



TRINITY
C H U R C H

848 Gold Coast Rd | Papillion, NE 68046 | 402-339-3788

Hello May



Printed April 24, 2024

Note from Our Lead Pastor

I was ordained on September 27, 1987. That was 438 months ago, or 438 monthly newsletter articles ago. This is my 185th newsletter article at Trinity. I'm sure I have skipped a few for special occasions over the course of the last 36 years, but it still feels like a lot of newsletters to write. I have to admit, as I come to this last one, I hardly know what to say. I know, that might not sound typical for me. But the truth is, there are many emotions and thoughts that run through my heart and mind these days and they are not always the most organized.

Consider how much I've said and written over the last 15+ years. You have heard me from the pulpit, the stage, in Bible Studies, letters, visits in your homes, at hospitals, funerals, weddings, and just having fun in social settings. You have heard me share serious, meaningful messages to help us all grow in our relationship with God. You have heard me share jokes (which you kindly laughed at on some occasions), and often, you've been in conversations with me just because the people of God hang out together sharing life with one another.

So, what message do I leave you with? It is this: Community. As individual Christians, we do have aspects of our faith that are private and personal. The Christian faith, however, is a community faith. God called the nation of Israel. Not just individuals. We are the Body of Christ, not just separate parts running around. We are a community. Trinity is a community, and within Trinity there are many parts of the whole community. (Are you in a Connection Group yet?)

Community means we live these words from Romans 12:15 together, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." We share life with each other. We do life together. We provide support, encouragement, and celebration. We are there for each other in the good times, the challenging times, the frustrating times, the empty times, the full times, all the time for whatever time is needed.

In the relationships of community, we grow together in our faith. We seek deeper understanding with God. We lift our praises in worship together, are fed by the pure Word of God, and the grace of the sacraments. We seek and hear the pronouncement of forgiveness, and we forgive one another gracefully and fully. (Remember Jesus' words, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.")

One of God's great blessings to the Church (the Body of Christ) is that we are not alone. Together we have a bright future in the hands of God. He has promised to be with us always until the end of the age. And He provided community so that we would be in His presence and with each other. We hear that from His word, for "wherever two or three are gathered, there I am in the midst of them."

I have been blessed to be part of this community for almost 16 years. For each of us, community will be God-sustaining and God-supporting. Trinity's journey of faithfulness into the future will be guided by Him, as will mine. I will find community in my new Church and remain united with Body of Christ. Trinity's community will grow, become more united, and reach out to those hungering for the community we offer. Through the community of the whole Christian Church on earth, we remain united as believers in Jesus Christ, subjects of the kingdom of God, and brothers and sisters in the faith.

Your Pastor and Friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Dick".

Getting ready for
our kids to MOVE
UP!



Did you know we are having a PROMOTION Sunday on May 19th? We would love for your kids (all ages) to come and celebrate our 5th graders who are moving up to Students. On this Sunday at 9am, all Elementary kids (including new K students) will meet in the TK room. Then the 5th graders will go with Chris for a “ceremony” in the student wing! Pick up remains at TK. At the 10:30 service, all Elementary kids will meet as usual in the TK room, then we will all go into the gym for the 5th grade grad party along with some of the students!!

Thank you for supporting our kids as they have moved through Trinity Kids. We are so excited for their new season in students!



Do you have a child who is starting Kindergarten this next school year? Please email Amanda so she can help “move up” your child into Elementary!
Alynn@trinitylife.org

From June 2nd- July 28th, Trinity Kids Summer programming will be as follows:

8:00am TRADITIONAL: Kids are invited into the service.
9:00am: Full Programming available for 0-5th grade.
10:30am: Elementary Kids are invited into the service. 0-4yrs welcome in nursery.
Activity packs available.



TRINITY
KIDS

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

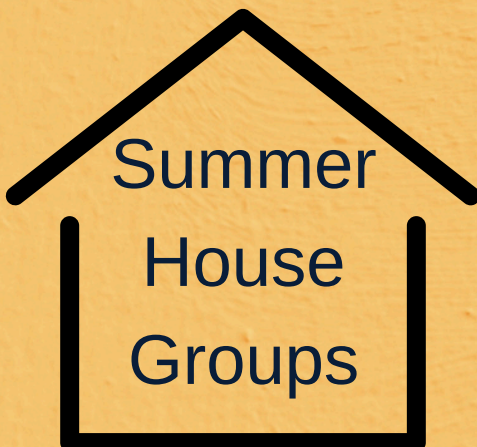


TRINITY STUDENTS

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



Hey there! ☀️ Easter Sunday brought something extra special to our church community this year! If you were with us, you might have seen our amazing students joyfully serving breakfast around our Easter services. We're thrilled to announce that the free will offering collected during those times will be directly supporting our students' summer camp expenses. Your generosity truly makes a difference, and we're deeply grateful for your support.



We are excited to announce that House Groups are coming to Trinity Students this Summer! All Summer long we will be gathering together in homes, sharing a meal, and opening God's Word together.

More details coming soon!

Note from Our Associate Pastor

THEREFORE, GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT. MATTHEW 28:19

Baptism is a sacrament which means a command of God. In the sacrament of baptism, God gives a promise for the forgiveness of sins. It includes God's word with an earthly element, water.

At Trinity Church, we believe in the importance of baptism for all ages. Among our body of believers you will find many who were baptized as infants and some not yet been baptized who, in obedience to the command of Jesus, desire to do so. In addition to these, there are some baptized as infants, who, as they have come to embrace their faith, want to affirm their baptism.

At Trinity Church, we sit in the space that is sometimes a little messy. We recognize that our church is filled with people of various denominational backgrounds and faith experiences. Respecting theological dissonance results in different preferences - including baptism.

Over the last few years, we have sought to better live out our theology and belief that all people be baptized. We agree that God is at work no matter the age or the means. We trust that, regardless of logistics, baptism will foster faith and faithfulness in Jesus.

Trinity offers three methods for those wishing to be baptized, whether first time or affirmation:

1. Affusion - Pouring a little water on the head at font
2. Pouring - Pouring a pitcher of water over a the head while in water tank
3. Immersion- The full body going underwater in a water tank

For the Lutheran asking if this aligns with Lutheran practice. This is very Lutheran! In fact, in the old green hymnals, one will find an Affirmation of Baptism liturgy service.

So what does this mean for you? If you haven't been baptized and would like to be, you are invited to do so. If you have been baptized, and want to affirm your baptism, you are invited to do so.

Sunday, May 12 - Open Baptism Service

Celebrating God's movement in the lives of His people

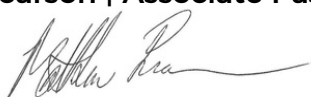
[Register here for baptism or affirmation](#) or call the Church Office to register

We look forward to celebrating the unity we have as followers of Christ in baptism. I'll close with a few verses to encourage us as we follow Him.

Acts 8:36-38 - And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

Acts 10:46-48 - Then Peter declared, "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Matthew Pearson | Associate Pastor



Pastor Erik's Retirement Reception

Sunday, May 19, 2024

11:45 a.m.

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13 and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

1 Thessalonians 5:13-13

As Pastor Erik retires, we want to wish him well and thank him for his many years of serving the Lord, sharing the Gospel both at Trinity and the prior congregations he has served.

Ministry is filled with joys and frustrations, successes and failures as life in biblical community is practiced and lived out. Pastor Erik has lead a life of faith and leadership in carrying the title and the weight of Pastor.

We invite you to come join us at Trinity Church to celebrate Pastor Erik and wish him well in his retirement. We are grateful for his faithfulness in responding to the call of the Lord with "Here am I send me" and then stepping into ministry to make Jesus known.

ManCamp!!

An adventure for all the men!!

June 12-16, 2024

Table in the Wilderness, Centennial, WY





TRINITY W O M E N

What is an IF:TABLE?

Six women
asking four questions,
in two hours,
once a month.

Why IF:Tables are important?

They create a safe space to
connect in God-designed
relationships, cutting through
the small talk to discover the
heart of friendship.

Learn more about
IF:Tables



Or schedule your great
visit with Juli Staab
402-578-0233

SAVE THE DATES

2ND QUARTER PARTY

Do you know the answer?
You're likely asking,
"What's the question?"
Come and find out!!

TRIVIA FUN WITH FRIENDS

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

NOON - 2 PM

Includes lunch, prizes and fun.

Guests are encouraged;
bring one along.

FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT

A weekend to relax and unwind
in the company of other women!

WEEKEND OF GRACE

OCTOBER 18-20

This southern Iowa lodge get-
away is near the Villages of Van
Buren County. Space limited to
the first 36. Cost \$75.

Full details and RSVP at
trinitylife.org/events

A ministry serving 587 women and their friends

FROM THE TREASURER AND CHURCH COUNCIL

GO VISION APPEAL UPDATE

It was about this time three years ago Trinity kicked off the Go Vision Appeal campaign to decrease our new facility mortgage debt. Thanks to your generosity, we've raised over \$1.06 million towards our goal of \$1.2 million. We are now just \$175,000 away from this initial milestone.

Alongside your donations, additional initiatives that have significantly reduced our mortgage are:

- Sale of Trinity Family Life Center on Lincoln Street
- Sale of our original Church Center on Halleck Street
- Sale of our excess property along 90th Street

Despite our successes, we still face a substantial mortgage debt of approximately \$4.65 million at an interest rate of 3.95% per year, resulting in monthly payments of about \$27,000, totaling \$324,000 per year.

Your continued support to the Go Vision Appeal is greatly appreciated. This fall we'll launch the next phase toward our debt reduction. Every contribution helps us reduce our debt, freeing up more funds for vital ministries.

Please reach out to any council member with questions, or to discuss how you can contribute.

Mark Frerichs | Trinity Church Council Treasurer

CALL TEAM FOR LEAD PASTOR UPDATE

Our church is currently in the process of finding a new Lead Pastor following the retirement of our beloved Lead Pastor, Erik Boye. This task is one our appointed *Call Team approaches with dedication and discernment. During this period, our staff will be balancing their responsibilities to the church with valuable family time, particularly through the summer months. This may necessitate some temporary adjustments to our communion schedule and other pastoral duties. We're fortunate to have the support of trusted local pastors to help ensure our spiritual services continue smoothly.

We deeply appreciate your understanding and the grace you provide through our seasons. Thank you all so much for making it a joy to serve.

Trinity Church Council

CALL TEAM MEMBERS

Barb Grell, George Madson, Kylie Scallon, Brittany Fahrenkrog, Nick Sassada, Abby Tointon.
HR Liaison and alternate team member if needed: Stephanie Wiese

The Call Team was officially installed in worship on Sunday, April 28th.

Please keep this team in prayer as they seek our next Lead Pastor.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 05/10 - Sue Granville
- 05/11 - Doc Watson
- 05/18 - Bruce Fairchild
- 05/19 - Sandi Friesel
- 05/20 - Evelyn Kendall
- 05/23 - Jean Armitage
- 05/27 - Don Mitchell

Happy 50+ Anniversary

- 05/12 - John & Nancy Miller
- 05/15 - Bill & Ann Saarela
- 05/23 - Bill & Connie Leversee
- 05/28 - Doug & Paulette Pikop
- 05/31 - Garry & Judy McNew

Welcome to Our Church Family

- Ryan and Katrina Cordts and son, John Cordts (2 yrs old)
- Jacob and Kendra Hausman and son, Maximus Hausman (8 yrs old)
- Nathan and Rebecca Peterson and children, Kale (10 yrs old) and Cora (7 yrs old)
- Steve and Julee Sauer
- Matt and Racehl Stuhrenberg
- Abigail Tointon

Congratulations on New Babies

- 03/14 - Pierce Richards, born to Nicholas and Haleigh Richards

Baptized into the Body of Christ

- 03/30 - Leona Robb
- 04/14 - Lyla Robin Myslinski, daughter of Nick and Lindsey (Velsey) Myslinski
- 04/21 - Colton Donovan and Carter Lawrence Berger, sons of Josh and Brianna (Rhoten) Berger

Health and Healing

- Cindy Miller

Sympathies

- Sheila Ahlers, Greg and Kim Ahlers on the loss of brother and brother-in-law, Jeff Ahlers.
- The Erin Lalich and Hunter McVay on the loss of their husband and father, Nich McVay.

We are delighted to extend a heartfelt welcome to the newest members of our Trinity family!

(See the list of new members under Among Our People on page 9)

To these new members, your decision to make Trinity your church home fills us with genuine joy, gratitude and excitement. Each of you brings unique gifts, experiences, and stories that enrich our community; we are eager to journey together with you in faith. At Trinity Church, we believe in the power of community and the strength found in unity. Together, we grow in our relationship with God and with one another so that we can be a light for Jesus in the world. As you integrate into our spiritual family, please know that our doors, hearts, and arms are open wide to walk with Jesus and with you.

Those who have called Trinity home for a while, please say 'hello' and help these new members feel welcomed and encouraged to develop deep community within our church!

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT CONNECTION COURSE, JULY 7TH!

www.trinitylife.org/events

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

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

GLOBAL MISSIONS

The Raining Season

Pastor Pimipnan church plant in Indonesia

LOCAL MISSIONS

Little Miracles

Stephen Center

Connection Groups Service Projects

Have a prayer request?

trinitylife.org/pray

Ready to serve?

trinitylife.org/serve

TRINITY CONNECTS PEOPLE TO CHRIST

Tithes and Offerings

MARCH OFFERING

Offering Entries	548
From Online Giving	313
From Cash & Checks	235
# of Donors	238
# of New Donor	5
# of Recurring Donors	91
Offering:	\$107,122.99
	www.trinitylife.org/give

GENERAL FUND GENEROSITY APPEAL

Received 01/01/24 - 04/24/24
\$303,085 of the \$765,748
promised in 2024.
\$236,929 from pledges
\$66,156 from non-pledges

MARCH ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ -97,276
Building Fund: \$ 123,836
Endowment: \$ 382,970
Memorial: \$ 68,356

Our GO Vision Initiative (May 2021-April 2024) has ended. Thank you for your generosity toward our mortgage. God has done some incredible things in and through this location in our short time at 90th & HWY 370.

As of April 24, 2024 (time of printing), we have received \$1.06 million toward our \$1.2 million goal. Of the funds received, \$890k came from pledged gifts and \$175k from non-pledged gifts. There are \$275,000 uncollected pledged gifts yet to be received. If you are able, please complete your commitment to the GO Vision Appeal, as soon as possible. We will give a final report through the last day of April 2024, in the June newsletter.

Our whole church family is invited to prayerfully consider giving to the GO VISION APPEAL. Your financial generosity toward this fund is applied to the mortgage and costs of our building which allows donations to the GENERAL FUND to be used exclusively for ministry and our mission of Connecting People to Christ.

PARTNER IN THE GOOD WORK GOD IS DOING THROUGH TRINITY CHURCH

GIVE IN PERSON OR BY MAIL:

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

GIVE DURING WORSHIP:

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

GIVE ELECTRONICALLY

- Use the QR Code to the right
- Use the [Church Center App](#)
- Online at trinitylife.org/giving



God's Goodness through Trinity

- IN MAY -

May
2

Team Night

The worship team gathers monthly with Creative Arts Minister, Nathan Lynn, to put their musical gifts and talents to good use.



May
11

JUMP (Jesus Use Me Please)

4th & 5th graders having a blast at the church and Urban Air Trampoline Park! Cost \$25. Register today and bring your friends for even more fun!



May
19

Promotion Sunday

Celebrating Trinity Kids and 5th graders as they transition to Trinity Students. Bounce house and fun in the gym will be part of the morning!



May
29

VBS Volunteer Meeting

Planning the Set Sail fun of Vacation Bible School. Join the team to connect kids and families to Jesus!



TRINITYLIFE.ORG/EVENTS
QR Codes for full details or to RSVP