

From: Christabell from Trinity office@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org
Subject: September 2026 NOUS
Date: September 1, 2026 at 3:00 PM
To: office@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org



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NOUS

SEPTEMBER 2026

Reflective Note

Who is God calling us to be in this time and place? This was a foundational question for the pilgrims who gathered here in 1962. When Trinity was chartered in 1963, it was already a community deeply grounded in the practice of discernment. We still are!

Back then, we were very much a neighborhood church. Today, our members come from near and far to worship together - VERY far, including our friends in India! While most of our members are not close enough to walk to church, we are still integrated into the local neighborhood and community. Our composition has changed, the neighborhood and community of Harrisonburg have changed, and God is continuing to call us, in this time and place, to mission and ministry.

[Click here to read the full article!](#)



Worship

9/6 - Communion Sunday - 1 Peter 5:1-7 & Psalm 46:1-6, 10

9/13 - “Come Celebrate and Connect” Sunday

9/19 - Ecumenical Pride worship service at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 5pm

9/20 - Pride observed! - Romans 8:38-39 and Acts 8:26-40

9/27 - Retreat at EMU! - *No livestream*

What's in Session?

The Session met on Sunday, August 16th. Here are some highlights:

- At the request of the Harvest team, the Session approved a project to paint the risers of the front stairs with rainbow flag colors. We hope this provides a more visible witness of inclusion that will be seen by more people passing by the church, particularly on High Street.
- The Nominating Committee is about to begin work to receive nominations for members to serve on the Class of 2029. Watch your email for the nomination list. You may also make nominations directly to the committee through Stephanie Gardner, committee chair.
- The Personnel Committee continues to search for our next Pastoral Care Associate. We invite your prayers for the right person for the position - and for more longevity in it! We have been so blessed with such wonderful people in this

more longevity in it. We have been so blessed with such wonderful people in this role. We only wish we could keep them longer. Barbara Bowman has been such a gift to our community for nearly a year. She will be concluding her service on Sunday, September 20. Notes of appreciation may be sent to her directly, or to the church office.

In Our Prayers



“Prayer was never meant to be a merely personal exercise with personal benefits, but a discipline that reminds us how we’re personally responsible for others.”

~ John Onwuchekwa, DMin ~

John’s abiding belief is that tragedy doesn’t ruin anyone: hopelessness does.

Let us bring hope to one another as we pray.

[Prayer List](#)

May these words from The Book of Common Worship Daily Prayer help you to focus your prayer time

Loving God, as the rising sun chases away the night, so you have scattered the power of death in the rising of Jesus Christ, and you bring us all blessings in him.

Especially we thank you for

the community of faith in our church ...

those with whom we work or share common concerns ...

the diversity of your children ...

indications of your love at work in the world ...

those who work for reconciliation ...

Mighty God, with the dawn of your love you reveal your victory over all that would destroy or harm, and you brighten the lives of all who need you.

Especially we pray for

families suffering separation ...

people different from ourselves ...

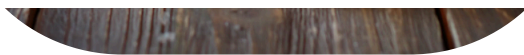
those isolated by sickness or sorrow ...

the victims of violence or warfare ...

the church world wide ...

Fellowship





September Birthdays

Bob Schminkey, 2nd
Nancy Hopkins-Garriss, 4th
Harv Hopkins-Garriss, 10th
Nate Carr, 14th
Alice Facknitz, 15th
Gini Reese, 16th
Vicky Rinehart, 16th
Donna Barber, 17th

Laura Quass, 17th
Ron Radloff, 18th
Valeria Hiner, 19th
Norie Smith, 22nd
Echo Striebig, 23rd
Larry Brown, 24th
Gwen Carr, 25th

September Baptisms

Nancy Camp, 1st
Hannah Facknitz, 3rd
Alice Facknitz, 3rd

Erin Rainard, 17th
Alex Sonifrank, 25th
Faye Ma, 29th

Get To Know our House Steward: Karla Irving (Class 2027)

How long have you been at Trinity?

Since 2003

Favorite Bible story?

The woman with the issue of blood

Path you almost took but didn't?

Farmer

What makes you feel most appreciated?

Having someone recognize my need and offering to help.

Most meaningful thing...

In the past year?

Visiting San Antonio, Tx and visiting the Spanish missions and all that was said, unsaid, implied, and hidden in meanings;

In the last decade?

Carina for people with dementia and terminal illness

In life?

Traveling the path with the dying

Nurture

"Come, Celebrate, and Connect" Sunday



On Sunday, September 13th, we will have a combined closing and calling Sunday for House Churches and Marks Groups once again. "Come Celebrate and Connect" will celebrate all that has been done in the past year, and invite folks to connect with groups that will be continuing or newly called for the year ahead.

Retreat

Our nurture focus will kick off at our fall church retreat on **Sunday, September 27, at the Seminary Chapel at EMU**. The retreat will be enriched by our participation in a Seminary for Every Congregation where we will begin having more conversations about who we are and what God is calling us to do, and how this is inviting us to proceed with work on the grounds.

Mission

Class of 2029 Nominations

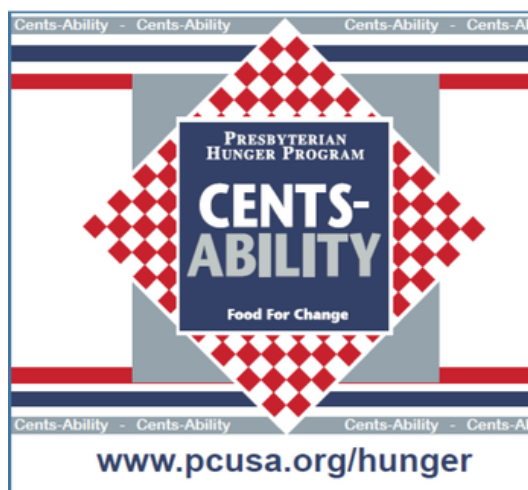
There will be a Congregational Meeting set in the near future to elect four (4) elders to the class of 2029. The committee values and asks for your suggestions. Please examine

the list below of eligible active members and share your nominations and reasons with the committee. Forms may be mailed or brought back to the church, or responses sent by email to Stephanie Gardner, chair of the committee (junktime2000@yahoo.com). We ask for all nominations to be submitted no later than **Sunday, September 6.**

Nomination Form

CENTS-ABILITY

Our contributions on the 3rd Sunday of every month to the Presbytery's "Cents-ability" ministry provides vitally important financial support to local, national, and international ministries working to end hunger. Our Presbytery of Shenandoah recently received a thank-you letter from the Heifer Project, one of our Cents-ability recipients. They wrote:



“As Mr. Rogers said, ‘All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we are giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That’s one of the things that connects us as neighbors - in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver.’”

Every gift makes a difference. Look for the Blue Bucket in worship on the 3rd Sunday of every month, or [make a donation through our church website.](#)

Stroll For Your Soul



Are you a walker or a runner seeking mindfulness on your daily walk/run? Are you a hiker or a hiker wanting



you a stroller or a runner wanting inspiration with your exercise? Or do you prefer to “stroll” mindfully from your favorite chair in your home? **"Stroll for Your Soul"** invites us to be aware of God's presence while we walk, run, cycle or “stroll in place” at home.

Once again we will offer 21 daily Emails inviting gratitude, mindful attention, and inspiration as you “stroll” at your own pace and in your own way.

If you participated in our “Stroll” this past Spring - please know this is a completely new series of meditations/reflections on the theme of *“Waymarkers”* - that is, those things that help us to mark our journeys.

If you are new to the “Stroll” - each morning you will receive the email and then you read/meditate/walk/run wherever and whenever you choose. You can do this as a solitary contemplative practice. Or you can invite your friends or family to join you in person or from a distance. The daily emails will begin September 6 and will continue for 21 days. You can [sign up here to indicate your interest in receiving the daily emails and share the names and emails of those who may join you!](#)

For questions or more information - please contact: Sara Holben (saholben53@gmail.com).

Shenandoah Pride

[The Shenandoah Valley Pride Festival](#) will be held on **Sunday, September 20, from 12:30-6pm in and around Turner Pavilion** (site of the Farmer's Market). Trinity will be there to welcome festival goers and witness to God's wildly inclusive love.



[Sign up here if you are willing to help with the festivities!](#)



Backpack Program



Keister would appreciate donations of backpacks, black & white composition books (no designs please,) & pre-sharpened pencils. Donations can be dropped off at the church office.



Trinity Presbyterian Church gathers on land that was part of ancestral hunting grounds and travel routes of various groups of indigenous peoples. We acknowledge, with gratitude, these stewards of the land through the ages.

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Our mailing address is: 725 South High Street Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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