

Brian L. Olson

Pastor

 brianlolson@msn.com  (847) 814-1792  Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061  brianlolson.com

 [linkedin.com/in/brianlolson](https://www.linkedin.com/in/brianlolson)

Professional Profile

Managing Pastor and ministry leader with years of experience helping people grow as disciples of Jesus Christ through biblical teaching, intentional relationships, leadership development, and servant leadership. Experienced in pastoral ministry, university leadership, organizational management, and team development. Brings a unique combination of theological education, executive leadership experience, and practical ministry service. Proven ability to develop leaders, equip volunteers, build healthy teams, manage complex organizations, and create ministry environments where people understand their role in God's mission and are encouraged to faithfully serve. Passionate about helping God's people grow in their relationship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; strengthen relationships within the body of Christ; and represent Christ faithfully to those beyond the church.

Ministry & Leadership Experience

Grounds Manager, Trinity International University 04/2011 – 06/2026 | Deerfield, Illinois

- Lead and develop full-time and part-time employees through coaching, mentoring, accountability, and servant leadership.
- Create opportunities for spiritual conversations, encouragement, and discipleship within daily workplace relationships.
- Oversee the Trinity Food Drop ministry, recruiting and coordinating volunteers—primarily international students and their spouses—to provide practical care for members of the university community.
- Help individuals recognize how their gifts and responsibilities contribute to the larger mission of the organization.
- Collaborate with university leaders and departments to support a healthy, mission-focused campus environment.
- Manage complex operations while demonstrating faithful stewardship, organizational excellence, and care for people.
- Built relationships with employees, students, and campus stakeholders through workplace encouragement and spiritual support.

Director of Campus Safety & Security Services, Trinity International University 12/1999 – 03/2009 | Deerfield, Illinois

- Directed one of the university's most diverse departments, supervising more than 20 full-time, part-time, and student employees.
- Developed, trained, and mentored team members, including students preparing for ministry and future leadership roles.
- Served on university leadership teams alongside directors responsible for Facilities, Grounds, Housing, Custodial Services, Dining Services, Event Services, and Mail Services.
- Managed departmental operations, budgets, policies, and strategic initiatives.
- Chaired the University Safety Committee, developing policies related to emergency preparedness, workplace safety, disaster response, and crisis management.
- Built strong relationships with university leadership, students, faculty, staff, and local emergency agencies.

Education

Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.), Pastoral Ministries, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Dissertation: Examination of the Use of First-Person Narrative Preaching in the Public Worship Service

Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Christian Education, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Bachelor of Arts, Youth Ministry, Trinity College

Minors:

- Bible
- Music

Theological Alignment

Committed to historic Christian orthodoxy and the authority, inspiration, and sufficiency of Scripture. Ministry is centered on proclaiming Jesus Christ, making disciples, equipping believers for service, and helping the church faithfully fulfill its mission through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Ministry Distinctives

- Christ-centered servant leadership
- Equipping believers for ministry
- Building healthy ministry teams
- Relational discipleship and pastoral care
- Biblical faithfulness and theological depth
- Developing leaders who develop others
- Creating systems that serve the mission of the church

Leadership Strengths

- Biblical Preaching & Teaching
- Adult Discipleship & Spiritual Formation
- Volunteer Recruitment & Development
- Cross-Cultural Ministry
- Conflict Resolution
- Executive Leadership & Administration
- Leadership Development & Mentoring
- Pastoral Care & Relational Ministry
- Staff Development
- Collaborative Leadership

Pastoral Ministry Experience

- Hospital Chapel Leader (Volunteer), Advocate Condell Medical Center** Libertyville, Illinois
- Coordinated weekly worship services for patients, visitors, and hospital staff.
 - Scheduled speakers, musicians, Scripture readers, and volunteers.
 - Served as primary preacher for approximately 30–35 services annually.
 - Provided pastoral encouragement, prayer, and spiritual care as opportunities arose.
 - Managed service recording and broadcast operations.
- Small Group Leader, Trinity International University** Deerfield, Illinois
- Led students through Bible study, prayer, accountability, and discipleship relationships.
 - Fostered spiritual growth and authentic Christian community.
- Adult Bible Fellowship Teacher, CrossLife Evangelical Free Church** Libertyville, Illinois
- Taught adults through biblical instruction and discussion.
 - Encouraged spiritual growth through practical application of Scripture.
 - Built relationships that supported discipleship and Christian maturity.
- Assistant to the Youth Pastor, Living Grace Community Church** Cary, Illinois
- Assisted with youth ministry leadership and programming.
 - Taught biblical lessons and mentored students.
 - Supported families and church leadership in discipleship efforts.

Additional Ministry Leadership

- Trail Life USA, Trail Guide** Libertyville, Illinois
- Boy Scouts of America, Troop 273, Chaplain / Assistant Scoutmaster** Vernon Hills, Illinois
- CrossLife Evangelical Free Church, Worship Choir Member** Libertyville, Illinois