



TRINITY

CHURCH

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

Printed Monday, September 25, 2023



Note from Pastor Erik, Lead Pastor

One of the most joyful places in Papillion is the Commons at Trinity between Sunday services. Some of the joy includes people enjoying donuts and drinking coffee around great conversation. Children everywhere including those who have been to Trinity Kids are happily showing off their crafts to parents and grandparents. We find seniors, teenagers, and infants, too. Biological families and “Church families”. We are a mix of new Christians and lifetime Christians and everything in between. Our Commons is truly a special place.

This space reminds me of the words of Apostle John in 1 John 4:16: “God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.” Hospitality is a foundational expression of love, compassion, and inclusivity. It's a practice rooted in our Trinity discipleship value of Gather. When we extend hospitality, we are experiencing community, and reflecting the teachings of Jesus who welcomed all with open arms. Expressing hospitality creates an environment where everyone feels cared for, valued, and accepted.

I imagine not everyone thinks about offering hospitality to God by extending hospitality to others. But that is what you are doing when you share hospitality with others. You are an extension of Christ's hospitality to us.

There are many ways we extend hospitality at Trinity Church. We have greeters as people come into the Commons and worship spaces. There is also informal hospitality when we pull up another chair to the table to make room for someone or expanding a circle and inviting a new person into a group conversation. Buying a coffee for someone or helping a parent with their children are all forms of hospitality.

What touches my heart the most is when I see the Trinity family intentionally reaching out to guests or to people they don't know. Because the Spirit of Christ lives within all believers, when a guest is walked to our Next Steps area, a door opens for connection. We are living our mission through our hospitality.

Alexandre Dumas is given credit for the phrase, “nothing succeeds like success.” The energy and joy in the Commons is clearly a success as each of us extends hospitality. What would it mean to reach out to that person you have seen at Trinity several times, but don't know by name? What would it take to walk with someone over the Next Steps area and start the process of connecting? What single step could you take to experience the success of your hospitality and ramp it up to a higher level of success?

There is a reward for hospitality. The writer of Hebrews expresses it this way, “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” (Hebrews 13:2) We have some angels here. There are more to come. Let's extend hospitality, let success succeed, and see who God brings into our Church family.

Your Pastor and Friend

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

Message Series Continues



BACK — to — BASICS

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Why do we do what we do in Church and faith? This series build our understanding of why we do what we do in the Church. The last two Sundays in September, we covered why we take sacraments and why we chose our discipleship values. This month on the first Sunday we answer your questions about the basics of our faith, and the second Sunday we discover why we live on mission with experiences from the recent travel to Sierra Leone.

BUILDING COMMUNITY, TOGETHER

Every year in October, Trinity Church begins budget planning for the following year. Part of this is what we call our generosity appeal. In 2024, the whole congregation is asked to partner in our financial preparation, building community together by committing to generous giving for the year.

BEFORE WE GET TO THAT HOWEVER, WE INVITE YOU TO PRAY.

- Pray about how God wants you to be intentional, extending the warmth of Trinity Church and the Good News of Jesus into Papillion and the surrounding areas.
- Pray about how you and your church family will PLAN and PARTNER together in what God is calling Trinity Church to do through our collective financial generosity in 2024.

This is an exciting month as we listen for and follow God's plan for 2024. As a church, we trust that He is calling every family at Trinity to make an intentional investment into His work so that we are able to specifically and effectively live out the mission He has given us to Connect People to Christ.

Through the generosity of our time and our finances, we are better able to extend the heart of Jesus to our neighbors and build community, together.

Connection Groups

FOLLOWING JESUS TOGETHER

Find your Group
WWW.TRINITYLIFE.ORG/GROUPS

Our church family is walking through a course by Jennie Allen called, Find Your People. We are learning so much about community and God's heart for His people. Some of our favorite quotes include:

“ I am learning that I need friends in my same stage of life that I don't just see on Sunday mornings, but I also share a meal with on a Saturday night and cheering each others kids on at their events. ”

“ I often make excuses for the kind of community that God is calling me into and this is showing me that I no longer should do that. That I need to prioritize it in my life, I no longer will be a slave to "I'm too busy". ”

“ I recognize a need for community in my life, this is a great first step for it. ”

We may be busy or a bit nervous about being in God-designed relationships. However, it is God's desire that we are known and loved in community.

If you have not yet found your group yet, reach out to our Connections Minister, Morgahn Randall at mrandall@trinitylife.org or by phone at 402-509-2492. She will be glad to assist you in finding or starting a group.

You are invited!!

Hospitality Team Training

Sunday

October 1st at 11:45am

[RSVP @ trinitylife.org/events](https://trinitylife.org/events)



TRINITY CAFÉ

Marketplace & Craft Fair

October 7th | 11am-2pm

[Register your craft/vendor booth](https://www.trinitylife.org/events)

www.trinitylife.org/events

[Proceeds to support Little Miracles!](#)

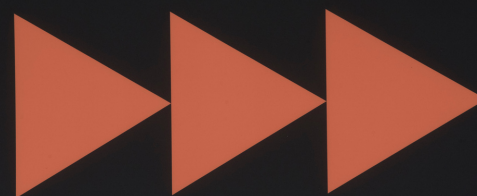
GOD'S GLORY & OUR GOOD

When women link arms to share their gifts and talents, really cool things happen.

We find community, we discover incredible things about God and ourselves, and we empower others to experience the grace we have found in Christ.



TRINITY
W O M E N



FIND YOUR TEAM



TRINITY CHURCH IS GENEROUS

Our Tithes and Offerings
Connect People to Christ!

GIVING IN AUGUST

Offering Entries = 372

of: Donors = 177 | New Donors = 2 | Recurring = 83

Source: Electronic Giving = 246 | Cash & Checks = 126

Total Gifts Received = \$64,519

General Fund: \$51,558

Go Vision Appeal Fund: \$11,781

All other giving*: \$1,180

*includes Little Miracles, Memorials, IT Fund, TRS, Lent, Stephen Center, Trinity Kids - Mary Kamara, Trinity Kids, Shalom, Food Pantry

AUGUST ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ -106,150

Building Fund: \$152,814

Endowment: \$ 361,275

Memorial: \$70,079

GO Fund May 2021- April 2024

Received as of 09/20/23 - \$866,447.14

72% of our \$1.2 million goal | 63% of pledged donations received

3453 donations | 2684 from pledges | 769 from non-pledged gifts

Please review your bi-monthly giving statements for accuracy. Reach out to our Contributions Secretary, Carolyn Bestmann with any questions.

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 QR Code
- Use the Church Center App
- trinitylife.org/giving

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 10/03 - Marlene Syas
- 10/03 - Lorraine Stanfield
- 10/05 - Dale Horton
- 10/06 - Gwen Walden
- 10/07 - Janis Dagerman
- 10/07 - Lila Christensen
- 10/09 - Ray Bottrell
- 10/16 - Marcella Koca
- 10/16 - Roger McCauley
- 10/19 - Rudy Krueger
- 10/26 - Marlene Carr
- 10/28 - Charlotte Dietze

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

50+ Anniversaries

- 09/01/73 - Bob & Bindy Frederick
- 10/06/73 - Rick & Nancy Wilson
- 10/29/71 - Gary & Gerry Cordes

Newly Married

- 08/26 - Tim & Lisa (Myslinski) Schraufnagel
- 09/16 - Joseph & Emma (Pink) Romsa

Baptisms

- 09/24 - Ariette Mae Mathias, daughter of Zachary and Danielle (Pollak) Mattias. Sponsors are Salvatore Genualdi and Ashley Bowen.

Sympathies to

- Doug and Paulette Pikop on the loss of Doug's brother
- Paul Schroeder on the loss of his wife, Chere
- Dan Rowe and family on the loss of his wife, Karen Rowe

Health and Healing

- Karen Van Briesen
- Rich Webb

Trinity Church Office Closed

Monday, October 2 and Tuesday, October 3, the Church Office will be closed for a Staff Retreat. Should you have an emergency, please call the office at 402-339-3788. We will return your call as soon as possible.



TRINITY'S CONNECTION COURSE

THIS IS THE PATHWAY FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO PARTNER ON GOD'S MISSION WITH TRINITY CHURCH.

DURING THIS **ONE-SESSION 45-MINUTE COURSE**,
WE COVER THE FOLLOWING VALUES:

- **We Gather: Who We Are**
- **We Grow: Get on the Path**
- **We Give: Your Time, Talent, and Treasures Make a Difference**
- **We Go: Living out Our Mission of Connecting People to Christ**

Learn next steps and how to get more involved in Trinity Church

CHILDCARE IF REQUESTED. MEAL INCLUDED.

*ALREADY A MEMBER BUT CURIOUS ABOUT THE DIRECTION
GOD IS CALLING TRINITY CHURCH?

THIS TIME WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO YOU, TOO.

COME JOIN US

COMMONS

OCT 29TH

11:45-12:30PM



TRINITY KIDS BOO BASH



OCTOBER 28TH
6PM-8PM
TRINITY CHURCH

WHOLE FAMILY EVENT

- 6-6:30: HOT CHOCOLATE BAR, SNACKS & GAMES
- 6:30-7PM: PRESENTATION
- 7-8PM: TRUNK OR TREAT

"God makes me BRAVE"



We are so excited to hold this years Trinity Kids Fall event, called the Boo Bash! This will be a whole family, community event on October 28th from 6-8pm. Above you'll see the schedule for the night, including a half hour presentation that will be held in our Worship Center. This event will be a great chance to encourage your kids to invite their friends & neighbors, and will be a good balance between celebrating the season interspersed with the message that God helps us be BRAVE. Make sure to write it on your calendars. Our biggest need for this event is to find people willing to host a trunk for the Trunk or Treat part. Also, if you have candy to donate, that would be much appreciated. Please sign up through the QR code above to host a trunk. Email me if you will bring candy or simply bring it with you on Sundays and drop it at the check in desk! Hope to see you at Boo Bash!



Amanda Lynn

Children's and Family Minister
alynn@trinitylife.org



TRINITY STUDENTS

Grades 6-12

WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS*

- TRINITY TAILGATE (5:30p - 6:30p) - This is an optional, unstructured time for students to come early to hangout, play some games, and buy pizza and drinks! This is separate from our Trinity Students Program.
- TRINITY STUDENTS PROGRAM (6:30p -8:00p) - During this time we will worship, open God's Word together, and engage in meaningful conversations during small groups!

**When Papillion LaVista school district is not in session, Trinity Students does not meet.*

IN THE WORKS FOR TRINITY STUDENTS IN OCTOBER

- 10/13-10/15 - Elevate Fall Retreat. Hosted at Camp Rivercrest, This is a great time for students to build relationships with each other, grow closer to Jesus, and have fun! Registration is necessary. Students are encouraged to bring friends.
- 10/21 - Blood Drive - Trinity Students is once again hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive. Fun Fact: When we give, the ARC gives toward our mission partner, The Raining Season. Students who want to serve should reach out to Lily Erb. Adults who wish to be blood donors may select a time through upcoming events or by [clicking here](#).
- 10/25 Valas Pumpkin Patch. This a great opportunity to bring a friend!!

All registrations and event details found at trinitylife.org/events



Chris Randall
Student and Family Minister
crandall@trinitylife.org

Mothers of Preschoolers is an international organization for moms of young children that aims to cultivate community and friendship with Christ as the foundation.

MOPS is open to any mom who has at least one child from newborn to kindergarten. If this is you, you are invited.

Our Papillion Chapter has been blessed to have a home at Trinity Church for many years!

Trinity MOPS meets twice a month on Wednesdays, including a planned Mom's Night Out and playdate each month.

Our group is currently looking for Mentor Moms and childcare workers.

To learn more, please see our Facebook page: [Trinity MOPS of Papillion](#) or contact Jordan Gillick at (912) 507-5647.



MOPS

at Trinity Church

CAFE AND PLAY

Tuesdays from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. the Trinity Café will be equipped with a designated infant space, toys for kids, and open gym to provide parents opportunity to connect and enjoy our safe space for your kids to play. 15% off all Café products plus a FREE mini frothed milk drink for your little one (aka Baby Chino).



TRINITY
CAFE

Tues & Wed 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Sundays 8:00-noon



save the date

Chili Cook-off

Sunday, November 12th, 2023

11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Attend to taste or to share!
LOVE TO COOK? LOVE TO EAT? LOVE TO TAILGATE?

THIS EVENT IS FOR YOU!!

Proceeds to provide food-filled backpacks for food-insecure elementary students in three local schools so that they have nourishment over the winter break.



A church-wide event,
hosted by



TRINITY
W O M E N

[Register your chili or get your taster ticket at www.trinitylife.org/events](http://www.trinitylife.org/events)