

Trinity Tempo

August 2024



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
These past few years have been difficult for the United Methodist Church. There has been much fighting, finger pointing, and name calling. In general, the denomination has not been a good example on how to disagree and still love one another. Through the contention and unrest, the Lord has shown grace and mercy and helped a new expression of Methodism to be birthed. I pray the Lord will bless the

Global Methodist Church and use it for His glory. Those who remain as United Methodists have much work to do within our denomination. The Church has lost much in the divorce: connections, trust, friends, a clear future. And, in some ways, our identity as United Methodist Christians has been lost in the myriads of changes.

What does it mean to be United Methodist post disaffiliation and post 2020/2024 General Conference? This hasn't been the first time the Methodist Church has experienced a split and, in all truthfulness, it may not be the last. Going through traumatic times such as these affords us the opportunity to reflect on who we are in the midst of so many changes.

Above all else, we are followers of Jesus Christ. We live so that the love of Jesus and Gospel message may be seen and heard by others. As Christians, we are the hands and feet of Jesus in this world. But each Christian is called to a different emphasis and completes those tasks with different styles. I believe this is what it means to be a part of the Body of Jesus. Even our different denominations can function as different parts of the same body. A Methodist ministers and focuses on different areas than a Presbyterian; a Catholic has different viewpoints on certain topics than a Baptist. Each denomination has its strengths and weaknesses, but each can be used for God's glory and love.

I have fallen in love with the way United Methodists do ministry. It's not necessarily the best, it's just the one that resonates with me. When John Wesley started out, he and a group of like-minded Christians wanted to know God better and serve God better. Their rigorous method of study and ministry had the other students calling them Methodists.

The history of Methodism is rich and surprising. I believe now is a wonderful time to reconnect with our past. In doing so, we may have a better understanding of our future and on the call that God has laid upon our lives. Starting in September I will be leading a study on Methodism. The title is *Being United Methodist Christians: Living a Life of Grace and Hope* by Andy Langford, Ann Langford Duncan, and Sally Langford. **(continued on page 5)**

Trinity Happenings

Church Picnic

BY JANE POGUE

It's that time again! Time for a fun night out with good food and great friends. The picnic will be on Friday, August 16 at 6 p.m. Lots of games, the hot tub, and always trivia! Even a TV to watch the Pirates take on the Mariners—if you are interested.

Please sign up in the vestibule and let me know tentatively what food you will bring. See you there!

Mats for the Homeless

Trinity continues to collect plastic bags to make mats for the homeless. Plans are being made to hold a training session for this program. Volunteers will be taught how to prepare the bags and make the plarn; how to crochet the plarn into mats, and how to work the loom.

Pastor Justin will announce a date for this training later this month. Please continue to bring in your plastic bags and place them in the box at the back of the sanctuary.

If you would like to learn more about this outreach program, contact Pastor Justin. Thank you for your support of this new TUMC ministry.





Blessing of the Backpacks

BY JANE POGUE

School is right around the corner, and we want to start off on the right foot! We all need God's blessings and especially when we are starting a new school year.

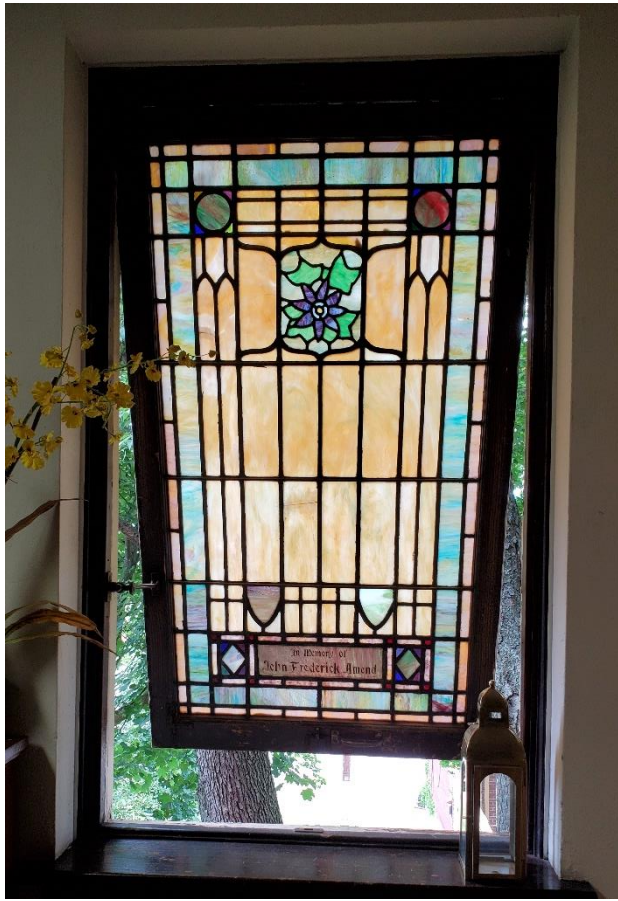
On Sunday, August 18 at the 11:15 a.m. service, Pastor Justin will bless all backpacks, notebooks, attaché cases, purses, or anything else you will use to carry your school supplies. This is not just for school kids. Anyone who is furthering their education—attending tech school, trade school, community college, etc.—is welcome.

Teachers, secretaries, administrators, and others who work to keep our children safe and who contribute to their education are also welcome. We all need to have God with us as we start the new year.

Food Drive

Thanks to everyone who participated in the July food drive for the Trafford/Level Green Christian Food Bank. We provided 104 rolls of toilet paper to our neighbors in Trafford and the surrounding community.





Be a Good Steward

Summer weather means open doors and windows, ceiling fans, and longer daylight hours. Be good stewards. When holding a meeting or event in the church, remember to close and lock windows and doors. Turn off fans and turn off lights before leaving the building.

Fall Craft & Vendor Show

Trinity will host the annual Fall Craft & Vendor Show on Saturday, November 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Contact Joanne Ondulich if you or someone you know is interested in leasing table space for the event. As always, we will operate a bake sale and concession stand during the show. We look forward to seeing you there!

Homeless Kits

We continue to make kits available for the homeless. Pick up a kit or two to keep on hand for when you might meet someone who is homeless. The box of kits is in front of the Cry Room.

Special Sunday Offerings

Rural Life, August 4

On this special Sunday we remember the rural heritage of the Church and we recognize the continued interdependence of our rural and urban communities. Your gifts strengthen nurture, witness and outreach in small towns and rural areas in Western PA.

Disability Awareness, August 11

This Sunday we are called to acknowledge and give thanks for the gifts and grace of people with disabilities and to seek ways to include them in our worship, in our service, and in our communities. Your gifts promote awareness and provide opportunities for fuller inclusion through grants and ministry in Western PA.

Prayerfully consider donating to these special offerings in August.



Westmoreland County Fair

The Greensburg District is hosting the Hospitality Center again this year at the county fair, August 16-24. The center is open daily from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and volunteers are needed to staff it.

The center is the only air-conditioned building on the fairgrounds. There, visitors can enjoy cups of cold water, take advantage of private nursing and baby changing areas, a prayer box for prayer concerns, and free age-appropriate Bibles. Two-hour shifts are available. Please consider donating time this year. Contact Pastor Jack Tickle at (724) 448-4934 for more information.



Mission U 2024

This annual event sponsored by the Conference Global Ministries team and United Methodist Women in Faith will be held August 9-11 at Jumonville. It is an opportunity for children, youth and adults to grow spiritually, learn about issues affecting society and experience Christian mission. Go to <https://wpa-reg.brtapp.com/MissionU2024> to learn more and to register for this event.

Pastor's letter

(continued from front cover)

It is a 6 or more-week study to learn about our history and our emphases as United Methodist Christians. Details on specific dates and times will be announced as the time draws nearer. If you are interested or have questions and concerns for me, please reach out through email (jjudy79@gmail.com), text or call (724) 594-4073.

I look forward to getting to know our denomination and calling better with each of you.

PTL,

Pastor Justin Judy

Joys & Concerns

Please keep Trinity family, friends and neighbors in your prayers.

Pray for

Regis Aubele (Patty's brother-in-law)
Mary Ann Casper
Sandy Chiappetta
Bryce Dulemba
Mark Graw (John Graw's brother)
Family of Joan Hartley
Taryn Kline (Jeanne Ruccio's sister-in-law)
Harry and Marge Little
Donna Piper
Vicki Stokes
Bill and Joan Vowler

Also take a moment and give thanks for friends and family who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month.

Birthdays

4 Larry Mallik
5 Jen McCune, Julie Sippel-Silowash
8 Jace Beam
10 Angel Spell
12 Lynn Chiappetta
13 Mary Henry
14 Carol Piper
15 Bill Vowler, Damian Kitchen
16 Cindy Graw
19 Bill Fenton
21 April Beam, Joanne Ondulich
22 Beverly Piper
23 Graham Ruccio
24 Dan Musser
26 Mike Kitchen
28 John Musser, Rebecca Hughes
31 Alvin Lafferty

Anniversaries

6 Caleb and Corrie Baker
7 Nate and Stacey Ruccio
12 Bob and Mary Ann Casper
15 Bill and Joan Vowler
22 Larry and Becky Mallik

August

Altar Flowers

4 open
11 Susan Gibson and Sandy Yamamoto
18 Larry and Becky Mallik
25 Yocum family
Evelyn Felmlee



August

Women's Bible Study will meet every other Wednesday evening during August and will take the month of September off. Contact Beverly Piper for more information.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
28 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	29 1 p.m. Senior Friends	30	31 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	1	2	3
4 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/ Communion <i>Rural Life Sunday</i> <i>(offering)</i>	5 1 p.m. Senior Friends	6	7	8	9	10
11 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship <i>Disability Awareness</i> <i>Sunday (offering)</i>	12 1 p.m. Senior Friends	13 7:30 p.m. Ad-Council Meeting	14 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	15	16 6 p.m. Church Picnic Tempo Deadline	17
18 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship / Blessing of the Backpacks	19 1 p.m. Senior Friends	20	21	22	23	24
25 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	26 1 p.m. Senior Friends	27	28 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	29 7 p.m. Choir	30	31

Tempo Deadline

Articles for the September issue of the newsletter are due in the church office by Friday, August 16, 2024.



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Church office
(412) 373-0835 • office@tumctrafford.org

Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.

Bible Study

Books for the pastor-led Bible study will be ordered in mid-August. If you would like to participate in this study, fill in your name and the number of books needed on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule or contact the church office by Sunday, August 11.

Altar Flowers

Several Sundays are still open for altar flowers. The cost is \$40 for the pair of vases (\$20 per vase). Available dates are September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
November 3, 24
December 1, 8, 22, 29.

To reserve a date, complete the space on the altar flower calendar (in the vestibule) or contact the church office. Payment is due on or before the Sunday you reserved.