



TRINITY
C H U R C H



Note from Our Lead Pastor

February brings a unique intersection between Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day; they are the same day this year. This unique convergence invites us to explore the gift of God's love for us in all its diverse forms and providing an opportunity to explore the deep connections between the solemn observance of Ash Wednesday and the celebration of love on Valentine's Day.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, a season of reflection, repentance and spiritual preparation. This 40-day season is a time we turn our hearts to God. It is a time we acknowledge our brokenness and seek forgiveness. The ashes we receive on our foreheads serve as a tangible reminder of our mortality and the need for a humble spirit before God and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Simultaneously, Valentine's Day is a time when the world celebrates love in various expressions. It often revolves around romantic love but most of us broaden our perspective of love to include - love for family, friends, and, most importantly, God's divine love that surrounds us.

These two events present us with parallels. The ashes on our foreheads symbolize a commitment to spiritual growth, while the celebration of love on Valentine's Day emphasizes the importance of nurturing relationships. In combining these themes, we recognize that our journey of faith is intertwined with our capacity to love and be loved. Our observance of Ash Wednesday and Lent reflect the love we have for God.

This Ash Wednesday on Valentine's Day, we will focus on the transformative power of love. Instead of viewing these occasions as separate, we will let them inform and enrich one another. My prayer is that repentance and reflection lead us to a deeper understanding of God's love - a love that is compassionate, forgiving, and all-encompassing.

At Trinity, we are approaching Lent a little differently this year. On Sunday mornings, our worship will focus on exploring and adopting the practices of Jesus. This will reinforce our annual theme "Different. Because of Jesus." We will spend time exploring practical ways in which we can intentionally be set apart from the world and truly live our faith in Jesus. Topics will include sabbath, prayer, fasting, solitude and scripture. On Wednesday evenings, we will have soup supper from 5:00 - 6:00 PM followed by a Bible Study titled "Easter." You will find more about the mid-week Lenten practice in this newsletter.

I look forward to Ash Wednesday, Valentine's Day, and life together as the people of God living "Different. Because of Jesus."

Your Pastor and Friend,

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

WE ARE YOUR VILLAGE.



"We, though, are going to love—love and be loved. First we were loved [by Him], now we love..." 1 John 4:19

COME BE A PART OF OUR FAMILY!

Sunday Services:

8:00am | Traditional Service, No Trinity Kids
9:00 & 10:30am | Modern Service, Trinity Kids (3mos. to 5th Grade)

Wednesday Nights:

6:00pm | Trinity Students (6th Grade to Seniors)



848 Gold Coast Rd,
Papillion, NE 68046
trinitylife.org



JOIN TRINITY KIDS ON FACEBOOK!

Card Bundle: In TK we are doing a campaign called "We Are Your Village". Each month, families will be invited to participate in intentional activities to connect closer to our neighbors and each other. In February, parents will receive a card bundle to share with neighbors, friends and families! See the image of the card above. Make sure you grab a bundle this Sunday or next!

Trinity Kids Corner: In the Commons near the gym, we have added a small play area, It is accessible whenever the church is open for business hours! Feel free to bring your little ones to play and spend time in our church home during the week!

Camp Ascend: Registration is OPEN for our 4th & 5th grade camp. We are looking forward to leaning into what friendship and hospitality mean as a follower of Jesus, as well as making those great camp memories that last a lifetime. **Sign up today; there are only 25 spots!**

Missions Update: Despite some odd winter/holiday weeks this quarter, our kids have done a wonderful job raising money for our mission initiatives! Our next Mission Sunday is February 4th, where our **Elementary kids** will meet in the gym for the 9 & 10:30 services, assemble needs for the Project Harmony kids, and hear from our Project Harmony guest speaker! Hope to see you there! Our **Preschoolers mission strategy** has changed for 2024! Starting this month, kids will find a grocery cart in their room to fill with different items each quarter. Please bring school supplies for our local partnerships (Walnut Creek, Trumble Park, Carriage Hill). Teachers often have to pay for these things themselves, so to alleviate that and support our teachers, we will be donating what we can from Feb - May.



Amanda Lynn
Children's and Family Minister
alynn@trinitylife.org

All kids are invited to Trinity Kids

Nursery: 3 mo to 3 years

PreK: potty-trained

3s to age 5

Elementary: 5s - 5th grade

Sundays 9:00 | 10:30 a.m



TRINITY

STUDENTS

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



HIGH SCHOOL CAMP "THE EXCHANGE"

Dates: June 24th - June 28th

Location: Estes Park, CO

Cost: \$425/per student

Click [HERE](#) to register today!
(We do have limited spots,
don't wait!)

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP "CATALYST"

Dates: July 13th-16th

Location: Centennial, WY

Cost: \$250/per student

This camp is available
for students entering
6th through 8th grade.

Click [HERE](#) to register today!

Women's Event

IF:GATHERING

FEBRUARY 23 & 24, 2024

[TRINITYLIFE.ORG/IF](https://trinitylife.org/if)



Favorites about IF:2023

— ...the feel of Jesus moving mountains around the world & the comfort of being in worship with all the women is so powerful...

— ...I loved getting to hear from Seasoned marriage experts about how when they argue they get on their knees in their hearts, and sometimes actually physically getting on their knees if needed!
It was such a great conference!

— ...My biggest takeaway was the first night, the Holy Spirit felt thick in the room. I feel like God broke down a wall during that worship time that had been there for awhile! Such a powerful weekend...

Imagine if women from all over our community gathered in one place for two days to praise God, hear from His word and to connect with one another!

What could this do for our hearts, our relationships, our families, and our community? Who will you invite?

Come and see!!

ManCamp!!

It's right around the corner.

June 12-16, 2024

Table in the Wilderness, Centennial, WY

Men love adventure!

All men are welcome!

****Wives, this trip makes a fantastic Father's Day gift!****

The mountains of Wyoming are calling. At camp men

- get away from distractions
- encounter God in His creation
- experience peace and time to think
- lay down expectations
- set aside limitations
- get to be real and bond with other guys

REGISTER NOW



Current Men's Group Study: Contrarians Guide to the Gospel
Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Trinity Students' Wing

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 02/02 - Connie Leversee
- 02/03 - Waunetta Williamson
- 02/04 - Karen McCauley
- 02/12 - Glenn Koca
- 02/13 - Karen Snead
- 02/18 - Dean Peterson
- 02/19 - Shelly Petersen
- 02/25 - Janice Lind
- 02/27 - Jane Haffke, Susan Travis, Bill Saarela

50+ Anniversaries

- 02/01/64 - Dean & Judy Abels
- 02/09/69 - Patrick & Carol Seek
- 02/12/66 - Jack & Lois Andres
- 02/16/74 - Ron & Carlene Maeder
- 02/21/70 - Bill & Nancy Aken
- 02/24/73 - John & Karen Popelka

Congratulations on New Babies

- 01/08 - Grayson Gregory Grass born to Taylor Grass

Health and Healing

- Katie Mott
- Jean Armitage
- Kailey Casey

Sympathies

- The family of Eugene Ellefson who passed away on January 8

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

TRINITY IS GENEROUS

Our Tithes and Offerings
Connect People to Christ!

IN DECEMBER

Donation Offering Entries	533
From Planning Center	304
From Cash & Checks	229
# of Donors	242
# of New Donor	6
# of Recurring Donors	87
Offering:	\$216,696.34

DECEMBER ENDING BALANCES

General Fund: \$ -103,247

Building Fund: \$ 144,370

Endowment: \$ 366,201

Memorial: \$ 71,787

GO Vision Initiative (Mortgage)

Received through print date
\$999,789 of our \$1,200,000 goal.

From our Contributions Manager, Carolyn Bestmann.

Please be sure to review your 2023 end-of-year giving statement for accuracy. Be sure to adjust your Electronic Funds Transfers to match the General Fund amount indicated on your Intention Card for 2024. Thank you. Direct questions to cbestmann@trinitylife.org.

STAY CONNECTED

RightNow Media Free Subscription

<https://app.righnowmedia.org/join/TrinityLife>

Church Center App

<https://trinitylifepapio.churchcenter.com/home>

Facebook and Instagram

@trinitychurchpapillion

KEEP IN PRAYER

GLOBAL MISSIONS

The Raining Season

Pastor Pimipnan church planning 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



MOPS

The Trinity Mothers of PreSchoolerS (MOPS) group resumed meeting after Christmas break! In our first January meeting, we discussed all the different types of New Year's goals and resolutions that people make. The main takeaway, however, was that all of it is in vain if we don't invite Jesus to join us or if we forget to align our goals with His.

MOPS is on a mission to empower mothers through a Christ-centered community. One MOPS mom said, "I was struggling with postpartum depression and MOPS gave me the supportive people and boost I needed to start taking care of myself and my family again."

In February, MOPS will be supporting the Little Miracles by making care packages for moms connected to that ministry. Please learn more about MOPS on their Facebook page, Trinity MOPS of Papillion.

The church is invited to support the MOPS mission at our Red Robin Fundraiser on Thursday, February 8. It's an all-day event. Lunch, dinner, and To-Go orders count! Just be sure to let your server know or follow the online directions on the flier to the left for supporting Trinity MOPS of Papillion. We look forward to seeing you there!

Red Robin® will give

20% OF FOOD SALES* BACK TO

TRINITY MOPS OF PAPILLION

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to your server to have your sales counted.

FUNDRAISER DETAILS

11675 S 73Rd St, Papillion, NE 68046

February 8, 2024*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at order.redrobin.com and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- 3 Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4 Add your meal items and check out.
- 5 Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

*Fundraiser during restaurant operating hours. Visit redrobin.com and find this location to view hours. Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.



Note from Our Associate Pastor

Do you know what you're doing for Valentine's Day this year? How about getting a little bit of Ashes put on your forehead! Sounds like a grand plan for an outing or a date, doesn't it?

If you didn't realize it this year Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent falls on Wednesday, February 14th- Valentine's Day. Lent feels very early this year which means Easter is also not far off.

WHAT IS LENT? Lent is the 40 days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter. Lent is often described as a time of preparation and an opportunity to go deeper with God. This means that it's a time for personal reflection that prepares people's hearts and minds for Good Friday and Easter.

WHAT IS DONE DURING LENT? Three main things tend to be our focus during Lent:

1. Prayer
2. Fasting (abstaining from something to reduce distractions and focus more on God)
3. Giving or charity.

Although Sundays are not considered to be part of Lent, they are still celebrations of Jesus' resurrection. Yet during Lent, we are preparing for Holy Week which includes Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday), Maundy Thursday (Lord's Supper and Jesus' arrest), and Good Friday (Jesus' death). All of these services lead us to a consistent reminder that it is our sins that have put Jesus on the cross and that Jesus was killed to rescue and save us from our sins.

On Wednesdays during Lent:

- 5:00-6:00 p.m. - Soup and fellowship. A great time to connect as the body of Christ
- 6:00-7:00 p.m. - Pastor and staff led Lenten Bible Study called "EASTER"

What will you discover on Wednesdays during Lent? In addition to the blessings of community, we will be gathering around the book of Matthew. We know the resurrection of Jesus is the most important moment in history. We know that it is more than an event that we remember on Easter Sunday. This series will take a deeper look at Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, revealing the ways we should see ourselves in His story. Jesus died for us so that He could be alive in us today! Easter changes everything!! Come and join the conversation.

February 21 - Betrayed by Me

February 28 - Forsaken for Me

March 6 - Accused for Me

March 13 - Punished for Me

March 20 - Alive in Me

**"Lent is not about making anybody acceptable to a Saviour
but about making everybody aware of why they need a Saviour."**

- Ann Voskamp





Trinity Church *Marriage Conference*

Are you ready for a
different kind of marriage?

**LIVE SPEAKERS.
LIVE COMEDIAN.
GOOD FOOD.**

Join us March 22nd-23rd
in having a different kind
of marriage. Register
today!

