

# The Trinity Window

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

February 2022



## Pastor's Corner

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."  
Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Dear Friends,

As you know, in worship on January 16, I announced my upcoming retirement at Annual Conference in June of this year. Your words of love and support since then have been so touching and gratifying to me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

For the benefit of any who are not life-long Methodists (and sleep with the *Book of Discipline* under your pillow), I thought I would review the process for establishing my successor. In the United Methodist Church "appointments" (or deciding which clergy serve which local churches), is done completely at the discretion of the Bishop. The Bishop makes the decision after consulting with the "cabinet" (the eight District Superintendents) and the local church Staff-Parish Relations Committee.

So, at Trinity our SPR Committee has already had a lengthy meeting with Dr. Hyo Lee, our Richmond District Superintendent. Next, Bishop Sharma Lewis and her cabinet will make a "projected appointment". (It is called "projected" because the actual appointment is made at the Annual Conference session.) After the projected appointment has been made, the person projected to be Trinity's next pastor will meet with our SPR Committee. After that meeting, and at the Bishop's pleasure, a public announcement will be made. This all is usually a several month process.

What I can tell you for sure is that every effort will be made by me, our church leadership and the Conference leadership in assure a smooth transition. Trinity is blessed with exceptionally good and capable leaders. And while this timing is good for Amy and myself, I dare to believe that as the world moves toward a "new normal" this will also be a fortuitous time for an energetic and enthusiastic new pastor to join you in your mission. I urge you to be encouraged, excited, and committed to the ministry of your church. Trinity has a great mission and will have a great future, all for Jesus Christ. And to quote John Wesley, "Best of all, God is with us!"

Blessings,

## Healthy Church Team Update

The Trinity Healthy Church Team (HCT) met on Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

Team members discussed the current Trinity COVID policies in place and the fact that adult small groups have made different decisions for their meetings (some deciding to gather remotely, some meeting in person while masked, and meeting unmasked) as well as feedback received that groups appreciate the autonomy to make their own decisions.

Team members also noted the **significantly high levels** of COVID transmission in Henrico County (as of this writing, there are an average of 672 new cases a day in Henrico County, almost triple the number of average cases (240) recorded during the previous high as of January 20, 2021) as well as the current capacity constraints in local hospitals and the recent decision by VCU to cancel elective surgeries due to high numbers of COVID patients.

In addition, team members discussed the contingency plans in place in case Trinity staff members test positive for COVID and are unable to lead worship or other church functions for a period of time. After discussion, the HCT agreed that it would **not make any changes** to Trinity's healthy church policies in place at this time, although it would continue to monitor conditions and make future changes if warranted. During this time the HCT respectfully requests that:

- all Trinity members make prudent decisions about their participation in church activities and avoid in person activities if you have tested positive for COVID in line with CDC guidance.
- adult small groups making decisions about in person gatherings continue to do so with the input of all members.
- Trinity members consider the use of KN95 masks (which provide a higher level of protection) during worship or other indoor functions where masks are used.

Masks will continue to be required for all worship services and any other large (more than 30 persons) indoor gatherings, as well as for activities involving students and kids. To review the current Trinity COVID policies in place, go to [www.trinityumc.net/return](http://www.trinityumc.net/return).

HCT members (like everybody) expressed weariness with COVID, and we prayed to God to guide our decisions and to end this pandemic. In the interim, we will continue to pray, diligently monitor conditions, solicit feedback and make the very best decisions we can for our church.

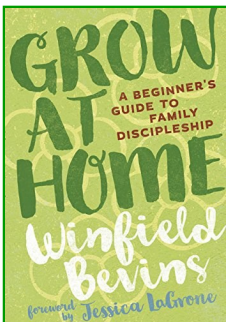
# community CONVERSATIONS



Healing is an interesting word. We always hope for proper healing after a surgical procedure for our bodies. But, healing can also be associated with our mental stability and our emotional state too. Clearly, we Americans have had much to ponder over the last several months. Sometimes, healing is as simple as talking and listening.

All communities have an assortment of leaders who help to mold and shape our paths. Some leaders garner headlines frequently, some work quietly behind the scenes. Trinity introduced a program designed to invite community leaders to our church for conversation.

The next Community Conversation is Tuesday, February 15, and our guest will be Marvin Harris, Executive Director of the Woodland Restoration Foundation. Mr. Harris will be discussing the work taking place at the Historic Woodland Cemetery. "This cemetery is the final resting place of tennis legend, Arthur Ashe, and thousands of other African Americans from the Richmond community." (From Foundation Website)



## Grow at Home

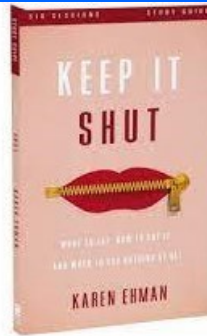
Trinity invites you to a small group opportunity that focuses on families. We believe that our family is our first church. It is the place where we experience what God is like, whether someone knows they are teaching or not. This gathering is not a program but a place where we share our struggles of parenting and ideas of how to cultivate

the home as a place of reading the Bible, praying, worshiping, and doing missions together so that the family can grow together. We'll read the book "Grow at Home" for eight weeks and share our life. The spiritual growth at home can happen in our marriages by loving our spouses with the love of Christ, and it can occur by teaching, loving, and sharing our faith with our children. Please contact Rev. Hung Su Lim at [hslim@trinityumc.net](mailto:hslim@trinityumc.net) for more information. The first session begins on January 16, 10:15 AM, in the library.

You can purchase a hard copy at <https://my.seedbed.com/product/grow-at-home-a-beginners-guide-to-family-discipleship/> or a kindle copy at [https://www.amazon.com/Grow-Home-Beginners-Family-Discipleship-ebook/dp/B01I4185JO/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?crd=1EF0D9SHIEHD5&keywords=grow+at+home+family+discipleship&qid=1640195232&sprefix=grow+at+home+family+discipleship%2Caps%2C65&sr=8-2](https://www.amazon.com/Grow-Home-Beginners-Family-Discipleship-ebook/dp/B01I4185JO/ref=sr_1_2?crd=1EF0D9SHIEHD5&keywords=grow+at+home+family+discipleship&qid=1640195232&sprefix=grow+at+home+family+discipleship%2Caps%2C65&sr=8-2)

You can also watch its trailer at <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/growthome/167757320>

## Casual Winter Study



Starting in February we will start a new casual Winter Bible Study. It is called "Keep It Shut" written by Karen Ehman (she did the study "Listen, Love, Repeat" that we did a number of years ago). I believe it will be a fairly simple Bible Study and shouldn't have an overwhelming amount of reading or prep

work. We have certainly done more intense Bible studies in the past...I don't think this will be one of them. Rather, this will be a chance for us to have a good conversation about what the Bible says about the many ways we are to use our words and the times when we are to remain silent.

There is both a study guide and a book to read for this class. Here are the Amazon links to both. Please purchase both and have Week 1 ready/prepared before our first class on February 7.

Paperback book:

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0310339642/ref=ox\\_sc\\_saved\\_title\\_1?smid=ATVPDKIKX0DER&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0310339642/ref=ox_sc_saved_title_1?smid=ATVPDKIKX0DER&psc=1)

Study Guide:

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0310819407/ref=ox\\_sc\\_saved\\_title\\_1?smid=ATVPDKIKX0DER&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0310819407/ref=ox_sc_saved_title_1?smid=ATVPDKIKX0DER&psc=1)

We will be meeting inside the church, in room 324, during these cold winter months, with masks on. We are going to wait to start until the beginning of February to give Omicron a few more weeks to peak and hopefully go away! The schedule will be Monday mornings at 9:30 AM on the following dates:

Week 1: February 7  
Week 2: February 14  
Week 3: February 28

We will take off March 7 due to private school and college spring break

Week 4: March 14  
Week 5: March 21  
Week 6: March 28

If you are interested in participating, contact Deanna McCullough at [deannamccullough1@verizon.net](mailto:deannamccullough1@verizon.net).



## TRUSTEE INFORMATION

### Trustees Update

Since the fall of 2021, the Trustees have been reviewing opportunities to make improvements to our facilities. This review has been linked to recommendations from the Un-stuck consultation and a church guided property task force. From these studies, the Trustees have a tentative scope of work that breaks the building into three phases for improvement. Phase I looks at the Education/Preschool wing.

With Phase I, the Trustees have worked to provide basic information to Church Council, the Finance Committee, and the Trinity Foundation. Their task is to determine and locate financial support.

Phase I would make significant improvements to the HVAC system in the Education/Preschool wing. These improvements would allow for the permanent removal of the cooling tower. This water based tower is in its last cycle of service expectancy. Removal of the tower will reduce maintenance cost, reduce energy consumption, and allow us to improve the circulation of fresh air into this wing.

Also, in Phase I is the creation of a new restroom on the basement level floor that will meet code requirements for the handicapped. This new restroom will allow us to remove an inefficient pumping system in a classroom restroom on this floor.

This phase will include the renovation of all restrooms on the basement and first floor levels, hallways/classrooms including lighting, flooring, and other amenities.

Preliminary plans for Phase I are being developed by the Richmond based mechanical engineering firm Simmons, Rockecharlie, and Prince, and Huff Morris Architects. Additionally, the Trustees have been in communication with Century Construction, the contractor who completed the work for the Youth Center and the Kids Church space on the second floor of the Education/Preschool wing.

The Trustees hope to have an update for the congregation regarding Phase I by March 2022.



### A Special Thanks to The Plaster Dusters

On the morning of Saturday, January 15, the water damaged ceiling in the parlor was taken down. Back in the fall, a pipe in the HVAC system above the parlor decided to fail. Wanting to improve access for repairs and future improvements, the Trustees opted to take the ceiling down with the goal of replacing it with a drop ceiling using acoustical tile panels.

Removing the ceiling was tough, gnarly work. But, thanks to the determination and expertise of Joe Andrews, Jack Berry, Paul Brooks, Jim Crowder, Mike Estes, J. D. Neary, Bruce Watson, and Rick Weisensale the old ceiling with tile, plaster/metal lathe has been removed.

We appreciate the time and help from these members in helping us make an improvement in the building.

### UMFS Offering

Our Advent and Christmas Eve offerings are being given to United Methodist Family Service (UMFS). The staff at UMFS works with high-risk children and families across Virginia. During this time our congregation raised \$29,169. The Trinity Foundation is matching a portion of the giving and is adding \$7,500.

A total of \$36,669 is being sent to UMFS. Thank you Trinity for your giving hearts!!





**What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?**



Trinity Kids is excited to announce Kids Camp this summer on July 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> from 9am – noon! Kids Camp is for rising kindergarteners through rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders!

Kids Camp is a major outreach event for our church and we need many volunteers to make this event happen!!

Volunteers: please register here <https://tinyurl.com/54yb79tf> or reach out for more information!

Childcare is available for younger children when the parent/guardian volunteers for at least 3 days.

Questions? Contact:

Ashley Marshall ([awpeelee@gmail.com](mailto:awpeelee@gmail.com))

Kids Camp Director

Katie Zimmerman ([katie.zimmerman515@gmail.com](mailto:katie.zimmerman515@gmail.com))

Kids Camp Director

Jen Williams ([jwilliams@trinityumc.net](mailto:jwilliams@trinityumc.net))

Kids Ministry Director

# TRANSIT

4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Transit, our ministry for 4th and 5th graders, is returning in February! We will be meeting this winter/spring on the following dates: February 20, March 20, and April 24! In February we will meet from 4:30-6pm for a pizza dinner, games, and bible study! If you would like to attend, please register here: <https://tinyurl.com/46un5ndc>

**Our February Series: Opposite Day**



Up is Down. Right is Left. Cold is Hot. That's right, we're celebrating opposite day this whole month (or should we say, not celebrating? This could get confusing!) This series will give kids a chance to talk about the counter-culture things Jesus said. It sounds impossible to believe that struggles bring us closer to Jesus or that our enemies can teach us about love. However, these beautiful opposites remind us that a God we can't see is always with us and that it's better to follow Jesus than our own instincts. Happy Opposite Day!



# Student Ministry

## Temporary Winter Youth Group Schedule

As our church continues to strive to follow CDC guidelines and to keep our youth safe during the winter season, we have moved to TEMPORARY Winter hours for Youth Group.

Youth Group will meet Sundays from 4:30 - 6:00 PM. This allows us to remove our current model of holding outside dinner and being subject to the weather as well as aims to provide a time that is close to its original and give time for youth to still participate in sports and get their homework done.

We will offer quick snacks and hot beverages outside for about 10 minutes at the start.

## Summer 2022 Save the Dates!

- **July 5-9**, MFUGE Philadelphia at Eastern University Summer Mission Trip. Registration and more information online!
- **July 25-29**, Youth Local Mission Week and Kids Camp
- **August 8-11**, 6-9 PM daily SWAG: Summer Worship and Games.

### Adults! We need you!

### Sign up to serve Trinity Students with us on Sundays!

Trinity Students Adult volunteers are an essential part of what helps make our youth feel comfortable, safe, and welcome at our Student Ministry. Thank you for supporting our students! Every kid deserves and needs to have adults who support them and encourage them. Thank you for making sharing your time and faith with Trinity Students a priority!

Have questions? Contact Jenna:

[jbush@trinityumc.net](mailto:jbush@trinityumc.net)

Sign Up at [www.trinityumc.org/students](http://www.trinityumc.org/students)

## Confirmation 2022 Update:

In light of the surge of Covid cases in our community and the current state of emergency order in Henrico County, the start date of this year's confirmation class has been delayed. We will begin the classes on February 13, hopefully giving ourselves enough time for the present situation to abate. The new schedule will run through May 15. The exciting news is that registration for confirmation is still open. You may now register for the student class up until February 6. The new schedule is listed below. If you have any questions, while Jenna is on Maternity Leave, please feel free to contact Amy Lenow at [avlenow@gmail.com](mailto:avlenow@gmail.com).

### Confirmation Schedule:

- \* 2/13 - Confirmation Kick off 10:00 - 10:50 AM - Session 1: Meet Your Bible
- \* 2/20 - Confirmation Class 10:00-10:50 AM - Session 2: The Story of God
- \* 2/27 - Confirmation Class 10:00 - 10:50 AM - Session 3: Holy Trinity
- \* 3/6 - Confirmation Class 10:00 - 10:50 AM - Session 4: Relationship: Broken
- \* 3/13 - Confirmation Class 10:00-10:50 AM - Session 5: Israel: God's Chosen People
- \* 3/20 - Confirmation Class 10:00-10:50 AM - Session 6: Jesus: God with Us
- \* 3/27 - Confirmation Class 10:00-10:50 AM - Session 7: Relationship: Restored
- \* 4/10 - Confirmation Class 10:00-10:50 AM - Session 8: The Promise of Resurrection
- \* 4/24 - Confirmation Class 10:00-10:50 AM - Sessions 9 & 10: What's Yet to Come?/ What is the Church
- \* 5/1 - Confirmation Class 10:00-10:50 AM - Sessions 11&12 Prayer/ Partnering with God's Mission
- \* 5/15 - Confirmation Class & Lunch 12:00 - 2:00 PM - Sessions 13 & 14: Inviting Others into God's Story/ Why the Church?
- \* 6/4 - Confirmation Rehearsal & Celebration Dinner for youth, families and mentors
- \* 6/5 - **Confirmation Day at Worship Service of Confirmand's choice**



**United  
Methodist  
Women**  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

**From Trinity UMW President**

On this cold morning, I'm remembering the warmth permeating Trinity Hall on Service Day, December 14. It was so good to be together again in person and share our favorite day. The fellowship we share is so sweet.

As we begin this new year, please consider your pledge to mission seriously. Our numbers are down and we want to be able to do all we can to make a difference in our world. We have been blessed to be a blessing.

We thank Pastor Hung Su for his program on the Korean Methodist movement. If you missed it or want to hear it again, it is available on the UMW page of Trinity's website.

I pray that you and your families will be safe and healthy this year. Remember – you are loved!

Jo

**Circle News**

**Circle 1** – we will meet on Tuesday Feb. 15 at 9:30 am in room 324. Contact Catherine Norton or Linda Latimer for program information.

**Circle 4** – on Thursday Feb. 3 at 7pm we will meet via Zoom for a discussion of the book 'A Man Called Peter' by Catherine Marshall. We will also be collecting books for the Oakgrove ES vending machines. Contact Dianne Moore for additional information.

**Circle 6** - we will meet via Zoom on Tuesday Feb. 1 at 10:00 am – link will be sent out via email. Our program will be from the UMW Response magazine. Save your empty egg cartons for Bob Argabright. Contact Jo Lewis if you are interested in joining.

**Circle 10** – On Thursday Feb. 3 at 6:45 pm we will meet in the Welcome Center. Our guest speaker will be Bill Pike. Contact Sharon Wenger for additional information.

**Coming Attraction:  
"This is Our Father's World"  
February 8 at 10:00 am**

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." Psalm 24:1 NIV



God's world is interconnected. How we live impacts the earth and the earth impacts how we live. Come explore these interrelationships with Trinity's Creation Care Committee. Meet in person at Trinity in room 324 or join on Zoom: meeting ID 883 1244 2806 Passcode: 402458.

**Save the Date:**

**Love, Justice and Service:  
Answering the Call**

**2022 Call to Prayer & Self-Denial**

**March 8 at 10:00 am**



## **Celebrating New UMFS Child & Family Healing Center Building**

United Methodist Family Services is excited to share that Phase 1 of the UMFS Be a Champion Capital Campaign has been completed. Construction of the new UMFS Child & Family Healing Center building is done, and residents are excited to begin moving into their new home.

This beautiful new facility will serve youth ages 11 - 18 who are struggling with acute mental health challenges. Youth live on the UMFS Richmond campus for 3 - 18 months while participating in customized therapeutic treatment to help them heal.

This state-of-the-art facility provides many meaningful upgrades to both the living space and therapy space. Each child has a private room which includes a private bathroom. Group and family therapy spaces are dramatically expanded, and all spaces have modern, soothing décor.

UMFS is grateful for the generous support of the Be a Champion Campaign donors. Thank you for making this beautiful, healing space possible!

Phase 2 of the campaign will help expand the UMFS Charterhouse School. Visit [UMFS.org/campaign](https://umfs.org/campaign) to learn more and be a part of the movement!



## Thank You Notes

Members of Trinity Church,

The students, families and staff of Jacob L. Adams Elementary School thank YOU for your graciousness shown to us this school year. From the shoes that allowed students to “step” into a new school year with confidence to the undergarments and socks that are bringing smiles to faces and warmth to feet, YOU are making differences in students’ days and lives. May you be continually blessed for the impact you are making.

With thankful hearts,

***Dawn Tyler and the Adams’ Gators Students and Staff***



## Winter Weather



As we push into February, we want to thank the Dabney family—Fred, Cary, and Carter for coordinating the removal of snow from our parking lots. The crew from Slurry Pavers did outstanding work. While Slurry Pavers clears our parking lots, the sidewalks and steps are cleared by the church staff and volunteers. If you would like to help in clearing the sidewalks and steps, e-mail Bill Pike: [bpike@trinityumc.net](mailto:bpike@trinityumc.net).

Decisions for closing our building related to winter weather are tricky. Basically, we follow the closing announcements from Henrico County Public Schools. For example, if schools close early or are on a delayed opening, Trinity’s opening and closing times are adjusted. If Henrico schools are closed, Trinity will be closed, and this would include all day and evening events. Our ability to re-open the building after a winter weather event depends upon how quickly we can clear our sidewalks and parking lots. If we can safely get people on to our grounds and into our building, then Trinity might return to normal operations quicker than the school system. Decisions related to closing the building on Saturdays and Sundays will be made based upon weather conditions at that time. Questions contact Bill Pike [bpike@trinityumc.net](mailto:bpike@trinityumc.net)

## Gifts were received at Trinity.....

In memory of **Rev. Doug Hill** for **UMFS**

In memory of **George Moore** for **Trinity Foundation Moore Prison Fund**

In memory of **Mary Ann Lenow** for **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In memory of **George & Myrta Berger** for **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In memory of **Patricia Satterfield** for **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In memory of **Rev. Ed Owen** for **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In memory of **Bill Owen** for **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In memory of **Hodges Hastings** for **Trinity Foundation Memorial Fund**

In honor of **Bill and Mary Bailey**

In honor of **The Thompson Family** for **Trinity Operating Fund**

## Joys and Concerns

### Baptism

*Charlie Koteles*

### Our sympathies to...

*The family of Barbara Burton who died January 21  
The family of George King who died January 17  
The family of Hodges Hastings who died December 29  
Bruce Rilee whose father Gene Rilee died December 25  
George Norris whose sister Willaminta Hight died  
December 22  
Charles Gaskins whose mother Audrey Gaskins died  
December 1*

**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLINE**

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, February 14 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](mailto:ktingler@trinityumc.net).