

Note from Our Lead Pastor

Writing this mid-Lenten newsletter article always feels a little awkward. Just a brief time ago, there were ashes on our foreheads as a reminder of our mortality. On Ash Wednesday, we faced the reality that we are totally and completely dependent on the grace of God for life today and life in eternity. We cannot earn our way into heaven. We cannot buy our way in. We cannot manipulate the truth of our lives and get it. We certainly cannot sneak in. We only enter the majesty of eternity through faith in the forgiving grace of Jesus Christ and His victory on the cross.

Lent is a season to plunge into the depths of our faith and seek experiential encounters with Jesus. Our Sunday series is laser focused on practical ways to encounter our Savior. We are lifting specific practices that enhance our spiritual journey to the cross. These include sabbath, prayer, fasting, solitude and scripture.

As we implement these spiritual disciplines, we are inclined to approach them as things to "do." Please hear this clearly: spiritual disciplines and practices are not about what we "do," they are about "being" with Jesus. They are focused on building connection, relationship, intimacy, and trust in God. Please do not approach them as one more thing to do each week. Instead, allow these practices to deepen your connection to your Savior.

What makes writing this article a little awkward during Lent is that the most important upcoming event in March is celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. While Lent is a journey, like other journeys it has a destination: Easter. In Lent, our hearts are focused on deepening our relationship with Jesus. Through the process of repentance, we intentionally purge the junk in our lives that causes separation. We express our remorse to God for our indifference, hypocrisy, selfishness, failures of faith, and faithful actions avoided. As we walk through the Lenten journey, we examine our life, and ask for the grace of Jesus with our eyes focused on Easter. We feel the weight of our sin, but we lift our eyes to the cross where Jesus was crucified. We know the cross is the throne from which Jesus claims forgiveness for all who believe in Him.

On Easter morning, we celebrate the victory of the cross. We announce Christ's forgiveness boldly for all who believe in Him as Lord and Savior. We celebrate with joy the unburdening forgiveness and restoration to new life. Our eyes our lifted to the glory of Christ who offers all who believe eternity with Him in the glory of heaven.

I look forward to celebrating with you on Easter. Bring a friend. Bring a relative. Reach out to your next-door neighbor. Sit with your one. Out of the darkness of Lent, we emerge into the light of Christ on Easter. All the weirdness is over. The awkwardness is gone. The victory of Christ on Easter restores all the faithful. Come celebrate. Go proclaim.

Your Pastor and Friend,

Pastor Cuik



MAUNDY THURSDAY & & &

Join Us Thursday, March 28th at 6:00pm in the Chapel for Maundy Thursday.

Join Us Friday, March 29th at 6:00pm in the Worship Center for Good Friday.





Join Us Sunday, March 31st at 8:00, 9:00, and 10:30am for Easter Sunday Services.



Amanda Lynn Children and Family Minister alynn@trinitylife.org

A Sunday Experience for Kids 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

- Nursery 3 months- potty trained.
- Preschool 3 years 5 years old
- Kindergarten- 5th grade

Secure Check-In in the Commons All Trinity Kids volunteers have passed a background check



TK Mission Sunday RECAP: Feb 4th

Every quarter, our kids have a special Sunday to complete projects for the local mission initiative for which they've been raising money. This quarter they made six tie blankets, over 40 stress balls, 50 triage packages & purchased some wishlist items for kids at Project Harmony. This organization supports children when they have been taken by CPS due to abuse or neglect.

The kids heard a bit more about the program from a guest speaker that came in, and they had a lot of fun putting the items together!! We are so thankful for your continued generosity! It is truly making a difference in our community.

This next quarter, our elementary kids will be raising money for Angels Among Us, a nonprofit that assists families with children with cancer. Our PreK kids have been asked to bring in stationery items for teachers of our school partnerships: Walnut Creek, Trumble Park & Carriage Hill.

Communion Classes: April 7th & 14th

It's almost time for our older elementary kids to participate in our annual First Communion Classes. This is what you can expect:

- April 7th: Class 1 at Trinity. Learning the basics and foundational truths of Communion.
- April 14th: Class 2 offsite. We will split into two groups and bake bread together while answering any questions kids may have.
- April 21st is First Communion Sunday. Kids who have completed the two classes will be invited to partake communion with the bread they have made in service.

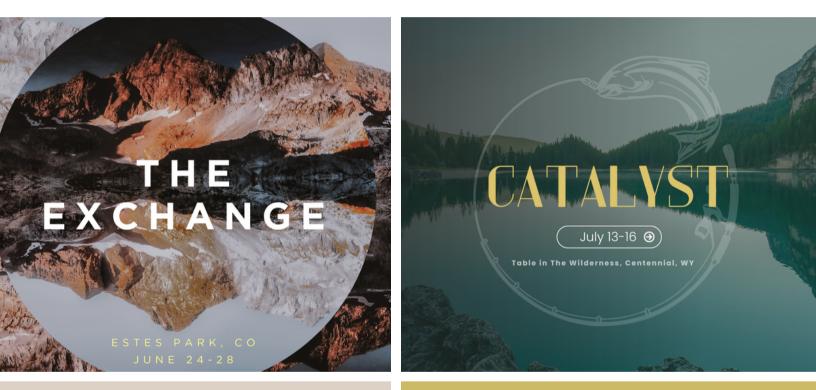
We recommend these classes for 4th & 5th graders, however if you have a child that you feel is ready for this milestone, please feel free to register them for the first class and we can go from there! <u>Registrations are open at trinitylife.org/events.</u>

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Nursery only at the 6 p.m. service Easter Sunday Nursery and PreK | 9 and 10:30 a.m. Activity packs will be available for bigger kids to use in worship

Easter Egg Hunt March 31 10:10 and 11:40 a.m. On the west lawn



Chris Randall | Students and Family Minister | crandall@trinitylife.org



HIGH SCHOOL CAMP

Dates: June 24th - June 28th Location: Estes Park, CO Cost: \$425/per student Click <u>HERE</u> to register today! (We do have limited spots, don't wait!)

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP "CATALYST"

Dates: July 13th-16th Location: Centennial, WY Cost: \$250/per student This camp is available for students entering 6th through 8th grade. Click <u>HERE</u> to register today! Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

~Philippians 1:2-8

I feel well connected to Paul's letter to the church in Philippi as I thank God for Trinity Church, the staff, and the congregation for the partnership we have in the Gospel. Ok, granted Paul is in prison as he writes this and I'm diving into a beautiful ordination gift from the staff of Nutty Buddies, Cheetos, Mountain Dew, and a good book.

Thank you all for the constant support in my seminary process from candidacy, seminary, internship, and all the way through ordination. Sarah and I felt so blessed to gather with so many as we celebrated the gift of ministry here at Trinity and worshipped together. We thank you all for your prayers, generosity, and care for us and our family.

Fun update: the week before ordination I had a conversation with TRS board of directors. Lori Pyle. She shared that the TRS Roots program had raised most of the funds for our University kids education for this year. They were \$1,050 short of their goal. I told her that my ordination offering money would be going to those fees. On Monday morning when Juli and I sat down to get a count of the amount given in the offering during Ordination our first count was \$1,053. That amount would later be added to as we looked at online giving and offering for the ordination day as well. Praise God for his provision and the incredible ministry God has given us here at Trinity both in this community and to the ends of the earth as we share the Gospel of Jesus to each and every person.

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Trinity Men Starts a New Series | The Foundation

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. - All men are welcome

In this March series, Cavetime Founder, Jeff Voth, breaks down "The Rhythm of the Cave." As a man, it is critical to understand the importance of a spiritually disciplined life and a life of kingdom order. To be able to engage in the battles that will assault, a man must have a game plan. Without a strategy, you are a walking target. Without a strategy, you are simply shooting in the dark. Come learn the Five Stones of Cavetime and the foundations to develop your spiritual rhythm.

ManCamp!! It's right around the corner.

June 12-16, 2024 | Table in the Wilderness, Centennial, WY

All men are welcome!



Mission Update from Pastor Pimpinan in Indonesia

Praise the Lord! Through Trinity's support and prayers, we have been able to secure the necessary equipment to commence operations for our service such as piano, guitar, screen, sound system and other stuff. We are incredibly grateful for this partnership with Trinity Church, as we recognize that without your contributions, providing this much-needed service to the community would not be possible. We are thrilled that we experienced significant growth in recent months. There are 50 people coming to the Sunday Service of The Missional Church Indonesia, including young people and seniors. Last month we baptized one Muslim woman as she decided to follow Jesus and a baby boy from a Christian family. We have initiated a bible study program to three distict age groups: seniors, adults and youths. We launched the second batch of our English Club program and have 75 Elementary and Junior High School students participating. Our team of dedicated volunteers, consisting of ten English teachers, are set to provide their support and guidance to the students. In the past, we borrowed a space from a local school to run this program but nowadays we utilize the church area. Moreover, together with the medical local government, we will continue to bless scavengers and all marginalized people through free medical treatment once per three months in this church. Thanks for your continued support.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 03/04 Dean Abels
- 03/07 Mary Valberg
- 03/17 Beverly Vitamvas
- 03/17 Floyd Van Briesen
- 03/22 Rebecca Kerr

Congratulations on New Babies

• 02/21 - Anna Lynn Staab born to Nick & Rachel (Fordyce) Staab

Health and Healing

• Cindy Miller

Sympathies to

- Dorrie Blodgett on the loss of her brother, Dale Bonnell
- Don and Melanie Iverson on the loss of Don's brother, Jim
- the family of Ellen Nemec who went home to the Lord January 27th

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

A COMMUNITY-WIDE EVENT!!



TRINITY CAFE MARKETPLACE & CRAFT FAIR

April 20th, 10am-2pm Come shop and enjoy the day!! All proceeds go to Little Miracles, a ministry for moms from pregnancy through baby's first year of life.

Trinity Cafe and concessions will be available.

Trinity Church 848 Gold Coast Rd, Papillion

- A great day to meet up with friends, shop, enjoy the cafe, and support a number of our local and Trinity Small Business Owners and Crafters!
- All proceeds support <u>Little</u> <u>Miracles</u>, a ministry for moms from pregnancy through their baby's first year of life.
- Up to 40 vendors <u>Reserve your</u> booth.

Can't wait to see you!!

TRINITY IS GENEROUS

Our Tithes and Offerings Connect People to Christ!

<u>IN JANUARY</u>

| Donation Offering Entries | 397 |
|---------------------------------|------|
| From Planning Center | 254 |
| From Cash & Checks | 143 |
| # of Donors | 202 |
| # of New Donor | 6 |
| # of Recurring Donors | 91 |
| Offering: \$119,91 | 6.68 |
| <u>www.trinitylife.org/give</u> | |

JANUARY ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ -76,997 Building Fund: \$ 132,4436 Endowment: \$ 368,156 Memorial: \$ 71,911

GO Vision Initiative (Mortgage)

Received through print date \$1,036,594 of our \$1,200,000 goal.

<u>General Fund Generosity Appeal</u> Received through print date \$121,598 of our \$765,748 promises

STAY CONNECTED

RightNow Media Free Subscription www.trinitylife.org/rightnow

> Church Center App www.trinitylife.org/app

YouVersion Bible App www.trinitylife.org/youversion

Follow Us Online! Facebook and Instagram @trinitychurchpapillion

KEEP IN PRAYER

GLOBAL MISSIONS

The Raining Season Pastor Pimipnan church planning in Indonesia

LOCAL MISSIONS

Little Miracles Stephen Center Connection Groups Service Projects

> Have a prayer request? trinitylife.org/pray

> > Want to serve? trinitylife.org/serve



Marriage Conference

Are you ready for a different kind of marriage?

LIVE SPEAKERS. LIVE COMEDIAN. GOOD FOOD.

Join us March 22nd-23rd in having a different kind of marriage. Register today!





March 20 | 6:00-8:00 PM Easter: Stories & Songs

All the way from Knoxville, TN, Bill Wolf, a friend of Trinity Church and it's staff, brings his excellent night of original music and worship to Trinity Church,

Through a combination of brilliant folk-style musicianship and introspective, thoughtful storytelling, this evening takes an intimate look at both the humanity and the divinity of Jesus Christ. Hearkening back to the humility of His birth and peering forward to the glory of His Kingdom, this is an evening not to miss.

With a variety of instrumentation, this story has been shared in colleges and coffeehouses, in state-of-the-art megachurches and small country churches, in cathedrals and on front porches, in concert halls and from inside the walls of a maximum-security prison. In every setting, the songs and performance are a powerful reminder that there is no place that the story of the resurrection is out of place.

While attendance is free, a suggested \$10 freewill offering is suggested to help support this ministry.

RSVP at <u>www.trinitylife.org/events</u>

-PLANNING AHEAD-QR Codes to full details or RSVP

04.07.24

(onnection (ourse

Discover Trinity Church in one session. Perfect for the curious & those looking for a church home.





First Communion Instruction

Two-session class to prepare, equip & encourage kids on the importance & meaning of communion.



04.08.24

Legacy Social

Enjoy a delcious brunch, wonderful community and an inspiring message about God's gift that we are an intergenerational church. You matter!



04.20.24

Marketplace & (raftfair

Trinity Cafe is hosting this community-wide gathring for vendors, shoppers, & friends!





TRINITYLIFE.ORG/EVENTS