



# Trinity Today

Vol. 26, No. 5

May 1, 2024

## Congratulations to Mary Voigt on Her Retirement

After almost ten years at Trinity Downtown, Mary Voigt, our Director of Music and Worship has decided to retire so she can travel and spend more time with family. Mary has been a vital part of ministry while at Trinity and will be sorely missed. Mary planned weekly and festival worship services, directed choirs, ensembles, handbells and instrumentalists, led the Organ Concert Series, brought us Carols and Bells as well as the Living Last Supper, organized events such as Oktoberfest and the list goes on and on.

Please join us on Pentecost Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, as we wish Mary God's blessings in her retirement. We will have a reception in the Gathering Space following the 9:00 a.m. worship service and a basket will be available for those who would like to leave cards and well wishes.



### A Message from Mary

Thank you, Trinity, for allowing me to be a part of the ministry here for almost 10 years. I still vividly remember the night Pastor Dorn caught me after a Houston Camarata rehearsal (yes, I was singing in one of the arts groups who rehearsed at Trinity at that time). He mentioned that he knew that I had retired as the Director of Worship and Music at Gloria Dei and he wondered if I could help out at Trinity for a few months as you searched for your next Director of Worship and Music. Well, that few months became almost 10 years.

God has blessed me with wonderful memories of my time here. I've enjoyed working with a talented and dedicated choir and I love the sparkle that our Trinity Bells and instrumentalists bring to our worship. Our staff, worship teams, and all of you have been an absolute pleasure to work with.

What will I remember about serving at Trinity? I'll remember our magnificent pipe organ and superb organist, Carla Barrows. I'll remember being a part of Trinity's long-standing Christmas Pageant. I'll remember working with many of you to create ways to reach out to our community with events such as the Organ Concert Series, Carols and Bells, Oktoberfest, and The Living Last Supper.

Those are all wonderful memories of Trinity, but more important than all of them is the opportunity we have had to worship God with heart, soul and mind and to be a part of a community of believers who love the Lord. And, I'm retiring, not leaving, so I will continue worshiping with you at Trinity as often as my travels will allow.

## Rebecca Castillo Joins Staff

Please join us in welcoming Rebecca Castillo who will be joining Trinity Downtown's staff as our new Director of Music and Worship. Rebecca's first Sunday will be Trinity Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Rebecca Castillo is a talented and accomplished music educator and performer from Houston, Texas. With a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Sam Houston State University and a Master's degree in Music Education from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music, she has dedicated her life to music and teaching. Rebecca has been a public school teacher for ten years, leading award-winning high school and junior high choirs. Her commitment to education goes beyond the classroom as she also teaches for the non-profit organization Partnerschools and the Segundo Barrio Children's Chorus. Rebecca performs with various professional choral ensembles, including the GRAMMY® award-winning Houston Chamber Choir, Mercury Chamber Singers, Pasión (GRV), and EXIGENCE (Sphinx Organization). Rebecca has been involved in church music for many years, serving primarily as a vocalist. She has had the opportunity to experience worship in different denominations and worldwide. She has been serving in the choir at Trinity Downtown since the fall of 2022, and she is looking forward to serving the congregation as the Director of Worship and Music.



## Sarahai Flores - New Ministry Coordinator

Our part-time hostess, Sarahai Flores, has accepted a full-time position with Trinity Downtown in the new position of Ministry Coordinator.

In this new position Sarahai will coordinate membership services, security, mail, purchasing, facility-related matters, event coordination and ministry-related matters.

Sarahai is currently educating herself to become a professional in every aspect of her life. She is single and currently living with her blessing of a family of six including herself. She is the only daughter and oldest sibling of three younger brothers. She is a youth ministry leader at her home church and assists in administration when help is needed. God has placed a heart of service in her to help and love like Jesus! Her prayer is that she is a blessing to Trinity and all God's children.



# Finance Corner - May 2024

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8 ESV

Tithes and offerings for the month of March continued 2024's positive trend and were ~\$12,000 over our monthly budget. **Total giving so far in 2024 is over \$39,000 higher than our budget, and \$48,000 higher than the same time last year!** Our year-to-date operational expenses through March totaled \$6,000 less than budgeted and were only 2.4% higher compared to spending during the same period in 2023.

**Thank you SO MUCH for your continued generosity!** It is a blessing to our church and our community as we reach out with the Gospel to our community.

Participation in our traditional worship service continues a steady increase, as does the number of those who worship with us online. **Average Discipleship Hour attendance in March was 183**, with children and youth classes 18 participants higher compared to last March!

1,193 worshipers attended Trinity's Holy Week/Easter worship services in-person, with another 741 participating via live stream. **This represents 815 more participants than we had in (pre-COVID) 2019, and 306 more than worshiped with us in 2023.**

And finally, work on the Christian Life Building's roof and the replacement of the Gym's HVAC system is now scheduled for completion in early May.

Here's a quick summary of "visible results" for March 2024:



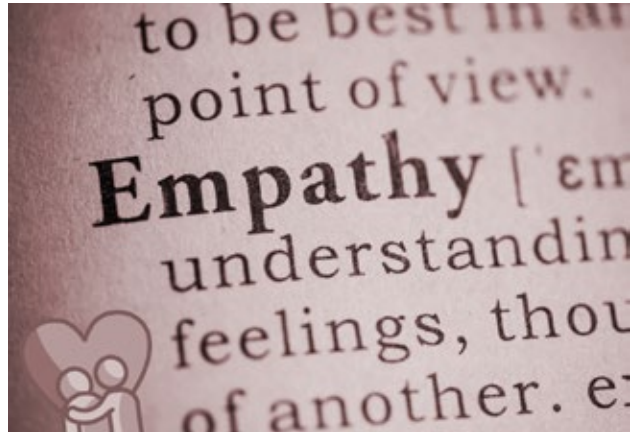
| March 2024 Summary                              |                                 |                 |                   |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Average Worship Attendance*</b>              | <b>In-person</b>                | <b>Online</b>   | <b>March 2023</b> |
|   | 384                             | 157             | 366               |
| <b>Avg. Discipleship Hour Attendance</b>        | <b>Adults</b>                   | <b>Students</b> | <b>March 2023</b> |
|   | 119                             | 65              | 198               |
| <b>Contributions</b>                            | <b>Actual</b>                   | <b>Budgeted</b> | <b>Last Year</b>  |
|   | March 2024 tithes and offerings | \$167,704       | \$155,000         |
| Total 2024 tithes and offerings                 | \$419,051                       | \$380,000       | \$371,503         |
| <i>*Not including 2024 Holy Week attendance</i> |                                 |                 |                   |

Joining Jesus alongside you,  
Ron Lacy, CFO

# Empathy and Children

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 9:14 NIV

In our faith journey, we often hear about the importance of empathy, understanding, and love. As adults, however, we may unintentionally erect barriers that hinder the flow of empathy that we display when interacting with children. As adults, it's our responsibility to recognize and dismantle these barriers, fostering a deeper connection with the younger members of our community. A few of the barriers to empathy with children include:



- 1. The Power Dynamic.** One significant barrier to empathy between adults and children is the power dynamic inherent in adult-child relationships. Adults often hold authority over children, which can lead to a one-sided interaction where the adult's perspective dominates. This power dynamic may inhibit genuine empathy as children may feel hesitant to express themselves openly or fear being dismissed or misunderstood.
- 2. Different Perspectives.** Furthermore, adults may struggle to empathize with children due to differences in experience and perspective. As we grow older, we accumulate a wealth of experiences that shape our worldview. However, these experiences can also create a disconnect between adults and children, making it challenging to relate to the concerns and emotions of younger individuals.
- 3. Assuming children are just "little adults".** Sometimes, we unconsciously dismiss children's emotions as trivial or expect them to conform to adult standards of behavior. Such attitudes can hinder empathetic engagement.

As Christians, we are called to emulate the love and compassion of Christ in our relationships with others, including children. Jesus welcomed children with open arms, affirming their worth and importance. He listened to them attentively, valued their perspectives, and showed them genuine empathy.

How can we be more like Jesus when interacting with children?

- 1. Active listening.** Create an environment where we must first acknowledge the validity of children's experiences and emotions by actively listening to them. We should take the time to truly listen to what children have to say without judgment or interruption.
- 2. Put ourselves in their world.** We can cultivate empathy by seeking to understand the world through the eyes of a child. Engaging in activities that children enjoy, such as play or storytelling, can provide insights into their thoughts and feelings. By entering their world, we can bridge the gap between generations and foster deeper connections built on empathy and understanding.
- 3. Model empathy.** It is also essential to model empathy in our interactions with others, demonstrating compassion and understanding in our words and actions. Children learn by example, and by embodying empathy in our lives, we can inspire them to do the same.

Breaking down barriers to empathy between adults and children requires a conscious effort to recognize and overcome the power dynamics, differences in experience, and our ever-present need to meet our own deadlines that may hinder genuine connection. As followers of Christ, let

us strive to cultivate empathy in our relationships with children, nurturing a community where love, understanding, and compassion abound.

### What's "Stephen Ministry" all about?

**Are you feeling sad or anxious, facing financial difficulties, health issues or grieving the loss of a loved one? God never intended for us to go through these challenges alone. You can reach out to Trinity's Stephen Ministry for assistance.** Stephen Ministers are laypeople in our congregation trained to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to individuals facing difficult times in life—grief, cancer, divorce, financial difficulties, hospitalization, chronic illness, job loss, disability, loneliness, a spiritual crisis, or other life struggles. They have a compassionate heart for those who are hurting, and they have been equipped with caring ministry skills by their congregation's Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week to listen, care, pray, encourage, and offer emotional and spiritual support.

If you'd like to learn more about how our 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 reach out to Pastor Lonnie at [lgonzales@trinitydt.org](mailto:lgonzales@trinitydt.org) or speak with any of our other pastors.

## Flowers at Our Altar - New Procedure



If you would like 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 Calendar that is hanging in the foyer by the Welcome Desk. We can only accept one sponsor per Sunday.

We have an in-house volunteer florist (Sue Clark) who will fulfill the flower orders or you may choose a florist of your choice. If using your own florist, flowers should be delivered before noon on Saturday.

The price and information is as follows:

- We will provide 2 bouquets for \$100.00.
- Any special requests must be made 2 weeks in advance.
- You can request a preferred color and flower. Our volunteer will do her best to accommodate your requests, but cannot guarantee them.
- Payment can be made via <https://www.trinitydt.org/online-giving/> (use "Flowers for Sanctuary" fund) or submit a check in person or by mail with "Flowers" in the memo line.
- Please fill out the information form located on the Welcome Desk and leave it on the desk.
- You are welcome to take the arrangements home after the last service on Sunday. Please only take the liner and leave the vase.
- After Sunday, we will place the arrangements on the chest by the staircase in the foyer.

If you have any questions, please contact Stefanie Bowman at [sbowman@trinitydt.org](mailto:sbowman@trinitydt.org) or 713.224.0684.

*Flowers at the Altar Information Form*

Please complete this form (after placing name on Flower Calendar)  
if you wish to place flowers at the altar.

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information:  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date placing flowers: \_\_\_\_\_


Florist Choice - Please check one:  
 I would like to use Trinity Downtown's in-house florist (two arrangements for \$100.00). Payment can be made via [www.trinitydt.org](http://www.trinitydt.org) (select "Flowers for Sanctuary" fund), in person or by mail.  
 I will use my own florist and will have **flowers delivered before noon on Saturday.**

Dedication to be projected on wall during pre-service scroll: \_\_\_\_\_

(i.e. Memory or honor of loved one, Thanksgiving for Birthday or Anniversary, etc. - include who is donating flowers)

Special Request (color/type of flowers): \_\_\_\_\_  
(A two week notice is needed for special requests. Our florist will do her best to accommodate your requests, but cannot guarantee them.)

If you have any questions, please contact Stefanie Bowman at [sbowman@trinitydt.org](mailto:sbowman@trinitydt.org) or 713-224-0684.



# Youth and Children's Ministries Update

April was a blast! We had a great time at our second annual go carting event! The kids love flying around the track and playing laser tag! It was a great time!

May looks forward to our children's ministry event, **Picnic at the Park**. Details are as follows:

What better way to start off the summer than with a fellowship event at the park! This event is for families with kids 4<sup>th</sup> grade and younger. Please plan to stay with your child(ren) for the festivities. We will meet at Jaycee Park (1300 Seamist Dr, Houston, TX 77008) from 4-6 p.m. on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

We will have a main course provided by the Calafells! Please, sign up [here](#) or use the QR Code (bottom right) to help us get an accurate count and to bring a snack, side or dessert to share!

There are big fields, a playground with a climbing wall, and a splash pad at the park. Please bring a lawn chair (if you'd like), sunscreen and a change of clothes for your child(ren). I will bring some of our water toys and playground balls. If you have any questions about the day, please let me know!

Our youth (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) event is on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. following the Middle School Mission Trip meeting. My prayer is that we have a college intern who will be planning that event. However, if we do not, it will be a water day.

**Our High School Mission Trip meeting is May 5<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** and we will be meeting our chaperones, building our covenant, going over our driving route, sharing about the summer theme, unveiling the T-shirt designs, filling out forms and any other important details. **Our Middle School Mission Trip meeting is May 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** We will be meeting our chaperones, signing our covenant, filling out forms, sharing about the summer theme, unveiling the T-shirt designs, and any other important details.

Please consider donating to the shareholders fundraiser for youth missions. We still need \$6,800 to meet our goal for the summer. Please see information on [flyer](#).

Thank you again for your continued encouragement, love and support of the Youth and Children's Ministry here at Trinity Downtown.

Blessings,  
Haley Davisson



# Trinity Ladies Circle Ministries Meeting and 106<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

The next meeting of Ladies Circle Ministries will be held on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at **10:30 a.m.** in the Gathering Space. We will have a short business meeting and then we will carpool to Cafe Brussels (1718 Houston Ave, Houston, TX 77007) for lunch in celebration of our 106<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Please RSVP to Trinity Garrett at [tgarett@trinitydt.org](mailto:tgarett@trinitydt.org).

For more information, feel free to reach out to Trinity Garrett (info at #LinkinBio) or 281.300.5660.

At our April meeting we had the pleasure of hearing Pastor Black explain the meaning of all the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. See the pictures below. Thank you to Pastor Black for his presentation and Dottie Burroughs for preparing a PowerPoint presentation for those who were unable to walk the sanctuary.



# Concerts by Friends of Trinity (at Trinity and Beyond)

## Segundo Barrio Children's Choir

The Segundo Barrio Children's Choir will be in concert at Trinity Downtown Friday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Houston's first and only bilingual children's choir, Segundo Barrio Children's Chorus, transforms lives through tuition-free music education, and community based performance opportunities. All musical selections are based on the robust canons of Spanish-language music from the folk, classical, and popular traditions representing Latin-America. Programming targets children from Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade from immigrant and bilingual households living in Houston's historic Second Ward and the Greater East End.



Our programs aim to build character and confidence, foster civic engagement, reduce drop-out rates and increase academic outcomes. Our "Jóvenes Cantantes" serve as cultural ambassadors of Second Ward and Houston's Latinx population, celebrating and sharing with all Houstonians the rich cultural traditions and language of our community.

## Houston Masterworks Chorus Presents a "Night at the Opera"

Opera enthusiasts, you are in for a treat! Houston Masterworks Chorus (HMC) is partnering with Opera on Tap, Houston's favorite traveling opera group, performing beloved operatic repertoire spanning Monteverdi to Puccini. **They will be in concert at Trinity Downtown on May 19 at 4:00 p.m.**

Lead singers (Laura Broscow - Soprano, Christine Boddicker - Mezzo-soprano, René Vazquez - Tenor and Rameen Chaharbaghi - Baritone) and the chorus will showcase their exceptional vocal abilities and dramatic flair in a fun atmosphere. You will be spellbound!

Would you like to sit next to your favorite singer, the accompanist, or take the Maestro's baton for a few minutes? Check your confirmation email after you purchase your tickets to add on your favorite experience! Proceeds benefit HMC and Opera on Tap.

To purchase tickets or for more information about HMC, use the QR Code on the graphic on the right or visit [www.houstonmasterworks.org](http://www.houstonmasterworks.org). General admission tickets are \$23.00, Seniors (60+), Music Educators and Veterans/Active Military are \$18.00 and students are \$10.00.

HOUSTON Masterworks Chorus  
DR. PAULO GOMES, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Opera on Tap HOUSTON

**Night**  
AT THE  
**Opera**

**May 19 | 4 pm**

TRINITY LUTHERAN DOWNTOWN  
800 HOUSTON AVE, HOUSTON, TX 77007

LAURA BROSCOW, SOPRANO  
CHRISTINE BODDICKER, MEZZO-SOPRANO  
RENÉ VAZQUEZ, TENOR  
RAMEEN CHAHARBAGHI, BARITONE

houstonmasterworks.org





**HOUSTON BRONZE ENSEMBLE**

**Ready? Set. Ring!**  
 SPRING 2024 CONCERT SERIES

Featuring **Cloud Wang** on Marimba

**Saturday, May 11 at 7:30pm**  
 Midtown Arts & Theater Center Houston (MATCH)  
 3400 Main St. Houston, TX  
 Tickets at [matchouston.org/box-office](http://matchouston.org/box-office)

**Sunday, May 19 at 4:00pm**  
 Trinity Klein Lutheran Church  
 5201 Spring Cypress Rd. Spring, TX  
 Free admission

DAVID YORK, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

HOUSTON'S PREMIER HANDBELL CHORAL ENSEMBLE

Visit us at [www.houstonbronze.org](http://www.houstonbronze.org)




*Spring Concert*

AWARD WINNING  
**TREBLE CHOIR OF HOUSTON**  
 AT THE CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

MARIANNA PARNAS-SIMPSON, FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR [WWW.TREBLECHOIR.COM](http://WWW.TREBLECHOIR.COM)

MAY  
**SATURDAY 18 AT 2 PM**  
 2024

*Free admission*

TRINITY DOWNTOWN CHURCH,  
 800 HOUSTON AVENUE, HOUSTON TX 77007

UPCOMING EVENT: JOHN ADAMS' EL NIÑO  
 WITH THE HOUSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - JONES HALL, MAY 25-26

## Houston Lutheran Chorale - Patriotic Concerts

Save the dates for the Houston Lutheran Chorale's patriotic concerts. They will present a concert in recognition of Flag Day on June 15<sup>th</sup> at Gloria Dei Lutheran at 4:00 p.m. and their Independence Day concert on July 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at Trinity Downtown. More information will be available in the June newsletter.




**MEMORIAL DAY**

Remember The  
 Heroes Who  
 Sacrificed All.

# Blood Donor Sunday

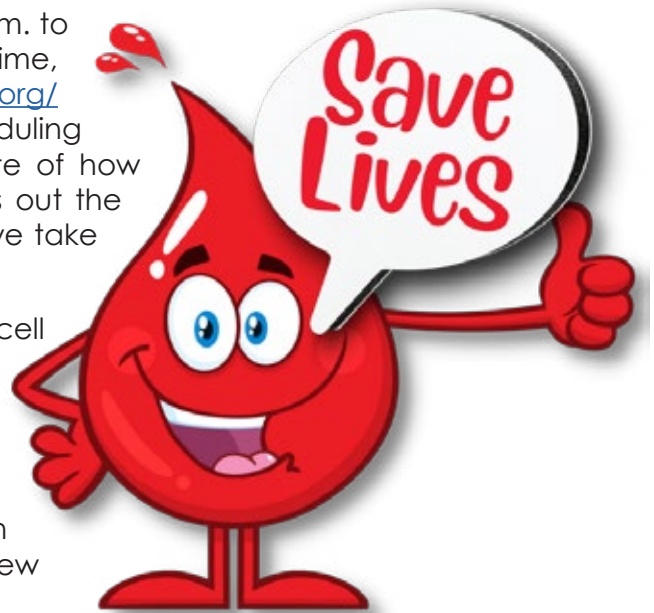
Our next Blood Donor Sunday will be held June 2, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the gym. If you would prefer a special time, please sign up online at [https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/373093](https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/373093). While scheduling an appointment ahead of time gives us an estimate of how many donors to expect and the Blood Center sends out the appropriate number of workers; an added bonus is we take scheduled appointments prior to walk-ups.

We look forward to a very successful drive. Double red cell and combination whole blood and plasma machines will be available for those wishing to donate that way. Both count for two donations.

Save time with the DIGITAL DONOR APP. The App makes it easy to find a blood drive, schedule your donation and answer the [CFL Express Pass](#) health history interview before you arrive.

REMINDER!! The minimum donor age requirement to give blood is 16 years old with a parent's permission. Weight must be 122 lbs. (still 110 lbs. for 17 and older) and in general good health.

REMEMBER: One unit of blood can save as many as three lives as it is broken down into three components – red blood cells, platelets and plasma.



# Graduate Recognition

On June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 9:00 a.m. worship service we will be recognizing all graduating high school and college seniors. Graduates will be asked to stand to be recognized and then they will be acknowledged in the church prayers as a group.

After the worship service there will be a reception in the gathering space with cupcakes and lemonade.

High school seniors will have tables with their accomplishments, memorabilia and pictures from their school years and information about their plans for the future.

If you are a high school senior and would like a table, please RSVP by May 26<sup>th</sup> using this TCB form: <https://trinitydt.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/263/responses/new>. Set up will be Saturday, June 1, between 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. or early Sunday morning before the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

If you have any questions, please contact Haley Davison at [hdavison@trinitydt.org](mailto:hdavison@trinitydt.org).



## 2024 GOVERNING BOARD

**Jim Baccus** (Elder)

**Lori Dixon**

**Pastor Michael Dorn**

**Mike Gilmore** (Elder)

**Tim Grady** (Chair/Elder)

**Ross Krueger**

**Brent Laumen**

**Cassandra McGarvey**  
(Vice-Chair)

**Marie Munier**

**Mary Oliver**

**Chris Sonneborn** (Secretary/  
Elder)

**Mike Sterling** (Elder)

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

# Stained Glass Renewal Project

Among the many blessings we enjoy is worshiping in a Sanctuary filled with over thirty stained-glass depictions of Biblical characters and stories. The largest stained glass is immediately behind the Altar and depicts a stylized cross. Our stained glass not only is beautiful; it is another way we witness our faith to our community.

Each of our stained glass windows was installed in 1954, and is in need of cleaning and maintenance.

Over thirty years ago, our congregation installed transparent plastic over the glass to protect it from wind and rain. Unfortunately, the covering meant to protect the glass has yellowed with age and has become much less transparent. The amount of light it allows to pass through the stained glass is greatly reduced, and the darkened plastic now hides the beauty of our stained glass windows when viewed from outside the church.



**View from outside with stained glass barely visible.**

**A member of our congregation has recently made a generous gift sufficient to replace the old plastic covering with new tempered glass on the front Cross and the three windows in the Narthex.** The new glass will allow significantly more light to shine into our Sanctuary and act as additional sound insulation. It will also allow the renewed windows to be seen much more clearly when viewed from outside the building.

**We expect the renewal work to begin in six to eight weeks.**

So, you ask, what about the remaining thirty windows that still need to be renewed? We are in the process of obtaining quotes for revitalizing these windows, too. Be watching for further details, and **if you'd like to contribute to the future renewal of all of our stained glass, you may give [online](#) by selecting the "stained glass renewal fund" option, or by marking your check with "stained glass fund".**



# Come & See Event

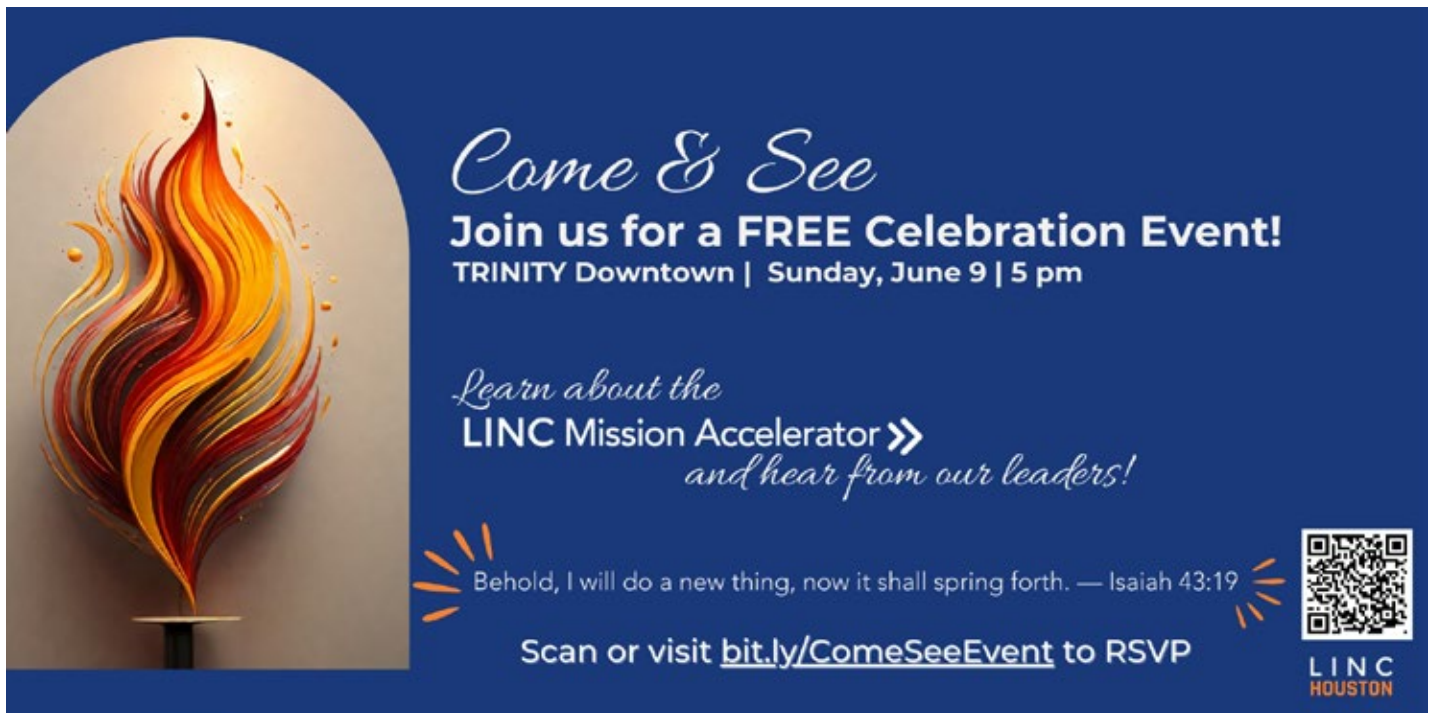
Please join us at Trinity Downtown on Sunday, June 9, 2024, from 5 - 7:30 p.m to celebrate what God is doing through LINC Houston.

The evening features:

- **Food & Fellowship:** Enjoy a delicious meal while connecting with ministry leaders, seminary students, and fellow members of our LINC family.
- **Uplifting Music:** Worship to live music from members of the LINC Houston congregation, Manantiales de Vida.
- **Testimonials:** Hear from ministry leaders and seminary students whose lives you've impacted through your support of LINC Houston.
- **Inspiring Speeches:** Gain insights from Houston City Director Pastor Abel and LINC Ministries founder Mark Junkans.

This is a free, ticketed event. (In order to estimate food and seating appropriately, we ask that attendees reserve their spots by ordering tickets at [bit.ly/ComeSeeEvent](https://bit.ly/ComeSeeEvent).) Please RSVP by June 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon.

For any questions, additional information, or special accommodation requests, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at [klang@linc.org](mailto:klang@linc.org) or call us at 713.426.2451.




*Come & See*  
**Join us for a FREE Celebration Event!**  
TRINITY Downtown | Sunday, June 9 | 5 pm

*Learn about the*  
**LINC Mission Accelerator >>**  
*and hear from our leaders!*

Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth. — Isaiah 43:19

Scan or visit [bit.ly/ComeSeeEvent](https://bit.ly/ComeSeeEvent) to RSVP



LINC  
HOUSTON

## BOARD OF ELDERS - CONTACT INFORMATION

|                 |  |              |
|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Jim Baccus      | <a href="mailto:jimbaccus@comcast.net">jimbaccus@comcast.net</a>   | 713.202.3757 |
| Mike Gilmore    | <a href="mailto:mdgilmore85@gmail.com">mdgilmore85@gmail.com</a>   | 713.569.2371 |
| Tim Grady       | <a href="mailto:timlgrady@aol.com">timlgrady@aol.com</a>           | 281.639.0036 |
| Chris Sonneborn | <a href="mailto:csonneb@gmail.com">csonneb@gmail.com</a>           | 713.854.8692 |
| Mike Sterling   | <a href="mailto:nasasterling@gmail.com">nasasterling@gmail.com</a> | 713.299.7238 |

# 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](http://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)

## SUNDAYS - YOUTH

**Foundations 56** (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 207

**High School** (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Underground

## SUNDAYS - ADULT

### Discipleship Bible Study - The Whole Story - Creation to Jesus

Led by Group of Members - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 125 - In Person

This Bible study series covers creation through the redemptive story in the Old Testament. It is perfect for people interested in learning a simple and reproducible model to study Scripture in a group setting. The study is sponsored and facilitated by a committed group of members at Trinity Downtown. Participants can come and go throughout the series.

### Faith Discovery

Led by Pastor Michael P. Dorn - 10:15-11:15 AM - In Person

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

### History of Church Controversies

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

The Church is Christ's perfect bride, until you involve people. As soon as Christ left the Earth, that's what happened and over the next 2,000 years we have jumped from one controversy or heresy to the next; dividing ourselves along the way. Each week will be a stand-alone lesson on a controversy starting with the book of Acts and moving towards the present day. Learn from their mistakes not only as a church, but as individuals in our own lives and our own controversies.

### Joshua

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

In the book of Joshua is recorded the history of God fulfilling His promise to His people Israel. It is part of God's plan for the salvation of the world. Joshua is an example of a leader faithful to the Word of the Lord. The book displays God's continuous grace to sinful humanity.

Please email Paul Dorn ([pbdorn6@gmail.com](mailto:pbdorn6@gmail.com)) and he will send you his class notes and a link to the class session on Zoom. You will need a computer, laptop, or phone.



### **Limping with God**

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

Limping with God: When we look to the Bible for role models in our daily discipleship, Jacob doesn't come readily to mind. He's a trickster, a liar, and selfish. He also leads a dysfunctional family rife with jealousy and backstabbing. But Jacob is also Israel, the namesake of the Old Testament community of God, chosen and blessed. As such, this sinner-saint, who limps along with the Lord, burdened by weakness and beset by problems, is the mirror image of all of us who follow Jesus. Discussion-oriented.

### **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 of Mark**

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

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest of the four Gospels and is thought to be the first one written. It tells the story of Jesus Christ from the foretelling of John the Baptist through Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven. There is less detail than in the gospels of Matthew, Luke or John and it has a feeling of urgency in telling the good news. The word "immediately" appears many times. Join us either in person at Trinity or remotely through Zoom as Mark introduces Jesus to the world as both God and Man and the salvation for all people.

### **The Spiritual Life - A Study on 1st Corinthians**

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

Paul writes to the Church in Corinth instructing them regarding spiritual life in the context of the local church. The Church is called to live a life empowered by the Spirit of God.

### **Young Adult Bible Study - Book of James**

Led by Class Members - 10:15-11:15 AM - Gathering Space - In Person

Young adults, please join us as we study the book of James using the 'Sword Method'. Each week we will read a chapter ahead of time and use the 'Sword Method' on Sunday to better understand what the passage says to do, what not to do, who man is, who God is, and lastly how we take these things into the week. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **TUESDAYS - ADULTS**

### **Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study - LifeLight: Ruth & Esther**

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. *(After the May 21<sup>st</sup> class, the group will take a break for the summer and resume in the fall.)*

## WEDNESDAYS - ADULTS

### Ephesians

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

This spring, the Women's Wednesday Night Bible Study will continue to dig into the book of Ephesians. We would love for you to become a part of this small but joyful group.

In Ephesians, the Apostle Paul describes followers of Jesus with words such as predestined, sealed, made alive, brought near, reconciled, citizens, equipped, mature, one body, and children of light. Then, he describes the tools God graciously gives us to live this life.

Please join us. We meet Wednesday evenings on Zoom from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. and in person the last Wednesday of the month.

### Virtual Midweek Spiritual Check-in

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

## THURSDAYS - ADULTS

### Sonrise Bible Study

Led by Bill Fischer, Pastor Black and 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. For more information contact Bill Fischer at 832.459.3241 or the church office.

To Mary Voigt and the family of faith at Trinity Downtown—

# THANK YOU!

from The Wind Symphony of  
Concordia University Chicago



*Thank you so much!*  
- Shanell Jackson

*Thank you!*  
- [Signature]

*Isaiach Tietz*

*Melanie Gorman*

*Joshua C*

*Thank you!*  
- [Signature]

*Anna Kuehl*

*Joshua C*

Dear Mary - thank you so much for all your hard work to bring the Wind Symphony to Trinity! Your support for the ensemble is an incredible blessing to us! To God be the glory! Rachel Linniger

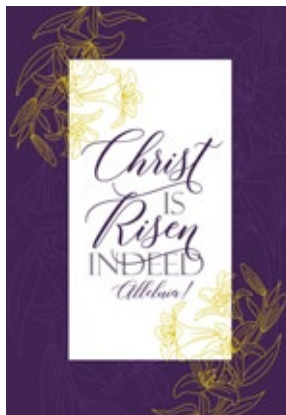
Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Psalm 95:1

Amazing Setting for a concert. Thank you!  
[Signature]



## Life Quotes - May 19

"Go to church together and get God's message into your ears, into your life, into your relationships. And the Spirit who created you and recreates you into the best version of yourself, that self that God has in mind for you, will work in your relationship and make it into one that is life-giving. But married or single, divorced or twice-divorced, widowed, brokenhearted, or thriving, we all live in the echo of Easter: Christ is risen. Indeed. Alleluia. We walk in the power of Pentecost. Alleluia."



Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)



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Article submission deadline is **May 15<sup>th</sup>** for articles to be published June 1, 2024.  
Submit articles to [pschroeder@trinitydt.org](mailto:pschroeder@trinitydt.org).

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