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NEW Combined Service
10 am

Nursery available

Live Stream available

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What's Happening

Mission Team Work Trip - May 4 -10

Spruce Pine, NC

Keep them in your prayers!



Family Ministry Paint & Plant

Friday, May 9

6:30 pm

Please RSVP by 5/7

(See page 6)



Mother's Day Sunday, May 11

Election Day Bake Sale

Tuesday, May 20

We need donations of baked goods

(See page 7)



Bargains & Blessings

Rummage Sale



Saturday, May 24

8 am - 3 pm

(See page 3)

Memorial Day

Monday, May 26



**SAVE
the
DATE**

Sock Hop
Sunday, July 27

PASTOR STEVE'S SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR MAY

May 4	Third Sunday of Easter	John 21:1-19 <i>Message: "Going Back to...."</i>
May 11	Communion Sunday Mother's Day	Fourth Sunday of Easter John 10: 22-30 <i>Message "If You Want to Know, Look"</i>
May 18	Shepherds Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Easter John 13:31-35 <i>Message "Love One Another"</i>
May 25	Sixth Sunday of Easter	John 14: 23-29 <i>Message "Don't Worry"</i>

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!

The Idea Prayer

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 Our faith grow!

Some Bible verses to guide your prayers:

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

Praying this prayer puts God in control, letting Him guide all our efforts.

Please join us in prayer!

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY



Thursdays
7:00 – 8:00 pm
Contact Marie
to join

PRAYER GROUP

Monday Nights

on Zoom

7 pm

Contact Karen or George to join



Welcome to Pastor Drew Gordon

Our new part time Pastor, Pastor Drew Gordon, will begin July 1st at Trinity Tower with his first church service on Sunday, July 6.

Pastor Drew Gordon currently serves as the senior Pastor of the United Methodist Charge for Christ, serving five churches in Armstrong and Indiana Counties. He is a member of the Superintendency Committee, Lay Servant Ministry Committee, and Youth Committee for the Indiana District, and previously served on the Anti-Racism Committee in the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference. He teaches in the Indiana District Lay Servant Ministry School and recently joined the Conference Minister's Chorus.

Drew is married to his wife, Jenny for 29 years. She is also a Pastor who will become a Provisional Elder later this year. Together, they have four children and three grandchildren. Drew enjoys playing the drums, and has worked in community theater as an actor, director, and house musician.

Drew graduated from the Pastor Licensing School in April 2018 and began working bivocationally. After 30 years of broadcasting radio as a Production Manager, News Director and On-Air Talent, Drew retired in 2019. He is a licensed Local Pastor and continues his education in Course of Study at the Methodist Theological Seminary in Ohio.



Bargains and Blessings, Sat., May 24

Our "Bargains and Blessings" rummage sale fund-raising event is this month! It's 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 a lot of help to make it work. Here's how you can take part:

Donate items to be sold. We're looking for a wide variety of items from a wide range of categories. (Check with us if you're not sure about an item.)

- The last day to donate will be **Thurs., May 22**, except for split plants and seedlings. These can be dropped off as late as the morning (early) of the sale.
- A volunteer will be at the church every evening, **M-Th, 6:00pm-8:00pm**, of the week prior to the sale to accept donations. Use the Fellowship Hall door.
- We ask that you label your boxes and bags (clothes, books, toys, etc.) so we can sort more easily.
- If you split plants such as irises or hostas, or would be willing to plant seedlings, we would love to have some for the sale!

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. (NOTE: Those who help set up 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. We need YOU!

We're looking for:

- Folding tables & card tables (to borrow)
- Clothes hangers

Please contact Jean, Karen or Carolyn to volunteer, or if you have any questions. You can also contact the church office.

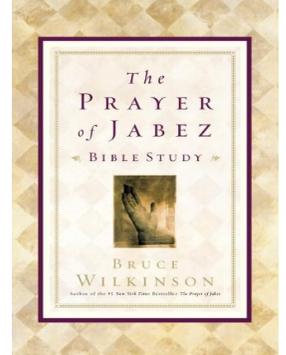


Praying the Prayer of Jabez – Let's Try it!

~ I Chronicles 4:10 "Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, Oh, that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!" And God granted him what he requested.

It happened again! I had been working on an article for this month's Tidings, but after hearing Pastor Steve's message one recent Sunday, I realized that the Lord wanted me to switch topics and share an experience I had a while ago after reading Bruce Wilkinson's book, *The Prayer of Jabez*. I have often shared with you that the words I write in the Shepherds column in the Tidings are not my words but God's words.

Pastor Steve's message spoke to me because of an experience I had while teaching at Shady Side Academy Junior School. During the summer, my friend and prayer partner and I read the book, *The Prayer of Jabez*. We followed Dr. Wilkinson's advice at the end of the book to make the prayer a part of our daily lives. He asked that we: 1) pray the prayer every morning and keep track of our progress; 2) put the prayer in our Bible, on the bathroom mirror, or with our morning devotions – any place where we'd be reminded to do it; 3) reread the book once a week asking God to show us anything we may have missed; 4) tell one other person of our commitment and ask that person to check on us; 5) record any changes in our lives, especially a divine appointment or new opportunity; 6) finally, start praying the Jabez prayer for our families, friends, and churches. We don't have because we don't ask. We must ASK!



We followed through with that plan, and the results for me were quite amazing! At the time, I thought of my "territory" as my circle of influence within my family, friends, church, and school. I was content professionally where I was and had no plans to leave the school I loved. But, God had other plans for me. BIG plans-plans to enlarge my territory. Eventually, I was asked to move to the Sr. School and become the Director of our school's Self-Study. (At the time, Shady Side had three separate campuses; I was on one of them.) Self-study is the process a school goes through to become reaccredited. This promotion meant that I had to physically move to the large Sr. School campus in Fox Chapel and become the one in charge of preparing the entire academy-curriculum, facilities, faculty, maintenance, housekeeping, etc.- for a visit by a team of educators to evaluate us and give us our "10 year report card."

Suffice it to say that I realized what God was doing through me. I had many experiences during that time that allowed me to share my love of the Lord, even though Shady Side is not religiously affiliated. I didn't know at the time, but this experience eventually led me back to Junior School (grades PK-5) as the Head of School.

Why not try it yourself? I challenge you to make this prayer a part of your daily life. Pastor Steve gave each of us a card with the above scripture on it. He asked us to put it where we'd see it every day. If you did not receive a card that Sunday, I'm sure you could type that verse and put it on the bathroom mirror so you'll remember to pray it every day. Of course, just hanging the prayer on the bathroom mirror won't make things happen. You have to believe that God is listening and that something will happen. You must want to reach for more to become all that God has for you. Let's all try it! For the month of May, let's all pray the prayer of Jabez and watch and see what happens. I'm excited to hear about your experiences!

Love and prayers,
Cheryl
Coordinator of the Shepherds

Music Ministry

May is the month that marks the end of the bell choir seasons until September. We have enjoyed the talents of church members and friends of our congregation.



and vocal choir of so many of our members. Thanks to everyone who has participated in the music ministry this year. We want to continue to be uplifted by the ministry of music during the summer months – by having individuals or groups provide music for the Sundays in June, July, and August. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the narthex bulletin board for those who wish to share their music during our worship services in summer.

Trinity Tower Family News



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Kevin M	2
Marge B	10
Dennis H	10
Brianna A	10
Esther M	10
Carol K	10
Stephanie R	12
Eileen M	13
David B	14
Joe M	15
Howard B	16
Bob K	17
Alyssa M	17
Jake W	18
Ellowyn K	18
Liam K	18
Jesse T	21
Matthew W	21
Ben L	21
Jarrold S	22
Daniel B	22
Ron P	23
Dave E	29
George R	30



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

George and Carol A	2
John and Jill T	26



Weekly Altar Flowers and Bulletins



Altar Flowers

MAY FLOWERS

- May 4 - Open
- May 11 - Burton
- May 18 - Ramsey
- May 25 - Open

MAY BULLETINS

- May 4 - Open
- May 11 - Open
- May 18 - Open
- May 25 - Open

Please consider sponsoring flowers or bulletins. Flowers cost \$20 and bulletins are \$10. You may sponsor the flowers or 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.

Please volunteer to help in the nursery on a Sunday morning at 10:00 am!

Sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.



- May 4 - Open
- May 11 - Open
- May 18 - Open
- May 25 - Open

PENN HILLS SERVICE ASSOCIATION

**May Collection
Paper Products**



GLOW

**Tuesdays from
6:00-7:30pm**

GLOW meets weekly during the school year (September-May) on Tuesdays from 6-7:30pm in the fellowship hall and is for students in Kindergarten through Grade 5. 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 Castiglione.

May Get-Togethers

GLOW Meetings

May 6, 13, 20, 27

Youth Group Meetings

May 1, 15, 29

W.O.W.

Friday, May 16
7:00 pm at Church

God Abouts

Saturday, May 24
10:00 am Freedom Diner Verona

**Family Ministry
Paint and Plant**



Please join us on Friday May 9th at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall to paint a flower pot and plant a beautiful flower. This would be the perfect gift for mom (don't forget her special day is May 11th) and the perfect family fun to kick off mother's day weekend. Refreshments and supplies will be provided. Please RSVP to Crystal or the church office no later than Wednesday May 7th to ensure we have enough supplies. Everyone is encouraged to come and fellowship together! Bring a friend!



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. May dates are 5/1, 5/15, and 5/29. We will be having a Summer Kick Off Party at youth group on 5/29! 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

Thank you to everyone for your donations, prayers, and help creating a wonderful Easter experience for the community. A special thank you to Paul for managing the kitchen and the Pancake Breakfast. A HUGE shout you to the GLOW girls and Ms. Jen for their beautiful paper flowers and Easter Bunny Photo back-drop. And lastly, a very special and appreciative thank you to the youth group for all of their time and efforts helping with preparations, hiding eggs, bussing tables, managing games and crafts, and clean-up! Everyone really came together to put on a fantastic event and for that I cannot thank you enough!

From Missions and Outreach



Mission Work Team

Please be in prayer for our mission work team who will be in Spruce Pine, NC from May 4-10. Pray that the work they do will be a blessing to those people who were affected by Hurricane Helene. Pray also that the work team members can encourage one another and grow in their faith as they serve in this capacity.

From Society of St. Andrew – Gleaning Projects

Society of St. Andrew celebrated sharing its billionth pound of food in 2024. Every single day, SoSA’s community goes above and beyond, exceeding expectations with their generosity, dedication, and compassion: volunteers give their time and energy, farmers give more than anticipated, donors surprise us with their giving. The billionth pound of food shared last year was not just a marker of quantity – it was a symbol of hope, a testament to what we can achieve together when we share our abundance.



From Sheep Inc. Health Care Center

“We are looking to hire a part-time administrative assistant at our Franks-town Road, Penn Hills location. The position would be 25 hours a week from 9am – 2 pm in the of- fice. It is critical for this person to be a Christian, sharing the light and love of our Savior, for this po- sition deals mainly with patients, volunteers, staff, and the community. If interested, send an email to tom@reclamationcc.org.

Heifer Project International

While marking Heifer’s 80th anniversary in 2024, we reaffirmed our long-standing commitment to keep smallholder farmers at the core of everything we do. We listen and engage with farmers to understand their priorities, needs and challenges — and support them to craft appropriate strategies to sustainably pull themselves and their communities out of poverty. These are some ways we help to do that: by connecting farmers to profitable markets, by helping dairy cooperatives shift to solar power, by helping coffee and cacao farming households raise the quality of their products and increase productivity.



Primary Election Day Bake Sale

Tuesday, May 20th

The Pennsylvania primary election is on May 20th. We’re planning on having another bake sale on that day. We know there won’t likely be the turnout that we had last November, but we really enjoyed connecting with our Penn Hills neighbors. We can’t handle the quantity that we had last time, that truly rivaled a Pittsburgh Wedding Cookie Table. We are requesting cookies, brownies, and maybe small loaves of breads. Cakes, cupcakes, and pies will be better suited for bigger elec- tions. Thank you for your support.



Thanks to all for the con- dolences and beautiful cards on the passing of Grace. It is won- derful to have such a caring sup- portive church family!

GOOD tidings

Tidings and/or Office Helper

We are looking for a substitute to make the Sunday bulletins and learn about the Tidings. There are 2 people sharing the Tidings duties and only 1 person doing the bulletins now.

In case of vacation or illness we need someone as a back up. I don't want someone to be thrown into a situation when we can avoid it.

Please talk to Susan or call the church office. 412-793-9000 if you can help on a temporary basis. We will give you all the information you need. Thank you in advance.

In Case You didn't know

The Penn Hills Service Association is a local and unique volunteer organization made up of interested residents of Penn Hills, people working in Penn Hills and people belonging to organizations in the community. The organization was incorporated in 1962 as the Penn Hills Service Association. Since its inception, it has fulfilled a great need in the community and now serves in four main areas:

1 Food 2 Clothing 3 Christmas Program 4 Convalescent Supplies

1 We have one of the finest food pantries in the area. Thanks to the generosity of the good people of Penn Hills we are able to supply families with a generous and complete assortment of canned goods and staples. We are also one of the few pantries able to issue food certificates to enable the family to purchase a few items not available otherwise.

2 Clothing and household items are donated by residents of the community. Volunteers then sort, size and stock the clothing. The clothing is arranged in departments for men, women, teens and children. The families are invited to come in twice a year, by appointment, to select an adequate supply of clothing for each season. Due to shortages in some areas, it is necessary for us to purchase some items of clothing such as underwear, socks and winter jackets.

3 In December we depend on the generosity of our schools, churches, scouts and service associations to raise money and donate food for our Christmas distribution. We purchase canned goods, produce and bread and each family is given a certificate with which they may purchase meat of their choice. Each child (16 and under) is given a gift card to Target in the amount of \$25.00.

4 One of our important functions is the lending of convalescent supplies to any person in Penn Hills who has the need. Available items include hospital beds, wheelchairs, commode chairs, walkers, canes, crutches and many other items. There is no charge for borrowing any of these items, but we do suggest that a donation be made if possible. This enables us to keep our older equipment in good repair and helps us to purchase new equipment when necessary.

The Penn Hills Service Association (PHSA) collection basket is one of the first baskets on the left-hand side of the narthex when walking in the front door. Each month, a different non-perishable is collected.

May

Paper Products



June

Hand Soap