

The Trinity Window

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

January 2025



Pastor's Pen

- 98 Sing to the Lord a new song
because he has done wonderful things!
His own strong hand and his own holy arm
have won the victory!
- 2 The Lord has made his salvation widely known;
he has revealed his righteousness
in the eyes of all the nations.
- 3 God has remembered his loyal love
and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
every corner of the earth has seen our God's salvation.

Psalm 98:1-3 (CEB)

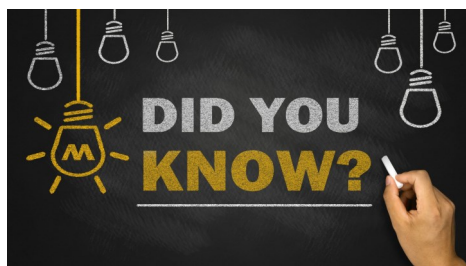
A new year is here again. And what a year last year was! I thank every one of our people at Trinity for the incredible things that happened. We renovated a large portion of our building, we branched out in mission in new ways, we filled staff vacancies, we saw a surge in kids and student ministries, and that's just the easy ones. I often say that Trinity's best asset is its people – you. I mean that, with my full being. Nothing we do happens without Trinity people.

This year, we have just as much to look forward to. Let us continue to be who God calls us to be in this place and this time. Keep your eyes open to new opportunities to be Christ for our community. Keep your enthusiasm up for what we are doing, together. We have so much to be thankful for, proclaim, and invite others to. I am thankful every day that I am here at Trinity, and I am so excited about us continuing to grow and lead in the time we have together.

I've been working behind the scenes to look at and improve our operational processes. My goal is to reduce staff busywork so they can be freed up to better support you and also live more fully into their own gifts and skills. As part of that, we are shifting our financial giving platform, and as of January 1, we are phasing out previous online and electronic giving methods. Don't worry, we will always accept checks and cash. However, the more people use our new system, the lower the fees associated with that system become. If you have not already moved your giving to the new platform, please contact the office for assistance (but it's really easy on the website or through the new app).

Yours in Christ,

Did you know?



The pastors are here to assist with your special moments in life. We can help plan funerals, weddings, and other such big events. We can arrange invitations to those outside the church who you would like to be part of your day. To help in planning, we do have policies and checklists that are available in the office or online at trinityumc.net/forms. This is also where you can find other forms to reserve space in the building, for example.

Christmas Eve Worship

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

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 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 this 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.



Upcoming Events

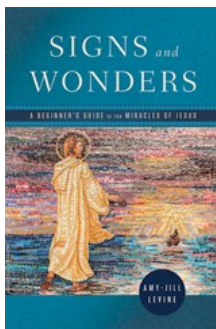
Tuesday, January 21 Peggy Watson will present a program on OSHER. An OSHER membership has benefits well beyond their phenomenal programs! We will be in the Welcome Center from 2:00 – 3:30 PM.

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.

Members of Young at Heart gathered to see "Christmas Spectacular" at Riverside Theater on December 11.

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





3M Study to Study “Signs and Wonders”

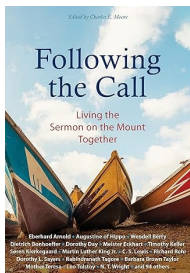
Our Wednesday Night Study Group, “3M” will study “Signs and Wonders” by Amy-Jill Levine starting **Wednesday, January 8**. This study looks at six miracles of Jesus. We gather in person as well as by Zoom, 6 – 7:30 PM. Contact Judy Oguich for the

Zoom link. The book is available from Amazon and from Cokesbury.

We always welcome new members!! Contact Judy Oguich for any questions.

Pastor Daniel’s Bible Study

Daniel’s weekly Bible Study, which meets on Thursdays from 6-7:30 PM approximately, will resume in the new year on **January 9!** Topics are TBD, but stay tuned for updates! We hope you will join us!

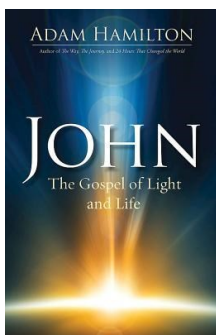


Dillard Bible Study

Beginning **Monday January 13**, the Dillard Bible Study will begin discussion of ‘Following the Call: Part 3 Kingdom Devotion.’ We meet via Zoom on Monday nights from 7:00-8:30 PM. Contact Dianne Moore if you are interested in joining us for this study.

Pastor Brian’s Bible Study

The Wednesday afternoon Pastor's Bible study will restart **January 22**. We will be studying the Book of Job. This study will take us through Lent.



Monday Morning Bible Study

Please join the Monday morning Bible Study beginning January 27 for a study on the Gospel of John by Adam Hamilton. The class meets from 9:30-11AM on Monday mornings in Room 323. Please purchase your book in advance of the class and try to read

the introduction and Chapter 1 in the book before the class begins. The book can be purchased from Amazon. If you are interested, contact Deanna McCullough deanna6mccullough@gmail.com to get on the class email list so that you will receive communications regarding the upcoming study. Hope to see you there!

JOIN US FOR THE

STUDENT PARENTS SOCIAL

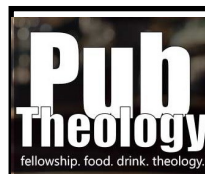
JANUARY 15 5:30-7:30PM
SHOREDOG CAFE 435 B NORTH RIDGE RD
SNACKS PROVIDED. DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
PARENTS ONLY

Student Ministry Parents Social

All Parents of youth (grades 6-12) are invited to go to Shoredog Coffee (435-B N Ridge Rd, Henrico, VA 23229) on **Wednesday, January 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM** for a gathering to meet other parents and enjoy some time together! Shoredog will be offering charcuterie, and drinks will be available for purchase. It will be a casual, fun evening, and you're invited to join!

If you're planning to attend, parents only, RSVP at <https://subsplash.com/trinityunitedmethod-3dkn/lb/ev/+dd7m6mv>

We look forward to seeing you!



Pub Theology

Thanks to everyone who attended the Christmas Caroling at WayGone Brewery in December. Our church organist, Laura Candler-White, was outstanding in leading us that evening. We also want to thank the WayGone staff for their gracious hospitality.

Pub Theology will return to WayGone Brewery in 2025. We are going to bump the start time to 5:45 PM. We hope you will join us on the following dates: **January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, and June 10.**

Better Together Coffee Hour!

January 12 10-11am in the Parlor!
Guests and Visitors
Welcome! Sign up below!

Coffee Hour - January 12

Join us for Welcome Classes January 26, February 2, and February 9

More info available via the QR code.



Mail Call for Honduras!

Our Medical Mission Team to Honduras takes place January 18 - 25. One of the highlights of our mission team's day is receiving mail. We invite you to consider writing a note of support 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 14**.

Thank you in advance for supporting our Medical Team to Honduras!!

Matthew Andrako
Linda Hart
Hannah Hayes
Wendy Mallory
Kristen Powell
Mark Shreve
Virginia Thompson Guidry

Diana Hernandez
Roger Hart
Susan Hayes
Chris Morris
Virginia Rhines
Ginny Witman
Joseph Thompson

Samaritan Award Recognition Trinity UMC Three Notch'd District

Pinnacle Living is celebrating seventy-five years as a Virginia Conference-related ministry with older adults. The Samaritan Program provides financial support to residents of Pinnacle Living communities who have been blessed by longevity and, through no fault of their own, become unable to meet the full cost of services.

A “Good Samaritan” has come to mean any person who helps another without thought or reward. There are other ways of being a Good Samaritan – one who is generous and compassionate in helping others: offering assistance and being a supporter, an advocate, and a protector are just a few descriptions that come to mind. **Trinity UMC** is truly a “Good Samaritan” when it comes to supporting the benevolent care mission of Pinnacle Living. Because of the congregation's exemplary financial stewardship and support, **Trinity UMC** is being recognized as a 2024 Pinnacle Living Samaritan Award congregation. This recognition offers appreciation to the top ten Virginia Annual Conference congregations in giving to the Samaritan Program.

Thank you for your generous support of the special Samaritan Offering from Mother's Day to Father's Day and for gifts throughout the year to the Samaritan Program. Without the support of local congregations, the Pinnacle Living mission of “Enriching Life's Journey” could not be fulfilled.



UM Day at General Assembly

The United Methodist Day at the General Assembly will be held on January 30, 2025. We will have arranged visits with our Senators to discuss issues that are relevant to our faith with direction from our friends and partners at Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP). You also have the opportunity to speak to your Delegates if you plan the visit and we can help you schedule that if needed. One of the ways we put our faith in action is by advocating for the least, the last, and the lost at the General Assembly. We hope that you will come and join us in Richmond as we continue our legacy as change makers here in our Commonwealth. LOCATION: Pace Center, 700 Franklin Street, Richmond TIME: 7:30am - 3:00pm COST: Early registration \$25 through December 20. Regular registration \$35 through January 17. Student registration \$10. Includes light breakfast, lunch and transportation to and from the General Assembly building. [Click here to register online](#). For more information, contact Heather Wray, heatherwray@vaumc.org



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

Christmas Flower Tributes for 2024

<i>In Loving Memory of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Ada and Ralph Bivins	Linda Latimer and Nancy McGowan
Ann Sangston	Jim Sangston
Antoine Hobeika	The Halls
Arthur, Audrey, and David Gerhan	Ken and Peggy Hart
Beverly Tresner Clark, My Aunt	Jerry M. Clark
Bob and Beth Hart	Ken and Peggy Hart
Caig Spitzer, our Son; and Mary Lu Windberg, Leila's Sister	Leila and Kirk Spitzer
Carl and Carolyn Robinson	The Fricke and Jones Families
Charles M. and Marjorie H. Browder	Their Family
Chick Hadden	Carole and Mike Dishman
Chick Hadden	Gibbie and Sandy Berry
Christopher Hickman	David and Gayle Hickman
Colleen Berninger	Carole and Mike Dishman
Davis Bottom and Carl Bottom	Hildie Bottom and Family
Dennis and Rick	Marti Parch
Diane Crosby	Pike and Reinking Families
Emily and Charlotte Benton, Our Granddaughters	Colby and Jan Benton
Frances and Mack Dewitt	Margaret and Steve Dewitt
George Pike	Pike and Reinking Families
Gilbert and Rose Stroop	Joyce S. Winters
Helen Long Hart	Roger Hart, Jr., Lisa, Roger, III, Anne Claire, and Charlotte
Jay Robinson	Leila and Kirk Spitzer
Jay Robinson	Cheryl, Pam, and Meredith; David, Jonathan, Adam, and Nathan
Jean and Alf Goodykoontz	Chuck and Cathy Goodykoontz
Jean Hanner	Gibbie and Sandy Berry
Jean Hanner	Chris, Jennifer, Lily Jean, and Nell Stalilonis
John Simpson	Carolyn Simpson
Julian D. Adkins	His Family
Kimberly Keene	Janet S. Keene
Lauren Banks	Susan and Ralph Freeman
Lois and Bernard Hill; Rick Hill; George and Mary Good; Helen Good; Alice Spotts; Ray Slabaugh	Rob and Joanne Spotts
Maj. General Marshall E. McCabe, MD	Alice McCabe
Marian and Lester Jones	Sara and Waddy Street
Michael Eunice	Ridley Eunice
Michael R. Schoenenberger	Anna, Melinda, and Sid
Mike Eunice	His Sister, Donna Gilbert
Mike Eunice	Carole and Mike Dishman
Mike Skrabala	Reyna Skrabala
Mom and Dad, and My Best Friend, Rusty	Connie Harter Burton
Mr. and Mrs. Emmette Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rollison, Connie McAdam, Rowena Manning, Dale Ward, Bill Ward, and Brian Rollison	John and Pat Rollison
Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Heatwole	Davis and Sharolyn Heatwole
Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert A. Beck & Rev. and Mrs. A.L.G. Stephenson, III	Anne and Ken Beck

<i>In Loving Memory of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Mr. and Mrs. James F. Bailey, Sr.	Sharolyn and Davis Heatwole
My Parents and Grandparents	Gregg Reynolds
Nancy Utley	Art and Mary Beth Utley
Our Dad, Mike Eunice	His Girls
Our Loved Ones	Eric, Judy, Garrett, Natalie, and Abby Oguich
Our Loved Ones	Susan and Ralph Freeman
Our Parents	David and Gayle Hickman
Our Parents	Mike and Susie Hildebrand
Pam Rutledge	Reid, Peyton, Annie, Emma, Blair
Parents: Hilda and Charles Chiles; Betty and Paul Cross	Teresa and Mike Cross
Rick and Alyce West	Kelley and Leila
Robin Brewster	Those Blessed to Call Her Friend
Stephanie Roberts Larry	Peggy and Vernon Roberts
Sylvia Britt	Randy Britt
T. S., Daisy, Jean, and Thomas Shutt	Sarah Shutt
Thomas Wayne Lemon	Anna, Melinda, and Sidney
Virginia Pickering and Ingrid Shomo	Porter and Donna Shomo
Warren and Shirley Overstreet	Pam Overstreet
William and Evelyn Carlton (Dee and PaPa), Our Beloved Parents and Grandparents	Nancy, Rannie Lou, and Bryan

<i>In Honor of:</i>	<i>Given by:</i>
Amy, Jamie, Caitlin, Jackson, and Alex Bitz	Sara and Waddy Street
Brad and Jan Booker	Carolyn Simpson
Carol Crowder	The Crowder Family
Davis and Bana Caskey	Trinity's Staff
Family and Friends	Kelley and Leila
Gray, Corey, Hilton and Byrd Booker	Carolyn Simpson
Henry and Caroline Beck and Catherine and Jack Malandrino	Anne and Ken Beck
Jane Hobeika	The Halls
Jo Ann Lewis	Circle 6
Judy Oguich	3M, with Love, and Appreciation
Ken Hart	Young at Heart
Linda Robinson	Cheryl, Pam, and Meredith; David, Jonathan, Adam, and Nathan
Mary Hetzel	Bonnie and Joe Andrews
My Children	Alice McCabe
Our Grandchildren and Their Parents	Ken and Peggy Hart
Sandy and Gibbie Berry	The Stalilonis Family
Sarah, Liz, and Audrey	With Love, from Mom
The Amazing Trinity Staff	The Messick Family
The Utleys: Jordan, Kyle, Colt, Tucker, and Karsyn	Art and Mary Beth Utley
Thom Crosby	Pike and Reinking Families
Trinity Staff	Burnett and Nancy Miller
Trinity's Staff and Ministers, and Families	Nancy L. Foley
Young at Heart Steering Committee	Judy Oguich



Advent/Christmas Offering

Our Trinity Christmas offering this year goes to United Methodist Family Services. We have a long history of being one of UMFS's greatest church financial supporters.

**Unwavering champions
for children and families.**

United Methodist Family Services is an unwavering champion for high-risk children and families in Virginia. UMFS serves children in foster care and children struggling with mental health and behavioral challenges. They provide foster care and adoption programs, specialized education schools, and mental health programs.

Your support of the UMFS offering will help children in foster care like Damonte. Damonte's mother was not able to care for him after his father died. At UMFS, Damonte was matched with a loving foster mother who helped nurture his kind-hearted spirit. He was able to learn the skills he'll need to become a productive adult. Damonte recently celebrated his high school graduation and is looking forward to the next step in his journey.

Your support of UMFS will also help children struggling with mental health challenges like Mackenzie. Mackenzie experienced severe trauma as a young child. Her behavioral and mental health challenges continued to escalate. When she was 13, Mackenzie came to UMFS and began a healing journey that would change her life. Today she has a stable home and a job she enjoys. Mackenzie shared that "I never would have thought I'd be where I am today."

Your offering gift will also support students who need specialized education like Sophia. Sophia struggled with developmental challenges. She was easily distracted and overstimulated in a traditional classroom. That led to increasing behavioral challenges. The small class sizes and trauma-informed, therapeutic support at UMFS helped Sophia thrive. As her parents shared, "Sophia's growth has been tremendous."

Your gift to UMFS will help children and families in crisis, providing them with much-needed resources and tools for success. Together we can help create a brighter future for high-risk children across Virginia.

Trinity Foundation Matching Advent/Christmas Offering Again

As the year draws to a close, the Trinity Foundation is thankful for our congregation and the many ways we serve the community. One important opportunity to do this is through the church's annual Advent/Christmas offering, which will once again support United Methodist Family Services. The congregation has responded very well over the past few years, and the Trinity Foundation will again match all gifts by the congregation up to \$7,500. This is just one example of how we can come together to do God's work.

The Trinity Foundation was started in 1971 and supports 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 year-end giving from an IRA account or Planned Giving and contact the church office to learn more.

TRINITY Kids

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!



People love camping, and for good reason! You can take in nature, practice special skills, or just take time to relax in a new environment. And when it comes to camping, no one loved it as much as John the Baptist. In this 4-week series, kids will hear about John the Baptist's special role in preparing the way for Jesus and his ministry. John's story will help kids to say their camp motto, "I believe God gives me purpose. I believe God can speak to me. I believe God is powerful. I believe God's words are true."



Join us at the 4pm Christmas Eve service for our Instant Kids Christmas Pageant! We will have costumes ready for your kids! Show up a little before 4pm and your kids can dress up as an angel, shepherd, or an animal! Kids remain seated with their parents until their character is called forward to join the pageant scene.

Trinity Kids had an awesome time at our Christmas Escape Room! Here are a few pictures of our fun! Thanks to our volunteers for helping to make this a special morning of hearing the Christmas story!





United
Women
in Faith

President's Message

Dear Trinity Women,

2025! Happy Year of new beginnings.

Let's start the year with very grateful hearts and a positive mindset.

There's so much to be done. Check out our upcoming programs. I encourage you to identify where God is moving and jump in!

Grace and peace.

Jo Lewis, Trinity UWF President

Circle News

Circle 4 – We will not meet as a Circle in January. Members are encouraged to attend the Trinity UWF meeting on January 9.

Circle 6 – On Tuesday January 7, we will meet for lunch at the Tavern at 11am.

Circle 7 – On Thursday January 16 we will have a planning session for the winter and spring months in January. We will meet in the Student Center at 7pm.

Circle 10 – We will meet on Thursday, January 9, 7pm, at the home of Bana Caskey. Daniel Parks will be our guest speaker.



Circle 6 members, including Janice Elledge, at their December luncheon



Nurturing Vulnerable Kids January 9, 2025

Join us as past President of the UMFS Auxiliary Janet Sommerville will be our guest speaker. Janet will provide us with an overview of their activities and help us identify opportunities for involvement. In addition, Pastor Judy will install and dedicate our officers for 2025. We will meet at 10am in Room 324.

The Board will meet at 9am in Room 323.

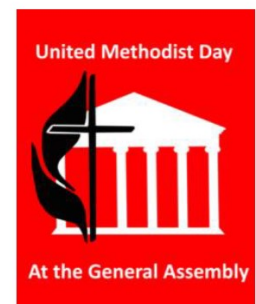
Save the Dates

Thursday February 13
World Thank Offering
10am, Room 324

Thursday March 13
Call to Prayer & Self-Denial
10am, Chapel

January 30, 2025
7:30am – 3:00pm

One of the ways we put our faith in action is by advocating for the least, the last, and the lost at the General Assembly. The Virginia Conference has arranged visits with our Senators to discuss issues that are relevant to our faith with direction from our friends and partners at Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP). Registration fee: \$35. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Heather Wray at heatherwray@vaumc.org.



Registration closes on January 17, 2025



Tips for a Green New Year

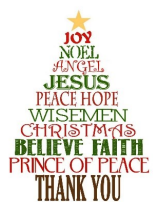
This year resolve to make a few simple lifestyle changes that could have a big impact on the earth. Start with staying eco-friendly after the holidays

by reducing the amount of waste you produce:

- **Reorganize and recycle wrapping** – use the paper again for wrapping, use it as material for something else or compost it.
- **Use up your leftovers** – food waste increases 25% between Thanksgiving and New Year's, resulting in about 1 million extra tons of waste each week
- **Dispose of items properly** – rinse recyclable items and put them in the recycling bin; put biodegradable items in the compost; remove anything that can be salvaged.

Resolve in 2025 to

- **Ditch the plastic** – carry and use reusable bags
- **Clean with green** – use non-toxic and natural products; most things can be cleaned with white vinegar, baking soda and lemon
- **Tuck in your computer at night** – turn off screen saver and put it in sleep mode when not in use
- **Be good to your vehicle and it will be good to you** – keep tires properly inflated; tune-up the engine regularly; replace the air filter – all of these can boost your miles per gallon
- **Think globally, buy locally** – food that hasn't traveled thousands of miles to your plate is fresher and buying local cuts down on pollution
- **Don't be a drip** – fix leaky faucets; a faucet that drips once each second can waste 8 gallons of water a day, more than 3,000 gallons per year



Thank you from the Staff

The Trinity Staff gratefully appreciate 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!



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

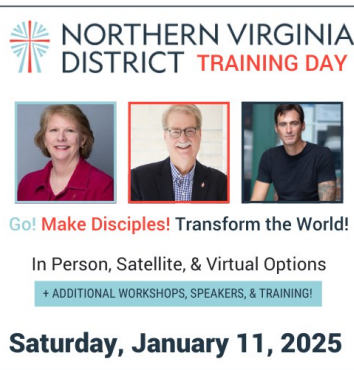
Birth

Sidney Christopher Colyer Allen born on November 12 to Elizabeth Allen. His grandparents are Jeff & Cindi Allen.

Our sympathies to...

The family of Robin Brewster who died November 28 Virginia Rhines whose mother Jean Rhines died November 24

The family of Richard "Dick" Krider who died February 24, the church was just provided that information.



NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT TRAINING DAY

Go! Make Disciples! Transform the World!

In Person, Satellite, & Virtual Options

+ ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS, SPEAKERS, & TRAINING!

Saturday, January 11, 2025

NoVa District Training Day

The Northern Virginia District is excited to partner with the Mountain View, Three Notch'd, and Valley Ridge Districts to provide an incredible training opportunity for the Virginia Conference's

laity and clergy. Training Day will be held on Saturday, **January 11, 2025**, at 8 different locations across the conference.

Our own Bishop Sue is one of the keynote speakers as we explore the theme: Go! Make Disciples! Transform the World. She will be joined by Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr. (Charlotte Episcopal Area) as well as Michael Beck (Director of Fresh Expressions for The United Methodist Church) to provide Keynote presentations designed to equip, encourage, and empower you for ministry.

There are three ways to participate in Training Day: In Person, Satellite, and Virtual. Registration is OPEN and tickets are going fast. Be sure to get yours today! Learn more and register at <https://2025.novatrainday.com/>



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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