



TOUCHSTONE

February 2025

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Trinity United Presbyterian Church
79 W. Fayette Street
Uniontown, PA 15401
www.facebook.com/trinityupc

Phone# 724-437-2709
Website-www.trinityupc.com
Email-trinityupc@gmail.com

Worship | Service | Proclaim | Discipleship | Community



“⁴ Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; ⁵ does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never fails.”

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 NKJV



Weekly Services @ Trinity Youth Group



Youth Group Thursdays @ 5:30 p.m.

Join us Every Sunday for Adult Sunday School



Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.

With James V.

Young Adult Small Group



Tuesdays @ "From Scratch" Bakery
@ 6:00 p.m.

Faith Discussions



Mark C's Diner
Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month.
8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.



PASTOR'S CORNER

I just wanted to take a few lines to update the congregation on where we stand with regard to the calling of your new pastor.

At the session meeting held January 8th, the session voted to write to the Presbytery of Redstone to request their permission to elect a "Pastor Nominating Committee."

That letter has been written, sent and received by the Presbytery. Our request will be acted on by the Committee On Ministry of the Presbytery when they meet on the first Tuesday of February

When we receive their permission, the Church Nominating Committee will develop and present a list of candidates who have agreed to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee. This Pastor Nominating Committee will then be elected by the congregation at a specially called meeting of the congregation. That congregational meeting should occur in February Or early March. Once they have been elected the Pastor Nominating Committee will begin the work of filling out the appropriate paper work for the denomination and the search will begin in earnest.

I know the process has been long and not easy. But please be patient and we will get there — all in God's time. (If you have any questions about the process please always feel free to call me or stop by the office and I will do my best to give you an appropriate answer.)

Sincerely In Christ,

John B. Simpson, Interim Pastor



Darts & Devotions



Meet on Thursdays to read a devotion and throw darts.

Thursday's @ 10:00 a.m.

Devotions by Doug Yauger





Notes From The Bench



-by Brett Vanderlaan

February 2025

A Glance at English Sacred Choral Music

The British choral music tradition is well-established and well-respected. The choirs of various cathedrals and chapels in England are renowned for their frequent regular services, copious recordings and top-notch performances. Names such as the Monteverdi Choir, the Sixteen, the King's Singers, and the Choir of King's College, Cambridge are world famous. While this tradition spans from the 16th Century with William Byrd and Orlando Gibbons, through the likes of Henry Purcell and George F. Handel, and includes living composers such as Cecilia McDowall and John Rutter, perhaps the high point of this musical genre occurred in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Significant names associated with this period of British choral music include Charles Villiers Stanford, Herbert Howells, William Walton and Benjamin Britten. However, I will take a more detailed look at three composers whose contributions feature prominently in our hymnal - and in Protestant hymnody in general.

The first of these is Hubert Parry. Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (his full name) was born in February of 1848 and died in 1918. There are five hymn tunes by Parry in our hymnal - covering eight different hymns. The most familiar are likely "When Will People Cease Their Fighting" (#401) [RUSTINGTON] and "O Day of Peace" (#450) [JERUSALEM]. The tune JERUSALEM has become a bit of an unofficial English "anthem" - often sung by crowds at sporting events involving England, and featured in the movie Chariots of Fire. In addition, Parry's "I Was Glad" is a famous standard of the choral repertoire.

The next composer is Gustav Holst (1874-1934). Holst may be best known for his orchestral suite The Planets. Interestingly, the majestic theme from the movement for "Jupiter" was also used by Holst for a patriotic hymn entitled, "I Vow to Thee, My Country." This tune, THAXTED, has been used to set a number of hymn texts in a church context. Among these are "O God Beyond All Praising" (#2009 in Sing the Faith) and "Lead On, Eternal Sovereign" (an anthem the choir is working on as I write this column). A more familiar hymn by Holst is his setting of Christina Rossetti's poem "In the Bleak Midwinter" (#36) [CRANHAM]. He also arranged a setting of the 1582 tune PERSONET HODIE which is used with multiple texts, including "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" (#46) and "Down to Earth, as a Dove" (#300).



The individual from this group whose music appears most frequently in our hymnal is Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). Four standard hymns have original tunes that were actually composed by Vaughan Williams: "At the Name of Jesus" (#148) [KING'S WESTON]; "Come Down, O Love Divine" (#313) [DOWN AMPNEY]; "For All the Saints" (#526) [SINE NOMINE]; and "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" (#540) [RANDOLPH] which is often used as a Benediction response at Trinity. However, Vaughan Williams also arranged a number of highly popular tunes which are English folk songs or centuries-old church songs. One of these is FOREST GREEN, associated with "All Beautiful the March of Days" (#292), "Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds" (#412), "As Those of Old Their First fruits Brought" (#414), and as an alternate tune for "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (#43). Other common examples are LASST UNS ERFREUEN for "All Creatures of Our God and King" (#455) and "From All That Dwell Below the Skies" (#229) and KINGSFOLD for "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" (#308) and "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" (#434). In total, there are eighteen hymns in our hymnal with music attributed to Vaughan Williams. Similar arrangements of "old" English tunes he has set for organ or orchestra include his "Fantasia on GREENSLEEVES" and the "Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis."

These three composers represent a fraction (though a significant one) of the powerful influence of British choral music on our traditional music for Christian worship.

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God alone)

Note: References for material in this column:

The Oxford Dictionary of Music, 6th ed., Michael and Joyce Bourne Kennedy, ed.

Tim Rutherford-Johnson, Oxford University Press, 2012.

The Presbyterian Hymnal. Westminster/John Knox Press, 1990. [All hymn numbers refer to this volume unless otherwise noted.]



Children's Church

Available during worship.



Bright Beginnings Center For Learning

Bright Beginnings thanks you for your support and prayers. If anyone wants to donate to the preschool, we are always accepting supplies such as, white cardstock, printer paper, baby diaper wipes, colored cardstock, paper towels, Lysol wipes, and tissues. If you wish to make a monetary donation, checks can be made out to Bright Beginnings Center for Learning. We are a non profit, this means any monetary donations can be used as a tax write off for your records. Our EIN # is 92-1516471

The preschool has open registrations for the upcoming school year! We are offering half days and full days to better accommodate families and children getting ready to go to kindergarten! Please call Emily Bowers for the days and times we are enrolling for.

Help spread the word about our preschool! You can find us on Facebook, Instagram and Google. You can see all of our pictures of the wonderful things the kids are doing and learning!

We'd like to thank the church for blessing us with the use of your building.

Classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday all day or half day.

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



Style Show

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Style Show "Bitz of Glitz"

Doors Open: 11:30 a.m.

\$40.00 per ticket.

Uniontown Country Club—Brunch

"Bitz of Glitz"

50/50, Basket Auction

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Fayette Inc.

Information call Carol @ 724-438-0709

More details to come.

Interfaith Missions

1. Loaves & Fishes Ministries

A Few Feeding Many - Every Tuesday @ 10:00 a.m.

2. The Road Less Traveled - Thursday's @ 10:00 a.m.

3. Trinity's Blue Bird House: For those less fortunate than us.

If interested in volunteering at the Interfaith Office (Call Carol @ 724-438-0709)

Interfaith Office Hours are Mon.—Thrs.—9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.



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.

The next luncheon is Wednesday, February, 12 @

MarkC's Diner @ 11:30 a.m.

For more information call Carol @ 724-438-0709



Trinity Book Journey

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at Rizz's

"The Lost and Found Bookshop" by Susan Wiggs

All are welcome!

Contact Susan Fox at 724-970-9066 or sefox55@gmail.com

OR Cindy Jones at 724-437-7856 or cbjonz1@aol.com

for more information.



Happy Anniversary!

William & Krista Thompson

02/05



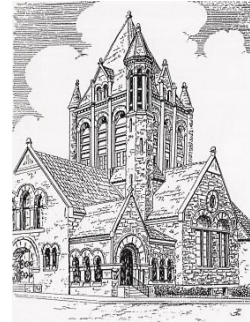
Happy Birthday!



Morgan Cahn	02/02	Lauren Molchan	02/16
Carol Ashton	02/03	May Funk	02/17
Benjamin Eddy	02/03	Tonye Sharp	02/17
Sidney Anderson	02/04	Wayne Workman	02/19
Harry Haught Jr.	02/04	Margie Breakiron	02/20
Brandon McMahon	02/04	Lauren Spellman	02/20
William Ulmer	02/04	Diane Williams	02/20
Meagan McMahon	02/06	Tyler Shaffer	02/21
Margaret Macdonald	02/10	Caitlin Michelangelo	02/22
Megan Franks	02/15	Robert Spellman	02/27
Wayne Workman	02/15		



Rev. John Simpson— 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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