

# The Trinity Window

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

May 2024

## Pastor's Corner



### May Flowers

If April's showers are any indication, we should have great flowers in May! It's a lovely time of year in Richmond, especially as the early spring pollen fades. In true Trinity fashion, we're continuing our celebration of Easter into Pentecost with energy. I thank God for your enthusiasm for the mission and ministry of Trinity United Methodist Church. We are a beacon of God's light to a world full of confusing messages. Let's continue that even in our relatively short period of upheaval.

As we begin the renovation project with full fervor, let's be intentional about being flexible, adaptable, and most of all loving. We can continue to share God with other within and without, possibly in ways we haven't thought of yet. What a great excuse to try something new!

I am so excited about where Trinity is now and where Trinity stands to be in the future. I am excited about the ways our facility is and will be a base of operations for increasing mission and outreach to the world around us. I am excited about the increasing volunteerism within the church to enable us to reach others better. We are the church, in this place and this time, that we are supposed to be. I do not believe anything that may or may not happen at General Conference will change that.

Let each of us continue to support the work of this church. The facilities we have, the staff that guides us, and the work that we do all take resources. If you have not already, please prayerfully consider *both sides* of the estimate of giving card you should have already received. If you have not received one, they are available in the Welcome Center on the information shelf or online on the stewardship page. Your stated giving goals help us plan the year ahead, and we ask that you let us know, even if you regularly or automatically give.

Stay tuned for updates on some behind the scenes changes coming up. We're rolling out some new video, web, operating, and giving platforms very soon that will improve our efficiency and save on platform fees. We are definitely not taking the summer off, and I'm thankful for the entire team that makes all of this amazing work happen.

Yours in Christ,

## Lenten Easter Mission Offering

Thanks to everyone who made a donation to the Lenten Easter Mission Offering.

To apply for a grant, complete an application on-line at <https://www.cognitofrms.com/TrinityUMC3/2024LentenEasterMissionOfferingMissionGrantApplication> or bring a completed application to the church office. Deadline for turning in the application is **Monday, June 10**. Paper applications can be found in the Welcome Center and there is one in this issue of the Window.

If you have questions, contact Bill Pike by e-mail: [bpike@TrinityUMC.net](mailto:bpike@TrinityUMC.net) or phone 804-288-6056.



**Pastor Daniel's Bible Study  
Theirs is the Kingdom -  
The Gospel According to Luke**

No matter how you evaluate his life, you can make a compelling argument that the baby born 2,000 years ago to a woman named Mary and a man named Joseph in a little town called Bethlehem is the single most important person who ever lived. From **April 18 to May 23**, join Daniel from **6:00-7:30 PM on Thursdays** as we dive into the Gospel of Luke to study the titanic life, work, death, and resurrection of the man called Jesus Christ.

Week 1: The Greatest Story Ever Told

Week 2: Awakening

*Luke 1-3*

Week 3: Mountains Made Low

*Luke 4-9*

Week 4: Kingdom Visions

*Luke 10-18-We will focus on The Good Samaritan Parable*

Week 5: Body and Blood

*Luke 19-23*

Week 6: The End?

*Luke 24*



**Pub Theology**

We appreciate everyone who has been coming out to Pub Theology at the

Way Gone Brewery.

At our next gathering we will have a special guest join us, **Tuesday, May 14**, 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.

Our last one for the summer is June 18, stayed tune for more information for future dates. We hope you will consider joining us. If you have questions, contact Bill Pike: [bpike@trinityumc.net](mailto:bpike@trinityumc.net)



**Upcoming Events**

**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. Registration deadline is May 12.

**Monday, June 17** Guided group tour of the Virginia Capitol in downtown Richmond. Lunch following. 9:15 AM – 2 PM.

**Sunday, July 14** Concert by The Virginians Barbershop Chorus, 2 PM, in Trinity Hall

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

Also look for a trip to Michie Tavern and Carter's Mountain on Tuesday, October 8. Contact Dan Nichols or Judy Oguich for more information.

In April the Young at Heart took a tour of the Historic Polegreen Church in Hanover County.



**Richmond Habitat  
For Humanity Unity Build**

April 11 was the start date for Habitat For Humanity's Unity Build. Trinity is on the schedule for Saturday, June 1. Trinity will need to provide eight volunteers on that date. To be eligible to volunteer, you must create a profile on the Habitat website:

[www.richmondhabitat.org/volunteer](http://www.richmondhabitat.org/volunteer). Closer to the **June 1** date, we will receive from Habitat a unique link for signing up. If you have any questions about signing up or about the volunteer experience, reach out to Bill Burch (phone or text to 804-503-0413, email [bill-burch3@live.com](mailto:bill-burch3@live.com)).



## Youth and Graduates Sunday - Help Us Celebrate!

Mark your calendars for **10 AM, Sunday, May 19!** Our

youth will be leading a single worship service that day, and Sunday School, along with the traditional 9 and 11am services, will be **canceled** that Sunday. This will be a creative, meaningful service in which we celebrate all that God is doing in the lives of our students! The theme of our service is **“I am what I am because of who we all are.”** Students interested in participating in the service sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44A8A72AA2FDC16-49171970-youth#/>

As part of the service, we will honor our graduates! If you have any high school, trade school, college, or basic training graduates you want to honor, please email the following information to Daniel at [dguenther@trinityumc.net](mailto:dguenther@trinityumc.net) **by the end of the day, Sunday May 5:**

- Full Name
- High School
- Plans After Graduation
- 1-5 photos in JPEG or TIFF format



This information will be shown during the May 19 service. We will also display photos in the display case outside of the sanctuary.

### 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!**



### Update from Trustees

Staff and volunteers have been working to get the second floor of the building from the balcony to the Preschool ready for demolition. The following rooms are impacted by the early demolition: Banner closet (room 316), Classroom 314, Art closet, Library (Room 311), Handbells (Room 312), and Classrooms 309 and 310.

Demolition crews will be focused on ceiling removal. All debris will be placed in the dumpster located on the northside of the building/Stuart Hall Road. During this demolition, there will not be access to this section of the building. This work is scheduled to begin on Monday, April 22.

Once the ceilings have been removed, the HVAC contractor will start some of the initial work related to the new HVAC system. This work will take place in the attic space.

In preparation for moving materials and furniture from the Preschool wing, a storage container was delivered on Monday, April 15. This container was placed in the parking lot adjacent to the Preschool wing.

From May 13-27, the focus will shift to ensuring that materials and furniture are packed and moved out of the Preschool wing into storage containers. We will be recruiting volunteers to assist with the packing and moving. The full scope of the project will begin on Tuesday, May 28.

Questions? Contact Jim Crowder via email: [72crowder@gmail.com](mailto:72crowder@gmail.com) or Bill Pike at: [bpike@trinityumc.net](mailto:bpike@trinityumc.net).

### Thanks for Your Loyalty

In December 2023, the front end loader arrived in the back-parking lot off of Rock Creek Road. This arrival is courtesy of the Dabney family and Slurry Pavers. For many years, the Dabney's and Slurry Pavers have provided the equipment and personnel to clear our parking lots after major winter storms. This dedicated loyalty is a great help to the Trinity congregation, staff, and the community we serve.

Many thanks for your kindhearted assistance,  
*The Trustees*



# 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 May:

Astronaut Neil Armstrong once said landing on the moon was “one small step for man.” The biggest adventures start in such a simple way — especially when it comes to space! Asteroids, distant planets, and brand new galaxies await us once we leave earth’s atmosphere. Being the first to explore such uncharted territory can be intimidating. In this four-week series, we’ll take a look at the Book of Acts to learn from the first Christians. Through their stories of faith and bravery, kids will learn how to take the first step of believing in Jesus, the next step of praying for others, and an even bigger step of trusting the Holy Spirit makes us brave. But they won’t want to skip the last step of telling others about Jesus.



## REGISTER SOON!! CAMP IS ALMOST FULL!!

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 \$30/camper

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 Throwback theme in April!





# United Women in Faith

## Spring Service Day Recap

### From Trinity UWF President

Dear Trinity Sisters,

As I write this note, we have just completed a very successful Spring Service Day. Thanks to all who came to work. See the list of items made and agencies served.

Shari Adams and I are packing for Chattanooga, leaving on April 18, for the Southeastern Quadrennial Jurisdictional UWF meeting. We hope to represent you well with one quarter of the nation. This is a wonderful opportunity made possible with our legacy funds.

Moving forward into May--yes, May! We have a great covered-dish May Banquet planned with speaker Pastor Daniel. See details below.

Enjoy the beautiful spring weather and all of God's creation.

His love and mine,

Jo

### May Circle Meetings

Circle 1 will wrap up our year on May 21 with a lunch at a restaurant to be determined.

Circle 4 will have a short meeting on May 2 at 11 in the Student Center followed by lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Circle 6 will NOT meet on May 7 (our usual day) but will meet at the May Banquet instead.

Circle 7 will meet on May 16 at 7 PM in the Student Center. Our project will focus on support and service to Trinity's children and youth.

Circle 10 will meet May 2 at 6 PM at the home of Bana Caskey for their May Dinner.

- Trinity Hall kitchen: a crew from Circle 10 scrubbed and shined it up!
- Spring Arbor-(Carol Crowder) felt flower favors for memory care folks--made by the Stitchers
- Shut-ins: 6 fresh flower arrangements made by the "Bonnies" and delivered
- UMCOR: 50 Health kits made and packaged to ship
- Covenant Woods: 3 bags of bingo prizes
- Hermitage: bingo prizes--costume jewelry, tissues, etc--felt flowers for memory care by Stitchers
- CrossOver: big box of toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Shalom Farms: 157 bags collected & \$100 for more
- Caring Closet: 3 bags of gently used clothes and notes of encouragement written
- UMFS: games for boys, 25 breakfast bowls for foster families and felt flowers for students.

Many thanks for your generosity and time!

We pray these things will bless those who receive them and they will feel God's love.



### Covered Dish Banquet May 9, 6 PM

The Rev. Daniel Guenther will share tales from working with the students. Let's all come out to support and encourage him.

We want to change it up a bit and are asking each circle (1,4,6,7,10 and 11) to fill a table of 8 and make a centerpiece for your table. Centerpieces will be judged and winner will receive a prize!

Husbands, friends and family are encouraged to come--especially any students who are free on Thursday night.

Circle 5 friends let us know if you wish to reserve a spot.

**During the month of April, Trinity had many exciting events happening! Here are photos from Easter, UWF Spring Service Day and SpringFest!**





### Trinity Stitches

The Trinity Stitches recently put together 800 prayer squares that were made for General Conference. Each prayer square has a note attached written in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French or Korean – and also identifies this as coming from Trinity UMC in Richmond, VA.



### Tyler Hart

In the Spring issue of the University of Richmond Notes, there was an article about Trinity member Tyler Hart (Son of Ken & Peggy Hart). Here is the article:

#### Unforgettable emcee

With a microphone in hand and his wife, Melissa, by his side, Tyler Hart, '01, entertained crowds as the on-court emcee during Richmond basketball games in the 2010s. Now, the principal of a Houston-area elementary school, Hart has an audience of hundreds of cheering kids sitting crisscross, sharing in the celebration of Friday pep rallies.

When Hart became the principal at Yeager Elementary in January 2023, test scores were lower than the regional average, and the campus was part of a school improvement monitoring program. "But I didn't lean into that first," he said. "I leaned into climate and culture. If I build a school where people want to be, all that other stuff will organically start to improve."

Every Friday, the sounds of Hart rolling a boombox through the hallways bring kids out of their classrooms for an impromptu flash mob. "My biggest philosophy," he said, "is that I want to build an environment where kids and staff are breaking down doors to get into school, not to get out."

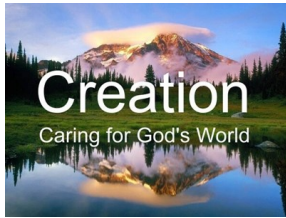
Hart has instituted regular celebrations of student achievement. These rallies feature special guests thanks to Melissa's job connections as vice president of programming for Audacy. Hart can now shoot an email to Toro, the mascot for the Houston Texans, and the big, blue bull will show up to Yeager to be greeted by the deafening screams and waving hands of his students.

This winter, Hart brought the fourth graders on a field trip to a Rice University basketball game. While he wasn't on the court at halftime like he was during his Richmond days, he enjoyed the pure magic of the collegiate sports he misses.

As a school principal, Hart has found he can help guide students toward achievements through community engagement, togetherness, and pure fun. And in celebrating the success of his students, Hart brings a piece of his emcee talents from Richmond all the way to Houston.

-Sophia Demerath '26





## Earth Day 2024 Planet vs. Plastics—Water Bottles

How do you get water to drink when on the go? Single-use plastic bottle or reusable container?

If single-use plastic bottle, you're not alone. 100 billion plastic beverage containers were sold last year in the United States. That's more than 300 bottles per inhabitant.

So what? Making a single-use plastic water bottle requires six times as much water as the bottle itself contains. Moreover, 95% of all plastics in the US won't be recycled. They end up in the ocean or in landfills where they will remain indefinitely.

Many Trinity members are aware of the need to recycle. Many Trinity members are trying to avoid single-use plastic bottles and have purchased reusable containers. Many reusable water containers end up in Trinity's lost and found.

How do we change our behavior? It's certainly not easy. As Paul wrote in Romans 7:15 'I don't do what I want to do. Instead I do the thing that I hate.'

So plan ahead: take the reusable container with you when you go out. Be mindful: don't lose it!

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.

## Feed My Sheep

The Trinity Feed My Sheep Ministry has been busy cooking!

We have containers of delicious American Goulash and Cinnamon Apples in the Trinity Hall kitchen freezer. These meals are for you to pickup and share with friends. These friends might need to feel Trinity's care and love for them on a challenging day. A free meal is an extension of a "warm hug." Please share.



## Joys and Concerns

### New Members

*Hayley Trinidad, Helen Wolfe, Carolyn Simpson*

### Our sympathies to...

*Beth Noakes whose mother Betsy Owen died April 2  
Suzanne Browder whose mother Shirley Lee died April 7.*

## Thank You Ivy Whackers!

Thanks to Bruce Leaman for coordinating the return of the Ivy Whackers on Thursday, March 21. Bruce assembled a dozen Trinity volunteers to remove tree-killing ivy from tree trunks on the east side of our grounds from Stuart Hall to Rock Creek Roads. Armed with saws, hatchets, and crow bars, the group released many tree trunks from the clinging ivy. The turnout was so good that Bruce treated all participants to a pizza lunch. Thanks to everyone for their efforts in helping to sustain our trees.



## Safety and Security Reminder



No matter if you are attending an event at Trinity during daylight hours or the evening, the Henrico County Police Department requests that we keep our cars locked and valuable items are out of sight.

## NewsLetter DEADLINE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, May 20 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).