

# The Trinity Window

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

April 2024

## Pastor's Corner



Happy Easter!

Yes, it is Easter. Easter is not one day. The United Methodist Book of Worship says, "The Easter Season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. It is the most joyous and celebrative season of the Christian Year. It focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and on the givings of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20:22-23) and the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). The ancient Christian's name for this festival is *Pasch*, derived from the Hebrew *pesah* ("deliverance" or "passover"), thus connecting the Resurrection to the Exodus. The origin of the English word *Easter* is disputed but may come from the Anglo-Saxon spring goddess Eastre and her festival. *Pentecost* comes from the Greek *pentekoste*, which means "fiftieth." It refers to the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which Greek-speaking Jews called the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1). Early Christians also used the term Pentecost to refer to the Great Fifty Days as a season."

Contrary to our modern culture that tries to condense a season into a day and quickly move on, Easter is a 50-day long celebration of Christ's resurrection and what that means for our lives. This year, Easter ends on Pentecost on May 19. The idea of such a long celebration of God's work seems pretty significant to me.

Here at Trinity, we have much to celebrate! We are growing and we have increased excitement about our ministries within and without. This month alone, we are getting ready to begin parts of our badly needed renovation, accepting new members, beginning Confirmation classes, holding our annual Spring Fest, celebrating God's Creation, and praying for our denomination's international meeting of General Conference.

Continue to proclaim Christ's resurrection. Continue to celebrate who we are. Continue to celebrate what we do. Continue to support the mission and ministries of this church as we strive to be faithful to God's calling in this place and this time.

Easter is meant to be a time of celebration. Celebrate well.

Yours in Christ,

## Update from Trustees

We have an opportunity to jump start our renovation project with some demolition work. At this time, the demo work is scheduled to start on Monday, April 22. This will involve removing the ceiling in the follow areas: Banner closet, Room 314, Arts Closet, Library, Handbells room, Room 310, and the hallway that runs from the balcony to the second floor of the Preschool wing. The quicker start allows the HVAC contractor access to attic space and the opportunity to begin important preliminary work. This demo work will require the temporary relocation of two Preschool classrooms and two Sunday school classrooms. Please know that construction schedules can change. The Trustees thank you in advance for your flexibility and patience. Additional updates will be provided in the weekly Connection.

Thanks,  
*Jim Crowder and Bill Pike*

## Lenten Easter Mission Offering

During Lent our congregation is asked to donate to the Lenten Easter Mission Offering. This offering is used to support a variety of nonprofits in Richmond, Virginia, the United States, and the world. In turn, representatives from the nonprofits file an application requesting a grant to support their work. In the past, Crossover Health Clinic, Westview on the James, and Friends of Barnabas have benefitted from our congregational support. We hope you will prayerfully consider donating.

**FREE ENTRY**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**  
3 - 5PM  
RAIN DATE: APRIL 21

**JOIN US FOR**  
**SPRING FEST**

**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
903 FOREST AVENUE  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!

PETTING ZOO • INFLATABLES •  
JONATHAN THE JUGGLER

WWW.TRINITYUMC.NET

TRINITY  
United Methodist Church

We are still in need of volunteers to help with Springfest! Please sign up if you can help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849A9AB2EA4FB6-48514071-spring#/>



## Pub Theology

We appreciate everyone who came out for Pub Theology at the Way Gone Brewery on March 12. That evening, we enjoyed our visit with local author, Tom Allen. Tom talked about writing and his new book: Roll With It—Encountering grace, grins, gridlock, and God in everyday life.

Our next gathering will be **Tuesday, April 16**, our start time will be 6 p.m. Trinity will provide pizza, and we request that each person contribute \$5.00 to help offset the cost.

Our projected dates for 2024 are May 14, and June 18. We hope you will consider joining us. If you have questions, contact Bill Pike: [bpike@trinityumc.net](mailto:bpike@trinityumc.net)



## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, April 16:** Trip to the University of Richmond to tour the Canon Chapel, lunch at the U of R dining hall. 10:30 AM – 2 PM

**Tuesday, May 14:** Day trip to the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico, Admission to the museum is free, lunch on your own at the museum. 9:30 AM—4:30 PM.

We hope you will plan to join us for these day trips!

Also look for a concert by **The Virginians** on **Sunday, July 14** and a trip to **Michie Tavern and Carter's Mountain** on **Tuesday, October 8**.

Contact Dan Nichols or Judy Oguich for more information.



## Trinity Foundation Scholarship

If you are planning to submit an application for one of the Trinity Scholarships, be sure to get your information into the church office by noon on **Friday, April 5**.

Applications and attachments can be sent via email to: Paula Cadden at [pcadden@trinityumc.net](mailto:pcadden@trinityumc.net). They can also be sent via USPS to: Trinity UMC, Attn: Paula, 903 Forest Avenue, Richmond, VA 23229.



## Better Together

### Stewardship

First of all, I want to thank each and every person at Trinity for the amazing support you give to the mission and ministry of Trinity. We do a lot together, and the community and world are better for it. Congratulations! As much as it would be nice that the church could operate outside the world's financial systems, we cannot. All of the great mission, ministry, staff support, and facility upkeep that we do require backing. That's where you come in. As we plan for what we do, it is helpful to know what support we have from you. If you have not already, please prayerfully consider committing to Trinity's support by your prayers, presence, financial gifts, service, and witness. Please fill out both sides of an estimate of giving card with those commitments and get it to the office, either by mail or in an offering plate on Sunday. We are well on our way, but have a bit further to reach our needed support goals. Thank you again, for all you do for Trinity.

*Pastor Brian*



## The Contemporary Class presents

### A discussion of Trinity's organ

By Charles Hague, church organist and organ hobbyist

Two sessions, both in Room 321, Sunday at 10:00am



April 21 - Anatomy of the Trinity Organ - its parts and how they work

April 28 - Listening to Organ Music - Are you a traditionalist or a non-traditionalist?

## Students Summer Mission Trip

This year, our Summer mission trip will be from June 23-28, and we will be partnering with [Hinton Rural Life Center](#). We currently have 18 slots for students available, with the flexibility to add to that number. The cost for student enrollment is \$150 per person, through May 1, paid to Trinity. On May 2 the cost per person goes up to \$200. Thanks to your generosity and dedication over the last few years through pumpkin sales and other contributions, we are more than happy to be able to offer scholarships as needed, and to cut the per person price significantly. Please complete [this form](#) to register attendance with HRLC, listing me (Daniel Guenther) as group leader. My email is [dguenther@trinityumc.net](mailto:dguenther@trinityumc.net). Once again, I'm behind here, but will have a parallel Trinity form available soon. **The deadline to register is May 15!**

## Finance Notes

The Finance Committee will be seeking a new Treasurer. Jordan Utley, after many years of stellar service, has decided it is time to move from this role. If you are interested in considering this very important role for our Church please get in touch with Elaine Peele at [ecumom57@msn.com](mailto:ecumom57@msn.com) or by cell at 804-402-9208. Jordan has graciously agreed to help with the transition.

## General Conference

General Conference is a meeting of representatives from United Methodist churches across the globe that meets every four years. General Conference is the only body that can modify The Book of Discipline, the rule book for The United Methodist Church. General is also the only body that can officially speak for the denomination. The next meeting is coming soon, April 23-May 3 in Charlotte, NC.

If you have any questions as to what are the issues before the General Conference or what happens during the meeting, the Virginia Conference has a page with resources, videos, and links. [www.vaumc.org/gc2024](http://www.vaumc.org/gc2024).

# TRINITY Kids

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 April:

From retro toys to fashion trends, we all love a good throwback. (Especially for grown-ups because it reminds us of being young again.) There are things that remind us of a moment in time, but other things feel timeless and like they're always in style. In this four-week series, kids will travel through the decades and see that the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels are always trending. As we hear from Jesus, we'll see it's always good to be humble, we can always forgive, Jesus is always fair, and love always needs action.



Kids Camp returns to Trinity on July 8-12 from 9am – 12:30pm! Kids Camp is for rising kindergarteners through rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders! Cost is \$25/camper before April 15; \$30/camper after April 15.

Kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God! Kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!!

Register as a volunteer or camper here:

<http://tinyurl.com/yc762u2t>

Here are some photos from our family event in March!





United  
Women  
in Faith

**From Trinity UWF President**

Dear Easter People,

I'm hoping everyone had a blessed time together with family on Resurrection Sunday.

As I write this, I'm still pondering the excellent program for Call to Prayer and Self Denial. Sarah Shutt, Dianne Moore, and Shalom Farms', Erin Lingo really made climate and food justice problems come together for us. They showed how they dovetail to make a serious situation for the poor. Well done!!

Now we are looking forward to a productive and fun time together at our Spring Service Day on Thursday, April 11.

Everyone is invited to come and see and join in the fun. We will need many willing hands. We will need YOUR hands.

Let us live fully alive in the power of the Holy Spirit---not our own.

Remember. . . you are loved,

Jo

**April Circle Meetings**

Circle 1 will enjoy our traditional April outing visiting a Richmond historical site on April 16 with lunch afterwards.

Circle 4 will meet on April 4 at 11 AM in the Student Center. Our program will focus on caring for God's creation.

Circle 6 will meet on April 2 at 10 AM in the Student Center. Our program will focus on Easter reflections.

Circle 7 will read and discuss the book *Saints for All Occasions* by J. Courtney Sullivan on April 18.

Circle 10 will meet April 15 at Tarrant West for dinner.

**Spring Service Day  
April 11  
9 AM-12 Noon, Trinity Hall**



All Trinity women are invited to join us – come and enjoy fellowship as we work on an assortment of projects:

- Assemble health kits for UMCOR
- Prepare breakfast bowls for UMFS Foster families
- Spruce up the kitchen and pantry
- Join Trinity Stitchers in making items for The Doorways, CrossOver Clinic and Sherbourne Food Pantry families
- Write notes of encouragement for Caring Closet kids' bags



We also will collect items for several of our ongoing projects. Lists for the donation items will be available in the Welcome Center and emailed to the Circles.

**Save the Date!  
Covered Dish Banquet  
May 9, 6 PM**

The program will be presented by the Trinity Youth led by The Rev. Daniel Guenther.



**Three Notch'd District UWF**

**UWF Spiritual Life Retreat  
May 11  
9:00 AM-12:30 PM**

Speaker: Karla Kurtz, a Nonprofit Professional and Storyteller. The program will be available by Zoom. The registration link is: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

## Serve & Mission Opportunities!



### Richmond Habitat For Humanity Unity Build

Beginning Thursday, April 11 – Saturday, June 29, Trinity will be participating in the Richmond Habitat For Humanity Unity Build. The construction of this house will be located at 1407 Spotsylvania Street in Richmond.

For many years, Trinity member, Bill Burch, has given outstanding leadership as a volunteer with multiple Habitat projects. Bill will be Trinity's point person for our participation in the Unity Build.

Our one reserved work date is **Saturday, June 1**. On this date, we are required to provide eight volunteers. We can also sign up to volunteer on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday during the build time frame. Construction volunteers work from 8 AM to 3 PM. There is a break for lunch and water is provided.

If you would like to volunteer, you will need to sign up on Richmond Habitat's website. The website will require you to create a profile; here is the link: [www.richmondhabitat.org/volunteer](http://www.richmondhabitat.org/volunteer). Once signed on to the website, you can sign up for any available volunteer opportunities at the Spotsylvania build site. If you have any questions about signing up or about the volunteer experience, please reach out to Bill Burch (phone or text 804-504-0413, email [billburch3@live.com](mailto:billburch3@live.com)).

As you know, affordable housing is a critical need in the Richmond area. Working with Habitat For Humanity is a good way for Trinity to impact that housing shortage.

### Friends of Bellemeade Park

The park is coming alive with color and is filled with laughter from our students enjoying a day of outdoor education in the park. Our children are planting their crops and wading in the creek. We are so blessed to be working with Parks and Rec as their group in helping me maintain the park. Our wild flowers are beginning to bloom and our chickens are back to laying every day. I'm in the park every morning and would love to have you visit. Thank you for your support!! For more information and to see the newsletter go to: <https://bellemeadeparkva.com/>

Bob Argabright

### Jill's Blankets

Please join us for our ten-year anniversary celebration! We will spend the day making blankets – of course! And we'll enjoy special guest appearances from people who have supported our mission over the years.



Volunteers, past and present, will join our celebration, along with representatives from several infusion centers we've supported with more than 5,000 blankets for their patients with cancer.

**Monday, April 22**, three sessions – morning, afternoon and evening. Come when you can and stay as long as you're able. And please encourage your friends to come with you. All materials (scissors & fleece) are provided. We will also have light snacks!

Review the available slots and sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/ym8uu6ba>

### A Special Thanks: Rise Against Hunger and 300 Easter Bags

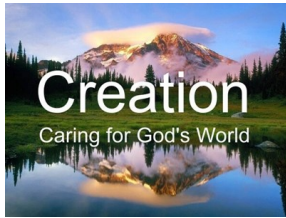
Sunday, March 10 was a good day for Trinity. That day we hosted Rise Against Hunger. This organization works with local congregations to package nutritional meal bags for families around the world who are food insecure. We received energetic leadership from the Rise Against Hunger coordinators, and our volunteers from Trinity were outstanding at both sessions. Over ten thousand meals were packaged, and those meals will have an impact. We are thankful for your time and your big hearts.

After the Rise Against Hunger event, our fourth and fifth graders, and our middle and high school youth packed three hundred Easter bags for the children whose families receive food support from the food pantries at Belmont, Sherbourne, and Welborne. We appreciate everyone who donated items for the Easter bags, our youth, and Karen Adams for her leadership in coordinating this event.





**Events that took place the end of February and in March!**



## Earth Day 2024 Planet vs. Plastics

Your choices make a difference. Do you know how much plastic you use? Recycling is good, but even better is refusing – don't let excess plastic, especially single-use, in!

For a few days **keep a tally of all the single-use plastic you use.** Become hyper-aware of plastic bags, straws, cups, excess packaging, water bottles, disposable cutlery, that litter your life and landfills or oceans for eons. **Share your count with at least one other person.** **Awareness is the first step to positive change.**

Treat your family to alternatives to plastic items. Try bamboo toothbrushes, shampoo bars, aluminum water bottles. **Move away from "throw-away."**

**Tell your friends what you are doing** to greatly reduce the plastic waste in your life. Talk about why that change is important to you. Invite them to join you in tackling the problem. **Encourage them; avoid creating any embarrassment.**

**Approach this Earth Day—and every day—with gratitude.** Our Creator God has gifted us with an amazing planet—not wrapped in plastic. Our faithful response is to cherish and care for this treasure.

## Pinewood Derby

Cub Pack 799 had a successful and fun Pinewood Derby on Saturday, March 16. Thank you Trinity for supporting and hosting our Pack!



## Thank You Notes

To the Entire TUMC staff, ministries and auxiliaries,  
Myself and my family cannot thank you all enough for the prayers, flowers, and cards.  
“We love you and there isn't a thing you can do about it”

*Juanita Woodson and family*

My husband, Larry, and I love and appreciate each and every member of our Trinity family! I am especially thankful to the staff, Eric Zimmerman, SPR, and the dedicated volunteers who worked on the bulletin and covered the office while I was out. My husband and I have been blessed by your prayers, cards, phone calls, messages, food, and gifts during the time of my knee replacement surgery, recovery, the small fire we had at our home, and Larry's trip to the ER. I'm doing great (and I'm back at work), Larry is doing great, and our house is almost fully restored. God is good, all the time!

*Paula Cadden*

## Joys and Concerns

### Baptism

*Elizabeth Morris*

### Our sympathies to...

*Mark Devlin whose father Thomas Devlin died March 20*

*Joe Toler whose brother Anthony Toler died March 16*

*The family of Lois August who died March 5*

*The family of A.D. Stuart who died March 5*

*The family of Michael Ray who died March 1*

*Katie Swartz whose mother Becky Hodges died*

*February 28*

**NewsLetter  
DEADLine**

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, April 15 at 4 PM for events taking place in May.** 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).