

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Trinity Tidings

October 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

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

October 2020

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

					1	2	3
					6:30 pm Midweek ZOOM Prayer Service		
10:30 am Outdoor Worship Call or email office to reserve your place. 1 pm Doorstep VIRTUAL 3RD Annual Walk/5K Run	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
					6:30 pm Midweek ZOOM Prayer Service		
10:30 am Outdoor Worship Call or email office to reserve your place.	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		6 pm Council		6:30-8 pm Historic Old Town NIA meeting	6:30 pm Midweek ZOOM Prayer Service		
10:30 am Outdoor Worship Call or email office to reserve your place.	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		November <i>Trinity Tidings</i> deadline			6:30 pm Midweek ZOOM Prayer Service		
			7 pm TLHA				
10:30 am Outdoor Worship Call or email office to reserve your place.	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
					6:30 pm Midweek ZOOM Prayer Service		 HALLOWEEN
 Reformation Sunday			7 pm TLHA				

Trinity Tidings

October 2020

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance infect and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me..." – Martin Luther's Response to the Plague of 1527

2020 has indeed and will continue to be a strange year in the history of our faith community. In a year that was supposed to be filled with celebrations of our 150th year, instead we have been confined to our homes. When as a Synod we are normally concerned with outreach and public witness, "risk assessment" has become the number one topic as leaders in our church and community are trying to figure out how we can be safe moving forward. This is the new reality of our lives in this moment and time.

This month we will be charting new waters as we try to have in-person outdoor worship each Sunday in October. We will use our best known practices to keep people safe. And while we will do our best, there will be risk. Just because we had a test run that went fine, does not mean that we can lay our fears aside. We have to accept that as a part of our

faith in this day we must think of others. We must be even more mindful of our care and concern for neighbors and fellow members than we have in the past.

During the Plague of 1527, the Prince of Wittenburg commanded all the people of the town to vacate their homes and leave those who were sick behind to die. As the village was leaving, Martin Luther took another path and decided to stay with those that were sick and actually hosted those he could help in his own house. Luther did make clear in his time that there were no easy answers to respond to the plague. If the only good you could do in the situation is by leaving to avoid the disease, Luther said do it. If you could stay with those that remained and heal the sick without spreading it, Luther said do that also. But Luther also made clear in this time what was not a Christian virtue. Luther clearly states that those that are sick and hide their sickness, are not doing their Christian duty but are bound to the needs of their self and in Luther's view, were working with the Devil to spread the illness.

Now, while we are far more educated today about diseases than Luther and I would not say that the Devil is working to spread illness, one point of Luther's comment still speaks to us today. That is that we have to be mindful of what our duty as Chris-

tians are during the pandemic. What can we do in this time? How can we be aware of ourselves to keep others safe? And this is what I want us to remember as we try to have in-person worship this month. Every Sunday morning we need to be mindful to do our best. I encourage you on those Sunday mornings to prepare just like Martin Luther told us in the quote above. Start with a prayer that God will protect us all and bring to us all the joy of fellowship and worship. Then prepare yourselves with your chairs, with your mask, with your hand sanitizer. And be mindful during the service to keep socially distant (while we might be physically distanced, that does not mean our hearts and love for each other need be). It is then in all this that we can be at rest as Luther states. For it is only when each of us has done our very best that we can rest knowing we have used our best knowledge and practice to show love and care for each other during this time. That we do what God has expected of us in our faith.

Andrew C. Patty



October 2020

October Celebrations

- Birthdays**
- 1 Ameerah Esquibel
 - 3 Charles Hutchison
 - 8 Carl Quarnstrom
 - 14 Marlene Hassan
 - 16 Rosemary O'Neil
 - 17 Tresa Johnson
 - 23 Marilyn Heckman
 - 26 Frank Visocsky
 - 28 Charlotte O'Brien
- Baptisms**
- 3 Loni Reece
 - 7 Ella Bosch
 - 10 Becky Carter
 - 15 Kade Welp
 - 17 Ellen Irwin
 - 17 Bryah Wakes
 - 18 Barbara Apps
 - 19 Ted Murphy
 - 20 Brooke Ralph
 - 26 Bob Horton
 - 26 Curt Lewis
- Wedding**
- Anniversaries**
- 2 Hugh O'Neil & Loretta Hoerman
 - 9 Bill & Marsha Ridinger
 - 27 Frank & Glenda Visocsky
 - 29 Don & Charlotte O'Brien

October Readings

October 4 – 18th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 5:1-7
- Psalm 38:7-15
- Philippians 3:4b-14
- Matthew 21:33-46

October 11 – 19th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 25:1-9
- Psalm 23
- Philippians 4:1-9
- Matthew 22:1-14

October 18 – 20th Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 45:1-7
- Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]
- 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
- Matthew 22:15-22

October 25 – Reformation Sunday

- Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Psalm 46
- Romans 3:19-28
- John 8:31-36

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, September 14, 2020

- ◆ Thanks to all who helped make our in-person outdoor worship happen.
- ◆ Pr. Andrew announced changes to weekday church activities going forward.
- ◆ Pr. Andrew will focus on mobilizing committees.
- ◆ Tree trimming on our property needs to be done.
- ◆ The Topeka Rescue Mission and Historic Old Town NIA are partnering with area churches to deliver food to people in need. It was approved that Trinity act to support this program.

As noted in the issue of September Trinity Tidings, there has been an address change for Walt and Helen Laughlin. We've been more than blessed to have them play many active roles in our congregation, supporting the church in every way. And our loss is a win for the Laughlin family as they will be near one of their daughters. Fortunately with technology, they can join our church services & mid-week gatherings. Walt said they plan a trip to Topeka when our church opens again! Bless you, Walt & Helen, in your new home & please stay in touch! You will be missed.



Their new contact information:
8555 South Lewis Ave #19A
Tulsa OK 74137-1218

Phone number is 918-298-3472.

"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



150th Anniversary Celebration!!

Plans for our 150th anniversary celebration are now on hold. The tentatively scheduled December date will be reviewed again in October.

Doorstep News – October 2020



Fall is here... it's the beginning of the holiday season!

Doorstep's Fall Fundraiser, Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run has transitioned into a virtual event due to COVID-19. It is Sunday, October 4th at Lake Shawnee. Packet pick-up and late registration will be from 1:00pm - 2:30pm in Shelter Houses 1 & 2. Your packet will contain drinks, snacks, your event t-shirt and sponsor information. Chris Fisher from WIBW is our honorary celebrity starter. You can choose when and where to walk/run this year to be socially distanced from others. Please plan to join us on October 4th. If you haven't already signed up, you can register at www.DoorstepTopeka.org or at the Walk/Run on October 4th. \$30 per person, children 10 and under can walk for free with a paid adult!

Prince of Peace is looking for an Administrative Assistant. If you have a dedication to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, a love for people and a desire to serve others this position is just right for you. If you are interested in applying for this position, send resume to: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
3625 SW Wanamaker Road
Topeka, Kansas 66614.

Note: the administrative assistant job description is available in the Trinity church office if you would like to see it before applying.

Prince of Peace Preschool is also currently seeking a special person to fill a part time teaching position in our preschool. For more information call Amy @ 785.271.0913

Of course, 2020 has become the year of COVID-19, and with that we are all experiencing doing things in new ways, or not at all. Doorstep will still have a Christmas Store, and we will still adopt families and individuals. This year there will be changes, such as those we adopt will not shop for themselves, we will have volunteers do the shopping, and the families will pick up their items. There will be other changes as we figure this out. But, we will still need your help with donations of new winter clothing for all ages, blankets, other gift items, and money for food. As we get more changes figured out, we will start to get volunteer information out, and our needs list. Keep your eyes open for information in November, and sales!

You may also come by the church office to get a printed copy of the registration form if you do not have access to it online. —Cindy

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. Call the office, 233.0767 or email office@topekatlc.org. Or call Pr. Andrew, 423.748.9922 or email pr_andrew@topekatlc.org
- ◆ For those concerned about social distancing and mask, only Pastor Andrew and yourself will be present during the recording time.

Update on the Church Reopening Plan

We are praying and planning for in-person worship every Sunday during October 2020! Of course, it will depend on virus case numbers and the weather. As shown in the graph below, there was a significant drop in the number of active cases in Shawnee County, so if everyone will continue their safe practices (hand washing, masks, & staying home as much as possible) we pray that this trend will continue.

The service will take place in the outdoor green space between church and Trinity Hall which will be divided into six foot squares:

- Each square will be 6ft x 6ft
- Each square will seat a maximum of four (4) people from the same household
- Please bring blankets and yard chairs (if you do not have any, metal folding chairs may be requested and placed in your square)
- Please tell us if you absolutely need, for medical or age related reasons, a well-shaded square.
- Feel free to bring tailgating pop-up tents; be sure to let us know ahead of time so that we can place you in the back so as to not block views.

With these specifications, we can accommodate a maximum of 45 people, per the county guidelines. Because of this limitation, we must ask that you sign up to reserve your place at worship for any of the Sundays in October. To do so, reply to this email or call the office, 233-0767. Remember to ask for folding chairs if needed or let us know if you will be bringing a tent.

There will be further instructions provided in future emails.

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



As always, for those who cannot or don't feel comfortable attending in person, the service will be livestreamed on Facebook and available for viewing at a later time.



October 2020

Old Town N.I.A. invited Trinity to a partnership with the purpose of participating in the Rescue Mission program to feed hungry people.

Council approved this proposal on September 14th.

Background info:

- In April, 2020 the U.S.D.A. was given several million dollars for a program called Farm to Table. The U.S.D.A. buys excess fresh food commercial entities weren't/ aren't buying due to Covid19.
- The Topeka Rescue Mission formed a partnership with the United Way & the City of Topeka Neighborhood Office.
- Several companies in Shawnee County donated refrigerated semi trucks to ensure there was plenty of cold storage.
- TRM named this program Project Food Secure. Currently there are 50 sites with 75 groups spread out within those groups. For instance, Trinity & the NIA form one site and two groups.

Here's how it works:

- Volunteers pick up food boxes and address list for delivery at Trinity Hall's North parking lot. Everyone is encouraged to wear masks both at pick up &

delivery.

- Households that will be receiving a box know the day and time when the boxes will be delivered.
- We will be delivering food boxes on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.
- Delivery starts at 4:30PM and are completed by 6PM.
- Delivery is accomplished by placing the box on the porch, knocking on the door loudly and leaving. The program is designed so there is no direct contact until Covid is over.
- If the person delivering doesn't feel comfortable delivering to an address, they make a note on the delivery sheet and go to the next address.
- Due to time constraints by the USDA, no delivery vehicle will have more than 10 addresses to which to deliver.
- Once delivery is completed, the list is returned to the pick-up site. Delivery routes are designed to be completed within one hour.
- Each person who volunteers will be given a link to sign up; it's a very short, one-time process.
- It is each volunteer's responsibility to notify the contact person if they aren't going to be

available on a certain delivery date.

- Five-fifteen pm is the latest volunteers can arrive to deliver food.
- Substitute delivery volunteers are appreciated and needed as well.

Misc. additional information:

Since mid May, 2020, Topeka Rescue Mission has processed and delivered over 33,000 boxes of food throughout NE Kansas. Since Trinity is in the NIA area or in partnership with the NIA, any of our members or friends are also eligible for food boxes. We would need to deliver them. Churches may include encouraging words of support or include a short scripture passage. When we can begin meeting for worship in person, we can also include invitations to church.

There is no cost to Trinity and no storage or otherwise use of our facility is needed. All paperwork will be completed by the NIA with reports given to Trinity monthly.