



DISCOVER
Discover
TRINITY
Trinity

OUR BELIEFS, TEAMS, AND YOUR NEXT STEP



Greetings Dear Friend,

**We are excited to welcome you to
learn more about TrinityLife.**

Your presence encourages and inspires us. TrinityLife is one church, with many expressions, serving Baltimore together. Our expressions are three unified yet unique congregations: Trinity (English language service), Trinidad (Spanish language service) and Emmanuel (Chinese language fellowship). We are a redemptive community of believers that is passionately committed to being and making disciples. Our goal is to help you grow in Christ and connect with others in our church family. We are committed to connecting people to their Next Step either through a Group, a Serving Team or a particular ministry. Please take the time to look through this booklet. In it, you will discover a lot more about what makes Trinity a strong community of faith. This is an exciting time to be at Trinity. We look forward to seeing you here!

TrinityLife Leadership

Our Story

In the early 1900s, the Pentecostal revival touched a small local church known as the “Baltimore Branch of the Christian and Missionary Alliance.”

Pastor Edward Staudt developed an interest in the Pentecostal movement and soon realized what he had been missing. After receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, he began teaching his congregation about this Biblical experience. On June 4, 1923, they formed a new church called the “Full Gospel Church of Baltimore” and met on North Fulton Avenue in West Baltimore. In time, the growing congregation built a new brick church in Baltimore on the corner of Saratoga and Monroe.

Alexander Clattenburg was called to pastor the church in 1942. In 1945, the name was changed to Trinity Assembly of God. The church was soon experiencing such growth that construction was begun on a new building at Harford and Parkside Drives. As a visionary, Rev. Clattenburg believed God was leading the congregation to relocate to the present property along the beltway. Rev. Clattenburg frequently came out to the property, prayed over it, and asked God to set it apart for our church. Two years following his death in 1972 the land was finally purchased where the church now stands.

Earl Baldwin succeeded Rev. Clattenburg as pastor in 1973. Trinity grew steadily in the following years. By 1979, the first phase of building began on the new property. By the end of that year, Trinity moved in. Eventually, the burgeoning congregation required an even larger sanctuary to accommodate the number of people that God was adding to the church. In 1991, the present sanctuary building was completed.

Senior Pastor George W. Raduano was installed on April 27, 1997. Under his leadership, Trinity experienced a renewed vision and growth, both physically and spiritually. Throughout this time, Trinity has emphasized a contemporary approach to church ministry through various creative means. One of the greatest impacts Pastor George has made is his continued commitment to diversity. Trinity has become the church home to people from 63 different nations and is truly viewed as a church for all nations.

Our Vision, Mission & Core Values

Our Vision

TrinityLife – One Church. Many Expressions. Serving Baltimore Together.

Our Mission

TrinityLife is a redemptive community passionately committed to being and making disciples.

Our Culture

We believe that a church's personality, or culture, is one of its most valuable assets. A strong, vibrant church culture stimulates people to be and do their very best for God and their families, reach their highest goals, work hard toward a common purpose and celebrate each other's accomplishments.

Our Core Values

The Bible: We believe the Bible trumps all.

Redemption: We forgive quickly, restore gently, and give second chances regularly.

Compassion: We give generously... locally, nationally, and globally.

Authenticity: We will remain true to who we are in Jesus.

Uniqueness: We lead with an awareness of our collective diversity.

Honor: We respect, celebrate, and esteem those the bible teaches us to honor.

Clarity: We strive to understand and be understood.

Relationships: We intentionally invest in relationships.





“One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realized that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, ‘Of all the commandments, which is the most important?’ Jesus replied, ‘The most important commandment is this: Listen, O Israel! The Lord your God is the one and only Lord. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these.’ ”

Mark 12:28-31



“Then Jesus came to them (the disciples) and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and **MAKE DISCIPLES** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’ ” Matthew 28:18-20



Our Beliefs

What We Believe

Bible

The Bible is God's Word to us. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs about daily living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without error.

1 Timothy 1:13; 3:16
2 Peter 1:20-21
1 Corinthians 2:13
Psalm 119:105
Proverbs 30:5

God

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He exists eternally in three personalities: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and are one God.

Genesis 1:1, 26 & 27
Genesis 3:22
Matthew 28:19
1 Peter 1:2
2 Corinthians 13:14

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is coequal with the Father and Holy Spirit. Jesus came to this earth in human form, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin and lived a sinless human life as God in a bodily form. Jesus offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He physically rose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. Jesus ascended to Heaven and will physically return again someday to earth to reign as King.

Matthew 1:22-23
John 1:1-5, 14
Hebrews 4:14-15
1 Corinthians 15:3-4
Romans 1:3-4
Acts 1:9-11
1 Timothy 6:14-15
Isaiah 7:14; 9:6

Human Beings

People are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called sin. Sin separates us from God and is the root cause of our problems in our life.

Genesis 1:27
Psalm 8:3-6
Isaiah 53:6a
Romans 3:23

Salvation

Salvation is God's free gift to us, but we must receive it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty of death. When we turn from our self-ruled life and turn to Jesus in faith we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

John 1:12
Romans 6:23
Ephesians 2:8-9
John 14:6
Galatians 3:26
Romans 5:1
Romans 10:9-10

Holy Spirit

When a person begins a relationship with Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit immediately takes up residence within the person and makes them a new person. We also believe the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a biblical experience that most often follows salvation, but can occur at the moment of salvation. This experience is available to every believer who asks God for it.

2 Corinthians 5:15
Acts 2:1-4
Acts 8:14-17
Acts 10:44-46
Galatians 3:14-15

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

In 1 Corinthians 12-14, the Bible lists many gifts given by the Holy Spirit. The first century church practiced these gifts regularly as we should today.

1 Corinthians 12-14

Physical Healing

We believe that when Jesus died and rose again, we have the right and privilege to ask God for healing of all kinds.

Isaiah 53:4-5
Matthew 8:16-17
James 5:14-16

Communion

We regularly practice communion, or the Lord's Supper, in our services. Jesus initiated this practice as a way to help us remember His death and resurrection.

1 Corinthians 11:28-32

Water Baptism

We practice baptism by fully immersing a follower of Christ in water. Baptism is not necessary for salvation, but is simply a choice that is made to obey Jesus' command to follow Him.

Matthew 3:13-17
Matthew 28:19
Acts 2:34-36
Acts 19:1-6

What is the meaning of baptism?

It illustrates Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. Through water baptism, we identify personally with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Colossians 2:12
Romans 6:4
2 Corinthians 5:17

It signifies the end of my old life and the beginning of a new life. Baptism is a symbol of a commitment a person is making with Jesus Christ. It is much like a wedding ring. The ring does not make a couple married. Instead the ring is a symbol to others of a promise a man and a woman have made to each other. Baptism, therefore, is a symbol of a commitment a person has made to follow Jesus.

At the same time, baptism is more than just a symbol. There is a real spiritual work that is accomplished when a person is baptized. Many have said that when they were baptized, they were released from the grip of certain sins and destructive habits in their lives.



What denomination, or ministry network, is TrinityLife affiliated with?

TrinityLife is a member of the Assemblies of God. You can learn more about this fellowship of churches by visiting www.ag.org.

What are the advantages of affiliating with the Assemblies of God?

It allows us to identify with other Christians around the world who are known for their commitment to the Bible and to the power of the Holy Spirit. Unlike other groups, the Assemblies of God has no man-made “creed.” The Bible is our only and final authority. It allows our church to participate in one of the fastest growing church and missionary movements in the world.

What We Believe About the Bible

Facts about the Bible

- The Bible is a collection of 66 books. The word Bible comes from the Greek word for “books.” Scripture, another word used for the Bible, means “the writings.”
- The Bible was written by more than 40 different authors over a period of about 1600 years. Some well- known bible authors include Moses, David, Solomon, and the apostles Peter, Paul and John.
- The Bible is divided into the Old and New Testaments. Testament is another word for “covenant” which is similar to a contract. The Old Testament is about God’s special covenant with the Jewish people and the New Testament is about God’s new covenant based on the person and work of Jesus Christ.
- The Old Testament books were written between 1400 BC and 430 BC. These books were compiled into a collection called the “canon” about 300 years before the birth of Christ.
- The New Testament was written between 40 AD and 90 AD. The early church recognized these writings as “scripture,” but were not collected into an official canon until the 4th century.
- The Bible is not arranged in chronological order, which can make reading through it confusing. The various books are grouped instead by the type of writing they are – law or history or poetry, for example.

The Bible was written by men but inspired by God.

The apostle Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 3:16, “all scripture is inspired by God.” By “inspired” he didn’t mean that the Bible is inspiring to read, or that the authors were “inspired” in the same way a composer is inspired to write a piece of music. The word in the Greek literally means “out- breathed” and conveys the idea that the writing of the Bible was intimately directed by the Holy Spirit. This is why Christians often call the Bible the Word of God.

At the same time, real historical figures at specific times in history wrote the various books of the Bible. The Bible is both natural and supernatural – the product of both human and divine activity.

The Bible is God’s revelation to humankind.

God has made Himself known to men and women through revelation such as the wonder and beauty of creation, the person of His Son, Jesus Christ, and the pages of the Bible. What this means is that ultimate truth, which is what the Bible is all about, was not arrived at by human effort, study, research or contemplation. It was revealed by God. Without revelation, it would be impossible to truly know God.

The Bible is authoritative.

The Bible is more than just a book of good ideas and helpful hints. It is the Word of God, and since God is both Creator and King, what He says has authority. The Bible has authority over the lives of Christians in a similar way that a police officer has authority over drivers. At Trinity, we look to the Bible as the final authority for what we should believe (doctrine) and how we should live (practice/ethics). Here at Trinity, tradition does not have equal or greater authority than the Bible.

The Bible is trustworthy.

There is overwhelming historic evidence supporting the Bible’s reliability and trustworthiness. What was originally written was preserved and accurately passed on over the centuries. Advances in archeology have repeatedly corroborated the Bible’s record of history, further pointing to its reliability.

FAQ's About Membership at TrinityLife

Why should I become a member of TrinityLife?

It's Biblical. The Bible makes it clear that Jesus Christ is committed to the church. In Ephesians 5:25, the Apostle Paul said, "...Christ loved the church, and gave His life for her." Membership in a local church is, therefore, an important step in demonstrating commitment to Christ.

It's Cultural. We live in a time when more and more people shy away from commitment. Membership cuts across the grain of our consumer- oriented culture by emphasizing giving and serving. That means membership is not all about what kind, and how many benefits we will receive, but it's about counting somewhere. At TrinityLife, we are less concerned about counting members and more concerned about having members who count.

It's Practical. Every team must have a roster. Every army has an enlistment. Therefore, church membership identifies the community who can be counted on to act for the cause of Christ.

It's Personal. The New Testament places a major emphasis on the need for Christians to be accountable to each other for spiritual growth. Therefore, you cannot be fully accountable if you are not committed to any specific local church.

I understand that I will need to write a testimony about my journey of faith in Jesus Christ. What if I struggle with life controlling issues?

We all fight battles of temptation in our lives, but the Bible says, "...We are more than conquerors through Christ..." According to 2 Corinthians 5:17, "You are a new person." This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" Therefore, if you have repented of your sins and profess Jesus Christ as your Savior, your past is behind you.

Is there a requirement to be baptized in water in order to become a member?

No, you may become a member before being baptized. However, all followers of Christ are encouraged to be baptized in water—being fully immersed in water as an expression of faith in Jesus Christ. This follows the example Jesus set for us when He was baptized by his cousin, John the Baptist, in the Jordan River.

I am not married, but currently in a physical relationship with someone. I am not married, but currently in a physical relationship with someone of the same sex. I am separated, but seeing someone and/or in a physical relationship with someone other than my spouse. May I still become a member?

The Bible is very clear in defining marriage between one man and one woman. The Bible also emphasizes the discipline of sexual purity prior to marriage and fidelity during marriage. We encourage you to meet with one of our pastors or elders so they may help you align your lifestyle with biblical standards so you may apply for membership in the future.

If I become a member, do my spouse and children automatically become members?

Each person applying for membership at TrinityLife must be at least 18 years of age since there is a voting element to membership. In addition, each person seeking membership must attend the membership workshop in order to be considered for membership.

What happens after I've completed the membership workshop?

Our Elder Team will review your completed membership materials after you attend the workshop in its entirety. We will contact you following their decision.



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Trinity (English Language Campus)

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