



THE RIDER

Trinity United Methodist Church

PASTOR'S CORNER

July 2022

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6600 Greenyard Road

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Sizzlin' Summer Services!

Folks often say that things at a church slowdown in summer. Not this summer! Not at Trinity!

We have weekly Vacation Bible School, Wednesdays from June 29 through the month of July.

We are engaged in a Rise Against Hunger event on July 31 as an act of worship!

We have guest preachers telling their stories of living in a vibrant faith community in seasons of challenge and growth. They are part of an effort to hear different voices during the summer season. As we have already witnessed, we have experienced different music, young singers, and teen leaders. Our worship leaders are taking a more active part in weekly worship. And each week, an artifact is added to the foot of the cross, symbolic of the summer journey we are experiencing. Stop and take a look as the summer goes on.

We are eagerly anticipating the completion of the Place of Miracles site renovation, and expect there to be more special summer activities coming in August.

This is an opportune time to experience renewal in your spiritual life. It's also an opportune time to invite others to join you in worship, service, and activity. As Paul Nickerson points out in an article later in this news, 80% of people who come to a church do so because someone invited them!

Every day I give thanks for you! And every day I pray for you. May this summer be a season of growth for you.

Summer blessings

Pastor Alan

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Newsletter Deadline



Please have all news, pictures and articles to the office **by Sunday, July 24th** for inclusion in the August 2022 newsletter *date is subject to change.* you can send items by email to trinity@trinity-umc.com or drop off in the "Church Secretary" mailbox in the hallway.

Walking Where Jesus Walked



Join Pastor Alan and Julie on a tour of the Holy Land, February 27 – March 7, 2023. We will journey to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born; to the Galilee, where he ministered; and to Jerusalem, where he died and rose again. The cost of \$3,296 covers airfare from Richmond, quality lodging, breakfast and dinner daily, ground transportation and fees. **Go to the trip webpage** for all the details, or contact Alan.



Feeding the hungry is a responsibility given to us by Jesus himself in several scriptural commands. He practiced it, too, in abundance at the feeding of 5,000 people in Bethsaida. We at Trinity UMC, take this responsibility seriously, as evidenced by our support of the CCHASM Thanksgiving Dinner ministry, Chesterfield Food Bank, and Place of Miracles Café.

On July 31, we will join together to Rise Against Hunger as our Sunday morning worship experience. Partnering with the national non-profit of that name, we will package 25,000 meals for distribution wherever they may be needed in the world.

According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, 821 million people around the globe do not get the food they need to lead a healthy life, and malnutrition is the single largest contributor to disease. In 2021, Rise Against Hunger distributed over 27 million meals in 29 countries and this year, we at Trinity can have an impact.

This is an "all hands-on-deck" mission event! Children over the age of 4 to elders under 104 can participate - there is a way for everyone to contribute. Set-up begins at 7:30 Sunday morning, meal packing from 9:00 to 11:00, followed by the take-down clean-up. We ask you to sign-up in advance, online at the link below, or if the internet is not your thing, complete a registration form on Sunday morning by July 24. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, famously proclaimed, "the world is my parish!" On July 31, we can serve the world.

<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/TrinityUMC7312022>



VBS

Come join us 'TO MARS and BEYOND'! This summer's Vacation Bible School (VBS) will have kids rocketing through Bible lessons while making crafts, playing games, making music and participating in missions. VBS will be Wednesday nights (June 29th - July 27th) from 5:30-7:30pm (dinner included).

VBS will be a fun and exciting time for kids ages 3 (potty-trained) - 5th grade (rising 6th graders).

To register, please complete the registration form: <https://bit.ly/VBSreg22>

For VBS to be a success, we'll need fun, kid-loving help from youth (6th-12th grade) and adults. To volunteer, please complete this information form: https://bit.ly/VBS_volunteer

If you have any questions please contact Vickie Weber.





The United Methodist Women held their last official meeting for the summer on June 9th. The 12 ladies had a pleasant afternoon doing some mission-related business and having time to chat with each other, over refreshments provided by Ann Wright and Barbara Smith. They voted to send \$300 to Camp Baker for their summer camping and respite programs. Several ladies in the group are interested in becoming “secret pals” for the counselors at Camp Baker. Many of them are foreign students who are away from home for the entire summer.

The ladies assembled and sent 27 hygiene kits to the Virginia Annual Conference and will later send money to purchase 10 buckets of cleaning supplies, both of which will be sent to disaster areas in the coming year.

The UMW ladies will also be providing homemade cookies for dessert each Wednesday evening for the children attending Vacation Bible School. The next UMW meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 8 at 1 p.m., and all ladies of the church are invited to attend.

Let U\$ Help With That!

Some of us have our sights set on college or vocational school in the fall. Special Endowment Fund money is available as “scholarship” for undergraduate, community college and professional trade school students. The student must be a member of Trinity UMC. Funds will be paid directly to the school; up to \$1,000 per semester, a maximum of \$2,000 per calendar year. Second semester of 2022 funds are available beginning July 1, 2022.

To apply:

- THE STUDENT must email or send a letter to Pastor Alan requesting the funds (alanlayman@vaumc.org)
- The letter should include the school and program of study
- Specify to whom the payment should be made, any account number or student number to ensure it is appropriately credited, and the address to send the payment.



A Place of Miracles Café

Members of Trinity have been volunteering at the “Café” for several years. We’ve talked about Melissa Morgan and her struggles to find a permanent home for her ministry. She signed a lease on the Café’s new home and began to renovate the space before Covid hit. Covid disrupted her plans just like it disrupted worship at Trinity. Money was limited and the renovation project was limping along as funds were available.

Early this year, the Holy Spirit led Alan to ask Trinity to step in and help bring the renovation to fruition. In February, our Administrative Council approved \$15,000 to complete construction at the Café.

The following work has been done over the past 4 months:

- An exterior door was installed, and interior doors have been hung.
- A dropped ceiling has been installed in the kitchen.
- Once the electrician mounts the lights in the dropped ceiling, his work will be complete.
- The roof was prepared to vent the stove.
- The hood over the stove has been installed and vented through the roof.
- 3 new heat pumps (like the ones in our church office) have been installed. One older heat pump needs to be remounted and the system needs to be charged to be complete.
- Interior painting has been started. Walls and the floor will be painted.
- Kitchen cabinets will be installed the week of June 20th.
- As painting is completed, Melissa will move storage shelves to their permanent locations and move furnishings back into the building.

Thanks to all of you for your donations and support of this project to assist the working poor folks along the Route 1 corridor.

Closing the Gap



Paul Nickerson is a church vitality coach and teacher. He stresses the importance of "Invitation!" This is a recent article from Paul.

Over 80% of people who come to a church do so because a member invited. But only 2% of church people are inviting anyone. And that is the gap that has to be closed.

When I talk with church folk about inviting, here are some common responses I hear:

"I don't think that person would be interested"

"I invited them once and they said, "No".

"I don't want to be a pest and ask again".

"I invited them but they didn't show up".

All of the above are based on the idea that invitation is a "one and done" activity. In fact, **invitation is a process**. For many people, it may take five or six invitations before they come. Often a "no" is a "not yet" or "this isn't the right time". Our first invitation may be to the wrong event. For example, we may invite someone to a Sunday worship service when they really need to get to know some church people in small group or work on a mission project. For others, life situations such as struggling with a teenager, or facing a medical issue, may be the perfect time for an invitation.

My point is this: if we never invite or only invite once, we will miss many opportunities to introduce people to the faith and to our church. If someone says, "no", just keep walking with them. Invite them again to something else. Or it may be someone else's invitation down the road that comes at the right moment.

So, don't talk yourself out of inviting, just keep planting seeds and some will come to fruition, not necessarily on our timetable, but on God's schedule. Remember, you are not just inviting people to church, but to a life filled with hope, healing, generosity and peace.



“Behold, I make all things new.” Revelation 21:5

It’s always a good thing to look at functions and structures and assess if they are working efficiently, serving their purpose and moving the mission. So, over the last year, the Church Council has spent some time reading, praying and discerning if our current structure is efficiently, effectively and accountably moving and fulfilling our mission (“to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”). The sense of the Council has been that it probably is not working as effectively or as efficiently as needed and that sometimes the mission gets lost in all the activities

and the “always done it that way” programs and processes.

Last month, the Council with caution, care, concern and prayer decided to move ahead and explore a restructuring of Trinity’s administrative work (currently done by the Staff Parish Relations Committee, Finance Committee, Board of Trustees and Church Council). Knowing that *The UMC Book of Discipline* allows for flexibility and with the District Superintendent’s permission to proceed and explore, the Council established a task force (made up of Judy Powell, Ruth Allyn, Tim Ruxton, Richard Wilkes and Herb Brynildsen) to work on the details of a restructuring based on a model suggested by the Pastor, endorsed by the District Superintendent and adopted in other UM churches, districts and Conferences. The model is known as SAS or Simplified Accountable Structure. The key to this model is Accountability. In this model, we are not only and importantly accountable to one another in leadership, but most importantly we are accountable to fulfilling the Mission of the Church. In this model we are accountable for aligning our ministries, programs, goals to fulfilling the Mission.

This model calls for a big change in how we do our administrative work and governance. To the point, this model would have us create a Leadership Board that would have all the responsibilities, tasks and authority the *Book of Discipline* assigns to the Staff Parish Relations Committee, the Finance Committee, the Board of Trustees and the Church Council – all in one board. The Leadership Board would be made up of 9-12 committed, faithful disciples who are members of Trinity Church, identified and nominated by the Nominations and Leadership Committee (chaired by the Pastor and Lay Leaders) and duly elected by the Charge Conference. The membership would be ‘elected’ in three classes. One class rotating off the Board each year. Once established, the usual term would be three years.

More information will be made available as we move ahead. Please keep the task force and this restructuring process in your prayers. The timeline would have the new structure in place for 2023. Town hall meetings for info and Q&A will be schedule for September. If you have questions, place them in the “Trinity’s Restructuring” question box or email them to the church office.

Herb Brynildsen (on behalf of the Task Force and Council)



Our June projects have been a success even though the temperature was a little bit of a challenge. Thanks to Jeff Raynor and Carrol Shepherd, the grass cutting and edging has kept the grounds looking sharp. John and Sue Morris, Suzanne Brown and Jane Cole planted our flower pots with very colorful arrangements.

Jaytin Smith and his scout helpers completed his Eagle scout project on the playground by adding a climbing wall, reinforcing the yellow slide apparatus, staining both slide structures and installing landing mats to the bottom of the slides and swing landing areas.

All of the planting beds have been mulched, thanks to our work parties consisting of Richard W., Jack J., Mary Potter, Ted S., Bill P., and Alan L. Finally, thanks to Beth Wilkes for trimming many of the shrubs that needed a haircut.

July is a slow month for projects except for our grass cutting task. Join in by contacting me to add your name to the list. We have the equipment that makes the chore very easy.

- Gary Potter

Trinity UMC People Page

BIRTHDAYS

Help us update our information; if your birthday is this month and you are not listed, please notify the office so we won't miss you again!

July 1 Stephanie Griffith
July 2 Karen Poole
July 3 Heather Madison
July 5 Christopher Fallin
July 9 Craig Stariha
Logan Mills
July 10 Ann Wright
July 13 Wayne Walker
July 15 Aaron Poythress
Annabelle Rasmussen
July 17 Heidi Foutz
Nicholas Ruxton
Beth Wilkes
July 18 Turner Wilkes
July 20 Emily Moody
July 22 Bill Poole
Joshua Prentice
July 23 Amy Babcock
Wendy Linkous
July 24 Janet Collins
July 25 Joe Love
Jeff Short
July 28 Tim Ruxton
Alex Arnold
July 31 Cindy Shelton



2022 Fruit Calendar

Openings: We are accepting sponsors for the 2022 fruit calendar. Please contact Shannon.

2022 open dates thru December:
September 11th

November 6th, 13th

December 11th, 18th

Sunday Schedule (N/A)

8:30 am Contemporary Service • 9:45 am Sunday school
 11 am Traditional Service • 4 pm Odyssey, Chimes, &
 Confirmation • 5 pm Angels & Youth Group

July 2022

If you have items to add to the calendar,
 please let the office know

by email to trinity@trinity-umc.com or phone at 748-2439.

Wednesday Schedule

8:30 am Morning Prayer
 5:45 pm Children's Choirs • 6 pm Beginner hand bells
 7 pm Men's Chorus and Choir•

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9 am Rise Against Hunger					1	2
3 8:30 am Worship 9 am Live Stream 11 am Worship	4 *Office Closed*	5 8:30 am Morning prayer 7 pm Praise Team	6 8:30 am Morning prayer 5:30 pm VBS 7 pm Men's Choir & Chorus	7 8:30 am Morning prayer 7 pm AA (4)	8	9
10 8:30 am Worship 9 am Live Stream 11 am Worship	11 8:30 am Morning prayer *Office Closed* 7 pm Scouts 7 pm Belles	12 8:30 am Morning prayer 6 pm Scouts Court of Honor (Sanctuary) 7 pm Praise Team	13 8:30 am Morning prayer 5:30 pm VBS 7 pm Men's Choir & Chorus	14 8:30 am Morning prayer 7 pm SPR 7 pm AA (4)	15	16
17 8:30 am Worship 9 am Live Stream 11 am Worship Tri-Cities Work camp	18 8:30 am Morning prayer *Office Closed* 7 pm Scouts 7 pm Belles Tri-Cities Work camp	19 8:30 am Morning prayer 7 pm Praise Team Tri-Cities Work camp	20 8:30 am Morning prayer 5:30 pm VBS 7 pm Men's Choir & Chorus 7 pm Scouts District Tri-Cities Work camp	21 8:30 am Morning prayer 7 pm AA Tri-Cities Work camp	22 Tri-Cities Work camp	23 Tri-Cities Work camp
24 8:30 am Worship 9 am Live Stream 11 am Worship Articles due for August 2022 newsletter	25 8:30 am Morning prayer *Office Closed* 7 pm Scouts 7 pm Belles	26 8:30 am Morning prayer 7 pm Praise Team	27 8:30 am Morning prayer 5:30 pm VBS 7 pm Men's Choir & Chorus	28 8:30 am Morning prayer 7 pm Council 7 pm AA (4)	29	30



July

6th, 13th, 20th, 27th – VBS each Wednesday night in July
12th – Scouts Court of Honor Ceremony at 6 pm (sanctuary)
14th – SPR at 7 pm
17th thru 23rd – Tri-cities Work Camp in Petersburg
28th - Council
31st – Rise Against Hunger meal packing event
TBA – Floor waxing

August

13th – 21st – Shannon out of town
21st – Back-to-School Sunday
22nd – Chesterfield County Schools begin the 22-23 school year

September

10th – Trinity Belles Camp (sanctuary)
28th – Pumpkins arrive at 4 pm
30th – Prep for Brunswick Stew:

October 1 – Brunswick stew stirring and available to take home

“Love Hurts” by Les Morgan

Traditionally, love cares about everyone unconditionally;
Just like Jesus Emmanuel, and the message of love, He told so well.
For sure it ain't easy, you know?
And there's no guarantee on how it's gonna go.
Jesus did it first; it hurt him the worst.
He took every hit, then they nailed him for it!!
Yeah love hurts; but if you take a chance.
Your heart will sing and your soul will dance.