

Trinity News

Trinity United Methodist Church, (570)473-9145
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September 2018

Mission Statement:

*As the church continues to
move forward Aligning with
God's word and His love we
have a new mission statement
to help guide us on the
journey-*

*"We are the body of Christ
sharing His Love with ALL".*

The Mission of the United Methodist Denomination:

*The mission of the church
is to make disciples of
Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the
world*

Pastor

Leslie Halchak

Secretary

Je Eshleman

Custodian

Randy Peters

Organist

Sue Peters

Treasurer

Gail Saxton

Lay Leader

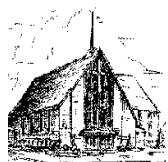
Pastor's Introduction

Welcome Back! I do hope you have all been behaving yourselves these last three months. (Keyword there is hope!)

Fall – Autumn – that truly beautiful time of the year will shortly be upon us. Most vacations are over (except mine), school is back in session and the work of the church shifts into high gear!

I meet with fellow clergy once a week and we talk about the upcoming scriptures for Sunday. In July one of the texts was Ephesians 4:1-16 (please read). I found one of the commentaries quite interesting and so I saved it just for this newsletter. I am going to take bits and pieces of it from the words of the writer, Mark Tranvik.

I was immediately caught by the headline "Prison Vision." Here the Apostle Paul is in prison, but he tells his listeners that he is not just a prisoner but a "prisoner of the Lord." As the writer says, "we might consider imprisonment to be a waste of time, because it inhibits our freedom to do what we want to do. But from Paul's perspective, even confinement does not diminish his energy for his mission in life: which is to proclaim Christ." According to the writer, he says there are two things that we can draw from Paul's example. 1) "We should never limit Christ's presence and power to places we typically regard as holy or sacred. The power of Christ can never be restrained by a physical or social location. We might think divinity goes hand in hand with wealth, splendor, influence, and comfort, but almost everything in the gospels shows us something different. God shows up in a manger not in a palace. The first to hear about the incarnation are not statesmen but shepherds. Jesus is regularly accused of hanging out with sinners and then, like Paul, he becomes a prisoner of the state on the way to a shameful death. And the first witnesses of the resurrection are women, deemed by their culture to be unreliable gossips. 2) It is worth noting that stays in prison can often hone understanding



and insight. Paul's letters from captivity (like Ephesians and Philippians) are profound meditation on the meaning of faith in the midst of suffering and exclusion. Continuing on, the writer says Paul uses the words called and callings in two different places in this passage, reminding us of the relationship between our being called by God and the subsequent assignment of a calling in the world. It is easy to get confused about the dual nature of a call. It is worth underlining that being called and having a calling must be distinguished BUT never separated. Our relationship with God simultaneously involves a relationship with neighbor or community. And these callings are multiple as (and this for me stands out as very important for us to realize), it is impossible for a Christian to NOT be in some type of calling at all times of life. Just as God is active in every nook and cranny of creation so God uses his people to make sure people are fed, clothed, comforted, educated, protected etc. A calling is NOT a job or occupation. This would mean wide stretches of human experience would be outside of God's providence. God calls us not only to work but to friendship, family life, citizenship, etc."

"Paul makes a contrast in his letter between children, who are tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine (4:14) and those who grow up (4:15) in faith and thus contribute to the building up of the body of Christ (4:16). Have we grown up? We often think of being in the body of Christ as mainly a social activity. We gather together to bear one another's burden or we work together to address a need in the community or the larger world, oh yes we do! Of course these are important expressions of the body of Christ. But Paul is highlighting here that the body has a mind as well. **In other words, it is important for congregations to know what they believe and why they believe it. We live in a time that tends to undermine any claim to truth out of fear of being divisive or intolerant.** The Apostle Paul advocates speaking the truth in love. In other words, our bearing witness to the truth is grounded in a deep humility.

Folks, I said earlier that this is the time of year when the church shifts into high gear. We continue to serve the Lord with gladness and joy. The summer days offer us a time for refreshment and often we find there are things we can do while it is warm and sunny (although the sun didn't shine as much as the rains came). Any season though is a good time to come to church. We are cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Let's make a date shall we, to meet every Sunday at 9:00, Sunday School following worship. Let's join with our church family to sing and praise God and also to share a bit of ourselves with our brothers and sisters in Christ! We are here rain or shine. But most of all

friends, we are here for one another.

REMEMBER – WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

Blessings!

Pastor Leslie

Announcements and Upcoming Events

No announcements or upcoming events for the moment.

Please check the weekly bulletin for further updates.
Thank you.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

- ❖ Blended worship service every Sunday 9am
- ❖ Refreshments offered every Sunday morning before and after Church service.
- ❖ Come prepared to worship and receive what the Lord has for you.



Please be praying for:



Our Church
Our Pastor
Christine

Our Troops
Joyce Dressler
Ray

Our Shut-Ins
David Cooke
John

Pat Wetzel
Doug Shuman

Our shut-ins (Home Bound).....

Marion Aucker
Eveline Lenker
Dora Jarrett
Bill Hickey

Dona Drumheller
Fran Beck
Carol Moyer
Joyce Dressler

Pauline Ford
Lewis Marotto
Faye Shuman

Gertrude Moyer
Eileen Bowersox

Those who are Serving Military...

Johnathan Baker William Klinger Jonathan Swank

Robert D. Hufnagle - U.S. Marine (Linda Hager's Grandson)

Justin Eroh - U.S. Navy (John & Connie Eroh's Grandson)

Christopher Pelishek - U.S. Army (Pastor Robert & Margaret Bavender's Grandson)

Melvin Smith II

Is there a special occasion coming up in your family? Why not celebrate with Alter Flowers at Trinity UMC?

There are multiple open Sundays for Alter Flowers. The cost is \$25 for both vases. See sign-up sheet in narthex, to the left of the front doors, as you are coming up the steps.

Or see Pam Heim
473-8144



Witness about Jesus Christ and your church by placing a yard sign in your yard.

The signs are \$10.00 each. You can call the church or sign the form in the Narthex.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES,
TEACHERS, & LOCATIONS

Ages 18 and up are all welcome so join us! We read and discuss God's word.

Location: Parlor Room
When: Immediately after worship service

Please ask for assistance, if you need help locating these rooms.



Food Pantry is every 3rd Saturday of the month from 9am-11am.

You are welcome to volunteer and join us!

We are constantly in need of volunteers to help for the following:

- **unloading trucks** every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. If you want to volunteer, please call the church and leave your contact information. We will then call you regarding the schedule (time)

- **volunteers** to distribute food every 3rd Saturday of the month 9am to 11am

Report for June 2018	Report for July 2018	Report for August 2018
Kids: 163	Kids: 179	Kids: 192
Adults: 170	Adults: 203	Adults: 202
Seniors: 94	Seniors: 97	Seniors: 92
Total: 427	Total: 479	Total: 486
Families: 111	Families: 127	Families: 123
New Families: 14	New Families: 30	New Families: 21

The Church only gives out food on the 3rd Saturday of the month, 9am-11am.

If you are unable to get your food, you can ask friends or relatives to pick it up for you.

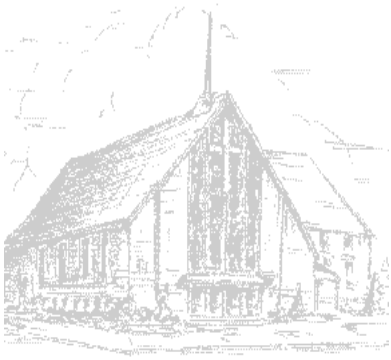
To get food from the food pantry, you need to register by presenting an I.D and a proof of billing to show that you live within the Shikellamy district.

Thanks!



Our nursery it is located next to the sanctuary. Go through the double doors on right hand side of the sanctuary that is closest to the alter area. Turn right and you will see the sliding windows to the Nursery. Schedule for the nursery is found on the nursery door.

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300 Sixth Street
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*"He restores my soul."
Psalm 23:3a (NIV)*