

The Trinity Window

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



Pastor's Corner

"Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this."

Esther 4:14b

In the above verse, Esther's uncle Mordecai suggests that Esther has been elevated to her royal position precisely so that God can use her to deliver the Jews in their crisis. If this doesn't sound familiar, read the Book of Esther, it's a thriller! Also, it's not a bad reminder that God is still God and we are God's servants *especially* in times of crisis.

As I write this, things seem very tense. The Covid-19 outbreak in the United States rages out of control, Virginia's numbers are rising, every educational institution from Preschools to Universities are scrambling and we are all growing weary. May I be so bold as to try to put things in perspective and remind us all of a couple of things.

1. God is still God. Things looked pretty bad for the Jews in Persia in the Book of Esther (I'm telling you, it's a real page turner!) But God is faithful. I am not going to stop saying this. This is the big picture; it is the first and foremost thing.
2. This pandemic will not last forever, though it may last for a while. The worst pandemic in modern times was the Flu of 1918 (also called the Spanish Flu). It lasted from February 1918 until April 1920. It struck in four successive waves infecting up to a third of the world's population and killing 17-50 million people. That's bad. That's very bad. But it ended. Of course, we all hope that vaccines may prove effective and Covid-19 will be brought under control much sooner and with much less loss of life. My point is a double-edged sword, on the one hand we must be ready to deal with this for a while, no doubt longer than we would like. On the other hand, we must not lose sight of the reality that eventually the virus will abate and life will go on. We must not give in, grow weary or lose hope. When that threatens, refer to point number one.

With all that being said, allow me to update you on a few things and give you an idea of what to expect:

Trinity's *limited* re-opening plan has been approved by the District Superintendent.

- **Worship will continue via livestream only for the foreseeable future.** We will continue to work to build community in these circumstances.
- **Holy Communion will be offered once a month starting in September.** We will be using approved prepackaged communion elements. The sacrament will be celebrated by the pastor during the livestream worship service. At the conclusion of the service, livestream worshippers will be invited to receive via a drive-through process. This will not be unlike our drive-through ash imposition on Ash Wednesday. Details and instructions will be forthcoming.
- **Trinity Preschool will open on schedule** under the strict guidelines of the VA Dept. of Social Services and protocols of the Annual Conference. The Preschool is already making contingency plans based on the possibility that Central Virginia may revert to the Governor's Phase 2 restrictions.
- **Small group gatherings will slowly resume.** This will start with outdoor meetings in August and then limited indoor meetings later. Much more information is coming. Rules for outdoor meetings (health care forms, masks at all times, 6 ft. Social distancing, bring your own chair, sharing of nothing and more) will be required. Designated areas will be available for scheduling one-time, monthly or bimonthly gathering.
- **Trinity will be hosting a blood drive for the American Red Cross.** We are told that all donations are tested for Covid-19 antibodies and donors will be able to know whether they have had the virus at some point.

Friends, we are committed to being careful, responsible and most importantly *faithful*. I have no doubt that many things will change and our plans may have to be altered in this dynamic situation. We are on it. Who knows, perhaps we have been placed here for just such a time as this.

Blessings,

COVID-19 has suspended in-person events at Trinity for the time being. We are using a variety of methods and platforms to stay connected during these times.

Online Meetings & Events
(trinityumc.net/news/events-at-trinity)

[Trinity Church Chatter Facebook Group:](#)

Find the group on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/>



Small Groups

Discovering Trinity

We want to invite anyone who wishes to become a member of Trinity UMC to join Discovering Trinity Class. We will share an understanding of our beliefs, history, practices, and expectations. Even in this time of pandemic, you'll learn how to get connected at Trinity in online opportunities.

When: Sunday Afternoons August 2, 9, 16, and 23 from 3:30 – 4:30 PM.

Where: Zoom <https://zoom.us/join> (meeting ID: 6243348408)

Please email Hung Su Lim at hslim@trinityumc.net for the password and any questions.

Racial Reconciliation and Study

Trinity currently has an opportunity to seek a better understanding of prevalent racism.

Join us on Thursday nights at 8 PM, for a read through of Robin DiAngelo's book, "White Fragility, Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism". Sign up online. If you have any questions please email bmiller@trinityumc.net.

The Call: Bible Study:

Pastor Larry will begin a new study on "The Call: The Life, Ministry and Message of the Apostle Paul" by Adam Hamilton. This will be done by Zoom. His Tuesday class is at 7:00 AM on Tuesday mornings and again on Wednesdays at 1:30 PM. The study will begin Tuesday, July 14 and Wednesday, July 15.

Sunday Small Group Gathering

When: Sunday Evenings, 5 PM – 5:30 PM (June 9th, the first gathering) **Where:** Zoom <https://zoom.us/join> (meeting ID: 6243348408, email Hung Su Lim for password: hslim@trinity.net)

We want to invite you to join a small group gathering via zoom. In this time of social distancing, we'll gather to share life and have a meaningful conversation based on the message proclaimed on Sunday mornings. We will share scripture, prayer, and discussion questions.

Serve

Trinity offers many opportunities to serve our neighbors. Participate in weekly food drives on Fridays. Help make masks or prayer squares. Give to the COVID-19 Relief Fund. Find your way to serve online:

trinityumc.net/news/an-opportunity-to-help

Prayer

Tuesday Evening Prayer Service

Trinity's Thursday Evening Prayer service is livestreamed each **Tuesday evening at 7 PM**. This contemplative service will include music, prayers, readings, and a brief reflection intended to draw us closer together as a church and help us find peace and solidarity in this season of social distancing.

Prayer Meetings:

We want to invite you to join the morning prayer meeting from Monday through Friday at 7:00 AM via ZOOM (a video/phone conference).

In this unknown and unexpected time, we will gather together to pray to the Lord, lift up our prayer concerns, reflect on God's word, and share our faith. Let us gather and be reminded of Psalm 46:10, "Be still, and know that I am God."

You can join this from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/6243348408>.

Kids

Kids Ministry Zoom Calls will resume in August! We are moving our Zoom Calls to Sunday morning at 10 AM! We will begin at 9:45 AM checking in with each other and playing some games! The link to join the Zoom call will be sent by email to those who subscribe to our Trinity Kids emails. It will also be posted in our Trinity Kids closed Facebook group.

Students

Monday: 5:00 PM ALL age Zoom hang.

Tuesday: 3:00 PM study on Jesus and nonviolence

Wednesday: 7:30 PM Jam session with Aaron and Bryce. Join us in making music!

Thursday: Middle School Zoom at 4:00 PM and our White Fragility Read through at 8:00 PM.

Music

Join Aaron, Bryce, and the adult and student praise bands for Wednesday Night Jam Sessions. We will gather to play music together via Zoom **Wednesdays at 7:30 PM**. Interested? Contact Aaron Miller or visit trinityumc.net/news/praise-and-worship-jam

Choir has online rehearsal **Wednesdays at 7:30 PM via ZOOM**. <https://zoom.us/j/137482565>, ZOOM Meeting ID: 137-482-565

Charles Staples provides online music offerings via Youtube Live. Visit our online events page or our Facebook page, as the times and dates for these offerings fluctuates.

Discovering Trinity (New membership class)

We want to invite anyone who wishes to become a member of Trinity UMC to join Discovery Trinity Class. We will share an understanding of our beliefs, history, practices and expectations. Even in this time of pandemic, you'll learn how to get connected at Trinity in online opportunities.

When: Sunday Afternoons, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
August 2, 9, 16, and 23

Where: Zoom <https://zoom.us/join> (meeting ID: 6243348408) Please email Hung Su Lim at hslim@trinityumc.net for the password and any questions.

Yardwork is good for our souls

On Saturday, August 8, 2020, from 8:30 AM to 12 noon come out and do some grounds work at Trinity. I promise you it will be good for our souls.

We need your help with the following items: weeding, spreading mulch, weed eating, shrub trimming, limb trimming, and power washing.

The church will provide the mulch and a cold bottle of water.

You will need to bring your own tools, gloves, hats, and sunscreen.

Wheelbarrows, weed eaters, power washers, and assorted hand tools will be helpful.

Any questions contact Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net

Back to School Drive

Trinity will once again collect school supplies and food items to support Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School and Sherbourne Food Pantry. These collections, like so many things, will look different this year. We will be collecting items on Friday, August 7 and August 14 from 9:00 AM to 2 PM.

Supplies Needed:

Pencils	Crayola crayons
Markers	colored pencils
glue sticks	ear buds
composition and spiral notebooks	

Food Needs:

Cereal	peanut butter
Jelly	soup
Pasta	pasta sauce
Canned tuna	canned chicken

We hope that you will safely participate in our School supplies drive and help us care for our community!



New Steps for New Shoes for Back to School

What? New Shoes for Back to School Ministry

When? Collection Fridays: August 21 & 28

Where? Trinity UMC Welcome Center

Why? To provide new shoes to students in underserved communities

Back to school will look much different this year due to COVID-19 and the need is greater than ever for new shoes for youth in underserved communities. While some students may not be walking into a traditional classroom, they still need shoes. Families are struggling with job losses and their communities are especially vulnerable during this pandemic. Trinity United Methodist has participated in the New Shoes for Back to School Ministry for the past two years and the Metropolitan Richmond Partnership of Churches is grateful for the support again in 2020.

This year's distribution will look different from year's past. Organizers are working with administrators at Title I schools around the region. Churches, including Trinity, will be assigned a school/s and provided with the sizes and numbers needed. Trinity has been paired with Providence Elementary School, Huguenot High School and Baker Elementary School. The organizers will then deliver the shoes to the schools for distribution to students in early September.

There are three ways you can help:

- **Go to Sign-up Genius** (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48A8A72EAA8-newshoes>) for the details, including sizes and numbers of shoes needed. You can purchase and drop them by the Welcome Center on August 21 and 28 or you can order shoes online from your favorite store and have them delivered to Trinity.
- **Consider making a financial gift.** This allows organizers to be efficient in purchasing shoes (often they are needed for older students). Please specify "New Shoes Ministry" with your donation.
- **Keep the New Shoes for Back to School Ministry in your prayers.** The lead organizer is Third Street Bethel A.M.E., a church founded circa 1850 that shares a history with Trinity UMC. This is a great way to recognize and continue that important relationship.

If you have questions, email Beth Monroe at beth-monr@gmail.com. Thank you!

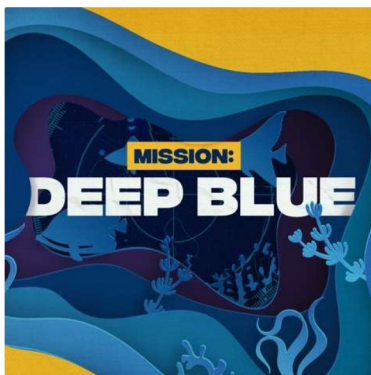


What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

Kids Ministry Zoom Calls will resume in August!! We are moving our Zoom Calls to Sunday mornings at 10am! We will begin at 9:45am checking in with each other and playing some games! The link to join the Zoom call will be sent by email to those who subscribe to our Trinity Kids emails. It will also be posted in our Trinity Kids closed Facebook group.



This summer resource, *Grow Like Jesus*, is an interactive book for elementary-aged kids! Inside are 8 habit-forming challenges to help kids grow in all areas of life! Challenges focus on growing your mind (wisdom), developing your body (strength), growing your faith, and developing a heart for others. If you would like a book, contact Jen Williams at jwilliams@trinityumc.net and she will mail one to you!



We had 70 kids from 50 families participate in our Virtual Kids Camp last month! Thank you to all that contributed to making this happen!!

Here are some highlights from the week:



Behind the Scenes

The renovation of the Mastin room started on Monday, July 27. Building permits, insurance coverage, and contracts were finalized. A pre-construction meeting was held with key personnel from Century Construction Company to outline their plan. This project will create a new meeting space for our youth while also improving the adjoining hallway and restrooms.

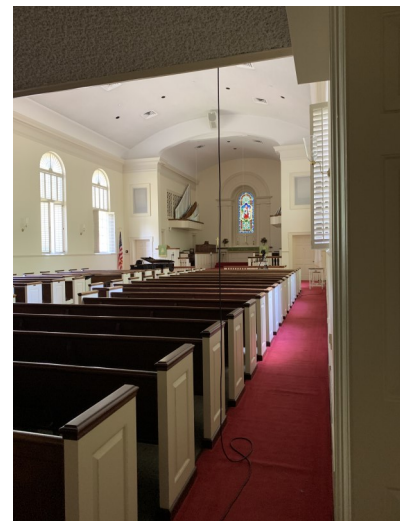
Our Trustees want to thank our congregation, the Trinity Foundation, the Finance Committee, and Church Council for their leadership and cooperation in making this project a reality. We will keep you updated on the progress.

In a very short period of time, the Sanctuary has become like a production room for a television show. Also, in a very short period of time Aaron Miller, Bryce Miller, Charles Staples, Hung Su Lim, Jen Williams, and our communication consultant, Kim Johnson, have revisited past skills and learned new skills in the weekly broadcast of the Sunday morning worship service. That service just doesn't happen in a blink.

During the week, assorted recordings and videos are produced. This involves lots of technology for editing, mixing, and developing a take that is worth broadcasting. This also involves lots of communication with musicians and choir members. When a piece is filmed off site, this requires a whole different level of production techniques and strategies.

Recently, this team has worked to improve the infrastructure of our technology. The goal is to improve the quality of the broadcast, but we all need to remember technology is imperfect. All it takes is one tiny gremlin to wreak havoc during a Sunday broadcast.

We thank you for your support and feedback as we continue with virtual presentations. And we appreciate the hard work and teamwork that Aaron, Bryce, Charles, Hung Su, Jen, and Kim gives us each week.



How We Do What We Do

Many of you have participated in online worship for the last 5 months, or have seen some of the videos we do with the choir and wondered how these are produced. I decided to search for the documentary filmmaker inside myself and create yet another video showing what is involved. Frankly, let me say that I love doing these things. Otherwise, I wouldn't do them. Most churches don't, because a 3 minute video takes between 5 and 30 hours to create. But, desperate times often call for desperate measures! And as you know, singing has been deemed a "super-spreader" activity (this from the national associations of singing teachers and also choral directors) so I'm afraid that we won't be singing in church for quite a while. So, take a look and if you have been hiding a voice within - now is the time to remove it from under that bushel and join us!

<https://youtu.be/QUpFwQfwMis>

Advent Devotional Book

We know in the middle of August that the Advent devotional book is the last thing on your minds. But, the truth is Advent, Christmas will be here in a blink.

Based upon our church calendar, we have 27 days where we are going to need individuals to prepare a devotional piece. The church staff will provide you the guidelines and all of the necessary information for developing a devotional. This is open to all Trinity members.

If you are interested in participating, you need to submit your name and contact information to Kim Tingler: ktingler@trinityumc.net. Names will be recorded on a first come basis, and the deadline for submitting your name is Monday, August 10 at 11:59 PM.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Thank You from Sherbourne Food Pantry

Thank you all for the support you have given to the Sherbourne Food Pantry as the Pantry reopened following several months closure due to COVID-19. The Pantry is now serving 70 to 80 families each week, a significant increase from pre-closure service levels!

Thank you for both food and monetary donations. Special thanks to the 3M Wednesday Night Class for making a wonderful donation in honor of their leader – the fabulous Judy Oguich! Judy and Eric have been great supporters of our Sherbourne ministry and we are grateful for them.

*Karen Adams
for the Sherbourne Team*

Thank You Notes

Dear Trinity family,

I am so grateful to be a part of this amazing faith community, a community that rejoices with me and my family, and, more importantly, a community that walks alongside us during times of sorrow.

Your countless expressions of love and grace have been so poignant to us following my mother's death in June. My mother loved Trinity; you were always so welcoming and kind to her when she would visit. Whenever she got her copy of the Window she read it cover to cover, and then would call me to ask me about all of it – as well as ask about everyone who was mentioned.

Thank you for your continued love and prayers as we journey through this valley. You have been – and continue to be – a model of Christian love to us all.

Love,

Judy, Eric, Garrett and Abby Oguich

Flower Tributes



Even though we are not gathering for in-person worship yet, we are still purchasing altar flowers, which you may have noticed if you watch the livestream Worship on Sunday mornings. If you would like to have a flower tribute printed in the bulletin one Sunday, please contact Paula Cadden at pcadden@trinityumc.net or 804-288-6057 ext. 201. If you tune in

to our livestream Worship, you are aware that there is a bulletin available online for you to download – the flower tribute would be printed in this bulletin. The cost is \$50. The information I would need from you is the date for the flower tribute, who the tribute is for and who it is given by – i.e., “in memory of _____ given by his/her family.” or “given by _____ in honor of our 25th wedding anniversary.”

Joys and Concerns

New Members

Aaron Miller, Brandy Miller

Our sympathies to...

*Ric Halstead whose mother Una Jean Halstead died July 13
Suzanne Ridgway whose mother Yula McVay died June 27
Betty Schneider whose brother-in-law Bobby Schneider who
died June 26
Bryan Burden whose mother Charlotte Burden died June 22
Jody McWilliams whose brother-in-law Morris Brady died
June 21*



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)

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	7/5	7/12	7/19	7/26
Worship Service	404	432	500	432
Sunday School				

Gifts as of June 30:

Projected income to date:	\$
Actual income year to date:	\$
Excess (-shortfall)	\$

Gifts Given to Trinity

Gifts received for the **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In memory of:
Charles Beverage
Lee Childress
Mildred Clegg
Lu Graham
George Habel
Mildred Hastings
Harold Wainwright

Gifts received for the **Trinity Foundation McClure Scholarship Fund**

In memory of:
Betty Brown Allan
Marion Dillard
Paul B. Hood
Nancy Mays

Gifts received for the **Trinity Music Fund**

In memory of:
Marion Dillard

Gifts received for the **Pastor's Discretionary Fund**

In memory of:
Willie Carlton

Gifts received for the **Trinity Youth Ministries**

In memory of:
Christine Wright

Gifts received for the **Trinity Trustee's Property and Maintenance Fund**

In honor of:
Bill Pike

Gifts received for the **Sherbourne UMC Food Pantry**

In honor of:
Judy Oguich

Gifts received for the **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In honor of:
Spec Campen
Stella Fritter

NewsLetter
DEADLine

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, August 17 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 with the contact person's name to Kim Tingler, ktingler@trinityumc.net.