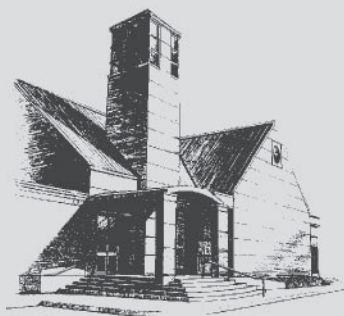




Visitor Information

A PLACE FOR YOU
TO WORSHIP • TO GROW • TO SERVE





Sept. 8, 2005

Weclome! Thanks for visiting with us at Trinity Fellowship Church. I hope you were encouraged by your visit and that you will soon worship with us again.

As a church we are committed to worshipping the Triune God who is worthy of full devotion, and who has made Himself known to us graciously for our salvation through His incarnate Son Jesus Christ. It is our desire that Jesus Christ be exalted in every aspect of our lives. And we firmly believe that we are strengthened in the hope of eternal life and ministry of sacrificial love through the vibrant work of the Holy Spirit who unites us together as Christ's church. We are committed to being the church and not simply going to church - to be the community who enjoys life in fellowship with the Triune God. Maybe Trinity Fellowship is the church home you've been looking for—a place where you can worship, where you can grow, and where you can serve.

This information booklet is designed to introduce you to us, our history, beliefs, purposes, and ministries. I trust that you find it helpful. But if you would like additional information or have further questions, please feel free contact us.

Thanks again for visiting with us.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Dr. Carl Andersson, Jr.
Senior Pastor

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Our History: "A Look Back"



Trinity Fellowship's story begins in 1976 when God placed a burden upon the hearts of Dr. Ed Blum and Dr. Alan Hull. Ed was a professor at Dallas Seminary and one of the teaching pastors at Believers Chapel in Dallas. Alan was a practicing nephrologist who served as an elder at Believers Chapel. While Ed and Alan were grateful to see how God was blessing the ministry at the church they recognized that the tremendous growth created an opportunity for a new work.

Alan and Ed spent a year studying the Bible together regarding God's plan for the church. As they prayed they sensed God's direction in beginning a new work. They called a meeting for those they thought might be interested in a new church. About a dozen couples met at Alan's home and a decision was made to step out in faith and begin a new ministry.

The church was to be named TRINITY FELLOWSHIP, not because of any association with the "fellowship" churches but because of the Biblical verse, 1 John 1:3: "We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ." The goal was to have a new church where our "vertical" fellowship with God was lived out in the context of the "horizontal" fellowship created by the Spirit of God in the church.

The early years of the church were exciting but difficult. After several years of meeting at a recreation center the church began to meet on Sunday evenings at another church. While it was a time of great personal growth in the lives of individuals it was less than ideal to meet only Sunday nights.

When God provided an option to purchase land at our present location it was a major step of faith. The challenge was laid before the congregation and after great personal sacrifice the property was purchased and the first phase of construction was completed, that which is now the fellowship hall.

In the following years the church grew in many ways. New elders joined with Alan Hull and Ed Blum to serve the church. New families became part of the life of the community. Several construction programs expanded the church building.

In 1985 Dr. Blum left Dallas Seminary to take the leadership of the Christian Medical Society, a move which limited his involvement in teaching at the church. For one year the pulpit was shared by Dr. Blum, Dr. Darrell Bock, a professor at Dallas Seminary, and Carl Anderson, who was completing his doctorate at the seminary. When Carl graduated in 1987 he began serving full-time with the church and has served as pastor since that time.

Since its inception in 1977 Trinity Fellowship has continued to see God's faithfulness in a wonderful way. The faith and vision of Ed and Alan has been blessed into a ministry where God has worked mightily in the lives of many. Over the years the church has grown from the original twelve couples to a congregation of over 600. An overcrowding problem led to a major building program that resulted in the construction of the sanctuary and adult classrooms which was opened in March 1999. Similar overcrowding problems in the youth ministry led to a youth facility expansion in the fall of 2000. In March 2004 the beautiful and long-needed administrative wing and LuAlice conference room were completed. Trinity Fellowship has been blessed beyond our expectations with a beautiful campus and wonderful facilities. However the greatest blessing has been and continues to be the growing body of believers knit together by the Holy Spirit in deepening love for God and others.

What We Believe

"The Main Thing"

Sometimes those new to TFC are surprised to find out that for the first 25 years of its existence the church had no formal doctrinal statement. It was not because we believed matters of doctrine to be unimportant. Orthodox Christian belief is essential to the church, but sometimes over-detailed doctrinal statements would be too complex and needlessly divisive instead of uniting. Trinity Fellowship is an independent church that is not formally connected to a particular denomination within Christianity, but is fully committed to what is sometimes called today "Classical Christianity," that is, the core teachings of the Church that Christians have confessed throughout the ages.

With the saints of old we believe that we enter into relationship with God by His initiative, and that by his grace we find eternal life through faith in Christ Jesus. We believe that each believer is to live in community in the Church, and that we are to share the good news of the gospel in word and action. We believe that God's Word, the Bible, remains the final authority for all issues of faith, doctrine, and life. Our desire as a community is to focus on these core doctrines of the faith while allowing diversity of interpretation on the secondary doctrinal issues which have been debated for centuries. For example, Christians since the time of the Apostles have believed in Christ's promise of his return; yet many have disagreed on how his return is related to the events at the end of time. Thus we do confess and teach the personal return of Christ but do not dogmatize on the order of end time events. Often one will hear at Trinity the refrain, "The main thing is that the main thing remains the main thing". The main thing is that we maintain our focus on the central issues of our faith, i.e., our relationship with the Triune God through his Son Jesus, and not allow ourselves to be sidetracked by doctrinal squabbling over secondary issues which so easily distract us from our primary focus. We do believe what God has revealed to his people is true and accurate. Yet we realize that what He has revealed is only a small part of what He is. Because we do "see through a glass darkly" we need to show humility in our attempts to understand God and His sovereign ways.

In response to both a growing congregation and a cultural need to be clear about our Christian confession the elders have adopted in 2003 the following statement of faith which defines the perspective from which we operate and unites the confession of our members.

A Statement of Faith

We believe that the central truths of the Christian faith are faithfully expressed by the Nicene Creed as confessed by all true Christians throughout history.

Nicene Creed (Nicene-Constantinople, ELLC Trans.)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

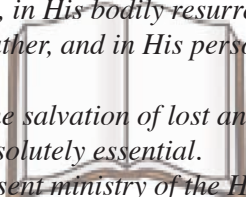
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

We acknowledge that the NAE statement represents the contemporary perspective from which our ministry is conducted; with a strong confidence in the inspired and infallible word of God, and a dependence upon the empowering work of the Spirit.

NAE Statement of Faith

- 1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.*
- 2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*
- 3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.*
- 4. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.*
- 5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.*
- 6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.*
- 7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.*



The Sacraments

Baptism

Since the earliest days of the Church believers have understood the significance of baptism and the Lord's Supper in the life of the community. In baptism we not only fulfill the Lord's command (Mt. 28:18-20) but we outwardly demonstrate the inner reality of God's grace in our lives as we come to Christ in repentance and faith. Through Baptism, God has graciously provided for His children a physical act through which the truths of salvation are proclaimed. Throughout the Word of God, water witnesses to new creation and a believer's life in Christ, a new identity as one washed clean and regenerated by the Spirit to live in holiness and righteousness, and a reception into a new community through Christ expressed in participation in the local church.

At Trinity Fellowship we practice believer's baptism, believing that the New Testament teaches baptism following conversion by both precept and example. Baptism is by immersion except in cases where immersion

is not possible. Baptisms are celebrated several times a year. Preparation for baptism classes are offered and required for candidates prior to baptisms. Baptisms within other Christian traditions and practices are recognized for membership.

Eucharist

While baptism publicly marks our connection and commitment to the Church - the body of Christ, the Eucharist or Lord's Supper is the weekly remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection which encourages, nourishes, and sustains the community. The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17 spoke against idolatry by comparing the unity and communion between Christ and His people in the Lord's Supper. Paul writes: "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation (Greek koinonia, a "sharing," "fellowship") in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?" Paul taught that there was a true connectedness to Christ and to his grace when we come to the Lord's Supper. At Trinity Fellowship we believe the Lord's Supper is not only a remembrance of Christ's work but that He is spiritually present with us as we come by faith to Him. Through the Lord's Supper we experience his forgiveness, his love, and his presence in our midst. Thus the Supper is not a minor part of our worship but a central focus of our worship each Sunday morning, just as it has been for the church historically for almost two thousand years.

Our Core Purposes

Why do we gather as a church? What are we to be and to do? We understand our mission as a church to be expressed in four foundational purposes:

Worship • Evangelism • Discipleship • Fellowship



Worship

Our primary desire is to worship the Triune God. God is worthy of our worship. Throughout the ages God's people have responded to God's grace in God-focused worship. In worship we turn from ourselves and give God the honor, glory, and thanks He deserves for who He is, what He has done, and what He is doing in us and among us. Each week we gather to remember Jesus' death, to proclaim His resurrection, and to await His coming. We respond to God through our gifts and offerings, our prayers for his help and strength, our songs of praise and worship, and our attention to His Word. We celebrate and are strengthened by Christ's presence with us at the Table. In our music we utilize both hymns and contemporary choruses to turn our hearts toward God and to express our gratitude and praise. The central focus of our worship each week is the Lord's Supper, where we come at Christ's invitation to experience his presence and grace.



Evangelism

Christ's last command to take the Good News to the world must remain a core part of our mission as a church. That focus applies within the church as we confront each individual with the claims of Christ. Of utmost importance is sharing the good news of Christ with our children and young people. In our Sunday School, in our services, and in our youth groups, we strive to bring our children to a knowledge of Jesus Christ. As a community we are to encourage and support one another in reaching out to our family, our friends and our neighbors with the life changing message of Jesus Christ. Applied outwardly we join together as a church to take the gospel across the city and around the world through our missions program. Our desire as a community is that God would enable us to be effective in our present community as well as plant churches in other communities as He directs and provides. It is our desire that all would be amazed by our life-changing transformation with Christ Jesus (Acts 4:13).



Discipleship

God's purpose in saving us is not just to take away the penalty of sin but to break the power of sin in our lives and to transform us into the image of his Son. His goal is to make us holy. Faith in Christ leaves no part of life untouched, and a growing knowledge of God develops a virtuous cycle of good fruit and deepening faith (Col. 1:9-10). The process of discipleship is the outworking of this reality in the lives of Christians. We believe a core purpose of Trinity Fellowship is to encourage and promote growth in the Lord as his disciples. Our task is to cooperate with the work of the Spirit in transforming us to be like Jesus. The apostle Paul wrote that God had gifted his children with all they need "...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Eph. 4:13) At Trinity Fellowship we seek to encourage and stimulate our walk in Christ through our adult education program where classes of different interests and materials provide in-depth instruction in God's Word. Likewise the women and men's Bible studies provide additional opportunity to grow in knowledge of the Lord. Several discipleship groups provide a challenge to follow in the steps of Christ. Our close involvement with Dallas Theological Seminary has given us a desire to minister to the seminarians and their families who attend Trinity Fellowship. Our desire is to contribute to each seminary student's education in providing a local church home where they can grow and serve.



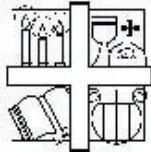
Fellowship

We believe that our relationship with Christ may be personal but it is not individual. When we come to faith in Christ we become part of the Body of Christ, the Church. We live as believers in fellowship with God and with one another. At Trinity Fellowship there are multiple avenues of building relationships with other believers, whether through ministry opportunities such as teaching or singing in the choir, to participation in men's and women's group, or involvement in a fellowship group. The fellowship groups provide one of the best opportunities to build lasting relationships with other believers within the Body. All of us need relationships with others where we can live out the love of Christ in service and care for one another.

Our Worship

Our Sunday Services

We have two identical Sunday morning worship services at 9:30 and 11:00 am. Sunday school programs are offered for adults and children through grade 4 at both hours. 5th graders learn Peacemakers in the fall. A dynamic youth program is offered at 11:00 am for grades 7-12 as well as Sunday school for 5th-6th graders. We also have a professionally staffed nursery for both worship services.



Some Definitions of Worship

“Christian worship is...our participation through the Spirit in the Son’s communion with the Father — in the Son’s vicarious life of worship and intercession.”

- James Torrence

“Worship is the conscious, demanding work of the believer, led and enabled by the Holy Spirit alone. Worship is ‘practicing the presence of God’ - the One-in-Three - in an act of the will by the grace of God. Of course, in our quest and resolve we will be helped or hindered by our surroundings - the architectural setting, symbolic furnishings, actions, speech, and music. But true worship depends more on our inner motivation and persistent effort than on any outside influence.”

- Donald Hustad

Worship Service Order

Understanding the order of "events" for a Sunday morning worship service can help you focus, learn, and be changed as you worship. The overall structure of our worship service supports the emphases of the church historically on the Word and Table through which God’s covenant faithfulness and work of salvation is graciously proclaimed, received, and renewed. These two primary acts are supported through prayer and music and structured in a traditional four-part movement which helps the community of faith respond collectively and participate with God in worship: *Gathering, Ministry of the Word, Ministry of the Table, and Dismissal.*

The Gathering begins with a musical prelude and typically ends with a prayer. The purpose of the gathering is to come into the presence of God. The prelude (which begins 5 minutes before the Call to Worship) is designed to help each person focus and join in meeting the Lord. The Call to Worship begins with proclamation that we gather in worship in the presence of the Triune God, united by the Holy Spirit, in the salvation graciously provided through Jesus Christ. The theme of the service is introduced through selected readings from God’s Word. Our appropriate response to God’s presence, Word, and in prayer is humility reflected in posture and corporate confession of sin. The assurance of forgiveness and salvation through Jesus Christ frees our hearts to receive graciously from God and serve together in the rest of the service in prayer, song, and response.

The Ministry of the Word is where God speaks to us through His Word as we attentively listen. This follows naturally from coming before Him in the Gathering. Activities included in the Ministry of the Word are scripture readings, scripture songs, a sermon, prayers, and offering. The events immediately after the sermon and before the Lord’s Table are our responses to God’s Word to us. Our offering is part of our thanks to God for His gracious movement towards us in the service and in our lives. A variety of prayers also capture our wills in renewed dependence upon God (i.e. pastoral prayer, open prayer, monthly prayer with the elders, silent prayer, etc.) Sometimes our response to God’s Word during the collection of the offering also doubles as an introduction or preparation for the Lord’s Table.

The Ministry of the Table is where our Lord “feeds” us. It is a rich time of fellowship with Him as we remember what Christ has accomplished for us and what He supernaturally strengthens us to be and do. The Ministry of the Table is supported through exhortation, prayers of thanksgiving, musical reflection, and distribution and partaking of the elements.

The Dismissal is the shortest part of the service. In this part of the service we are reminded that we have met with the Lord and He with us. He has spoken and nourished us. We are now strengthened and prepared to go out and serve Him. The dismissal includes singing, greetings, prayer, and a benedictions.

How We Are Led



Elders, Deacons, & Staff

The leadership, planning, & support of Trinity Fellowship church is accomplished through 3 major offices or positions: *elders, deacons,* and *staff.*

Elder-led

Trinity Fellowship is led by a group of elders appointed by the board of elders. We recognize God has blessed churches functioning under other forms of church government, whether congregational or episcopal or even autocratic, but we believe the scriptures most clearly support the leadership of the church by elders. Elders are appointed by the current elder board in recognition of someone who in effect is already performing the service and pastoral work of an elder. There are no set number or "terms" for elders, although elders can take sabbaticals when needed or can step off the board when they believe their effectiveness as an elder has diminished. Pastors may and do serve as elders, however not as chairman of the elder board.

Along the Scriptural guidelines of 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, the elders understand themselves as shepherds, servants, and sinners and their primary roles are providing spiritual direction and care for the community, and administering church discipline when needed. (*See following section on confidentiality and church discipline.*)

“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, serving as overseers-not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be;...eager to serve.” - 1Peter 5:2

Our Elders

Carl Anderson*
Gary Barnes
Darrell Bock††
John Dupree
Charlie Giddens
Chuck Hendricks†
Keith Hileman*

Larry Honea††
Alan Hull††
John Massey
David Morgan
Randy Pardue
Bill Plate
Mark Smith

The Deacons

The Deacons are charged with the responsibility of serving the physical needs of the community. The board of deacons, composed of men and women, are chosen by the elders to oversee the many needs of the community, such as finances, facilities, benevolence, and special events. The chairman of the deacon board provides guidance and oversight to the work of the deacons.

Newton Beam
Kip Castleberry
Mark Chapman
Jerry Foster
Micah Foster
Byron Gillory†
Carl Hammert

Brooks Herrick
Michele Roberts
John Sand
Randy Pardue**
Laverne Simon
Mary Young
Keith Mason* (Staff Rep.)

(† Chairman, †† Emeritus, * Staff, ** Elder)

Elder Confidentiality

Our Staff

Along with our elders and deacons Trinity Fellowship is served by our paid staff. This includes both full-time and part-time positions. The role of the staff is not to do the ministry but to help equip the body to serve and to minister. The staff serves under the direction of the elders and reports directly to the associate pastor.

The TFC staff is here to serve you.
Please contact us: 972-690-9535.

(e-mail address extensions are: @trinityfellowship.org)

<u>Name, Title</u>	<u>Email</u>
Dr. Carl R. Anderson, <i>Sr. Pastor</i>	drcarl
Diana Calvin, <i>Director of Women's Ministry</i>	dianacalvin
Keith Hileman, <i>Associate Pastor</i>	keithman
Joshua Hurlburt, <i>Jr. High Youth Director</i>	jvyouth
Keith Mason, <i>Youth Pastor</i>	youth
Allen Long, <i>Minister of Worship and Music</i>	musicman
Karen Rose, <i>Church Secretary & Receptionist</i>	krose
Kari Jane Smith, <i>Director of Children's Education</i>	karijane
Melanie Talkington, <i>Church Secretary</i>	meltalk
Pam Wrobel, <i>Director of Jubilee Junction and Nurseries</i>	msjubilee

General inquiries & comments for the church office can be made to the email address: office@trinityfellowship.org.

The trustworthiness of the elders can be reflected in their handling of sensitive matters in a confidential manner. The following is an overview of the elder's policy on confidentiality. *Please refer to the TFC church bylaws for the full policy on confidentiality.*

- a) Personal situations not generally known will not be discussed by the elders in the presence of any non-elders.
- b) The elders will not discuss personal situations with their wives without first obtaining the consent of the person involved.
- c) When an elder is informed of circumstances or sensitive information in a private setting, he shall ask the person involved for permission to discuss the situation with the other elders. If no permission is granted, the situation will not be disclosed to the other elders.
- d) Although confidentiality is to be respected as much as possible, there are times when it is appropriate to reveal certain confidential information to others according to the following exceptional circumstances:
 - i) **Need for Additional Elder Counsel:** When a pastor or elder is uncertain of how to counsel a person about a particular problem and needs to seek advice from other elders in this church or, if the person attends another church, from the pastors or elders of that church (see Prov. 11:14; 13:10; 15:22; 19:20; 20:18; Matt. 18:15-17);
 - ii) **Risk of Physical Harm:** When the person who disclosed the information or any other person is in imminent danger of seriously harming himself or others unless others intervene (see Prov. 24:11-12);
 - iii) **Willful Non-Biblical Conduct:** When a person refuses to repent of sin and it becomes necessary to institute disciplinary proceedings (see Matt. 18:15-20 and Bylaw §16) or seek the assistance of individuals or agencies outside this church (see, e.g., Rom. 13:1-5);
 - iv) **Child Abuse:** When required by law to report suspected child abuse.

Church Discipline

In a day of law suits and politically correct tolerance, the concept of church discipline is often misunderstood if an issue at all in many churches. The elders understand and implement church discipline along both informal and formal guidelines.

Informal Discipline

According to Hebrews 12 God disciplines those he loves. The normal part of a believer's growth includes discipline from the Lord. Informal discipline occurs naturally through the normal functioning of the local body. The Holy Spirit disciplines us through teaching, preaching, and the exercise of spiritual gifts. We acknowledge, however, that one's failure to respond properly to teaching and the encouragement of the body could lead to the necessity of implementing formal church discipline.

Formal Discipline

Formal discipline is necessary because of continued willful conduct or teaching of doctrine contrary to biblical standards. When such conduct or teaching comes to the attention of one of the elders, an elder shall speak individually to the person in an effort toward private correction. If the conduct continues, two or more elders shall meet with the person to attempt to persuade the person to change. If the conduct continues, the full elder board shall meet with the person. If no genuine repentance is thereafter observed by the elders, they shall notify the person that a statement will be made to the members of Trinity Fellowship. Each step of this formal discipline process shall be taken with every effort toward restoration of the person.

[Scripture references on church discipline include Matthew 18:15-17; I Corinthians 5; Galatians 6:1; and 2 Thessalonians 3:15.]

Giving

Giving is rooted in the basic fact that all that we have is given to us by God. It follows then what is expected of us is righteous responsibility and good stewardship with what God has entrusted to us. Giving is thus making all of our resources available to God through the body of Christ, where the primary resources we all have at our immediate disposal are money and time.

Here are ten reasons why giving is an important part of one's Spiritual growth and participation in Christ's church.

1. God asks us to do so.
2. Giving forces us to come to terms with our real feelings about money.
3. Giving is an adventure in the meaning of inner renunciation, self-denial.
4. Sacrificial giving limits our illusion of self-sufficiency and generates dependence on Him.
5. Giving is a testimony within the family that faith is real.
6. Giving can activate our faith and build spiritual discipline in other areas of our lives.
7. Giving reminds us that we are recipients of God's gifts.
8. Giving binds us to the community of the church.
9. Giving brings blessings and a rich inheritance.
10. God uses our gifts.

Missions & Local Outreach

“You shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” - Acts 1:8

God’s love for humanity and plan of salvation is all-encompassing. From Genesis through Revelation, the Bible clearly presents that God has always been and will always be concerned for the salvation of men from “every tribe and nation.” He desires that people from all nationalities, languages, and people groups would join together in worship of Him through His Son and in the Spirit.

Perhaps what is most remarkable about God’s encompassing plan is that he has chosen his church to be the instrument to carry forth the Gospel message in the hope of seeing men and women from all around the world join together in worship to the Triune God.

At Trinity Fellowship, we recognize the great responsibility we share and roles we play in this great endeavor. 20% of the entire church budget is dedicated to supporting foreign missions and local outreach. Those funds are administered by the Missions committee and distributed across a variety of outreach efforts globally and locally.



Missions Committee

The committee is responsible for identifying and planning our missions and outreach strategies, communicating with our missionaries, communicating to and strengthening the church’s ongoing involvement with our missionaries and local agencies, planning the annual Mission’s Conference and International Food Fair, sponsoring short-term trips, and promoting other missions events.

Short Term Missions

Each year the missions committee offers several short-term missions trips to serve and support the ministries of our various missionaries around the world. These trips - variously designed for families, youth, adults, or combinations of each - not only increase the number of “workers in the field,” but also broaden the participants’ outreach and cultural experiences, providing them with a deeper appreciation of God’s heart for the world and a more focused personal mission.

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved in missions and evangelism at Trinity Fellowship Church:

- Pray for our missionaries and organizations
- Communicate with them
- Give graciously & cheerfully toward their work
- Participate in missions and local outreach activities
- Go! Visit & serve our missionaries on one of the various short term missions trips offered each year.

Discipleship, Adult Ed., & Pastoral Care

TFC offers many quality ministry opportunities through which one is strengthened, stimulated, and stretched by relevant teaching from God's Word and encouraged by fellowship with other believers.

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School classes are offered during both worship services at 9:30 and 11:00 am. A variety of Bible-based and relevant studies are provided by the many gifted and experienced teachers within the church body covering special interest short electives, in-depth Bible studies, and interesting Christian topics.

Bible Studies

Several weekly Bible studies are offered for men, women, and mixed groups. Wednesday night adult Bible studies meet at 6:30 pm. Other women's studies meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Night Ministries

The Wednesday night program has something for all ages. The Children's Chorale meets from 6:30-7:30 following which the children participate in some creative relational and instructive programs. The 3rd-6th grade girls are mentored by several older women of the church in the creative discipleship program called *TGIF* (Trinity Girls in Fellowship). The rest of the children enjoy games, pray for each other, and listen to Bible stories and stories of Christian heroes. Jr. High and Sr. High youth meet for challenging and age sensitive Bible studies from 6:30-8:00. The men's and women's Bible studies also begin at 6:30. Nursery and child care is available for younger children.

Childcare & Nurseries

The Childcare Ministries endeavor to provide a safe, loving, and nurturing environment in which children can learn and grow, and be actively guided to know and appreciate God's love and active involvement in their lives.

Professional Nurseries

Our nurseries are staffed with qualified child-care providers for safety and consistency in addition to volunteers from within the church body serving together to provide the best possible care for the children of TFC. Two staffed nurseries provide care for infants to walkers, and walkers to 2 year-olds respectively. Nursery care is provided for all major church events and for other scheduled events by reservation 48 hours prior to the event. Comments, questions, & reservations/cancellations should be directed to Pam Wrobel* at 972-690-9365 or msjubilee@trinityfellowship.org



Children

Teaching Our Children

The education of our children in the Lord is primarily the responsibility of parents. The role of the church is to supplement and encourage the work of the family in the spiritual development of our children. We consider it vital that both men and women serve as teachers and role models to our children. If you have school age children you can be assured that you will be asked at some point to participate in our children's Sunday School program, if not as a teacher than as an assistant to the teacher. There are no "permanent teachers". Each rotation lasts only five months. Not only is serving in this way a service to the church, it is also a great way to get to know the next generation.

Principles of Children's Spiritual Training

1. A child's spiritual growth and training of children is primarily the responsibility of the parents.
2. We believe God also uses a number of secondary means to bring about spiritual growth in children. These include the local church, Christian schools, and parachurch organizations such as Young Life, AWANA, Christian Service Brigade and Child Evangelism Fellowship.
3. The role of the church is to supplement the parents' teaching of the child, to equip the parents for their task and to provide meaningful programs that promote these goals. More specifically, the parents' and the church's roles include:

Parents' Role

Prayer
Family devotions
Reading to children
Parents as examples
Involvement in church programs
Teaching

Church's Role

Prayer
Teaching
Library
Hire staff
Infant dedication
Mentoring
Evangelism
Music programs
Video library
Christian community
Peer groups

4. Within each family, the father bears the primary responsibility for the spiritual training of the children. In families where there is no male presence, the church will provide added input and support. Tools for families to use are: prayer, Children's Bible books and videos, camping trips and family oriented activities, and participation in Sunday School.

5. Teaching duties at church should be shared so that no one is prevented (even by their choice) from regular participation in the worship services or adult learning opportunities.

Weekly Children's Ministries:

- Sun. 9:30 am **Children's SS (2 yrs. - 5th grade)**
Children Desiring God curriculum is used through the 5th grade. In every lesson Scripture is studied in the context of the question, "What does this say about God?"
Nursery/Childcare (Infant - 2 yrs.)
- Sun. 11:00 am **Children's church (2 yrs - 6th grade)**
Memory verse work, singing and hands on activities reinforce their morning lesson.
Nursery/Childcare (Infant - 2 yrs.)
- Wed. 6:30-7:30 pm **Children's Choir (Grades 1-6)**
Wed. 7:30-8:15 pm **Children's Programs**
Children participate in games, write a prayer journal, pray for each other, and listen to Bible stories and stories of Christian heroes. Girls grades 3-6 participate in TGIF (Trinity Girls in Fellowship), a unique mentoring program led by several older women in the church body which includes scripture memory, devotions, prayer, learning new skills, games, & fun.
- Wed. 6:30-8:15 pm **Nursery/Childcare (Infant - 2 yrs.)**

Youth

The core purposes of the youth ministry of Trinity Fellowship Church are: **Worship, Evangelism, Discipleship and Fellowship.** These purposes are exemplified and instilled in the youth through a strong emphasis on relationships. The ministry programs support these purposes and provide the context for community and Christ-likeness to be formed. The characteristics we hope to build into students are: love for God, active love for others, abides in the Word, person of prayer, committed to the body, and lives as salt and light in the world.

JV is for 7th and 8th grade students while the Varsity group includes high school students grades 9 through 12. The JV ministry is headed up by our JV Youth Director, Josh Hurlburt. Our Youth Pastor, Keith Mason heads up the Varsity program and oversees the entire youth ministry. They can be reached through the church office at 972-690-9535.

Weekly Youth Activities

Sunday	11 am	Sunday School
Sunday	6-7:30 pm	Fellowship program
Wednesday	6:30-7:45 pm	Discipleship Groups

In addition to these regular weekly programs the youth ministry participates in various camp-outs, retreats, outreaches, service projects, adventure trips, and missions trips throughout the year.

Men & Women

Men's Ministry

The men's ministry offers a variety of small groups, Bible studies, and other programs aimed towards growing Godly men, husbands, and fathers, developing servants within the body, and encouraging deep fellowship and accountable relationships. Small groups ranging from accountability groups, sharing & prayer, leadership development, and Bible studies are offered weekly in early morning and evening settings. The men's ministry also organizes prayer breakfasts, service and outreach projects, occasional weekend retreats and campouts, and a variety of men and family activities. All men of TFC are part of the men's ministry and are encouraged to participate in the relationship-oriented ministry activities.



Women's Ministry

Purpose

Women's Ministry offers opportunities for growth in knowing God and each other through service, fellowship, and Bible studies.

Organization

The Women's Ministry Board is comprised of seven areas under the leadership of a director. Opportunities abound for involvement in any area or event. Diana Calvin is Director of Women's Ministry and can be reached at the church office (972-690-9535 x104) or dianacalvin@trinityfellowship.org.

Communication provides information about women's activities through the church newsletter, bulletin board displays, poster boards, the church ministry table, and other means.

Prayer Ministry invites women to grow through prayer in morning or evening prayer groups, the prayer chain, prayer and praise meetings with women from other churches, and occasional prayer seminars.

Bible Study (or sometimes a book study) is available on Wednesday mornings and evenings during the school year. It usually includes both lecture and small group discussion.

Evangelism provides opportunities to minister to needy people outside Trinity Fellowship, and to share the gospel through various planned events.

Fellowship plans special events like the Fall Kick-off, evangelistic events, and occasional game nights, thus providing opportunities for friendships to develop.

Spring Retreat is an annual event and a highlight of the year. Guest speakers and fun activities provide an enriched understanding of God's word while guaranteeing a lot of fun.

Ministries & Opportunities

Every member of the local church is uniquely gifted to serve and strengthen the rest of the body (1Cor. 12). One of the purposes of the church leadership is to equip members to serve and help provide the opportunities from which the entire church body benefits and grows (Eph. 4:1-16). Here is a list of a few key ministries and contacts representing opportunities for service in the body.

Care Ministry

LaVerne Simon

The Care Ministry helps with various needs of the Body such as hospital visitation, emergency transportation, car repair, financial and career counseling, etc. The care ministry also provides meals for people in the body who are in need.

Building/Grounds

Carl Hammert

The Building/Grounds Committee does various jobs to keep our building and grounds well maintained.

Children's Sunday School Teachers

*Kari Jane Smith**

Our children's Sunday School teachers serve for one of the Sunday morning hours (9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.) for 5 1/2 months or 1 year, with an 8 week break in the summer when our children worship with their families. We have Sunday School classes for 2 yrs. through 6th grade.

Greeters

The Greeters are stationed at each door of the church on Sunday mornings to welcome people and assist visitors.

Assimilation

Roger & Susan Shake

The assimilation group welcomes and walks with those new to the church until they are fully introduced to and involved in the church life.

Fellowship Hall Support

It takes quite a few folks to keep the coffee hot and donuts accessible on Sunday mornings.

Wedding Coordinators

Melanie Talkington

The wedding coordinators provide the necessary interface between wedding families and the church so that the ceremony and use of the church facilities is as seamless and beautiful as possible.

Kitchen

The Kitchen Committee keeps the kitchen stocked and ordered.

Library

The Library Committee keeps the ever growing library in neat working order and oversees the loaning services.

Carol Weldon

Ushers

The ushers aid in directing, seating, and serving the congregation each Sunday morning.

Steve McClelland

Prayer

“Be fervent in spirit...continuing steadfastly in prayer.”

- Rom. 12:11,12.

Prayer is *the* vital work of ministry for Christ’s church. We consider everyone at TFC to be important and active participants of the prayer effort of the church and encourage all to practice prayer regularly and fervently.

Weekly Prayer

Every person at TFC has opportunity at every worship service to submit a prayer request. The elders meet faithfully every Tuesday morning for the purpose of praying for one another and for the items submitted that week. Prayer is the appropriate chief work of the elders in providing spiritual direction for the body. Requests that are not marked confidential and for the elders only are then published for the rest of the body via the prayer chain.

Prayer a Part of Our Worship

Prayer is an important part of every worship service in the Call to Worship, the Pastoral Prayer, the Prayer of Thanksgiving at the Table, and the Benediction. On the first Sunday of each month, a time is set apart during each service where anyone present is invited to join the elders in the front of the sanctuary for prayer for their needs. In addition to these, the congregation is encouraged to participate in the open prayer times scheduled periodically in the services.

Communications

There are a variety of means which Trinity Fellowship uses to communicate to the body and the community.

The Weekly Bulletin

The bulletin, available before each worship service, not only contains the order of service and sermon title and text for that Sunday, but also lists weekly ministry activities and upcoming events for the church body.

The TFC E-pistle

Delivered every Friday, the E-pistle is a short email containing an encouraging note from the staff to aid in preparation for Sunday’s worship service along with a brief devotional or inspiring thought, prayer requests, reminders for church events, and an interesting short biography or journal of some important figure or event in Church history. You can request to receive this E-pistle through the church office (972-690-9535, office@trinityfellowship.org).

The Monthly Church Newsletter

Our monthly newsletter is designed to inform, encourage, educate, and communicate to the body all of the various needs, events, ministry opportunities, challenges, and praises that the church experiences. The newsletter is the primary tool for communicating to the entire church body.

TFC On the Web

TFC’s web site can be found at <http://www.trinityfellowship.org>. You can find all kinds of information about the church, the staff, the elders, the various ministry activities, Sunday School and Bible study programs, the church calendar, joining and submitting to the prayer chain, electronic copies of the newsletters and brochures, listen to sermons, request tapes, find helpful Christian links, and find out the latest on all of our local and foreign missionaries.

We Are Evangelical

“Evangelicals: They Might Be Your Neighbors”

Darrell L. Bock

Prof. of New Testament Studies, Dallas Theological Seminary

Who are evangelicals? They are one of the most active religious groups in the United States. The 1992 Akron Survey of Religion and Politics stated about 33 percent of the US population identifies with the term. So all of us probably have neighbors who are evangelical, especially in the heavily religious Metroplex.

What does evangelical mean? Is it a formal denomination, a political movement, another name for fundamentalism? Why do many Christians use this term?

The term's roots emerge from the gospel message about salvation found in Jesus Christ, a message known as "good news" or the evangel, a word reflecting the term's Greek New Testament origin. An evangelical identifies with, has experienced, and is committed to sharing that good news with others.

Evangelicals see their roots in the great figures of the 18th century revivals; people like John Wesley, Jonathan Edwards, and George Whitefield. Among today's well known evangelicals are Billy Graham, Chuck Swindoll, and Chuck Colson. Key publications include Christianity Today and Moody Monthly.

Over a dozen publishing houses reflect an evangelical perspective, including Word Publishing in Dallas. Dallas area evangelical seminaries include the Southern Baptist's Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth and the non-denominational Dallas Theological Seminary, two of the world's largest seminaries.

Evangelicals are not a denomination, yet they are represented in virtually every denomination of Christianity. Despite what some think, it is not a political movement. However, many evangelicals are more active in political forums than previously. Evangelicals do not have a formal structure or leadership. They often are involved in personal ministry efforts or

Bible studies that cross denominational boundaries.

"Evangelical" describes believers in many denominations from almost every nation. They identify with the historical teachings of the Christian faith and seek to discuss that faith with anyone who seeks God. They desire to reflect love for God and for one's neighbor. An evangelical is a self-confessed sinner who acknowledges that God forgives those who turn to him through the resurrected Christ's offer of forgiveness. Evangelicals also believe God takes the initiative in establishing this permanent relationship with the person who turns to him; it is not earned. Of all Christian teaching, this is God's "good news" of grace that evangelicals hope their neighbors can come to know.

Evangelicals also believe God has revealed himself powerfully in his creation and in the Bible. He is the creator to whom all people are responsible and to whom all will give an account one day. To an evangelical, the Bible is a fully trustworthy reflection of what God has done and desires for humanity and reveals the way to God through Jesus Christ.

Most evangelicals do not regard themselves as fundamentalists because they reject that term's connotations in our culture along with its current associations with fundamentalism of other religions. Evangelicalism became popular in the forties and fifties to describe Christians who attempt to live out their convictions, not with claims of perfection, but with a sincere desire to grow, know God better, engage the culture, and serve him faithfully. When you meet someone who identifies with evangelical Christianity, this is what they mean.

Membership



It is our desire that all members of Trinity Fellowship are growing as worshippers of the Triune God and being thoroughly equipped to serve God and others with love. This also means being involved in fellowship, accountability, and belonging. Because we are elder-led, membership doesn't carry with it the "privilege" of voting. Rather, membership reflects a commitment to Christ and His church, which carries with it the responsibility to serve, but carries with that the joy of belonging to God's family.

To become a member at Trinity Fellowship Church the following is required:

- Affirm TFC's doctrinal statement: agreement with the Nicene Creed and acknowledging the evangelical perspective of ministry as reflected in the Statement of Faith of the National Association of Evangelicals.
- A profession of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ
- Christian Baptism
- Assent to the beliefs, values, and practices of TFC (including our beliefs regarding church discipline)
- Attend 4 of the 5-week New Member Class
- Sign & submit the new member form acknowledging the above

The New to Trinity Class

This class is held several times a year and provides essential information on the history, beliefs, purposes, structure and ministries of TFC to give newcomers the opportunity to learn about the membership process and inquire further about the church.

A Place For You?

Our prayer is that this material will help you understand more about Trinity Fellowship and help you as you seek God's will in finding a church home. TFC has been wonderfully blessed through its history with unity, stability, and growth. There are no perfect churches and that is certainly true of us. At best every church is a collection of redeemed sinners led by redeemed sinners. Yet God has been gracious to work in us and among us. We pray God would give you guidance and wisdom as you seek His will. We would love to see the Lord lead you to join with us in serving Him together as part of the Body at Trinity Fellowship Church.

Weekly Schedule

The following is a list of the regularly scheduled weekly services and ministry activities:

Sunday Morning

9:30	Worship Service - Sanctuary Children's SS (2 yrs. - 5th grade) Adult Bible Study & Fellowship Classes
11:00	Worship Service - Sanctuary Children's SS (2 yrs. - 6th grade) Adult Bible Study & Fellowship Classes Youth Program (7-12 grades)

Sunday Evening

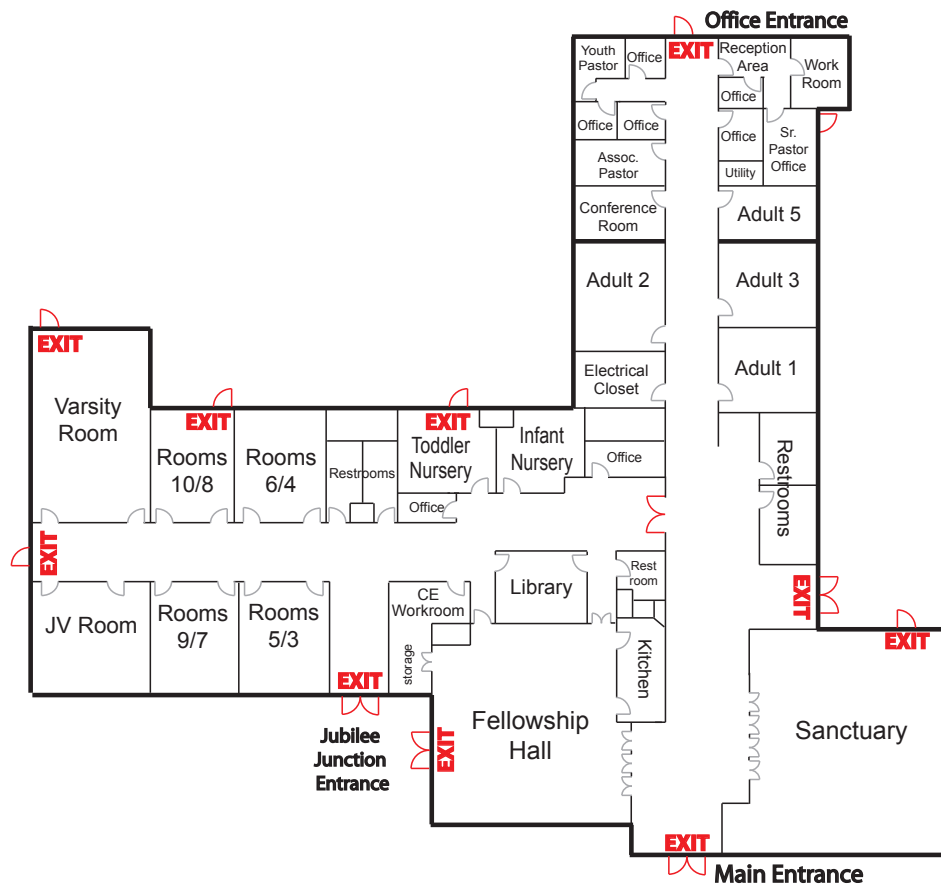
4:30-5:45	Youth Choir Rehearsal
6:00-7:30	Adult Choir Rehearsal
6:00-7:30	Varsity & JV Youth Programs

Wednesday Morning

6:00-7:00	Women's Morning Prayer & Bible Study
10:00-12:00	Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Evening

6:30-8:00	Adult Bible Studies
6:30-8:00	Varsity & JV Discipleship Groups
6:30-7:30	Children's Chorale
7:30-8:15	Children's Programs
7:30-8:15	TGIF (Trinity Girls in Fellowship) (Childcare is available)



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