



February 28, 2016

World Day of Prayer

Message from Rev. Wanda D. Craner, PSEC Minister of Spiritual Nurture

March 4, Friday, is designated as **World Day of Prayer**. World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of Christian women joined together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday of March. The World Day of Prayer (WDP) motto, is "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action." This year's worship resources were written by WDP Cuba. These worship resources will be used in worship events in a variety of ecumenical settings within the PSEC.

In the past, as I have attended WDP events, I have learned much about various communities around the world who have provided resources in celebration of this day. At the same time, I have wished that every day might be a world day of prayer. During Pope Francis' recent visit to the United States he designated a Day of Prayer for creation and for good stewardship of the blessings God has given us. What might happen if we were mindful each day of the ways we use creation's gifts? What would happen if we decided to pray for the welfare of a specific country every day? The internet makes it easy to gather information; in a few minutes we can learn of prayer needs all over the world. Every prayer we pray can make a difference, if only we pray!

In the book, **Too Busy Not To Pray**, by Bill Hybels, a book used during the Spiritual Life Mission Team Lenten Awakening series, we read, "'Come into my presence,' our God conveys, 'Talk to me. Share all your concerns. I'm keenly interested in you because I am your [Parent]. I'm able to help because all power in heaven and earth is mine, I am willing to listen, and I am *hoping* to hear your voice'...Many of us have pressing needs...that ravage our lives, but we neglect to ask God for help. Somewhere, far beneath our surface layer of faith and trust, we don't actually believe God has the ability to do anything about them. The fact is, of course, that God is capable of handling any problem we could possibly bring to [God]...*Nothing* is too difficult for God to handle, but we won't see much proof of this until we actually ask [God] to handle it.'" So, as World Day of Prayer approaches, I invite all of us to consider our prayer lives, and ask God to help us become more informed pray-ers and to engage in prayerful action in our communities and churches.

Rev. Wanda D. Craner,
PSEC Minister of Spiritual Nurture

Getting to Know:

Trinity UCC

448 E Grand Avenue, Tower City, PA 17980



Trinity, Tower City, located in the beautiful Williams Valley, has a long history. The decision in the 1920's to build Trinity's present building presented a challenge, but members refused to give up. When a loan was not available, members mortgaged their own homes so the building could be completed. The contractor completed the church basement, then went bankrupt. So members put a roof over the basement until they could complete the building. For a time Trinity was known as the "Church without a top." In 1956 church members generously donated and the building was completed!

Trinity has a real heart for children. For over 30 years, the Learning Tree preschool has been supported by and operated at the church. Trinity has a growing children's Sunday school, as well as an adult Sunday school (*see picture*). The children's choir brings great excitement to holidays such as Christmas Eve and Valentine's Day. A weekly morning Bible Story and Craft Hour for children is held in the summer. Trinity takes part in the community summer "Kids' Café," which provides a once weekly Bible lesson, crafts, music, lunch and a backpack of food for the rest of the week to any child in the area. Trinity also hosts a Christmas party with a movie and free visit from Santa to area children and their families.

The church generously supports Schuylkill Women in Crisis with a monthly collection of needed items, and supports Bethany Children's Home as well as many other charities. The church is known for delicious fundraisers: chicken pie, pumpkin rolls, fudge, and a mother's day dinner. Trinity's choir is fantastic!

Trinity shares a pastor, Rev. Maureen Duffy-Guy, and ministries such as the confirmation class and Bible study with their sister church, St. Peter's UCC in Orwin. Our pastor emeritus is Rev. Edward Gobrecht. God is good, and we give thanks to God!



Prayers are requested for Trinity UCC in
Tower City and Rev. Maureen C. Duffy-Guy.