

The Trinity Window

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

January 2024



Pastor's Corner

5 Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look! I'm making all things new." He also said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 Then he said to me, "All is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will freely give water from the life-giving spring. 7 Those who emerge victorious will inherit these things. I will be their God, and they will be my sons and daughters."

Revelation 21:5-7

Happy New Year!

So, 2024 has begun. Now what? We are still riding on the wave of activity from the end of 2023, and that's not a bad thing. 2023 was a great year for Trinity UMC. The last year brought new activity and energy including amazing spring and fall festivals. Our pumpkin patch broke all records. We have the regular addition of visitors in worship, and members seem truly excited to be in church. We had another celebratory Advent and Christmas season, complete with "Create and Celebrate", "Lessons and Carols", and another Christmas drama. And on top of that, we had a successful Capital Campaign to renovate a significant portion of our amazing facility. This is a great wave to ride, indeed.

As nice as it is to see things we remember return, we can't live in the past. 2024 brings new hope and new opportunities for ministry. As we continue to look around with new eyes into the community, let us be increasingly attentive to where might live the intersection of our resources, our passions, and the needs of those around us. Let the gifts God has blessed us with move us to action in new and exciting ways.

I have said it many times, but God keeps feeding me glimpses of what's coming. I don't have a full picture yet, but every time I catch a glance, I get so excited. God only knows where God is leading us, but I can't wait to journey with you all on the way there! May this truly be a Happy New Year!

Yours in Christ,



Christmas Eve Worship

Celebrate Christ's birth at Trinity. We will have five worship services on **Sunday, December 24**, for you and your family.

10:00 AM One Blended Worship Service, (no Sunday School)

4:00 PM Family Service with Instant Kids Pageant

We are so excited to share with you a reimagined Christmas pageant that focuses on telling the Christmas story using kits that will be provided and all voices singing our favorite Christmas carols! The pageant will take place during the 4 PM Christmas Eve Family Service in the sanctuary.

6:00 PM Modern Christmas Eve worship service (also [online](#))

During our 6:00 Christmas Eve service, we will sing carols led by our modern worship band, share communion, and celebrate the joy and peace Christ brings. Our service will culminate in a traditional candlelight vigil. We hope you and your family will join us for this most meaningful celebration!

8:00 PM Christmas Eve worship service (also [online](#))

A traditional format service with choir and organ, special Christmas Communion, and Candlelight vigil. Come celebrate together this meaningful celebration of this most holy night.

11:00 PM Christmas Eve worship service (also [online](#))

A traditional Christmas Eve worship service. This late-night service is a more intimate format, featuring Christmas music, a special Christmas Communion, and candlelight vigil. Come, celebrate, as we bring in Christmas Day together.

Advent Christmas Offering

Our Advent/Christmas Offering is designated to support United Methodist Family Services (UMFS). You may designate "UMFS" on your check (payable to Trinity UMC); or put your donation in a "Christmas" offering envelope (located in the pews). All "undesigned" offerings received at all of the Christmas Eve evening services will be given to UMFS.

Our Trinity Foundation has generously approved a \$7,500 matching grant for this special offering. Trinity has historically been one of UMFS's largest supporters, and we hope to continue that tradition this year.



Pub Theology

We want to thank everyone who participated in Pub Theology during 2023. It was exciting to restart Pub Theology post-pandemic. We want to thank the staff at Kindred Spirit Brewing for their hospitality. Their kindness and patience was just what we needed at our monthly gatherings.

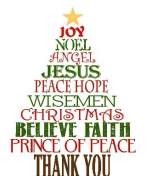
For 2024, we are going to shift our meeting place. Starting **Tuesday, January 16**, we will meet at **Way Gone Brewery** located at 10610-12 Patterson Avenue, Henrico, Virginia 23238. Our start time will be 6 PM. Trinity will provide pizza, and we request that each person contribute \$5.00 to help offset the cost.

A Trinity staff member or a volunteer from the congregation will present a topic for discussion each month. Our projected dates for 2024 are January 16, February 20, March 12, April 16, May 14, and June 18. We hope you will consider joining us. Questions? Contact Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net.



Thank you from the Staff

The Trinity Staff gratefully appreciates the cards, snacks, goodies and other gifts shared with us during Advent and the Christmas season! We are blessed to be working together with such a loving and caring congregation! Have a blessed and joyous New Year!





Pastor's Bible Study

The Pastor's Bible Study begins **January 10**, delving into the Gospel of Mark. It is a longer study that will take us to the summer break.

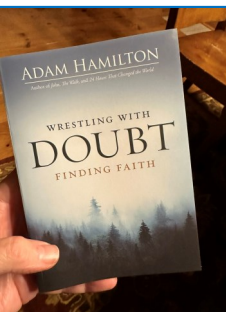
“Long ago, the church decided that Mark offers meaningful insights to those who want to follow Jesus. This Gospel presents a particular perspective on what God is doing in the world through Jesus of Nazareth and tells us how people ought to respond to what God is doing if they desire to be faithful. Mark presents these insights through its narrative. The writer tells a story.” *Mitzi Minor*

3M Bible Study

The 3M Bible Study Class will begin meeting in 2024 on **Wednesday, January 10**. (Our study will be determined shortly.) We meet in person (in Room 317) as well as via Zoom. Our class time is 6:00 – 7:30 PM. We hope you will join us!

Pastor Daniel's Study Thursdays at 6-7 PM

Come and join Daniel and other Trinity folks as we resume our weekly chats about scripture, theology, and the challenges of living the Christian life in a turbulent and complex world. After pausing around Christmas-time, we will resume our study on **January 11**. All are welcome!



Monday Bible Study

The Monday morning Bible Study will be studying Adam Hamilton's new book entitled "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith" beginning on **Monday, January 22** at 9:30 AM.

This is a six-week study and will run from January 22 – March 4 (we will not meet on Monday, February 19 due to President's Day). If you are interested in joining us, reach out to Deanna McCullough (deanna6mccullough@gmail.com) and pre-purchase the book from Amazon.com or another retailer in advance of the study. We hope to see you there!



Young at Heart welcomes Nelson Calisch

Come join Young at Heart on **Tuesday, January 23** at 2 PM in the Welcome Center where we will join in fellowship and hear Nelson Calisch share "The Living New Deal: What You Can See – What You Can't See – and How it Impacts You."

When Franklin Delano Roosevelt was inaugurated as the thirty-second U.S. president in 1933, the country was in the worst financial crisis in the nation's history. Unemployment had reached 25 percent, and a series of emergency measures were quickly implemented to meet the challenge. Roosevelt named his program "The New Deal," and he promised to restore prosperity to everyday Americans. While the "New Deal" was intended to be a temporary intervention for a nagging crisis, it nevertheless remains a part of the everyday American life in ways that most people never consider. There are abundant examples of projects that still exist throughout the country, and many are in Virginia and in Richmond as well. Nelson will share his photographs of public artwork from this period as well as identify other physical evidence of this administration's effort to tame "The Great Depression"; all within driving range. Also discussed will be the programs that still exist in one form or another and how they apply to life today. Personal photographs, short documentary clips, and downloaded photos will enhance the lecture and, hopefully, generate discussion.

Nelson is an entertaining and engaging speaker. Everyone is welcome! And yes, we will have refreshments!



YAH's trip to see Miracle on 34th Street.



What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

Kids Discipleship at 10am

Kids Discipleship during the 10am hour occurs in these locations:

- Nursery: Birth – 3 year olds
- Room 208: Preschoolers (3-5 year olds)
- Room 302: Elementary schoolers



This is what we are learning about in January:

What's your dream job? Do you want to be a pilot or astronaut? A teacher or musician? There are so many incredible jobs for us to pick from! God has given each of us special talents and skills that can help us discover what we want to do. But God gives us another job, too. It's the chance for us to follow God right now! In this four-week series from the Gospels, we'll read about Jesus starting out his ministry and how he invited his followers — and us — to listen to God's voice, trust Jesus knows us, trust God's plans for us, and include people who aren't like us.



Transit, our 4th and 5th grade ministry, returns this September! We are meeting on these dates this winter:
January 7, 21, 28
February 4, 18, 25
March 3, 10, 24

We meet in the Welcome Center and then head upstairs to room 302 for a pizza dinner followed by games and activities. Transit helps 4th and 5th graders grow friendships with each other to help them transition to the student ministry when they enter middle school!

Register here for each week so I know how much pizza to order: <https://tinyurl.com/2j8wex9n>

We had a great night at Create & Celebrate!



Christmas Flower Tributes for 2023

| <i>In Loving Memory of:</i> | <i>Given by:</i> |
|---|---|
| Ada and Ralph Bivins & Jeanne and Otis White | Linda and Barry Latimer |
| Alf and Jean Goodykoontz | Chuck and Cathy Goodykoontz |
| Antoine Hobeika | The Hall Family |
| Art, Audrey, and David Gerhan | Ken and Peggy Hart |
| Bernard and Lois Hill, Rick Hill, George and Mary Good, Helen Good | The Spotts Family |
| Betty Stover Henderson | John, Ashley, Anita, and Grandchildren |
| Bob and Beth Hart | Ken and Peggy Hart |
| Brenda Wells Parker | Kendall Parker and Family |
| Carl and Carolyn Robinson | Robert and Kimberly Fricke |
| Charlene and Herman Moore | Dorothy and Dianne Moore |
| Charlotte and Dick Forrester | Bonnie Yanchisin |
| Colleen Berninger | Carole and Mike Dishman |
| Colleen Berninger | Her Family |
| Daisy, Tom, Thomas, Mary and Jean Shutt | Sarah Shutt |
| Dave and Bobbie (Pa and Ma) Shobe | Their Family – Trevvetts and Shobes |
| Davis and Carl Bottom | Their Families |
| Diana Boring | David |
| Elizabeth Cloud | The Pike and Reinking Families |
| Elizabeth Mallory | Dorothy and Dianne Moore |
| Frances and Mack Dewitt | Margaret and Steve Dewitt |
| Genevieve and Vernon Collier | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| George Oguich | Eric, Judy, Garrett, and Abby Oguich |
| Gilbert and Rose Stroop | Joyce S. Winters |
| Jean Hanner | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Jean Hanner – “Granny” | Chris, Jennifer, Lily Jean, and Nell Stalilonis |
| Jeanne Marie Cox | Paul, Courtenay, and JC Brooks |
| Jeff A. Clark | His brother, Jerry M. Clark |
| John Simpson | Carolyn Simpson |
| John Simpson | Jan and Brad Booker |
| John Todd | Alicia, Andrew, and Ella Cecil |
| Julian D. Adkins | His Family |
| Karan Lunstra, forever in our hearts | Don Lunstra and Family |
| Lauren Banks | Susan and Ralph Freeman |
| Leslie Trevvett | Her Loving Family |
| Lillian Martin, our Aunt | Dorothy and Dianne Moore |
| Lola and Norman Hilliard | Dorothy and Dianne Moore |
| Marian and Lester Jones | Sara and Waddy Street |
| Michael Eunice | His Family |
| Mike Eunice | Carole and Mike Dishman |
| Mike Eunice | Chick and Bonnie Hadden |
| Mike Eunice | Jan and Brad Booker |
| Mildred and Jimmy Robinson | Bonnie Yanchisin |
| Mr. and Mrs. Emmette Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rollison, Connie McAdam, Rowena Manning, Dale Ward, Bill Ward | John and Pat Rollison |
| Mrs. Karan Lunstra | Sister, Marilyn Kelsey |
| My father, Wilbur Dale Marshall | Dale Miller |
| My Parents, Marty and Jim Adams | Shari Adams |
| My Parents, Peggy and Jack Harter | Connie Harter Burton |
| Our Loved Ones | Susan and Ralph Freeman |

| <i>In Loving Memory of:</i> | <i>Given by:</i> |
|---|---------------------------|
| Our Parents | Chip and Pat Tribble |
| Our Parents | Dan and Lola Jean Nichols |
| Our Parents | Eric and Judy Oguich |
| Our son Craig Edgar and Leila's sister Mary Lu Windberg | Leila and Kirk Spitzer |
| Phyllis Whitaker | Dorothy and Dianne Moore |
| Precious and Jack Corsello | Ann Marie Corsello |
| Randy Clegg | Judy Oguich |
| Rev. Doug Hill | Judy Oguich |
| Shelbe Kearney | Matthew and Jacob |
| Sherry Kerley and Phil Larkum | The Larkum Family |
| Tim Bullis | Asbury Covenant Group |
| Tim Bullis, our son | Wayne and Pam Bullis |

| <i>In Honor of:</i> | <i>Given by:</i> |
|---|---|
| Aaron Miller and Laura Candler-White | The Trinity Choir |
| A.D. and Callie Stuart | Paula Cadden |
| Amy, Jamie, Caitlin, Jackson, and Alex Bitz | Sara and Waddy Street |
| Ann Staples | Sandy and Elaine Peele |
| Brad and Gray Booker | Sandy and Elaine Peele |
| Brad and Jan Booker | Carolyn Simpson |
| Celia Todd | Alicia, Andrew, and Ella Cecil |
| Gail Clelland | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Gray, Corey, Hilton and Byrd Booker | Carolyn Simpson |
| Janet Hill | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Jay and Linda Robinson | Cheryl, Pam, and Meredith |
| Jim and Karen Brooks; Ray Cox | Paul, Courtenay, and JC Brooks |
| Jim Scott and Karen Adams | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Jo Lewis | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Joan Yowell | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Judy Oguich | 3M, with Love, Thanks, and Admiration |
| Judy Oguich | Colleen, Eric, Aidan, and Keeley |
| Judy Oguich | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Judy Oguich | Wayne and Pam Bullis |
| Ken Hart | Young at Heart |
| Kristopher, Melanie, Eila, Siri Moran | Joyce S. Winters |
| Lynn Berry | Paula Cadden |
| Mike and Carole Dishman | Chick and Bonnie Hadden |
| Mona and David Cecil | Alicia, Andrew, and Ella Cecil |
| My Grandkids, Henry and Caroline | Linda Latimer |
| My mother, Betty T. Marshall | Dale Miller |
| Our Boys, Daughter-in-laws, and Grandchildren | Ken and Peggy Hart |
| Our Grandsons, David, Jonathan, Adam, Nathan | Jay and Linda Robinson |
| Pat Rollison | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Pat Ruscus | Colleen, Eric, Aidan, and Keeley |
| Pat Ruscus | Joseph, Mary-Holland, Drew, and Amelia Thompson |
| Paula Cadden | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Sandy and Gibbie Berry | The Stalilonis Family |
| Sarah, Liz, and Audrey | Mom |
| Shari Adams | Mary and Bob Hetzel |
| Sue Watkins | Wendy Floyd and Carol Wampler |
| The Trinity Staff | Jan and Brad Booker |

Student Ministry

Student Ministries Vision Meeting January 21 at 12:30 PM

As we look ahead towards the future of Trinity's student ministries, all parents of rising sixth graders, up through current seniors, are invited to attend a special lunch and time of conversation in Trinity Hall. Students are welcome to attend as well. The purpose of this gathering will be (1) To build new relationships and get to know new people within the Student Ministries program, and (2) To hear from Daniel about the future of this important ministry within the life of our church, and answer any related questions. To RSVP to attend, go to [this link](#) or contact Daniel. **Please plan to RSVP by January 14.** We look forward to seeing you!



Upcoming Events

February 23-25 Three Notch'd District Spring Youth Retreat at Westview on the James

Confirmation: **Sundays, April 7-28**, at 12:30 in the Students Center.

Confirmation **Sunday, May 5**

Youth and Graduate **Sunday, May 19**





From Trinity UWF President

Precious Sisters,

January brings a new year for us to gather and find ways we can serve our Lord and minister to our neighbors. Make the effort to attend on January 11th for our Pledge Service. Circle leaders will turn in the pledge amounts from their circles on that day.

Many thanks to Mary Ann Boyd and her circle for organizing Service Day for us. We thank Beth Noakes for sharing some Christmas art with us. Thanks to all who gave at Harvest Day so we could present a check to Crossover for \$3,000.

I'm feeling very grateful. What a blessing to belong to our group!!

Christmas love, Jo Lewis

January Circle Meetings

Circle 1 will meet on Tuesday, January 16th at 9:30am in room 317.

Circle 4 will meet on Thursday, January 4th at 11am in the Student Center for a program on New Year's Resolutions and Generosity.

Circle 6 will **not** meet on our usual date but will meet on Tuesday, January 9th at 10 in room 319.

Circle 7 –In January we will meet on the 18th at 7pm at church.

Circle 10 will meet Thursday, January 4th at 7pm at the home of Julia Leaman. Mary Ball will present "The Dash".

Save the Date

Thursday, February 8, 2024

**Radical Hospitality with a Heart in Time of Need
Stacey Brinkley, CEO, The Doorways**

A Busy Service Day!

A sample of the many projects completed:

Wrapped 185 mini loaves of holiday bread (jointly with Tuckahoe Presbyterian & River Road Church Baptist) for Oak Grove ES staff and Saturday Academy families.

Assembled 50 candy cane reindeer for CrossOver Clinic

For UMFS: 40 accordion angels and 43 reindeer necklace kits for the kids

Prepared for Sherbourne UMC:

- 125 candy cane mice from Circle 11
- 125 poppers from Circle 10
- 125 ornaments from Trinity Stitchers
- 100 coloring books and crayons from Circle 4 and Joan Yowell



Created 10 centerpieces of fresh greens for UMFS, The Hermitage and Covenant Woods.

Cleaned and prepared 450 candles for Christmas Eve.

Prepared gifts for 13 staff members from Circle 7.

A Communion At The Table Of Jesus – At My Table – And With The World.

**Thursday, January 11, 2024
10am – Room 324**

Through this program United Women in Faith members will come to the table of Jesus, explore the relationship between generous giving and faith, and make or renew their financial commitment to support women, children and youth through pledge to mission.

**Board Meeting
Thursday January 11
9am, Room 323**

Honduras Medical Mission Team January 20—27, 2024

On Saturday, January 20, Trinity medical mission team will travel to Honduras to serve with the Friends of Barnabas Foundation., providing free medical, dental, and vision care to the people of Honduras' mountain villages. The team will return to the U.S. on Saturday, January 27.

Please pray for our Honduran patients, for the children of Honduras—that they would have a bright future to look forward to, for safe travels, and for each of our team members:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Matthew Adrako | Linda Hart |
| Roger Hart | Emily Hartman |
| Paul Hartman | Jim Huddle |
| Hannah Hayes | Wendy Mallory |
| Chris Morris | Kris Powell |
| Virginia Rhines | Mark Shreve |
| Brian Siegle | Joseph Thompson |

One of the highlights of our mission team's day is receiving mail. We would ask everyone to consider writing a note of encouragement to each of our team members—whether you know them or not. A note of encouragement goes a long way! Please have notes to Judy Oguich by Tuesday, January 16. Thank you in advance for supporting our Medical Team to Honduras!



Volunteers are needed for the Coffee Ministry!

We are changing how we provide our Sunday beverage service each week. Instead of using the *Sign-Up Genius* as we have been doing, we are looking for a team of trusty volunteers who can help with this ministry on a regular basis. We are looking for people to commit to providing this service once every couple of months or once a quarter - depending on how many volunteers we can secure. It really is an easy commitment, and a great service for your fellow church members. Are you a coffee drinker? Do your kids love our lemonade? Or do you just love being in community with our church members? We would love to have you! In order to sustain this service, we really need volunteers. Please consider serving. If interested, contact Mary Beth Utley at maryb.utley@gmail.com or 804-615-7079.

Pickleball



Have you ever played pickleball? Have you ever wanted to try it? Well then, come join us – learn and have fun! We share a lot of laughs while we are getting some exercise. About 6-8 people come to Trinity Hall to play pickleball on Tuesday nights (6-8 PM), and we would welcome you to join us anytime!

- No prior experience required. Trinity provides paddles and balls for everyone. We have two nets, so eight people can play at the same time.
- No attendance rules. People come and play when their schedules permit them to do so.
- No age restrictions either, so all ages are welcome! We have even had multiple generations within the same family playing pickleball on a few occasions! Usually, Pastors Brian and Daniel join in on the fun too!

The fact that we play indoors in Trinity Hall means that wet or cold weather does not cancel our fun. If you are looking for a welcoming, non-judgmental atmosphere in which to learn how to play pickleball, please come join us. You will learn the rules of the game as you play. Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers or court shoes. We play on most Tuesday nights, and we hope to see you soon! Playing pickleball would be a fun New Year's resolution!

For more information, contact Shari Adams at sladams05@gmail.com or 804-338-0531.

Building Security Reminders

If you come to the church for a meeting, to pick up an item, or drop off an item, remember the perimeter doors for the building are kept locked. This is per recommendations by the Henrico County Police Department, our insurance carrier, and endorsed by our Trustees.

The door to the church office is monitored with a camera and a security button to allow a person access. This is your best entry point if you are not here for a class or event.

For example, if you are attending a funeral during a weekday afternoon, doors to the Welcome Center, the Sanctuary foyers, and doors in the Trinity Hall wing will be accessible. If you are taking a morning or afternoon class in the Trinity Hall wing, you have two access points the church office door and the east entrance door at the back of Trinity Hall.

We are not trying to make entry into the building difficult. Rather, we are attempting to maintain a safe environment in a world that can be unpredictable.

Thank You Notes

Dear Trinity,
The love and support shown to us after mom's passing was simply overwhelming. Every call, text, card, prayer and hug was a sharing of your heart with our family, and the warmth of this church family is immeasurable. We have been shown a great example of the individual lights that we can all carry into this world. Simply saying Thank You does not seem to be enough. But maybe it's a good start.
Thank you all, and may Peace be with you.
The family of Pat Smith

Information from Finance

Gifts of Stock

Many members choose to make donations of stock as a tax-deductible contribution to Trinity. The Virginia United Methodist Foundation provides this brokerage service to churches free of charge. While our current broker has served us faithfully for many years, this is an offer we feel we can't pass up. If you are interested in making a stock donation, please go to <https://www.trinityumc.net/give/>. Find "Stock" and follow the directions or call the church office and we can send you the form. As always, please let the Financial Administrator know when you have initiated a stock gift so we can be looking for the check and can match the check with the donor.

Calendar Year-end Contributions

IRS Code 10170A-1(b) states that only funds received by December 31, 2023 or postmarked by December 31, 2023 may be counted as 2023 contributions. The date of receipt or the postmark is the key to determining the year of receipt. Thus, if someone hand carries a check to the church on January 1, 2024 that is dated December 31, 2023 it is a **2024** gift according to IRS regulations. But, if a check arrives by mail at the church on January 1, 2024 and it is postmarked December 31, 2023 and the check is dated December 31, 2023 or before, it is a **2023** gift. Please try to get your contributions for the calendar year into the church office by December 29, 2023. If you have any questions, call Nancy Berryman at 288-6056.

Joys and Concerns

Baptism
Rowan Silber

Our sympathies to...

Kaye Carrithers whose husband Thomas Meeks died December 18
The family of Karen Schmid who died December 12
The family of Bill Boice who died December 5
Deborah Mancini whose father Donald Brown died November 26

Winter Weather Decisions



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.



NewsLetter
DEADLINE

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, January 22 at 4 PM for events taking place in February**. 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.