

Trinity Groups

Trinity is fostering a haven of belonging where wanderers and wonderers gather to discover and embody the love of Jesus in the world.

What is a Trinity Group?

God has always been forming a people for God's purposes in the world. We believe that our participation in God's mission can only be fulfilled through relationship with one another. For this reason, we come together in smaller groups - often, and ideally, gathered in local neighborhoods. Groups are unique blends of people who journey, love, learn and serve. Groups are intended as springboards for discovering and embodying the love of Jesus in the world.

Groups usually consist of six to fifteen people and meet at various times during the week, throughout Indianapolis. Some groups meet around a specific purpose or for a defined season. Some groups function more like traditional house churches or neighborhood gatherings, others look like book clubs, or groups organized around a common passion. "Trinity Group" is the broad term we use to speak about intentionally gathering around our common mission, outside of Sunday mornings.

What do Trinity Groups do?

Each group is different and organizes their life together in unique ways, as the Holy Spirit leads them. Most groups gather around the table and share stuff-of-life conversation each time they come together. Each group establishes its own "rhythm" for their experience together. Over the course of a month a group might study Scripture, pray, share books and ideas, discuss the teaching from a recent Gathering, laugh, play, offer encouragement and support, or engage in acts of service or social justice.

What Trinity Groups hold in common: AND...

People gather together in smaller groups so that they can participate in, and experience, the support that is necessary to be formed in the counter-cultural way of life that Jesus invites us into. As springboards for discovering and embodying the love of Jesus in the world, all groups share what might be considered DNA. Because we think using the language of DNA is a bit hokey, there's a *reciprocal, non-linear flow* to that which we hold in common, and God is always at work in and through us, we prefer to use AND...

Act: We hold one another accountable to where the Spirit is moving in our lives and calling us to embodied participation in God's redeeming activity in the world. Together, we reflect on our experiences and re-integrate that reflection back into practice, as we continue to discover the good news and be nurtured in it.

Nurture: We wonder together. We hold space to tell, and listen to, stories. To go deep together, we ask questions with compassionate curiosity. We nurture one another in the ways of Jesus, discerning how God is moving us to embody the good news in the world.

Discover: As we foster a haven of belonging, we name the good news at work in one another's life. This might be done through exploring Scripture, naming the ways in which God is re-narrating the world, or by sharing our experience of the love of God enfolding us in divine union. Together, we discover the kingdom of God breaking forth here and now.

AND becomes the framework by which we hold groups and one another accountable to intentionally gathering in smaller groups, around our common mission. There is not a linear path to these elements - we might hold them simultaneously or meander between them, as the fabric of our being is woven. No matter what brings us together in smaller groups, or how we structure our smaller gatherings, ultimately we live into our common [mission and vision](#), expecting God to show up AND...

What does a commitment to a Trinity Group look like?

Beyond AND, every group establishes their own expectations for participants. The following are some basics:

- **Attendance:** Group members should give priority to their predetermined meeting times. If unable to attend, they should notify a fellow group member.
- **Frequency:** If a group is to truly live out God's purposes for, and through them, they will recognize the limitations of even a once-a-week meeting. Group members are encouraged to share life together as often as possible.
- **Confidentiality:** What happens (spoken or otherwise) in Trinity Groups, stays in the group.
- **Expectancy:** God is present and at work among us. Expect the unexpected!
- **Participation:** Come prepared to participate fully in all discussion (through speaking and active listening). Contribute to shared meals. Come prepared to exercise your spiritual gifts and to receive the gifts of others. A practical way to engage all participants is by distributing the responsibilities of the group (i.e. a meal organizer, a childcare coordinator, discussion facilitators, etc.; 1 Corinthians 14:26).

Each individual should consider the significance of these commitments before joining a Trinity Group.

If you would like more information regarding Trinity Groups, please contact Melissa Millis (melissa@indytrinity.org).