



GOOD NEWS OF TRINITY

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Church

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September 2022



Remembering Who I Am, Whose I Am, and Why I'm Here

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Presbyterian Church,

Perhaps like no other month of the year, I think September is the best time to reflect upon the Christian spiritual journey that you and I joyfully embrace as brothers and sisters in the faith, particularly as both you and I begin a new season under the Son in our shared ministry here at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Amusingly, I would like to quote myself as I contemplate our mutual journey this upcoming month. To begin with, there are several “three-point” sermons that I have come to adopt over my 46 years of ministry as mottos of sorts. One I often refer to as my “children’s sermon” since I repeated this one-line, three-point sermon each time our daughter or son left the house on any given occasion (especially during their teenage years): *Remember, who you are, whose you are, and why you are here!* I like to think of this as my “prime sermon” (my seminary mentor drilled it into my being while I was a student at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and now I cannot live outside its memory). It’s about identity - who I am. It’s about to whom I belong - I am a child of God; I belong to none other than the creator of the whole Universe. It’s about vision and goals - “Why am I here?” I think it serves to remind us all of our original call to mission and our reason for being here: *Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them . . . teaching them . . . observing all I have commanded you . . .* (Mt. 28:19-20). God calls us to be his family and to be about God’s ministry here on earth in this time and in this place. God calls us to reflect the wonder of being God’s child, our “belongingness” to God’s family, and our response to God’s love in all we do. It is considering *first things first*.

Another one of my favorite three-point sermons goes like this: *Pray first, think before you speak, talk less and say more!* Putting first things first is to pray first. Prayer changes things. Praying changes me. Prayer changes the perspective of the one who prays as well as the object of the prayers. Prayer consciously puts one within God's presence and empowers one to act as God's beloved child in the physical, emotional and spiritual reality of the present. Prayer returns us to the place of origin with our heavenly Father and allows us to put *first things first*.

We are the Church of Jesus Christ, and members of one another pursuing the same goal of *seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness* (Mt. 6:33). The identity we share as children of God is the identity, we proclaim to the world seeking always to bring glory to God. Simply put, my Trinity friends in Christ, it is God's energy, hope, and power that accompanies us on our journey and creates in us spiritual energy through corporate worship, personal and corporate Bible study, faithful stewardship and mission outreach to the world. Therefore, I strongly urge you to consider your "call," just like a missionary who is personally called to deep Christian discipleship, but who is also called to actively invite others to share in our Christian faith. I beg you to be open to welcoming those who are seeking to find a spiritual home as you remember the roots of that made your faith, this congregation and its members strong, and build upon the strength of God's transforming love and grace.

During this time of the year that marks the beginning of the Fall season as a community of faith and we begin to strive to put *first things first*, I ask that we foster spiritual growth among the many fine people whom I know already are a part of our congregation, that we, at the same time, fully demonstrate our vital relationship with Jesus Christ. I firmly believe that doing so will make us better disciples, be even more effective in responding to our community needs, and enable us to develop an enduring passion to help others discover God in their lives, while at the same time, recognizing God's gifts in your own life and in the lives of others.

In joy and in thanksgiving live in thankful response to God's grace to you by giving generously to things that make a difference in this world.

Remembering who I am, whose I am, and why I'm here . . . along with You . . .

Murray

The Women of Trinity Notes September 2022

Our August 25th. meeting was opened and closed with prayer by our very special guest and new pastor Rev. Dr. Murray Thompson.

Greeting Card Ministry report – Betsy Fairchild, chairperson – many cards have been sent to reach out to our members and friends.

Fellowship of the Least Coin Offering – so far this year \$105.00 has been received in donations from our members.

We hosted the Lemonade on the Lawn on July 13 and August 21. Thank you to all of the women who donated beverages, bake goods, cheese and crackers, fruit trays and paper products to provide an opportunity for fellowship after the worship service.

As always, we pause a moment to discuss our thoughts and prayers for our members, their families, our country and our world.

Our luncheon meeting in September – will once again be held at the home of Barbara Rinker....with a new twist. It will be a pizza party! It will be on **Wednesday, September 21 with a rain date of Thursday, September 22 at 12:30 with a carpool leaving the church at noon.** We will be in their beautiful outdoor pavilion area. Each person in attendance will be asked to contribute \$5.00 to offset the cost of the pizza. Your hostess will provide the beverages and your moderator will provide the dessert. Thank you, Barbara, for providing us with a place to meet.

Please come prepared to participate in a work shop to discuss some ideas for holiday projects.



On Sunday, August 7th we welcomed Rev. Dr. Murray Thompson and his wife Karin to Trinity. We feel we are truly blessed to have them with us. Following the worship service, the Session hosted a get-acquainted reception in the Miracle Building for all of us to meet and greet Murray and Karin.



September		October	
9/08	Rev. Dr. Murray Thompson	10/02	Betsy Fairchild
9/12	Neil Morrison	10/03	Beth Davis
9/15	Thelma Smith	10/12	Chuck Borland
9/16	Drena Gorgone	10/12	Sara Davis
9/22	Annie McCaffrey	10/18	Janet Hunt
9/23	Windsor Davis	10/22	Linda Baines
9/23	Sherri Newell	10/25	Janet Cunius
9/24	Carol Vanstory	10/27	Charla Pilger
9/24	Kinsley Natt	10/29	Tracey Chappell
9/25	Tanya Christ		
9/26	Kayden Courter		
9/26	Lauren Cunius		
9/27	Robert Stevens		



September Anniversaries

09/04	Dale & Barb Rinker
09/12	John & Nicole Fleschut
09/17	Lewis & Linda Baines

October Anniversaries

10/09	Brian & Mari Johnson
10/11	Harry & Deb Cooper
10/24	Rev Dr Murray & Karin Thompson
10/29	Kevin & Erin Yurko
10/31	Art & Sandy Peoples



Church Picnic- Join us for our Church picnic on September 11th immediately following worship. There will be plenty of food, fun and fellowship for all. The Men's' Club will grill burgers and wieners! Beverages will be provided. Please sign up in the hallway & indicate the type of dish you'll bring to share. Bring a guest!

Is it a Refrigerator or a Time Capsule?

In our kitchen we have a refrigerator. All too often it seems as if people think of it as a Time Capsule, a food history of past pot lucks, receptions and dinners, left overs abandoned to the activities of the microbial life forms to which they were exposed while sitting out in the buffet table. Various vintages of Turkey Hill teas remain sitting on the top shelf because everyone wonders "is that still ok to use?" So another is purchased in its place to be abandoned on the top shelf for the next person to ask "is that still ok to use?" And so our "time capsule" is filled.



To put an end to our "time capsule mentality". The following guidelines have been established:

- Please **do not** leave food and/or beverages left over from your event in the fridge. Take them with you.
- **Do not** leave food and/or beverages assuming that "someone" will use them. "They" won't.
- **Do not** leave anything in the freezer. Items left will become encased in ice, experience freezer burn and no longer be considered safe for human consumption. These items will be tossed.
- **Do know** that all food and beverages that have been opened and abandoned in the fridge, freezer or on the kitchen counters will no longer be considered food safe no matter what the date on the package is. These items will be tossed.
- If you are hosting an event or donating food for an event you may leave your donation in the fridge/freezer prior to the event. You must label it with the **date** you drop off your donation and the name of the event for which it is being donated. Take leftovers home.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Fall Season of Stewardship Highlighting Our Time, Talents and Treasure

So often when members hear ‘stewardship season’ they automatically think about congregation and personal finances. Perhaps this is because congregations typically address stewardship in the Fall as the church Session prepares the annual budget, or perhaps it is because ‘money’ is frequently synonymous with ‘stewardship’ in the minds of many. Whatever the reason, Sharing the Good News is really a holistic stewardship resource that is a long standing part of our Reformed tradition as Presbyterians. We, as Presbyterians, have always taken a deeper look into stewardship of the whole self in light of God’s revelation of His Son, Jesus, in the Bible. With this thought, in the coming weeks, I, along with our church’s Stewardship Committee, and others from our congregation, will be exploring how stewardship impacts all aspects of our lives as a way of living our faith and sharing the Good News with both Trinity Presbyterian Church and the greater community. Thus, I ask that you and yours keep your eyes open, as well as your hearts, for a forthcoming Stewardship season of emphasis highlighting how we can use our Time, Talents, and Treasure in the coming year of our Lord 2023A.D. that will conclude on Sunday, November 13th with a celebration of our congregation’s generosity offered toward the greater glory of God Himself.

Pastor Murray

From the Stewardship Committee

Save the date – Sunday, November 13th. The Stewardship Committee would like to invite everyone to attend a special service of worship at Trinity on “Stewardship Sunday.” The service of the dedication of our time, talent and treasure will be followed by a luncheon in the Miracle Building. Join us as we celebrate our commitment to doing the Lord’s work at Trinity and to enjoy fellowship with one another. Please watch your mailbox and our church newsletter for more information about this very special day in the life of our church.



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

September 8, 2022	Meryl & Beth Davis
September 22, 2022	Richard & Drena Gorgone
October 6, 2022	Curtis Goodwin & Meryl Davis
October 20, 2022	Windsor & Meryl Davis

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

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

September 4, 2022	Kristina Coy
September 11, 2022	Wayne Williams
September 18, 2022	Nicole Fleschut
September 25, 2022	Abbie Coy
October 2, 2022	
October 9, 2022	
October 16, 2022	
October 23, 2022	
October 30, 2022	

It will be in a large print format.

Thank you, Art Peoples, Clerk of Session

Flower Chart for 2022

Here is the flower chart sign-up sheet in hallway for anyone wishing honor a loved one. The cost of flowers has increased to \$50 per week so please plan accordingly.

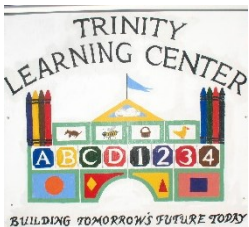


September 4, 2022	Karin Thompson	October 9, 2022	Nancy Thomas
September 11, 2022	Beth Davis	October 16, 2022	
September 18, 2022	Nancy Thomas	October 23, 2022	
September 25, 2022	Kristine Coy	October 30, 2022	
October 2, 2022		November 6, 2022	



SAVE THE DATE! Mark it on your calendar! On November 12, 2022, we will once again be packing food here at Trinity, participating in the Rise Against Hunger program. The Mission-Outreach Committee is finalizing the details to pack over 10,000 meals and will need as many volunteers as possible. Spread the word. More information will follow as the date draws near.

Dear Friends, as a gentle reminder to all our Facebook members and friends, the Sabbath day marks the highpoint of our faith community's time of fellowship with one another as well as a sacred opportunity to give unto God the fruit of our bounty. And so we ask all of you at home worshipping to kindly remember to send your weekly offering by way of the church website (give online) or simply mail to Trinity Presbyterian Church c/o Art Peoples P.O. Box 239 Dallas, Pa 18612 in support of the grace filled ministry we so joyfully share here at Trinity Presbyterian Church in response to the holy gift of Christ Himself. Thank you



TLC News - Please be advised after discussions with Trinity Learning Center's Director, The Learning Center's Advisory Board and your Session, it has been decided that a Ring doorbell alarm system will be installed on both the front door and the door to the rear parking lot of the church. This will also include installing cameras above both doors. Those individuals who have keys to access these doors will continue to use their keys as previously. This will not affect their entering and exiting the building.

Others who do not have key access, will need to ring the new Ring doorbell and will be greeted through the Ring intercom system. We are hopeful that the system will be installed before The Learning Center's first day of school on Sept. 12th. This decision was based on protecting the safety and security of everyone who occupies our church building. We appreciate your understanding.

Holy Humor - A Sunday school teacher was discussing the 10 Commandments with her five and six year old's. After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."





Dear Scouts, Parents & Leaders,

My name is Charlie Kappler and I am asking for your help with my upcoming Eagle Scout Project on Saturday, Sept 24th at Trinity Presbyterian Church located at 105 Irem Rd., Dallas. There will be two shifts: 9-noon and noon - 4pm. You may volunteer for one or for both. All help will be greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you will be able to help out. Lunch and refreshments will be served at noon.

My project will be to create a 20' x 20' prayer/reflection area in the woods behind the church. The area will be completed with a gravel surface, a round stone firepit and four wooden benches. If anyone has or knows of someone with a quad and utility trailer, please let me know as it will be very helpful to transport the stone to the work area. Please wear long pants, sturdy shoes and work gloves. Please bring wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes if possible.

With enough help, I am hoping to complete this project on Saturday, but can return on Sunday, Sept 25th in the afternoon if additional time is needed.

Please respond to: clcc@ptd.net if you will be able to help out.

I will be selling J&J Deli hoagie vouchers (\$8/ea.) and Krispy Kreme vouchers (\$10/doz glazed doughnuts) to fund my project. I will have them available for sale at our September 8th meeting.

Thank you in advance for your support!!! YIS, Charlie Kappler V

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 August 15, 2022, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Dallas, PA. The following items were discussed and acted upon by the Session.

1. The Session wishes to thank Elaine Flint for her generous donation of \$5,000.00 given in memory of her late husband George Flint for the repairs to the organ.
2. Rev. Dr. Murray Thompson reported that during the first 15 days as our new pastor he visited five members, contacted 11 members and friends, sent seven letters to 13 members, served on the Committee on Ministry and called members for their birthday and anniversary. In addition he served as an Honor Guard, American Legion, at two veteran's funerals.
3. The chimes have been repaired and will be played on Sunday morning commencing 15 minutes prior to the service. The Board of Deacons will oversee the operation of the chimes.
4. Wayne Williams reported that the organ company, Robert E. Sides, is still working on the organ.
5. Mark Chappell replaced new lights in Rev. Thompson's office bathroom and the pulpit.
6. The Session selected a new kitchen committee. Meryl Davis will serve as the chair of the Kitchen Committee. Marianne Williams, Linda Baines and Ken Jones will complete the membership of the Kitchen Committee.
7. The Session thanked Karen Perzia for chairing the reception for Rev. Dr. Murray Thompson and Karin which was held on August 7, 2022.
8. The Mission Outreach Committee reported that the:
 - a. Rise Against Hunger project will be held on November 12, 2022.
 - b. The Ice Cream Truck turnout was good.
 - c. Barbara Rinker took all of the Paper Products from the drive donation to the Shavertown Methodist Church Community Care Cabinet.
 - d. The committee will hold Trunk or Treat for Trinity Presbyterian Church and Trinity Learning Center children.
 - e. The committee plans to partner with the Deacons to participate in the Dallas Tree Lighting.
9. Elder Sherri Newell reported that the Trinity Learning Center (TLC) Board did not meet during this reporting period, but provided the following information.

- a. Presently TLC has 43 students signed up for the next school year. Three additional students will tour Trinity later. In addition, it is still early and many students register closer to opening date.
- b. The Session approved TLC's request to hold the Art and Sippie event on August 27, 2022 at 6:30 PM.
10. Elder Sharon Davis, Worship & Sunday School Committee, submitted the following report to the Session.
 - a. The Visitation Team (Meryl Davis & Ken Jones) reported on the members and friends of Trinity that they visited during the past 30 days.
 - b. The Committee is in the process of determining the appropriate time to start the Sunday School program for the year.
11. Pulpit Supply – Rev. Dr. Murray Thompson will be on vacation from September 17, 2022 through October 5, 2022. The following Commissioned Pastors will fill the pulpit.
 - a. September 18, 2022 - CP Jean Biggar
 - b. September 25, 2022 - CP Donna Dickinson
 - c. October 2, 2022 - CP Bruce Jordan
12. Elder Barbara Rinker indicated that she would work with the Trinity Learning Center staff to determine what security system they should purchase for Trinity. Elder Rinker indicated that they wanted to have the system installed before the school opens in September. She also indicated that she will coordinate with Mark Chappell to ensure the system is installed before school begins.
13. Separations in the sidewalks - Elder Wayne Williams reported that the sidewalks leading from the church to the front and back parking lots have separated because of winter heaving. They were originally filled with a rubber insert. Elder Williams will repair the sidewalks using blacktop and sand. Church signage providing directions to Trinity are bent, faded and in need of repair. The Session will review all the church signage and make the appropriate repairs.
14. Ruling Elders of the Month and Devotion Schedule for Session meetings:

1. September 2022	Ruling Elder Barbara Rinker
2. October 2022	Ruling Elder Kenneth Jones
3. November 2022	Ruling Elder Wayne Williams
4. December 2022	Ruling Elder Arthur Peoples

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur J. Peoples,
Clerk of Session