

Let Freedom Ring throughout the Land

Dear Trinity Presbyterian Church Family & Friends,



The coming every year of July 4th reminds us of the preciousness and value of human freedom. We know, especially as Christians, that you and I are not fully human without freedom—the true freedom that God alone gives us out of his love and grace through his one and only Son, Jesus Christ. Still, the American idealizing of temporal freedom has, since 1776, enhanced respect for individuals, stirred initiative and creativity, and made for tolerance of diversity—all human values. However,

it seems to me that while freedom in the temporal sense is a necessary component of enjoying a full and ethical life, it is not a sufficient component by itself. We are only human in relationship—as we live in community, and the founders of our nation knew that the spirit of individualism is hollow. The pursuit of self-interest by many does not lead to the good of all. Our nation was

founded not only upon the idea of freedom, but upon the idea of human solidarity and a practical and spiritual sense of the “common good” that has often been lost in this post-modern society. Perhaps the Apostle Paul says it best in the Scriptures wherein he writes, “Look out not only for your own interests, but also for the interests of others.” (Phil. 2:4) It is a lesson of which our forefathers were keenly aware. They knew that our culture, our nation, and our world needed to see and know of a land where “looking out for the common good” could be lived out in the spirit of freedom under the divine providence of God.

To capture a sense of the value our American ancestors placed on the issue of freedom and its significance upon our common human condition, it might be beneficial for all of us to be reminded of the fiery words of one of our nation’s founding fathers, Patrick Henry, in his extraordinary speech before signing the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776 at Independence Hall, Philadelphia: These words will go forth to the world when our bones are dust. To the slave in bondage, they will speak hope; to the mechanic in his workshop, freedom. That parchment will speak to kings in language sad and terrible as the trumpet of the archangel. You have trampled on the rights of mankind long enough. At last, the voice of human woe has pierced the ear of God and called his judgment down. Such is the message of our Declaration to the kings of the world. And shall we falter now? And shall we start back appalled when our free people press the very threshold of freedom? **Sign!** If

GOOD NEWS OF TRINITY

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July 2023

in the next moment the gibbet's rope is around your neck. **Sign!** If in the next moment this all rings with the echo of the falling ax. **Sign!** By all your hopes in life or death, as husbands, fathers—as men with our names on parchment, or be accursed forever!

Sign! Not only for yourselves, but for all ages; for that parchment will be the textbook of freedom—the Bible of the rights of man forever! **Sign!** For the declaration will go forth so American hearts will be like the voice of God. And its work will not be done until throughout this wide continent nor a single inch of ground—owns the sway of privilege of power.

It is not given to our poor human intellect to climb the skies, to pierce the counsels of the Almighty One. But methinks I stand among the awful clouds which veil the brightness of Jehovah's throne. Methinks, I see the recording angel—pale as angel is pale, weeping as an angel can weep—come trembling up to the throne and speaking his dreadful message. Father! The old world is baptized in blood, Father! It is drenched with the blood of millions who have been executed, in slow and grinding oppression. Father, look! With one glance of thine eternal eye, look over Europe, Asia, Africa, and behold everywhere a terrible sign—man trodden down beneath the oppressor's feet, nations lost in blood, murder, and superstition walking hand in hand, over the graves of their victims, and not a single voice to whisper hope to man.

He stands there (the angel), his hand trembling with the human guilt. But hark! The voice of Jehovah speaks out from the awful cloud: Let there be light again. Let there be a new world. Tell my people, the poor downtrodden millions, to go out from the old world. Tell them to go out from wrong, oppression and blood. Tell them to come out from the old world to build up my altar in the new.

As God lives, my friends, I believe that to be his voice. Yes, were my soul trembling on the wings of eternity, were his hand freezing to death, were my voice choking with the last struggle, I would still, with the last gasp of that voice, implore you to remember the truth! God has given America to be free. Yes, as I sank down into the gloomy shadows of the grave, with my last gasp I would beg you to **sign that parchment**. In the name of the One who made you, the Savior who redeemed you, in the name of the millions whose very breath is now hushed, as, in intense expectation, they look up to you for the awful words, **YOU ARE FREE!**

Amen and amen . . . and let us all remember that the Savior who redeems all his children who call upon his holy name will continue to guide our nation along the pathway of freedom as long as we honor and worship him as the one and only true God of life whose only desire is that we all live for the "common good" both in church and community. I would be willing to sign on his scroll of life anytime!

Living in His Freedom with You,

Murray

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EARLY NOTICE!!! If possible, please set Saturday, July 22nd aside on your calendar. The Thompsons will be hosting a light luncheon Open House from 11:00 until 2:00. We hope to see YOU at our home. More information will follow closer to the date. Murray & Karin



Women of Trinity luncheon meeting – June 21, 2023

We met at Barbara Rinker's home. Co-hosted by Michele Rittenhouse. We thank them for their hospitality.

We opened the meeting with prayer by Pastor Jan Hunt.

The Treasurer's report and Greeting Card Ministry report were read.

Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering. Donations to date: \$130.00

Bakeless Bake Sale – raising funds to donate to the general operating account of the church. Donations to date: \$585.00.

Our church rummage sale – thank you to everyone for all your help. All proceeds will be donated to the general operating account of the church.

Allyson Lord – reported on jewelry sold at the sale and jewelry sold to an area jeweler. The total was \$2,500.00.

Net proceeds of the rummage sale: \$5,800+

The women will host a Lemonade on the Lawn – Sunday, July 23, 2023. Several of the women volunteered to bring the food, beverages, and supplies.

Thoughts and prayers for our members, our families, our country, and our world.

Our Prayer List: Meryl and Windsor Davis, Mary and Walt Chappell, Doug Stevens, Rich Burkhardt, Jim Snyder, Mary and Neil Morrison, Taryn Barrall, Allyson Lord's sister Bonnie and her husband Richard Zim, Tom Pickett, Shirley Wolfkeil, Rev. Roger Griffith, Rev. Kathy Jamhoury, Bette Handley, Barbara Jones, Rev. Chase and Connie Page, Karin Thompson's sister Jeri Kane, The Thompson's daughter Jeanette and great-great niece Wren Hopper, Dick and Linda Armbrust, and Nancy Williams and her son Richard. Please continue to pray for world peace.

July meeting – Wednesday, July 19 at 12:00 at Sandy Peoples' home. Please carpool from the church because parking is limited.



Barbara Rinker and one of the ponies greeted the Women of Trinity at their monthly luncheon meeting held under the pavilion at the Rinker's horse farm in Sweet Valley.

Rummage sale round-up – 2023

(This message was originally delivered to the congregation on June 11th)

On behalf of the rummage sale committee, (Karen Perzia, Cindy Williams, Sandy Peoples, Allyson Lord, Nancy Thomas and Kristina Coy, here are some of the details of the success of our annual rummage sale here at Trinity. But before we get to the bottom line, let us quickly review how we got there.

Volunteers - virtually everyone in this congregation played some part in the donation, preparation, and sales at our rummage sale: clothing, household goods, toys, etc. And we thank you so much for your help. The fun and fellowship were great as well. And we received many compliments from our customers on our cleanliness and quality of items for sale.

We had some other folks come in and help us as well. We run the risk of forgetting someone here, but we will take that chance in the name of wanting to be grateful: Allyson Lord's sister Bonnie Zim; Nancy Thomas's sister Diane Klug; Barbara Rinker's husband Dale; and Janet Hunt's husband Fred.

And some of our younger people put in several hours to help: Abbie Coy, Zack Coy, little Drew Fleschut, Grayson McKinley, Bob Stevens, and Michael Williams. Again, if we have missed someone, we apologize. We thank all of you for your help.

On Saturday, around 11:30, when we faced clean up and breakdown of the Miracle Building, and we were all very tired, Cindy Williams and Josh Coy came in with an army of young volunteers in the form of Boy Scout Troop 281. What a blessing. It was cleaned up in no time. And we thank Jane and Kim Evanchik, our church cleaning crew, for coming in on Saturday to clean the church and ready it for the Sunday morning service.

Outreach – on Friday morning people were lined up across the parking lot and around the corner to take advantage of what our sale had to offer. Saturday was also very busy. For a day and a half, we were able to hold this money-saving event for our community. But it did not stop there. At 11:30 on Saturday, items that had not been sold were boxed up for delivery to the Back Mountain Library, the Meadows Market on the Pond, St. Vincent DePaul's soup kitchen, Blue Chip, projects from two other churches and Cintas. All of the left-over clothing was removed from the church on Sunday morning by Cintas, the uniform company. They will wash, sort, and deliver the clothing to disaster areas such as floods and earthquakes so that people in distress at least have clean clothing to wear. So, you see our little church can reach far and wide to help others.

This year we had record sales at our jewelry table. Several people gave us jewelry that was 14K gold and Allyson Lord took the pieces to a local jeweler to sell them. That activity, plus on-site sales, generated more than \$2,500 towards our bottom line. That is a record! The rest of the items for sale brought in \$3,300.

OK – the number you've all been waiting for: net proceeds from the sale are about \$5,800. The dumpster and advertising were donated.

All proceeds will be given to the general operating account to benefit the many programs of our church. Again, many thanks for all of your hard work to make all this happen.

OK, we know we are all Presbyterians, but let us give ourselves a round of applause anyway!



Congratulations to our GRADS AND SCOUTS

On June 11th we were pleased and proud to honor the accomplishments of some of our young people. From left: With Pastor Murray are:

Ella Fleschut who recently graduated from Dallas High School. Ella will attend Penn State Wilkes-Barre in the fall and major in early childhood education.

Zachary Coy, recently attained the rank of Eagle Scout. He will be a senior at Dallas in the fall. Not in the photo:

Steven Newell recently received his Bachelor's Degree in biology from Davison College, NC.

Stephanie Williams recently graduated from Douglas High School in Douglas, MA, and will attend Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL. in the fall.

You're Invited!

You are cordially invited to become a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church in the event you have not already joined this warm and joyful fellowship in Christ. You may join by one of the following ways: **By Profession of Faith and Baptism** (for those who have never been baptized), **by Reaffirmation of Faith** (for those who are not currently active members of another Christian church), or **by Transfer of Church Letter** (for those on the active role of another church) For more information, please ask the pastor or any of our Session members who will be glad to speak with you about membership in Trinity Presbyterian Church.



Men's Club

On Saturday July 8th @ 830 a.m. Lum's Fernbrook there will be a meeting. All men are invited and encouraged to attend.

Flower Chart There is a flower chart sign-up sheet in hallway for anyone wishing to honor a loved one. The cost is \$50 per week so please plan accordingly.

July 2		August 6	Barb Rinker
July 9		August 13	
July 16		August 20	Ken Jones
July 23	Alice & Don Kocher	August 27	Karen Perzia
July 30	Elaine Flint		

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



July 13, 2023	
July 27, 2023	



"Lemonade on the Lawn" is a great time to catch up with friends and share some yummy treats. If you, you and your family/friends or church group would like to host a Sunday reception please sign up on the poster in the hall. You provide the homemade or store-bought goodies and the beverage. Paper goods will be available for you to use or you can provide your own. Please take all left overs home with you. Any questions, see Kathy Stevens.

July 2		July 23	Women of Trinity
July 9		July 30	
July 16			

The Outreach Committee's good Samaritan Christmas project donation item for the month of **July is craft or game (puzzles, dolls)**. Thank you for your willingness to donate to this project.



The Moosic Presbyterian Church, (where Jan Hunt is the commissioned Pastor), is sponsoring a Church Bus Trip to Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster for the production of "Moses." The bus will leave from their church at 7:30 a.m. on Sept. 26, 2023. The church is located at 625 Main St. in Moosic. The cost is \$165 per adult and \$120 per child ages 3 to 12. This includes the bus driver's tip, hoagie, beverage, the show, and a lunch buffet at the Bird-in-Hand Restaurant. Full payment is due upon making your reservation. Payment can be

made in cash or check (made payable to Moosic Presbyterian Church), and given to Barb Rinker who will get it to Pr. Jan Hunt. Plan ahead to see this amazing show.



J & J Deli
3101 Memorial Highway
Dallas, PA 18612
570-675-6139

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HOAGIE SALE

J&J Deli is offering any 8" Sub UP TO \$8.00.
For each hoagie sold, J&J Deli will return \$2.00
to Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Hoagie coupons do not expire and are redeemable at J & J Deli.
Hoagie sales will begin on April 16, 2023
Please see any member of the Helping Hands Committee to purchase
your tickets.

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. Rev. Dr. Murray is available to talk to anyone who has never been a liturgist but wants to give it a try.

July 2, 2023	Karen Perzia
July 9, 2023	
July 16, 2023	
July 23, 2023	Barb Rinker
July 30, 2023	

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

Thank you, Art Peoples, Clerk of Session

July Birthdays
07/05 Kristina Coy
07/08 Deborah Cooper
07/11 Karen Sassaman
07/12 Michael Perzia
07/20 Wayne Williams
07/21 Drew Fleschut
07/24 Robert Pilger
07/25 Andrew Sgarlat
07/31 Larry Rittenhouse



August Birthdays
08/10 Russ Newell
08/10 Maria Pavlick
08/15 Megan Davis
08/19 Barb Rinker
08/13 Brian Johnson
08/26 Aime McGrady



July Anniversaries
07/01 John & Tanya Christ
07/08 Carl & Julie Sgarlat Sr.
07/15 Russell & Sherri Newell Sr.

August Anniversaries
08/05 Fred & Janet Hunt
08/21 Chuck & Kim Borland



Subscribe to our Email list for updates - Be sure to be in the know about all that is happening at Trinity Presbyterian Church by joining our email list. Use the QR code next to this announcement to join (take a photo of it with a smartphone and the webpage will open) or go to <http://www.dallastpc.org/join-our-email-list>.

Announcements need to be either emailed to trinitypress@frontiernet.net by **Tuesday morning at 10 am** or written on one of the forms found on the bulletin board and deposited in the office. **Newsletter articles** need to be submitted to the church office by **August 29th**. They need to be emailed to trinitypress@frontiernet.net along with any images.



Trinity Presbyterian Church Building Use Calendar - The Session is requesting everyone who wishes to use the facilities at Trinity to schedule their events with Nicole Fleschut, Administrative Assistant. By phone: 570-675-3131 Or by email: trinitypress@frontiernet.net. This will ensure that everyone has an opportunity to use the building for approved activities, and we will not have double bookings. Thank you for your support. Art Peoples, Clerk of Session.



Reminder the church office will be closed June 26 – July 2 & July 4. There will be no Facebook live streaming of services on June 25 or July 2.

Session Highlights

Session members: Arthur J. Peoples, Clerk to Session

**Kristina Coy
Sharon Davis
Sherri Newell
Karen Perzia
Wayne Williams**

**Meryl Davis
Ken Jones
Sandy Peoples
Barbara Rinker**

The regular meeting of the Session was held on June 20, 2023, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Dallas, PA. The following items were discussed and acted upon by the Session:

1. The Session wishes to extend their congregations to the following:
 - a. Zachary Coy recently obtained the Rank of Eagle Scout.
 - b. Ella Fleschut graduated from Dallas High School on June 2, 2023. She will be attending Penn State Wilkes-Barre to obtain a degree in Early Childhood Education.
 - c. Steven Newell graduated from Davison College, NC with a Bachelor's Degree in Biology on May 14, 2023.
 - d. Stephanie E. Williams graduated from Douglas High School, Douglas, MA on June 2, 2023. She will be attending Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL.
2. The Session voted to stop holding Lemonade on the Lawn on holidays during the summer because of the number of members who are committed to other events immediately following worship.
3. The Mission/Outreach Committee held a reception for the Trinity Learning Center.
4. The Mission/Outreach committee hosted an Ice Cream Truck at the Dallas Little League baseball field. The event was a great success.
5. The Mission/Outreach Committee will participate in the Dallas Harvest Festival held at Dallas High School.
6. On December 3, 2023, the Mission/Outreach Committee will host a Cookie Exchange. Friends and neighbors will all be welcome.
7. On Saturday June 24, 2023, starting at 9:00 AM, Trinity will hold a cleanup for the Memorial Garden. All are welcome.
8. The Helping Hands Committee expressed their appreciation to everyone who helped make the Annual Rummage Sale a GREAT success. Allyson Lord, through her keen eye, raised an amazing amount of money through the Jewelry Sales. Boy Scout Troop 281 came to our aid during cleanup and were a GREAT help. In addition to providing great used clothing to our friends in the community, a number of other agencies benefited from the remaining goods of our Rummage Sale.
9. The Session is pleased with the success of the Trinity Learning Center under the direction of Lisa DeGraba. The student population has increased to 52.
10. The Session approved the use of our facility by Scout Troop 281 on the following dates:
 - a. August 25, 2023 for Movie Night.
 - b. April 20, 2024 for their Spaghetti Dinner.
11. The Helping Hands Committee has obtained an additional 100 hoagie tickets from J & J Deli. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please contact Nicole Fleschut or Art Peoples. Remember the cost is \$8.00 for an 8-inch hoagie; \$2.00 is retained by the church.

Respectfully submitted.

Art Peoples

Arthur J. Peoples, Clerk to the Session