

# Trinity Tempo

February 2026



## **A New Year's Message from Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball**

Happy New Year. We are still in the Christmas season, but it's the new year. We're turning a new calendar year and often that spurs us on to make New Year's resolutions. To do something differently. As we think about walking into this new year, think about the shepherds. When they had the angels appear before them, they immediately said, we've gotta go see this great thing that has happened.

In this new year we need to go forth and share the great thing that has happened in Jesus Christ. And as we go forward, let's remember our new vision statement. What is that statement? To love boldly, to serve joyfully, and to lead courageously. Is that not the witness of the shepherds? When the angels appeared, oh, at first, they were afraid, but the angel said, "be not afraid, for I bring you good tidings of great joy for all people." And that message was about the boldness of God's love for this world. And in this new year, we ought to be boldly proclaiming that love because there are some people that do not know that they were created in God's love. Let's help us. Help us, help them to love boldly in this world and to witness to God's bold love for everyone. And, and the angel spoke about a great joy for all people.

Oh, let us serve joyfully and take up a new commitment and a new covenant to serve joyfully in this world. Not to grumble or mumble, but to proclaim the joy of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet. If we can reframe our living to grab hold of the joy of God as we walk through this life, we can make a real impact in this world. And let us, like the shepherds, not keep things to ourselves, the joy and the gift of Jesus, to ourselves.

Let us lead courageously. Let's go into the places that are messy in this world. Into these places that need a word of justice, that need a proclamation of fairness, that needs a celebration of God's diversity. Let us truly attempt in this new season, this new year, to live as disciples. Disciples of Jesus Christ who live in action to share God's love boldly, to serve joyfully and to lead courageously that this Jesus that has been born into our world might be made known, and that the gift of Jesus Christ might get into more people's hands and lives in ways that they might open that gift, be forgiven and transformed, and receive new life. May it be so.

Steiner Ball, Bishop Sandra. (January 1, 2026.) "New Year's Message." Transcript. *Western PA Conference*. Retrieved January 27, 2026 from <https://www.wpaumc.org>

# Trinity Happenings

## Food Drive

Trinity will collect boxes of facial tissue for the Trafford/Level Green food bank throughout February. A donation box will be in the vestibule.

Trinity's board is considering developing its own food distribution program. One that will cover a niche area that is often overlooked by food banks: food for people with special dietary needs due to health conditions, allergies or food intolerances. We are considering options such as low sodium food, gluten-free foods, and fresh produce.

This potential program would not overlap or compete with the local food bank but enhance it. The program is in its infancy and there is still a great deal of work to be done.

The Ad-Council welcomes your input regarding this plan. If you have information or a viewpoint to share, please speak with:

- Linda Yocum
- Beverly Piper
- Matthew Knopf
- Jane Pogue
- Kris Peters
- Patty Aubele
- Jeanne Ruccio
- Lori Dorko

Please pray for guidance and clarity as we work on developing a plan to meet this special need within the community.



## Homeless Mats

Trinity continues to collect plastic grocery bags and plastic shopping bags to make mats for the homeless. We have five mats and one pillow ready to deliver to the group that distributes the items. A mat and pillow are on display on the pew which is beside the church library.

Thanks to everyone who has helped with this program so far. Please continue to bring in your empty bags and place them in the box at the back of the sanctuary.

We plan to hold another training session in early spring. If you want to learn the process of mat-making, or if you want a refresher on the process, please plan on attending. We will announce a date later this month.

## Altar Flowers

Many dates remain open for altar flowers this year. To reserve dates, fill in the calendar in the vestibule, or email or write to the church office and include

the date, name of the person or group being honored or remembered. The cost remains the same as last year: \$20 for a vase or \$40 for the pair of vases.

Available dates are:

February 8 and 15  
March 1, 8, and 15  
April 5, 12, 19, 26  
May 3, 10, and 31  
June 7, 14, 21, and 28  
July 5, 12, 19, and 26  
August 2 and 9  
September 6, 13, 20, and 27  
October 11 and 18  
November 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29  
December 6, 13, 20, and 27

Payment is due on the reserved date and can be made by cash, check or the online giving platform. Please use the online giving platform only to make payment. Do not reserve dates through it. Contact the church office if you have any questions.





## Homeless Kits

Trinity continues to assemble and distribute homeless kits. Pick up a kit or two and keep them in your vehicle. When you encounter a homeless person during your travels and the opportunity presents itself, offer a kit to the individual.

Each homeless kit contains one pair of socks, one pair of winter gloves or an 8-oz bottle of water (depending on the season), two body wipes, five snack-size Slim Jims, and \$5.00. You'll find the kits in the overflow area off the sanctuary. The kits now are in wire baskets, one for men and one for women. What's the difference between the kits? The socks we purchase are sized for men and women, therefore different kits.

## Gathering with the Bishop

Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball will hold six gatherings across the Western PA Conference. At these meetings she will share updates on how "we continue moving forward as a people empowered by God's Spirit," Conference staffing and restructuring, as well as the ministry and mission that have continued since Annual Conference. The dates and locations are listed below.

- Sunday, February 15 at Grove City Grace UMC from 2-4 p.m.
- Sunday, February 22 at Trinity UMC, Indiana from 3-5 p.m.
- Saturday, March 14 at Edinboro UMC from 3-5 p.m.
- Sunday, March 15 at Monroeville UMC from 3-5 p.m.
- Monday, March 16 at Trinity UMC McMurray from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 19 at Warren Grace UMC from 6-8 p.m.



Use the [link to register](#) if you plan to attend one of the sessions. This will help them plan accordingly and communicate any schedule updates.

## Easter Candy Fundraiser

We enter the season of Lent this month, and that also means it is time for our annual Easter Candy Fundraiser. Order forms will be available in the vestibule. Orders will be due in the church office by Sunday, March 8, 2026. Candy will be delivered to the church before Palm Sunday.

You may also order candy online at [SarrisCandiesFundraising.com](http://SarrisCandiesFundraising.com).

1. Click on Online Ordering.
2. Enter Trinity's group id# 10-0582.
3. Start shopping.

Online orders are shipped directly to your home; a \$7 packaging and handling charge applies to all orders under \$100. Online ordering is open through March 22, 2026.





## Joys & Concerns

Please keep Trinity family, friends and neighbors in your prayers. To share a prayer concern, call Beverly Piper, (412) 607-1759.

### Pray for

Caleb Baker  
Tom Bradley (Patty Aubele's nephew)  
Mary Ann Casper  
Sandy Chiappetta  
Pastor Angelique Edmonds  
Jeff Johnson  
Harry and Marge Little  
Olga, Volodymer, and Maryna  
Medunytsia and family  
Les and Donna Race  
Bill Silvasy (Colleen Divito's nephew)

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

### Birthdays

1 Becky Mallik  
3 Sandy Keller, Diane Kerrigan  
11 Ashley Kitchen  
16 Roger VanRyn  
27 Richard Aglietti III

### Anniversaries

14 Kevin and Beverly Beam

## February

### Altar Flowers

1 open  
8 open  
15 open  
22 Thelma Johnson & Family



# February

Women's Bible Study will resume meeting in early spring 2026. The date and time will be announced during the Sunday morning worship service.

Senior Friends will remain on winter break and resume meeting in March.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
<b>25</b> 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>1</b> 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship/ Communion	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:30 p.m. Ad-Council	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:30 a.m. Finance Audit <i>Valentine's Day</i>
<b>15</b> Transfiguration Sunday 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	<b>16</b> <i>President's Day</i>	<b>17</b> <b>Tempo Deadline</b>	<b>18</b> <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<b>19</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent 10 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>

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Articles and information for the March issue of the newsletter are due in the church office by Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2026.



**Trinity United Methodist Church**

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tumctrafford.org

**Steven McIlvaine, pastor**

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Church office  
(412) 373-0835 opt 2  
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Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.



***What would you do for love?***

Reflect on what you as an individual and what we—as a church family—can do to show Christ's love to our neighbors, our community and ourselves?