

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TRINITY TIDINGS

January 2021



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 thru Thur.
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

JANUARY 2021

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>Please note the important deadline for February Trinity Tidings and for the annual report items on January 18th. Time is a factor to get annual report sent to you in time for the meeting on February 21st.</p>				1	2		
<p>10:30 am Worship on Facebook</p>	3	4	<p>5 Epiphany 6 <i>See Facebook link to ELCA Bishops' Service</i></p>	7	8	9	
<p>Baptism of Our Lord</p> <p>10:30 am Worship on Facebook</p>	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		6:00 pm Council	6:00 pm Nominating Comm. Mtg.				
<p>10:30 am Worship on Facebook</p>	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		<p>DEADLINE: •Annual Report •February 2021 Trinity Tidings</p>					
<p>10:30 am Worship on Facebook</p>	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>10:30 am Worship on Facebook</p>	31						

TRINITY TIDINGS

January 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church
Topeka, KS

A Note from Pastor Andrew



In the Middle Ages, it was common for monasteries to have massive Bibles and Psalm books to use during worship. Indeed, these books would have their own wooden stand in the sanctuary that would be used to hold these books so that more than one monk could read at the same time. As you can see in the picture, these jolly monks are crowded around a Bible that is at least half their size. Martin Luther would also have spent many years with his monastic brothers reading and singing the worship service by this means.

One of the major events every year was the turning of the Bible. Many monasteries had the practice of reading through the whole Bible in a year during their regular worship. We must remember that they had eight worship services a day in those

times. It was also very different from the idea of the lectionary we have today for there was no notice of liturgical seasons except for Sunday services. All their daily scripture readings would have been straight through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. And it was the day of Christmas Eve when the final passage of scripture from Revelation 22:21 would be read —“The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Be With All The Saints. Amen”— right before sundown as the Christmas Eve service would occur at night. And they would close the back cover on that year of reading the Bible and wait for the new light to come into the world.

It would be the first regular service on Christmas Day that they would all gather around the Bible and several monks would be needed

to flip the Bible back to the beginning. They would start the process of reading the Bible all over again. This is one of the reasons that the Gospel of John with its connection to Genesis became the traditional Christmas Eve Gospel. For the monks, it was just as much a celebration of the new year of faith as our New Years Eve celebrations are for us today.

So just like those monks of years ago, let us be open to starting over in this new year. As we hear the message of Jesus’ life again, what new things will we hear? What new things will Jesus call us to do? What deep questions might come up? While we no longer physically reopen the Bible for this new year of faith, let us have hearts that are open to how the Word will shape us in this coming year.

SEE PAGE 4 FOR IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING INFO!

Committee reports, budget proposals, President’s report, and other items for the Annual Report are due to the office by January 29th.

Please remember we will be discussing the proposal to paint the altar alcove.

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mary Heald
- 16 Ben Carlson
- 16 Linda Longren
- 17 Edwin Bennett
- 23 Ivan Carlson
- 23 Cathy Tunnell
- 27 Zane Kennedy
- 28 Keith Springer

BAPTISMS

- 20 Betty Quarnstrom
- 23 Betty Patton
- 31 Ron Axelton

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Michael & Laurie Jackson

TED QUAST, currently residing in Connecticut, called to say hello.

DON LONGREN is now at home since Dec. 10th, after a long hospital and rehab stay.

KRIS LUBER was one of the artists interviewed for an article in *Gather*, the magazine of the Women of the ELCA. She was asked to provide photos of her work. In the print version they used a detail of Pr. Andrew's stole. In the version they are sharing online, they have a detail from Pr. Mamy's

JANUARY READINGS

January 3 — Second Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:1-18

January 10 — Baptism of Our Lord

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

January 17 — 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-20
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1st Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

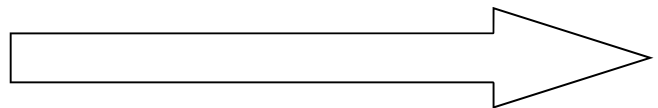
January 24 — 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12
1st Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

January 31 — 4th Sunday of Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1st Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

stole. An image of the magazine page with detail of Pr. Andrew's stole at bottom right, can be found on page 3.



See next page.



▲ **KRISTINE A. LUBER, FABRIC ARTIST, TOPEKA, KANSAS**

I picked up the creative spark from my parents, each of whom had different skills—my mother mostly in cooking, baking and needlework, and my dad as an electrician and tinkerer. They often collaborated to create arts and crafts for Sunday school and vacation Bible school lessons. Their projects for the children could include construction paper, brass fasteners, wire and string, colored pencils, crayons and even storyboard figures cut from Sunday school leaflets and backed with fuzzy flannel scraps. Our house was full of arts-and-crafts materials. Getting ready for Sunday morning took most of Saturday!

My family avoids being sucked into secular Christmas, choosing instead to spend Advent in preparation and not celebrating Christmas until December 24. This can be frustrating because by the time we're ready to celebrate,

everyone else is ready to move on from the decorations, carols and partying.

We keep Christ's birth as the focus of Christmas by eschewing the holly, the ivy, the red and the green, and instead collecting nativity sets. We have more than 100 nativity sets. And since I'm a fabric artist, I'm always looking for nativity fabric—not Christmas fabric, which is abundant, but nativity fabric, which is hard to find. (Having to explain the difference to store clerks is always interesting.) Occasionally some stores carry Christian fabrics. When I find something featuring the holy family, I rejoice and buy the whole bolt. 🌿



ANNUAL MEETING 2021

Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 annual meeting will be conducted in a different manner than in years past. The format for the meeting will be a hybridized version using both electronic media and paper. **The meeting will occur February 21, 2021** on Facebook following worship. The annual report and ballots will be mailed to congregation members prior to the meeting via the February issue of Trinity Tidings. Here are the important dates and steps needed for a successful meeting.

I. READ

Annual meeting packet and ballots will be mailed to you with the February issue of Trinity Tidings.

If you do not receive your February issue by **February 8th**, please call the office promptly so we can get another copy mailed or delivered to you.

III. VOTE

Each household will receive enough ballots for all eligible voting members with their February issue of Trinity Tidings.

Please fill out the whole ballot and vote for all items.

II. WATCH

Please join us on Facebook for worship at 10:30 am on February 21st — and then stay with us as the meeting takes place immediately after worship.

By joining in to the livestream broadcast, you will be able to comment, ask questions, and make statements below.

Contact the office, 785.233.9767 or email *office@topekatl.org* or Pastor Andrew, 423.748.9922 or email *pr_andrew@topekatl.org* with questions.

IV. RETURN

Return your paper ballots

- via US Postal Service
- scan & email to *office@topekatl.org*
- drop off at the church office through the mail slot or bring in.

It's very important that ballots are turned in by February 28th. Meeting quorum will be determined by the number of returned ballots (we need ballots from 26 voting members). Ballots will be counted by Pr. Andrew and Cindy McGinnis on Monday, March 1, 2021.

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

We need three people willing to serve to fill our nine seats on the board. Please consider volunteering or saying “yes” when you are asked by a nominating committee member.

Council Meeting Highlights, December 7, 2020

- ◆ In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 annual meeting will take place under a delayed, hybrid format. The meeting date is Feb. 21, 2021 via Facebook or Zoom. The annual report & ballot will be mailed to members prior to the meeting. A quorum will require 26 voting members.
- ◆ A thank you note will be sent to Susan Fitz for her years of service as chair of the memorial committee.
- ◆ An estimate has been received from Sowards Glass to replace the panic bar on the west door or church. The project was approved pending funding.
- ◆ The USDA food distribution (Operation Food Secure) has stopped. Council members discussed some possible options to help people in the community.
- ◆ Laurie reported that the poinsettia project reached 15 shut-ins with poinsettias & a variety of other small gifts.
- ◆ The unauthorized painting on the Gavonna Murphy Memorial Bench was discussed.

Topeka Lutheran Home Association/Luther Gardens

What is Topeka Lutheran Home Association (TLHA)/Luther Gardens (LG)? TLHA is the governing body for Luther Place I & II and LG is the governing body for Martin Creek. Both complexes provide senior housing and are a joint effort of Trinity and First Lutheran.

At Trinity's annual meeting we elect persons to serve on the association for both complexes.

The association is comprised of nine persons

representing Trinity and nine representing First Lutheran. During 2020 Trinity has had seven persons serving and two positions vacant. Those serving in 2020 have been Diane Bottorff, David McGinnis, Dean McGinnis, Marilyn Heckman, Debbie Pomeroy, Carol Marker, Chuck Sodergren. Trinity's nominating committee would like to fill those vacant seats as well as re-elect several persons.

What do persons who

serve on the association do?

- ◆ Attend monthly meeting (usually do not meet in December) the fourth Tuesday at 7pm at Martin Creek. Currently meetings are held on Zoom.
- ◆ Oversee activities/advise Heritage Management Corporation, the professional management company that is in charge of the day-to-day operations of Luther Place I & II and Martin Creek.

Doorstep News — January 2021



The year 2020 was challenging for everyone in some way. Doorstep feels very blessed with volunteers who were comfortable coming in to help the staff provide services, and sort donations... and there were many donations with people being home! We are also very blessed, and supported by all of our donors, and the community as a whole, who helped keep our food shelves stocked throughout the year, and the monetary donations which kept our doors open, and services being provided.

We will start 2021 operating the same way we have been in 2020, with phone intakes for services, and appointments

for the clothing room.

At this writing we have not distributed our Christmas items yet, however, Doorstep still adopted the usual 260 households from the Christmas Bureau. This includes over 800 individuals who will receive food, gift cards, blankets and health kits. We appreciate everyone who sent monetary donations to help with the increased budget to provide the gift cards this year; and, those who donated blankets, towels and hygiene items. There will be no Operation Soup Line this year as the Board could not figure out a Covid-safe, fundraising positive, way to carry out the event. We have asked

our regular sponsors to still donate the funds and basically 'sponsor Doorstep' instead of the event this year as to not lose quite so much money by not having the fundraiser.

We will still proceed with SouperBowl Sunday, February 7th with the collection of soup and crackers to help stock our pantry! Please collect these items to bring to your congregation, or to Doorstep.

We cannot stress enough how thankful and blessed we feel to be so supported during this difficult time as we continue to help our neighbors in need the best way possible.

"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

Central States Synod Assembly June 4-5, 2021

The Central States Synod will hold its annual assembly online
Sessions begin Friday evening and end Saturday afternoon

Please consider serving as our representative to the Synod assembly. It will be conducted via Zoom so you will want to take that into consideration.

DOORSTEP'S
"SOUPERBOWL
SUNDAY" IS
FEBRUARY 7th



**BRING
SOUP**

**AND
CRACKERS**



Our Goal this year is 2.5 ton... 5,000 pounds!

**TO YOUR CONGREGATION TO HELP
STOCK DOORSTEP'S FOOD PANTRY!**

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



A Worship service led by the
ELCA bishops elected in 2019

Wednesday, January 6, 2021
8pm Eastern | 7pm Central

**LIVE on synodical Facebook pages
and websites across the ELCA**

Congregations are invited to join an Epiphany service led by bishops elected in 2019.

Service will be available on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

ELCA News



Lutheran School of Theology
An Educational Ministry of Metro St. Louis Congregations – ELCA

Lutheran School of Theology is Pleased to Announce Upcoming Zoom Classes

Two One-Session Epiphany Classes with Dr. Clint McCann

- Caring for Creation as a Christian Calling, Saturday, Jan. 16, 9:00-11:00 am, \$20
- "I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food" (Matthew 25:35): Addressing Hunger and Food Insecurity in the USA and the World, Saturday, Jan. 23, 9:00-11:00 am, \$20

OR sign up for both classes for \$35

One Six-Week Lenten Class with Dr. Fred Niedner

- Jesus & the Gospels: Searching the Passion Narratives and Gospel Theologies Thursdays, Feb. 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021, 9:00 - 11:00 AM, \$80

To register:

sign up at <http://www.lststl.org/courses/> or send check payable to Lutheran School of Theology at 475 East Lockwood Ave, St. Louis, MO 63139 including note with name, address, phone number, email address (for Zoom link), name(s) of class(es) registering for. Please send to office 10 days before class starts to allow for mail delivery and to receive Zoom link and any class materials needed.

Contact Stephanie Doeschot, Program Administrator at lststlinfo@gmail.com with questions.

Conference Deans

Thank you to the those individuals who have been willing to serve as deans this past year. Deans are appointed by the bishop as an extension of her office to provide support and care for rostered ministers, SAMs, and their families. They help keep us connected in our various conferences and throughout the synod. Please don't hesitate to reach out to them with your concerns or thoughts on our ministry together.



Western Kansas Conference – [Lee Benight](#) and [Jon Brudvig](#)

Central Kansas – [Elizabeth Cummings](#) and [Amy Truhe](#)

Border Conference – [Mike Kern](#) and [Jim Peters](#)

Osage Conference – [Stephen Zeller](#)

Eastern Missouri Conference – [Jill Seagle](#) and [Chris Naig](#)

After serving as dean for the past few years, Elizabeth Cummings has decided to step down from this position. A new co-dean for Central Kansas has not yet been appointed. All other deans will continue to serve in the new year. Again, our deep appreciation for their ministry.