

//LAUNCH PLAN

TRINITY NEW LIFE CHURCH

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//WHY START A CHURCH?

This is not about church planting.

This is about **JESUS CHRIST**.

Jesus Christ is mankind's only hope to be reconciled into a relationship with our God and Creator. The only appropriate response to this truth is to live in complete, eager submission to His will for our lives.

In our desire to obey Him, we recognize that His final words before ascending into heaven tell us not to keep this good news to ourselves, but to go and tell everyone how they can be reconciled to God. Strategically, we also recognize that over the last 2000 years no method has been more effective in accomplishing this Great Commission than church planting.

Thus, because Jesus is Lord we will plant a church-planting church.

Unfortunately, the lack of church planting (among other factors) over the past century has been a major factor in the following statistics:

- The U.S. population continues to increase, but not enough churches are being planted to only reach 1/8th of the population growth
- Somewhere between 3,500 and 3,800 churches close their doors in the U.S. every year
- 80% of all churches are plateaued or declining

These factors have lead to the U.S. becoming the fourth-largest mission field in the world.

In accordance with the call and wisdom of God, Clayton and Kelly Bell are stepping out to plant Trinity New Life Church in the greater Tampa Bay area to expand the Kingdom of God and push back the darkness, brokenness, despair and pain so prevalent on the earth today.

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//WHY TAMPA?

Three main factors provide the strategic reasoning for God's call to plant in the area:

//EXISTING CONNECTIONS

Kelly and I (Clayton) both grew up in the area, have extended family in the area, and have a wealth of existing connections to draw upon to build both a launch team and the church. For example, I've already been named the chaplain of a local high school football team. The head coach, former teammate of mine, has expressed his desire to allow me to meet with students, conduct leadership classes and bible studies, attend games on the sidelines, travel with the team and facilitate coaches' bible studies. We believe this is the first of many such examples of old relationships being rekindled for the sake of the Gospel.

//STRATEGIC CITY

The Tampa Bay area is the second most populated metropolitan region in Florida, the 19th-largest metro area in the United States and the fourth largest in the Southeast behind Miami, Atlanta and Washington. As of a July 2007 estimate, the region contains 4 million residents when including immediately adjacent urban and suburban counties.

Specifically, we will look to start our first congregation in a suburb of the area called Trinity. The area is strategically located on the corner of three counties and sits adjacent to the Suncoast Parkway, a roadway that allows access to Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater in less than 45 minutes. This allows for people all over the area to attend the church with minimal effort, and will be a key element in our future plans to plant churches. More details along this strategy will be outlined in the **//OUR VISION** section of this document.

Hundreds of thousands of residents are waiting to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, and we are intent on bringing it to them.



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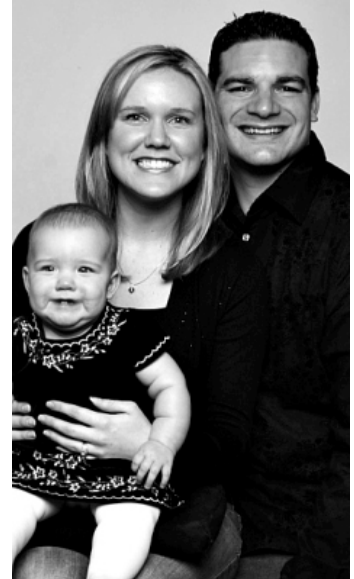
//OUR LEADERSHIP

//LEAD PASTOR

Clayton Bell

After graduating from River Ridge High School in 1997, I (Clayton) attended Florida State University and served in a variety of ministry roles after graduating, including campus minister and administrative director of their local church. I spent time at a PR and communications firm before returning to Every Nation, Tallahassee, where he currently serves as the Family Pastor.

Kelly (my wife) and I have one daughter, Caroline. We're planning to move in July to Trinity, FL.



//LAUNCH TEAM

We are actively looking to fill the following leadership positions:

- Worship Leader
- Kidz Life Director
- Church Administration
- Church Finances
- Community Liaison
- Media DJ
- Director of First Impressions

//OUR PASSION

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Our church doesn't have a mission statement; but we do have a burning passion to see everyone in the Trinity/Tampa area come into a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. We want to see them love Jesus with all of who they are.

Additionally, we are convinced a true love for Jesus is lived out by demonstrating the same love He showed us to those around us, and to the city as a whole. So while our faith will always be personal, it will never be private. Our church will share the love of Jesus to the Trinity area in our words and our actions.

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//OUR VISION

We will preach Christ crucified and resurrected, proclaiming both the forgiveness of sin and the fullness of life in Christ.

We will reach the lost by demonstrating the truth and love of Christ in word and deed.

We will make disciples by teaching Christians to obey everything Jesus commanded, using the most culturally appropriate methods.

We will plant churches in the Tampa area as a means of evangelizing and discipling the entire area. We will also plant churches throughout the U.S. as a means of reaching the world for Jesus.

We will serve the city by meeting the greatest needs of the area, training men and women in godly character and launching leaders who will leverage their talents and leadership for the sake of those who cannot do so for themselves.

//OUR NAME

We've chosen to name the church **Trinity New Life Church**. Trinity is the name of the city in which we plan to launch our first congregation. New Life is what we believe to be the most succinct summary of the Gospel. A church is what we are, the body of Christ represented on Earth.

//STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.

We believe there is one eternal, almighty and perfect God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential.

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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//OUR PROCESS

While our passion can be directly linked to biblical commands, we also recognize the Bible does not describe specific methods to accomplish that passion. After a careful and thorough examination of multiple methods of discipleship, Trinity New Life Church will begin by employing the following strategy to help attendees take steps towards Christian maturity, and will help them remember the process by marrying it to our passion:

//LOVE JESUS

Sunday service- The Sunday service will be aimed at preaching the gospel to both believers and non-believers, taking special care to eliminate any "insider" language or terms which may isolate them or make them feel uncomfortable.

Starting Point Groups- These groups, held three to four times a year, will provide both new believers and long-time believers a systematic teaching on key elements of the Christian faith. This class will be recommended to everyone attending Trinity New Life Church, regardless of the length of their walk with Jesus. This will help to keep the unity of the church, as everyone will be exposed to the same foundations and the same description of the outworking of those foundations.

//LOVE PEOPLE

Community Groups- As is common throughout most of Christendom in the U.S., we will implement a small(er) group system in our church. We choose the word "community" as opposed to "small" groups because we're not focused on limiting the size to 8-12 people, and we believe the call of the scripture is to live in on-going biblical community with each other. These groups will facilitate the four actions outlined in Acts 2:42- they will study the word of God through sermon-based material, they will pray for each other and for the church, they will take communion together and they will fellowship with each other in and outside of the scheduled meetings.

Life Skills Groups- We are also aware that sermon-based material may not be the most needed teaching during all seasons of life, and occasionally it will be necessary to focus on key problem areas in an effort to bring truth, love and transformation. As such, we will look to implement three different life skills groups to serve our members when they find themselves in just such a season. They will not launch until appropriate in the life of the church, but we will look to initially target marriage, raising children and financial crisis.

//SERVE THE CITY

Service Projects- We will identify the areas of greatest need in our community, evaluate which of them fall within the local church's sphere of authority, and respond accordingly. Presently, our goal is to serve in the community once a month, starting in the summer of 2010. We are also planning on asking Community Groups to participate in projects together as a means of building unity and family amongst the members.

Life Skills Groups- The specifics of the groups are listed above, but are included here as a means of recognizing that those who do not know Jesus will often look for help in a specific area of their life before they look to turn it over entirely to Him. Our Life Skills Groups will be open to the community, and will be designed to not only teach life skills but introduce the attendees to the One who gives us life everlasting.

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//TIMELINE

//PLANNING PHASE

May 2009

- Complete Launch Plan
- Establish coaching relationship
- Complete website (Phase 1) – www.TrinityNewLife.com
- Work to have the plant info placed on the EveryNation.org website
- Meet with board of Every Nation, Tallahassee to determine their financial support level and duration
- Obtain Percept for Trinity, FL
- Investigate potential meeting locations
- Raise Funds
- Begin legal incorporation process
- Begin application to Every Nation Churches

June 2009

- Continue to recruit launch team and raise funds
- Investigate potential meeting locations
- Attend EN NAC and network with pastors for funding and launch team candidates
- Make a broad appeal for the church plant at the NAC
- Visit Orlando and Jacksonville churches to make a personal appeal for financial support, ask congregations for Tampa area connections
- Complete (our side) of incorporation process
- Complete application to Every Nation Churches

July 2009

- Bells move to Trinity, FL
- Continue to recruit launch team and raise funds
- Investigate potential meeting locations
- Visit Orlando and Jacksonville churches to make a personal appeal for financial support, ask congregations for Tampa area connections
- Prepare for weekly launch meetings in August 09
- Begin reaching out into the community
- Host neighborhood party to meet everyone

//BUILDING PHASE

August 2009

- Begin work as chaplain for Mitchell High School football team
- Investigate possible service opportunities for home football games with booster club
- Continue to recruit launch team and raise funds
- Begin weekly launch team meetings
- Begin to identify point person for each area of ministry (see previous section "Launch Team")

- Host neighborhood party
- Launch Website (phase 2 – full site, by the end of the month)
- Finalize meeting locations by building Launch Team consensus on meeting location

September 2009

- Bring in Portable Church consultant
- Determine how much Portable Church will be purchased
- Continue working as chaplain for Mitchell High School football team
- Continue to recruit launch team and raise funds
- Continue weekly launch team meetings
- Finalize point person for each area of ministry (see previous section "Launch Team"), begin specific area training
- Host neighborhood party (with Launch Team)

October 2009

- Continue working as chaplain for Mitchell High School football team
- Continue recruiting launch team and raise funds
- Continue weekly launch team meetings
- Finalize point person for each area of ministry (see previous section "Launch Team"), begin specific area training
- Host neighborhood party (with Launch Team)
- Potentially send out mailer as a soft invite for the first launch service

//PREVIEW PHASE

November 2009

- 11/1--Launch Team only preview service
- 11/8-- Preview Service 1 (collect contact information from attendees)
- 11/22-- Comeback event on Saturday afternoon to connect with recent attendees
- Conduct follow up process
- Small mailer for Dec service

December 2009

- 12/6-- Preview Service 2 (collect contact information from attendees)
 - Sign up for 12/19 event
- 12/12-- Comeback event on Saturday afternoon to relationally connect people
- 12/19-- Community service event (try to involve new people)
- 12/20-12/24: Gift wrapping service? Water bottles in the mall parking lot?
- Conduct follow up process
- Send everyone a Christmas card from the church

January 2010

- 1/10-- Preview Service 3 (collect contact information from attendees)
 - Sign up for 1/16 events
- 1/16-- Community service event (try to involve new people)
- 1/23-- Comeback event on Saturday afternoon to relationally connect people
- 1/30-- Community service event (try to involve new people)
- Conduct follow up process

February 2010

- 2/14-- Preview Service 4 (collect contact information from attendees)
- 2/21-- Community service event (try to involve new people)
- 2/28-- Comeback event on Saturday afternoon to relationally connect people
- Conduct follow up process

//LAUNCH PHASE

March 2010

- 3/6-- Comeback event on Saturday afternoon to relationally connect people
- 3/10-3/14-- Community service mission trip with FSU & FAMU(?)
- 3/14-- First weekly meeting
- Continue weekly meetings

April 2010

- 4/3-- Easter egg drop at Mitchell High School
- 4/4-- First Easter service, baptisms and cookout after the service

May - August 2010

- Continue to facilitate weekly meetings
- Plan for monthly events, both service outreaches and community builders

September 2010

- Prepare for first semester of Community Groups

//CONTACT

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