

A publication of Trinity United Presbyterian

# TOUCHSTONE

July/August 2026

Vol. 44 No. 4

Trinity United Presbyterian Church  
79 W. Fayette Street  
Uniontown, PA 15401  
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Worship | Service | Proclaim | Discipleship | Community



*From the rising sun to its setting  
the Lord's name is to be praised.*

*Psalm 113:3*



# Meet Trinity's New Pastor!



Dear Members and Friends of Trinity United Presbyterian Church,

It is with deep gratitude and excitement that I introduce myself as the new pastor of Trinity United Presbyterian Church!

For the past seven years, I have had the privilege of serving Trinity as its Discipleship Coordinator. Drawing upon my educational background in Christian Counseling from Liberty University, I will work alongside the Session and various church committees to support the spiritual growth of our congregation. A particular joy during this time has been serving alongside my wife, Caitlin, in leading Trinity's Youth Group and ministering to teenagers throughout the Uniontown community. My ministry has also included Christian education, discipleship, mission engagement, and building relationships across generations both within the church and throughout our community.

My ministry is deeply relationship focused. I believe that some of the most meaningful ministry happens through conversations, shared experiences, and walking alongside people during both the joys and challenges of life. As pastor, I look forward to continuing that work by helping people grow in their faith, discover their gifts, and deepen their connection to Christ and one another.

My preparation for pastoral ministry was strengthened through my studies at Fuller Theological Seminary, where I earned a Master of Divinity degree.

## Meet Trinity's New Pastor! Con't

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Some of my most valuable lessons in ministry have come from serving alongside the people of Trinity. This congregation has been fertile soil where I have watched others grow in faith and where I have grown as well.

I am especially excited to serve as pastor because Trinity is woven into the life of our community. This church has a long history of connecting with families, local organizations, and businesses throughout the area. I am passionate about helping Trinity continue to strengthen those relationships while faithfully sharing the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

As a relational person, I believe in the power of listening. I enjoy hearing people's stories, learning about their lives, and discerning together where God may be at work. For that reason, my door is always open. Whether you are celebrating a joyful season, facing a difficult challenge, asking questions about faith, or simply looking for someone to talk with, I would be honored to spend time with you. One of the things I look forward to most is getting to know our church family even better. If you would enjoy a visit in your home, a phone conversation, or a time to meet together at the church, please reach out. I would love the opportunity to hear your story and learn how I can pray for you.

I seek to lead with humility while empowering others and fostering a healthy culture of shared ministry. Together, I believe God will continue to guide Trinity as we grow in our relationships with Christ and with one another.

May God bless you and your family, and I look forward to serving alongside you in the years ahead.

Grace upon grace,  
Rev. James Vlosich



## The Path of Discipleship with Rev. James Vlosich

15 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. - 1 Peter 4:15-16

For the past two months, I have been doing a personal study on the book of 1 Peter. When I came across these verses, I was reminded how God can bless us even through the mistreatment and challenges we may face. It is humbling to think that God's will can still be accomplished, even when we experience suffering because of our faith.

What might suffering for our faith look like today? For some Christians, it may mean being ridiculed for their beliefs or values. For others, it may involve strained relationships with family members or friends who do not understand their faith. Sometimes it can mean being left out of social groups, activities, or opportunities because of our commitment to Christ.

It may also take the form of challenges in the workplace, such as criticism, discrimination, or limitations because of our Christian convictions. At times, Christians face pressure for holding biblical views that differ from popular opinion. One of the greatest challenges, however, may be practicing sacrificial obedience. Sacrificial obedience is choosing faithfulness to Christ over personal comfort and gain.

None of these things sound particularly enjoyable. Yet when we remain faithful through them, we discover something remarkable. We experience the peace, love, comfort, and strength that only God can provide. Even in difficult seasons, God's grace is at work, shaping us and drawing us closer to Him.

Grace upon grace,

Rev. James Vlosich



Want to speak with the new Pastor of Trinity United Presbyterian Church? - He would Love to Connect With You!

One of the greatest joys of being a pastor is getting to know the people of our church family. Whether you'd like a visit, a conversation, prayer, or simply a chance to get acquainted, I would love to connect with you.

To schedule a home visit, phone call, or meeting at the church, please call the church office and ask to speak with James.

Trinity United Presbyterian Church  
(724) 437-2709

I look forward to getting to know you and walking alongside you in faith.

Rev. James Vlosich





## Notes From The Bench



### **In Summer, the Voice Continues**

As summer settles in, the life of the church takes on a different rhythm. Choir rehearsals pause, schedules shift, and the fuller pace of the program year gives way to something quieter. And yet the song of the church continues. Week by week, worship is offered, Scripture is proclaimed, prayers are lifted, and music still helps give voice to praise, reflection, and hope.

There is something fitting about sacred music in the summer months. Without some of the larger musical forces that shape festival seasons, we are often reminded that the church's song does not depend on grandeur alone. A hymn sung with conviction, a psalm offered with care, or an organ voluntary that gathers the room into prayer can bear just as much meaning as the music of the great holy days. In every season, music helps carry the worship of the church, giving shape to joy, steadiness to faith, and beauty to the shared offering of God's people.

One of the quiet gifts of serving at Trinity has been the opportunity to know this instrument not only as a musical resource, but as a partner in worship.

Originally built in 1951 by the Austin Organ Company and expanded in later years, Trinity's organ is one of the most substantial in the region, with a remarkable breadth of tonal color and presence. Whether supporting congregational hymn singing, lending depth to the liturgy, or filling the sanctuary with sounds at once brilliant, warm, and consoling, it has a unique ability to shape the atmosphere of worship. Especially in the summer months, when musical textures are often leaner, the organ continues to lead, support, and sustain the song of the church with both strength and grace.

This summer also marks a season of transition for me personally. On Sunday, July 26, my service as Organist at Trinity will come to a close as I prepare to begin doctoral study in musicology at The Ohio State University this autumn. Even in writing those words, I find myself deeply grateful for all that this congregation has been to me. It has been a privilege to serve Trinity in worship and to share in the musical life of this church from the bench, the choir loft, and beyond: in festival services, ordinary Sundays, quiet preludes, full hymns, rehearsals, and all the small moments through which a congregation's song takes shape.

As I move into this next chapter, I know that church music will remain an important part of my life and vocation. During my first few months in Columbus, I expect to serve through occasional freelance and substitute work while settling into doctoral study and becoming established within the community. (Cont.)



## Notes From The Bench (Cont.)



In time, I hope to seek a new church music position more intentionally, likely beginning in early 2027. Wherever that next role may be, I will carry Trinity with me. This congregation has helped deepen my understanding of church music not simply as something performed on Sunday morning, but as a shared act of service, prayer, memory, and praise.

As one final musical offering of thanks, I will present a farewell recital, *The Voice Continues*, at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 26. It will be an opportunity to give thanks for Trinity's welcome, for the kindness I have received here, and for the beauty of the music we have shared in worship. A catered dinner will follow the program in the Chapel, and RSVPs for the dinner are due to Barb in the office by Monday, July 20.

Even so, the song of the church is always larger than any one season, any one musician, or any one chapter of its life together. That is one of the quiet reassurances sacred music offers. Through changing times, it continues to sustain worship, to carry memory, and to point beyond itself to the faithfulness of God. Summer will move toward autumn, new hands will take up familiar work, and the song will continue.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of that song at Trinity. It has been an honor to support the worship of this congregation and to offer music in this sacred place. I leave with deep gratitude for all that has been shared here, and with trust that in every season, through every change, God will continue to be praised.

With deep gratitude,  
Badyn R. Woodford - Organist



The Trinity family is fortunate to be led in worship each Sunday by our faithful chancel and handball choirs. A number of churches in our communities no longer have choirs. Each week these musicians give of their own time to prepare and present sacred selections to enhance the scripture and message of the pastoral team.

None of these folks are professional musicians, just people who love the Lord, love to sing, and have a good time together making music.

But our numbers are down.

Would you be willing to come and join us? You don't need to know how read music. You don't need to sing solos.

We invite you to join us. If you have a friend who attends a church without a choir and would like to sing, we invite them as well.

Even though the choirs are on their summer hiatus, you're welcome to contact Bill at 724-557-1119 or Barb in the Church office. We will begin regular rehearsals again after Labor Day.

Please help us to ensure the future of this musical program at Trinity. We surely don't want to lose this important part of worship.

# *Summer Music Schedule*



## **JULY**

**July 5 – Matthew Jagela**

**July 12 - Dr. Julia Laird (Soloist) &  
Richard Workman (husband accompanist)**

**July 19 – Sophia Mintas (Soloist)**

**July 26 – Badyn Woodford & Reagan Corliss**

## **AUGUST**

**August 2 – Nancy Vernon & J.W. Eddy (Duet)**

**August 9 – Anthony Massetto (Soloist)**

**August 16 – Linda Jukes (Soloist)**

**August 23 – Jeff & Lourie (musical Duet)**

**August 30 – Helen Krichbaum (Bell Solo)**



# The Voice Continues

## A Farewell Musical Offering

Badyn R. Woodford  
organist

*with*

Reagan Corliss, soprano



Sunday, July 26, 2026 · 4:00 PM

Trinity United Presbyterian Church  
79 W. Fayette St. · Uniontown, PA



# **THE VOICE CONTINUES**

## **A Farewell Musical Offering**

Join us on Sunday, July 26, at 4:00 PM for The Voice Continues: A Farewell Musical Offering, a recital marking the close of Badyn R. Woodford's time as Organist at Trinity United Presbyterian Church.

Offered in gratitude for the congregation, staff, musicians, friends, and wider church community who have shaped this meaningful chapter, the program will feature organ repertoire, congregational hymnody, and sacred vocal music with featured soprano Reagan Corliss.

Through music of faith, prayer, memory, and hope, the afternoon gives thanks for what has been built, sung, prayed, and carried together, while looking toward the ways sacred song continues beyond any single place, season, or musician.

***A dinner reception will follow the recital; please email or call the church office with the number in your party by July 20.***

UNIONTOWN

250<sup>TH</sup>

CELEBRATION



HONORING OUR HERITAGE,  
CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE

★ SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY LOCAL HISTORIAN ★  
Frank Kurtik

“The History of Uniontown”



TIME:  
5:30 PM



DATE:  
JULY 12, 2026



LOCATION:  
Trinity UPC  
79 W. Fayette St.  
Uniontown, PA 15401

*Journey to Independence*  
★★★  
Honoring America's

250

YEARS

FAYETTE COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA

Step back in time and discover the rich story  
of our city as we celebrate 250 years of Uniontown history.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT!



A decorative header featuring a portion of the American flag with red and white stripes and a blue field with white stars. The stars are scattered across a textured, light blue background.

*Songs for America*  
*Honoring America 250!*

Dr. Julianne Laird, soprano  
R.J. Nestor, piano



Sunday, July 12, 6:00 PM  
Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Uniontown, PA

Premiering  
R.J. Nestor: Songs for America  
Free and open to the public  
Sponsored by Trinity Presbyterian Church and  
Ft. Necessity Chapter NSDAR

# Adult Sunday School

## Meets every Sunday at 10:00

### July Lessons:

**July 5th** - *The Believing Centurion* (Matthew 8:5-13)

**July 12th** - *Simon Peter, Restored Disciple* (Mark 8:27-29; Luke 22:31-34; John 18:25-27; 21:15-17)

**July 19th** - *Zacchaeus, Repentant Tax Collector* (Luke 19:1-10)

**July 26th** - *Mary, Loyal Mother* (Luke 2:15-19; John 2:1-5; 19:25-27)

### August Lessons:

**August 2** - *Thomas, Hesitant Believer* (John 11:14-16; 14:5-8; 20:24-29; 21:1-2)

**August 9** - *Stephen, Unwavering Martyr* (Acts 6:7-10; 7:54-60)

**August 16** - *Saul of Tarsus, Unlikely Apostle* (Acts 22:3-15)

**August 23** - *Timothy, Leader with a Legacy* (2 Timothy 1:1-6; 3:14-16)

**August 30** - *Lydia, Generous Host* (Acts 16:11-15, 40)

# SMALL GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY • 5:00 P.M.



Come slow down, share conversation,  
and grow in faith together.

We gather each week around **COFFEE & THE BIBLE**—  
asking honest questions, encouraging one another,  
and learning how God's Word meets us in everyday life.

- No pressure.
- No perfect answers required.
- Just real people, real discussion, and real grace.



*Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend!*

Trinity United Presbyterian Church

Our Small Group study this Summer will be on Genesis: God's Creative Call.

CHARLES HUMMEL  
AND ANNE HUMMEL

## GENESIS

*God's Creative Call*

LifeGuide®  
BIBLE STUDIES

Over  
15 Million  
LifeGuides  
Sold

26 STUDIES FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

### July Lessons

7/7 Genesis 12–13 — Abram's Call

7/14 Genesis 14–15 — Conflict & Covenant

7/21 Genesis 16–17 — Ishmael & Isaac

7/28 Genesis 18–19 — Sodom & Gomorrah

### August Lessons

8/4 Genesis 20–21 — Political & Family Crises

8/11 Genesis 22–23 — The Sacrifice of Isaac

8/18 Genesis 24:1–25:11 — A Wife for Isaac

8/25 Genesis 25:12–27:40 — Jacob & Esau



## Darts & Devotions

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Join us on Thursday mornings for a fun and welcoming time of fellowship, conversation, and faith. Each week, Pastor Doug Yauger leads a discussion on a new topic that connects our everyday lives with our Christian walk. It's a relaxed and enjoyable gathering where we learn from one another, share encouragement, and grow in faith together. And of course, there are donuts, coffee, and plenty of darts! We'd love for you to come and join the fun!

# Donation List

Help Us Provide "Carry-With-You" Care Items



## Hygiene & Personal Care

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Mouthwash
- Hand Sanitizer
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Chapstick / Lip Balm
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Nail Clippers
- Comb or Small Brush
- Wash Cloths
- Tissues
- Band-Aids

## Eating & Daily Use Items

- Reusable Cups
- Plastic Utensils
- Large Carry-All Bags
- Notebooks
- Pens & Pencils

## Clothing & Warmth

- Socks (Especially Wool)
- Gloves
- Blankets

## Ready-to-Eat Food & Drinks (No Cooking Required)

- Protein Bars / Granola Bars
- Crackers
- Tuna, Chicken, or Cheese Pouches
- Dried Fruit
- Nuts
- Candy
- Juice Drink Packets
- Instant Coffee Packets
- Bottled Water

## Pet Care

- Dog Food
- Cat Food

## Helpful Extras

- Gift Cards to Fast Food or Coffee Shops (Sheetz, etc.)

**Thank you for your generosity and support!**

trinityupc.com | 724-437-2709



Dear Parents,

Vacation Bible School is returning to Trinity United Presbyterian Church next month, and we are excited to invite your children to join us for this fun-filled two-day adventure on July 10-11. These two evenings will be packed with exciting music, interactive Bible lessons, creative crafts, games, snacks, and plenty of opportunities to grow in faith and friendship. Together, children will discover the joy of praising God through song, movement, and community as they learn that worship comes from a joyful heart.

If you haven't already done so, please be sure to register your child as soon as possible. We would also love for your family to help us spread the word by inviting friends, neighbors, classmates, and relatives to join in the fun. VBS is a wonderful opportunity for children to make new friends, learn about God's love, and create lasting memories.

We can't wait to welcome everyone for two joyful days of singing, learning, and celebrating together. We hope to see your child at VBS!

Grace upon grace,

Rev. James Vlosich  
Trinity United Presbyterian Church



**VBS SUMMER 2026**

# “Make a Joyful Noise”

Vacation Bible School returns to Trinity!

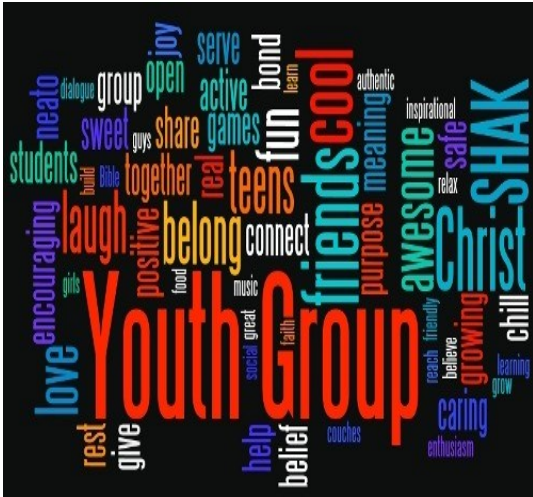
Friday, July 10th  
🕒 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Saturday, July 11th  
🕒 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sing • Play • Learn • Celebrate God's Love!

All Kids Welcome!  
Bring a Friend!

Lunch Provided  
Saturday July 10th



## Upcoming Youth Group Activities

July 16th @ 1:00 p.m. -  
Caddie Shak

July 30th @ 5:00 p.m. -  
Chick-Fila

There are many Sundays available to give flowers in memory or honor of loved ones or friends. The flowers are displayed on the Chancel table and are a nice addition to our beautiful sanctuary during the worship service.

If this is something you would be interested in, please contact:

Cindy Jones  
412-582-4581.  
Thank you!

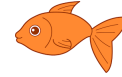


Deacons will meet the second Sunday of each month. The next Deacons Meeting will be July 12 that 9:00 am. No meetings during the summer and then will resume the second Sunday in August.

## Interfaith Missions



## Loaves & Fishes Ministries



A Few Feeding Many - Every Tuesday @ 10:00 a.m.

Loaves N Fishes Ministries - Salvation Army - 30 lunches

A Few Feeding Many - Every Tuesday @ 10:00 am.

Trinity's Blue Bird House: For those less fortunate than us.

The Bird House is filled on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays.

Interfaith Office Hours: Mon - Thurs. 9:00 am -2:00 pm.

**Supplies Needed: Small Water Bottles (8-10 oz) and Lances Cookie/Crackers**

## Kindred Souls

Kindred Souls will meet Wednesday, July 8th at 11:30 am at Darby's for a luncheon, & time of fellowship. This is for single & widowed women. All women are welcome, not just church members.

For more information call Carol @ 724-438-0709

## Trinity Book Journey

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at The Summit at 12:00 noon

The book is "The Measure" by Nikki Erlich.

**Our August Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. at Caporella's. We will have as our very special guest, Robin Acton, the author of our August book, "The Taker". Please join us as she is a very delightful person who will answer any questions about her books and how she came up with them.**

*If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either*

*Susan Fox at 724-970-9066 or sefox55@gmail.com*

*OR*

*Cindy Jones at 724-437-7856 or cbjonz1@aol.com.*



# WALNUT HILL MINIATURE GOLF

## TRINITY WALNUT HILL MINI GOLF OUTING.

*Come and join us for a day of fun!*

Saturday, July 25 at 4:00 pm.

(Farm road off of Walnut Hill Road).

\$8 cash, \$8:50 charge per person to play mini golf.  
(The amount may be less if we get a minimum of 10 people).

They are now serving hard dipped ice cream (which John and I have sampled and is very good).

Approximately 8 flavors which rotate seasonally.  
Available for purchase after we play mini golf.

Please sign your name and cell phone on the sheet in the chapel

OR call/text Pam Barnhart at 412.691. 2189 with your reservations.

All ages welcome and Guests are welcome, sign them up also.

# Church Picnic

August 8, 2026, at 4:00 pm  
(Bill & Ellen Ulmer's)  
311 Derrick Ave.

Main course and beverages  
will be provided.

Please plan to bring a side dish,  
appetizer or dessert.

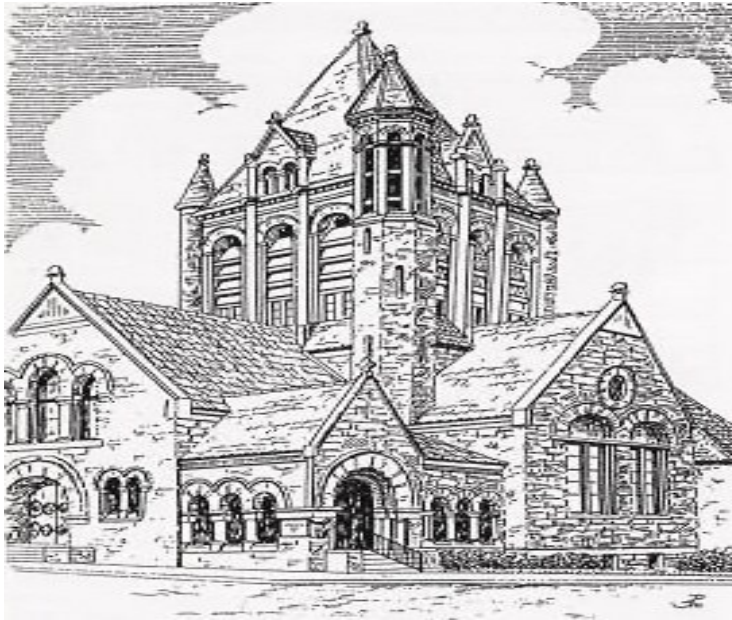
Sign-up sheet in Chapel  
or

RSVP to Ellen 724-366-2587

**Family**

**Fellowship**

**FUN!**



Trinity United Presbyterian Church

## The Staff

Rev. James Vlosich, Pastor  
Bill Dreucci, Director of Music  
Badyn Woodford, Organist  
Barb Slavin, Office Manager  
Pete Vlosich, Assistant Custodian

**Check your email for updates.  
Call the church office if you need to  
be put on the church email list.  
724-437-2709**