

Trinity United Methodist Church

Worship each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Ryan Gephart, pastor

Church Office 224-2815

Cell Phone: (570)850-6637

Trinity United Methodist Church
434 E. Main St.
Roaring Spring, PA 16673



Trinity Tidings

Roaring Spring, PA 16673

August/September 2026

"Don't you know that friendship with the world means hostility toward God? So whoever wants to be the world's friend becomes God's enemy. Or do you suppose that scripture is meaningless? Doesn't God long for our faithfulness in the life he has given to us? But he gives us more grace. This is why it says, "God stands against the proud, but favors the humble."" (James 4:4a-6)

September & October TUMC Spiritual Focus ~ Daily Bible Reading & Small Groups: Essential Elements to Discipleship

I have two challenges for our congregation this coming fall.

1. Read a Chapter a Day from the Bible starting [Tuesday, September 8](#) and ending [Monday, October 19](#).

--> Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church is encouraging us to do Galatians, Ephesians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon.

--> "There are forty-two chapters, so our Read a Chapter a Day journey will take forty-two days, six weeks. The reading plan is designed for everyone—both new and mature believers—who want to engage with scripture daily. A weekly Bible study component offers deeper reflection and group discussions. Read more below" (at the link which will be provided in more ways in our church) "about the initiative and sign up to be added to our email list to receive the reading plan, small-group discussion questions, and a guide for reading scripture as a daily practice."

(<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/read-a-chapter-a-day>)

2. Join or continue with a small group.

--> More information on small groups is contained in this Newsletter and will

also be shared during the second half of August.

As we continue with our excellent compassion ministries at TUMC, as we prepare for possible renovation projects, as we work on participation in corporate worship; it is essential that we have a ground of being for the continued journey of service in sharing God's love. Our service and sacrificial work for Jesus at TUMC is of high quality, consistency, and love. Many of you provide for others in the community and church by several food ministries, visitation, fellowship, hospitality, charity, [Sunday](#) morning leading & serving, and more. As we embark on our next endeavors, it is imperative that we ground ourselves Spiritually for the work ahead by acts of devotion (Daily Scripture Reading & Prayer) and acts of worship (Small Groups & [Sunday](#) Morning Service). This will allow our acts of compassion and work of renovation to be strengthened for the future. It will also, more importantly, feed our souls and draw us closer to God.

James warns us that selfishness and friendship with the greed of the world means you are working in ways opposite to God's will. The Scriptures teach us God's will. Hence, since Scripture is not meaningless, we must commit ourselves to study of the Scriptures so that we will not be "the proud" but by God's grace and Holy Word, we will be "the humble."

In Christ's Service and Looking Forward to Growing in Devotion to the Lord with All of You,

Pastor Ryan

OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS: Paul Adams, Roger and Kay Bowser, Marty Brumbaugh, Lorie Davis, Ralph Grove, Jeff Hetrick, Tom & Debbie Higgins, Dick Hoover Family, Judy Hoover, Pastor Evie Madison, Bob Musselman, Barry & Connie Musselman, Harold Palmer, Margaret Robinson, Dee Rodland, Christine Thompson, Bob & Dorothy VanNatta, Claudia Weise, Alta Wineland, Lori Weicht, Lisa Zimmerman

Anniversaries:

AUGUST

- 02. Jay & Lisa Ebersole, Neil & Christi Gartland
- 18. Jake & Melanie Goins
- 24. Dusty & Kelly Bassler

SEPTEMBER

- 16. Gary & Sandy Polchito

Birthdates:

AUGUST

- 04. Chintan Patel
- 05. Erin Smith
- 06. Sandy Polchito
- 23. Jesse Muthler, Alyssa Reed
- 28. Gary Polchito
- 31. Ken Pote

SEPTEMBER

- 03. Carol Hetrick
- 04. William Galloway
- 09. Amy Acker Knisely
- 11. Margaret Weise
- 13. Doug Mingle, Pat Muthler
- 19. Lance Galloway
- 20. Noah Muthler
- 22. Pastor Ryan Gephart
- 24. Christi Gartland
- 26. Jerry Green



Schedule for A Time for the Young at Heart Presenter

August 2: No Children's Message ~ Spring Dam Community Service

August 9: Doug Mingle

August 16: Kate Muthler

August 23: Pastor Ryan

August 30: Misty Gephart

September 6: Dusty Bassler

September 13: Pastor Ryan

September 20: Kate Muthler

September 27: Doug Mingle



Communion Servers

August 9th: Julia Williams, Fred Hetrick, Mel Edmundson

August 16th: Joel Fowler, Jason & Rebekah Dick

August 23rd: Misty Gephart, Kathy Shehan, Amy Ross

August 30th: Erin & Trevor Smith, Sandy Polchito

Lector Schedule:

August:

09. Pat Muthler

16. Jim Htrick

23. Scott Muthler

30. Sue Heuston

September:

06. Jacob Dick

13. Jarod Dick

20. Dusty Bassler

27. Fred Hetrick

Free Summer Lunch Program

June 1, 2026 – August 21, 2026

Monday – Friday: 12:00 – 1:00 pm



Free to children 18 and younger – must be present.
Adults accompanying children will be charged \$4.00.

No take-out meals are available.

SUMMER LUNCH AUGUST 2026

12:00–1:00

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
						1	Kids Eat FREE Adults: \$4 Peanut Butter & Jelly Served Daily All Meals Served With A Vegetable, Fruit & Milk
2	3 Pizza: Plain, Pepperoni or Buffalo Chicken	4 Walking Tacos	5 Chicken Alfredo	6 Pancakes, Waffles, French Toast, Sausage	7 Chicken Nuggets	8	
9	10 Meatball Hoagie	11 Nacho Grande	12 Hot Ham Cheese on Pretzel Roll	13 Chicken Bowl with Mashed Potatoes	14 Maxx Sticks with Sauce	15	
16	17 Pulled Pork	18 Walking Tacos	19 Cheeseburger Fries/Tator Tots	20 Chicken Patty, Parsley Potatoes	21 LAST DAY! All Our Favorites!!	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

August 2026 to November 2026
Youth & Young Adult/Young People's (YPM) Schedule

Sunday, August 30, 2026: 1:30pm ~ Children, Youth, Young Adult/YPM Picnic (for all children, youth, young adults, & their families) at Canoe Creek State Park Pavilion #2 the one closest to the Bathrooms, Lake, Playground, and Disc Golf. All Youth & Young Adults are encouraged to invite their family & friends to attend this picnic. This will be a potluck picnic so we will need families to sign-up to bring side dishes. The Youth group will provide chicken & water. You are also encouraged to bring your own place setting/paper products. Disc Golf, park activities, swimming in the lake, and other games will be part of the day.

Sunday, September 13, 2026: Regular Youth, Young Adult (YPM) Group

Sunday, September 20, 2026: Regular Youth, Young Adult (YPM) Group

Pastor Ryan will be on study & renewal leave for 30 days from Monday, September 28, 2026 to Tuesday, October 27, 2026 ~ looking for people to volunteer to lead Youth Sunday School for the Four Sundays of October

Sunday, November 8, 2026: Regular Youth, Young Adult (YPM) Group

Sunday, November 15, 2026: Regular Youth, Young Adult (YPM) Group

Thursday, November 26, 2026: Help with Thanksgiving Meal at TUMC

Youth is defined as 6th/7th grade to 12th grade

Young Adult (YPM) is defined as 18 years-old to 30 years-old

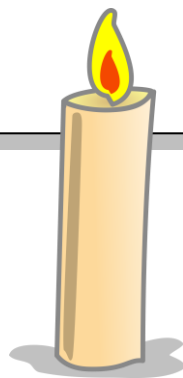
Acolyte Schedule for August 2026

August 9: Isaiah Gartland

August 16: Nick Dunmire

August 23: Levi Wareham

August 30: Jesse Muthler



Manna on Main Street Schedule
5pm to 6pm

Aug. 8, 2026: *Need a Leader/Volunteer*

Sept. 12, 2026: Sue Heuston

Oct. 10, 2026: *Need a Leader/Volunteer*

Nov. 26, 2026: (Thanksgiving Day): Entire Church

Dec. 12, 2026: Jo Ellen Mingle

Food Distribution Dates: (1st Wednesday of each month from 3:00-4:00)

August 5

September 2

October 7

November 4

December 2



James 5:7: "See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains."



Tanner Ebersole, son of Jay & Lisa Ebersole, surveying TUMC for Keller Engineers, Inc.

Keller Engineers, Inc. has been diligently working on our feasibility study. The first part of the study is now finished - surveying of the property.

2026-2027 Sunday School Classes

Sunday, September 13, 2026 to Sunday, May 16, 2027

There will be four Sunday School Classes for the Fall

- 4th Grade & Under (kindergarten & younger elementary)

Lead Teacher: Karen Green

Location: The two rooms to the right in the education wing

- 5th Grade to 8th Grade (older elementary & middle school)

Lead Teacher: Misty Gephart

Location: The first room to the left & the youth game room

- 9th to 12th Grade (high school)

Lead Teacher: Pastor Ryan

Location: The interior room after the first room to the left & the youth game room

- IHS Adults (all ages of Adults)

Lead Teachers: Scott Muthler, Dusty Bassler, & Pat Muthler

Location: IHS downstairs classroom

We are excited that several people have agreed to be assistants & safe sanctuary helpers. Please contact the church office if you would like to help as we need as many helpers as possible to make Sunday School happen this school year at TUMC.

We would also love to add two more areas in the fall:

- A nursery schedule
- Another Adult Sunday School Class possibly focused on young adults & younger parents

Sermon Topics & Scriptures TUMC

10th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 2: 9:15am Spring Dam Community Service at Shawnee Park (bring a lawn chair; 7am is the Lions Club Sonny Steward Pancake Breakfast)

11th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 9: Doug Mingle, Certified Lay Speaker, preaching

For Four Sundays: Sunday, August 16, 2026 to Sunday, September 6, 2026 we will be Journeying and Praying with Jonah ~ Practices for Imperfect Pilgrims based on Rev. Sharon Seyfarth Garner's Book and Laura Buchanan's Article and Research; Laura states:

"We can journey with Jonah to find purpose and peace. "Jonah's three nights in the belly of the whale feel like an invitation to transformation. It's the place where he prayed, where he reconnected with God, where he gained clarity and strength to be who it was that God called him to be," says the Rev. Sharon Seyfarth Garner, a United Methodist spiritual director and founding director of Belly of the Whale Spiritual Direction & Retreat Ministries.

The biblical story of Jonah has been inspiring Seyfarth Garner for more than thirty-five years. She shares, "He's a character that I am like...kind of imperfect, fumbling about, getting it right sometimes, getting it wrong sometimes. He is a spiritual companion for me."

Pray like a WHALE

Seyfarth Garner points out that the four chapters of the book of Jonah contain deep teaching, and each has a theme:

Chapter one: How to wake up to God's presence

Chapter two: How to pray honestly

Chapter three: How, and where, to act

Chapter four: How to love extravagantly

The themes have become a handy reminder. When Seyfarth Garner feels out of balance, she prays like a W.H.A.L.E.: Wake up, pray Honestly, take Action, and Love Extravagantly."

These Sermon Titles are based on Seyfarth Garner's Book

12th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 16: Pray Like a WHALE: How to Wake Up to God's Presence (Jonah 1:1-10 & Jonah 1:11-17)

13th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 23: Pray Like a WHALE: How to Pray Honestly (Jonah 2:1-6 & Jonah 2:7-10)

14th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 30: Pray Like a WHALE: How, and Where, to Act (Jonah 3:1-5 & Jonah 3:6-10)

15th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 6: Pray Like a WHALE: How to Love Extravagantly (Jonah 4:1-8 & Jonah 4:9-11)

Kick-Off Sunday (Sunday, September 13, 2026) where we are called to embrace God's work while letting go of what holds us back.

We start with a Sermon on Forgiveness. Adam Hamilton states: "Forgiveness is both a choice and a process. This is true in accepting it for yourself, as well as in practicing it toward others. And in the Lord's Prayer and elsewhere in the Gospels, Jesus links God's forgiveness with our forgiveness of others. In a sense we cannot fully accept God's forgiveness when we continue to hold on to our anger or bitterness toward others."

16th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 13: Forgiveness (Romans 14:1-12 & Matthew 18:21-35)

17th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 20: Let Go and Live Your Life For Christ (Philippians 1:21-26 & Philippians 1:27-30)

18th Sunday after the Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 27: Humility Climate (Exodus 17:1-7 & Philippians 2:1-13)



Fall & Winter 2026 Adult Small Groups, Bible Study, and Fellowship Groups

Women's Fellowship in the IHS Classroom or Fellowship Hall (once a month) ~ Tuesdays at 6pm

- Stay Tune for Details on the Picnic & Auction in September usually on a Sunday
- October 6
- November 3
- December Christmas Tea Party with Cookie Exchange ~ TBD

Fellowship & Study

Men's/Family Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (once a month) ~Tuesdays at 6pm

- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8

Fellowship Meal

Bible Study ~ Wednesdays at 10:30am in the IHS Classroom

- September 9 & 23
- October 28
- November 4 & 11
- December 2 & 9

Gospel of John (Talk to Pastor Ryan - Group led by Pastor Ryan)

Ladies' Coffee & Conversation at Various Coffee Shops (once a month) ~ 3rd Wednesdays at 9:30am

- September 16
- October 21
- November 18
- December 16

Fellowship Time

Small Group in the IHS Classroom (2 to 3 times a month) ~ Wednesdays at 3pm (Fall/Winter Schedule TBD)
(Talk to Sandy Polchito - Group led by Sandy Polchito & Melissa Hetrick)

Greystone Small Group (once a month) ~ 2nd Thursdays from 1:30pm to 3pm

- September 10
- No Meeting in October
- November 12
- December 10

McMullen House Small Group (2 to 3 times a month) ~ Thursdays at 6:30pm (Fall/Winter Schedule TBD)
(Talk to Mike & Laurie McMullen - Group led by Mike & Laurie McMullen)

Hoping to add one more Small Group for Fall/Winter 2026

Bible Study, Fellowship, and Holy Communion
(Talk to Pastor Ryan - Group led by Pastor Ryan)