

122

CHALLENGE

122

THE CHALLENGE AND BLESSING
OF LIVING LIKE JESUS

Hebrews 12:2

October 1, 2023

WELCOME!!

We are so glad you have chosen to worship at Thompson. We hope it is a place where you feel God's presence. Generations of people have sat in these pews, felt the presence of the Holy Spirit, learned about the love of Jesus and how the power of God has made a difference in their lives. Whatever is most important in your life right now, whether it is trials or joys, these things matter to God and they matter to us. All of what you bring to the table is welcome here.

SUNDAY SERVICES

We offer a 9:00 am Traditional service in the Sanctuary and 11:00 am Contemporary service with praise music in the Fellowship Hall. Our services are livestreamed and recorded and can be viewed anytime on www.tmpc.org. Please follow along and respond when the type is bold and stand, as you are able, when there is an asterisk in the bulletin. Our Common Hour described below, begins at 10 am.

FOR CHILDREN

We offer Sunday School at both services where the children attend class with an instructor to learn and grow in their faith. Children begin their time in worship and then come forward for the children's message then go to Sunday School. Be sure to register your child of 4 years old through 5th grade. If your child prefers to stay with you in worship, there are activity baskets with crayons and activity sheets located at the back of the Sanctuary. Nursery care is available for those attending services at 9:00 am or 11:00 am in the nursery room. To find the nursery room, please exit the front of the Sanctuary to the right of the altar area, go up the steps and turn left. You will find it at the end of the hall on the left.

RESTROOMS

If you need to use the restroom, please exit the Sanctuary to the right of the altar area and go up the steps. Turn right and the bathroom is on your left.

COMMON HOUR

TMPC has an hour between services that is a space for coffee, adult education and children's choirs. Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall during our common hour.

VISITOR BAGS

If you are visiting with us today, we would love to share a visitor bag with more information and a gift for you. If you have any questions about TMPC, don't hesitate to speak to an usher or a pastor!

Be sure to look at our website www.tmpc.org for more information, events, and on-line giving.

We are glad to share in your faith journey!

18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 1, 2023

WE GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

PRELUDE

Praeludium

Dorothy Fine
J. S. Bach

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Templin Ashford

(Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at the end of the pew)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Steven Sailer

Welcome to this place:

**where children and elders sit side by side,
where heaven and earth embrace in peace,
where God has been, is, and always will be.**

Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's children:

**where we find God's love,
where we hear the tender voice of Jesus,
where the Spirit teaches us new songs.**

Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by our God:

**where we bring our hunger, and find food;
where we experience our brokenness, and find healing;
where we bring our very selves and find acceptance.**

*HYMN NO. 853

SIYAHAMBA

We Are Marching in the Light of God

(Sing vs. 1 in English, sing vs. 1 in native language, then repeat vs. 1 in English)

WE ARE RENEWED THROUGH GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Steven Sailer

Holy One, your son Jesus asked that his people be one, but we, as Christians have struggled to be united. We have isolated ourselves from each other and have failed to listen to each other. We have misunderstood and even gone so far as to attack each other.

**Forgive us Father, and make us fully one. Blot out our sin,
renew our minds, rekindle our hearts, and guide us by Your
Holy Spirit into the oneness that is Your will.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Steven Sailer

God accepted us, not because of what we have done or left undone,
but simply because of our faith in Christ, through whom our sins were forgiven.

**We rejoice in this good news and seek to accept others
as brothers and sisters, united in faith.**

*GLORIA PATRI NO. 581

GLORIA PATRI

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.***

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Amen Siakudumisa

ADULT BELL CHOIR
arr. Cathy Moglebust

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Bailey Heckman

(Place prayer cards in the basket as the deacons come forward.)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from the Belhar Confession)

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the
communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that this
unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love
one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another,
that we all share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and
drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one
cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth
and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.**

REFLECTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA

Dr. Dirk Smit

WE HEAR GOD'S POWERFUL WORD

SCRIPTURE John 17:20-23 Stephanie Templin Ashford

SERMON Christian Unity

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Dorothy Fine
French Suite V: Sarabande J. S. Bach

*DOXOLOGY HYMN NO. 606 OLD HUNDREDTH

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 317 MC KEE
In Christ There Is No East or West (vs. 1-4)

WE GATHER AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD JESUS

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all creation. from before there was a beginning, until after there is an end, you were and are and always will be. All creation is alive –in you and with you. Everything that is, came into being through you. We praise you for all that you have created -- different races, cultures, traditions and languages.

Though we are different, in Christ we are united.

On this sacred day, we remember all who gather to eat the bread and drink from the cup with those who call this bread, pa, pain, brød, matzah. With those who call this wine, wyn, vin;

**We come together to remember, that we are Christ's people,
all around the world.**

Even in our brokenness, even in our sin, you call us back with your love. Through families and friends, through prophets and priests and you call us back to your love.

And through Jesus the Christ, you taught us that there is nothing, not even death that can separate us from your love –

In celebration for the gift of his life, the gift of his teaching, the gift of his death and resurrection, we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night before he was taken to his death, Jesus gathered with his followers, he took bread, gave thanks to you, O God and offered it to those gathered at the table saying:

**Take this and eat.
This is my body, given for you.
Each time you eat it, remember me.**

After the meal was over, he took a cup of wine, and gave thanks to you, O God and He offered it to those gathered at the table saying:

**Take this and drink.
This is my blood, shed for you, each time you drink it, remember me.**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate that your Holy Spirit is present, in these gifts, and in us, that they – and we – can be Christ's gifts to the world. In celebration, we offer the words that Jesus gave to all of his disciples across the globe, saying to God:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF CONSECRATION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Eat the bread as you are served. Hold the cup until all have been served.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

WE ARE SENT OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Con Spirito

Dorothy Fine
Thomas Arne

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

***This Sunday's flowers are in honor of the
TMPC Tuesday Morning Men's Group.***

SUNDAY CALENDAR

Sun 10/1	9:00	TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE	Sanctuary
	9:00-10:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	9:20–10:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 th Grade)	Room 122-124
	10:00	COMMON HOUR/COFFEE HOUR	Fellowship Hall
	10:00	Grief Share	Room 125
	10:00	AO Small Group Meeting	Conference Room
	10:00	Choir Rehearsals	Choir Room
	11:00	CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE	Fellowship Hall
	11:00-12:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	11:20-12:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 th Grade)	Rooms 122-125
	6:00 – 8:00	TSM- Youth Group	Off Site

TODAY – JOIN US

GRIEF SHARE Beginning **October 1**, the Grief Share bereavement support group will begin a new 13 week session. This group is for anyone wrestling with the loss of a loved one, no matter how long ago the loss occurred. This supportive experience helps you to walk through the grieving process with other supportive people. The class will meet Sundays at 10:00 am in Room 125.

SHADY BROOK FARMS All ages are invited to join us at Shady Brook Farms on **October 1** from 2-4 pm, \$20 per person to enter the farm, however, we have a picnic area on reserve for our group including picnic tables and fire pit. Sign up at tmpc.org/events.

TSM/HIGH SCHOOL (8th-12th Grades) We are bowling tonight, October 1, from 6-8 PM! Drop off and pick up at Bowlero, 100 E. Street Rd., Feasterville, PA 19053. \$30 should cover bowling, food, and arcade.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TMPC

AO WOMEN'S GROUP AT TMPC Alpha Omega (AO) is a new women's group that will focus on Book/Bible Studies, Fellowship and Mission. This group will meet on Sundays during the Common Hour on **October 1, 15, 29, every two weeks** thereafter in the Conference Room at 10 am. For inquiries contact Marci at capelm@comcast.net.

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS We are collecting the care package contents until **October 16**. We want to let them know they are prayed for and loved by TMPC's church family by sending out care packages. See our link to our care package Amazon Wish list in e-news.

NEW AT TMPC/ 567 MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY We are launching a brand new opportunity for 5th, 6th and 7th graders to grow in their faith. Our next meeting is **October 6**. 567 Middle School Ministry will meet on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month from 5:30-7:00 pm. They'll join with the Kids Club folks for dinner on the 3rd Friday each month, but then break off for their own games and discussion time. There will also be periodic service opportunities AND fun outings. For more information email 567@tmpc.org.

A NEW MEN'S GROUP IS FORMING AT TMPC An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, **October 8** at 10am in the Youth Room in the basement of church by stairwell near the Sanctuary. Some of the plans include: **Meet & Greet:** to kick things off, we'll be hosting a social event at a local venue this fall for members to get to know each other better and just unwind. **Bible study:** we will be sharing a great book that we will be reading and discussing. **Mission work:** plans are to get members involved at upcoming TASK and Habitat for Humanity events in the upcoming months for some great service and even greater fellowship.

BINGO TMPC's Act 2, invites all active, older adults and their friends to join us on Thursday, **October 12** at 1:00PM in Fellowship Hall. Bingo cards and snacks will be provided. See sign up link in e-news or on our tmpc.org/events. See you there!

NEW MEMBERS INQUIRY MEETING A time for inquiring visitors/frequent attenders to share in fellowship with TMPC elders and pastors to learn more about TMPC and enjoy lunch in the Choir Room from 12:00 - 2:00 pm on either Sunday, **October 15** or **October 22**. Please click on the link in e-news to RSVP for either meeting date.

KIDS CLUB Join us for a fun night in Fellowship Hall from 5:30-7:00 pm on Friday, **October 20**. We will have dinner with our friends from 567 Middle School Ministry group, make a craft or a service project and play games. We hope to see you there!

THE OPERA PROJECT Join us for a concert of arias, duets, and art songs on Sunday, **October 22** at 3 – 5 pm in Fellowship Hall.

AUTHOR/SPEAKER EVENT Robert Wittman, Author of Priceless and The Devil's Diary will speak on Wednesday, **October 25** from **6 - 8 pm** in Fellowship Hall. He is a highly decorated former Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent with special training in art, antiques, jewelry and gem identification and cultural property crime investigations. Doors open at 6 pm and presentation begins promptly at 6:30 pm. A question and answer session will follow. Light refreshments will be available. Tickets: \$20 pp.

MEN'S BREAKFAST Join us at 9:00 am **October 28** in Fellowship Hall. Join the men of Thompson for breakfast delights by Rick Schaub. Speaker Timothy Jones is a Visiting Scholar at Princeton Theological Seminary. The focus of his teaching and writing has been concerned prayer and practices of a growing spiritual life, with a calling to make the difficult and daunting in prayer seem inviting in daily ways. *You can find his blogs at revtimothyjones.com.* See link in e-news to RSVP.

FALL FEST Save the date for our Fall Festival on Sunday, **October 29** from 2:00 – 4:30 pm. We will have fun activities for all ages! We have sign ups to volunteer at the Table of Well Wishing and in e-news. To see more details check out www.tmpc.org.

FALL RUMMAGE SALE The Rummage Sale is set for **November 2 – 3** (Thursday 9-5 pm and Friday 9 - 12 pm). The sort days will be Tuesday and Wednesday, October 31 and November 1 with the volunteer luncheon on Tuesday, October 31. We begin accepting clean gently used clothing in good/nearly new condition and small household items on Monday, **October 2 – please place all items in the Chapel.** (No electronics or large items of any kind.)

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS CHOIR We are forming a contemporary music choir to sing on Christmas Eve at the 7:30 service! Rehearsals will be on **December 5, 12, and 19** from 7:00-8:00 pm. Learning materials provided. You don't need to have a soloist's voice, just be able to sing some simple harmony that we will teach you! Contact Bill Stauffer (bstauffer@tmpc.org) to learn more or to sign up!

ONGOING OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

MEALS FOR FISHERMAN'S MARK The first meal preparation for Fisherman's Mark will be on Tuesday, **October 3** at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Please help us get started by signing up, using the Signup Genius, to donate food items, to help prepare the meal, or to donate funds to cover the increased costs of the main dish. See the link in e-news and our website.

TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN (TASK) TMPC will be going to TASK on **October 12 & 26**. We will go to the facility in Trenton and assist with serving the mid-day meal 9:45 am -1:00 pm and meet at TMPC parking lot to carpool at 9:15 am on the "2nd & 4th Thursday of every month. See our link in e-news to sign up or visit the website. Email Chuck Green for more information.

TMPC FOOD DRIVE Your contributions are a blessing to our needy neighbors in Lambertville, Trenton, and Morrisville. Food pantry supplies are low, we need your donations now more than ever! Our monthly food drive is on **October 18** from 10:00 to 10:30 am. Bring items in ahead of time. The sign up is available in our e-news or www.tmpc.org/events.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Thompson is partnering Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County as a part of the Faith Build program. The Mission Committee has allocated funds to this new partnership and the next opportunity to join the build on **November 4**. Sign up early for a spot to volunteer for a time 8:30 am-12:00 pm and by using our [unique link](#) in e-news.

CHURCH LIFE & MEMBER CARE

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AT HOME George Brandenburg, Pat Castiglione, Marlene Clark, John Donahue, Frank Gatto, Laurel Krauss, Pam Mills, Lisa Palise, Meredith Power, Nancy Quanstrom, Elinor Raike, Brenda Redfield, Tom Thatcher, Bob Tomlinson, Holly Tomkovitz, JoAnn Weiskopf, Doris Wessner *If you have someone to add to our prayer chain, please send your request to Alison Yearley at apybobba@aol.com.*

TMPC MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS Please wish Happy Birthday to a few of our members who celebrate their birthday between *Sept 29 - Oct 9: Lauren Delehey, Evan Clark, Carol Sager, Dorothy Fine, Kathy Bradley, Colleen Guest, Heather Kouveras, Arlene Dooley, Melissa Mantz, William Rampe*

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY Anyone can order altar flowers in general or "in memory of" or "in honor of" or "in celebration of" a loved one for \$45. Please use our link on our website tmpc.org/giving. Simply select the "Order Flowers" button or "Donate to the Flower Fund" button or make your check payable to TMPC and write "flower fund" on the memo line.

USHERS NEEDED A wonderful way to become involved and meet people is by ushering. This is an easy task and you will be guided by someone who is experienced. Volunteers are needed for both services. Contact Sandy Barford, sandbar1535@gmail.com. See the sign up link in e-news or our website.

TSM/High Schoolers (8th-12th Grades) High School youth group meets Sunday nights from 6-8 PM. We eat, play games, get to know each other, and dig into our faith. The three pillars of our ministry are: GROW - We discover who God is and who we are PLAY - We have "fun to be us" times SERVE - We care for our community and our world. Questions? Email Bill Stauffer (bstauffer@tmpc.org) or visit www.tmpc.org/youth.

"We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the author who initiates and perfects our faith."

Hebrews 12:2

WAYS TO BE A PART OF OUR CHALLENGE 122

Sign up for Daily Text Messages and fill out CHALLENGE CARD
(to be mailed back to you in 122 days)

Get a challenge bracelet to remind you of Hebrews 12:2 throughout your day.

Fill out a challenge and blessing note on the board in the hallway.
You can sign up for texts and fill out a card at www.tmpc.org/challenge122

PLEDGE CARDS AND STEWARDSHIP LETTERS

Congregational letters were mailed out on Friday, September 29 to our TMPC members with our stewardship letter and pledge card enclosed. You should receive it in the mail this week. You do not need to be a member to pledge and we will have additional cards available in the church at the Table of Well Wishing or feel free to ask a deacon.

WORLD COMMUNION

Thank you to Dr. Smit for joining us today and sharing with us God’s message, on October 1st for our annual World Communion Celebration.



Scan here for one time giving,
link to our website, for upcoming events or
subscribe to our weekly e-news.



Venmo to: [@give2tmpc](#)
This will be treated like a cash donation
unless we can easily match your venmo
name with a name in our donation database.



**THOMPSON
MEMORIAL**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1680 AQUETONG ROAD
NEW HOPE, PENNSYLVANIA 18938-1165
Phone: 215-862-2440 • Fax: 215-862-9046 www.tmpc.org

Teaching Elder/Sr. Pastor (<i>Sabbath: Monday</i>)	Stephanie Templin Ashford
Teaching Elder/Associate Pastor (<i>Sabbath: Friday</i>)	Bailey Heckman
Administrative Assistant.....	Melissa Bottelier
Music Director.....	Patricia Murphy
Contemporary Music Director & Youth Director.....	Bill Stauffer
Organist/Accompanist	Dorothy Fine
Sexton.....	Alec Seltzer
Accounting.....	Laura Kandziolka
Business Administrator (Volunteer).....	Sue Schaub