

The Messenger

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025



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FROM THE PASTOR

THE PATH OF GOD'S JUSTICE AND MERCY



This is a reprint of the sermon from Sunday, August 17, 2025.

Our gospel text this morning comes from Luke chapter 12, verses 49 to 56.

Jesus said, I have come to cast fire upon the earth and how I wish it were already ablaze. I have a baptism with which to be baptized and what constraint I am under until it is completed.

Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the

earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.

He also said to the crowds, when you see a cloud rising in

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the west, you immediately say it's going to rain. And so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say there will be scorching heat and it happens. You hypocrites, you know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

This is the gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, oh Christ.

Our gospel text last week opened with Jesus saying, “Do not worry, little flock.” (which is lovely) And if you were here for that message, then you know it was about our deep longing for the sure promises of God, promises which speak to our deepest fears. (“Do not worry...it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”)

This week, however, just a few verses later, we have something very different. Instead of do not worry, little flock, we have Jesus saying, “I have come to cast fire and will bring division.”

This then begs the question- what in the world is going on?

(As a side note- I heard from several pastors this week who said that this is the sort of passage that you assign to someone else for them to preach it while you go away on vacation!... Or...even better... perhaps skip it altogether in exchange for another week of Jesus telling us not to worry!)

Because the issue here is clear- Jesus calling down fire from heaven has, at least according to my husband, a very Dungeons and Dragons feel to it. It doesn't sound like the Jesus that we usually encounter in Scripture. In fact, if you remember, Jesus responded to James and John- specifically telling them that they could NOT call down fire from heaven- fire at God's behest, on the Samaritan village that rejected them. Jesus said, “No,” as we might expect. Because contrary to popular belief, God does NOT deal in wrathful fire. However, the same Jesus that said no then, now says He has come to cast fire on the earth, and how He “wishes it

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were already ablaze.” And it’s important to look at this. Because if we only look at the texts that make us feel good, and there are lots of them, and omit those challenges we find in Scripture, especially in the Gospels, we may in fact miss the good news of Jesus’ kingdom message entirely.

Our passage today, as it usually is, is part of a much larger teaching of Jesus as He is on his way to Jerusalem. If you follow it back, it actually begins at the end of chapter 11 after Jesus emerges from a rather contentious dinner with scribes and Pharisees, and lawyers. After they are finished with that dinner, Jesus goes outside where a large crowd is gathered, so large that they’re tripping over one another trying to hear Jesus and get close to Him.

But, it is in that moment that Jesus turns to His disciples (specifically) and cautions them against the “yeast of the Pharisees”, assuring His disciples that, in time, all will be uncovered and made known. Jesus exhorts them to trust God in all things. And as He is

doing this, a man from the crowd speaks up, calls out, and asks Jesus a question, or actually makes a statement, a demand. The man says, “Tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me”! And Jesus answers the man in a parable focused on the futility of hoarding wealth. And then turns back to His disciples once more and tells them not to worry that God knows what they need. Instead, Jesus says, “Seek the kingdom of God.” That God takes great pleasure in giving His children the kingdom. And in essence, He’s instructing them to lean into the longing we have for our Master to return and- in preparation- to be about the task of caring for what has been entrusted. To be watchful, be faithful, and waiting servants.

But now Jesus turns back to the crowd. And in my mind for this particular passage, I hear Jesus with a raised voice calling out over the crowd, which I’m sure was a little loud, saying: “I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze.” And when we

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hear that, we most often think of destruction, right? Fire destroys things. But fire in scripture is often not about destruction. Remember Moses and the burning bush; that bush was not destroyed. Or the pillar of fire that led the Israelites in the dark of night. Or the fire that was to be kept burning on the altar in the temple. In each of those, fire was a mark of the presence of God.

However, this isn't just an Old Testament phenomenon. We see this in the New Testament as well, right?

Where do we see this in the New Testament specifically? The day of what?

Pentecost, right? Yes, Pentecost. When the fire of the Holy Spirit came to rest on the disciples gathered in that upper room. But fire isn't just understood as God's presence. It's also understood as something that refines, that purifies. God's consuming presence purifies and refines. The fire of God's holiness changes

things. Not in the destruction of God's good creation. God doesn't do that. But purifying it, imputing God's holiness. A fire that is more about healing than it is about destruction. One that transforms everything in its path.

We have longings for God's kingdom, for Jesus' return, for all to be set right. But our longings only dimly reflect the

longing Jesus has for the fire of God's presence to dwell in human hearts on earth as it is in heaven.

In the beginning of Luke, when John was questioned as to whether he was the Messiah, John said, "I baptize you with water, but one who is

more powerful than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire", with the Spirit of God's presence and the purification of God's holiness. Not about destroying, but about transforming-to be accomplished through the bap-



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tism, the dying, and the rising that Jesus will experience as he goes to the cross.

Jesus says, “and what constraint I am under until it is completed.” And sometimes this (constraint) is translated as stress or distress. But it's less about the anxiety that Jesus has going to the cross, although I'm sure that's there; Jesus was fully human, and more about Jesus' absorption, His focus on the mission of God. Remember, at the very outset of this travel narrative that we've been in since the beginning of summer, it says in Luke 9:51, “Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.” Jesus is consumed with God's mission to bring heaven to earth, the kingdom of God in our midst.

And so Jesus asks the crowd, “Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth?” “Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth?” Well...Yes, yes, we do. We do think Jesus has come to bring peace to the earth. And with good reason. We think that because it's in Scripture. In Luke, Jesus' birth is announced to the shepherds with the angelic song of glory to

God in the highest, and peace on earth, on whom God's favor rests,which is everybody. (God's favor resting on ALL of humanity)

Also, a chapter or two back, Jesus tells the disciples as they're going into the towns to spread the message of the kingdom of God that they're to go into the house and say, “Peace be to this house, peace be with you.” And then after the resurrection, Jesus appears to his disciples, and He knows they're freaked out, and He says, “Peace be with you.” So yes, we know that Jesus has come to bring peace to the earth.

And yet, we know that the division that Jesus speaks of is already there. Jesus is already speaking to a people divided as to who He is, not the least of which we saw at the beginning of this whole teaching in His dinner with the scribes and the lawyers, and the Pharisees. The division is already there, right there in the crowd. Jesus is preaching to people, some of whom are out to kill Him. Jesus is simply being honest about that. It's not the

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goal, but it is what happens.

And the parables that Jesus tells illustrate that. One in particular came to mind, the parable that's only in Luke of the prodigal son, right? So if you remember in that parable, grace and peace are offered, but are met with division, unresolved division, as the older brother stands outside and doesn't join the celebration. The older brother didn't want to be part of what the father was doing. Because, in the older brother's mind, the younger brother should have been disowned after all he did, certainly not welcomed back. What about punishment? But that's not what God's kingdom looks like.

That's what our kingdoms look like.

And there's the tension.

There's the division.

One commentator I read this week, I thought, put it really well. She said, "Jesus has not come to validate human institutions and values, but to initiate God's radical will." That's powerful. Jesus has not come to defend our way of life, our

institutions, the systems that we've put in place to make some comfortable at the expense of others. That is sin. Systematic sin and injustice are very real, and they will be judged, purified, set ablaze, and transformed.

And if those seem like harsh words, they are, because Jesus here is speaking both as prophet, we don't often think of Jesus like that, but as prophet and as Savior. And the greatest sin that the prophets of old spoke about was idolatry, specifically the ways that we worship that which we've created, including and especially unjust systems, over and above looking to God to lead us and guide us in paths that lead to life.

God desires that we give justice to the weak and the orphan, maintain the rights of the lowly and the destitute, rescue the weak and the needy, and deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

And you can insert any marginalized group into this because God cares deeply about those on the margins, all on

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the margins. The weak, the widow, and the orphan aren't meant to be understood as the only classifications, but they're to represent all those who are forgotten and oppressed by the kingdoms of this world.

And in God's kingdom, to demand peace at the expense of those on the margins is, as Jeremiah puts it, to cry peace, peace where there is no peace. And those that promise this sort of peace are false prophets.

There's another quote I read. It said, "the peace of God that Jesus inaugurates and bestowed involved the reestablishment of proper relationships of mercy and compassion and justice. And not all will welcome this peace plan because it will mean the complete collapse of current structures." This is why Jesus speaks of the division within households. That stings a little bit when you read that. It's uncomfortable- divisions between fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, etc.. Households, though, were meant to serve as microcosms of the society that was around

them. And so what Jesus is speaking of, the kingdom Jesus has come to inaugurate, even now, means the complete collapse of the structures we've created in exchange for the one that God has inaugurated.

"Oh mortal, what does God require of you? But to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God." Jesus says to the crowd and possibly to our nation and our world today, "You can interpret the weather, but you cannot perceive God's movement?" The strength of Jesus's words needs to be heard, absorbed, and then, through the wisdom and the power of the Holy Spirit, lived out. Understanding that the strength of His words also offers the strength of His forgiveness and love poured out in abundance, with more than enough to go around.

May the mercy that we've been shown, upset the status quo of our lives, and set us on fire.

Amen

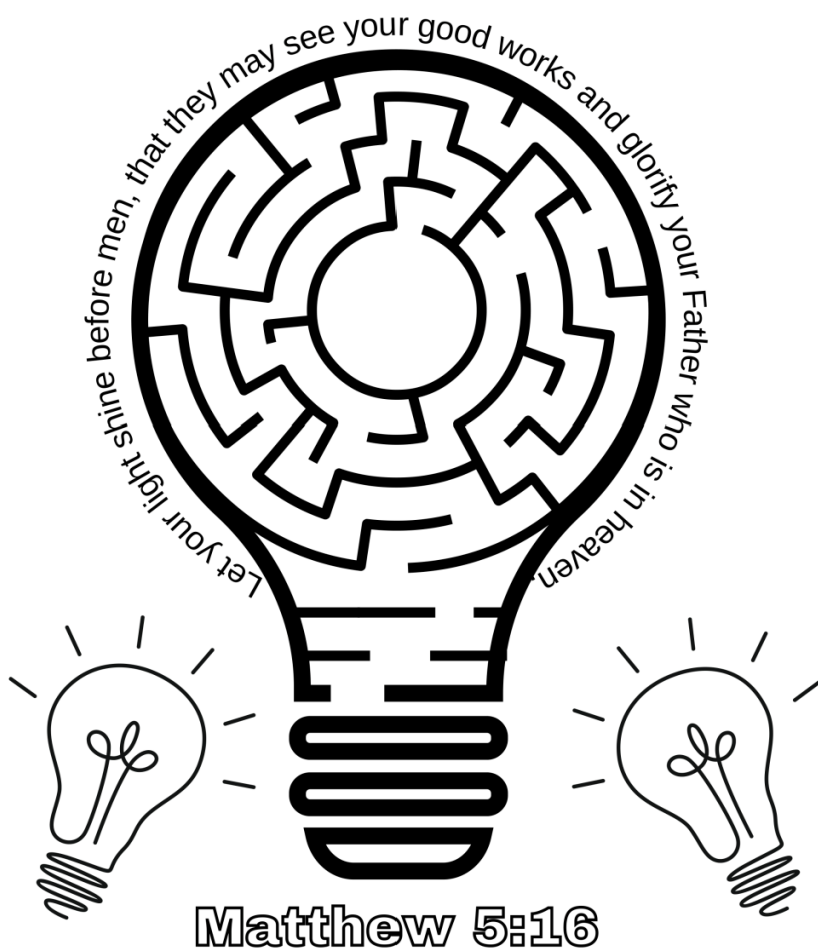
Pastor Anne



TRINITY KIDS CORNER

As school begins, know **you are loved** so very much by your church family here at Trinity. Remember to shine your amazing light at school, at your activities, and at home too!

BE A LIGHT



YOUTH MINISTRIES

A TIME FOR EVERYTHING



There is a time for every-
thing,
and a season for every
activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and
a time to die,
a time to plant and
a time to uproot,
a time to kill and
a time to heal,
a time to tear down and
a time to build,
a time to weep and
a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and
A time to dance,
a time to scatter stones
and a time to gather them,

a time to embrace and
a time to refrain from
embracing,
a time to search and
a time to give up,
a time to keep and|
a time to throw away,
a time to tear and
a time to mend,
a time to be silent and
a time to speak,
a time to love and
a time to hate,
a time for war and
a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

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End of summer is always a time of transition for teens. It is a season of new beginnings as young people enter new chapters of life and close the curtain on lived experiences, challenges and sometimes relationships that formed and shaped them.

This year our youth group is going through a big change.

We say goodbye, for now, to some members of our dear family that have come to be integral parts of our fabric on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Katie Gann, Brennan Dahmen and Malachai Chasse all graduated high school this year! Congrats!

Katie is going off to Saint Joseph's College in Philadelphia, and as much as she will be missed, we are happy that Malachai and Brennan, who is attending NJIT in the fall, will stay local and have offered to continue to help with youth nights. This is where their friends are after all.

I have known Brennan and Katie since they were babies and it is wild to see them all grown up!

Saddest of all, our dear Abbey is going to Rhode Island to get her doctorate. We are hoping that she will still zoom call with us for our game nights!

Please lift them all up in your prayers as we wait to see who God will bring through our doors in the coming months!

Mike



FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIR



Greetings from the Trinity council. The Summer is coming to an end very quickly as our members and friends get in their last trips before school starts. We look forward to having everyone back on a regular basis soon.

At our August meeting Mike M. reported that the Youth retreat to the NJ Shore was a success. Thank you to Rich & Yvette for letting us hold the retreat at their shore house. Also, thanks to Yvette, Abby, Pastor Anne and Mike for all their hard work.

Several members of the youth group will be off to college soon so the youth hosted a Coffee House on Friday, August 15 to attract new members and raise money for the

youth group activities.

Our Treasurer's report showed that our income from envelopes and loose offerings is lower than expected for this time in the year. This is significant because our expenses have been higher than expected. This was due to repairs needed to our fire suppression system, replacing the water heater, and a delay in the reading of and billing for an inside electrical meter. We hope that once everyone is back from vacations this income will catch-up.

Karen R. reported a successful missions trip to Orange to distribute the items we have collected. We also sent

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400 sewing kits to the Seaman’s mission in Boston. Thank you to Abbey C. for driving the sewing kits up to New England! See the Missions article for information about what is needed for Fall and Christmas distributions.

The council has retained Don Miceli at the firm of Carella Byrne et al to represent us in discussions with the Township of Livingston regarding their interest in leasing some of our property. Of course, the council will not enter any agreements without the approval of our members.

Our semi-Annual meeting is Sunday, August 24 after worship. Please plan to attend. We will give updates on each area of the church operations and have a question and answer period.

Our next council meeting is September 21. If you have matters that the council should consider please contact a member.

Please continue to pray for Trinity, our missions, and church council that we seek to glorify God in everything we do.

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.”

2 THESSALONIANS 3:16

Yours in Christ,

Chrystal



Trinity Church Council:
Chrystal Veazey-Watson, Chair; Mary Chu, Vice Chair; Jen Yoo, Secretary; Cyndy Traverso, Treasurer; Rich Holowczak, Financial Secretary; and Karen Reichy, Missions

Trinity Reporter

JUNE/JULY

It's been a busy time at Trinity and summer isn't over yet!

We were blessed to witness the confirmation of Abe M and Fred P in May. We pray they continue to grow in their faith (photo right)!

We celebrated Pentecost with a joint worship service with our building partners, the Taiwanese Presbyterian Church (photo bottom). Pastor Annie of the TPC and Pastor Anne led the service. It was a wonderful time!

The Livingston Pride Picnic was also on Pentecost Sunday so a group packed up and headed over to the Livingston oval for a great time of fellowship with our neighbors.





Thanks to **Pastor Anne, Mike M, Abbey C, Bella M, Abe M and Kevin** for representing Trinity at the event .

Our game nights expanded to two nights a month! It's a great time of fellowship and fun and If you haven't attended a game night yet, we hope you will think about giving it a try. The more the merrier!

Karen R, Kevin, Pastor Anne, Cyndy T, Barbara S, Page M, Nancy O, and Yvette H all pitched in over the last few months for Mission & Makers to organize the sharing room. Karen R and Kevin made more trips to Orange to distribute donations to those in need. We also thank Rebecca W for helping with her expansive knowledge of the Spanish language!

We ended July with the third annual youth retreat to Long Beach Island.

Thanks to **Mike M, Pastor Anne, Abbey C and Yvette H** for chaperoning and to all of the youth who make the retreat so much fun.

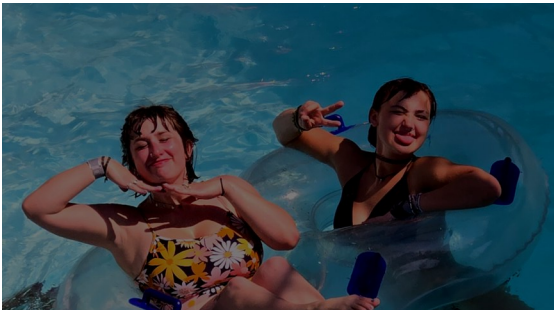
There was a day at the waterpark, a day at the beach, some Skipper Dipper ice cream, s'mores (see next page for photos) and of course games! We were also privileged to view a film by Abe M—it was hysterically funny and so well-made! Into every retreat a little rain sometimes falls and this was no exception as Thursday brought a strong storm and Friday stayed a bit drizzle-y. But it didn't dampen the mood, Pastor Anne and many of the youth greeted the sunrise Friday morning despite the winds and drizzle — God was glorified even through the mist.

We opened August with a sermon by Abbey C on her last Sunday at Trinity before she moves to Rhode

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Island to pursue her PhD. It was a good lesson in finding joy in the struggle. Afterward, the youth presented Abbey with a gift bag full of school essentials and a yummy cake! Yes, there were tears, but they only prove to testify to the love that was shared between Abbey and the youth. We will surely miss her, but she promises to come back to visit when she can. God bless her on her new adventure!

And on the same weekend, one of our own former youth and youngest son of Cyndy and Jim, Luke Traverso was married in Chicago! We wish Luke and Abby much happiness in their new life



together. God bless you both. Aren't they just adorable?!

Sunday school begins again for the youth and adults on Sunday, 9/14 at 10 am. Kids Sunday school will continue to meet during adult worship time.

We are all looking forward to the Trinity fall programming. Please let us know what you've been up to. We love to hear from friends near and far!



PHOTOS:

Page 14: Top: Abe and Fred with families. Bottom: Pentecost joint worship service.

Page 15: The Trinity gang at the Livingston Pride Picnic.

Page 16: Top: Abbey giving the Sunday message. Middle: Pastor Anne, Abbey, Bella, Mike and Abe presenting Abbey with her gift. Bottom: The youth group at the shore retreat.

This page: Mr. & Mrs. Luke Traverso!

AUGUST 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM COUNCIL MEETING 1 PM	AA 12:00 pm AA 7:30 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM	PRAYER MEETING 8:30 AM AA 7 pm	AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm DINNER & BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am NA 7:30 pm	LIVINGSTON ARTS JAZZ TRIO 2 pm – 4 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM KID'S SUNDAY SCHOOL	AA 12:00 pm AA 7:30 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM	PRAYER MEETING 8:30 AM AA 7 pm	AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm DINNER & BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am COFFEE HOUSE 6:30 PM-9:30 PM NA 7:30 pm	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM KID'S SUNDAY SCHOOL	AA 12:00 pm AA 7:30 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM	PRAYER MEETING 8:30 AM AA 7 pm	AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM NA 7:30 pm	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM KID'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TRINITY SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP	AA 12:00 pm AA 7:30 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM	MISSION & MAKERS 11 AM AA 7 pm	AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM NA 7:30 pm	GAME NIGHT (all ages) 6:30 PM
31						
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM KID'S SUNDAY SCHOOL						

SEPTEMBER 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	AA 12:00 pm CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED LABOR DAY AA 7:30 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM	AA 7 pm	AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm DINNER & BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM NA 7:30 pm	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM	AA 12:00 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM		AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm DINNER & BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM NA 7:30 pm	
Hwas-Yin Choir 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm	AA 7:30 pm		AA 7 pm			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM ADULT & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOLS 10 AM KID'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:15 AM Hwas-Yin Choir 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm	AA 12:00 pm AA 7:30 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM		AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm DINNER & BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM NA 7:30 pm	GAME NIGHT (adults only) 6:30 PM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM ADULT & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOLS 10 AM KID'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:15 AM Hwas-Yin Choir 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm	AA 12:00 pm AA 7:30 pm	Al-Anon 1:00 pm TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM	MISSION & MAKERS 11 AM AA 7 pm	AA 1:00 pm Al-Anon 1:00 pm DINNER & BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM PRAYER MEETING 8:00 PM	AA Bagel Group 10:00 am TEEN NIGHT 6:30 PM NA 7:30 pm	GAME NIGHT (all ages) 6:30 PM
28	29	30				
TRINITY WORSHIP 11 AM ADULT & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOLS 10 AM KID'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:15 AM Hwas-Yin Choir 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm						

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

Adult Bible Study: Sundays 10 am

All adults ages 18 and over are welcome! We meet in the library (Room 2) from 10 am to 10:45 am. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Pastor Anne.

Youth Bible Study: Sundays 10 am

All youth are welcome! The youth meet in Room 9 from 10 am to 10:45 am. Our Youth director, Mike M. leads the study. If you have any questions or would like more information, please email Mike at TrinityLivingstonYouth@gmail.com.



Children's Church: Sundays during worship

All kids can participate in Children's Church. Children begin with us in the worship service, then after the children's sermon they can follow the teacher to children's church in room 7. We have a rotating list of adult volunteers. If you can help, please sign up on the server worksheet. All volunteers for children's church must be background checked.

Prayer Meetings (virtual): Thursdays 8 pm

Pastor Anne will be attending a class this year that will take place Wednesday mornings, so she will be rescheduling the Wednesday prayer day to a different day. Stay tuned for that. But Thursday night prayer will continue! Look for a link in your email. Send your prayer request to Pastor Anne at TrinityLivPastor@gmail.com or give us a call and leave a message.

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Teen Nights: Tuesdays & Fridays 6:30 pm

Brawling Hamsters?! God's Monsters?! What's it all about? All youth ages 13-17 are welcome to join the Trinity youth group. We provide a safe space for fellowship, games and fun. Tuesdays we have snacks, Friday nights we serve pizza. Youth ministries director Mike M. supervises. **We are looking for adult volunteers to help supervise on Tuesday and/or Friday nights.** If you are interested, contact Mike at TrinityLivingstonYouth@gmail.com. All adult participants are background checked.



Youth Bible Study: Tuesdays 8:30 pm-10 pm after youth group

All youth ages 13-17 are welcome to join in! Please email Mike if you would like more information. TrinityLivingstonYouth@gmail.com

Mission & Makers: Wednesday, 8/27, 9/24, 10/29

Everyone is welcome! We meet 11 am at the church and work on mission related tasks. If you have any questions, ask Karen R, call or email the church office.



Game Night (adults): Saturdays, 9/20, 10/18

This game night is for adults only and is a new event on Trinity's monthly calendar. We meet in fellowship hall from 6:30pm-9pm for games and fellowship.

Game Night (all ages): Saturdays, 9/27, 10/25

Let's get together for some light-hearted fun one Saturday of the month from 7pm-9pm. All ages are welcome. We'll play games!



Thursday Night Dinner & Bible Study: 6:30 pm

All are welcome! We meet in fellowship hall at 6:30 pm (and online for those far away) to explore the scriptures within their historical context and how we understand them today. Pastor Anne will provide dinner to those attending in person. Dinner is at 6:30 pm with the Bible study beginning at 7 pm, and closing with prayer at 8 pm. Call or email Pastor Anne if you would like to be on the email list for updates and Zoom links.

MISSIONS & MORE



Trinity offers many opportunities for mission work and this year is no exception. We are looking for a volunteer to contact businesses about donations for our missions. Also, if you are on Buy Nothing Livingston, you can post for donations. See Karen R if you are interested in either of these opportunities.

Please see Karen R during fellowship if you would like more information on mission opportunities or you can email her at karenrei@comcast.net or call the church office.



COLLECTIONS FOR MEN

We collect ALL YEAR LONG for missions so please donate if you can. Monetary donations are also accepted. Please be sure the write “MISSIONS—MENS” on the memo line of checks, on envelopes for cash and in the memo section is donating via PayPal on our website at ***TrinityChurchLivingston.org***.

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MEN'S HIKING OR WORK BOOTS—MEN'S SIZES 7—10

CLOTHING S-M-L

Coats	Windbreakers
Heavy zipper hoodies	Warm hats & scarves
Gloves	Sweatshirts & Hoodies
Shoes, boots & sneakers sizes 7-8-9	Socks
Thermal underwear	Jeans, slacks & sweatpants
T-shirts: Long sleeve & short sleeve	

ACCESSORIES & TOILETRIES

Backpacks	Drawstring packs
Toothbrushes & toothpaste*	Lip balm*
Hand lotion*	Hotel size toiletry samples*
Greeting cards*	Calendars*
Notepads*	Hand warmers*

HOUSEHOLD NEEDS

Mugs	Blankets: twin-full-queen
Throws	Towels: beach-bath-hand
Kitchen towels	Washcloths
Leak-proof reusable water bottles	

SEWING KITS

Buttons, Sewing needles, Safety pins



COLLECTION FOR NEW PARENTS AND BABIES

Baby clothing, shoes and coats. New, unwrapped toys. This mission is in partnership with St. Matthews Lillian's Closet in East Orange, a mission to provide new parents in need with baby supplies. **Donations can be put in our Donations box located outside the kitchen or outside Room 5.** For check or PayPal donations, please include "MISSIONS—BABY" in the memo.

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DONATION BINS

For all other clothing, shoes and used small toys that cannot be used by Trinity, we have donation bins in our parking lot for your use. Acceptable items are clothing, shoes and small toys. Items should be used, but in good condition. Please seal all items in a bag before putting them in the bin. Trinity receives a donation from Millennium Textiles for the use of the parking lot space.



COLLECTION FOR RENEW CENTER

Laundry detergent/pods, toilet paper, toothpaste, and shampoo. These items are not covered under SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and are greatly needed. **Donations can be put in our Donations box located outside the kitchen.** For check or PayPal donations, please include “MISSIONS—RENEW” in the memo.



COLLECTION FOR THE LIVINGSTON FOOD PANTRY

The local food pantries always run low on **cooking oil**. You can place donate cooking oil in our **Donations basket located outside of the kitchen.** THANK YOU!

The Livingston food pantry let us know that their shelves often go empty after the holiday season. Please consider donating cooking oil, canned foods, and boxed milk. Please do not donate anything that requires eggs or butter to make (like Macaroni and Cheese boxes or cake mixes), those receiving the food usually do not have access to butter or eggs. Thank you!

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COLLECTION FOR CARE AND SHARE FUND



Our Pastor maintains a fund to provide emergency help to Trinity congregation members and friends in emergency need. Recently, we have helped with rent, gas and food.

You can donate with cash or check in a Care & Share envelope and place in the offering basket or via PayPal on our website. Please include “CARE & SHARE” on the memo line or as a comment in PayPal or on your check. We can’t “split” checks, so any money donated to Care & Share must be on a separate check with “Care & Share” on the memo line. (keep track of these donations; they are not reported on your year-end letter from the financial secretary).

We are in need of buttons for sewing kits. If you have any buttons you can donate, please bring them in a bag and leave them in the donation box outside of fellowship hall or Room 5. Thank you!



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*And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."
Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5*