# On TAP

MAGAZINE

FALL/WINTER 2025 |
ISSUE 5

## Life Together at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church

Take a peek at what
God is doing at TAPC!



Trusting God.

Living in Christ.

Loving All!



## FROM PASTOR KATIE

*Dear Friends,*

Welcome to the adventure of faith and formation at Trinity Avenue, and thank you for enlarging the joy, wholeness and witness of this church with your presence in it!

Whether you are a long-time member or first-time visitor, we receive you as family and are grateful to have this opportunity to welcome you home.

Within the pages of this little periodical are snapshots of significance; gathering points where individuals who are navigating the winding path of faith and life come together as one in the name of growing and grounding in God's love.

Each ministry team, small group, worship gathering, extension of support and compassion and act of outreach, public witness, and play noted here is a source of meaning-making for those who dive in.

Wherever you are in your thinking about faith or feelings about church in general (or Trinity Avenue in particular), and in whatever wonderful way God's own image is reflected to the world through your unique sense of self, purpose, identity, history, gifts and story, there is a place for you here. All that we do is, and will be, more meaningful with you.

By taking the time and energy to read these lines, you are already shaping this church's narrative for God's greater good. Thank you! To the extent that you are ready for more –more heart-expanding experiences, more richness in ever-deepening community,
more discovery about yourself and the dynamics of Durham in mission, more people in your life to share laughter with and to help shoulder the load–we are ready too.

In over thirteen years of ministry at Trinity Avenue, I can say that this moment in our life together finds me more excited about what God is doing in our midst than I have ever been. And that is truly saying something.

May God bless you as you discern the nature and scope of your involvement, and discover for yourself the wonderful work of the Holy Spirit at hand.

In Hope,

KATIE CROWE
SENIOR PASTOR

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927 W. Trinity Ave, Durham 27701
**Church Office:** 919-682-3865

**Website:**
TrinityAve.org

# CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Church offices mentioned in the New Testament which our church has maintained include those of presbyters and deacons ("presbyters" include ministers of the Word and Sacrament–aka pastors–and elders).

The elders make up the main governing body of the congregation; this body is called the session. The session is responsible for the mission and government of our particular church.

The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. At TAPC the deacons oversee the care, fellowship, greeters and ushers, and the welcoming of people into the life of the congregation.

## Session Elders

At any given time, TAPC has 15 elders on session. Elders serve three-year terms and each year a class of five new elders is elected to replace five outgoing elders. Those currently serving are listed below, with the class year designating when their service culminates.

**Class of 2026**

- Kirsten Berlin
- Ruth Petrea
- Randy Ray
- Fletcher Wilson

**Class of 2027**

- Carl Badger
- Robyn Gunn
- Jim Kinney
- Brian Murphy

**Class of 2028**

- Robin Barefoot
- Madeleine Lee
- Domenick Rella
- Elizabeth Welliver Hengen
- Steve Yova

## Diaconate

As with elders, at any given time TAPC has 15 deacons. Deacons serve three-year terms and each year a class of five new deacons is elected to replace five outgoing ones. Those currently serving are listed below, with the class year designating when their service culminates.

**Class of 2026**

- Elizabeth Goacher
- Ralph Gunderson
- Larry Hethcox
- Sylvia Wilson

**Class of 2027**

- Joan Cates
- Carolyn Dillon
- Susie Gilbert
- Cindy Kinney
- Susie Post-Rust

**Class of 2028**

- Donna Battista
- Jennifer Harrison
- Anna Jenkins
- James Lambert
- Bobby Lee



# OUR STAFF



## Reverend Dr. Katie Crowe

*Senior Pastor*

kcrowe@trinityave.org

Katie supports the ministries and witness of the church by stewarding its community, culture, conscience and commitments and resourcing its staff and members as they seek to do the same as expressions of their discipleship.



## Reverend Emily Wilkes

*Associate Pastor of Public Witness*

ewilkes@trinityave.org

Emily, as the Associate Pastor for Public Witness, deepens the discipleship, education, and spiritual formation of TAPC members and expands the integration of the church into the fabric of the neighborhood and the Durham community at large by providing strategic pastoral support to mission, outreach, community organizing, and civic engagement efforts.



## Elizabeth Daly

*Director of Music Ministries*

edaly@trinityave.org

Elizabeth deepens the relationship of the family of faith at Trinity Avenue with each other, the Durham community, and God by providing for music in worship and integrating musicality into the broader life, mission, and ministries of the congregation.



## Jenni Albright

*Director of Children's & Youth Ministries*

jalbright@trinityave.org

Jenni focuses on the children and teenagers of the congregation and their families. She organizes opportunities for them to worship, grow in friendship with each other, grow in Biblical knowledge, grow through serving others, and grow in their identity as beloved children of God and of this congregation.



## Grace Wakeman

*Director of Emergency Assistance and Director of Media Ministry*

gwakeman@trinityave.org

Grace oversees the TAPC Walk-in Ministry and Assistance program, as well as produces our Sunday livestream, managing the technical aspects of worship; audio, video, and assistive listening.

# OUR STAFF



### Tina Petrillo

*Business Manager*

tpetrillo@trinityave.org

Tina supports the back-office processes that empower the ministries of Trinity Avenue, including running payroll, paying bills and contractor invoices, and generating financial reports.




### David Steinbrenner

*Communication Coordinator*

dsteinbrenner@trinityave.org

David is the creative mind behind all of our publications and the connective tissue that helps members and community partners experience the hospitality of Christ as they connect to our physical space and to each other.



### Brian Javins

*Property Manager*

bjavins@trinityave.org

Brian, as Property Manager, is the newest addition to the TAPC staff team. Brian oversees and implements the repair and maintenance of the church and Weekday School facilities, ensuring they are safe, functional, and aesthetically pleasing spaces ready to support the life and ministries of the church.



### Lori Hardin

*Director of the Weekday School*

lhardin@trinityave.org

Lori, as Director of the Weekday School, oversees the enrollment and operations of this half-day preschool that supports children ages 1-4. Lori is TAPC's longest-tenured staff member, serving the Weekday School for over thirty years!

# OUR History

## WHO WE ARE

Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church was organized in 1921 from roots extending back to 1894. Located two blocks from Duke University's East Campus in Trinity Park, it is an active church whose members come from a wide spectrum of ages, interests, and occupations.

The sense of mission and purpose expressed in the covenant of organization dated May 16, 1921, is still valid and challenging for us today: "...to walk together as disciples of Jesus Christ in a church relationship according to the provisions of the constitution of the Presbyterian Church...to seek in its fellowship to glorify the name and further the cause of our Lord, Jesus Christ."

### Our Roots

In 1894, the Rev. L. B. Turnbull, Minister at First Presbyterian Church in Durham, was instrumental in opening a mission at the Pearl Cotton Mill on Trinity Avenue. It started as a Sunday School for children of mill workers that met in a mill cottage on Washington Street; adult Sunday School classes began to meet as well. A year later a chapel was built on the mill property on what is now the southeast corner of Duke St. and Trinity Avenue; it was known as Pearl Mill Chapel. George Watts, one of the original organizers of the American Tobacco Company and the Erwin Cotton Mills Company, and the president of Pearl Cotton Mill, was involved in leading a regular Sunday School class and Friday evening prayer meeting.

In February 1902, Dr. Edward R. Leyburn was installed as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church and quickly became an advocate for the ministry of Pearl Mill Chapel. By December of that same year, the chapel was reorganized as Second Presbyterian Church of Durham.

### New Beginnings: The Birth of Trinity Avenue

From 1919 through 1920 the church's financial situation became weak and workers were so scarce that the Presbytery dissolved the Second Presbyterian Church. However, the work of the church was carried on by means of Sunday School and prayer meetings.

A few remaining loyal members, with the help of three elders from First Church, organized a special revival service. Rev. O.G. Jones, D.D., a Syndical Evangelist, held overwhelmingly successful services from May 9-May 17, 1921. On the evening of May 16, after a sermon by Dr. Jones, the people of the congregation reorganized under the name Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church. Mr. George L. Cooper was called the first full-time minister.

On January 30, 1924, Dr. Henry C. Carr and Mr. Laurance D. Kirkland, Sr. were given the authority to proceed in the exchange of the present church site for a lot on the southeast corner of Trinity Avenue and Gregson Street. Rose and Rose were the architects and N. Underwood was the contractor for the new building for which the cornerstone was laid later in 1924. The first service in the new sanctuary was held Sunday, October 18, 1925.

By grace, what God started here over one-hundred years ago still continues, trusting God, living in Christ, and loving all!

### A BRIEF HISTORY IN OUTLINE





**1894**
First Presbyterian Durham opens Pearl Mill Chapel mission church on SE corner of Duke St & Trinity Ave at the Pearl Cotton Mill.

**1902**
Pearl Mill Chapel reorganized as a regular church and named Second Presbyterian.







**1917**
Second Presbyterian moves from Mill site to double lot on the SW side of Duke St & Trinity Ave, just east of the church's present-day location.

**1921**
Following revival and membership drive, May 16, church reorganized as Trinity Avenue Presbyterian.



*Rev. George L. Cooper, 1st TAPC Pastor*



*First Presbyterian, 1917*

**1924**
In a show of support, fifty-plus members of First Presbyterian move their membership to Trinity.

**1925**
Sun Oct 18, first service in new building. Working with Pearl Mill in 1924, TAPC exchanged lots and built the current sanctuary on SE corner of Trinity Ave and Gregson St.



*TAPC, 1926*



# JOIN US *for Worship*

## Service Times

Our Sunday worship service is at 10am in the main sanctuary.

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT ON A SUNDAY MORNING?

### How long are Trinity Avenue worship services and what are they like?

Our 10am worship service is approximately one hour long. We meet in the sanctuary, a space that embodies the beauty one might expect from a house of worship with stained glass windows, classic woodwork, and a wonderful organ and choir. Our service is warm, alive, and welcoming to all worshipers and seekers. As with many aspects of our life together, in worship, we hold tradition and innovation as complementary values.

### How often is communion celebrated?

We celebrate the Lord's Supper every Sunday during the 10am worship service.

### Do you have Sunday School classes?

Our regular Sunday School hour is from 11:30am-12:15pm, after our morning worship service, and 9am seasonally. We offer a diverse range of Sunday School classes available to deepen your understanding and faith and to connect with others in a meaningful way. To find more information about Sunday School classes and other upcoming church events, please explore our website's Events calendar at: TrinityAve.org/Events.

**Ruth Bible Study |** Sundays starting Sept 14, 9-9:50am, Parlor
Join us for a 4-week study on the book of Ruth, read through the lens of social issues like immigration, housing and food insecurity, climate change, safety nets, and more.
**For more info:** Sarah Musser at sarah.musser@duke.edu.

**It's All A Gift: Exploring the Spirituality of Stewardship|** Sundays (Oct 26-Nov 16), TAPC Parlor
Gather for a Biblical, theological, and spiritual exploration into our relationship with money and giving as disciples.
**For more info:** Katie Crowe at kcrowe@trinityave.org or Emily Wilkes at ewilkes@trinityave.org

### What is available for children on a Sunday morning?

While children are always welcome to attend our morning worship service, we have a few other Sunday morning opportunities for them to engage in.

- **Childcare:** Ages 3 & under
- **Spark Worship:** Ages 4 - Kindergarten
- **Godly Play Children's Worship:** 1st - 2nd Grade
- **Bridge Worship:** 3rd - 5th Grade
- **Y-TAP! Youth Group:** 5th - 12th Grade

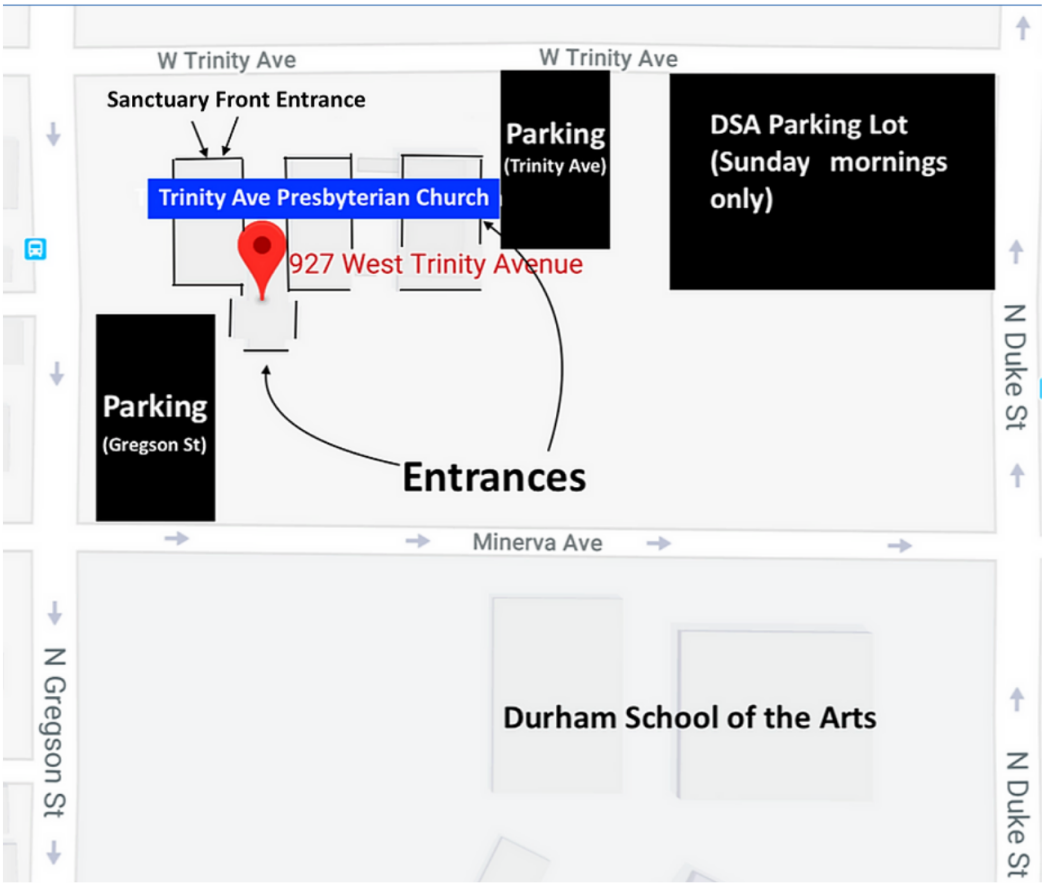
## LOCATION & PARKING

# **Address |** 927 W. Trinity Ave, Durham

We are on the southeast corner of Trinity Ave and Gregson St.

**Parking is available in 4 convenient locations:**

- Gregson St lot
- Trinity Ave lot
- On the street in front of the church on Trinity Ave
- DSA parking lot accessible from Duke St and from Trinity Ave (SUNDAYS ONLY)




# **More Info |** TrinityAve.org/worship










# WHO WE ARE

## Worship | 10am in the Sanctuary

Worship is the foundation upon which our life together as the Body of Christ takes shape. We worship not as the culmination of our expressions of faith, but as a practice that shapes us to be Christ's disciples in the world.

Worship in the Reformed tradition involves three primary elements:

**Gathering**
We gather together in the name of God. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship through music, calling ourselves to worship, praying together, contemplative reflection, confession of brokenness, the assurance of Christ's love & forgiveness, and greeting one another in the peace of Christ.

**Proclaiming**
We proclaim the Word of God, revealed most fully in the person of Jesus Christ and received through the movement of the Holy Spirit. We pray for the Spirit to illuminate our understanding, open our hearts to the Word as read through Scripture, and hear the Good News of God proclaimed in the sermon.

**Sending**
Having gathered as the body of Christ and opened ourselves to being transformed by the proclamation of the Word, we are sent into the world in love and hope. We share opportunities to give of our times, talents, and treasures in an invitation to discipleship, collectively affirm our faith, partake of the abundance of communion, and receive a benediction to be the church in the world.

## Mission Statement

These three elements of our worship reflect the mission statement of our church:

**Trusting God**, cultivating a life of faith formation, personal reflection, and mindful prayer. We take the same posture of reflection and prayer during the gathering in worship in these spaces.

**Living in Christ,** attuning our hearts to Christ's presence in our midst as we open ourselves to formation in community and growing together in faith. We see Christ in one another and live into the opportunity to be the body of Christ through fellowship with one another. We proclaim the Word of God to one another in our breaking bread, in our fellowship, and our sharing of life together as the Body of Christ.

**Loving all,** turning our attention to how the Spirit moves in the world, asking ourselves how we can most faithfully embody God's love through love of our neighbors. Our love for one another spills outward into the wider community, embracing and loving all!

*The opportunities to plug into the church are each related to these areas. While the gatherings themselves may not fall into perfectly neat lines - Bible studies are also important and beautiful spaces for fellowship! - we hope this is a helpful springboard for deeper engagement within the life of the church.*

# TRUSTING GOD

*Developing discipleship through Bible studies, classes, and opportunities to deepen a life of prayer, devotion, and contemplation.*

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT FORMATION

### Centering Prayer | Fridays on Zoom, 12pm-12:30pm

Gather with Pastor Katie for a taste of interior and exterior silence in community using the method of Centering Prayer. No experience necessary! Centering Prayer invites use of a Sacred Word to assist you in ever-so-gently keeping thoughts at bay, deepening holy rest and expanding your heart through consent to God's presence and action within.

**For more info:** Contact Rev. Dr. Katie Crowe at kcrowe@trinityave.org

### Monday Morning Manna (M3) | Mondays on Zoom, 8am-8:30am

Start your week with 30 minutes of soul food, relationship building and spiritual practice on Zoom with Pastor Katie. Formats vary by week and liturgical season and range from shared reflection and discussion to contemplative immersion through various media and prayer. Charge up your batteries for a week of discipleship in the mission field of life!

**For more info:** Contact Rev. Dr. Katie Crowe at kcrowe@trinityave.org

### Prayer Team

We have a new offering to support the TAPC community in taking Apostle Paul's invitation to "be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God." During the time for communion of worship, members of our Prayer Team are positioned in the sanctuary entrance to those who feel led to share requests. If you'd like to join the prayer team, please reach out!

**For more info:** Susie Post-Rust at susie@susiepostrust.com or Madeleine Lee at madleeinlove2@gmail.com

### Wednesdays Morning Men's Group: Friendship, Faith, Doubt, and Humor | Wednesdays, 9-10:30am, Connect & Deepen Rm (2nd Floor)

Men of the church are invited to join others each week for sharing highs and lows, reflecting on God and faith, sipping coffee, and indulging one another's corny jokes.

**For more info:** Contact Jim Petrea at jimpetrea48@gmail.com

## **Sermon Talk Back Live |** Sunday Mornings, 11:30am-12:15pm, Trinity Classroom

Join Pastor Katie for friendship building and Bible study around the sermon scripture lesson for the day. Explore the linguistic, contextual and theological settings of the passage, and enjoy group discussion around its application for life and discipleship today. The first Sunday of each month this class will participate in the fellowship hour in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

**For more info:** Contact Rev. Dr. Katie Crowe at kcrowe@trinityave.org

## **Present Parents |** 1st Sunday of each month, 11:15am-12:15pm, Meet in the TAPC Parlor and often transition to a local restaurant for church-sponsored brunch.

This is a monthly opportunity for any interested parents of children age 0 - 18 to gather for food, fellowship and faith formation aimed at deepening the ability to be a present parent, in the assurance of God's presence with you. Check in any children in need of supervision with the childcare team at the Nursery for any children needing supervision.

**For more info:** Contact Rev. Dr. Katie Crowe at kcrowe@trinityave.org

## **Philippians Bible Study and Prayer Group |** 3rd Wednesday each month, Sept - May, 7:15pm - 8:30pm in the Parlor

This group will be studying the book of Philippians in 2025-26, using the N.T. Wright "For Everyone" Bible Study Guide called Philippians: 8 Studies for Individuals and Groups series. Come discuss a scripture passage, enjoy a dessert, and spend a little time in prayer together.

**For more info:** Contact Madeleine Lee at madleeinlove2@gmail.com

## **Bread for the Journey |** Mondays on Zoom, 11am-12pm

Gather with Pastor Emily for a Bible study diving into the scripture passage that serves as the basis for the following Sunday's sermon. Rooted in Lectio Divina, this study is an opportunity to allow the coming Sunday's Word to simmer in your heart before hearing it proclaimed from the pulpit.

**For more info:** Contact Rev. Emily Wilkes at ewilkes@trinityave.org







# FORMATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

## Nursery (Age 0 - 3) | Sundays, 9:45am - 11:15am, Nursery Room F102 & F107 on Weekday School Hall

Children ages 0 - 3 are invited to enjoy the gifts of our wonderful Childcare Associates in the Nursery on Sunday mornings. Sign in your child(ren) on the Weekday School hall between 9:45am and 10am on Sundays, and pick them up after worship. Of course, they are welcome in the sanctuary as well if that works better for you.

**For more info:** Contact Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org

## Spark Children's Worship (Age 4 - Kindergarten) | Sundays, 10am, Playground & Classroom F117 on Weekday School Hall

The Spark Children's Worship group gathers on the playground on Sunday mornings (drop-off is from 9:45am-10am, and sign-in is at the playground gate). From there, adult leaders escort the children to their classroom to read and engage a Bible story from the Spark Story Bible. Children are then brought to the sanctuary to sit with their families for communion and the close of the worship service. The Bible stories in this class follow a two-year rotation. Each year, from September - November, we read stories from the Hebrew scriptures. The Advent and Christmas season brings news of Jesus's birth, and in January - March we focus on stories from the life of Jesus. After Easter, we read stories about the early followers of Jesus.

**For more info:** Contact Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org

## Godly Play Children's Worship (Grades 1 and 2) | Sundays, 10am, Playground and Classroom F107 on Weekday School Hall

The Godly Play Children's Worship group gathers on the playground (9:45 - 10am, drop-off and sign-in at the playground gate). From there, the adult leaders escort the children to their classroom around 10:10 to follow a worship routine of their own (Call to Worship, Passing the Peace of Christ, Lighting the Christ candle) that includes Proclaiming the Word through a form of Bible storytelling (Godly Play) where the adult leader reads a script while moving around wooden characters on a felt floor mat. After engaging with a Bible story in this way and creating space for the children to respond, the adult leaders escort the children to the sanctuary (after the sermon ends) to join the rest of the congregation for communion. The Bible stories in this class follow a two-year rotation, with few repeated stories. The stories come from these two books:

- **Year 1:** Young Children and Worship by Sonja Stewart and Jerome Berryman (Old Testament and New Testament stories)
- **Year 2:** Following Jesus by Sonja Stewart (New Testament only)

**For more info:** Contact Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org

## **Bridge Worship (Grades 3 - 5) |** Sundays, 10am, Playground and Classroom E205 on upstairs education hall

The Bridge Worship group gathers on the playground (9:45 - 10am, they sign themselves in at the playground gate). From there, they go to their classroom with their adult leader around 10:10 to follow a worship routine of their own that includes reading and discussing a scripture text from the lectionary (a three-year cycle of scripture passages). As an intro to the scripture passage, they watch a short Whirl Lectionary video, published by Sparkhouse. After this, the children and their adult leader return to the sanctuary (after the sermon ends) to join the rest of the congregation for communion.

**For more info:** Contact Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org

## **Y-TAP Youth Group (Grades 5 - 12) |** Sundays mid-Sept – May, 11:15am - 12:15pm, Fellowship Hall, Classroom E205

Y-TAP (Youth of Trinity Avenue Presbyterian) Youth Group meets following the 10am worship service. The youth and their adult advisors gather in the upstairs Youth Room from 11:15am - 12:15pm for various activities which may include service projects, lessons, and games depending on the week. Dismissal is at 12:15pm to the Carr Narthex and Gregson Street parking lot. The Youth Group also has opportunities to participate in occasional evening events, weekend retreats, and summer conferences, outlined in the Y-TAP weekly newsletter.

**For more info:** Contact Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org







# LIVING IN CHRIST

*Growing in Christian Friendship Together*

## Presbyterian Women Circles | 2nd Monday of each month (Sept-May)

*Presbyterian Women (PW) meet regularly through two study groups which are called PW Circles. Circle members and guests participate in Bible study, prayer, and various service projects supporting individuals in our church and community. They also maintain connections with our TAPC homebound members.*

- **Circle of Hope & Friendship |** 10am, TAPC Parlor

  **For more info:** Contact Marie Grauerholz (mariegrauerholz@yahoo.com) and Carol van Hise (carolvanhise@yahoo.com)

- **Circle of Faith |** 7pm via Zoom

  **For more info:** Contact Jane Harper at janeeharper@yahoo.com

## Prayer Shawl & Knitting Group | 1st Tuesday each month, 11:30am-12:30pm, TAPC Narthex

Bring your needlework projects, or simply come to visit!

**For more info:** Contact Ruth Petrea at ruthpetrea@gmail.com

## Widows Support Group | 2nd Tuesday each month, 5:30pm, Zoom

This group meets to offer support to one another through sharing of concerns, joys, and life in general. We welcome any widow with open arms.

**For more info:** Contact Martha Aitken at martaitken@aol.com

## Creativity and Faith Team | Meeting dates & times vary

If you have gifts for artistry or are simply interested in helping TAPC deepen its faith and spirituality through creative exploration and expression ranging from visual arts to movement, poetry, music, and public art projects, this new team is for you! Our upstairs art space has provided a blank canvas for children, youth and adults to learn iconography, watercolor, psalm writing and more. Come share your ideas!

**For more info:** Contact Rev. Dr. Katie Crowe at kcrowe@trinityave.org







## Fellowship Ministry Team | Meet once or twice a year to plan for next 6 months to 1 year. Varies with the season, contact Mary Gunderson to be added to the group email!

The Fellowship Ministry Team plans, schedules, and implements a variety of fellowship events and activities for people with multiple interests and ages. Our team is FUN, and new members are always welcome!

### Standing Events include:

- **Congregational Breakfasts:** Gather in the Fellowship Hall from 9:15am-9:45am on the first Sunday of the month for a hot breakfast with your family of faith. **For more info:** Ralph Gunderson at gunderson2065@gmail.com
- **Brunch Bunch** is the last Sunday of the month. Join TAPC friends at 11:15am in the Carr Narthex and then head out to brunch together. Participants will choose the restaurant each month, and the Fellowship Team will provide a leader for each month. Questions? Contact: Cindy Kinney at cndknn53@gmail.com

# GLORIFYING GOD IN WORSHIP

## Worship Ministry Team | 4th Monday each month, 6:30pm, Tuthill Conference

The Worship team shepherds the worshiping life of the congregation, supporting practical elements of worship and exploring ways to help members grow in their faith, all with a theological lens of worship in the Reformed tradition.
**For more info:** Contact Jenny Peters at jjp8@duke.edu

## Trinity Choir | Wednesday evenings, 6-8pm, in Choir Room

Are you in 7th grade or above? Come be part of our vibrant musical community, experience diverse expressions of faith, and deepen your spiritual life through the beauty and joy of choral music. All levels of experience are welcome. Whether this is your first musical experience, or you are a seasoned musician— we have a seat for you in the choir, where you'll find great music, friendship, and fun! Throughout the school year, the choir meets weekly and will always welcome additional singers to the choir family.

**For more info:** Contact Elizabeth Daly at edaly@trinityave.org

## Voice Lessons | Once a month Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30pm, in Choir Room

Do you want to learn more about finding and using your individual voice? Our Director of Music Ministries, Elizabeth Daly, is available for one 30 minute private or group voice lesson a month on Wednesdays right before choir rehearsal.

**Email Elizabeth** at edaly@trinityave.org to make an appointment!

## Handbell Choir | Rehearsals Sundays, 11:15am-12:15pm Weekly

Join the Handbell Choir! The handbell choir is a wonderful way to learn to read music and get involved in the musical life of Trinity Avenue. People of all experience levels aged 7+ are welcome as we embark on a joyful music-making experience together!

**For more info:** Contact Elizabeth Daly at edaly@trinityave.org

## Children's Choir | Meets seasonally (see info below)

Are you grades K-5 and love to sing, or are interested in learning? Children's Choir is the place for you! Here we learn the joy of singing, enhance musical understanding through movement, experience the enlivening of our faith through music, enrich music literacy levels, sing as a choir in worship, and have lots and lots of fun! The choir meets seasonally. Contact Elizabeth Daly and/or Jenni Albright to be put on the email list and learn about the next opportunity!

**For more info:** Contact Elizabeth Daly at edaly@trinityave.org and Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org

## Morning TAPC Reads | Various Tuesday mornings, 10am, in the church parlor (see weekly Happenings email for dates)

The Morning TAPC Reads Group gathers to read and review books we love. All are invited to recommend books that have moved, interested, and enriched them and keep up with current best sellers. Members generate titles, and share leadership as discussion facilitators. The book list and schedule are set annually, meeting every other month.

**For more info:** Contact Sally Adkin at sadkin@nc.rr.com

## Evening TAPC Reads | 2nd Tuesday each month, 7pm, in the Parlor

Each month this group gathers to discuss a book recommended by a participant in the group, primarily focusing on fiction from a broad diversity of authors and seeking to draw out theological and biblical insights from the book. Leadership is shared, with different members of the group facilitating discussions.

**For more info:** Contact Chuck Campbell at ccampbell@duke.div.edu

## Children's Ministry Team | 2nd Sunday each month (Sept-May), 11:15am-12:15pm, in Rm F117 on Weekday School hall

This team offers support to the TAPC Children's Ministry by planning opportunities and events that allow families with children who are 5th grade and younger to connect. This team also plans seasonal events (e.g. Nativity pageant, Easter egg hunt) and gives input to guide programming for Children's Worship and Bridge Worship on Sunday mornings.

**For more info:** Contact Susie Gilbert at gilbertgalsanddad@earthlink.net

## Youth Ministry Team | Monthly meeting, details TBD

Members of this team meet periodically to help create the Y-TAP Youth Group calendar of events, review budget/spending, discuss rhythms of youth ministry at a high level, and reflect on what's working and where God is inviting change.

**For more info:** Contact Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org





## Finance Ministry Team | 1st Wednesday each month, 6pm

Entrusted with overseeing the financial health of the congregation along with the Session, the Finance Ministry Team monitors our monthly and annual income and spending, develops means for financial communication within the congregation, and helps ensure that resources are available for mission and capital needs.

**For more info:** Contact Richard Blankenship at richard.p.blankenship@gmail.com

## Sunday Morning Counters

As part of our commitment to faithful stewardship and best practices, each Sunday a team of volunteers counts and records our Sunday morning financial offering and readies it for bank deposit. Signing up to be a counter means raising your hand to be part of a team of three counters who meet on rotation- usually once every few months- after worship to process receipts (time varies on collection- typically averaging 40 minutes).

**For more info:** Contact Susan Ross at sross@mossandross.com

## Endowment Ministry Team

Starting around 1987, the TAPC endowment has grown to include about 30 funds that support the church facilities and expand ministries to the congregation and the community. Preserving and growing the principal, the team serves as stewards of the money entrusted to the church, ensuring that funds are utilized faithfully.

**For more info:** Contact Deirdre Gordon at deirdre.w.gordon@gmail.com

## Property Ministry Team

The Property Ministry Team cares for TAPC's buildings, grounds, and operating systems, ensuring our campus is safe, functional, and welcoming. They handle routine maintenance, oversee major repairs and installations, and manage projects guided by a professional reserve study. Working within the portion of our budget dedicated to facilities, the team also develops an annual Capital Expenditure Plan to steward resources wisely. If you want to help keep our campus running smoothly for all who use it, this is the team for you!

**For more info:** Contact Kenneth Luker at k.luker@archibene.com

## TAPC Personnel Committee

This team is responsible for reviewing personnel policies and supporting TAPC staff needs as they serve the congregation, functioning like a Human Resources team for the church. If you would enjoy supporting the development of our staff and workplace processes and environment, your gifts would be welcome!

**For more info:** Contact Mike Dodge at michaelrdodge@yahoo.com

## Ushers | Sunday mornings

Our TAPC ushers play a crucial role in creating a welcoming atmosphere each Sunday morning. They greet people at the door with warmth, help folks find their way, assist with seating, and ensure that newcomers feel comfortable, included, and oriented within the church. If you have a heart for hospitality, we'd love for you to jump on the Welcome Wagon at TAPC!

**For more info:** Contact Danny Deckard at ddeckard81@gmail.com or Bill Wicker at wwicker3@gmail.com

## Leadership Discernment Ministry Team

Elected by the congregation on three year terms, the LDMT meets seasonally to receive recommendations for nominating potential new members of Session and the Diaconate.

**For more info:** Contact Rev. Dr. Katie Crowe at kcrowe@trinityave.org

## Session

Ordained officers of the church responsible for the governance and administration of the church according to the Book of Order and civil laws. Ruling Elders (named after a measuring stick, as they help measure the church's faithfulness) are elected annually to three year terms.

**For more info:** Contact Caroline Armacost at trinityaveclerk@gmail.com

## Deacons

Ordained officers of the church who support ministries of hospitality, caregiving, strengthening congregational connections, and justice. Deacons are elected annually and serve three year terms.

**For more info:** Ralph Gunderson at gunderson2065@gmail.com and Cindy Kinney at cndknn53@gmail.com

## Meal Support Team

This group of volunteers cook or purchase and deliver a meal to members who are homebound, families with new babies, folks who are battling an illness or an injury, or other members of our congregation in need of a meal. Reach out to Joan Cates at to be placed on the list to learn about needs as they arise!

**For more info:** Contact Joan Cates at joancates@aol.com

## Visitation Team

This team, supported by the Deacons, visits those in our congregation who are homebound or in a hospital or care facility to pray with them, engage in conversation, and help them stay connected to the life and spirit of TAPC. The structure is similar to the meal and transportation support teams, with a list of volunteers who can be contacted as volunteer needs arise. Send an email to Jennifer McGovern to be placed on the list to receive opportunities. This rich ministry will bless you as much as those you visit!

**For more info:** Jennifer McGovern at jmcgov@mindspring.com

## Transportation Ministry

Are you willing and able to transport members to and from church on Sunday mornings, for volunteer opportunities, or to medical appointments during the week? This team connects volunteers with those congregants in need of transportation, enabling them to participate in and contribute to the life of the church. Share your contact information, and you'll be notified as part of a group when needs arise.

**For more info:** Jennifer McGovern at jmcgov@mindspring.com

# LOVING ALL!

*Going into the world to love God through love of our neighbors.*

## Outreach Ministry Team | 1st Wednesday of every month, 7pm

This team stewards TAPC's financial mission giving in the community and helps foster relationships with non-profit partners who are impacting poverty in Durham as an extension of our mission. Your help is welcome and needed!

**For more info:** Pastor Emily Wilkes at ewilkes@trinityave.org

## Public Witness Working Group

This group aims to help members connect their faith with civic engagement and community organizing. They encourage members to grow in faith through practices of advocacy, solidarity, and public witness, fostering the entanglement of the congregation within the broader social fabric of the community.

**For more info:** Pastor Emily Wilkes at ewilkes@trinityave.org

## Emergency Assistance Ministry

The emergency assistance ministry offers encouragement, referrals to community resources, and limited financial assistance for rent and utilities up to $250 per household per calendar year to people who face financial insecurity in Durham.

**For more info:** Contact Grace Wakeman at gwakeman@trinityave.org

## Reconciliation & Re-Entry Faith Teams

Through the Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham, Re-entry Faith Teams form a circle of support for persons returning to society after incarceration. Faith teams gather to build friendships, accompany those navigating the multi-agency web of services, and learn how to develop mutual relationships through storytelling, fellowship, and boundary-setting.

**For more info:** Contact Jim Petrea at jimpetrea48@gmail.com

## Restorative Justice Circle Facilitators

Through the Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham, and in an effort to reduce traditional court cases and produce better outcomes, Restorative Justice circles meet with the person who has been charged with causing harm–as well as the people that have been impacted by the harm–to achieve a repair agreement. The Circle facilitation ensures that all impacted are heard without judgment as they work through the harming event and the ensuing pain to reach the best possible way to move forward and begin the work of mutual healing.

**For more info:** Contact Jim Petrea at jimpetrea48@gmail.com

## TAPC Tiny Pantries

Located on the corner of the parking lot and Gregson Street as well as in the narthex closet, these tiny pantries provide support to passers-by as well as those who come to the church door.

**For more info:** Grace Wakeman at gwakeman@trinityave.org

## Durham CAN Core Team | 3rd Thursday each month, 6-8pm, location announced monthly

Our local community organizing entity, Durham CAN (Congregations Associations and Neighborhoods), creates a vehicle for ordinary people to have a powerful voice in community decisions that affect their lives through principles of faith-based community organizing. Durham CAN is nonpartisan, and works with action teams on specific public-impact and policy issues including affordable housing, living wages, and gun violence. TAPC is a CAN member institution. Our Core Team organizes and strengthens our ability to support the justice work in our community by participating in the relational meetings, conducting research, disseminating important updates, organizing turnout for public actions, and building an institutional culture of trust through our own relational practices as a church.

**For more info:** Contact Matt Smith at hellomattsmith@gmail.com

## Reality Ministries Monthly Dinners | One Monday per month, 6 - 8pm, Fellowship Hall

TAPC partners with The Gathering Church to host Monday Night Dinners for Reality Ministries once per month. Our friends at The Gathering Church do the grocery shopping and the cooking, and TAPC provides the space and the helping hands. TAPC congregants set up and decorate the tables, help serve the meal, and clean up after the meal. If you would like to be part of an evening filled with laughter and love, please reach out!

- **6pm - 7pm** Serve the meal (If enough food, you are welcome to eat too!)
- **7pm - 8pm** Clean up

**For more info:** Contact Jenni Albright at jalbright@trinityave.org

## Emanuel Food Pantry

TAPC is a supporter, both financially and through volunteers, of the Emanuel Food Pantry. Their mission is to provide fresh, nutritious food to families facing food insecurity, with a particular focus on underserved communities. EFP serves 600+ families per week providing each family with a box of fresh fruit and vegetables plus a bag of staples. By providing healthy food, we are addressing the multiple detrimental effects of food insecurity, enhancing personal dignity, and improving health outcomes.

**For more info:** Visit emanuelfoodpantry.org/volunteer
or **c**ontact Mary Gunderson at marycgunderson@gmail.com

## Urban Ministries Durham Community Cafe | 4th Thursday each month, 5-7pm, at Urban Ministries Durham

TAPC serves an evening meal at Urban Ministries Durham to all folks in need on the fourth Thursday of every month. All are welcome to join!

**For more info:** Contact Randy Ray at rray117560@aol.com

## Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Weekday School

Since the mid-1950s, Trinity Avenue Presbyterian has sponsored a Weekday School for young children (ages 1-5) that meets September through mid-May, with a school day of 9am until 12pm. An additional hour of supervision from 12pm - 1pm is available for a fee. We spend a substantial amount of time on the playground each day with a focus on creative play, art activities, and building social and emotional skills.

The online application, tuition information, and more are available at trinityave.org/weekday-school.

**For more info:** Contact Weekday School Director, Lori Hardin, at lhardin@trinityave.org.

# NESTING CHURCH RELATIONSHIPS

*The gifts that God gives are made to be shared! Trinity Avenue is blessed to share space and life together with three formally "nested" church fellowships.*

## Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church | Sundays, 11:30am-2pm, TAPC Chapel

A fellowship of the Nigerian diaspora who holds worship in the Chapel on Sunday mornings.

## Emmaus Way | Sundays, 4-5:30pm, TAPC Chapel

Founded on the values of inclusion and the arts, Pastors Molly and Rebecca hold office space next to the Walltown food pantry on the ground floor, with the congregation gathering in the Chapel.

**Learn more:** emmausway.net

## Farm Church

A "1001 New Worshipping Community" within the Presbyterian Church (USA), Trinity Avenue serves as the anchor charter congregation for Farm Church, which seeks to leverage all the assets of a farm to address food insecurity in Durham. In addition to providing office and classroom space and rainy day worship rooms when Farm Church is not getting their hands dirty in the soil of their garden on Watts & Green Streets and at Seeds, TAPC has provided administrative and financial support to further their ministry.

**Learn more:** farmchurch.org





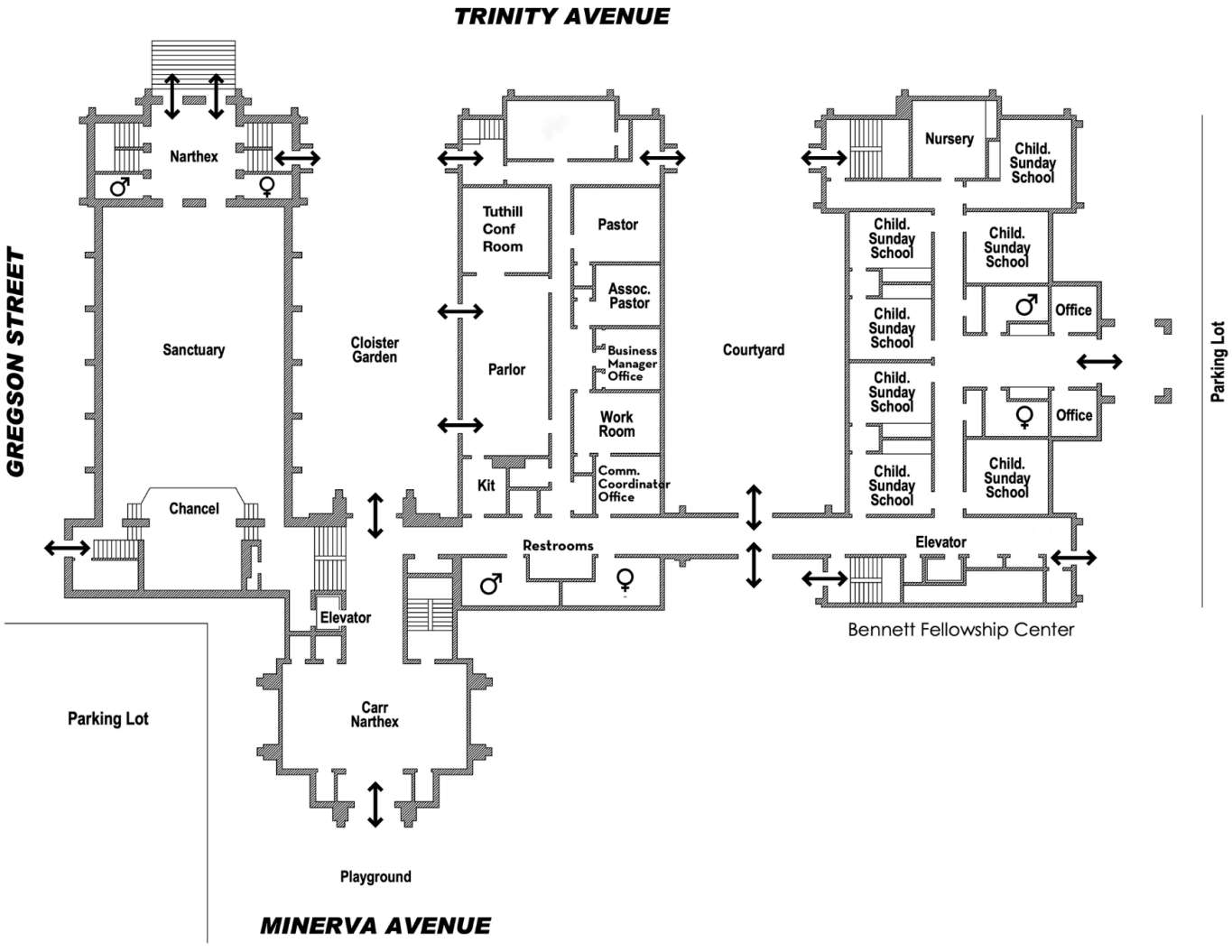


Join Us!

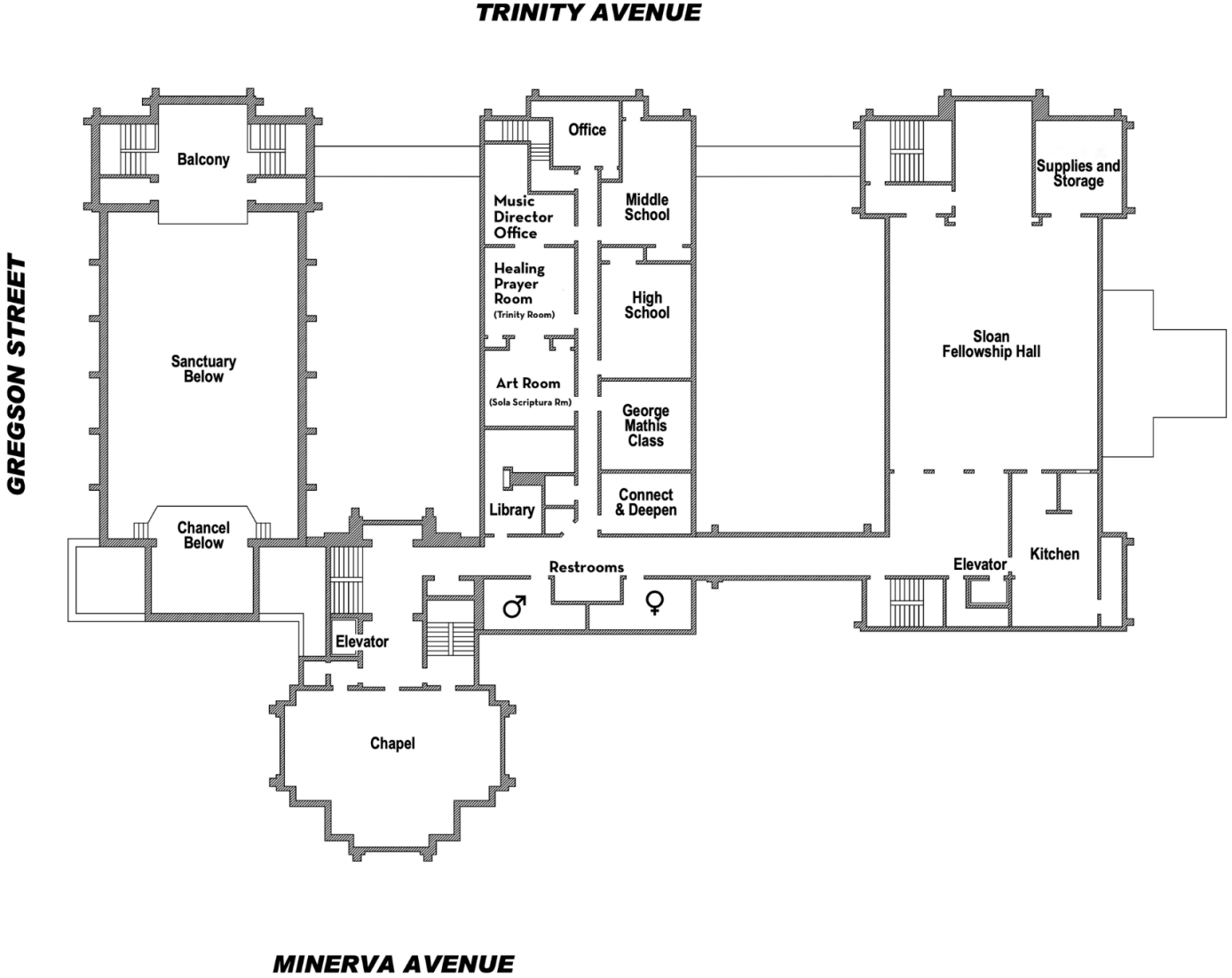
# Maps of the TAPC Campus



## MAIN LEVEL

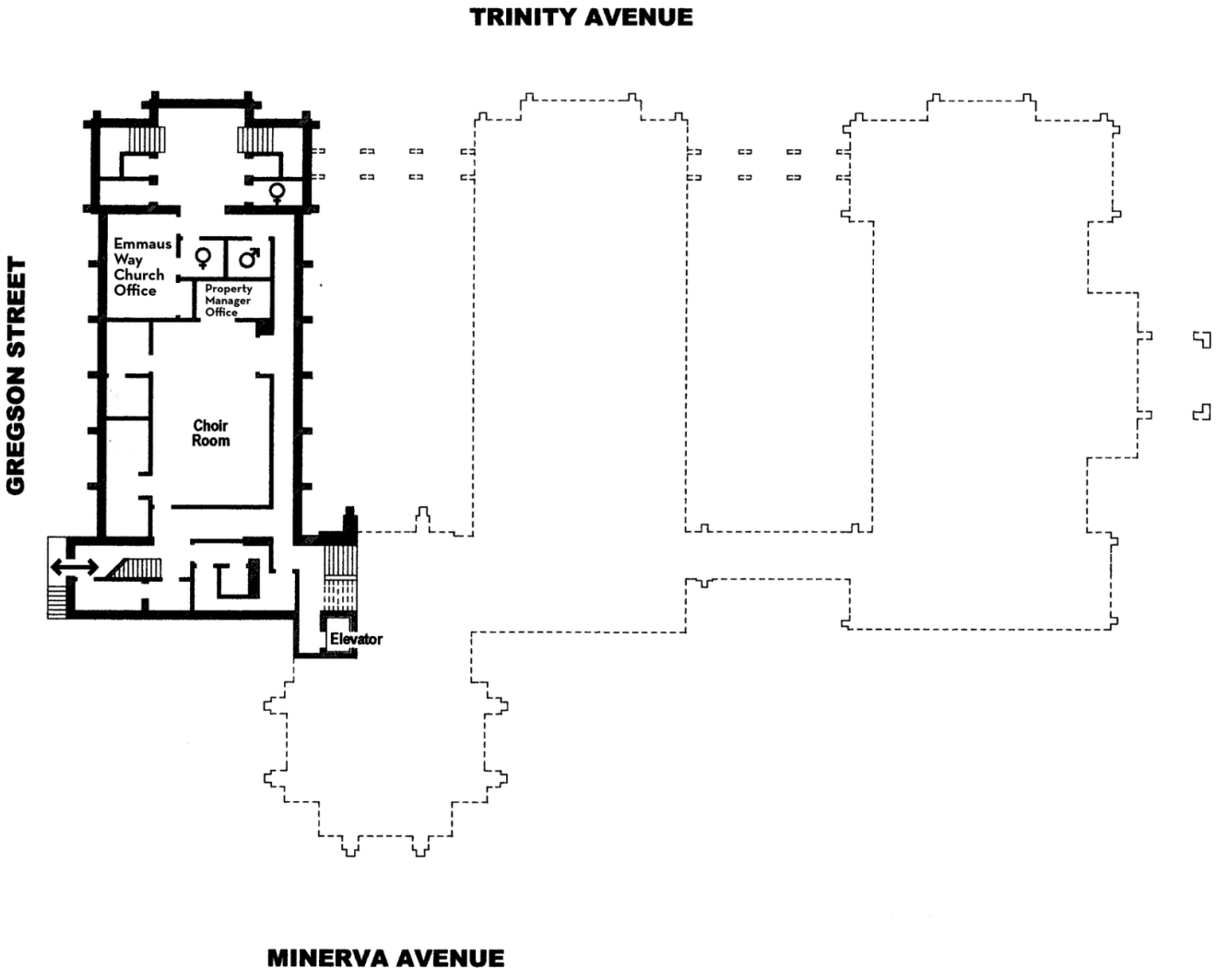


# 2nd FLOOR


TRINITY AVENUE
GREGSON STREET
Balcony
Office
Music Director Office
Middle School
Supplies and Storage
Healing Prayer Room
(Trinity Room)
High School
Sanctuary Below
Sloan Fellowship Hall
Art Room
(Sola Scriptura Rm)
George Mathis Class
Library
Connect & Deepen
Chancel Below
Restrooms
Elevator
Kitchen
Elevator
Chapel
MINERVA AVENUE

# LOWER LEVEL

(Below Sanctuary)



# Creation Care

## UPDATE: SOLAR PANELS

*"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it, for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers."*
*– Psalm 24:1-2 (NRSV)*

Our faith tradition leads us as God's children to care for the environment that has been entrusted to us. Part of that responsibility involves caring for the beautiful physical buildings at TAPC and operating them in a manner that respects the environment.

One clear issue is the finding ways to reduce the use of electricity in our buildings. Over recent decades, the church has added ceiling insulation, refurbished the stain glass windows and installed new, energy efficient entry doors in our sanctuary. Offices and classrooms are also now lit with LED fixtures and energy efficient windows. Bathrooms have been fitted with occupancy sensors.

In 2023, TAPC contracted with Southern Energy Management to install solar panels on the office/classroom building as seen in the aerial photo below. The timing of our solar energy installation meant that TAPC had access to a rebate from Duke Energy and also a Direct Pay tax credit from the IRS. Receiving these funds means that the pay-back period for the initial financial investment will be about 5 years. The system is expected to remain operational for 25-30 years.

There are two fundamental motives for making this investment in solar energy.

First, we believe that we have a moral and spiritual duty to take steps within our means to implement solutions to the climate crisis. It is no longer a distant threat, but a present reality that affects all of us. Our solar installation has been operational since June 2023. During that time, it has generated about 108,000 kWh of electricity, avoiding the release of more than 100 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2), which is the primary greenhouse gas causing our planet to warm. The removal of that much CO2 from the atmosphere would require the planting of more than 21,000 trees.

Secondly, over the 2 years of solar operation, TAPC has saved about $13,000, which would otherwise have been used to pay Duke Energy for the equivalent amount of electricity. These funds can instead be used to support the primary mission of the church.

While TAPC still has more to do in the coming years to exercise stewardship of our sacred spaces, we have been blessed with the opportunity to capture some of the sun's free energy to meet our needs.

