

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
725 SW Buchanan Street
Topeka, Kansas 66606-1426

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Trinity Tidings

January 2020

STAFF

Pastor Andrew C. Patty
pr_andrew@topekatlc.org

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, Tues., Thur.
Noon to 5:00PM Wednesday
Telephone: (785) 233-0767

WORSHIP SERVICE

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Trinity Hall-725 SW Buchanan Street
9:15-10:15 AM

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

January 2020

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EVERY SUNDAY: 9:15 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION				1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
				5:30 pm Women's AA	7 pm Men's AA	Pr. Andrew on vacation	
5 10:15 Hymn Sing-a-long Blood Pressure Checks after Worship	6	7 9 am Quilters	8	9	10	11	
Pr. Andrew on vacation							
	5 pm Women's AA		5:30 pm Women's AA	7 pm Men's AA			
12 11:30 am W&M meeting	13	14 9 am Quilters	15 10 am Priscilla Circle Bible Study	16	17	18	
	5 pm Women's AA	5:30 pm Council	5:30 pm Women's AA	7 pm Men's AA			
19 Epiphany Sunday	20 February 2020 Trinity Tidings deadline	21 9 am Quilters	22	23	24	25	
	5 pm Women's AA		5:30 pm Women's AA	7 pm Men's AA			
26 Annual Meeting after worship	27	28 9 am Quilters	29	30	31		
	5 pm Women's AA		5:30 pm Women's AA	7 pm Men's AA			

Trinity Tidings



We are embarking on another year together, which certainly brings lots of excitement, but also new challenges. It is exciting to think about starting anew and putting things for the new year on the best foot forward. Indeed, when I came here in February, it felt like being called into the huddle of the football team right after the quar-

terback already gave all details of the play ahead.

This last month had many special moments that I just want us to remember and reflect on. The Julbord

and St. Lucia Service with Christmas Eve brought many familiar faces that don't show up often enough (particularly with the little ones). With plans ahead on the new children's room and the work of the *Guest and Membership* committee in thinking of how we get our names out into the community, hopefully we will see more of those faces around and some new faces in the process!

The council continues to work at guiding the vision that the congrega-

tion set out for us for the coming new year. We have a set of proposals for what we might do for our 150th celebration from various council members that we will vote on during the annual meeting. So please be sure to look at those and think about what Trinity can do to celebrate this joyous year.

I don't often realize quite how much is going on until I stop and write it all out like this. As I do, I think about the hard work that so many of you have poured into carrying out this ministry we do together. First and foremost, it is the dedication of all of you that makes this place run and never forget that. This place is not "my ministry" or the "pastor's ministry" but this work that we do in the church is **YOUR MINISTRY** and I **THANK YOU** so much for the blessing to be able to assist you in living out your call as a community of Christ.

But then I'd like to ask you to do two things. The first is to prayerfully consider how your call to ministry fits in with what is going on in the congregation. Many of you have already found a place

where you can serve within the congregation. If you aren't sure what's available, if you're interested in something but are worried you don't have the right skills, or if you have an idea we haven't thought of, set up a time to talk to me or make it known on the Time, Talents, Treasure form at the end of this newsletter. Each of you has a gift to share in our community. Yet, always remember that it is not always about adding things to our lives. Likewise as a congregation, there are members that need a moment to rest, a break to allow for recharging or for the emergence of something new. This is difficult sometimes, but I would like for us as a congregation to consider what it would be like to trust that when an individual needs a moment away or when a ministry needs a temporary rest that we will remind one another to trust in God's carrying us through that time of rest to a time of renewal.

Let us go forth into this new year celebrating God's work among us!

Andrew C. Patty



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TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship Assistants									
Date	Greeter(s)	Usher(s)	Musicians	Lector	Acolyte	Altar Guild	Coffee Hosts	Assisting Minister	Presiding Minister
January 5, 2020	Donna Allen	Walt Laughlin	Laurie Jackson	Mary Heald	Curt Lewis	Charlotte Blenden & Team 3	Curt & Jane Lewis	Mary Heald	Pr. Gary Teske
January 12, 2020	Don & Charlotte O'Brien	Curt Lewis	Mitchell Bean	Bob Horton	Laurie Jackson	Charlotte Blenden & Team 3	Mike & Laurie Jackson	Rosie Nichols	Pr. Andrew Patty
January 19, 2020	Marilyn Heckman	Howard Reece	Laurie Jackson	Walt Laughlin	LaVell Winsor	Charlotte Blenden & Team 3	Rick & Janice Greenlee	Vickie Jacobs	Pr. Andrew Patty
January 26, 2020		Bob Horton	Mitchell Bean	Linda Longren	Marcy Carlson	Charlotte Blenden & Team 3	Marcy Carlson & Janelle Meredith	Ted Murphy	Pr. Andrew Patty

Blood Pressure Checks
January 5. 2020



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

Due to HIPPA and Privacy Laws, hospitals and care facilities are not allowed to notify us when patients are admitted. Therefore, please contact the office if you will be entering a hospital or care facility and would like a visit. If you are unable to attend worship due to illness or mobility, please contact Pr. Andrew or Cindy to schedule a visit.

Help us keep your contact information up to date.

If you have a current email address, please use it to email the church office, office@topekatlc.org.

If there is an email address that you no longer use, please call the office, 233-0767, and we can remove it from our records.

PLEASE NOTE: We have three AA groups that meet here at Trinity. One of the tenets of AA is anonymity.

The meeting times are on our calendar each month; the Monday night group meets in Fellowship Hall and the Wednesday & Thursday groups meet in Trinity Hall.

Please respect their privacy.



Dillons recently upgraded their system, and as a result our Non-Profit Organization (NPO) has a new account number — MV608. Please reference the new number when contacting Dillons for assistance. The previous number will continue to be associated with our organization, however, it will not be visible when enrolling.



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>

January Celebrations

Birthdays	1	Mary Heald
	16	Ben Carlson
	16	Linda Longren
	17	Edwin Bennett
	23	Ivan Carlson
	23	Cathy Tunnell
	25	Jerry Chelson
	27	Zane Kennedy
	28	Keith Springer
Baptisms	20	Betty Quarnstrom
	23	Betty Patton
	27	Matthew Kobbeman
	31	Ron Axelton
Wedding	1	Michael & Laurie Jackson
Anniversaries		

January Readings

January 5 — 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

January 12 — Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 19 — 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1st Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 26 — 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1st Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23



Favorite Hymn Sing-
Along

January 5
10:15 a.m.
Come & sing!

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS December 10, 2019

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President

Diane Bottorff
271-7131

Vice President

Mary Heald
221-2790

Secretary

Laurie Jackson
224-9683

Treasurer

Bob Kobbeman
478-0381

Members

Bob Horton
640-5344

Curt Lewis
286-2728

Dean McGinnis
272-0255

Ted Murphy
817-0372

- ◆ Proposals for 150th anniversary ideas will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting.
- ◆ Annual meeting is January 26, 2020. Date was changed from January 19.
- ◆ North door of Trinity Hall is a major security issue and should not be used until further notice.

TRINITY ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of our congregation will be held at the conclusion of the worship service on Sunday, January 26. Tentative agenda items include: approval of 2020 budget, elections, presentation of proposal for special project to celebrate 150th anniversary, and more.

We will need a quorum of voting members to conduct business. According to our constitution a quorum is 25% of our voting members. A voting member is confirmed and has communed and made a contribution of record during the preceding or current year.

Answer the call: In the coming weeks the Nominating Committee will be seeking persons to serve in a number of positions that will be elected at the annual meeting.

There are council positions, 3 year terms, Nominating Committee members, 1 year term, Audit Committee, 3 year term, Doorstep board, 1 year term, Topeka Lutheran Home Assoc, 3 year terms, Lutheran Fine Arts Council, 1 year terms. When you are called, please prayerfully consider serving.

Doorstep News – January 2020

The Doorstep staff and volunteers would like to thank everyone who donated to Doorstep during the holiday season, and throughout 2019. Because of your generosity, and the Topeka community, we were able to provide food and gifts to our neighbors in need this past Christmas.

Along with the start of a new year also comes the cold weather and high utility bills. Please remember your neighbors who are struggling to pay those high bills when looking for a place to donate. Doorstep offers utility assistance to individuals and families throughout the year as funds are available.

Souper Bowl Sunday is February 2nd! Just around the corner! On this weekend we ask our member congregations to collect soup and crackers to help restock our food

pantry. A can of soup can be a meal, and in the past, with a successful collection, we have had soup and crackers to last us into the summer months! Please remember Doorstep when you go grocery shopping, and pick up a few items for your neighbors in need.

Also, mark your calendars for the 17th Annual Operation Soup Line! This year it will be on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 from 11am – 2pm!

Doorstep is open Monday – Friday, 8am – 3pm for donations. We are located at 1119 SW 10th Street (10th & Buchanan). We ask that you do not leave donations outside our building when we are not here. They often become a parking lot mess. Thank you!

The Gathering Table Needs Volunteers

The Gathering Table (formerly Children’s Memorial Lutheran Church) Needs Volunteers!



Are you looking for meaningful service projects in the KC area? Then come cook and serve at the Gathering Table, 5001 Independence Avenue, our local ELCA Synodically Authorized Worshiping Community! We need teams of 4-5 people to spend a Saturday morning (or several!) cooking and serving meals for about 75 people experiencing food insecurity. We can share recipes

if you need them! This is a special way for church groups, work groups or just groups of friends to serve a community in need. And, as one of our long-time volunteers says, “God will show his love through you.”

We have many Saturdays open in 2020, as meals are served every week. Please contact the lunch scheduler, Anne Wiedenkeller from First Lutheran KC, at keithandanne@gmail.com for a schedule and more information.

TRINITY QUILTERS



Please remember that we will gather on Tuesday January 7, 9:00 a.m. to begin the blanket sewing projects for the brand new year.

We offer a special thanks to Pastor

Andrew for including a “Blessing of Quilts” during the December 8 worship service. Also, another special thank you to Monica Spencer for delivering the 36 quilts to Doorstep the same day.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA—Priscilla Circle



Remember that we begin a new Bible Study, “We are called!” when we meet January 15, 10:00 a.m. in TLC Library. Come, bring a friend, enjoy the study, fellowship and refreshments

LUTHERAN FINE ARTS OF TOPEKA



Lutheran Fine Arts Council of Topeka will again be hosting a Fiber Arts Workshop on Sat., Feb. 22nd at Faith Lu-

theran Church. We are looking for fiber artists who could lead a small group in sharing information, a demonstration, or a make and take session. Fiber arts include both animal and plant fibers. We are looking for people in particular who could demonstrate bobbin lace, rug hooking or dry felting but if you have another form of using fibers we would like to hear from you. Please contact Susan Thowe at srthowe@gmail.com for more information or to share your interest.

Epiphany! Let Your Light So Shine, a Hymnfest. As we begin to tire of winter in late January, come celebrate the Epiphany season in song. This event will be held at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th at 3:00pm on Sunday, January 26th. The bell choir from Prince of Peace will be featured along with a mass choir of members from First, Faith, Our Savior’s and Trinity Lutheran churches from Topeka and St. John in Alma. A freewill offering will be accepted. A reception will follow. Hosted by Lutheran Fine Arts Council of Topeka.

Proposals for 150th Year

The Church Council has decided to let the congregation decide on the direction and projects we might consider for celebrating our 150th year as a congregation. Various council members have proposed different ideas and these will be voted on at the annual meeting after church on January 26th. This list does not mean that you have to just select one project! Instead, think of this as a buffet of options for what we might do and you can pick and choose the proposals that speak to you.

Proposal One: Historical Timeline Banner

Proposer: Ted Murphy

This would be a banner that could be displayed that would include historical events of Trinity and Topeka together. With images, photographs, documents of our past.

Cost: \$130 on Zazzel

Proposal Two: Plaster Work in Sanctuary

Proposer: Curt Lewis



Repair and Fix issues with water that causes our plaster to crack in various places in the sanctuary.

Cost: Still taking bids on the proposal



Proposal Three: Paint the Altar Recess

Proposer: Laurie Jackson

Paint the wall behind the altar a vivid blue to match the blue in the stain glass. Include gold trim/rosettes/pattern to match the details of the stain glass. (Look at Grace Cathedral's Altar Roof for reference.)

Cost: Consulting with a Painter



Proposal Four: Digital Church Bell System

Proposer: Pastor Andrew Patty

Digital Bell Carillon that would replicate the sounds of real bells with speakers in the tower. This would allow us to have the sound of many bells despite the fact that we would never have room for such.

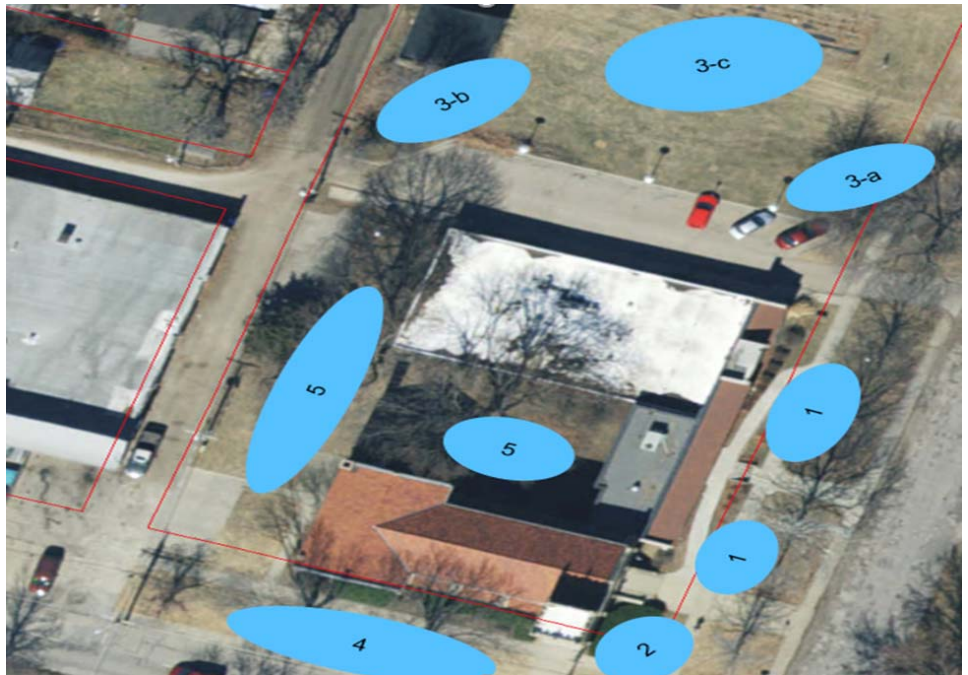
Low maintenance and would not require extra cost structurally beyond set-up.
Electrical work. Could be wired into organ as a musical addition.



Cost: Proposals from Verdin Foundry starts at \$11,600 and rise depending on all the features we might want.

Proposal Five: Outdoor Improvements

Proposer: Dean McGinnis



Phase One - Redesign East side of the addition area from Trinity Hall drive to sidewalk leading to the Main East double doors of the Church:

- [1] Tall planter(s) on either side of steps leading up to East new addition doors.
- [2] Place two tier garden bed mirroring on each side of the steps leading up to the East new addition doors. This garden space will be designed to be low maintenance including low water needs.
- [3] Place two benches one on far end of garden area on each side of steps leading up to East new addition doors. Benches with hardscape underfoot for low to no maintenance.
- [4] Improve lightening with addition of lights along the east side of church along sidewalk.
- [5] Area between the Sanctuary and New addition to be redesigned. Possibly adding a statue of Martin Luther to make the area low to no maintenance.

Phase Two [2] - Redesign the area South East Corner of Church - Sign, Planter and Cross.

- (1) Sign & planter on corner to be designed with adding drought tolerant low growth low maintenance plants to add some color and life to the planter. Adding Banner signage on corner areas of the planter.
- (2) Improve Lighting of the sidewalk and sanctuary.
- (3) Repair the Wall Sconce Lights on either side of the East Double Doors up to the Narthex and repair/replace the lock on those doors. The lights have not worked since the completion of the new addition and the door locks have not worked for a few years now.
- (4) Re-design a new cross that is used during Lent and Easter season.

Phase Three [3] - Develop a neighborhood park North of Trinity Hall Parking Lot. (Three Phases)

- (a) North of Trinity Hall parking and Drive, Area under tree on east side and along sidewalk to the north**, re-landscape, adding picnic tables seating areas with some addition of trees converting to a green space for youth to run and play while parents can keep an eye on them. Provide safety signage and lighting.
- (b) Repair and painting of the Garage, create a meditation space.** Garage to North of Trinity Hall Parking and alley to the West, adding low/no maintenance seating, lighting, altar with cross and plantings.
- (c) Redesign the remaining lot(s) to the North into TLC Park** adding playground equipment, basketball court, green space with play area. Provide safety signage and lighting as needed.

Phase Four [4] - Improve lighting and re-landscape south-side of church along 8th street. Design a Bicycle Respite Friendly Park setting. (The city bike plan shows upgrading the bike route along 8th street with a dedicated bike lane in 2020). Providing a mini park like setting inviting folks to rest.

Improve safety and sanctuary lighting along sidewalk area.

Add seating and update landscaping as needed.

Add a Blessings Box (stock with non perishable food items for neighbors <https://www.facebook.com/topekablessingboxes/>)

Add a little library (provide reading resources for neighbors <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>)

Look into adding a cross walk at the corner of 8th and Buchanan for safety with the proposed addition of the neighborhood park (phase 3) on our lots to the north.

Phase Five [5] - Improve open green spaces between Trinity Hall, Church New addition West to Alley from 8th street to Trinity Hall Parking lot. Tree maintenance (remove if needed) make in-to green space, secure the area with fencing and re-landscape as needed.

Proposal Six: Helping 150 Families This Year

Proposer: Pastor Andrew Patty

We can dedicate a percentage or an amount of our capital campaign to go directly to helping families in our neighborhood in various ways. Here are just a few ways we might be able to help families in our neighborhood:

RIP Medical Debt is a non-profit that helps churches buy debt from those living under the poverty level around them. Medical debt is the number one reason for long term poverty in our country currently.

Topeka Public Schools: We could adopt a school for the year and help children directly by paying school lunch debt or supplying backpacks for families in need.

Habitat for Humanity: We could sponsor a family that is going through the process of owning their first house and encourage work in Old Town.

Doorstep: There might be unmet program needs that Doorstep could use assistance with over the year that would be unique to Trinity and connect us with the people at Doorstep.

RIP
MEDICAL
DEBT





Our Three Ts at Trinity...

As a small congregation, it takes the effort of all of us to make this wonderful community become a beacon of Christ's love through our worship and outreach. Please consider how you will contribute to our ministries in this next year!

Name: _____

Time

Worship

- Lector
- Assisting Minister
- Usher
- Greeter
- Coffee Host
- Altar Guild

Committees

- Audit
- Learning
- Nominating
- Outreach
- Guest and Membership
- Worship and Music

Community

- Doorstep
- Lutheran Arts
- Luther Place
- NIA
- 4-H

Church Support

- Hospitality for Funerals
- Prayer Chain
- Visitation
- Church Clean Up Days

Church Groups

- Women of the ELCA
- Quilters
- Musicians (Vocal or Instrumental)

Talents

What gifts do you have that Trinity as a congregation could use?

Treasure (Please refer to notes on the back side)

“All things come of thee, O Lord And of thine own, have we given thee”

-1 Chronicles 29:14

I/We make the following pledge for the upcoming year to share in the work of God in and through all the ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church:

\$ _____ per week/month/year, which is _____ % of a tithe for our household.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pastor's Notes on Treasure

I know that it has been quite a while since Trinity has done any form of pledge cards. I also know that there might be a history as to why this practice stopped many years ago. As you know, I want to be honest and upfront with you about areas of growth that we can have as a congregation. One of those areas is looking honestly at what financial gifts that God has brought to many of you and how those are being shared with the congregation.

What do I see as a pastor that these pledges might offer? For me, it is about accountability when thinking about approving our budget for this next year. Congregations change every year financially. People change jobs, people get raises, we lose loved ones, or the cost of new child in the family changes what we can give. It is important for the church to know what the base giving will be for the coming year. Or to think of it in another way, it's like buying a house before you have a job. We know what the mortgage is already but are praying to get that job to make it through the year.

I ask that you use the chart below to think about your tithing this year. Take your yearly income and think about how much you tithe in the week (Year). Then if you are not at a full tithe, ask yourself if you can just move one space left (a 3% increase). Do this each year until you have a full tithe.

One thing I ask us to be mindful of is that one household provides almost 10% of the budget (which is an unhealthy dynamic and heaven forbid anything happen, but we would be in trouble). This is reflected in the fact that the mean is higher than the median. In an ideal situation, both of those numbers should be close to one another if everyone is doing their part. So please consider what you can do this next year so that Trinity can have a firm footing for this next year.

With Christ's Love,

Rev. Andrew C. Patty

34 Regularly Giving Households		\$3,529.41 we need per household		\$3,035 mean of giving per household		\$2474 median of giving per household	
Yearly Income	Weekly Income	Full Tithe (10%) per week	8% Tithe Per week	5% Tithe per week	3% Tithe per week	# of Tithes at this level	
\$10,800	\$200	20 (1,080)	16	10	6	11	
\$21,600	\$400	40 (2,080)	32	20	12	9	
\$32,400	\$600	60 (3,240)	48	30	18	4	
\$43,200	\$800	80 (4,320)	64	40	24	1	
\$54,000	\$1000	100 (5,400)	80	50	30	5	
\$81,000	\$1500	150 (8,100)	120	75	45	3	
\$108,000	\$2000	200 (10,800)	160	100	60	1	
\$162,000	\$3000	300 (16,200)	240	150	90		