

December 29, 2024

## New Year...a marker of time!

The New Year is a marker of time, and I believe time is one of the great gifts of God. Time, talent and treasure, but the greatest of these is time. Every New Year offers us an opportunity to consider how we are offering our time to God. It has been said that the greatest ability is availability.

Time is more valuable than treasure because it is unquantifiable and invaluable. Time is greater than talent because no matter how talented you are, if you are not willing to offer your time, the talent is null and void.

God asks for a 10<sup>th</sup> of our treasure but a 7<sup>th</sup> of our time. This New Year I want to dedicate myself to offering God more of my time; quality time.

- Rev. Cean R. James

PSEC Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Development



## In the next issue.....

Look for the Jan. 5th Communitas for an article on  
 Recycling your Christmas Tree  
 from the  
 PSEC Environmental Justice Mission Team!

## PSEC Anniversary Churches... Trinity UCC, Telford —125 Years

Trinity United Church of Christ in Telford, Pennsylvania, traces its roots to 1872 when a group of dedicated Christians began gathering weekly to study scripture and worship together in Alexander Sellers Hall, an annex of John Kuhns' public house. This young men's Christian association soon grew into the Telford Union Sunday School, formally organized on January 1, 1874. As the congregation expanded, it became clear that a larger meeting space was needed. In 1876, with strong community support, the Telford Union Chapel was constructed, providing a gathering place for worship that served multiple denominations, primarily the Reformed, Lutheran, and Mennonite faiths. Under the guidance of Reverend Jacob Kehm, pastor of the nearby Indian Creek Church, the Reformed congregation established a strong presence in Telford.



By 1897, the Reformed members of Telford were ready to establish a church of their own. On February 27, a small but devoted group of thirteen individuals resolved to construct a new church, leading to the founding of Trinity Reformed Church. A plot on Main and Hamlin Streets was purchased from Isaac Gerhart, who graciously donated the cost back to the church. With community contributions and dedication, construction swiftly moved forward, and by July 25, 1897, the cornerstone was laid. Over the years, Trinity Church grew in membership and ministry, adapting to meet the needs of the Telford community. Today, after 125 years, Trinity United Church of Christ stands as a beacon of faith, continuing its mission of service, worship, and fellowship. Nine pastors have served the congregation, each contributing to the church's legacy. As the congregation looks forward, it remains committed to honoring its history while seeking new ways to share God's love within the community.

