

The Trinity Window

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

February 2021

Pastor's Corner



It occurred to me recently that some of you might feel that the church is constantly asking you for money. The reason for that is because the church *actually is* constantly asking you for money. Consider: Trinity just raised over \$33,000 for United Methodist Family Services, and thank you Trinity Foundation for the \$5,000 matching grant. Now, in the Samson Project we are asking for money for area Food Pantries. (Hey, we're just asking you for money. My donation is a little more "personal"*). We have begun *Arise, Shine* our annual Stewardship Campaign - absolutely critical! And, of course, Ash Wednesday is February 17, with Lent comes our Lenten/Easter Mission Offering. Hey, what gives, you ask? Fair question (which is why I'm answering it before you ask it.). Allow me to offer a few insights:

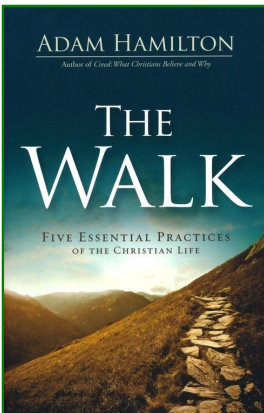
- Trinity is, and has historically been, an incredibly generous church. It's who we are, a congregation of generous people and a church that gives generously to the community.
- We trust you to know what you want to do. Of course, our tithe, our support for all the ministries of the church, is our duty. It's the offering of our first fruits to God. But after that our responses to various appeals is a matter of the spirit. No one can do and support everything, but let us all do and support something.
- If we don't ask, nothing happens.

In a phrase, follow your heart. Please faithfully support Trinity's ministries in our *Arise, Shine* campaign. We are all called to do that. It makes everything else possible. But beyond that, listen for the Spirit. Follow your heart. Be generous, but don't feel guilty or bad if you can't support everything. I hope that like me you are proud to be part of a church that is constantly asking for money because we are constantly giving it away and doing so much good. The kids at UMFS, the women and children in Trinity's apartment at CARITAS' new shelter, the people served by the food pantries can put food on their table, families in Oak Grove/Bellemeade, or the people of Honduras may never get a chance to thank you, but then there is this,

"Then the king will say to those on his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'" Matthew 25:34-36

Blessings,

- *\$10,000 I get a haircut
- \$20,000 Cut shorter with electric clippers.
- \$100,000 I shave the beard as well. (I dare you! - LL)



Lenten Study: The Walk

Over the last year our lives and our world have been turned upside down. So many things have changed. So many things will continue to change. Have we learned anything? Do we know what is truly important? Have we grown in our faith? Can you think of a better time to ask yourself such questions?

Our pastors have announced a church-wide Lenten Study. This will involve a sermon series, group study and/or individual study. The resource we are using is Adam Hamilton's book, **The Walk, Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life**. You are encouraged to purchase a copy now so that you are ready. The sermons will use this book as a resource. That is to say, the sermon's will not be about the book, but will reference it and will assume most of the congregation is reading it. Please read the Introduction and Chapter 1 by the first sermon, February 21 and one chapter per week thereafter. Also watch for announcements of groups using this resource.

Trinity is planning an online Ash Wednesday Service, February 17



Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday is the day when we gather to begin our 40-day journey called Lent. Every year we gather to remind ourselves that we are not eternal. We confront

our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The use of ashes is a sign of mortality and repentance.

Yet, given the continuing pandemic restrictions, we have explored a different method for observing Ash Wednesday this year. For safety, we will not gather this year to mark the beginning of Lent.

So, we'll be sending ashes in a little pouch with the liturgy to you for Ash Wednesday Service. You're invited to join the Ash Wednesday worship service on **February 17, 12 PM**. The worship video will be available to watch later that day.

Caution: **DO NOT MIX ASHES WITH WATER**: this makes a caustic form of lye. Use olive oil instead.

New Bible Study for Lent

In Lent, Trinity will have a church-wide Bible study with a book, "**The Walk**," written by Adam Hamilton. Small groups are encouraged to use this book to have a Bible study during Lent. It is about five essential practices of the Christian life rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. As we explore each practice, we may deepen our walk with Christ and pursue them daily in our personal and community life.

If you haven't been part of any small group and are interested in studying this book with others, please join this Bible study. Hung Su offers this Bible study twice during Lent through Zoom, Friday mornings and Sunday afternoons. If you have any questions, please let Hung Su know. You can reach out to him at hslim@trinityumc.net.

Dates: February 19 - March 28 (6 weeks)
Morning group: Fridays, 11 AM.
Afternoon group: Sundays, 5:45 PM.
Zoom Link <https://zoom.us/join> (meeting ID:6243348408)

Lenten Easter Mission Offering

Information about this year's Lenten Easter Mission Offering will be announced in March. We look forward to helping out people in our community, state, country, and the world.

McClure Bible Study Class

Starting **February 7** the McClure Bible class will be doing a study of "The Old Testament in the Four Gospels." The presentations will examine how the Four Evangelists use Old Testament concepts and why. John wrote, "If you believed Moses you would believe me." (John 5:46).

Circle 6

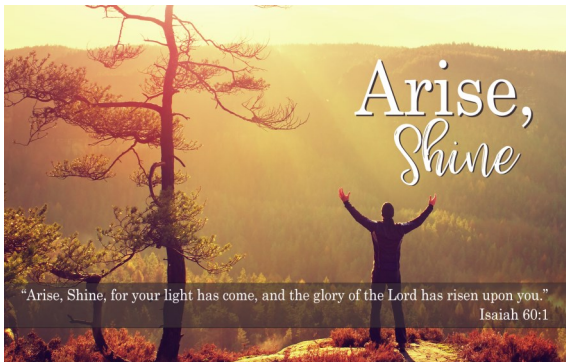
On **Tuesday, February 2** at 10:30 AM, Circle 6 will be meeting via Zoom. The guest speaker for this meeting is Yoseline Cruz, a former Oak Grove student. She will join at 11 AM. Circle 6 members will received a Zoom invitation on February 1. If you are interested in joining contact Jo Lewis at jolewis49@yahoo.com.

Arise, Shine

“Arise, Shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.” Isaiah 60:1

On Sunday, January 17 Brad Booker announced the launch of our 2021 Stewardship Campaign, “*Arise, Shine*”. The theme references Isaiah 60:1 (above). This prophetic proclamation assured the returning exiles of Judah that God was indeed with them. Though there was daunting work ahead of them, God needed their help in restoring the people, rebuilding Jerusalem and the Temple of the Lord, and trusting God’s promise to lead them. This new year 2021 is indeed a year of return and restoration at Trinity. Gradually, we see light “at the end of the tunnel” as vaccines promise an end to pandemic. Of course, we do not yet know all the details and answers, but we have hope and faith. Even now, plans and preparations are being made. We know that when in-person worship is resumed and programs and ministries relaunched the work will be daunting. We will hit the ground running. There is so much to do. *There is so much need.*

Our Trinity church family is asked to continue your faithful financial support of our common ministry. Your giving is critical, enabling all that we do. By participating in the campaign and making a promise you allow the church leadership to responsibly plan and to be good stewards. **Promise Sunday is February 14.** Thank you in advance for your faithfulness and commitment to Trinity and our service to Christ together.



Thanks

On behalf of the nonprofit food pantries in the Richmond area, we want to thank you for your continued effort to help keep them supplied. We will continue to target Fridays from 9 – 2 PM as our collection day with the drop off location being Trinity Hall. Weekly updates will occur each Wednesday in the Connection. If a change is needed in the type of food, we will note that each Wednesday too. Please continue to be safe in your shopping, double bagging purchased items really helps in the handling, and if possible please avoid purchasing glass containers. Also, if you are a Buy One Get One Free shopper, that is an easy way to help the food collection on Fridays. We appreciate all you are doing. Any questions please contact Bill Pike via e-mail: bpike@trinityumc.net



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 28, we are partnering with the American Red Cross Blood Services to do a Blood Drive. It will take place in Trinity Hall from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM, please be sure to enter through the double doors of Trinity Hall (at the back of the church). The demand for blood has increased dramatically due to the pandemic.

To sign up:

- Go to redcrossblood.org
- Drop down Donate blood Schedule an appointment
- Under Zip or Sponsor Code (Enter trinityumc)
- Go to see Times and schedule your appointment.



Clothing Drive for Kids

Bob Argabright is collecting used clothing for children. Age is from infant to high school, boys and girls, and this also includes gently used shoes. These items will benefit children in the OakGrove-Bellemeade community in Richmond.

Bob Argabright is collecting used clothing for children. Age is from infant to high school, boys and girls,

Please do not donate clothing that has stains or signs of excessive wear. Also, it would be helpful if donated items have been recently washed. Items can be dropped off at Trinity, or you can e-mail Bob, and he will come to your home and pickup the donation. His e-mail address is: Robert S Argabright II rargabright@me.com

Counting

During the course of the year, the Trinity staff is asked to keep track and count lots of different metrics for the Richmond District and the Virginia Conference. Doing this in a normal year is a challenge, but try keeping track of stuff during a pandemic to say the least is interesting.



It is well established that Trinity members touch lots of hearts in Richmond, in Virginia, in America, and in our world. Some of these missional touches are out in the open for all to see. But, sometimes, a small group or a Sunday school class might take on a singular missional project. If you as an individual, your small group, class, or UMW circle does a project to help out someone in need, please let us know. You can simply do this by e-mailing Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net.

Thank You Notes

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,
We cannot begin to tell you what your prayers, love, cards (So many cards! Sandy read and enjoyed every one of them!), meals and positive thoughts have meant to us during Sandy's illness and rehab. We are certain that it is because of God's grace and all the prayers that each of you have offered up for him that he is home, continuing his rehab, and getting a little stronger every day. His recovery continues and will for a good while to come. We ask that you continue to pray for his complete recovery. We know the power of your prayers and God's love -- Sandy has felt them each and every day.

In Christian Love,
Sandy & Elaine Peele and Family



Winter Weather Decisions

Even though our building is basically closed because of the pandemic, we still must make decisions related to opening and closing based upon winter weather conditions.

The Trinity Preschool will follow closing announcements from Henrico County Public Schools. Even in this virtual environment, school systems will be making winter weather closing decisions.

For Trinity staff, community groups, and vendors who supply services to Trinity, we will basically follow Henrico County Public Schools closing announcements. However, there is a slight difference. If everything comes together properly for snow removal, Trinity might be able to reopen quicker. This all depends upon our ability to clear our sidewalks and parking lots. If we can clear these areas and safely get people into the building, then we might be able to reopen a bit earlier than a large school system.

Winter weather could also impact the broadcast of Sunday worship services. This would be true if it is too dangerous to bring in Trinity staff or if we had a power outage.

As in the past, we will communicate closing and schedule adjustments via our website, social media, phone message in the church office, and local news media outlets. If you have additional questions, please e-mail Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net.

Joys and Concerns

Baptisms

Reid Kaufmann, Jackson Kaufmann

Wedding

Congratulations to the following couple who was recently married:

Sydney Mullen and Tim Fogg who were married on January 16

Our sympathies to...

*The family of Louise Beck who died January 19
Mike McGinnis whose mother Susan McGinnis died
January 18*

*Jane Rechenbach whose brother Tom Coleman died
January 12*

*Taylor Stanley whose mother Mildred Stanley died
January 10*

*Susan Orne whose husband Jon Orne died January 7
Tom Rockhold whose sister Barbara Clark died January 6*

The family of Ann Cook who died January 5

The family of Susan Cabaniss who died December 31

*Bill Boice whose brother Rev. James Boice died December 23
The family of Shelbe Kearney who died November 17*



Troop & Pack 799

THANK YOU for your continued support as we embark on our 44th year of Scouting partnership at Trinity. Many have taken their Scouting journey at Trinity which strives to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes. The leaders of Cub Scout Pack 799 and Boy Scout Troop 799 welcome your involvement, inquiries and opportunities to serve as we begin this new Scouting year.

Charter Organization Representative - Pack & Troop 799
Dennis King / dennis.king1@gmail.com

Cubmaster - Pack 799
Allan Cruickshanks / a.cruickshanks@gmail.com

P.S. The annual Scout Yard Sale will be delayed until 2022 due to Covid related risks.

Newsletter
DEADLINE

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, February 15 at 4 PM for events taking place in March.** 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.