



September 8, 2026

Houston Trinity News

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 12:27-31 (NRSV)

Friends,

This Sunday was truly a Lesson in Leadership. Thank you all for your willingness to be the hands and feet of Christ in Worship this past Sunday. I am grateful to each one of you for putting yourself forward in order that our Worship was not interrupted. It would have been easy to set Sunday aside and say that Worship would be impossible without myself and Pastor Paul. But you showed the true strength of Lay Leadership by stepping forward to make Worship a meaningful experience for all in attendance.

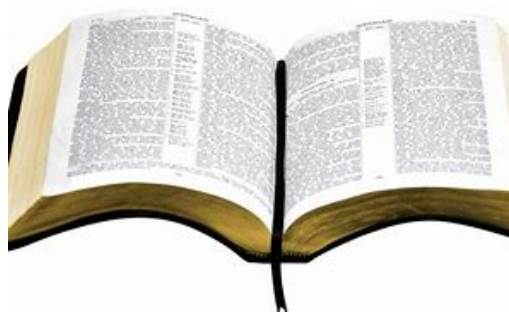


This past Sunday should serve as a reminder that Houston Trinity is your Church. It should serve as a reminder that we are all called to participate in and sometimes lead Worship. It should serve as a reminder that we have all been given the skills and the capabilities, and the direction to be the hands and feet of Jesus in West Houston.

Thank you for taking your role in the Church seriously. We can do great things when we all work together to advance the Kingdom here on earth.

I truly appreciate each of you and what you do.

God bless you. See you Sunday



Scripture Reading

21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Matthew 18:21-35 (NRSV)

Calendar Reminders - August

August 31 - Bible Study - ZOOM - 7:30 - Joshua - led by Pastor Manuel
September 2 - Confirmation - 5:30
September 2 - Wednesday Night Bible Study - Job - 6:30 - in person and ZOOM
September 6 - Sunday Worship - Communion
September 7 - Bible Study - ZOOM - 7:30 - Joshua - led by Pastor Manuel
September 9 - Confirmation - 5:30
September 9 - Wednesday Night Bible Study - Job - 6:30 - in person and ZOOM
September 13 - Sunday Worship
September 14 - Bible Study - ZOOM - 7:30 - Joshua - led by Pastor Manuel
September 17 - Confirmation - 5:30
September 17 - Wednesday Night Bible Study - James - 6:30 - in person and ZOOM
September 20 - Sunday Worship

- Worship Committee Meeting
- Council Meeting

September 21 - Bible Study - ZOOM - 7:30 - Joshua - led by Pastor Manuel
September 23 - Confirmation - 5:30
September 23 - Wednesday Night Bible Study - James - 6:30 - in person and ZOOM
September 25 - Youth Night - 6:30 - 9:00 PM
September 26 - Women of Faith Prayer Meeting - 2:30
September 27 - Sunday Worship

- Congregational Visioning Workshop

Lessons in Leadership



Current Sermon Series - Lessons in Leadership

As we transition from summer to fall, ready to reenter the classrooms of our lives we are called back together to work out how we will live in community as a witness to our faith. Our new sermon series will give us an opportunity for an attitude check.; a time for us to focus our values on creating a community that is faithful to God and each other. We are going to use the stories of Biblical leaders to place ourselves in the correct leadership frame of mind.

We are looking for you. Invite a friend.

Series Titles

August 23 - Power

August 30 - Acceptance

September 6 - Special Guest no sermon from the series

September 13 - Conflict and Grace



Next Sermon Series - Pressing On

Join us beginning September 20 as we spend four weeks in Paul's letter to the Philippians. The beginning of fall is a busy time for all of us. We sometimes lose our desire to keep coming to church and working in the community. It isn't because we don't feel called but rather that we are overwhelmed with the amount to be done. Paul's Letter to the Philippians can be that stimulation to keep going and a reminder of the joy and fellowship that is part and parcel of being the church. Or as St. Paul reminds us, we are to press on to the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Join us in "Pressing On."



James

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,
To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations:
Greetings.

Trials and Temptations
2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 3 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. 4 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives wisdom generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. 5 But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

dragged away and enticed. 13 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

14 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers. 15 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. 16 He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

Listening and Doing
17 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. 18 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent in you, and planted in you.

New Wednesday Night Bible Study

**beginning
September 16, 2026**

IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL 6:30 PM Zoom ID: 8915561845, Password 101998

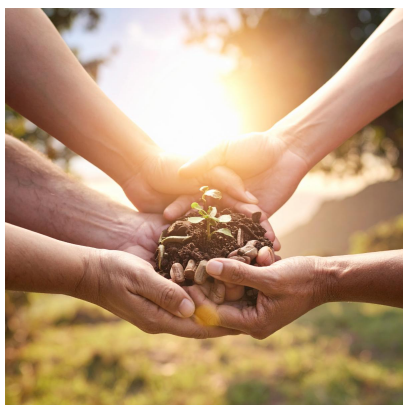
Youth Night

Youth night was a great success. Our next Youth Night will be August 28th at the Church. Join us for fun and fellowship as we take a quick break from our back to school activities.

Make sure to RSVP to the email you received. If you didn't receive an invitation, please contact Blessings Ignacio to be added to the email list.



2026 Congregational Focus Corner



Community Outreach/Missions

We are nearing the first actions of our Missional Community program. Stay tuned for exciting information of the first effort we are taking in our community.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Velma Bailey, Mei Mei, Angela Leslie or any member of our Outreach committee.



Samaritans Purse - Operations Christmas Child

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in our outreach to Samaritans Purse. We have distributed all of our Christmas boxes and they are

slowly returning. When they are all received we will take them to FFAUMC for distribution.

Your generosity will touch the lives of many young boys and girls. God bless you.

Prayer

September Prayer Focus - Acts 1:8

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Our prayer focus for September is an important reminder that we are called to move beyond our walls.

To move beyond the church property. To move into the world to share the good news that is our Savior Jesus Christ..

During this month pray unceasingly for each other, for the church, and for the world. When the Holy Spirit helps us align our prayers with the works of God, they are powerful. Remember that we are created in God's image, called to continue Jesus' ministry and mission and this world and convicted to that work through the Holy Spirit. Allow the Spirit to guide your prayers and they can create works greater that we can imagine.

As we continue to walk our prayer journey this year pray daily to understand where our faith lies. Pray daily to understand that the power of men is nothing compared to the power of God. pray daily that we, the body, the church are beholden only to Christ, not to men.

If you are interested in being a part of the planning for our monthly prayer focus, please contact Mel Bernardo or any member of the Prayer Team.



News from the Marvin Rader School

School opens Today, June 8

School opens on Monday, June 8. But our regular classes start on June 15th. We will have a three-day orientation and classes will only be from 8am to 11 am.

The Parents Orientation will be held on June 11 at 9 am.

Our Faculty have been busy with each preparation for their classes and room assignment. The renovation of the roof had been done. Hopefully it works well when the typhoon season comes.

We are looking forward to having more than 60 learners. As of now we have 64.

Prayer Corner

Please let Nini or me know if you would like to have your prayer request added to the newsletter.

This weeks' prayer requests.

Prayers for Healing

Jose Liwanag
Saffa Gabba
Christopher Hilton
Bruce Jocz
Pam Custer
Anita Solas
Louise Mosley
Michael Bhola
Jared Davis
Rev. Steven Newcombe - FUMC
Bill Robinson
Josh Bridges
Florante Paz
Fawn Cumby
Christian Mirasol
Leticia Abenojar
Juanita Miller
Ruben Paz
Shellie Robertson
Teddy Ellison
Mel Bousley
Ben Bailon
Zandy Aquino
Ed Roethlein
Linda Litt

Prayers for the World

The peace of God to reign.
For the Marvin Rader School

Open Hearts and Minds; Eyes that See and Ears that Hear

Houston Trinity United Methodist Church

Prayers for Comfort

The Rillo family as they grieve the passing of Rod this week.

September Prayer Focus - Acts 1:8

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



Gracious God, as we embark on this new journey to cast our vision, we seek Your wisdom. Help us to put aside our understanding and trust fully in the direction that You will send us.

Open our minds to think beyond what we can imagine. Open our hearts to feel the Spirit working here. Open our eyes and ears to see and hear the direction you wish us to travel.

We hear your call Lord, upon the life of Houston Trinity and we want to answer. Yet we are not sure how. We pray Lord, that You bless us, bless our visioning exercises, bless our decisions so that we may go into your world and bless everyone we meet.

Guide our thoughts and actions so our choices will reflect Your will. May we participate in this effort not swayed by the past but grounded in your divine truth.

Give us peace of spirit and confirmation that we are proceeding on the right path. We surrender our plans to Your and pray that You lead us in Your perfect way.

We pray all this in the name of your son, our Redeemer, our Savior, Jesus Christ,

AMEN



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