



TRINITY
C H U R C H

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

MAY NEWSLETTER

Printed April 28, 2025



MESSAGE SERIES

from Romans 8

Through May 25th
8, 9 & 10:30 AM

FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

Dear Trinity Family,

He is risen! It was amazing to celebrate Holy Week and Easter with you all. As we talked about on Easter, the disciples went from being fearful that they would die like Jesus to living the rest of their lives unafraid of death after witnessing the resurrection. May you continue to live boldly and unafraid of sharing the story with those around you that Jesus is alive.

On April 27th, we officially sent Amanda and Nathan Lynn forth with our blessings as they move back to Australia. We give God thanks for having been abundantly blessed by their ministry and ask that the Spirit goes before them and beside them in their next phase of life. Keep Nathan and Amanda, along with their children, Ezra and Judah, in your prayers this month.

At the same time, we are so excited to welcome Brittany Freisen to our staff team as she takes over the Children and Family Minister role from Amanda. Brittany has not only been a super volunteer here at Trinity for the past few years, but she comes to us after obtaining a bachelor's degree in Youth & Family Ministry from Midland's college and after having spent the past few years at the nonprofit "Angels Among Us", providing support to families dealing with pediatric cancer. We are incredibly excited to see the ways in which she will continue to foster faith that grows in our children, parents, and volunteers.

Things keep looking up around here and we continue to pursue God's calling for us to connect people to Christ and to gather, grow, give, and go!

Peace and God Bless,

Pastor Mike

FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Trinity Community,

I wanted to send out a thanks for your support and trust. Your council has been working hard for several months to make sure you are aware of what is going on within our denomination. We have been praying for our church and for God to speak through us and make it very clear His next steps for Trinity Church.

With our first vote being a yes to disaffiliation with the ELCA and affiliation with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), we have started a 90-day period for us to continue to pray and discern what God wants us to do. Council will continue to monitor any updates or changes going on within the ELCA from now until our 2nd vote in July. If you have any questions or concerns about these steps or what has been presented, please continue to seek out council members; we are here to answer any questions.

During this period 90-day period, I would encourage you to continue to pray for Trinity Church, council, and staff members. No matter what happens the goal is to continue to connect people to Christ. Please mark your calendar for July 13th, this will be the date for the special congregational meeting to have our second vote.

Again thank you for your support and prayers. God Bless!

Victoria Tomanek

CONGREGATIONAL SPECIAL MEETING RESULTS

RESOLVED, that Trinity Lutheran Church seeks to terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and therefore this congregation will enter into a process of discernment with the bishop of the Nebraska Synod, beginning April 13th, 2025 and lasting not less than 90 days, to determine whether or not to terminate its continuing covenant with other congregations of the ELCA.

RESOLVED, that Trinity Lutheran Church shall affiliate with the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) and that the Congregational Council of this congregation is hereby authorized to take all actions necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

VOTES CAST = 162

YES = 154 NO = 8

PROVISIONAL VOTES CAST = 11

YES = 11 NO = 0

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Trinity has many valuable missions including Little Miracles, Stephen Center, The Raining Season in Sierra Leone, and Pastor Pimpinan's church plant in Indonesia. Here is an update from Brad Queck who organizes Trinity's Stephen Center outreach.

Ignite Hope with Trinity at the Stephen Center!

Did you know that one of Trinity's most enduring outreach missions brings help, hope, and a hearty meal to the heroes at the Stephen Center? For years, we've partnered with this incredible organization, which empowers individuals, families, and our community to conquer homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health challenges.

And you are a vital part of this mission!

Every fourth Friday of the month, Trinity shines its light by providing a warm, nutritious evening meal at the Stephen Center. It's a simple yet powerful way to make a tangible difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Here's how you can join us in this rewarding endeavor:

1. **Fuel the Feast (Monetary Donations):** Your financial contributions allow us to purchase the main ingredients for a nourishing dinner. Every dollar counts in providing sustenance and care.
2. **Sweeten the Deal (Dessert Donations):** Got a knack for baking? Your cookies, brownies, and other treats bring an extra touch of joy to the meal.
3. **Heat Up the Kitchen (Volunteer Cooks):** Roll up your sleeves and join the cooking team! Judy Montague, our menu maestro, crafts the delicious meals in the Stephen Center's commercial kitchen. Connect with Judy at 503.490.2721 to get involved.
4. **Serve with a Smile (Volunteer Servers):** Be the friendly face that serves the meal! Ethel O'Neal coordinates our team of up to five servers each month.

What's on the Menu? Currently, our guests enjoy flavorful baked chicken thighs with red potatoes, steamed vegetables, and warm dinner rolls. Exciting news! Judy is cooking up a brand-new summer menu, launching this May, to bring fresh flavors to the table.

Ready to Get Involved? It's easier than ever! Head over to the Events tab on the Trinity website (trinitylife.org) to find direct links to:

- **Join the [Stephen Center Mission Team](#)**
- **Contribute Food**
- **[Donate Money](#)**
- **Sign Up to Serve**

A heartfelt thank you for your unwavering support of the Stephen Center! Your generosity truly makes a world of difference in the lives of those who need it most.

Men's Ministry

Sunday Morning Men's Group | 9am in the Student Wing

All men are welcome to join the conversation and group.

ManCamp 2025 | July 30 - August 3

It's a GREAT time away with God and friends. Just \$260 plus your choice of adventures.

FROM THE PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Little Lights Preschool

Teaching Children to Grow, Learn and Shine for Jesus

In April, the Little Lights students were able to take fun field trips with their teachers and families. Our 3 year old classes went to Runza restaurant and Canoyer Garden Center in Papillion. We deeply appreciate both businesses for opening their doors to us and enhancing our learning. The 4 year old classes saw a children's musical at The Rose Theater in downtown Omaha. It is fun to see how our students let their "little lights" shine outside of our classroom walls.

Our Bible theme in April was "Jesus is Alive" and the children learned about how Jesus died on the cross and rose again on Easter. It is amazing to watch them hear these impactful Bible stories and be able to retell them to others, just as God and Jesus want us to do. Thank you to Pastor Mike and Pastor Matt for coming and teaching the preschoolers about God and Jesus' love for them.

This month another wonderful school year at Little Lights will come to an end. We will be celebrating this accomplishment with our End of the Year programs. The children's families are invited to watch them sing songs in the main worship space and enjoy cookies afterwards. We will be off for summer break in June and July and will begin our new school year in August!

Respectfully,

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



FROM THE CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTER

Promotion Sunday, May 18th

Is your child transitioning into a new grade this fall? If so, Promotion Sunday is for them!

We've got an awesome morning planned to celebrate the past year in Trinity Kids, the grade transitions coming, and our 5th graders who are moving from Trinity Kids to Trinity Students.

Check into Trinity Kids as usual on Sunday, May 18th. We cannot wait to celebrate with you!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, 2025



June 2nd to June 6th at Trinity Church
9-11:30am each day

June 6th is a whole family carnival celebration.

In these four teaching days, we'll discover how Jesus invites us to use the gifts God gave us, show God's love to someone new, thank God for forgiveness, and share God's story with everyone!

Kids ages 3 years to 5th grade, are invited to join us for VBS 2025!! Incoming 6th graders and older, are invited to serve at VBS.

Register at trinitylife.org/events



This year, our VBS Missions will support NeighborGood Community Food Pantry!

Each group of Elementary-aged kids will be packing Celebration boxes, Cookie kits, Cleaning supply buckets, Summer Snack Packs and Bonus Personal Care bags.

We are asking for your help in collecting some of these items as donations BEFORE VBS starts, so we can complete these projects during the week of June 2-7th!

Please grab a pennant from the display in the commons, purchase your items, and return them by June 2nd!

WE CANNOT WAIT TO SHARE VBS WITH YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS!!

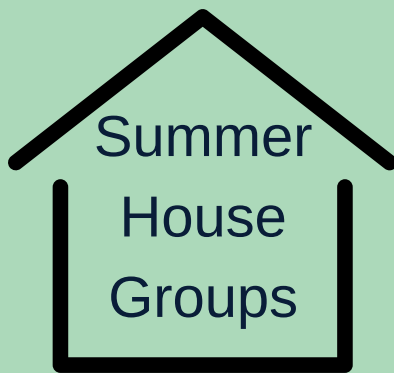
FROM THE STUDENT'S & FAMILY MINISTER

End-of-Year Party | Wednesday, May 7th at 6:30 PM



You won't want to miss our End of the Year Party! It's the perfect way to wrap up the school year—with food, games, and plenty of fun with your Trinity Students crew.

Come celebrate all God has done this year and kick off summer with a bang!



We are excited to announce that House Groups are BACK!! All Summer long we will be gathering together in homes, sharing a meal, and opening God's Word together.

SIGN UP ON THE GROUPS PAGE TODAY!

What We Are **CELEBRATING**

There's so much to celebrate in the life of Trinity Students! Just a couple of weeks ago, our students came together to serve at the Nebraska Diaper Bank, our second trip there, working as a team to package over 25,000 diapers—making a tangible impact on more than 350 babies and their families. Not only are we seeing students step up as the hands and feet of Jesus, but we're also watching them grow as leaders. Whether it's serving in Kids Ministry, running the Café, leading worship on Sundays or Wednesdays, or even preparing and delivering messages on Wednesday nights, our students aren't just spectators in their faith—they're actively living it out! Their passion and commitment are inspiring, and we can't wait to see how God continues to use them.

Chris Randall
Student and Family Minister
crandall@trinitylife.org



GRADES 6-12



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

Cooking for Care Bags May 3 @ 3 pm

Our Women's Food Team gathers quarterly to prep frozen meals for our Care Bags. If you love to cook with friends, this is the team to join.

Since launching Trinity's Care Ministry, we have shared more than 30 meals with individuals and families celebrating or facing challenges in life.

[Join the Team](#)

New Book Selection May 7 @ 6:30

Calling all book lovers for great reads, lively discussion, growing closer to Jesus, and building friendship.

Our May Selection

"Gay Girl, Good God" by writer, poet, and artist, Jackie Hill Perry. In the pages she shares her story and what it means to be made new in Christ.

[Join the Group](#)

Weekend of Grace Sept 26-28

What will you experience at this fall women's retreat?

Rest & Relaxation
Renewal & God's Word
Friendship & Fun
Worship & Jesus
Joy & Freedom

Our Theme

Shatter the Lies We Believe
Equipping hearts to live in the truth of Christ.

[Join the Fun](#)

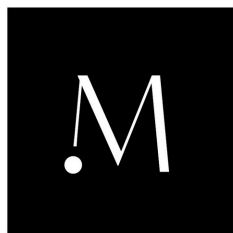
IF:Tables are having an impact on the women of Trinity. Here's one gal's experience...

"The questions provide a great launch pad to some really good conversations and helps to build deep and meaningful relationships. This group of ladies has meant the world to me. They have supported me and prayed for me during some difficult times."

Start your IF:Table - It's simple six friends, chatting about four questions, for two hours, once a month.

Learn more about IF:Tables

Connect with Juli Staab (402-578-0233) to schedule your coffee date. You'll have a great conversation about IF and how this could be perfect for you!!



MOMCO

Trinity MomCo has wrapped up another fantastic year! 48 moms and 54 children gathered twice a month for friendship, faith, and fun.

Walking into a MomCo meetup is like entering your moment of recharge: a beautiful, clean space with hot coffee or tea, breakfast, and friends waiting to greet you. When you leave, you're refreshed, renewed, or restored. Check out our Facebook page: **Trinity MomCo of Papillion** as we open registration this summer. We will share the weekly summer playdates schedule, too! You're invited to join us!

VISIT [TRINITYLIFE.ORG/EVENTS](https://trinitylife.org/events) TO LEARN MORE OR TO RSVP. AS ALWAYS, FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!

FROM THE CONNECTIONS MINISTER

Hi! By the time you're reading this newsletter, I'm likely either welcoming our sweet Jeremiah James Randall into the world or already on maternity leave, soaking up all the newborn snuggles! We would greatly appreciate your prayers as Chris and I adjust to life with two little ones—our almost 2-year-old and a newborn!

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who has stepped up to serve in hospitality on Sunday mornings during my time away and to those willing to find replacements when needed—you are truly appreciated!

If you have any questions or encounter any issues, please don't hesitate to reach out to Chris Randall. He's more than happy to assist you.

Looking ahead, our annual Celebrate event is just a few months away, and I'm so excited to invite you! Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 10th, right after the 10:30 AM service



This incredible event will feature a live band, a foam party, inflatables, food trucks, Bingo, and so much more! It's a perfect opportunity to invite your family, friends, neighbors, and especially those who don't yet know Jesus. Celebrate showcases the fun and community we share at Trinity while pointing to the ultimate joy of having Jesus at the center of our lives.

We'd also love your help in making Bingo a success! If you're able, please consider donating lightly used or new Bingo prizes for all ages. Donations can be dropped off at the church office with Claire at the front desk anytime before August 5th.

Thank you for being part of this special day—we can't wait to celebrate with you!

Joyfully,
Morgahn Randall
Connections Minister

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISCIPLESHIP MINISTER



This app is a one-stop resource to connect with our body of Christ and what God is doing through Trinity Church. Download it from your favorite app store and open it up.

At the bottom of your screen, you will find icons to our messages, check into worship, and to view our directory. (More on those features are below.) You will also find three dots on the bottom right of your screen for additional features including: Calendar, Give, Events and Groups.

Take some time to look around. If you have challenges or questions, reach out to Juli at jstaab@trinitylife.org.

The app to make connection to Trinity Church life simple!

MESSAGES

This button will get you to our YouTube channel to watch live or recordings.

Once there you have the following options:

- **Home:** Sunday messages and other recordings.
- **Videos:** all recordings by date.
- **Live:** Streaming begins 10 minutes prior to worship. Full service recordings are listed as well.
- **Podcasts:** Pastor Mike or Pastor Matt host a weekly conversation with a guest to discuss the Through the Bible in a Year readings.

CHECK IN

This button checks you into worship and some of our events. Let us know you were here.

Why do this?

We all know that God doesn't need to take attendance. However, this simple act is the best way to let the church know that you have been in worship. It's a great support for for our pastoral team and ministry leaders to care for the body of Christ at Trinity

DIRECTORY

While the days of printed church directories are long gone, all is not lost when it comes to connecting with your church family.

Trinity members receive an invite by email to opt in to our directory. There you may choose to view and/or list your profile info.

You determine what you want included.

How do I do this?

Click your profile on the top right of the app, choose "My Profile", settings, and then "Directory Profile". Select what information you wish to be shared.

FROM THE CAFE MANAGER



There's a new beauty in the land - greening grass, budding trees with leaves of green and blossoms of pink and white, and the first of the early blooming flowers. It's happening!

May is here, and it is

beautiful

There's a new view each morning, not just with what we see, but with what we feel and how we take in and appreciate this world and what's in it. How can you not have an inner renewal when experiencing new life happening right before your eyes.

Slow down, look closely, and enjoy the moments.



Come to the
BAHAMAS

As we celebrate our

Mamas

Don't Miss
Mother's Day!

May 11th



DOUBLE
PUNCHES
FOR MOM AT
THE CAFE

Get Revived with our
Spring Drinks

Vanilla Rose Cold Brew
Choose Milk/Water

Honey Lavender Latte
Hot, Iced, or Blended

April Showers Reviver
Blue Raspberry, Peach,
Strawberry Lemonade or Sub
Pink Lotus **or** Red Bull

May Flowers Reviver
Pina Colada Lemonade, or
Sub Pink Lotus **or** Red Bull

OPEN
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
8:00a - 12:00p



**Volunteer's
Needed!**
Contact me today!
jill@trinitylife.org

We remember, honor, thank,
and celebrate our military.

**ALL VETERANS GET A
FREE DRINK ON**



Café & Play
Trinity Café

**Moms Supporting Each Other
Kids Having Fun**

Legacy Mornings
Trinity Café

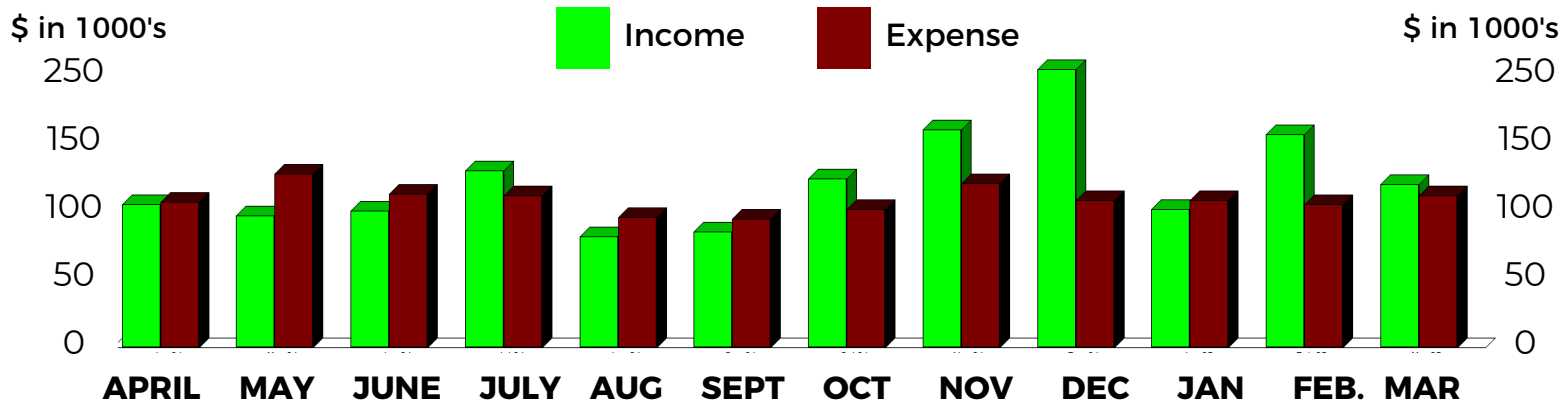
**EXCLUSIVELY FOR 55+
MAY 22nd
9:00a-11:00a**



Jill Pratt



INCOME AND EXPENSE FOR ALL FUNDS BY MONTH



DETAILS FROM MARCH 2025

All Fund: \$119,034.16 **261 Donors** **6 New Donors** **114 Recurring Donors**
General Fund Tithes and Offerings = \$83,564.55 Mortgage Fund Gifts = \$30,143.17

FOUR WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE
TRINITYLIFE.ORG/GIVING



BY MAIL
MAIL OR DROP OFF YOUR
GIFT TO CHURCH



WITH THE APP
USE THE GIVE BUTTON



IN-PERSON
BLACK BOXES IN THE BACK

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KEEP IN PRAYER

Global Missions

The Raining Season in Sierra Leone, W. Africa
Pastor Pimipnan church planting in Indonesia

Local Missions

Little Miracles
Stephen Center
Youth for Christ
Connection Group Service Projects

Have a prayer request?

trinitylife.org/pray

Want to serve?

trinitylife.org/serve

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Happy Birthday Trail Blazers (80+) Years

- 05.10 - Sue Granville
- 05.18 - Bruce Fairchild
- 05.19 - Sandi Friesel
- 05.20 - Evelyn Kendall
- 05.23 - Jean Armitage
- 05.27 - Hubert Mitchell

50+ Anniversaries

- 05.12 - John & Nancy Miller
- 05.15 - Bill & Ann Saarela
- 05.23 - Bill & Connie Leversee
- 05.28 - Doug & Paulette Pikop
- 05.31 - Garry & Judy McNew

Welcomed into our Church Family in April

- Bryce and Katie Arp and children, Hailey (6 yrs) and Brooks (3 yrs)
- Tammy Bayer
- Donna Barnes
- Kevin and Marie Covi and children, Joe (17 yrs), Neva (15 yrs), and Anna (14 yrs)
- Krysta Jenks
- Brad & Laynee Veitch, and son, Harrison (11 yrs)

Baptized into Our Family of Faith

- 04.13 - Caraline Lynn Duryea, daughter of Montana and Shae Duryea.
- 04.27 - Matthew Owen

Sympathies to:

- Don and Melanie Iverson on the loss of Melanie's father.

Health and Healing

- Karen Popelka, Anita Kennedy, Dennis Kennedy, Dean Abels, Nathan Lynn



Zechariah 10:1

**Ask the Lord
for rain in the
Spring, for He
makes the
storm clouds.
And He will
send showers
of rain so every
field becomes
a lush pasture.**

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