

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

# Trinity Tidings

June 2021



## STAFF

Pastor Andrew C. Patty  
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## OFFICE

Trinity Hall, 725 SW Buchanan St.  
Office Hours: 10:00AM-3:30PM, Mon thru Thur.  
Telephone: (785) 233-0767

## WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, 10:30am Holy Communion

## 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

# June 2021

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4	5	
10:30 am Worship	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
After worship: Committee meeting in the sanctuary. All are invited.			6:30-8 pm Historic Old Town NIA meeting				
10:30 am Worship	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
After worship: Administrative Committee meeting				July 2021 Trinity Tidings deadline			
	6 pm Council						
10:30 am Worship	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Father's Day After worship: Maintenance Committee meeting			7 pm TLHA				
10:30 am Worship	27	28	29	30	<i>Every Sunday: 10:30 am Worship &amp; Holy Communion</i>		
After worship: Congregational Life Committee meeting							

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Topeka, KS

## Pastor's Letter

*"The end of something is better than its beginning. Patience is better than arrogance. Don't be too quick to get angry because anger lives in the fool's heart. Don't ask, "How is it that the former days were better than these?" Wisdom is as good as an inheritance— an advantage for those who see the sun..." Ecclesiastes 7:8-11*

At a Synod small congregation vitality meeting, I was a panelist with other church leaders on a discussion of what the church can do looking forward. What has COVID taught small congregations and how might we use what we have gained in the future?

One of the topics that came up was that our congregations often are not ready or willing to change until they find themselves forced to do so. This is a natural tendency not only in the church, but for all human organizations. We call it "social preservation" in sociological terms, meaning that when we gather, we favor the stability of having or doing what we have always done over accepting the fact that things have changed. Yet, we know that all organizations, if they are to continue to thrive and grow, must adapt to the realities with which they are faced. We would not wake up in the morning to a bowl of cereal if it wasn't for Kellogg encouraging his brother that his sanitarium food would be good for everyone. We would not be able to order

everything from Amazon if they had not changed their mission from selling books to becoming the general store of the world. All organizations have to adapt to stay relevant to their times and to their mission.

As we reopen, I hope you will see a difference in how we are working as a church. You have already seen that the Church Council took time to lay out what we want to do as a church. The Church Council has four priorities for this next year. I hope you will see more direct leadership from Council members as they bring new ideas and lead us toward what our congregation needs to focus on. The priorities for this year will be the 150th/151<sup>st</sup> Anniversary, Young Families and Youth, Updating Facilities, and Spiritual Care for Members.

Another change is our committee format. Even as a small church, we had 11 committees and over 60 committee and volunteer positions to maintain. The standard rule in congregational management is that in well-functioning congregations, 20% of the members are involved in administrative or organizational activities. We were working at almost 150% for some people in our congregation. Our committees would make sense for a church that was 200-300 members and I know we were once that church. The Ecclesiastes

passage warns us that we are often frustrated or angry that we are not what we have been in the past. We have overworked ourselves in order to maintain a system of committees that no longer works for the church or for members who have to serve double or triple duty to keep things going. Therefore, Church Council had a discussion about this over two meetings to think about what a smaller committee structure would look like. After thoughtful reflection, it was agreed that we need to change the number and function of committees. As we begin church meetings in the month of June, **I ask that all members please consider staying after church on June 6th so that we can have a conversation about our new committee structure.** We will meet right after worship so you can stay in your pew. As pastor, I want to ensure that the congregation understands the changes and let you know how to get involved. As the Ecclesiastes passage tells us, wisdom is only an advantage to those that are seeking the sun and looking to the future instead of holding on to the past. My hope is that through reorganizing our committees, we can start our bright future as a church that is more missional and focused in the ministries that we carry out.

## *June Celebrations*

### *Birthdays*

- 4 Charlotte Blenden
- 5 Duane Pomeroy
- 7 Camdyn Ralph
- 7 Carsyn Ralph
- 12 John Carlson
- 14 Vickie Jacobs
- 19 Mary McGinnis
- 26 LaVell Winsor
- 27 Asher Klamm

### *Baptisms*

- 1 Rachel Heald
- 4 Liz Utech
- 7 Donna Allen

### *Wedding Anniversaries*

- 1 Russ & Vickie Jacobs
- 25 Howard & Loni Reece
- 26 Curt & Jane Lewis
- 30 Josh & Heather Klamm

## *June Readings*

### *June 6 — Second Sunday of Pentecost*

Genesis 3:8-15  
Psalm 130  
2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1  
Mark 3:20-35

### *June 13 — Third Sunday of Pentecost*

Ezekiel 17:22-24  
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15  
2 Corinthians 5:6-17  
Mark 4:26-34

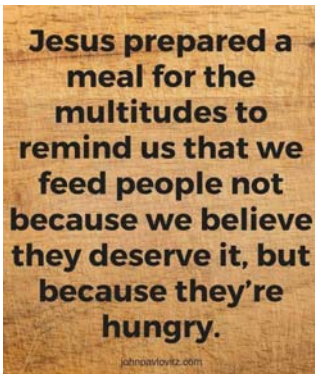
### *June 20 — Fourth Sunday of Pentecost*

Job 38:1-11  
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Mark 4:35-41

### *June 27 — Fifth Sunday of Pentecost*

Lamentations 3:22-33  
Psalm 30  
2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
Mark 5:21-43

## Doorstep News — June 2021



We will collect a special offering in June to support Parker Jackson in his work as a summer counselor at Camp Tomah Shinga. Watch for a special offering envelope in your bulletin.

This month begins Doorstep's 55<sup>th</sup> year of providing service to our neighbors in need in the Topeka community, and surrounding areas. We are planning a year-long celebration of this anniversary as we seek *"to invite, involve, include, and inspire people to participate in Doorstep's mission"*.

As member congregations of Doorstep, we know that many of you participate in Doorstep in a variety of ways. Whether you are a regular or occasional volunteer, you donate food, clothing, household and

monetary gifts, buy quilt drawing tickets or cinnamon rolls, bake cakes for Soup Line or join our Walk/5K Run, it takes all of us working together to make Doorstep work! And, clearly it is working as we enter our 55<sup>th</sup> year of service!

Currently, we are planning a kick-off for late June, as we seek to raise awareness and funds for our assistance programs, capital improvements, Doorstep's endowment fund, and operating expenses throughout this next year. For example, our

HVAC system is original to the building, which we own, and is over 60 years old. It is time for an upgrade, and we need to raise funds for a new, more efficient system.

More information will be going out to our congregations, local media, and on our Facebook page in June, and throughout the next year regarding ways you can help Doorstep, and continue to be a part of the work we do as neighbors helping neighbors.



## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

### President

Diane Bottorff  
785.271.7131

### Vice President

Ted Murphy  
785.817-0372

### Secretary

Monica Spencer  
405.513.4430

### Treasurer

Bob Kobbeman  
785.478-0381

### Members

Shelley Andrews  
785.554-3005

Vickie Jacobs  
785.379.5430

Howard Reece  
785.221-8992

*"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

## Council Meeting Highlights, May 10, 2021

- ◆ Pr. Andrew recommended a revision to our committee structure which was approved.
- ◆ Pr. Andrew also made recommendations regarding our small group meetings, which was approved.
- ◆ Monica reported on Care for Church Members progress.
- ◆ Three budget proposals were presented to cover 150th/151st Anniversary expenses. It was approved to spend up to \$3,000 to pay expenses. An offering will be collected at the meal which will be given to Doorstep.
- ◆ The June event will be outdoors with light refreshments only, no picnic meal.



## Update 151st Anniversary celebration

The next day of celebration will be Sunday, August 8. Central States Synod Bishop Susan Candea will be our guest preacher. A catered meal will follow worship. Reservations for the meal are needed by August 1. Call or email the church office with your reservation 785-233-0767; [office@topekatlc.org](mailto:office@topekatlc.org)