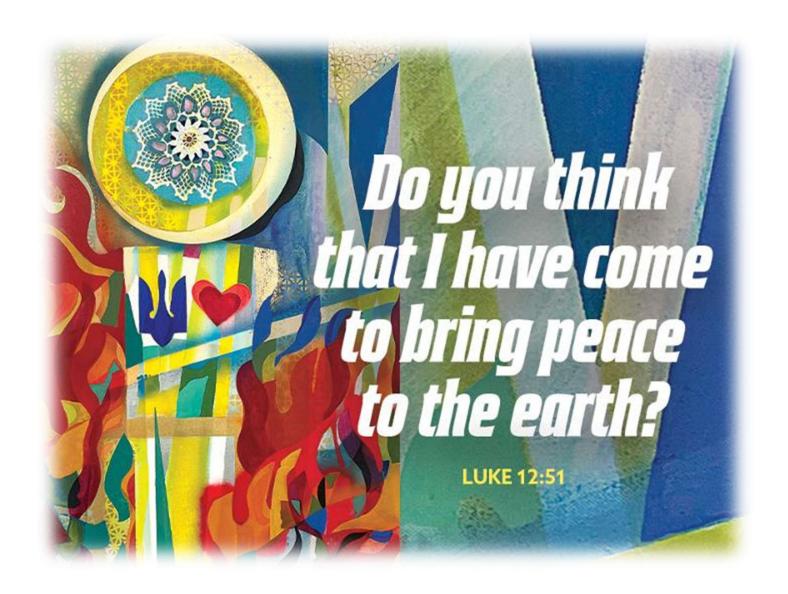
10th Sunday after Pentecost



810 Fairfax Street Stephens City, VA Sunday Worship, 9:30AM (540) 869-4019 August 17, 2025



~ The Chancel flowers are given this week by Mike & Helen Pyne in honor of their granddaughter Madison Grace Collins, who was born Sunday 7/27 at 8/04 am

weighing in at 6 lbs 7 oz.

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 4718 0792 Passcode: 173681 Dial 1-301-715-8592 US

Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/

This Weeks; Greeters: Marianne Watson & Martha Cooley. Lessons & Prayers

Reader: Marcie Stern. Communion Assistant: Carole Pfisterer.

Next Weeks; Greeter: and Lessons & Prayers Reader: Pam Reichert. Communion

Assistant: David Reichert.

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PRELUDE

Please stand

<u>Summer Celebration</u> ~ ELW (Red Hymnal) 785, "Let There Be Peace On Earth" By Sy Miller & Jill Jackson (words provided for sing along)

Let there be peace on Earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on Earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our father
We are family
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment
And live each moment
With peace eternally
Let there be peace on Earth,
And let it begin with me

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who gives us life, I Jesus the one who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God and one another. Silence is kept for reflection

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence
and suffering.
Yet we are afraid to risk what we
have for the sake of others.

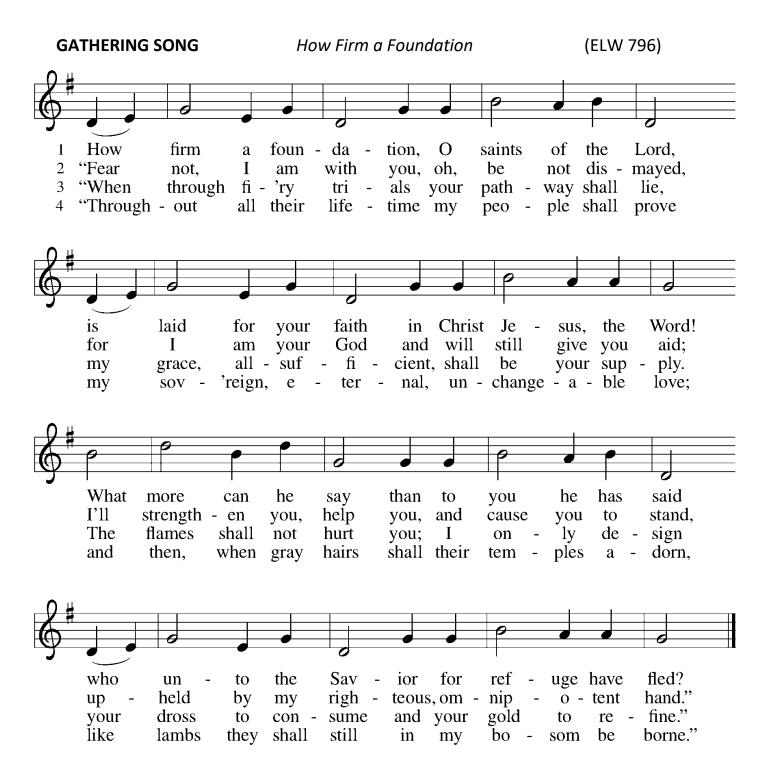
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place upon others and you creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding,
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God has made for us a new way.
In + Christ, your sins are forgiven. Smile and rejoice
Amen.



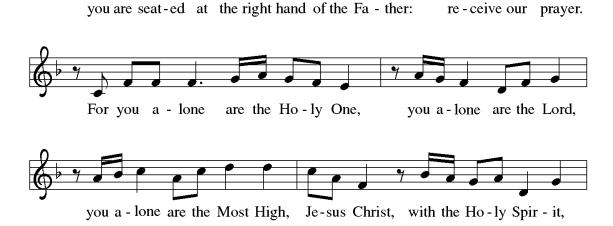
Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

(ELW p. 139) **CANTICLE OF PRAISE** Assisting minister 0 Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth. heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa Lord God, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. we wor-ship you, Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

A reading from Jeremiah.

²³ Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces? Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 82



- ¹ God stands to charge the divine coun- [|] cil assembled, giving judgment in the midst [|] of the gods:
 - ² "How long will you | judge unjustly, and show favor | to the wicked?
 - ³ Save the weak [|] and the orphan; defend the hum- [|] ble and needy;
 - ⁴ rescue the weak | and the poor; deliver them from the power | of the wicked. R
 - ⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander a- ¹ bout in darkness; all the foundations of the ¹ earth are shaken.
 - ⁶ Now I say to you, ¹ You are gods,

and all of you children of | the Most High;

- ⁷ nevertheless, you shall [|] die like mortals, and fall like [|] any prince.'"
- ⁸ Arise, O God, and [|] rule the earth, for you shall take all nations [|] for your own. R

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

A reading from Hebrews.

- ²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.
- ³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.
- ³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.
- ^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.





GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON

REV. LARRY CLOSTER

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

(TFF 152)



- Thou Have thine Lord, have thine own the own way, way. art 1 Have thine have thine own Search me 2 Lord, way. and own way,
- 3 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Wound ed and
- Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Hold o'er my



Ι am the Mold me and make af - ter thv clay. me pot - ter, try me, Mas-ter, to - day. Pur - er than snow, Lord, wash me just help me, Pow - er, all pow sure - ly wea - ry, Ι pray. er is Spir - it ab - so - lute sway. Fill with thy till all shall be - ing



Text: Adelaide A. Pollard, 1862-1934

Music: ADELAIDE, George C. Stebbins, 1846–1945

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.



Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers (*local elected officials may be named*) who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound especially Barb, Shirley, Louise, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Michael, Jeff, Lauren, Nancy (worshippers may add names silently or aloud). Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

O Lord, Most Merciful

César Franck (1822,1890)

Duet, Christine Cornwell, & Bruce Everly



NOISY OFFERING — # will benefit Froggy's Closet

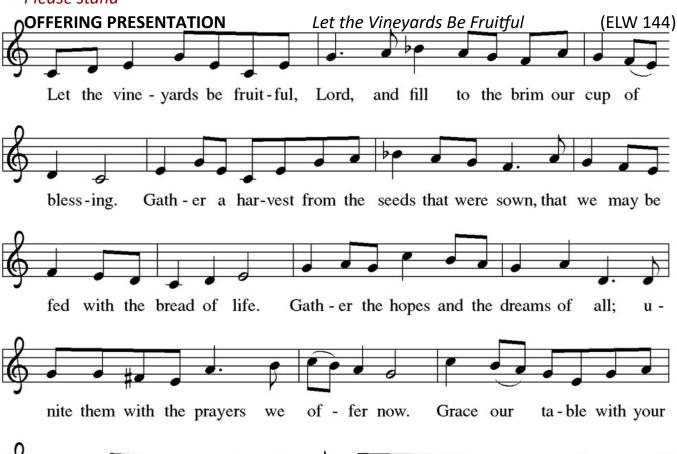
Offering is an act of worship that shows our gratitude to God for all that we are and have in our lives. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may

provide your offering in person, scan the QR code adjacent or send it by mail. We thank you for sharing not only your monetary gifts but also your gifts of time and talent to further our mission to share Jesus' love in worship, fellowship, hospitality, and community, doing God's work with our hands.

Please stand

pres-ence, and give

us



fore-taste of the feast

to

come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

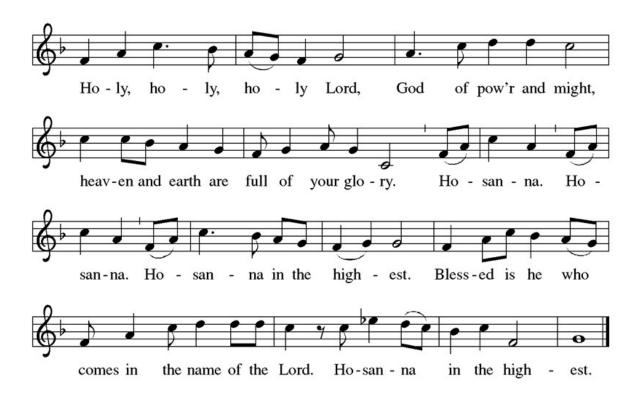
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ who through the cross cleansed us from all sin.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS (for the sick and homebound)

Let us pray. O God of tender compassion, as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger bless these elements with your divine grace and those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready

For those communing at home, have your package ready to open. The pastor will acknowledge your presence and request that you consume the elements at this time.

Please be seated

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

For those who prefer not to partake of the wine there are cups filled with grape juice in the center of the communion tray.





2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.

3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and come from rest-less - ness and come from lone - li - ness and co



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food. We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood. Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good. Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good. Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825

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Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG I Was Sinking Deep in Sin (TFF 188)



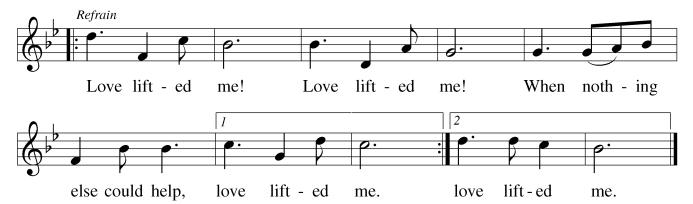
- 1 I was sink-ing deep in sin, far from the peace-ful shore, ver y deep-ly
- 2 All my heart to him I give, ev er to him I'll cling, in his bless-ed
- 3 Souls in dan-ger, look a-bove, Je-sus com-plete-ly saves; he will lift you



stained with-in, sink-ing to rise no more; but the mas-ter of the sea pres - ence live, by his love out of the an - gry waves; he's the mas-ter of the sea,



heard my de-spair-ing cry, from the wa-ters lift-ed me, now safe am I. mer - its my soul's best songs; faith-ful lov-ing ser-vice, too, to him be - longs. bil-lows his will o - bey; he your Sav-ior true will be: be saved to - day.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Foundation

Setting by Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

~The Trinity Times~ Church & Community 11eWS

IN THE KNOW Upcoming Events & Reminders

Please place used bulletins in the recycling basket located under the table in the Narthex entryway, where you picked them up.



New Books are here! Christ in Our Home - Free Devotional books for July, August, & September, are on the wall in the Narthex (next to the bulletin board)

Sunday Servants – Jump in and serve this September — be a greeter, reader, or holy hustler! Sign-up sheets are calling your name! contact Christine Cornwell or Sign up via newsletter link.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY Here's what's happening at a glance:

- **Sunday, August 17** Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM
- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall
- Noisy Offering will benefit Froggy's Closet
 N Braddock St, Winchester, VA. Learn more: frog-kids.org
 (Supporting families with clothing, diapers, and baby supplies)
- š Happy Birthday Pam Weinacht!
- **Monday, August 18**
- III Tuesday, August 19
- m Wednesday, August 20 🞉 Happy Birthday Juanita Ryan!
- 🟢 **Thursday, August 21** 🞉 Happy Birthday Brandon Hampton!
- Friday, August 22
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 10 AM | Parish Hall
- CMSP Music private lesson @ 5-6 pm | Upstairs class room
- 📰 Saturday, August 23 🞉 Happy Birthday Holly Kowis!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK (Did we miss your birthday? Contact the church office to update your info!)

Happy Birthday to: 🞉

17th Pam Weinacht! 21st Brandon Hampton!

20th Juanita Ryan! 23rd Holly Kowis!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Meeting: Updated Financial Policy & Procedures

Following worship on **Sunday, August 24**, all Ministry Team members and chairpersons are invited to gather in the Parish Hall for an important meeting. Our treasurer, **Mark Greene**, will share and discuss updates to our **Financial Policy and Procedures**. Your participation is essential as we work together to ensure clarity, accountability, and unity in our ministry's financial practices.

Call Committee Update: The Call Committee met with Rebecca Walls from the Virginia Synod on August 6th for our first meeting. Our first step is to conduct a congregational survey. Please check your email or pick up a packet from the table in the Reception Room for details. Your feedback is essential in helping guide us in the search for a new rostered minister.

Members:

Marianne Watson (Chair)
Pam Reichert
Susan Scheulen
Dan Painter
Barry Hockenberry
Bruce Everly

Please do not put your name on the survey — it is confidential. Completed surveys may be placed in the mail slot outside the office door under the Room 106 sign.

Notice of Special Congregational Meeting – September 7, 2025

Dear Trinity Congregation,

You are warmly invited to attend a brief but important **Special Congregational Meeting** on **Sunday, September 7, 2025**, immediately following worship.

The purpose of this meeting is to seek congregational approval for:

- The nomination of **Diann Dailey** to serve as **Trustee**, replacing **Ralph Gregory**;
 and
- 2. Approval of the recipients of a partial disbursement from Fund 10 (Mission Fund).

All **voting members** are encouraged to attend. Your presence and participation help shape the future of our church and our outreach.

Thank you for being part of this important process!

Ongoing Announcements

A Prayer Team Table

Located just inside the sanctuary entrance. Submit a card with your prayer request or contact **Pastor Closter** to add a name to the Prayers of Intercession.

Hospital Visitation

Pastor Closter is registered with Valley Health for hospital visits. Due to HIPAA laws, the hospital cannot notify us when someone is admitted. To request a visit, contact the church office at **540-869-4019**, or after hours, call Pastor Closter at **540-848-5325**. You may also reach out to **Pastor Closter** or **Martha Cooley**.

- Choir Rehearsals Sunday mornings 8AM.
 Interested in singing with the choir this summer?
 This is the perfect opportunity to join in—no midweek commitment required.
 Just come on Sunday mornings and help us make a joyful noise together! We'd love to have your voice join ours. Normal Thursday Rehearsals will resume
 September 4th @ 5:45 PM
- Chime Choir Sundays after service | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director music@trinitychurchvirginia.org



Food Pantry Item of the Month: Canned Fruit | Contact: Kim Begnaud-Hampton – kbegnaud0101@yahoo.com

Save the Date

August 24 - Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall
- <u>Tavern Night</u>, Hosted by Newtown Historic Center & La Grange Family Farm
 |@6:30PM RSVP Contact: christa@lagrangefamilyfarm.com

August 25– 🞉 Happy Birthday Ashley Landes!

- (No scheduled events)

August 27 – Community Meal @ 5:30 PM | Parish Hall (Menu TBD)

- Together in Prayer @ 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

August 28 – Bible Study @ 10 AM | Parish Hall

August 29 – CMPS Private Lessons @ 5–6 PM | Upstairs Classroom

August 30– 🞉 Happy Birthday Greg Rogers, & Carole Pfisterer!

August 31 – Sunday Service @ 9:30 AM

- Coffee Hour | Parish Hall All are welcome!
- Chime Choir Practice | Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director
- Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 11 AM | Parish Hall

Stay in the Loop!

Want to receive our weekly Trinity Times Newsletter by email?

Fill out a welcome card (basket in the Narthex) with your name and email, and we'll add you to the list.

Prefer print? Pick up a copy **next to the name tag table in the Narthex**, or call the office to request a mailed version:

