

The Trinity Window

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

April 2025



Pastor's Pen

John 20:1-10

20 Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. 2 She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they've put him." 3 Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb. 4 They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. 5 Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn't go in. 6 Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. 7 He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus' head. It wasn't with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. 8 Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. 9 They didn't yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. 10 Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

This is the month of Easter this year. In John's account, there are a couple interesting things to note for me in this time, particularly the last two verses of this passage, "They didn't yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying." They didn't understand, so they returned. It seems so matter of fact. They ran to the tomb in a literal footrace, then calmly went back to their lives that were already upside down. They returned to the familiar and the grieving, instead of even considering the magnitude of what they witnessed meant.

I think we are often like that. When confronted with information that doesn't make sense to our belief system, we often just return to the familiar. Later, the disciples did come around and understand, but in this moment, they did not. Let us not waste moments that give us pause. In those moments, maybe God is trying to share something new. Maybe God is trying to expand our vision of our limited universe by presenting information that is new to us. Maybe God is trying to bring us together by challenging views that limit and divide. Maybe God is trying to help us see the Resurrection mentality.

May the rest of Lent and the upcoming Easter help each one of us be willing to see and embrace a new way of understanding the world. Maybe, God is still speaking. Are we listening?

Yours in Christ,

Holy Week and Easter at Trinity

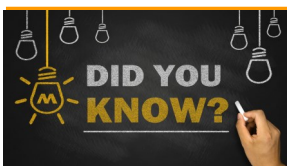
Holy Week:

Sunday, April 13: Palm Sunday
Friday, April 18: Good Friday Service 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 20:

6:30 AM: Sunrise Service (Outside in front of the Welcome Center)
9:00 AM: Modern Celebration (In-person and Online)
10:00 AM: Discipleship/Sunday School Hour
11:00 AM: Traditional Celebration (In-person and Online)





Did you know?

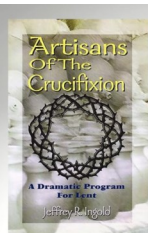
Ever wonder why the date of Easter changes? It hasn't always. The very first Easter happened

during Passover, which is based on the Jewish lunar calendar. At the Council of Nicaea, in 325 (a very long time ago), the dating convention we use today was adopted for the western churches. The council wanted to keep the lunar relationship close to the original yet maintain the celebration on Sunday. It is now determined to be the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the ecclesiastical spring equinox of March 21, putting it anywhere between March 22 and April 25. The eastern (orthodox) churches use the Julian calendar with the additional restriction that it cannot happen at Passover, so the date is not always the same time. In 2025, and again in 2028 eastern and western church dating puts Easter on the same day.

Choral Evening Service for Passion Sunday Sunday, April 13 4 - 5 PM



An evening of Scripture, music, and prayer to set the mood for Passion Week.



Good Friday Service
April 18
7:00 PM
Communion followed by
a Dramatic Program

Good Friday

Our Holy Week service this year will be a combined service on **Friday, March 29**, at 7 PM. We will begin with

a traditional Maundy Thursday Communion. This will be followed by a dramatic presentation of the perspectives of fictional witnesses to the crucifixion. Our service will end unresolved in darkness, echoing the uncertainty of the disciples as we await Easter morning.

Better Together Coffee Hour

April 13, 10:00-11:00 AM
In the Parlor

All Guests and Visitors Welcome!



Guests and visitors of Trinity are invited to join us for an hour of coffee and conversation. We will gather in the parlor to chat and learn a little bit about each other. A few cool people will be there to chat! Coffee and donuts will be available. Sign up at: <https://trinityunitedmethod-3dkn.subspla.sh/6mxkq5j>



Bring Flowers Easter Morning
to put on the Cross



Have Your Picture Taken
Easter Sunday
in Front of the Cross

Dianne Moore will be taking photos
between services and after
the 11 service.



Pub Theology

Thanks to the people who have been attending Pub Theology. A couple of reminders for you. There is no requirement that one must be a beer drinker to attend. WayGone Brewery also offers wine, home brewed seltzers, soft drinks, and water. The church provides pizza, and we ask for a \$5.00 donation to help us offset that cost. We gather at 5:45 PM at the WayGone Brewery on Patterson Avenue in the Canterbury Shopping Center. Each month our programs vary, and our goal is to end the evening by 7 PM. Our community guest on **Tuesday, April 15**, will be Michael Phillips, former writer and editor with the Richmond Times-Dispatch who has started an on-line publication focusing on local news. We will meet again on **Tuesday, May 20**, and on **June 10**, our guest will be local author, Judy Bice, author of the book Hey, White Girl. We hope you will join us. Any questions, please contact Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 29 – Come hear one of our favorite local speakers, Nelson Calisch, present a program on “The Hidden Women in History”. We will meet from 2 – 3:30 PM in the Welcome Center. Refreshments will be provided.

Tuesday, May 20 – Come join us as we explore Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens on a guided tour! We will leave church at 10 AM and return by 2 PM. Cost of admission and tour is \$22. We will have lunch at the Garden Café, where most entrees are \$15.

Sunday, June 8 - We will have lunch at Hanover Tavern, then see the 2:30 PM matinee performance of “Honky Tonk Hissy Fit” there. We will leave Trinity via the church van at 11:45 AM, or people can meet us there at 12:30 PM. Cost of the play is \$26, due at registration. Lunch is payable on your own at the tavern. We are limited to 20 tickets.

Tuesday, July 15 – Day trip to Yorktown to the American Revolution Museum. Come join us as we travel to Yorktown to explore this beautiful museum. Cost of admission is \$20 (payable at the door or on-line), ages 62+ is \$18.00. We will eat lunch there at the museum. We will leave Trinity at 9 AM and return around 4:30 PM.

Registration for these events will be on Sundays or with Judy Oguich. Young at Heart programs are open to everyone! Come and bring a friend!



We are excited to announce a change in our summer schedule. Beginning with Youth/Graduate Sunday on **May 18**, our Discipleship/Sunday School groups will meet at 9 AM, followed by a single worship service at 10 AM. This schedule will continue through Labor Day weekend, with a return to our regular schedule on September 7.

Your Support Helps the Trinity Foundation and the Community

During this Lenten and Easter season, the Trinity Foundation is especially thankful for our congregation and the many ways we serve the community.

One way we did this recently was through the Advent offering. The offering supports United Methodist Family Services, and the Trinity Foundation again matched funds up to \$7,500. Thank you for your support in making this possible.

The Trinity Foundation continues to support items outside of the church's budget, including mission projects, church initiatives, scholarships and programs such as the Dillard Forum. Please keep the Trinity Foundation in mind if you are considering Planned Giving and contact the church office to learn more.

If it's not working let us know

Just in case you haven't figured this out, your Trinity staff is imperfect. It is possible that we can miss challenges that are obvious and not so obvious. If something around the building and grounds isn't working, please let us know. Here are some examples: a technical problem while watching a live feed of a worship service, uncertainty as to whether the available technology is working properly with your financial donations, a light is out, an error in any communication sent to the congregation, etc. Thanks for reading, and don't hesitate to let us know if something isn't working. Contact Bill Pike: bpiketrinityumc.net



Please stop by the office and welcome our new Financial Administrator, Leah Cruise! Leah joined us on February 25 and is already making a huge impact. She has the background and experience we need to help us stay on top of our finances and to help us make the move to our new systems. WELCOME LEAH! We sure are glad that you are a part of the Trinity family!

Elaine Peele
Finance Chair



What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

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

Here's what we're learning this month!



Spring is the season for new beginnings! Whether you're cleaning out parts of your home or watching the flowers bloom in your garden, it's a time for new life and growth. Like a good gardener, Jesus wanted to help cultivate the seeds of faith in his friends so they could all grow closer to God. In this series, kids will learn all about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus as he sowed the seeds of new life in the world. Kids will discover that God sent Jesus to save us, Jesus understands when we're hurting, makes all things new, and connects us to God.



Join us for Spring Fest on Sunday, April 27 from 3-5pm! We will have inflatables, a petting zoo, fire truck, gaga ball, face painting, and a show by Jonathan Austin!

Sign up here to volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849A9AB2EA4FB6-55781340-spring#/>

Kids Camp 2025 registration is open!!



Join us at Kids Camp 2025 this summer! Camp is July 7-11 from 9-12:30pm. We will be exploring the True North - where kids will learn to trust Jesus in a wild world! Camp is for rising kindergarteners through rising 5th graders. Rising 6th graders and older can sign up to volunteer!

Camper Registration: <https://subspla.sh/w7tbp9m/>

Volunteer Registration: <https://subspla.sh/jqtvmf/>



Youth Sunday: May 18 at 10:00 AM

Trinity Students will be leading the 10 AM worship service for the whole congregation! This is a celebration of the intelligence, wisdom, and dedication of our students, and we encourage all students to participate. Parents, if your student is interested in being involved, contact Pastor Daniel! We will have rehearsals prior to, there will be more information coming soon!

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 by the end of the day, **Sunday May 4:**

- ♦ Full Name
- ♦ School graduating from
- ♦ Plans After Graduation
- ♦ 1 photo in JPEG or TIFF format

This information will be shown during the May 18 service. We will also display photos in the display case outside of the sanctuary.

SWAG (Summer Worship and Games)

It's coming soon...

Join all students as we cap off the summer with an exciting week of games, activities, and worship! From **July 28 to July 31**, we will compete, get messy, and grow closer to God and each other through powerful worship and engaging challenges.

All students in 6th grade and up are invited! Event times are 6-9 PM each day, with snacks provided. We will need adults to volunteer as well, so stay tuned. Stay tuned for the registration link and get ready for an unforgettable summer!

Local Serve: July 7-11

Local Serve is back! This is a fantastic opportunity for students to give back to our community while having fun and building friendships. If you're a rising 6th grader and up, we would love for you to join us for this incredible week of service and fellowship!

To sign your student up, check back soon for the registration link!

We also need volunteer support for this event! If you're interested in providing lunch or assisting our students in any way, stay tuned for the signup genius link or email Pastor Daniel at dguenther@trinityumc.net.



**Welcome to
Trinity's Confirmands
Class of 2025**



United
Women
in Faith

From the Trinity UWF President

Dear Trinity Sisters,

This month Earth Day will be celebrated on April 22 by more than one billion people across the globe. The 2025 theme of 'Our Power, Our Planet' and the push for renewable energy fit in with one of the United Women in Faith's top priorities for this quadrennial: Just Energy for All. Fossil fuel energy sources disproportionately impact women and children in poor areas. Check the Earth Day website to learn what you can do to promote clean energy.



Remember: love in action can change the world.

Dianne Moore, UWF President

Circle Meetings

Circle 1 – We will meet for Service Day on April 10 to prepare gift baskets for UMFS foster families.

Circle 4 – Thursday April 3 at 11am in the Student Center. We will work on our UMFS gift basket plan and the birthday cards for Oak Grove ES. Discussion topic: Earth Day 2025 and the related revised UMC Social Principles.

Circle 6 – Tuesday April 1 at 10am in the Student Center. We will organize our Spring Service Day projects, have a Lenten program and go to lunch afterwards.

Circle 7 – Thursday April 17 at 6pm in the Student Center. We will assemble treat bags for TUMC Youth.

Circle 10 – Thursday April 21 at 12:30. We will have our Spring Luncheon. Restaurant TBD – contact Sharon Wenger.



Service Day

April 10

9:00-12:00 in Trinity Hall

Come join us in Trinity Hall as we work on projects to benefit various organizations and Trinity members.

Projects will include:

- Prepare gift baskets for a UMFS May event to show appreciation for foster families
- Join Trinity Stitchers in making Easter Felt Dogwood Flower Crosses
- Write birthday cards for Oak Grove ES students
- Write notes of encouragement for other recipients



In addition, we will collect items for several of our mission organizations. Lists for the donation items will be available in the Welcome Center and emailed to the Circles and other small groups.



Coming in May

UWF May Banquet

Speaker: The Rev. Daniel Guenther

Topic: Missions

Thursday May 8, 12 noon

Kits for Conference

Church-wide project led by UWF to assemble 150 hygiene relief kits for UMCOR

Flower Tribute at Easter

Easter is a time when we choose to honor and/or memorialize loved ones by listing their names in the bulletin on Easter Sunday morning.

The cost to have a tribute “in honor of” or “in memory of” listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin is **\$20.**

The funds received will be used to offset the cost of flowers used to decorate the sanctuary and foyers on Easter Sunday. Monies received above the cost of the flowers will be donated to Missions at Trinity as part of our Lenten Easton Mission Offering (LEMO).



The deadline for receiving your contribution is TUESDAY, April 8.

Place this form in the offering plate



Attached is my donation in the amount of: \$_____



Please list the following tribute in the bulletin on Easter Sunday:

In Honor Of: _____

In Honor Of: _____

AND / OR

In Memory Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

GIVEN BY: _____



Donor's Printed Name and Phone #: _____

Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Avenue, Richmond, VA 23229



Heart and Earth

Heart/Earth – Earth/Heart: The same letters, a definite connection! As Christians, we are to love God above all else. How do we show love to our Creator? By loving God's Creation.

Remember that our creation justice work of restoration, regeneration, and renewal grows from God's gift of the Resurrection, the Easter-faith that sustains us in our lives and **our calling to love both Creator and Creation.**

"Our Power, Our Planet," the theme of Earth Day 2025, invites everyone around the globe to unite behind renewable energy. The gifts of God—sun, wind, oceans, and land—are there for us and with us. Using them rather than continuing with fossil fuels will save our planet. Join with others and use your power—your voice, your actions, your advocacy—to love Earth.

Take heart this Earth Day—our Creator God has gifted us with an amazing planet, complete with renewable sources of the power that will help all people have access to better health and enough of what is needed. Uniting and raising our voices, we can bring about that vision and show hearts filled with love for Earth.

Put your HEART into loving EARTH.

Excerpted from United Methodist Creation Justice Tips article for April

Earth Day 2025 – April 22 - Our Power, Our Planet
Trinity's Creation Care Sunday – April 27

Greeters Wanted

We all want Trinity to be a welcoming church! We all want Trinity to be a place where guests and visitors feel comfortable as they come through our doors! If these things are important to you, sign up to be a Greeter at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48A8A72DA20-53539169-welcome/1054860#/>

It would be great to have you join the team, so that we can be a more welcoming and supportive congregation!

Let's be a Welcoming Church!
Join the team to be a Greeter!



Joys and Concerns

Baptism

Elise Vernon, Arden Vickrey, Atticus Vickrey

New Members

Will Anderson, Caroline Beck, Hannah Huss, August Irvin, Lucy Jiancristoforo, Eva Larkum, Ailynn LeReche, Nicole Murphy, Owen Murphy, Hudson Pierce, Elise Vernon, Laurel Vernon, Arden Vickrey, Atticus Vickrey

Our sympathies to...

The family of Marilyn Kelsey who died March 21
Vickie Argabright whose sister Jane Cunningham died March 12

The family of Rev. Jody McWilliams who died March 9
The family of Barbara Null who died February 23

Church Calendar and Security System

We appreciate your cooperation with the staff as we work to manage the church calendar while ensuring that our security company has this information. No matter the date and day of time for a meeting, please make sure that Paula Cadden, the keeper of the church calendar, has received your meeting request, and confirmed that the room space is available. Every month, we send to the security company all of our meeting requests. Those dates are submitted with a designated time for opening entrance doors. When we have the correct information entered into the system, safety improves for everyone. Any questions, contact Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, March 17 at 4 PM for events taking place in April.** 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.