

The Trinity Window

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

Town Hall Summary

October 2019

Thanks to everyone who attended the town hall meeting on Sunday, September 22. Close to 80 people were present. Debbie Stocks, Chair of Church Council, opened the session with a prayer and preliminary remarks. Debbie turned the session over to our Senior Pastor, Larry Lenow.

Comments from Pastor Larry and questions from the audience focused on two areas: progress related to the findings from Unstuck and the future of the United Methodist Church.

Both Larry and Debbie surmised that our due diligence with the Unstuck findings are at the implementation stage. An edge of impatience was noted from those in attendance related to the pace. In response to this concern, Larry noted that some of those recommendations were dependent upon having new staff members in place. Currently, our Associate Pastor, Hung Su Lim, Student Director, Bryce Miller, Kids Director, Jen Williams, and Modern Worship Leader, Aaron Miller are meeting on a weekly basis. Their meetings are focused on carving out the path for moving us forward from specific Unstuck findings.

Questions were also generated regarding facility recommendations that came from the Facility Task Force and the Unstuck findings. The Trinity Foundation approved a \$76,000 dollar grant to the Trustees to be used for converting the Mastin Room into a multipurpose room for our middle and high school students. In their October meeting, the Trustees hope to identify and finalize the process for architectural plans and bids with three local contractors. Additionally, the Trustees are awaiting a report from a local sign company on how to improve our interior and exterior signage.

With regard to the United Methodist Church's policies on The Way Forward, Pastor Larry believes a split in the denomination is unavoidable. He is hoping an amicable plan can be created, approved, and implemented. The General Conference to be held in 2020 in Minneapolis will probably determine that path.

Related to all of this were some concerns about how our staff communicates to our congregation. From this, a recommendation was made to include on the church's website a posting of minutes from Church Council, Finance, Trustees, and Town Hall meetings. We can do this, but providing a link on the website will likely require an extra step of cyber security. Additionally, providing this information will require a process for getting the information to the proper staff member for making the post.



With regard to how we communicate to our congregation, we depend upon the staff, our independent communication specialist, Kim Johnson, and you, our membership.

Kim Johnson is a skilled, veteran communication specialist. Her area of expertise is with churches, local districts within the Virginia Conference, and the Virginia Conference as well. Additionally, Mrs. Johnson has a deep network of communication resources related to latest trends and what works best for churches.

As you know, at Trinity, we rely upon a wide range of communication strategies to make you aware of events in the life of the church. These strategies range from using paper to technology. Within our church staff, Kim Tingler, is our first point of contact in getting information out to everyone. Kim Tingler and Kim Johnson communicate multiple times during a typical week gathering information and figuring out the best method for releasing and posting.

We hope you will continue to provide us information to communicate, but we also encourage you to provide us feedback on how all our attempts are working.



Property Updates

Property Manager

Sometimes in a facility like Trinity, it is difficult to see improvements in the building, but, here are a few items that have taken place over the last few months. A new roof has been installed over Trinity Hall and one section of the hallway area connecting the Sanctuary to the Children's Education wing. Both of those roofs had outlived their expectancy. The new roof allowed us to improve the ceiling and lighting in Room 309. This summer the old ceiling in room 309 was torn out, a new drop ceiling was installed, and new LED lighting panels were put in place. Also, improvements have been made to the offices of the Kids Director and Modern Worship Leader. Finally, classrooms on the third floor of the Children's Education wing have been decluttered, and whiteboards have been adapted to the former chalkboard spaces. We thank the congregation for their continued financial support which allows projects like the ones mentioned to be completed.

Two New Offerings from Hung Su

Bible Reading Group: We want to get together to read the Bible and to have conversations based on the text that we will learn. We'll meet on Thursday morning from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The last meetings this year will be December 5. Rev. Hung Su Lim will lead this meeting. If you have any questions, please let Hung Su know at hslim@trinityumc.net.

Morning Prayer meeting: We want to invite you to join the morning prayer meeting from Tuesday through Friday. It begins at 6:30 a.m. through Zoom conference. As you start your day, this will be a good beginning with prayer. You can join this from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/6243348408>. If this is your first time using Zoom, you will be prompted to install a Zoom app. If you have any questions, please let Hung Su know at hslim@trinityumc.net.



United Methodist Women

Trinity's United Methodist Women's October program will be led by The Reverend Derrick Parson and The Reverend Douglas Hill and will help us discuss the difficult topic of racism. How do we as Christians move beyond the system of white privilege in our relationships with people of color? What action is needed to create healthy, equal relationships in our community? All are welcome on **October 8 at 10:15 AM** in Trinity Hall seek answers and see "How the Light Gets In."

Please save the date, November 12, 10:00 AM and plan to attend Harvest Day. Our speaker this year is Trinity member Linda Hart.

Also add to your calendar, December 10. We will continue our tradition of welcoming the holidays with a day of hands on mission outreach at Service Day.



World Communion Sunday/Sherbourne Food Pantry

Somewhere in Richmond today, there is a family who does not have food. The kitchen cabinets are empty and the table is bare. The volunteers at the Sherbourne Food Pantry work tirelessly to help families. Sherbourne is very dependent on the first Sunday donations from Trinity members. On Sunday, October 6, World Communion Sunday, we would like to push beyond our normal 15 to 20 bags of groceries that are collected. Currently, cereal, soup, pasta, cans of pasta sauce, fruits, vegetables, peanut butter, and tuna fish are in need at Sherbourne. Write yourself a note to pick up these items the next time you go to the grocery store. Then be sure to bring them to church on October 6. Please remember no glass containers, and please double bag your grocery donation. This simple gesture will make a difference in the lives of a Richmond family served by the kind folks at Sherbourne.



Wednesday, October 16

Join us as we take a trip to Michie Tavern for lunch and then stop at Carter's Mountain Orchard for all things apple! Time of our trip is 11 AM – 4:30 PM. Cost of lunch and transportation is \$25. Registration will be October 6 and 13 in Connection Alley, or any time with Judy Oguich. Twenty-five spots are reserved for this trip. Registration deadline is Sunday, October 14.

Wednesday, November 6

We will return to Riverside Theater to see "Annie". Sally Struthers is joining the cast as Miss Hannigan! Cost is \$65, all inclusive. Registration will take place October 20 and 27 in Connection Alley, or anytime with Judy Oguich. Thirty-five spots are reserved for this trip. Registration deadline is Sunday, October 27.



Pub Theology

A special thanks to everyone who has been attending Pub Theology sessions. Our next gathering will be held on **Tuesday, October 8**

from 6:30-8:00 PM at Ardent Brewery in Scott's Addition (3200 W. Leigh St. Richmond, VA 23230). Trinity's ministers will hold forth and field questions. What a great opportunity to invite your unchurched friends!



The Hermitage-Richmond

The annual Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale will be held on **October 25**, from 10:30 AM- 2:00 PM and on **October 26**, from 9:30 AM-noon. We welcome any baked items (cookies, pies, cakes, jams or jelly) for the sale. Please bring any food to the Trinity desk by 10:00 AM on Thursday, October 24. A labeled box will be there for the items and we will transport them to Hermitage-Richmond.

In addition to clothing and housewares, we welcome any Christmas decorations you would be able to donate. All proceeds go to enhance life for the residents at the home. Questions: Call Nancy Miller (740-3772) or Judy Putnam (672-2932).



Ladies Night Out

Mark your calendar to attend a Trinity Ladies Night Out on **Tuesday, November 5** from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at Lynn Berry's house at 8402 Spilsby Court.

RSVP and sign up to bring something to share at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48a8a72ea64-ladies1> or **just show up!**

Casual attire plus your Trinity nametag if you have one - or you can make a nametag on site.

All women of Trinity are welcome! It's Election Day, so vote first and then come for fellowship! Questions? Contact Mary Neary at 387-4618.

Hope to see you there!



Handmade Harvest Craft Show Saturday, October 26 9 AM -- 4 PM

The 8th annual Handmade Harvest craft show will be held on **Saturday, October 26** in Trinity Hall! There will be 35+ vendors all selling handmade crafts and unique gifts (in addition to pumpkins and food trucks). If you are part of a group that would like to volunteer or provide a service, contact Annemarie Tull annemarietull@comcast.net. Proceeds from the show will continue to support Trinity's youth programs. Mark your calendars and bring your family and friends! What a great way to introduce Trinity to the community.



Blessing of the Animals Saturday, October 26

animals. See you there!

Join us at the Veterans Memorial Garden (the one with the flagpole on Forest Avenue) at **2:00 PM for all**



Dr. Charles Staples in Concert!

On **Sunday, October 27** at 4 PM, our Director of Music, Charles Staples will be the featured soloist with the Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra. He will be performing Rachmaninov's iconic 2nd Piano Concerto in the concert, at Henrico High School. Tickets are available via the website or at the door.

<http://www.richmondphilharmonic.org/the-russian-connection.html>



Veterans Pancake Breakfast

On **Sunday, November 10**, the Outreach Class will present the annual Veterans Pancake Breakfast. As in years past, we will serve breakfast from 7:30 to 9:30 AM in Trinity Hall. Pancakes, bacon, baked apples, coffee, juice will be served. Cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. The program will start at 9:30 AM.

Each year, we publish a listing of the men and women from Trinity who have served in the military. If you would like to have the name of your family member in this listing, please provide their name and branch of military they served. You can forward this information to Bill Pike via e-mail: bpike@trinityumc.net or by calling 288-6056, Ext 211. The deadline for the listing information is Monday, November 4.

We look forward to having you with us this year to celebrate the women and men who have served our country.

Trustees

On Monday, September 9, David Glassman was elected chair of the Trustees, Catherine McSorley, vice chair, and Pat Satterfield, secretary. Also serving on the Trustees this year are: Rebecca Worley, John Cardwell, Joe Andrews, Tom Kellam, Kevin Mottley, Jim Crowder, Helen Culley, and Susie Hildebrand.



Reach Out 3.0

The weekend of September 7 and 8 was a wonderful celebration of Trinity in Richmond! On Saturday, 55 Trinity members engaged in a cleanup at the Oak Grove-Bellemeade School and Bellemeade Park. We spread gravel for walking and biking paths, spread mulch in the teachers' parking lot, cleaned up the butterfly garden, weeded, and planted 25 hydrangeas donated by James River Nursery's and Trinity's Mike Hildebrand.

On Sunday, Trinity hosted its annual kickoff by throwing a community picnic at Oak Grove. This kickoff picnic featured wonderful food and fellowship. About 250 people attended including members of Trinity, community partners, and friends of Oak Grove and Bellemeade Park.

Thanks to all who helped make this weekend a terrific success!

Now, what's next? A wonderful opportunity to continue to "DO" church and to invest your God-given skills and talents to support our Southside Richmond neighbors. How can you make this happen?

There are many opportunities:

- ◆ Volunteering in school and after school activities
- ◆ Taking advantage of outdoor opportunities at the school or in the park
- ◆ Attending and supporting biking events and activities
- ◆ Volunteering in the Saturday Literacy Academy

The list of opportunities goes on and on.

Please consider reaching out to Bob Argabright at 310.1080 (rargabright@me.com) or Karen Adams at 382.6477 (kmadams1711@earthlink.net) to explore opportunities.

Thank you for your support and come and make God's Love Real for Others.

New Members Wanted!

The Hospitality for Bereaved Committee is a mission of Trinity Methodist Church, which provides receptions following funerals held at Trinity. The membership of the committee is made up of volunteers from our church who donate their time and talents to help ease the distress of families during sad times. The committee consists of teams who are assigned specific months during the year. We would love to welcome new members who feel that they have the time to help a worthy cause. Call either Paula Cadden in the church office at 288-6056, Carole Dishman at 360-4072, Dale Boice at 740-0740, Pam Bullis at 346-4919, Colleen Berninger at 741-1565 or Linda Robinson at 378-8919. Please consider joining us and helping with this important mission of the church.

Calling all Disciples!

Do you have some free time once a month to help make someone's day a little brighter? Could you make the effort to remind someone that they are not forgotten by their Trinity family? Do you like being with people? If you said "Yes!" to any of these questions, then we have the opportunity for you! As part of our lay visitation ministry, we have people to visit (usually homebound folks who aren't able to make it to Trinity on Sunday) – but we need volunteers to make those visits. And you won't go alone – care teams are made up of two people; and you coordinate your own schedules to make the monthly visit. Please contact our new Lay Ministry Coordinator, Lola Jean Nichols (ljsnichols@comcast.net, 360-3896) or Judy Oguich, Minister of Congregational Care (joguich@trinityumc.net, 288-6057, ext. 206), to volunteer to extend God's love to our homebound members! You will be glad you did!

Foundation Update

The school year is well underway and the Trinity Foundation mailbox is full of thank you notes from students who received scholarships. On June 2, the Scholarship Committee awarded 11 scholarships totaling \$16,000 this academic year. Here are just a few excerpts from the notes: "I have grown up at Trinity and it is a home to me. Trinity allowed me to participate in Youth Group, Boy Scouts and playing music in services" (Nicholas Sofinksi); "It is an honor to be chosen for one of these scholarships. I promise the money will go to a good use!" (Zach Smith); "It is most appreciated as I continue my studies at the University of Lynchburg this fall" (Abby Oguich); "The money has helped me so much paying for school" (Noah Smith). Many thanks to those who donate to the Trinity Foundation in order to make these scholarships possible.



The One Thing Every Kid Needs the Most

By Kristen Ivy



All kids need the same thing.

Kids who are black, white, Asian, Hispanic. Kids who are fostered or adopted. Only children, middle children, and youngest children. High risk, special needs, gifted, introverts, extroverts, strong-willed, or mild-tempered . . .

All kids need the same thing.

Actually, it may seem like kids need a lot of things. In fact, if you listen to the voices in our culture advocating for kids, you can very quickly become overwhelmed by all the things kids need.

- They need a healthy diet.
- They need exercise.
- They need play time.
- They need study time.
- They need down time.
- They need to have a practical skill.
- They need to take more rigorous classes.
- They need better grades.
- They need better friends.
- They need medication.
- They need entertainment.
- They need technology.
- They need to get a job.

I'm not saying they don't need all these other things, too. But without the one thing, none of those things actually matters. In fact, without the one thing, you can't even begin to give them the other things they need.

So what is this one thing?

It's pretty simple. Every kid needs for you to show up.

Growing up is hard.

Kids at every phase need adults who will show up predictably and consistently, over time. In fact, it's the one thing they need more than anything else. But the reason kids need consistent adults changes.

In preschool, kids need you to show up so they know you.

There are more changes in the first years of life than in any others. That means the world of a toddler is unstable. It's no wonder they need adults to step in and create some stability. The best thing you can give a preschooler is a *familiar face*. If they don't know who you are, you won't have a lot of success giving them anything else that matters—just think about how many preschoolers cry when they visit Santa.

In elementary years, kids need you to show up so they know you know them.

In elementary school, kids are fascinated with life. They are discovering new ideas and experiences every day, and they want someone to discover it all along with them. The best thing you can give an elementary-age kid is your *fascination with who they are*. When you show up for an elementary-age kid, they need to know you know their name, their pet's name, their interests, and their favorite snack food.

In middle school, kids need you to show up so they know you know them now.

In middle school life turns upside down. Similar to the toddler years, life change is happening at an expedited rate and emotions are pushed to their extremes. The best thing you can give a middle schooler is your predictable presence in the middle of their changing reality. You show up to *rediscover them again* (and again, and again) in order to prove to them that they are worth knowing and worth showing up for.

In high school, kids need you to show up so they know you will be there when they need you.

One of the greatest myths we could ever buy into is that high schoolers don't need or want adults. The truth is, they don't think they need adults when things seem to be going well. But inevitably there will be days when they do need someone. And the only way to be there when they need you is *to prove that you care about them even when they think they don't need you*. So keep proving you care. Keep showing up when they push you away so they know you will be there when they need to talk.

It's easy to get lost in the long—sometimes confusing, conflicting and controversial—list of needs. But while grapes are being carefully quartered, little leagues signed up for, and AP tests taken all around us, maybe we can all find a little solace (and sanity) in knowing **we are doing our best work when we simply show up.**

Will you show up consistently for our kids and teenagers?

THANK YOU!! The Kids Ministry would like to thank everyone who supported our children and donated their pennies. The kids raised \$800 and we were able to provide these animals to those in need across our world through Heifer International:

- 2 Sets of Honeybees
- Flock of Geese
- Flock of Chicks
- Trio of Rabbits
- A Sheep
- An Alpaca
- A Water Buffalo
- A Goat

Thank you for your generosity!

3rd Grade Bible Presentation: Every fall, Trinity gives a bible to each 3rd grader in our congregation. This is a great age for our kids to begin learning more about the bible and digging into God's word on their own! If you are the parent of a 3rd grader who would like to receive a bible, please contact Jen Williams at jwilliams@trinityumc.net for further information. Bibles will be presented on Sunday, November 17th.

Serve Opportunities



Old Cell Phones Needed

Please donate your old cell phones (with chargers, without service contracts, and with personal information removed) to be given to survivors of abuse to call 911. Bring them to Missions Central, the room down the hall from the church office toward the sanctuary, and leave them in the designated receptacle there. This is a great way to recycle and could save someone's life. (Anne Burch, 270-1661)



Blood Drive

Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 20, our fall Trinity Blood Drive, open from 8 AM – 12:30 PM in Trinity Hall. It really takes all of us to show up for our drives and to invite in our friends, so that we can show Trinity's remarkable spirit of caring for this important and life-saving ministry.

To sign up:

1. <https://donateblood.vablood.org/> and enter your user id and password **or register**.
2. On the next page you'll see an area that says, "Schedule Your Appointment Today" with a calendar underneath. Select 10/20/19 to 10/21/19.
3. Scroll down in the box and find Trinity UMC.
4. Click Trinity UMC and click "Select".
5. On the next page chose the time you would like to donate.
6. Click "Confirm Appointment".

Help with Kids Club Dinners at Central UMC!

Calling all Sunday School Classes, Small Groups and Individuals! Please consider signing up to provide a hot meal to the children who attend Kids Club and Teen group on Sunday evenings at Central United Methodist Church. This church reaches out to children who attend Blackwell and Oak Grove elementary school. There are usually 20 people to feed, and dinner is to be served at 5 p.m. The church is located at 1211 Porter St, Richmond, VA 23224. Many of you have graciously served before and we thank you!

Here is the link to sign up:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/20F0944AEAD2DA64-20192020>

Contact Hilary Coakley or Sarah Shutt if you have any questions.

Update from Lenten Easter Mission Offering

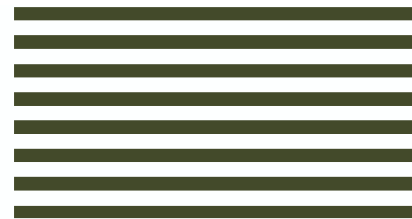
Recent news from Dr. Naveen Rao, who leads the Leonard Theological College in central India: Your Lenten Easter Mission Offering is funding essential scholarship aid to support the training of women to serve in basic Bible and ministry skills, along with helping to promote health and hygiene in rural and semi-urban settings. We cherish this partnership with Richmond's Trinity United Methodist Church!

Recent news from Dr. Kulli Toniste, who leads the Baltic Methodist Theological Seminary: Your Lenten Easter Mission Offering has provided important funds to support scholarship aid for our students. Over half of recent graduates became pastors and others are active in many places from Christian radio to youth ministry and the largest group we serve are Methodists. That's a really sound investment in our church's future!

Hope you will find these news items to be helpful,
Art Charlesworth

YOUTH AT TRINITY

| OCTOBER- 2019 |



SEPT 28

The pumpkins arrives at 8 AM on Saturday. Please come help unload them!

OCT 14

A day of service for all of our students. We will be gleaning with our friends at Shady Grove UMC. If you are interested in helping to serve the hungry in Richmond, please sign up!

FALL CONFERENCE RETREAT

Come on engage with almost a thousand other students from around the state at Eagle Eyrie Retreat Center in Lynchburg, VA. The Virginia Conference fall retreat is on the weekend of November 15-17. It is a weekend filled with interpersonal interaction between our group and other Christians from around the area, as well as our students growing closer together. This weekend is jam packed with activities, workshops, yummy food, small group time, worship, games, and fun! You do not want to miss out on this opportunity to grow closer to God and each other.

I highly recommend that you come on this retreat, or encourage your student to participate. It was a life changing experience for me when I was in middle school, and continued to be an eye opener and reminder to me about how I should live my life during my high school years. It set me on a path of lifelong journey with my God and how that is done with a group of people that I love and care for. If you are interested in going or have more questions, the sign up is online. Please consider taking on this opportunity for spiritual growth.

OCT 26

Handmade Harvest Craft Show is this Saturday from 9 AM to 4 PM. Come out and volunteer and go home with a special gift for someone.

Kickoff 2019

On the weekend of September 7 and 8, we had a plethora of kids, students, and adults who committed themselves to a weekend of service. They did all kinds of tasks at Oak Grove–Bellemeade Elementary School and Community Center. After a sweaty day of hard work, we shared in a community picnic together on Sunday afternoon that brought back together all of us who worked together.



We have begun our Sunday night programming for our students. They have a chance to gather together on Sunday nights to share a meal together, play games together, worship together, and dive deeper into their faith together. That also does not include the many hours of laughter they share together through just about everything!

Oak Grove–Bellemeade Elementary School teacher parking lot after kickoff Sunday mulching!

More pictures from our May events:

01

The pumpkins are coming!



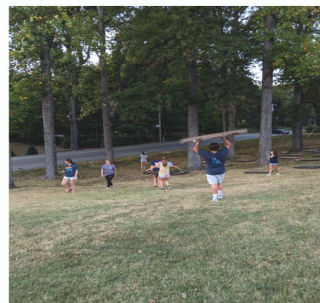
02

Annie enjoying selfies at kickoff.



03

Hard at work setting up for the patch.



04

Jason making it rain in dodgeball!



Joys and Concerns

Baptism

Sophia Lilly

New Members

Scott Birdsong, Sarah Birdsong

Wedding

Congratulations to the following couple who was recently married:

Anna Beecroft and Doug Cooke, IV who were married on September 14

Our sympathies to...

Larry Lenow whose nephew Justin Rheaume died September 19

Betty Schneider whose granddaughter Danielle Hendrick died September 7

The family of Mary Lee May who died September 4

The family of Bruce McNelly who died September 4

Carole Smith whose sister Shirley Vaughan died on August 26

Gifts to Trinity



Gifts to the Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund

In memory of:

William Owen, Jr.

Vernon Collier

Evelyn Deans

Gift to the McClure Scholarship Fund

In memory of:

Joe Waters



Flower Delivery

Do you have an hour or so on a Sunday to bring a little joy into the life of our sick or homebound members?

We are in need of volunteers (*an individual or a couple*) who would be willing to commit to a calendar month during the year to deliver the altar flowers each Sunday to individuals (*determined by the Church Office*).

The months of January, May, July, and September are currently available. You will be blessed through this ministry of serving others! For more information or to volunteer, call Paula Cadden in the Church office at 288-6057 ext. 201.

Our Stewardship

"We will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness."

Our Presence:

Day	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22
Worship Service	350	449	378	348
Sunday School	157	267	233	225

Our Gifts as of August 31:

Projected income to date: \$ 262,130.00
 Actual income year to date: \$ 244,595.92
 Excess (-shortfall) \$ (17,534.08)

Newsletter DEADLINE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, October 21 at 4 PM for events taking place in November.** Articles may be submitted prior to the deadline, and we encourage early submissions. Articles must be submitted in writing with the contact person's name to Kim Tingler, ktingler@trinityumc.net.