worship Night	7 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED 7 PM "Zoe Mazi" Young Adult Bible Studies	8 11:45 AM Downtown Daily Bread 8 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	9 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music 7:30 PM Alpha Zoom Summer 2020	10 9 AM Love Boxes Donations & Distribution	11	12 6 PM Regathering in the Park 6 PM Youth Group at Eberly Mill Church of God Worship Night
13 Online Worship Service 12:30 PM Starfish Ministry / Hbg. No Youth Group	14 7 PM "Zoe Mazi" Young Adult Bible Studies	15 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 8 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer Tidings Articles Deadline	16 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	17	18	19
20 Online Worship Service 6 PM Youth Group - NC Boro Park	21 7 PM "Zoe Mazi" Young Adult Bible Studies	22 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 8 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	23 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	24 9 AM Love Boxes Donations & Distribution	25	26 6 PM Regathering in the Park
27 Online Worship Service 6 PM Youth Group - NC Boro Park	28 6:30 PM Leadership Team Mtg. Zoom 7 PM "Zoe Mazi" Young Adult Bible Studies	29 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Group Zoom 8 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	30 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music			
Save the date : Church Conference Saturday November 14 6:00 pm			STOP & PRAY TIMES AT 8.30 PM Please continue to join us every night by praying wherever you are for at least 5 mins.			

6:00 pm



# **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



articles for the

OCTOBER 2020

**TRINITY TIDINGS** 

by September 15th

**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



TRINITY'S RADIO MINISTRY

Tune in to our radio ministry, "Maximizing Life", on WDAC 94.5 every Sunday at 1 pm. Please share this information with your friends. Help us take God's Word beyond our walls.