

From the Pastor's Desk....

In just a few days, we will celebrate the Fourth of July. With cookouts, picnics, family, and friend gatherings, we often cap off the evening with robust firework displays. It is certainly a day to celebrate the freedom we have in our country.

Christ provides another freedom, one that is deeper, broader, and higher. A foundational concept for Christians that is worthy of July fourth-like celebration is captured in Galatians 5:1, Paul writes, "For freedom, Christ has set us free." This freedom is found in the saving grace of Jesus. His sacrifice on the cross freed us from bondage to sin, his resurrection gives us new life, eternal life. We get to live in a restored relationship with God and can boldly approach Him to receive His gifts of unconditional love, forgiveness and grace.

God's freedom impacts every area of our lives. We are able to live in accordance with His will and purpose. Freedom like this allows us to live like Jesus. It is an interesting freedom from which we make choices that reflect God's will, honors Him, and aligns with Jesus. The purpose is so that others may encounter His love and grace, too. God's freedom allows us to pursue righteousness, love, and service to others. Our Christian freedom is not about self-indulgence and self-satisfaction. It is about experiencing the true joy of living faith, finding fulfillment in Christ, and surrendering to God's loving plan for our lives.

I also believe Christian freedom includes moral liberty. Believers recognize right and wrong. We can choose to live in relationship with Jesus, instead of choosing to sin. This kind of freedom is transformative for the heart and mind. It frees us from the burden of guilt and shame to live free in God's gracious forgiveness and restoration. With our Christian freedom, we are set free to live lives of integrity, honesty, and compassion as living examples of Christ active in the world today through the transforming power of God's grace.

Christian freedom is so much more than the removal of bondage restraints. It is in Christian freedom that we experience a deep and meaningful relationship with Christ. Out of our relationship with Jesus, we find deeper purpose and greater satisfaction, because we are living according to God's desires. We can know the source of true joy and experience authentic transformation. We can witness to the abundant life that Christ gives us through His grace.

I challenge you to live your freedom in Christ with a renewed passion this July. Let freedom ring in your life as you choose to draw closer to God through personal Bible Study and regular prayer. Make use of God's gifts to the Church which include passionate worship, generous giving, joyful service, and passionately sharing with others what Christ has done for you. Freedom in Christ leads us deeper into our discipleship and propels us into Trinity's discipleship values of Gather, Grow, Give and Go.

Enjoy the freedom of this country. Enjoy the summer. Enjoy your freedom in Christ. Live it. Breath it. Revel in it. It is a gift. Give thanks.

Your Pastor and Friend,

Pastor Cuis

THE HEART OF TRINITY KIDS
IS TO EQUIP PARENTS
TO WALK ALONGSIDE
THEIR KIDS AS THEY
LEARN ABOUT & EXPERIENCE
THE LOVE OF JESUS.



Welcome Amanda Lynn Children and Family Minister

Do you love coffee and the Trinity Cafe? If so, you have likely been served by our newest staff addition, Amanda Lynn; she served as our Cafe Manager back in 2022. In that role, Amanda brought her creative talents and desire to connect people to Christ at Trinity by organizing events like Cafe and Play, Songs and Cider, along with a few fun crafting events.

We are excited to welcome Amanda back to our ministry staff team in the role of Children and Family Minister. With a degree in theology and her five years of experience in Children's Ministry, we trust that kids and families served through Trinity Kids will get to know and grow with Jesus in amazing ways. Amanda's first day will be July 10. When you see her, give her a Trinity Church welcome.

While we await Amanda's first day and allow her time to get acclimated, our current Trinity Kids schedule will continue.

- Nursery will be available at both the 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. services. Use the secure check-in.
- Pre-k through grade 5 will find an activity booklet and crayons* outside the Worship Center to use during worship with their family. *If possible, please bring your crayons back from week to week.



Last month Trinity Kids had a big impact on our church family and our community.

- Vacation Bible School Recap: One hundred eighty eight kids and fifty nine volunteers participated in one <u>VBS Stellar</u> week. Fun Facts: 17 Little Lights families attended, 25 kids were invited by friends or family, 75 indicated that Trinity is their church home, 68 have a church home. and 19 do not. God gets all the Glory!!
- <u>Sports Camp Recap</u>: This was a partnership with three other local churches hosted down at Papillion Landing. There were over 200 kids in our community who heard the good news of Jesus while playing their favorite sports. Trinity had 68 kids and 8 adult volunteers attend this week of fun. Gad made an impact in many lives.



With Summer upon us, activities, camps, events, and vacations have hit full swing. For me and my family, summer means new routines and lots of new opportunities.

I'm really excited that my two oldest boys, Josiah (15) and Elijah (11) get to go on Trinity Student trips. Josiah has been on several and absolutely loves the fun, adventure, connection to students and leaders, plus the opportunity for great faith conversations. This will be Elijah's first student trip as an incoming 6th grader. He is excited to have this full immersion into Trinity Students before jumping in on Wednesdays this fall.

When I was leading student ministry from 2002-2017, I loved taking students on these trips. The time away on retreat had great impact on so many students and their families. Now as a parent, I'm grateful that we have a student ministry to walk alongside our family and yours, helping our kids know Jesus and what this relationship means in their lives.

I also know our current Student and Family Minister, Chris Randall is excited to get to know your student. He has a heart to see all students get to know and love Jesus.

Trinity Students on Wednesdays during the year, along with these summer trips, will help your student connect to Jesus while forming strong Christian community. I believe this will support them through their middle and high school years, and likely long into the future. There is no more important investment of your child's time and your finances than the development of your child's faith. It is literally an investment in their eternity!

Don't miss out! If finances are an issue, let us know.
We have scholarships to make camp more affordable.
GET SIGNED UP TODAY!

Matt Pearson, Pastor in Training

SUMMER TRIPS - UNPLUG AND HAVE FUN

July 20-24 - High School

July 25-28 - Middle School

Current 6th - 8th graders

Current 8th - 12th graders

REGISTER TODAY

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FIND YOUR PEOPLE

Summer comes and goes so quickly. It's hard to believe that fall activities, including school, are a little over a month away. In recent months, Trinity staff has been dreaming, planning, and asking this question: How do we effectively engage the body of Christ in our discipleship process? God calls each of us to grow in knowledge of and love for Jesus. How to do this well is the million-dollar question.

Ultimately, we believe a clear discipleship pathway that includes <u>Groups</u> is one answer. In our broken world that is desperately seeking community, discipleship is foundational. Trinity Connection Groups, Study Groups, and Activity Groups, have been created to provide Christ-centered connection and belonging.

Whether guest, visitor or member, you are invited. Our hope is that you know you're loved by God, valued by Trinity Church and invited into Christian community. Join one of our groups to encounter Jesus and learn more about our God, who loves you most.

A next step to consider. Coming in September, on Sunday evenings, you're invited to our series called FIND YOUR PEOPLE. I will be there and hope you will, too. It's a perfect opportunity for individuals or groups to be inspired, encouraged, and prepared to live more intentionally the way Jesus calls us to...in community. Look forward to seeing you all at Find Your People in September! Registration coming soon.

Matt Pearson | Pastor in Training



STAY CONNECTED trinitylife.org/events

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 07/08 Art Armbrust
- 07/08 Chere Schroeder
- 07/13 Ellen Smith Smith
- 07/21 Elvera Hietbrink

50+ Anniversaries

• 07/21/57 - Glenn & Marcella Koca

New Babies

• 06/14- Josiah Andreas Randall to Chris and Morgahn Randall

Baptized into Our Faith Family

- 05/28 Henry Oliver Nordbrock, son of Jeff & Megan Nordbrock
- 06/04 Brooks James Grass, son of Parker & Kristen Grass
- 06/11 Jaxon Jannsen, son of Taylor & Elizabeth
- 06/11 Samantha Moavero, daughter of Jonathan & Megan Moavero
- 06/18 Finnick James Pavlik. son of Kurt & Jemma Pavlik
- 06/18 Garrett John Wilkinson, son of Alex Wilkinson & Ivis Calderin Sanchez

Sympathies to

- Linda Landsberg and family on the loss of her husband, former Trinity Visitation Pastor, Fred Landsberg
- Jeff & Kim Norblade family on the loss of Jeff's father.
- the family of Trinity member, Sofiann Voorhes who died on June 21, 2023

OUR VISION: A place to belong and become who God is calling us to be.

OUR MISSION: Connecting People to Christ

OUR STRATEGY: Love Jesus | Transform Lives | Serve the Community

IN THE WORKS:

- 07/31 New Men's Group: Journey of Silent Battles
- 08/14 Celebrate Church & Community-wide Fun
- 09/07 Soaring Wings & Family Worship

TRINITY IS GENEROUS

Our tithes and offerings are Connecting People to Christ!

GIVING IN MAY

Offering Entries = 395

of: Donors = 183 | New Donors = 3 | Recurring = 85 Source: Electronic Giving = 253 | Cash & Checks = 142

Total Received = \$81,996.08General Fund: \$69,791.41

Go Vision Appeal Fund: \$10,220.04

All other giving*: \$1,984.63

*includes: Mission, Memorials, Little Miracles, IT Fund, Lent, Trinity Kids, TK - Mary Kamara (TRS), The Raining Season (TRS), VBS, Shalom Ministries (India), Stephen Center

MAY ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ -62,912 Building Fund: \$ 185,076 Endowment Fund: \$ 347.308 Memorial Fund: \$ 76.436

GO Fund May 2021- April 2024

Received as of 06/27/23 - \$826,328 69% of our \$1.2 million goal has come in from 3171 donations

Partner in the good work God is doing through Trinity Church

Give in person or by mail:

Checks payable to Trinity Church at 848 Gold Coast Rd, Papillion NE 68046

Give in worship:

Locate the black offering boxes in the back of the Chapel and Worship Center.



Give electronically

- Use this link
- Use the OR Code
- Use the Church Center App
- trinitylife.org/giving





Give



Find and Join Small Groups



Manage Yours and Your Family's Profile



Register for Events

Web version of the app trinitylifepapio.churchcenter.com/





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