



A Journey to Higher Ground

**The sovereign Lord is my strength; He makes my feet like the feet of a deer.
He enables me to go on to the heights. ~ Habakkuk 3:19**

From the Pastor's Desk

My dear Trinity family,

Greetings to each of you in the sweet and precious name of Jesus, our Good Shepherd, Friend, Lord and Savior!

It seems a school teacher received the following note of excuse for the absence of a student: "Please excuse Jennifer from missing school yesterday. We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch and when we found it on Monday, we thought it was Sunday."

As much as we may laugh, some of us may not actually be averse to an extended vacation! Anyway, let me begin by wishing all those among us who are heading back to school, a very good year ahead. We pray that you enjoy your days and shine for Jesus where you are placed. Speaking of shining where we are placed, I will long remember the words that Sharon Marburger shared in our service on Sunday August 13th, 2017. She was responding to a question I had framed for our discussion around the text of Philippians 4: 8-9. One of the questions was, "When people from out of the church look at us Christians, what qualities in us do you think they may be able to appreciate?" Those of you who were present may recall that our discussion in that sermon related to the connection between our thoughts and action. Sharon told us that she drives past Trinity church each day on her way to work and as she does, she prays a prayer which goes something like this: "Father, I don't want to embarrass you today. I want people to know that I am a Christian by the way I act at my workplace." Sharon's words are a profound reminder to each of us of the power of our Christian witness and of our influence - wherever we are placed.

*Isn't it a contradiction
that we can know so much
and yet love so little?*

As we look at our present times in the context of the commencement of another academic year, we can certainly be thinking about the kind of education that would transform society. Apart from the many complex parameters that go in to defining good or useful education, it may not be an exaggeration if one said that our world does not need education alone, but needs education with a heart. Haven't we learnt too often that the mere accumulation of information and knowledge

without wisdom can reduce itself to the creation of violence, deception and injury upon innocent lives. Isn't it a contradiction that we can know so much and yet love so little? Think of the headlines that have grabbed our attention lately. The uncertainty in our relationship with North Korea, the troubling images we have seen from Charlottesville, VA, Barcelona, Venezuela and parts of the Middle East are windows into the state of our hearts, cultures and time.

As I had shared with you in our August issue of Tidings, my home country India celebrated her 70th Independence Day on August 15, 2017. As someone who has been blessed with close to fifty good years of my life in India, my heart is warmed at the thought of the rich cultural diversity, beauty, and family bonds that life there enriched us with. As someone who moved to the U. S. in 2014, I also celebrate the heartfelt welcome, hospi-

tality and generosity of each of you, my American friends. It is hard to imagine that outside the circle of love like the one that me and my family have experienced at Trinity, in New Cumberland and in the State of PA, “exclusion” may be a more commonly used word than “inclusion.” Thank you for showing us a love without borders. You have not looked at us by virtue of the color of our skin, the difference in our speech, our cultural distinctives or even by the spices in our cuisine 😊

*Thank you for showing us a
love without borders.*

The Bible reminds us that cultural and ethnic walls have been broken by the power of the cross. In Ephesians 2: 13, 14 the Bible declares, “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.” If there be any place in the world that such a union of cultures be grandly displayed, it would be the church of Christ. America long stands for the bringing together of the people of the world. One would remember the words of Martin Luther King Jr., which have been oft quoted, “We may have all come on different ships, but we’re in the same boat now.”

As God’s people, let us continue to pray and tirelessly work for the extinguishing of darkness and the spreading of God’s light. In his Episcopal letter of August 2017, Bishop Jeramiah Park states, “As people of faith, the agenda of racial relations is extremely important and we must address racism, related issues and concerns in regard to our own attitudes as well as institution/societal racism. Together with the laity of our conference, we are to be intentional learners as to how we can build up the beloved community that Jesus had in mind where racial justice and reconciliation is fulfilled. Violence, hatred, and bigotry have no place within the Kingdom of God. In light of the most recent clash at Charlottesville, VA, our pursuit of and witness to the Biblical vision of the beloved community is to be intensified. Bishop Park’s letter also highlights our conference vision: “Alive in Christ together, the Susquehanna Conference will embody the beloved community of disciple making congregations.” I have also arranged to share the statement of Bishop Bruce R. Ough, President, Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church as an insert in our bulletin of Sunday, August 20. You can access the statement online at : <http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/bishop-ough-issues-statement-on-charlottesville>

To close this letter, let me quote from a precious and sweet moment. I was recently visiting Doris Bowen in hospital and our conversation moved to family. Doris told me of a little girl who has stolen the hearts of her husband Paul and herself. Emma is all of four and is born to parents of mixed racial backgrounds. Doris told me of how Emma’s mixed racial background has not for once played a role in keeping them away from Emma. When she runs up to kiss each of them each of them saying, “Pap” and “Grandma” their world celebrates a love that knows no borders. Doris told me that Emma was really tickled when she returned from the beach recently with a suntan and Doris said, “Now with that tan your skin looks just like our Pastor Arun’s!” I loved it, Doris!! And I thank God that Paul and you have loved my family and me along with our Trinity family in a love that knows no tan or even suntan 😊

Let us pray and work together to be pacemakers who help in the healing and bonding of human hearts and lives. Let us resist the darkness of racism, bigotry and hatred remembering the words of our Lord, “Love your neighbor as yourself” Matthew 22: 39, Mark 12:31

Be encouraged because “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.” John 1: 5 (NLT)

Hate knows no limit. Love knows no borders. Let’s keep loving in Jesus name!

With every good wish and prayer,
Arun

SEPTEMBER 2017 THEME:
Blessed to be a Blessing

September 3

The blessing of peaceful minds

Scriptures: Isaiah 26: 1-4, John 14: 23-27

September 10

The blessing of helping hands

Scriptures: James 1: 19-27, Mark 2: 1-12

September 17

The blessing of loving hearts

Scriptures: John 13: 31-35, Acts 2: 42-47

September 24

The blessing of willing feet

Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-8, Genesis 12: 1-9

***OUR CONNECTIONAL CELEBRATION
AND INVOLVEMENT***

As part of my commitment as your pastor to celebrate our connectional nature as a church, I have invited representatives of different missions, activities and causes to share in brief Sunday interviews at our services. I believe you each of you will take these needs and opportunities to heart and support them as best as you can. On August 27, Faith Swick will share about efforts in suicide prevention and "Run out of darkness". On September 10, Mickey Minnich will share about "Vicky's angel Walk and the effort to support patients and families affected by cancer. It will also be celebrated as National Grandparents Day. On September 17, we will have brief conversations with individuals blessed in our Adult Bible Class. On September 24, we will have Matt Riggins and Dana Cox representing "Run for water" which is a movement seeking to support providing drinking water in India.

Let us remember the declaration that "Faith without works is dead". James 2: 26

Sincerely,
Arun

TRINITY CHURCH RETREAT



Saturday, October 28th

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Camp Hill UMC

Theme : Better together!

Registration begins on September 10

Pastor's request: We are hoping every one of you will be able to join us for a beautiful day of fellowship, prayer and listening to God. If your health/ age would limit your ability to attend the program through the day, we request you to join us at 11 am for a special session hymn/ Song sing session led by Dan. You may leave (if you wish) after to lunch which will be served at noon.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

Trinity's annual Church Conference will be held on **Monday, October 30th at 6:30 p.m.** The agenda includes receiving specified annual reports and election/ appointments.

Rev. Carl F. Peterson will chair the conference for Trinity. *All members are invited.*

**STRONGWOMEN/GROWING STRONGER
STRENGTH TRAINING PROGRAM OFFERED**

StrongWomen/Growing Stronger will begin Monday, Sept. 11 at 9:30 am. This 12-week program is geared for middle-aged to older women and men and is based upon years of research on how strength training and proper nutrition improve the health of women and men of all ages. This exercise class meets for 1 hour, twice a week, Monday and Wednesday mornings in the Mt. Olivet Room. There is a \$90 fee and participants may need to provide their own hand weights and ankle weights.

Mandatory paperwork must be completed in order to participate in the program and individuals age 70 and over must get a doctor's permission. Past participants must pre-register.

For more information or to register for the program, go to: <http://extension.psu.edu/strongwomen/events> and click on "Upcoming Events" or contact the Penn State Extension office at 240-6500.

THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU

I want to give my heartfelt thanks to our Trinity family for their love and support during my two knee replacements this spring/summer.

The beautiful cards put smiles on our faces. A special thank you for the delicious meals that kept my nurse, Carl, happy ☺

I was grateful for the visits from Pastor Arun and his prayers. Last, but not least, how appreciative I was of our Parish Nurse who willingly came to our rescue twice!! God Bless You Barbara.

~Linda Peterson

The Homebound/Seniors Picnic was a huge success. We missed Barbara, and wish her a speedy recovery from her fall. Many folks stepped up to the plate to help fill in the gaps. Thank you to all who assisted, or helped in any way with the Seniors/Homebound Picnic. We enjoyed Arv's special chicken, Betty's macaroni salad, Bev's baked beans, Millie & Kathy's red beet eggs, and Joyce & Joyce's, & Jean Ruth's homemade cookies. Fellowship Hall was decorated beautifully for the picnic. We sang Happy Birthday to Roger Estep. He choose to spend his 80th birthday with us! Dan led us in a spirited hymn sing, and shared the history of two of our beautiful hymns of faith. We were blessed to have two of our children that were in attendance, sing & sign Jesus Loves Me. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this a special afternoon for our Seniors.

~The Homebound Committee

A huge "Thank You" to our Trinity Family for prayers, flowers, cards, phone calls, emails, texts, and visits during recovery from my recent knee replacement. Barbara Zimmerman's sweet smile, words of encouragement, and prayer as we waited for me to be called to pre-op were very much appreciated. Thank you to Pastor Andrews for sharing Scripture and prayer immediately prior to my early morning surgery. Your gentle words touched my heart and calmed my soul. Thank you to Betty Caboot for her calls and visit, for her words of encouragement, and prayers. Thank you to Rhobirda Ward for checking on me daily, offering encouragement, prayers, and offers of help. And a heartfelt "thank you" to Terry as he cared for me 24/7 during my recovery. I am truly blessed! Thank you, Trinity Family, for holding us in prayer!

~ Karen Bowen

Thank you to the Trinity family for the many expressions of concern during and after my recent hospitalization. It is so very comforting to know that there are Christian friends thinking about me and praying for my recovery. These concerns and prayers are working as I continue to make progress by the day. I wish to especially thank Rev. Peterson and Barbara Zimmerman for their hospital visits, Rev. Andrews for his call of concern and prayer from Georgia and for the special food from Betty and Ron Winter and from the Homebound Picnic.

~In Christian Love, Don Miller



The Homebound Committee modeling their aprons



Happy 80th Birthday Roger!

GRANDPARENTS IN PRAYER

“The Power of a Praying Grandparent”

Beginning Monday, September 11th



Do you have grandchildren for whom you pray? Come and be encouraged by other grandparents who support you and your grandchildren in prayer and also understand your situation. Spend a sweet half-hour together devoted to focused prayer. “Be still and know that I am God.”

We will be use the book *The Power of a Praying Grandparent* by Stormie Omartian as a resource. Half of the time will be discussing chapters such as “Lord, Enable Me to Clearly Express Love for Each of My Grandchildren.”

Grandparents in Prayer meet twice a month on Mondays in the St. Johns Room from 10:45 a.m. until 12 noon. If you wish to have more information about the group and to have a book ordered for you, contact Beth Sider at 717-802-2812 or ronsider@gmail.com. The first session will be Monday, September 11th, the day after Grandparents Day.

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



Pastor Carl & Elain Ocamb chatting after the picnic

TUESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

“Meet the Women of the Bible”
Beginning Tuesday, September 12th

The Fall session of the Tuesday Morning Women's Bible study will begin on September 12, 2017. You are invited. All women of all ages are welcome! Come see what happens when the women of Trinity and their friends meet the women of the Bible. *Kathy meet Abigail. Michelle meet Hannah. Sandi meet the Shunammite woman. Rose meet the Samaritan woman.*

We will read their stories and see how God worked in their lives. We will open our Bibles and let the ancient words bring their stories to life and inspire us to walk more closely with God. Shirley Sharpe will be our Bible study teacher. You will need a Bible and a notebook for study sheets that will be provided, and an open heart for meeting new friends.

We meet on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for 2 hours in the St. John's rooms. This study will be 8 sessions, beginning on September 12th and ending on November 7th. If you would like to join us please contact Jody Blacksmith at (717) 761-2066 or blacksmith1946@comcast.net.

CHAT 'N CHEW BIBLE STUDY

“Who is This Man?”
Beginning Tuesday, October 24th

A new Chat 'n Chew Bible Study is starting this fall at the home of George and Kathy Karnes. This five week study will feature the John Ortberg study, “Who Is This Man?”

We will start October 3rd with a get-acquainted dinner and distribute the study books. We then will meet the following Tuesdays, October 24th and 31st, November 7th, 14th and 21st. You do not need to be present at every one to participate.

If interested in joining or for more information contact George or Kathy at (717) 737-8959.

YOUTH GROUP

September 3

No Youth Group - Enjoy Labor Day!

September 10

6-8 PM Youth Group - Creation Room

September 17

6-8 PM Youth Group - Creation Room

September 24

6-8 PM Youth Group - Creation Room

prepare for Scarecrow Fundraiser

September 30

N. C. Apple Festival - Scarecrow Fundraiser

New Cumberland Borough Park

ITALIAN LUNCHEON AND SILENT AUCTION



On Sunday, October 22nd, after the 10:45 service, we will have Trinity's Italian Luncheon and Silent Auction in the Fellowship Hall.

The Italian Luncheon is a huge buffet of many Italian dishes and the Silent Auction is a way of auctioning off numerous items donated by local businesses in our area. Mike Schofield will be the auctioneer for that day.

This event has raised thousands of dollars in the past years for OUR church since everything is donated. All monies raised will be split 50/50 to the Building Fund and the church's General Fund.

If you know of any businesses willing to donate any items for the Silent Auction, please contact Cathy Baum, Jean Ruth, Carol Crossley or Carol Evertts. We are looking for jewelry, home décor, artwork, sports memorabilia, gift cards/certificates and many other items.

Please put this date on your calendar and be ready to have a fun afternoon with GREAT food, GREAT fellowship and GREAT fun!

SCARECROW CLOTHING NEEDED

The Youth Group is in need of your help! On September 30th, the Youth Group will be hosting a Scarecrow Making stand at the New Cumberland Apple Festival (as they have been doing for many years) to raise funds to help support the youth ministry.



If you have clothing you can donate, or could find items at a yard sale, we would REALLY appreciate it. We need colorful, long-sleeved, button down shirts, jeans (small holes are okay), neckties, belts, baseball hats and pantyhose (small runs are okay). There is a bin in the hallway to place these items. Thank you for your help!

We hope the kids had a great first day back to school. On Sunday, September 10th the Children's Sunday School will celebrate several of the children moving ahead to new classes.

Junior Church will be starting back up on September 10th. Junior Church is for children K-5th grades and is every Sunday from 10:30 AM to the end of the late service.

Back to School



Sunday Duties for September 2017

<i>DUTY</i>	<i>September 3</i>	<i>September 10</i>	<i>September 17</i>	<i>September 24</i>
Altar Guild	Marjorie Creamer, Cindy Ickler-altar rail communion	Marjorie Creamer	Allyn Litzelman	Allyn Litzelman
Liturgist: 8:15 10:45	Rev. Rodney Miller (both services)	George Karnes Karen Bowen	Ryan Wickenheiser Jody Wickenheiser	Norm Haas Gordon Taylor
Lamb's Talk	No Lamb's Talk- Communion	Sue Grubb	Betsy Miller	Raymond Brooks
Nursery: 8:15 10:45	Jane Gable & Michelle Loomis Kari McNelis	Cindy Bailey & Dianne Schofield Kathy Miller & Donna Ratulowski	Jane Rosenthal & Barb Kiehl	Irv Kiehl & Donna Ratulowski
Ushers: 8:15 10:45	Tom Bailey*, Charlie Klinger, Nick Emig, Jed Beshore, Sue Beshore Scott Bankert*, Jim Strausbaugh, Gordon Taylor			
	* denotes Head Usher			
Coffee Fellowship	Adult SS Class	Tuesday Morning Group	Chancel Choir	Adult SS Class
Adult SS Teacher	Shirley Sharpe	Edna Brehm	Rodney Miller	Betsy Miller
Elective SS Teacher	Bob Rosenthal	Raymond Brooks	Sharon Sheffer	Richard Creamer
Counting Team	Wilma Rockey and Kathy Karnes			

TEAM L TRIPLE H TO THE RESCUE "Loving Hearts & Helping Hands"



Bringing practical help to your doorstep - for free! This is a group of people from our faith community at Trinity who are willing to volunteer time, skill, and energy to help you with some of your practical needs. This is a gift to those of you who find such tasks challenging by virtue of your age or circumstance. That's right! From fixing a wall, painting, mowing your lawn, sorting out a practical household issue, to cleaning, vacuuming, etc. you can count on TEAM L TRIPLE H. Ready with love, enthusiasm, reasonable equipment, and a helpful spirit, this team of volunteers are here to help - for real!! All you need to do is provide the materials for the job(s) and whatever is within our reach to do shall be done - with a smile and for FREE. Contact Mike Schofield at 938-3548 or the church office at 774-7146 to get TEAM L TRIPLE H on your job!

I GIVE ELECTRONICALLY

At Trinity we have the capability to give our tithes and offering electronically: You specify how much you wish your bank to transfer to the church's bank account each month. Your bank will continue to do this automatically each month until you tell them differently.

If you do give electronically: Place the card in the pew rack which says "I give electronically" in the offering plate when it is passed to you. This card will symbolize your tithes and offering and will be blessed for God's use.

If you wish to learn how you can give electronically: Contact the church office for the appropriate forms.



ONGOING MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- ♥ Collecting snack size zippered bags & small Play-Doh packs for Caitlin's Smiles

MUSIC NOTES FROM DAN

*Love lifted me, Love lifted me.
When nothing else could help, love lifted me !*

(Hymn lyrics James Rowe, 1912)

"It was holy intercession that raised Christians to such a state of mutual love as far exceeded all that had been praised and admired in human friendship. When the same spirit of intercession is again in the world, Christians will then be the wonder of the world for that exceeding love that they bear to one another"

As I read these words in my quiet time, I was reminded of how Pastor Arun continues to point us to our 8:30 time of intercession each evening. These words of William Law, written in 1728 influenced both John and Charles Wesley. Indeed, the revivals sparked by the Wesley's preaching and class meetings are credited with saving England from a revolution similar to what France had experienced.

The power of love through changed lives was and is, unstoppable !

We had a taste of it this summer as the halls of 415 Bridge St. were filled the energy, excitement, creativity and joy of children,

Prayer is changing us and we are witnessing the results. May our prayers equip us to be channels of a love which causes the world to wonder !

rock on !

Dan

Reflections on Creation
September 2017

*"What my Father has given me is greater than all else,
and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand."*

~John 10:29

It was early on the beach. The sand was freshly groomed but there were no crowds, no umbrellas, no beachcombers yet – just the very beginnings of a sunny day with soft beams of light peaking between the cocoa-puff clouds strewn across the sky. The razor-sharp line of the horizon was limned with silvery light, while on the shore two young girls were frolicking through the foamy water as the waves tickled the sand, up and back, up and back. Squeals of delight and innocence were rising up to meet the seagulls cries of "Meeee, me!"

Soon Grandpa was riding the waves and entertaining the girls with his obvious delight and comfort in the water. After watching this, the younger girl asked if she could go out in the deeper water, out beyond the first breakers. As I watched her take his hand, I was reminded so strongly of my own trust in my grandfather's hand all those years ago. As a child I was quite scared of everything I couldn't see in the ocean and imagined every shell I stepped on to be a biting crab. I wanted to be in the waves but I didn't want to touch the bottom. The only times I really felt safe were when I could hold the hand of either my father or grandfather, or, best of all, both! I was completely sure that nothing bad would happen to me as long as they were beside me. I love seeing that bond now between my husband and the girls– such a beautiful kinship. It reminds me that our relationship with Jesus is the thing that holds us steady in life against any wave or crab or unseen force which may try to knock us off our pins. As I enjoy our Lord's creation here where the land meets the sea, I am ever reminded whose hand is holding mine.

Thank you, Jesus, for being deserving of my trust, especially when I have to take a step out into the unknown. Help me to keep my head above water and my eyes fixed on you. ~ Jady Conroy



September 2017

Choir & Bell Rehearsals:

October 2017

Sundays

8:15 AM Worship Service - S
 9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages
 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship - FH
 10:45 AM Worship Service - S

Wednesdays

6:30 PM
 Sing & Celebrate

 6:30-7:15 PM
 Sunshine Singers

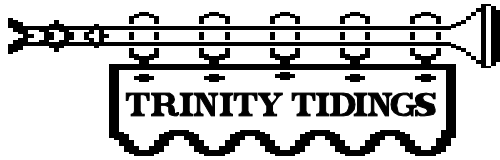
Thursdays

6:30-7:30 PM
 United Bells

 7:30 PM
 Chancel Choir

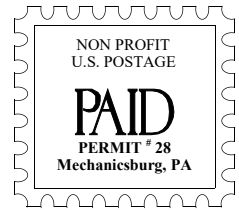
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 27 FH=Fellowship Hall MO=Mt. Olivet Room O=Otterbein Conf. Rm S=Sanctuary SJ=St. Johns Room	28 CR=Creation Room PS=Preschool Room YD=Young Disciple Rm WR=Wellness Room L&L=Lion & Lamb Rm	29	30	31	Sep 1 9:00am Prayer Breakfast (Ickler's)	2 9:00am Communion Prep (K)
3 6:00pm Youth Group (CR & FH)	4 Office Closed	5	6	7 10:00am Sewing (YD)	8	9
10 6:00pm Youth Group (CR & FH) 6:30pm Prayer Shawl (Karnes)	11 9:30am Strong Women (MO) 10:45am Grandparents in Prayer (SJ) 6:30pm Hospitality Mtg. (SJ)	12	13 9:30am Strong Women (MO)	14	15 Tidings' Deadline	16
17 9:30am Blood Pressures 6:00pm Youth Group (CR & FH) 6:30pm Prayer Shawl (Karnes)	18 9:30am Strong Women (MO)	19	20 9:30am Strong Women (MO) 10:00am Staff Mtg. (OC)	21 10:00am Sewing (YD)	22	23 8:30am Hbg Dist Lay Serv Classes (Trinity)
24 6:00pm Youth Group (CR & FH)	25 9:30am Strong Women (MO) 10:45am Grandparents in Prayer (SJ) 6:30pm Leadership Team Meeting	26 8:30am Assemble Tidings (OC) 7:00pm N C Town Band (FH)	27 9:30am Strong Women (MO)	28	29	30 NC Apple Festival (Boro Park) 9:00am Communion Prep (K)



Dated Material

FORWARDING SERVICE
REQUESTED



September 2017

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
415 BRIDGE STREET
NEW CUMBERLAND, PA 17070

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Worship Services ~ Sundays at 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM
Sunday School Classes for all ages ~ Sundays at 9:30 AM

TAKE 5
TO PRAY
DAILY
@ 8:30 PM

Please submit
articles for the
OCTOBER
2017
TIDINGS
by Sept. 15th

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Phone: (717) 774-7146
Fax: (717) 712-1200
Church website: www.trinityumnc.com



Trinity United Methodist Church New Cumberland