



The Messenger

TRINITY Episcopal Church, Columbus, Georgia

The Rev. Dr. Timothy H. Graham, Rector

The Rev. Andrew C. Blakemore, Associate Rector

Joseph Golden, Organist & Choirmaster

Dr. Aesook Moon, Associate Organist & Choirmaster

Summer 2025

From the Rector

The Rev. Dr. Timothy H. Graham

Dear friends,

Summertime is here, and while life slows down a bit in some ways at Trinity, in other ways life gets wild and crazy and fun!

On July 19 our kids will enjoy a fun day of learning, fellowship and games as we pack as much into Vacation Bible School as we can. This year our theme will be about the great Saints of the church. We will learn about the faith of our Christian heroes who have gone before us and we will explore ways that we can learn from them. And, we will have a lot of fun as we learn! If you know of a child who would enjoy this wonderful day, please encourage them to register for VBS on our church website. Father Andy and I, along with Lauren and Rickeya, look forward to a very meaningful time with our kids.

Please pray for these children and the youth and adults who will be a part of this wonderful ministry event.

Yours in Christ,

Father Tim



Building a Spirit-empowered community that serves and celebrates Christ.

*“Let my prayer come before thee:
incline thine ear unto my cry;”*

Psalm 88:2

In Our Prayers:

Parishioners

Susan Batastini
Bruce & Gabe Clouser
Jack & Peggy Collins
Joyce Curry
Philip Day
Leslie Fedde
Sydney Flournoy
Robert Marcus
Karyn Marra
Jean Miller
The Page Family
Nancy Palmer
Bill Perdue
Meta Rickard
Keith Slaney
Dorothy Faye Smith
Fleur Stearns
George Trussell, Jr.
The Family of Bob Upchurch
George Wade
Johnny Walden
Libby Wells
Kay Young

If you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital, has had a child, or is facing some crisis, please let the Parish Office know so our Parish family can respond.



Bryan Waters
Sam Wells
Diane Whilden
Carey Scott
Wilkerson
The Williams Family

Friends

The Barria Escobar Family
Claire Berry
Nathan Brown
Sarah Brown
Amanda Bryan
Jim Buntin
Leandra Burke
Wayne Cartledge
Dana Cason
Jimmy Cason
Will Cliatt
Sara Coleman
Buddy Coulter
Stephanie East
Jimmy Farr
Jack Fuller
Ruth Gilbert
Sherry Green
Jeff Griffin
Kermit Griner
Lynn Hahn
Tom Haskell
Richard Hill
Ward & Betty Joines
Milton Jones
Kim Kimbrough
Buford King
Devon Levy
Marty McGovern
Carol & J.W. Martin
Martha Bone Meeks
Drew Norlock
Tatum Norris
Jay Pease
Andrew Pillar
Alta Ploeger
Julie Powell
Dorothy Reese
Gerd Reno
Paul Rickard
Martha Robert
Price Robinson
Becky Rumer
Hadley Scott
Pete Scott
Susy Sironi
Joan Skelton
Sebastian Taylor
Ashley Walker

Adult Bible Study *Opening Up the Gospel of Luke*



El Greco, Saint Luke (1614)

This summer, Trinity's Adult Bible Study has been studying the Gospel of Luke. Saint Luke is known in Christian tradition as a physician and a painter, and his Gospel account is where we find such memorable stories as the Annunciation, the parable of the good Samaritan, and the parable of the prodigal son. Each week, Trinity's Bible study group will take another step along with Jesus in his life and ministry as told the Gospel of Luke, exploring the meaning of Scripture and its relevance for our own life of faith. Trinity's Adult Bible Study meets over coffee each Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the parlor. Hope to see you there!

Trinity's Newest (and Smallest) Face



In May, Father Andy and Nicole welcomed their daughter, Julian. She is a precious addition to Trinity!

Reggie's Retirement Party!
July 27th after the 10:30 service

We will be collecting an offering of appreciation for Reggie's many years of love and dedication to Trinity!

School Supply Drive

Starting this Sunday

This year, Trinity is once again proud to partner with South Columbus Elementary in providing much-needed school supplies for the many students there. Between July 17th and August 3rd, you can support the students of South Columbus Elementary by dropping off any school supplies you'd like to donate in the church office. Items that are especially needed include:

- Kleenex
- Hand Sanitizer
- Spiral Notebooks
- Composition Books
- Loose Leaf Paper (Wide-Ruled)

Another way to support South Columbus Elementary is to donate gift cards of any denomination to any store or restaurant. These gift cards will be distributed by SCE administrators to teachers to supplement classroom budgets and during teacher appreciation week.

In addition to donations, you can also help South Columbus Elementary by volunteering as a reader in the school. A team of Trinity parishioners regularly visit SCE and read with the first graders there. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions about the program, please contact Kendon Johnson, johnson_baker@yahoo.com or call/text 470-585-2655.

School Supply Drive

Donate through Sunday, August 3

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Notebook paper (wide rule)
- Spiral notebooks
- Composition Books
- Pre-sharpened pencils
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Hand sanitizer
- Kleenex tissues
- Ziplock bags (all sizes)



Parish Poolside Social

August 8th



On Friday, August 8th, join Trinity for a casual poolside social event at the Summit Poolhouse, 1615 Summit Drive.

Guests are encouraged to bring an easy-to-eat dish to share, and the cookbook committee will have food from Trinity's upcoming parish cookbook, "And God Said, Bon Appétit!" to sample as well. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the summer weather and get to know your fellow Trinitarians a bit better. The fun begins at 6 p.m.

Hope to see you there!

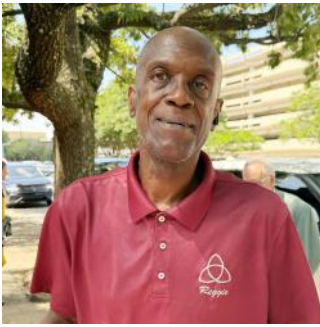
And God Said - "Bon Appétit"

Your Trinity Cookbook

Will be published in the fall!
Please help us.
Without making a commitment
Let us know how many copies you might like.

Farewell, Reggie!

Trinity Sexton to Retire This Month



Reggie Hill, Trinity's longtime Sexton, is planning to retire at the end of July. On **Sunday, July 27th** after the 10:30 service, Trinity will host a reception celebrating Reggie's years of service here and wishing him well on his retirement. Well known and loved by the whole congregation, Reggie has done much more than tend to Trinity's building and grounds. From the prayer breakfast to Wednesday

nights and youth events, he has played a key part in life at Trinity for nearly 15 years. Father Andy recently sat down with Reggie to ask him a few questions about his time as a Sexton.

When did you start working at Trinity? It was October 2010.

How did you become the Sexton? How did you find us? I'm going to put it by the grace of the Lord. Before I came to Trinity, I was working nights at the Walmart distribution center in Opelika, then at CSU. At Walmart I would go to work at 4 o'clock in the evening, and sometimes I wouldn't get off until 5 or 6 o'clock in the morning. At that time my son had just been born, the price of gas went through the roof, and working nights got really tough. So I just started praying, and one day I saw an inquiry in the paper, and it turned out it that was here at Trinity. I told my wife, "That would be the perfect job." It was Michelle [Trinity's former cook] who interviewed me and who let me know they'd decided to go with me. I jumped for joy.

How have things changed in your time at Trinity? Things are always changing. So many of the kids who were babies when I first came here are grown now. A whole bunch of youth when I started have come through and are now getting married and having their own kids. When Father Tim started, it was a big boost to this place. People seem busier nowadays, and it does seem harder to get involved than it used to. But things keep changing.

What are some of your favorite memories? It's always special when we give out gifts, hoodies and gloves, to the folks who come to the prayer breakfast around Christmastime. I also always enjoyed the staff retreats we used to do, with days to ourselves and a good chance to eat, drink and really get to know each other.

You know Trinity's building inside and out. Do you have a favorite spot? Hollywood is a good quiet place to go, it's always dark and cool up there. And I like the courtyard a lot, especially when the fountain is running. It's so peaceful.

What's something you're looking forward to about retirement? I don't want to do too much. I know I'll miss work at times, but I also know I won't get bored. I can't wait to just relax and go fishing, take short trips. I told my friend the other day, "When I retire, let's be like the old men who sit in our rocking chairs, watch the cars go by, and enjoy the sunshine." That sounds good to me.

Who is Jesus for you right now? To me Jesus is my number one. I put him first in just about anything I do. When I was young, I liked going to church. I loved it. I joined the church when I was about 13 and was part of a bunch of young men who formed a group, we called ourselves the Crusaders, and we've all stayed in touch. I went to Catholic school, and also became an usher. Jesus has always been there with me, and so it's meant a lot to work in the church. And I've enjoyed it so much.

