



The Trinity Window

Dear Trinity Family,

I was working at my desk the other day, and our music director, Ben Miller was working from another desk in the exterior office. Ben called out to me asking what my favorite hymn is. I paused for a moment and responded, "I like so many of them!" Then, I shared, "If I must narrow it to one, it would be 'Great is Thy Faithfulness' as that comes from probably my favorite Bible verses." These verses from Lamentations 3:22-23 state:

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

I have found the words of the prophet here so very true through the mountaintops and valleys of life. I sometimes forget though that this verse is followed by verse 24 which reads: "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

As we as a congregation recently engaged in the topic of hope in our August sermon series, Lamentations 3:24 provides deep insight. In ancient Israel in the time of the Hebrew Bible, a "portion" was a person's allotted share, their inheritance in the land at a most basic level. This assured livelihood and promises for success into the next generations. However, the tribe of Levi was not given the same portion as the other tribes of Israel. God was said to be their portion. You find this stated by Moses in Joshua 13:33 (as well as other places in the Hebrew Bible).

When I reflect upon this, Aaron's offspring were dependent on Divine hope to survive, to make their way in a new and promised land. God was enough. God the alpha and omega, the beginning and end of all things was their foundation, their sustenance, and their promised legacy.

What if our hope in God looked like that?

Friends, sometimes I think we truly do not live as if we believe in the gifts given by God. Is God your portion?

Emily Dickens famously penned in poetry a vision of hope:

"Hope is the thing with feathers— That perches in the soul— And sings the tune without the words— And never stops—at all."

As we study and reflect upon hope together, I pray that hope finds a deep and meaningful place in your soul. I pray that hope sings through your life in Christ Jesus in ways that help to share new hopes in a world that is longing to know the great faithfulness found in relationship with our loving God!

With much grace and peace,

Pastor Gina

Rev. Gina Anderson-Cloud, Lead Pastor



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. These are open to everyone; come and bring a friend!

Save the Date:



Tuesday, September 29—Trip to have lunch at Michie Tavern with a stop at Carter Mountain (apples and apple cider donuts...oh my!) Hours are 10:45am to 3:30pm.

Tuesday, October 20—Trip to visit the Poe Museum here in Richmond (BOO!) with a stop for lunch afterwards. Cost of admission to the museum is \$10, and cost of lunch is paid on your own. Hours: 10:30am to 2pm.

Tuesday, November 10— “Getting to Know Our New Lead Pastor—Rev. Gina Anderson-Cloud”. Come join us as we hear about our new minister. Our own Bill Pike will be the moderator. We will be in the Welcome Center, 2:00-3:30pm.

Wednesday, December 9—Trip to Riverside Center in Fredericksburg to see “A Christmas Carol”. Cost is \$80, all inclusive of your meal, tax, gratuity, and the show. Hours are 10am to 5pm.

PUB THEOLOGY: YEAR 10!



Thanks to the staff at WayGone Brewery for their cooperation in hosting another season of Pub Theology. We will be starting year number ten of Pub Theology on **Tuesday, September 22** with our Senior Pastor Gina-Anderson Cloud as our guest.

Tuesday, October 13 local journalist from WTVR-6, GeNienne Samuels, will join us. During the week of Veterans Day, on Tuesday, November 10, our guest will be retired United States Navy Rear Admiral, Michael Studeman. Our annual Christmas carol sing-a-long will be on Tuesday, December 8, with

Trinity's Tommy Booker leading us.

As a reminder, we meet at WayGone Brewery in the Canterbury Shopping Center at 10612 Patterson Avenue. Start time is 5:45, and the program ends by 7 p.m. The church provides pizza and requests a five dollar donation to help offset the cost. Water, soft drinks, beer, hard seltzer, and wine are available for purchase. You don't need to be a consumer of alcohol to attend. Please join us. With questions, contact Bill Pike: bpiketrinityumc.net.

CELEBRATING TRINITY'S VETERANS

On Sunday, November 4, 2001, the Outreach Class sponsored the first pancake breakfast to honor our Veterans at Trinity. Yes, it is hard to believe that 25 years have passed since that first gathering. This year, on Sunday, November 8, we want to invite you back to Trinity Hall at 10 a.m. for a special 25 year remembrance of those programs. That morning, we'll honor our Veterans, the special guests from those programs, and connect with Trinity family members who have loved ones currently serving on active duty. No pancakes this year, as the Outreach Class has aged as well. If you have a family member who has served our country in the military, we'd be honored to list their name in this year's program. Simply send that person's name and the branch of the military they served to Bill Pike: bpik@TrinityUMC.net. We are looking forward to having you join us for this special 25 year



CREATION CARE CORNER: HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT

GOOD NEWS:

Solar energy supplied more energy than coal for the first time in the USA in May 2026. Solar is now the third-largest source of energy in the country behind natural gas and nuclear power. Renewable energy is expected to become the world's largest energy source by 2030.

BAD NEWS:

The past three years were the warmest since global temperature recordkeeping began in 1850. In 2024 major greenhouse gases like methane and carbon dioxide reached their highest levels in at least 800,000 years. The global freshwater supply is shrinking and fast. Some western states already have major water resource problems as many rely on the Colorado River which is shrinking dramatically.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Consider that small actions can add up over time.

- Try to cut down on your use of electricity and water.
- Take shorter showers and use the collected water from showers to water plants.
- Run the dishwasher and washing machine with only full loads.
- When replacing bathroom fixtures, install water-efficient ones.
- Buy preowned clothes to reduce freshwater use from manufacturing.
- Plant native species that are drought tolerant in your yard to attract native insects and animals.

SOURCE: WORLD WILDLIFE FEDERATION magazine , July 2026

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FRESHWATER PROBLEMS: wwwf.is/water-scarcity26

PRAYERS

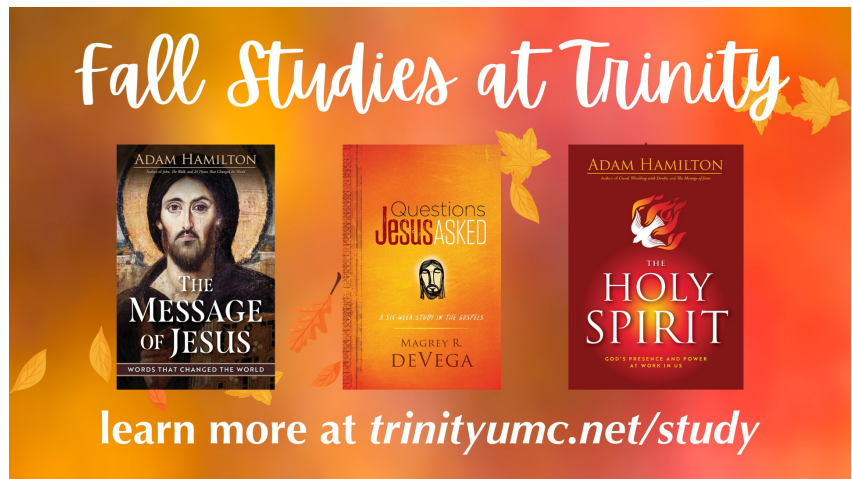
We offer prayers and condolences to the family of Sue Watkins, who died on July 26, 2026.

We offer prayers and condolences to the family of Brian Chappell, who died on August 12, 2026.

CEDARFIELD CELEBRATION

Join us on Tuesday, September 15, 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, music, communion, and – most importantly—opportunities to fellowship with our members who reside at Cedarfield!

If you can participate on September 15, please contact Judy Oguich at joguich@trinityumc.net. Everyone is welcome!



Notes from the facilitators:

Please join the Monday morning Bible Study beginning Monday, **September 14** at 9:30am in Room 323 for our time of fellowship and Christian discipleship. We will be participating in Adam Hamilton's 5 week study: *The Holy Spirit: God's Presence and Power At Work In Us*. Please purchase your book in advance of the study and have read Chapter 1 before the class begins on the 14th. Please reach out to Deanna McCullough if you have any questions and/or if you'd like to join the class. We hope to see you there! deanna6mccullough@gmail.com.

Starting on Monday, **September 14** the Dillard Bible Study Group will be studying *The Message of Jesus: Words That Changed the World* by Adam Hamilton. This is a six-week study. We meet via Zoom on Monday nights from 7:00-8:30. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Dianne Moore at DianneMoore710@msn.com.

Starting on Wednesday, **September 23** the 3M Bible Study Group will be studying *Questions Jesus Asked* by Magrey DeVega. This is a six-week study, asking us to explore six of the most provocative questions Jesus posed to others ("Who Do You Say that I Am?" "Why are you afraid?" "What Are You Looking For?", to name a few). We meet in person in Room 317 as well as via Zoom on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Please contact Judy Oguich at joguich@trinityumc.net if you are interested. We would love to have you join us!

AN INVITATION FROM THE SEEKERS

Why is the Sermon on the Mount both inspiring and puzzling? If you are interested in exploring these well-known passages in more depth, then join the discussion beginning **September 13** at 10 am in Room 317. We will base our discussion on the book *Following the Call: Living the Sermon on the Mount Together*, edited by Charles E. Moore. The book taps into a broad array of sources, traditions, and eras, and includes excerpts from such writers as: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Martin Luther, Martin Luther King, Jr., St. Augustine, Karl Barth, Leo Tolstoy, C.S. Lewis, and John Wesley.

The discussion is sponsored by the Seekers Book Discussion Class. If you have any questions, please email Elizabeth Dwyer at elizgaydwy@gmail.com.

FEED MY SHEEP MINISTRY

Feed My Sheep is a Trinity ministry you may not have heard of before—but the work they do brings warmth and comfort to so many!

Years ago, Trinity member Bonnie Andrews heard from a friend's husband about his group at St Mary's Episcopal Church's Meal Ministry—a men's only group that prepared meals for members in need. Bonnie visited on a cooking day and got to observe, see the supply room, and receive some favorite recipes. On a day in early November 2022, Bonnie and Jan Booker fixed 20 quarts of chicken stew, and Feed My Sheep was born! Originally, the “sheep” were thought to be Trinity members, but there is always plenty to share with friends and neighbors that need a “warm hug”, in Bonnie's words!

Now, this ministry has 17 members and gathers to prepare frozen entrees every 3-4 months. They would love to welcome new helpers, and anyone interested can reach out to Bonnie at bonniepandrews@gmail.com or 804-467-4718.

In mid-August, Feed My Sheep prepared 51 quarts of Friendship Soup (turkey vegetable). These soups are in the Trinity Kitchen freezer, and the ministry encourages you to take one for someone experiencing a loss, a health situation, or other need.



SHERBOURNE FOOD PANTRY: THANKSGIVING BAGS

Once again this year, we would like to fill 100 bags of nonperishable food for Thanksgiving for the Sherbourne Food Pantry. We have done this for the past several years!



Reusable grocery bags with an attached list of items to fill the bag will be available beginning Sunday, October 18 in the Welcome Center and also in the rear of Trinity Hall near the food collection tables.

Filled bags can be returned to the Welcome Center by Sunday, November 15. The bags will be distributed on Wednesday, November 18 in plenty of time for Thanksgiving!

Thank you for your help. If you have questions or would like someone to pick up your bag, please contact Karen Adams at 804-382-6477.

SHINEFORTH: UPDATES AND NEW AUXILIARY MEMBERS NEEDED

The Shineforth summer 2026 newsletter was published recently. To learn more about Shineforth's work, which Trinity generously supports, visit their website at <https://www.shineforth.org/publications-reports>. Shineforth's Auxillary is hoping for new members—they meet once a month, on the third Thursday, with a mission of encouraging the children and staff at Shineforth. To learn more, contact Jo Lewis at jolewis49@yahoo.com.

FALL FESTIVAL—A GREAT WAY TO SHOW UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

It's time for a fall favorite event, and your help is needed! We anticipate hundreds of people for our Fall Festival, and we want this year to be the best one yet. In 2025, we had 20 trunks for Trunk or Treat, and this year, we're hoping for at least 25! There are numerous low-cost "kits" available on Amazon and Oriental Trading Company—and DIY is always a favorite, as well. We also have substantial need for bounce house supervisors (ensuring the appropriate number of children are inside the inflatable) and bags of candy to help our trunks re-supply as needed.



To sign up to help, use the Sign Up Genius found here: bit.ly/4y95njx



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

This September, we will begin a new sermon series: **Love One Another: Replacing 'Othering' with 'Neighboring'!**



The scene is set. Jesus gathers at the table with his disciples to break bread and break the news that this is their Last Supper together. Alarming fear, bitter betrayal, and tension-laden uncertainty fill the room. In the midst of this unsettling moment, the Gospel of John records Jesus' "famous last words." Central among these was the commandment to love one another. How do we survive, or even thrive, in times like these? We put love into action, replacing 'othering' with 'neighboring'.

On Sunday, October 4, we will have a **Blessing of the Animals** service at 1:00pm in the Pumpkin Patch—your pets (or photos of pets) are welcome! All animals should be healthy and up-to-date with shots, on a leash or in a carrier, and be sociable and safe around other animals.

St. Francis is widely recognized, in the Catholic tradition, as the patron saint of animals, ecology, and creation. Because of his love and respect for animals, churches began associating October 4—his feast day—with blessings of animals. This year, 2026, is a jubilee year for St. Francis, marking the 800th anniversary of the year of his death!

Save the Dates:

October Sermon Series | The Generous Life

Wednesday, November 25 | Thanksgiving Eve Service

Monday, December 21 | Longest Night Service

TRINITY'S MEDIA TEAM: NEW MEMBERS NEEDED!

CELEBRATION

Congratulations to John and Meg Berry on the birth of their daughter, Ella Baley Berry, born on August 27, 2026! Jack and Lynn Berry are Ella's proud grandparents. Ella weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and measured 18 inches long.

At Trinity, we are proud to offer a distraction-free technology experience in worship—for both our in-person and our online worshipers. Every service requires three technicians: someone to advance slides on our presentation software, someone to adjust the cameras so that worshipers can experience worship in an immersive way, and someone to adjust sound as needed.

Due to graduations and moves, Trinity's Media Team is very much in need of some new members! No technical expertise is required, and students age 6th grade and above are welcome.

To ask learn more, please e-mail Sam Duenckel, Media Team Coordinator, at mediateam@trinityumc.net or Laura Maher, Director of Communications and Technical Arts, at lmaher@trinityumc.net.

GOOCHLANDCARES: FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

In many ways, our delivering, weighing, and shelving donated food at the Food Pantry on Saturdays is akin to an act of worship. Although we don't see GoochlandCares' clients on Saturday mornings, we know that those clients — our neighbors in need — will come to the Food Pantry on Monday morning to find the shelves full of nourishing food to feed their bodies. They can also visit the Clothes Closet, where Trinity volunteers organize and stock donated clothing, shoes, and housewares that will clothe them and their families. And in other parts of the GoochlandCares building, our neighbors in need can receive free medical, dental, and mental health care. We Trinity volunteers are a part of the fabric of hope that wraps our neighbors in the love and provenance of God. When I enter the doors of GoochlandCares I often feel I've entered "Trinity West." -Carol Wampler

To learn more about opportunities at GoochlandCares, visit trinityumc.net/missions



SHOES FOR BACK TO SCHOOL MINISTRY UPDATE

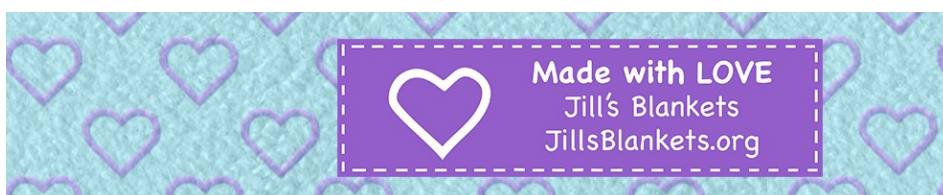
A huge thank you to all of the volunteers, donors, and supporters of the New Shoes for Back to School ministry. In its 20th year, the initiative collected 1,504 pairs of shoes and distributed 1,020 pairs on Saturday, Aug. 22. The remainder were donated to Title 1 schools. Trinity contributed 150 pairs of shoes, joining 9 other congregations, including a synagogue, from across the Richmond Region. At 6am, there was already a line outside the distribution location at Third Street Bethel AME. The excitement and appreciation was evident on the faces of the families and children who received shoes. A special thanks goes out to the Trinity Foundation and all the donors who made Trinity's involvement possible.



JILL'S BLANKETS FALL BLANKET-MAKING EVENT

Jill's Blankets is launching their biggest challenge yet — the Double 10,000 campaign! By the end of 2026, they hope to have made 10,000 blankets (currently at 9,225) and raise \$10,000 to purchase fleece and supplies. \$10,000 would make 500 blankets.

Jill's Blankets is a local organization with a mission to love and care for patients undergoing chemotherapy treatment by making and delivering fleece patients to cancer patients. Trinity is honored to be a storage area for their supplies, as well as a host to their two in-person blanket making events every year. The next event at Trinity is their fall Blanket Making Event, taking place on **Monday, October 5**. To learn more about Jill's Blankets and find a link to sign up for this opportunity, visit www.jillsblankets.org



BELLEMEADE PARK MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Conserve & Create on Saturday, September 5 and Saturday, October 3 from 9am to 12pm at Bellemeade Park. These months, we will begin light maintenance in the upper portion of the Park, where the rain garden, sandbox play area, and the woodland garden are located. This is in preparation for the Richmond Public Schools Pre-K children that will have their field trips to the Park in October and November! No registration is required; just bring gardening gloves and water to stay hydrated. Parents with children and teens are especially welcomed, as this is a great family service opportunity while experiencing the beauty of the park! This event takes place every first Saturday March through December.

Weekday field trips for Richmond Public School preschoolers will take place on the dates below from 9:45— 11:30am. The children are exposed to nature through learning and playing, and many say: "This is the best day of my life!" Volunteers are needed to set up and support students in discovering nature through playing. Teachers and parent chaperones are present the entire time.

Field trips take place on: October 5, 7, 9, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 26, 28, 30 and November 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13

Trinity field trip volunteer Linda Latimer shared: "My time spent at Bellemeade Park with the Trinity volunteers and Bob Argabright has been both energizing and rewarding. The Park gives pre-K children the opportunity to explore the wonders of nature and is so fulfilling to connect with these dear children. When they get off the bus and they take your hand for a walk to the Park, I knew I was doing something worthwhile and important. One morning of volunteering at Bellemeade and you'll be 'hooked'!"



For information on Bellemeade Park or more information on how to volunteer for weekday field trips, contact Bob Argabright at 804-310-1080 or Steve Werner at 804-869-2246.

A NOTE FROM STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Strategic Planning Committee has continued to meet throughout the summer and make progress with our process to *build Trinity's roadmap*. In mid-August, we held a special planning session with our committee, Trinity staff, and our lay leadership. Our process of researching, asking questions, and communicating will be bolstered by Pastor Gina's listening sessions - many that have already taken place with more to come! Thank you for your good input and support on our journey! Stay tuned for further updates coming this fall.

Envisioning our Future:

Building Trinity's Roadmap

trinityumc.net/strategicplanning



Reminder: Now is always a good time to take your Spiritual Gifts inventory—it only takes about 15 minutes! For more information and to access the inventory, visit trinityumc.net/spiritualgifts.



What's Happening in Trinity KIDS Ministry?

What We're Learning In September:



Take a moment to pause and get a closer look at the amazing world around us—trees, oceans, animals, and even you! What's even more amazing is that it was all created by God, for God. From the beginning of time, God created everything with care and purpose, showing incredible love for all of creation—especially us. The best thing we can do is give that love back by taking care of the world God has given us. In this 4-week series, kids will learn that God made the world and everything in it, we are made in God's image, God made a plan to save us, and God helps us make good choices!

What We're Learning in October:



Nothing brings a family together—or stirs up some friendly drama—like a family game night! Just like in games, family life can have its own ups and downs, whether it's with our given or chosen families. In this 4-week series, kids will explore how Abraham's family navigated challenges and blessings while learning how

(cont'd)

we can care for our families, serve them well, and remember that we're all part of God's family. As they do, kids will learn that we can believe God's promises, we can pray for our families, we can trust God to provide, and we're all welcome in God's family.



Transit is our 4th and 5th grade program at Trinity! It is open to all 4th and 5th graders at Trinity and in our community! We meet several times each month from August – November and January – March at Trinity from 5-7pm on Sunday evenings in room 302. Our program includes dinner and activities/games!

Upcoming Dates for Transit:

September 13, 20, 27

October 4, 11, 25

November 8, 15, 22

Family Conversation Questions:

Use the questions below to engage in meaningful conversations about your kids' days, especially during the back to school season. These questions help kids and parents build spiritual faith together. Each day, choose one of the questions below to discuss together:

How did you see God move today?

Did God speak to your heart about anything today?

Tell me the best part of your day.

Who were you able to encourage today?

How did you show God's love today?

Tell me one thing that brought you joy today.

Was there a time today that you needed patience?

How did you show kindness today?

What was something good that happened today?

How did you exercise self-control today?

What is something that made you think of God today?

Did you say a prayer during school?

Did anything make you smile today?

Tell me 3 words to describe your day.

What is something you are thankful for today?



United
Women
in Faith

Trinity United Women in Faith Meetings

Meetings of the full unit are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month. The time and location changes monthly depending on the program. All members of the congregation, women and men, are invited to attend our events.

Our purpose:

We are a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Our vision:

Turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

September 10 Room 324, 10:00 am Re-Orienting Ourselves

As the school year begins, we turn our focus to opening ourselves to new perspectives and ways of looking at things. As part of this program, Shari Adams will present an overview of the UWF Assembly she attended in May.



October 8 Room 324, 10:00 am A Pilgrimage for Mission

Join us to explore the mission work of UWF at Trinity, the Three Notch'd District and the Virginia Conference.



Circle Information

Trinity United Women in Faith is blessed to count over 100 members in our unit. We have four Circles that meet regularly and others that meet on an ad hoc basis for projects and fellowship. **All welcome new members.** Circles meet during the morning and at night; we hope you find one that suits you. Check the church calendar and website for information on meetings and projects. If you are interested in joining any of the Circles, please contact the leader(s).

Circle	Meeting Time & Place	Leader(s)
1	3rd Tuesday, 10:00 am, Student Center	Pat Rollison
4	1st Thursday, 11:00 am, Room 323	Dianne Moore
7	3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm, Student Center	Shari Adams, Caroline Cardwell
10	1st Thursday, 7:00 pm, Members' homes	Sharon Wenger
11	Project meetings, as needed, TBD	Sheila Norfleet, Gail Clelland

Save the Date! Upcoming Events

Harvest Day – November 12
Christmas Service Day – December 10

THE TRINITY PUMPKIN PATCH—OPENING SEPTEMBER 19!

On the morning of September 19, thousands of pumpkins will arrive for this year's Pumpkin Patch! The Pumpkin Patch proceeds support our Trinity Student Ministry. It is their only fundraiser every year, and the proceeds make up a substantial portion of their budget. We also return a large portion of the revenue to the farmers that source our pumpkins. They are grown in New Mexico on a Navajo Reservation. During harvest season, over 700 Native Americans are employed, and the full time off-season staff is entirely comprised of Native Americans. This has made an enormous difference in an area where there has been unemployment of over 40%.

Your help in this year's Pumpkin Patch will make a difference in the lives of many! Some ways you can support Trinity's Pumpkin Patch:

- Spread the news! Share posts on social media, tell your neighbors, and share the story of our pumpkins. Our pumpkins help share the Gospel with students while also supporting indigenous farmers and conscious farming practices. No grocery store pumpkin can say that!
- Help unload the pumpkins at around 9am on Saturday, September 19. Many hands will make for quick work as we move pumpkins from the tractor trailer, assembly style! *sign up requested*
- Serve a shift at the Pumpkin Patch—it's open from September 19 through October 31. Weekday hours are noon through 7pm, and weekend hours are 10am through 7pm. Chat with visitors, take sales, and enjoy the fall! *sign up requested*
- Adopt the Pumpkin Patch for a week, and come daily when it suits your schedule to rearrange pumpkins, remove rotted inventory, clean/put away pallets, and tidy the Patch as needed. This is a new opportunity this year! *sign up requested*



For more information and to sign up for any of these opportunities, visit www.trinityumc.net/pumpkinpatch

Upcoming Events

Pumpkin Patch Setup & Dinner | Sept 6
Lock-In | Sept 12-13
Pumpkin Patch Opens | Sept 19
Halloween Party | Oct 25

Meeting weekly on Sundays at 5pm

COMING SOON FOR TRINITY STUDENTS...

Lock-In registration is open now and closes on September 10!

To see everything coming up for Trinity students and to sign up for the weekly Student newsletter, where you can find the most current info and e-devotionals from Pastor Daniel, visit www.trinityumc.net/students

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER DEADLINE

The next edition will be distributed in early November. **Submission deadline is October 14.** Submissions or questions can be sent to Laura Maher at lmaher@trinityumc.net. Thank you!

