



A publication of Trinity United Presbyterian Church



TOUCHSTONE

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Trinity United Presbyterian Church
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Worship | Service | Proclaim | Discipleship | Community



*She is not afraid of snow for her household,
For all her household is clothed with scarlet.*

Proverbs 31:21 NKJV

Weekly Services @ Trinity

Youth Group

Opening up in conversation can be difficult. This task becomes more difficult when the conversation includes other students who are your age. Understanding this, at Youth Group we never want to make a teenager feel awkward when sharing what's on their heart. A teenager might feel this same "awkwardness" when praying to God. Starting in January, we will be learning about prayer and talking about the role that prayer has in our walk with Jesus. Our prayer for those in the Youth Group that may still be struggling to connect with God in prayer is that they learn that prayer is not about saying the perfect and holy "Christian words", but instead prayer is about coming to God with sincerity and sharing what is on their heart.

Youth Group

Thursdays @ 5:30 p.m.

With James V.

Young Adult Small Group

One of my favorite parts of being in a small group is the relationships we get to build through the weeks. The other week, the group had planned to play a game before the lesson. We encourage playing games together because of the fun and laughter we share while participating. This one week, for different reasons, all the kids except one were unable to join us for small group. The young adult who came brought a game for us to play, but the only problem was it was just Caitlin and myself to join in on the game. This ended up not being a problem at all. We had the idea to bring the game to Panera Bread and play while having some delicious pastries! It was a blast doing this. In between laughs we even got to share stories and learn about one another on a deeper level. Even though that week had the lowest attendance of the year, it ended up being one of my favorite small group get-togethers.

YASG

Wednesdays @ 5:00

With James V.

Adult Sunday School
Sundays 10-10:45 a.m.



There is never a bad time to sign up for Sunday School here at Trinity, and by sign up I mean show up! Throughout the fall and winter months, we will be learning about Moses and how God has always been a provider. The set up of the class is fairly simple. We give you a devotion style lesson book (which you read during the week) and on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. you come to class (in Carol Ashton's InterFaith of-fice), and we talk about the week's lesson. If you want to be a part of an amazing Sunday School conversation, please see me or anyone in the group and we would love to give you a lesson book!

Sunday School

Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.

With James V.

Darts and Devotions

Every Thursday at 10:00 A.M.
Devotions by Doug Yauger



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"How Can You Tell We Are Alive?"

People are Looking for a Church. People are Looking for a Church where they can Worship with Joy and Meaning. People are Looking for a Church where they can know, without a doubt, they are Welcome, Needed and Wanted. People are Looking for a Church where they can know the Church is providing ministry To/For/With Youth.

"One of the primary missions of every generation of church leaders is to hand the faith and the church over to the next generation. Practically speaking, churches that fail to reach young adults will struggle far more a decade from now, than churches that don't."

"Americans evaluate churches based on their friendliness, children's programs, worship music, sermons and pastors, according to the February Church Leaders Survey. U.S. church leaders were asked to list three criteria that Americans prioritize when choosing a church. While there was a variety of answers, 80 percent of the responses fell into the categories of friendliness (19%), children's programs (19%), worship music (16%), sermons (14%) and pastors (12%)." In relation to these percentages: I know people start their evaluation of Trinity within 45 seconds of when they pull into the parking lots. Greg Johnson, president of Standing Together, said, "People are consumers - like it or not - without a friendly, attractive and energetic first impression, they will usually not return for a second impression." In their comments, many church leaders noted **that people's priorities in churches change as they enter different stages in their lives and faith.** Joseph Tkach, president of Grace Communion International, said, "The choice of which church to attend has a basis in the needs of the family. If there are children, then child and family-based programs are very, very important."

Today there are still plenty of people looking for a Church; but it is not your grandmother's Church. So, be careful of presenting a Church to our modern culture that is ready for 1952 to come around again. If we want to not just survive, but instead be victorious...apply the 5 following ideas.

1. Character and an Authentic Experience in a Church Matters Most.

2. Budget Matters Less.

Integrity and authenticity cost you nothing financially but cost deeply in your personal walk with Christ and his body, the church.

3. Relationships Count a lot.

4. The Model Does Not Matter.

"Every church has models for ministry...churches that love their models for ministry more than their mission **will die.**"

5. Leverage What You Do Well.

Today, people around us are a "generation that has been marketed to more than any generation in human history. They can smell cheese, 'out-of-date' and fake a mile away. Being real matters more than doing...but doing still matters. **So, continue to do the best you can with what you have.** Make the changes you feel called to make, regardless of your church size, budget, setting or denomination. Continue to make your ministry better, but still, work harder on your character than you do on your competency."

Find out what works in our community and do not be afraid to do it, now!



January Worship Outlines

Jan. 1 New Year's Day --- Newness Theme: Should We Allow God to do a New Thing?

Advent 2022 Theme: Recognizing and Connecting
 Recognizing Jesus Connecting with Jesus 2
 Passages: John 14:6, John 1:12 Message: "Letting God Rule"
 Notes: "Five Ways to Strengthen Your Relationship with God"

Jan. 6 --- Epiphany of the Lord

Jan. 8 Baptism of the Lord Theme: Worship
 Advent 2022 Theme: Recognizing and Connecting
 Recognizing Jesus Connecting with Jesus 3
 Passages: Matthew 2:1-2; Isaiah 9:6-7 Message: "We have Come to Worship Him!"

Jan. 15 Second Sunday after Epiphany Theme: Strength in Principles
 Passage: 1 John 5:1-5 Drama:
 Message: "If you love me, obey my commands" (and my commands are not burdensome...)"
 Notes: 1 John 5:1-5 Faith in the Incarnate Son of God

Jan. 16 --- Birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.

Jan. 18 --- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Jan. 22 Third Sunday after Epiphany Theme: Excellence
 Passage: Philippians 4:8 Message: "Think About Such Things"
 Drama: Notes:

Jan. 29 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
 Theme: Physical Involvement in Mission
 Passage: Colossians 4:2-6 Message: "The Mission-Driven Life"
 Drama: Notes: "Being In The Game"

Feb. 5 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
 Theme: Forgiveness Message: "Setting Yourself Free"
 Passages: I John 1:9; Hebrew 8:12; Proverbs 17:9-10
 Drama: Notes:

30 BIBLE VERSES

on

EXCELLENCE

1 Corinthians 12:31	Job 32:8
1 Corinthians 15:58	Joshua 1:8
1 John 3:2	Matthew 22:37
1 Peter 2:9	Matthew 5:16
1 Thessalonians 4:10	Philippians 4:13
1 Timothy 6:11	Philippians 4:8
2 Corinthians 8:7	Proverbs 17:27
2 Peter 1:5	Proverbs 22:29
2 Peter 1:9	Proverbs 31:30
2 Timothy 3:16	Proverbs 4:23
Colossians 3:23	Psalms 119:99
Daniel 5:12	Psalms 71:21
Daniel 6:3	Psalms 8:1
Ecclesiastes 9:10	Romans 12:2
Isaiah 12:5	Titus 2:7

Connect Us



Notes From The Bench



-by Brett Vanderlaan

NOTE: Last month's column on Toccatas was inadvertently cut short, so this month here is the full-length version of the article. The text that was missing is in the larger font.

Toccatas

One of the titles (or types of pieces) you may see frequently as an organ voluntary is a **toccata**. I have previously discussed *imitation* (including fugues, fughettsas, and canons) and *variations* as the basis for preludes, offertories and postludes. This column will introduce some background and description of toccatas.

The term "toccata" essentially means "to touch, hit, or tap" and is usually applied to instrumental works, almost exclusively keyboard pieces. As a side note, "sonata" relates to the concept of "to sound" and also usually applies to instrumental works while "cantata" is related to "to sing" or "song" and commonly indicates a vocal or choral piece.

Toccatas were first introduced in the Renaissance Period as a type of improvisatory-sounding piece played on a keyboard instrument. The sense of improvisation came from the absence of strict formal or rhythmic structure typical in most chamber, dance, and sacred music of the time. Toccatas often employed extended passages of rapid notes (*figuration*) that gave the music a unique degree of flair or sparkle. As the concept of the toccata developed, these aspects came to be expected characteristics of any piece given this moniker.

In the Baroque Period, toccatas became a regular choice for composers of organ compositions. These were usually "showy" pieces that could display the broad resources of a pipe organ, including prominent use of the pedals. Some of J. S. Bach's most recognized organ pieces are his toccatas - often paired with a fugue in the same musical key (e.g. Toccatas and Fugues in D minor BWV 565). Most Baroque toccatas do not have a distinct melodic line, but are characterized more by a sense of perpetual motion. Therefore, they are not usually related to or based upon a particular source tune (like a chorale or folk song).

In the 19th Century, organ composers expanded the toccata to include a typically broad or slow melodic line - often played in the pedal while the rapid note passages (*figuration*) continue in one or both of the hands. In some of the more complex examples, one hand will play the figuration while the other hand plays rhythmic chords or other harmonic material, all over the broad melody in the pedal (e.g. Charles-Marie Widor's "Toccatas" movement from his Symphony No. 5 for organ, Op. 42).

More modern toccatas for organ may use a hymn tune or other song as the melodic line. These pieces are often titled "Toccatà on <TUNE>" where the TUNE is either the tune name or hymn title (e.g. David Cherwien's Toccatà on "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"). These works will still usually include flashy figuration, though the melodic line may also appear in the hands, and the pedal part may incorporate double pedalling where both feet play notes at the same time.

Given the brilliant nature of toccatas, they are most likely to be used as post-ludes, though one may be played in other situations as well.

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God alone)

Note: References for some material in this column:

A History of Western Music, 4th ed., Donald Jay Grout and Claude V. Palisca, Norton, 1988.

The New Harvard Dictionary of Music, Don Michael Randel, ed., Belknap Press, 1986.



Come one, come all! to game night on Sunday, January 29th, from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided. Bring along a game to share. Hosted By Church Family.

Trinity's 2022 Harvest Table

This year's Thanksgiving harvest table display was especially specular. All of the vegetables and fruit was given to the Salvation Army to be served at their daily means.



Happy Birthday

Harvey King	1/05	Jane Walsh	1/16
John Barnhart	1/06	Tanya Shaffer	1/17
Kristin Williams	1/06	Nathan Maxwell	1/18
Doug Yauger	1/06	LeeAnn Spellman	1/19
Sally Franks	1/07	Jacob Cahn	1/25
Macy Shaffer	1/12	Melissa Duley	1/25
Wade McMahon	1/14	Jeff Martine	1/27
John Caton	1/15	Pam Porterfield	1/29
Brandi Shanaberger	1/15		

*Happy Anniversary*

Don and Carol Ashton 1/20 (60 years)

amazonsmile

When you are shopping on Amazon, now you can select Trinity United Presbyterian Church as your charitable organization.

A percentage of your purchase will be sent to the church! Type in the following address to start shopping:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1117862>



Trinity Preschool

We are still accepting enrollments for the 2022-2023 school year!

If you didn't know, our preschool currently offers two classes for children from 3-5 years of age. We provide high-quality preschool curriculum focused on getting children ready for kindergarten while also starting them off with a strong, spiritual foundation! Classes are taught by certified, experienced teachers.

If any church member is wanting to support the preschool, we would be grateful for donations of white card stock, colored card stock, printer paper, paper plates and Clorox wipes. Any monetary donations are also welcome & appreciated to help these children learn their basics for school as well as God in a Godly environment!

Classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am-11:30 and an afternoon class from 12:30p.m-3p.m.

For more information, contact director Emily Bowers at 724-812-2862.

Style Show



Saturday, March 11, 2023
Style Show "Bite of Glitz"
From: 11:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Duck Hollow Golf Club
374 Duck Hollow Rd,
Uniontown, PA 15401

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Fayette Inc.
Information call Carol @ 724-438-0709

Interfaith Missions

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 next luncheon is Wednesday, January 11th from 11-2.

For more information call Carol @ 724-438-0709



"Soup for the Soul"

-Trinity has a new program, to help with people who are shut in's, sick, injured, etc. If you can make some soup, please label with what kind of soup and the date it was made, and drop it off at the Trinity church during office hours.

If you are too busy to cook, [Kacie's Sports Cafe](http://www.kaciesportscafe.com) (724-550-4126) is willing to take orders. [When you call, be sure to say it's for Trinity United Presbyterian Church's "Soup for the Soul"](#) for a special price. They will prepare it, then you just pick it up & deliver it to the Trinity Church.

Kacie's Sports Café
243 S. Mt. Vernon Ave.
Uniontown, PA 15401



“Loaves ‘N’ Fishes” Items

Every Tuesday @10:00 a.m. if interested in volunteering at the Interfaith Office (Call Carol 724-438-0709)

The following items are needed to prepare lunch for the homeless and anyone who needs food.



Cookies (sandwich size bags made up for 24 people)
(2-3 cookies per bag)



Bags of fruit (already packaged in the store)



Loaves of bread (2 loaves per week)

Individual snack bags (come prepackaged in the store)
(chips, pretzels, etc.)

Please just drop off your “gifts” any time the church is open!

-Interfaith Office- Mon-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

-Church Office- Mon-Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Trinity Food Pantry

Canned, dry goods & non-perishables are welcome into our food pantry for the needy & homeless.

Trinity Blanket Drive



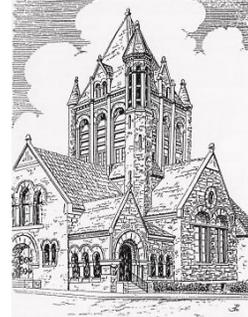
Trinity is collecting brand new blankets for St. Vincent De Paul to distribute to the needy.



Nursery is available during the Sunday Morning Worship from 11:00 a.m. -



Jim Gear, Pastor
James Vlosich, Discipleship Coordinator
Bill Dreucci, Director of Music
Brett Vanderlaan, Organist/Children's Choir Director
Rachel Vlosich/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.

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