A publication of Trinity United Presbyterian

TOUCHSTONE

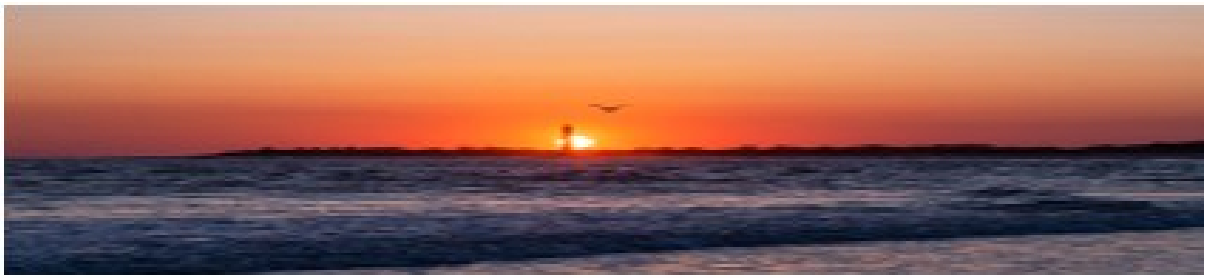
Trinity United Presbyterian Church
79 W. Fayette Street
Uniontown, PA 15401

Phone# 724-437-2709
Website – www.trinityupc.com
Email – trinityupc@gmail.com

Worship | Service | Proclaim | Discipleship | Community



November/December 2026 *Vol. 45 No. 6*



Cape May Lighthouse

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life."
— John 8:12 ESV

One of my favorite places to visit during the summer has become Cape May, New Jersey. Over the years, the family has made it a bit of a tradition to visit Sunset Beach on our first evening in Cape May. We walk along the shore and watch as the sun slowly disappears over the horizon. One of the things that makes this moment especially picturesque is the lighthouse that stands nearby, adding to the beauty of the sunset.

Recently, while reading about lighthouses, I learned more about the important purpose they serve. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), lighthouses serve as navigational beacons, helping guide ships safely through the water. They warn mariners of dangerous shallow waters, rocky coastlines, reefs, and other hazards. They also help guide ships toward safe entrances into harbors and ports. So, as it turns out, the lighthouse does much more than provide a beautiful background for my beach photos!

In John 8:12, Jesus declares, "I am the light of the world." The Greek word for light is phōs (φῶς), which speaks of light that illuminates the darkness. Jesus is reminding us that those who follow Him do not have to navigate life in darkness because His light guides their way.

One of the most important purposes of a lighthouse is protection. Imagine a ship traveling through dark waters, unaware of the shallow water or rocky shoreline just ahead. Without a guiding light, that ship risks running a ground or even being wrecked. The lighthouse shines into the darkness, warning of danger and helping sailors find a safe path forward.
I believe this is a beautiful reminder of what Jesus does in our lives.

The good news is that Jesus does not leave us to find our way through the darkness alone. His light is always there, guiding us toward Him. Through His teachings, His example, and His presence in our lives, Jesus helps us recognize the dangers that lie ahead and shows us a better way forward.

The Path of Discipleship with Rev. James Vlosich - continued

Now, following Jesus does not mean that we will never encounter rough waters. Storms will still come, and there will be moments when the journey feels uncertain. However, we can take comfort in knowing that even in the darkest moments, the light of Christ continues to shine.

May we continue to look toward Christ, trusting His guidance as we sail through life's waters. And may we remember that when we follow the light of Jesus, we never have to navigate the darkness alone.

The next time I stand along Sunset Beach and see that lighthouse against the evening sky, I will be reminded of something far greater than a beautiful sunset. I will be reminded that Jesus is the light of the world, and no matter how dark the waters around us may become, His light will never fail.

To all who look upon the shore,
Christ's light shines forevermore.
When darkness falls upon the night,
We trust in God's unfailing light.

Rev. James L. Vlosich



NOVEMBER LESSONS

11/3 A wife for Isaac: God's Guidance & Care (Genesis 24:1 – 25:11)
11/10 Jacob & Esau: - A Family Feud (Genesis 25:12 – 27:40)
11/17 Jacob in Exile: God's Mercy & Justice (Genesis 27:41 – 30:24)
11/24 Jacob & Laben: Rivalry & Its Result (Genesis 30:20 – 31 ;55)

DECEMBER LESSONS

12/1 Hope (Isaiah 64:4)
12/15 Joy (Isaiah 61:10)
12/22 Love (2 Samuel 7:16)



Adult Sunday School

10:00 am

NOVEMBER LESSIONS

From Judges to Kings



11/1	*The Prophet is Called (1 Samuel 3: 8 – 20)*
11/8	*The Ark is Lost (1 Samuel 4: 12 – 22)*
11/15	*Israel Recommits to God (1 Samuel 7: 3 – 11, 15 – 17)*
11/22	*David is Anointed King (1 Samuel 16: 4 – 13)*
11/29	*The City of David (2 Samuel 5: 1 – 12)*

Music Notes

Trinity Ringers: New Ringing Season is off to a Great Start!

Our church has 4 octaves of Schulmerich English handbells and 2 octaves of choir chimes. We are so blessed to have access to these instruments for our music ministry. And even more blessed to have dedicated ringers willing to learn, rehearse and perform! As a result of our ministry fair this year, we picked up 3 new ringers and are thrilled with this addition to our group.

We rehearse weekly and try to perform as part of the worship services at least once a month during the ringing season (generally from September to May). We kicked this season off with a bang on October 11 by performing a fun rendition of "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" as the offertory music. This song is played completely with hand mallets, which our ringers thoroughly enjoyed. If you missed it, or want to see it again, check it out on YouTube!

Our next planned Sunday performances of Handbells are set for November 15 and December 20, 2026, during the Worship service.

Yours in Christ,
Helen Krichbaum, Trinity Handbell Director
724-880-5044





Dear Trinity Parents,

Christmas is fast approaching and something special is planned for our Kids at Trinity! This year, our children will be helping us celebrate the birth of Jesus by ringing their color-coded handbells during Trinity's Christmas Eve service at 7 pm.

To help everyone get ready, we begin rehearsals on November 1st during the start of Junior Church time. We hope your child can attend as many of these rehearsals as possible. Each child will have an important part to play, and regular attendance will help everyone feel comfortable and confident when Christmas Eve arrives. Plus, we want the children to have fun as they learn and prepare together!

We ask that you please let us know if your child will **not** be able to participate in the Christmas Eve service. Since each child will be assigned a specific part, knowing who will be available ahead of time will help us plan accordingly. We certainly understand that families have busy schedules, especially around the holidays. We just want to make sure every child who is assigned a part will be able to participate.

Christmas Eve is always a wonderful time at Trinity, and having our children take part in the service will make it even more special. What a joy it will be to see them helping lead our congregation in celebrating the birth of our Savior!

Thank you for your support and for helping us make this a meaningful and fun experience for our Kids at Trinity. We are looking forward to hearing those bells ring on Christmas Eve!

Blessings,
Rev. James L. Vlosich



Upcoming Family Church Meals



When: November 22, 2026
Where: In the Chapel during the Coffee Hour.

Turkey, beverages and place settings will be provided. Plan to make your favorite side dish for sharing!

Register or RSVP: Please use the sign-up sheet located in the Chapel to let us know you will be attending and what dish you will be bringing.



When: December 13, 2026, 9:00 AM
Where: In the Chapel before the Worship service.

Coffee, juices and place settings will be provided. Plan to make a breakfast dish for sharing!

Register or RSVP: Please use the sign-up sheet located in the Chapel to let us know you will be attending and what dish you will be bringing.



Harvest Table Donations

Trinity is again doing a Harvest Table on Sunday, November 22, 2026. We are asking for donations to purchase the fruits and vegetables to place on the Harvest Table. All donations should be received no later than November 15th to the office. If making your donation by check, please make checks payable to Trinity UPC with Harvest Table in the memo line.

Also, if anyone is interested in helping set up the Harvest Table, we will be at the Church at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, November 20th. **All help will be appreciated**. Any questions, please contact Cindy Jones at 724-582-4581 or Susan Fox at 724-970-9066. Please leave a voicemail if call is not answered.

Volunteers Needed



Hanging of the Greens will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2026 at 10:00 am. We are looking for volunteers to help us decorate our church for Christmas. We appreciate all help to make our church shine for our Saviour's Birth.

Any questions, please contact Cindy Jones at 724-582-4581 or Susan Fox at 724-970-9066. Please leave a voicemail if your call is not answered.



Our coffee hour is a great time for fellowship each Sunday after the Worship service. Please consider hosting. Beverages are provided, then you decide what you want to share with everyone. It can be anything you like.

Please use the sign-up sheet located in the Chapel to add your name to a Sunday that works for you. Thanks!

Special Services

Please join us on Thursday December 24th at 7:00 pm for our
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Our Christmas Eve service begins with the lighting of the Christ Candle, which is lit to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the World.

The service then follows the Seven Carols of Christmas blending seven scripture accounts of the prophecy and birth of Jesus, alternated with seasonal hymns sung by the congregation and chancel choir with our youngsters ringing handbells on a special Christmas Carol.

After the seventh carol the sanctuary lights are dimmed, and the minister lights a candle from the Christ candle. The light is then passed from person to person via ushers while everyone sings "Silent Night." As the light returns to the sanctuary a celebration carol of "Joy to the World" is sung by the congregation, followed by the benediction given by Rev. James.





Dartball / Darts and Devotions

DARTBALL SCHEDULE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

Nov 3 Sandy Hill at Trinity 7:30 pm
Nov 10 Trinity at Pleasant View 7:30 pm
Nov 17 Brethren at Trinity 7:30 pm
Nov 24 Great Bethel at Trinity 7:30 pm
Dec 01 Trinity at Republic 7:30 pm
Dec 08 Fairchance Baptist at Trinity 7:30 pm
Dec 15 Trinity at Calvary 7:30 pm
Dec 22 New Salem at Trinity 7:30 pm
Dec 29 NO GAMES (CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S)



Christmas Caroling



Saturday, December 19th

The Christmas season is a time to celebrate the birth of our Savior and to share His love with others, and what better way to do that than through the gift of song?

On Saturday, December 19th, from 2:00 pm. to 5:00 pm, Trinity Church invites you to join us for an afternoon of Christmas caroling throughout the Uniontown community.

This year our group will visit Laurel Ridge, Beechwood Court, and The Addison, bringing the sounds of Christmas and a little extra holiday joy to those we visit.

Whether you have a beautiful singing voice or just enjoy singing familiar carols, all are welcome! Don't forget to wear your favorite Christmas scarf or Santa Hat!

Come help us share the love of Christ and remind others of the joy and hope we celebrate this Christmas season.

Planning to join us? Please sign up in the Chapel.
Departing from Trinity at 2:00 pm.

Let's spread some Christmas cheer, one carol at a time!

Thank you,
Rev. James Vlosich



3rd Annual STUFF THE VAN TOY DRIVE

On Tuesday, December 15th, from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, the Trinity Youth Group will host its third annual "STUFF THE VAN" Toy Drive, in the Trinity parking lot, located across Morgantown Street from the church building.

Can't make it on the December 15 drop-off Day? No problem! We will be accepting toy donations throughout November and December!

Last year, we filled the church van with hundreds of toys that were distributed to families throughout Fayette County, a true testament to Trinity's generosity and community spirit. This year, we hope to do it again!

All toys collected will be distributed through Fresh Fire Church right here in Uniontown, ensuring that local children experience the joy of having a present this Christmas.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Rev. James Vlosich. Together, let's make this Christmas brighter for children in our community!



On Sunday, October 4, 2026, Trinity's first annual Chili Cook-off took place. There were 10 contestants who created a variety of chilis including traditional beef and bean, chicken, vegetarian, and even a bean less version. The voting took place following the tastings and first, second and third place awards were handed out. The youngest contestant took first place. Thank you to all our participants. All the chili creations were very tasty. It was a great day for our Coffee Hour fellowship!

Participants



(missing from phot are Mari McFadden and Bill Cahn)

1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners





Rev. James celebrates 1st place winner!





On Sunday, November 1, 2026 Rev. James accepted 10 new Members to Trinity United Presbyterian Church. A cake was served for the Coffee Hour following the Worship Service, to greet and welcome the new members. If you weren't able to stay for the coffee hour, please say "hello" and welcome our new members next Sunday.

If you would like to become a member, please contact Rev. James at the church (724-437-2709).



(New Members Left to Right)

Ellen Rosendale, Brooke DeAngelo, Larry Georgiana, Randy Carpenter, Cameron Drake, Tom Savona, Natasha Savona, Vivianna Savona, Lu Savona. (Missing Gianna Savona)



Interfaith Missions

Loaves & Fishes Ministries

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

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

Multiple ways to help:

- **Drive clients to their medical appointments**
- **Help make sandwiches every Tuesday @ 10:00 am. in Carol's office.**
- **If interested in volunteering at the Interfaith Office (Call Carol @ 724-438-0709)**
  Interfaith Office Hours are Mon.—Thurs.—9:00 am.—2:00 pm.
- *Supplies needed: Peanut Butter and Jelly*

Kindred Souls

Kindred Souls meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month, for a luncheon, & time of fellowship. This is for single & widowed women, but all women are welcome, not just church members.

The November luncheon is Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 11:30 am.

The December luncheon is Wednesday, Dec 09, at 11:30 am.

For more information call Carol @ 724-438-0709

Reservations are appreciated by the day before. Thanks!

Trinity Book Journey

All are Welcome! If you would like to check us out join us at any monthly meeting. You don't have to read the book to join us!

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 at 11:30 am at Bob Evans.

The Book is "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig.

Tuesday, December 22, 2026 at 11:30 am at OGIllie's

The Book is "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Susan Fox, @ 724-970-9066 or sefox55@gmail.com

OR

Cindy Jones, at724-437-7856 or cbjonz1@aol.com m

The Beesontown Singers
present

George Frideric Handel's

MESSIAH

Featuring Choir, Soloists and Orchestra



Trinity United Presbyterian Church

79 West Fayette Street Uniontown, Pennsylvania

Sunday, 6 December 2026

4:00 p.m.

William M. Dreucci, Director

A Free Will Offering will be Accepted


Greater Uniontown
Chorale
2026 Christmas Concerts
Director: Mary Kay Milliken | Accompanist: Kevin Milliken
NOVEMBER 22 • 6:00 PM
Annual Festival of Choirs
Wesley UMC • Connellsville
DECEMBER 6 • 2:00 PM
Cochran UMC • Dawson
DECEMBER 7 • 7:00 PM
First Baptist Church • Fairchance
DECEMBER 13 • 3:00 PM
Point Marion Christian Church • Point Marion
DECEMBER 14 • 7:00 PM
Trinity United Presbyterian Church • Uniontown
Concerts for Residents
December 5 • 2:00 PM — Laurel Ridge
December 12 • 2:00 PM — The Addison


Just Jayne Music Studio's
Winter Recital
Sunday,
December 13, 2026
at 3:30 PM
Trinity Presbyterian Church
79 W. Fayette Street,
Uniontown, PA
Join Miss Liz and the students of
Just Jayne Music Studio for a night of music.
justjaynemusicstudio.com



A Christmas Holiday Concert XIV

The VFW Post 8543 Band will present their annual concert on Sunday, November 29th, 2026, 3:00 PM at the State Theater for the Arts in Uniontown, 27 East Main St, Uniontown, PA Doors open at 2:30. For admission bring along some non-perishable food items for the Fayette County Food Bank or a new Unwrapped Children's Toy for the U.S. Marines Reserves "Toys for Tots" Program.

Monetary Gifts for the Band are always welcome!

Oh Holy Night

Dear Beloved Family in Christ,
As we celebrate the birth of our Savior at Christmas, my heart overflows with gratitude for each of you. Christmas rminds us of God's incredible love, demonstrated in the gift of His Son, Jesus -- the Light which is the hope and joy of men and women all over the world.
Whatever your joys or challenges might be this Christmas, be encouraged to look up to Jesus, slow yourselves down, and receive His peace and love. From my family to yous, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Grace upon Grace,
Rev. James

