



Trinity United Methodist Church  
903 Forest Avenue  
Henrico, Virginia 23229

March 2026

# The Trinity Window

## PASTOR'S PEN

Hey, Trinity People!

Yesterday, we started Lent. At Trinity, we marked this occasion with a worship service. I preached, and in my sermon, I got to talk at length about what it means to worship “A God who multiplies.” A God who takes our gifts and talents, and uses them to make changes beyond what we could ever hope for on our own. A God who, by grace, empowers us to actually, truly, change the world.

Lent is often a grim season in churches. For that reason, my message might have seemed a bit out of place. How does “Change the world” mesh with “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return?”

These mesh together when we remember that God’s grace is not just about forgiveness, but empowerment. God created us all in God’s image, and God called us good. Grace is about restoring that image in us. In Lent, we so often focus on the consequences of Sin - our separation from God. We almost never discuss what happens when that separation is closed, and Sin is defeated. Even as we are meticulously instructed on what to run from, we don’t know where we should run to.

The season of Lent is a season of preparation for Holy Week. And Holy Week ends with Easter. New life, hope, redemption, and transformation are on the way for us all. That’s something worth being optimistic about.

Maybe changing the world - as cliched as that sounds - isn’t out of step with the Lent. Maybe that’s the whole point?

Go be the change you want to see in the world.

Blessings,

Pastor Daniel



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## YOUNG AT HEART—MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Young at Heart has wonderful programs coming up! Registration for these events is on Sunday mornings or with Judy Oguich at [joguich@trinityumc.net](mailto:joguich@trinityumc.net). These are open to everyone; come and bring a friend!



**Tuesday, March 24:** Day trip to The Virginia War Memorial. We will have a tour led by Trinity's Mike Cross. Following our time at the memorial, we will stop for lunch on the way home. Hours: 10am—2pm

**Thursday, April 23:** Day trip to Petersburg to visit Historic Blandford Church. We will have lunch in Petersburg following our tour. Hours: 9:30am—4pm

**Save the Date:** May 19 —Richmond Canal Tour, June 14—Lunch at Hanover Tavern followed by the play “George Washington’s Teeth”

## PUB THEOLOGY

We hope you will join us again in 2026 for Pub Theology at WayGone Brewery. Here are the dates and guests:

- March 10: Kate Andrews, Deputy Editor of Virginia Business
- April 14: Ben Campbell, author of *Richmond's Unhealed History*
- May 12: Mark Coakley, Henrico County Director of Elections
- June 9: Bill Pike

As a reminder, we meet at WayGone Brewery in the Canterbury Shopping Center on Patterson Avenue. Start time is 5:45, and the program ends by 7pm. The church provides pizza and requests a \$5 donation to help offset the cost. Water, soft drinks, beer, hard seltzer, and wine are available for purchase. You don't need to be

### SOUP-ER BOWL

Thank you for your participation in this year's Soup-er Bowl! Trinity's Kids and scouting troops raised **\$1,786.37 for our three local food pantries**—Sherbourne, Welborne, and Belmont. They can use this money to purchase food directly from FeedMore at a steep discount.



## A NEW MINISTRY—PARENTS OF PRESCHOOLERS COFFEE AND CHAT

Our Preschool staff, along with our Connect Team, worked together to start “Coffee and Chat” for our Preschool parents! At our first meeting in January, we had close to 20 moms and 2 dads who stopped in to get to know each other! And talk about connections—at that meeting, three of the moms realized they went to high school together!

The meetings for the rest of the year are the following Wednesdays: March 4, March 18, April 8, April 22, May 6, and May 20. Meetings are scheduled for 9:15–10:15 in our parlor.

**You can help!** We need help providing childcare for the siblings that may accompany their parents to these gatherings. If you are available to volunteer, any dates that you can, please contact Preschool Director Katie Swartz at [preschool@trinityumc.net](mailto:preschool@trinityumc.net).

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THIS SPRING— JILL’S BLANKETS & IVY WHACKER SOCIETY

Trinity’s **Ivy Whacker Society** will “swing” into action for their third year on

**Thursday, March 26** (rain date—Friday, March 27). They’ll meet at 9:50am behind Trinity Hall off the Stuart Hall road parking lot entrance. Everyone is welcome and needed, as they’re hoping for at least 20 volunteers for this important task. The project? Attacking ivy that’s overtaken trees and other areas on church grounds. Bring work gloves, loping shears, foldable saws, cutting tools, small crowbars, rakes, tarps suitable for pulling debris—whatever you have! You’ll want to wear weather-appropriate work clothing, especially long sleeves.



Lunch will be provided around noon. Please register on the website or contact the church office so they know how many whackers to expect. For any additional information, contact Bruce Leaman at [ricturfman@aol.com](mailto:ricturfman@aol.com) / 804-405-5296 or Bill Pike at [bpiketrinityumc.net](mailto:bpiketrinityumc.net).

**Jill’s Blankets is hosting their springtime blanket making opportunity at Trinity on Monday, April 27** with three available sessions beginning at 9:30am and ending at 8:00pm. All materials are provided, and blankets will be distributed to those undergoing treatments for cancer. To learn more or register, visit <https://jillsblankets.org>



## SCHOLARSHIP APPLIATIONS

The Trinity Foundation is pleased to announce that it will offer scholarships again this year to Trinity members for undergraduate and graduate students. **Applications are due at noon on Friday, April 10.**

Applications are available online at <https://trinityumc.net/foundation>. A paper copy can also be picked up in the Welcome Center. Applications and attachments can be sent to Paula at [pcadden@trinityumc.net](mailto:pcadden@trinityumc.net) or mailed to Trinity UMC, attn: Paula at 903 Forest Ave Henrico, VA 23229.

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, March 15, we will celebrate Confirmation Sunday and receive our confirmands as professing members of Trinity! They would love your support at this important milestone service.

## OAK GROVE—BELLEMEADE MINISTRY

Activities in Bellemeade Park resume this month with the following:

**Conserve & Create on Saturday March 7**, 9am to noon: This consists of light maintenance and is a great opportunity for Trinity to participate in improving this wonderful park. This event takes place every first Saturday March through December.

**Saturday Literacy Academy** on March 21 and 28, 10am to 12:30pm: students and volunteers mentor elementary school students, helping them with learning skills including math and reading. There is also time for crafts and games, including time in the park when weather permits. This is an ongoing program that takes place at Bellemeade Community Center (1800 Lynhaven Avenue).

**Weekday field trips** for Richmond Public School preschoolers through second graders will be presented when more information is available. Volunteers will be needed to set out various items in three activity areas and enjoy watching and interacting with the children, their teachers, and school volunteers.

There are no scheduled activities at Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School in March, but the school always welcomes volunteers. Contact Karen Adams if interested in learning more at 804-382-6477. For information on Bellemeade Park, contact Bob Argabright at 804-310-1080 or Steve Werner at 804-869-2246.

## UMCOR SUNDAY

On **Sunday, March 15**, we will receive an offering for UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief—the humanitarian relief and disaster response agency of the UMC.

UMCOR is able to fund their entire year’s administrative budget based on monies received through this offering so that full donations the rest of the year can go entirely towards relief. UMCOR has an A+ rating from CharityWatch and a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator—both the highest designations possible.

To contribute, notate “UMCOR” on your offering envelope or check, or give online using the drop down menu at [trinityumc.net/give](https://trinityumc.net/give).

## UMCOR’S RESPONSES IN 2025





Lent is the season in which we spiritually prepare for the coming of Easter. At Trinity, we will have many opportunities to spend time in fellowship, spiritual formation, worship, and more in the weeks to come.

Trinity is embarking on a **Lent Pilgrimage on Saturday, March 14**: a trip to Washington DC to experience the National Cathedral and the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America. Pastor Brian will drive a charter bus, and lunch is included. If you would like to register, see our website at: <https://subspla.sh/rn4ty23> **A small number of seats remain.**

It is Trinity's Lent tradition to take up a special offering: the **Lenten/Easter Mission Offering (LEMO)**. This is an extra offering over normal tithes that are distributed to a variety of mission- al organizations through an application process. Among many others, past beneficiaries have in- cluded: CrossOver Health, Friends of Barnabas, Oak-Grove Bellemeade, Camp Rainbow, and more. If you would like to contribute, make sure to notate "LEMO" on your offering envelope or check, or use the drop-down menu at [trinityumc.net/give](http://trinityumc.net/give).

Inserted in this newsletter is an order form for **Easter lilies**. You can purchase a lily to honor and/or memorialize a loved one, and their names will be listed in the bulletin at Easter. See the order form for further information.

**Lent devotionals** published by the Society of St. Andrew are available in the church office, the Welcome Center, or digitally on our Lent website.

Save the dates: **Holy Week** begins with **Palm Sunday on March 29 and concludes with Easter Sunday on April 5**. Easter will begin with Sunrise Service outside at 6:30am; please bring a lawn chair if you are able. Our modern worship service will take place at 9:00am and our traditional worship service will take place at 11:00am. There will be joyful music, flowers and photos at the cross, and a morning of celebration!

To learn more about these opportunities and more, visit our Lent website at [trinityumc.net/lent2026](http://trinityumc.net/lent2026).



## ENVISIONING OUR FUTURE: BUILDING TRINITY'S ROADMAP

Dear Trinity Members and Staff,

We stand at an important moment in the life of our church—a moment ripe for intentional growth, deeper connection, and renewed focus. To meet this moment, we have launched a comprehensive process that will create a plan for our future and build Trinity's long-term health as a Spirit-led congregation. It has been several years since our last planning process, and the time is now to be intentional about setting the stage for our next chapter.

Our goal is to create a cohesive roadmap to discern how Trinity UMC can best embrace our collective **Mission** "*to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*" and our **Vision** "*to form disciples who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously, bringing new life, reconciliation, and the presence of Christ to all people, especially the vulnerable.*" [per the United Methodist Church]

To ensure our church remains a place of vibrant spirituality and engagement amidst changing times, our process will consider:

- **Nurturing Our Existing Congregation** to grow spiritually and be deeply connected.
- **Empowering our staff and lay leadership** to serve effectively with clear direction.
- **Defining clear strategies** for the recruitment of new visitors and members.

Our planning effort is volunteer led by **Stephanie Ford**, Trinity member and strategic planning consultant, along with a strong and dedicated team of committee members.

This effort is designed to be inclusive and forward focused with several phases:

1. **Data Gathering** (January – March): We will gather input from staff, lay leadership, and the entire congregation through personal conversations and small focus group discussion opportunities.
2. **Assessment & Defining the Future** (February – March): Using this input, we will assess where we are now and define what's most important for our future.
3. **Updating Strategic Pillars** (March – April): We will revise and solidify our core strategic pillars to reflect our collective priorities, create alignment, and move forward with clarity.
4. **Action Planning & Accountability** (April – May): Working with staff and committees, we will outline specific initiatives and create an action plan that fosters accountability and delivers metrics for tracking progress.
5. **Implementation** (Spring): In the spring, the staff and TUMC committees will determine which action items can be implemented in the near-term. Then, we will utilize the Summer as an opportunity to act, observe, and reflect.
6. **Review** (Fall): In the early Fall, our planning committee will work with leadership, both with staff and through our committees, to build upon our newly created roadmap, assess progress, and continue the next stage of implementation. Our roadmap is intended to be a living document, reviewed regularly for progress checks and updates.

Your voice is essential to this process. We are seeking your thoughtful input through personal conversation in two key ways:

1. **Small Group Focus Discussions:** Our committee members will be reaching out to host conversations with our Sunday School classes and other groups to discuss our church's strengths, challenges, hopes, and priorities, including how we can better serve our congregation and community needs. Participation is encouraged, yet voluntary, and specific responses will be kept anonymous. Be on the lookout for a separate communication from your committee contact/group leader soon with scheduling details.

2. **Congregation-Wide Session:** We will all gather together for **one special worship service at 10:00 on March 8**. After service, we will meet in Trinity Hall for a congregation-wide session of discernment led by **Rev. Dr. Dale White**, Director of Congregational Excellence with the Virginia United Methodist Conference. We invite all to stay and continue the conversation over lunch as we enjoy fellowship time together! Programming for preschool through 5th grade will be provided during the session, and a Love Offering will help us to offset our meal together. To register for the meal, please visit <https://subspla.sh/ym2hcyx> or call the church office if you are unable to register online.

This is a time of transformation in our church, and we thank you for your wisdom, passion, and prayerful support as we move forward with confidence, unity, and excitement, knowing that we are seeking alignment for a strong, God-centered foundation for the future.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and participation. We are grateful for your commitment and partnership as we build our roadmap together!

Stephanie Ford, Chair  
Rev. Brian Siegle, Head Pastor

Andy Beach  
Brad Booker  
Corey Booker  
Caroline Cardwell  
Teresa Given  
Sarah Hall

Ashley Marshall  
Deanna McCullough  
Keith Reynolds  
Porter Shomo  
John Scott Smith  
Art Utley

## PRAYERS

We offer our prayers and condolences to:

Wanda and Terry Umphlet after the death of their son, Scott Umphlet, on January 23, 2026.

Joe and Bonnie Andrews after the death of Joe's sister, Jill Riggs, on February 1, 2026.

The family and friends of Jane Burge, longtime member of Trinity, who died on February 7, 2026.

## THANK YOU!

We are very thankful to Slurry Pavers, our Trinity Students, the Trinity staff, and James River Nurseries for assisting with snow and ice removal in late January and early February. It was difficult work, and having your help and support made all the difference in what we could do!

Thank you also to our Trinity members for their flexibility in embracing virtual worship for two weeks!

*Pictured: Pastor Brian digging a path to Preschool, Trinity Students at the Welcome Center*



## CREATION CARE: WAYS TO FAST & FEAST FOR GOD'S CREATION

Lent is a time of drawing closer to God. One way to do so is to embrace our role as both “Stewards of Creation” and a beloved part of God’s Creation! This list includes actions that help us right our relationship with Creation.

Feast on the beauty of each day by glancing up every time you go outside into the sunlight

Fast from household chemicals by using natural products (vinegar, baking soda, soap and hot water) to clean and disinfect

Feast on the blessing of water by offering a prayer of thanks to God each time you wash your hands or drink from the tap

Fast from disposable coffee cups or water bottles by carrying your own

Fast from eating meat, which consumes much of the world’s resources

Feast on foods lower on the food chain such as whole grains and vegetables

Fast from purchases at national chains by shopping at local stores

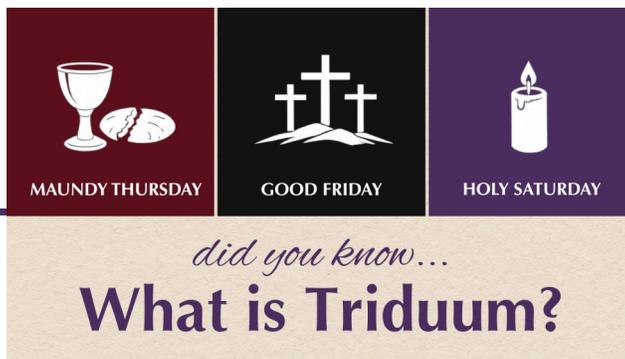
Feast on local agriculture by finding out the location of the closest farm stand, farmers’ market or grocery stocking local produce – and then supporting it!

Fast from extra packaging by purchasing in bulk and/or bringing your own bags to the store

Feast on fair trade by purchasing fairly traded chocolates, coffee and teas when planning for Easter baskets or brunches

Finally, fast from apocalyptic environmental thinking and despair – focus instead of the Good News that God creates, redeems, and sustains the Creation and we are called to be responsible, awe-filled caretakers alongside God!

*Excerpted from ‘Living in Lent, Caring for Creation’  
created by Presbyterians for Restoring Creation  
([www.prcweb.org](http://www.prcweb.org))*



Triduum means “three days.” It is the ancient Christian tradition beginning at sunset on Maundy Thursday and extending to Easter Sunday that marks the climax of Lent and bridge into the Easter Season. These days proclaim the mystery of Jesus Christ's passion, death, and resurrection as we journey through the upper room, to the cross, to the tomb, and into the joy of the resurrection. Though chronologically three days, liturgically Triduum is one continuous act of worship experienced over several days.

At Trinity, we will begin with a **7:00pm Maundy Thursday service**, remembering Jesus’ command to love through word, prayer, and Communion in a reflective and accessible style. On **Good Friday, we gather for a 7:00pm Tenebrae service**, marked by scripture, music, and the gradual extinguishing of light as we remember the crucifixion. On **Holy Saturday, there will be a virtual service released at sunset - 7:30pm** on our Facebook, YouTube, website, and app. This short and prayerful worship experience will hold space for silence, waiting, and hope.

## CEDARFIELD & LAKEWOOD CELEBRATIONS

Join us on **Tuesday, March 17 from 3:30-4:30pm in the Fellowship Hall at Cedarfield** or **Thursday, March 10 from 3:00-4:00pm in the Simms Room at Lakewood** for our quarterly celebrations! We will have refreshments, updates on Trinity happenings, a devotion, communion, music, and—most importantly—opportunities to fellowship with our members who reside at Cedarfield and Lakewood!

Everyone is welcome!

If you can participate, please contact Judy Oguich at [joguich@trinityumc.net](mailto:joguich@trinityumc.net)!

### A THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Church Family, Thank you for your prayers, kindness, and loving support during the loss of my beloved wife, Vickie. Your cards, visits, meals, and words of comfort have been a true blessing and a source of strength in this difficult time. Knowing we are surrounded by such a caring church family has meant more than I can express. I would also like to thank: Judy Oguich, Ben Miller, Daniel Guenthur, Ronnie Johnson, Bruce Sofinski, Peggy Hart and the wonderful ladies of the Bereavement Committee for making Vickie's service so special. Please accept my heart felt thanks. -Bob Argabright



**Spring Service Day**  
**March 12 – 9:00am – Trinity Hall**

Join us for a morning of service to our church and our community. We will meet in Trinity Hall at 9:00am for an opening devotional and then move to areas throughout Trinity for our projects. Planned projects include:

- Spring cleaning for areas of Trinity: adult classrooms, Trinity Hall kitchen, Eaton Hall kitchen
- Prepare Palm Sunday crosses
- Cut out decorations for Kids Camp
- Assist Trinity Stitchers with creating felt butterflies or cross bookmarks
- Prepare Easter projects for Shineforth families
- Collect items for CrossOver Healthcare Ministry

All are welcome to join us –  
we will have plenty of work and fun!

**The Future Is Now,  
Invest in Our Children**



If you wish to contribute to the Call to Prayer offering, place your contribution, payable to Trinity UMW, in the UWF Treasurer's box in the office by March 12.

**Save the Date!**

'Seeds of Hope'  
April 9

Room 324 – 10:00am

Want to save the planet?

Start with joy!

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**Circle News**

Trinity UWF Circles all welcome new members.

**Circle 1** – On March 17th at 10am we will meet in the Student Center for a program on 'Love' from our own Betty Allen.

**Circle 4** – We will meet with Keith Reynolds on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in room 324 to provide input on Building Trinity's Roadmap. Note the change in start time to allow for our project planning.

**Circle 7** – At our March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be filling plastic eggs with candy for the Oak Grove-Bellemeade Spring Fling. Some Circle members are also planning to go to Bon Air Presbyterian Church on March 22 (12:15-2:15pm) to participate in a packing event for the Sylvia's Sisters organization that is being held there then.

**Circle 10** – We will meet at the home of Ridley Starr, Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. Brad Booker will lead our discussion on Building Trinity's Roadmap.

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## What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

### 9AM Worship Hour:

Nursery available for kids under three

Preschool – Elementary: **Kids Church** (kids are dismissed before the first song and return by the last song).

Worship bags are available for kids to use in the worship service.

### 10AM Discipleship Hour:

Nursery available for kids under three

Preschool – Elementary: **Stay, Pray, and Play** - Kids gather in the sanctuary. Our time starts with Ben Miller leading the kids in music and movement. For the remainder of the time, kids play games or do crafts.

### 11AM Worship Service:

Nursery available for kids three and under.  
Worship bags are available for kids to use in the worship service.



Transit is our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade program at Trinity! It is open to all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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 winter dates for Transit are: March 1, 8, 15, 22**

Contact Jen at [kids@trinityumc.net](mailto:kids@trinityumc.net) for the weekly link to register!

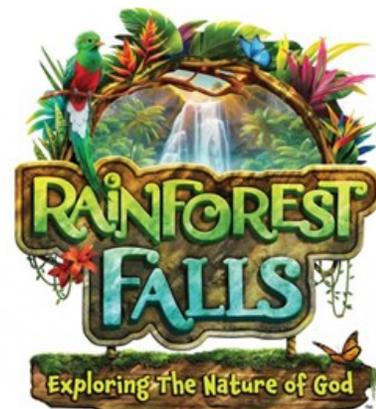


Getting invited to a party is one of the best feelings, and being left out is one of the worst. But there's good news—Jesus never leaves anyone out! He invites everyone to spend time with him, experience his love, and share it with others. This series will remind kids that Jesus' invitation is always open, and we're never too far away to join the party! In this series, kids will learn that I'm invited to believe in Jesus, love like Jesus does, experience Jesus' miracles, ask Jesus for help, and worship Jesus.



Kids Church at 9am: <https://bit.ly/4fapSEo>

Stay, Pray, & Play at 10am: <https://bit.ly/3LeOqBJ>



Kids Camp 2026 is July 6-10 from 9am – 12:30pm!!  
Campers – Register now for \$30!

Camper Registration: <https://bit.ly/3YzJRVR>

Volunteer Registration: <https://bit.ly/4r1HEhY>

Spend your lunch break enjoying a micro-concert on Trinity's pipe organ! Ben Miller, Director of Music Ministries, will offer a session of 3 concerts on 2nd Tuesdays this spring from March through May. Learn more about the pipe organ and its repertoire while enjoying the rich music in a comfortable environment!

Join us in the Sanctuary for the concert from 12:15 - 12:45. No reservations or tickets are required. A love offering will be received and go towards our organ fund.

**The debut concert will take place on Tuesday, March 10 and will feature the Music of the Wesleys.**



### SPRING FEST—SAVE THE DATE!

We are excited for this year's Spring Fest—coming on **Sunday, April 12 from 3:00-5:00pm** (rain date Sunday, April 19th). Spring Fest will feature a petting zoo, Jonathan the Juggler, trucks and equipment to see and touch, hot dogs, bounce inflatables, and more! This is a community event, and we hope that you will invite your neighbors and friends. Beginning on March 29, we will have a Peeps invitational in the Welcome Center for you to take with the intent that you'll pass them along as an invitation to Spring Fest. Stay tuned for more ways you can volunteer, coming soon!



### APRIL DEADLINE

**Articles for the April edition of The Window are due by March 18.**  
All articles or questions may be submitted to Laura Maher at [lmaher@trinityumc.net](mailto:lmaher@trinityumc.net).  
Thank you!

