TRINITY
CHURCH

Sacrificial Christmas Offering

NOW THROUGH
DECEMBER 31, 2025

Dear Trinity Family,

I am excited to share with you important details regarding our Special Christmas Offering that begins now and continues through December 31, 2025. We have the opportunity through this offering to impact our city for Jesus.

Over the years our church has gone from just a few people in a living room to a ministry that is impacting our city and the nations. It's an honor to be part of what God is doing.

With this Special Offering, we have the opportunity to increase our impact in Chicago, deepen our efforts to reach those who don't know Jesus, and expand our ministry.

Here are the categories that giving to the Christmas Offering will support:

- Shelter for Chicago's homeless population.
- Mentorships for at-risk Chicago youth.
- 2026 Vacation Bible School.
- Benevolence Ministry.

I hope you will carefully read over the full documentation to learn more about this opportunity for our church to give sacrificially and show God's love to those in spiritual and physical need. Find more information about each cause with FAQs at tri.church/christmas.

Will you begin praying now about what God would have you give (over and above your regular giving) to this Special Offering? Allow God to stretch your faith!

Give at tri.church/give (select 'Christmas Offering')

Many blessings,

Matt Sweetman
Trinity Pastor

P.S. If you have questions please reach out at connect@tri.church
P.P.S. Find out full details at tri.church/christmas

THIS CHRISTMAS OFFERING IS A CALL TO SACRIFICIAL GIVING. NOW TO DECEMBER 31.

Give at tri.church/give

1) CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Cornerstone Community Outreach (CCO) was founded in 1989 and aims to raise the quality of life for people experiencing homelessness. CCO serves nearly 500 people daily. They have three main programs: *Hanna Shelter* serves single mothers with children, *Sylvia Shelter* serves intact families of all kinds, and *Naomi* serves single men and women. All residents receive personal care and advocacy along with meals and donated clothing.

2) GRIP OUTREACH FOR YOUTH

GRIP was founded in 2004 to invest in the lives of Chicago youth through Christ-centered, Life-on-Life relationships. Their vision is to grow youth into solid Christian adults who positively impact and contribute to society, their communities, their churches, and their families. Help break the cycles of neglect by investing in young lives. As a church, our generosity can make a tangible and lasting impact by providing opportunities for gospel mentorships.

3) 2026 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Investing in the next generation is one of the most important responsibilities we have (Deuteronomy 4:9; Psalms 78:4). Let's serve children next summer with a well funded VBS program. We want to teach our children the Bible, foster their relationship with Jesus, help them build community with each other, as well as create lasting memories.

Beyond a spiritual investment in Trinity's kids, we also want to bless other families in the city. Finding programs for children during the summer can be challenging for parents; our church can rise to the occasion and bless Chicago's families in the name of Jesus.

4) BENEVOLENCE

From the start, Trinity has served people at their time of greatest need. To date, thanks to your generous giving, we have been able to approve all valid benevolence requests.

The Benevolence Ministry allows us to be ready to come alongside people in difficulty and distress due to hard financial times, a death in the family, or a need for Christian counseling. We want to anticipate and prepare for the continued increase in benevolence requests each year.

Read FAQs at: tri.church/christmas

FAQs

Why a special offering?

As part of God's plan to grow the faith of the people in His church, He calls us to sacrificial giving from time to time. This Special Offering is an opportunity for us to grow in our faith and to prepare us for what God wants to do through our church. This offering is not being collected because we are behind on budget, but its purpose is to put us in a position to make a greater impact in our city, in our church, and around the world in 2026.

How much should I give?

Special Offerings towards important needs is a call to everyone. Please prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift that will stretch your faith. The precise amount you give is between you and God. Some people can give much larger gifts of many thousands. As examples, others will be able to give $100, $500, $1,000, $2,000, or more. The issue is not equal giving, but equal sacrifice. What amount can you give that will stretch your faith?

When should I give?

The best time to give will be the first Sunday after you receive this letter. Please pray about making your greatest gift on that day. However, you can continue to give until December 31, 2025. As each week of the offering goes by, you may feel stirred to give again. We want to encourage you to remain open to the leading of the Holy Spirit in this. It is not unusual for many people to give multiple times during this period of sacrificial giving.

If using the giving envelope, please select "Christmas Offering." Without marking this, a gift intended for the Christmas Offering will be designated to the general fund. If giving by check please write "Christmas Offering" in the memo section. Remember, consistent gifts over time add up – a person giving $60-$80 per week over several weeks will give a total of $400-$500 to this Special Offering.

Can I give online?

Yes. When you give online through tri.church/give, simply select "Christmas Offering" from the options. While we do make it possible for people to give with credit cards because of its convenience, we also caution against it for two reasons. If you are not paying off your card please do not give with it. Also, we pay a processing fee of up to 3% on credit card giving. Over time this really builds up. In prior years Trinity has paid over $2,000 in processing fees. We want to make giving easy for people to start, but for those who start to give regularly, we encourage them to give via bank automation or ACH bank transfer. Go to tri.church/give for instructions.

Are my gifts tax-deductible?

All gifts to Trinity, whether via the regular offering or this Special Offering, are completely tax-deductible. Your gift will be deductible in the tax year given (i.e., gifts given in 2025 will be deductible on your 2025 taxes). Please be sure to include your name and address when you give so that we can issue your year-end giving statement for your tax preparations. You are not required to utilize a tax-deduction for your gift, but it is an option for all gifts.

How did we decide to give to these causes?

These causes were prayerfully set by Trinity Church leadership and represent key issues for gospel-impact in our city. Additionally, since we believe God's blessing is on this Special Offering, it has been determined that any amount over our previous year's total will be divided equally between our primary cause and our general ministry budget in 2026.

Join us as we give sacrificially this Christmas season!