



# TRINITY

## CHURCH

**February 2023**

**Printed on January 26, 2023**

**From the Pastor's Desk...**

**We are in what many refer to as the “dead of winter.” While we have been blessed with a mild winter so far, when you receive this, we will have passed through a storm predicted to bring 11 inches of snow. Last Sunday, I spent some time doing yard work. Tomorrow, it will be shovel and snowblower work. More of life will be oriented indoors or quick excursion between indoor refuges. The “dead of winter” is a time we can experience “life of faith” in deeper, transformational ways.**

**These words from Philippians 3 have long provided guidance for me.**

12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

**I understand these words to mean that Paul has a focus on the future and moving forward into the life God has planned for him now and eternally. The prize is eternity with Jesus and is given to all who believe in Him as Lord and Savior.**

**In the “dead of winter” when we often have more time at home and less time in outdoor activities. We can “strain forward” for ourselves, our family and for our friends. The grace of Christ allows us to learn from the past, but not be burdened by it when we “strain forward to what lies ahead.” We can press on with our eyes on Jesus. It is in the “straining forward” that we grow and can experience authentic transformation.**

**Trinity is passionate about transformation. The vision and direction of your leadership team is focused on helping each person experience authentic transformation.**

- **Trinity Kids brings faith formation and transformation to our children.**
- **Trinity Students brings faith formation and transformation to our students.**
- **Connection Groups provide an opportunity to do life with other Christians to encourage and support life transformation.**
- **Groups for Bible Studies, serving, missions, and activities that are all geared toward providing space for faith transformation.**
- **Connection Courses offered between the services are catalysts for transformation in our lives and the pathway to membership (new and refreshed).**
- **Worship is focused at an authentic encounter with God through music, message, prayer, community and the sacraments which provides space for God's transformation in our lives.**

**In the “dead of winter” I encourage you to use this time and space to engage more deeply and richly for the blessing of transformation in your lives. Focus on the future. Press on. Revel in the prize.**

**Your Pastor and Friend,**



# Welcome to Our Newest Members

In January, we combined our weekly 20-minute Connection Courses into 90-minute single sessions. The following attended and have chosen to live out their faith at Trinity Church. Be sure to welcome them into the life of our church!

Casey & Alexis Claus  
John & Toni Colombo  
Louis Essumang & Mary Pinnamang  
with children: John (4) & Aaron (2 mo)  
Faith Glas-Miller

Craig & Kate Jungjohann  
with children: Jackson (10) & Sydney (11)  
Rick & Gigi Olstad  
Tim Schraufnagel  
Rich Troester

## Connection Courses are for you!

Our **mission** is connecting people to Christ.  
Our **vision** is to be a place to belong and  
become who God is calling us to be.

No matter where you are in your walk with Jesus,

## YOU ARE INVITED INTO GOD'S MISSION

### TWO OPTIONS TO EXPLORE MEMBERSHIP AND LIVING YOUR FAITH AT TRINITY

- 1) Weekly on Sundays, each 20-minute course at 10:05 a.m.
- 2) Attend all four courses in one 90-minute class.

### CONNECTION COURSES COVER

101 - Welcome: Who we are  
201 - Growth: Get on the path  
301 - Serving: Your gifts matter  
401 - Commitment: Join the mission

[MORE INFORMATION AT NEXTSTEPS.GUIDE](http://NEXTSTEPS.GUIDE)



# TRINITY

## LITTLE LIGHTS

### P R E S C H O O L

Trinity's Little Lights preschool offers classes for children 3-5 years of age. Our dedicated and experienced staff truly cares for children, encourages curiosity, friendship, and a love for learning in our students. We teach Christ's love through daily prayer, Bible verses, and Bible stories. Our active schedule keeps students engaged through hands on activities, field trips and parent involved events.

### **COME AND BE PART OF THE TRINITY LITTLE LIGHTS FAMILY!**

Registration for Trinity Church members is underway.  
Contact Stacy Denne, Little Lights Preschool Director to register your child.

If you are new to Little Lights, attend our **Open House** on Saturday, February 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. New families will be able to register at the open house.

**Do you know of anyone looking for a great preschool?  
Point them to Little Lights!!**

### **Tuition Rates for the 2023-2024 school year:**

Non-refundable registration fee - \$80

#### **Three-Year-old classes- \$135/month, Sept-May**

Must be potty-trained and three years old on or before July 31, 2023

#### **Four-Year-old classes - \$160/month, Sept-May**

Must be four on or before July 31, 2023

**\*There is a 5% discount for families who pay in full.**

With any questions, please reach out to  
**Stacy Denne, Preschool Director**  
[littlelights@trinitylife.org](mailto:littlelights@trinitylife.org) | 402-339-3788



# TRINITY KIDS

Volunteer with Trinity Kids  
You will have a blast as you share your  
love for Jesus with children!

At Trinity Kids, we encourage and motivate each member of a family to take a step in owning their faith. In order to do that, we have some of the most loving, caring and compassionate volunteers. As our ministry continues to grow, our need for people to support Trinity Kids with their time also grows. Every Sunday, we offer kids an opportunity to explore faith through the Bible while participating in fun activities and engaging kid-designed worship. We relate to kids through personal stories, object lessons, and moments of reflection and response. When you volunteer for Trinity Kids, you are not "just" a volunteer but rather an integral part of leading kids in their spiritual journey and investing in families. I know that volunteering with kids is not always easy, but it will always matter as we make a lasting Kingdom impact, together. So, share how you would like to participate by completing the survey at [trinitylife.org/serve](http://trinitylife.org/serve). Come join us!

**Kayla Florom**

Kids and Family Minister  
kflorom@trinitylife.org





**GRADES 6-12**

# TRINITY STUDENTS

**Wednesdays 6-8:15 p.m.**

**Use the Northeast Entrance**

**Pizza, student store, pop and snack machine (cash only),  
open gym, games, worship, message, small groups**



**A Trinity Students  
Service Project**

**Blood Drive**

**Feb 25**

**[www.nextsteps.guide](http://www.nextsteps.guide)**

**to register**



I hope you've had a wonderful start to your new year. As we begin a new semester at Trinity Students our focusing is on "Time with God", specifically the spiritual disciplines that grow students closer to God.

In this season, I invite parents and adults to consider joining our Trinity Students Leader Team. These leaders play a crucial role in the growth and development of our students and make our model of student ministry work. Our leaders matter!

How can you get involved? Help Wednesday nights as at Trinity Student Leader with small groups, ministry teams, etc. Consider chaperoning a Trinity Students trip. Pray consistently for our students. All of these roles are vital to the success of our ministry.

When you are ready, complete the serving survey at [trinitylife.org/serve](http://trinitylife.org/serve). I will reach out so we can continue the conversation about how you can join our awesome Trinity Students team making a positive impact on our students.

Thank you, church, for your continued support of Trinity Church and our student ministry.

Chase Florom | Student and Family Minister

# *JOIN US FOR* IF:PAPILLION



MARCH 3 & 4  
An event for women!

WORSHIP | PRAISE | MUSIC | PRAY | THE WORD | FRIENDS | LAUGHTER  
ENGAGING LINEUP OF SPEAKERS

AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE REMINDED

**You were made for good works!**



Register at [trinitylife.org/IF](https://trinitylife.org/IF)

# AMONG OUR PEOPLE

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

- 02/02 - Connie Leversee
- 02/02 - Ruby Hinrichs
- 02/03 - Waunetta Williamson
- 02/04 - Karen McKauley
- 02/12 - Glenn Koca
- 02/13 - Karen Snead
- 02/19 - Shelly Petersen
- 02/25 - Janice Lind
- 02/27 - Jane Haffke
- 02/27 - Bill Saarela

## **Happy Anniversary 50+ Years**

- 02/01/64 - Dean & Judy Abels
- 02/09/69 - Patrick & Carol Seek
- 02/12/66 - Jack & Lois Andres
- 02/21/70 - Bill & Nancy Aken
- 02/23/73 - John & Karen Popelka

## **Baptized into Our Faith Family**

- 01/22 - Boden Michael Wright, son of Cody and Lauren (Kapalka) Wright
- 01/22 - Palmer Sage Samuelson, daughter of Chris and Karli (Abels) Samuelson.  
Sponsors are Bailey Kuchar and Scott Weaver

## **Health and Healing**

- Mary Katherine Martin
- Sue Lauritsen
- Cindy Miller

### TRINITY'S VISION

A place to belong and  
become who God is  
calling us to be

### TRINITY'S MISSION

Connecting People to  
Christ

### TRINITY'S STRATEGY

Love God | Grow  
Community  
Serve Others

**Trinity Wedding Liaison Position - Come work with Trinity Brides!  
Up to 10 hours of work | Training Available | \$150 per wedding  
Call the church office if interested- | 402-339-3788**



# TRINITY IS GENEROUS

Our Tithes and Offerings  
Connect People to Christ!

## GIVING IN DECEMBER

**Offering Entries = 542**

# of: Donors = 258 | New Donors = 7 | Recurring = 83

Source: Electronic Giving = 287 | Cash & Checks = 255

**Total Received = \$189,197.18**

General Fund: \$142,695.76

Go Vision Appeal Fund: \$36,018.73

All other giving\*: \$10,482.69

\*includes The Raining Season, Little Miracles, World Hunger, Mission Support, IT Fund, Trinity Kids, Stephen Center, Trinity Kids - Mary Kamara, Thanksgiving

### DECEMBER ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ -51,915.37

Building Fund: \$ 23,642.01

Endowment: \$ 334,148.18

### GO Fund May 2021- April 2024

Received as of 01/25/23 - \$732,258.40

61% of our \$1.2 million goal

has come in from 2651 donations

2053 from pledges/ 958 from non-pledged

**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](https://trinitylife.org/giving)



# American Red Cross Blood Drive

FEBRUARY 25 | 7 a.m - 1 p.m.

A service and outreach project  
hosted by Trinity Students



[www.nextsteps.guide](http://www.nextsteps.guide) for details

## Axe Throwing An Adventure for Men

Sunday, February 5th | 1-4 p.m. | Cost: \$25  
Axe Games Omaha | 11106 Q St.

It feels like lumberjack weather. So put on your best flannel, grow out that mustache, practice your tree cutting skills, and come hang out with the guys!

Axe throwing is FUN! Competitive!

**Plus, it's a great way to connect!!**

All men ages 18-80 are invited!

Friends are welcome, too! Share the invite.

Meet at Trinity Church at noon to carpool and grab lunch on the way,  
or meet at Axe Games.

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

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# VISION SUNDAY

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*Sunday, March 5th at 10:00am*

2023



**ONE SERVICE**  
**ONE BODY**  
**ONE VISION**

- WORSHIP
- PANCAKE MAN @ 9:15 & 11:30
- TRINITY KIDS SPECIAL ACTIVITIES
- CHURCH MERCH LAUNCH

A morning you don't want to miss!