

# the **BRIEF**



## Celebrating 3.21 & Best Buddies

Pastor Rob and his wife, Karyn, recently met up with Trinity's own Siris family during the 3.21 For Life World Down Syndrome Awareness Day at Troeg's Independent Brewing. The Kazinskis were there to celebrate Trinity officially hosting the upcoming Best Buddies Prom in May. See more on page 2.

## Come help! Trinity Serves clean up day

Trinity Serves is a branch of our Mission Team focused on serving locally to assist our community wherever needed. Our next event is set for **Saturday, April 10**, from 10 AM to noon, and everyone is welcome!

We'll help the borough clean away the winter debris at two local sites. Meet in the church parking lot at 10 AM. We'll organize into two crews and tackle different sites in Hummelstown. Your help is needed!



**Let's care for our parks and community! Join Trinity Serves!**

Dress for the weather and bring work gloves. Water and snacks will be available. Any age may serve—children under 16 should be accompanied by an adult. There is no rain date planned.

To join in serving our community, scan the QR code or sign up on the Connect Card. Contact Team Lead Kelly Williamson with any questions at [kwilliamson@hummelstown.gov](mailto:kwilliamson@hummelstown.gov).

## New Series: High Maintenance Humanity

We hope you'll join us in April for our new series, "High Maintenance Humanity!" How do you LIKE people who are hard to love?

We all have a person (or people!) like this in our lives, and they can be difficult to be with in relationship. This very human problem has been an issue since the Garden of Eden.

In this series, we'll look at different types of people considered "high maintenance" and explore practical tips to help us understand and then love that person.

### April 12—Obstinance

Genesis 1:24-28

### April 19—The Pessimist

John 20:24-31

### April 26—The Hot Mess (or Overly Needy Person)

Acts 3:1-10

### May 3—The Critic

Judges 8:1-4

### May 10—The Control Freak

Matthew 16:21-27

### May 17—The Busybody or Gossiper

2 Corinthians 12:19b



## From Pastor Rob: Seeing unity in our church

One of the most famous psalms, Psalm 133, reads, “How good and pleasant it is when families live together in unity.” No doubt, we’d all agree that where a group of people is united under something or someone, they’re likely to experience a lot less friction than they would being divided. The problem is, it’s easy to have a **wrong** idea about what it means to be united. And this wrong idea can lead to a total misunderstanding of what we should come to expect of ourselves as a church family.

Unity is different than uniformity. It’s not homogeneity—or being all the same kind. Unity is not everybody agreeing with each other about everything under the sun. We tend to think that in order to live in unity, we have to agree with one another across the board, but that’s not the case. The word we use for a group in which everyone agrees on everything is not “church” or “family” but “cult”. The church is not a cult.

Christians come in all shapes and size, ages and races, incomes and styles.

We differ from one another in our political leanings, worship preferences, social issues, and even some theological beliefs. Despite these differences, we’re still united under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. He’s our common bond, and faith in Jesus Christ is what unites us.

What makes for a united congregation? It’s our core mission for the United Methodist Church: To make disciples of Jesus to transform the world. Members of a church, much less a denomination, will never agree on everything, but if they can agree on their core mission, they can work together to accomplish their common purpose. That’s what unity looks like.

For decades, Trinity has played an important role in our community. Throughout the years, our membership and attendees (including those online) have consisted of people from very diverse backgrounds, with diverse political views and even diverse religious convictions. But



Pastor Rob  
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all the while, we’ve remained a cohesive unit.

It’s my hope and prayer that we remain the same congregation united around our common work of sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

Unfortunately, we’re living in a day when we’re

led to believe that we can only encamp with people who share our every value and belief. But that’s never been a requirement within the church.

We’re united around our faith in the crucified and risen Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit to transform lives. And we do this through our United Methodist heritage which takes Scripture seriously, looks at our tradition honestly, and that uplifts the reasonableness in living a faith life while appreciating our individual experiences.

All of it binds us in the name of a unifying Christ. I hope you’ll continue to worship at Trinity and join us on this journey.

See you Sunday  
+Rob

# NEW HERE?

*Follow us on social media to stay in the loop on the latest Trinity news!*

*Whether it’s an event sign up or unexpected weather closure, you’ll find all the details shared on our social media.*



TUMC.Htown  
on Facebook  
& Instagram



Catch our live  
broadcasts on  
YouTube  
by searching  
Trinity UMC  
Hummelstown

## Glitz n’ Glam coming to Trinity as we host Best Buddies prom

Trinity has always welcomed people of all abilities to our community, and this May, we’ll again stand behind that commitment by hosting the first ever Hershey & Lower Dauphin Best Buddies Prom!

Similar to Tim Tebow’s

Night to Shine, the Best Buddies Prom will offer a red carpet, DJ, dance floor, and refreshments for attendees. Pastor Rob said it was an easy decision to open the doors.

“I couldn’t believe two other churches turned down this opportunity,” he said. “Our

son, Ethan, is a best buddy to an LD student, and when invites went out, everyone started getting real excited.”

And while Pastor Rob has had MANY generous offers from Trinity disciples, he states there is nothing needed but prayers.

“They have everything covered, we’re only supplying the venue,” he said.

We will, of course, share pictures from the big night, but please hold this event in prayer for pieces to come together that attendees enjoy a truly special night.

## Mission Focus: Sunshine Approach Foundation

Each month Trinity selects a local, national, or global mission to support through our Mission Moment. All funds collected for missions during this month will support a ministry that's new to our calendar: The Sunshine Approach Foundation.

SAF is a Christ-centered ministry serving vulnerable communities and people in Mozambique, Africa. Their mission is to share the love of Jesus in practical ways by giving people a "hand-up" toward a better future.

Through their Employment and Villages Projects, SAF provides dignity, opportunity, and hope by providing sustainable jobs, income, and livelihoods for those who are able to work. For those who cannot work, our Homes Project brings restoration by creating families, pairing widowed women with orphaned children. These families are supported with housing, living expenses, education,



medical care, and ongoing guidance.

Throughout these efforts, Sunshine Approach Foundation seeks to reflect Christ's love by strengthening communities, restoring families, and bringing lasting hope to those in need.

Terri Larson, director of Social Impact, wrote in a blog post, "The goal of the Sunshine Approach Foundation is the same as the one you have for your own children...to see them grow up,

become educated, and one day step confidently into independent, successful adulthood."

You can learn more about the Sunshine Approach Foundation by visiting [sunshineapproach.org](http://sunshineapproach.org).



*Terri and Don Larson founded the Sunshine Approach in Mozambique after leaving the Harrisburg area in 2011.*

## Growing their faith First class of Christianity Explored completes course

Four Trinity disciples recently completed Christianity Explored, an introductory class that's part of the Preparing plot of our Discipleship Garden and recommended to new disciples.

Using the Gospel of Mark, participants learned about the life of the person at the heart of our Christian faith—Jesus Christ. There are three main areas of focus to this study: Who Jesus is (Identity), what he achieved (Mission), and how we should respond to him (Call).

In between the last two sessions, two of the participants and the facilitator enjoyed a "Day Away" at The Farmhouse, Englewood Hershey. Just as Jesus would take his disciples away from the normal demands of their



*Our first class of graduates from "Christianity Explored" included (from left) Tanya Strine, Mary Anders, Gary Anders, and Robby Ashbrook.*

busy lives, this small group delighted in a relaxed atmosphere and in each other's company while reflecting on what they had learned about Jesus. And the food was delicious.

Christianity Explored will be offered once a year at Trinity. If you'd like to know more about this study, or express interest in attending a fu-

ture class or anything about our Discipleship Garden, contact Kay Baxter, director of Discipleship, at [kbaxter@tunchtown.org](mailto:kbaxter@tunchtown.org).

# March at



# TRINITY HUMMELSTOWN

*As our year-round programs begin to wind down, students and leaders alike are enjoying special social times that make unforgettable memories!*



*Our TUMY Jrs. program is winding down until fall. Students in grades 4-6 recently enjoyed a lesson in hula hooping for fitness with Trinity Disciple Kathy Weber (above), and marked their final meeting with an outing to Challenge Family Fun Center. At right are our "rising students" who will join TUMY in the fall.*



*Above, our C3 crew met for a special session in March as they learned to make Pysanky eggs. These traditional Ukrainian Easter eggs decorated using an ancient wax method. The session lasted several hours on a Saturday, but each participant left with very beautiful hand-created eggs.*



*PLAY BALL!—While the official schedule isn't yet available, Trinity is abuzz with excitement following two practices by the newly-formed softball team. The group will in a Donegal area church league with games held at a field in Marietta. When more details become available, we'll be sure to share them so everyone can come cheer on Team Trinity!*



*It's not Easter without TUMY's annual Peanut Butter Egg Sale, and this year the three-week sale netted the crew \$838 toward their summer mission trip! Of course none of it would be possible without the generosity of disciple Lisa Engle, who donates all ingredients and makes the eggs each year. Many thanks to Lisa and all of TUMY's buyers!*