



SEPTEMBER 2021 THEME

FEARLESS *to ask for* BLESSINGS



From Your Pastor's Heart

My dear Friends,

On the 15th of August 1947 India gained independence from British rule. I was not born then but I was a thought in the mind of God. He had a plan for me – and part of his plan was to place me in India. During this week of Indian Independence, I took moments to reflect upon my life in my homeland and it brought more than a smile to my face. I wrote this section as part of my reflection:

Lord, I pause to thank you for my homeland India.

For family bonds and respect for elders,
For community love, for sisters and brothers,
For sparkling beauty in fauna and flora,
For Indianness that shines with aura

For herbs and spices that activate taste buds,
For masala chai and coffee that unite us,
For the zest of Bhangra* and the beauty of Bollywood**,
For the diversity of languages and how we are understood

For the blessing of being part of this story,
For faith, hope and love that sees God's glory,
For the simple Indian joys that make my heart dance,
I count them my blessings and not just chance!

Memories came rushing back. Times of growing up in a very happy home. Having friends, neighbors and acquaintances who were Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, Zoroastrians, Jains, and Sikhs. Learning to speak the languages of English, Kanada, Tamil, Hindi and understanding Malayalam. Being part of a local church that was

such a beautiful Christian family. I can describe so much more about life with my grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, friends and best of all my siblings. As the years moved on, I went from changing two buses to reach high school to travelling by a bus and then boarding a suburban train to college each day. I will always be grateful for the hand of God that protected me in some of those bus rides when I was hanging out of the bus on the boarding step with the load of my backpack. The buses did not have doors that closed. With overcrowded buses being part of our daily lives, we often travelled at great risk – standing on what we called the “footboard”. And then from college studies in economics the journey to Biblical studies in seminary was just a very precious experience. I count my years at college and seminary as some of the most special years in which God drew me closer to his heart and made me bold to be a witness in the marketplace. I was not afraid to tell anyone about the love of Jesus. In fact, in one semester at college, I shared the Gospel with about 60 people – classmates, neighbors, strangers in buses and trains. And then came the joy of starting life with Miriam and later, Nihal, Nehara - and our journey of serving the Lord and his church even across cultures. What a blessing!!! We are nothing but frail, ordinary, weak people carried by the mercy of God.

Among over a billion people who lived in India at that time when I was growing up, I was aware of being blessed with gift of grace upon grace. The best thing that ever happened to me, of course, was in 1973. I was 8 years old then and I heard the Gospel preached by my pastor. The Spirit of God nudged me to walk to the altar at the Emmanuel Methodist Church in the city of Madras (now Chennai). On that day I opened my heart to welcome Jesus as my personal Savior. I can look back and say with confidence that there has been no other more defining life-moment than that one in all my life.

I discovered as I looked back into my life, that true life begins not at the womb but at the cross.

There was a song that we used to sing in our youth group at the Emmanuel Methodist Church. It said:

“I’ve got something that the world can’t give, and the world can’t take it away,
(Salvation!)

I’ve got something that the world can’t give, and it keeps me night and day.

I’ve got something worth talking about,

It makes me sing and it makes me shout

I’ve got something that the world can’t give, and the world can’t take it away.”

How true!

There is nothing more amazing than the amazing grace of God

There is no name sweeter than the sweet name of Jesus.

There is no life better than the better life of the Kingdom.

There is no higher purpose than the higher purpose of the Gospel.

There is no greater blessing than the greater blessing of God’s love.

SEPTEMBER THEME

FEARLESS TO ASK FOR BLESSINGS

September 5

Blessings on our work

Scripture: Psalm 90

September 12

RALLY DAY*

Blessings on our families

Scripture: Psalm 128

September 19

Blessings on our community

Scripture: Acts 2: 42-47

September 26

Blessings on our ministries

Scripture: Acts 16: 11-15

*Bring a friend. Special worship music at both services.

Continental breakfast after 1st service in Parking Lot.

SEPTEMBER PRAYER FOCUS

Every time you see a plane in the sky, would you pray for US citizens, diplomats, and forces as they seek to leave Afghanistan. Let us pray for the innocent civilians of the country who are dreadful of their future. The images of people clinging to a US military plane as it took off from Kabul is one, we cannot long forget.

Our September 2021 series from God's Word is titled, 'Fearless to ask for blessings'. We cannot live meaningful lives without God's blessings. On the other hand, we cannot have better lives than a life blessed by God. Psalm 128: 1 says, "Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in obedience to him. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours."

I know there have been innumerable blessings sent my way along life's journey. I did not deserve any of them. Some years ago, the speaker at our Church retreat said that when someone asked him how he was doing, he would reply, "Better than I deserve!". I can shout those words from the mountaintop when it comes to describing my life experience. Yes! That is absolutely true! We are saved by grace (Ephesians 2: 8-9) we live by grace; we will go home someday by grace. As the hymn writer John Newton wrote, "'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far and grace will lead me home".

I pray you will find your place of gratitude as you ponder the grace of God in your life. Let us pray that this season of studying God's word in community will bring us to a place of fearlessly praying for God's blessings – and that in turn we might each one be a blessing to the people around us.

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

Arun

*Bhangra is a folk dance and music form that originated in the Indian state of Punjab.

**Bollywood: The Indian Hindi language film industry based in the city of Mumbai (Bombay). The term Bollywood is a portmanteau of the words, "Bombay" and "Hollywood".

NEXT PRAY & GO

The next scheduled gathering at the church for Pray & Go is Monday September 20, 2021 @ 6:30 PM weather permitting. If that date / time does not work for you and you want to walk with a partner(s) at another time so as not to duplicate houses please contact Sharon Sheffer 717-774-3137 (sesheffer@outlook.com) and Carol Evertts 717-774-3207 (carolevertts@verizon.net) for where to Pray & Go. Once you walk please e-mail Carol Evertts and Sharon Sheffer with street and house numbers you covered so Carol can fill in the map and both Carol & Sharon have information of which houses have been covered. Any questions, please let me know Sharon Sheffer Coordinator & Carol Evertts Map Strategist of Pray & Go. Thank You.

SEPTEMBER SERVICE IN THE PARK

Our service in the park will not take place on the 25th of September on account of the New Cumberland Apple Festival. We are looking into the possibility of whether we might be able to meet on Saturday the 18th of September instead. Please await further announcements.

SEPTEMBER 12 - RALLY DAY

8:15 AM and 10:45 AM services

9:30 AM Continental Breakfast Under Tents

September 12th will be RALLY DAY at Trinity! There will be two worship services - 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM with a continental breakfast between the services at 9:30 AM. The breakfast will be outside in tents on the parking lot! Thanks to Jo Lower and Cathy Baum for coordinating the breakfast.

The worship service will include a group from the Chancel Choir back to sing! Also, there will be a guest group, Nihal Andrews and friends. Pastor Arun will have the message.

The children will have a special Rally Day feature in Sunday School! On Rally Day we will also have our new nursery open for the first time.

Come, invite a friend, and join us as we "Come Back to Church" on RALLY DAY!

thank you

Thank you for praying for me as I underwent surgery. Thanks for the many cards and wishes you sent. Thanks to those of you who stopped by with a meal or something to nourish. Among our visitors we were especially touched by the kindness of Travis Trick and Sharon Immel. God bless you all. Grateful beyond words for the grace of our God.

Arun



I wish to express thanks to my Trinity friends for all the prayers and cards of encouragement during my cancer treatments and upcoming surgery. A special thank you to Barbara Z., Pastor Peggy, and Pastor Arun for their prayers and phone calls.

Jean Ruth

A note of thanks to Trinity Church,

We want to thank Pastor Arun, Todd Davis, and Harry Rodriguez with the services for Jo. We want to thank our Trinity family for their cards and love.

Stuart & Nina Stoner

I want to sincerely thank all my Trinity friends for the great prayers before my surgery. A big thank you to Barbara Zimmerman and Pastor Arun. There is a 12 week healing period. God is good all the time.

Carol Brown

OUR BEST TO HALEY WARNER

Our prayers for Haley Warner as she moves to the United Kingdom to attend the St. Aldates Church of Oxford School of Ministry program to continue her theological and ministry training. We wish Haley the best as she relocates and re-enters a season of pursuing education and training in ministry. We pray for our youth, leaders, and all who will miss her and ask God's blessings on them in this time of transition. We are grateful for your participation in the time of farewell and prayer for Haley that we could share in at our service in the park on August 21st. We thank Haley for serving as student intern (09/11/16-12/13/16 and 09/11/17-05/31/18) and as our Director of Youth Ministries (06/01/18-08/22/21).

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY UPDATE

There are several members of our Homebound Community that would greatly benefit from a word of encouragement. Would you consider sending a card? Remember, one day, we too might be in need of such a blessing. The members are Bette Clemens, Gloria Lynn, Dilys Lyter, and Joyce Warcholak. The church office has their addresses if you need them.

Thank you for your kindness and support, Barbara Z.

LORD, YOU HAVE COME TO THE LAKESHORE*

by Pastor Peggy

*O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.*



“Very early in the morning while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” Mark 1:35

As you know, my cancer journey has taken me deeper into the heart of God. After my first treatment God directed me to minister to 3 young children who had lost both Grandparents to Covid, then last month I shared the revelation of the “Forget me nots” flowers and God telling me to tell you to not forget HIM nor to forget that He is the author of America and the Declaration of our Independence.

This month, I was eager to hear from God again and was surprised with the joy and burden of my assignment. He gave me specific people to pray for their salvation; to this list, I added family members and extended family. Is there any one of us who does not have relatives that need the Lord or need to grow in their relationship with the Lord? So, I began praying daily for these folks! WOW, this was something new for me. My prayers before this were random; praying for different folks and different circumstances each time I prayed. Now, I was being intentional to be obedient to God’s assignment for me and began praying every morning for each one of these folks, being persistent and regular in my prayers. They are now on my mind all day long and so I am praying without ceasing for these folks.

This past month, Pastor Arun preached a sermon on “putting God first in our lives.” We probably all think that we are, BUT are we really? Pastor suggested that one of the most important ways of putting God first was to get up in the morning and spend our first waking hours with Him just as Jesus had done with His/Our Heavenly Father. (Mark 1:35). I was CONVICTED! (2 Tim 3:16). I would get up, shower, dress, make breakfast, eat (all those morning activities), and then pray, sometimes not remembering to pray until afternoon or evening. NOW, as soon as I wake up, I go straight to my prayer corner to meet with God. I’m praying hymns and songs from my memory and worshipping and praising God. (He doesn’t care if I sing off tune; He just loves hearing from me.). Then I begin interceding on behalf of all those the Lord has called me to hold up in prayer.

Even on vacation, I wake up and go down at the lake to meet my Lord, worshipping Him, listening to what the Spirit has to tell me and interceding for those folks that the Lord has assigned for me to hold up in prayer.

Do I know the results of my prayers? Not yet, BUT, I trust that if He is calling me to intercede for them, He has a plan for their lives and He wants me to pray in faith believing that the Lord will answer and change lives.

I pray for each of these persons individually, interceding for them:

- That God would lift the veil off their minds and reveal Jesus to them and open the scriptures to them. (Eph 1:17)
- I ask Holy Spirit to hover over them (guide & direct them) and protect them from the evil one. (Lord’s Prayer- Matthew 6:13, Eph 1:18, 4:14-19)
- I ask God to place Godly people in their lives each day
- I pray that anything that is against the knowledge of God (pride & rebellion) be destroyed. (Eph 6:12)
- I pray that any ungodly thought patterns of this world would be destroyed.
- I pray for protection over their minds from wicked thoughts and lies (1Peter 5:8-9)
- I pray for the full armor of God (Ephesians 6:10F) to be placed on them.

God desires to speak to you and give you assignments. Won’t you give Him the opportunity to speak to you and change your life? The hymn refrain above was written by *Monseñor Cesáreo Gabaráin (1936-1991) and was inspired by the feelings and actions of the humble people he met during his ministry. The refrain is a call to surrender to Jesus in response to his command to follow him. The gentle melody is reminiscent of a rocking boat by the lakeshore.

TRINITY YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

by Haley Warner



IMPACT 2021 “Mighty Close”

Trinity Youth had another unforgettable experience at Salt ‘n Light Youth Ministry’s “Impact” event. The youth camped for 4 nights at Camp Greene Hills and grew closer to God each day through sessions, seminars, activities, creative arts, fellowship, worship, and being in creation. This year’s theme “Mighty Close” explored just how close God is to us and how He is at work in each life and story.



Teen Week 2021 with Medard’s House

Trinity Youth had a blast joining Medard’s House’s Teen Week this summer. They learned more about Jesus every day while having loads of fun with a photo scavenger hunt, interactive game night, movie night, water night, and bonfire. Thank you for your partnership and having our youth join your event Medard’s House!



DUTIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

DUTIES	SEPTEMBER 5	SEPTEMBER 12	SEPTEMBER 19	SEPTEMBER 26
8:15 AM WORSHIP LEADER	Sue Grubb	Mike DiMatteo	Jane Rosenthal	Doug Eakin
10:45 AM WORSHIP LEADER	Jan Snyder	Mike DiMatteo	Doris Bernardo	Doug Eakin
CHILDREN'S TALK	Sue Grubb	Pastor Richard Creamer	Dianne Schofield	Betsy Miller

THANK YOU TRINITY CHURCH 2016-2021

I could never thank you all enough for how much you welcomed, supported, encouraged, and loved me and these youth over the last five years of my time at Trinity. I am so grateful for all the relationships, experiences, and blessings I gained through my time here. This is one of my hardest transitions and good-byes yet in my life and I will miss you all so much. I am excited to hear of God's continued work at Trinity and in the lives of the youth and all of you. My final charge to our youth that I will share with you as well...

*Let us never stop chasing after God,
never stop following Jesus,
and never stop loving others.*

Love,
Haley Warner



(One of my first photos with Trinity Youth)



(Impact 2021 with Trinity Youth)

THE PRAISE CORNER

by Todd Davis, Director of Music Ministries

As I write this article, the church is pondering steps as the continued spread of Covid-19 and its variants concern us. It is with this in mind that I will continue to be safe making music in large groups. I, very much, miss our music times together! I very much miss our choirs leading worship! We will, however, find our way and continue.

Yet, we have so much to offer, first and foremost to God, through our music! Even during the height of the pandemic in the past year, we continued to make music to the glory of God in many and various ways. Small groups from various choirs, soloists, and instrumentalists never stopped making music. The Midweek Music series was born and continues into its nearly 70th week. I am so very thankful that many take part in our online and in-person experience. The expansion of Praise and Worship elements continues with new instruments including the synthesizer and electronic drum set. As the organ remains central in worship, we have begun to move along its renovation. The Peragallo Organ Company of Paterson, New Jersey has been selected to complete the work. When it is done, the organ will be in top shape with excellent functionality and renewed tonal quality. And, on the Trinity website page, you will find a music blog with short musical clips on well-known hymns. Many of these piano variations are intended as brief musical prayers. I hope you can find meaning in these reflections.

This month, our family has been at Trinity for two years. Cathe, Hayden, and I are always thankful for our friends and the many wonderful ministries at Trinity church. Hayden enjoys his time in Sunday School, and as I've mentioned many times before, enjoys Pastor Arun so very much!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Todd

GRANDPARENTS IN PRAYER

Are you a grandparent who desires to be more intentional about praying for your grandchildren? Do you wish to have support and be accountable to pray? Trinity has the group for you, Grandfather, Grandmother!

Grandparents in Prayer will kick-off the fall season on Monday morning, September 13th at 10:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The group meets every other Monday morning from 10:45- 12:00. It is a precious time of discussion about being Christian grandparents, sharing prayer requests, and praying during half of our session. This year we will use "Grandparenting With Grace" by Larry McCall as our resource book.

We continued to meet every other Monday morning during the pandemic on Zoom. In June we went to in-person sessions and met in Sandy Williams' beautiful garden and at the Borough Park. During July we took a break, and then met once for brunch during August.

This group is an open group. We welcome any to come. Please contact Beth Sider at 717-802-2812, or just come!

SERVING KIDS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

Kids and parents from New Cumberland and other cities drove by our parking lot to receive backpacks with school items on two evenings. Thanks to our team of volunteers led by Carol Everitts for not only organizing the program but also channeling extra backpacks to schools in the area. Families also received a handout about our children's ministry. Thanks to you as a congregation for your gifts/ contributions that make such moments possible. Let's pray the kids and families have a blessed year.



Dear, Trinity, church,
I am writing this thank you letter, to thank you for your kind gesture of your church by giving out backpacks and supplies.

MOM MINISTRY CONTRIBUTORS

Our seniors and homebound members have truly benefitted from your generous offerings. They have been so appreciative and requested each of you know how much your kindness means to them.

Many containers have been returned. Please claim yours. Returned containers can be found on the table across from the Parish Nurse Ministry Room.


Thank you for your continues support.
Barbara Z.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The newly renovated nursery will be open for children 0 to 5 years of age in September. We need Safe Sanctuary Volunteers (men and women) for both services each Sunday morning. Simply go to Trinity's website and click NEXT STEPS > VOLUNTEER SIGN UP or sign up at church across from the mailboxes.

TRINITY'S PRAYER TENT AT THE IRON BRIDGE MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Iron Bridge Music Festival is a part of the New Cumberland Town Revitalization plans. The hope is that this becomes an annual program ultimately bringing in a couple of thousand people into our town. Churches had been requested to share our parking lots for the event supporting the shuttle services to the Borough Park. We opened our parking lot for the event. We are very grateful to Tom and Cathy Baum and volunteers who hosted our Trinity prayer tent at the event this year on August 28,29. We also worked at giving away water and a handout welcoming guests to New Cumberland and sharing the Gospel.



Sermon by Phone

Those who don't use the internet can hear short sermons from Trinity by telephone.

Dial 717-774-0108

STARFISH MINISTRIES CURRENT NEEDS LIST

- **Deodorant**
- **Umbrellas**
- **Ponchos**
- **Bath Towels**
- **Hoodies**
- **Bar Soap**
- **Tissue Packets**
- **Travel Size Shampoo**
- **Men's Jeans**

Our monthly outreach post has been sold at 2nd and South Streets. We are currently searching for a new area for us to continue in the City. Please pray that an answer comes prior to our October outreach!

HOLIDAY CARDS TO BENEFIT VICKIE'S ANGEL FOUNDATION

Nic Caputo is taking orders for Holiday Cards that not only did he design, but a portion of the proceeds benefit Vickie's Angels. Great opportunity to get your Holiday Cards early and support Vickie's Angels!

A portion of every sale will benefit Vickie's Angel Foundation, an organization that Nic is passionate about and currently serves as a Board Member. Vickie's Angel Foundation provides immediate financial support to individuals and families who are fighting cancer, so that they can focus on beating the disease. VAF is more than a financial bridge, it is a beacon of hope for the patients of Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, Schuylkill and York counties.

Please submit your orders by going to his website:
nicolascaputoart.weebly.com/holiday-cards
Orders are due by September 17th and will be shipped October 12th.

Reach out to Nic directly with any questions:
Mobile: 717-940-6692
Email: nct7@outlook.com

Thank you for your consideration and support!

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 10 AM Sewing Group (WR) 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)	3 9 AM Prayer Breakfast (Ickler's)	4
5 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 6 PM Youth Group	6 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	7 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	8 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	9 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)	10	11
RALLY DAY 12 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 12:30 PM Starfish-HBG 6 PM Youth Group	13 10:45 AM Grandparents in Prayer	14 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer 7:30 PM NC Town Band (FH)	15 Tidings Articles Due 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	16 9 AM Love Boxes (FH) 10 AM Sewing Group (WR) 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)	17	18 10 AM Secret Sisters (FH)
19 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 6 PM Youth Group	20 6:30 PM Pray & Go	21 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	22 11 AM Assemble Tidings (OC) 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	23 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)	24	25
26 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM Worship Services 9:30 AM Sunday School 6 PM Youth Group	27 10:45 AM Grandparents in Prayer	28 7 PM Facebook Live Time of Prayer	29 12 PM Facebook Live Midweek Music	30 11 AM Celebrate from Heart & Spirit (SJ)		
			<p style="text-align: center;">STOP & PRAY TIMES AT 8:30 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Take it to the Lord in Prayer</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><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

September
2021



Please submit
articles for the
October 2021
TRINITY TIDINGS
by September 15th

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 3, 2021

A time to celebrate and preserve safe communities. An awesome partnership! Special thanks to coordinator Carol Crossley and our Trinity team! We love New Cumberland!

