



THE RIDER



Trinity United Methodist Church

Dear Trinity Family,

I've been doing a little extra reading lately. Not just theology books, but stories from pastors and congregations who are struggling to navigate change. Churches holding tight to the way things have always been done. Leaders exhausted from trying to make everyone happy all at once.

And honestly? It made me grateful.

Grateful that Trinity has never been content to stay put. Jesus himself called his followers to "change your hearts and lives" because the kingdom of God was near. Paul put it plainly in 2 Corinthians 5:17: if anyone is in Christ, a new creation has come. The old is gone, and the new is here.

Change is not just inevitable; it is the Way.

So thank you, Trinity. For being a community that chooses courage over comfort, and joy over stagnation. Here's to whatever new thing God is doing among us next.

With gratitude,

Pastor Alan

Congratulations!



Dilana Fox, child of Meredith & John Fox
Monacan to James Madison University



Madi Johnson, child of Beth & Aaron Poythress, grand of Lori & Gary Thomas Dale to Brightpoint



Isabella Sisson, child of Michelle and Evan Sisson
Clover Hill to William & Mary



Katie McGuffin, child of Amber & Shannon McGuffin
Thomas Dale to East Carolina University

Congratulations!



Bailey Harman, grandchild of Kathy & Alvin Harman,
Carver Academy to Brightpoint



Maddie Sawyer, grandchild of Betty Sawyer and Cindy Morris
Thomas Dale to Radford University



Sally Odorizzi, grandchild of Judy Powell,
Centaurus High to University of Colorado,
Boulder



Jaymes Milston, grandchild of Julie & Alan Layman
Maggie L Walker to University of Rhode
Island



Family Ministries

LETS GO TO THE MOVIES!!

Kids & Youth, be on the lookout for \$1 Movie Outings several Tuesdays/Wednesdays starting June 30. We'll ride the church van to the theater and catch the \$ 1 matinee show of the week, popcorn optional :). Chaperones are welcome too!

COME & RING!!

Have you ever wanted to try the bells? Now's your chance! Learn to ring, Mondays (7/6, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/10) 6:15-7:00pm. No experience necessary...3rd graders - adults welcome.

Keep an eye on weekly emails, church flyers and announcements for additional details on these events. If you have further questions please let me know, Vickie Weber, childrensministries@trinity-umc.com/[757-510-1286](tel:757-510-1286).

Sponsor a Youth missionary

We have 12+ youth participating in mission trips this month. If you'd like to sponsor one of these young people here's a few ways:

1. Spiritual support-Pray for the mission teams (June 1 - June 13)
2. Emotional support - write an encouraging note to be passed on to the youth
3. Financial support - make a donation to Trinity to offset the cost of a youth participant.



FLAT JESUS IS BACK FOR SUMMER ADVENTURES!!!

You may be wondering: what exactly is Flat Jesus?

The idea comes from the classic children's book "Flat Stanley" by Jeff Brown, in which a boy named Stanley is flattened and mailed to friends and family around the world, collecting adventures along the way. We borrowed that spirit and gave it a Trinity twist.

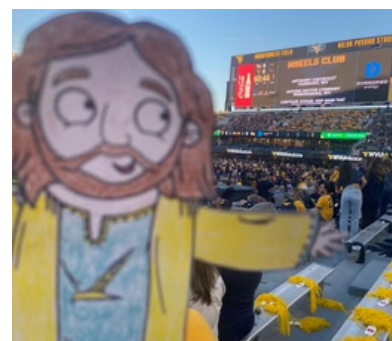
This summer, pick up a Flat Jesus coloring sheet from the table outside the Coffee Corner, color him however you like, and take him with you wherever the season leads. Out to dinner. Down to the beach. Up in the mountains. Over to grandma's house. Wherever you go, Flat Jesus goes too.

Then snap a photo and share it with us! It is a fun way to stay connected as a church family across the miles, and it just might spark a conversation about faith with someone who asks what you are doing.

To share your photos:

- Email them to the Children's Ministry at ChildrensMinistry@Trinity-UMC.com and Sbeck@trinity-umc.com
- Tag us on Facebook at @TUMC.Chester or on Instagram at @trinityumc_chesterva
- Use the hashtag #FlatJesusTUMC

We cannot wait to see where Jesus shows up this summer.





Mission Transmission!

Our youth are Serving Joyfully in two annual missions ministries this month. The first week of June, Vickie Weber and Turner Wilkes are escorting a team of middle and high school youth to Altoona, Pennsylvania. Under the Team Effort Youth Ministry, our kids will join others from across the country in light construction projects for poverty-limited families.

The second week of June finds our older teens and younger adults serving in the Tri-Cities Work Camp. They, too, will be involved in performing light construction projects with teens from all over the state and country. There may even be international students participating. Stephanie Griffith and Ed Sismour are leading this group.

Let's show our Tri-Cities campers some love by sending mail and care packages! Mail can be sent to:

Participant Name

WORKCAMP 2026

P.O. Box 1761

Petersburg, VA 23805

Adult leaders: Stephanie Griffith, Lucas Griffith, Ed Sismour, Jenny Varley

Youth: Katie Griffith, Nathan Griffith, Lilly Asbell, Maddy Asbell, Jordyn Read, Nathan Hamm, Caleb Besseck, Rhileigh Jenkins, Niyah Mason, Dawson Bailey, Amber Bailey, Annalise Dean

We will celebrate these mission experiences on Sunday, June 28, as the kids share their stories during the Sunday morning worship service.

Rise Against Hunger

Trinity is hosting a Rise Against Hunger meal packing event on Sunday, September 13, 2026, and we would love for you to be part of it!

Many of you joined us for our last event in September 2024, when we packed over 20,000 meals together. It was a morning full of energy, laughter, and real fellowship around a purpose that matters. If you have never experienced Rise Against Hunger, this is your year.

To make it happen, we need to raise \$10,000. If you feel led to give, simply write "Rise Against Hunger 2026" in the memo line of your check.

Mark your calendars now, and when you are ready, please register using the link below. Signing up ahead of time helps tremendously with event planning and makes the day run smoothly for everyone.

[Register here for Rise Against Hunger](#)

Homes for All

We have some exciting news to share! Trinity UMC has received a \$10,000 grant from the Living Waters District in support of our Homes for All ministry. This gift is enough to help five families transition into safe, secure, and affordable housing. We are so grateful for this partnership and for the ways God continues to provide for our neighbors in need. Thanks be to God!

The Place of Miracles Clothes Cottage

The Place of Miracles Clothes Cottage needs volunteers! Whether you want to help sort clothes or simply assist on open shopping days, there is a place for you. The Cottage is open Wednesdays from 12 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, with sorting shifts available during the day and evenings throughout the week. To get involved, text Stephanie Griffith at 804-677-3198. Come be part of this fun and meaningful ministry! Place of Miracles Clothes Cottage | 2007 Willis Road



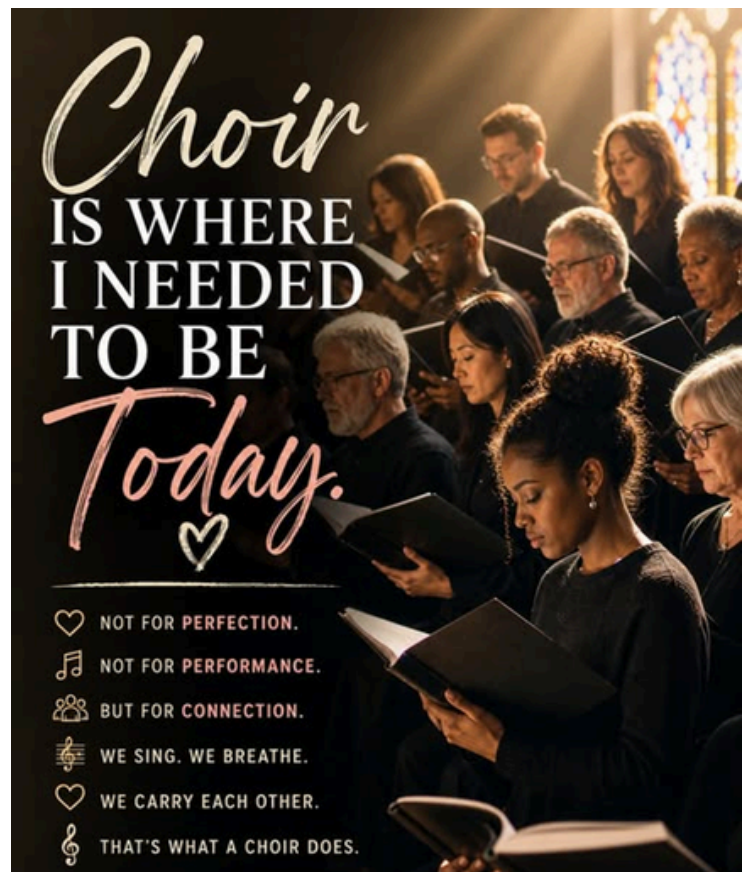


Many, many, many congratulations to the Trinity Bells for Chester Rings! They did an amazing job performing the pieces we worked so hard on all year. Collaborating with Chester UMC is always exciting—we never quite know what will happen! Josh and I are already thinking about next year.

June marks the last month before our Chancel Choir takes a well-deserved sabbatical until September. For the months of July and August, we will have solos and special music. If you would like to sing, dance, or play an instrument (or all three at once!) please let me know. There are still several spaces available.

Choir will start up again in September. If you would like to join, we'd love to have you!

Rachel
rnrallyn@comcast.net





Stay Connected

Precious Memories

Thursday, June 25 – movie and an early dinner at Chester Cinema and Café. What's playing? Movie and details to be determined at a later date.

Thursday, July 15 – a visit to The Perkinson Center in Chester. Details to follow at a later date.

Thursday, August 20 – In order to get to know each other better, prepare to share a family story. You know you've got something funny or memorable to share...After all, we are the "Precious Memories" group!

Widows and widowers, come join the fun and share ideas for what you'd like to see us do in the future. If you have questions about the group or activities, contact Bonnie Donaldson or Judy Powell.



Stay Connected

Introducing the Trinity Family Calendar

At Trinity, we believe that church is not just what happens on Sunday mornings. It is the everyday moments that make up a life well-lived together. The baseball diamond, the dance studio, the swim lane, the concert hall. These are the places where our people are showing up, working hard, and shining bright.

That is why we are launching the **Trinity Family Calendar**, a shared space where you can invite your church family into the moments that matter most to you.

Got a kiddo with a big recital coming up? A grandchild swimming in their first meet? A spouse performing with the community band? A nephew pitching his first varsity game? **Share it here**. We would love to cheer you on.

Because when one of us celebrates, all of us celebrate.

How it works: Simply submit your event using the link below, and we will add it to the calendar so the Trinity community can show up and show out for you.

You can also add the Trinity Family Calendar directly to your own calendar so you never miss a moment. Just click the link below to sync it with Google Calendar: **Add the Trinity Family Calendar to yours!**

This is what it means to be a church family. Not just pews and prayers, but presence. Not just Sunday, but every single day.

Submit your event and let us come root for you.



June Worship

Throughout the month of June, we will worship around the idea that the ministry of Jesus Christ has been handed over to the people. The Acts of the Apostles follows the four Gospels in the New Testament, telling the story of the early church in the days following Jesus' ascension.

June 7 Acts 4:1-22 The apostles declare, "We can't stop talking about what we have seen and heard! The Good News of Jesus is too good to keep to ourselves."

June 14 Singing Our Faith As many as possible of your favorite worship songs and hymns will be incorporated into this day devoted to praising God in music and song.

June 21 Sharing Our Story In keeping with the theme of the people's church evolving from Christ, Michael Heard will be the first of four of our laity this summer who will share a bit of their faith story.

June 28 Youth Missions Celebration You won't want to miss as our youth share their summer mission experiences from Altoona and the Tri-Cities.

All worship is at 10:00 AM. Holy Communion will be celebrated next on Sunday, July 5.

Bible Disposal

Ever wonder what to do with your old, yellow-paged, crumbling-at-touch Bible? The United Methodist Church has a method for that! Later this summer or early fall, we will dispose of your old Bibles in a ceremony honoring their service and the lives touched. Be on the lookout for a Bible Disposal Box!



Annual Conference

This year's Virginia Annual Conference is taking place for the first time on the campus of James Madison University, Harrisonburg, June 17-20th. Pastor Alan and our Lay Delegate Annette Hairfield will be attending. You can get all of the information about Conference, including links to watch daily, at <https://vaumc.org/ac2026/>.

This year's theme is "A Conference in Three Movements." This theme emerges from the belief that there are three principal movements of the Holy Spirit taking place in the present era of the church:

1. The theological movement from prevenient grace to sanctification. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in the human heart.
2. The historical movement of Methodism captured in our past, lived in our present, and pointed toward our future. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in the church.
3. The missional movement from gathered spaces into all the world. This is the movement of the Holy Spirit in community.

These movements build upon each other, intertwining together to demonstrate what has been, what is, and what will be as God continues to move amongst God's people.

As always, anyone can attend the Conference. Why not make a day of it and visit Harrisonburg?

June Birthdays

June 2: Kathy Baskins, Richard Wilkes

June 3: Aubrey Tarkington

June 4: Payton L-Short

June 6: Harold Saunders, Christen Miller, Carolyn Forinash

June 7: Pat Shrader, Ian Lang

June 9: Sean Wright

June 11: Travis Collins, Bob Barklay, Lucas Ugol

June 13: Susan Rouze, Herb Brynildsen, Bruce Edmiston, Christopher Echols

June 17: Kim Bailey

June 18: Ruby Sawyer

June 20: Meredith Beck, Meredith Lively, Mary Palmer

June 21: Rodney Rasmussen

June 22: Betty Bauman

June 23: Dana Potter

June 25: Pat Buenting, Bennie Bolen

June 28: Bill Shelton, Manina Brittingham

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!

Connect with Us

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www.trinity-umc.com
www.facebook.com/TUMC.Chester

Email Directory

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Next-Gen Ministries Director • Vickie Weber childrensministry@trinity-umc.com / youth@trinity-umc.com

Administrative Assistant • Emilee Bailey trinity@trinity-umc.com

Praise Team Leader • Turner Wilkes praiseteam@trinity-umc.com

Treasurer • Tawanda Connor