

The Trinity Window

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

June 2025



Pastor's Pen

Summer is here!

This summer, we are trying something different at Trinity. We are combining our worship services to provide a higher energy level and allow us to be together in one place at the same time. It should prove to be a time when we can see and interact with those in the church we may not get a chance to in our regular schedule. Take advantage of this time to do just that. Stay tuned as we do have some special experiences ready for the summer as well!

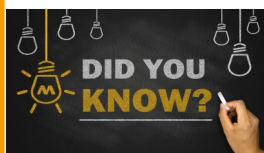
In our staff planning session for 25-26, we realized that we need more input from the congregation in developing our events and programs. So, on June 8, we are holding a listening session focused on programming. We want to hear from you what would be meaningful either in faith or life. We want to know what times would work better for you. We want to know what would be exciting for you to attend and be part of. So come, following worship on June 8, and give your feedback so what we offer in the future truly meets your need.

Everything seems to be changing. The way the world talks is changing. The way families interact and schedule is changing. The way humans learn and communicate is changing. All this change means that we as the church need to shift how we do some things as well. Change is hard. Change is scary at times. Change means the rock steady place of the church in our lives may not be the way we always remember it to be. I get how disorienting that can be. At the same time, being part of something that is reaching the community in new ways and impacting lives in ways we never have before can be exciting and energizing. That's the hope and the goal, and we really do need each one of us to be part of it. When we can each bring our best selves to the party, we become even more amazing than we already are.

Trinity is, indeed, a special place. I believe in it with my whole heart. We are on the verge of something absolutely amazing. As the angels said in the Bible every time they show up, "Be not afraid." The Lord is with us. We are with each other. Watch out world, Trinity's alive and kicking!

Yours in Christ,

Did You Know?



The United Methodist Church is a connectional church. This means that we share resources, knowledge, and more. The churches are organized in localized districts within a larger conference. For us at Trinity, we are part of the Three-Notch'd District, which goes from Richmond to Charlottesville. We are also part of the Virginia Conference, which is basically all of the Commonwealth of Virginia east of the New River. What does this give us? By being together we receive clergy training, credentialing supervision, and insurance, cooperative ministries and missions, shared disaster and emergency response, training for local church members and staff, and more. The shared structure is funded by apportionments, meaning the costs are distributed among every church through a formula based on church expenditures. While they seem like a tax of sorts, they really are our fair share of common ministries and expenses. Facing the reality of the world, both the general United Methodist Church and the Virginia Conference significantly reduced budgets in their last meetings.

One of the most misunderstood parts of the connectional church is the "trust clause" regarding church property. The trust clause dates back to the beginnings of Methodism, and is one of the essential foundations of the Methodist connectional system. Under church law, all church property is held in trust for the denomination, which means that, legally, the denomination has the right to succeed to the title of a local church property. But spiritually, United Methodists also recognize that there is a sacred trust between today's church members and future generations of United Methodists. The trust clause preserves the doctrine and identity of United Methodism.

In short, we are not an island. We are connected to other United Methodist churches. We have more for the world together than any one church could do in isolation. If you have any questions on how any of this works, reach out to Pastor Brian.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, June 8: We will have lunch at Hanover Tavern, then see the 2:30 PM matinee performance of "Honky Tonk Hissy Fit" there. **THIS EVENT IS SOLD OUT!**

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.

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

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!



Members of Trinity enjoyed a trip to Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens on Tuesday, May 20 sponsored by Young at Heart. It was a picture perfect day! We learned a lot and enjoyed a wonderful lunch in the Garden Café afterwards. Many thanks to our driver, Ken Hart!

Cedarfield Celebration

Join us on **Tuesday, June 3, 3:30 – 4:30 PM** in the **Fellowship Hall** at **Cedarfield** for our quarterly celebration! We will have refreshments, updates on Trinity and Cedarfield happenings, a devotion by Rev. Judy Oguich, music, communion and - most importantly – opportunities to fellowship with our members who reside at Cedarfield!

Cedarfield's address is 2300 Cedarfield Parkway, off of Three Chopt Road. If you can participate on June 3, contact Carol Wampler (804-784-7177, carol-wampler@msn.com) or John Taylor (804-740-4405, jaydeetay@verizon.net). Everyone is welcome!

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. On **June 10**, our community guest will be local author, Judy Bice, author of the book Hey, White Girl. We hope you will join us. Any questions, contact Bill Pike: bpik@trinityumc.net

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Church Chore Day
Saturday, June 7
8 AM to 12 Noon



Sign Up to come help us!



On Saturday, June 7, we hope you will consider joining us for Church Chores. Like our homes, there is always a project lurking on the church grounds or inside the building. On this Saturday, we will gather in front of the Welcome Center at 8 AM. From there we will disperse to our assignments and work until 12 noon. Please sign up for the chore area where you would like to work: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48A8A72EAA8-57008782-church>. Here are the categories for signing up: washing the church's vans, power washing sidewalks, steps (church will provide water hoses, not the power washer), cleaning lamppost fixtures, weeding landscaped borders, weed eating grounds, pruning assorted trees/shrubs, and other odds and ends. Dress appropriately and wear sturdy shoes. Any questions contact Bill Pike: bpik@trinityumc.net



Listening Sessions about Future Programming!

**Sunday, June 8
After worship.**

**Activities for kids in
Trinity Hall!**

We are interested in your thoughts and opinions! Please join us on Sunday, June 8 after worship to talk about what programs and activities would interest you!

Missions Town Halls Come, Learn, and Prepare to 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! **One meeting will be on June 29, and the other will be on September 14. You can register for the June meeting [here](#) and for the September meeting [here](#).**

Please register for the June meeting by June 27 at noon, and the September meeting by September 12 at noon.

The June 29 town hall will take place after the worship service (11 AM), the September town hall will follow after worship (12 PM). We'll be in Trinity Hall, 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!



2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 243rd Session of the Virginia United Methodist Annual Conference will be held in Roanoke **June 12-14** at the Berglund Center.

In addition to our clergy members, Rev Brian Siegle, Rev Daniel Guenther and Rev Judy Oguich, our lay delegates are Mary Beth Utley, Ashley Marshall and Ryan Marshall. Trinity's District Representative is Art Utley. Please be in prayer for our conference as it meets.

Lenten Easter Mission Offering

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Lenten Easter Mission Offering. To apply for a grant, complete an application on-line at <https://www.trinityumc.net/forms> or get a paper application from the Welcome Center and bring the completed application to the church office. Deadline for turning in the applications is **Monday, June 9**. If you have questions, contact Bill Pike by email: bpike@TrinityUMC.net or phone 804-288-6056.

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.

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.



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!



For a lot of us, recess is one of our favorite parts of the school day. We get to play dodgeball, hopscotch, or race our friends around the play area. Recess helps us to stay active so we can grow strong, but it also gives us a chance to grow in our relationships. In this five-week series, kids will discover through the stories in the books of Judges, Ruth, and 1 Samuel the unexpected ways God can help them grow. As they do, they'll learn how God helps us grow stronger, helps us belong, answers our prayers, tells us what is true, and can use anything we give.



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

Can you volunteer to serve at Kids Camp?

We have over 100 kids signed up and are in need of more Crew Leaders! Crew Leaders (2 adults or 1 adult and 1 high schooler) guide a crew of 8-10 kids to 5 different rotations.



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! Rising 6th graders and older can sign up to volunteer!

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

Amazon Wish-List: <https://amzn.to/43vC65d>

**** Items will continue to be added as we get closer to Kids Camp! ****

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).

SWAG (Summer Worship and Games)

It's coming up soon....

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](https://trinityunitedmethod-3dkn.subspla.sh)
trinityunitedmethod-3dkn.subspla.sh

PSST....

WE'RE BAAAACK!!!!

**STUDENT
PARENTS
SOCIAL**

JULY 13, 3-5PM

WAYGONE BREWERY

**BRING SNACKS TO SHARE! DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.
PARENTS ONLY**



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 6 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>

MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY NIGHT

**AUGUST 8, 5-7PM
AT MISSION LASER**

REGISTER BY AUGUST 1

[Middle School Only Night - Mission Laser](https://trinityunitedmethod-3dkn.subspla.sh)
trinityunitedmethod-3dkn.subspla.sh



Trinity Foundation Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to this year's recipients of the Trinity Foundation Scholarships. The Foundation awarded scholarships to nine very deserving students, who were all recognized at our May 18 Graduate Sunday service. Duncan Monroe (Virginia Tech) and Matthew Estes (Virginia Tech) received the L.E. Galaspie Scholarship, Anne Claire Hart (Auburn University) and Adaline Glassman (North Carolina State University) received the Alysia Burton Basmajian Scholarship, Gray Belding (University of Virginia) and Sophia Swartz (Virginia Tech) received the Stuart Graham Family Scholarship, Jenn Shephard (VCU) received the William G. McClure, Jr. Scholarship and Kaleigh McPhail (Hobart and William Smith Colleges) and Emmie Love (William & Mary) received the David C. Ekey Scholarship.

The Trinity Foundation extends best wishes to these nine outstanding students as they continue their educational journey.

Can You Help Us Spread Some Sunshine?

We are in need of folks who are willing to deliver our altar flowers after Sunday worship on a regular basis. It is easy to do – we give you the name, address and phone number of the recipient – you have the joy of delivering to them. Please let Judy Oguich know if you would like to be a part of this ministry. We would like to create a schedule that would allow each person to deliver for one month at a time.



**3M
Bible
Study**

Our 3M Bible study group had a great year! We studied "Luke" by Adam Hamilton, "The Christmas Letters" by Magrey R. DeVega, "Signs and Miracles" by Amy-Jill Levine, "Knowing Who We Are" by Lacey Warner, and "Remember" by Susan Robb. We meet hybrid – in person and via Zoom. Jane Hobeika joined us each week from Houston! The picture below is of some of the class members at a meeting in April. We will gather again in the fall.

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



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! So the dates for collection and delivering have to be earlier.

What is the Apple Angel Tree?

Trinity has partnered with Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School for 20+ years. One of our most popular projects each year in this partnership has been to provide much-needed school supplies. Over 50 Trinity families participate in this effort each year.

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 will be “ripe for picking” on Sunday, June 29. 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?

As we have done the past several years, 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.

Thank you for your continued support of this project!

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





Date Confusion Leads to Food Waste

Each year the average American spends \$788 on food that is never eaten. Too often people mistake 'sell by' date for the date

when a product is no longer safe to eat and they throw away good food.

Diverting good food from landfills can help feed the households that lack consistent access to nutritious food while also tackling the climate crisis: decaying food in landfills produces significant amounts of methane, a climate super-pollutant.

Nearly 10% of consumer food waste is caused by misinterpreting these labels:

- **Sell-by date:** tells stores when to remove the product from shelves, but the food is generally still safe to eat for a week or more after that date.
- **Use-by date:** indicates the manufacturer's recommendation for when the product will be at its peak quality and flavor, not a safety date.
- **Best if used by:** indicates when the product will be at its best quality and flavor, not a safety date.
- **Expiration date:** the last date the product should be used to maintain its quality. For infant formula, it is also a safety date, according to the USDA.

It's important to note that if a product has been stored improperly, it may become unsafe to eat even before the expiration date. Use your senses (smell, look and taste) to identify spoilage. If in doubt, throw it out,
Sourced partially from NRDC.com

Thank You Notes

Thank You!

A massive thank you to all the parents, students, volunteers, and staff who made this incredible year for our youth ministry happen! From the Lock-In last September to Youth Sunday, you sacrificed and worked and made great efforts to do big things. Thank you!

Joys and Concerns

Birth

Catherine Jane Fleck born on March 29 to Niki and Dean Fleck. Her grandmother is Ridley Eunice.

Baptism

Betsy Keefe

New Members

Hunter Shelnutt, Kayla Miller, Charline Davidson, Liz Courts, Caroline Walters, Ken Warren, Joyce Warren

Our sympathies to...

Bill Campbell whose mother Cheryl Campbell died May 18

Anne McWilliams whose step-brother Hal Ferguson died in April



Trinity United Methodist Preschool and Parents' Morning Out is seeking a one-year-old teacher for the 2025/2026 school year. We are looking for a team teacher who is kind, creative, patient, knowledgeable about child development, and capable of communicating effectively with families. Email the Preschool Director, Katie Swartz, at preschool@trinityumc.net for more details.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the next Window is **Monday, June 16 at 4 PM for events taking place in July/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.