



# TRINITY

## CHURCH

**August Newsletter**

**Printed July 21, 2022**

# An encouragement from Pastor Dave

Following Jesus is God's design for the Christian life. In his time on earth, Jesus formed a community of followers who walked with him, learned from him, and watched him model what it means to live in the Kingdom of God. They observed how Jesus loved God and others, and they were sent out to do what he did.

Reading the Gospels, you can see a repeated pattern in Jesus' life. He spent time with the Father. Then he went to teach, heal, and show God's love. Then he did it again. Time with God. Show God's love. Repeat. Over and over again.

What if that's the life pattern that God designed for us? Spend time in God's presence. Love the people around you. Repeat.

There's one more key part of Jesus' life. Jesus lived in communion with the Father and in community with his disciples. You can't authentically follow Jesus alone. Our growth as followers of Jesus happens best in community with others. That's why my goal for discipleship at Trinity is for everyone who is part of Trinity to participate regularly in a group where they are growing in love for God and others. No matter your age, no matter where you are in your walk with Christ, I would value connecting with you to discover more of your story and to find a Connection Group or community in which you can grow your faith.

Growth in love doesn't just happen; it requires intentionality. So what are you doing to start growing or to keep growing as a follower of Jesus? If you don't know where to start, take a look at the "Find Your Connection Group" link at [nextsteps.guide](http://nextsteps.guide). If that doesn't help, come and see me. I'd love to talk with you about your next steps for how you can grow in love for God and others.

## Pastor Dave Continues His Education

As I focus my calling and gifting for ministry, I will participate in the Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program through Townsend Institute at Concordia University in Irvine, CA. The institute was founded and is led by Dr. John Townsend, co-author of *Boundaries* and other New York Times best sellers. I believe this program will give me additional tools to help followers of Jesus live their most abundant and free life.

I will complete this hybrid program almost entirely online through a combination of video conferencing, group processing, and individual study. I will be on-campus in August for the program's only in-person component. The counseling degree requires twenty courses, and it will prepare me for licensing as a professional counselor. I should complete the program in three years as a part-time student while continuing to serve as Trinity's Associate Pastor.

## **August Prayer Guide**

### **Praying for Wisdom and Discernment about God's Plan for Trinity Church**

Seeking how the Holy Spirit wants to teach and equip Trinity Church in 2023 so that we may effectively live out our mission of connecting people to Christ.

#### **August 1-7 Prayer Points: Unity in the Trinity body of Christ/living and serving in one accord (Philippians 2)**

- Pastors
- Council | Staff
- Congregation
- Building | Chapel | Worship Center | Cafe | Community Room
- Outreach into the Community

#### **August 8-14 Prayer Points: Leading our children to a saving relationship with Jesus and equipping them to go and be God's Light. (Ephesians 4:11-16)**

- Ministries: Little Lights | Trinity Kids | Trinity Students
- Current Volunteer Leaders & Teachers
- Parents | Grandparents | Aunts & Uncles
- Friends | Neighbors
- Generous response of the congregation to the call for volunteers

#### **August -15-21 Prayer Points: Discipling one another (Colossians 3:12-17)**

- Ministries: Little Miracles | The Raining Season | Shalom | Prayer shawls
- Worship & Equipping the Saints
- Current Connection Group Participants
- Current Connection Group Volunteer Leaders
- Generous response of the congregation to join and lead a Connection Group

#### **August 22-28 Prayer Points: GO!!! Discipling one another (Matthew 28:18-20)**

- The community
- Fellow believers in other churches
- Metro area school districts
- Police Departments | Fire and Rescue | EMT Services | Dispatchers
- Hospitals | Nursing Homes | Caregivers

**Quiet your mind with 2 minutes of silence both before starting and to finish.**

Keep this guide with you to help you pray unceasingly: print it, take it, share it.

#### **Suggested Prayer Format: A.C.T.S.**

Adoration | Confession | Thanksgiving | Supplication

Trinity Church Chapel is open pray-ers to gather Wednesdays from 11am-Noon

**“Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do  
that the Father may be glorified in the Son.” John 14:13**

# Celebrate!

at Trinity Church

Free, fun, family-friendly event for the whole community!

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 14**

**11:30am-3:00pm**

**TOWEL & SUNSCREEN  
ENCOURAGED FOR THOSE  
PLAYING OUTDOORS**



**FOOD TRUCKS: Streetside Foods, The Cheese Life, and Papillion Taco Guy to purchase meals.**

# Loads of fun in store

## Come CELEBRATE!



## Schedule

Water Bottles available at Kitchen

- 11:30-3:00 ALL Outdoor Inflatables
- 11:30-1:30 Food Trucks (outside)  
Seating in Gym
- 11:30-1:30 Junk Food Walk (Inside)
- 11:30-1:30 Raffle Sign Up
- 12:00-2:00 Face Painting/tatoos (Outside)
- 1:30-3:00 BINGO (inside)
- 1:30-2:30 Dessert (Inside at Kitchen)



## **Welcome Nathan Lynn and his family to Trinity Church**

Nathan was born in Virginia but did most of his growing up in southeast Ohio where he was very active in his church, music, and theater in his community. He graduated in 2014 from Johnson University (previously Johnson Bible College), before moving overseas to attend Hillsong International Leadership College to study Worship Music with a focus on Songwriting. His intention was to study for one year before returning to the US to search for work and a new home. However six months into his trip overseas he met his (not yet) wife Amanda and decided to stick around a bit longer. Almost five years later they returned to the US to Omaha where they intended to stay for a short time while searching for ministry opportunities elsewhere in the US. However, after living in Omaha for a short while, they fell in love with the city and began working on staff at Calvary Christian Church in Bellevue. Nathan started as a worship leader for the Bellevue North campus of Calvary but soon transitioned to the role of Technical Director to oversee production technology at Calvary's three campuses. His wife Amanda served on staff as the Kid's Pastor of the same Bellevue North campus for 3 years until March of 2022 when she was able to leave that role to stay at home with their 2 boys, Judah (3 yrs.) and Ezra (1 yrs.). In September of 2021, they also launched their own business, Cobra Wrap & Sign Supplies, selling goods internationally online, which they both manage today.



Nathan and his wife Amanda, and their two boys, Judah and Ezra, are so excited to be joining the family at Trinity Church, and look forward to meeting everyone, and chasing people together to make Jesus known!

Nathan begins his employment as Creative Arts Minister at Trinity Church on August 1, with a previously planned mission experience to Romania August 6-15. Stay tuned for details about a welcome reception for Nathan and his family.

Save the Date



TRINITY  
KIDS

**We love to support our volunteers!**

Come learn how we disciple kids &  
partner in supporting families

Tuesday, August 2 | 6 pm | Trinity Kids wing

RSVP at [www.nextsteps.guide](http://www.nextsteps.guide)

VOLUNTEER  
**KICK OFF**

August 7 | 8-11:30 a.m.  
Explore Trinity Kids

**OPEN  
HOUSE**

Parent Time | 10 a.m.  
Trinity Chapel



TRINITY  
KIDS

*Families*

- Meet our Volunteer Team
- Learn why partnership with the whole family is AWESOME!
- Ask your questions



\*NO TRINITY KIDS AUGUST 7TH



# BLAST OFF

## Are you ready to Blast Off? August 14 is the day!!

Hey Trinity Church! I am so thankful that we have a God that loves us so much and that we have the ability to share His love with others. Trinity Kids is still in need of about 25 [volunteers](#) to get started with this [Blast Off](#) on August 14th! Whether you have served in the past, or are just beginning to have a passion for serving kids, I'd love to partner with you. Come join us on August 2nd at 6:00 pm for our [Volunteer Kick-Off](#), a night to prepare and equip you as a Trinity Kids leader!

Trinity Kids families, I would like to encourage you to be apart of our [Open House](#) on Sunday, August 7th! This will be an opportunity for you to walk through the Trinity Kids space at you own pace and get a feel for what worship will look like for your kids! We will have a Trinity Kids meeting for the whole family at 10:00 am in the Chapel to go over our vision for the year, and how we want to partner with and equip you as a family to talk about the love of Jesus!

I am so excited to work with children, families, and volunteers, as we walk with God through this next year. I am believing in His supernatural power to strengthen us as believers, and unite whole families in worship at Trinity on Sundays and in your home and communities throughout the week.

Reach out when you have questions or just want to visit. I look forward to the conversation.



Kayla Florom  
Children's and Family Ministry  
kflorom@trinitylife.org



Ecclesiastes 3:1 "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven"

The writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us that nothing on earth lasts forever. For those who are in a place of joy, this can be daunting. For those who suffer, this is a blessing. I think that all of us can say that much of life is a mix of seasons - both joy and suffering, not just one or the other. For example, dealing with an illness can be painful and lonely. But the support of loved ones and care of strangers can renew our relationships and give us hope and new life. Learning something new is often challenging and potentially frustrating. But when the student perseveres, there is exhilaration, joy and confidence that come from new abilities and wisdom. The good news is that Jesus promises to be with us in all seasons, helping us through hardship, celebrating with us in times of joy, walking with us in all seasons of our lives.

As Matt's internship comes to a close, we recognize and honor that this season of his ministry is coming to an end. He has done great work, and God has been faithful through him in the process. Both Matt and the people of Trinity have been blessed by this experience. It is time to be grateful for what has happened! Matt has been encouraged by your ongoing feedback on his preaching. The Younique small-group experience, Matt's internship project, provided insight into helping people connect faith in everyday ministry. Matt's willingness to self-reflect and take a deeper look at what it means to model and support a healthy leadership team has produced fruit that will continue to bless him throughout his pastoral ministry. The internship team has faithfully walked with Matt as his supporters and guides. As Matt's supervisor, these are only a few things for which I am grateful.

As much as it is a time to be grateful, it is also a time to look forward to what will come. God is not finished with any of us yet! There are infinite more blessings to discover as your ministry together continues. Worship continues each week and you are called to come to be in the presence of God to hear Gods' word, sing praise and receive God's grace. New people with unique needs as well as gifts and energy for ministry will arrive. You are called to welcome them into the Trinity community. New programs and opportunities will develop and you are called to support and participate in them. This is a time to be open to the Spirit's calling to serve others with the love of Jesus so that God can grow you from the inside out. This is what the gift of internship is meant to be, a gift we can all experience in every season of our lives.

I pray that Matt and you, the people of Trinity, will continue to walk the path of Jesus, sharing the good news of Jesus' love for all. With every season that passes, may your faith grow deeper, your love for God and one another stronger, and your willingness to keep on learning and serving be active and compelling so that you experience good and wonderful things in the name of Jesus.

God's blessing, grace and peace to you,

Pastor Ellen Stelzle - Matt Pearson's Intern Sponsor

SUNDAYS @ 9 A.M.  
**WOMEN'S GROUP**

Currently discussing  
IF:Gathering replays in  
Connection Room 2

AUGUST 7 @ 12:30 P.M.  
**WOMEN'S FLOAT TRIP**

A fun day with friends,  
old and new. Enjoy the  
river and time together .

## **IF: Tables | August 17 | noon-2 p.m.**

**Conversations for Women**

**Real talk to develop authentic relationships.**

"This was fantastic! The questions really got our group to open up."

"Can't wait for next month. The group size was perfect to be able to connect."

**Bring your lunch or join our Jimmy John's order**

**Visit [www.nextsteps.guide](http://www.nextsteps.guide) for details about all the Trinity Church happenings**

**Recently a group of 15 guys ages 23 to 58 spent three incredible days in WY connecting at Table of the Wilderness. Conversations included the 30 Virtues God calls men to live, while interspersed with fishing, hiking, canoeing, whitewater rafting (for some), and even cool wildlife sightings. Thank you Trinity Church for making these moments possible for the men in our midst. It was a great time of building up the community and living into God's call of iron sharpening iron. We trust that God will use each man in mighty ways.**



**Sundays @ 9 a.m.**  
**Connecting men to Christ**

## **AMONG OUR PEOPLE**

### **Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years**

- 08/11 - Karen Gerdes
- 08/13 - Dee Sommer
- 08/19 - Ruth Schuessler
- 08/20 - Theodore Reibold
- 08/28 - Bill Leversee

### **50+ Anniversaries**

- 08/15/54 - Paul & Chere Schroeder
- 08/15/67 - Dan & Karen Rowe
- 08/16/70 - Craig & Donna Scherzberg
- 08/17/63 - Floyd & Karen Van Briesen
- 08/25/62 - Davis & Karen Gerdes

### **New Babies**

- 07/06 - James Steven Duryea to Montana and Shae Duryea

### **Baptized into Our Faith Family**

- 07/10 - Abram Solomon Frederick, son of Daniel & Danielle (Garton) Frederick. Abram's sponsors are Jim Frederick & Angie Klingenberg
- 07/24 - James Steven Duryea, son of Montana and Shae Duryea. James' sponsors are Isaac Davis and Amber Richtig

### **Newly Married**

- 07/23 - Christopher and Caitlin (Swoboda) Crouch.

### **Health and Healing**

- Gary Cordes

### **Sympathies**

- To the family of Farol Lofgren on the loss of her husband, Jack.
- To the family of Bill Richey and Linda Patrick on the loss of Carol, Bill's wife and Linda's mother.

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

**OUR MISSION: Connecting People to Christ**

**OUR STRATEGY: Love God | Grow Community | Serve Others**

Stay up to date at all that's happening at Trinity Church  
[www.nextsteps.guide](http://www.nextsteps.guide)

# TRINITY CHURCH IS GENEROUS

Our Tithes and Offerings  
Connect People to Christ!

## GIVING IN JUNE

**Offering Entries = 419**

# of: Donors = 203 | New Donors = 4 | Recurring = 88

Source: Electronic Giving = 262 | Cash & Checks = 157

**Total Gifts Received = \$73,928**

General Fund: \$58,632

Go Vision Appeal Fund: \$13,496

All other giving\*: \$1,800

\*includes Papio Creek, Little Miracles, Trinity Kids, Memorials, TK Mary Kamara, Food Pantry, Stephen Center

## MAY ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ -17,817

Building Fund: \$ 107,837

Endowment\*: \$ 350,816

### GO Fund May 2021- April 2024

Received as of 07/20- \$585,484

49% of our \$1.2 million goal

from 1975 donations

1513 from pledges | 462 from non-pledged

### General Fund 2022

Received as of 07/20 - \$483,383

55% of our \$878,584 goal

from 2624 donations

1054 from pledges / 1570 from non-pledged

We have good work  
to do as we follow  
God's lead in 2022.



**SCAN ME**  
to pledge to the  
General Fund in 2022

God is doing great things.  
Join Him in His work for us through Trinity Church  
[www.nextsteps.guide](http://www.nextsteps.guide) and click **GIVE**