



The Season of Advent is one of the highlights of the Christian Year. With this season, we launch another cycle of living into the story of Jesus and the church that emerges—of which we are a part. We Pastors sometimes think we need to find a new way of telling this story, and do something fresh and unique. While there is certainly space for that, tradition and remembering the songs and stories from our beginnings can be a powerful invitation to grow as disciples as we grow closer to Christ.

This December, we will listen again to the well-known Bible stories and sing the familiar carols and songs. We will serve up pancakes for kids waiting to see Santa, enjoy the music of the Christmas Cantata, and walk alongside those struggling to find joy this year. There will be serving opportunities for kids and families in need of some Christmas love, and the opportunity on Christmas Eve to support the work of United Methodist Family Services.

You are invited to experience the Preparations and the Passion of Advent that we might embrace the Presence and Promise of the Christ who comes. So, come, let us adore him.

Blessings,

Pastor Alan



Save the December Dates!

Monday, December 9 – 7:00 PM
Chesterfield Concert Band Christmas Performance

Saturday, December 14 – 9:00 AM to Noon
Santa Breakfast!

Sunday, December 15 – 11:00 AM
Christmas Cantata

Monday & Tuesday, December 16 & 17
Joint Cantata with Chester UMC Choir, at Chester UMC

Thursday, December 19 – 7:00 PM
Silent Nights, Worship in a Time of Grief

Sunday, December 22 – 10:00 AM
Children's Christmas Play

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve
Family Worship at 4:00 PM
Candlelight Service at 11:00 PM

Sunday, December 29 – 10:00 AM
One Combined Worship Service



Melodic Updates



Tis the Season to be Jolly....

Celebrate the Season with Joyful Opportunities!

Here are the festive events happening this December, now with all the details you need:

December 9 at 7:00 PM - Chesterfield Concert Band Christmas Program

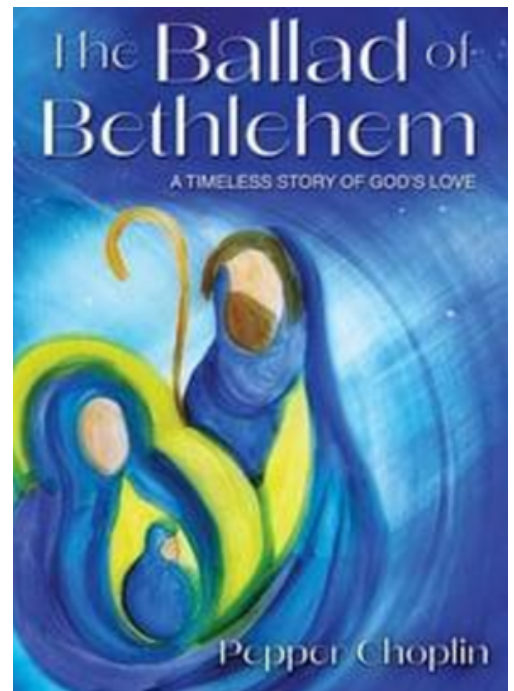
Let the music of the Chesterfield Concert Band bring the Christmas spirit alive! Our very own Margaret Cox, a clarinetist, will be performing.

- Reception: After the concert, enjoy Christmas cookies and punch sponsored by the Music Department.
- What to Bring: Please bring a plate of cookies to share, either on December 8 or when you arrive for the concert.

December 15 at 11:00 AM - Christmas Cantata

Our Adult Choir has been preparing diligently to present *The Ballad of Bethlehem* by Pepper Choplin. This touching retelling of the Christmas story features beautiful, original music that creates a meaningful and intimate worship experience.

- Special Accompaniment: A small chamber orchestra will join the choir during this worship service.



A background image of a musical score with various notes, clefs, and lyrics like 'ut te' and 'dim.'

Melodic Updates

December 16 & 17 at 7:00 PM - Community Cantata at Chester UMC

Can't get enough of *The Ballad of Bethlehem*? Join us for the Community Cantata, a collaboration with Chester UMC.

- Parking: Overflow parking will be available at Chester Baptist Church.
- Don't miss this powerful musical celebration: Let the Heavens Rejoice and the Earth Be Glad!

December 24 - Christmas Eve Services

Experience the magic of Christmas Eve with two distinct services:

- 4:00 PM - Family Service:

A joyful and relaxed gathering featuring performances by our Adult Choir and participation from children. Expect a lively, holy celebration full of smiles and Christmas cheer!

- 11:00 PM - Candlelight Service:

Immerse yourself in the peaceful, reverent "Holy Hush" of Christmas Eve. Various instruments will guide us in reflecting on the miracle of Christ's birth. We hope these events and services bring blessings and joy to you and your loved ones this season.

Warmly,
Rachel



Family Ministries

Children's Ministries News

Wacky Wednesday - Every Wednesday, 5:45-7:00 PM

Bring the kids for food, fellowship, and Bible stories every Wednesday from 5:45-7:00 p.m. on the playground.

Children's Christmas Play

Sun. 12/22/24

10am - Between services (no Sunday School)

Come see the children tell the story of Jesus' birth. Performers range in age from 2yrs to 12yrs old, so it is sure to be a great time. Light refreshments will be available before and after the presentation.

Youth Ministries News

Youth Bible Study - Every Wednesday, 5:45-7:45 PM

Youth (grades 6th-12th) are invited to join us for dinner and worship arts (rotation) Dinner at 5:45 p.m., Worship Arts at 6:00, Bible Study at 6:45.

Youth Group-

Join us @ Trinity UMC 6 - 7:30 pm (12/8, 12/15)

- Christmas Party: Sunday, December 15. We'll celebrate with a potluck meal and a white elephant gift exchange.
- Youth Lock-In: Friday, December 20, 5:00 PM-8:00 AM. To participate, you must assist with Parent's Night Out.

For more information or to volunteer with the youth, please contact Vickie Weber at vjbrynildsen@gmail.com or 757-510-1286.



Get into the holiday spirit with a magical morning at our Santa Breakfast!
Join us for: Delicious Breakfast Fun Crafts A Visit with the Big Man Himself!
Bring the whole family for a festive time full of smiles, laughter, and holiday cheer.

Don't forget your camera for a special photo with Santa!

Date: Sat. Dec. 14th

Time: 8am-Noon

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church

Mark your calendars and get ready for a wonderful time with Santa!



Parents, take a breather before the holiday hustle begins! Drop the kids off for a fun-filled evening of games, crafts, handmade gifts, and movies!

While the little ones are having a blast, you can: Finish up your holiday shopping,
Relax and recharge!

Snacks and popcorn will be provided, and best of all—it's FREE! Donations are welcome.

Date: Fri. Dec. 20th

Time: 5-9pm

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church

Spaces are limited, so mark your calendars and let us know if you'll be joining us by clicking here : <https://forms.gle/7fL4BBpXFAkk89U37>



Stay Connected

Precious Memories - (Widow/Widower Group)

Thursday, December 19, from 1:00-3:00 pm at TUMC in the Fellowship classroom. Please bring a “white elephant” gift for an entertaining gift exchange. So look through those old boxes of “stuff” you have in the attic, basement, or garage. Here’s your chance to eliminate that odd object you never knew what to do with! (And, yes, please wrap it!) A holiday dinner will be provided at that meeting.

Please consider future programs or excursions we might enjoy together and let Bonnie Donaldson or Judy Powell know.

Faith Walks – Join Us for a Hike! -

On **Saturday, December 7th** @ 10:00 AM

We will visit and hike at the Henricus Historical Park and DutchGap Conservation Area. This is the second oldest English settlement in North America, but it is found right here in Chesterfield, Va. This hike will be approximately 4.7 miles of mostly flat, wide trails. The park is a fantastic refuge for migratory birds throughout the fall and winter.

Details:

- Carpool Option: Meet at Trinity UMC at 9:30 am to carpool.
- Meet on Site: Henricus Historical Park Parking Lot at 10:00 AM.

For more information, please contact Turner Wilkes at twilkes86@hotmail.com or 804-477-4110.

Sign Up Here: [Faith Walks Registration](#)



CARES Christmas Giving

This Christmas, Trinity is excited to support the women and children at CARES (Crisis Assistance Response Emergency Shelter) in Petersburg. Renovations are expected to finish by Christmas, so please join us in praying for a timely reopening!

Since 1994, Trinity has provided Christmas gifts and essential items to CARES, helping nearly 500 individuals with donations totaling over \$117,000.

How You Can Help

After Thanksgiving, we'll begin collecting donations for CARES families. Please submit donations by Sunday, December 15th, with "CARES" in the memo line of your check.

Volunteer Opportunities

Shopping: Meet at Trinity on Wednesday, December 18th, at 9 AM

Gift Wrapping: Join us at 1 PM at Trinity

If the shelter reopens in time, Santa and Trinity's "elves" will deliver these gifts on Christmas morning. For questions or to volunteer, contact Karen (804-677-6430) or Bill (804-677-6397). Thank you for bringing holiday joy to CARES families!



Trinity Online Store!–

Get ready to show off your Trinity pride with some awesome gear! Our Trinity Swag Shop is officially open, and we've got everything you need—from T-shirts to cozy sweatshirts and hoodies, perfect for the cooler weather ahead.



Order Your Trinity Gear!

Choose your style, color and size below!

by Shelby Beck

COLOR



STYLE \$31.00



Pullover
Hoodie



Crewneck
Sweatshirt



Classic Long
Sleeve Tee



Classic Unisex
Tee

SIZE

S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL 5XL Size & fabric i

Whether you're heading to a church event, out in the community, or just lounging at home, now's the time to grab your favorite Trinity gear and represent in style! 🌟 Check out the shop and order your favorites today: [Order Your Trinity Gear](#)

Don't wait—hoodie season is right around the corner, and you won't want to miss out on these super soft, stylish options! 😎

Happy shopping!

Sharing the Gift of Love This Christmas

As we celebrate the season when the greatest gift—Jesus Christ—was given to us, we are reminded of the opportunity to share His love with others. Our dedicated pastor and staff at Trinity work tirelessly to help us do just that. In appreciation of their efforts, we invite you to contribute to the Staff Christmas Gift.

Here's how you can participate:

- Make checks payable to **TUMC** and include "**Staff Christmas Gift**" in the memo line.
- Donations are due by **Sunday, December 15th**.

Thank you for your generosity. It is truly a blessing to be part of such a kind and giving congregation.

Wishing you blessings and joy this season,

Trinity Leadership Board

Financial Report -

As we approach the end of the year, please review your giving to Trinity. Our different summer worship schedule, or vacations and trips, may have thrown off your tithing pattern. The ministry of your church is thriving. God is doing some good things with, through and for us. Let's continue to support the body of Christ, Trinity UMC.

Ways To Give -

Your bank's Bill-Pay program. You can authorize your bank to send a check each month to Trinity. These services are typically free, and recurring payments can be set up so you can rest assured your tithe is made. Have your gift sent to:

Trinity United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 2527

Chesterfield, VA 23832

Exciting update! We are making it easier than ever to make online donations!



As always, you can mail or place your personal check in the offering plate. However you give, we are grateful for your financial support of Trinity UMC's ministries.

December Birthdays

December 2: Bob Cassada
December 3: Douglas Bailey
December 8: Haley Rasmussen
December 12: Derek Bailey
December 13: Brysen Weber
December 14: Hailey Donithan
December 15: Jeffrey Burley
December 17: April Brockman
December 19: Margaret Cox
December 21: Edward Collins
December 24: Steve Syrett
December 27: Karen Cash, Jennifer Ashton,
Cathy Whalen
December 28: Ken Griffith



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

6600 Greenyard Road
Chester, VA 23831

Mailing Address: PO Box
2527 Chesterfield VA 23832

(804) 748-2439

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

Email Directory

Pastor • Rev. Alan Layman alanlayman@vaumc.org

Associate Pastor • Herb Brynildsen hbrynildsen57@gmail.com

Director of Music • Rachel Allyn rnallyn@comcast.net

Next-Gen Ministries Director • Vickie Weber vjbrynildsen@gmail.com

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

Praise Team Leader • Turner Wilkes Twilkes86@hotmail.com

Treasurer • Tawanda Connor