



**Trinity United Methodist Church & Childcare**  
 trinitylincoln.org 402-435-2946  
 7130 Kentwell Lane • Lincoln, NE 68516

*As an engaged, passionate community of Christ, we will invest in each other and in our neighborhood, making an impact on a world starving for hope.*

INSPIRED: *Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*

IMAGINE loving the Bible so deeply that you can see its flaws, beauty, strength and spirit all at the same time IMAGINE "an ancient collection of stories and poems, prophecies and proverbs, etters and laws, written and compiled by countless authors spanning multiple centuries and cited by everyone from William Blake to Beyonce'."

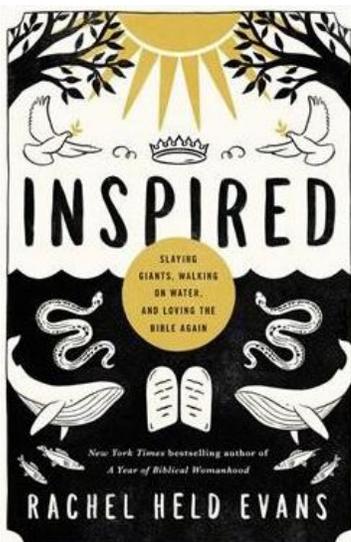
That is the intriguing invitation from Rachel Held Evans for us to join together in exploring the stories of our origin, deliverance, war, wisdom, resistance, Gospel, and the church that all add up to the inspired and inspiring Bible.

As children, we learn about the great heroes and villains of the Bible, and the rights and wrongs it teaches. As we become adults we see that neither life nor the scriptures are that simple. Life is messy and the scriptures can be far from neat and tidy. They challenge us to discover new meaning as we wrestle with them over and over again. To love the scriptures means to be willing to look at how our personal story sometimes intersects and sometimes comes crashing into God's great epic of redemption, knowing the epic itself is still 'under construction', Along the way -- if we let them -- they just might inspire us to love and good works! (Hebrews 10:24)

Six week small group discussions begin the week of January 20th; INSPIRED, the worship series begins Sunday, January 27th.

*Rev. Nan*

P.S. Lew and I have been listening to INSPIRE and thoroughly enjoying it. The audible version highlights her humor and is great to listen to!



#### INSPIRED SERMON SERIES

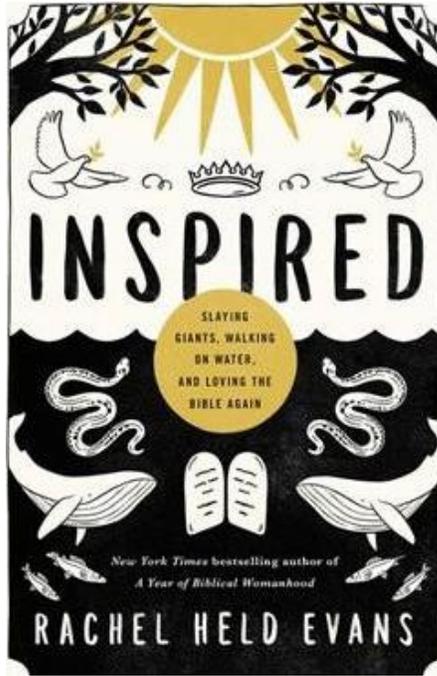
- January 27 - **ORIGIN STORIES** - Genesis 32:1-6, 22-30
- February 3 - **DELIVERANCE STORIES** - Genesis. 16:1-16
- February 10 - **WAR STORIES** - Joshua 6:1-7, 15-17, 20-21
- February 17 - **WISDOM STORIES** - Job 38:1-7; 42:1-6
- February 24 - **CHURCH & the RESISTANCE STORIES** - Revelation 5:1-14
- March 3 - **GOSPEL STORIES**

#### Inside This Issue:

- ★ UNChristmas Party
- ★ Praying Our Way Forward
- ★ 2019 Admin Excellence
- ★ A Fresh Mission!

The Trinity Tower

Volume 75  
 Number 1  
 January 10,  
 2019



*"It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will always be a knowing people." - John Wesley*

It's almost here and we hope you'll be a part of it! The All-Church Book Read starts on Monday, January 21st and, as an important part of this community, we want to invite *you* to join a conversation group.

Still on the fence? Here are some important pieces of information that might help:

- **What is the book?** This round's book is [Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking On Water, and Loving the Bible Again](#) by Rachel Held Evans. [You can check it out \(or purchase it\) here as an e-book, an audio book, or a paper copy](#)
- **How long will the All-Church Read last?** It will last 6 weeks - January 21st-March 2nd
- **Where and when will book groups be meeting?** Different groups are forming around the neighborhoods. By the end of it, we hope to have an option that will make it easier for anyone to be a part! You can let us know what your availability is like on the interest form.

- **Who is the book for?** The book is for any of us who have ever cracked open a Bible. Whether you are new to the faith journey or have been walking a long time, this is an engaging and refreshing take on how we approach Scripture, how we apply it to our lives, and how we can absolutely fall in love with the Bible again.
- **How do I sign up for a book group?** Easy! Make sure you purchase the book or [find one at your local library](#). [Then follow this link to an interest form that lets us know your availability](#). In a week, you'll get a follow up email letting you know which conversation groups have formed according to your interest or availability.

Groups are forming soon! We hope you'll be a part of this exciting and refreshing part of our journey together.



### 3 Events Hosted by Village People in the next month but open to everyone!

#### **This Saturday, January 12, 10:00 am**

UNChristmas Party

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations and offering up a light brunch. This is a great time of connection with lots of f-UN people. Meet in Spirit Hall.

#### **Sunday, January 20, 5pm**

UNL Women VS Minnesota in Bball

Ample FREE tickets available, Larry / Pat Fritz - [fritz@LPFritz.org](mailto:fritz@LPFritz.org), [Pat@LPFritz.org](mailto:Pat@LPFritz.org)

Dinner later at Buffalo Wings & Rings, 350 Canopy St. Suite 200

Meet on the south side of the arena.

#### **Sunday, February 3, 5pm**

Super Bowl Party: Football/Commercials/Maroon 5-halftime (Band member, James Valentine, is from Lincoln!)

Doors open at 5pm, kick off at 5:30

Bring an appetizer to share. 4920 S. 67th /Jeff & Jill Ricketts, [jill@trinitylincoln.org](mailto:jill@trinitylincoln.org)



## PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD



We are One in Christ

UMCprays.org • A UMC Prayer Community

We are quickly approaching a moment in United Methodism that is full of both possibility and pain. When delegates from around the world convene for the special session of General Conference Febr. 23-26, they will be asked to decide if we are committed to the church as a place where we are united by our love of Christ, even with differences in belief and practice around matters of human sexuality.

Specifically, will clergy and churches be allowed (not required) to perform same-gender weddings, and Annual Conferences decide whether or not to ordain LGBTQ candidates for ministry as the recommended "One Church Plan" proposes, OR will a "Traditionalists Plan" be enacted that would establish a position that homosexuality is against Christian teachings and adopt stronger penalties for not upholding this position.

Emotions are high. There are those who have publicly committed to leave the United Methodist Church family if their beliefs are not upheld. There are some who want to split the church or even attempt to disband the denomination entirely.

Growing up in a family that is on its 5th generation of Methodist pastors, the pain I feel is the possible loss of the church I love: the rich diversity of thought and passion that sometimes drives you crazy, but has the power to lovingly push you to probe your own faith more deeply and discover the truth of those who come to Christ by a much different path.

The Methodism I love is powered by grace, not legalism. It has not always been open to all races or genders or orientation, but throughout our history we have been opening the doors wider -- expanding the circle of God's love, as our Trinity mission statement says.

We have been debating sexual morality my entire ministry. It is not an argument to win. It is time to refocus on making disciples of Jesus Christ; and when an LGBTQ disciple is brought to faith in a congregation, to let them use their gifts and God's graces to serve Christ with their whole heart.

Bishop Ken Carter, Florida, said, *"We read scripture not to win a legal argument, but to become disciples of Jesus who practice mercy toward one another."* *This General Conference is full of the possibility of Mercy.*

Our bishops are asking all of us to **be in prayer each Wednesday for 3 minutes**, when possible, from 2:23-2:26pm, to match the dates of General Conference. The prayer is three-fold:

- 1) that God will help us to fulfill the mission of the church,
- 2) that we will be One in Christ,
- 3) then pray for the lay and clergy delegates and the Bishops. Thank God for their love of the church, and give them peace in the midst of tension, a clear head and heart that are rooted in the love of Jesus.

A listing of the Great Plains delegation and contact information is online at:

[www.greatplainsumc.org/2019generalconferencenews](http://www.greatplainsumc.org/2019generalconferencenews)

Learn more at [www.mainstreamUMC.com](http://www.mainstreamUMC.com).

# Thank you to our 2019 Administrative Leadership Team

Position	Name	Class
<b>CHURCH COUNCIL</b>		
Council Chair	Will Barnard	
Council Secretary	Deb Marsicano	
Team Lay Leader	Mark Kotik	
Team Lay Leader	Dana Kumpost	
Lay Mbr Annual Conf	Meggan Macomber	
Treasurer	Jim Malone	
Youth Member	Melissa Loos	
United Methodist Women	Shar Stock	
Childcare Board Chairpn	Cindy Schwaninger	
Includes chair + 1 person from Finance, Staff-parish & Trustees		
<b>FINANCE</b>		
Chair	Larry Fritz	2021
Member	Amos Ahlstrom	2020
Member	Sam Bryant	2019
Member	Casey Fahrnbruch	2020
Member	Amy Ramsey	2019
Member	Sema David	2021
<b>STEWARDSHIP</b>		
Chair	Mike Bousquet	2020
Member	Dori Smidt	2020
Member	Jason Messerli	2019
Member	Diane Pillard	2019
<b>STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS</b>		
Co-Chair	Susan Becker	2019
Co-Chair	Julie Bantam	2020
Member	Eric Nelson	2020
Member	Monte Pueppke	2021
Member	Katy Boggs	2019
Member	Merlin Lawson	2021
<b>TRUSTEES</b>		
Chair	Tom Treadway	2021
Member	Cindy Post	2019
Member	Wade Foreman	2020
Member	Bob Callahan	2019
Member	Jean Holt	2020
Member	Greg Schwaninger	2021
<b>ENDOWMENTS</b>		
Chair	Bill Eddy	2020
member	Leslie Gibbens	2020
Memorials Chair	Susan Harris	2020
member	John Ferguson	2019
member	Andy Washburn	2019
member	Aaron Farber	2019
member	John Trayer	2021
member	Jeri Tomlin	2021
member	Tammy Haake	2021
Trinity Attorney	Don Dunn	

Position	Name	Class
<b>CHILDCARE BOARD</b>		
Chair	Cindy Schwaninger	2021
Church member	Bob Robart	2019
Church member	Kelly Love	2020
Church member	Amy Carlson	2020
Church member	Cheryl Keyser	2021
Childcare parent/grandp-VG	Alex Dunn	2021
Childcare parent/grandp-VG	Luke Wallace	2019
Childcare parent/grandp-Asst	Barb Brunkow	2019
Trustees Rep		
Staff-Parish Chairperson		
Council Chairperson		
Childcare Director		
Childcare Business Asst		
Trinity Business Administrator		
Pastor		
<b>NOMINATION/LAY LDRSHP</b>		
Chairperson	Pastor	
member	Brooke Murtaugh	2021
member	Travis Pella	2021
member	Rhonda McGill	2021
member	Tim Siefkes	2019
member	Cliff Carlson	2019
member	Marie Trayer	2019
member	Roger Millnitz	2020
member	Glenda Boesiger	2020
member	Jen Springer	2020

*A belated thank you to all of you who helped provide the meal after CJ's funeral. We so appreciated all of your work and the generous food donations from many members of the congregation. In spite of the circumstances, it was a good day as we got to visit with so many friends and family. You were a blessing to us.*

*The family of CJ Hanner*



# TRiNiTy KiDS & FaMiLieS!



## Join our Facebook Groups



### Preschool First Look

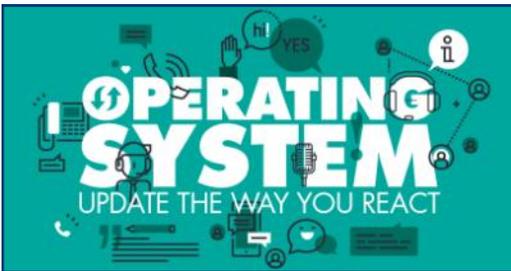
### 252 Kids Elementary

(Kindergarten-3rd Grade)



### 252 Preteen

(4th-5th Grade)



### XP3 Youth

(Middle & High School)



#### TRiNiTy KiDS! Calendar

Jan. 13  
9 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School  
4 p.m. Basketball Clinic  
6 p.m. IMPACT Youth Group

Jan. 20  
9 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School  
6 p.m. IMPACT Youth Group

Jan. 27  
9 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School  
6 p.m. IMPACT Youth Group

Feb. 3  
FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY NO Sunday School

Feb. 10  
9 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School  
6 p.m. IMPACT Youth Group

Feb. 17  
9 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School  
6 p.m. IMPACT Youth Group

Feb. 24  
9 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School  
6 p.m. IMPACT Youth Group



PARENT CUE APP

[CLICK HERE](#)

YOU **MUST** CHANGE CONSTANTLY IF YOU WANT TO CHAMPION WHAT IS CONSTANT.

## Fresh Start Mission Drive



The Trinity Missions Team is conducting a personal needs drive for Fresh Start throughout the month of January, and we hope you will consider donating any of the items listed here in this article. Fresh Start is a transitional living residence for adult homeless women who do not have children in their custody at the time. The four most common causes of homelessness, as reported by the women they serve, are substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health, and economics.

Please help us give these women a "fresh start" in the new year by bringing any of the items listed below. We will have collection bins on both levels at Trinity. Thank you for your support.

**Needs: Shampoo, Conditioner, lotion, chapstick, body wash, tooth paste, deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, dish soap, dryer sheets.**

## Adult Sunday School Studies

Seekers Rm 213 Jan. 13-Feb. 17 "Life Lessons from a Bad Quaker"

A self-professed non-expert on faith invites readers on a joyful exploration of the faith journey perfection not required. With whimsy, humor, and wisdom, J. Brent Bill shows readers how to put faith into practice to achieve a life that is soulfully still yet active, simple yet satisfying, peaceful yet strong. For anyone who is bad at being good, this is an invitation to a pilgrimage toward a more meaningful and satisfying life . . . one step or stumble at a time. Facilitator Dana Kumpost.

Questers Rm 214

Join us for a study on *The Christmas Gift that won't Break* by James W. Moore with Jacob Armstrong. The Questers early January study will be the completion of *Christmas Gifts that Won't Break*:

Jan 13 ... The Gift of Christ

Jan 20 ... Conversation and Planning for Spring



FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

# WINTER-FUN BASKETBALL CAMP



A free clinic for ages 7+ focusing on skills, games, fun, and lessons for on and off the court

**SUNDAY, JAN 13TH | Grades 6-9**  
~~SU FULL XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 3-5

**SHOOT AROUND AT 3:30 PM**  
**CAMP FROM 4PM-6:30PM**

Led by Jack Lind, former ABA player  
Dinner will be provided



We want to take this opportunity of thanking all the folks at Trinity for reaching out to our parents and welcoming them when they arrived in the US.

Thank you for the support and prayers over the years. Especially The volunteers who helped give mom a ride to church, their patience and caring spirit was so appreciated.

Wishing you a year full of Gods blessings,

*Sylvana, Daphne and Sandra Airan*

[Sign up at trinitylincoln.org](http://trinitylincoln.org)



# Beer & Carols at the Local

A community of Christmas song and good will was enjoyed by all! (from Decemeber 19)



Dear Trinity United Methodist Church-

I wanted to take the time to **THANK YOU** for the **Living Nativity** that you offered during Advent. It was a beautiful surprise to drive by your church when we were out looking at Christsmas lights with our children. The kids made us stop and drive by three times! Thank you for this great Christian witness!!! Merry Christmas!!!

Yours in Christ,  
Katie Kruger



**Prayers for:** Leo Giron & Kay Likens.

**Sympathy to** Randy Daubert on the passing of her mother, Sarah Roberts; to Nancy Binder on the passing of her father, Ed Binder; and to Jon Miller on the passing of his mother, Alfrieda Miller.

**Health & Healing to Friends & Family of Trinity:** Steve Radcliff-Susan Harris' brother, John & Richard Shaffer-Pat Shaffer's brothers, Shaun Austin-Mary Jo Weber's nephew, Georgia Heckman and family-grandmother of Tiffanie Green, Kyla DeMar-Diane Boruch's daughter, Kaye Moser, Stan Mac-Maureen Hergert's friend, Angie Murphy-Megan Ferris' sister, Rosa Calahan-Katie Bennett's grandmother, Christian Waite-friend of Braxton, Landon, Cole and Tanner, Tara Willnerd Southwick, Dylan Downs, Enid Foos, Dan Adams-Mary Anderson's brother, Anna Wehnes-Darrell & Clarice Bailey's niece and Wayne Watson-friend of Nicolette Bonnstetter's.

Trinity Tower deadline for the next issue is Friday, January 18, 2019.

### Trinity Staff

Lead Pastor	Rev. Nan Kaye-Skinner
Director of Music Ministries	Dr. Michael Tully
Business Administrator	Sharla Tomlin
Discipleship & Spiritual Life Director	Jodi-Renee Giron
Dir. Children & Families Ministries	Patti Crittenden
Communications/Hospitality Coord.	Jill Ricketts
Building Maintenance Technician	John Adams
Companion Visitation Coord.	Marsha Dunn
Dir. Youth Ministries	Tommi Bolton Cox
Pianist	Nancy Binder

Bell Choir Director	Anne Gray
Graphics & Video Coordinator	Andrew Wolf
Dir. Sound Technology	Cole Wittstruck

Check out Trinity's website & Facebook Page

[www.trinitylincoln.org](http://www.trinitylincoln.org)

<http://www.facebook.com/trinitylincoln>

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