

## PARISH PROFILE

**Trinity Anglican Church** Texas Hill Country

## TRINITY'S MISSION >

To know Christ and to make Him known in all the world.

## TRINITY'S VISION >

Jesus Christ is the Head of this Church and all Members are His Ministers.



The first thing a first-time visitor notices when they come to Trinity is the friendliness of our members. Many say "this is the first church I've visited where people actually smiled and welcomed me." Some of us just call that normal "Texas hospitality." Some of us think it's because we're family members who are filled with hope, joy, love, but first and foremost the Holy Spirit, coming together to worship our Lord and God.

From a recent visitor: "We visited your service this past Sunday…well, let me rephrase that…we were welcomed with open arms to your service this past Sunday. To say we were impressed with the service and the people is an understatement. My spirit was uplifted in a way that has been lacking for many years. So, again, thank you."

We pray that as you read through our Parish Profile, you, too, will get a sense of this joy and the same warmth you'll experience if you were to visit.





We're a growing family of approximately 137 members. Before the Pandemic, our ASA (Average Sunday Attendance) was approximately 72. Currently, it has grown to 107. Young families as well as middle-age singles and couples have joined. Many drive more than 15 miles to get to Trinity.

We are multi-generational. Some are retirees, others work in the home, medicine, business and technology, education, and some are self-employed.

Our members have come from a wide variety of denominations and worship styles – non-denoms, Methodist, Episcopal, Lutheran, Baptist, Catholic. Our worship style is "blended" and our liturgy is interactive – using the 2019 BCP and incorporating parts of the Nigerian and Kenyan liturgies.

Our members live in 12 different zip codes. They come to services from Georgetown, Cedar Park, Austin, Marble Falls, Leander, Jonestown, Lago Vista, Liberty Hill, Point Venture, Bertram, and Round Rock.

The Rector sends out a weekly email with the upcoming Sunday's Lectionary readings, updates on members, a list of upcoming events, and

any church needs. The Rector always emphasizes that Trinity is a Family, not just a group of members. Additionally, we have a texting program to more quickly communicate important, immediate news to members.

Our Rector, Council members, teachers, and nursery workers have been through the extensive and thorough video training and background checks through Ministry Safe. We are developing our Trinity Manual of Safe Church Policies and Procedures: Protection of Children and Adults which will reflect similar policies of our Diocese and ACNA.

Part of our ethos also involves our active involvement in the local Northshore Ministerial Alliance. Our Lago Vista/Jonestown/Point Venture area has no newspaper or other media. Much communication happens at the church level through social media, texting, email, and local involvement in the schools and government. Our Ministerial Alliance is an important source of communication as well as helping form an important bond among area ministers. We expect our next Rector to be active and involved. Our current Rector is the chair/ coordinator of the Alliance.



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- We're highly visible on a heavily-traveled 5-lane highway connecting key cities in the Hill Country.
- We own 8 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> acres that are heavily-wooded and slope down to a freshwater creek.
- Our Worship Center is 5,800-sq. ft. and encompasses a large classroom, bathrooms, kitchen, nursery, library, Rector's office, Assistant's office, secretarial area, storeroom, private bathroom for office area.
- Our Family Life Center is 4,900-sq. ft. It features a large Parish Hall, three classrooms, kitchen, two bathrooms, and a Flex Space that can be used for tables and seating for an expanded Parish Hall or for a 30-seat classroom with a room divider for privacy.
- Our Columbarium has 36 niches and features landscaping, trees, flowers, and a waterfall as well as a majestic view over the tree-covered hills surrounding our property. It features a Trinity Memorial Wall containing the names of all Trinity members who have died each year since our founding.





Trinity Memorial Garden and Columbarium

## KEY VALUES OF TRINITY'S LEADERSHIP

In preparing for this transition, Rector Dale conducted a survey of 22 parish leaders. Following is a summary of what they determined were our key values:

- 1. We focus on the importance of Holy Scripture as God's inerrant Word and the importance of the Holy Spirit – His gifts and empowerment and what that looks like in our everyday lives.
- 2. Rector's attention to members. "He is welcoming, interested, and is always there when someone is in the hospital or having surgery."
- 3. Attention and focus on our children. "We love that our Rector gets down on the floor with the children during the children's sermon every Sunday."
- 4. Interactive worship. "Instead of the priest just reading the entire service, I love the responsive readings and participation in the Communion service."
- 5. Friendliness and lightheartedness of members. "There's no grimness. Everyone is happy to worship together."





In November 2009, our Founding Rector Dale Chrisman resigned from the Episcopal Church. At a congregation meeting, 90 percent of the congregation chose to leave the Episcopal church and plant a new orthodox and Biblical church.

HISTORY

Our newly-named church was Trinity. We joined the AMiA (Anglican Mission in the Americas) under Bishop Philip Jones.

After 7 years of worshiping in the Villa Antonia, we raised the money to purchase 8 acres of land.

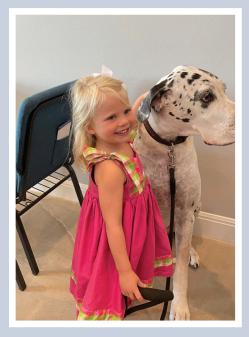
In January 2013, we joined the ACNA (Anglican Church in North America). In 2014 we joined the newly-formed Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast and elected The Rt. Rev. Clark WP Lowenfield as our first Bishop. Bishop Clark remains our Bishop.

In 2015, we conducted a Capital Campaign to build a permanent church home and we moved into our Worship Center in October 2016.

In August 2018, we received a grant for \$50,000 from the Brady Family Trust to design and construct a Trinity Memorial Garden and Columbarium.

After much prayer, a Holy Spirit Weekend, and a Revive Weekend led by the AAC's (American Anglican Council) The Rev. Canon Mark Eldredge, we kicked off a Capital Campaign in September 2023 to build a much-needed 4,900-sq. ft. Family Life Center.

Family Life Center construction began in November 2023 and opened in the fall of 2024.



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## LOCATION & FUTURE

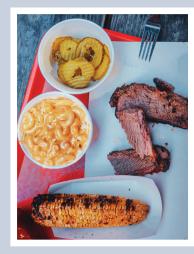
We are situated between the cities of Jonestown and Lago Vista, in the Texas Hill Country and adjacent to Lake Travis. Austin is 30 miles to our southeast, Marble Falls is 25 miles to the west, and Cedar Park and Leander are 15 miles east. In a 10-mile radius are approximately 20,000 residents with 10,305 homes either under construction or planned. Cedar Park and Leander add another 170,000 residents.

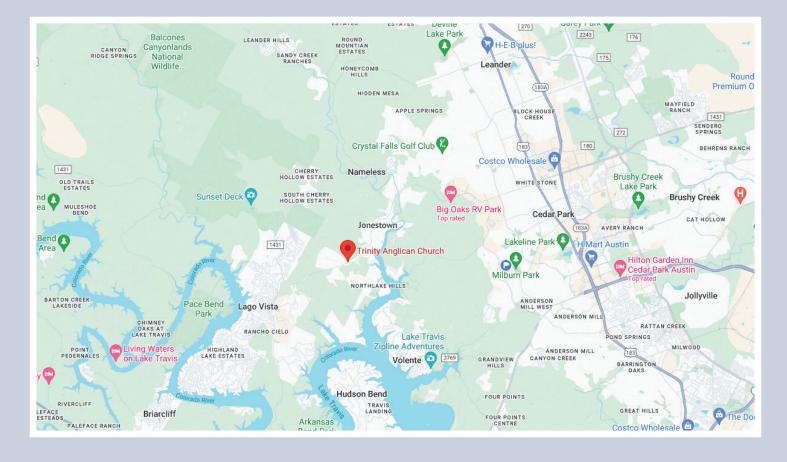
In January, CNN ran a story naming the Texas Hill Country one of the "best places to visit in 2024." "Meanderers will...find rolling hills and hiking trails, winding rivers, tubing, wineries, barbecue, music and dance halls, plus an explosion of wildflowers in March and April."

Our church is located on heavily-traveled RM 1431 which originates east of IH 35 in Round Rock and continues west past the city of Marble Falls. TxDOT (the Texas Department of Transportation) has spent \$40 million in the past 12 years upgrading the highway and has allocated \$10 million more to build a protected turn lane in front of the church in 2024. The area is fast-growing, driven by three main factors: first, taxes and costof-living in the Austin area have priced many out of the city's housing









market and many are moving to the suburbs. Second, the area's high-tech growth is attracting newcomers from throughout the country. Third, post-Covid, many are looking for a more casual lakeside lifestyle and highly-rated schools for their children.

Lago Vista ISD is one of the top-ranked 4A schools in Texas and regularly wins awards in academics, band, one-act plays, and athletics.



# TRINITY'S LEADERSHIP

## Diocese

For the past 10 years, we've been faithful and active members of the Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast under Bishop Clark WP Lowenfield.

#### Rector

Under the leadership of our Bishop, our Rector is responsible for the spiritual health and well-being, mission and ministry strategies, discipleship and leadership development, worship ministries, and the performance of duties of all members of the staff and volunteers at Trinity. The Rector is responsible for hiring and supervising staff.

## **Leadership Council**

The Rector is advised and supported by the Trinity Church Council. The relationship between the Rector, Council, and other lay leaders and staff is one of mutual trust.

Members serve three-year terms. A discernment team, working with the Rector, recommends new Council members each year.

### Staff

Children's Education and Children's Choir – an unpaid (her choice) volunteer.

**Congregational Music Leader** – keyboardist, paid. Music team includes two unpaid guitarists.

**Choir Director** – paid. Our 16-member choir are unpaid volunteers. They sing twice each month from September to May.

Bookkeeper – paid non-member.

Secretary - part-time, paid.

In addition, we pay two students each Sunday to operate our livestream, sound, and AV.





# **TRINITY'S WORSHIP**

Corporate worship is at the center of our family life. We gather at 10 on Sunday mornings and at noon on Wednesdays for Noonday Prayer and Communion. We follow the 2019 ACNA Book of Common Prayer and meld in parts of the Nigerian and Kenyan liturgies which make our services interactive and participative which our members like.

Our worship music is blended. We sing "traditional" hymns such as *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, Holy, Holy, Holy, and Blessed Assurance* as well as contemporary music such as *Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me, In Christ Alone,* and *O Praise the Name.* All liturgy and music words are displayed on screens. All our music is "singable." We do not use hymnals or Prayer Books. Our Worship Team consists of a keyboardist, bass guitarist, and acoustic guitarist. We occasionally have local musicians join us.

Most of our members dress casually, with some preferring to dress more formally.

We uphold the Bible as God's holy Word and the Nicene Creed and 39 Articles as basic to our beliefs. Our worship style is both liturgical and celebratory. We believe in the sacramental nature of our services and are led by the Holy Spirit as we read, sing, and listen.

Each service begins with Announcements followed by a lay member leading the congregation in an opening prayer. Following the reading of The Gospel, we have a children's sermon after which the children go to Sunday School. They return to their families at the conclusion of the Nicene Creed.

During Communion, we have a Prayer Team in the back of the church, and the Rector individually prays for each infant and child as they come forward.



In 2024, we had one Ash Wednesday service, a Maundy Thursday service with Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar, a Good Friday service followed by Stations of the Cross, and one Easter service. We also have an annual Thanksgiving Eve noon service, and two Christmas Eve services. Adult Forum – meets every Sunday morning before the service for an hour for a co-ed Bible Study.

**Women's Ministry** – Our women meet Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings for Bible Study. They also have participated in the national IF Gatherings program joining with members from a local church in addition to our annual Diocesan Women's Retreat.

**Men's Ministry** – our men meet Tuesday evenings for Bible Study. They also have a Men's Breakfast on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

During Lent, our Ash Wednesday service is followed by a series of Wednesday night Lenten Soup and Bread Suppers with a Scriptural lesson. Members bring soup and bread and it's a time of fellowship and learning.



#### Some additional Sunday Morning practices:

- Before the service a group of prayer warriors meets to pray for the Rector, members and visitors, and the service.
- Clergy no longer wear traditional vestments. They wear a stole over a sports jacket and slacks or suit.
- Emphasis on our Children's Sermon every Sunday.
- Children's Choir sings at least once a quarter.
- Adult choir sings the 1st and 3rd Sundays each month except during the Summer.
- Following our service, we gather for a time of Hospitality and Fellowship.

#### Trinity and its members are committed to:

- God's Word the authority of Scripture is central and fundamental in our worship.
- Prayer undergirds all we do.
- The Sacraments we hold in high respect the Lord's Table and Baptismal Font.
- The Holy Spirit we believe strongly in and celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit in our worship and in our lives.

## TRINITY'S OUTREACH PARTNERS



Our current missional partnerships are:

Agape Pregnancy Resource Center (agapeprc.org) Albanian Christian Teachers Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN) (adrn.org) American Anglican Council (AAC) (americananglican.org - our Bishop and our current Rector both serve on the AAC Board of Trustees) Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF) (ardf.org) The Gideons International (gideons.org) Hope Center (northlakehopecenter.com) Kairos Prison Ministry (kairostexas.org) Honduras Missionary Reveal Resource Center (revealresourcecenter.com) Young Life (lagovista.younglife.org) Christmas Family – each year, we adopt a local family. We provide food, clothing, and special needs.

## TRINITY MARKETPLACE

Some funding for our Outreach ministries comes from our Annual Trinity MarketPlace, held the second Saturday each November. We sell food, art, crafts – all hand-made by Trinity members. MarketPlace attracts hundreds of area men and women each year. Some of our guests have joined Trinity

after experiencing the presence of the Holy Spirit in our church and liking what they saw and heard.

Our first MarketPlace was in 2014. Our goal through the years has been to further the Kingdom of God by bringing non-members to our church in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The funds raised have enabled us to buy a new grill for the men's grilling ministry, purchase a new kitchen freezer, fund community outreach projects, and enable support programs for our youth. It takes many



hands and months of preparation to execute this large event. Without our crafters, bakers, and all our members helping to take orders for tamales, working silent auction,



setting up and decorating the week of, and the men in the Grilling Ministry cooking sausage wraps that day, our MarketPlace would not be the success it is.

Over our 11 years, MarketPlace has raised more than \$145,000 for our Outreach ministries.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. If the Lord is moving you to take the next step in our search, please visit the following pages for more information.

Trinity Anglican Church: trinitychurchlagovista.org Trinity YouTube: @trinityanglican1181 Trinity Facebook: facebook.com/trinitylaketravis.church Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast: dwgc.org Anglican Church in North America (ACNA): anglicanchurch.net

Email: office@trinitychurchlagovista.org Phone: (512) 599-4035 Phyiscal Address: 18900 FM 1431, Jonestown, Texas 78645 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4616, Lago Vista, TX 78645

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