

The Trinity Window

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 903 FOREST AVENUE, HENRICO, VA 23229
804-288-6056

July 2025



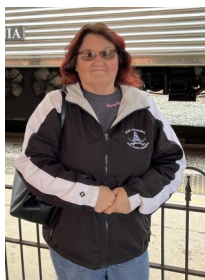
Pastor's Pen

For those who remember, when I arrived at Trinity, Holly and I met with many small groups to get to know you and find out what was important to the people of Trinity. Those meetings led to us defining the four top areas of focus for the church going forward. These four were and are: Kids/Youth ministry, small groups, missions, and music. Over the last three years, we have been working on beefing up these areas. The kids ministry is continuing strong with robust lay teams, under the direction of Jen Williams. Daniel Guenther has beefed up our student ministry area and is in the process of creating a scalable structure of lay leadership so we are poised for growth. Our new mission team and relational mission focus is placing us in a strong position to make a real difference to real lives. With a new music director, we will be in a place to be able to bring new life, energy, and ideas to the music heartbeat of Trinity. The last one is small groups. This fall, I will be working with a team to reenvision what these groups look like and create a structure to encourage and support many different kinds of groups. This effort will also give better support to existing groups, especially those who meet on Sunday morning.

To help with all these processes, I am extending an open invitation to any group. I would love to meet with you, to reconnect and hear again from you. This will not be as formal as the first round and would be a more casual discussion. Let me know when you'd like to meet, and I will take all reasonable action to be able to come. You are important, and I cannot emphasize that enough.

We are moving forward. Yes, Trinity is a legacy church, but we are not a "dead sect", to borrow words from John Wesley himself. We are shifting, growing, and finding new ways to engage with each other and the wider community. That's who we've always been. Let us celebrate who we are and reclaim our place as a leading congregation that shows what real community in Christ truly is.

Blessings,



Staff Parish Announcement

After 22 years of service to Trinity, Kim Tingler has resigned effective August 28. Please join Staff Parish in wishing Kim a Happy Retirement!

In appreciation of her 22 years, you are invited to participate in a love offering for Kim by making an online donation or by dropping off a check.

Please have these donations in by **Sunday, August 24**. A friendly reminder to either note in the memo on the check or send a note to specify that the donation is for the love offering for Kim.

Did you know?

Trinity has a subscription to a large curriculum library. Through Amplify Media, individuals and groups can access a wide variety of studies, videos, and resources. We have made this subscription free for members, making it a great resource for any group that wants to learn and grow together, whether or not they are in person together at the church itself. To create your account and access the library, go to <https://my.amplifymedia.com/trinityumcrichmondva/sign-up> Or www.trinityumc.net/curriculum Use code **WJSFMB** to make the account free and attached to any Trinity specific resources.



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, August 19 - Day trip to the Richmond Holocaust Museum. Cost of admission is \$10. We will leave Trinity at 10 AM, tour the museum and then stop at Station 2 (a former fire station) for lunch on the way home. Lunch is paid on your own. Back to Trinity by 2 PM.

Tuesday, September 23 - Day trip to the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia. We will enjoy a guided tour. Cost of admission is \$15.00. After our tour and time at the memorial we will have lunch at the Olde Liberty Station in Bedford (paid on your own). Olde Liberty Station is a former train station. Hours 8 AM - 5 PM (approximate)

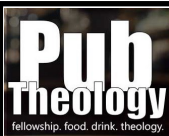
Coming in October: In-house program on Cyber-Security

Tuesday, November 11 - In-house program by the Tuckahoe Square Dancing Group, 2 - 3:30 PM.

Wednesday, December 10 - Trip to Riverside Theater in Fredericksburg to see "White Christmas". Hours 10 AM - 5 PM.

Registration for these events will be on Sundays or with Judy Oguich.

Young at Heart programs are open to everyone!
Come and bring a friend!



Pub Theology

On Tuesday, August 19, our special guest for Pub Theology will be Scot McRoberts. Scot is the Executive Director of the Virginia Council of CEOs. We look forward to learning from Scot and how his organization works to help leaders develop their skills. We meet at WayGone Brewery in the Canterbury Shopping Center on Patterson Avenue. Start time is 5:45, and the program ends by 7 PM. The church provides pizza and requests a five dollar donation to help offset the cost. Water, soft drinks, beer, hard seltzer, and wine are available for purchase. You don't need to be a consumer of alcohol to attend. Questions contact Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net.

Summer Celebration

Our end of summer celebration is so big, it doesn't fit on one day! **Saturday, August 23**, we're holding mission tours of our mission partners, to help us look toward the fall.

As we look to kick off a new year, and build partnerships with the Oak Grove/Bellemeade community, the Tuckahoe YMCA, and Goochland Cares, come and join other Trinity members for a tour of these facilities and learn more about how you can be involved!

We are still working to plan all the details for transportation, but we are hoping to utilize the following schedule on **Saturday, August 23**:

- 9 AM - Goochland Cares (2999 River Rd W, Goochland, VA 23063)
- 11 AM - Tuckahoe YMCA (9211 Patterson Ave, Richmond, VA 23229)
- 1 PM - Oak Grove Bellemeade (Park at 2409 Webber Ave, Richmond, VA 23224)

In your registration, indicate which facilities you are hoping to tour, and share your transportation preferences so that we can plan better.

On **Sunday, August 24**, we're planning to worship outside for our next-to-last 10 AM combined worship service. After worship, we'll gather for a picnic, here at Trinity. We'll provide hotdogs and basic beverages. Please bring something else to fill out the meal, which you are welcome to drop off in the Trinity Hall kitchen before worship.

It's going to be a great fall, so let's do what we do best and celebrate together.

So that we can have a head count for both events please go to the link below and sign up for both.

<https://www.trinityumc.net/special-events>

End of Summer Celebration

Sunday, August 24

Outside Worship 10 AM

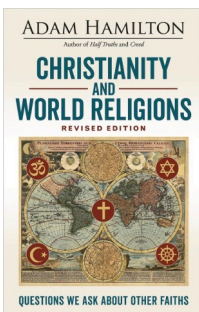
Picnic to follow, Hot Dogs provided

Bring a dish to share



Last Mondays: Books, Movies, Songs, and Faith

Last Mondays is a new fall class offering from Bill Pike. The class will focus on an assortment of faith connections related to books, movies, and songs. The format will feature how books, movies, and songs can influence our faith journeys and thinking. Discussion will be generated by responding to the materials presented. The class will meet on the following Mondays: September 29, October 27, and November 24. Start time is 5:30 PM, and class will end by 6:45 PM. Questions email Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net.



Monday Morning Bible Study

Please join the Monday morning Bible Study beginning Monday, September 8 at 9:30 AM in Room 323 for our time of fellowship and Christian discipleship. We will be participating in Adam Hamilton's 6-week study: "Christianity and World Religions: Questions We Ask About Other Faiths". Please purchase your book in advance of the study and have read Chapter 1 before the class begins on the September 8. Here is a link to purchase the book through Amazon: <https://a.co/d/36RkmsI> Please reach out to Deanna McCullough if you have any questions and/or if you'd like to join the class. deanna6mc-cullough@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!



Tables of Eight

Close to 40 individuals participated in "Tables of Eight" in 2024/2025 forming five groups that each met every 4 to 6 weeks for dinner and fellowship. Persons who participated thoroughly enjoyed their time together, making new friends and connecting deeper with established friends. There is no agenda for the gatherings – only to have dinner together and getting to know each other better.

We are looking to organize new groups this fall, running October through May (or longer if the group chooses to). Please email Judy Oguich, joguich@trinityumc.net, with "Tables of Eight" in the subject line to register. We will have an organizing meeting in early October.

Fall Orientation Meeting August 10, at 11AM

Students and parents, it's time to get ready for Fall! As we look ahead to another year of Youth Group and events together, join Daniel and other adult volunteers in the Student Center and Trinity Hall for a look at the coming year together. Students will have a chance to form and re-form relationships in the Student Center, while Daniel will lead a conversation in Trinity Hall with parents about key dates and other needs for the Fall. We will be done in an hour, maximum. Come and get ready for a great year together!



Middle School and High School

Parents be sure to check the Student News for events for coming for our Middle and High school.





What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

Based on feedback we received from families this spring, we are making some changes to our Trinity Kids schedule for Sunday mornings! Please read carefully and don't hesitate to reach out to Jen Williams with any questions!

These changes will begin September 7th

9AM Worship Hour:

Nursery available for kids under three

Preschool – Elementary: Kids will begin in the worship service and come forward for the Kids Moment. After the Kids Moment, kids will leave the service and gather in the chapel for a quick game/song. Kids will be divided into two smaller groups by age and will head upstairs to the Kids Wing for Kids Church (discipleship time). Kids will return to the worship service around the offering time.

10AM Discipleship Hour:

Nursery and preschool-age kids will meet in room 208

Elementary kids will be dropped off in Trinity Hall.

Kids will spend 30 minutes playing games (dodgeball, pickleball, basketball, gaga ball), board games, and crafts. Afterwards, they will go to room 300 to participate in games and activities that focus on the monthly bible memory verse. Kids will be picked up in room 300.

11AM Worship Service:

Nursery will be available for kids three and under.

Worship bags will be available for kids to use in the worship service.



Are you available to serve in the nursery in August?

We are looking for volunteers to serve in the nursery and Kids Worship at 10am during the worship service for this summer – from May 18 – August 31. **There are many opportunities to serve this month!**

Sign up here to volunteer:

bit.ly/4dpYtNZ



KIDS CHURCH



We will need 2 volunteers each week at the 9am hour to assist with Kids Church (kids discipleship time). Please sign up here if you are able to serve:

<https://bit.ly/4fapSEo>



Trinity Family,



As we wind down another successful Kids Camp, we wanted to take a minute and send you all a heartfelt THANK YOU! This year more than ever, we have been blown away by the outpouring of love and support as we prepared for this huge undertaking. The number of volunteers who invested in this ministry event was so touching. Thank you to all of you who cut decorations, helped count out camper items, purchased fruit for campers, bought items off our Amazon wish list, prepared/donated snacks for volunteers, prayed for campers, hung decorations, cleared pews, restocked pews, took down decorations, organized t-shirts, and served as crew leaders, snack helpers, station leaders, AV, or photographers. It was a week filled with love, fun, and wonder as we watched over 115 campers become closer to Christ and it would have been impossible without you.



From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for showing up for those sweet children and Our Church!

Katie Zimmerman, Ashley Marshall, and Jen Williams



Bright Beginnings: Serve Our Community!

Trinity people, if you want a chance to serve your neighbors, we have the event for you!

This year, our mission partners at the Tuckahoe YMCA are joining the YMCA of Greater Richmond to host an event called **Bright Beginnings**. This event is an opportunity for underprivileged children in our area to get school supplies for the coming school year, and your help is needed to make this happen! The YMCA is looking to recruit (1) people to help kids and families do their shopping, (2) people to help manage their shopping area, (3) people to help register guests, and (4) people to interact with families and visitors and ensure they have a positive experience. You can sign up for any of these roles on any dates you prefer. All you need to do to sign up is go to the link below, or type it into your browser. We will be focusing on the August 9 day at Hope Church.

Volunteering is limited to individuals 14 and up, and for privacy reasons, the YMCA is asking that no students from Quicasin Middle School serve as volunteers for this event.

If you have any questions about this event, contact Brad Booker at Brad.Booker@townebank.net or email Sofie Brickley with the YMCA of Greater Richmond at brickleys@ymcarichmond.org.

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B48ACA623A0F9C25-57511640-ymca#/>

Let's be the church for the world, together!



New Shoes Event is August 16

The New Shoes for Back-to-School ministry has announced it will hold its in-person distribution event on **Saturday, August 16**. Although the event has been on Labor Day in the past, the earlier school start date of mid-August has prompted the group to shift the date to make sure students have new shoes on the first day of class.

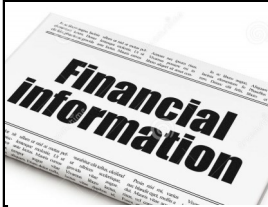
The location of the New Shoes for Back-to-School event is Third Street Bethel A.M.E. at 614 N. 3rd Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Hours for the event are 8 AM to 2 PM. Any shoes left over after the event are donated to area Title 1 schools.

In its nineteenth year, the initiative has provided more than 119,000 pairs of shoes to Metro Richmond, Henrico and Chesterfield area schoolchildren. A coalition made up of churches and a synagogue work together to make this event possible.

Each congregation has been asked to donate 150 pairs of shoes. You can help by purchasing and bringing shoes to Trinity, or through financial contributions. (New Shoes for Back to School is included in the drop-down menu on the "Give" page on Trinity's website at trinityumc.net)

Volunteers are also needed on the day of the event. Each church/synagogue has been asked to provide volunteers. At the event, a large fellowship hall is set up with tables according to gender and size. Some volunteers will help at the tables; others will accompany the families as they make their way around the hall. Contact Beth Monroe bethmonr@gmail.com or 804-339-0664 to learn more





Finance Update

In the July Finance Committee meeting the fiscal year end 2024-2025 financials were reviewed and the 6-month budget for July 1 – December 30, 2025 was presented and approved for recommendation to Church Council.

- The year 2024-2025 was a difficult one for Trinity. We ended the year with a loss of approximately \$107,000. Revenues totaled \$1,285,100 and expenses were \$1,392,000. This loss was due to two primary factors. Revenues were approximately \$60,000 below budget. There were 67 giving units that did not meet their pledge and the non-pledge giving was significantly off. Expenses were mostly within budget except for property maintenance, which was over budget by approximately \$79,000. This deficit will be covered by funds that are held as a “rainy day fund” and that had been restricted but not used for several years.
- The budget for the 6-months 2025 has been established with anticipated revenues of \$688,972 and expenses of \$699,540 and a projected shortfall of \$10,568. If you did not pledge but find that you are able to do so now it can help us avoid the projected shortfall.
- We are off to a good start for July 2025. As of July 21 we have received total revenues of \$102,167.00. Thank you for this good start. Let’s keep it going.

Thank you, Trinity, for all that you do for our wonderful church and if you have any questions about this information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Elaine Peele
Finance Chair

Camp Rainbow Connection

Trinity was well represented July 12-18 at Camp Rainbow Connection, a week-long respite camp for adults with intellectual disabilities. This year’s camp was held at Richard Bland College in Petersburg. The staff and volunteers are dedicated to providing a wonderful and enriching summer program for each camper, along with a week of respite for families and care givers. Campers participate in a variety of activities including Bible class, music, science, arts and crafts, games, dancing and other special activities. We are grateful for Bill and Anne Burch, Patsy Hallett and Elizabeth Dwyer serving in this most significant way.



Here is the UMCOR kits report from the Three-Notched District July newsletter. Trinity contributed 188 hygiene kits. Trinity packed ours on June 1 and Rosemary McCullough and Dianne Moore took them to Lakeside UMC on June 7.



2,587 UMCOR KITS!

On Sat. June 7, the District collected 2,587 Kits for Conference! Darryl Lam at Culpeper UMC and Kip Robinson at Lakeside UMC and their amazing crews headed up the day's operations. The breakdown of kits by type was the following: 2,269 hygiene, 213 menstrual, and 105 cleaning. Our thanks goes out to the 40 churches that packed kits and brought them to the collection sites.





6 Tips to Avoid Eating Plastic in Your Own Kitchen

- 1. Skip Single-Use Plastic Bottles:** A single bottle of water can contain 240,000 nano plastics which can enter your body when you drink. Instead, opt for reusable glass or metal bottles.
 - 2. Avoid Plastic Containers in the Microwave:** Even if they are labeled “microwave-safe,” chemicals in the plastic can leach into your food when heated. Take a few seconds to transfer your food into glass or ceramic containers.
 - 3. Trade Plastic Wrap for Beeswax Wraps:** Beeswax wraps are an eco-friendly alternative to plastic wrap. Biodegradable and compostable, they’re reusable and preserve food better than plastic— so it’s financially conscious!
 - 4. Ditch the Plastic Cutting Board:** You know all those lines and scuffed areas on your chopping boards? Those are shedding microplastics all the time! Opt for alternatives like bamboo, wood, or glass.
 - 5. Non-Stick is a No-No:** Non-stick cookware is often coated with chemicals, which can release toxic fumes and particles when heated. Instead, opt for stainless steel, cast iron, or ceramic cookware.
 - 6. Swap that Conventional Sponge for Au-naturel:** Most conventional sponges are made from synthetic plastic fibers that don’t biodegrade. A better option is to switch to plant-based sponges made from bamboo, luffa, or wood pulp.
 - 7. Bring Your Own Reusable Bags:** The average American family uses about 1,500 plastic bags every year. Switch to reusable cloth bags to reduce your plastic usage and your food’s exposure to plastic chemicals. Make sure any cloth bags are machine washable for easy cleaning.
- From EARTHDAY.ORG - Terran Fielder, author

Joys and Concerns

Baptism

Mac Courts-Shapiro

Our sympathies to...

The family of Daniel Smith who died August 27

Thank You Notes

Special Thanks

We appreciate the dedication of Mike and Teresa Cross for their continued work in improving the traffic signage on our grounds and the care of the Veterans Memorial Garden.

Global Leadership Summit

On **August 7 and 8**, Trinity will be hosting a virtual showing of the 2025 Global Leadership Summit. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

For over 30 years, the Global Leadership Summit has brought leaders together for a powerful two-day experience. With the Summit, you will never lead alone. Our world-class experts will become part of your team, offering key insights, and practical resources for long-term impact.

Lay Servant Academy Registration Open

The August 2025 Lay Servant Academy is open for registration! All courses will take place **August 15 and 16** and will be virtual only. These courses satisfy requirements for Lay Servants but are also courses that grow leaders in the church. Whether you are clergy or laity, all are invited to attend.

[Register now...](#) For any questions, email tianna-durbim@vaumc.org or richardspeirs@vaumc.org

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, August 18 at 4 PM for events taking place in September.** Articles may be submitted prior to the deadline, and we encourage early submissions. Articles must be submitted in writing to Kim Tingler, ktingler@trinityumc.net.