

# The Trinity Window

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

May 2023

## Pastor's Corner



<sup>28</sup> When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him, saying, “Stay with us. It’s nearly evening, and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Weren’t our hearts on fire when he spoke to us along the road and when he explained the scriptures for us?”

<sup>33</sup> They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying to each other, “The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as he broke the bread.

*Luke 24:28-35*

What an amazing Easter celebration this year! My first Easter with you was a special experience. I have loved every minute of the energy, dedication, and integrity you all bring to our exercising of our faith together. I have nothing, but excited expectation about what we will do together in the future. I have seen Jesus in you, and I am changed because of it. Thank you.

The Bible is full of places where peoples’ lives were changed after an encounter. In one such instance, after Jesus’ Resurrection, Jesus appeared to some followers walking on their way toward Emmaus. They didn’t recognize him, but talked at length with him about Scripture and the fulfillment of them. It is clear from their later reflection that their minds and hearts were stirred by the discussion. However, it wasn’t until the physical breaking of bread that they recognized Jesus. Their immediate response is to go and tell others about their experience.

Do you see the importance of this passage? It is in the encountering of Jesus that he is known. We can talk about Jesus all we want, but until he is made real he isn’t clearly known. So it is with our lives today. We can talk and talk and read and read, but until Jesus is made real by an encounter, he is just a story or an ideal. Since Jesus ascended and is no longer walking with us physically, our lives are the way people can have that Jesus encounter. Not that we can ever be Jesus, but Jesus can be known *through us* in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our actions toward others make a difference. In fact, I think they can make ALL the difference in the world.

I encourage us all to be Jesus for the world around us. Show the mercy and love Jesus did for his fellow humans. Show the enthusiasm about the Heavenly Kingdom that Jesus did. Make our encounters with other Jesus moments, from which we go with enthusiasm to share him even more to those around us. We are Easter people. Let’s live like we believe it.

Yours in Christ,

Hi Trinity,

My name is Daniel Guenther, and in a few months, I will have the privilege of serving as your new Associate Pastor. This was recently shared in worship, but I would like to say again how excited I am to get to know you, to learn about what makes Trinity special, and to begin working together as we strive to grow in faith and share God's love with the world.

The great preacher Frederick Buechner once said that our callings are "Where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." I love this quote, because it describes very well the process by which I came to write to you today. In 2011, I left my childhood home in Northern Virginia to begin studying at Davidson College. Learning how to be an adult while exploring who I was and what I believed was often challenging. To borrow from Buechner's language, this was a time of "deep hunger." But it also taught me how to feel "full" as I began the journey towards my calling and experienced countless moments of "deep gladness," whether those moments came in forming relationships with friends, mentors, allies, and supporters, or in intellectual reflection, little acts of moral courage, and the parallel acts of forgiving and being forgiven. This journey took me to Candler School of Theology at Emory University, where I received my Masters in Divinity, and to numerous churches and internships, including a term as a chaplain within the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta hospital system. This journey took me back to Virginia in June of 2019, where I have since served as both a solo pastor and an associate. In a few months, this journey will take on a new dimension, as I will be commissioned as a Provisional Elder at our Annual Conference in June.

And today, this journey has brought us together. As my journey has unfolded, I have learned that my deepest gladness lies in relationships. In knowing and loving people, and in working with them to turn shared dreams into rigorous and relevant expressions of Christian love. In the months ahead, I look forward to doing this with you, as we begin to walk with each other and I experience for the first time all the amazing things that make Trinity special.

As we enter together into this time of transition, please know that I will be in prayer for our shared ministry together, and that I am deeply grateful for any prayers you are comfortable offering on my behalf. I am deeply honored to be taking this next step with all of you, and I eagerly anticipate all that will happen as we begin our journeys together.

Blessings,

Daniel Guenther



## Young at Heart Upcoming Programs and Events

**Tuesday, June 13** 2 – 3:30 PM  
Come hear our own Bill Pike share what it was like to be a roadie for The Beach Boys! We will meet in the Welcome Center.



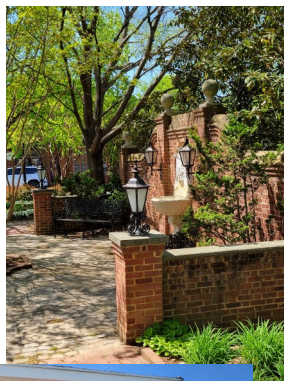
**Wednesday, July 12** 2 - 3:30 PM  
Come hear Mike Beale give a program on “Coins from the Bible.” Place TBD.

**Wednesday, August 16** 11:15 AM – 4:30 PM  
Join us as we go to Hanover Tavern/Barksdale Theater for lunch and then see the matinee performance of “Oil City Symphony”. Cost is \$45 for the show, lunch is paid on your own. Reservation deadline: Sunday, August 6.



**Next Steering Committee Meeting:**  
Tuesday, May 9 at 3:30 PM in the Conference Room off the narthex. Everyone is welcome!!

Trinity’s Young at Heart had a wonderful trip to Gordonsville on Wednesday, April 19. We did some antique shopping, had lunch, then explored more of Gordonsville on our own. It was a beautiful spring day enjoying good friends, new friends and exploring one of Virginia’s hidden gems.



## Discovering Trinity (New Membership Class)

We invite anyone who wishes to become a member of Trinity UMC to join Discovering Trinity Class. We will study with a book, “The Walk,” written by Adam Hamilton, and share an understanding of our beliefs, history, practices, and expectations and build a sense of belonging and community.

When: Sunday mornings, 10:10 AM, April 30 through May 21 (4 weeks)  
Where: Library  
RSVP to Pastor Hung Su Lim at [hslim@trinityumc.net](mailto:hslim@trinityumc.net) by April 23.

### Pastor’s Bible Study

Pastor Brian’s next Bible study will begin **Wednesday, May 3** and is titled “Unity: Transformational Truth at Every Level.” The study works off two assumptions: 1) Unity is (we are not called to create unity but to recognize it) and 2) Unity matters (we are all connected and in relationship, and that is important to life itself).

### community CONVERSATIONS

The last Community Conversation will be:

- **Tuesday, May 9** Jack Berry, President, Richmond Region Tourism

The program starts at 7 PM in the Sanctuary. We hope you will join us to learn about our community.



### Pub Theology

The next Pub Theology will be Tuesday, May 30. We will meet at Kindred Spirit Brewing. The brewery is in Goochland County at 12830 West Creek Pkwy. Ste J. Start time is 6 PM. The brewery’s community room is reserved for us. The church will order pizza, and we will ask each person in attendance to give \$5.00 to offset the cost. Come for the fellowship and conversation about a topic of interest.



**Better Together**

## Stewardship Moment

The **Better Together** Stewardship Campaign has officially wrapped up. We had a wonderful luncheon in a festively decorated (thank you Bonnie Andrews!) Trinity Hall. We served barbeque pork and chicken with all the sides and ice cream sundaes! It was delicious! We presented the results of the campaign and celebrated the richness of God’s blessings on each of us. The results are:

- Total Estimate of Giving: *\$1,133,560. While this did not exceed our goal it is more than last year’s total at the end of the campaign and with fewer cards submitted!*
- Total Estimate of Giving Cards Returned: *248 which is 89% of our goal*
- Percentage of New or Increased Estimates of Giving: *53.9 % - Our goal was 50% and as you can see we exceeded that goal! Again this shows the excitement and energy that we are feeling at Trinity. The future looks much brighter to us and I hope to you!*
- Attendance Hours: *3,612*
- Volunteer Hours: *5,959*
- Talents and Interests: *Were numerous and bode so well for the future of Trinity.*

These results prove that we are committed to continuing and growing our work and ministries at Trinity and in our community. I look forward to seeing what wonderful things God will call us to do with the resources you have so generously shared with him.

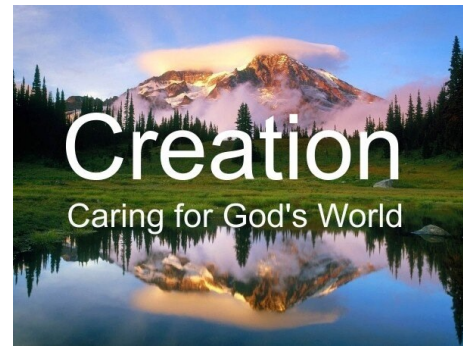
The campaign may be over, but the Stewardship Team is not finished. We plan to work with other committees to bring you more opportunities. Keep watching! I also commit to you that the Stewardship Team will keep you updated at least quarterly on the wonderful work that is being done with your gifts.

If you have not had time to get your card in and God is calling you to do so, please send it in. It is never too late, and we will continue to update you over the next few months as the numbers grow!

Thank you again for your generosity and your commitment to our wonderful church! Trinity is truly at its very best when we all work together!

**BETTER TOGETHER!**

**Elaine Peele**, Stewardship Chair



### Time for Spring Cleaning!

Time to clear out old habits and plant some new ones! We are called to be stewards of God’s creation. For the sake of God’s Earth, here are some habits worth cultivating.

1. When you are spring cleaning and realize you no longer need something, resist the temptation just to toss! Instead, take the time to find a place to donate. Your efforts avoid adding to landfills and to air and land pollution.
2. When you care for your house plants, reenergize them with any of these: cooled cooking water from preparing vegetables, potatoes, pasta, or green tea (leaves or brewed). No wasted water and happy plants—a good combination.
3. When you shampoo your hair, kick the plastic habit. Choose a shampoo bar instead. Try various options for no plastic-use for multiple personal and home care products.
4. When you love butterflies, give those pollinators a reason to stop at your place—plants, especially ones that are native to your area, that feed caterpillars and the beautiful, winged creatures that give us great delight. Nix the pesticides for their sake too.
5. When you shop online for anything, check the “About” portion of the website before you buy. Find out what the company is or is not doing to care for creation. Support those sources that help not harm. Look for B Corp and other companies that give back 1% for the planet.

When you talk to friends or family about climate-related issues, focus on solutions more than problems. Share what you are already doing. Encourage your family and friends to do at least one more thing themselves for the planet.

These tips are provided by the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement. For more tips, go to [umcreationjustice.org](http://umcreationjustice.org).

**What will your family do for God’s Earth?  
Tell us on Creation Care Sunday – May 7**

# Trinity UMC Serve Ministry

## 2023 Lenten Easter Mission Offering Mission Grant Application

Completed applications are due by June 11 to Bill Pike, Director of Operations, (you can submit the completed application by e-mail, mail, or bringing a printed copy to the church office).

E-mail: [bpike@trinityumc.net](mailto:bpike@trinityumc.net) Phone: 804-288-6056

Mailing address: Bill Pike, Director of Operations, Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Ave., Henrico, VA 23229

### Contact Information

Ministry name	
Contact person	
E-mail	
Phone number	

### Please describe the ministry.

### Please describe the impact the ministry has on individuals and/or the community it serves.

### How does this ministry align with the mission of Trinity United Methodist Church? (*"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world – Connect to God, Grow in Faith, Serve the World."*)

**Will Trinity UMC members have an opportunity to serve with this ministry? If so, please describe available opportunities.**

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**What amount of LEMO funds you are requesting for this ministry? Please provide a detailed explanation of your request.**

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**If this ministry received a LEMO mission grant last year, please provide a detailed explanation of how the funds were used.**

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**Is there anything else you would like to share with the Serve Committee to help us with our decision?**

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**Submitted By:**

<b>Name (printed)</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

# TRINITY Kids

What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

Kids Discipleship at 10am

**HEROIC**

<b>WEEK 1</b> Anyone can do <b>great things</b> for God.	<b>WEEK 2</b> God gives everyone a <b>mission.</b>	<b>WEEK 3</b> No one is powerless when we have the <b>Holy Spirit.</b>	<b>WEEK 4</b> <b>We are heroic</b> when we work as a team.
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"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."  
2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV)

### This is what we are learning about in May:

Every kid wishes they had superpowers, but with Jesus, we don't need x-ray vision or invisibility to be heroes! In this four-week series, kids will hear stories about the heroes of the Early Church — the apostles and disciples who used their unique abilities to spread the good news of Jesus. Through their stories, we'll see that anyone can do great things for God because God gives everyone a mission, the Holy Spirit gives us power, and we're heroic when we work as a team!



We are very excited to offer our Kids Camp on July 10-14 from 9 AM-noon at Trinity! Kids Camp is for rising kindergarteners through rising 5th graders.

Cost:  
\$15/camper through May 15<sup>th</sup>.  
\$20/camper after May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Registration closes on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Register for Kids Camp (and to volunteer) here:  
[www.trinityumc.net/camp](http://www.trinityumc.net/camp)



We had such a fun time at Spring Fest this year!! Thank you so much to those who volunteered before and during the event to make it happen!!



## Students Page

### What's Coming Up?

#### MAY

- 7 Sunday School / Youth Group
- 14 Mother's Day / No Youth Sunday School / No Youth Group
- 21 Graduate Sunday  
Sunday School  
Rising 6th graders (current 5th) at Putt-Putt  
12-1:30 PM  
Youth Group 5-7 PM
- 28 Sunday School / No Youth Group /  
Memorial Day Weekend

#### SAVE THE DATES

- Summer Mission at Hinton: June 25-29
- Youth Local Serve/Kids Camp: July 10-14
- Summer Worship and Games (SWAG): July 31-Aug 3

Register for our summer events on the hub:  
<https://www.trinityumc.net/hub/>

### We have so much to Celebrate in Trinity Student Ministries!

#### Yay for Confirmation!

We congratulate and celebrate our 10 youth who said "yes" to Jesus and were confirmed on April 17!

#### Trinity Students Spring Retreat was Amazing!

Trinity students and leaders made their way on Retreat to Camp ReFuel at the end of March! We laughed, we danced, we sang in worship, and explored what it means to be connected to God.



### Graduate Sunday is May 21!

We look forward to celebrating all that God is doing in the life of our graduates! Do you have a 2023 high school or college graduate? **Let us know.** Graduates will be celebrated on Sunday, May 21. To be included we must have your graduate's information and 1- 2 photographs by **Sunday, May 7.** Let us know here: <https://www.trinityumc.net/graduates/>



**SWAG 2023!**  
**Summer Worship and Games for Trinity Youth!**  
**July 31-August 3**  
**6:00-9:00 PM**

What is SWAG (Summer Worship and Games)? SWAG is an awesome time of fun, fellowship, and a time of worship for our middle and high school youth. At SWAG, we break into four teams for the week and have fun competing in games as our old youth act as counselors and welcome our younger youth into this fun awesome event.

We have a ton of fun sometimes playing in water, having a mystery night, and we've been known to have a night of messy games.

Want to help make SWAG happen by contributing items or funds? <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44A8A72AA2FDC16-swag3>

SWAG Registration:  
<https://www.cognitoforms.com/TrinityUMC3/SWAGRegistration2023>







United Women in Faith



**From Trinity UWF President**

Dear Trinity Sisters,

Spring Service Day was a big success. Many thanks to Mary Ann Boyd who pulled it all together for us. It's always fun to be together working and enjoying sweet fellowship around the tables.

CrossOver Clinic, the Hermitage and Heart Havens received needed items and treats. Relief kits were assembled for UMCOR, cookies were left for the AA and ALANON groups that meet at Trinity and notes of encouragement were sent to shut-ins. Thanks to all who came and worked and donated items.

Now we set our eyes on May Brunch on May 9. Our program will be a speaker from Caring Closet. You won't want to miss! I hope to see many of you then as we close out another successful year of service.

Remember—you are loved!  
Jo



**Save the Date: May 9**  
**Trinity UWF covered dish brunch**  
**10 AM until 12 noon**

Our program will feature a speaker from the Caring Closet at UMFS.

**Circle News**

**Circle 4** will have our year-end luncheon at Lola's Farmhouse Bistro on May 4 at 11:30 AM.

**Circle 6** will meet on Tuesday, May 2 at 10 AM in room 317.

**Circle 10** will meet at the home of Julia Leaman, May 4, 6 PM for their May Dinner. Donations for UMCOR kits will be collected that night.

Trinity women enjoyed fellowship together as we completed an assortment of projects on April 11.

- Kits for UMCOR – 11 menstrual hygiene and 40 hygiene kits were assembled in advance by Circles 4 and 11 and on Service Day.



- Attendees wrote over two dozen notes of encouragement for homebound members.
- Trinity Stitchers led the group in making 64 felt butterfly favors for Crossover Clinic and Doorways.




- Donations were collected for three organizations:
  - Heart Havens - Art supplies & cleaning items
  - Crossover Clinic - Health items & small toys
  - The Hermitage – Bingo prizes which were presented on April 13 as Circle 6 helped that afternoon
- 27 books were donated for the Oak Grove Elementary School library.



## Lenten Easter Mission Offering – Heart Work

Thanks to everyone who made a donation to the Lenten Easter Mission Offering. To apply for a grant, please complete an application on-line at <https://www.cognitofirms.com/TrinityUMC3/2023LentenEasterMissionOfferingMissionGrantApplication> or bring a completed application to the church office. Deadline for turning in the application is Sunday, June 11. If you have questions, contact Bill Pike by e-mail: [bpike@TrinityUMC.net](mailto:bpike@TrinityUMC.net) or phone 804-288-6056.




The flyer for 'Jill's Blankets' features a purple background with a floral wreath on the left. The text on the right lists the event date as Monday, May 15, with three sessions: 9:30 AM - 12 Noon (cutting), 2-4 PM (cutting & tying), and 6-8 PM (cutting & tying). It encourages people to come for one or all sessions and provides a QR code and a sign-up link. The bottom of the flyer says 'Sign up' and 'Sign up: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48afab29aafdc43-love#/?](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48afab29aafdc43-love#/)'.

### Jill's Blankets

**Monday, May 15**

9:30 AM - 12 Noon (cutting)  
2-4 PM (cutting & tying)  
6-8 PM (cutting & tying)  
Come for one or all sessions

Sign up 

Sign up: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48afab29aafdc43-love#/?](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48afab29aafdc43-love#/)

### Jill's Blankets

Join us for our spring event! Love Blooms with three sessions available, there's a time slot convenient for everyone.

Where: Trinity Hall

Sign up: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48afab29aafdc43-love#/?](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f48afab29aafdc43-love#/)

Please sign up to volunteer. Bring friends or coordinate a group to volunteer like book clubs, co-workers or social groups.

## Abdi Family Celebration!

Come and see how far this family has come in these last 19 years. Join us on **Saturday, May 13** in the Welcome Center at 12 Noon.

Muktar graduates from VCU (that morning), Halima graduated from Freeman last year and now attends VCU, Amina graduates from Freeman this year and Ibrahim will start middle school this fall. We have lots to celebrate!

We ask that you share any pictures of the family that you have with Pastor Hung Su, who has started a drop box for them. He will make a slide show for us. If you would like to help—we need decorators, food, and servers.

RSVP to Jo Lewis at [jolewis49@yahoo.com](mailto:jolewis49@yahoo.com) or 804-784-4370.

## Joys and Concerns

### New Members

*Julie Crowder, Regan McNally, Blaine Hawes, Ryland Anderson, William Sterling, Bryan Haley, Mackenzie Vaughan, Charlie Duerson, Anna Estes, Caitlyn Kennedy*

### Our sympathies to...

*The family of Marian Wainwright who died April 20  
Gerryann Priest whose sister Becky Jacobs died  
April 11*

## Summer 2023 Mission Trip

The summer mission trip will be June 25-29, heading to Hinton Rural Life Center, in Hayesville, NC. This is a multi-generational trip designed to include our students as well as families and individuals who want to come along.

Hinton is a retreat center, but also a mission agency, with year-round opportunities for individual volunteers and mission teams to work with us and “alongside” our neighbors in Safe and Healthy Home Repair ministry. Other service options include our firewood ministry and Ervin Sanctuary Gardens & Trails. With its outreach focus, Hinton seeks to enhance the long-term quality of life in our rural area. And, Hinton guests “pay it forward,” as our lodging revenues help support our community outreach programs.

Hinton is a United Methodist agency, and we welcome all individuals, all faith traditions, and non-faith-based groups seeking to meet, retreat, and serve in a spirit of acceptance and mutual respect. We invite you to experience Hinton Center hospitality and to become a part of our community through your stay and/or service.

The cost is \$395/person, but scholarships and assistance are available upon request. This fee covers all meals, project supplies, lodging, and devotional booklet. Worship and programming are led by Hinton staff and includes Appalachian Culture Night, Poverty awareness activities, group devotional times, worship services, and more.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, May 22 at 4 PM for events taking place in June/July**. 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).