

TRINITY CHURCH

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

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Printed February 26, 2025



Come & Worship During Lent

Ash Wednesday, March 5th - 6pm - Worship Center

Weekly Lenten Service, Wednesdays - 6PM - Chapel

These worship gatherings will follow a liturgical format, providing opportunity for deeper reflection, prayer, and participation in Lent.

March 12th- April 9th 6PM in Chapel

Maundy Thursday, April 17th - 6pm - Chapel Good Friday, April 18th - 6pm - Worship Center

FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

Dear Friends.

First, I wish to say thank you for the warm welcome here at Trinity. The kindness and hospitality shown by everyone has made this place instantly feel like home. We talk about "Minnesota Nice" where I'm from, but "Nebraska Nice" might take the cake. Each day feels like more confirmation of God's call to be here at Trinity.

I am so excited for the future of Trinity as it continues to be a place focused on its mission of "connecting people to Christ". In the gospel of John, Jesus says that he is the "true vine" and that we "bear much fruit" when we as people of faith stay connected to him. And often the fruit that we bear is connecting others to him! Through sharing our faith and acts of mercy to those outside the walls of Trinity, we see God's kingdom spread far and wide by connecting others to Christ.

One of the ways we are helping people connect to Christ in 2025 is by delving deeply into God's word by reading the whole Bible in a year. Reading God's Word has the power to transform our lives and relationships by imparting wisdom, convicting us of our wrongs, blessing us with words of grace and comfort in difficult moments, and forming our hearts to be more like Jesus. As it says in Hebrews 4:12: "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." It's not too late to join us for the journey as many others at Trinity embark on the "Bible-in-a-year" reading plan found on the YouVersion Bible App. In addition, you can also tune-in to our weekly podcast hosted by Pastor Matt to help enrich and unpack what you just read.

Again, I am thankful to be here and can't wait to get to know you all better as we partner with God together in the coming year.

Peace and God Bless.

Pastor Mike



YouVersion Bible Reading Plan



Follow us on YouTube <u>@trinitypapillion</u>

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Lent is a powerful time in the Christian calendar—a season of reflection, repentance, and renewal. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, this period offers an opportunity for us to grow spiritually, deepen our faith, and draw closer to God. Whether you are new to Lenten practices or have observed them for years, we invite you to join us for this Lenten season.

Why do we participate in Lent? This season is about more than giving something up—it is about creating space for God to work in our hearts. When we choose to fast, pray, or engage in acts of service, we are intentionally setting aside distractions and focusing on spiritual growth. Lent is also an invitation to reflect on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, acknowledging His sacrifice and the profound love He has for us.

Lenten practices like fasting, prayer, and repentance help us to align our hearts with God's will and make room for the Holy Spirit to transform us. By setting aside time for prayer, meditating on Scripture, and participating in community worship, we center ourselves on what truly matters: our relationship with God. For Wednesdays in Lent this season we will focus our attention on the Gospel of John and the "I AM" statements of Jesus. Each week, we will dive deeper into these incredible declarations where Jesus says, "I am the Bread of Life.", "I am the Resurrection and Life.", and more. As we explore each of these sayings, we will reflect on their significance for our lives today. These statements are invitations to know Jesus more deeply and understand how He can transform our daily lives.

Travel Opportunity to Visit Our Mission Partner

The Raining Season (TRS) holds a special place in the heart of Trinity Church as well as it does mine. Many years ago, by God's timing, a partnership was formed between Trinity Church and this orphan home in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Our congregation has been generous through prayer, sponsorships, and financial support. In the course of this relationship, I've had the honor of leading nine teams to visit TRS. It is time once again to plan a trip. I'm looking at the fall of this year. That's right around the corner. On these trips we meet the care givers, engage with the kids, serve in the community, play, worship, sing and serve right along side them. If you are interested in going along, please reach out to me at mpearson@trinitylife.org or call the Church Office at 402-339-3788.

Red Cross Blood Drive Results

Thank you to all those who donated blood at our February 15th drive. Thirty-six units were collected for the community and the Red Cross donated \$360 to our mission partner, The Raining Season. Thank you as well to our team of bakers, volunteers and to Lily Erb who has been leading the charge for these drives. Save the date for <u>our next blood drive</u>, June 21st.

Pastor Matt Associate Pastor

Men's Ministry

Sunday Men's Group - 9AM in the Trinity Student's Wing Conversation, connection and God's word.

In March, we will finish our Apologetics series talking about who God is, faith and doubt, and Truth, Our next study will be <u>Your Story has a Villain</u>.

Are you ready to change your narrative and live a different story today? Weary from the struggle and ready to experience life as God intended? We're beginning a five-session series with Jonathan Pokluda exploring the tactics of Satan, equipping men to overcome spiritual battles, and reminding you of the victory already secured through Jesus.

Come join the conversation; you will be welcomed!

Tuesday Bible Study. Bring your lunch and join this small group of guys for a meaningful time in the Word togetherr. We meet in the Student's Wing from 11:30am-12:30pm.

We would love to form new groups for men to meet up for prayer and bible study, too. When you're interested in joining a current group or ready to start a new one, reach out to Pastor Matt mpearson@trinitylife.org for a great conversation about the possibilities.

ManCamp 2025 | July 30 - August 3

Just \$260 plus your choice of adventures Non-refundable \$75 deposit holds your spot.



No matter where we are on the journey of life, Trinity Women grow with Jesus and invite all women to do the same.

Lunch & Game Day | Sunday, March 30th | 11:45am - 1:30pm

Quarterly Game Day's are the perfect opportunity for women to connect. Hang out with old friends and get to know new ones! What happens at Game Day?

Enjoy a delicious lunch and great conversation, followed by laughs and fun. This month we're playing 25 WORDS OR LESS. How many words do need to help your team win the round?

You've got to be present to find out!

March Mission Project - An Added Twist to our Game Day Fun

Bring your used or gently worn shoes (mens, womens or kids) for an entry in our game day prize drawing. Your shoes will be donated to the Nebraska Women's Club for their shoe drive which will serve people in over 20 countries. See page 9 for more details.

VISIT **TRINITYLIFE.ORG/EVENTS** TO LEARN MORE OR TO RSVP. AS ALWAYS, FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!

GATHER	GROW	GIVE	GO
Worship Trinity Cafe	IF:Tables Bible Studies	Generosity Tithes Offering	Reach One More
Game Days Retreats	Connection Groups	Hospitality	Evangelism Course
Various Events	Prayer Team, Book Club	Find Your <u>Serve Team</u>	Being the Light in the World

FROM THE LITTLE LIGHTS PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Teaching Children to Grow, Learn and Shine for Jesus

The new year has been off to a great start at Little Lights Preschool! In the month of January our theme was "God gave us Animals" and we learned about animals and their habitats. We heard Bible stories about Noah and the Ark, Daniel and the Lions and Jonah and the Whale. In February our theme was "God gave us Friends" and we learned how to be loving to our friends in the classroom. Our Bible stories included stories about The Good Samaritan, King Solomon, Samuel and Zacchaeus. We love hearing God's Word!

Here are the fun events kids experienced in January and February:

- Muffin Day for Letter M week-family members got to come and celebrate with us
- Chapel Time with Matt Pearson
- Pajama Day (and pancakes too!) for Letter P week
- Friendship Parties for Valentine's Day

We have lots to look forward to this month.

- Nathan Lynn will come and share music with us
- Spring Break
- More Chapel Time with Matt Pearson
- Teddy Bear picnic day-students will bring stuffed animals to school for Letter T week
- Learning about Spring

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is open to all. A few spots remain open in the Tuesday/Thursday 3 year old class. If you or your friends have children in this age group and

are looking for a fantastic pre-school, please reach out to me to set up a time for a tour.

We are very thankful for all the families who entrust us with the care of their children. We love teaching the children about how much Jesus loves them!

Stacy Denne Director, Little Lights Preschool littlelights@trinitylife.org | 402-281-3133





FROM THE CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTER

Did you know that every Tuesday we have a time for young families to gather at our cafe & kids corner?

This ministry is a great way to connect with the community and enjoy time to fellowship while kids play!

We then have a bible study to follow which is always open for others to join.

Hope to see you there!



Visit the Trinity Kids Check In desk for various resources for your kids!

- Weekly Take Home
- Monthly Newsletter
- Volunteer Manual
- Prayer Tips
- Scripture Tips
- Discipleship Pathway



All the information for the kids missions and giving, in person or online, is also available at the check in desk.

See you there every Sunday morning!

CONNECTING KIDS TO CHRIST

FROM THE STUDENT'S & FAMILY MINISTER

Save the Date and Register Today!



MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

Table in the Wilderness Centennial, WY



HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

Christ In Youth: MOVE Lincoln, NE

Chris Randall
Student and Family Minister
crandall@trinitylife.org



WHAT HAPPENS WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS?

Doors open at 6:00 PM

Program runs 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

Fantastic time of worship, teaching, and small groups

This is an amazing opportunity to grow closer to Jesus and connect with friends who share your faith.

Don't miss out, See you there!

FROM THE CONNECTIONS MINISTER



Are you new to Trinity Church? Have you been here for awhile but aren't yet a member? We would love for you to come explore what that looks like at our upcoming Connection Course. This course offers an incredible opportunity to dive into the rich history of Trinity, explore our core values of discipleship, and engage in

meaningful conversations with our leadership team. We cannot wait to get to know you. Use the QR code below for all the details.

We recently hosted a Connection Course in February, and I invite you to join me in warmly welcoming Doug and Samantha Williams, along with their two children, Ames (4) and Eden (2).





Connection Course
April 6th
11:45am to 12:30pm
Lunch included

Ready to Serve?

We have several open opportunities on the Hospitality Team, and I'd love to help you get connected! If you have a warm smile and a heart for people, this is the perfect place for you. Creating a welcoming environment is more than just a greeting—it helps prepare hearts to fully receive the Word that God has for them.

One of the best things about serving in hospitality is that you can attend the same service you serve in. There are many ways to get involved, including communion, ushering, greeting, and welcoming first-time guests. If you're interested, reach out—I'd love to help you find the perfect fit!

Share your serving interests

Joyfully, Morgahn Randall Connections Minister

CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETY ON HIM BECAUSE HE CARES FOR YOU.

~1 PETER 5:7 NIV



Care Card

Use this QR Code when you have or know of a need. Jesus cares and Trinity does, too. From celebrating milestones to extending support during challenging moments in life, our church family, leadership, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry and Connection Groups are stepping in with care.

When you have a challenge or care that comes up, please let your church family know. First, we will pray for you. Then, based on need, we will do our best to connect you with support or possibly a solution. Use the QR Code to the left or trinitylife.org/care to share what's happening. A ministry team leader will reach out within 48 hours for further discussion if needed.

In February, we delivered eight meals, a mattress, and connected a new mom in need to Little Miracles.

SHOE DRIVE SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH

Clean out your closet and bring your new or used shoes with you to church. Trinity Women has partnered with the Nebraska Women's Club to collect shoes. These shoes will be sent to 20 developing countries. Every pair donated keeps them out of our landfills and helps families create, maintain, and grow small businesses where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. So, get started on that spring cleaning by bringing those shoes to church on March 30th. There will be a bin available to collect your shoes.



How Trinity Connects





Easy steps to get started

- Download the Church Center app
- Connect to Trinity Church by name or zip code (68046)
- Enter your phone # to receive your secure code that will be texted to you.
- Enter that code and you will be good to go. Open the app and check out all the ways to engage with your church family. If you have challenges or questions, reach out to Juli at jstaab@trinitylife.org.

FROM THE CAFE MANAGER

SPRING

They say it will be March 20th. Are you feeling it yet? Me neither! But it will come, no worries. A time for new growth, new birth, new shades of green, and of course, new flavors! Check out our March specials!

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come.







Lucky Leprechaun Frosted Mint Blender

Shamrock Splash
Lemonade or Redbull
Reviver with Kiwi and Lime





TRINITY CAFE

MARKETPLACE & CRAFT FAIR APRIL 5, 2025 10:00A-2:00P

Now Accepting Registrations for Vendors trinitylife.org/events





VOLUNTEER IN THE CAFE!!

We would love to have you join our team! Contact me today! jill@trinitylife.org









INCOME AND EXPENSE FOR ALL FUNDS BY MONTH



All Fund: \$87.112

2211 Donors

7 New Donors

111 Recurring Donors

General Fund Tithes and Offerings = \$62.478.73

Mortgage Fund Gifts = \$20.359.73

FOUR WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE TRINITYLIFE.ORG/GIVING



BY MAIL MAIL OR DROP OFF YOUR **GIFT TO CHURCH**





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 TrinityChurchPapillion** Instagram @trinitychurchpapillion

KEEP IN PRAYER

Global Missions

The Raining Season Pastor Pimipnan church planting 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

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 03.04 Dean Abels
- 03.07 Garry McNew
- 03.07 Mary Valberg
- 03.17 Bev Vitamvas
- 03.17 Floyd Van Briesen
- 03.22 Rebecca Kerr

Baptized into Our Family of Faith

• 02.09 - Rylee June Ottoson, daughter of Ty and Caitlyn Ottoson. Rylee's sponsors are Zach and Brook Justus and Jordan and Heather Ottoson

Health and Healing

• Floyd Van Briessen, Tammy Duryea, Connie Paulson

Sympathies to

- the family of Peggy Montgomery on the passing of her husband, Arlyn
- the family of Randy and Linda Jensen on passing loss of Linda's mother, Dorothy Hoge
- Luke and Angie Paladino and family on the passing of Luke's father
- Tim and Stephanie and family on the passing of Tim's mother, Norma
- Roger McCauley on the passing of his wife, Karen



TRINITY CAFE MARKETPLACE & CRAFT FAIR

April 5th, 10am -2pm

Come shop and enjoy the day!!

All proceeds go to Little Miracles, a ministry for families from pregnancy through baby's 2nd Birthday.

Trinity Cafe and concessions will be available.

TRINITY CHURCH | 90TH & HWY 370

848 Gold Coast Rd, Papillion, 68046

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