



# 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

October 2025

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## From the Rector

*The Rev. Dr. Timothy H. Graham*

Dear friends,

Every year around this time, our church invites its members to make a financial pledge for the upcoming year. This invitation and this activity is necessary for church leaders to be able to make important decisions about ministry in the coming months. Our pledge commitment from our members enables us to prepare an operating budget, and to be able to operate the church day by day. There are many expenses involved in ministry here: salaries, building maintenance and repairs, insurance, utility expense, and program expense. These expenses are made possible primarily by financial pledges from our individual church members. We rely on you to make ministry happen here. But, there is another side to stewardship.

Part of stewardship is the understanding each individual Christian should make a response to God in gratitude for all the gifts we have received in our life. When we bring our offerings to the altar each Sunday, we often say these words, "all things come of Thee O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee". This means that we believe what we have received in this life is truly a gift from God. And in response to all of our material blessings, we give back to God a portion of what we have. We give our gift to God in gratitude. Pledging to the church, giving to support the ministry of the church, should be something that we do thoughtfully, prayerfully, and joyfully. It should feel good to make a financial pledge to the church. It should make us feel that we are a part of everything that happens here, that we belong here, that we are a part of this church family, that our gift, regardless of how much, makes a difference. Our gifts should be joyfully given to God and for the spread of God's kingdom.

Very soon you should receive in the mail a letter from your vestry and stewardship committee inviting you to pledge. You will also receive a pledge card. I hope that you will seriously consider making a pledge to the church and return your card to the church as soon as possible. If you have made a yearly pledge to Trinity in the past, we are very grateful for your support. If you are able to increase your pledge, that would be most helpful, as expenses continue to rise each year. If you have never made a pledge here in the past, we invite you to do so this year. This is not a legally binding contract - you can change your pledge at any time. But knowing that you intend to make a financial gift each week or each month allows us to more responsibly make decisions here that involve money and commitment. Stewardship is about money, time and talent. We appreciate all of the things that you all do to make ministry happen here. That includes your financial gifts, pledges, and also the ways in which you volunteer and contribute to the common life of this church. May God bless us all as we contemplate our response to what God has done for us as we participate in the stewardship campaign.

God bless you all.

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**

Claire Berry  
Bruce & Gabe Clouser  
Jack & Peggy Collins  
Joyce Curry  
Eliza Ewing  
Sydney Flournoy  
Glenn Haskell  
Karyn Marra  
Meta Rickard  
Dorothy Faye Smith  
Kevin Topping  
George Wade  
Johnny Walden

**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.**

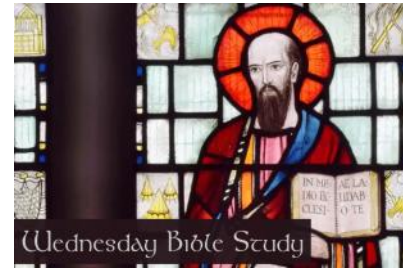
#### **Friends**

The Barria Escobar Family  
Bill Berry  
Nathan Brown  
Sarah Brown  
Amanda Bryan  
Jim Buntin  
Leandra Burke  
Wayne Cartledge  
Dana Cason  
James Cochran  
Fenton Dixon  
Stephanie East  
Jimmy Farr  
Sherry Green  
Angie Hart  
Tom Haskell  
Milton Jones  
Kim Kimbrough  
Buford King  
Chuck Lewis  
Marty McGovern  
Martha Bone Meeks  
Tatum Norris  
Ruth Pattison  
Jay Pease  
Andrew Pillar  
Paul Rickard  
Becky Rumer  
Hadley Scott  
Pete Scott  
Grady Simpson  
Bryan Waters  
Sam Wells  
Howard Willis



### **Adult Bible Study: Ephesians**

*Beginning October 15th*



*In Christ Jesus, you are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

*Ephesians 2:22*

Starting October 15th, the Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study will begin a six-week Bible study of St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Written by Paul while he was imprisoned, the letter to the Ephesians is a vision of the powerful new reality of Jesus Christ, and the mission of the church to grow into that reality together. Together we will read Ephesians chapter by chapter and discuss its meaning for the life of faith today.

Trinity's Adult Bible Study meets over coffee on Wednesdays at 10:00 in the Parlor. Hope to see you there!

### **Saint Francis Sunday**

*October 5th*



Trinity's Saint Francis Fund was founded in 1993, and through its work over \$3 million has been given "to nurture, sustain and affirm programs and projects... that speak to the despair, suffering, anger and need in the lives of so many." The fund is named for Saint Francis of Assisi, who renewed the church in his time by committing himself to a life of humility, poverty, and compassionate service. Francis is famous for loving animals, and he is the patron saint of all animals and the natural environment.

The St. Francis Fund Committee is made up of Trinity parishioners, and is once again accepting grant applications to support local organizations and projects working for the good of health, human welfare, human rights, and evangelism. If you or someone you know might be interested in applying, please visit [trinityepiscopalchurch.com/the-saint-francis-fund/](http://trinityepiscopalchurch.com/the-saint-francis-fund/) to learn more and download this year's application.

**On Sunday, October 5th**, Trinity will celebrate the spirit of Saint Francis and the work of the Saint Francis Fund, in honor of Francis' feast day (Oct. 4th), with a special "Blessing of the Pets" service at **1:30 p.m.** All are invited to bring your beloved cats, dogs, and other pets, or their photographs, to the pet blessing on October 5th, as we give thanks for the splendor of "this fragile earth, our island home," and the joy God's creatures bring to our lives.

**Wilkinson Welcoming Committee**  
*New Ministry Seeks Greeters*

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH   
*welcomes you*

This past month, a new ministry began at Trinity to welcome parishioners and visitors to all our Sunday services. The Welcoming Committee is named in honor of George and Judy Wilkinson, who for many years greeted people at the front doors of the church. Now members of the Welcome Committee are serving in teams of greeters to cheerfully welcome people as they arrive. Their purpose is to extend warmth and hospitality and let people know that Trinity's doors are wide open to them. Welcomers get to know newcomers by name, familiarize them with our church facility, and answer any questions they may have. Presently, the Wilkinson Welcoming Committee has eleven members serving on a rotating basis on a particular Sunday of the month. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Evelyn Stahl at 706-566-6874, or Bill Stahl at 706-325-2606 for details.

**Adult Sunday School: Faith Forum**  
*Beginning October 19*

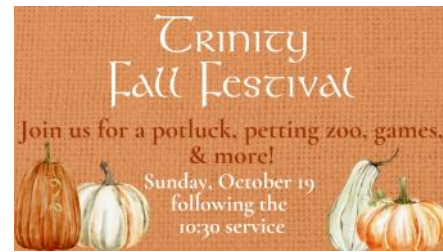


*Who most shaped your faith in God? When was a time your faith was challenged, and how did the experience lead to growth? How is the Good News of Jesus changing how you live each day? Where are the places you are seeking after God— and where has God sought after you?*

On **Sunday, October 19th** during the Sunday School hour, Trinity will begin a special six-week class featuring stories of transformation and witness from Trinity parishioners. Each week, we will invite a member of Trinity to briefly share the story of a significant moment in their faith journey. Then we will pair up for a brief conversation about God, religion, and the meaning of our lives. You are invited to come and find a deeper knowledge of some of the people sitting next to you in the pews during church.

If you have a story of faith you'd be willing to share during the Sunday School hour, please reach out to Father Tim or Father Andy ASAP. Adult Sunday School begins at 9:30am in the Parlor— all are welcome!

**Trinity Fall Festival**



Mark your calendars and bring your appetite- Trinity's Fall Festival is happening on **Sunday, October 19th!** We'll kick things off with a potluck lunch immediately following worship, and we invite everyone to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Once lunch wraps up, the festivities begin! We have an exciting lineup of family-friendly activities planned for all ages:

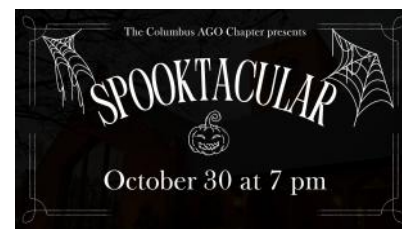
- Petting Zoo in the courtyard — come meet some furry (and maybe a little feathery) friends!
- Craft Station & Face Painting/Tattoos in the Parish Hall — perfect for kids and the young-at-heart.
- Cakewalk — always a crowd favorite! Win a delicious treat to take home.
- Church Connections Bingo — just like regular bingo, but with a fun, community-focused twist. And yes, there will be prizes!

Whether you're new to Trinity or a longtime member, this is a great opportunity to enjoy food, fun, and fellowship in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere.

Want to help? We're looking for donations for the cakewalk — homemade or store-bought treats are both welcome and appreciated.

We can't wait to celebrate the season with you — invite your friends, bring the whole family, and come be part of the fun!"

**The Great Spooktacular**  
*AGO Concert October 30th*



On **Thursday, October 30th at 7pm**, Trinity will host this region's chapter of the American Guild of Organists for a frightfully special concert: THE GREAT SPOOKTACULAR. Chills and thrills are sure to abound as the lights are lowered, Trinity's organ console takes center stage, and the most talented organists in our area perform haunting favorites from across different eras of music. People of all ages are invited to come to this free concert, and get in the Halloween spirit!

# FALL 2025 AT TRINITY

## OCTOBER

1 - WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER - 6 PM

5 - FIRST SUNDAY FUNDAY - FOLLOWING THE 10:30  
SERVICE

5 - BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

15 - BIBLE STUDY ON EPHESIANS BEGINS - 10 AM

19 - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: FAITH FORUM BEGINS -  
9:30 AM

19 - FALL FESTIVAL & POTLUCK LUNCH - FOLLOWING THE  
10:30 SERVICE

30 - AGO ORGAN SPOOKTACULAR - 7 PM

## NOVEMBER

2 - FIRST SUNDAY FUNDAY - FOLLOWING THE 10:30  
SERVICE

5 - WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER - 6 PM

9 - ANGLICAN HERITAGE SUNDAY

16 - POTLUCK LUNCH - FOLLOWING THE 10:30 SERVICE