

Celebrate God's love
Nurture relationships with God and one another
Serve our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

Trinity Church is a congregation of The United Methodist Church and is a Reconciling Congregation.

A Note from our Minister...

Walking by Faith Not by Sight



By the time you read this message the sky will be a deeper blue and the air a little cooler. The leaves will be on the cusp of changing in all the bright beautiful colors showing what a true artist our Creator is. It is a season of change. Nature is changing before our very eyes. Life does that to us as well.

Tremendous growth can come from change if we rely upon God to guide and sustain us. Proverbs 3: 5-6 reminds us . . . "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding," "In all your ways acknowledge your Creator, and God will make your paths straight."

Sometimes when change visits our lives it can really leave us guessing about what the future holds. We cannot see through it or around it no matter how hard we try. It's normal for difficult circumstances to challenge one's perception of God's goodness. That is when we give our uncertainties over to God.

God does not want us to worry. Jesus asked us to consider the lilies of the field, and the birds of the air, and how God takes care of them day by day. How much more does God love and sustain us, who are created in his image? Now consider where you are today compared to where you were in the past.

Take some time today to focus on what is truly important in life. Slow down and experience the God that loves you and wants to "walk in the cool of the day" with you. God's love for us never wavers. That is one constant we can rely on, perhaps the only thing in our lives that will never change.

May the Peace of the Lord be with you!

Dr. David Calhoun



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"Happily we bask in this warm
September sun, which
illuminates all creatures."

~ Henry David Thoreau

VISIT US ONLINE:
trinityspringfield.org



Please Pray for These Members/Friends:

James A, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Natalie B, Peg C, Mary C, Dominick E, Sophia G, Courtney H, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Carlos M, Herb M, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Catherine Ann R, Alfredo R, Jennifer R, Henry (Bing) S, Carl S, Lynn T, Tina W, Allie W, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.



Thank You Note

Dear Trinity United Methodist Church,

I just wanted to say thank you to Vera Baker for bringing me the beautiful flowers from the altar to help me celebrate my birthday. It was a wonderful surprise. She arrived about the same time our son called from Tennessee to wish me a Happy Birthday and Rich was able to say hello to Vera as well. Thank you again for helping to make my birthday special.

Mary Ann C



September Rose Window

September 4 - In loving memory of Pauline, from Judy & Paula

September 6 - Anonymous

September 10 - In loving memory of David C, Jr., from his mom, Barbara

September 27 - In loving memory of Ted & Jane C, from Ted & Judy

September 30 - Anonymous

"QUOTE"

"And then the sun took a step back, the leaves lulled themselves to sleep, and autumn awakened."

-Raquel Franco

SEPTEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

Regular Birthdays Regular Wedding Anniversaries (*Italics*) (S)- Staff

9/1 Judy & Charles L
9/2 Berney B, Brion & Georgia R
9/3 Russell C, Joseph T, *Caroline & Eric M*
9/4 Brianna C, Charles G, Jr.,
Andrew & Stephanie G
9/5 Colin C, Catherine R
9/6 Isabella T, *Daniel & Heather M*
9/9 Stephen G, Christopher S,
Lisa & Christopher S
9/11 Tim E, *Steve & Karen S*
9/12 Charlotte M
9/13 Zoe K, Anthony S, Nicholas S,
Wayne & Teri L
9/14 James A, Susan C-B, Maximus D,
Dina & A.J. C
9/15 Arianna B, *Nicole B & Shannon C*
9/16 Ava M, *Brenda K & Stephen G*
9/17 Daniel G, Aura I, Jennifer R, Joachim T
9/18 Jenna C, Rev. Dr. David C, Mason C,
Morgan M, *Jess & Christina H, III, Ian & Rachel S*
9/19 Richard H, Carlos M (S)
9/20 Holly & Donald B
9/22 Henry G, Jackson R, Andrew T
9/23 *Diane & Robert F*
9/24 Jeannette B, Michael R
9/25 Rita A, Thomas , Erin S
9/26 Eric M
9/27 Benjamin Pelletier, *Jason P & Beth M-P*
John P & Christine St
9/28 Amelia H-R, James M, Jennifer S
9/29 Benjamin (F) R
9/30 Amy B, Brenda K (J), Kyle L,
Patrick & Laurie H

Milestone Birthdays 75 & every 5 9/17 Robert C



Milestone Anniversaries Every 5 years 9/20 Russ & Linda C



Trustee News

Good news! The elevator project is finally moving along. It's been a tremendous amount of behind the scenes work since we, as a church, voted in January to move ahead with the accessibility project. The building has been swarming with engineers assessing conditions, we've been in contact with the building and code enforcement folks to make sure everything is in compliance, and we've had discussions and bids from multiple contractors. The project was put out to bid in early July and the results were a bit discouraging – everything came back quite a bit higher than our estimator had anticipated and was over our allotted budget. After much discussion, deliberation, and discernment we decided to make some changes in the plan. The lift that will access the chapel has been eliminated – partly due to cost and partly due to the amount of space we would lose in the Chapel due to code requirements, which would have taken almost one third of one side of the Chapel.

We have worked out our budget shortfall and picked our General Contractor – A J Crane Co. from Chicopee. He has secured the building permit; we have ordered the elevator from Otis; we have contracted to begin asbestos abatement and an update to the fire alarm system. We are hoping to begin the demolition on September 15th. Our best guess is that the elevator shaft and all of the related work will be completed before Christmas, with the installation of the elevator (which takes 4-6 weeks by itself) to begin just after Boars Head and be completed no later than March 31st (just before Easter!)

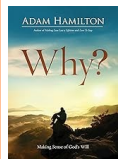
There will be some disruption to our normal way of life at Trinity over the next several months. The parking lot entrance will likely be closed off for most, if not all of that period. The east transept will be sealed off to contain construction debris as much as possible, but we may still need to seal off the organ for a period of time to prevent dust infiltration. While we will try to minimize the inconvenience, we will be living in a construction zone through the fall and ask for your patience.

Another exciting project is the major upgrade to our Sanctuary sound system. We have upgraded pieces several times in the past 30 years but this time it will be much more extensive. We are abandoning the old style single large speaker and installing 6 speakers throughout the Sanctuary, which will give us a much more balanced sound and eliminate the several dead zones that we currently have. We are also installing a digital processor to balance the sound and auto adjust the microphones for louder and softer speakers, adding a couple of new microphone jacks, and upgrading our wireless mics. The system should be completely up and running in the next couple of weeks and we will be adjusting things as we go over the fall for best live sound and streaming.

If you have any questions on any of these (or other) projects please reach out to Jim Mackie, Alan Harwood, or any of our Trustees at trustees@trinityspringfield.org.

Upcoming Book Studies with Rev. Dr. David Calhoun in the Gallery & Cafe

These books can be ordered on Amazon. To sign up, please email Doreen in the Church office at doreen@trinityspringfield.org and let her know which class(es) you will be attending. Thank you.



Why? Making Sense of God's Will

When the ground shakes, and a poor nation's economy is destroyed; when a community is wiped away by wildfires taking away a community's hopes and dreams; when a child suffers neglect and abuse; when violence tears apart nations; where is God? If God is all powerful, and if each one of us is a beloved child of God, then how can God allow tragedy and suffering to infest his creation? When we lift our prayers to God, and no answer seems to come; when we earnestly seek to know the will of God for our lives, yet can't seem to discern it; when God seems far away; where is God? Join Rev. Dr. Calhoun as we explore best-selling author Adam Hamilton's fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, we will discuss how we can comprehend God's plan for the world and ourselves. **Mondays, September 15, 22, 29 & October 6, 2025 at 12-1:30 p.m.**



Goodbye Murphy's Law:

Whatever Can Go Wrong God Can Make Right

We live in a world where people tend to expect the worst. But God has an amazing plan for each of us, and this plan is not some elusive, mystical riddle we cannot decipher. We can move past dry spells and give up dread and fear. We can shape a vision for our life that is large and special and meaningful. Join Rev. Dr. David Calhoun as we explore this marvelous little book by Judy Pace Christie as she encourages us to seek and discover God's will in our lives through listening, discernment, prayer, and perseverance. We will discuss ten important questions to help us live a more hopeful, encouraging, engaging, caring, eloquent, practical, prayerful, devoted, Christ-centered, life. Judy Pace Christie encourages us "To do our best and trust that God will do the rest." **Mondays, November 24, December 1, 8, 15, 2025 at 12-1:30 p.m.**

Future Studies (Dates to be Determined)

Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses by James W. Moore

The Undivided Soul by Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan



Music Ministry and Dance Ensembles at Trinity

I am very excited for all the ensembles to be up and running this month. I invite all current, former and potential singers and dancers to carefully read the dates and the schedule for startup. If you would like to join one of the ensembles, please reach out to me and I will find a place for you! I especially invite children, from second grade to high school, to consider being a part of this ministry. We have plenty of room for you!

THE CHORISTERS is an ensemble open to children in grades 2-7 which rehearses weekly on Sundays from 12:15-1:00 p.m. and sings 4-6 times during the program year.

THE CHAMBER CHOIR is an ensemble open to girls and boys in grades 8-12 which rehearses weekly on Sundays from 1:00-1:45 p.m. and sings 6-8 times during the program year.

THE YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR is an ensemble open to Youth with some music knowledge and rehearses weekly on Sundays from 1:45-2:30 p.m.

CHANCEL CHOIR is an ensemble open to all adults who like to sing and participate in a friendly group. Music reading is not necessary, just a willingness to learn! The chancel choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. and sings each Sunday from September to June.

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR is an ensemble open to adults who have a solid musical background and rehearses on Thursdays from 5:45- 6:45 p.m.

DANCE MOVEMENT CHOIR is an ensemble open to all ages and abilities, 6 years old to adults, and rehearses on Sundays from 12:15-1:00 p.m. and 1:00-1:45 p.m. The Dance Movement Choir shares movement/dance/ASL pieces with the congregation during the program year. Dance experience is NOT required, nor is walking.

START UP REHEARSAL DATES TO REMEMBER

CHORISTERS - September 21

CHAMBER CHOIR - September 21

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR - September 21

CHANCEL CHOIR - **September 11 (updated date)**

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR - **September 11(updated date)**

DANCE MOVEMENT CHOIR - September 21

For more information about these programs, please reach out to Dr. Bruce Glenney, Director of Music Ministries music@trinityspringfield.org.

For information about the Dance Movement Choir, please reach out to Amelia Hays-Rivest dancemovementchoir@trinityspringfield.org.

I look forward to meeting new and returning members of this ministry in September!

Dr. Bruce Glenney, Director of Music Ministries



Kingdomtide Theme: Saints - Past, Present, Future

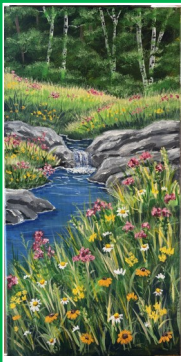
Worship Committee

We are entering a unique time of year for the Methodist Church - Kingdomtide. Going from late August to Advent, this is a time when we show what it means to live in the Kingdom, to live a Christian life. This fall we will have many opportunities to reflect on our Christian service and to honor the service of others. One way we can do this is to reflect on the theme for this fall, put forth by the Worship Committee: **Saints - Past, Present, Future.**

When we hear the word "saints" we often think of people so pure and perfect that they have a halo around their heads like some Byzantine work of art. Or perhaps we think of sainthood as something bestowed on a person after performing miracles and dying. However, I would like to propose a new definition. For this Kingdomtide, I would like you to consider the everyday saints around you at Trinity; the people who inspire your relationship with Christ and fill you with hope, light, and optimism by just being near them. These church members let Christ shine through them.

In the Thursday Thoughts, the committee will be looking to honor Trinity's saints from the past, the saints with us right now, and the saints in the making - the future of Trinity. As you read about these everyday people and how they have expanded the Kingdom of God, consider what you can do to let Christ move through you. How are you serving the Kingdom? What can you do to honor and reflect your relationship with God? How can you help others to feel closer to the Holy Spirit?

Peace always,
Lisa Everett, Worship Committee Chair



September 2025 Gallery Exhibit

Agawam Community Artists and Artisans
They are a group of artists and artisans from Agawam, surrounding towns, and Connecticut that meet at the Agawam Public Library to share their work and learn from other artists through classes and conversation. There are currently 97 members whose specialties include pottery, jewelry, glass art, wood crafting, oil, acrylic, and watercolor.

Baby Shower - Save the Date - Sunday, Sept., 21 after Worship in the Children's Nursery



Please join the United Women in Faith and staff in celebrating the renewed children's nursery. Let's shower the children with gifts of love as we enjoy treats and sweets together. You can choose from *Cody's Wish List* by donating age-appropriate gifts for children ages 1-5. (The color theme is Gray and Yellow.)

Here are some suggestions:

Disposable diapers, puzzles, Legos, garbage can with pop-up lid, garbage can liners, toy truck, baby dolls, mobile for crib, hand sanitizer, play rug (large 6X9), Lysol wipes, tummy-time mat, oscillating stand fan, baby blanket. Use your imagination! Please include a gift receipt with your item - just in case!

This project made possible by the generosity of our dearly-departed United Methodist Women.

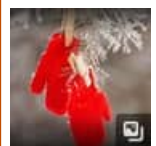


Will Bike 4 Food

Riders and Donors Needed! Team Trinity is looking for additional riders to join the team. All levels of riders are welcome from an easy family friendly ride of 4 miles to more challenging rides of 10, 25, 50, or 100 miles. You can even ride virtually at your own pace.

Donors are also needed. With the cuts to SNAP benefits, more of our neighbors are food insecure and turning to food pantries for help. Every donation helps provide nutritious food to those in need.

The ride will take place on September 21. Let's help Team Trinity make this the most successful year yet by signing up today to either ride or donate or both. You can scan the QR Code above or visit [Trinity's webpage](#) for more information and a link to donate.



Trinity's Mitten Tree

It's time to start preparing for Trinity's Mitten Tree 2025! Last year our Parkside Pantry guests were very appreciative of our Mitten Tree gifts. Share your warmth by donating knitted, purchased and gently used mittens, hats and scarves to our Parkside Pantry guests. Donations will be accepted throughout December. Thank you!



New Member Orientation

Trinity is a growing and dynamic congregation of people. I am happy to report that a new and prospective member gathering has been scheduled for **Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025 from 10 a.m. - noon.** Please join us for this informational meeting and enjoy a continental breakfast in the Parkside Café. This is a great opportunity for you to learn more about Trinity and the United Methodist Church in general. If you choose to join Trinity UMC after the orientation, you will be received into church membership on Sun., Oct. 19, 2025. Mark your calendar now, it will be a wonderful gathering.

Blessings,
Dr. C.



CROP Walk 2025

GET YOUR WALKING SHOES READY!

On Sunday, October 5 at 1:00 pm, we kick off the 2025 CROP Hunger Walk from the front lawn of Trinity Church. In years past, Trinity has been a great supporter of the walk. Since COVID suspended the in-person group walk for 2 years, we have struggled to get the donations back up and the number of walkers back up. We're hoping that this is the year to return to being the top fundraisers in the Greater Springfield Walk. Our goal is to raise at least \$4,000 and have at least 25 walkers.

As an incentive, Greater Springfield CROP Walk has been granted Matching Funds. For every dollar you donate ONLINE, a gift from the closing of Bethesda Lutheran Church will match your donation up to \$20,000. Your donation of \$50 is enough to provide five, two-week food packets for nourishment and support. Your donation of \$80 provides chickens for four families, giving them a constant supply of eggs, helping children become stronger and healthier. Your gift of \$100 provides two beehives, a flood resistant option that creates stable jobs working with nutritious honey that can be eaten and sold.

In these times of government cuts in funding these programs, it has become our duty to pick up the slack. Remember, 25% of the funds we raise stay local and benefit the Western Mass Food Bank, Lorraine's Soup Kitchen and Open Pantry.

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a gathering of people in a place. We're part of a movement, taking steps and raising funds together to provide meals for those in our own community who need them - and supporting programs that create greater food security in communities all around the world. Please join us in the fight against hunger. The steps we take and funds we raise will make a difference in the lives of others.

To register for the walk or to donate (or both) please use the link [here](#) or scan the QR code above. After you donate, you will see that your funds are matched. If you have questions, please contact Diane Mackie at missions@trinityspringfield.org.

The Missions Committee thanks you for your support!



Trinity's Block Party is Just Around the Corner

September is here- and with it, this year's Trinity Block Party celebration. Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 14, 12:00pm - 2:30pm, when we gather together on the front lawn for food, fellowship, and fun. There will be music, lawn games for the children (and the young at heart), a bounce house and pony rides, delicious free food, and a drawing every half-hour for a free pie. If you are interested in helping out in any capacity, please stop by the Connection Point table during Fellowship Hour in Asbury Hall after worship or feel free to contact Jennifer Johnston-Marius at blockparty@trinityspringfield.org or (570) 412-4315.

We look forward to spending some quality time with one another and with our Forest Park neighbors.

Membership & Evangelism Committee



Help Wanted

Join our Church Parkside Café Team and help create a warm, welcoming space for fellowship and connection. Team members volunteer once a month or so to run the café on Sunday mornings to ensure smooth operations.

Additionally, members will need to communicate inventory needs to the team and possibly fill in supply gaps when needed. This is a great opportunity to serve others while building friendships and sharing hospitality. No experience is necessary - just a willing heart and a smile! No meetings will be required, just a training.



New Ministry:

Earth Advocacy Team

Would you be interested in being a part of a new ministry at Trinity? This team will work with Rev. Calhoun to coordinate, plan and implement congregational and community action to care for the Earth and renew resources. The team will help the congregation understand theological and biblical foundations for environmental awareness and Christian responsibility for Earth stewardship. The team will provide opportunities for people in the congregation and community to learn about issues and actions that have impact on health and future of the planet. The team will lead the congregation in celebration of the Annual Earth Day, Arbor Day and/or other efforts for local and community environmental awareness. The team will link with organizations, people, and resources in and beyond the congregation with environmental issues.

It's Back!!!! Trinity's Pumpkin Patch Festival - Save the Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025



The Trinity Ways and Means Committee is currently working on the 3rd annual Pumpkin Patch Festival to be held on Saturday, October 18, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. As in last year's Festival, there will be food trucks and craft vendors in addition to kids' activities and pumpkins for sale. Volunteer sign-ups are available now at the Connection Point for the following: making apple crisp, baking a cake for the take-a-cake activity, lending wagons to tote pumpkins to cars, general volunteering on day-of, set-up and break-down, placing a sign in your yard and more. Many hands are needed to make this a success, so **please save the date and plan to attend this fun event.** You can also reach us at pumpkinpatch@trinityspringfield.org. See you there!!



Pumpkin Patch Bake Sale

The Pumpkin Patch Festival is almost here and this year it will include a bake sale, "Autumn's Bounty." Think of apples, pumpkins, cranberries, cinnamon, and all the delicious goodies you can make with them. Of course, what's a bake sale without chocolate chip cookies, brownies and blondies. Our bake sales have always been very popular with the public and we hope you'll help us with this one. **You can drop off your items in the kitchen on Friday, October 17.** If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for helping to make this bake sale a success.

Kris Gould

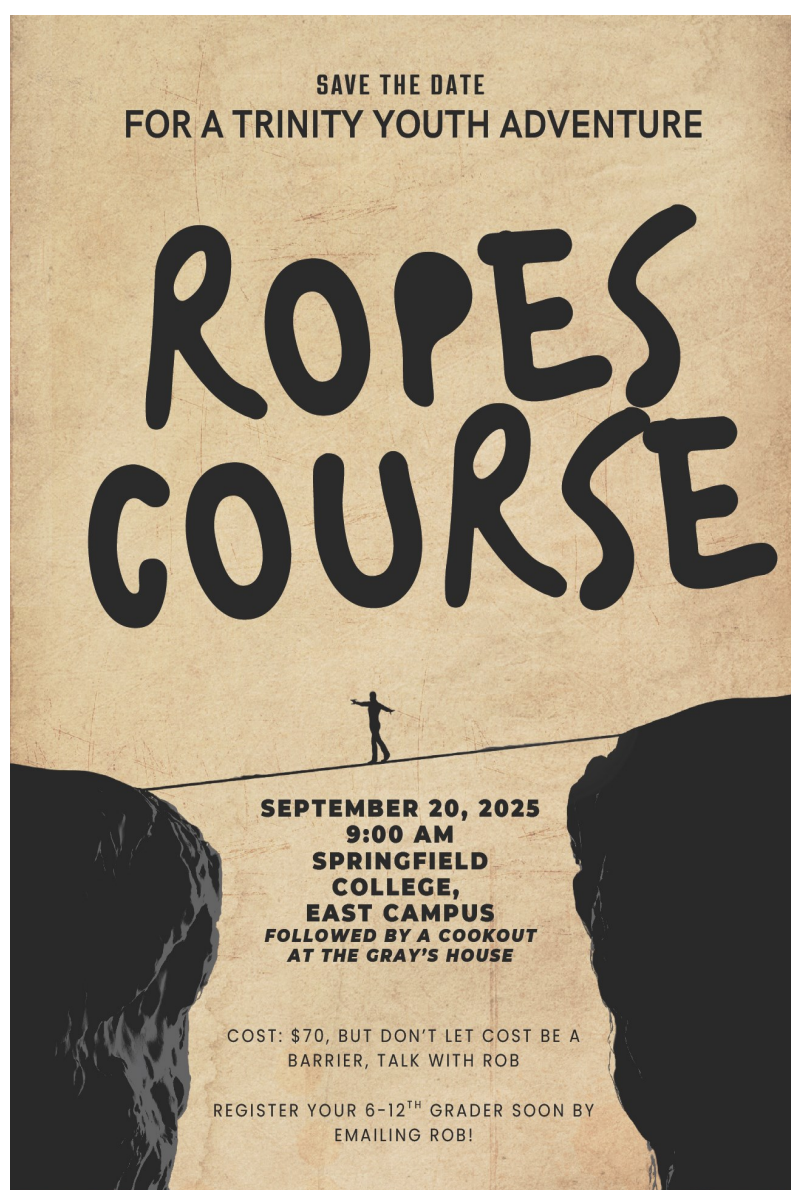
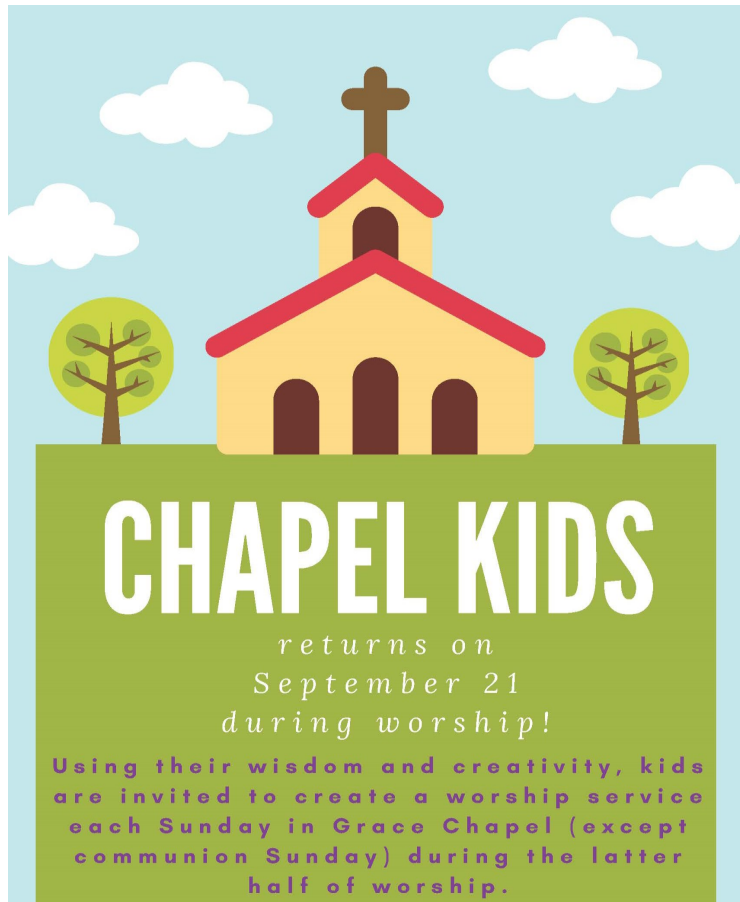
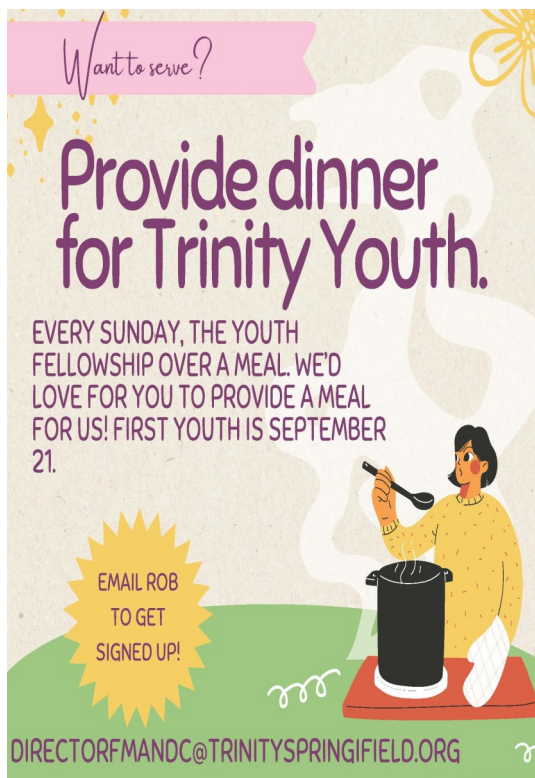
Email: hospitality@trinityspringfield.org



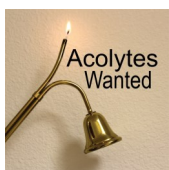
Single Together to Meet Again

Single Together will resume our monthly get-togethers on Thursday (note change of day), **September 11th, 2 to 2 p.m.** Single Together is for people who are single by circumstance or choice. We meet monthly for a meal and a time of socializing. All singles are welcome.

Due to conflicts with church space, we will be meeting downstairs in **Vincent Hall** which is the side door located in the big parking lot. This will be a covered dish luncheon. Bring your favorite dish - enough to feed five or six. Soft drinks will be provided. To let us know you are coming contact Jo Anne E. Hope to see you there.



Are You Interested in Becoming an Acolyte?



Any youth in Fourth grade and up would be welcome! There will be a training on Sunday, September 7 after worship. Any questions just ask Tina Warren, Acolyte Coordinator. You can reach her at

acolytes@trinityspringfield.org. She would love to have you with our current Acolytes!

GLIMPSES OF GOD

TRINITY YOUTH MISSION TRIP
SALEM, ME - AUGUST 2025



Trinity Youth spent a week in Salem, ME with United Methodist Economic Ministries serving others, having fun together, and looking for glimpses of God. They built a ramp, repaired and stained a deck, cleaned up a HUGE yard, and staffed a thrift store and food pantry. Thank you to Trinity for supporting our youth as they ventured out into the world to do good!




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info@trinityspringfield. org





STAMP



Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church, welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.

