

Trinity Today

Vol. 25, No. 4

April 1, 2023

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 2

9:00 a.m. - Traditional Service (HC)
10:15 a.m. - Discipleship Hour
11:30 a.m. - Confirmation Service (HC)



MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 6

12:00 p.m. - Traditional Service (HC)
6:30 p.m. - Seder Dinner (HC)
(See page 2 for ticket information)



GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 7

12:00 p.m. - Traditional Service
6:30 p.m. - Tenebrae Service



EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 9

9:00 a.m. - Festival Service (HC)
10:15 a.m. - Empty Tomb Party
11:00 a.m. - Festival Service (HC)

Christian Seder Meal - April 6

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17

The greatest gift given to us is the eternal life we have through Jesus by His death and resurrection. Before He sacrificed Himself for us, Jesus gave us a holy meal through which we receive His grace and forgiveness. Just as the Father graciously spared the Hebrews from death during the Passover, He not only spares us Christians but reconciles us to Him through the blood of the Holy Lamb – Jesus.



On Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m., Trinity Downtown will celebrate a traditional Christian Seder meal with Holy Communion. This very special evening will also be the first time the First Communion Class participates in the Lord's Supper with our Trinity family.

Tickets are available through Palm Sunday (April 2). Please get your ticket early as seating is limited. Tickets to the Seder are free, but receiving your tickets will secure your seats for the evening.

A freewill offering will be gathered at the Seder for the dinner prepared by Treebeards. The menu includes Chicken Fried Chicken with Cream Gravy (a limited amount of Boneless Breast of Chicken with Fresh Basil Vinaigrette will also be available), Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Green Beans with Vinaigrette, French Bread and Butter and Butter Cake.

Childcare will be available for children 6 weeks - age 3. Please RSVP for childcare when you pick up your tickets. The children will be served chicken nuggets or you may bring their dinner.

Please join our Trinity Downtown community as we gather around His Table and give thanks for the good gift that Jesus has given us in His Body and Blood.

Ladies Circle Easter Bake Sale



**Easter Sunday
April 9th**

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Gathering Space

Free Will Donation

Easter Lily Orders

Beautiful Easter lilies will adorn our sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to purchase one or more for \$12.50 each, please order in one of the following ways:

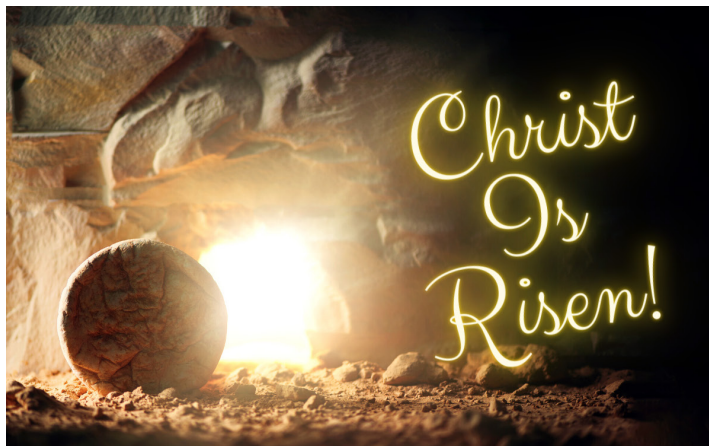
- Complete the form [online](#) and submit your payment by mailing a check earmarked for Easter lilies to the church office or submit payment [online](#).
- Write your dedication(s) on the Easter lily order form available at the Welcome Desk in the foyer. Insert your check and form in the envelope provided and place in the Easter lily box.

Lilies may be taken home after the 11:00 a.m. Easter service. Deadline to order and have dedication in the online Easter Service Folder and in the pre-service loop is Sunday, April 2nd.



Invite Your Friends and Family

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25



TRINITY
Downtown

800 Houston Avenue
Houston, TX 77007
www.trinitydt.org
713.224.0684

**Celebrate Easter
at
Trinity Downtown!**

**April 9, 2023
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

Inspiring Message
Festival Choir & Brass
Holy Communion

Invite your friends and family to celebrate Easter at Trinity where they will hear the message that everyone who believes in Jesus Christ will have eternal life with Him in heaven. What a wonderful gift to share.

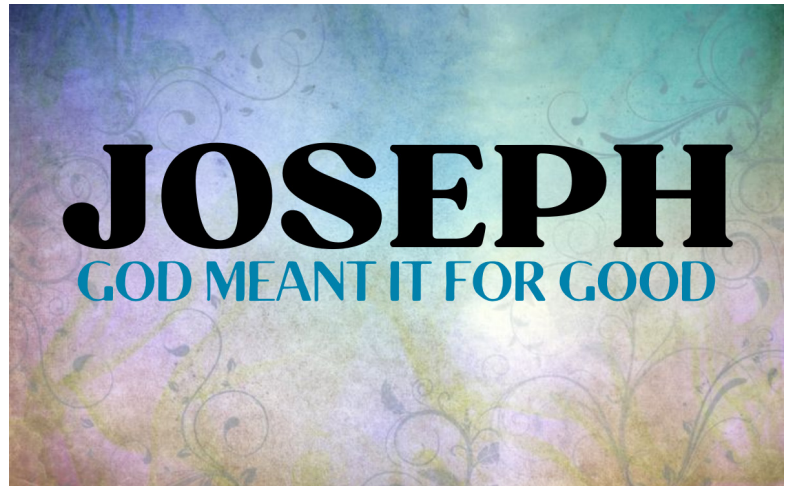
For your convenience, Easter invitation cards are available in the narthex and foyer.

BOARD OF ELDERS - CONTACT INFORMATION

Jim Baccus	jimbaccus@comcast.net	713.956.1899
Mike Gilmore	mdgilmore85@gmail.com	713.569.2371
Tim Grady	timlgrady@aol.com	281.639.0036
Chris Sonneborn	csonneb@gmail.com	713.854.8692
Mike Sterling	nasasterling@gmail.com	713.299.7238

Joseph - God Meant It For Good

One of the most well-known stories in the Old Testament is about Joseph. Movies and musicals have been made about his life. The climax of the story is when Joseph makes himself known to his eleven brothers 22 years after they had sold him off as a slave and told their father he was dead. In that moment, Joseph totally forgave these same brothers who had treated him so badly those many years before. Learning to forgive like that didn't happen overnight for Joseph. His life was shaped by God through difficult and challenging circumstances to make Joseph the man He had planned for him to be. Joseph went from being a bratty little brother to the most powerful man in Egypt, second only to Pharaoh. He became a man of great faith and God used Joseph to save the lives of thousands of people. God had meant it all for good!



As you go through life and especially when you face difficult circumstances, have you ever considered that God might be shaping you to be the person He needs you to be to make a difference in the lives of others? Beginning on the Sunday after Easter, we'll be starting an eight-week sermon series looking at the life of Joseph. As we look at the key events in his story, it is hoped that this series will also be an encouragement to consider how God may be shaping you. Invite your friends and join Pastor Dorn in diving into the life of Joseph recorded in Genesis chapters 37 through 50.

For those who would like to read ahead and prepare for the Sunday message or use the life of Joseph for personal devotions, here's a breakdown of the series week by week:

April 16	(Easter 2)	Genesis 37 - Joseph Dreams & Sold by Brothers
April 23	(Easter 3)	Genesis 39 - Joseph & Potiphar's Wife
April 30	(Easter 4)	Genesis 40 - The Baker & Butler
May 7	(Easter 5)	Genesis 41 - Pharaoh's Dream
May 14	(Easter 6)	Genesis 42-43 - The Brothers Come to Egypt
May 21	(Easter 7)	Genesis 44 - Joseph Tests His Brothers
May 28	(Pentecost)	Genesis 45 - Joseph Revealed
June 4	(Trinity Sunday)	Genesis 46-50 - God Meant It for Good



*"Jesus said, I am the resurrection,
and the life: he that believeth in
Me, though he were dead, yet
shall he live."*

John 11:25

Finance Corner - April 2023

...give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you. Luke 6:38 ESV

The renovation of our Sanctuary continues on schedule, with our first worship service in the refreshed worship space scheduled for Palm Sunday! We'll be enjoying new flooring and pews, brighter lighting and a new audio system.

We will be magnifying the Lord together in the Sanctuary due to the combined generosity of our congregation; through February 28, 2023 our Magnify Capital Campaign recorded over \$735k in pledges, coming very close to our \$750k campaign goal, and received over \$418k in gifts.



If you haven't yet had an opportunity to make a pledge to the Magnify Capital Campaign, please prayerfully consider doing so. You may find a commitment card as you enter the Sanctuary, or you may record your Magnify pledge online [here](#).

Tithes and offerings for the month of February were 4% lower than our monthly budget, but our expenses were also a bit lower than budgeted. So far in 2023, our tithes and offerings are 3% under budget, while our expenses have been just a bit lower than what we expected. Average worship attendance in February was 453, which is 51 worshipers more than the same period in 2022. In fact, **attendance at February's Traditional service was higher than the number of participants in BOTH the Traditional and Contemporary worship services in February 2022!**

If you have not yet recorded your 2023 Home Treasury pledge for planned giving for this year, you can find a commitment card as you enter the Sanctuary or at the Welcome Desk. You may use our online pledge form [here](#).

Here's a quick summary of "visible results" for February:

February 2023 Summary		
Average Worship Attendance	In-person	Online
Traditional Service	241	164
Contemporary Service	31	17
Total Average Worship Attendance	272	181
	Adults	Students
Avg Discipleship Hour Attendance	129	59
Contributions	Actual	Budgeted
February 2023 discretionary offerings	\$119,776	\$125,000
Year-to-date 2023 discretionary offerings	\$241,300	\$250,000
Magnify Campaign gifts thru 02/28/2023	\$418,000	\$750,000

I look forward to joining you in the refreshed Sanctuary!

Ron Lacy
CFO

Hey, Trinity!

March has been a blast! We made 115 Easter in a Box kits for Easter week and we had an awesome time at paintball with the youth group.

Coming soon...

- April looks forward to the first report for our shareholders for the Mission trip, and go carting!
- Our next kids ministry event will be in May.
- Confirmation will see 6 students solidify their faith. The Confirmation service is at 11:30 a.m. on April 2nd.
- On Easter Sunday we will have a family friendly event called the Empty Tomb Party between services; I hope you join us! It will be a blast!
- Our middle school mission trip has 11 students going and our high school mission trip has 15 students going. I'm so thrilled! Please keep them in your prayers because the Lord is going to do mighty things!

Thank you for your support, encouragement and love. It's truly a blessing to do ministry here with you at Trinity Downtown.

Blessings,
Haley Davisson



Save the Date • Hymn Marathon - August 12

Organist, Benjamin Kolodziej will play through all 635 hymns in the Lutheran Service Book live from Trinity Downtown on Saturday, August 12 starting at 9:00 a.m.

Playing on Trinity's 50 rank Holtkamp/Reuter organ, Kolodziej will play a creative introduction and one stanza of each hymn with this endeavor ending about 7:00 p.m. that evening. The church will be open for anyone to drop in and listen live or you may listen throughout the day as we live stream this marathon on Trinity's YouTube channel or Facebook page.

Benjamin Kolodziej is the organist/choirmaster at St. John's Episcopal Church in Dallas and is the organist for the Perkins Chapel at Southern Methodist University. Kolodziej recently published a book, *Joyful Singing: A Story of Lutheran Sacred Music in Texas*.



A Stephen Ministry Story

A Steady Reminder of God's Presence

Mark and I had been married 26 years. Our sons were 18 and 20. We loved being parents, but with our younger son graduating high school, we were eagerly anticipating the empty nest and having more time for each other.

In the fall, when our younger son started college, Mark began having stomach issues and back pain, which would linger for a few days and then disappear, only to reappear later. He also developed a cough. When his doctor ordered an MRI, the results were devastating—Stage IV pancreatic cancer, already in his liver and both lungs. Mark was only 53.

Our lives were turned upside down. I suddenly found myself trying to provide emotional support to Mark and our sons during the worst experience any of us had ever endured. I wanted and needed to keep myself together to focus on caring for Mark, but I was emotionally drained—full of sadness and terrified of what the future held. I had always been a “take responsibility for everything myself” kind of person. However, I knew I couldn’t do this alone.

I talked to my pastor about it, and she suggested matching me with a Stephen Minister. I agreed, and less than two weeks after Mark was diagnosed, my Stephen Minister came for the first of her weekly visits.

It’s difficult to convey how important this Stephen Ministry relationship was for me. Our pastor was wonderful, and we had an amazing amount of support from many other people, but the time I spent with my Stephen Minister was the only time in the week when I could truly focus on my own needs. She was there just for me.

My Stephen Minister let me know that, while she was very concerned for Mark, her role was to be my support—to listen and help me process what I was feeling and going through, without giving advice or telling me what to do. The consistency of our Stephen Ministry relationship was crucial in helping me cope. Her weekly visits became an anchor in my life—something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. She was a steady reminder of God’s presence, helping me know I was never alone.



Although Mark and I chose to talk publicly about his condition, my Stephen Ministry relationship was completely confidential. I knew I could share anything with her, and that’s where it would stay.

Mark’s illness progressed rapidly—ten weeks of treatment, followed by six weeks of hospice, and then his passing. My needs changed as I went from being a wife to being a caregiver to being a grieving widow and dealing with everything that the loss of a spouse entails. Through it all, my Stephen Minister’s love and support continued. She was there for me at every stage of my journey. It was never easy, but my Stephen Minister helped me through the most difficult moments of my life.

I really can’t say enough about how much I appreciate my church’s Stephen Ministry. The compassionate, consistent, and confidential support of my Stephen Minister was so important in helping me cope—and then begin to heal.

Stephen Ministers provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, divorce, major illness, loneliness, financial stress, and other life difficulties. If you’d like to learn more about how Trinity’s Stephen Ministry could provide a listening ear and caring heart for yourself, a loved one, friend, neighbor or co-worker (inside or outside our congregation) please speak with one of our pastors or reach out to Ron Lacy at rlacy@trinitydt.org or 713.229.2970.

Magnify Campaign Update

- It is truly a time to Magnify and praise the Lord. As we remember the ultimate gift and sacrifice made on the cross and the resurrection of Easter, we are in awe of the love our Heavenly Father has for His people. We will return to the sanctuary to worship together for Palm Sunday and for Holy Week. It will be wonderful to be together during such a sacred time.
- Thank you to all who have supported this renovation, through your gifts, your prayers, and encouragement. While we continue the fulfillment phase of the campaign, we also begin to focus on how we can use our renovated space to bring others into our Trinity community.
- Pledges through February 28, 2023 now total over \$735,000, nearly 98% of our total need. We are also pleased to report we have received gifts totaling \$418,000 which puts us at 56% of our total need with gifts received. We are grateful to the Lord and our Trinity family for your generosity and response to this request.
- We have set an interim goal to reach 100% pledges received by Easter Sunday. As we move back into the sanctuary, please consider how you might help us reach this goal by making a gift or pledge to acknowledge this milestone.
- The Capital Campaign Committee looks forward to celebrating this milestone very soon.

Magnify Capital Campaign Team,

Jim Hill
Campaign Chair
jimhill77027@yahoo.com
(713) 409-5640

Betty Berg
bettyberg@gmail.com
(281) 455-5426

Rick Berg
oldhippie@gmail.com
(281) 455-5413

Deena Buford
dlbuford@prodigy.net
(713) 594-2879

Reggie Buford
rcbuford@prodigy.net
(713) 594-2879

Dag Calafell
dodiggitydag@gmail.com
(713) 560-0371

Rachel Calafell
rachel.calafell@gmail.com
(832) 389-8998

Katherine Gilmore
Communication Director
kgilmore7@gmail.com
(713) 476-1225

Karen Mattern
Fulfillment Director
power4211@yahoo.com
(713) 501-1530

Ross Mattern
Fulfillment Director
rm11926@yahoo.com
(832) 332-9019

Jim Schulien
jeschulien@gmail.com
(214) 551-5828

Wendy Schulien
Wlschulien@gmail.com
(214) 551-5826

Kris Sonneborn
Campaign Coordinator
krissonne@yahoo.com
(832) 659-8259

Magnify Prayer Request/Prayer Warriors

We thank you Lord for the smooth and timeliness of the construction process. This month we pray that our time in the refreshed sanctuary would be used to magnify You. Please continue to guide us so we might use this new space to bring others to join us in worshipping You, Lord.



Prayers Warriors for our Capital Campaign are needed to pray for God's guidance in Trinity's stewardship in completing the refreshing/updating of our Sanctuary. You may pray with other prayer warriors in person on Sundays in the Gathering Space or by Zoom on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. Please call Rick or Betty Berg at 281.455.5413 or 281.455.5426 for more information.



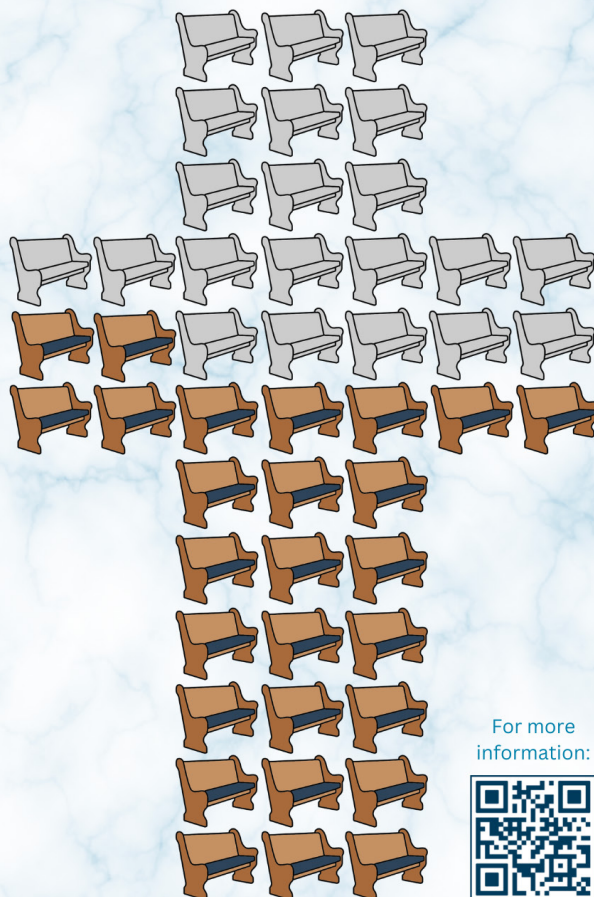
As of February 28, 2023

Pledge Goal:
\$750,000

Pledges to Date:
\$735,000

Donations to Date:
\$418,000

Months Remaining: 10



For more
information:

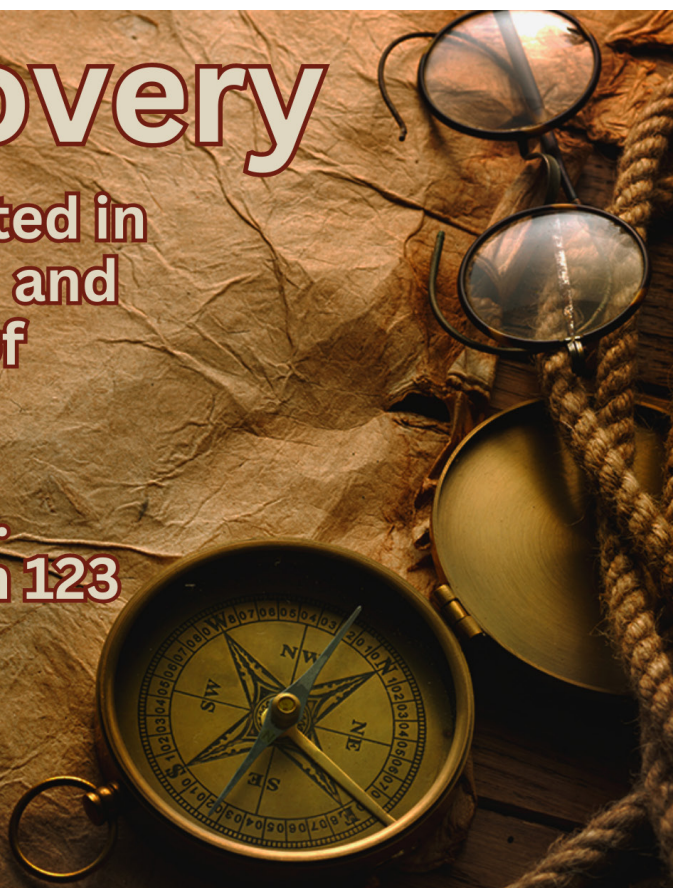


Faith Discovery

Class for persons interested in
joining Trinity Downtown and
those wanting a refresh of
Christian Doctrine.

Class starts on April 16th.
10:15 - 11:15 a.m. in Room 123

Contact Pastor Dorn at
mdorn@trinitydt.org
for more information.

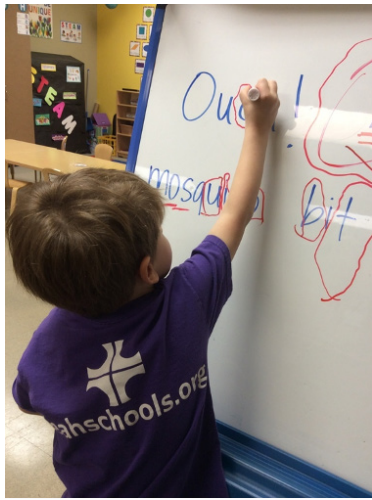


New Opportunities Abound at LEAH Downtown

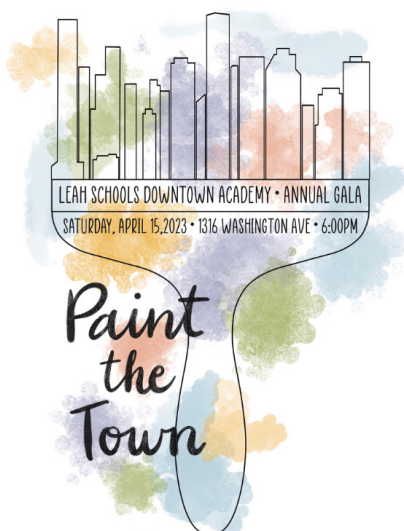
It has been a busy season at LEAH Downtown. We currently have 125 students enrolled. We have welcomed nearly 45 new students in the past year. It has been exciting to meet new students and their families. We are blessed! LDA is a great place to learn about Jesus and grow.

At LEAH Downtown, work is play and play is work. Our PreK students stay busy learning, collaborating, and solving problems all while having a good time.

While working on our academic skills, we also enjoy music with Mrs. Dot (Dottie Burroughs) each week as she volunteers to share her love for Jesus and music with the children. Even the youngest of our children enjoy listening to and playing music. Sing to the Lord a new song!



The children are learning the Easter story. As we prepare for Easter, classes are busy making palm branches and learning what the word "sacrifice" means. Watching the children worship at chapel is so special. Some of our favorite songs are *Trading My Sorrows*, *Jesus is My Rock*, and *Everybody, Everywhere*. We pray the Holy Spirit helps our precious children to be little witnesses in their homes.



At LEAH Downtown, we are preparing for our second annual gala to be held on April 15th. Our theme this year is Paint the Town. Our community is a beautiful place and we want to celebrate God's goodness with fun, food, fellowship, and fundraising for the ministry of Trinity and LEAH Downtown. Please consider making a monetary donation, contributing an item for auction, facilitating an item or service donation from someone you know, and coming to the gala for a good time! Tickets may be purchased and donations may be made by scanning the QR code to the right or by contacting Kathy at kathy.entzenberger@leahdowntown.org or by calling the school office at 832.834.3100. Thank you for keeping this event in your prayers.



Trinity Ladies Circle Ministries - April 13th

The next meeting of Trinity Ladies Circle will be Thursday, April 13, at 10:00 a.m. We will meet in Room 124. Our business meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. followed by a presentation by Debbie Mendez starting around 10:30 a.m.



Our speaker, Debbie Mendez (pictured on left with her two daughters), is the founder of Breaking Boundaries Children's Ministry. Her mission is to bring the love of Jesus and the Gospel message to more than 900 displaced youth in over 10 shelters in the Houston, San Antonio and El Paso areas. At this time, the ministry does this through virtual and portable church services, safe field trips, providing students with free Bibles they can keep, and now, in-person Bible Study opportunities!



When Debbie retired from the corporate world, she felt God calling her into the mission field. She said, *"I thought God was going to take me to Mexico or Guatemala or some place like that. But instead, He brought the mission field to me! And, I just said 'Ok, Lord. Here we go!'"* Please join us for this sweet time of seeing how God is on the move in this mighty way!

Upcoming Ladies Circle meeting dates are May 4th and June 1st.

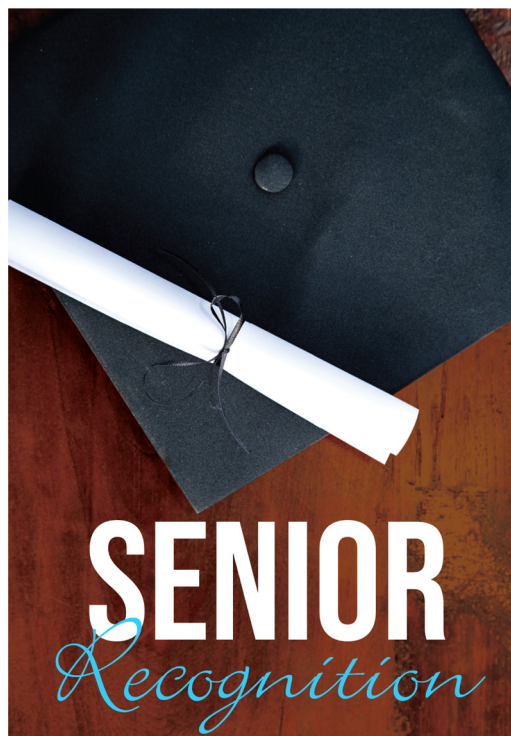
Please remember to bring baked goods on Easter Sunday for our annual Easter Bake Sale.

For additional information, please contact Trinity Garrett, president, at (c) 281.300.5660 or tgarett@trinitydt.org.

Senior Recognition

This time of year is always exciting, especially for high school and college seniors! At Trinity, we love to celebrate milestones together. On April 30th at the 9 o'clock service we will recognize all seniors during the worship service. Afterwards, we will have snacks and drinks in the Gathering Space in front of the gym. We look forward to praying for seniors and their next steps. I am so grateful for all of you and the journey you have traveled thus far!

Haley Davisson
Director of Youth and
Children's Ministries



2023 GOVERNING BOARD

Jim Baccus (Elder)

Lori Dixon

Pastor Michael Dorn

Mike Gilmore (Elder)

Tim Grady (Chair/Elder)

Ross Krueger

Cassandra McGarvey
(Vice chair)

Marie Munier

Mary Oliver

Cynthia Roney

Chris Sonneborn (Elder/
Secretary)

Mike Sterling (Elder)

*Minutes of the Governing Board are
available to our members at the
Welcome Center.*

Orphan Grain Train Opportunities

Orphan Grain Train is a 501c3 Nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The Orphan Grain Train movement is a loving response to Jesus Christ's example as a servant and His love for us. Contact Delynda

Cruz at delynda@juno.com for more information on how Trinity Downtown works with OGT.



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

- Sorting and Packing Day - Saturday, April 15 from 8:00 a.m. - noon. All ages are welcome. Come and go as your time allows. Location: 5050 E. Sam Houston Parkway S., Pasadena 77581
- Save the Date - Sunday May 7 at 2:00 p.m. we will break ground for the OGT Servant Center. Please join us outside as we turn some dirt to start the construction of the Servant Center. After a few words and a few shovels please stay for a dessert reception (weather permitting). Location: 5050 E. Sam Houston Parkway S., Pasadena 77581 (See rendering of Servant Center below.)
- We are within \$40,000 of reaching the challenge match grant offered by the Mabee Foundation. This balance needs to be attained by June 2023. For details, contact Mike Rathje Branch Manager, 281.723.4989.
- Shipment to the Ukraine is in the works...helping hands will be needed as soon as we receive the shipping date from Headquarters in Nebraska. We'll keep you posted.
- We give thanks and glory to God as He continues to bless Orphan Grain Train. Your on-going prayers are needed as we move forward with the logistics for shipment and the Servant Center build.
- Thank you to all individuals and groups who have graciously given of their time, donations, and finances to provide relief for those who desperately need what we abundantly possess.



Naval Academy Bound

We are happy to report that **James Travis Avant, Jr.** has been accepted as a member of the Class of 2024 at the **Naval Academy Preparatory School** (N.A.P.S.) in Providence, R.I. Upon completion, he will then attend the **United States Naval Academy** in Annapolis, MD and receive his commission with the Class of 2027!

CMDR Larry Gutierrez and the interview team met Travis when he applied for the American Legion Post 560's sponsorship to attend the 2022 American Legion Boys State week. Legionnaires also met him at a general meeting when he received the American Legion "Good Citizenship Citation" and commemorative medal for exemplary completion of the program.

His family shared: *"Travis had to accomplish everything on his own. His Blue Gold Officer (BGO) stopped communicating with him in August. Travis reached out to his assigned USNA admissions counselor for all his questions. Then in November the counselor was deployed. He lost his contact. He received a new BGO the first of January and she was concerned for him getting in his application by the deadline of January 31. Thankfully, he was able to say he had submitted it in December and received his nomination. All that was left was his interview with his BGO and she completed the interview and was very impressed with all Travis had done without true guidance. Lots of praying with our church family for God's Guidance and His Will."*

The Legion Family is proud of Travis for exhibiting great initiative and tenacity during the selection process. We look forward to updates on his naval adventures. Once Travis is attending the U.S. Naval Academy, Post 560 will pay his first year's membership dues. On his first leave home, he will be invited to a meeting to receive a hearty welcome and the right arm of fellowship with the assurance ... "You will always have a home at American Legion Post 560."

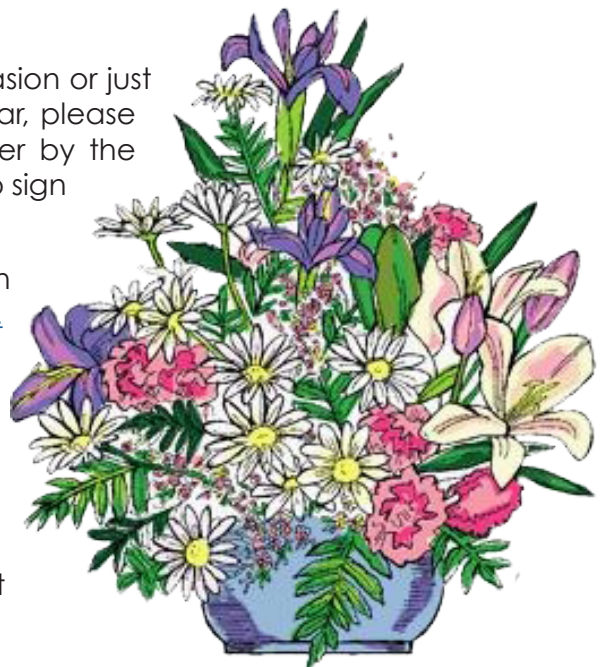


It Is Truly a Blessing to See Beautiful Flowers at Our Altar Every Sunday!

If you are wanting to dedicate flowers for a special occasion or just because you love to see the beautiful flowers at the altar, please sign up on the Flower Chart that is hanging in the foyer by the Welcome Desk. You may call our hostess (713.224.0684) to sign up as well.

You may use your own florist or you can make a donation to the "Flowers for Sanctuary" fund at <https://www.trinitydt.org/online-giving/> or send in a check with the memo "Flowers" for \$75. A florist in our congregation (Sue Clark) will make the arrangements for you with the flowers of your choice or you can elect to have her decide. You may take your flowers with you after the 9:00 a.m. service.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Trinity Garrett at 713.229.2937.



Children, Youth and Adult Bible Studies

Please consider joining one or more of our Bible studies. It's a wonderful way to begin a new spiritual discipline. Virtual login information is available on Trinity's website www.trinitydt.org. Children and youth classes are in person unless indicated otherwise. Adult classes are either virtual, in person or hybrid.

SUNDAYS - CHILDREN (10:15 - 11:15 AM)

Nursery (Infants - age 2) - Room 234

Kingdom Quest 2 & 3 year olds - Room 233

Kingdom Quest 4 & 5 year olds - Room 232

Kingdom Quest 1st Grade - 4th Grade - Kingdom Hall (basement)

Casa 'de Oracion Spanish (all grades) - Room 209

SUNDAYS - YOUTH

Foundations 56 (5th-6th grades) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 207

High School (7th-12th grades) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Underground

SUNDAYS - ADULT

Escape from Egypt: Exodus

Led by Jim Cleary - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 205 - Hybrid

Trusting God sounds simple, but can be often very, very difficult to do so with the things that matter most to you. Join us as we study the book of Exodus. You'll see that Israel faced similar struggles to trust God completely. In this story of hardship and hope, you'll discover along with Israel that God—and God alone—is worthy of our trust. Discussion-oriented.

Faith Discovery

Led by Pastor Michael P. Dorn - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 123 - In Person (Begins April 16)

Class for those interested in becoming a member of Trinity Downtown and those desiring a refresh on Christian Doctrine.

Joining Jesus on His Mission

Led by Pastor Jose Flores of Casa 'de Oracion - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 211 - In Person (Spanish Speaking)

Participants are encouraged to join this study using the book and videos for *Joining Jesus on His Mission*. Written and produced by Trinity's deployed missionary, Pastor Greg Finke, *Joining Jesus on His Mission* is a simple, powerful, and practical book that will move you and your tribe from merely thinking about being everyday missionaries to launching. You will feel both relief and hope as you gain insights into how to recognize where Jesus is already at work in your everyday world and join Him.

Liturgical Arts

Led by Thomas DeVries and Anthony Flaviani - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 206 - In Person

Ever notice that many churches are designed as a cross? Ever wonder where the liturgy came from? The Christian church over many centuries has built a beautiful mosaic of traditions and meanings behind what makes a church unique from anything else in the secular world. We'll go through the history, the why, and the meaning behind what we experience every Sunday.

The Bible Alive ... God In Action

Led by John Reisig - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 124 - In Person

In this study, each Sunday offers a single stand alone topic. The material covered each week will provide a meaningful experience for regular participants, visitors to Trinity Downtown, and for those simply looking to get back into a routine of attending Bible study. The single topic format insures that no one will be lost or feel behind during the study, and will feel welcome and encouraged to attend at any time. Bibles will be provided and utilized each week. Providing historical context to the scriptural message, and modern application of His word, the Bible will "Come Alive," and show that God has been working throughout history, and is still working today out of love for His people.



The Gospel According to John

Led by Pastor Paul Dorn - 7:00-8:00 PM - Virtual

The Apostle John wrote his Gospel "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name." In our day when the good news of Jesus is a stumbling block or just plain foolishness for many people, the Gospel according to John will serve well to deepen and strengthen our faith in Jesus as the Christ. The class will meet each Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Please email Pastor Paul Dorn at pbdorn6@gmail.com if you wish to be part of this study and he will send you a link for the Zoom meeting.

United in Christ - A Study of Ephesians

Led by Bill Fischer - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 201 - Hybrid

In Ephesians Paul reminds us that "by grace you have been saved through faith" and then how "we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God has prepared beforehand."

TUESDAYS - ADULTS

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study - LifeLight: Acts, Part I

Led by Karen Maynard - 10:00-11:30 AM - Room 205 - Hybrid

This study is part of the *LifeLight* Bible study series of in-depth studies of Bible books. The goal of LifeLight is that through a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture, more and more Christian adults may grow in their personal faith in Jesus Christ.

Joining Jesus on His Mission - Virtual Bible Study for Young Adults

Led by Maddie Meier - 7:15 PM on every other Tuesday - Virtual

Young adults are encouraged to join this virtual study using the book and videos for *Joining Jesus on His Mission*. Written and produced by Trinity's deployed missionary, Pastor Greg Finke, *Joining Jesus on His Mission* is a simple, powerful, and practical book that will move you and your tribe from merely thinking about being everyday missionaries to launching. You will feel both relief and hope as you gain insights into how to recognize where Jesus is already at work in your everyday world and join Him. Books are available in the church office.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/92015984452?pwd=ZUh4dnNTT3lzdVNQNTVmQWcwNDBKdz09> Meeting ID: 920 1598 4452, Passcode: zGND4G

WEDNESDAYS - ADULTS

The Book of Romans

Led by Mary Oliver - 6:30-7:45 PM - Virtual

In this online study of Romans, we not only discuss Paul's message to the Christians at Rome, but look back at the Old Testament references scattered throughout the letter.

We will continue to gather on zoom to allow those with young children, long commutes, and out of town obligations to enjoy our time together. All women are welcome!

Virtual Midweek Spiritual Check-in

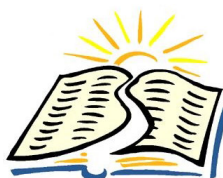
Led by Jim Cleary - 7:00-8:00 PM - Virtual

THURSDAYS - ADULTS

Sonrise Bible Study

Led by individual class members - 7:30-8:30 AM - Virtual

This member-led virtual class primarily discusses the Scripture readings assigned for the following Sunday. The class is open to men and women. We plan to follow this member-led format while Pastor Black is recovering from his recent illness. For more information contact Bill Fischer at 832.459.3241 or the church office.



Explore God's Word With Us!

Join Pastor Michael & Veloyce Dorn for a Ten Day Life-Changing
tour of the

HOLY LAND

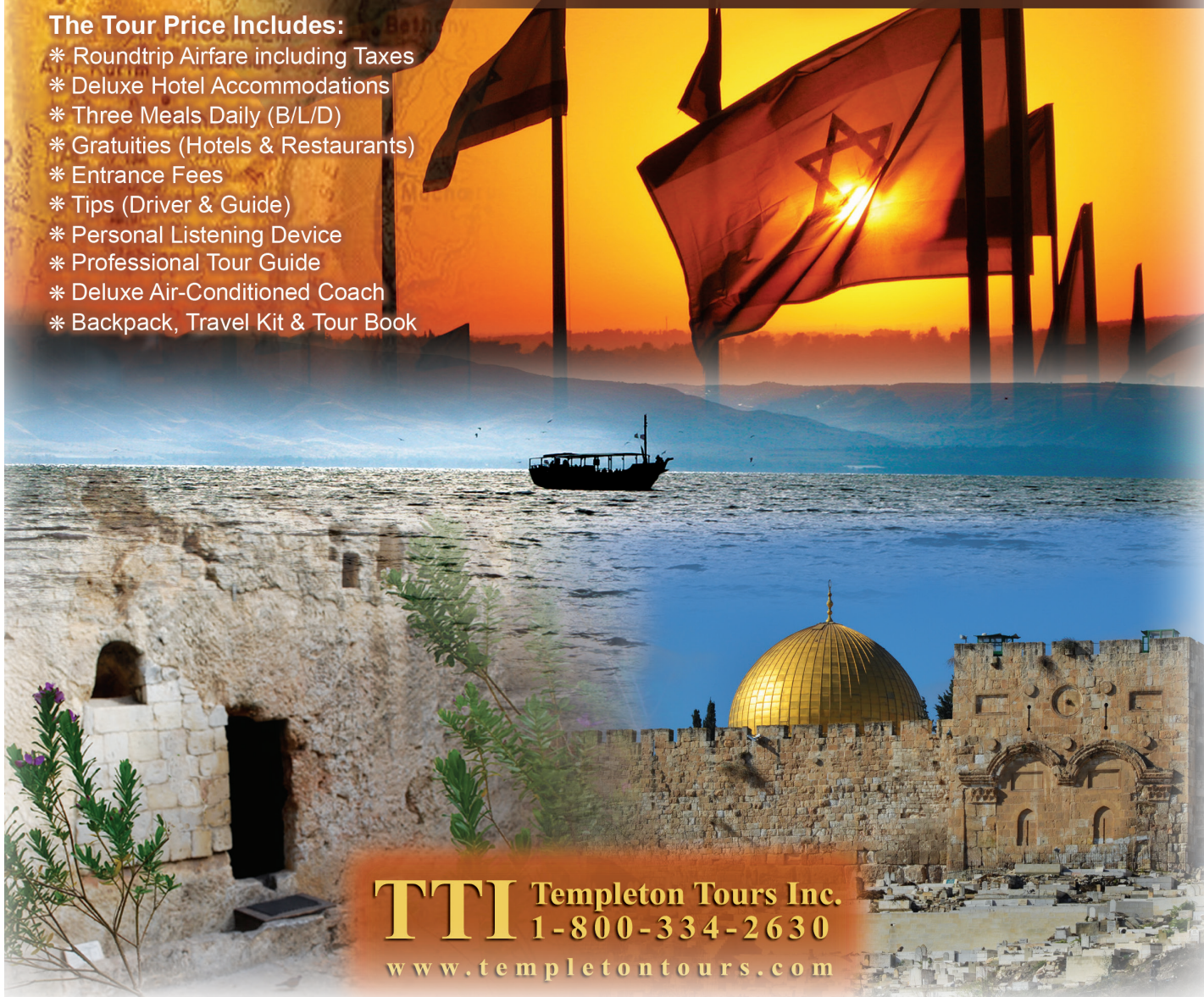


October 16 - 25, 2023

\$5,295.00 from Houston, TX

The Tour Price Includes:

- * Roundtrip Airfare including Taxes
- * Deluxe Hotel Accommodations
- * Three Meals Daily (B/L/D)
- * Gratuities (Hotels & Restaurants)
- * Entrance Fees
- * Tips (Driver & Guide)
- * Personal Listening Device
- * Professional Tour Guide
- * Deluxe Air-Conditioned Coach
- * Backpack, Travel Kit & Tour Book



TTI Templeton Tours Inc.
1-800-334-2630
www.templeton tours.com

October 16 - DEPART USA

Today we meet at our international departure airport where our host will assist with check-in formalities. This evening we will enjoy a delicious dinner high above the Atlantic.

October 17 - ARRIVE TEL AVIV - JOPPA

We arrive in Tel Aviv this morning. Upon arrival, our TEMPLETON TOURS representative will meet us and assist us in gathering our luggage. After airport procedures are completed, we will meet our local guide and driver and begin our tour of the Holy Land. We start with a visit to Joppa, Jonah's port of embarkation for Tarshish. Joppa was also the home of Tabitha (or Dorcas) who was raised from the dead by Peter. It was also here that Peter learned that God was interested in the salvation of the Gentiles. We then transfer to our hotel on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea for dinner and overnight. (D)

October 18 - TEL AVIV - CAESAREA - MOUNT CARMEL - MEGIDDO - NAZARETH - TIBERIAS

After breakfast at our hotel we will travel up the coast to Caesarea by the Sea. There we will visit the Crusaders' castle, the Roman theater, the seaport from which the Apostle Paul sailed to Rome, and the Roman aqueduct system. We will continue along the coast to Mount Carmel to see the site of Elijah's triumph over the prophets of Baal. After lunch we continue north to Megiddo on the Plain of Armageddon to see King Solomon's stables and water supply system. Prophecy will come alive at Megiddo as we look over the Valley of Armageddon. We then travel to Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus, to visit. We will also visit The Precipice, where they wanted to throw Jesus off the "brow" and kill Him. On our way to Tiberias we will stop in the little town of Cana where Christ turned the water into wine. Then we'll proceed to our hotel in Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

October 19 - TIBERIAS - SEA OF GALILEE - CAPERNAUM - MOUNT OF BEATITUDES - PETER'S PRIMACY - MAGDALA

After breakfast we take a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee. While on the boat we'll pause for a brief worship service and remember the many miracles our Lord performed in this area. We'll dock at Nof Ginossar to visit the "Jesus Boat" museum to see a boat that dates back to the time of Jesus. Then we'll proceed to Capernaum to see the remains of an early church, the ruins of Peter's house, and the ancient synagogue. After lunch we'll travel to the Mount of Beatitudes



Capernaum

above the Sea of Galilee to read the Sermon on the Mount while overlooking the Jordan Valley. Next, we stop at the Primacy of Peter where Jesus commanded Peter to "Feed my sheep." Before returning to our hotel, we will visit the town of Magdala where recently a synagogue has been excavated from the time of Jesus. (B/L/D)

October 20 - BEIT SHE'AN - JERICHO - BETHABARA - JERUSALEM

This morning we will leave the Galilee area travel south through the Jordan River Valley. We will stop and visit the new excavations at Beit She'an, the city where the Philistines hung the bodies of Saul and Jonathan. After a brief worship service we'll travel through the Jordan Valley to Jericho, one of the oldest cities in the world. If conditions permit, we will enter Jericho to see the excavations of the ancient walls, view the Mount of Temptation, and see Elisha's Spring. Next we'll stop at Bethabara, where John baptized those who came to him (John 1:28). This is also known as the "place of crossing" and is near the area where the children of Israel crossed into the Promised Land (Joshua 3:14-17). We then travel to Jerusalem, the capital of Israel for over 3000 years, and pause on Mount Scopus where our guide will lead us in the traditional Jewish Welcome. Dinner and overnight will be at our hotel in Jerusalem. (B/L/D)



Sailing on the Sea of Galilee

**October 21 - MASADA
- DEAD SEA - EIN GEDI
- QUMRAN - VALLEY OF
THE SHADOW OF DEATH**

This morning we will get an early start and visit the mountain fortress of Masada, truly a remarkable piece of history. We'll ascend by cable car to visit the magnificent ruins of the fortress where the Jewish zealots made the last stand of the Judean revolt against Rome. Today the remains of Herod's buildings, palaces, storehouses, cisterns, and a 6th Century Byzantine church are still in view. After our exciting tour of Masada we will continue to the Dead Sea, where you will have the opportunity to take a dip. The Dead Sea is 1300 feet below sea level and is the lowest spot on the earth. We will then stop at Ein Gedi, a green oasis in the middle of the desert, and see the area where David hid while fleeing from King Saul. Afterwards we will travel to Qumran to see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. After lunch we will return to Jerusalem. On the way, we will stop to view the St. George Monastery, an active monastery since the 5th century. We will also get a glimpse of "the Valley of the Shadow of Death." (B/L/D)

**October 22 - TEMPLE MOUNT - POOL OF
BETHESDA - MOUNT OF OLIVES - MODEL CITY
- BETHLEHEM**

This morning we will begin our tour with a visit to the Temple Mount where the Jewish temple stood until its destruction by the Roman Legions in 70 A.D. There we will see the Dome of the Rock Mosque built over the rock where Abraham prepared to sacrifice Isaac, the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and the Golden Gate. We'll continue our walk through the Old City to the beautiful Crusader Church dedicated to St. Anne and the nearby Pool of Bethesda. Then we travel a short distance to the Mount of Olives for a breathtaking view of the city of Jerusalem. While we are here, our guide will point out all of the important sites of Jerusalem. After lunch, we will visit the Model City of Jerusalem as it was in 69 AD. If conditions permit, we will then take a short drive to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity, built over the cave of Christ's birth, as well as the Shepherd's Field and plains of Boaz. We will also see the ancient crafts of Bethlehem, dating from Crusader times, and visit one of the famous Bethlehem gift shops. (B/L/D)

**October 23 - WESTERN WALL TUNNEL -
PILATE'S PALACE - UPPER ROOM - JEWISH
QUARTER - SOUTHERN WALL EXCAVATIONS -
CITY OF DAVID**

We begin with a visit to the famous Western Wall and Tunnel Excavation site. Here we will walk on the very stones where Jesus trod to Herod's "second temple" and see the place where our Savior taught the Scriptures. Then we will visit the Antonia Fortress, site of Pilate's Palace. We'll pass many of the traditional 14 Stations of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa and also



Praying at Gethsemane

see part of the old colorful oriental market. We will continue our walk and visit the restored Jewish Quarter and the Roman Cardo, the main street of Jerusalem in Roman times. We will then proceed to Mount Zion to visit the Upper Room, traditional site of the Last Supper and the fire of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. We will be visiting the Southern

Wall excavation site. Here we will walk on the very stones where Jesus trod to Herod's "second temple" and see the place where our Savior taught the Scriptures. At the end of the day, we will see the City of David and Hezekiah's Tunnel and then return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B/L/D)

**October 24 - GETHSEMANE - POOL OF SILOAM
- HOUSE OF CAIAPHAS - LUTHERAN CHURCH OF
THE RESURRECTION**

Today is our last day in the Holy Land so we want to make the most of it. We will begin with a visit to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus had His agony and was betrayed. There we will pause for devotion and prayer time in a private garden. After our worship service, we will take a short walk through the Valley of the Tombs. Along the way we will pass the traditional tombs of Absalom and Ezra. After our walk we will visit the recent archaeological discovery of the Pool of Siloam. This is the place where Jesus told the blind man to wash the mud from his eyes so he would see. Then we will visit the House of Caiaphas where Peter denied Christ three times. After lunch, we will conclude our tour of the Holy Land with a visit to the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, where we can remember Christ's crucifixion, burial, and resurrection and share in the Lord's Supper. After communion we will return to the hotel for dinner. (B/L/D)

October 25 - ARRIVE USA

Today our memorable journey comes to an end. We will transfer to the airport in Tel Aviv and board the plane for our return flight home. In flight we can fellowship with our friends and remember the many things we shared together.



**Lutheran Church
of the Redeemer**

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS: A deposit of \$250.00 per person is required to make a reservation. An additional payment of \$750.00 per person is due June 13, 2023. The final payment is due no less than 60 days prior to the departure date of the tour (August 17, 2023). Payment can be made by personal check or money order. Credit card payments beyond the initial deposit will be accepted for an additional non-refundable fee of 3%. Reservations received after June 13, 2023 may incur additional charges due to supplier contract terms.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: If a passenger cancels his/her tour membership there will be a cancellation fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per person up until 91 days before departure. For cancellations 90-60 days before departure the cancellation fee will be \$250.00 per person. There will be no refund for cancellations within 59 days of departure, no-shows, or partially completed tours. All cancellation requests must be addressed to TEMPLETON TOURS INC. in writing.

COVID PROTOCOLS: There are presently no COVID requirements for visiting Israel. Registered passengers will be notified of any changes to the COVID protocols.

FARE INCLUSIVE: Roundtrip air transportation from Houston, TX (IAH). Nine (9) nights hotel accommodations, based on two people sharing a double or twin-bedded room in four-star hotels. All meals as outlined in the brochure consisting of full Israeli breakfasts (B), lunches (L), and table d'hôte dinners at the hotel (D). Sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary by private motorcoaches, utilizing the services of a local English speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions if applicable. All transfers between airports and hotels by private motorcoach. Service charges and taxes normally levied by hotels and restaurants. All U.S. & Israeli departure taxes are included in the price of the tour. Tips to guides, motorcoach drivers, hotel porters, and restaurant staff (i.e., maitre d', table waiter, etc.) are also included. The brochure price is per person in US dollars.

TOUR ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE: TTI strives to adhere to the printed itinerary; however, circumstances may necessitate changes without advance notice during the tour. TTI reserves the right to change the itinerary, and is not responsible for any changes caused by unforeseen circumstances beyond our control.

TOUR CANCELLATION: TTI reserves the right to cancel or withdraw the tour at any time. In the event of a cancellation deemed necessary by TTI, the sole and exclusive responsibility of TEMPLETON TOURS is to refund all monies recovered.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport costs, visa fees (if any), and health documentation costs (when required); food and beverages (including coffee and tea) not usually included with the table d'hôte meals; optional sightseeing tours and excursions; accident and baggage insurance; transporting and handling excess luggage; tips to persons rendering special personal services; items of a purely personal nature such as laundry, telephone, room service orders, etc.; transportation between the home city and the international departure city.

AIR ROUTINGS: The price includes IATA jet economy class transportation from the international departure city applicable on all IATA and ARC carriers, based on the 6/45 day Apex fare to the Middle East. TTI reserves the right to choose the air carrier, routing, and departure time for each passenger. Airfares used are based on contracted group fares and are highly restrictive. Payments for and restrictions on airline tickets are governed by the applicable fare. Cancellation fees levied by the airlines are applicable if you cancel or change your air ticket for any reason after purchase of air ticket. Ticketing must be completed 45 days prior to departure. Group fares do not permit deviations; passengers who wish to deviate may arrange their own airfare. An airline credit of \$1,295 will be given to those passengers who arrange their own airfare. Passengers planning to arrange their own air transportation must notify TTI in writing on or before August 2, 2023. Seat numbers will be assigned by the airline at check-in; specific seat requests cannot be guaranteed. Passengers are responsible for providing frequent flyer information upon check-in.

HOTELS: Tour prices are per person, based on two people sharing a room. Single rooms are subject to availability and at an additional cost of \$1,295. (Tour participants without a roommate will have to pay single room surcharge.)

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE: One (1) piece of checked luggage whose overall dimensions do not exceed 62 inches (length + width + height) and whose weight does not exceed fifty (50) pounds in total. One (1) piece of carry-on luggage & one personal item (i.e. purse, laptop bag, backpack). Tips to hotel porters are included for one normal sized piece of luggage, excluding carry-on bags which must remain in your possession at all times. Regulations are subject to change without notice. Please read the monthly correspondence from TEMPLETON TOURS for the most current information. Dangerous articles such as firearms, explosives, oxygen, or combustible substances are prohibited in your luggage. Medications, valuables, passports, and a change of clothing should be packed in your carry-on bag.

DISABILITIES: Due to the difficult terrain at sites we will visit, persons requiring oxygen or oxygen therapy will not be permitted on the tour. For reasons of passenger safety and well-being, persons with impaired mobility, vision, or mental capacity will not be permitted on the tour. TEMPLETON TOURS, INC. reserves the right to refuse passage to someone who is in such physical or mental condition as to be unfit for travel or who may require care and attention beyond that which the tour guide and tour host can provide. The tour requires a substantial amount of walking and the sites are not accessible by wheelchair.

INSURANCE: Acting only as agents for suppliers, TEMPLETON TOURS is not responsible for damage, loss, or theft of luggage and/or personal belongings, or for personal injury, accident, illness and/or death as a result of any occurrences or conditions beyond its control, including, but not limited to, defects in vehicles, breakdown in equipment, strikes, terrorist attacks, hostage situations, kidnappings, hijackings, protests, riots, public demonstrations, or theft. For your protection, it is important that you have adequate insurance to cover these possibilities. Information and application forms for all types of coverage will be supplied you prior to departure.

PASSPORT: Each tour member is required to present a valid passport with an expiration date of April 24, 2024 or later. Complete instructions and application forms for passports can be obtained by contacting your local courthouse or post office. Name on Registration Form must match name as it appears on your Passport.

PRICE CHANGES: Tour conditions and air fares are subject to Governmental, IATA, ARC, and airline regulation requirements in effect at the date of and during the tour. All rates are quoted in US dollars and are subject to change without notice. Taxes and fuel surcharges are included in your tour cost and are subject to change without notice. Templeton Tours reserves the right to pass along fuel surcharges or additional taxes imposed by the airline.

DISCLAIMER: TEMPLETON TOURS INC. acts as a tour operator and only a tour operator. The suppliers providing transportation and sightseeing arrangements and hotel accommodations for the tour program are independent contractors and are not agents or employees of TTI. All coupons, receipts and tickets are issued subject to the terms and conditions specified by the suppliers. By utilizing the services of the suppliers, you agree that TTI shall not be liable for any accident, loss, injury, death, or damage of any kind to you or to those traveling with you. This includes, but is not limited to, conditions beyond its control, defects in vehicles, breakdown in equipment, strikes, terrorist attacks, hostage situations, kidnappings, hijackings, protests, riots, public demonstrations, theft, delay or cancellation of or changes in itinerary or schedules. At the time of printing a TRAVEL WARNING as issued by the United States Department of State was in effect for parts of Israel and the West Bank. Remember also that all travel documents as well as compliance with customs regulations are your responsibility. The terms under which you agree to take these tours cannot be changed or amended except in writing, signed by an authorized officer of TTI. Airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time you are not on board the aircraft. The passenger contract in use by the airline, when issued, constitutes the sole agreement between it and you. By virtue of my signature on the registration form below I acknowledge and assume all risks associated with this trip and I agree that TTI assumes no liability of any kind and I hereby expressly waive any and all possible claims against TEMPLETON TOURS, Trinity Downtown Lutheran Church, or Pastor Michael & Veloyce Dorn

For additional information call Templeton Tours at 1-800-334-2630 or online at www.templeontours.com

COMPLETE AND MAIL WITH DEPOSIT PAYABLE TO: TEMPLETON TOURS PO BOX 2630 BOONE, NC 28607

Tour# 31016

Pastor Michael Dorn Holy Land Tour Registration Form - October 16 - 25, 2023

☐ Enclosed is my payment of \$250 per person by ☐ check or ☐ credit card as a deposit for the \$5,295 per person tour from Houston, TX
☐ For an additional fee, please arrange my air transportation from my local airport of: _____ (city/state).
Single Passenger-Choose one: ☐ Single Occupant - additional \$1295.00 ☐ Please assign me a roommate.

Name _____ Name as it appears on your Passport Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ Nametag Name: _____

Name _____ Name as it appears on your Passport Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ Nametag Name: _____

Name _____ Name as it appears on your Passport Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ Nametag Name: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell (_____) _____ Home (_____) _____ Email _____

☐ My roommate(s): _____ (if sending in a separate registration form)

Emergency Contact: Name: _____ Home (_____) _____ Work (_____) _____

I have read and agree to the Tour Conditions as stated above. _____ (Signature)

Credit card payments will be accepted for the \$250 per person deposit. Additional payments will be subject to a 3% fee.

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date ____ / ____ CSC _____ Name on Card _____
(Master Card, VISA, or Discover) (month/year) (security code on back)

I agree to the conditions as stated above and authorize TTI to charge my credit card. _____

Signature

Life Quote 2023 - April 2

"As you travel with Jesus through Holy Week, don't lose heart. He is your Palm Sunday King. He will always come to you and give you the best of what He has to offer because of His humble attitude and His devotion to His mission. When you see this Savior who personally cares for you, you can't help but join the believers of old to give to the Lord your best and most precious treasures of your heart and life, and then to join with all believers saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'"



Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org



STAFF DIRECTORY

SENIOR PASTOR

Michael P. Dorn713.229.2940
mdorn@trinitydt.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF OUTREACH

Lonnie Gonzales713.229.2905
lgonzales@trinitydt.org

VISITATION PASTOR

Donald G. Black713.229.2917
dblack@trinitydt.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MISSIONS

Greg Finke281.844.7644
finkeonthemove@aol.com

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Ron Lacy713.229.2970
rlacy@trinitydt.org

DIR. OF ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Trinity Garrett713.229.2937
tgarrett@trinitydt.org

DIR. OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Mary Voigt713.229.2922
mvoigt@trinitydt.org

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Haley Davisson713.229.2910
hdavisson@trinitydt.org

DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING

Roseann Gamez713.229.2962
rgamez@trinitydt.org

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Pam Schroeder713.229.2944
pschroeder@trinitydt.org

CONTRIBUTIONS MANAGER

Angela Avant713.229.2963
aavant@trinitydt.org

HOSTESS (MONDAYS - THURSDAYS)

Stefanie Bowman713.229.2950
sbowman@trinitydt.org

HOSTESS (FRIDAYS)

Sarahai Flores713.229.2950
sflores@trinitydt.org

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www.trinitydt.org

Trinity Downtown
800 Houston Avenue • Houston, TX 77007

713-224-0684



Article submission deadline is **April 14** for articles to be published May 1, 2023.
Submit articles to pschroeder@trinitydt.org.

Contact Pam Schroeder at 713.229.2944 with any questions about this publication.