

## *Janet's Jottings...*



*O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home! (Isaac Watts)*

The New Year always fills me with hope and expectation. There have been a few years when I couldn't wait to ditch the old calendar and start over (2020 ring a bell?). But more often, I've tried to take the experiences from the previous year, good and bad, and take those lessons into the coming years.

Last year we spent the month of January "Being Resolved": To be baptized in the Holy Spirit, to pray, to read the Scriptures, to answer God's call, and to follow Jesus. We spent more time this past fall exploring aspects of prayer and methods for reading our Bibles. I think we have made an excellent effort as a congregation to strengthen these spiritual practices.

We do many things very well here at Trinity. I've been praying about where God might be leading us in this coming year. As we've grown inwardly closer to God, are there areas of outward expression of our commitment to Jesus that we are being drawn towards?

I'm inviting you to pray about that as well and bring what God has placed on your heart to a **Planning/Goal Setting Meeting** on Saturday, February 7 from 9:30 – noon. Donuts and coffee will be provided. This will be a working meeting where we will spend time together discussing big picture visions but also break up into smaller teams to focus on Outreach/Mission, Events, Spiritual Life (worship, prayer, study groups), and practical matters (building and finance issues). **EVERYONE** is welcome and encouraged to attend. My goal is to leave that day with a general outline of what we are going to try to accomplish well in the coming year. I do *not* expect to have every detail nailed down, but I am hoping that we sense a clear direction in which God is leading us. If you aren't able to be with us, please send me any suggestions, ideas, dreams, etc. I look forward to discovering God's will for us together!



## **THANK YOU!!!**

I am a very blessed pastor serving possibly the best congregation in the Allegheny West Conference. I'm sure a lot of pastors say that, but they haven't served all of you! I could not even begin to thank you all individually for the many cards, gifts, and just general words of encouragement and appreciation I received over Christmas. My heart was warmed and full.

Beyond that I want to thank everyone who went above and beyond to make sure things were accomplished well and in good order. Our sanctuary was especially beautiful, the music was exceptional (as always), our office staff worked tirelessly and in ways that we will probably never know to make sure that we had what we needed from week to week, our building and grounds were well taken care of, shut-ins were cared for, visitors were welcomed warmly, and the Holy Spirit filled every nook and cranny of our lives. We have been blessed to be a blessing!

*Circuit Rider*  
*January ~ February 2026*  
**Trinity Methodist Church of Scottdale**  
PO Box 343  
501 Mulberry St.  
Scottdale PA 15683



Rev. Janet F. Lord, Pastor  
Lou Ann Beadling-Leighty, Choir Director  
Drenda Conn, Administrative Secretary  
Janet Keibler, Business Manager

Martha Banks, Organist  
Susan Harrold, Assistant Secretary  
724-887-6000 Church

Sunday Worship Time  
9:45 a.m.

Church Email : [tmcs@zoominternet.net](mailto:tmcs@zoominternet.net)

Adult Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.

**Contact the Church**

Church office at 724 887 6000.  
email: [tmcs@zoominternet.net](mailto:tmcs@zoominternet.net)

Facebook: Trinity Methodist Church of Scottdale

***Our WEBSITE is up and running! Visit us at [Scottdaletrinity.org](http://Scottdaletrinity.org)***

Pastor's Office Hours – Pastor Janet plans to be in the office on Tuesday afternoons, all day Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. Because of obligations connected with her role within the Allegheny West Conference, there may be times when those hours will need to be flexible. Please call either the office or Pastor Janet to make sure that she will be in.

Contact information: Cell: 412 759 5204 Email: [jflrd425@aol.com](mailto:jflrd425@aol.com)

Church Office is Open Tuesday – Thursday

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR:** Those with illness and recovering, Dorothy Moore, Steve Brown, Jim Rolla, the family of Dr. Joseph Chomiak, the family of Lavonne Grote, Matthew & Katie Barrish & unborn baby, Pastor Bob Nagy, Nancy Barclay, Rev. Harry & Susan Speakman, Jodi Fite, Kathy Warman, Don Yoder, Joe Hawk, Martha Banks, Johnny Zovko (great grandson of Marti & Forrest Moore), Baby Lucy and family, Susan Harrold, Bev Sterrett, and Wynefret Coleman, Lisa Barclay, Rene Blasco, the Extended Brown Family, Keith Dudeck's mother, Judy Falcon, Lynne Gribble, Joe Hawk, Sydney Hawk, Alice Helman, Joanne Hough, Donna Hunker, Laura Kloock (Shaffer's granddaughter), Marsha Neurohr, Tyler & Brian Rock, Richard & Twila Snyder.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR SHUT-INS** J.W. Buttermore, Zane Hunker, Genivive Mitchell, Becky Sprinkle, Howard Shallenberger, and Stella Tallentire.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY & FAMILIES:**

Rev. Jonathan Bell, Kenny Bell, Kristopher Bell, Paul Blycheck, Tim Boots, Kevin Claycomb, Derek Cummings, Cody Dodd, Shane Dodd, Billy Fitzgerald, Rev. Craig Forsythe, Ryan Geisel, Dan Hodge, Ethan John, Justin John, James Marker, Christopher Miller, Tina Minoski, Dan Moore, Derek O'Harrow, Shawn Potter, Fred Rankin, T.J. Reed, Cap. Craig Sebek, Joe Shirer, Matthew Sturtz, Gary Turner, David Weimer, Zachary Williams and Troy Zelenka.

## THIS AND THAT

We have come to the end of another Christmas Season, with the church being decorated so beautifully.

Your generosity was amazing with the many donations we received both gifts and monetary. Just with the Advent Offering, Joyful Noise (Change Collection) and Christmas Eve close to \$5000 was collected.

Now with the beginning of a new year so find that we are really not far away from the Lenten Season. The Scottdale Association of Area Churches is again planning for Lenten Lunches starting on Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. We have not received information on places and speakers as of yet. Watch the bulletin for information.

Pastor Harry Speakman called to let us know that Susan's surgery went well and she is now home from the hospital. The cards and prayers are very appreciated.

**Our sympathy** to the families of Lavonne Grote and Jeffery Pickerill, who passed away recently.

## FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is held the second Wednesday of each month  
at the St. John Baptist Byzantine Church at 525 Porter Ave. Scottdale  
The next opportunities are on January 14th and February 11th.

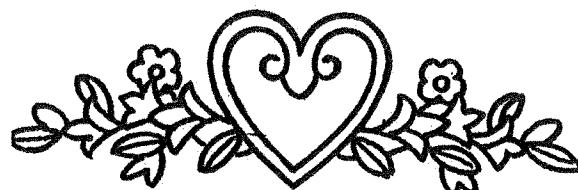
## **CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES**

Does your mind ever wander during church and you look around the sanctuary and wonder who that person is whose face you know but whose name you don't?



We have done a great job of trying to keep our Directory up to date through our ChurchTrac system, but there have been quite a few changes since we last published it in 2024. Over the next few weeks we'll be asking you to check your information that is currently in our directory (a master copy will be on the table in the rear of the sanctuary) and make any changes that are needed. For those of you who are new to us, there will be information sheets for you to fill out so you can be included in the next directory.

**FOR EVERYONE:** We'd love to include pictures this time. The easiest way to do this would be for you to send me a picture of you or your entire family either by email ([jflrd425@aol.com](mailto:jflrd425@aol.com)) or through a private message on Facebook. If you would like us to take a picture for you, just let someone know on Sunday mornings and we can make that happen. Here's getting to know each other better!



## WISHING WELL FOOD PACKETS

After Thanksgiving last year we had an abundance of food left over after generously filling boxes for several families. We placed an assortment of items in clear bags and placed them in and on our Wishing Well which is currently on the Mulberry Street Porch. They were gone within hours, indicating that there is certainly a need in Scottdale! Since then, many of you have brought in items for the same purpose, including a mother/daughter who prepared some special Christmas Breakfast Bags along with a card. All of this tells us that God has repurposed that Wishing Well to be a Blessing Well. If you would like to bring in items, please consider the following:

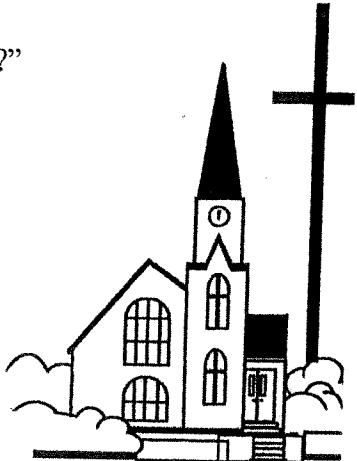
- Consider placing everything that might be needed for a single meal in a clear, 1-gallon, Ziploc type bag. These items should be shelf stable and not be in glass containers which are more likely to freeze and burst. Suggestions might be complete pancake mix and syrup, pasta and sauce, ready to make noodle dishes, soups, or a variety of canned fruits or vegetables.
- If the cans aren't pull-tab, maybe include a manual can opener.
- A recipe card is a nice touch. I am researching several options and may have cards available in the future. Stay tuned!

This might be a ministry we discuss expanding at our Planning Meeting on February 7 (see my "Janet's Jottings" article for more information). As always, thank you for your generosity!

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY SERMONS

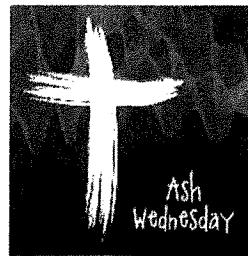
From now until the beginning of Lent we will be celebrating the season of Epiphany, considering how the Light from the Manger continues to spread and our responsibility in carrying that Light to our world. For the most part we'll be hearing from the Old Testament Prophet Isaiah, who a lot to say on the topic. We'll also be lighting a candle each week as a witness to the Light growing among us. Please join us!

January 11	Isaiah 42:1-9	"Best of All, God is With Us"
January 18	Isaiah 49: 1-7	"Too Small a Thing"
January 25	Isaiah 9: 1-4	"Light Hearted"
February 1	Luke 2: 22-49	"How Long Would You Wait?"
February 8	Isaiah 59: 1-12	"Putting on a Show or Walking in the Light?"
February 15	Matthew 17: 1-9	"Good Company"



## ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18

Lent will begin with an Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 on Wednesday, February 18. We will not be distributing ashes but we will be observing repentance, forgiveness, and our commitment to observe a Holy Lent. Please plan to join us.



## CHOSEN SEASON FIVE BEGINS WEDNESDAY JANUARY 28

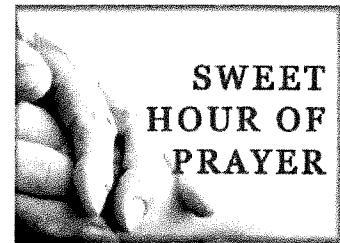
What a blessing our Wednesday evening discussion group around "The Chosen" has been! We are ready to launch Season 5, which takes us from Palm Sunday through the Last Supper. The entire series is available on Amazon Prime, Netflix, and The Chosen app. Also, the DVD is available for viewing during office hours at the church, or you can come early and watch each week's episode with others at 6 PM. Our discussion will begin at 7:00 and we are usually finished by 8:00. We learn so much more about the events in the Bible and we also learn so much from each other. Please join us!

## SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER RETURNS ON MARCH 4

*In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief,*

*And oft escaped the tempter's snare, by thy return,*

*sweet hour of prayer! (William Walford)*



Sweet Hour of Prayer has been on hiatus during the cold and dark winter months, but will be back beginning Wednesday, March 4 at 6:00 PM in our Chapel. This is a non-structured, quiet hour where you can come and go as you please, allowing yourself to spend some time in conversation with God. The candles are lit and music is playing softly to create a space and time for you to deepen your relationship with the One who made you.

## FOURTH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP:

We've been trying to have time after church on the fourth (or last) Sunday of each month for us to simply gather as a church family for light refreshments and conversation. We had a great time in December as we sang carols, played some games and enjoyed getting to know each other. There is nothing currently planned for January, but on **February 22**, Rev. Mardiann Vincent will be with us to discuss her extensive experience in partnering with churches to provide a summer lunch program that covers that gaps before and after County feeding programs kick in. She is an ordained Deacon in our Allegheny West Conference, living in Meyersdale, and serving interim assignments in various churches in the Somerset/Johnstown area. She is a delight to know and has never met an obstacle she can't overcome! If you have an interest in helping us meet the needs of children in our community please plan to be with us!

## MEETINGS

**Choir Rehearsal Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.**

**Trustees Meetings first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.**

**Finance Meetings second Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. or when announced.**

**Church Council Meetings third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.**

### COUNTERS FOR JANUARY

Janet Keibler & Gloria Lebe

### COUNTERS FOR FEBRUARY

Angelo & Steve Brown

### WE ARE IN NEED OF GREETERS FOR JANUARY & FEBRUARY

If you are willing to help, please see Bill Scott or sign up on the form at the back of the sanctuary.

### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NOVEMBER ~ DECEMBER 2025

Local (General)	32,626.16
Connectional Funding	1,270.00
Trustee Account	5,161.00
Endowment Reimbursement	1,590.00
Discretionary Fund	230.00
Food Pantry	310.00
Hurricane Helena	70.00
Christmas Eve	1,415.00
Advent	2,720.00
Gift Cards	270.00
Hurricane Jamica	420.00



### NOVEMBER ~ DECEMBER 2025 CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Nov 2	94
Nov 9	81
Nov 16	71
Nov 23	90
Nov 30	80
Dec 7	85
Dec 14	44 (snow storm)
Dec 21	94
Dec 24	114 Christmas Eve
Dec 28	71



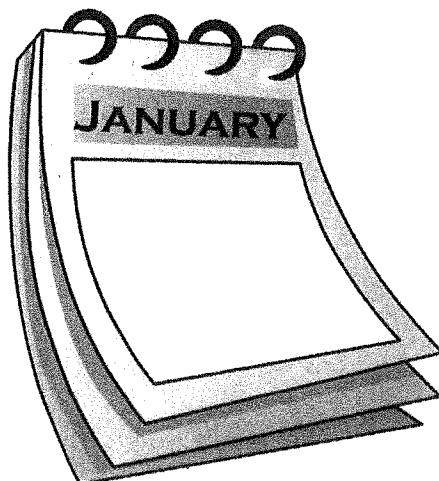
## **“A New Year”**

The calendar is bare, the page of tomorrow clean and ready. May God bless the new year that beckons, helping us face what we must, celebrate every triumph we can, and make the changes we need.

It is important to be physically healthy and strong, but how much better if we are also spiritually strong. Lifting weights does our bodies good, but regularly picking up the Bible is good for the health of our souls, because the Lord speaks to us through the pages of the Bible. And rather than just doing deep knee bends to increase our physical strength, we can regularly “go down on our knees” in prayer to strengthen our core spirit. Prayer lifts us like a wave on the ocean, but it is always God’s hand beneath the surface holding us up.

January is the threshold between the old and new. Therefore, as we step boldly into 2026, remember that God’s Love is wider than our worries, longer than our loneliness, stronger than our sorrows, deeper than our doubts, and higher than our hostilities. Outwardly, with the seemingly endless weeks of winter ahead of us, the world appears to hold its breath as raw January and slate February days settle in. For that reason, layer for the season by letting the wonder of God’s love into our homes and hearts. He will comfort, guide and keep us warm as we embrace new beginnings and find joy in each day of the brand new year.

Written by Rene Snyder Blasco



## THANK YOU

TMC Family,

Thank you so much for the prayers and the altar flowers for our daughter's heart ablation. She was able to join the family's Thanksgiving gathering 2 days after her procedure. The thoughts and prayers so appreciated.

Dave & Jean Geary

Thank you for your prayers, cards, gift card & concern before, during and after my surgery. It was greatly welcomed and appreciated.

Susan Harrold

I wish to thank you, my Trinity church family, for your many kindnesses as I recovered from my carpal tunnel surgery in November. All those things were very appreciated.

Sincerely, Joe Hawk

We wish to thank our Trinity Church Family for the beautiful poinsettia and lovely cards and gifts included in the gift bag brought to us. We especially enjoyed our 'Trinity Christmas Visitors' who brought them. Thank You dear Trinity folk! We wish you a wonderful 2026 blessed with all things good!

Love, Joe & Marty Hawk

Your kind expression of sympathy and friendship will always remain in our memories. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely, Carole Leonard's Children

Thank you for blessing my family with your generosity this Christmas. You will always be a treasure to me and my family. Praise be to God. May God bless you and your family.

Love, A Grateful Family

TMC Family,

Thank you for remembering Jodi with Christmas cards and the donation to the Food Bank. Jodi really likes to receive cards and mail and enjoyed reading the cards she received.

Jodi, Ted and Dorothy Fite

Thank you for the many lovely cards and poinsettia. Ryan and I enjoyed reading each one.

Rene Snyder Blasco

TMC Family,

Thank you so much for the gift card from the Care Committee, Christmas cards and poinsettia, and for all the prayers.

Blessings, Bev Sterrett

Thank you for remembering me with cards and treats.

Lincoln Jamison

Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia and the many Christmas cards and things.

How thoughtful.  
Betty Barbery



## A NOTE ON CONTRIBUTIONS:

Over the past year there have been several appeals from the Allegheny West Conference for special offerings to be taken for initiatives such as Bibles for Kenya or for disaster relief in various parts of the world. You have been generous in your offerings! In 2025 we tracked those contributions according to the specific request, which will be reflected in your annual statement. Going forward in 2026, however, all of these requests will be placed in the category of Conference Special Offerings. These will still be forwarded to the specific request, but the line on your statement will simply state that category. You should still mark your offering envelope with the name of the specific appeal, however.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### January for Christ

God laid it upon my heart to ask people to share the light of His love, The Light of The World, Jesus Christ!

Start the year off with, January For Jesus, by staying decorated and keeping the lights on for Jesus. Show God we still believe in the one true light of the world, His Son, Jesus Christ. And I am glad to say that January For Jesus has grown over the years, even into other states.

The disciples, the prophets, all of the men and women from the bible were

people just like you and I. God will use anyone who is willing, people just like you and me.

If you have asked Jesus into your heart then you have the Light of Jesus inside of you, each and every day to shine brightly for God.

Stand up for Jesus and please stay decorated, and keep your lights on through the month of January, show your neighbors that you believe in the light of the world, Jesus Christ, share the light of Jesus, His love, with them, and ask them to join in.

If you know someone that might not

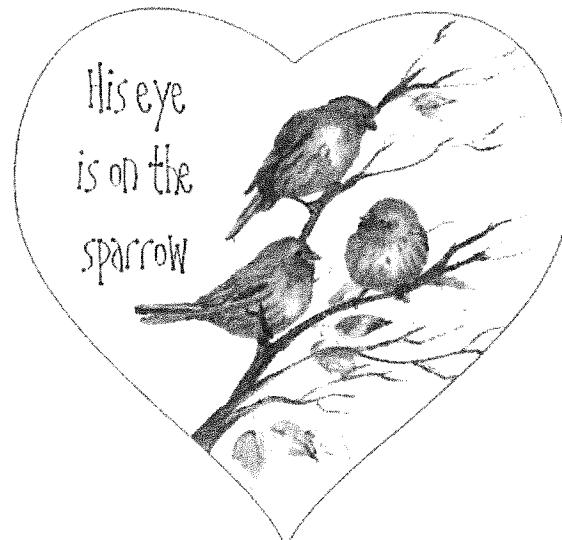
know Jesus, asking them to join in is a good way to share Him, and His light and His love with them.

Just think how beautiful it will be to get the world to shine brightly in the month of January for Jesus.

I'm sure God will smile as He views the beauty of His creation, lit up from the lights of His children. Have a blessed day. Let your heart shine brightly for Jesus every day!

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

Sheila Lytle  
Connellsville



Oh yes! Starting in January 2026 TMC will begin serving a free community lunch on the fourth Saturday through April. Beginning at 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

January we will serve chicken rice soup along with sandwiches, applesauce, assorted salads, and cookies. The sandwiches will be tuna salad, chicken salad, and homemade cheese spread. Take outs are available.



February will feature either chicken vegetable or chicken noodle soup and chili along with applesauce, assorted salads, and cookies. We might have a variety of chilis available.

Please check back and see what we have planned for March and April.

Bon Appetit – Enjoy Your Meal



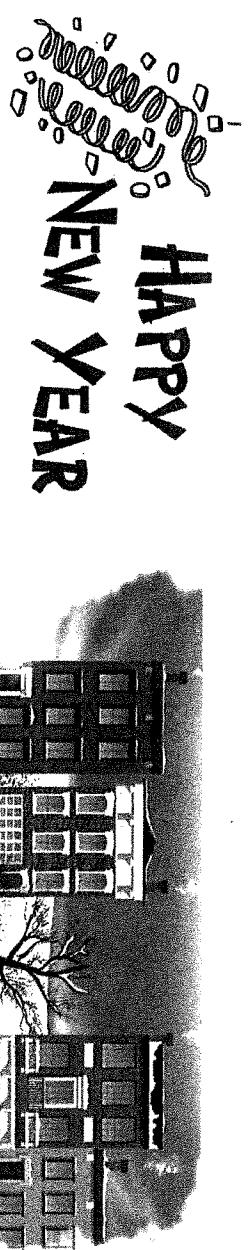
They answered the call to serve our country—now, it is our honor to serve them. The Military Share Program of the Westmoreland Food Bank provides Westmoreland County's active military members and veterans with monthly boxes of nutritious fresh, frozen, and non-perishable foods. These meals are a small token of appreciation for the sacrifices they and their families have made.

Food insecurity disproportionately affects members of the military, veterans, and their families. Many active-duty service members and veterans face financial challenges that make it difficult to put food on the table. Westmoreland Food Bank's Military Share Program is a vital initiative aimed at ensuring those who have sacrificed so much for our nation receive the support they deserve.

This is our Trinity Church January mission focus. Please donate jars of peanut butter to be delivered to the Food Bank in Delmont for distribution in the Military Share boxes. Our goal is 100 standard size (16 oz) jars of peanut butter.

**In 2024 This program served 768 Active Military & Veterans**

# January 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	
				New Year's Day		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Trustees 7:00 p.m.		Choir 7:00 p.m.		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Finance 6:30	Food Pantry	Choir 7:00 p.m.		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	No Preschool	Council 7:00		Choir 7:00 p.m.		Community Lunch
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
			Chosen Bible Study	Choir 7:00 p.m.		

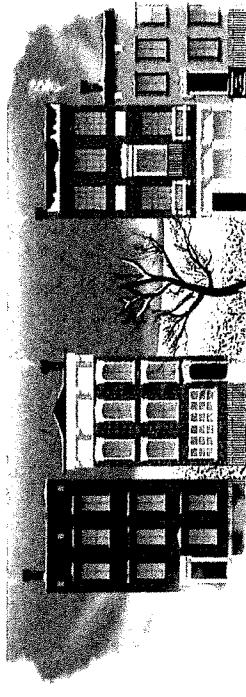
*Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday*

*Pastor Hours Tues p.m., Wed all day, Thur morn.*

*Secretary's Hours Tues, Wed, Thurs*

*Office closed Monday & Friday*

# February 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion	2	3 Trustee 7:00 p.m.	4 Chosen 7:00 p.m.	5 Choir 7:00 p.m.	6	7 Planning Goal Setting Meeting 9:30 - noon
8	9	10 Finance 6:30 p.m.	11 Chosen 7:00 p.m. Food Pantry	12 Choir 7:00 p.m.	13	14 Valentines Day
15	16 No Preschool	17 Council 7:00 p.m.	18 Ash Wed Service Lenten Lunch	19 Choir 7:00 p.m. Circle of Hope 1:30 p.m.	20	21
22	23 After Church Social	24	25 Chosen 7:00 p.m. Lenten Lunch	26 Choir 7:00 p.m.	27	28 Community Lunch
1 Communion	2	3	4	5	6	7



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 Pastor Hours Tues p.m., Wed all day, Thur morn.  
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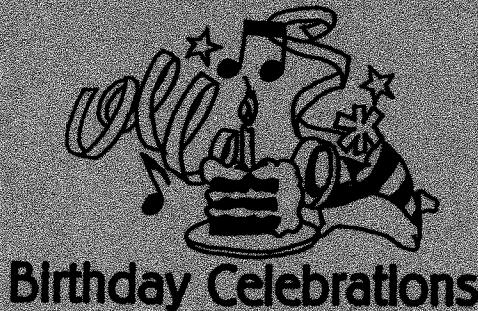
## Happy Birthday Blessings to the following:

### January Birthdays

11 Glenn Nicholson  
13 Lindsey Brown  
14 Pastor Paul Morris  
18 Devin Kelley  
19 Jim Werkman Jr.  
21 Patricia Stoner  
21 Dean Dorreman  
21 Beth Scott  
22 Izabella Katelin Seaton  
23 Joshua Dodd  
24 Alice Helman  
25 Michael Chain  
29 Jim Porter  
31 Calvin Lebe

### February Birthdays

1 David Gardner  
1 Tyler Rock  
8 John Helman  
9 Jeremy Scott  
10 Steven Smithula  
11 Cheryl Eichner  
13 Allison Seder  
19 Lindsey Dove  
20 Julie Hammaker  
21 Mary Shaffer  
21 Laraine Dorsey  
23 Joe Hawk  
24 Lisa Porter  
28 Carl Shaffer



## God Bless You All!

If you would like your birthday or anniversary added to the list, please call the office.

# The Circuit Rider

Trinity Methodist Church of Scottsdale  
PO Box 343  
501 Mulberry St.  
Scottsdale, PA 15683



*He will cover you with  
His feathers,*



*and under His wings  
you will find  
refuge.*

Psalm 91:4

Trinity Methodist Church of Scottsdale  
PO Box 343  
501 Mulberry St.  
Scottsdale, PA 15683

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January ~ February  
2026