

TIDINGS

April 2025

TRINITY TOWER
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Page 1
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor Steve's Messages	2
Shepherds Update	3
What's Coming?	4
Anniversaries and Birthdays	5
Get Togethers	6
Outreach/Missions	7
Kids and Family	8

May Editor
Patti
Articles due
April 15

*Please Join Us For
Worship*

**Celebration Worship
10:00 am**

Nursery available

Live stream available

Trinity Tower Church UMC

trinitytowerchurch@yahoo.com

www.trinitytowerchurch.com



Sunday April 13
Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday April 17 Service 7:00pm
Friday April 18 Good Friday 7:30pm



Saturday April 19
Pancake and Sausage
breakfast at the church
9:30am to 11:00am
Come hungry one and all!

After the pancakes....
Easter Egg hunt 11 am
Come READY TO HUNT!



Wednesday April 23
Covered dish dinner 5:30pm

Ministers Council Music Concert
7:00 pm at the church

Pastor Steve is
conducting the Choir!



PASTOR STEVE'S SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR APRIL

April 6		Fifth Sunday in Lent
	Message: "Abound in Hope" <i>Romans 15:13</i>	
# 714	"I Know Whom I Have Believed"	
# 368	"My Hope Is Built"	
April 13	Communion Sunday	Palm/Passion Sunday
	Message: "The Passion"	<i>Luke 22:14 – 23:56</i>
# 278	"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"	
# 277	"Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"	
April 17		Maundy Thursday
	Message: "The New Commandment" <i>John 13:1-17, 31-35</i>	
# 617	"I Come with Joy"	
# 618	"Let Us Break Bread Together"	
# 641	"Fill My Cup, Lord"	
April 18		Good Friday
	Message: "Darkness" <i>John 18:1 – 19:42</i>	
April 20		Easter Sunday
	Message: "With Open Eyes" <i>John 20:1-18</i>	
# 302	"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"	
# 322	"Up from the Grave He Arose"	
April 27		Second Sunday of Easter
	Message: "The Breath of Jesus" <i>John 20:18-31</i>	
# 318	"Christ Is Alive"	
# 420	"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"	

Praying For Our Church

Trinity Tower Church is in a difficult season, and we will only make it through with God's help and guidance. We are asking each of you to regularly pray for:

Our church and our mission in the world.

God to lead those who lead our church

Here is one suggested prayer that you can use to pray for our church.

God, we ask you to **Inspire** us, **Direct** us, **Equip** us, and **Amaze** us.

Inspire in us a vision of how TTUMC can best serve You and build Your kingdom. Give us insight into ways we can not only *survive* but *thrive*.

Direct our actions to fulfill the vision You have given us. May we see the steps you would have us take, and may we take those steps in faith.

Equip us with the skills and resources we need to faithfully follow Your directions and accomplish Your will.

Amaze us as we watch Your church and kingdom grow!

Some Bible verses to guide your prayers

James 1:5, Proverbs 3:5,6, Psalm 119:125, Proverbs 2:3-5

Join us as we cover our church in prayer.

Purses and Bag Ministry

Here is a sample list of items we include:

Small pack of tissues	Toothpaste	Toothbrush
Shampoo	Hand Sanitizer	Bar Soap
Conditioner	Lotion	Deodorant
Comb	Emory boards	Razors (shaving cream if possible)
Devotionals (gently used Our Daily Bread or Upper Room)		

We deliver to area shelters and missions. (VA programs, Goodwill, Gwen's Girls, battered women shelters, St. Joseph House of Hospitality, Shepherd's Heart, etc.)

Some of the ministries who received our purses & bags have asked if we could include socks.

Would you please consider donating socks, too, if you can? Thank you!

Intercessory Prayer

Our church has many active caring ministries. One of those ministries is a prayer chain ministry. When someone has a need, he/she requests prayer, and the chair of that ministry sends an email to the people involved. In that way, we are actively engaged in intercessory prayer. Quite simply, intercessory prayers are praying on behalf of others, and we do it often here at Trinity Tower United Methodist Church.

Has anyone ever asked you to pray for them or someone else? I'm certain most of you can answer "yes" to that question. But did you do it? I would hope that you did; however, a week or so later were you still praying? Well, honestly, it has happened to me and even when my intentions were good, I sometimes forgot to **continue** to pray for that person.

Our Lord has asked us to pray for others. The Bible is clear that *all* Christians are called to be intercessors. "As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by failing to pray for you" ~ 1 Samuel 12:23. All Christians have the Holy Spirit in their hearts; and just as He intercedes for us, we are to intercede for one another. God calls all Christians to be intercessors. It is God's desire that every believer be active in intercessory prayer.

On a personal level, this week I have been incredibly involved in intercessory prayer. It seems that several of my friends have been concerned about a loved one's health and asked for help. At the beginning of every day, I always ask the Lord to send me to the person He would like to speak to through me that particular day. I know when I speak to them that the words coming out of my mouth are His words, not mine. The Lord has spoken to several people through me this week, and I thank Him for using me in this way.

So, how can we become better at intercessory prayer? Praying about it comes first. But what about keeping a prayer list in a journal? On one page, you could list prayers that you pray every day - this would include your family and closest friends. The next several pages might include a page for each day of the week; then by adding people's names and what to pray for each day, it would ensure that you'd pray for those people or issues at least once a week. Also, I might suggest making a copy of the prayer concerns from the worship service and/or Zoom prayer meeting and using that list to help remember all the needs for that week.

We are blessed to have so many members involved in intercessory prayer. If you would like to be added to the prayer list, just ask Karen or me. We'd be happy to add you. What a wonderful privilege we have being able to come before Almighty God with our prayers and requests on behalf of ourselves and others!

With love and prayers,
Cheryl
Coordinator of the Shepherds



MISSION RECOVERY TEAM



Paul, Carolyn, and Pastor Dale Reese are leading a Mission Recovery Team to Western North Carolina to repair homes impacted by Hurricane Helene. The group will be working from the base town of Spruce Pine, NC during the week of May 4-10, 2025.

At the time of this writing there are 16 people going on the trip, 8 from our church: Carolyn, Chuck, Eric, Al, Toby, John, Marie & Paul. Eight others are coming from other area churches.

MISSION TEAM FUNDRAISER

In years past, our Mission Team has only had to do one fundraiser to cover the costs. That Fundraiser is called the Mission Team Stock Sale. The idea is people buy 'Stock' in the group for that year.

There are two types of 'Stock' available: Preferred and Common.

Preferred Stock costs \$30. The rights and privileges given the owner of this certificate is a place at the Annual Stockholder's Dinner meeting which will be held on Sunday, June 1, 2025 at Trinity Tower UMC at 5:30pm. At the Stockholder dinner, stockholders will receive dinner, and see and hear about how the 'company' did in its mission work week.

Common Stock cost \$15 and grants the owner of this stock a personal update from the seller about how the 'company' did in its mission work week of May 4-10, 2025.

One can purchase stock from any person going on the trip.

**Mission
Team**

Update from Lost and Found Pharmacy

We are looking to move Lost and Found Pharmacy into a permanent location here in Penn Hills. In order to achieve this, we are going to be attempting a number of fundraising activities. One that we would like to start off suggesting is that people consider donating their change. You don't even need to roll it.

We will be publishing a calendar of events soon that will include a number of our fundraising activities.



Bargains and Blessings

Our "Bargains and Blessings" rummage sale fund-raising event is set for **Saturday, May 24**, from 8:00am to 3:00pm. This promises to be a big event, reaching out into our community, so we'll need help from YOU. Here's how you can take part:

Donate items to be sold. We're looking for a wide variety of items:

- Books/CDs/DVDs (no VHS)
- Clothes/Shoes – Men, Women, Children
- Housewares/Home Goods/Sports Equipment
- Jewelry & Collectibles
- Toys
- Seedlings/starter plants



All items should be in good condition. Items not accepted: CRT monitors, large furniture, items that don't work or are very worn.

Volunteer to help! We'll need:

Volunteers to sort and price items ahead of time and set up tables for the sale. (Those who help ahead of time will have "early bird" access to the "thrifty treasures" on Friday evening!)

People to run sections, greet customers, collect money, straighten up, and help where needed on the day of the sale.

Start some plants! If you're splitting plants such as hostas or decorative grasses, or if you like to plant seedlings, consider setting aside a few for the sale.

Please contact Jean, Karen, or Carolyn to volunteer, or if you have any questions. You can also contact the church office. When you're ready to drop off your goodies, please let one of us know so we can coordinate a time and place. We ask that you label your boxes and bags (clothes, books, housewares, etc.) so we can sort more easily. Thank you!

What About This For Your Easter Shopping?

TTUMC is a member of the **UMCmarket**, a site that channels money from online shopping to the charity of your choice through **iGive**. By shopping online through iGive.com, a percentage of your purchases goes to our church.

Here's what to do:

Go to UMCmarket.org

Join **iGive**

Select *Trinity Tower United Methodist Church* as your charity

Search for participating retailers – and there are many!

Shop through the iGive link; iGive sends a percent of each sale to TTUMC.

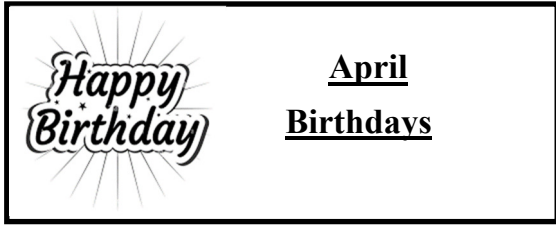
Some of the retailers include: Walmart, Macy's, Ace Hardware, Oriental Trading, Ashley Furniture, Gap, Old Navy, Shutterfly, JC Penney, Kohls, Dick's Sporting Goods, Toms Shoes, Michaels, Better World Books, Ann Taylor, Holiday Inn, Highlights, 1-800-FLOWERS.COM, etc. etc.

Check it out today! And invite your family and friends to check it out also!

"You Shop. Your Charity Gets Money. For Free."



Trinity Tower Anniversaries and Birthdays



April Birthdays

Phyllis E	2
Brett R	2
Dorothy H	4
Megan B	7
John F	7
Gretchen D	10
Jerome C	10
Pat B	14
Josh F	14
Matt P	15
Barbara A	16
Fran C	20
Justin S	21
Kristina M	21
Jill T	23
Melissa C	23
Debbie N	24
Nick L	26
Tyra and Daniece W	26
Rachel R	29
Naomi S	30

Weekly Altar Flowers and Bulletins

FLOWERS

April	Zoeller
April	open
April	open
April	open

BULLETINS

April	Reserved
April	Reserved
April	Reserved
April	Reserved

Please consider sponsoring flowers or bulletins. Flowers cost \$20 and bulletins are \$10. You may sponsor the bulletins in celebration, honor or memory of a special day or person. The sponsors help reduce the cost of the bulletins and altar flowers for our church.



April Anniversaries

Mickey and Debbie P	4
Curt and Diane Z	5
Buck and Diane B	16

Nursery Volunteers

April	Melissa
April	open
April	open
April	Tom & Donna



Please volunteer to help in the nursery on a Sunday morning at 9:00 am! Sign-up sheet in on the table in the Narthex.

Ministers' Chorus Concert and Dinner

Join us on Wednesday, April 23, for an evening of food and music. We'll start off with a covered dish dinner at 5:30pm. The church will provide the meat and beverages; you are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. At 7:00, the *Ministers Chorus of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church*, led by Pastor Steve Morse, will perform a concert guaranteed to lift your spirits! Come and enjoy!



Dates for Your Calendar

- Tuesday April 3rd 6-7:30pm & 17th 5-7pm
Youth group meeting
- Saturday April 12th Church&Youth Movie- "King of Kings"
- Sunday April 13th **Palm Sunday**
- Thursday April 17th **Maundy Thursday**
- Friday April 18th **Good Friday**
- Saturday April 19th **Pancake/Sausage Breakfast 9:30am**
Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 am
- Sunday April 20 **Easter** He Is Risen!



Good Friday's Tenebrae Service

The service of Tenebrae, meaning "darkness" or "shadows," has been practiced by the church since medieval times. Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ's suffering. Scriptures are read, music is shared, and lights are extinguished as we ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death on our behalf and for the whole world. We join Christians of many generations throughout the world in using the liturgy of Tenebrae, and invite you to join us this Good Friday at 7:30pm.



Mohan's for Lunch

All the men of the church are invited join us for brunch at Mohan's in Penn Hills Saturday April 26 at 11:30 am

Handtowels and Wash Clothes

Project "Gwen's Girls"

Gwen's Girls offers a safe place for girls from 3rd-12th. They focus on academic success, mental health, and community service.

GLOW is doing a service project to help out with an existing church ministry. We will be helping to collect supplies for "Gwen's Girls" - filling gallon zip bags with toiletries, wash cloths, and hand towels.

Toiletries to include:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Tissues | Toothbrush |
| Toothpaste | Emery boards |
| Lip balm | Hand Sanitizer |
| Deodorant | Shampoo |
| Conditioner | Soap |
| Lotion | |

Missions and Outreach Report

Knead Community Café – 2024 Year in Review

Through our Grab N Go and Breaking Bread Community food offerings as well as our Pay What You Can model, tokens, and volunteer meals, 17,242 grace meals were provided.

We served 34,642 meals through our café dining service and our outreach efforts. Through the kindness of our café patrons, we received 4,480 donations totaling \$66,294. These generous supporters helped us provide meals to those in need and assist with our café operations.

We have the most incredible volunteers who have dedicated so generously of their time this year and every year! They logged 11,530 hours of volunteer time last year. Without volunteers, we couldn't fulfill our mission. Thanks to all.

Red Bird Christian School, Beverly, Kentucky

Our High School at Red Bird Christian School is focused on creating the leaders of tomorrow. Our education system is faith based and Christ oriented. Our high school students have three options for a degree path. Our students can choose to pursue a regular diploma, a STEAM oriented certificate, or take high school and college dual credit classes. Any pathway a student chooses to take leads to a stronger understanding of faith and allows students to be successful after high school.

From last year's graduating class, 69% are attending College and 31% are attending Community & Technical School.

John Wesley Medical Boat (a United Methodist Advance-supported mission)

The Amazon region is one of the most impoverished areas of Brazil. While there is wealth and development in its capital Manaus, medical and dental service does not reach the majority of the population of this area. Most river villages only receive sporadic assistance and most major medical and dental needs must be filled in the capital that is often several days boat ride away. Preventative medicine is almost non-existent. The John Wesley Medical boat reaches thousands of people each year through Brazilian and international volunteers. These work teams travel to specific areas where help is needed. The local villagers know when the boat is coming and come by the hundreds to receive help. The boat has also sponsored training events in many of the villages taking professors and students from Methodist universities in Brazil to work with the villagers in preventative medicine and dental hygiene.

American Bible Society

Thank you for your support in 2024. You helped to have an enormous impact. The American Bible Society was able to place God's Word into thousands of hands. Lives were transformed. You helped to shine the light of God's presence and the hope of the Gospel into some very dark places.

Prayer Squares

We put out the request for some knit or crocheted squares for us to give out. Susan Wagner is our top knitter. She provided us with more than we could've expected. Thank You Susan!! This will be another ministry that got off to a great start....

Thank you to WOW for pinning the notes onto 230 squares!

Thank you EVERYONE!



From the Outreach Team

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Eastertime Military Connections.

Kathy, director of the preschool is doing the delivery to them for us.

Thank you Kathy!

KIDS AND FAMILY STUFF

Glow

GLOW meets weekly on Tuesdays from 6-7:30pm for children in grades K-6 in the fellowship hall. Join us for games, snacks, crafts, and fun Bible lessons! Bring a friend, make some new ones! We hope to see you there! If you have any questions, or are interested in volunteering, please contact Crystal.

Youth Group

Youth group is open to students in grades 6-12. We will meet every other Thursday in the youth room from 6pm-8pm. Join us in growing and exploring our faith, games, prayer, and friendship. April dates are 4/3 and 4/17. This month during youth group, we will be learning about Lent and Easter. We will hold a special youth- group-only Easter egg hunt on 4/17 during our normal meeting time. Crystal is in need of safe sanctuary volunteers. Please contact Crystal if you are willing to spend a night with the youth.

Pancakes and Egg Hunt

We are excited to announce the return of the all- you- can- eat pancake and sausage breakfast at this year's annual easter egg hunt. The event will take place on Saturday April 19th from 9:30am-12pm. Breakfast will be served from 9:30am-11am. The cost is \$5 per person for all you can eat pancakes and sausage, children 3 and under are free with a paying adult. The Easter egg hunt will take place at 11am. Free barrel train rides will be available from 10am-12pm. There will be a visit from the Easter bunny with the opportunity for adults to take photos of their little ones with the bunny, games, and crafts. The egg hunt is open to children birth-age 12. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the breakfast, please contact Paul or the church office. If you are interested in helping with the Easter egg hunt, games, crafts, set-up, or clean- up, please contact Crystal or the church office. Invite your friends, neighbors, grandkids, and everyone you know! Flyers are available if you'd like some to hand out or post, please contact the office.

Trinity Tower at the Movies

On Saturday, April 12th at 3:20pm, please join us at the AMC Waterfront 22 movie theatre. We will see the movie "King of Kings". Join us at 300 W Waterfront Dr, West Homestead, PA 15120

A film synopsis:

"A father tells his son the greatest story ever told, and what begins as a bedtime tale becomes a life-changing journey. Through vivid imagination, the boy walks alongside Jesus, witnessing His miracles, facing His trials, and understanding His ultimate sacrifice. The King of Kings invites us to re-discover the enduring power of hope, love, and redemption through the eyes of a child" What better way to celebrate the Easter Season than getting together to see this new film.

The Finance Committee is Looking for Volunteers

- **Counter support (2-3 people)** - this is a commitment for 4 months of the year. We have three teams that count weekly givings to submit to the Financial Secretary. One team dissolved at the end of 2024, so we are looking to replace them. The months that are open are Mar, June, Sep, and Dec for 2025. We will provide the necessary training for anyone interested. Please reach out to Ali if you are interested in helping. Thank you!

Financial Update

Here is the numbers for our church so far this year.

January:	February:
Income: \$38,983	Income: \$13,088
Expenses: \$18,207	Expense: \$15,565

