

## October 2025 at a Glance

**Oct 1** - Lost & Found @ 1pm, Choir @ 6pm  
**Oct 5** - Choir @ 9am, **Worship @ 9:45am**,  
 Adult Sunday School @ 10:50am  
**Oct 6** - Mission Team @ 6pm  
**Oct 8** - Lost & Found @ 1pm, Prayer Time @ 2pm,  
 Choir @ 6pm  
**Oct 9** - Esther Circle @ 10am, R&R @ 6pm  
**Oct 11** - Lost & Found @ 10am  
**Oct 12** - Choir @ 9am, **Worship @ 9:45am**,  
 Adult Sunday School @ 10:50am,  
 UWF Soup Meal @ 11am ,  
 Sunday Night Bible Study @ 5:30pm  
**Oct 14** - Leadership Team @ 6pm,  
 Mary Circle @ 6:30pm  
**Oct 15** - Lost & Found @ 1pm, Choir @ 6pm  
**Oct 16** - Storytime @ 10am, Dominoes @ 1pm  
**Oct 18** - Saturday Sisters @ 9:30am  
**Oct 19** - Choir @ 9am, **Worship @ 9:45am**,  
 Adult Sunday School @ 10:50am,  
 All Church Meeting @ 11am ,  
 Host Church Conference @ 2pm  
**Oct 22** - UWF Executive Board @ 10am,  
 Lost & Found @ 1pm, Prayer Time @ 2pm,  
 Choir @ 6pm  
**Oct 23** - R&R @ 6pm  
**Oct 24** - Crafting for Christ @ 6pm  
**Oct 25** - Trinity Men @ 8am, Lost & Found @ 10am  
**Oct 26** - Choir @ 9am, **Worship @ 9:45am**,  
 Adult Sunday School @ 10:50am,  
 Don & Millie's Sunday,  
 Trunk or Treat @ 2pm,  
 Sunday Night Bible Study @ 5:30pm  
**Oct 29** - Lost & Found @ 1pm, Choir @ 6pm

Sun, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, Trinity's annual all church meeting will be held at 11am and church conference will then be at 2pm. We will be talking about the upcoming budget, nominations, wages, and other business of the church. This led me to dig into the question, is the church a business?"

I did a Google search to find what people said and there were many opinions:

- According to Midwestern Seminary, the church is not a business and treating it as a business is not a biblical model.
- ChristianBusinessLeader.org says that most churches in America are businesses.
- TheexaltedChrist.com says that the Bible describes the church as a body not a business.
- Then I found a Reddit thread from 3 years ago where the topic was debated. The original post said they believed the church is a business. They gave reasons and asked for comments from others. One user, Dgmid, delivered, writing:

*"A church is a group of people worshiping and fellowshiping together. A church doesn't need to generate revenue, pay expenses, employ staff, or have a physical space. This becomes obvious when you look beyond the first world, where you'll find many churches without staff, revenue, expenses, or property. There are more churches without those things, then there are with them.*

*In first world countries, there are many legal entities, that generate revenue, pay expenses, employ pastors and other staff, and own buildings that are associated with a church. If you want to label that legal entity a business, or a nonprofit corporation, or something else, I don't think it's wrong to do so.*

*The people make the church. The legal entity is something else."*

Dgmid gave my favorite answer. There are many aspects of Trinity UMC that does function as a business/non-profit, but what is most important at Trinity is the people. People who are searching and striving to be followers of Jesus Christ. People who worship, serve, fellowship, and study together so they can live out Christ's example in the world. As we prepare for Oct 19<sup>th</sup> and talk about what is most important to Trinity UMC, my hope is we keep this in mind as we figure out how to live out our faith as Christians. How will we who call Trinity UMC our church home keep being neighbors who live and love together in Christ?

Pastor Tessa



Mark your calendars for the Annual Trunk or Treat on Sun, Oct 26<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm! There will be several ways you can help in the coming weeks from decorating a trunk, manning an activity, providing candy, and more.

The Youth Group activity for October will be helping with Trunk or Treat.

Trinity United Methodist Church 8009 Q Street Ralston, NE 68127  
 Phone: 402-331-4054 <http://www.trinityralston.org> [facebook.com/TrinityRalstonUMC](https://facebook.com/TrinityRalstonUMC)

Sunday Worship: 9:45am in person + online

Pastor: Rev Tessa Zehring

TLC Director: Megan Greise Media Director/Worship Leader: Matthew Hindley Choir Director: Chris King

Accompanist: Caleb Silcott Office Manager: Lowell Schlenker

**Mission Notes**

Lost & Found/Missions will meet Oct 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in Fellowship Hall. In Oct, we start collecting Thanksgiving items for Living Hope. A list of items will be shared shortly.



**UWF Soup Meal**

The United Women of Faith invite you to come and enjoy a warm meal on Sun, Oct 12<sup>th</sup> from 11am - 1pm. You will have your choice between chicken noodle soup or chili, along with a variety of desserts. The cost is a free will donation.

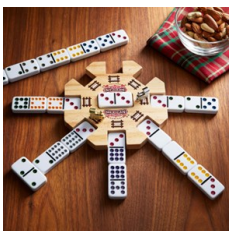
**R&R**

In October, R&R will meet on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Come for an inter-generational time of Reflecting on Christ and Reviving our Faith! Can't wait to see you then. Supper begins at 6pm!



**Storytime**

Oct 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am, join Kristi & Molly for Storytime! Stories, snacks, & activities spark imagination and the joy of reading! For ages 3-5 years old. Enter through the West doors under the awning.



**Dominoes**

Come play a hand or more of dominoes on Oct 16<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 3pm. Light refreshments provided. Trinity invites all in the community to fellowship together for an afternoon of fun. All are welcome!

**Sunday Night Bible Study**

The Sunday Night Bible study over Zoom meets on Oct 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>. They are covering the book *With: Reimagining the Way You Relate to God* by Skye Jethani.

This study will go with the worship services as it explores ways we live our lives for, under, over, from, and with God. This is a book that explores how our culture affects our faith. Come see with new eyes what it means to be a Christian and have faith.

**Craft for Christ**

Oct 24<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 9pm is craft night. Regardless of if you have a project or not, come and enjoy crafting, playing games, snacking, and building community together.



**Ralston Archives**

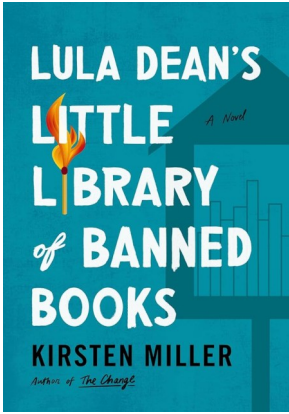
The Frank & Velma Johnson Ralston Archives Museum will be open Sun, Oct 19<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 3pm. Park in the drive or across the street. There is always something new to see.

**Happy Birthday!**

Would you like us to share your birthday with the church? Submit when your birthday is to the church office, and we will share it the week before it happens.

**Saturday Sisters Book Club**

Saturday Sisters Book Club will meet Oct 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am in Room 205. The selection this month is *Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books* by Kirsten Miller. This is an entertaining satire about a small Southern town, a pitched battle over banned books, and a little lending library that changes everything. You are invited to join us for discussion.



**Light Up the Night: TLC's Halloween Outreach!**

Trinity Learning Center invites you to help get the word out about the childcare center this Halloween. We are calling on you to participate in a simple, fun, and powerful outreach this Oct 31<sup>st</sup> by handing out specially prepared small stuffed toys, fun pencils, fidgets, or non-candy treats that are attached with a simple card containing Trinity and TLC's information and a welcoming message along with your treats!

**Here's how you can help this Halloween:**

- 1. **Give trinkets with your candy:** Commit to handing out these TLC trinkets to every trick-or-treater who comes to your door, right along with the candy.
- 2. **Take as Many as You Expect:** We want to make sure every participating home is well-stocked! Sign up on the clipboard on Sunday or email us at [info@tlcralston.org](mailto:info@tlcralston.org) to let us know how many you need.
- 3. **Share with Friends and Family:** Do you know others who would help promote Trinity and TLC? Get some trinkets for them to hand out too!
- 4. **Creative Community Scattering:** If you have any trinkets left over after the night, don't let them sit in a box! Give them out to children you see in the following days. Leave them in places that families often frequent, such as at a local park, in the waiting area of a family-friendly business, or on a neighborhood bulletin board (where permitted).

Thank you, Megan Greise, TLC Director

**All Church Meeting**

An All Church meeting will be held on Sun, Oct 19<sup>th</sup> after church at 11am. All members of the church are welcome to attend to hear about the plans for the coming year. We will be voting on the budget, nominations, and hearing about the state of the church. Plan to attend.

That afternoon will be the Church Conference meeting at 2pm held here at Trinity UMC.

