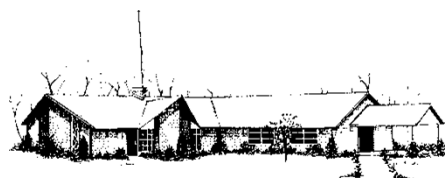


Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson

Dear Members & Friends of Trinity Presbyterian Church, It is with a great sense of honor and elation that I accept your Session's invitation to become your new half-time stated supply pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church. As you may already have noted in the Supply Covenant Agreement Contract, both I and your Session take this responsibility very seriously and recognize that I will answer to God for my leadership and ministry at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Although I am already honorably retired as a Presbyterian (U.S.A.) minister, I gladly embrace this exceptional opportunity to join with you on our mutual sojourn in Christ's call to be part of His Kingdom.

I am deeply appreciative and indebted to your session members. Arthur J. Peoples, Mark Chappell, Sharon Davis, Sherri Newell, Barbara Rinker, Meryl Davis, Ken Jones, Karen Perzia, and Wayne Williams, all of whom, have taken a "leap of faith" out of their genuine sense of hospitality, consideration, wisdom, and spiritual discernment to embrace me as your new minister. I am grateful for their sensitivity, caring attitude, and prayerful approach to what is a new venture in faith for all of us. As a congregation, I can tell that you are blessed with solid leadership in your session, and for this I am appreciative. Interestingly, I first sensed God leading me in the direction of Trinity the day I was requested by the Committee of Ministry (COM) of the Presbytery to attend one of your regular meetings of your session as moderator. It was enroute to Trinity that I truly felt the Spirit was upon me and that in my heart and soul that I needed to voice this movement of the Spirit to your Clerk of Session, Art Peoples. I shared my thoughts with Art knowing fully that God was present in our midst. He responded with what I can only describe was amazing support and encouragement. Later that evening, I went on to share my sense of spiritual discernment with the full Session in the comfort of knowing that we all were being blessed by a special moment in our respective faith journeys. I believe with certainty that God has led us together and anticipate the friendships, ministry, and spiritual enrichment we will surely experience together.

As your new pastor, I see my responsibilities primarily as three-fold: preaching, leading, and serving. First, I take seriously the obligation to have something to preach from God's Word weekly. To preach God's Word faithfully and articulately will require time in prayerful study. Second, as your new Moderator, I have the obligation of leading the staff, church leadership, and congregation. This responsibility will entail building relationships, listening to leaders, learning about the church and area, seeking God's vision for Trinity Presbyterian Church and



GOOD NEWS OF TRINITY

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August 2022

communicating that vision often and with clarity. Third, I recognize my role as servant and minister to the congregation. I believe the pastor should be accessible and care for the congregation. I will gladly visit those in the hospital and those who are shut-in at home upon notice. I will make myself available to you for counsel, ministry, and prayer as I also equip staff and other church leaders to meet needs and serve the congregation. These three duties and the direction of the church flow from Jesus' mission for the church—making disciples. In other words, the question by which I will judge my duties and responsibilities as well as the programs and ministries of Trinity Presbyterian Church is, "Are we making disciples?" Accomplishing Christ's mission at Trinity Presbyterian Church requires a biblical foundation, a proper reflection on our shared Christian heritage, and a willingness to embrace contemporary methods of communication. Twenty-first century America, as you likely know, poses many challenges for the local church. Only biblical and discerning congregations are able to meet them. Thus, I encourage everyone at Trinity to keep abreast of how 21st Century technology can be used to foster, encourage, and further proclaim the Good News of Christ to the people of Dallas and the surrounding area who, hopefully, will see us as the "light on the hill" of Back Mountain.

As husband and wife, both Karin and I eagerly look forward to serving you all in the coming months! We are overjoyed that God has led us together. Trinity Presbyterian Church is brimming with potential to do a lot for the benefit of the people who live in this most beautiful part of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Thank you for your confidence in affirming me. Thank you in advance for your prayers and support. I look forward to getting to know each one of you in the coming days and weeks. And with this in mind, I should also mention that both Karin and I ask you to please feel free to invite us into your home at any time. Whether you're having tea, coffee, a family cookout or dinner, or a birthday or anniversary party, we would love to spend time getting to know you. We are not far from you as our home is located just up the road from Trinity at the following address:

**Murray & Karin Thompson
2026 SR 29 South
Monroe Twp., PA 18657**

"How far is that?", you ask . . . just 10 miles. Please feel free to visit us, just call to make sure we're at home. We would enjoy a visit from you!

Also, in the event you need to contact either of us at any time, please call either my cell phone or Karin's at: **(724)-525-6008 Murray / (570)332-5319 Karin**

Lastly, I should also tell you that, as "retirees", Karin and I have planned for a trip to Europe early this Fall that will encompass the dates of Sept. 17th through Oct. 5th. Three Sundays that will allow us to tour the regions of southern France and northern Italy with friends from previous trips to the European scene. We ask for your indulgence in this regard as this trip has been on our planning calendar for several months prior to our welcome to you all at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Until we see one another on Sunday, August 7th, I ask that you please pray that God will grant me wisdom, patience, understanding discernment, and a faithful dependence on him to accomplish his Will at Trinity Presbyterian Church as, together, we go forward into the future our Lord has planned for us.

*Laus Deo,
Murray*



Women of Trinity – August 2022 notes

Thank you to Barbara Rinker for once again hosting our July meeting at her home.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Jan Hunt.

We thank Barbara Rogers' family for their donation of \$500 from her estate to the Women of Trinity to be used for our charitable causes.

Greeting card ministry report by Betsy Fairchild.

Fellowship of the Least Coin Offering – so far this year we have \$98.00 donated by the women. We usually send \$100 every year to this group.

Lemonade on the lawn – we hosted the July 10 Lemonade on the Lawn and will do so again on August 21.

We always take a moment during our meetings to review the list for prayers for our members, their families, our country and our world.

Our August meeting will be on Thursday, August 25 at 1:00 p.m. at Agolino's in West Pittston. We will carpool from the church at 12:30 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hallway for those who are interested in attending. We have the private dining room reserved, we will order off the menu, and we will receive separate checks. All of the women at Trinity are invited to attend.

Sandy Peoples, Moderator

LITURGISTS - The Session wishes to thank everyone who has volunteered to serve as Liturgists.

If you are interested in serving as a Liturgist, please check the poster on the bulletin board in the hallway and select a date.

Nicole Fleschut, Administrative Assistant, will send you your material prior to the date you are scheduled to be the Liturgist.

It will be in a large print format.

August 7, 2022	Sherri Newell
August 14, 2022	Meryl Davis
August 21, 2022	Clarence Givens
August 28, 2022	Barbara Rinker
September 4, 2022	
September 11, 2022	Wayne Williams
September 18, 2022	Clarence Givens
September 25, 2022	

Thank you, Art Peoples, Clerk of Session



August Birthdays

- 8/10 Russ Newell
- 8/10 Maria Pavlick
- 8/13 Brian Johnson
- 8/26 Aime McGrady

August Anniversaries

- 8/21 Chuck & Kim Borland

September Birthdays

- 9/12 Neil Morrison Jr.
- 9/15 Thelma Smith
- 9/16 Drena Grogone
- 9/22 Annie McCaffrey
- 9/23 Windsor Davis
- 9/23 Sherri Newell
- 9/24 Carol Vanstory
- 9/25 Tanya Christ
- 9/26 Lauren Cunius
- 9/26 Kayden Courter
- 9/27 Robert Stevens

September Anniversaries

- 9/12 John & Nicole Fleschut
- 9/17 Lewis & Linda Baines

Lemonade on the Lawn – Thank you to everyone who has hosted and will be hosting Lemonade on the Lawn. We are so blessed to be surrounded by such wonderful family and friends that have gathered to enjoy all the generous goodies that have been provided for Trinity’s summer receptions.



August 7, 2022	Session
August 14, 2022	Allyson Lord
August 21, 2022	Women of Trinity



Meals on Wheels~ If you would like to volunteer for Meals on Wheels on any open dates, please call Meryl Davis @ (570) 310-1556.

August 11, 2022	Volunteers Needed
August 25, 2022	Volunteers Needed

Flower Chart -

There is a flower chart sign-up sheet in hallway for anyone

August 7, 2022	Nancy Williams
August 14, 2022	Rinker Family
August 21, 2022	Ken & Cathy Jones
August 28, 2022	Nancy Thomas
September 4, 2022	

wishing to honor a loved one. The cost of flowers is \$50 per week so please plan accordingly. If you signed up for the flowers and wish to cancel your order, please notify Nicole. We can still announce your "Flower Dedication" as a "Worship Dedication" in the bulletin. Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to cancel the flowers at the front of the sanctuary so we may notify the florist.



While going through items for the recent rummage sale, small decorative wreaths were found in individual boxes in the church basement. Each wreath represents a month; however the month of November wreath is missing from the collection. If you have any information regarding these wreaths and/or why they were stored in the basement, please see Barbara Rinker, Allyson Lord or Nancy Thomas. Thank you



REWARD OFFERED: A reward will be offered for anyone having any information regarding the 11 white table cloths which are missing. They were last seen hanging on hangers, but have disappeared. Closets have been searched to no avail. Any information leading to the whereabouts of these table cloths can be given to Meryl Davis or Sandy Peoples. Thank you.

Please be advised Gary Farber Jr., the real estate developer, who requested and was denied a request for a special exception to build a commercial development between Route 309 and Irem Road (just down from the church), has filed an appeal to the zoning board's decision. He is asking a Luzerne county judge to reverse the board's rejection of the project. We will wait to see if a hearing will be scheduled or whether the judge will just make a decision on the records that have been submitted.



thank you!

Thank you for the many cards, telephone calls ,and prayers after the death of Marianne's brother, Stephen Selige on July 2, 2022. Sincerely, Marianne and Wayne Williams

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session Members: Arthur J. Peoples, Clerk of Session

Mark Chappell

Sharon Davis

Sherri Newell

Barbara Rinker

Meryl Davis

Ken Jones

Karen Perzia

Wayne Williams

The regular meeting of the Session was held on July 18, 2022, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Dallas, PA. The following items were discussed and acted upon by the Session.

1. Alexander Smulowitz, a Life Scout in Troop 281, presented to the Session his request to do his Eagle Scout Project at Trinity Presbyterians Church. His proposal is to beautify the memorial area behind the church by adding new river stones and removing the weeds and replacing them with flowers that are easier to take care of. The three pine trees as well as the old bushes will be removed.
2. Karen Perzia, Treasurer, submitted the financial reports for Trinity Presbyterian Church and the Trinity Learning Center covering the period up to June 30, 2022.
3. The Board of Deacons held a Pizza Party on June 29, 2022 to thank everyone who worked at the Rummage Sale.
- 4.
5. **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE:**
 - a. Charles Kappler V, Eagle Scout Project, which was reviewed by the Session last month, received approval to proceed by the Boy Scout Counsel.
 - b. The Black Top repairs to the parking lots are completed. Any additional repairs will be completed as they occur.
 - c. The outside lights located around the gardens have been repaired. Elder Chappell was advised that additional lights appear to be inoperative. Elder Chappell indicated that he will check the lights and make the appropriate repairs.
 - d. The trees in the front of the church between the parking lot and Irem Road were trimmed by C. Don Kocher.
 - e. The air conditioning in the sanctuary appears to always be on. Newco Heating & Air-Conditioning, the company under contract to service Trinity, will check the system.
6. **FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**
 - a. Elder Karen Perzia advised that she sent a check to the Presbytery in the amount of \$2,201.00 for our per capita
 - b. In addition, \$300.00 for the One-Great-Hour-of- Sharing was also forwarded to the Presbytery.
7. **TRINITY LEARNING CENTER (TLC):**
 - a. The TLC Summer Program was very successful with 85 children attending the program.
 - b. The Session approved TLC's request to hold the Art and Sippie on August 27, 2022 at 6:30 PM.
 - c. On November 1 – 2, 2022 TLC will take picture of the students.

