



## Who Are We?

What's Your Story Week 3: Who are We? Identity, Privilege and Reflexivity.

This week we are invited to do the brave work of unpacking how we identify ourselves and others. We are invited to face our privilege (whatever that may be) and we are also invited to examine our assumptions, judgments, and implicit biases. We are further invited to speak the truth about any discomforting revelations we may have about ourselves, so that real change can happen. We are invited to do this all within the safe space of our Trinity community, amongst those with whom we worship and under the loving gaze of our generous God, who desires us to know and love ourselves and others more fully.

Reading: LUKE 16.10–13

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is

dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

See you on Sunday!





21 September Who Are We?

If you're planning to join us this week, these are the preachers and services you can look forward to:

- **7.30am Church Traditional Service** with Holy Communion
- John Wessels
- 9.30am Church Fusion Service NO Communion (also live-streamed)
- John Wessels
- 9.30am Chapel Connect Service
- Brett Mordaunt
- 11.30am Church Kopanang Service
- Revival
- 6.30pm Church Home Service
- Brett Mordaunt

All our services are family friendly. All are welcome. Who are you inviting?

After each service someone will be available to pray with you at the rail.

#### Find our Sunday 21 September 9.30am Fusion Service livestream here.

All our livestreams remain available on YouTube as videos after our services. You can access them at any time using this link.

Because there is a celebration of Holy Communion at the combined Birthday Service on Sunday 28 September, there is no Communion on the normal Communion Sundays, with the exception of the 7.30am Traditional Service.

## **Baptism**

This coming Sunday at the Fusion service we celebrate the baptism of:

Ariella Carissa Visser, the child of Matthew Visser and Irene Visser

Riley Roos, the child of Thembane, grandchild of Marlene Roos

# What's Your Story? - New Sermon Series



What's Your Story Week 3: Who are We? Identity, Privilege and Reflexivity.

We invite you this month to join our story-telling journey which will help each one of us further along the journey of our 2025 theme – 'One Heart,

Many Voices', creating space for us to share their stories, connect across difference, and celebrate the common thread that unites us: our shared identity as children of God and members of the Trinity community.

This series is based on material that has been developed by Heartlines (South African NGO) for the purpose of helping us to build understanding, empathy and a stronger sense of community.

This series is very practical, but it also needs to be 'put into practice' for it to be effective for each one of us as well as for our church community. We have wonderful ways in which you can do this. Please see further down for more information on how to get involved.

## What's Your Story – the journey continues:

- Download your sermon-based curriculum booklet from the website for free here: <a href="https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/whats-your-story/">https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/whats-your-story/</a>
   This booklet is full of interesting questions to guide you in applying what you heard in the Sunday sermon. You can also find our sermon videos here, and audios when they become available.
- Have your photo taken this Sunday at church to add to our photo display 'Our Faces, Our Faith'.
- Get an insight into our children's stories by visiting the Prayer Request canvas inviting you to hold our children in prayer.
- Our challenge this past Sunday was with whom do you feel called to start building a bridge? How are you going to do this and how are you going to cross that bridge once it has been built? How is that going?

Thank you for joining us on this special journey.



These are the stories of God's work in and through our Trinity community.

**Strategic Planning** 



At Trinity we take planning very seriously, and our process for 2026 has already started. During this time we are intentionally discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading us, and what is best for our congregation and community in this time.

This is most effective if as many of our Trinity family attend as possible. This means that YOU are invited - even if you are not in leadership, and even if you have not attended any of these sessions before.

#### Saturday 20 September | 8.30am to 1.00pm

If any of these streams interest you, please come and help shape them — we need your voice:

- Addressing our income challenge
- Continuing the Appreciating Differences journey
- Evangelistic and disciple-making ministry to and with underresourced communities and individuals

Format of the morning: a brief plenary, then three facilitated groups (90 minutes each) to co-create draft strategies. By the end of the morning we'll agree on draft proposals to be developed further.

All members of Trinity are welcome, and you are encouraged to participate.

Combined Birthday Service and Heritage Day Bring-and-Share





Our 'What's Your Story?' sermon series culminates in our Trinity birthday service, where we celebrate OUR story.

#### Combined Birthday Service | Sunday 28 September | 9.30 - 11.30am

On this Sunday, all services will come together for one combined service, and it will be hosted in the Sanctuary. This festive service is about 2 hours long, and includes Holy Communion and Children's Church.

Because it is also the week of Heritage Day, we encourage you to dress up in a way that celebrates your unique heritage or traditional dress.

You are also invited to bring something to eat that showcases your heritage, so we can share with each other after the service.

When we share our food and our heritage stories with each other, we celebrate our story!

On this day, there will be NO Market Sunday, NO Thriving Mental Health Support Group, and NO other services or evening service.

All are welcome. You do not have to attend Trinity to join us for this joyous occasion. Who will you be inviting?

**Community Service Day** 



#### REACH OUT COMMUNITY SERVICE DAYS

This year our community service initiative will take place over 2 weeks.

#### Saturday 4 October and Saturday 11 October

Volunteers can start signing up on Sundays at the tables after the services, and get more information on the activities and involvement required from the volunteers.

#### Our 2025 initiatives are:

- Rise Against Hunger: Food packing
- The Place of Hope, Orange Farm: A 'Thank You' Tea Party with talks for the Leaders of The Place of Hope
- Montegomery Haven Retirement Village: Sing-A-Long with the Trinity Choir
- Uzima, Soweto: A 'Thank You' Tea Party with talks for the Leaders of Uzima
- Zandspruit: A new project for Trinity A few hours spent playing games with the youth, presentations to mom's with regards to social aspects of daily living and prayer with moms and a prayer walk
- Tshepo: Join us in helping the children enjoy the water at the Windsor Public Pool (based next door to the Community Centre) as they learn to swim

You can find many more details, and a form to sign up, on our website here: <a href="https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/community-service-day/">https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/community-service-day/</a>

All are welcome. You are encouraged to participate where you can!

## Pop-Up Play Place



Do you know of any children between the ages of 4 and 13? Invite them to join us for our FREE Pop-Up Play Place!

We will have all sorts of entertainment and activities, including a magician and a mobile farmyard.

#### Monday 6 to Friday 10 October | 9.00am to 12.00pm

- Monday, 6 October magician & balloon animals
- Tuesday, 7 October sports games
- Wednesday, 8 October movie day
- Thursday, 9 October yoga
- Friday, 10 October mobile farmyard & face painting

All children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver (aunts, uncles, grandparents, nannies, or family friends). There will be a coffee station available for parents.

If you are over the age of 16, and you would like to get involved and volunteer, even if it's not for the whole week, you can chat to Ally.

You can find more information and registration here: <a href="https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/church-life/reachout/pop-up-play-place/">https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/church-life/reachout/pop-up-up-play-place/</a>

All are welcome. You do not have to attend Trinity to join us. Who will you be inviting?

# Women's Auxiliary



At our next Women's Auxiliary meeting we will be learning a fun way to make ribbons and bows.

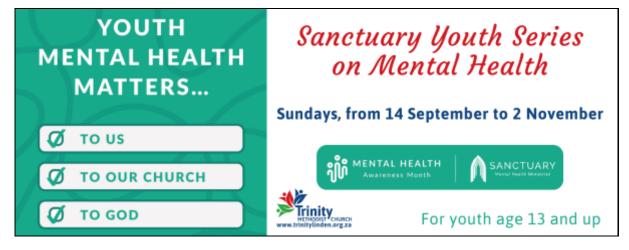
You are invited to come and join us for a morning with Juliet Manning.

## Saturday 18 October | 9.30am | Chapel

All are welcome. You do not have to attend Trinity to join us. Who will you be inviting?

# There is still time to join us!

## Youth Series on Mental Health



We are excited to run the Youth Series on Mental Health!

Sundays, from 14 September to 2 November | 4.30pm to 6.00pm

#### WHO IS THE SERIES FOR?

Youth age 13 and up, who:

- have questions about mental health
- live with mental health challenge
- support family and friends with mental health challenges

#### WHAT THEMES DOES IT COVER?

- Mental health and mental illness
- Theology of mental health
- Emotions
- Stigma
- Recovery
- Friendship
- Self-care

To join us, please register here: <a href="https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/form/">https://www.trinitylinden.org.za/form/</a>

For more information, contact Bronwyn by WhatsApp at 0645013709 or email at <a href="mailto:youth@trinitylinden.org.za">youth@trinitylinden.org.za</a>

All are welcome. You don't have to attend Trinity to join us. Who will you be inviting?



At Trinity we celebrate our young people.

This is where you are invited to join us this weekend:

GroovyCrew | Friday Night Kids - Gr 0 to Gr 7

Join us this Friday for a night of games, a bonfire, and s'mores.

Friday 19 September | 5.30pm to



#### 7.30pm

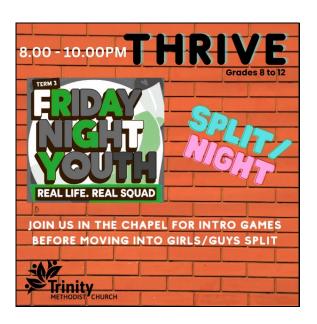
All are welcome. Who are you inviting?

# Thrive | Friday Night Youth - Gr 8 to Gr 12

Our Thrive Friday Night Youth meets again. We are having a 'split' night! Join us in the chapel for intro games before moving into a girls/guys split.

# Friday 19 September | 8.00pm to 10.00pm

All are welcome. Who will you be inviting?



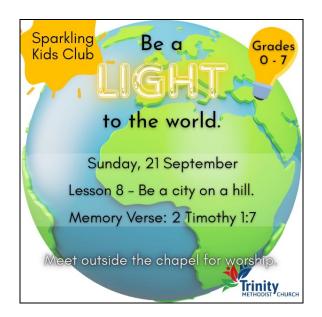
# Sparkling Kids Club | Sunday Morning Kids - Age 2 to 13

Join us on Sunday morning 21 September at 9.30am, for Sparkling Kids Club.

Our series is called 'Be a light to the world', and this week we are talking about 'Be a city on a hill'.

All are welcome. Who will you be

inviting?



# Sunday Morning Teen Church - Gr 8 to Gr 12

Join us on **Sunday morning 21 September, at 9.30am** for Teen Church!

We will joining the rest of Trinity on the 'What's Your Story?' journey, with a special youth focus.

All are welcome. You are encouraged to bring a friend.



# Sunday Morning Kopanang Kids - Ages 2 to 13

Join us on **Sunday morning 21 September at 11.30am,** for our
Sunday Morning Kopanang Service
Children's Church.

All are welcome. You are encouraged to bring a friend.



#### Save the Dates

What is coming up at Trinity Methodist Church Linden?

- \* Saturday 20 September Strategic Planning Day
- \* Sunday 21 September Youth Mental Health Series
- \* Wednesday 24 September Heritage Day
- \* Sunday 28 September Combined Birthday Service
- \* Sunday 28 September Heritage Day Bring-and-Share
- \* Sunday 28 September NO other services other than Birthday Service
- \* Sunday 28 September NO Market Day
- \* Sunday 28 September NO Thriving Mental Health Support Group
- \* 7 to 28 September Sermon Series: What's Your Story?
- \* Wednesday 1 October What's Your Story? Small Group Experience
- \* Saturday 4 October <u>Community Service Day 1</u>
- \* Sunday 5 October New Sermon Series
- \* 6 to 10 October Pop-Up Play Place
- \* Saturday 11 October Community Service Day 2
- \* Wednesday 15 October Seniors
- \* Saturday 18 October Women's Auxiliary

All Trinity services and events are open to all. Who are you inviting?

We seek prayer for humility, justice, and Spirit-led self-awareness - understanding our own identity and privilege requires honesty before God and a willingness to change.

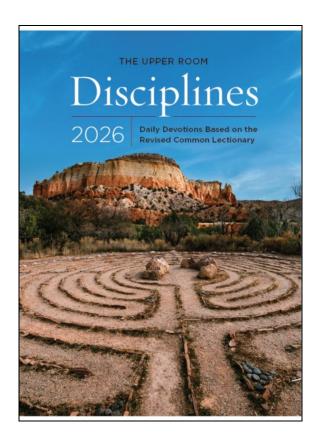
We invite the Spirit to transform our hearts toward equity and compassion. We pray that God would reveal blind spots in how we view ourselves and others. We pray for courage to lay down unjust advantages and use our influence for good. And we pray that our communities pursue justice, inclusion, and God's kingdom values over self-interest.



# The Charge

On Sundays, at the end of our services, we pray the following together as a community:

"Loving God,
we go from this time of worship
into a fractured world,
to be bridge builders in society.
Although we are many voices,
help us deepen our community life together here;
partnering with Your healing ways in the world.
Amen"



We will be ordering 15 'Disciplines - Daily Devotions, Based on the Revised Common Lectionary' books for 2026.

They sell for R220 each, and it will be on a first-come-first-serve basis, and payment will confirm your order.

Contact Nomphelo at 011 888 1740 or reception@trinitylinden.org.za

# Ways to Serve Our Community

Our **Soup Kitchen** is in need of volunteers.

If you are able to commit to an occasional Saturday morning from 7.30am for about an hour or so, we would love to have you on the team!

You don't have to commit to a regular assignment, just ask Nomphelo when she needs someone and try it out.

For more information, or to put your name down, contact Nomphelo at the office at 011 888 1740 or email <a href="mailto:reception@trinitylinden.org.za">reception@trinitylinden.org.za</a>

## Spring Clean for a Cause!

We are starting to feel some hints of spring in the air – the perfect time to declutter those cupboards and closets!

As you do your clean-out, consider setting aside used clothing, household items, books, or bric-a-brac to support the **Women's Auxiliary Jumble Sale.** 

Why donate? Every item sold helps raise funds that feed our community, touches children's lives, and shares the love of Christ in practical ways. Your giving goes further than your clutter ever could, and every contribution makes a difference!

Drop-offs can be made in the baskets around the church or the Donation Hub room by the office kitchen.

Let's turn excess into impact!

Do you have any unused

gardening equipment?

Please consider donating them to our ReachOut ministry





#### **Gently Used Garden Equipment**

Our ReachOut ministry works with an NPO called 'Let's Work', where homeless people clean up parks and then get remuneration in order to give them an opportunity to earn income and be more self-sufficient.

They are running seriously low on equipment to do their work.

If you have any unused gardening equipment - forks, spades, etc, please consider dropping them off at Trinity. We will make sure they go to where they are needed!



### **Confirmation**



On the 7th of September we celebrated the confirmation of 21 young people. What a joy to witness their commitment of faith and to give thanks for the work God is doing in their lives.

The Seekers journey has truly been a celebration of faith, family, and community. We are deeply grateful for every sponsor, leader, parent, and for the many prayers that have surrounded these young people throughout this time.

Confirmation is not only a milestone in their personal journey, but also a reminder to us all that we belong to God and to one another.







On the Wednesday before confirmation, we had the festive confirmation dinner where we invited all the confirmands and also their parents, their spiritual sponsors, our confirmation leaders, our camp ma and pa, and John, Londeka, and Brett.

Thank you to our youth and young adults pastor Bronwyn, for your passion, dedication, care, and hard work!





# Happy Anniversary, Table Talk!

Table Talk celebrated its 4th launch anniversary at the beginning of the

month (the first evening run started on 1 September 2021) and, as we move into a time of planning for next year and possibly doing something a bit different, we thought it was worth reflecting on and celebrating the journey and the impact Table Talk has had so far (despite the ongoing challenge to reach as many non-churchgoers as we'd like to). Since the idea was first presented by John at strategic planning on 19 September 2020, we've held 12 events/runs (two 6-week evening runs, one 4-week evening run, two 6-week morning runs, two offsite 4-week morning runs, three Farina events, one Saturday event and a reunion). Many people (over 440!) have been touched by Table Talk in some way too, whether it has been serving on the team, being a facilitator, attending a run/event, being a helper or caterer, or being involved in another way.

The anniversary of the launch appropriately falls at the start of Spring when plants put their pollen "out there", hoping for seeds which then take root and produce fruit. We hope for the same to happen in people's lives through this initiative. It is pause for thought and appreciation, thanksgiving and hope for all that God has done and will continue to do through Table Talk.

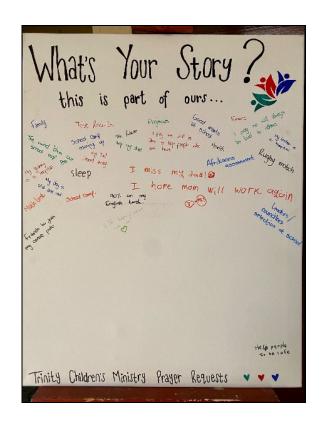
Thank you to the team over the years for their endurance and patience and to all who have prayed for Table Talk. Please continue to keep the team and initiative in prayer. We will see a great harvest!

# What's Your Story?

## **Build a Bridge:**

Truly listening to someone's story extends a message of respect and we come to see the human behind the 'other'. Telling others our own story can be a gift to both ourselves and to others.

As we continue our sermon series, 'What's Your Story?', we asked our congregation members to share with us a word that describes their walk with God, and give us a glimpse of their story.



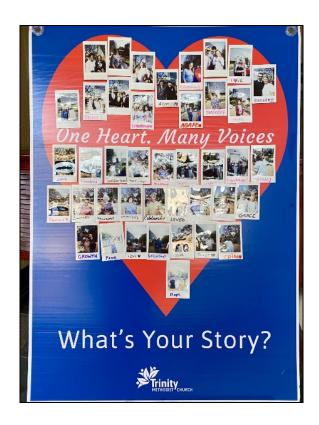
### What do kids pray for?

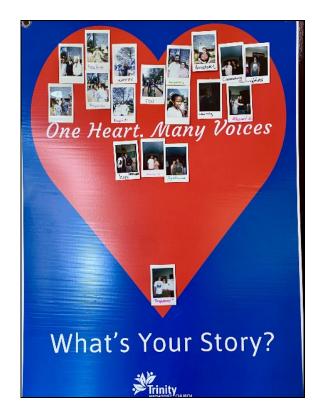
As part of our 'What's Your Story?' sermon series, we asked our kids to share their prayer requests. Then we wrote them on the canvas. If you like, you can add your prayer to theirs, and pray right now, where you are, for the kids and their requests.

## So, what is YOUR story?

You are invited to share a word that describes your walk with God. You can participate after our services on Sunday, or join us digitally. If you add a photo of yourself, we can print it and add it to the boards too!

You can send your photo and word to our WhatsApp number at 071 089 9694, email it to <a href="mailto:digital@trinitylinden.org.za">digital@trinitylinden.org.za</a>, or leave a comment on our What's Your Story? posts on Facebook or Instagram.





## Would you prefer to receive this newsletter via WhatsApp?



Want to stay in the loop with what's happening in the life of our church?

Get our weekly newsletter straight to your WhatsApp - it's the easiest way to stay updated with upcoming events, special services, and what's new in our community.

## Here's how to join:

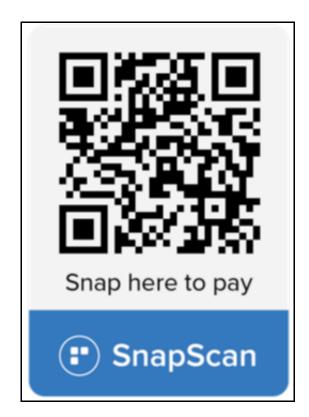
- 1. Send us a WhatsApp message that says "Please add me" + your name to 071 089 9694.
- 2. Very important! Save that number in your contacts otherwise, WhatsApp won't deliver the messages.

It's that simple!

And don't worry - you can unsubscribe any time.

We'd love to stay connected with you!

# **Sacrificial Giving**



#### **Trinity Banking Details**

Methodist Church of Southern Africa - Trinity Society Standard Bank Cresta Branch: 05-10-01 Account no: 200111760

You can read more about sacrificial giving <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **Recent Sermons**



Did you miss last Sunday's service? Or would you like to hear it again? Would you like to share it with a friend?

You can find us on YouTube

here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylinden">https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylinden</a>

You can find us on Spotify

here: <a href="https://open.spotify.com/show/7AHv2GfYyywCXgKD7PYsKb?">https://open.spotify.com/show/7AHv2GfYyywCXgKD7PYsKb?</a>

si=a702iB8QTMirjO4XIb6cGA

You can find our past sermons in video or audio format by clicking on the link to our website here:

**Find Our Past Sermons Here** 



#### **Pastoral Staff**

#### **John Wessels**

- Reverend

#### Londeka Mabaso

- Reverend

#### **Brett Mordaunt**

- Lay Pastor

#### **Bronwyn Delport**

- Youth & Young Adults Pastor

## <u>Ally Senyard</u>

- Children & Young Families Pastor

#### **Angela Wessels**

- Care and Counselling

## **Connect With Us**

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info@trinitylinden.org.za

Care and Counselling Centre

Phone: 011 782 0367

pastoral@trinitylinden.org.za

Request Prayer | Care |

Counselling <u>here</u>

You can find our website at <u>www.trinitylinden.org.za</u>

You can find us on the corner of 5th Ave and 5th St, Linden, Johannesburg. Click here to find us on Google Maps.

# Engage With Us On WhatsApp and Social Media











You can find us on social media! Please like, follow, share, tag us, and engage. We are on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. You can find us by clicking on the icon above.

# **Trinity Bulletin**

For other Trinity related news, find our older weekly bulletins by clicking this link.