

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



January 2022

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

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

January 2022

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p><i>Every Sunday: 10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion</i></p>						<p>1 New Year's Day</p>
<p>10:30 am Worship 2 After worship: Nominating committee meeting</p>	3	<p>9 am Quilters 4</p>	5	6	7	8
<p>10:30 am Worship 9 After worship: Maintenance committee meeting 2 pm PFLAG meeting</p>	10	<p>9 am Quilters 11</p>	12	13	14	15
				<p>Pr. Andrew on vacation</p>		
	<p>7 pm Council</p>		<p>6:30-8 pm Historic Old Town NIA meeting</p>			
<p>10:30 am Worship 16</p>	17	<p>9 am Quilters 18</p>	19	20	21	22
<p>Pr. Andrew on vacation</p>						
	<p>February 2022 Trinity Tidings deadline</p>					
<p>10:30 am Worship 23</p>	24	<p>9 am Quilters 25</p>	26	27	28	29
<p>Pr. Andrew on vacation</p>				<p>Pr. Andrew will have limited contact due to travel.</p>		
		<p>7 pm TLHA</p>				
<p>10:30 am Worship 30 After worship: ANNUAL MEETING</p>	31					

Trinity Lutheran Church
Topeka, KS

Pastor's Letter

*"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
Joshua 1:9*

The Hebrew people had been wondering in the desert for a whole generation without a home. Moses was their constant leader showing the way to a hopeful promised land. With the start of the book of Joshua, we learn that Moses has died and that the Lord will allow the Hebrew people to finally settle. Yet, before being allowed into this new land, the Lord gives them this command which seems odd. If the Hebrew people were promised this land, then why would they be frightened or dismayed?

The promised land was a crowded place unlike the arid desert of the Sinai in which they had been wandering in for the past 40 years. While it was indeed better than the Sinai, the land would take much work to get it to be productive just as it is these days. Also, it did not get them far from being threatened by others. Egypt would still be the next-door neighbor that could take them back as slaves very easily. The area had many tribes already strongly established particularly west of the Jordan and in the Northern

parts of modern Israel. This also doesn't even include the fact that the land they are to settle is already held by the Canaanites. We cannot forget that if not for God destroying the walls of Jericho, the Hebrew people would have had no chance at taking over this land. Therefore, while the Hebrew people were coming out of a long time in the desert, they had to move forward with what God had commanded them to do. "Be strong and courageous...for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

As we enter this second year of COVID, I believe that this has to be our motto as a church. That while being mindful of the health and safety of our members, we have to proceed to be the church and work toward the future that God has in store for us. We have already been hard at work in planning our future this past year. Our Council and committees have prayed, pondered, and planned for what Trinity wants to do after this era of COVID. Council has been developing the best path forward by thinking ahead to our most pressing issues. They have focused on addressing the long-term health of our sanctuary by offering the preservation and restoration plan. The commit-

tees have been hard at work putting together elements of our congregational identity plan that will provide us a clear logo to represent us and a mission statement that will allow us to be clear about our purpose as a congregation.

Therefore, for our Annual Meeting this year, we will have many items to vote on to determine our future as a congregation. Due to this, I am asking each and everyone in the congregation to please look at all the materials before our Annual Meeting. Please contact myself or Diane as Council President with any questions you have. In all our plans, I believe that they will make us a stronger and more courageous congregation to face this future after COVID. While we might be frightened or dismayed for the future like the Hebrews, let us walk forward knowing that God is with us.

*Peace of Christ,
Pr. Andrew Patty*

January Celebrations

Birthdays

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

Baptisms

- 10 Kendall Horton
- 20 Betty Quarnstrom
- 23 Betty Patton

Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Michael & Laurie Jackson

January Readings

January 2 — 2nd Sunday of Christmas

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

January 6 — Epiphany of Our Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

January 9 — Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 16 — 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1st Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

January 23 — 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1st Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

January 30 — 4th Sunday of Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1st Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

Cemetery Plots for Sale

Walt & Helen Laughlin are offering their Memorial Park cemetery plots for sale. The plots are in the Lutheran section of the cemetery. The section is #163, plots 5 & 6 on the hill near Gage Blvd. They are asking \$2,370 for each plot. You may contact them at 1.918.298.3472 or 1.785.213.9569 or email: wlhl@networksplus.net if you would like to discuss further or make an offer.

Help Wanted

Pr. Andrew will be on vacation Jan. 14 thru Jan. 26. For the two Sundays he will not be with us (Jan. 16 & Jan. 23), we are in need of a volunteer with an iPhone that would be willing to share their phone and spend some time with Pr. Andrew to learn how to record & upload our worship to Facebook. Please call the office, 785.233.0767, or Pr. Andrew, 423.748.9922, if you would be willing to help with this.

Please Help

Please help us return this missing item to Betty Quarnstrom. In years past, Carl & Betty loaned us this brass crown for use with our St. Lucia Day services. Sadly, one crown has gone missing. If you know where it might be, please contact the office. We would like to return it to Betty for future use.



Pr. Andrew on vacation

Pr. Andrew will be on vacation January 13 through January 26. He will be out of contact Jan. 16 through the 23rd due to no cell service during that time. Pr. Andrew will return on January 26, but will be limiting contact until he receives a negative COVID test.

On Sunday, January 16, Pr. Bob Dealey, associate pastor at 1st Lutheran will serve as our presiding minister.

On Sunday, January 23, Pr. Gary Teske will be our presiding minister.

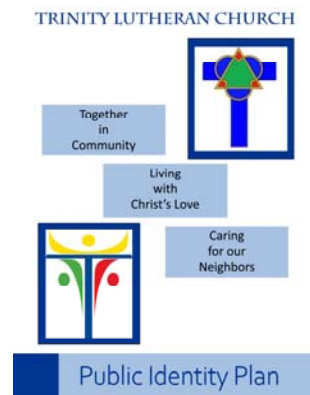
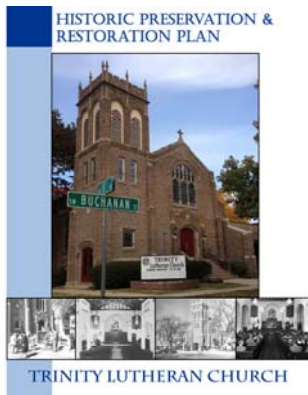
Annual Meeting January 30, 2022 After Sunday Worship

MEETING INFO

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2022. It will take place in the sanctuary immediately following worship.

The meeting will also be shared live on Facebook.

If you prefer to participate via Facebook, you will need to request the meeting materials and ballot be sent to you prior to the meeting. Please submit your request to the office by phone, 785.233.0767, or email office@topekatlc.org no later than January 23rd.



VOTING

If you choose to participate in the meeting via Facebook, **your ballot must be returned to the office before January 30. Ballots received by the office after Jan. 30 will not be counted.**

If you have questions before completing your ballot, please feel free to contact Pr. Andrew or Council President Diane Bottorff.

VOTING ITEMS

See booklets that accompany the annual report. In addition to the annual report, the materials for this meeting will include two additional documents. One document will present plans for registering our church building as an historic site and restoration project. The second will include information regarding our newly designed logo options and two congregational statements. These two documents will provide more detailed information regarding the items on which we will be voting so be sure to read them carefully.

Issues to Be Decided:

1. Council, Committee, & Community Positions
2. Annual Budget

Historic Preservation Plan

3. Start the process to list the sanctuary building on the Kansas Register of Historic Places
4. Approve applying for the Heritage Grant Fund as soon as we are eligible.
5. Use funds from Heritage Grant Fund to restore foundation, plaster, and paint issues within the sanctuary building.
6. Approve capital campaign for Heritage Grant Fund and Restoration. Campaign will only proceed if 20 pledges are made by end of 2022.

Public Identity Plan

7. Working name for congregation shall be "Trinity Lutheran Church"
8. Vote on which logo will represent the congregation
9. Expanded mission statement
10. Welcoming statement

Doorstep News & Needs — January 2022



The year 2021 felt so busy that it just flew by; we have all continued to deal with COVID in some way in 2021, and it is still with us as we enter 2022!

Doorstep continued to be blessed with donations and extra grant funds to help more people with rent and utility assistance. With our small staff of 4, which was only 3 for 6 months, we continue to rely heavily on our volunteers! At times we barely kept up with intakes and services; we certainly couldn't function without our loyal, dedicated volunteers! They stock the food room shelves and fill the orders, take in donations of clothing and household items, sort them, run the dryers, help the clients and restock the clothing room! We, again, have felt very blessed and supported by all of our donors, and the community as a whole, as we try to help those in our community in need the best we can when they call upon our doorstep.

We will start 2022 by continuing with phone intakes for services, and appointments for the clothing room.

At this writing we are currently distributing gifts, food and gift cards to our adopted households for Christmas. We adopted 260 households again this year from the Christmas

Bureau with over 800 individuals. Once again our member congregations and community members stepped up and donated the items we needed, and money for the gift cards and food. We appreciate everyone who helped in whatever way they could to make Christmas nicer for those who were struggling during the holidays.

There will be no Operation Soup Line again this year. The Board decided not to have the event again until COVID was no longer a factor. We are continuing to focus on our 55th Anniversary year, and our Anniversary Fund to replace our HVAC system.

We will still proceed with SouperBowl Sunday, February 13th 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 another difficult year as we continue to help our neighbors in need the best way possible.

Lisa Cain, Executive Director

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President

Diane Bottorff
785.271.7131

Vice President

Ted Murphy
785.817.0372

Secretary

Treasurer
Bob Kobbeman
785.478.0381

Members

Shelley Andrews
785.554.3005

Vickie Jacobs
785.379.5430

Howard Reece
785.221.8992

Council Meeting Minutes, Dec. 13, 2021

- The date for the Annual Meeting was set for Sunday, January 30 after worship. The meeting will be held in-person but will be available on Facebook Live. If you wish to participate on Facebook, you must request Annual Report booklet and a ballot by email or US mail prior to January 30. Agenda to include: Elections, adoption of 2022 budget, approval of new logo, updated mission statement, and historical preservation and restoration plan.
- We will continue with our current plan for prevention of COVID.
- We reviewed Service Sunday November 28. The majority of donations of food came in the week prior or the 28th. \$650.57 was spent on ham, corn, and Christmas cards, but with monetary donations of \$610, Trinity incurred only \$49.57 in expenses. Deliveries were made to 38 families in our neighborhood to provide a holiday meal. A relationship has been built with these neighbors through our partnership with Topeka Rescue Mission. A decision about continuing Service Sundays was not made at this meeting.
- We received Statement of Intent for 2022 from Central States Synod. Council approved keeping it at our current level of \$8,100 annually.

There have been some delays in getting the 151st Anniversary booklet ready for publication. As soon as it is available an announcement will be placed in bulletins, Tidings and on social media.

Church Committee Meetings for January 2022

**Jan. 2 – Nominating Committee
finalize positions**

**Jan. 9 – Maintenance Committee
management plan**

Jan. 16 – no meeting

Jan. 23 – no meeting

Jan. 30 – ANNUAL MEETING



*Mark your
calendar!*

What is LFACT and what does it do?

In 1980, when a group of Topeka Lutherans wanted to bring the renowned St. Olaf College Choir to our city, they wondered how they would be able to pay for this. Selling tickets was one option, but they chose instead to develop a non-profit organization among Lutheran churches that would use donations to finance the cost. This was highly successful because not only did they exceed the cost of the choir, but were also able to rent White Concert Hall for the program. This organization then became the Lutheran Fine Arts Council of Topeka (LFACT), and it is still active today as a non-profit cultural group formed by the Lutheran churches of Shawnee County. The mission of LFACT is to:

- Proclaim the Gospel, giving expression to our faith through the fine arts,
- Promote an awareness of the rich diversity of talent in the fine arts among Lutherans,
- Contribute to a cohesiveness in the Lutheran community,
- Provide support for aspiring Lutheran artists, performers and musical groups,
- Foster a network of such Lutheran groups in the United States.

In the years since its inception, this organization has sponsored over 100 events and activities to foster inter-Lutheran communication, and use Lutheran talent, voices, and instruments in a continuous line of fine arts events and initiatives. These have included choral and instrumental music provided by Lutheran colleges and universities, music from individual singers, bell choir training and performances, children's art workshops, children's drama workshops, children's writing contests, art shows, hosting Friday night art walks of Lutheran artists, and most recently an annual fiber arts workshop. These events have been free and open to the public because we are still funded by generous donations. LFACT is a 501(c)(3) organization, and donations are tax-deductible.

We have found that LFACT is a unique organization. We have looked and asked, but have not found another group like this in the United States. As Lutheran churches in Topeka have closed, LFACT has begun reaching out to include nearby Lutheran congregations outside of Shawnee County.

LFACT is governed by a

board of directors. Currently serving on this board are Ann Mah, Marlene Urban, and Susan Thowe from Faith, JoLana Pinon from Our Savior's, and Linda Anderson from First Lutheran. You can contact any one of these representatives for more information about this organization, the programming, or ways you can become involved. We are seeking representatives from the other Lutheran congregations to serve with us. Please contact us if you are interested.

LFACT was not able to host any events last year due to Covid restrictions, but this year some events will take place. We are currently planning to hold the Fiber Arts Workshop on Feb. 19, and the First Friday Artwalk Event on May 6. Again, these events will be free and open to the public.

LFACT has a Facebook page for you to follow. We also have a website, **LutheranFineArtsTopeka.org**, which is still a work in progress, but is able to give you up to date information about our events. It also has information about giving donations. Watch for announcements in church publications, their Facebook page or our website.



On the night of Dec. 10, a devastating outbreak of more than 30 tornadoes swept through six states. Kentucky was impacted the most, with more than 70 people reported dead. Homes and businesses were destroyed, including a candle factory in Mayfield, Ky., where first responders are still searching for survivors. More than 330,000 people are without electricity across multiple states. The full extent of the damage is expected to become clear in the coming days.

Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with partners in the affected areas, including the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, to respond to immediate needs. Given the initial damage assessments, recovery will likely take years, and Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to accompany survivors until the response is complete.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "U.S. tornadoes" will be used entirely (100%) to assist those affected by tornadoes until the response is complete. Together, we can support those who are on the long road to recovery. Please give today.

*Make checks payable to
Lutheran Disaster Response,
Write "U.S. Tornadoes" on your check's memo
line and send to:*
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

Call **800-638-3522** to make a donation with a credit card. Operators are ready to assist you Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Central Time.