

“Together we LIVE to see our lives, our community, and our world transformed by the power of the Gospel of *Jesus Christ*.”

*Welcome!*



*The Trinity Times*



**JULY 2026**

"DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN"

- JOHN WESLEY

"SERVE EACH OTHER ACCORDING TO THE GIFT EACH PERSON HAS RECEIVED, AS GOOD MANAGERS OF GOD'S DIVERSE GIFTS"

- 1 PETER 4:10

# BEGINNING ANEW WITH GOD!

**We** all should know this is the first month (July 2026) of a new partnership between Trinity United Methodist Church and Travis Park United Methodist Church. Where has time gone? Perhaps we'll never know, but I do know one thing, and that is, I would like to invite you as I have invited my wonderful wife Henrietta to begin anew with God as we step out together into this new beginning with Travis Park UMC and Trinity UMC partnership. So, where should we begin, well let's begin from the beginning, from the book of Genesis, the book of beginnings.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God call the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. (Genesis 1; 1-5, KJSB).

Notice the words *without form, void, darkness*. All of us, at some time or another have found something about our lives that perhaps can be described with words like the above. Have you ever felt as if everything in your life was out of order, *without form, void, and darkness* seems to be all around, like nothing was fitting together properly as it should?

There is only one way to have our lives move from the above to the state where there is real peace, real order, and that is we need God's creative power. We must and should place our lives in God's hands, and let Him direct us. You see, God has a plan for us, a perfect plan, a plan of a new beginning.

Many people complain about the meaninglessness of life. In other words, it's all in vain-life is just the passing of time. And without God, this is true. We exist, but nothing more. Only God can put meaning and purpose into life. When we get to the point in our lives, when it seems as if everywhere we look, there is nothing but darkness...right there on the edge...we will find God! You see God is always there... waiting to create something extra-ordinary in our lives and here at Trinity UMC!

The Bible tells us that anyone who comes to Christ Jesus is a new creation: "the old is gone, the new has come!" We discover a hope and a promise and a future! We discover, much to our amazement, that God has been there all along, and now, as we trust Him, He is going to do great things in our lives and at Trinity UMC. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Full life, abundant life is measured by our character, by our love for one another – it is measured by our relationship with God. You see God can take all the broken pieces, all the broken dreams, all the broken-up lives and re-create them in to something beautiful, into a new beginning.

So as we step out in our new partnership with Travis Park UMC, let us invite God to create anew, a relationship with Him that will bring real peace and real order in our lives.

May the Divine Light of God shine in your life and create anew a relationship with our Father in Heaven and with Travis Park UMC.

*Shalom,  
Pastor David and Henrietta Cervantez*



# FREEDOM ISN'T FREE!

I'm sure all of you have heard this. Our country is about to celebrate 250 years as a country!

We got here by much blood, sweat, and tears!

There were those who fought and even died to give us a free space to live in, because of love for their family and their friends, and some for themselves.

I believe God wants us to be free! After all, God gave us free will! Yes, there are world leaders who actually want slaves and puppets! A good leader (or God) wants people who obey and follow because they love and respect their leader. What kind of parent wants a child to obey because he or she fears that parent? We want children to obey because they love their parents and respect them.

Lee Greenwood wrote a beautiful song called "God Bless the U.S.A." In it he says, "I'm proud to be an American where, at least, I know I'm free." Nobody wants to live in a country where they have no choice in what they do, where they live, or, even, what they are allowed to believe!

If you are an American, you are born with certain rights! If you are a Christian, you are born (again) with certain rights or gifts! Of course, this also means you have certain responsibilities. You are free as an American as long as you abide by the laws of this country. You are free as a Christian, as long as you abide by God's laws, i.e. the Ten Commandments and the 2 Great Commandments. This country and God both have consequences for disobeying laws!

Remember that you are free as a American because of the courage, blood, sweat, and tears (and sometimes their lives) of our military personnel and some private citizens. You are free as a Christian because Jesus gave his blood, sweat, and tears (and His life) to save you!

At the very least, I hope you understand what a sacrifice all of these acts were. Do you say, "Thank you for your service," when you meet someone in our military, whether active or a veteran? When you pray, do you thank God for Jesus and His willingness to give His life for you? Everything has a cost; the greater the gift, the higher the sacrifice! Please remember to be grateful for all you have, especially freedom!

*Harriet Phillips,*

Lay Leader



# Photo Gallery

## Happy 4th of July!



Trinity UMC and Travis Park UMC were so grateful to spend an evening together—sharing good food, great music, plenty of laughter, and the kind of fellowship that fills your heart. Nights like this remind us that our new Cooperative Parish isn't just about doing ministry side-by-side. It's about building relationships, celebrating life together, and strengthening our shared presence here in San Antonio.

Huge thanks to everyone who planned, prayed, cooked, set up, and showed up to make the night special. Trinity UMC really knows how to throw a party, and this gathering was such a beautiful way to bring neighbors, friends, and our church family together. We can't wait to share more moments like this with you in the events ahead.

A heartfelt thank you to Julie Vincent, Trinity UMC SPRC Chair, for spearheading this effort, and to her faithful, hardworking team for making it happen. Thank you, Rev. David Cervantez, Trinity UMC Pastor, for generously donating the '400' pound BBQ pit so we can enjoy delicious barbecue.

Thank you all! Until next time ❤️❤️❤️









*Sunday, June 28th, we had a wonderful Community Celebration! About 150 people attended our Independence Day Picnic. There were delicious side dishes to accompany freshly grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Music filled the room with lots of cheerful conversations and kids darting around. The balloon swords, bracelets and other designs were a hit with children and adults. Face painting is always a winner for any festive event, and the kids looked fantastic!*

*As tradition at Trinity UMC, we had our patriotic sing-a-long which always includes my favorite - the singing of the Service Songs - acknowledging the service members and families from America's military. This was followed by joyful singing of many of the patriotic songs that have been passed down for part of these 250 years as a nation. The room was full of smiles!*

*We planned, hoped, and prayed that this picnic would bring together people from different communities - and it did just that! Thank you to the following groups: Trinity UMC, Travis Park UMC, St. Mark's UMC, A2Z Daycare, neighbors from the church area, 210 Entertainment, and the NA group. Thank you to the many people that gave precious time and energy to pulling this off! Time to start planning our next event!*

*Blessings -  
Julie Vincent  
TUMC SPRC Chair*



## **Pastor Transition 2026**

Dear Trinity UMC Family,

We have been so blessed to have Rev. David Cervantez serve as our pastor for these past 9 months. He has brought wisdom and humor to his Sunday sermons and a loving and gentle spirit to caring for our congregation. We are happy he and Henrietta will continue to be part of our flock! They will continue to worship with us, lunch with us, and celebrate life with us.

Rev. Cynthia Engstrom, the Senior Pastor from Travis Park, will serve as our lead pastor. She will share the opportunity for Sunday preaching with the different pastors serving Travis Park UMC. Along with Pastor Cynthia, Pastor Johnny and Pastor Edie will keep office hours at our church office on Tuesday and Wednesday, just as Pastor David did. They will also visit our church members in times of need. Administrative tasks such as leading the Church Board and guiding our church leadership will be the responsibility of Pastor Cynthia and other directors from TPUMC.

It has been my experience that the team from Travis Park brings knowledge, passion and expertise in various fields. We have already been blessed by their guidance on various aspects of church business.

Yes, this is once again a transition for Trinity. But our history is that as we continue to change, God continues to work through us to bring blessings to our people and our community. I'm asking you to look for the positive in this experience, and to continue to pray for our church. If you have questions or concerns of any kind, please bring them to me. I will be in constant communication with the TP team. The success of Trinity is everyone's goal.

God has blessed us. He sees us and hears our prayers. Let us trust that He is at work here.

*Thank you and bless you,  
Julie Vincent  
TUMC, SPRC Chair*





We'd love to have you join us any Sunday for our after-church service Lunch Bunch. Following the worship service, we gather for lunch, fellowship, and a great time of conversation and connection and a fun time catching up with one another.

## Trinity UMC Prayer Team †



*"God, help me navigate whatever challenges I encounter this day. Be my comfort and my rock. Guide me to do Your will and be an instrument of Your peace today and each day. Amen."*

Prayer team meets every Wednesday at 2:15pm via Zoom.

Please call the office (210-684-0261) for Zoom links.

Please join us or send us your prayer request at [www.tumcsa.net](http://www.tumcsa.net)



**FREE FOOD!** every 3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

**JULY 18, 2026 – FROM 10 AM–12 NOON**

**THE ARBUTUS PLACE AT TRINITY'S PARKING LOT FACING NEWCOME STREET**

## FLEA MARKET/YARD SALE/POP-UP MARKET

- ◆ Bring your tables.
- ◆ The cost is \$15.00 per space.
- ◆ You may bring your canopy and chairs.
- ◆ Invite your friends, and come and have a picnic.
- ◆ Either prepay at the church office (Mon-Thurs) between 11 am and 2 pm or bring in the day of → CASH Only and the exact amount.
- ◆ Great visibility on Wurzbach. Will advertise on social media and the church's electronic marquee.



**JULY 18, 2026 | 9 am-2 pm | EVERY 3rd SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**

Trinity United Methodist Church

6800 Wurzbach Road, 78240. 210-684-0261 church office.

**GOOD LOCATION! PROMISE ☺**





**Trinity United Methodist  
Church**

**Rev. David Cervantez  
Pastor**

**Sunday Worship**  
at 10:00 a.m.

**In Person —**  
You may wear your mask as  
you feel comfortable.

**Sunday Worship**  
10:00 a.m. is also available on  
Facebook Live, &  
[www.tumcsa.net](http://www.tumcsa.net)

**Prayer Meetings:**  
- Wednesdays via zoom at  
2:15 p.m.

Church office phone  
210-684-0261  
Business office hours:  
**Mondays—Thursdays**  
11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.  
or **call for an appointment**

e-mail:  
[TrinityUMCoffice1@gmail.com](mailto:TrinityUMCoffice1@gmail.com)  
6800 Wurzbach Road,  
San Antonio, Texas 78240  
[www.tumcsa.net](http://www.tumcsa.net)



**JUNE 2026**

**ATTENDANCE IN WORSHIP  
IN THE SANCTUARY [IN-PERSON]**

MAY 31	38
JUNE 7	34
JUNE 14	38
JUNE 21	32
JUNE 28	46

**FACEBOOK LIVE – [VIEWS]**

MAY 31	73
JUNE 7	83
JUNE 14	83
JUNE 21	81
JUNE 28	85

**\*TITHES & OFFERINGS**

MAY 31	\$2,300
JUNE 7	\$5,806
JUNE 14	\$ 627
JUNE 21	\$1,505
JUNE 28	\$2,942

[\*Tithes & Offerings report taken  
from **ONLY** the Sunday counters;  
online and text giving **NOT**  
Included].

**YARD SALE/FLEA MARKET— Free**

**DONATE ONLINE**

Simply scan this  
image using your  
phone's camera  
(or QR code  
reader).



You may also go  
to:  
[www.tumcsa.net](http://www.tumcsa.net)  
then click on the  
"Donate" button.

**DONATE FROM  
YOUR  
SMARTPHONE.**

You may also **text**  
giving to:  
**844-210-1179**  
(Type in the  
amount you wish  
to donate, then  
hit send).

**Happy Birthday to:**

JEREMY CADE	3-Jul
JAMES RYAN LANDERS	3-Jul
REV. DAVID CERVANTEZ	6-Jul
FRED LYLE	20-Jul
ROBIN LANDERS	24-Jul
MARY SHOEMAKER	24-Jul
BRIAN PHILLIPS	29-Jul
JOE MONTALVO	30-Jul

**Happy Anniversary to:**

DAVID C. & CYNTHIA LOPEZ	1-Jul
TOM & HARRIET PHILLIPS	5-Jul
ROY & PAT PUTZ	12-Jul
DAVID & TARA DYE	24-Jul



**May God shower blessings  
on you today and forever.**

*If we have missed your  
special day, please notify  
Cynthia in the church office.  
Thank you!*

# RIO TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT FROM BYRON BURGE, TUMC BOARD CHAIR

This past week (June 17–20, 2026), I had the privilege of representing our church at the **Rio Texas Annual Conference** in Corpus Christi. As your Board Chair, I always keep a close eye on how our church connects to the bigger picture, and I want to share a quick personal reflection on what took place.

The theme of the conference was **¡Adelante con Esperanza! (Moving Forward with Hope)**. After a few years of transition in the wider church, the atmosphere in the business sessions was distinctively unified, positive, and focused entirely on the future.


As I reflected on this theme and Bishop Harvey's message, the conference vision statement really stood out to me for what it means for Trinity right now:

- **Moving Forward with Hope:** This means we refuse to be defined by past challenges or anxieties about the future. It means we step ahead with anticipation, fully trusting that God's vision for Trinity is vibrant, alive, and expanding.
- **Loving Boldly:** Living boldly means our faith is active, visible, and courageous. It means Trinity isn't just a building on Sunday, but a force of unconditional, active love in our community every single day of the week. [🔗](#)


- **Serving Joyfully:** This means our ministry is fueled by gratitude, not obligation. When we serve our community with genuine joy, it becomes contagious, refreshing both the people we help and our own spirits. [🔗](#)
- **Leading Courageously:** For our leadership and our board, this means making choices based on faith rather than fear. It means having the bravery to try new ways of doing ministry, stepping out of our comfort zones, and trusting where God is leading us. [🔗](#)

Here are a few quick highlights from the event:

- **Juneteenth Worship:** I was able to participate in a historic, deeply moving, and joyful Juneteenth celebratory service during the daytime sessions that truly celebrated our diverse connection.
- **Powerful Evening Services:** The conference also hosted vital evening gatherings, including a Service of Remembrance and a celebration for newly ordained and commissioned clergy.
- **Doing the Work:** In our daytime business, we handled vital connectional matters, approving a budget and structure designed to send maximum support back to local church ministries and community outreach.

**Project Transformation Rio Texas** is a nonprofit, collaborative ministry organization that connects under-resourced children, college-age young adults, and local United Methodist churches to build stronger communities. Formed in 2015 and operating as an independent 501(c)(3) since 2020, the organization focuses heavily on literacy, leadership development, and spiritual growth across southern Texas.  Project Transforma... +3

## The Core Three-Way Mission

The organization works through a unique "win-win-win" formula built entirely around purposeful relationships:  Project Transformatio...

- **For Children:** It provides high-quality out-of-school programs designed to improve literacy, social-emotional learning, and physical wellness.  Project Transformat... +1
- **For Young Adults:** It offers paid summer internships for college students to live in an intentional community, practice servant leadership, and explore vocations in ministry or service.  Project Transforma... +2
- **For Churches:** It utilizes neighborhood churches as host sites, revitalizing congregations and reconnecting them with their surrounding community.  Project Transformat... +1

Rev. Blanco recalled a time earlier in his life when he was working as a waiter at a local restaurant. A gentleman came in, ordered a modest lunch, and upon leaving, left exactly seven cents on the table as a tip.

Instead of reacting with frustration or offense at the tiny amount, the experience became a profound moment of reflection for him. It taught him several key lessons that shaped his ministry:

- **Value in the Small Things:** He realized that you cannot always know someone's financial situation or what that seven cents truly represented to the giver.
- **A Lesson in Grace:** The moment challenged him to serve everyone with equal dignity and joy, regardless of what they could give back in return.
- **The "Seven Cents" Ministry:** He used this analogy to remind the conference that God often takes our seemingly insignificant, small offerings—our own "seven cents"—and multiplies them to do incredible work in the mission field.

His story perfectly captured the conference's call to **Serve Joyfully**, emphasizing that true service doesn't look at the price tag or the reward, but at the heart of the person sitting at the table.

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## What We Voted On

- **The Nominations Report:** We officially voted to approve the new slate of leaders and committee members who will guide the Rio Texas Conference's regional ministries for the coming year.  Instagram · powerliftin...
- **The 2027 Conference Budget:** We voted on and approved the financial blueprint for the region. This ensures our shared money goes directly toward helping local churches grow, funding campus ministries, and keeping costs streamlined. 
- **Clergy Pension Changes:** We voted to finalize the transition of clergy benefits to the new **Compass Pension Plan**. This modernizes how we take care of our retired and active pastors.  Squarespace +1
- **Clergy Housing Allowances:** We passed the standard annual resolutions that designate housing allowances for retired or disabled pastors, ensuring they are taken care of financially.  Rio Texas Annual Conf...
- **Strategic Structure Adjustments:** We approved updates to our Standing Rules and leadership structures. This allows our regional districts to respond faster to local church needs and disaster relief efforts.  Squarespace +1

## Simple Main Takeaways:

- **A Unified Focus:** The region is looking strictly forward with hope.
  - **Celebrating Freedom:** The daytime Juneteenth service was a massive celebration of our diversity.
  - **Supporting Local Churches:** The new budget prioritizes the health of local church ministries.
  - **New Leaders:** A brand-new class of passionate pastors was ordained to serve our congregations.
-