

THE TRIBUNE

JANUARY - MARCH



Looking back, believing forward: Rev. Tom Phillips

Recently, while studying for our December preaching series on Isaiah, I read an interesting comment in John Oswalt's New International Commentary (my favorite commentary series). He mentioned that the Israelites walked into the future backwards, while facing their past. For them, the past was their best guide forward, as they learned to trust God's faithfulness in the future through seeing it amidst their past wanderings; even the wayward ones. I love that. With this in mind, it's a joy to think back over all that has transpired at Holy Trinity in the past 5+ years, post COVID, and consider the ways the Lord has been faithful to the parish. In an era where the median Episcopal Church attendance is now just 38 parishioners (not a typo), Holy Trinity is an obvious stand-out. The Lord has chosen to preserve and to flourish the hard work and faithfulness of so many members across the decades. Praise God.

Holy Trinity has grown consecutively all 5 years post COVID. In 2024, the parish grew from an average Sunday attendance of 225 to 276. Our growth continued in 2025, with our Sunday attendance averaging above 330 for the year.

There are so many bright spots to point towards. We baptized 22 members in 2025, nearly tripling from the previous year. We've seen our children's ministry grow tremendously, with 40 regular attenders (ages 11 and under). We've started a missions partnership with Honduras, made significant facilities improvements like the parking lot and patio space, and grown our small group ministries, with over 150 members participating. Lastly, many of our ministry teams grew, and processes for our ministries continue to strengthen and improve. The parish is flourishing, thank you Lord, and thank you!

Interestingly, there are just over 6700 Episcopal congregations across the nation, and yet 29% of the weekly attendance takes place in just 181 of the largest congregations. Holy Trinity is in this group, which means that the Lord has gifted us with an unusual measure of influence, leadership and "talent." Let's not bury it (referring to the parable of the talents, Mt 25:14-30). We have a leadership role to play in our diocese, and we've taken that place through hosting events like the Daughters of the King fall assembly, 2025 Diocesan Altar Guild assembly, diocesan youth beach day, the upcoming diocesan mens' retreat, and the 2026 Grounded youth event. This is all happening through the leadership, support and participation of our staff and members. Thank you!

It is my prayer that the Lord will continue to help us take our place as a resourcing parish that would effectively reach people in Melbourne and the world with the life changing good news of Christ's love. In 2026 we will work to continue to create opportunities for young and old to take their next steps towards knowing Christ and making Him known. Let's expect the faithfulness of the Lord to continue in the year ahead. We clearly see it in our past, let's believe it for our future, and walk towards it together in faith, hope and the joyful expectation that God has more planned, for His glory and our lasting good.

Rev. Tom Phillips



A New Mission Partnership Begins

In November, Rev. Tom, Rev. Daniel and Dave Lacy visited St John the Apostle Church in Siguatepeque, Honduras to establish a missions partnership at the invitation of Bishop Lloyd Allen, the Bishop of Honduras.

Honduras is one of 7 nations that comprise of our province of the Anglican Communion. For decades, Honduras has been our companion diocese within our province. The nation itself is developing. The median age is 24. At age 45, I (Tom) am older than 91% of the population. I felt like an old man when I was there; a feeling I very much hope to know more about one day!

Currently, a handful of parishes across our diocese maintain mission partnerships in Honduras. St. Peter's in Lake Mary built a medical facility that has been in operation for over a decade. The Cathedral Church of St Luke is in a partnership with the Honduran Cathedral Church and School. Incarnation Oviedo partners with a parish in San Pedro Sula. This year, we are joining St. Barnabas Deland in their partnership with St John the Apostle Church and School.



About St. John the Apostle, Siguatepeque

St John's is a flagship parish in Honduras with a long history of ministry and a lot of potential. It's located in the central highlands of the country, along C5, the major road from Panama to Mexico. The town's population is about 75,000 and it is considered one of the most desirable places to live in the nation. It's safer and quieter than the large coastal cities, and it contains a large working middle class population.

A major focus of our partnership with St John's will be helping to strengthen their bilingual school. English fluency is a major skillset, and students who learn English in school have 30-50% greater income potential than those who are not bilingual. The public schools in Honduras are Spanish speaking only, and the education ends in 7th grade. St John's is meeting this need for bilingual education, and they are also meeting the spiritual needs of the students through robust daily chapel and a Christ centered learning environment. Strengthening the school is the best way to increase St John's impact for Christ in their community.

How We Hope to Engage

In speaking with Bishop Allen and Father Francisco Lone, the Rector of St John's, several opportunities to engage are developing. We are working to arrange a summer trip (June 29-July 4) to continue to get to know the congregation and school. We are talking about whether it's possible to do conversational English with students via zoom year-round. We are also exploring what it would cost to help fund several much-needed facilities improvements (a soccer field and roof for the basketball court). There would also be opportunity to scholarship students to the school, or even help underwrite teacher salaries. The US dollar has a big impact in Honduras. Tuition for one student for an entire year is \$1100 US. A teacher's annual salary is under \$8,000. Stay tuned for further information about ways to engage, and please reach out to the clergy team if you are interested in knowing more and plugging in.





1884 LEGACY BUILDERS

For over 140 years, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church remains a beacon of faith, fellowship, and service in our community. We remain steadfast in our commitment to making disciples, embracing scripture, and celebrating God's grace through Word and Sacrament.

Our church is more than a place of worship it is a home where traditions are honored, contemporary expressions of faith are welcomed. Through the work of our Vestry and Rector, we continue to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ with joy and purpose.

You can ensure that our legacy endures for generations by making a planned gift to Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Your generosity will sustain our mission, strengthen our ministries, and create lasting impact. Whether through a bequest or direct donation, your gift may also provide tax benefits while supporting the work we cherish.

To get started, email Fr. Tom Phillips
Tom@holytrinitymelbourne.org

*For every house is built by someone,
but the builder of all things is God.
~ Hebrews 3:4*



*To know Christ and
make Him known.*

*"Your gift is a sacred trust that will sustain
the worship, witness, and work of our parish
for generations yet to come."*

-Fr. Tom Phillips, Rector



Ways to invest in the 1884 LEGACY BUILDERS

- Cash
- IRA rollovers
- Publicly traded securities
- Life Insurance
- Retirement accounts --
401(k), 403(b), 457(b),
Keogh, and others
- Closely Held Securities
- Real Estate
- Tangible Personal
Property
- Savings Bonds

Build Tomorrow Together

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
50 West Strawbridge Ave, Melbourne, FL 32901
www.holytrinitymelbourne.org
321-723-5272

This information is not intended as a tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary.
Contact your attorney, CPA, or financial advisor for the best way you can participate.

Introducing the 1884 Legacy Builders

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church is excited to announce the formation of the 1884 Legacy Builders, a new initiative honoring our 140-year tradition of faith and service. Through planned gifts and legacy giving, members can help sustain worship, support scholarships, and ensure perpetual care for our memorial gardens and historic chapel. Together, we build tomorrow while celebrating the blessings of today. Look for more information in January with the official rollout of the 1884 Legacy Builders Sunday January 25th.

ROBERTA STOCKSDALE AND KATHERYN WACASTER TEAM UP AS OUR ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER:



Roberta Stocksdale

With gratitude, we are pleased to have Roberta Stocksdale and Katheryn Wacaster collaborating to lead our traditional music at our 9 am service. Roberta began her ministry with us several months ago and has done a tremendous job stepping into the organist role at our principal service. She is the Dean of the Space Coast chapter of the American Guild of Organists and has served congregations in our area for years, including recently serving at St Mark's Episcopal in Cocoa. She and her husband Bob were attending Holy Trinity before she came on board as our 9 am organist. We're so blessed to have them both.



Katheryn Wacaster

Katheryn Wacaster will join Roberta as our choirmaster in late January. Together they will lead our traditional music for the 9:00 am service. Katy is an alumni of Holy Trinity Academy and went on to earn a bachelors of music education from UCF. She is currently the music education teacher at Gemini elementary in Melbourne Beach. She has also served for 6 years as choirmaster at a local United Methodist Church. She has the skill to lead choirs of all ages, and we're excited about the potential of adding children to our choir as the program develops under her leadership. We look forward to what she and Roberta will accomplish together.



David Vogeding retires December 2025:

After a decade of faithful service, David Vogeding is retiring as our organist at the end of 2025. David, as you well know, is a tremendously accomplished organist with a DMA in Organ from the University of Oklahoma studying with Mildred Moggess Andrews. He has decades of experience leading liturgical music in the Episcopal Church, including 4 years at St. John's in Norman Oklahoma and 19 years at St. Andrews in Kansas City Missouri. He also lead music at Eastminster Presbyterian in Melbourne Beach for 19 years. He's a rare career professional, who has the talent, grace and capacity to have made music his life's work. What a gift he's been to Holy Trinity these past many years.

Together, let's wish David all the best in this next season of life. Join us as we celebrate his accomplishments at coffee hour (10:30) Sunday December 28th, as we encourage him to remain an active member of our parish.

Thank you David!





Ryan Malchow Ordination

Ryan Malchow was ordained to the transitional diaconate at St Luke's Cathedral on November 15th. Ryan has joined our staff as our student ministries director and is also serving in our office with administrative and organizational tasks. He will be eligible for ordination to the priesthood in May of 2026, and we expect that he will be ordained in mid 2026. Congratulations Ryan!



Morning Prayer

We've begun a new weekly worship service. Join us every Tuesday morning, at 8:15am, for morning prayer in the historic chapel. This service, led by both lay members and clergy, is a tremendous way to start to your day. Come learn the ancient rhythms of morning prayer, and learn a practice that you can take home and pray daily.



Thursday morning 10:30am Bible Study Deep Dive

Beginning in 2026, Tom will host a regular Bible study, offered Thursday mornings at 10:30 in Parish Hall. During the seasons when small groups are in session, this study will follow the small group curriculum and format. When the small group series concludes, this study will continue, taking a deeper dive into the book that has just been studied. This winter we will gather for small groups in January for a 4-week study of Galatians. When that study concludes, Tom will lead a weekly deep-dive on the book of Galatians. If you want to take your understanding of the book to a whole new level, you will enjoy this study!

Galatians Small group series begins in January: JESUS. Not Jesus +

In January, we will engage in a 4-week small group study of the book of Galatians. This book is fantastic, and it is pivotal in your understanding of the gospel of grace in Jesus. The message of the book is clear. Jesus. Not Jesus + The study begins with a one hour kickoff **January 7th 6:15-8:00pm, and/or January 8th at 10:30 am.** If you're coming to the evening event, bring a dish to share. Small groups will meet in various locations across town from January 11th-February 5th. Look for small group location information in the narthex and parish hall gallery now! It's not too late to join a group! Please Join!



JANUARY - FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS



Young Adults Alpha

Young Adults Alpha | Sundays at 5 PM (Begins Jan 11)

New to the Christian faith or want a fresh look at the basics? Join us Sundays at 5 PM in Lewis Hall for dinner, a short lesson, and group discussion exploring the big questions of faith. Childcare will be provided. Learn more in the Narthex or Gallery.

Walk in the Spirit™ Workshop

Friday, January 16 (6:30 PM)

Saturday, January 17 (9 AM–Noon)

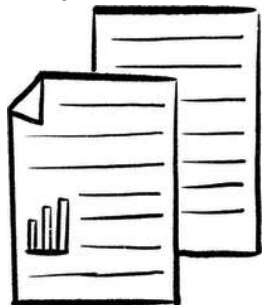
Join us for Walk in the Spirit, a three-session workshop on the Holy Spirit led by Foster and Patricia Smith from St. Paul's Church, Summerville, SC. Together we'll explore what it means to "be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18) and how to live a Spirit-filled life in daily faith. Open to all followers of Christ, both in the church and in the community.



January 16-17, 2026



WALK IN THE SPIRIT



Annual Meeting Sunday, January 18th

Join us in the Parish Hall between the 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. services to learn about the progress Holy Trinity made in 2025. We'll share highlights of the church's growth, and provide an update on our financial status. We will also be electing vestry members by congregational vote.

Rock the Universe January 23–25

Our youth will be heading to Universal Studios Orlando, for Rock the Universe Florida's largest Christian music festival. Throughout the weekend, they'll enjoy concerts from top Christian artists, worship experiences, and time together in the parks. Please keep our group in your prayers as they travel, learn, and grow in faith!



16th Annual Parish Campout

Feb 13–15, 2026 | Ocala National Forest

Join Holy Trinity for a peaceful weekend at Lake Shore Group Camp, privately rented for our group. Enjoy time in nature hiking, kayaking, games, fellowship, campfires, and "church in the woods" on Sunday. Tent camping only (hot showers available). \$8 per person; space is limited to 50 total (including children). Families bring their own gear and most food. Questions? Joey Jachec (321-505-3425) or Karen Dawson (321-514-9059).





PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday February 17, 2026

Support our youth group 5:30-7:30pm



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday February 18, 2026

7:00am

12:00pm

6:00pm

Lent series "Be Still"

This year for Lent, join us for an engaging dinner and teaching series. We'll be using the 24/7 prayer video series "Be Still," to engage in a teaching and discussion on how to spend daily time with God in personal devotion. What a wonderful thing to consider during Lent! Each session will contain a short video teaching on a practical devotional process. We will engage with some discussion and end each evening with Compline, a historic devotional service from our prayer book. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

Wednesdays during lent (Feb 25-March 25) 6:15-8:00pm

Bring your Bibles, a journal if you have one, and a potluck dish to share



24-7

PRAYER

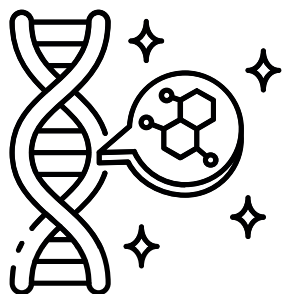
24-7 Prayer Room

Look for another 24/7 prayer room to be built for holy week! Would you like to help with this initiative? Let us know by calling the office.

DNA New Members class and newcomers dinner

(Friday March 13)

Are you new to the church in the past year or so? Have you not yet participated in our DNA members class or a newcomers dinner event at the rectory? If so, you are invited to join us Sundays February 22, March 1 and March 8 at 10:30 for our DNA members class in Lewis Hall. Also, plan to join Tom and Julia at the Boyer rectory for an indoor/outdoor newcomers event March 13 at 6:00pm. Dinner will be served, and fun will be had! Save the Date for the dinner and look for an RSVP opportunity in the narthex in February.



2026 WOMEN & MENS RETREAT



WOMEN'S RETREAT

Located at San Pedro Retreat Center

"See, I have refined you, but not like silver; I have tested you in the furnace of adversity." ~ Isaiah 48:10.

Join us March 6-8, 2026 at the beautiful San Pedro Retreat Center in Winter Park! Be blessed by our guest speaker Bethany Boring, music with Nikki Hande, and any of our dynamic new workshop offerings.

Register as an Early Bird before the end of the year for 5% savings!



(Regular registration opens January 1st.)

March 6-8, 2026



REFINED
A WOMEN'S RETREAT



MEN'S RETREAT

FEBRUARY 6-8, 2026

With Rob Sturdy

Join us for an incredible weekend of worship, renewal and engaging content. Our speaker is Rob Sturdy, Chaplain to the Corps of Cadets at The Citadel and Director of St. Alban's Anglican Chapel. Rob holds a PhD in Historical Theology, and his content is deep yet incredibly accessible.



MEN'S RETREAT

LOCATED AT CAMP WINGMANN

Join guys from across the diocese

A weekend of fellowship, worship, and renewal.

February 6-8, 2026
Open to all men ages 16+

Camp Wingmann
3404 Camp Wingmann Rd
Avon Park, FL 33825

Cost: \$185
Register now
to reserve your spot!



Questions? Call: 321-723-5272



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 29th

7:30am | Traditional (Church)

9:00am | Traditional (Church)

11:15am | Contemporary (Church)

11:15am | Traditional (Historic Chapel)

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

6:00pm | Traditional with foot washing (Church)

Good Friday, April 3rd

12:00pm | Traditional (Church) *with Stations of the Cross afterwards*

6:00pm | Traditional (Chapel)

Easter Vigil, Saturday April 4th

6:00pm | Traditional (Church)

Please reach out to us if you would like to be baptized in this service

Easter Sunday, April 5th

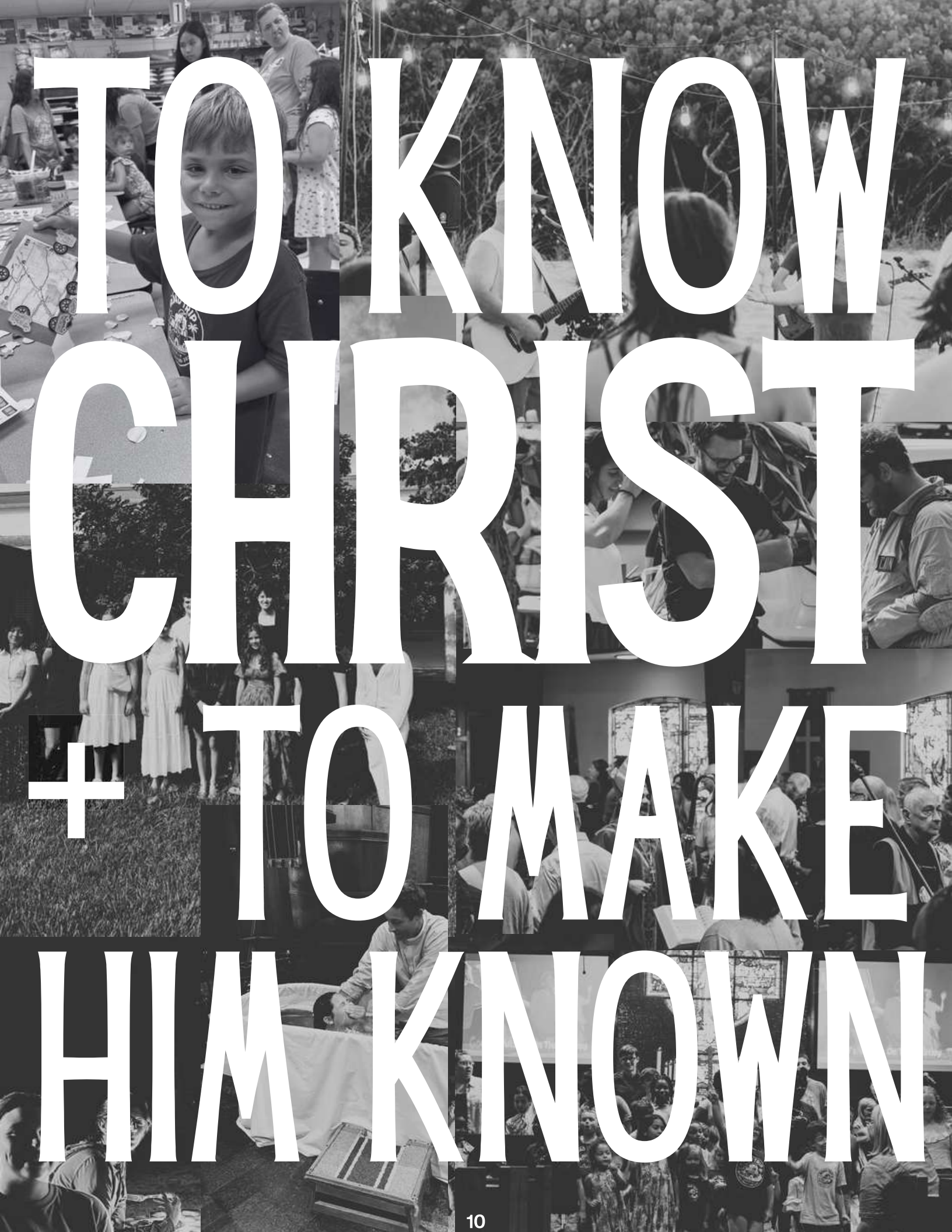
7:30am | Traditional (Church)

9:00am | Traditional (Church)

Easter Egg Hunt Between 9:00 & 11:15 Services

11:15am | Contemporary (Church)

11:15am | Traditional (Historic Chapel)



TO KNOW
CHRIST
+ TO MAKE
HIM KNOWN

SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS 2026



Holy Spirit weekend with Russ Parker (May 1-2)

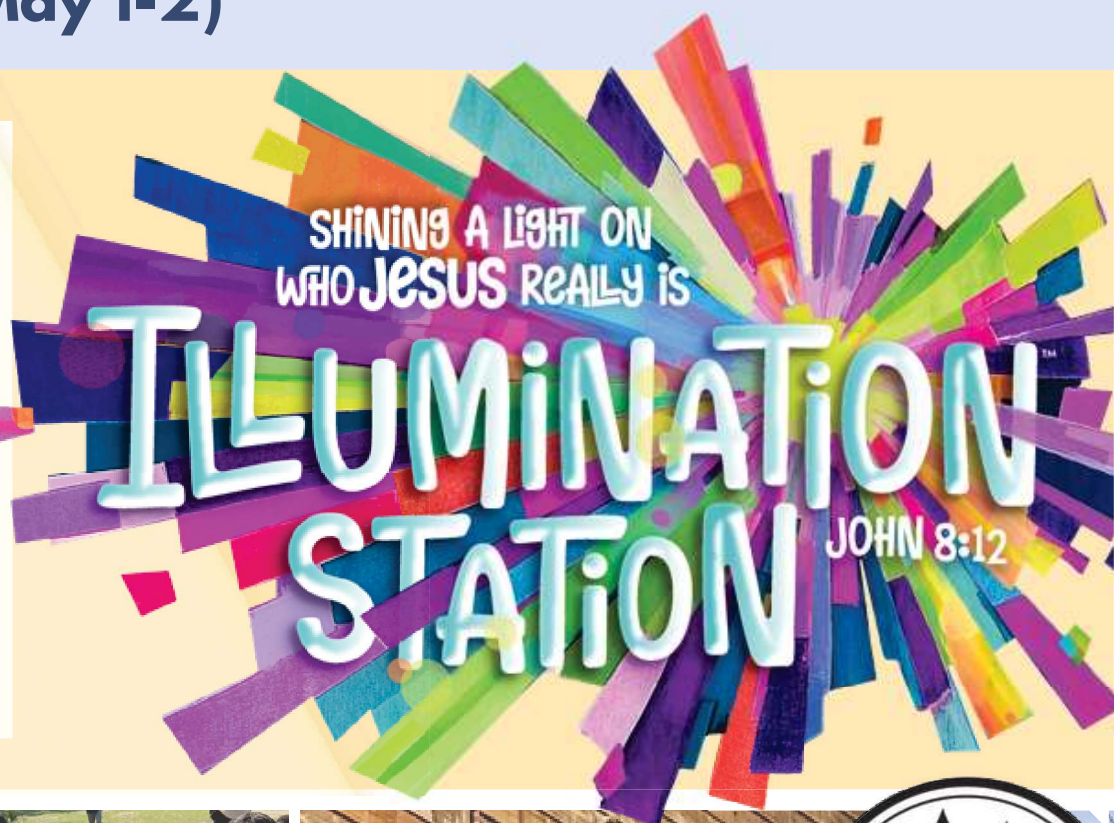
Vacation Bible School

June 15-19!

Vacation Bible School is coming June 15-19! Children in Pre-K through 5th Grade are invited to join us for a fun, faith-filled week at Holy Trinity.

Save the date early registration opens February 20. More details coming soon!

Interested in volunteering? Contact: children@holytrinitymelbourne.org.



High School

Incoming Grades 9-12

One-Week Sessions

Camp St. Peter: June 7-12

Camp St. John (Session 1): June 28-July 3

Camp St. John (Session 2): July 5-10

Two-Week Session

Camp St. John: June 28-July 10

Middle School

One-Week Sessions

Camp St. Barnabas: June 14-19

Camp St. John (Session 1): June 28-July 3

Camp St. John (Session 2): July 5-10

Two-Week Session

Camp St. John: June 28-July 10

Day Camps

Camp St. Francis: June 15-19

Camp St. Mary: June 29-July 3

Camp Trinity: July 6-10

Elementary School

Incoming Grades 3-5

One-Week Sessions

Camp St. John (Session 1): June 28-July 3

Camp St. John (Session 2): July 5-10

Two-Week Session

Camp St. John: June 28-July 10

Day Camps

Camp St. Mary: June 29-July 3

Camp Trinity: July 6-10



TRIBUNE

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

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www.holytrinitymelbourne.org

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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Easter

7:30am | Traditional (Church)

9:00am | Traditional (Church)

Egg Hunt between 9:00 & 11:15 services

11:15am | Contemporary (Church)

11:15am | Traditional (Historic Chapel)

