



The Trinity Window

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

July 2025

Pastor's Pen



Hey Trinity people,

I hope you're having a great day, a great month, a great year! With Pastor Brian on vacation, I'm pinch hitting as your Pastor's Pen writer.

What defines the month of July, if not July 4? Independence Day is a great day for celebrating all the things that have made America special over the years, and doing so with friends and family. I'm going to be with family that weekend, and then return to help out with some of the things that define July at Trinity—Kids Camp, and lead Local Serve for the Youth.

It may surprise you to hear that the word “Freedom” actually doesn’t have one clear meaning. When the Founding Fathers fought and won a revolution, and then established the foundations of the American republic, they did so to establish what Americans would be free *from*. Their aim was to protect themselves and others from the overreach of a higher power. When scripture speaks of freedom, however, it does so to establish what we are free *for*. Christ has liberated us from the grip of sin, so we are free to follow him as disciples, to make his thoughts our thoughts, his hopes our hopes, and his ways our ways.

Do you think of freedom this way? What, specifically, has Christ freed *you* to do, to think, to feel, to become? Why are you here, and how is God pulling you into a common experience with the rest of humanity, and humanity’s Creator? Our church, our country, and indeed our world, really needs people to ask these hard questions of themselves, and to live their lives according to the answers. Being the “Light of the world” (Matthew 5:14-16) is not a title given automatically, but a calling we choose to accept. In this life, it’s very easy to choose wrong.

As July approaches, may we all reflect on what God has freed us for. You have the chance to make a difference, to help others in need, to change the conversations that are occurring around you for the better. May you choose the freedom God provides, and follow Christ in every aspect of your life. And as you do so, know that no matter what, you are loved beyond measure, by the Creator of the universe, and by your church family.

Blessings,

Thank you Dr. Daniel Parks



Trinity UMC expresses its gratefulness to Dr. Daniel Parks who has served as Director of Music Ministries for the last 10 months. Dr. Parks is taking this opportunity to move his family “back home” to Wisconsin. His last day will be June 30. We wish them only the best in their future endeavors.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, July 15 – Day trip to Yorktown to the American Revolution Museum. Come join us as we travel to Yorktown to explore this 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. Depart Trinity at 9 AM and return around 4:30 PM. Registration deadline: July 8.

Tuesday, August 19 - Day trip to the Richmond Holocaust Museum. Cost of admission is \$10. Depart Trinity at 10 AM, tour the museum and then stop for lunch on the way home.

Tuesday, September 23 – Day trip to the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia. Cost of admission is \$15.00. We will have lunch in Bedford. Hours 8 AM – 6 PM (approximate)

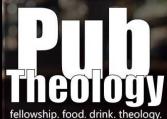
Coming in October: In-house program on Cyber-Security, 2 – 3:30 PM

Tuesday, November 11 – In-house program by the Tuckahoe Square Dancing Group, 2 – 3:30 PM.

Wednesday, December 10 – Trip to Riverside Theater in Fredericksburg to see “White Christmas”. Hours 10 AM – 5 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!



Pub Theology

Thanks to everyone who has come out in support of Pub Theology. We are going to take the month of July off. Our first meeting date will be **Tuesday, August 19**. We will continue to meet at WayGone Brewery on Patterson Avenue in the Canterbury Shopping Center. Start time is 5:45 PM. In August, we will reconfirm our meeting dates through December. The church will continue to provide pizza. We ask for a \$5.00 donation to help offset the cost. Being a beer drinker isn't a requirement for attendance. Beer, wine, handmade seltzers, soft drinks, and water are available for purchase. Any questions, email Bill Pike: bpike@trinityumc.net

Announcing Missions Tours Saturday, August 23

As we look to kick off a new year, and build partnerships with the Oak Grove/Bellemeade community, the Tuckahoe YMCA, and Goochland Cares, come and join other Trinity members for a tour of these facilities and learn more about how you can be involved!

Come join us!! We are still working to plan all the details for transportation, but we are hoping to utilize the following schedule on **Saturday, August 23**:

- 9 AM - Goochland Cares (2999 River Rd W, Goochland, VA 23063)
- 11 AM - Tuckahoe YMCA (9211 Patterson Ave, Richmond, VA 23229)
- 1 PM - Oak Grove Bellemeade (Park at 2409 Webber Ave, Richmond, VA 23224)

In your registration, indicate which facilities you are hoping to tour, and share your transportation preferences so that we can plan better. **Registration closes August 17. To register: <https://www.trinityumc.net/event/zq6y2sh/trinity-missions-tours>**

Missions Town Halls Come, Learn, and Get Involved!

It's a busy time to be involved in missions at Trinity! We're launching our partnerships with the Oak Grove/Bellemeade community, the Tuckahoe YMCA, and Goochland Cares, AND, we're beginning to work together in earnest to ensure ALL of Trinity's missional efforts can grow and thrive. To learn more about this, and about how you can be a part of the action, plan to attend our town hall meetings! We held the first meeting on June 29. **The next meeting will be on September 14. You can register for the September meeting [here](#).**

Please register for the September meeting by September 12 at noon.

We'll be in the Sanctuary, and we'll be discussing the process by which Trinity's mission task force decided to partner with these organizations, what we're looking to accomplish in each partnership, how our missions committee will work, and ways you can be involved, including highlighting all the big mission-related events Trinity has coming up this year! We look forward to having you!



What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

*Summer Schedule:
10am during worship*

*Nursery: Birth – 3 year olds
Kids Worship: Preschool & Elementary*

Here's what we're learning this month!



A lot of parents and kids alike focus more heavily on gleaning academic knowledge and gaining meaningful experiences, but teaching our kids to pursue wisdom will help them merge those fields and develop better, God-centered decision-making skills. Kids are placed in plenty of situations where they would need to exercise such discernment. While the wisdom they would need on a daily basis may not be on the scale of Solomon deliberating an argument between two women each claiming to be the rightful mother of a baby, kids will still collect valuable insight about wisdom from such stories. They will first determine wisdom comes from God, and that being wise also has a lot to do with saying the right words and asking the right questions. . . all of which we can ask of God, who will give them to us because God can be trusted!



Are you available to serve in the nursery this summer?
We are looking for volunteers to serve in the nursery and Kids Worship at 10am during the worship service for this summer – from May 18 – August 31. **There are many opportunities to serve this summer!**

Sign up here to volunteer:

bit.ly/4dpYtNZ

Summer is brimming with amazing potential for you and your family!

This summer, we want to challenge families to be intentional with how you spend this extra time. We want to encourage you to do your summer on purpose, viewing it as a unique opportunity to invest in those you love the most. Not only do we want to help you make your summer fun, but we want to help you make your summer matter.

BELOW ARE A FEW QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU, AS A PARENT, BE INTENTIONAL THIS SUMMER IN A WAY THAT FITS YOUR FAMILY:

- * What are three words that would describe your ideal summer?
- * What would you like to learn about your kids?
- * Are there any service projects or mission trips you could help with as a family?
- * Are there any important conversations you need to/want to have with your kids?
- * Are there any new skills you want your kids to learn that you could be a part of? (cooking, sewing, etc.)
- * Are there any new traditions you could start this summer?

Local Serve: July 7-11

Students, do you like helping people? Do you like hanging out with your friends and peers? Do you like doing fun things like hitting golf balls a long ways, and hanging out by the pool? If so, sign up for Local Serve 2025! It's going to be a great time!

[The link to register is here](#). Registration closes June 29. Parents, we need volunteers too! [Sign up here!](#)

Here's our schedule:

JULY 7: Local Serve Day 1 - Kids Camp Support and Trip to Top Golf
(2308 Westwood Ave | Richmond, VA 23230)

JULY 8: Local Serve Day 2 - Work at the Tuckahoe YMCA and trip to Short Pump Mall

JULY 9: Local Serve Day 3 - Work at Oak Grove/ Bellemeade and trip to Dave and Busters (4001 Brownstone Blvd, Glen Allen, VA 23060)

JULY 10: Local Serve Day 4 - Work at Goochland Cares and Overnight at Church

JULY 11: Local Serve Day 5 - Car Wash and Pool Party at Ridgetop Recreation Association (901 Ridge Top Road Henrico, VA 23229).



Student Parents Social - July 27, 3-5 PM at WayGone Brewery

Parents of Students, you're invited to join Daniel and others from the Student Ministry for an afternoon of fun and relaxation at WayGone Brewery (10612 Patterson Avenue, Henrico VA 23238). Bring a snack to share, or munch on snacks from WayGone, and sip a beer with other cool people. Daniel will also take a few minutes to offer an update on Fall programming for the Student Ministry. Come hang out with great people! All are welcome, but please try to register by Sunday, July 20 so that Daniel can offer a final count to the hosts. We look forward to seeing you!

Registration link: <https://subsplash.com/trinityunitedmethod-3dkn/lb/ev/+kcksw7g>

SWAG (Summer Worship and Games)

SWAG is almost here: The dates are **Monday, July 28—Thursday, July 31**.

Get ready for a week of fun, friends, worship, and of course, a whole lot of mess! Join us for SWAG 2025 as we play weird and fun games, relax with cool people, eat a ton of snacks, and connect with God and each other.

Students can [be registered here](#). Parents, we need volunteers! [Sign up here!](#)

Students should plan to arrive at church by 6 PM. We will split them into four teams (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), and begin each night with a group game, before splitting up for free time, and coming back together for a final large group challenge. We will conclude each night with worship.

Registrations close July 13. It'll be a great time together!

HIGH SCHOOL ONLY NIGHT

AUGUST 9, 5-7PM

PERFORMANCE PICKLEBALL



REGISTER BY AUGUST 7

[High School Only Night - Performance Pickleball](#)
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MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY NIGHT

AUGUST 8, 5-7PM
AT MISSION LASER

REGISTER BY AUGUST 1

[Middle School Only Night - Mission Laser](#)
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Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School Apple Angel Tree

The Apple Angel Tree tradition continues for the 2025-26 school year! Oak Grove-Bellemeade is again one of the Richmond public schools with a 200-day school year, adding 20 additional days to the traditional schedule. School will begin for Oak Grove students on July 21!

During the Spring, the lead teachers for grades K-5 provide us with a list of items the teachers would like to receive for their classrooms. We turn these lists into "apples" that can be "picked" for the upcoming school year.

Apples are "ripe for picking". We will be making the first delivery of supplies to Oak Grove the week of July 21 and finish shortly after.

How can we participate? We will have a number of ways for all Trinity families to participate.

- **In-Person Apples:** If you worship in person at Trinity or are able to come to Trinity, we invite you to choose an apple from the display boards in the Welcome Center at the church. There will also be a display board in Trinity Hall for those delivering food on Fridays.
- **Amazon Wish List:** There will be an Amazon wish list available by June 30. This list will have items that are available in larger quantities or are less expensive through Amazon. The items selected from the list can be delivered directly to Trinity.
- **Financial Donations:** If you prefer to make a financial donation to the Apple Angel Tree, you can do this via check (memo "Oak Grove Apple Tree") or via ACS (choose "Back to School Supplies").

Delivering the Supplies:

- If bringing the items to Trinity, double bag them in paper bags with handles. Attach your apple or a list of items and grade level to the outside of the bag. Deliver to the rear of Trinity Hall by **Sunday, July 20**.
- If having the items shipped, have them delivered to Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Ave., Richmond, VA 23229 and marked "Oak Grove Supplies." Items should be delivered by **Friday, July 18**.

If you have questions, contact Karen Adams at 804-382-6477 or at kmadams1711@icloud.com

New Shoes Event is August 16

The New Shoes for Back-to-School ministry has announced it will hold its in-person distribution event on **Saturday, August 16**. Although the event has been on Labor Day in the past, the earlier school start date of mid-August has prompted the group to shift the date to make sure students have new shoes on the first day of class.

The location of the New Shoes for Back-to-School event is Third Street Bethel A.M.E. at 614 N. 3rd Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Hours for the event are 8 AM to 2 PM. Any shoes left over after the event are donated to area Title 1 schools.

In its nineteenth year, the initiative has provided more than 119,000 pairs of shoes to Metro Richmond, Henrico and Chesterfield area schoolchildren. A coalition made up of churches and a synagogue work together to make this event possible.

Each congregation has been asked to donate 150 pairs of shoes. You can help by purchasing and bringing shoes to Trinity, or through financial contributions. (New Shoes for Back to School is included in the drop-down menu on the "Give" page on Trinity's website at trinityumc.net)

Volunteers are also needed on the day of the event. Each church/synagogue has been asked to provide volunteers. At the event, a large fellowship hall is set up with tables according to gender and size. Some volunteers will help at the tables; others will accompany the families as they make their way around the hall. Contact Beth Monroe bethmonr@gmail.com or 804-339-0664 to learn more



Thank You Notes

Just a note to thank Trinity for all the cards, gifts, and prayers during out difficult time. It is much appreciated.
Ann & Bob Passmore

On June 7, Mark Devlin, Freddie Fanelli, Teresa Given, Linda Latimer, David Priest, Rob Spotts, Mary Beth and Art Utley gave of their time and energy to complete Church Chores. We greatly appreciate the work they did on lamppost cleaning, pruning, van washing, and weeding.

Also, on a different project, thanks to Teresa and Mike Cross for their work to improve the traffic signage on our grounds.



Good Bye from Kim

Dear Trinity,

As I count down the days to **August 28**, when I retire after 22 years and 2 months, I have thought about the members of Trinity. What I will miss the most about Trinity will be its members! From the first day that I

walked into Trinity, you have made me feel like I belong. Trinity's congregation has amazingly big hearts. There are so many people that I would like to thank, but that would take up more than a page of this newsletter. So let me just say Thank You! You have made me feel like a member of this family. I will cherish each and every one of you. To my Hokie friends, thank you for coming by to see me during good and bad seasons. "Let's Go Hokies!"

In addition to the congregation, I would like to thank Judy Oguich. You have such compassion, I don't know if I would have made it through my mom's funeral without you! You have always cared about my family, and I hope you will be there when my son finally gets motivated. And to Bill Pike, you have been an amazing mentor! Thanks for being my sounding board, the person I went to for advice, and allowing me to read your writings, you are an amazing writer and storyteller!

I will miss the people of Trinity, you will be in my heart, even after I leave. Thank you!

Kim Tingler

Joys and Concerns

Birth

Grayson Curry Jones, Jr. born on June 10 to Taylor and Curry Jones. His grandparents are Kimberly and Robert Fricke

Baptism

Henry Hertzig

New Member

Cheyenne Hertzig

Our sympathies to...

Alice Bare whose son Justin Williamson died May 29

Missions Committee

As the church, we exist to serve. And church is at its best when we work together.

If you represent a Trinity mission project, or organization that does mission work at Trinity, you're invited to join Trinity's new missions committee! Our first meeting will be in mid-August, and the deadline to become part of this committee is August 1. If you are interested contact Daniel Guenther. It would be wonderful to have you add your voice to our discussions about how we can better serve our neighbors as a congregation.

Global Leadership Summit

On **August 7 and 8**, Trinity will be hosting a virtual showing of the 2025 Global Leadership Summit. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. More details will be shared soon.

For over 30 years, the Global Leadership Summit has brought leaders together for a powerful two-day experience. With the Summit, you will never lead alone. Our world-class experts will become part of your team, offering key insights, and practical resources for long-term impact.

**NewsLetter
DEADLINE**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, July 21 at 4 PM for events taking place in August**. 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.