

The Trinity Window

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

February 2025



Pastor's Pen

Proverbs 3

Trust in the Lord

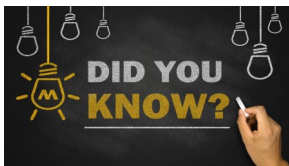
- 3 My son, don't forget my instruction.
Let your heart guard my commands,
2 because they will help you live a long time
and provide you with well-being.
3 Don't let loyalty and faithfulness leave you.
Bind them on your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
4 Then you will find favor and approval
in the eyes of God and humanity.
5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
don't rely on your own intelligence. 6 Know him in all your paths,
and he will keep your ways straight.
7 Don't consider yourself wise.
Fear the Lord and turn away from evil.
8 Then your body will be healthy
and your bones strengthened.
9 Honor the Lord with your wealth
and with the first of all your crops.
10 Then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will burst with wine.
11 Don't reject the instruction of the Lord, my son;
don't despise his correction.
12 The Lord loves those he corrects,
just like a father who treats his son with favor.

This year has begun with quite some noise. Between weather and politics, we seem to have no shortage of conversation starters. Through it all, it may be helpful for us to remember our place in the world. Through it all, it may be helpful for us to remember what God values, which is not always what we value. Proverbs 3 begins with a reminder, from teacher to student or parent to child, that one of the things that pleases God is us being able to defer to God's wisdom, God's instructions, and God's ways. In our expression of faith, we use the Bible as the primary way that we learn about what God wants, says, and demands. Over and over, what God demands is caring for those who have no voice. Caring for the widow, orphan, and stranger are repeated themes that even resulted in some remarkable laws in ancient Israel around harvesting crops to make sure that the intentionally missed crops could be gleaned and given to those in need. The love of the other, including enemy, are strong themes.

We seem to have forgotten these in our culture. We are about "me" and "my rights" and "my profits" and "my..." As a society, our behaviors are selfish and even things as simple as putting trash or shopping carts in the proper places seems to be a personal inconvenience or even an affront to our liberty. The way we drive is uncaring and often at the expense of others. The divisive political discourses that turn each other into enemies only makes this worse. This is not the way I read Scripture's instructions on the way we should act, and I don't believe we can call ourselves a Christian nation by the way we do.

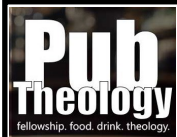
As people, we tend to be very reactive, responding to things we find wrong in our world with opposing actions almost as dangerous as the offending one. Our faith remains a constant in the midst of it all. Trust in what God teaches us and rely on that. Our own reactive inclinations can steer us down dangerous paths. Proverbs 3 continues with a lesson on the value of wisdom and integrity. Value these. Strive to live these. Uplift those with integrity, and call out those without. Let God's perfect wisdom guide our lives over our own limited version. Let our faith be the stabilizing and unifying line in our lives, especially in this "month of love."

Pastor Pina



Did you know?

We are switching our membership/giving/financial software after many years of looking for alternatives to the system we have used for a long time. This software also has given us the new website and the Trinity UMC app, which aids in your connection to the church (look for "Trinity UMC Richmond" in any app store). In order to maximize our savings on this new platform, we would like as much giving as possible to flow through the system, as the vendor reduces the processing fees as the usage increases. It will be the **ONLY** giving platform used outside of checks and cash. This means we would like you to transition giving from church-initiated ACH, PayPal, and the old on-line giving system to the new system as soon as possible, and consider using it if you have not used on-line giving before. Go to www.trinityumc.net/give, or use the "giving" button in the app, to set up the new system using ACH, debit, or credit card. On the bottom of that page is also a link to the old system so you can cancel your previous giving. Additionally, we are no longer mailing envelopes out, since this is a significant expense and inefficient use of paper. Envelopes will always be available at the church, and we are happy to put together a pack for you if you want one. If you have any questions or need assistance with this switch, feel free to contact the office and/or Pastor Brian.



Pub Theology

Pub Theology is back at WayGone Brewery! We have bumped the start time to 5:45 PM. We hope you will join us on the following dates: **February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, and June 10.**



Ash Wednesday

Wear the ancient sign of your faith all day: between **7:30-8:30 AM** on **Ash Wednesday, March 5**, come by Trinity's front doors to receive ashes on your forehead, no need to even get out of your car!

Pastors Brian and Judy will be outside and out front on Trinity's front steps bestowing ashes, and blessings for anyone who stops by.

Start your Lenten journey this year with this fresh expression of faithfulness. See you bright and early!

The Chapel will be available all day for anyone who would like to say a prayer and receive ashes. We will then continue with a worship service in the sanctuary at **7:00 PM**, which will include the imposition of ashes. The 7:00 service will also be livestreamed.



Upcoming Events

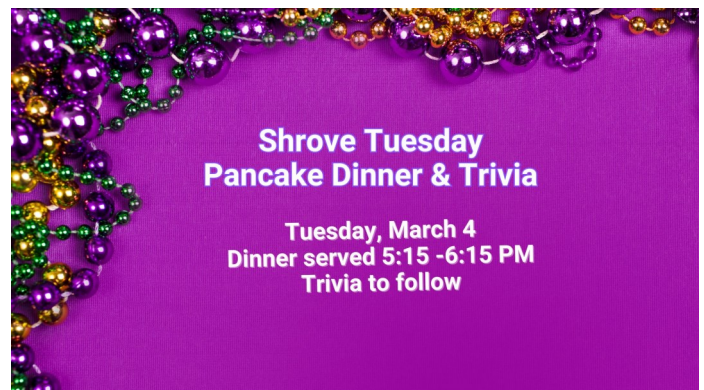
Tuesday, February 25 Celebrate Heart Month! We will have a program by Denis Popp of The Mended Hearts, Inc., Central Virginia Chapter. Come hear how to keep our hearts healthier! Program time is 2:00 – 3:30 PM in the Welcome Center. Refreshments will be provided.

Tuesday, March 25 – Day trip to the Holocaust Museum of Richmond with lunch following at the Heilman Dining Room at the University of Richmond. We will leave Trinity at 10 AM. Admission to the museum is free, lunch is paid individually at U of R.

Upcoming Events:

- **July** – Day trip to Yorktown to the American Revolution Museum
- **September** – Day trip to National D-Day Museum in Bedford, VA

Young at Heart programs are open to everyone. Come and bring a friend!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

The season of Lent is upon us, and we extend an invitation to the Trinity congregation to attend the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on **Tuesday, March 4**.

This event will be held in Trinity Hall. A pancake dinner will be served by the Outreach Class from 5:15-6:15, \$5 per person, \$10 per couple, \$15 family maximum. The menu consists of pancakes, bacon, baked apples, and beverages. Following dinner there will be a Trivia Contest.

So that the Outreach cooks can properly prepare for the dinner, a signup will be coming! Be on the lookout for the link!



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!



When we visit an aquarium, we find a whole world filled with sea creatures, plants, and more. Some of the discoveries we've made about what lives underwater can seem almost like a miracle. But it's not just under the sea where miracles happen—Jesus used water in some of his most well-known miracles! In this four-week series, kids will learn about some of the incredible miracles Jesus performed to help people grow closer to God. As they do, they'll learn how Jesus does everything out of love, calls us to follow him, knows what we need, and, most of all, that Jesus can do anything!



Transit is our 4th and 5th grade program at Trinity! It is open to all 4th and 5th graders at Trinity and in our community! We meet 3x each month from September – November and January – March at Trinity from 5-7pm on Sunday evenings in room 302. Our program includes dinner and activities/games!

Our remaining dates for Transit are:

February 2, 16, 23

March 2, 9, 16

SAVE THE DATE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE IMPORTANT TRINITY KIDS DATES!!

MARCH 23 - FAMILY EASTER EVENT AT 10AM

APRIL 27 - SPRING FEST (RAIN DATE 5/4)

KIDS CAMP - JULY 7-11





Bowling Night with the Student Ministry!

Get ready for a night of fun, laughter, and friendly competition at Bowlero! The Student Ministry is heading out for a Bowling Night on March 23, and registration opens **February 6**. This is the perfect chance to enjoy time with friends, build community, and make great memories together.

If you're planning to attend, register and don't miss out!

Spring Retreat – Register Now!

The Student Ministry is excited to announce our **Spring Retreat this April**, and registration opens **February 6**! This is your chance to unplug, connect with friends, and grow deeper in your faith through fun activities, powerful lessons, and meaningful worship.

Spaces are limited, so if you're planning to attend, register and secure your spot for an unforgettable experience!



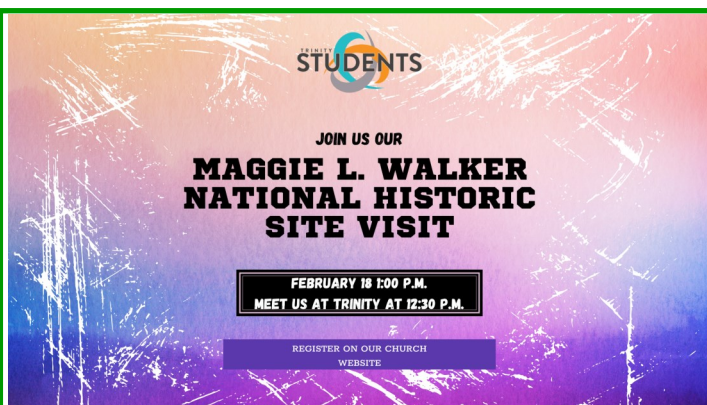
Student Ministry Super Bowl Party!

Get ready for a night of fun, food, and fellowship at our **Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 9**, starting at **5:00 PM** and going until halftime! We'll have all your game-day favorites—good food, snacks, soda, chips, and more. Bring your team spirit and join us in the **Student Center** for an unforgettable evening. Don't miss out on the fun—see you there!



Trinity Foundation Scholarships

Trinity Foundation will be offering scholarships again this year for undergraduate and graduate studies. Applications will be coming soon!



Trip to the Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site!

The Student Ministry is taking an exciting trip to the Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site on **Sunday, February 18, at 1:00 PM**. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time together while learning about the remarkable life and legacy of Mrs. Maggie Walker, a trailblazer in Richmond, VA, and a pivotal figure in Black History. Don't miss this chance to connect, explore, and be inspired by her incredible contributions to our community and beyond. If you're planning to attend, register now at <https://subsplash.com/trinityunitedmethod-3dkn/lb/ev/+k8wnpnw>. We can't wait to see you there!





United
Women
in Faith

From the Trinity UWF President

Dear Trinity Sisters,

Three words are on my mind: Thanks, help, and connection.

First, a big thanks to Jo Lewis for her years of service as President of our Trinity UWF unit. Jo has a passionate heart for UWF at Trinity, and I am so glad that she will continue to be active with us.

Second, help! I am going to need a lot of help as I enter this role. Don't be shy about volunteering for anything or offering ideas and suggestions.

Lastly, connection. Remember that we are not alone. Our Circles are connected to each other; our unit is connected to the district, state and national UWF organizations. We are part of an organization about 500,000 strong. Let's lean into that connection.

We are doing good and having fun – come join us and bring friends!

Remember: love in action can change the world.

Dianne Moore, UWF President



2025 Officers and Coordinators: Angela Trevvett, Membership; Sarah Shutt, Spiritual Life; Kimberly Fricke, Secretary; Janet Hill, VP; Dianne Moore, President; not pictured Shari Adams, Treasurer

Save the Date!

Bold Women Transforming Communities
Call to Prayer and Self-Denial
March 13 – 10am - Chapel

Giving as an Expression of Our Faith

February 13

10:00am

Room 324



Join us as we explore the history and meaning of the World Thank Offering. Come prepared to share acts of God's mercy and love for which you are thankful, either from your personal experiences or acts you have read or heard about, locally, nationally or from around the world.

Circle Meetings

Circle 1 – February 18 at 9:30am in the Parlor.

Circle 4 – February 6 at 11am in room 323 to work on cards and mission plans.

Circle 6 – February 4 at 11:30am for lunch at the Tavern and a planning meeting

Circle 7 – February 20 at 6pm, dinner at the Greek Taverna for fellowship together.

Circle 10 – February 6 at 7pm in the home of Leila Spitzer for a presentation about Little Hands of Virginia.

Help Wanted!

We need someone to help with the planning for the Spring Service Day on April 10. If you are interested, please contact Dianne Moore.



Ditch the Dryer Sheets

People around the world spent \$12.7 billion dollars on dryer sheets in 2023. Were you one of them?

Why is this a problem? Dryer sheets do more harm than good to your clothes, your dryer, and, most importantly, the planet. Change to better options.

Environmental impact: Dryer sheets can have a significant negative impact on the environment due to the synthetic materials they are made from, the chemicals they contain, which contribute to water pollution when the chemicals leach out during washing, and the fact that they are single-use items which end up in landfills, releasing harmful stuff into the environment over time.

Clothing impact: Since the sheets are coated with a chemical solution that transfers to your clothes when heated up during drying, they can make towels less absorbent, your athletic gear less moisture-wicking, and kid' pajamas less flame resistant.

Dryer impact: That film also builds up in your dryer, affecting the appliance over time. The residue may prevent the moisture sensor in the drum from working correctly, which leads to over-drying and increases your utility bill. The residue can coat the mesh of the lint filter, making it a potentially safety concern.

Alternatives: The most popular alternative to dryer sheets is **wool dryer balls**. They bounce off your clothes and linens and are a more sustainable option since they are natural, reusable and biodegradable. Even better for your clothes is that they cut down on drying time, so your clothes aren't heated for as long, and no chemical residue. The wool balls also attract more pet hair - less need to use a lint brush.

Other options include tennis balls or even using a ball of aluminum foil. Take a few feet of foil, crumple it up until it's roughly the size of a tennis ball and toss it in your dryer with your clothes. You can reuse the same ball dozens of times. Finally, of course, air drying!



Lighting Help

A gentle reminder to our congregation and staff, please remember to turn off the lights if you are the last one to leave a classroom, hallway, or corridor.

Joys and Concerns

Our sympathies to...

The family of Steve Parsley who died January 26
The family of Joyce Cardoza who died January 19
John-Scott Smith whose grandmother Jean O'Callaghan died January 10
Lauren Kastelberg whose sister Donna Bartold died December 31
Pat Rollison whose brother-in-law Montie Largin, Sr., died December 24
Vernon Roberts whose sister Linda Lewis died December 21
Terri Royster whose father C.B. Royster died December 19
The family of Ken Cardoza who died December 19
The family of David Boring who died December 16



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

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