

A publication of Trinity United Presbyterian

TOUCHSTONE

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Worship | Service | Proclaim | Discipleship | Community



November/December 2025

Vol. 43 No. 30

Pastor's Corner

When you hear the word.....NOVEMBER, what do you think of ???

Personally, for me, November is the month for giving thanksgiving !

Oh, I know, the stores have already begun to "sell" Christmas. But, like many of you, I choose to ignore the Santa Clauses, the Christmas trees, and the Christmas yard decorations that are already being pushed in many of the stores. For me, all of that can wait until I have celebrated one of the most important holidays of the year! For me Thanksgiving is not just a special day filled with turkey, family gatherings, holiday parades and football games on TV.

For me thanksgiving is a season that encompasses the whole month of November. The moment that I flip that page on my calendar to November I become a little more thankful and I spend a little more time thanking God for all of my blessing. At that moment my anticipation of Thanksgiving grows rapidly.

Do we not all have so many many things for which to be thankful this year ?

Oh, life is not perfect for any of us. There are illnesses to deal with, rising prices that make trips to the grocery store a shocking experience, and evening newscasts that bring us mostly bad news....BUT INSPITE OF IT ALL.... most of us are so very richly blessed !!! Most of us can and should approach this season of thanksgiving with hearts that are filled with gratitude.

As I approach this Thanksgiving I will be counting the many ways in which God has blessed me and my family. One of the blessings for which I am most thankful is for the privilege of being your Interim Pastor for this past year and a half!!! God continues to teach me many things as I involve myself with the people of the church. I am thankful for the time that I have spent with you, your kindness and acceptance of me, the welcoming experience that I have had with you, and your willingness to work together in serving Jesus Christ.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

While I will not be with you this Thanksgiving, I will treasure the memories that I will take with me!!! I encourage you to love Jesus, grow in your relationship with him and serve him faithfully both in your personal lives and as a Church.

Thank you again !!!

John

PS. I hope that you will take some time, in this season, to sit down and to count your blessings ... and give thanks to God for them.

Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. with James

November

In November, the Sunday School lessons:

10/09 *Jerusalem's Fall* (2 Kings 24: 18-25:9)

10/16 *Ezekiel's Sign* (Ezekiel 3:10 -11; 24:15-24, 27)

10/23 *Ezekiel's Responsibility* (Ezekiel 33: 7-16)

10/30 *Ezekiel's Vision* (Ezekiel's Vision (Ezekial 47:1-9, 12)

December

In December, the Sunday School lessons:

12/7 *God's Word* (Psalm 19: 7-13; 2 Timothy 3:14 -15)

12/14 *Our Heavenly Father* (Matthew 6: 24-34)

12/21 *Christ the Savior* (Luke 15: 3-7; Romans 5:6-10)

12/28 *The Holy Spirit* (Romans 8: 12-17; 26-27)

Sunday Worship Service Leaders

November Worship Leaders

02—Pam Barnhart

09—Nancy Davis

16—Nancy Vernon

23—Jim Williams

30—Jeff Martinec

December Worship Leaders

07—Jeff Martinec

14—Susan Fox

21—Pam Barnhart

28—Nancy Davis



The Path of Discipleship

by James Vlosich

“Jesus Wins the Pennant”



The fall season is without a doubt one of my favorite times of the year. One of the things I love most about October is the Major League Baseball Postseason. I love to watch stars such as Shohei Ohtani, Vladimir Guerrero Jr., Trey Yavage, and Yoshinobu Yamamoto rise to the challenge of being great when the pressure is highest and the lights are brightest. As a lover of the game, this year's World Series was one of the best in recent memory. It had everything, extra innings, a complete game pitching performance, defensive wizardry, big offense. It felt like every game you were watching history unfold.

In the end, the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Toronto Blue Jays in seven games, and hoisted the Commissioner's Trophy. The Dodgers won because they capitalized in the big moments. They stayed steady under pressure and finished strong. As we transition from fall to winter and approach the season of Advent, I think about someone else who faced tremendous pressure when the eyes of the world and the weight of the world were upon Him: Jesus Christ.

Beginning November 30th, we enter the season of Advent. Simply put, Advent is a time for waiting, reflection, and preparation. We remember that Christ came into the world as the light in our darkness, and we also anticipate His promised return.

More than 2,000 years ago, Jesus came to earth in humility, born not in royal splendor but in a manger. Yet His purpose was nothing short of world-changing: to reconcile humanity to God through His life, death, and resurrection.

The reason we celebrate Advent and Christmas is because of Christ's victory on the cross. Jesus is our Lamb without blemish—the One who carried the full weight of sin and overcame it with love. Because He stayed the course, we can live with hope.

This Advent, take time to reflect on what Christ's victory means to you. Think about how Jesus entered the world under immense pressure, yet remained faithful out of love for us all. Because Christ is victorious, we too can live in the assurance that one day we will celebrate fully in God's kingdom. This victory is far greater than any earthly championship. Just like the Dodgers this October, followers of Jesus are called to stay ready in the big moments. Advent reminds us that even when life throws us a curveball, we can trust the One who already won the ultimate championship.

James Vlosich

Discipleship Coordinator, Trinity United Presbyterian Church

A graphic with a dark blue background featuring several white stars. In the center, the word "Advent" is written in a large, bold, yellow font. To the left of the text, there is a cartoon illustration of a baby with a yellow halo lying in a brown manger. Below the illustration is a small speaker icon. To the right of the illustration, the text "What is Advent?" is followed by a definition of Advent and the origin of the word.

Advent

What is Advent?

Advent is the period of time before Christmas during which Christians wait for the birth of Jesus.

The word “advent” comes from a Latin word which means “coming”

Upcoming Family Church Meals



November 23, 2025 Church Family Thanksgiving Meal During the Coffee Hour. Turkey, beverages and place settings will be provided.

Bring your favorite covered dish.



December 14, at 9:00 am Church Family Advent Breakfast Before the worship service.

Bring your favorite breakfastt dish



Harvest Table Donations

The Chancel Committee/Church Family Committee will again be purchasing fresh produce to be displayed on the chancel table during worship on Sunday, November 23. If you would like to make a monetary donation toward this effort, please do so by Sunday, November 16. Checks should be made out to Trinity with Harvest Table in the memo line. The committee will use the donations to purchase the fruits and vegetables, which will then be donated to a local soup kitchen for those less fortunate. This project not only provides a colorful reminder of God's bounty and goodness for our congregation but also helps those in need.

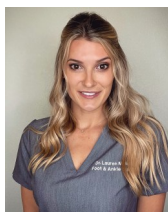


A Mission to Restore Mobility and Hope

The Trinity Mission Interpretation Committee is launching a fundraising effort to support Essential Strides, a medical mission nonprofit dedicated to providing life-changing surgical care to underserved communities.

Our goal is to raise \$2,000 to help fund a surgery for an individual in Peru whose life will be transformed through this mission. One of the founders of Essential Strides is

Trinity's own Dr. Lauren Molchan,



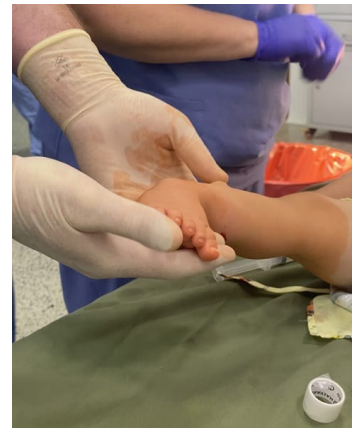
a specialist in foot and ankle surgery. Dr. Molchan's expertise includes treating trauma, pediatric conditions, forefoot and rearfoot deformities, arthroscopy, arthritic disorders, and total joint replacement.

Through her leadership, Essential Strides brings advanced surgical and educational services to areas of the world where access to such care is often nonexistent.

Thousands of people across the world live with congenital anomalies or neglected injuries that leave them unable to walk or burdened by pain. These conditions prevent children from playing with friends and parents from working to support their families. Many of these disabilities are completely correctable with proper care, but access to that care is often out of reach.

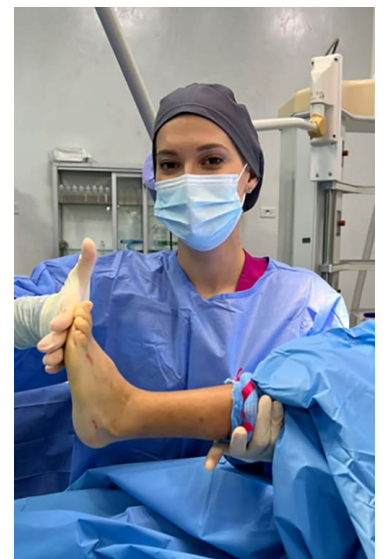
Over the coming months, Trinity Church will host several opportunities to contribute to this vital mission. Your generosity will help change lives—restoring not only physical movement but also hope and opportunity.

The mission of Essential Strides is to restore mobility and dignity by providing surgical treatment and follow-up care to those in need. We partner with local physicians to ensure lasting impact, offering training in the surgical techniques we use so that care can continue long after our team departs."



DONATE

*We would like to
extend a special
thank for taking the
time to consider
helping a child!
Our success wouldn't
be possible without
the generosity of folks
like you!*



Trinity United Presbyterian Church Food Drive

November 13, 2025

5:00—7:00 pm

If you have the time we could use
some extra hands to distribute

Still accepting Food



*Thank you to all that have contributed
to the food drive!*

Darts and Devotions

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.



Dartball Schedule

November - December

11/4 Trinity at Fairchance Presbyterian

11/11 Fairchance Baptist at Trinity

11/18 Trinity at Republic

11/25 Trinity at Fairchance Baptist

12/9 Great Bethel at Trinity

12/16 Trinity at Calvary

12/23 Trinity at Springhill



**Volunteers Needed for the Coffee Fellowship
after worship service**
**Please consider signing the list on the table at
coffee hour!**



Nov/Dec Tuesdays
5:00 pm at Trinity

**Bring your Bible, Coffee, and a notebook to this
time of discovering God through Scripture.**

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER LESSONS

November 4th - Being a Christian (John 13:34-35,
2 Corinthians 5:17)

November 18th - Discipling 1 Thessalonians 2

November 25th - Time & Gifts (Matthew 25:14-30)

December 2nd - TBD

December 9th - Guidance (2 Chronicles 20:1-30)

December 9th - Christian Community (Ephesians 4:1-16)

December 16th - Prepare to Love (1 John 4:7-8)

December 23rd - The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-21)



Interfaith Missions

Loaves & Fishes Ministries

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

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 a.m.—2:00 p.m.



Kindred Souls

Kindred Souls meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month, for a luncheon,

& time of fellowship. This is for single & widowed women.

All women are welcome, not just church members.

The November luncheon is Wednesday, Nov. 12th
at Maywood Grille 11:30 am

The December luncheon is Wednesday, Dec. 10th at Nae
Nae's Diner (across from Post Office 11:30 am.

For more information call Carol @ 724-438-0709

Reservations are appreciated by the day before. Thanks!



Trinity Book Journey

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 11:30 am at Mark C's Diner

The Book is "Homecoming" by Kate Morton

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 11:30 am at The Titlow

The Book is "Comfort & Joy" by Kristan Hannah

All are Welcome!

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

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

OR

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

November/December

Youth Meetings

NOVEMBER

11/06

Youth Group (5:30 pm)

Lesson: "The Birth of Jesus Foretold"

Scripture: Luke 1: 26-38

11/13

Youth Group (5:30 pm)

Lesson: "Anna"

Scripture: Luke 2: 36-38

11/20

Youth Group (5:30 pm)

Lesson: "Grateful Perspective"

Scripture: Psalm 100:4

~ Thanksgiving Break ~

DECEMBER

12/04

Youth Group (5:30 pm)

Outing: Shop for Toys

1/11

Youth Group (5:30 pm)

TOY DRIVE

10/16

Youth Group (5:00-7:00 pm)

Lesson: "His Love In Us"

12/18

Youth Group (5:30 pm)

CHRISTMAS PARTY

12/20

CHRISTMAS CAROLING



Youth Events



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 20th, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Trinity Church invites you to join us for an afternoon of Christmas caroling throughout the Uniontown community.

Our group will visit several local care facilities, including Beechwood Court, Laurel Ridge Skilled Nursing Facility, and The Addison of Uniontown, bringing joyful music, warm smiles, and the spirit of Christ to residents who may not be able to attend traditional Christmas celebrations. These visits are always deeply meaningful, both for those we sing to and for those who take part in sharing God's love through music.

Whether you're a confident vocalist or just enjoy singing familiar carols with friends, all are welcome! We'll provide song sheets, light refreshments, and plenty of Christmas cheer. No rehearsals are required, just bring your enthusiasm, a joyful heart, and perhaps a festive scarf or Santa hat to help spread the holiday spirit.

If you would like to join us, please sign up in the Chapel so we can plan for transportation and song materials. We hope you'll take part in this cherished Trinity tradition as we come together to remind our neighbors that the light of Christ still shines brightly, through music, community, and love.

Thank you,
James Vlosich

Would you like to get some Christmas shopping done?



Do you still have some Christmas shopping to finish?
Find it difficult with your kids in tow?
Trinity Church is here to help!

On Saturday, December 6th, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Trinity will host a Christmas Kids' Day—a fun and safe event where your children can enjoy games, music, crafts, and food while you take some time to shop, relax, or prepare for the holidays.

If you would like to sign up your child,
please contact James Vlosich, Caitlin Vlosich,
or Vickie Leone.

We look forward to helping make your Christmas season a
Little brighter!



STUFF THE VAN TOY DRIVE

On Wednesday, December 11th, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the Trinity Youth Group will host its second annual "Stuff the Van" Toy Drive.

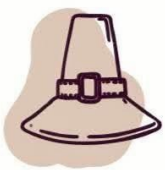
Last year, we filled the church van with hundreds of toys that were distributed to families throughout Fayette County, a true testament to Trinity's generosity and community spirit. This year, we hope to do it again!

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 James Vlosich. Together, let's make this Christmas brighter for children in our community!

Don't want to cook for Thanksgiving?

Call Gyros, Hoagies & Pierogis 724-550- 4035



THANKSGIVING MENU

PICK UP: THANKSGIVING DAY
10:00 AM UNTIL 1:00PM

All orders must be placed by Friday November 21, 2025



Standard Meal \$74.99(serves 4-6)
Sliced turkey breast
Homemade bread stuffing
Mashed potatoes with gravy
Garlicy green beans
Dinner rolls
Choice of cranberry sauce or garden salad
An individual standard meal can be purchased for \$12.99



Premium Meal \$104.99(serves 4-6)
Sliced turkey breast and Sliced ham
Homemade bread stuffing
Sweet potatoes or mashed potatoes with gravy
Garlicy green beans
Dinner rolls
Cranberry sauce and garden salad
An individual premium meal can be purchased for \$14.99



A La Carte Sides and Desserts:
Any of the above listed sides
Candied Yams w/marshmallow
Baked Macaroni and Cheese
Pumpkin Roll
Pumpkin Pie
Long Nut or Apricot Rolls
Apple Pie



524 Morgantown Street Uniontown, PA 15401 | 724.550.4035



COME AND CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH US IN:
"A Christmas Holiday Concert XIII"



Presented by the 65-member PA State V.F.W. Post 8543 Band of Uniontown, PA
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (With Intermission)
 Doors open at 2:30 p.m. ~ The State Theatre for the Arts, 27 East Main Street, Uniontown, PA



Featuring Vocalists:



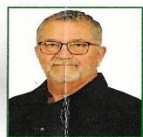
Lorrie Quadro



Angie Lowery



Lori Greene



Howard Holesapple

DONATIONS:

Non-perishable food items for the
 Fayette County Food Bank
 -OR-
 New, Unwrapped children's
 toys for the U.S. Marines Reserves'
 "Toys for Tots" Program

Monetary gifts to support the
 musical activities of the V.F.W.
 Post 8543 BAND also accepted.

"A CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CONCERT XIII"
 Sunday, November 30, 2025 / 3:00-5:00 p.m.
 The State Theatre for the Arts / Uniontown, PA

(The program will be taken from the titles listed below.)

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER F. Key/J. Smith
 WE NEED A LITTLE CHRISTMAS J. Herman
 THEM BASSES MARCH G.H. Huffine
 WHERE ARE YOU, CHRISTMAS? M. Carey/J. Horner/W. Jennings
 GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN ... Z. Williams/J. Smith/J. Work, Jr.
 CHRISTMAS IN SARAJEVO arr. P. O'Neill/R. Kinkle/J. Oliva
 MARY'S LITTLE BOY CHILD J. Hairston
 A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL L. Anderson
 MARY, DID YOU KNOW? B. Greene/M. Lowry
 SLEIGH RIDE L. Anderson
 ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU M. Carey/W. Afanasieff
 A RUDOLPH MEDLEY
 Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer J. Marks
 Run, Run, Rudolph C. Berry
 CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG arr. J. Ployhar
 THE MERRY CHRISTMAS POLKA W. Phelps

- **INTERMISSION** (15 minutes) -

SERVICE SONGS MEDLEY Trad. Patriotic
 Coast Guard, Space Force, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Army
 DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR? N. Regney/G. Shayne
 BIRDLAND J. Zawinul
 O HOLY NIGHT A. Adam/P. Cappeau
 Excerpts from: THE NUTCRACKER SUITE P. Tchaikovsky/
 P. O'Neill/R. Kinkle
 SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN J. Coots/H. Gillespie
 FELIZ NAVIDAD J. Féliciano
 THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER MARCH J.P. Sousa

Future Events

November 23, Moment for Mission:

November 23, Church Family Thanksgiving Luncheon after Sunday Worship

November 30, First Sunday of Advent Lighting of Hope Candle (Purple)

November 30, Communion at 11:00 am Worship Service (Purple)

December 07, Second Sunday of Advent Lighting of Peace Candle (Purple)

December 8, Uniontown Chorale 50th Anniversary Concert 7 pm

December 14, Third Sunday of Advent Lighting of Joy Candle (Pink)

December 14, Church Family Christmas Breakfast 9 am

December 14, Beesontown Concert: Christmas Oratorio 5:30 pm

December 20 Family Christmas Caroling 2:00—5:00 pm

December 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent Lighting of Love Candle (Purple)

December 24, Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm Lighting of the Christ Candle (White)

