

# *Trinity Tidings*

May 2016

Trinity Church is a fellowship seeking to share the love and word of Jesus Christ  
with all.



Pentecost

Greater New Jersey Annual Conference

Memorial Day Parade

Spring Small Groups

War Room Movie Showing

## **From the Pastor**

### **God's Church in Action: Connected**

Every four years, the United Methodist Church's international decision-making body meets to set the course of our denomination for the next four years.

It's called the General Conference and it meets May 10<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> in Portland, Oregon. This group is the top policy-making body of the UMC.

What's special about this gathering is that it represents the world-wide reach of the people called Methodist. In Portland, there will be elected representatives from around the world. Delegates are elected by their local annual conferences, and come together to discuss proposed changes in church law, ministry and mission priorities, budgets and much more. There will be about 875 people gathering to make these decisions.

Some of the decisions of the General Conference will impact worshippers in the pew. Some will impact clergy in terms of the ordination process. Some will restructure how the denomination leads the more than 8.5 million Methodists in the world.

But all will represent one of the central points of our church, and that is that we're a connectional church.

The General Conference represents that United Methodist Christians in Hackettstown are connected to those in Africa, Europe and the Philippines. It's why you and I can walk into a United Methodist church anywhere in the world and feel welcome. And it represents the truth that we can do far more together for Christ than we can do separately.

So I encourage you to pray for the delegates of our General Conference, that they may be led by the Holy Spirit in their deliberations and decisions.

Together in Christ's service,

**Frank**

You can follow the proceedings of the General Conference by going to [www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2016](http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2016). Rev. Eunice Vega-Perez, former Trinity associate pastor and now pastor of Vernon UMC, is a delegate to Portland. Trinity member Edna Barrier has been a delegate to previous General Conferences.

## Greater New Jersey Annual Conference

Immediately after the meeting of the General Conference of the UMC, Methodists in New Jersey will gather for their annual conference. Delegates from all 575 churches in the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference will meet in Wildwood, N.J., May 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the conference is to conduct the business which relates to all of our local churches, to ordain clergy, set budgets and conduct other business that directly affects the ministry and mission of our churches.

Attending the conference will be Trinity's clergy and lay members Lois Spender, Jan Wells and Sharon Hoff.

## Mothers' Day Special Event: Photo Booth!

Plan now to attend worship on Mothers Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>, for a joyful and meaningful worship and to have your picture taken with dear ones in a special photo booth.

You can have your picture taken with mom, grandma, kids, friends or anyone.

You'll go home with a great picture and a joyful memory. It'll be lots of fun! So make a point of being at Trinity on May 8<sup>th</sup>!

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## Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> ~ 10 a.m.

Enjoy the fun from Trinity's front lawn!

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## Happy Birthday to the Church

Pentecost Sunday is the annual celebration of the birthday of the church of Jesus Christ! Join the Trinity family on **Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** for a joyful service of worship. Holy Communion will be shared at the 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. services. **Wear red, the color of Pentecost!**

## The Bulletin Board

### **Martha Friendship Circle: May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

The Martha Friendship Circle will meet in Heath Village's Grille on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:30 p.m. for our Spring Luncheon, with the promise of a delicious meal to be served. Kathy Ekeland, harpist from Trinity, will provide us with some lovely music and it will prove to be a special and enjoyable afternoon. Please join us and bring a friend. For reservations, please contact Janet Moss at 908-269-6048. We look forward to seeing you.

### **Trinity UMM Fellowship Breakfast: May 14<sup>th</sup>**

The breakfast is 8 - 9:30 a.m. in Starr Hall (7:45 a.m. coffee for early arrivals). *Avoiding Fraud and Particularly Senior Fraud* will be the topic of our guest speaker, Tracy Fazzolari of Home Instead Senior Care. She'll help us see through those who would try to commit fraud against us. This presentation is appropriate for all seniors, as well as those of us who plan on becoming seniors. All are welcome.

### **New Members Reception: June 12<sup>th</sup>**

The process includes a dinner on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, and on the 12<sup>th</sup>, a class at 9:15 a.m. and reception into the fellowship of the church during the 10:45 a.m. worship service. If you find Trinity is a good place for you to worship and serve, please consider joining. For more information or to join, let one of the pastors know, call the church office at 908-852-3020, or indicate your interest on the *Just Say Yes* form in the worship bulletin or on the fellowship sheet.

### **Baptism: May 8<sup>th</sup>**

The sacrament of baptism for babies, youth and adults is during the 10:45 a.m. worship service. For information, call the church office at 908-852-3020 or see the application online at our website.

**Interfaith Hospitality Network: June 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Safe Harbor Ministry: May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Midnight Run Ministry: May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Next Campus Blood Drive: June 4<sup>th</sup>**

## Church Directory Update

We need you to make our Directory complete!

**Photography Dates: May 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>**

In the Rotunda:

**Weekdays: 2 – 9 p.m.**

**Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

Please allow one hour for your portrait session. A free 8 x 10 photo and a new directory for each family photographed.

Schedule your appointment on Trinity's website: [www.catchthespirit.org](http://www.catchthespirit.org). Or sign up in person on Sunday mornings in Starr Hall, or contact Fran Blaskopf at [franblas@optonline.net](mailto:franblas@optonline.net) or 973-691-2186.

### Trinity in Action

Your new church directory is more than just members' sweet portraits. We have activity pages to fill! The directory team wants this to be very special for all Trinity members, so TAKE pictures, ORGANIZE old shots and send IDEAS. Who knows, your image may make the COVER! Any questions or to send images, contact Melissa Deible at [mdeible24@hotmail.com](mailto:mdeible24@hotmail.com) or 908-399-9893.

### Special Note to Missions and Ministries

If you're interested in having a picture of your ministry or mission group in the new directory, please have your leader contact Sharon Hoff to schedule an appointment for your photo. Contact Sharon at [sbhoff@comcast.net](mailto:sbhoff@comcast.net) or 973-202-6510. Photos need to be taken by June 3<sup>rd</sup>, so don't delay!

### ***Not a Fan* Movie on May 7<sup>th</sup>**

The movie, *Not a Fan. A Follower*, challenges each of us to answer this question. This recent feature-length film (80 min.) will be shown Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in Trinity House, hosted by Trinity's Disciple Bible Study groups. The story draws us into the life of Eric Nelson, a nominal Christian who embarks on a spiritual journey that transforms his commitment to Christ and tests the faith of family and friends. Twenty times, Jesus issued the invitation, "Follow me." He doesn't want enthusiastic admirers, but committed followers. Join us as we seek to strengthen our Christian walk through the message of *Not a Fan*.

## **IT'S NOT TOO LATE: *YOU* Can Save the Life of a Child**

BIG NEWS! Four times the number of children in Sub-Saharan Africa are surviving – and not dying from malaria – than when United Methodists began this *No More Malaria* initiative five years ago. A child died from malaria every 30 seconds. We have now turned back the clock two full minutes. Let's not stop yet.



### **OUR FAITH IN ACTION**

#### **How can you help eliminate malaria?**

\$10 provides a bed net and instruction on how to use it.

\$10 provides two full rounds of malaria medication.

Give to honor your children; your mother; your grandmother.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

100% of your contributions will go to the fight against malaria. Together, we're making a difference as the people of the United Methodist Church. Hand your contribution to Edna Barrier when you see her, or mail it to her at 19 Old Wolfe Road, Budd Lake, N.J. 07828.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Trinity could save 100 children's lives! It only takes 100 people to give \$10 or 50 people to give \$20 or.....LET'S DO IT!  
**MOTHERS AROUND THE WORLD THANK YOU!**

## Thrift Shop News

Maureen Storey

The lovely month of May. The air is redolent with sweet fragrances and I open my windows to let the newness sweep the last remnants of being shuttered for a long time from my house. While the earth is budding, blooming and leafing, I'm inspired to want to clear away the clutter that has built up over the winter (or the last 25 years) and make a fresh start.

If you're feeling similarly led to clear out and tidy up, try using the three pile system: keep, donate, throw away! As we're often changing over our wardrobes from cool weather items to (yay) summer, this is a good time to choose what stays and what goes. *Before* you begin, have on hand boxes and bags to put your items into and once you make a decision stick with it. Do start small – a dresser, a cupboard or a closet. Going in for doing a whole house clear out often leads to chaos and defeat. Start where you'll have success and build on that. Little-by-little leads to a lot.

Take the items that cannot be salvaged to the trash or rag bin! Put the donated items in your vehicle and drop them off as soon as possible — the temptation to backslide can be great for some. Your stuff will be happy to begin a new life somewhere else, rather than stuck in the back of the closet. Reward yourself for a job well done!

This is also a time when we celebrate Pentecost, the filling of the disciples with the Holy Spirit, a new beginning. Let's continue to sweep the cobwebs from our spirits, and make space in our lives for doing God's work in the world. There are many opportunities to serve here at Trinity Church, and the reward for that is much greater. (Think of all the great people you can meet.)

"Never underestimate your ability to make someone else's life better – even if you never know it." G. Louganis

Step up, reach out, make a clean sweep, get involved, start something new. May you? Yes, you May! See you at the Thrift.

**Have you considered including Trinity in your last will and testament? What an amazing way to leave a lasting legacy to the church, and to make a clear final statement of your Christian faith. Please talk to Dr. Frank Fowler or your lawyer for information.**

## Spring Happenings in Small Groups!

Spring has certainly sprung and things are stirring in our Small Group ministry as well. Here are some of the new opportunities and returning favorites to be on the lookout for:

- A study on the Lord's prayer based on the book, *A Place to Pray: Reflections on the Lord's Prayer* by Roberta Bondi.
- Workshop on the Essential Oils of the Bible.
- The Women's Book Club is reading the *War Room*, based on the movie of the same name. It's a compelling drama with humor and heart that explores the power that prayer can have in all areas of our lives. There will be a showing of this movie that will be open to all (see page 9).
- We have two Lenten study groups that have decided to continue sharing in study and fellowship. One of these will meet for six weeks (began April 17<sup>th</sup>) and study the book, *The Master Potter* by Jill Austin. The other is the Manskirt Brewing group, which meets on Thursday. More details to follow.
- The Hiking God's Creation group is back! Dates to be announced soon.
- GriefShare is offered again, led by Lynn Cameron and Lois Spender, and began on April 6<sup>th</sup>. If you've lost a spouse, child, family member or friend to death, it may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. You may have found there's not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. You might feel isolated, confused, depressed, stuck, questioning. GriefShare is an opportunity for you to meet weekly with a group who will help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each session has three elements: video seminars with experts, supportive group discussion around the week's focus, and personal study and reflection.
- The Trinity Garden is back! Join the gardening effort any time! Have you noticed the garden in the back of the church property, near the brook? Through the summer and into the fall, plants will continue to ripen and be ready for harvesting and donating to the Lord's Pantry to share with those in need in our community. Whether you're a master gardener or aren't sure whether you've got a green or a black thumb, come join, learn, grow together as you help bountiful food and flowers grow. We need waterers, weeders, composters, harvesters and more!

Stay tuned for more details as they're published in the bulletin or the weekly *On My Mind*. If you have an idea for a small group you'd like to see offered, please let us know. Contact Pastor Jenny at [jsmithwalz@catchthespirit.org](mailto:jsmithwalz@catchthespirit.org) or Pastor Deb at [ddevos@catchthespirit.org](mailto:ddevos@catchthespirit.org).

## Savor Supper: Food and Conversation for Women

**Contact:** Sign up by contacting Pastor Jenny Smith Walz  
([jsmithwalz@catchthespirit.org](mailto:jsmithwalz@catchthespirit.org)) or 908-852-3020.

**Date:** Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m.

This final supper brings together a small group of women to break bread and experience spiritual bread and savor the experience of God, grace and faithful conversation.

## May 25<sup>th</sup>: Community Dinner and *The War Room*

Join us on **Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>** for our free monthly Community Dinner and then stay to watch *The War Room*. The dinner is 5:30 – 7 p.m. in Starr Hall and the movie begins at 7 p.m. in Trinity House. You can come for both or you can come to either the dinner or the movie.

## Hope in the Hills of Warren

**A Weekend of Hope: June 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>**

Teams of teenagers and adults will work on homes of elderly, disabled or low-income homeowners within the Warren Hills sending district. Projects include painting, light home repair and landscape work. Contact Pat Callahan at [lpp5243@gw.njsp.org](mailto:lpp5243@gw.njsp.org).

## Age 62+ Hackettstown Senior Trip

**June 16<sup>th</sup> ~ "Happy Days" at the Westchester Broadway Theater  
Elmsford, N.Y.**

This new musical is based on the television series and is written by its creator, Garry Marshall. It features 21 songs by Oscar, Grammy and Golden Globe award-winning songwriter, Paul Williams.

**Cost:** \$59, includes the show and lunch

**Times:** Bus pickup at Trinity – 9 a.m.  
Bus return to Trinity – 6 p.m.

A *Senior Bus Trip Request Form* is required with your payment for new attendees. Please bring a canned good or two for The Lord's Pantry. For information and to make a reservation, contact Marie James, 468 Valley Rd., Oxford, N.J. 07863; 908-295-8704.

**Make your reservation no later than Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

## UMM Matters

Tony Albanese

Hey, hey, it's May! And hopefully it's warm! I'd like to thank Bill Blaskopf for his wonderful program in April. It was truly inspiring. To know that there are Major League ball players making tons of money who truly put their faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is uplifting. But beyond that, what an inspiration Bill is. It's obvious that he loves baseball. But, wow, does he love the Lord! We should all strive to be as excited as he is about our faith. He took his hobby and used it to spread the word and grow his faith. I think we should all strive for that. Thank you, Bill, for your faith and dedication. We only have two breakfast meetings left. Don't forget to get your tickets to the Miner's baseball game we'll be attending. Peace, love and see you in service. You can contact me at [anthony.albanese@usps.gov](mailto:anthony.albanese@usps.gov) or 201-230-9173.

## With Our Sympathy

- ❖ Tedi Granke and family on the death of her father, Ted Perez
- ❖ Cindy Hunt on the death of her brother
- ❖ Marybeth Caldara and family on the death of her brother, Chris Caldara
- ❖ Bill Nutt and family on the death of his brother, Charles Nutt
- ❖ Anita Gonzalez and family on the death of her husband, Peter Gonzalez, Sr.
- ❖ Joanne Patchin on the death of her husband, David Patchin

## Thank You

We wish to thank all of our Trinity members and Ginny Mitchell's church school students who baked and decorated cookies for our seniors this year. Our seniors certainly appreciated receiving their bags of Easter cookies. We also want to thank the Membership and Evangelism team for organizing and bagging the cookies and to all of the Lay Visitors who helped to deliver them. Trinity is so blessed to have so many members willing to go the extra mile to let our seniors know they are loved.

Pat Bristow and Carol Doherty

Dear Trinity Friends,

Your prayers, notes and cards have been such a blessing to me. I have been suffering with vertigo, but I'm happy to say the dizziness is a bit better and I'm looking forward to being able to walk without feeling like I'm on a ship. I'll be starting PT soon, and believe that may give me some relief. Know your beautiful words of encouragement, caring and love, along with your prayers, have kept my spirits up! Thanks so much!

Susan Manhire

## Trinity's Prison Ministry

Lives are being impacted by our ministry in Northern State Prison. Please join us the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in Trinity House for our monthly prison ministry meeting. Contact Peter Smith at [psmithtrc@gmail.com](mailto:psmithtrc@gmail.com) for more information.

## Did You Know?

The ESL/SSL (English as a Second Language and Spanish as a Second Language) ministry at Trinity has been nominated for and received the UMC's Laity Recognition Award. The Laity Board was honored to present this award at the Laity Celebration on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Mission and Resource Center in Neptune, N.J. This award was given for our ESL/SSL ministry being a primary agent of God's mission in today's world.

Lay members of the United Methodist Church are, by history, called to be active advocates of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Every lay person is called to be in mission. We're called to serve in our homes, our work, our local community, as well as globally. The laity role is that of a servant who models the love of Christ by examples and the local church is where our labor is constant in witnessing and sharing our faith experiences of the gospel in many ways.

Thank you to all those at Trinity who labor to make the ESL/SSL classes be a vibrant and important service to our community!

## Diversity

Carol Droppa

May 21<sup>st</sup> is UNESCO's World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. It's an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to live together better. A grassroots campaign has been started called "Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion". The purpose is to raise awareness worldwide about the importance of intercultural dialogue, diversity and inclusion; build a world community of individuals committed to support diversity with real and everyday-life gestures; and combat polarization and stereotypes to improve understanding and cooperation among people from different cultures.

In a diverse world, the destruction of cultures is a crime, and uniformity is a dead-end: Our aim must be to enhance, in one movement, the diversity that enriches us and the human rights that bring us together.

Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO

# Church School News

## Church School Worship on May 15<sup>th</sup>

On Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Church School Worship will be held in Starr Hall for students, three years old through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. All students should report to their classrooms as usual and will be taken to the KidZone by their teachers. Dismissal will be from classrooms.

Teachers and Church School Ministry Team Members, this is also the day for our Annual Mugs 'N Muffins Celebration!

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Children's Sabbath

**May 29<sup>th</sup>** is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Children's Sabbath at the 10:45 a.m. worship service. During this service, children are invited to actively participate in serving the Lord, learning responsibilities from adults in the same positions of service. If your child is in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade and is interested in being an usher, greeter, scripture reader or musician during the worship service on May 29<sup>th</sup>, contact Ginny Thorp at 908-852-3020, ext. 17 or [gthorp@catchthespirit.org](mailto:gthorp@catchthespirit.org).

## Mark Your Calendars NOW for These Important JUNE Dates!

Sunday, June 5 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation at the 10:45 a.m. worship service
Sunday, June 12 <sup>th</sup>	High School Senior Breakfast (for seniors and their parents in Trinity House)
Sunday, June 19 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Church School 9:15 a.m. "Learning the Word" service Church school students, four years old through the 7 <sup>th</sup> grade will attend the worship service with their classes and celebrate the fact that they're Learning the Word. 10:45 a.m. Student Sunday service Trinity youth will lead the service.

You're **"WOOL-COME"** to Trinity's Jr. Prayer Shawl Small Group!

Are you 8 years old or older? Do you knit and/or crochet?

Would you like to learn how to knit and/or crochet?

Beginners and those who are more experienced are welcome every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month in Room 104, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. For additional information, contact Ginny Thorp at 908-852-3020, ext.17 or [gthorp@catchthespirit.org](mailto:gthorp@catchthespirit.org)).

## Family Ministry Small Groups

Monday May 2, 9, 16, 23	<b>High School Bible Study</b> Meets weekly on Monday	7 – 9 p.m. Upper Room
Wednesday May 4, 11, 18, 25	<b>G.I.R.L.S. (Grades 9 – 12)</b> Meets weekly on Wednesday	7 – 8:30 p.m. Upper Room
Wednesday May 11, 25	<b>High School Boys' Group</b>	7 – 9 p.m. Starr Hall
Monday, Wednesday & Friday May 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27	<b>Fitness Club (Grades 6 – 12)</b> Meets weekly on Monday, Wednesday and Friday	3 – 5 p.m. Starr Hall
Wednesday May 11	<b>Jr. Prayer Shawl Small Group (Ages 8 &amp; older)</b> Meets 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month	4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Room 104
Saturday May 7, 21	<b>Highest Praise (Grades 1 – 8)</b> Meets every other Saturday	5 – 6:30 p.m. KidZone

## Creation Care

Carol Droppa

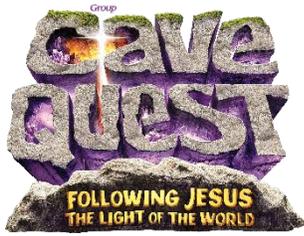
Plastic. We all use it. Did you know plastic never goes away? When you recycle your plastic, it's called downcycling because every bit of plastic is still on the earth. In the U.S., we throw away 88,000 tons of plastic every day. Most of it ends up in landfills, but some of it gets into watercourses and ends up in the ocean. In the North Pacific Ocean, plastic that resists photochemical, biological and chemical degradation has become trapped in a vortex created by ocean currents and wind (called a gyre). The North Pacific trash gyre contains over 100 million tons of small floating plastic pieces making up an area of 55 million square miles.

Another aspect of plastic is energy use. It takes 17 million barrels of oil to make plastic water bottles each year.

Chemicals in plastic, like BPA, are absorbed into our bodies and have been linked to endocrine disorders, thyroid and hormone problems, heart disease and neurologic disorders. The Centers for Disease Control discovered BPA in 93% of children and adults tested in the U.S. in 2003 – 2004.

Try to find alternatives to single-use plastic: this includes, for example, plastic water bottles, plastic utensils, plastic straws, grocery items in plastic containers. For water on the go, get an aluminum or BPA-free bottle and fill it. Buy glass containers to store leftover food in. Take your own bags to the grocery store. Use wax paper instead of plastic wrap. Only use BPA-free baby bottles and sippy cups.

# Vacation Bible School



We're **GEARING UP** for an **OVER-THE-TOP UNDERGROUND VBS ADVENTURE!** Trinity's VBS 2016 is **Cave Quest: Following Jesus - The Light of the World.** VBS begins **July 18<sup>th</sup>** and continues through **July 22<sup>nd</sup>**. The hours are 9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Registration forms will be available May 31<sup>st</sup> on the website, as well as in the office and church school office.

To have the best VBS possible, we need **many** volunteers, adults and students (who will have completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade or above as of June 2016), who can give time, energy and love to the children who will attend. The following is a list of ways you can help make the program a success. Please check the list below, pray about where God might use you and sign up to embark on the coolest expedition of the summer.

**Decoration Team** – Use your creative, artistic flair to help set the stage for our week-long expedition by **Adopting-A-Room.**

**Pre-Set-Up Team** – Help the set-up team by moving tables and chairs and preparing our space on **Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Set-Up Team** – Help create our Cave Quest adventure areas on **Saturday and/or Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**Crew Leaders** – Participate in fun activities while shepherding a group of elementary or preschool children through each day's activities.

**Station Helpers** – Participate in one 20-minute session repeated five times as you help lead children in music, crafts, games, mission, snacks or Bible adventures.

**Runners/VBS Office** – Help is needed during VBS hours that don't come under the heading of crew leader or station helper. Each of these tasks is important for the success of the week.

**VBS Community Fun Fair** – If you can't help during the 9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. hours, maybe you could help **6 – 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Friday Volunteer Lunch Team** – Help coordinate the Volunteer "Thank You Lunch" held on **Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Clean-Up Team** – Help put away VBS items and put our classrooms back together. This begins at 12:15 p.m. on **Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Mission Pack-Up** – Help organize the mission collections and put the Sanctuary back together on **Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. – noon.**

Whatever your gifts, abilities and time commitment, we've got a place for you! Contact Ginny Thorp at 908-852-3020 or [gthorp@catchthespirit.org](mailto:gthorp@catchthespirit.org) if you have any questions.

## The Lord's Pantry

Kellie Pennington

It's hard to believe, but the annual USPS **Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive** is here! On Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, people all across America will leave non-perishable food items by their mailboxes. The food is then picked up by postal workers, who donate it to local banks and pantries. We'll be receiving food from the Hackettstown and Budd Lake post offices.

The United States Postal Service is hoping to set a Guinness World Record for the amount of food collected, and you can be a part of it by making a donation. This is our biggest food drive of the year, and we need your help! Here are some ways that you can help us have a successful day:

- ✓ On May 14<sup>th</sup>, leave a donation of non-perishable food items (no glass, please) by your mailbox or deliver it to your post office.
- ✓ Tell others about the food drive, so they can donate as well.
- ✓ Volunteer your time at the Pantry that afternoon to pick up, sort and store the collected food. You can sign up using the *Just Say Yes* form in the worship bulletin.

We need many, many workers that day. Thank you in advance for helping us during the Stamp Out Hunger food drive!

In March, we served 1,276 people: 442 families, including 374 children, 761 adults, 141 seniors.

**The Pantry is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Donations can also be brought to the church office and monetary donations can be mailed to the office. Shoppers use donated funds to shop at NORWESCAP and local grocery stores.**

<p><b>Have you considered including Trinity in your last will and testament? What an amazing way to leave a lasting legacy to the church, and to make a clear final statement of your Christian faith. Please talk to Dr. Frank Fowler or your lawyer for information.</b></p>
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## 2016 Trinity UMC Scholarships

**Application deadline: May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 12 p.m.**

Application forms are available in the church office or at [www.catchthespirit.org](http://www.catchthespirit.org). Please contact Pastor Don Gebhard at the church office (908-852-3020) with any questions!

### **The Sanman/Spender Scholarship for Beginning and Continuing Students**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 1999 in memory of Ivan Sanman and Frank H. Spender, Jr., is to provide assistance for an area high school senior or high school graduate (under age 21) to begin *or* continue his or her higher education at a college or trade school. The applicant must be accepted to or currently attending a college or trade school. The criteria for award of the scholarship are character, Christian discipleship, community citizenship and financial need. The award may be divided among up to three applicants at the discretion of the scholarship committee. This scholarship is open to members of the community and does not require the applicant to be a member of Trinity UMC.

### **The Leveto Scholarship for Beginning and Continuing Students**

This scholarship is for ministry students, high school seniors and adults seeking further higher education at a college or trade school. Candidates should have discipleship background in church and/or community service and financial need. This scholarship is open to members of Trinity UMC.

### **The Mathias Severin Torgersen Memorial Scholarship for Beginning Students**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 2008 in memory of Rev. Matt Torgersen by the United Methodist Men, is to provide assistance for a high school senior to begin his or her higher education at a college or trade school. The applicant must be an active participant in the ministry of Trinity Church and a regular worship attendee. This scholarship is open to members of Trinity UMC.

### **The Ryan James Cameron Scholarship for Beginning and Continuing Students**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 2013 in Memory of Ryan Cameron, is to provide assistance for a high school senior or high school graduate (under the age of 21) to begin or continue his or her higher education at a four-year college. The applicant must be accepted or currently enrolled at a four-year college. The criteria for the award are character, Christian discipleship, church and community service and financial need. The award may be divided among up to two applicants at the discretion of the scholarship committee. This scholarship is open to members of Trinity UMC.

# Missions

## **Midnight Run**

The team travels to New York City to distribute food, clothing and toiletries to the homeless in several designated locations. Donate large or extra large men's jeans, coats, hooded sweatshirts, shirts, gloves and jackets; blankets and wash cloths; men's shoes (all sizes, esp. 10 - 12); new men's underwear and socks; travel-sized shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, disposable razors, shaving cream and deodorant; tote bags; gallon-sized Ziploc® bags. Monetary donations are accepted. **Contact:** Charlie Mule' ([rivendellatlv@earthlink.net](mailto:rivendellatlv@earthlink.net))

## **Interfaith Hospitality Network**

Our guests are Warren County homeless in the process of seeking a place to live. We need people to help set up and break down, make meals and act as hosts. Hosting shifts are 5 – 9 p.m. and overnight at the church, 9 p.m. – 6:30 a.m. If you're a new host, we'll give you a short training session and you'll be paired with a veteran host. There's always two people hosting at a time. Contacts: Mary Kashmanian (908-684-5362); Carol Munro (908-892-6536); Linda Gonia for food donations (908-813-3865)

## **The Thrift Shop**

Donate clothes and household items in good condition. Hours for shopping are Tuesday – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday, 5 – 7 p.m. Donations can be dropped off Tuesday – Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Barn.

## **Coupons for Community**

The Lord's Pantry uses coupons from weekly newspaper fliers and magazines to help purchase much-needed items, including many that are free. Even one coupon from a weekly flier can translate into hundreds of items if enough folks bring it in. Please place your unused coupons in the marked boxes located in the Rotunda, Trinity House and the Pantry.

## **Safe Harbor Ministry**

The last Saturday of every month, we take a hot meal to residents of a homeless shelter in Easton, PA. We meet at Trinity's kitchen at 3 p.m., prepare the meal, depart for Safe Harbor at 5, serve dinner and eat with the residents, and then depart for home by 7 p.m. The cost is a share of the dinner expenses, depending on how many adults participate in the trip. Children are welcome to come with their parents. Contacts: Sarah Hergert (908-850-1458)

## **Military Prayer & Care Ministry**

The Military Prayer and Care Ministry Team accepts names and addresses of servicemen and women to whom they can send care packages. Please call to provide names and to find out what items are needed. Contacts: Harry & Lauren Mount (908-459-5493)

## **Bread of Life Mission**

Students in grades 6 – 12, their friends and families go to Newton to serve the homeless a meal. **Contact:** Cheryl Pami (732-735-0916 or [cpami@catchthespirit.org](mailto:cpami@catchthespirit.org))

## **Midnight Run Sleeping Bag Supplies**

Help My Brother's Keeper Quilt Group make bedrolls. Donate neckties, sheets, pillow cases, blankets, bedspreads, comforters, towels, draperies, tablecloths, fabric remnants and yarn. Bag them with a label for LaNelle Hoffmann ([lanelle2@ptd.net](mailto:lanelle2@ptd.net) or 610-381-6262) and place the bag in the Rotunda near the Midnight Run box.

## The View from Here

If you shout, "Wake up!" at this time of year, you're likely to get a more lively response. Spring, with its explosion of bird song, leafy thickening and heady blooming, is a time stuffed to the gills with things to see, hear, smell and experience. And research is telling us that being immersed in the natural world is important for our health and well-being, helps us set aside stress and anxiety, and is a positive source of creative inspiration. Plus, if we're going to be good stewards of our world, we need to be aware of and connected to nature — to plants, and weather and creatures and what's happening around us.

Last year, I wrote about an old apple tree on my property that was split in half, the downed half connected to the hollow trunk by only a sliver of wood. This year, I checked every day for signs of life, hardly daring to think that the broken limb would put forth leaves one more time. Guess what? It is. I'm telling you, it seems to me like something to celebrate, like maybe I should dance around this wooden wonder and laugh with joy.

The first time a chickadee picked a seed out of my hand, or when a chipmunk stretched itself out and gently took the peanut I offered were moments of sheer delight. One time I watched a squirrel dreaming, twitching and quivering within its sleep-encased adventures. What beauty when the sun glances off a fish's iridescent scales. I love to hear baby owls hissing and clicking. Even the eerie calls of the coyote pack in the deep night is thrilling, a reminder of a wilder time.

If you can get down on the ground and have a reasonable expectation of getting back up again, just check out the life moving around a few inches from your nose. A handful of dirt contains a staggering number of living organisms.

I used to have a very little parrot — hardly bigger than my thumb — called a Pacific parrotlet. He had the teensiest singsong voice, and when he sidled up to my ear and said, "I love you," I simply couldn't keep myself from smiling. I mean, a tiny parrot speaking some of the best words you can hear!

So why not go outside and really open all your senses to nature? Breathe deep. Leave the headphones at home. Take your cell phone if you must, but don't use it! Find a place to walk away from traffic and human racket. Listen. Look at everything. Give thanks. Let it soak in and transform your day. Do this often enough, and it will transform your life.

Be well and God bless, Carol

# Serving God with Us in May

## Chapel Ushers

May 1 Leslie Felix-Mule, Pattie Huff  
 May 8 Bonnie Palma, Betty Cyphers  
 May 15 Glenn & Cindy Reynolds  
 May 22 Glenn & Mary Ann Habrial  
 May 29 Linda Feula, Sally Hahnes

## Scripture Readers – 9:15

May 1 Eileen Bozzuffi  
 May 8 Nancy Diekroger  
 May 15 Bob Doelfel  
 May 22 Gene Gallagher  
 May 29 TBD

## Greeters - 9:15

May 1 Tony Albanese, Leslie Wexler, Kate Stiner  
 May 8 Joanne Stiehl, Tony Albanese, Barbara Walter  
 May 15 Pat Bristow, Joanne Stiehl, Alice Davis  
 May 22 Karen Riccobono, Joanne Stiehl, Michele Risley  
 May 29 TBD

## Greeters - 10:45

May 1 Jean & Jay Halsey, Ivy Meyer-Mellow  
 May 8 Hope & David Dingley, Ivy Meyer-Mellow  
 May 15 Ellen English, LaNelle Hoffmann, David Robertson  
 May 22 Cindy Hunt, Elizabeth & Robert Falco  
 May 29 TBD

## Ushers – 9:15

May 1 Joe Thomas, Pat Bristow, Bob Doelfel, Doug Powell, Kate Stiner, Lois Spender, Tony Albanese, Marie Cenophat  
 May 8 Joe Thomas, Jennifer Jordan Park, Tony Albanese, Carol Theys, Joanne Steihl, Brenda Sargeant, Prince Tettah  
 May 15 Joe Thomas, Tedi Granke, Bob Doelfel, Christina Gleason, Tony Albanese, Donna Re, Carol Theys, Sharon Roff  
 May 22 Joe Thomas, Connie & Alex Rinaldi, Carol Strowbridge, Bill Anzel, Jennifer Jordan Park, Tony Albanese, Donna Re  
 May 29 Joe Thomas, Doug Powell, Bill Anzel, Tony Albanese, Carol Theys, Sharon Roff, Prince Tettah, Joanne Steihl

## Ushers – 10:45

May 1 Carol Munro, Roger Hammond, Pat Bristow, Norm Graule, Lorry Fulton, Bill Blaine, Nancy Soleau, Dan Fiedler  
 May 8 Carol Munro, Norm Graule, Lorry Fulton, Bill Blaine, Claude Buchman, Kathryn Twaddell, Ivy Meyer-Mellow  
 May 15 Carol Munro, Roger Hammond, Norm Graule, Lorry Fulton, Bill Blaine, Nancy Soleau, Linda McClune, Kathryn Twaddell, Peggy Ann Vickers, Ivy Meyer-Mellow  
 May 22 Carol Munro, Roger Hammond, Norm Graule, Lorry Fulton, Bill Blaine, Jeff Deible, Nancy Soleau, Claude Buchman, Dan Fiedler, Ivy Meyer-Mellow  
 May 29 Carol Munro, Roger Hammond, Norm Graule, Lorry Fulton, Bill Blaine, Jeff Deible, Toni Chadwick

## Welcome Center – 9:15

May 1 Donna Re  
 May 8 Marie Cenophat  
 May 15 Pauline Churchill  
 May 22 Dottie Stearns  
 May 29 Tony Albanese

## Welcome Center – 10:45

May 1 Mike White  
 May 8 Mike White  
 May 15 Sue Bernard  
 May 22 Dottie Stearns  
 May 29 Margaret Woods

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**Audio – 9:15**  
 May 1 Thomas Smith  
 May 8 Bill Anzel  
 May 15 Peter Smith  
 May 22 Keith Ryan  
 May 29 Joe Racz

**Audio – 10:45**  
 Janice Paulussen  
 Steve Blazier  
 Lori DeLorenzo  
 Janice Paulussen  
 Steve Blazier

**Media Team**  
 Ruben Espada  
 Laval Li Ah Kim  
 Sharon Hoff  
 Don Harris  
 TBD

## New Text Giving Option Available

Our new text giving option is easy and portable. Your first gift will take about three minutes to complete. After that, it will take about one minute each time you choose to donate. All gifts will be directed to the general ministry and mission of the church, and will be credited to your donation account.

1. Go to text screen on your cell phone.
2. In the "To" box at the top, type in 862-621-1661.
3. In the message section, type in the amount with a dollar sign. Then send.
4. In a few seconds, you'll receive a reply asking you to click on the link on the screen which will take you to the website.
5. Enter your personal and credit card information. Hit "Process".
6. You'll receive a confirmation of your gift and a receipt will be sent to your email.
7. After your first gift, you will not have to do steps #4 and #5.



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