

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# TRINITY TIDINGS

MAY 2023

## STAFF

Pastor Andrew C. Patty  
[pr\\_andrew@topekatlc.org](mailto:pr_andrew@topekatlc.org)

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

# MAY 2023

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	1	2	3	4	5	6		
	9 am Quilters							
Pr. Andrew is traveling with ELCA Young Adults & Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Services (LIRS) to learn more about our ministries on the border. Pr. Andrew will be gone from April 25th to May 6th.								
 10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along 10:30 am Worship After worship: Spiritual Care committee meeting	7	8	9 am Quilters	9	10	11	12	13
		6 pm Council		6:30-8 pm Historic Old Town NIA meeting in person & via Zoom				
9:45-10:15 Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2 pm PFLAG meeting	14	15	9 am Quilters	16	17	18	19	20
9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg in TH library 10:30 am Worship	21	22	9 am Quilters	23	24	25	26	27
		June 2023 Trinity Tidings deadline		7 pm TLHA				
Pentecost 9:45-10:15 Children's Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	28	29	9 am Quilters	30	31	EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION Sunday School for adults will start at 9:45 am on the second Sunday of each month and meets in the Trinity Hall lounge. Watch your bulletins for upcoming dates and reading assignments. Children's Sunday school will meet in the Youth Room in Trinity Hall on the last Sunday of the month at 9:45 am. Parents are welcome to join in and participate with the kids.		



## Pastor's Letter

*“<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Jesus came near and spoke to them, ‘I’ve received all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to obey everything that I’ve commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age.” – Matthew 28*

As I have stated in my sermons, Easter is not just one out of 52, but it is a whole season of hope for us as Christians. Jesus made it plain that his resurrection was not the end of his story, but the beginning of a new chapter in establishing his eternal kingdom. Over the past couple of weeks, we have been hearing those stories in the lectionary of seeing Jesus again (and again and again...you get the idea). As people who believe Jesus is alive, we don't just sit idly by and watch God search for others. Jesus' "marching orders" to his followers were that we be his witnesses, making disciples, baptizing and teaching, actively taking part in God's work of calling humans back to God through grace and love. Jesus clarified the Scriptures to his disciples, not for intellectual

interest but because he appointed them to share his life-changing forgiveness. God would empower them for their mission. It's still our mission, and we never pursue it alone...Jesus promised to be with us every day.

Jesus' key point of his message in Matthew 28 was "Look, I myself will be with you everyday until the end of this present age." And lucky for us, we still live in the present age. The gifts and grace of Jesus in our lives did not end with the disciples. God hasn't quit on us and we shouldn't quit on God. But it does require us to see God in new ways and to understand God's presence with us is not always a birthday party. We have to continually work on our faith to open up our hearts, our minds, and our senses (yes...even our eyes, ears, noses, hands) to the ministry in which God is calling us to participate. Sometimes, in our lives and as organizations, we forget that God is still working among us. I think of it like when you put on one of those motorcycle helmets. All of the padding and lack of sight force you to see the world in one light. But God might be working on something behind you and it is hard to turn your head around sometimes in those helmets. Sometimes it is hard to know when to

take the helmet off and to just say "Yes" to how God is present in our lives.

So, in what ways are you gifted to help carry out Jesus' directive? How does Jesus' command to live out his mission shape your understanding of what it means for Resurrection to be "hope" this season? Jesus said, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth." In the first century, that meant that not even the mighty Roman Empire could block him from being with his followers. And no power on earth today has the authority to make Jesus abandon you. How can trusting Jesus give you courage, strength and peace to say "Yes" to how God is working in your lives during this Easter season?



## MAY READINGS

*May 7 — Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

*May 14 — Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

*May 18 — Ascension of Our Lord*

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 or Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

*May 21 — Seventh Sunday of Easter*

Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

*May 28 — Day of Pentecost*

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

## MAY CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

2 Chance Hutchison

11 Donna Allen

14 Daniella King

16 Ted Murphy

22 David McGinnis

### BAPTISMS

10 Naomi Walker

11 Karen Arney

11 Marcy Carlson

12 Pam Kobbeman

12 Rosie Nichols

12 Emily Schwartz

13 Erin Lewis

20 Tom Arney

21 Breanna Lewis

26 Bronwyn King

26 Daniella King

26 Elania King

26 Sara King

27 Larry McGinnis

30 Brayden Winsor

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

3 Tom & Karen Arney

The **Spiritual Care Committee** will meet May 7th after worship.

The **Community Relations Committee** will meet at 9:30 am May 21st in the Trinity Hall library.



The Central States Synod Assembly will take place via Zoom June 3, 2023. This will be a one day meeting. If anyone would like to volunteer to attend as Trinity delegates, please contact the office for more information.





## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 10, 2023

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL

#### President

Duane Pomeroy  
785.234.4385

#### Vice President

Curt Lewis  
785.633.6661

#### Secretary

Diane Bottorff  
785.231.0379

#### Treasurer

Bob Kobbeman  
785.478.0381

#### Members

Shelley Andrews  
785.554.1454

Pam Kobbeman  
785.633.5984

Carol Marker  
785.338.1734

Dean McGinnis  
785.221.7141

- Pr. Andrew reported he had applied and was accepted as part of a group of young adults to spend a week and a half traveling from El Paso to Los Angeles with the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services to learn more about our ministries on the border. The trip will take place April 25 – May 6. Expenses are covered except his transportation to El Paso and back from LA, daily food, and one night hotel. Pr. Andrew plans to use at least \$250 from his Continuing Education budget item and do a GoFundMe to cover a portion of the expense.
- A 12 Pro iPhone will be used to record worship services. It is being provided by the Lewis family. Training for Online worship recording will be offered by Pr. Andrew after worship on April 23.
- It was agreed to print all Sunday bulletins large size as they were on Easter Sunday.
- Community Garden – a new water spigot is being installed and east and west boundaries of garden are being moved.
- Text in Church – a trial run with text messages has been sent to council members. The number is 785-347-6620. This is the exclusive number for Text in Church. The

plan is for others to receive text and/or email messages to notify of meetings and other events.

- Exterior light over back door of church has been replaced.
- It was agreed to remove the Ida Swenson award plaque from the narthex.
- There will be no 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special in April.
- We received a \$16,000 check from Susan Fitz's sister. Before her death Susan had requested that a gift be made to Trinity in memory of her long association with the congregation and the many friends she made here.
- Ongoing discussion of financial status. Expenses continue to exceed income (offerings and other donations). The April 16 bulletin financial summary shows offering of \$20,132.66. However this reflects the \$16,000 gift from Susan Fitz. Council continues to discuss ways to supplement income. One that was presented in April was the possibility of opening up Trinity to weddings for non-members. Other churches have found this as a way to increase their income stream. There will be further exploration of possibility.

**Jesus prepared a meal for the multitudes to remind us that we feed people not because we believe they deserve it, but because they're hungry.**

johnpavlovitz.com

As a reminder, we have a food pantry available for anyone who needs it. While it is mostly used by neighbors outside of our congregation who call or stop by in need of some food, it is also available to anyone in the congregation as well; just check out the shelf across the hall from the office and help yourself.

We keep shelf-stable items available, including canned chicken & tuna,

pastas, canned vegetables and soup, breakfast items, potatoes, peanut butter, and ramen noodles, though the actual items may vary.

If you would like to contribute to the food pantry, please feel free to do so, either by offering (we have a fund especially for food pantry contributions) or by purchasing food items to add to the pantry.



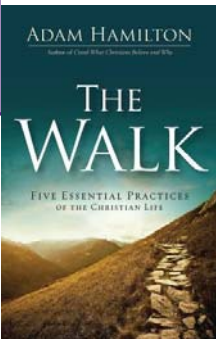
## SUNDAY SCHOOL

For the next three months, we will do a Messy Church series on the Great Commandment. The May session will be Love Your Neighbor on May 28th.



Adult Sunday School, will next meet on May 14th in the Trinity Hall lounge. We are reading and discussing the book **“The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life”** by Adam Hamilton.

**For this Sunday, please read Chapter 5 — Share.** You can order the book on Amazon, the public library has it (physical copy and ebook), or contact Pastor Andrew if you are having trouble getting a copy.



**DOORSTEP**  
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

MAY 2023

Last month we were finally able to have our first Annual Banquet in three years! It is always fun to see the faces of our supporters, current and past volunteers, board members, and coordinators! We all came together to share a meal, celebrate all of the things Doorstep does, and to honor our wonderful volunteers! With a total of five staff members, we could not do all of the programs and services offered at Doorstep without our dedicated volunteers, who are here week after week! We all feel an ownership in Doorstep, to make it the best we can, and to help our neighbors in need. And, I like to think of us as a one big Doorstep family.

We received a thank you note from a retired couple who came to a LIEAP application event, and learned the many ways Doorstep could help them meet their basic needs while struggling financially, and with illness...

*“To Everyone at Doorstep,  
Thank you so very much for the groceries  
and hygiene supplies.*

*It’s hard to ask for help, but thank you  
for being there when we do need it.*

*Thank you for help with some of our  
utilities. Everything is going up.*

*God bless you all.”*

It is always heartwarming when we receive those messages that the assistance we provided really makes a difference to those we’ve helped. It

is a great reminder, and we cannot do any of it without our member congregations and supporters!

Thank you!

Mark your calendars and save the date. **Doorstep’s 6th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run is Sunday, October 1st** at Lake Shawnee. Plan to join us, get a group of family and friends together, and help raise funds for Doorstep this October.



Hello All! Doorstep had a bill introduced in the Senate this session. We would like you, as a Doorstep supporter, to send emails asking members to support the bill. Annie Tietze is our Board Member from First United Methodist, and serves on the

Doorstep Resource Committee. She has been helping with this process, which I greatly appreciate as this is not my area of expertise. Below is the email I sent to Senator Caryn Tyson, who, with the President of the Senate will decide whether or not

to work on the bill.

Please consider sending emails, personalizing it with your own words, why they should support it. (don't copy mine word for word)

Dear Senator Tyson, (or whoever you're addressing)

I am contacting you today to request your support of SB 129 – Providing a sales tax exemption of personal property or services by Doorstep, Inc.

Doorstep, Inc. is an emergency assistance agency, located in Topeka, Kansas, Shawnee County. We have been helping our neighbors in need since 1966, nearly 57 years. We are located in central Topeka, and provide food, clothing and household items, rent and utility assistance, prescription and dental vouchers, local transportation in the form of gas vouchers and Topeka Metro bus passes for people to get to/from work and medical appointments.

Our Mission Statement is: “With the assistance of faith-based organizations, community members and groups, Doorstep, Inc. will provide short-term emergency aid to families and individuals in need; and provide information on services to promote long term self-sufficiency for our clients.”

Doorstep is supported by 52 interfaith member congregations whose members donate food, clothing and household items, their time, and talents, participate on our Board, and at Doorstep special events. They all come together to help their neighbors in need.

In 2022, Doorstep provided 5,641 units of service to 13,712 individuals. Since 1966, we have provided over 418,000 units of service (food, rent, clothing etc.) benefitting over 1 million individuals. Doorstep paid nearly \$7,700 last year in sales tax for services, supplies, etc. We also had a one-time, special project replacing the HVAC system in our building, and paid an additional \$14,500 in sales tax.

We are requesting sales tax exemption status to save on our expenses, and put those funds into providing additional services to our neighbors in need.

Your signature.

**OCTOBERFEST!** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is doing their Octoberfest again this year on Oct. 7th. They are looking for vendors to fill approximately 100 booths; as of April 24, they had 50 commitments so if you would like to purchase (\$20) as booth, you may email the coordinator, Margaret Carreno at [margaretc@princeofpeacetopeka.org](mailto:margaretc@princeofpeacetopeka.org)





## At 100 and 1/2 years, longtime Topekan Julie Reeves shares what made decades special



Julie Reeves is 100 and 1/2 years old, almost, and she celebrates like it.

While she didn't grow up in Topeka, she still remembers arriving to the city from Kansas City by train in 1948, and living with her family for their first few days in the Kansan Hotel (now the Kansan Towers). Given the odd turns and off-kilter grid of Topeka's downtown, she joked that it took her a while to get properly oriented.

"It took me two years to get used to Topeka," she said, "but it didn't take me two minutes to get used to Kansas, because we had help the minute we got off the train."

Reeves, a longtime Topekan and community servant, on Thursday evening was the guest of honor at a meeting of Topeka USD 501 Equity Council.

She shared much of the wisdom and insights she has received over decades of service as a Topeka volunteer and philanthropist.

As a Nebraskan child of the 1920s and 1930s, Reeves saw advocacy in action from her mother, especially as the nation dealt with the lingering effects of the Great Depression.

Growing up around children of color, Reeves was keenly aware of the discrimination they faced but was pleasantly surprised to find that in Topeka, the community appeared to be much more progressive.

She and her husband, a lawyer, followed along in newspapers and magazines as the *Brown v. Board* case made its way from Topeka's federal court to the U.S. Supreme Court, although she noted there was actually pretty scant, day-to-day coverage of the case at the time.

But the legal case was more about the movement it started, and the better availability for people all over the country to understand the issue.

"*Brown v. Board* was the year we got our first television set," Reeves said. "All of a sudden, instead of hearing over the radio about what was going on or reading in the newspaper ... we were seeing the riots, Dr. King speaking and all the things that were going — you can't imagine the difference if you had never seen all that and all of a sudden, you could see all the people on the Selma Bridge."

Reeves stressed to the equity council, made up of USD 501 educators, that the change that occurred in the wake of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision and other civil rights laws was possible because of educated voters. With three children who went through Topeka schools, Reeves said she was always inspired by the progress teachers made in each classroom.

She encouraged the educators to keep teaching students the importance of voting.

"What we have done in this country is (is) because we have the vote, and because everyone has the vote," she said. "(You teach them) what they need to know to be a good voter, and how exciting it is to go to the poll and think that your vote, your stroke of the pen, can change somebody else's life. Make it exciting, and make it fun."

Reeves, who over the years has been a prolific volunteer, joked that her legacy may simply be "living this long," but she hoped people will remember her for endless curiosity and her support of community causes.

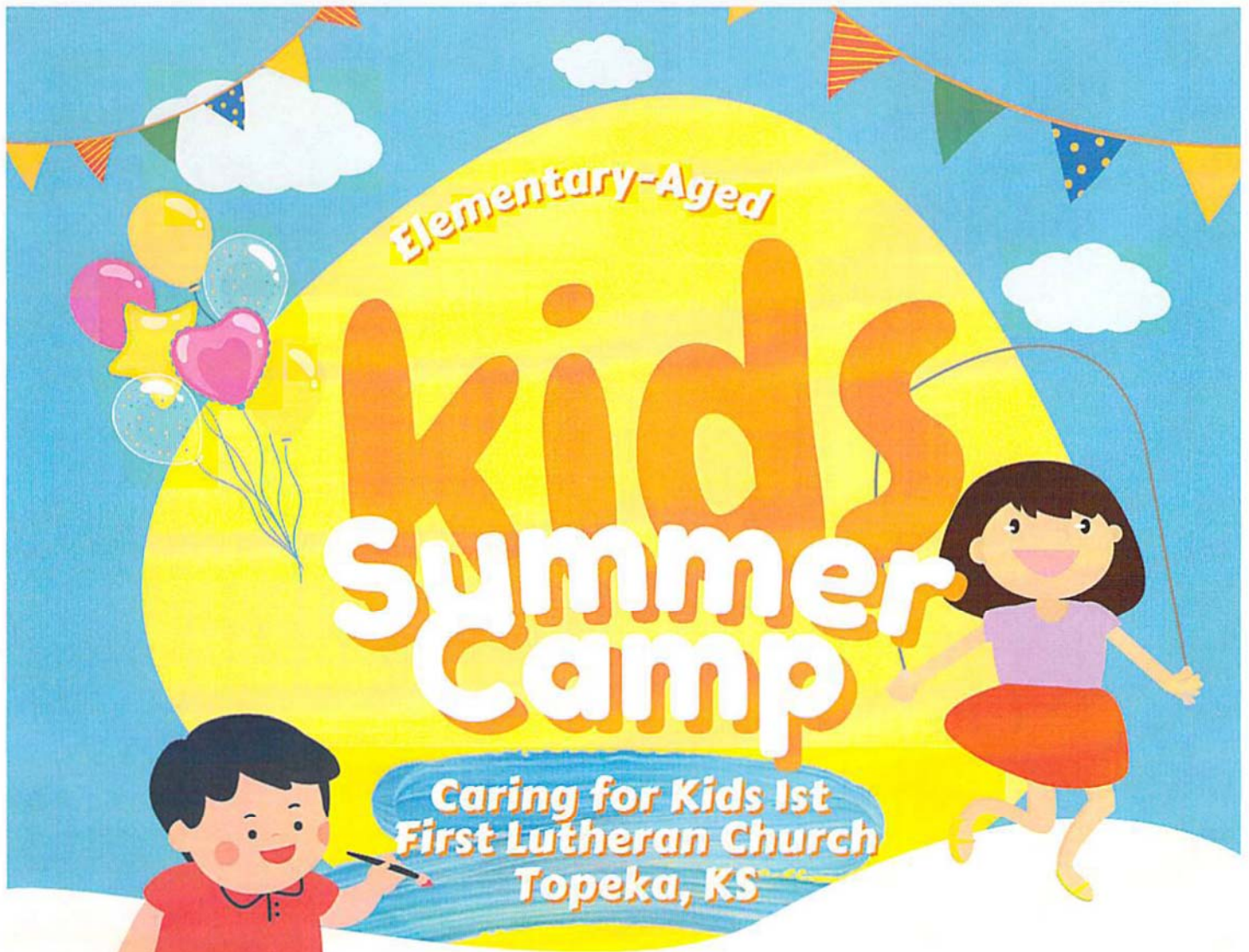
Reeves helped start Meals on Wheels in Topeka, when it was then known as Mobile Meals, and she has helped with Topeka's Head Start programs. She was also an early supporter and former president of the Topeka Symphony.

Superintendent Tiffany Anderson said Reeves has had a spirit of mothering and service in her decades in Topeka. The council presented Reeves with a plaque of commendation.

"Your 100 years has shaped not only a lot of Topeka," Anderson told Reeves, "but a lot of the experiences we all are benefiting from today, so thank you for your incredible life of service."

*Rafael Garcia is an education reporter for the Topeka Capital-Journal. He can be reached at [rgarcia@cjonline.com](mailto:rgarcia@cjonline.com) or by phone at 785-289-5325. Follow him on Twitter at @byRafaelGarcia.*





**May 30th–August 11th**

**\$125 per week**

**Activities:**

- Storytelling
- STEM Activities
- Field Trips
- Painting
- Arts & Craft
- Fun Games
- Music & Dance
- Swimming

**Breakfast  
and lunch  
included!**

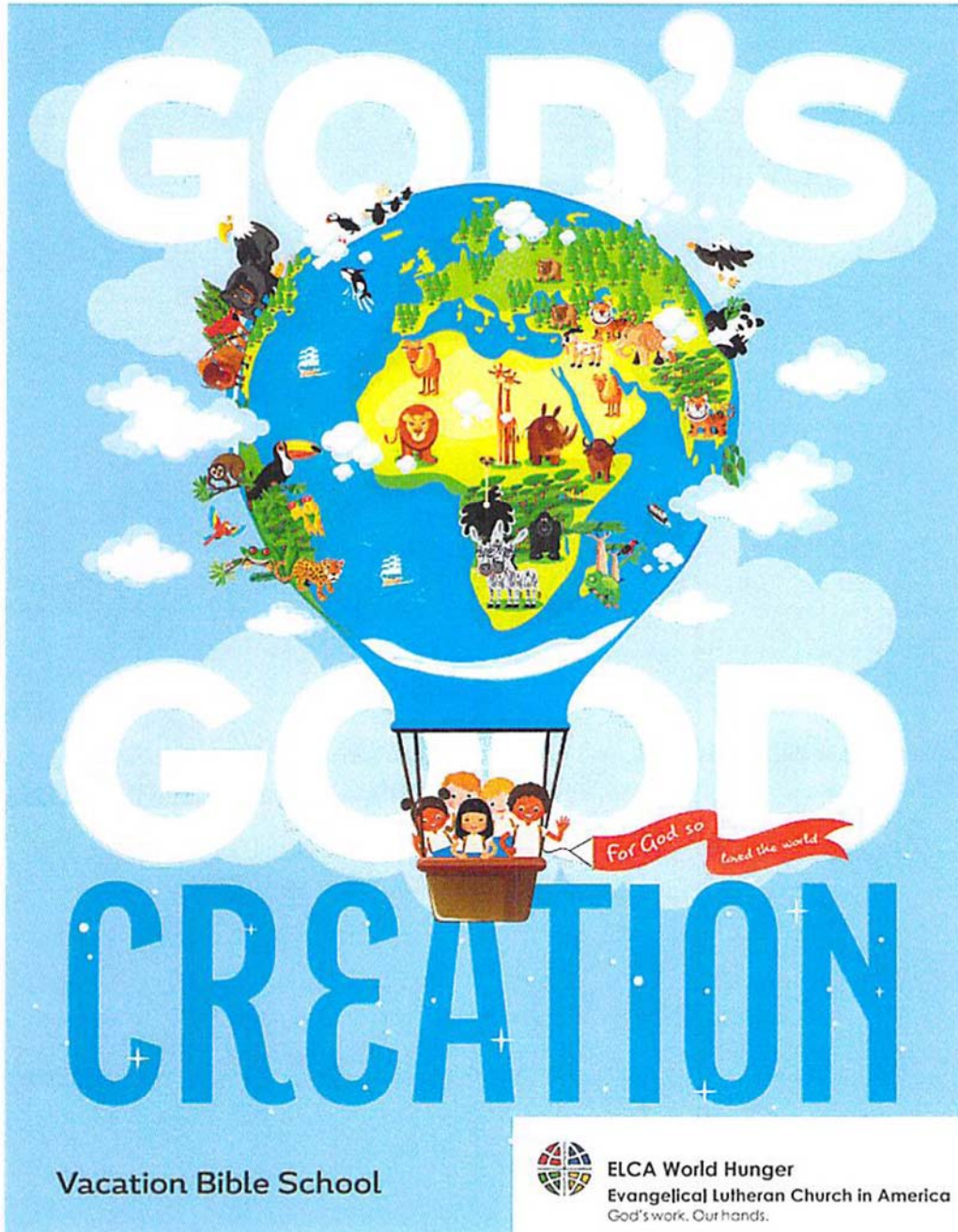


*For more information:*

**[bryleighwillis@yahoo.com](mailto:bryleighwillis@yahoo.com)**



# Vacation Bible School



**First, Our Savior's, and Trinity Lutheran Church  
invite you to join us!!!**

**July 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2023      9:00am-11:30am**

+++  
At First Lutheran Church 1234 SW Fairlawn Road

+++  
Register online at [firstlutherantopeka.org](http://firstlutherantopeka.org) or  
<https://vbsmate.com/events/TopekaLutheranJointVBS/26975>