

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



September 2022

# Trinity Tidings



## STAFF

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Cindy McGinnis  
*Administrative Assistant*  
[office@topekatlc.org](mailto:office@topekatlc.org)

Laurie Jackson  
*Music Director*

Marcy Carlson  
*Custodian*  
[marcy4tlc@gmail.com](mailto:marcy4tlc@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

**Together in Community**

**Living with Christ's Love**

**Caring for Neighbors**

# September 2022

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p><i>Every Sunday 10:30 am Worship &amp; Holy Communion</i></p>			1	2	3	
<p>10:30 am 4 Worship</p> <p>10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along</p> 	5	<p>9 am 6 Quilters</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5 pm <i>Faithful &amp; Fit</i></p> 	8	9	10
<p>10:30 am 11 Worship</p> <p>2 pm PFLAG meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6 pm Council</p>	<p>9 am 13 Quilters</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:30 pm Helen Laughlin Memorial</p> <p>6:30-8 pm Historic Old Town NIA meeting</p>	15	16	17
<p>10:30 am 18 Worship</p> <p>12 noon Luther Place/ Martin Creek Open House</p>	19	<p>9 am 20 Quilters</p> <p>September 2022 Trinity Tidings deadline</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5 pm <i>Faithful &amp; Fit</i></p> 	22	<p>23</p> <p>1-3pm Dorothy Strom 100th Birthday Celebration @ Carousel House, Gage Park</p>	24
<p>10:30 am 25 Worship</p>	26	<p>9 am 27 Quilters</p> <p>7 pm TLHA</p>	28	29	30	

## Trinity Tidings

Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church  
Topeka, KS

# Trinity Tidings

## Pastor's Letter

*"Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you? Don't you know that you have the Holy Spirit from God, and you don't belong to yourselves? You have been bought and paid for, so honor God with your body."  
1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:19-20*

I am sure many have heard this scripture, perhaps as a teenager or later in college years and most likely by a parental figure. Paul was upset that Christians were joining pagan feasts and other activities, but we have often heard this verse from another perspective. Starting with the tent revivals and evangelist speakers in the late 1800s, we increasingly saw these verses as cautions against what we call vices — things that take away our time, our money, our concentration in what we are doing in this world as Christians. While we try to scandalize vices like drinking, the truth is that many of us have vices for us to think about how we might better live our lives. (Go back to Luther on being sinners and saints...)

As an example: during COVID, the National Institute of Health surveyed 7,700 people about the long-term effects of the pandemic. They found that 36% stopped thinking about eating healthy, 44% reported more snacking, and 27% reported a noted weight gain. 37% of those gained more than 5lbs and 11% gained more than 10lbs. Despite all the do-it-yourself articles and videos of how to take exercise back home with you, only 18% Americans reported losing weight. Therefore, due to mental health or inaction at home, food became a vice. This is also not your pastor acting

like I am better for my own journey has been with those of you that have added weight during the pandemic. While eating does not seem to be as scandalous as other things we think of as a vice, we must think about it in relation to the world. The United States is one of the most overweight nations while many are starving, particularly in places like Africa. The war in Ukraine has caused a shortage of wheat so many people can't even make bread. Yet, one of the most foundational things that we do as a faith community is come together for a meal every week where all can be fed. This food is not just spiritual, but it is calling us as Christians to make sure that all are cared for in this world.

So the question becomes how can we be more just with our bodies (much like Paul is talking about) and change our ways to improve not only ourselves but the community around us? Could it be as simple as a little exercise in our lives? As a matter of fact, a first step in the right direction is that easy. When we exercise and lose weight, it helps to drive down the number of calories our bodies need to run. Then we are able to consume less food so that we can share that with the world. Take one small step...or a walk down the block with us this month as we begin our "Faithful and Fit" program. Join us as we improve our minds with books and our bodies with a little exercise together at the church and in our neighborhood.

Peace of Christ,  
Pr. Andrew

# Trinity Tidings

## September Celebrations

### Birthdays

- 3 Ellen Irwin
- 3 David Ralph
- 6 Bob Horton
- 7 Laurie Jackson
- 14 Janice Greenlee
- 16 Elania King
- 18 Diane Bottorff
- 27 Dorothy Strom
- 30 Dean McGinnis

### Baptisms

- 1 Parker Jackson
- 3 Asher Klamm
- 4 Charlotte Blenden
- 7 Hudson Ralph
- 10 Ted Quast
- 15 Mary McGinnis
- 16 Jake Kennedy
- 16 Zane Kennedy
- 23 Janelle Meredith
- 28 Andy Winsor

### Wedding Anniversaries

- 9 Larry & Mary McGinnis
- 24 Junior & Liz Utech

## September Readings

*September 4 — 13th Sunday of Pentecost*  
Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 1  
Philemon 1-21  
Luke 14:25-33

*September 11 — 14th Sunday of Pentecost*  
Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 51:1-10  
1 Timothy 1:12-17  
Luke 15:1-10

*September 18 — 15th Sunday of Pentecost*  
Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113  
1 Timothy 2:1-7  
Luke 16:1-13

*September 25 — 16th Sunday of Pentecost*  
Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm 146  
1 Timothy 6:6-19  
Luke 16:19-31



Trinity Lutheran Church members are invited to help celebrate Dorothy Strom's 100th birthday.

The celebration will be on Friday, September 23rd, 1 to 3 pm in the Carousel House at Gage Park. The Carousel House is at 4300 SW Reinisch Parkway, across the street from the Reinisch Rose Garden

# Trinity Tidings

## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

### President

Duane Pomeroy  
785.234.4385

### Vice President

Howard Reece  
785.221.8992

### Secretary

Diane Bottorff  
785.231.0379

### Treasurer

Bob Kobbeman  
785.478.0381

### Members

Carol Marker  
785.338.1734

Ted Murphy  
785.817.0372

Ted Quast  
301.514.0307

### Church Committee Meetings for September 2022

We will take a break from weekly meetings during September. Please let committee liaisons know if there is something that should be discussed.

## Council Highlights July 18

- ◆ Reflection on Mission Statement: “Caring for Neighbors” Council members spoke of current ways the congregation is caring for neighbors and possible ways to reach out in the future.
- ◆ Continued conversation on the future budget with treasurer Bob Kobbeman. Currently there are 24 giving units (families/single persons). Discussion about growing these giving units and adding giving units from our current membership base. Response to 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special (July 31) Budget Booster was minimal.
- ◆ Discussion about resuming communion at the altar rail. Will seek input from the congregation. Coffee hour will remain in the current location.
- ◆ Discussed possibility of naming community garden in honor of Helen and Walt Laughlin.
- ◆ Pr. Andrew will speak with NIA about this. In addition council talked about having a time of remembrance for Helen when members and community folks that knew Helen through her involvement in the community garden, LFACT, quilters and others could gather and share memories.
- ◆ Luther Place/Martin Creek Open House after worship on September 18 with a light lunch and tours to see upgrades at Luther Place (see separate article in this Tidings).
- ◆ Dorothy Strom’s family has contacted church office about the possibility of a celebration of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday after worship on September 25. Council approved.
- ◆ Annual elevator inspection is due this month.

## Memorial Night for Helen Laughlin

This past month on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, we lost one of our dearly loved congregation members, Helen Laughlin. Her funeral was held in Lohman, Missouri (her hometown church) and many in our congregation wished they could have been there if not for the distance. With this in mind, the Council has decided to hold a special Memorial Night with the family’s blessing to honor Helen here at Trinity. We will have prayers, hymns, and share in our memories of Helen. Please join us on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm to honor the life and legacy of Helen Laughlin.

IN LOVING  
*memory*



# Trinity Tidings



**DOORSTEP**  
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

## Doorstep

We are planning our **5th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run** set for **Sunday, October 2nd, 2pm**, at Lake Shawnee. Get your family and friends together and join us for some exercise at the lake, and snacks while raising funds for Doorstep at the same time!

We have everything available online on our website

[www.DoorstepTopeka.org](http://www.DoorstepTopeka.org) under the Events Tab. You can download the flyer and registration form to mail in, drop off at our office, or register online. To guarantee an event t-shirt you need to register by September 13th. However, we will take late and event day registrations. One child age 10 & under can walk for free (t-shirt extra) with one paid

adult. Registration is \$30 per person or get sponsors to cover your fee and donate to Doorstep (sponsor form is also on our website).

We are planning an in-person event this year, with our pal Chris Fisher from WIBW-TV as our Celebrity Starter! Let's hope we have the same beautiful weather this year as we've had the past two years for the virtual events!!

We were not able to have Operation Soup Line, the Annual Banquet, the Quilt Drawing or food sales again this year with COVID still being a factor. So, this Walk/5K Run is our only fundraiser in 2022! Please consider joining us for the event or sponsor someone else to help bring in the needed funding from this event!

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**The Lutheran Home Association** invites you to an open house Sunday, September 18th, at 12:00pm, convening at Martin Creek Clubhouse. A light lunch will be provided. A short presentation of our restructuring/remodeling project will be shared, followed by a tour of units in both Luther Place and Martin Creek.

Luther Place 1 and 2 are low-income subsidized housing apartments for 200 plus residents. Martin Creek provides an additional 121 market-rate town homes and apartments for Topeka residents.

These units are run by the Topeka Lutheran Home Association, Inc, a 55-year-old venture between Trinity Lutheran Church and First Lutheran Church. This joint venture provides over 320 Topeka residents

with safe and affordable housing every night.

TLHA has recently completed a four-year, \$9,030,000 project that included ownership restructuring, refinancing high interest debt, and over \$3,380,000 in renovation to Luther Place 1 and 2. Renovations included complete replacement of heating and air conditioning equipment, upgrade of exterior finishes in both buildings as well as plumbing replacement and interior finish upgrades in Luther Place 1.

Please mark your calendars and join us for a brief review of a tremendous ministry of our two churches. Questions, please contact Ralph Krumins at First Lutheran, 785.554.1162, or Diane Bottorff at Trinity, 785.231.0379.

## Trinity Tidings



## Faithful and Fit

Pastor Andrew has noticed that many in our congregation participate in two things on a regular basis. Many of you are walkers in your neighborhoods and many of us are also book club readers. So what if we combined these two activities and joined together as a church in doing them?!? Join in this experiment with us regardless of if you are a walker or a reader. We could use not only improving our minds but our bodies as well.

This new program will be called **Faithful and Fit** and we will experiment with it during the months of September and October. It will start at 5pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month. The first half hour will have the book club section with discussions from the books followed by quick walk through the neighborhood up and down our new sidewalks on 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

Our first book will be *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. For our first meeting on Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, please have chapters 1-3 read for our discussion. If you need assistance accessing the book, please contact Pastor Andrew or contact the public library (that has book, ebook, and audiobook versions to check out).

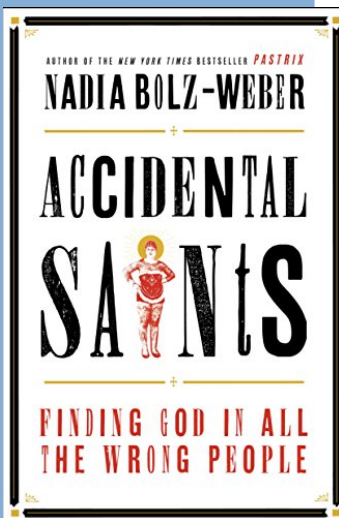
### About the Book

In *Accidental Saints*, New York Times best-selling author Nadia Bolz-Weber invites readers into a surprising encounter with what she calls "a religious but not-so-spiritual life." Tattooed, angry and profane, this former standup comic turned pastor stubbornly, sometimes hilariously, resists the God she feels called to serve. But God keeps showing up in the least likely of people - a church-loving agnostic, a drag queen, a felonious Bishop and a gun-toting member of the NRA.

As she lives and worships alongside these "accidental saints," Nadia is swept into first-hand encounters with grace - a gift that feels to her less like being wrapped in a warm blanket and more like being hit with a blunt instrument. But by this grace, people are transformed in ways they couldn't have been on their own.

### About the Author

Nadia Bolz-Weber is the founding pastor of *House for All Sinners and Saints* in Denver, Colorado. She is currently the first pastor in the ELCA to serve as a "Public Theologian" reaching people on all the major media platforms such as CNN, BBC, NPR, and Washington Post. She is the author of the New York Times best-seller memoir *Pastrix*.





Helen Alma (Fischer) Laughlin, 91, of Tulsa, OK, passed away with family by her side on Wednesday, August 3, 2022, at Hillcrest South Hospital in Tulsa, OK.

She was born to John Henry and Caroline Hulda (Goldammer) Fischer on March 28, 1931, in Lohman, Missouri at the Fischer farm which was in the family since the mid 1800s.

She was valedictorian of the 1950 class of Russellville High School.

Helen learned about a man named Rev. Walter George Laughlin through their work in the ALC Parish Education Committee and went on a blind date as a result. They went bowling. They united in marriage on April 11, 1964, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lohman, MO.

Before marriage she enjoyed traveling with friends around the USA and was the fun aunt to her dear nieces and nephews. During this time she contributed to the establishment of Our

Savior's Lutheran Church in Jefferson City. She was employed by the Cole County Library, Mitzie's Hat Shop, the Missouri Division of Employment Security, and GMAC. She was also employed at True Value in Hampton, NE, and various other places.

She was a partner in ministry with Walter at parishes in Cushing and Oklahoma City, OK, Dannebrog, Hampton, and Byron, NE, and Concordia, KS. She participated in the life of the church at St. Paul's in Lohman, Trinity in Topeka, Kansas, and Joy Lutheran in Tulsa, in addition to the above parishes and was involved in quilting, bible study, WELCA, Sunday school, volunteering, and choir. Walter and Helen launched a community garden at Trinity.

Helen was a skilled and creative gardener and seamstress. She shared her knowledge and fruits of her labor and tenacious work ethic with her children, grandchildren, and others.

Survivors include her husband, Rev. Walter Laughlin, Tulsa, OK; three children, Stephanie (Michael) Mueller of Tulsa OK, John Laughlin (Julie Suhr) of The Plains, OH, Michele (Bob) Peck of Waterloo, IA, six grandchildren: Elsa Mueller (Anthony Filipas), Greta Mueller, Alane Suhr (Austin Alexander), Meredith Suhr, Alison Peck, and Ryan Peck, and one sister, Viola Gordon of Sedalia, MO.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters and three brothers-in-law, Nelda (Oscar) Strobel, Norma (Delbert) Liescheidt, and Donald Gordon.

Visitation was held Sunday, August 7, 2022, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lohman, MO with funeral service at 4 p.m. and burial at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery, officiated by Pastor David Viles.

Memorials are suggested to St. Paul's Lutheran Church or the Lewy Body Dementia Association.





Susan Beiser Fitz was born in Washington, D.C. on November 18, 1946. She was the daughter of Col. John J. Beiser and Ruby Fulton Beiser of Pittsburg, Kansas.

As a child, she traveled often with her military family, including overseas stations in Japan and France.

She graduated from Montgomery Blair High School in 1964 and earned a Bachelor's Degree from Pittsburg State University in 1968.

In 1969, she married Michael J. Fitz; they subsequently divorced.

She came to Topeka around 1975 and worked for many years at the State of Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services, retiring in 2012.

She was a longtime member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, where she sang in the choir, chaired the memorial committee and counted the offerings every week. She was fond of cats and was a member of the Topeka Square Dance Club.

She is survived by her sister, Anne Allen; nieces and nephews, Tom Allen, John Allen, Mark Allen, Jennifer Crone and Beth Arnold.

A funeral service was held at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Saturday, August 13, 2022.

Interment was in Pittsburgh, Kansas.

In Susan's honor, memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 725 SW Buchanan, Topeka, Kansas 66606.



Walkers and runners are invited to participate in our 5th Annual

## Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run

A Fundraiser for Doorstep, Inc.

**Location:** Lake Shawnee Shelter Houses 1 & 2, West Edge Road

**Date:** Sunday, October 2, 2022

**Check-In & Late Registration:** 1:00PM to 1:45PM (Shelter #2)

**Time:** One Mile Walk & 5K Fun Run to begin at 2:00PM

**Celebrity Starter for the Walk/Run is:**

Chris Fisher ~ WIBW-TV

We are planning to have an "in-person" event this year! Plan to join us at the Lake!

Snacks & drinks will be provided at the finish of the Walk/5K Fun Run in Shelter House #1

Enjoy ~ Cookies, granola bars, fresh fruit, juice, and water

**One Mile Walk/5K Fun Run Registration is Due by September 13, 2022**

**to Guarantee an event t-shirt!**

**Late & Event Day Registrations Accepted. (T-shirt not guaranteed)**

The registration cost is \$30 for individuals or pledges (\$30 minimum).

One registered child age 10 & under can walk for FREE with a paid adult. (T-shirt extra)

T-shirt included with \$30 registration fee or on total pledges of \$100+. Registrations received after September 13th cannot be guaranteed a t-shirt.

Go to [www.DoorstepTopeka.org](http://www.DoorstepTopeka.org) (under the Events Tab) to register online or for registration/sponsor forms.



Thank you to our sponsors:





**Neighbor  
Helping  
Neighbor**

WALK/5K RUN

Walkers and runners are invited to participate in our 5th Annual

# Neighbor Helping Neighbor

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Enjoy ~ Cookies, granola bars, fresh fruit, juice, & water

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### One Mile Walk/5K Fun Run Registration Form (Submit by 9/13/22)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Circle one:** Male Female

**T-shirt size:** Youth S, M, L \_\_\_\_\_ Adult S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X \_\_\_\_\_

The registration cost is \$30 for individuals or pledges (\$30 minimum). T-shirt included with \$30 registration fee or on total pledges of \$100+. Registrations received after September 13th cannot be guaranteed a t-shirt. Mail registration form and check made out to "Doorstep" to: Doorstep, Inc. 1119 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, Ks 66604 or you may register online at [www.DoorstepTopeka.org](http://www.DoorstepTopeka.org).

I hereby certify the following: (1) I am physically fit and have received medical clearance to participate in the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Run, (2) In consideration of my participation in the Walk/Run, I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, and assigns, and my estate, hereby waive and forever discharge the sponsors, organizers, affiliates as well as their agents and employees from any and all claims that may accrue as the result of my participation, and (3) I hereby grant Doorstep, Inc. specific permission to reproduce, publish, circulate, copyright or otherwise use any and all photographs of me and/or my family taken at the Walk/Run for the use of Doorstep, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent or legal guardian if under 18



Integrity, Hospitality, Community,  
Servant Leadership, Sustainability,  
Excellence

**OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT & ALUMNI**

335 E. Swensson St. • Lindsborg, KS 67456  
785-227-3311

Trinity Lutheran Church Trinity Lutheran Church  
731 SW Buchanan St.  
Topeka, KS 66606

August 22, 2022

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

Please accept this invitation to an evening of fellowship, education and entertainment provided by Bethany College and the ELCA Foundation hosted by First Lutheran Church Topeka and underwritten by a grant from the Sibberson Endowment Fund.

Save the date: Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
First Lutheran Church, 1234 SW Fairlawn Rd., Topeka, Kansas

5:30 p.m. Registration Meet & Greet

6:00 p.m. Evening meal catered by Blue Moose

6:45 p.m. Welcome and Entertainment  
Bethany College Music Ensemble

7:30 p.m. Money Matters Education Sessions: choose one

- *Navigate the new Planned Giving Regulations Workshop*  
Presented by Stephen Phelps, ELCA Foundation
- *Financial Aid Workshop: How to prepare for affording college*  
Presented by Bethany College Office of Admissions

8:15 p.m. Refreshments and Reception

9:00 p.m. Homeward Bound

Please RSVP on the enclosed card by September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact the Advancement and Alumni Office at [alumni@bethanylb.edu](mailto:alumni@bethanylb.edu) or (785) 227-3380 ext. 8270.

Sincerely,

Brenda Meyer, Director of Development



**1** First Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

First Lutheran Church Topeka Event RSVP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I/we will be attending. \_\_\_\_\_ Number in our party
- No, but thank you for the invitation.
- I/we will accept text messages from Bethany College.

*Blessings Abound Golf Benefit*  
September 19, 2022 | Golf Club at Falcon Lakes

See you this fall.

SCAN NOW TO SIGN UP

Register your team today! [www.holliscenter.org/golf](http://www.holliscenter.org/golf) Benefiting **HOLLIS**

Location: Falcon Lakes Golf Club 4605 Clubhouse Dr, Basehor, KS 66007

Start Date/Time: Monday, September 19, 2022, 8:00 AM

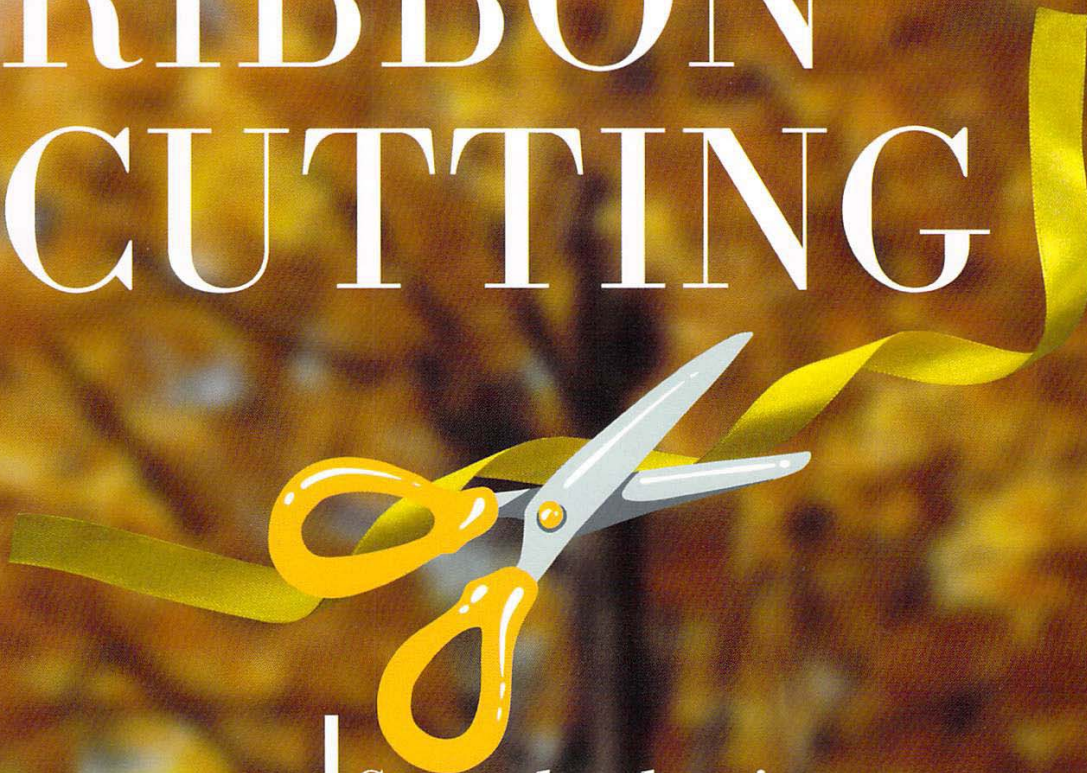
Email [erin@holliscenter.org](mailto:erin@holliscenter.org) or call us at (913) 441-0451

You can type this web address into your web browser to access more information and registration form: <https://holliscenter.charityproud.org/EventRegistration/Index/9635>

Or scan the QR code with your phone in the picture above.

BETHANY HOUSE AND GARDEN

# RIBBON CUTTING



**Save the date!**

Official Opening of the Gardens  
Friday October 21, 2022, at 4:30 pm  
Following Convention Business on Friday  
All are Welcome!

BETHANYHOUSEANDGARDEN.COM