

A publication of Trinity United Presbyterian

TOUCHSTONE

May/June 2025

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Worship | Service | Proclaim | Discipleship | Community



*And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were
all with one accord in one place.*

Acts 2:1 KJV

PASTOR'S CORNER

One of my tasks as your interim pastor is to try to keep you up to date on the progress that we are making toward the call of your new pastor. As you probably know the congregation did meet and did elect a PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC) of 5 people plus one alternate member. The next step is for that committee (PNC) to meet with the Presbytery Executive and the Presbytery's Liason. That meeting has now been scheduled for Tuesday - May 13. At that meeting the people from Redstone Presbytery will educate the committee about the process of finding a new Pastor.

A thumb nail sketch of that process is as follows:

1. The PNC fills out the necessary forms which describe Trinity Church and the qualities that the church is looking for in the next pastor. Those forms are approved by the session of Trinity Church, by Redstone Presbytery and then they are submitted to the national office of our denomination where they are entered into a computer system.
2. Trinity's forms are then matched (by computer) with the forms of pastors that are looking to move to a new church.....Our form is sent to them and their form is sent to our PNC. [It is kind of like computer dating.]
3. The PNC reviews the forms that they receive, discusses them and selects a few that they think might be a good fit. The PNC contact those that they think are a fit to see if they are interested in Trinity Church. If they are, further discussions and interviews are held until one person is chosen. Once approved by Presbytery, he or she preaches and leads worship on a given Sunday. A vote by the members of the church is held. If approved by the congregation you have your new pastor. The process is complete.

CAUTION !!!! This process can take some time ! Sometimes a PNC has to review 100 or more Pastor's forms. It takes time and patience to find the right person. So PRAY for the PNC PRAY for God's guidance.... And PRAY for patience !!!

Until then, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve Jesus Christ and your church in these in between times.

Sincerely In Christ,

John B. Simpson - Interim Pastor



The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of children, youth, and young adults.

- **40%** is retained by congregations to support work with at-risk children, youth and young adults in their local community.
- **50%** supports ministries with youth and young adults.
- **10%** supports child advocacy/children at risk.

Weekly Services at Trinity

Small Group Tuesdays @ 5:00 p.m.

Meet at Trinity United Presbyterian Church



Bring your Bible,
Coffee, and a
Notebook to this
time of discovering



Join us Every Sunday
10:00 a.m.
for Adult Sunday School

June

6/1 The offerings of Cain and Abel (Genesis 4: 1-16)

6/8 Noah Builds an Altar (Genesis 8:13—222; 9:11- 13)

6/15 Abraham Makes an Offering (Genesis 26: 24 -33)

6/29 Jacob Sets Up a Sacred Pillar (Genesis 28:10-22)



2025 Memorial Day Geraniums:

\$5.00 each

Quantity _____

Given in Memory of: _____

Given in Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Deadline for order: Sunday, May 18, 2025

The Chancel Committee is offering red geraniums to be displayed in the sanctuary during worship on Sunday, May 25 (Memorial Day Weekend). The flowers will be planted around the church to be enjoyed all summer. The committee is also always looking for extra hands to help with the planting on Tuesday, May 28, 2025!

Notes From The Bench

-by Brett Vanderlaan

A Few Items

May/June 2025

This month I want to touch on a few varied subjects, some of which are related to specific events happening in March and April.

First, I want to expand on the note in the bulletin from March 9 about **Woman Composer Sunday**. The official title of the designation is "Woman Composer Sunday" and it is celebrated on the Sunday closest to International Women's Day (March 8). This date for International Women's Day has been in place since 1913. The first Woman Composer Sunday was established by the Society of Women Organists and the Royal College of Organists (U.K.) in 2021. I neglected to include Canada (along with the U.K. and U.S.) in my note about current recognition of this event which is now supported by the American Guild of Organists (AGO). While the pieces I played this year were all composed before 2021, the AGO now sponsors a composition competition for sacred music by women composers. The winning entries are published in *The American Organist* for use by AGO members. I am likely to use some of these works in future worship services.

The next topic I want to address is my use of a multi-movement organ work for voluntaries during the liturgical season of Lent. The work is ***The Beatitudes* by Roberta Rowland-Raybold**, published in 2018. The subtitle is "Organ Reflections on the Blessings of Jesus" and is based upon the words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 5: 3-12 during his Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5-7). In total, there are nine statements that each begin with the words "Blessed are . . ." (or sometimes translated as "Happy are . . ."). They describe characteristics that followers of Christ should strive to possess (or may experience) along with the result(s) of such traits. Roberta Rowland-Raybold has written a suite of short pieces to address each of the beatitudes. I played at least one of these movements each Sunday in Lent as the prelude, offertory, or postlude. Roberta Rowland-Raybold was born in 1938 and worked in the insurance industry while serving as organist at Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Lutheran churches in multiple states, including Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York.

Next, I want to share a detail about the **tempos** of the regular **Congregational responses** that we sing each week during worship at Trinity. Both the *Gloria Patri* ("Glory be to the father") and the *Doxology* ("Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow") are songs of praise that are literal responses to the Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness and the presentation of our Offerings in our worship service. It is easy to simply repeat these songs without thinking about the words or how we are singing them. I have been trying to play these responses at a quicker pace in order to promote vigorous, lively singing that is truly reflective of our praise to God. I also plan to vary the registration of the organ in order to draw attention to what we are singing.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that we have our first Trinity Summer Organ Scholar this year. Session approved this program for 2024, but we received no applications last year. This year we are excited to welcome Badyn Woodford as our organ scholar. Badyn's complete biography was sent via email earlier in April and can be found elsewhere in this newsletter as well. I want to offer a brief explanation of what an "organ scholar" is. In many large churches and cathedral settings, the staff of musicians may include a music director or minister of music, choir director(s), paid section leaders in the choir, and an organist (or group of organists). In churches that hold multiple services throughout the week, these musicians will share various tasks. An organ scholar is often a college or university level student hired as an apprentice to assist with accompanying duties during the academic year. This provides the student with extended experience working in a regular church setting while also providing the church with an additional staff member. Our version at Trinity occurs during the summer months. It likewise provides the student with an extended church experience, and in my case, allows me to have a longer block of time to spend with my wife and son at our summer residence in Maine (without needing to arrange for substitutes on a weekly basis). Badyn is a perfect fit for this program. He is a music major and organist who has served as a substitute at various churches, but this will offer him a longer regular engagement with a single church. He is a fine organist, and we are looking forward to his playing and musical leadership in worship. Please take time to meet Badyn and talk to him on these summer Sundays.

As we move into the season of Easter, let us raise our voices in thanks and praise to God for our salvation through Christ Jesus!

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God alone)

Note: References for material in this column:

Hunt, Eileen J., "Woman Composer Sunday 2025", From the President, *The American Organist*, March 2025, p. 6.

Rowland-Raybold, Roberta. *The Beatitudes: Organ Reflections on the Blessings of Jesus*. ed. Carson Cooman, Lorenz Publishing Company, 2018.



Our Handbells have been sent out to Schulmerich Bells, LLC to be cleaned, polished and refurbished. They have been restored and returned to the church beautifully polished and ready for use. Hope you can join us on Sunday, May 18th for Music Sunday to see our Handbell Ringers in action with their "like" new bells playing an "Irish Tune from County Derry" by Douglas E. Wagner. Based on the arrangement by Percy Aldridge Grainger (1882–1961).



Badyn Woodford



Badyn Woodford is a native of St. Clairsville, OH — a small town just over 10 miles west of Wheeling, WV — and is currently based in Morgantown, WV. He is a multi-faceted musician, creative artist, arranger-orchestrator, musicologist, and musical theatre conductor.

Badyn's studied piano under the tutelage of Ms. Linda Steffl, Dr. Gerald Lee, Dr. Millard Neal, and GRAMMY-nominated musician Dr. Lucy Mauro. He has also studied organ with Dr. William Haller & Dr. Millard Neal, trombone with Mr. Hakeem Bilal and Dr. Keith Jackson, jazz improvisation with Dr. Robert Sears and Dr. Jared Sims, & wind conducting with Dr. Scott Tobias.

His dedication to elevating his passion has led to a plethora of opportunities to perform across the country and abroad, including three appearances in The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York, NY (2021, '24, '26), as well as venues throughout the United States and

Italy. Recent performances include the College Band Directors National Association's Southern Division conference in Memphis, TN

(WVU Wind Symphony), the American Trombone Workshop in Arlington, VA (WVU Trombone Studio), and the 2024 International Trombone Festival in Fort Worth, TX (WVU Trombone Studio). Opportunities were also afforded in recent times to visit some of the most historic, yet prevalent, music venues in the United States, such as the Tabernacle, Conference Center, and Assembly Hall on the Temple Square complex in Salt Lake City, UT; Radio City Music Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Thomas Presbyterian Church, and NBC Studios in New York City.

In Summer 2022, Badyn partnered with pianist Rachael Lampert to create a new holiday concert series, entitled Ivories of Christmas, held in Wheeling, WV, each December. Its continued success sparked the new organization: Woodford Artistic Ventures, which will aim to champion new initiatives that allow students to concertize to audiences under the auspices of featured artists, all the while supporting local arts organizations. It is the intention of the organization to start more concert series during different times of the year.

In Fall 2025, Badyn will begin his senior year at West Virginia University. At WVU, he is a student of the Honors College, and a candidate for the Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education. Within the School of Music, he has been a member of all the institution's major ensembles: The Pride of West Virginia - The Mountaineer Marching Band, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and the West Virginia University Symphony Orchestra. He's also been involved in the Scoring Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble II, and the Trombone Ensemble. In addition, he serves as a teaching assistant for the Honors College on introductory and upper-level courses — with student enrollments ranging from just 7 to 112 — all the while upholding a free, adaptable learning experience for everyone. Amongst his student and instructor responsibilities, he's also been a nominee for WVU's Presidential Search Committee, and served on multiple University search committees as a student stakeholder for new faculty hires during academic years 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Supplementary to his major-intensive coursework, Badyn is pursuing an independent research project in comparative analysis with regard to Leonard Bernstein's 1971 theatrical work *Mass*, and Benjamin Britten's 1962 work *War Requiem*. Additional musicological research interests include forensic and sacred musicology, liturgical music, early music, post-war-time music, British music, musical theatre, organology, and the avant-garde of various cultures. Interdisciplinary research interests include music education in higher education, music history pedagogy, and higher education pedagogy.

He's involved in a variety of professional organizations, including The National Association for Music Education, The American Musicological Society, The American Guild of Organists, The American Choral Directors Association, The Royal College of Organists, The Organ Historical Society, The West Virginia Music Educators Association, the National Band Association, the International Trombone Association, and the Omicron chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi. Woodford also serves as the President of WVU's chapter of The National Society of Collegiate Scholars, the President of The Rack, WVU's student food pantry, and as the Social Media Coordinator for the Play With Eric Club.

Away from the University setting, Woodford is half of the Lampert & Woodford Duo, and is on the instructional staff of the Harrison Central High School Music Department, and Nels Bells Music Studio. Badyn also frequently serves as guest choral director/organist at Trinity Episcopal Church, and St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, both in Morgantown. Outside of music, you can find Badyn creating new recipes in the kitchen, spending time with his family, spinning one of his many vinyl's, or simply living life to the fullest.

Following his undergraduate work, he plans to deepen his expertise by pursuing both a Masters degree in Musicology and a Ph.D. in Musicology, with the career goal of working as a musicology professor at the collegiate level. Other academic aspirations to further his career as a higher education administrator, and bolstering his career as an organist, include an Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration and an A.D. in Organ Performance.

Darts & Devotions Thursday at 10:00 a.m.



Another Dartball Season has come and gone. Before long, the 2025/2026 season will be on its way. In preparation, we would like to invite anyone who is interested in participating in the up coming season to join us for Darts & Devotions. Each week, we meet and have a devotion (led by Pastor Greg Yauger), and we also throw darts. We always have great conversations, as well as doughnuts. Even if you don't plan on playing Dartball, this is still a fun fellowship to participate in.

Faith Discussions



Mark C's Diner

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month.

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.



Pentecost Sunday Coffee Hour - June 8th Immediately following Church Service in the chapel.

Don't forget to wear your red!



Available during worship.

Trinity Book Journey



Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

at The Olive Garden.

"Surviving Savannah" by Patti Callahan.

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at Rizz's Restaurant

"Lessons in Chemistry"



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.

The next luncheon is Wednesday, May 14 @ 11:30

at MarkC's Diner @ 11:30 a.m.

For more information call Carol @ 724-438-0709

Reservations are appreciated by the day before. Thanks!

Interfaith Missions

1. Loaves & Fishes Ministries

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

2. The Road Less Traveled - Thursday's @ 10:00 a.m.

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

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.

Supplies Needed: Peanut Butter

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

<i>Ellen & Bill Ulmer</i>	<i>05/06</i>
<i>Dorothy & Harry Springer</i>	<i>05/15</i>
<i>Vickie & Leone</i>	<i>05/20</i>
<i>Melissa & Jeff Maxwell</i>	<i>05/22</i>



BIRTHDAYS

<i>Bailey Cahn 05/05</i>	<i>Cayley Hostetler 05/05</i>	<i>Kaden Maxwell 05/06</i>
<i>Nancy Fagler 05/05</i>	<i>Tad Borland 05/09</i>	<i>Sue Baron 05/10</i>
<i>Denise Peddicord 05/11</i>	<i>Brendan Krall 05/19</i>	<i>Janine Adao 05/21</i>
<i>George Tanner 05/24</i>	<i>Clara Link 05/30</i>	<i>Julie Venick 05/31</i>

<i>Donna Teeter 06/01</i>	<i>Trevor Waligura 06/02</i>	<i>Paul Bortz Jr. 06/03</i>
<i>Kenneth Riddel Jr. 06/03</i>	<i>Robert Rendina 06/04</i>	<i>Alec Sharp 06/04</i>
<i>Tammi Consavage 06/05</i>	<i>Journet Shaffer 06/05</i>	<i>Bill Dreucci 06/08</i>
<i>Craig Smith 06/09</i>	<i>Angela Leone 06/10</i>	<i>Richard Schollert 06/10</i>
<i>Arlene MacDonald 06/16</i>	<i>Drew Springer 06/16</i>	<i>Susan Fox 06/17</i>
<i>James Carbin 06/20</i>	<i>Melissa Maxwell 06/22</i>	<i>John Nass Jr. 06/24</i>
<i>Amanda Scarfo 06/26</i>	<i>Lyndsay Jesko 06/28</i>	

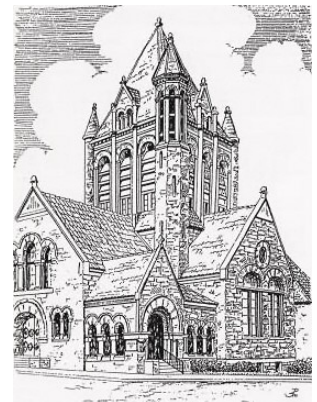
Notes on Worship

Welcome The people of God are looking forward to worshipping with you!

Giving Scriptural giving is one of the basics of the Christian faith. If you are a visitor with us today, you do not need to feel obligated to give, though your gifts are much appreciated. The Offering is an opportunity for those who call Trinity their home church to be faithful to this aspect of their relationship with Christ. There are also opportunities to give on our website and on our Facebook page.

If you would like to be placed on the church newsletter and/or email list, contact the church office. For updates, visit and “like” us on Facebook: Trinity United Presbyterian Church, or visit our webpage.

Rev. John Simpson— Pastor
James Vlosich, Discipleship Coordinator
Bill Dreucci, Director of Music
Brett Vanderlaan, Organist/Children's Choir Director
Barb Slavin Office Manager
Bill Thompson, Sexton
Ministers: All the Congregation



Our Mission is to worship and serve Jesus Christ by proclaiming his Gospel to all persons.
As servants of Christ, we will always be a community of love, hope, service
and reconciliation.

Check your email for updates.
Email the church office if you need to
be put on the church email list.