

A publication of Trinity United Presbyterian

TOUCHSTONE

May/June 2026

Vol. 43 No. 3

Trinity United Presbyterian Church
79 W. Fayette Street
Uniontown, PA 15401
www.facebook.com/trinityupc

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

Worship | Service | Proclaim | Discipleship | Community



*The LORD is close to the brokenhearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

Psalm 34:18



The Path of Discipleship with James Vlosich

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: 2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, 3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,

The Holy Spirit is moving at Trinity! There is an excitement in the air, and it's hard not to feel it when we think about all that is happening in the life of our church. To say that Trinity is experiencing a season of blessing feels like an understatement. There is a sense of joy, energy, and new life among us. You could even describe it as "a time to dance."

So what do we do when we find ourselves in a season like this? One instinct might be to hold on tightly to protect it, to try and keep things exactly as they are. But if we spend all our time trying to preserve the blessing, we may actually miss it. Blessing is not something we are called to control; it is something we are invited to receive with gratitude.

As Presbyterians, we trust that God is the one who orders our seasons. The same God who brings times of planting also brings growth. The same God who walks with us in difficult seasons is the One who now invites us into joy. These moments of blessing are not accidental; they are gifts of grace, signs of God's faithful presence among us.

So rather than holding on too tightly, let's open our hands. Let's enjoy what God is doing right now. Let's give thanks for the ways we are growing together. And at the same time, let's be ready. Because seasons of blessing are also moments of calling.

I leave you with this: God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others. The energy and excitement we are feeling is not meant to stay within Trinity's walls. This excitement is meant to overflow into our community, into our relationships, and into the lives of those who are searching for hope.

So let's embrace this season. Let's celebrate it. Let's step into it with joy, gratitude, and a willingness to follow where God is leading us next. And that is something worth celebrating.

James Vlosich



Notes From The Bench



Notes from the Bench From Easter Joy to Summer Steadiness

As Easter gives way to the later weeks of spring and the approach of summer, the life of the Church begins to change its shape a little. The great festivals of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter carry a particular intensity, and once they have passed, there is often a noticeable exhale. Choir schedules begin to shift, the days grow longer, and worship settles into a somewhat different rhythm. Yet this is not a lesser season. In many ways, it is one of the times when the Church learns most clearly how to live in the joy it has proclaimed. Resurrection is not only a single day's announcement. It is something we continue to inhabit week by week, as we sing, pray, and gather in hope. As Saint Paul writes, "If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above" (Colossians 3:1, NRSV).

I want first to say thank you for the many kind words, well wishes, and encouraging comments shared around our Easter celebration. Your support meant a great deal to me. Easter at Trinity was a beautiful expression of the Church's life in sound: choir, bells, organ, brass, congregational hymnody, and all the many small acts of preparation that allow worship to unfold with care and dignity. It was a joy to help shape that day, and I am deeply grateful for the generosity with which so many of you received it. Week by week, your singing has reminded me that church music is never only about those leading from the front, but about the shared voice of a faithful people. The Psalms so often connect praise with sound, breath, and human offering, and Easter was a vivid reminder of that truth: "O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things" (Psalm 98:1).

This time of year also invites a little reflection on the organ's role in the life of the Church, particularly as we move toward summer. The organ is often thought of as a grand instrument, and certainly it can be that. It can fill the room, support a strong congregation, and crown a festival hymn with thrilling strength. But one of its greatest gifts is its adaptability. The same instrument that leads a triumphant Easter morning can also sustain a quieter summer psalm, support a more modest musical texture, or offer a reflective prelude that prepares the congregation for prayer. In that way, the organ is not only an instrument for great occasions. It is also an instrument of steadiness.

Summer reveals that side of the organ especially well. Because it is a wind instrument, and because it depends on the physical life of pipes, air, and room acoustics, the organ responds to its environment in subtle ways. Changes in temperature and humidity can affect tuning, blend, and even the way certain stops "speak." That responsiveness is part of what makes it such a fitting instrument for worship. Here at Trinity, the organ is also not confined to a single visible case, but housed in three different chambers across two stories, each located directly behind the grilles and screens. That arrangement allows the instrument's sound to surround the room in a distinctive way, while also reminding us that much of the organ's work happens just out of sight. The organ is never entirely separate from the building or from the gathered body within it. It breathes with the room, supports the sung prayer of the congregation, and serves moments of grandeur as well as moments of quiet devotion. Even on ordinary Sundays, when the musical forces may be smaller and the liturgy less elaborate, the organ helps carry the Church's song with dignity and continuity. "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10) may not describe music directly, but it does capture something of the attentiveness these quieter weeks can invite.

For me, this season also carries a significant personal transition. Later this summer, I will be stepping down from my position at Trinity as I prepare to begin doctoral study in musicology at The Ohio State University, where I will also serve as a Graduate Teaching Associate. I receive that opportunity with deep gratitude and a strong sense of calling, but also with real sadness, because Trinity has been an important part of my life and growth. It has been a place of trust, generosity, collaboration, and shared purpose, and I remain profoundly thankful for the chance to have served here. Trinity has been not only a place to serve, but a place where my understanding of worship, music, and ministry has deepened in lasting ways.

In many ways, that combination of thanksgiving and transition feels fitting for this season of the Church year. The weeks after Easter are already a time when we stand between celebration and continuing vocation, between what has been and what is still unfolding. Scripture gives us language for that kind of faithful movement: "See, I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19). New chapters are never only about departure. They are also about carrying forward what has been formed, learned, and loved.

For that reason, I am especially grateful that there will be an opportunity to mark this transition musically as well as personally. My final Sunday in this role will be July 26, 2026, and that afternoon at 4:00 pm I will offer a farewell recital, "With Thanksgiving and Joy," as an expression of gratitude to this congregation and community. I hope it will be a fitting musical offering at the close of this chapter, and a meaningful way to give thanks for the worship, fellowship, and encouragement we have shared.

Thank you again for your kindness, your support, and your care for the music ministry of Trinity. It has been a privilege to serve from the bench, and a greater privilege still to do so in a congregation that values worship, beauty, and the life of faith so deeply. My prayer is that in these Easter weeks and into the summer ahead, we may continue to live with the confidence of resurrection and the peace of Christ. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16).

Sincerely,

Badyn R. Woodford

Volunteers needed

Interfaith Caregivers need volunteers!

"Our mission statement is maintaining older adults in their own home with dignity and independence by people of faith." Drivers needed for local medical appointments. Just once a month would help. "People love what we do for them. But you'll love doing it even more." It's a joyous feeling our volunteers can't get enough of... and we know you will too.

**May 24th is Pentecost Sunday.
Don't forget to wear your Red!**



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

Memoriam Easter Flowers 2026

* In Memory Of:

- * Rev. John Sharp by The Sharp Family (3 azaleas)
- * Clayton Jordan by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Mary & Clyde Smith by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Don Ashton Sr. by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Dr. John K Sharp by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Loved Ones by Dan & Vickie Leone (3 Tulips)
- * Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Beeson by Pauline R. Semans
[\(Tulip\)](#)
- * Mrs. Sarah Beeson Semans by Pauline R. Semans
(Tulip)
- * Henrietta B. Semans by Pauline R. Semans (Tulip)
- * Lawrence S. Semans by Pauline R. Semans (Tulip)
- * Pauline & Arch Barnhart by Pam & John Barnhart
(Mum)
- * Laretta & Raleigh Hughes by Pam & John Barnhart
(Mum)
- * Loved Ones by Cindy Jones (2 Tulips & Azalea)
- * Libby & Jim Fox by Susan Fox (Tulips)
- * Family by Lourie Stewart (Hyacinth)
- * Ted & Elaine Fike by Mark & Joy Fike (Mum)
- * Harry & Betty Walls by Mark & Joy Fike (Mum)
- * Mildred Selong by Bill & Linda King (Tulip)
- * Sara B Honsaker by Bill & Linda King (Tulip)
- * Antoinette Everett by Bill & Linda King (Tulip)

Honorary Easter Flowers 2026

***In Honor Of**

- * Clara Link by Bill & Linda King (Tulip)
- * Mary Ellen Robinson by Bill & Linda King (Tulip)
- * To the Glory of God by Anonymous
(3 Easter Lillies)
- * Vicki Leone, by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Terry & John Sharp, by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Tonye Sharp, by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Tracy Vargo, by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Randy & Lisa, by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Interfaith Volunteers, by Carol Ashton (Tulip)
- * Loaves & Fishes Volunteers, by Carol Ashton
(Tulip)
- * Our children & granddaughter
by Bill & Karen Dreucci (Tulip)
- * Trinity UPC Music Ministry by The Woodford
Family (Tulip, Azalea & Hyacinth)
- * Dr. William P. Haller by Baden R Woodford
(Hyacinth)
- * The Easter Festival Ensemble
by Baden R. Woodford (Hyacinth)

SMALL GROUP

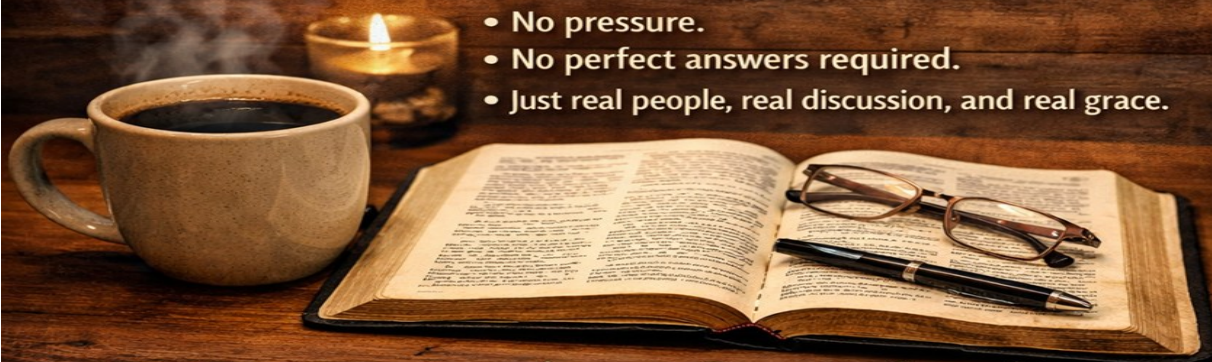
EVERY TUESDAY • 5:00 P.M.



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.

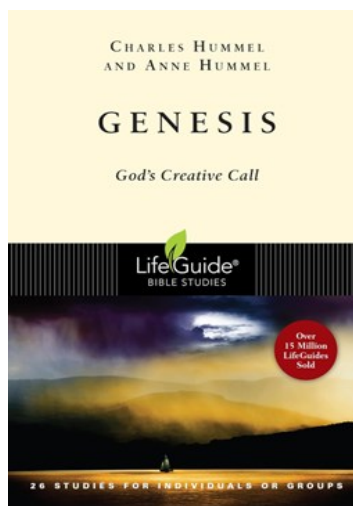
- No pressure.
- No perfect answers required.
- Just real people, real discussion, and real grace.



Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend!

Trinity United Presbyterian Church

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



Do you struggle to know and follow God's call for you in the world? In this study on Genesis, we will learn how even the giants of faith like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph struggled to obey their Creator. But Genesis also reveals the amazing truth that the God who called a world and a nation into being also calls each of us to serve God faithfully.

Darts & Devotions



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

Adult Sunday School

Meets every Sunday at 10:00



Deacons will meet the second Sunday of each month. The next Deacons Meeting will be May 10th at 9:00 am. No meetings during the summer and then will resume the second Sunday in August.



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.



Upcoming Youth Group Activities

May 7th @ 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group Karaoke

May 14th @ 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

May 21st @ 5:30 p.m. - Youth Group

May 28th @ 5:00 p.m. - Youth Group Pool Party

June 11th @ 6:00 p.m. Miniature Golf

June 25th @ 6:00 p.m. Sweet Frogs

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

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



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!

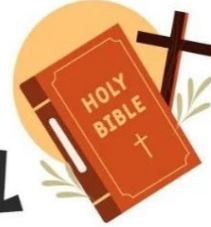
All Kids Welcome!

Bring a Friend!

Needed empty paper towel rolls.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



D E D S B Z H B J T B Y V O A
W K J Y F J N J I N J H Y W D
M O S E S T I O B B O Q R B A
E Z Y U C X J S J A L N X I M
C R C Q R U M E G O D E U K A
Q D N Q I P V P S M T W T W N
E V H Q P R F H S U E T B Z D
T G W P T A B N N A S E X H E
B O K W U I H Q O E T S K Z V
Y L K N R N D K A O A T D M E
B I A E E B E P H D M A R W Y
S A M P S O N A S A E M Q A Q
E T I D C W Q I A V N E N L P
M H O L Y S P I R I T N G A L
I S V F Y P F S K D D T A M W

ADAM AND EVE

BIBLE

DAVID

GOD

GOLIATH

HOLY SPIRIT

JESUS

JOSEPH

MOSES

NEW TESTAMENT

NOAHS ARK

OLD TESTAMENT

RAINBOW

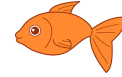
SAMPSON

SCRIPTURES

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 meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month, at 11:30 am at Nae Nae's Restaurant 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

Reservations are appreciated by the day before. Thanks!



Book Journey

**Book Journey will meet on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 11:30 am
at Red Lobster.**

The book is "The God of the Woods" by Liz Moore.

Book Journey will meet on Tuesday, June 21, 2026 11:30 am at Rizz's

*The Book is "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo"
by Taylor Jenkins Reed.*

*All are welcome! If you would like to check us out, please join us at any
monthly meeting. You don't need to read the book to join us!*

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

OR

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

Memorial Day Word Search

R E M S A L U T E S F L A G P
O E L A M A F R E E D O M E A
B A S A C R I F I C E I E M R
E L E P E M A Y C R A T R I A
T T U M E M O R I A L E I L D
H Y R E U C H E R O E S C I E
O U O N S A T E H I N G A T S
C M E R W H I S O H S U S A H
R E M E M B R A N C E R W R O
E C M D A L F E O D R E H Y L
S T H E R O S A R A V T I E I
O R I A T E M E L Y I T T M D
S O L D I E R S R L C E E I A
T O C O L E R F R E E C B A Y
I T M O N D A Y D O T N U E L



AMERICA
BLUE
CEMETERY
FALLEN
FLAG
FREEDOM
HEROES

HOLIDAY
HONOR
MAY
MEMORIAL
MILITARY
MONDAY
PARADE
RED

REMEMBRANCE
RESPECT
SACRIFICE
SALUTE
SERVICE
SOLDIERS
WHITE



*If you like handbell music one of the churches of the
Redstone Presbytery is hosting
The Pittsburgh Handbells at the
First Presbyterian Church
See info below:*

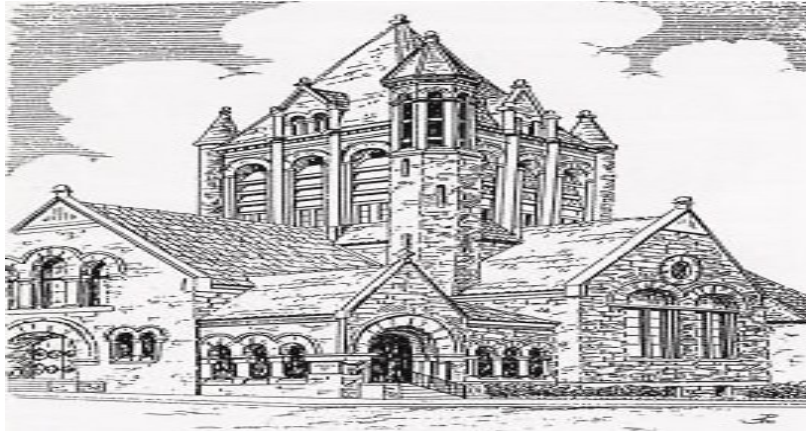
We Journey, Celebrate, and Remember
Ring Pittsburgh Handbell Concert
Sunday, May 31, 2026 2pm

First Presbyterian Church

300 S Main Street

Greensburg, PA 15601





The Staff

James Vlosich, Discipleship Coordinator
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