



# TIDINGS

March 2025

TRINITY TOWER  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Volume 25 Issue 2

## ≡ Hello ≡ March

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April Tidings Deadline  
March 15, 2025

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### NEW Combined Service

10 am

Nursery available

Live Stream available

Trinity Tower Church UMC  
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X (Twitter) - @trinitytowerchurch  
Facebook - Trinity Tower Church



Ash Wednesday  
WORSHIP SERVICE

**Ash Wednesday Worship Service**  
March 5 at 7:00 pm

Please join us for a  
**Fish and Mac & Cheese Dinner**  
before the  
Ash Wednesday Worship Service  
**March 5 at 6:00 pm**  
Free Will Offering



## What's Happening

### Men's Brunch

Saturday, March 15  
11:30 am at Mohan's

GLOW & Youth Group invite you to join them at  
**Seussical the Musical, Jr.**  
Plum Middle School  
**Saturday, March 15 at 7 pm**

### W.O.W. Meeting

Friday, March 21  
7:00 pm at Church

### God Abouts

Saturday, March 22  
10:00 am at Freedom Diner, Verona

### Special March Collections:

Military Connections Easter Collection  
(page 3 for list)  
and  
Gwen's Girls service project by Glow  
(page 4 for list)

## PASTOR STEVE'S SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR MARCH

<b>March 2</b>		<b>Transfiguration Sunday</b>
Luke 9:28-36	Message: <i>"I Love the Apostle Peter"</i>	
<b>March 5</b>		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	Message: <i>"Prayer and Fasting"</i>	
<b>March 9</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>	<b>First Sunday in Lent</b>
Matthew 6:7-15	Message: <i>"Model Prayer"</i>	
<b>March 16</b>		<b>Second Sunday in Lent</b>
Psalms 51	Message: <i>"A Clean Heart"</i>	
<b>March 23</b>		<b>Third Sunday in Lent</b>
Ephesians 1:15-22	Message: <i>"Power Up!"</i>	
<b>Rev. Alyce Weaver Dunn Preaching</b>		
<b>March 30</b>		<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b>
1 Chronicles 4:9-10	Message: <i>"Not so Simple"</i>	

### March – What a Wonderful Month!

As the month of March begins there are *many* thoughts going thru my mind. The saying, "In like a lion, out like a lamb" is a yearly reminder of the unpredictable nature of the weather in this month. This year the season of Lent starts very early this month, with Mardi Gras coming on the 4<sup>th</sup> and Ash Wednesday on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Other special occasions in March include St. Patrick's Day and the Vernal Equinox.

In our family of four there are three birthdays as well: mine (the 10<sup>th</sup>), our older daughter, Bethany's (the 13<sup>th</sup>), and our younger daughter, Gabrielle's (the 26<sup>th</sup>). I remember calling my grandparents when Bethany was born to tell them they had a new great-granddaughter and my grandfather replied "You are throwing our March budget out of control," because one of my brothers and a nephew also have March birthdays. If you're keeping track, March accounts for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the birthdays in our family of four. My wife, Lynne, is the only holdout. Her special day is December 21<sup>st</sup>. This year, to commemorate our 3 special days, we have planned a trip to Florida. While there we will dine at a restaurant that my grandparents introduced us to in Titusville. Dixie Crossroads is known for their specialty, rock shrimp, and my grandfather said they have the best baked potatoes in the state.

However you celebrate during this month, may you know the love of God, may you experience the joy of serving God, and may your faith be enriched as you live in God's love!

I continue . . . . . in His service,

*Pastor Steve*

#### ONLINE BIBLE STUDY



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

#### PRAYER GROUP

**Monday Nights**  
on Zoom 7 pm

Contact Karen & George to join



## Military Connections Easter Collection

During the **month of March** we will be collecting items to send to our troops overseas for Easter. There will be a collection bin in the narthex for your donations.



### Supplies needed:

- Plastic Easter Eggs (large or small; new or gently used)
- Gallon size Ziploc bags
- Easter candy and snacks (candy must be individually wrapped)
- On the Go Snacks: Granola bars, Slim Jims, Peanut Butter crackers, Gum, Cookies, Peanuts, Propel Powdered drink mixes, Chips

If you would like to assist with shipping, a \$10 donation to Military Connections will cover the cost of an Easter Egg Hunt

If you would like to send a note or card to a service member, it will be included.

For more information about the Easter Egg Hunt Program, please visit Military Connections website: [militaryconnections.org](http://militaryconnections.org)

## Trinity Tower Foundation Scholarship 2025-26

Application Forms for the Trinity Tower Foundation Scholarship are now available in the Church Office. Applicants must be an active member of the Trinity Tower United Methodist Church or a child of an active church member for at least three years. For scholarship purposes, "an active church member" means an individual who supports the church financially and/or donates their time by serving on various church committees and related organizations.

Completed applications must be signed, dated, and returned to the Church Office before **noon on Tuesday, April 15, 2025**. Late applications will not be considered for judging. Consideration of scholarships by the Committee is both need-oriented and there is a priority order established for helping those who have not received funds in past years.

Questions concerning the Foundation Scholarship can be directed to Dennis, Foundation Scholarship Committee Chair.



Rummage Sale

## Bargains and Blessings

We've changed the date for our "Bargains and Blessings" fund-raising event! It is now set for **Saturday, May 24**, from 8:00am to 3:00pm. While this is still a little way off, planning is underway. Here's how you can help:

**Start collecting items to be sold.** We're looking for a wide variety of items from a wide range of categories: clothing/shoes, toys, books, collectibles, holiday décor, sporting goods, kitchenware, tools, household décor, CDs/DVDs, etc.

**Volunteer to help!** We'll need volunteers to: sort and price items ahead of time, clear out areas for storing these items, advertise the event, and help on the day of the sale. (Those who help ahead of time will have "early bird" access to all of the "thrifty treasures" on Friday evening!)

Please contact Jean, Karen or Carolyn to volunteer, or if you have any questions. 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, kitchen items, etc.) so we can sort more easily. Thank you!

### Lessons Learned from A Constant Companion

~Galatians 5:25 "If we live by the Spirit let us also keep in step with the Spirit."

I'm not certain exactly how long I have "prepared" the Shepherds column for the Tidings, but it's been many years. I use the word "prepared" for a specific reason. I have not "written" these messages; I have "prepared" them. God has written them. I always go to God in prayer asking Him what He would like to share through me a particular month. He often takes His time sharing that information and I get nervous about the deadline of the 15<sup>th</sup>. At other times, He gives me an idea when I have already begun to prepare an article. But I've learned to trust Him and often understand His reasons behind an idea or thought. (And sometimes I don't have a clue!)

*if we live by the  
spirit, let us also  
walk by the  
spirit*  
galatians 5:25

This month I read an article in one of my daily devotionals about the loyalty of dogs. This morning Pastor Steve talked about this topic again, and I knew right away that this would be my subject for the Tidings.

If you own a dog, or consider yourself a dog lover, you will understand the term I used as the title: constant companion. Even though I live alone now, I have a constant companion in life. Dexter, my 85-pound rescue shepherd/pit bull mix dog, is the companion about which I'm referring. He has an incredible ability to sense my emotions and is always a source of solace and joy. He runs to be right by my side as I move from room to room in my house. There is no room in my house that is private. He greets me with enthusiasm and a wagging tail after being away for 15 minutes or several hours. His devotion is unconditional and never changes. Pastor Steve talked about this during his sermon today saying that there's always a wagging tail to greet him when he arrives at home.

When thinking about this loyalty, I couldn't help but draw a parallel between this constant devotion and what we are called to display in our spiritual lives in our relationship with Jesus. Are we His constant companion? Are we following Him wherever He goes? Is our devotion unconditional? Speaking for myself, I have to answer no to these questions. It's my goal, but I must be honest and say that I'm not as constant a companion as Dexter is.

The devotion and loyalty of dogs is an example of the kind of commitment and faith we are called to have in our relationship with Jesus. As we observe the behavior of our dogs, we can gain insight into how our spiritual journey should be and how we can improve it. Let's all strive to mirror this devotion in our own lives so we can experience a richer relationship with Him.

With love and prayers,  
Cheryl, Coordinator of the Shepherds

**GLOW** is doing a service project to help out with an existing church ministry. For the month of March we will be helping to collect supplies for "Gwen's Girls" - filling gallon zip bags with toiletries, wash clothes, and hand towels.

Toiletries to include:

Tissues  
Toothbrush  
Toothpaste  
Emery board  
Lip balm  
Hand Sanitizer  
Deodorant  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Soap  
Lotion

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

# Trinity Tower Family News



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Addison O	6
Angela T	8
Pastor Steve	10
Bill B	10
Scott S	10
Isabella C	11
Irene A	15
Alexis R	17
Regan C	17
George R	20
Nancy B	23
Chuck B	24
Sammy C	25
Patti D	26
Joe D	26
Parker S	29
Chuck W	31



### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Paul and Marie	6
Jim and Crystal	24

### Weekly Altar Flowers and Bulletins



# Altar Flowers

### MARCH FLOWERS

- March 2 - Paul & Marie's Anniversary
- March 9 - Open
- March 16 - Open
- March 23 - In Memory of Fran's husband, Bob
- March 30 - Open

### MARCH BULLETINS

- March 2 - Open
- March 9 - Open
- March 16 - Open
- March 23 - Open
- March 30 - 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.

**Nursery  
Volunteers  
Needed**

**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.**



- March 2 - Open
- March 9 - Open
- March 16 - Open
- March 23 - Open
- March 30 - Open

**PENN HILLS SERVICE ASSOCIATION**

**March Collection  
Canned Soup**



**WE GLOW**

**GLOW**

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

Children in grades K-6 are welcome to join us! We meet weekly on Tuesdays from 6-7:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Join us for games, snacks, crafts, and fund 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.

**March Get-Togethers**

**Men's Brunch**

Saturday, March 15  
11:30 am Mohan's

**GLOW & Youth Group**

Saturday, March 15  
7:00 pm  
Plum Middle School  
*Seussical the Musical, Jr.*

**W.O.W.**

Friday, March 21  
7:00 pm at Church

**God Abouts**

Saturday, March 22  
10:00 am Freedom Diner Verona



GLOW and Youth Group invite you to join us on March 15th at 7pm to support one of our own GLOW members, Clara in her school musical performance. Holiday Park Intermediate School's musical will be held at Plum Middle School, 440 Presque Isle Dr.

"Seussical the Musical, Jr."



**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. March dates are 3/6 and 3/20.

Crystal is in need of safe sanctuary volunteers. Please contact Crystal if you are willing to spend a night with the youth.

**Looking ahead** our annual Easter Egg hunt will be taking place on **Saturday April 19th**. Please consider donating candy to fill our eggs. Being mindful of many allergies, please also consider donating small items like playdoh, coloring activity packs, sidewalk chalk, or bubbles for the children who cannot eat the candy to trade their eggs in for treats they can have. More details on the event to follow in the coming weeks. Be sure to check your bulletin, church announcements, and next months Tidings. We will additionally be in need of volunteers to hide eggs and assist with activities. If you would like to make a donation or volunteer to help, please contact the church office or Crystal.



## From Missions and Outreach

### Update from Jeremiah's Place, Frankstown Road, Pittsburgh

Since we opened our doors in April 2014, Jeremiah's Place has provided thousands of hours of emergency childcare services to hundreds of families across nearly one hundred ZIP codes. At Jeremiah's Place, our primary focus is to keep children safe and to provide a safe and supportive solution for families in need.

- Jeremiah's Place has been able to provide nearly 200,000 hours of emergency childcare services.
- This is by way of nearly **9,120 total visits** where each child that stays with Jeremiah's Place is here for an **average of 18 hours per visit!**
- **57%** of our families use us as they search for work or attend job training
- **15%** of our families use us to attend medical appointments or during medical and mental health emergencies
- **20%** of our families utilize us for respite care
- **75%** of our families identify as African American or bi-racial

### Update from Foundation of Hope, Pittsburgh

The Foundation of HOPE offers incarcerated individuals and returning citizens the opportunity for a new life by offering three distinct elements of a continuum of care: Chaplaincy, Pre-Release, and Reentry. We offer chaplaincy services and pre-release programs in the Allegheny County Jail. Our Reentry office on Pittsburgh's North Side serves returning citizens coming out of county, state, and federal institutions. The Foundation of HOPE also has a diversion program for youths. This program addresses the needs of youths who commit non-violent, low- to medium-level offenses, keeping them out of the cycle of adjudication and incarceration.

The goals of the programs are accomplished through counseling, religious services, discipleship, practical resources and referrals, life skills education within and outside the jail, choice awareness training, and one-on-one mentoring. HOPE serves individuals regardless of their race, age, ethnic background, or faith tradition.

The Foundation of HOPE currently offers its programs in Allegheny County but expects to expand services to other areas over the next few years.

### Update from The Blessing Board, Pittsburgh

We deeply appreciate your support of our mission to provide free furniture, household items, and home medical equipment to families seeking to create a safe, comfortable, and welcoming home.

With your help in 2024 we were able to serve 1,657 families in need in our community – up from 1,415 in 2023. These families represent 3,656 people including 1,543 children 18 and under. In 2025 our goal is to serve more families, more efficiently, while remaining committed to our mission.

### Update from The Neighborhood Academy, Pittsburgh

With your support, we can continue to grow and provide more resources to even more students in grades 6-12. Our faculty is full of expert educators teaching everything from STEM to History, even Financial Literacy and the Arts. By the fall of 2025, we plan to increase our enrollment by 33% to 200 students. The Neighborhood Academy continues to provide our students a world of academic rigor and creative exploration necessary to thrive in college and beyond.

### Update from the Purse Ministry:

We sent 25 purses to be given out at a Goodwill event in February.



### **Disaster Recovery Mission Team**

Pastor Dale is organizing a Disaster Recovery Mission Work Team from the Pittsburgh area with the Volunteer Coordinator for Disaster Response of the Western North Carolina Conference.

This mission team will be housed in Mitchell county, NC, at the Spruce Pine site during the week of May 4-10, 2025. A mission recovery team is involved mostly with construction repair to damaged homes and property in the affected area. This area is 1 hour northeast of Asheville NC.

This mission team will be a maximum of 20 people. All volunteers must be 14 or older and pass a background check. Pastor Dale will have a form that people must fill out to reserve their spot on the Mission Team. Contact him at if you are interested in participating.

