



Holy Trinity United  
Methodist Church  
16 Sylvan Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
978-777-7408  
holytrinitydanvers.org  
Rev. Shin Ahn  
Trinity Times 2024

## *Prayer For The 4th Of July*

Dear God,

Thank you for this day. Thank you for the freedom we celebrate on the 4th of July. We ask for your blessings on our country and our people.

Help our leaders make wise decisions. Keep our soldiers safe. Give us peace and unity.

Let us always remember to be kind to each other, to help when we can, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We give you all the glory and praise.

Amen.



## JULY WEEKLY EVENTS

### Sunday

Church Service and Sunday School 9:30 am (**off for the Summer**)

Followed by fellowship coffee hour

First Sunday of every month, Fill a red grocery bag for the Danvers People to People Food Pantry

### Monday

### Tuesday

Samaritan Circle: Second Tuesday of the month

### Wednesday

Friendship Ring: First Wednesday of the Month (off-site)

### Thursday

### Friday

### Saturday

The Gathering – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month

10:30am-12 noon (Off for July & August)

AA 7:30pm

**JOYS AND CONCERNS** for prayer time can be emailed to Pastor Shin at [singingpastorshin@gmail.com](mailto:singingpastorshin@gmail.com) (please leave your name as well as your request).

**PASTORAL VISITATION:** If you would like a visit from Pastor Shin, please notify him at [singingpastorshin@gmail.com](mailto:singingpastorshin@gmail.com) You may also contact the church office at [htumchurch@gmail.com](mailto:htumchurch@gmail.com) or 978-777-7408.

## *Our Staff*

Reverend Shin Ahn, *Pastor*

Nancy Rodriguez, *Christian Education Director*

Jodi Armstrong, *Office Administrator*

Kevin O'Brien, *Sexton*

## SAVE THE DATES

July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day

July 7<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Shin's first Service at HTUMC

*Prayer Requests*



**CHURCH PRAYER LIST:** Linda Phillips, Tuckerman Ferris, Norman St. Hilaire, Beth Daley, Linda Kulju, Virginia Pickett, Sarah Pena, Linda Murphy, Laurie Wilson, Mark, Joanne Smith, Jeanette, Mary, Millie Ward, Bridget, Rev. Higgins, John, Jean, Ritchie, President Carter, Peace in Ukraine, June, Ray & George, Marj Stark, John Douglass, Sandy Gray, Barbara Towski, Jean Ebb, William Drury, Shirley Teague, Nancy Higgins, Sharon & Ivey Dunbar-Link, Philippa & Luke Ottevanger, Betty Spencer, Betty & Bob, Lillian Gillis, Nancy Tiskis, Dree, DeeDee, Ostrom Family, Pat Gagnon, Pamela Drury, Susan Ellis, Luke & Philippa, Debbie Campbell, Sarah MacQuarrie, Jean Ebb, Cheryl Clay and Family.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday school is off for the Summer and will resume in September.



## THE GATHERING

The Gathering will not meet during the summer (July & August). We will start us on Saturday September 14. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Gail Noyes.

## **Danvers Food Pantry**

Don't forget to fill a **red grocery bag** for the first Sunday of every month, for the Danvers People to People Food Pantry.



## ***Looking for coffee hour hosts and/or people to provide refreshments...***



As always, we are looking for coffee hour hosts, which includes making the coffee and lemonade, setting up for "coffee hour", serving and then cleaning up. It does not have to be just one person; it can be a team or a class or any group. If you are not comfortable with setting up, we are happy to show you, or we can always use help with cleanup. We are also looking for people to provide refreshments for each Sunday. It does not have to be homemade...it can be anything store bought, or something from a bakery or munchkins or anything you would like to bring. If you can help in any way, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, feel free to call Brenda at 978-335-1786 or call the church office at 978 777-7408



**We want to thank Jack & Jill for their generous contribution of \$5000 along with many others who made special offerings to help toward our budget deficit. While it is great help in the short term, to resolve our overall financial issue we will need a significant increase in income. The Finance committee is discussing possible ways such as fundraisers, campaigns, etc. If you have any ideas, suggestion or ways of helping please let us know.**

**HTUMC family,**

**Amy and I would like to thank you for the generous farewell. We thank you for the gift, the keyrings, the ties, the soda, the socks, the blanket and the celebration. It has been a privilege to be in ministry with you over these last eight years and you will live in our hearts forever. We pray God's blessings upon your journey forward.**

**Rev. Matt and Amy Wissell**

#### **Dreamsicle**

- 1 package sugar free Jello**
- 1 package Vanilla sugar free pudding**
- 12oz fat free Cool Whip**
- 1 small can of Mandarin Oranges (Drained)**

**Make the Jello according to the directions on the box. Let sit for 5 minutes. Add the vanilla pudding (do NOT make the pudding) add the powder to the Jello, with a mixer.**

**Fold in the Cool Whip until it is well mixed.**

**Add mandarin oranges.**

**Let set for a couple of hours or overnight.**

**You can use any flavor Jello. You don't have to add any fruit. You don't have to use sugar free Jello and pudding, regular works just as good.**

**ENJOY!**

**From, Terry Smith**

# Rev. Shin Ahn's Bio

## 1. Personal Information

**Name:**  
Shinhyung Ahn

**Birth:** March 9th, 1967, in Seosan, Korea  
My life and faith journey began in a pastor's family. It was within my family that I grew up with the dream of becoming a pastor. All the memories and experiences I

gained at my father's churches are valuable resources for my current ministry. The memories of my childhood and youth are closely tied to church activities, such as summer camps, choir, prayer and praise nights, Bible study groups, and more. The church was my home, and the church members were my dear family.

**Family:** My wife, **Suk**, and I have been married since 1993. We celebrated our 30th anniversary last year. She is a faithful companion in life's journey and a passionate partner in ministry. Throughout our marriage, we have built a happy and healthy relationship. She is a tailor and loves gardening, cooking, and baking. We are blessed to have two lovely daughters, **Julie** and **Jiyoung**, 29 and 25, respectively. Julie is a graduate student at Simmons University, majoring in Nutrition. She is gifted in music, loves to sing, and play the piano. She lives with us. Jiyoung is gifted in art and is currently preparing for a job. Both are cat lovers. They are our joy and source of strength.





## 2. Contact Information

Email: [singingpastorshin@gmail.com](mailto:singingpastorshin@gmail.com)

## 3. Educational Background

- 1989: Yonsei University (B.A.)  
Major: German Language and Literature  
Minor: Education for Teaching License
- 2008: Andover Newton Theological School (M. Div.)

It was in college that my intellectual and theological conversion began. Driven by my interest in languages and my plan to study theology abroad, I majored in German language and literature. During my freshman year, I started appreciating the beauty of diverse perspectives and interpretations of the Bible and Christian faith. This experience was sometimes embarrassing and challenging, but it broadened my horizons. While in college, I also took many classes in education, music, and theology. It was a time when God was equipping me with knowledge about church music, biblical languages, and Christian education for future ministry.

## 4. Professional Experience

- 1990 – 1993: Platoon Leader in the Republic of Korea Army
- 1994 – 2001: English Teacher at multiple Private Academies

After graduating from college, I joined the army and served as a platoon leader for three and a half years. Those years spent with dozens of young men provided me with a wonderful opportunity to improve my leadership skills. After leaving the army, I created a three-year plan to save money for studying abroad. To achieve this, I started teaching English at private academies. However, it took several years, as my plans changed after I became the father of two girls. I loved my teaching job and truly enjoyed my life with and for young students. Nevertheless, a persistent thought nagged at me that I was not in the right place. It was then that I received a call from my brother, who was living in Boston. He suggested that I study in Boston. The call from my brother sounded like a call from God, reminding me that it was time to move forward. I responded to this call immediately.

## 5. Ministerial Experiences

- 2002-07: Assistant Pastor at N. Boston Korean UMC (part-time) - not under appointment
  - a. Faithfully served in worship and administration
  - b. Actively participated in choir and praise band
  - c. Passionately led multiple "Disciple Bible Study" groups
- 2007-08: Pastor at Claremont and N. Charlestown UMC in NH (half-time) ▪ 2008-11: Pastor at Claremont, N. Charlestown, Keene, and Richmond UMC in NH (full-time)
  - a. Celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the Methodist Society in Charlestown with Bishop Weaver's presence
  - b. Formed a praise team for N. Charlestown Church
  - c. Initiated the "In the Spirit of Christmas" event to support those in need
  - d. Hosted and participated in various community events
- 2011-24: Pastor at Wesley UMC in Medford, MA (full-time)
  - a. Supported a dozen international seminarians and candidates in the ordination process
  - b. Initiated "Open Hands Ministry," an outreach program for the homeless siblings around Harvard Square
  - c. Participated in the "MicroPantry" ministry, another outreach program for those in need in the Medford area
  - d. Initiated the process to join the "Reconciling Ministry Network," with the hope of becoming the first Korean Christian church in New England open to LGBTQIA+ siblings
  - e. Offered "Morning Prayer," Tuesday through Saturday, initially offline and later online

## 6. Personal Faith Journey

My seminary life in Boston provided me with a critical moment of renewal in terms of intellectual and theological conversion. The conversion process that had begun during my freshman year of college did not reach a decisive moment of change until my first couple of years at seminary in Boston. In this new environment, I enjoyed asking questions and discussing God, the Bible, theology, and spirituality. It was a precious period for my theological formation, helping me to locate where I stood within various theological spectrums.

While undergoing this intellectual conversion, God granted me an eye-opening experience that deepened my understanding of God and humanity in terms of spiritual and missional conversion. On a certain day in early April 2002, I was reading a news article about the death of a woman in Korea who had been suffering from cerebral palsy all her life. Her moment of happiness upon having a son ended when her husband left with their child. In an effort to get her son back, she became a street vendor to earn money, hoping to prove her financial stability. However, the government forced her to choose between the income from this extra work and the benefits she was receiving. Feeling trapped, she ultimately chose suicide. Reading this article, I was overcome with heart-breaking pain. Her mixed feelings of desire to

serve and hopelessness were directly transmitted to me, transcending the space gap across the Pacific Ocean and the time gap of life and death. The pain was so intense and vivid that I believed the experience to be spiritual rather than emotional. To me, it was the work of the Holy Spirit connecting me to the suffering of others.

Through this experience, I saw the immense weight of life an individual must bear and how a cruel and loveless social structure can oppress an individual. I also recognized that humanity is in great need of divine grace. This was a conversion moment for me, shifting my focus from personal piety to social holiness. Before this event, my faith journey was confined to church life. God renewed my perspective, allowing me to embrace God's people in my heart more fully.

I started studying theology with the hope of gaining more knowledge and a better understanding of God and humanity. However, I came to realize that it is impossible to understand God thoroughly through knowledge alone. I believe that God needs to be experienced in our relationships with God and others, not just studied in books. This awakening moment revived my passion for pastoral ministry deep in my heart.

## **7. Vision for Holy Trinity United Methodist Church**

I am so excited to meet all the members and friends of Holy Trinity Church. For the first six months, I would love to connect with all of you as often as possible to get to know one another more deeply. Beyond Sunday worship services, let's actively come together at church meetings, events, and activities. In these gatherings, we can work together on envisioning the future of Holy Trinity Church. I can't wait to see what God will do for us, in us, and through us.

## **8. Personal Interests and Hobbies**

Music, languages, and education might be the keywords to describe my interests and passions. Music runs in my family's blood. I love playing the piano and singing, whether alone or in a choir. Driven by my passion for language, I majored in German in college and took multiple semesters of Hebrew, Greek, and German classes in seminary. I am also interested in ancient languages such as Sumerian, Sanskrit, and ancient Chinese. Ancient history is another area of interest for me. Walking in the woods or hiking in the mountains are among my favorite activities.

For the past six years, I have been an active member of "Rainbow Tree," a group of Korean Christian LGBTQIA+ allies in the New England area and beyond.



## **9. Miscellaneous**

My family and I have lived in New England for twenty-three years. Both of my daughters are bilingual, though they feel more comfortable speaking in English. My wife's English is limited, but she is eager to improve. She is excited that the parsonage is very close to the library. I have hearing loss in my left ear, so please don't be embarrassed if it seems like I'm not listening. Currently, I don't wear a hearing aid, but I may need to get one again. You can call me "Pastor Shin." See you soon!

In Christ,

Shin