



# THE RIDER

Trinity United Methodist Church

## It Takes Courage

*After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb. 2 Look, there was a great earthquake, for an angel from the Lord came down from heaven. Coming to the stone, he rolled it away and sat on it. 3 Now his face was like lightning and his clothes as white as snow. 4 The guards were so terrified of him that they shook with fear and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He isn't here, because he's been raised from the dead, just as he said. Come, see the place where they laid him. Matthew 28:1-6*

The two Mary's coming to look at the tomb at dawn? Courageous. The terrified, fainting guards? Not so much. And from Thursday to Easter Sunday, Jesus? The epitome of Courage.

Every aspect of the Easter story is unique, different, new, revolutionary. There is fear, pain and suffering; doubt and disbelief. The experience of death heralds a fresh, innovative creation - resurrection. God is doing a new thing, "Can you not see it?!" Where the worst thing is not the last thing. When you think the end has come and the journey is finished, you discover it is just beginning.

Friends, there is Hope. No matter what you are experiencing, what you are facing in your life today, there is Hope. Hope for better days ahead, Hope for new beginnings, Hope for favorable outcomes, Hope for fresh starts. And Hope takes courage.

This is the true message of Easter for our generation, that there is Hope for the future and it takes courage to see it and embrace it and live into it. Hope may require some risk, invite an adventure, or a deep breath of wonder.

"I know you are looking for Jesus, [but] he isn't here." He's alive, courageously bringing Hope to a hurting world. This Easter, won't you come and join him?

*Pastor Alan*



# Family Ministries

## Summer Volunteers Needed!

Do you love spending time with kids and youth? Have a craft you'd love to share: knitting, woodworking, painting, baking, card making? Children's and Youth Ministries needs you this summer!

- VBS at Chester UMC | June 22–26 | 9:00 am–12:00 PM
- Craft Camp Days/Nights | Dates TBD
- Chaperones for Fun Outings | Dates TBD
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Reach out to Vickie Weber at [childrensministry@trinity-umc.com](mailto:childrensministry@trinity-umc.com) or speak with her in person.

## Children's Ministry

**Wacky Wednesday** Every Wednesday from 5:45–7:00 PM, children are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and exploration of Bible stories through worship arts. Bring your kids, grandkids, and neighbor kids, we'll see you on the playground!

**Summer Camp at Camp Overlook** We're planning to send a small group of kids (current Kindergarten–4th grade) to overnight camp at Camp Overlook this summer! If you're interested, please join us for an informational meeting and lunch on Sunday, March 15, so we can begin registration. Scholarships are available; reach out to Vickie Weber for details.

## Youth Ministry

**Wacky Wednesday Youth Bible Study** Youth in grades 6–12 are invited to join us every Wednesday for dinner and Bible study.

- Dinner: 6:00–6:15 PM
- Bible Study: 6:15–7:00 PM

For more information or to volunteer with youth, contact Vickie Weber at [vjbrynilsen@gmail.com](mailto:vjbrynilsen@gmail.com) or 757-510-1286.



# Music Notes

Thanks to everyone who made the Fun and Games Variety show such a hit! Special appreciation goes to Sophie Williamson and the Young Adults Group for cooking, setting up, and cleaning up. I mean, did y'all see the kitchen? Also, thanks to Eric Rasmussen for being the emcee, our anonymous pie maker, everyone who performed, our fabulous audience, and all the elves who turned the space back into a sanctuary. After expenses, we raised \$567.00 for Homes for All. Yay!

We have had a few people thinking about joining the choir, but they may be hesitant due to childcare issues. I'm pleased to announce that we now have two ladies who have agreed to babysit during choir practice whenever they are needed. Kathy Harmon is a retired nurse, and Judy Brynildsen is a retired Special Ed teacher. Both are active during Wacky Wednesday activities and agreed to stay longer whenever needed. If you need their services, let me know so we can ensure they will be there.

On May 17 at 3:00, the Trinity Bells will join Chester UMC Bells at Trinity to present a combined bell concert. Each choir will showcase its skills and combine for what is called a "Massed Ring". It is sure to be an amazing afternoon, so mark your Calendars!

Rachel

[rnrallyn@comcast.net](mailto:rnrallyn@comcast.net)



## **Rise Against Hunger**

Trinity is hosting a Rise Against Hunger meal packing event on Sunday September 13, 2026. Many of you participated in our last RAH event (Sept 29, 2024) and recall how much fun we enjoyed and fellowship we experienced packing over 20,000 meals. If you have not experienced this fun event, do plan to make it this year. Mark your calendars now! We need to raise \$10,000 for our Rise Against Hunger meal packing. If you are so led to donate, please put "Rise Against Hunger 2026" in the memo line of your check.



# April Birthdays

April 2 – Debbie Munn

April 3 – Sherri Diven, Devin Munn

April 5 – George Kingsley

April 8 – Robin Stariha, Bonnie Donaldson

April 9 – Vickie Beck, Patricia Murdock, Judy Scott, Katie Griffith

April 11 – Joan Taylor

April 14 – Alan Rouze

April 16 – Rachel Sismour (Oliver)

April 17 – Daphne Altice

April 19 – Chase Watson

April 21 – Joseph Kump

April 24 – Brian Leinberger, Maury Beck

April 26 – Anthony Roach, Josh Frakes

April 30 – Jack Sismour, Jane Costello

Help us update our information; if your birthday is this month and you are not listed, please notify the office so we won't miss you again!

## Connect with Us

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## Email Directory

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Next-Gen Ministries Director • Vickie Weber [childrensministry@trinity-umc.com](mailto:childrensministry@trinity-umc.com) / [youth@trinity-umc.com](mailto:youth@trinity-umc.com)

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Treasurer • Tawanda Connor