

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Trinity Tidings

August 2020

STAFF

Pastor Andrew C. Patty
pr_andrew@topekatlc.org

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Administrative Assistant
office@topekatlc.org

Laurie Jackson
Music Director

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Custodian
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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

Cancelled until further notice.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Cancelled until further notice.

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

In place of our calendar this month (since we are all supposed to stay home), here are some important items of which to be aware during this time of Covid-19.

We worship.

Our own online Sunday morning worship services have had some glitches, but it is a learning process for all of us. Bear with us for as long as it takes please. And pray that we can soon be back together in our sanctuary.

Do remember our Mid-Week Prayer Services on Zoom at 6:30pm on Wednesdays. This service is live and we always have a wonderful time checking in with each other about our lives during these times. The new meeting ID is **78285849958**. If you would like to join us and still do not understand Zoom, please call or email Pastor Andrew and he will be more than happy to help get you set up!

We meet.

Pr. Andrew will contact committee members to arrange a time to meet on Zoom. Here's a link in case you want to read up a bit beforehand:

<https://zoom.us/>



We give.

Unfortunately, any time we as individual church members, are not in the pews at church, we forget that expenses continue to accrue. And during this prolonged and unknown period of closure, we are undoubtedly worried about many things. So please remember Trinity financially just as you would when we are gathered on Sunday mornings.

The best and easiest ways to submit your offering at this time are:

via US mail

drop off at the office (there is a mail slot on the north side of Trinity Hall)

set up an autopay service from your bank (if you need help with this, please call the office)

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS					
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense
June 7	\$2,725.00	\$0.00	\$2,725.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$67.00
June 14	\$1,550.00	\$0.00	\$1,550.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,242.00
June 21	\$3,700.00	\$1,000.00	\$4,700.00	-\$2,792.00	\$1,908.00
June 28	\$1,420.00	\$0.00	\$1,420.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,372.00
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead
		June 2020	\$10,395.00	-\$11,475.30	-\$1,080.30
		Jan. - June	\$61,891.87	-\$62,240.42	-\$348.55

“Every hand that we don’t shake should become a call that we place. Every embrace that we avoid must become a verbal expression of warmth and concern.” - Rabbi Yosef Kanefsky



Trinity Tidings

August 2020

"Church books are written by people with a plan and ten steps, not by Christians just hanging on by their fingernails."—Rachel Held Evans

"We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans..."—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

While these two quotes are separated in time by almost 50 years and come out of different contexts, we find that they resonate with our own experience of being the church during this pandemic. Just last month when I was writing my letter to all of you, I was hopeful that we would be back to some form of in-person worship as we were getting close to our 14 days. Since then, we have seen large increases in the virus spread since the start of this ordeal. There is a breath of relief that while other churches in the Synod tried to reopen and have now been asked by the Synod to close again, that we created a plan and stayed with it. At the same time, I feel like Rachel in her quote above, just a couple of steps from falling off the cliff. Much like those dramatic scenes where the

hero is hanging off the edge of the building with just a couple of fingers between themselves and death, I as a leader in the church feel that sometimes I am just hanging on during these times. But one of the great parts of those action movies is that normally the hero is brought over the edge by the help of a friend.

And this is where all of you come in. I need you all to help me do a better job at getting our church to our next step during this pandemic. I need your advice and thoughts on what we could be doing better, things we haven't tried, and most important, things you feel that have failed over these past couple of months. It is only with your voice that we can be the church during these times in more impactful and meaningful ways.

In the quote from Bonhoeffer, he is speaking to the formation of new Christian communities as he organizes the Lutherans against the Nazi-State church and gives advice to the newly formed Confessing Church that stood opposed to the Nazis. Many of the fellow pastors felt like they had lost it all; they had lost their country, their freedom in ministry, and

now the Nazi government had kicked them out of their churches for dissenting. Yet, Bonhoeffer tells them that they need to be "interrupted by God." In all times, not only those distressing times, God changes and shakes up the human plans that the church had created for itself. And the great joy and hope for Bonhoeffer in these moments came in the church becoming something new. That the church would learn about itself in these new situations. That the church would change itself to be more in tune with what God was calling them to be in that moment and to cast away those things that blocked them from being true Christian communities.

So in the spirit of Bonhoeffer, what is God calling us to do in this moment? What is God calling us to change about the way we do our ministry as a church? What new path is God creating for us in our time to find God's love more fully and to share that with the world? The church is waiting for your voice in these times...

Andrew C. Patty



August Celebrations

- Birthdays**
- 2 Monica Spencer
 - 4 Janeen Horton
 - 6 Shelley Andrews
 - 6 Jimmy King
 - 11 Merle Adams
 - 11 Ella Bosch
 - 12 Glenda Visocsky
 - 12 Bryah Wakes
 - 15 Brian McGinnis
 - 17 Johnathon Brown
 - 20 Samantha Ginter
 - 23 Karen Kaiser
 - 27 Russell Johnson
 - 27 Loni Reece
 - 29 Heather Klamm
 - 29 Adrienne Hutchison
- Baptisms**
- 3 LaVell Winsor
 - 10 Marilyn Hypse
 - 13 Marilyn Heckman
 - 21 Glenda Visocsky
 - 26 Camdyn Ralph
 - 27 Carsyn Ralph
 - 29 Janeen Horton
- Wedding**
- Anniversaries**
- 1 David & Cindy McGinnis
 - 2 Bob & Pam Kobbeman
 - 5 Rick & Janice Greenlee
 - 10 Bob & Janeen Horton
 - 15 Tom & Mary Heald

August Readings

August 2 – 9th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 55:1-5
- Psalms 145:8-9, 14-21
- Romans 9:1-5
- Matthew 14:13-21

August 9 – 10th Sunday of Pentecost

- 1 Kings 19:9-18
- Psalms 85:8-13
- Romans 10:5-15
- Matthew 14:22-33

August 16 – 11th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
- Psalms 67
- Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
- Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

August 23 – 12th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 51:1-6
- Psalms 138
- Romans 12:1-8
- Matthew 16:13-20

August 30 – 13th Sunday of Pentecost

- Jeremiah 15:15-21
- Psalms 26:1-8
- Romans 12:9-21
- Matthew 16:21-28

Greetings:
 We hope you are all well. We are fine.
 Carl & Betty

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President
Curt Lewis
633-6661

Vice President
Ted Murphy
817-0372

Secretary
Shelley Andrews
554-3005

Treasurer
Bob Kobbeman
478-0381

Members
Laurie Jackson
224-9683

Howard Reece
221-8992

Council Meeting Highlights, July 13, 2020

- ◆ Pr. Andrew reported that views & likes on Facebook are increasing.
- ◆ Pr. Andrew will reach out to St. John’s AME and/or Asbury-Mount Olive UMC, full communion partners, as part of ELCA initiative to combat racism.
- ◆ Howard will make contact with a company to trim trees, not to exceed \$1200.00.
- ◆ Pr. Andrew will begin mobilizing committees via Zoom.
- ◆ Fire extinguishers and emergency exit lights have been inspected & re-paired as needed.
- ◆ The church boiler was inspected on June 12. Certificate is posted on the boiler.
- ◆ New directory is complete & available.
- ◆ Video, a portion of which was shot in our sanctuary by Colin Sanders, a Cair Paravel student, is now available on Youtube.
- ◆ We will be researching speed & price of alternate internet provider.

150th Anniversary Celebration!!

Plans for our 15th anniversary celebration are now on hold. The tentatively scheduled December date will be reviewed again in October.



A new church directory is now complete and available. Please call or email the church office if you would like a copy. Cindy will be happy to mail one to you or you may pick up during office hours.

If you would like a large print version, please let the office know when requesting a copy.



Doorstep News – August 2020



We would like to thank everyone who donated items for Christmas in July, money for our Summer Cash Bash or as part of the Envista Cares Challenge in July! We continue to help people where we can with emergency services during this time of pandemic, and the clothing room is now open twice a week for clients.

Sign Up for Doorstep's Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Run!

Sunday, October 4th is the date for this year's fundraiser! We are still planning to move forward with the fundraiser this year and make changes, if needed, as time progresses. You can sign up to participate for \$30 including a t-shirt (deadline September 16th to order a shirt) or sponsor a walker/runner! Those getting sponsors will get a free t-shirt with pledges of \$100 or more. All proceeds will benefit Doorstep, Inc.

Visit the sanctuary August 2, noon to 2 pm.

Doorstep's Christmas in July

Please see the flyer on page 6 for a list of items needed to help Doorstep with their Christmas in July benefit.

Doorstep will also accept cash donations if you would prefer to give in that manner.

Get your family, friends, youth, community groups together and join us this October!

We are excited about this event! It will start/end from shelter houses 1 & 2 at Lake Shawnee. The Walk/Run will start at 2:00pm with celebrity starter, Chris Fisher from WIBW-TV 13 joining us again this year! We will have some entertainment prior to the start and after the walk/run return to the shelter houses for a snacks & drinks!

You can sign up on our website www.DoorstepTopeka.org after August 1st.

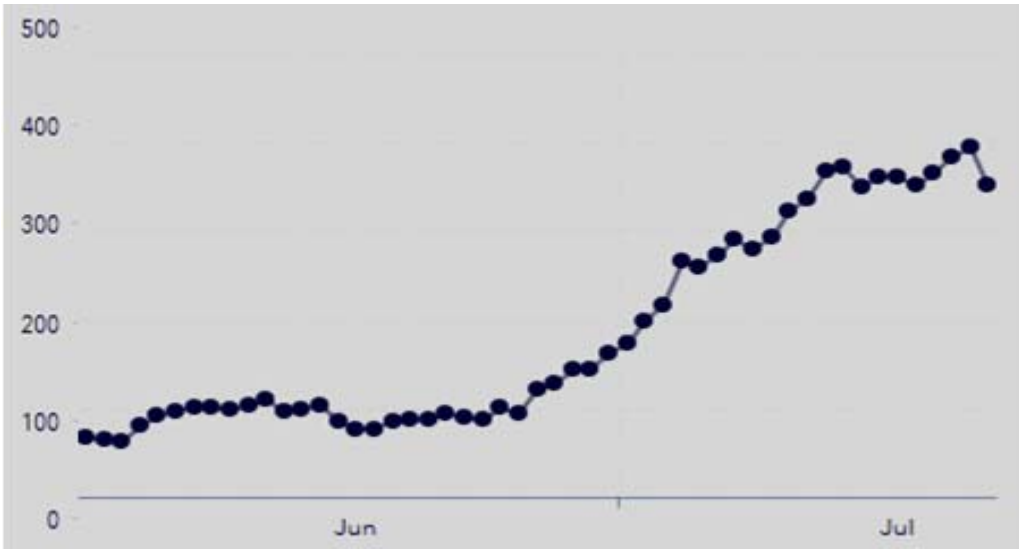
Sign-up and sponsor forms are also available from the website or congregations.

On August 2nd, we will have the church open—safely—from noon to 2 pm. During this time, you can drop off items purchased for Christmas in July and may also visit the sanctuary for a moment of prayer and contemplation.

Update on the Church Reopening Plan-

The plan that was developed by the Church Council in partnership with Pastor Andrew stipulates that we need to have 14 days of decreasing active cases in Shawnee County as our measure for when we can start the reopening process. At the end of June, we were very close to that mark but since the start of July, one can see that cases have increased drastically. Therefore, Pastor Andrew will notify the congregation when we get to our 14 day mark and will plan for outdoor worship at that time.

Active Cases in Shawnee Co. as of July 22, 2020:



Please join us as part of Trinity’s online worship team.

- ◆ Online Worship Team would like to welcome anyone in the congregation to read the lessons or weekly prayers.
- ◆ Please schedule a time to be recorded with Pastor Andrew on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Call the office, 233.0767 or email office@topekatic.org. Or call Pr. Andrew, 423.748.9922 or email pr_andrew@topekatic.org
- ◆ For those concerned about social distancing and mask, only Pastor Andrew and yourself will be present during the recording time.

DOORSTEP'S CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Each year we adopt 260 households for Christmas. There will be 800+ individuals in these households and we need your help in providing gifts & necessities.

Below are specific items we need this Christmas.

Health Kit Items

Towels (new) bath & hand, and washcloths, Combs, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste/brushes, Shampoo, Razors



Toys

Games - All Ages
Baby Dolls, Balls - Football, Soccer, Basketball
Teen Girls Gifts - Make Up & Nail Kits
Back Packs
Color & Reading Books
School Supplies
Toys for Ages 2-12

**CHRISTMAS
IN JULY**

Household Gifts

Quilts, Blankets & Sheet Sets (Full, Queen & King)
Dish Sets, Toasters, Hand Mixers, Crockpots, Griddles, Electric Skillet, Pots & Pans, Electric Can Openers, Coffee Makers, Etc.



Adult Gifts

Flashlights, Tool Sets, Clock Radios, Small Radios, Watches, Aftershave, Playing Cards.
Perfume, Body Wash & Lotion Sets, Jewelry, Etc.

Please Bring Items To Doorstep In July For Families Who Will Be Adopted This Christmas.