

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

725 SW Buchanan Street

Topeka, Kansas 66606-1426

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TRINITY TIDINGS

MARCH 2018

STAFF

Interim Pastor — Alan Saatkamp

Cindy McGinnis

Administrative Assistant

office@topekatlc.org

Laurie Jackson

Music Director

Marcy Carlson

Custodian

marcyrtpr@gmail.com

OFFICE

Trinity Hall, 725 SW Buchanan St.

Office Hours: 10:00AM-3:30PM Mon.-Thur.

Telephone: (785) 233-0767

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sundays, 10:30 AM liturgical service of Holy Communion celebrated every Sunday

BIBLE STUDY

9:15 AM Sundays in Trinity Hall Lounge

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Trinity Hall-725 SW Buchanan Street

9:00-10:15 AM (September-May)

Ages 3 through Adult

The mission of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is to:

- *worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,*
- *serve those in need, and*
- *reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!*

Together in Community

Living with Christ

Caring for Neighbors

March 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVERY SUNDAY: 9:00 AM CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 AM INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION				1	2	3
				7 pm Men's AA		10-noon LFACT Children's Art Workshop
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Blood Pressure Checks after Worship HOT NIA meeting 5:30-8:30 pm Youth Group	5 pm Women's AA	9 am Quilters 4 pm W&M mtg.	5:30 Lent midweek soup supper 6:15 Bible study 5:30 pm Women's AA	10:30-2:00 CSS Transitional Pastor's mtg. 7 pm Men's AA		7 pm LFACT Concordia Choir @ 1st Lutheran
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Daylight Savings Time Begins	5 pm Women's AA	9 am Quilters 4:30 pm Learning 5:30 pm Council	5:30 Lent midweek soup supper 6:15 Bible study 5:30 pm Women's AA	7 pm Men's AA		St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
5:30-8:30 pm Youth Group	5 pm Women's AA	1st Day of Spring 9 am Quilters	10 am Priscilla Circle Bible Study 5:30 Lent midweek soup supper 6:15 Bible study 5:30 pm Women's AA	7 pm Men's AA		
	April <i>Trinity Tidings</i> deadline					
Palm Sunday 25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:15 Holy Land Presentation by Andy & LaVell Winsor	5 pm Women's AA	9 am Quilters 7 pm TLHA	5:30 pm Women's AA	6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship 7 pm Men's AA	6:00 pm Good Friday Worship	

Special Items of Interest

- ◆ Pick up a little red barn from the narthex and save your pocket change for God's Global Barnyard. See article on page 3.
- ◆ Animate: Practice, a new adult lesson series begins March 4th.
- ◆ Easter breakfast — POTLUCK STYLE! See page 4.



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 trinitylutherantopeka.org

Members of Trinity suggested that this sermon, preached last month on Transfiguration Sunday, be shared with the entire congregation. It's offered to you this month and is based on the second reading, found in 2nd Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness." who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. Today marks the end of the season of Epiphany, when God revealed Jesus to the world. We heard the story of Jesus' baptism in the River Jordan by John, with the Holy Spirit coming in the form of a dove and God declaring *this is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased.* And in today's Gospel, we again hear the voice of God calling out *this is my Son, the Beloved.* And this time also an ad-

monition, an instruction, if you will, to Jesus' followers there on the mountain: *listen to him!* I invite you to hold that thought.

Now we prepare to enter the season of Lent. Lent is a difficult time of year for many of us, I suspect. It's a time when some of us will be subdued, sad, reflective, penitent, and a time when many Christians practice self-denial. But before we get ahead of ourselves and launch into Lent on Ash Wednesday, we have the Transfiguration, this moment of glory, when Jesus' clothing is described as *dazzling white.* Isn't this the Jesus we want to hold on to, to keep with us throughout the next six weeks? It's the vision of Jesus in all his glory, not the one we'll see on Good Friday, again on a mountain, but this time Golgotha, or Calvary, dying on a cross. We want, as Paul said, for the light to shine out of darkness. This is the one *who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

Oh, but were it just this easy to accomplish. It's not that easy in this time or place, is it? Just as in Paul's time, we know there's plenty of *gods of this world* to blind us and those around us *from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

Paul uses the image of a veil, which we know is something used to conceal or cover up an object from being revealed or made known.

What can you think of as the veils of the world in which we live that blind us from seeing the light of the gospel, of the glory of Christ? I can think of a bunch. No doubt you can name several in your mind too. Yet as believers and followers of Christ, we, like Paul, have a different perspective, the gift of faith given at baptism through the Holy Spirit. Paul wrote that *we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and we are his servants.* Martin Luther's explanation to the third article of the Creed says it well: *I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the*

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INTERIM PASTOR ALAN SAATKAMP

TRINITY TIDINGS

March 2018

Worship Assistants									
Date	Greeter(s)	Usher(s)	Musicians	Lector	Acolyte	Altar Guild	Coffee Hosts	Assisting Minister	Presiding Minister
March 4, 2018	Marilyn Hypse	Curt Lewis	Laurie Jackson	Duane Pomeroy	LaVell Winsor	Pam Kobbeman & Team Three	Curt & Jane Lewis	Walt Laughlin	Pr. Alan Saatkamp
March 11, 2018	Curt & Jane Lewis	Curt Lewis	Laurie Jackson	LaVell Winsor	Ted Murphy	Pam Kobbeman & Team Three	Janice Greenlee	Mary Heald	Pr. Alan Saatkamp
March 18, 2018	David & Cindy McGinnis	David McGinnis	Mitchell Bean	Linda Longren	Cindy McGinnis	Pam Kobbeman & Team Three	Linda Longren	Ted Murphy	Pr. Alan Saatkamp
March 25, 2018 Palm Sunday	Howard & Loni Reece	Howard Reece	Mitchell Bean	Ted Murphy	Erin Lewis	Pam Kobbeman & Team Three	Walt & Helen Laughlin	Bob Horton	Pr. Alan Saatkamp



Prayer Requests

To share a prayer request please contact Barbara Apps at 249-7244. She will get the prayer chain started. If you want a prayer request included in our worship service prayers, please let Barbara know that as well.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS MARCH 4, 2018



Come to the kitchen after worship to have this important health check.

Have you designated your portion of the Dillons Community Rewards money to go to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church?



If you are a Thrivent member, have you designated Trinity to receive your Choice Dollars?



This link will take you directly to the AmazonSmile page that directs the donation generated by your AmazonSmile purchase to Trinity:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/48-0697751>



TRINITY TIDINGS

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

- 3 Aiden Grubb
- 4 Zoe Brown
- 9 Kali Arney
- 10 Bob Kobbeman
- 11 Sara McGinnis
- 16 Jake Kennedy
- 17 Trey Horton
- 19 Carol Marker
- 25 Pam Kobbeman
- 26 Annika Grubb
- 27 Cara Grubb
- 28 Helen Laughlin
- 29 Marie Henriksen
- 31 Kye Field
- 31 Larry McGinnis

Baptisms

- 1 Ben Carlson
- 1 Doug Quarnstrom
- 1 Adeline Klamm
- 4 Merle Adams
- 6 Wendy Rutherford
- 10 Alex Nichols
- 18 Cathy Tunnell
- 19 Gay Marker
- 20 Jane Lewis
- 21 Diane Bottorff
- 24 Annika Grubb
- 27 Chance Hutchison
- 30 Edward Emmons
- 31 Kay Ashworth

Wedding Anniversaries

- 14 Roy & Rosemary O'Neil

MARCH READINGS

March 4—3rd Sunday of Lent

- Exodus 20:1-17
- Psalm 19
- 1st Corinthians 1:18-25
- John 2:13-22

March 11—4th Sunday of Lent

- Numbers 21:4-9
- Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- John 3:14-21

March 18—5th Sunday of Lent

- Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Psalm 51:1-12 or
- Psalm 119:9-16
- Hebrews 5:5-10
- John 12:20-33

March 25—Palm Sunday

- Isaiah 50:4-9a
- Psalm 31:9-16
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Mark 14:1—15:47 or
- Mark 15:1-39 [40-47]

March 29—Maundy Thursday

- Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
- Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
- 1st Corinthians 11:23-26
- John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 30—Good Friday

- Isaiah 52:13—53:12
- Psalm 22
- Hebrews 10:16-25
- John 18:1—19:42

Special Emphasis During Lent

Once again during this Lenten season, offerings collected during the mid-week Lenten services and coins and bills set aside in the little red barns will be used to purchase animals from God's Global Barnyard. This ELCA Good Gifts program makes it possible for us to purchase animals for people in developing countries.

An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need as they provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at market. Our gifts help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty.

Pick up a little red barn from the table in the narthex and begin collecting

your coins and bills. The collection will end on Easter Sunday, April 1. Last year during Lent we collected \$1,300!



Youth Group is scheduled to meet **March 4th & March 18th.**

TRINITY TIDINGS



Easter Break-
fast, Potluck
Style



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15 AM.

There will be Easter breakfast on Sunday, April 1. Serving will be from 9am to 9:45am. This year the breakfast will be a potluck. You are asked to bring an item or two to share. Table service and drinks will be provided. The Sunday School children will enjoy breakfast, then go to Trinity Hall to learn about the Resurrection.

DOORSTEP NEWS – MARCH 2018

Thank you to everyone who donated soup and crackers for our **Souper Bowl Sunday** collection! A can of soup can be a meal or two, and your generous donations helped to stock our pantry and provide meals for our neighbors in need!

We also want to thank everyone who contributed to our **15th Annual Operation Soup Line!** Whether you made desserts, donated or won a theme basket, bought or sold tickets, worked the event or attended, we appreciate the support! Money raised from the Soup Line will help with agency expenses and provide rent and utility assistance to neighbors who are struggling.

We will sell **cinnamon rolls and tamales** this Spring! We'll take orders in April with delivery in early May! Keep your eyes open for flyers with dates!

Doorstep's **2017 Christmas Store** was a great success thanks to everyone who worked together to provide for those less fortunate. We helped a total of 259 households with 824 individuals with food, gifts, toys and household items spending \$17,699! We had great groups that helped move everything from Doorstep to First Nazarene Church and then back five days later! The staff is grateful for all of the volunteers who gave their time to help us provide Christmas to these families.

A new series, *Animate: Practice*, will be launched on Sunday, March 4 at 9:15am in Trinity Hall lounge. It's a seven lesson series. Each lesson is self-contained, so if you miss a class you can pick up where you left off.

On Palm Sunday, March 25, we'll take a short break from *Animate Practice* to hear a presentation by LaVell and Andy Winsor about their trip last year to the Holy Land.

There will be no Adult Sunday School class on Easter Sunday.

A new, in-house directory will be finished soon. You will be able to pick one up at worship or if you prefer to have one mailed to you, please contact the church office by phone, 233-0767 or email, office@topekatlc.org

TRINITY TIDINGS

Council Meeting Highlights, Feb. 13, 2018

- ◆ Officers elected: President Bob Horton, Vice-president Mary Heald, Secretary Dean McGinnis, Treasurer Bob Kobbeman.
- ◆ Susan Fitz stepped down from collecting & counting offering due to health reasons. Bob Horton will perform this task for the present time.
- ◆ Bob Kobbeman reported good income in January. Several line items were discussed as possible sources of funds to retire the mortgage.
- ◆ Andy & LaVell Winsor will do a presentation on March 25 about their trip to the Holy Land.
- ◆ Cole Wells and Jake Kennedy will be confirmed in October.
- ◆ Parker Jackson, Zane Kennedy, Jake Kennedy, Diane Bottorff, and Dean McGinnis will attend Youth Gathering in Houston June 27-July 1.
- ◆ Lesser Electric bid was approved; Lundquist money will be used for needed upgrade.
- ◆ Jeff Longren, Marcy Carlson and Janelle Meredith have joined Witness/Outreach committee.
- ◆ Lenten midweek services will begin with soup supper @ 5:30; service @ 6:15.
- ◆ Easter service will include a trumpet ensemble.
- ◆ Baptism of Pomeroy grandchild Feb. 18.
- ◆ Lenten offerings will be used for God's Global Barnyard.
- ◆ Each committees needs to complete their section of policy/procedure manual by April meeting.
- ◆ Call committee is working on compensation package & strategic plan.
- ◆ Reeves Foundation funds are being reviewed.
- ◆ Bob Kobbeman & Bob Horton will attend The Safe Church at Law Enforcement Center Feb. 22.
- ◆ Synod assembly is Jun 7-9 at Bethany College; Pr. Alan plans to attend (or current clergy); also need one male & one

- female member.
- ◆ ELCA Congregational Report is due Feb. 15; Bob Horton & Cindy are working on this.
- ◆ New council members will be installed during worship on March 4.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President Bob Horton.....	640-5344
Vice President Mary Heald	221-2790
Secretary Dean McGinnis	272-0255
Treasurer Bob Kobbeman.....	478-0381
Interim Pastor Alan Saatkamp.....	605-214-1469
Members	
Diane Bottorff.....	271-7131
Laurie Jackson.....	224-9683
Dean McGinnis.....	272-0255
Ted Murphy.....	817-0372

WELCA – Priscilla Circle Bible Study

Come and gather with us for morning coffee and Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday March 21, in the Trinity Library. We'll continue the third session in the series by Mark Allan Powell, titled *Multiple Meanings, Learning from Other Interpretations*. The text for the study is

Luke 10: 30-37...*The Good Samaritan*. We will look at this story, one of the best known in the Bible, and share examples of how this writing has impacted culture including those different from our own. All are welcome!

2018 5TH SUNDAY SPECIALS

- April 29 Doorstep
- July 29 Topeka Rescue Mission
- Sept. 30 Camp Tomah Shinga
- Dec. 30 Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU

Watch for special envelopes in your bulletin on each of these 5th Sundays.

TRINITY TIDINGS

March 2018

Continued from page 1

Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

Last week I spent some time looking at the church archives. One set of entries was especially noteworthy. Many of you appreciate the significance of the date January 19, 1929. It was the afternoon and evening that the old church building at 4th at Tyler burned to the ground. Imagine what a blow that was to the congregation. There were a few more significant dates that year, ones that affected more than the members of Trinity Lutheran Church. On March 25 of that year there was a correction to the stock market, and of course, on Black Thursday, October 24, the stock market crashed, setting off more than a decade of economic hardship in our country. The first dust bowl struck the following year, that further worsened the plight of many Americans.

Yet the fire that devastated the congregation of Trinity Lutheran church in 1929 didn't diminish the spirit of its members. In fact, they pulled together for a common cause, and just over a year later, in March of 1930, a new church building was dedicated on our current site. Obviously the Holy Spirit was at work in the hearts and minds of the members then, nearly 90 years ago.

I wonder how the members of Trinity would respond if they could join us for worship today. I wonder what those leaders would think and say if they saw the church today. I'm not just talking about the attendance at worship, or the financial reports from recent years, or the push-pin map we completed last year showing where the membership lives. I'm also talking about what's going on, not just on Sunday mornings, but also the rest of the week, here at

8th and Buchanan as well as in the community, the neighborhood in which Trinity resides.

In his book entitled *The Mission Table* Stephen Bouman, executive director of Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, wrote about the practice of the Roman Empire when their boats reached the shore of Britain. It is said the Romans dragged their boats ashore and burned them on the beach. The message was clear: we are here to stay. Bouman posits that a congregation expending its resources, imagination, and leadership to reconnect to its community and to set a new mission table needs to have a *burning our boats at the shore* commitment.

Make no mistake—there are congregations in our Synod with far fewer active members attending worship on Sunday mornings that are thriving. Not necessarily growing in numbers, but congregations having discerned a clear sense of mission and actively doing God's work for the life of the world. They do it, as former Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson wrote on Pentecost five years ago, because *we believe our neighbors deserve to hear the good news of God's love for them.*

Remember what God told Jesus' disciples on the mountain in our Gospel today: *to listen?* It's the promise you heard here a year ago—that we would listen to God's word, listen to each other, and listen to those around us. And much of that has happened since the transition task force began meeting and hosting town hall meetings and the adult forum last year. Yet I wonder whether this congregation is willing to reroot the life of Trinity in the life of its community. I wonder whether this congregation has the courage to see old things die and risk new things being born.

Pr. Mamy left notes in the pastor's

study from a task force that began its work just over two years ago in January 2016. The members of the task force clearly identified trends and the realities of where the church was heading. Yet comparing those notes to today, two years later, it appears that very little has changed, other than average attendance having dropped on the average by a few each week.

I'm not suggesting that Trinity needs another burn to the ground or boat burning re-enactment at Lake Shawnee. Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann, however, wrote that the massive and unarguable dislocation of the conventional church may be an occasion for a common resubmission to the power or God's spirit. May God guide our path and give us the courage to shine that light in Historic Old Town. Amen.

Social Statement on Women and Justice Hearings in April

What should the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America teach about contemporary issues related to sexism and patriarchy in our society? You are invited to help shape a response to that question, by reviewing & responding to the "Draft of a Social Statement on Women and Justice" which is now open for discernment, comment, and response. You can call the church office to request a copy of the draft statement. You may participate in a hearings scheduled in April:

- Sunday April 22, 2–4 pm, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Salina
- Sunday April 29, 4–6 pm, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lawrence,

or use the response form at the back of the statement. If you would like to download, read, and respond to the statement online, please call, 233-0767, or email the church office, office@topekatic.org.