

2020 Ministry Vision

At Trinity our goal is to grow in faith, strengthen families, energize the church and reach out to the community.

In the coming months we are restructuring the way we worship, study, and gather in order to more deeply grow in faith, strengthen families, energize the church, and connect with our community.

Here's how we are going to do it:

Vital Worship will be the focus on Sunday mornings.

Spiritual Growth will be the focus on Sunday evenings.

And **Community Life** will be the focus on Wednesdays.



The reason why:

More Trinity children do not worship at all than those who do.
Parents are asked to do competing things at the same time.
We seem to be working at cross purposes, without coordination.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers . . . Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

(Acts 2:42,46-47, New Revised Standard Version)



TRINITY
United Methodist Church

The Changes

What will not change: Same reverence for God.
Same Gospel message.
Same love and warmth that is Trinity.
Same commitment to missions and service.
Sunday morning worship times.
Adult Sunday School.

What will change: The way we disciple Kids and Students.
Some elements of worship.
The way we gather for community.
Kids and Students Sunday School

Sunday Morning: Vital Worship

Our Sunday morning worship times will stay the same but our services will change a bit. Three services each with much in common but each with its own personality.

8:15

Our Early Service at 8:15 will become a relaxed, liturgical service. It will still be traditional, but with changes and a variety of music. It will be a 45 minute service ending at 9:00. Kids will worship in the sanctuary with their families.

9:30

Our Modern Service at 9:30 will continue to be it's joyful, energetic self with weekly communion, combining the ancient with the modern. Kids will worship at Kids Church in the chapel.

11:00

Our Traditional Service at 11:00 will remain liturgical with some tweaking and enhanced musical offerings. Kids will begin worship in the sanctuary and then will move to Kids Church in the chapel.

Students will worship at their preferred service and will then be encouraged to help serve at a service in a second hour in such ways as: acolytes, choir, band, ushers, greeters, or helping lead Kids Church.

Sunday Evenings: Spiritual Growth

Classes and Fellowship Opportunities for Kids, Students, and Adults from 5:30-7:00 PM

Kids



Utilizing the "Grow Curriculum," we will create a space for kids to learn Bible stories, play together, and further develop relationships in small groups.

Students



Through small groups and confirmation students will find community and begin taking ownership of their spiritual life.

Adults



Adults will have the opportunity to grow and connect through classes offered by leaders within our community. We will also hold our membership classes and provide nursery care.

Wednesday Focus on Community Life (Coming in March of 2020)

We will offer weekly programming for Kids and Middle Schoolers: game nights, times for worship and reflection, mission projects, kids choir rehearsal, and more. This creates space for parents to connect as we intentionally form adult small groups on- or off-site.

"The Table"

A once a month, intergenerational worship gathering on Wednesday evenings with a focus on building community and small groups. We will share a meal, worship together through song, prayer, and devotion, before celebrating communion. Then, kids and students will break for their usual midweek fellowship time, while adults engage in discussion. Each service will aim to strengthen our small group ministries and encourage guests to get connected. This monthly gathering affords families the opportunity to worship together, while keeping discussions/activities age appropriate.



The Details

When: On **Sunday, January 5, 2020** our new Sunday schedule begins. Our Wednesday evening "The Table" gatherings will begin in **March of 2020** during the season of Lent.

Kids Ministry

We want to teach our young people to worship; therefore, there will no longer be Sunday School for Kindergarten through 5th grade on Sunday mornings. Spiritual growth opportunities for kids will transition to Sunday evenings.

Kids Church is a place for kids to learn how to worship God through singing, praying, and exploring the Bible together — all while developing relationships with their peers and leaders. (K-5th)

Infant through Preschool nurseries will be unchanged.

Student Ministry

We want to engage middle and high school students in worship, as a result there will no longer be Sunday School for 6-12th grade students on Sunday mornings. Students will worship at their preferred service, and if present for a second hour will experience what it means to be a leader by serving.

Sunday evenings will continue (with food) to be an engaging time of belonging and community for our students but with a more intentional focus on spiritual growth and their relationship with Jesus Christ in small groups.

Adult Ministry

Sunday evenings will see a steady stream of 4-6 week classes taught by pastors and church leaders. Membership Pathway classes and gatherings will also meet at this time. Childcare will be provided each week.

Small Groups Ministry

A small group is an intentional, Christ-centered gathering where people share life together, grow in the likeness of Jesus, and invite others to join them on the journey. The Trinity staff will resource small groups with weekly readings, church-wide discussion questions, and group guides for meaningful conversations. This ministry will launch in March. Small groups may meet at any time, but on Wednesday evenings childcare, kids and student programs will be provided.

Answers to Your Questions

What about my Sunday School Class?

Adult Sunday School classes will continue to be free to gather when they choose. We anticipate some remaining on Sunday mornings and others to transition into Small Groups at other times/places throughout the week. Kids/Students Sunday School classes will no longer meet on Sunday mornings as of January 5, 2020.

Will my kids/students like it?

YES! We are excited about the opportunities for Kids Church on Sunday mornings where kids will learn and experience God in age-appropriate ways. We are also excited to see students participate more fully in all aspects of Worship. Sunday nights, once reserved only for students, will now be full of fun and experiences for all ages as we grow together as the body of Christ.



Our Sunday nights are already very busy.

The most important thing your child can learn is to worship.

We understand the schedules and busyness of our families, so there are choices to be made. We believe that God is so important to your child's life that offering an opportunity for morning worship and evening education will help foster an ongoing understanding of faith and love for church.

Will there really be communion every week at the Modern Service? Why?

To put it simply, it's what Jesus told us to do. John Wesley (the founder of Methodism) fully believed in and practiced regular communion and directed his North American elders to offer communion weekly. There is a growing sense of the importance of Word and Table. It allows for us to experience Jesus with our senses in a different and important way. Many new and growing United Methodist churches celebrate weekly communion.

Why do Wednesday changes not begin until March?

These changes and ministries involve a tremendous amount of planning and work. We have to get it right!

What about food?

This is a piece of the puzzle that we are still working on figuring out. Food has always been a part of youth group on Sunday nights and that will continue. We are working on the details of the rest.

What's Next

Over the next few weeks you will hear more about these changes in various forms. We will hold a town hall style Informational meeting after worship on **Sunday, December 8**, to talk through the changes. We have produced several videos answering some of the questions we anticipate you having and plan to use these on our website and through our social media accounts. We will continue to update our website with changes and post updates in our weekly "The Connection" email.

Stay up-to-date and learn more here: trinityumc.net/2020changes