

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# TRINITY TIDINGS

JUNE 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

# JUNE 2023

SUNDAY      MONDAY      TUESDAY      WEDNESDAY      THURSDAY      FRIDAY      SATURDAY

<p><b>EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 AM</b>  <b>WORSHIP &amp; HOLY COMMUNION</b>                  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.</p>	1	2	3			
<p>9:30 am Congregational Life meeting <b>4</b>                    10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along                  10:30 am Worship</p>	5	<p>9 am Quilters <b>6</b></p>	7	8	9	10
<p>9:45-10:15 Adult Sunday School <b>11</b>                  10:30 am Worship                  2 pm PFLAG meeting</p>	12	<p>9 am Quilters <b>13</b></p>	14	15	16	17
<p>9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg in TH library <b>18</b>                  10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>July 2023 Trinity Tidings deadline <b>19</b></p>	<p>9 am Quilters <b>20</b></p>	21	22	23	24
<p>9:45-10:15 Children's Sunday School <b>25</b>                  10:30 am Worship</p>	26	<p>9 am Quilters <b>27</b>                   7 pm TLHA</p>	28	29	30	



## Pastor's Letter

*“Finally, brothers and sisters, good-bye. Put things in order, respond to my encouragement, be in harmony with each other, and live in peace—and the God of love and peace will be with you.” – 2 Corinthians 13:11*

The time is slowly coming where we will be facing the same moment. Paul was leaving the Corinthian people to continue his ministry with Timothy. Paul understood that times were changing and that God was calling him to another place and people. While we get this farewell written by Paul to the people that day; there is no doubt that the Corinthians had a mixture of emotions. Some were mourning that Paul was leaving them, hoping that he would stay to be their pastor forever. Some were happy that Paul was finally leaving (the purpose of all of Paul's letters was because there were people that disagreed with Paul about how the church should work, after all). And some had emotions in the middle, just understanding that this was the way of the church; we all need seasons of change and new leaders to bring about fresh insight into what we are called to do as a community of faith.

All of these emotions will soon be felt in our own church as we are approaching a time of transition. While the Council has been thinking since the beginning of the year about possible routes for the future of Trinity; the process of

submitting my papers and applying for congregations has begun with invitations to visit congregations coming my way. There is no promise of a departure date at this moment but with Council, we are making plans of how to proceed. In this time we have together, we shouldn't just sit still and allow the process to pan out. There are fewer churches that are able to make any call for a minister to happen and far fewer ministers to consider hiring. Like Paul warned the Corinthians, “Put things in order...be in harmony with each other, and live in peace.” These are all words that Trinity needs to be successful in these trying times of finding a minister for your future.

There is one word of encouragement that I will give you just as Paul gave to those at the sea shore that day in Corinth. Don't focus on the past; look to the future. We have a whole wall in the fellowship hall dedicated the pastors of the past. You need to remember that appreciation (sometimes frustration) for those pastors is often warranted yet they will never be your pastor in this moment. The skills and talents they had in their time wouldn't work today and the needs of the congregation are totally different than what they faced in the past. Even the skills and talents I brought as a minister here will not lead Trinity into the thriving future that I want for you as a

congregation. Don't let the yearning for the past cloud the realities of the present and future. We all live in a different time with challenges and opportunities that no one in the past ever faced. Therefore, as you come together as a congregation to start thinking about your next call, talk together about the challenges and opportunities that you have in the present. Find a pastor that you can be supportive of in their calling, be realistic with them about the present, and encourage each other to dream about what God might be calling this congregation to be for the future. (and Yes! There will be a future if I know anything about Trinity from those that doubt). And so I will leave you with Paul's words to get to work putting things in order, take these words of advice, care for each other and don't fight each other like I know you can. Look to the future and not the past during this season of change.

Peace of Christ,  
Rev. Andrew C. Patty, Pastor



## JUNE READINGS

*June 4 — The Holy Trinity*

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

*June 11 — Second Sunday of Pentecost*

Hosea 5:15—6:6

Psalm 50:7-15

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

*June 18 — Third Sunday of Pentecost*

Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalm 100

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35—10:8-23

*June 25 — Fourth Sunday of Pentecost*

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalm 69:7-18

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

## JUNE CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

4 Charlotte Blenden

5 Duane Pomeroy

7 Camdyn Ralph

7 Carsyn Ralph

12 John Carlson

19 Mary McGinnis

26 LaVell Winsor

27 Asher Klamm

### BAPTISMS

4 Liz Utech

7 Donna Allen

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

25 Howard & Loni Reece

26 Curt & Jane Lewis

30 Josh & Heather Klamm



The Central States Synod Assembly will take place via Zoom June 3, 2023. This will be a one day meeting. Please pray for all who will be leading and participating in the meeting. Our delegates to the Synod Assembly are Diane Bottorff and Marcy Carlson.



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 8, 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

- Maintenance – Overseeding of grassy area in front of Trinity Hall has been done. Marcy has cleaned out the garage and discarded unneeded items. Council has approved Preventive Maintenance contract for the boiler with PCI Mechanical Services October 2023 – April 2024, \$1,290 per year.
- Congregational Life – Functions of committee will be carried out by subcommittees with whole committee meeting first Sunday of the month at 9:30am in Trinity Hall library.
- Community Relations – Community Garden – There was a request for funding to cover the cost of 15 yards of dirt. Action taken to close the Youth Ministry Restricted Fund of \$477.15 and use these funds to cover the cost of the dirt. Night Out Again Crime August 5 with the event for Old Town Neighborhood being held on our property. Trinity provided food items at last year's event. Committee requested 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special offering (July 30) to be used for purchase of food items and council approved. Committee meets on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30am in Trinity Hall library.
- Spiritual Care – Will be ordering four new home communion kits. Vickie Jacobs memorial fund will cover cost of this.
- Finances: Each month expenses are over income received from offerings and other donations to the General Fund. There is ongoing discussion by council at each meeting about the future of Trinity. Pr. Andrew proposed to council that after August he cut back his hours to Sundays only. He believes that this combined with members continuing their current giving will move us toward a positive monthly balance. Council took action to move \$259 in Restoration Funds from a Restricted Fund to the General Fund. This fund had been started with plans to seek designation of Trinity as an historic property. That is no longer a plan.



## PRAYER CHAIN

At a recent Spiritual Care meeting, several items were discussed regarding the prayer chain. Please let Loni Reece, 785.221.8076, know when you call with your request to have yourself or someone close to you included on the prayer chain. Please also indicate if you would like to be included in the Sunday prayers in the bulletin; you will be included for two weeks following, unless the church office (or I) learn otherwise. You can then notify me again later if you want an update sent out.

And if something arises and you arrive Sunday with a prayer concern, please see the assisting minister or ask the usher to get word to them. Assisting ministers will make note of this request as pastor does not read this portion of the prayers.



### Congratulations Trinity Lutheran Church!

In 2022 you received \$213 in Thrivent Choice Dollars® grant funding. We are proud to help support the important work you do and hope, together, we can do even more in 2023!

Don't forget, you have access to a variety of resources and programs to help you in the communities you serve.

**Thrivent Choice:** Encourage your supporters to direct 2022 Choice Dollars® to your organization by 3/31/2023. Free promotional materi-

als are available in the "Thrivent Choice Resources" section on [Thrivent.com](https://www.thrivent.com).

**Personal Donations:** **Anyone** can use the Thrivent online giving platform to make a donation to your organization. Thrivent pays the donation processing fees - that means 100% of the donation goes directly to your organization.\*

**Thrivent Action Teams:** Encourage Thrivent Clients to apply for a Thrivent Action Team to support your organization. Thrivent clients bring together friends and family to form a volunteer team – Thrivent

provides up to \$250 in seed money and promotional resources to jump-start the volunteer project.

**Local Support:** You also have access to support through local leaders from Thrivent's Engagement Teams and Thrivent Member Networks.

Let's make 2023 the best one yet!

\*Thrivent will pay up to \$300,000 in online processing fees per calendar year for personal donations made through Thrivent's online giving platform

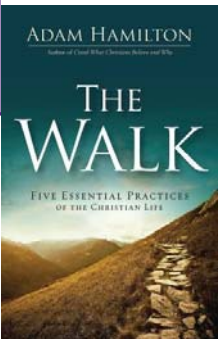


## SUNDAY SCHOOL



For the next three months, we will do a Messy Church series on the Great Commandment. The June session will be Love the World on June 25th.

Adult Sunday School, will next meet on June 11th 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 6 — Five Practices from the Cross.** 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

JUNE 2023

This is a busy month at Doorstep! We begin our 57th year of providing assistance to our neighbors in need; kids are out of school leaving families needing more food; and our requests for hygiene kits remains higher.

In the summer months we hand out on average 80 hygiene kits per month (individual & family size).

We consistently need the following (full-size) items to make a complete kit: shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, bar soap, razors, body wash & lotion. Lastly, at the end of April Doorstep had our first Annual Banquet celebrating our volunteers since 2019. We had a great turnout for the event, which was hosted by First

Lutheran Church. Doorstep presented eleven (11) volunteer awards for Outstanding Dedication; congratulations to Anita, Beth, Rita, Ellie, Greg, Cathy, Charlie, Judy, Lessie, Frances & Alice. It was so nice to gather together again, and celebrate Doorstep!

# Together: Traveling the Way of Jesus



## May 2023, First Quarter

Did you know that the Central States Synod owns the land on which Camp Tomah Shinga sits? It is leased back to the camp free of charge. In addition, the synod budget includes a grant to support the ministry of the camp, the only ELCA camp in the synod. Below is a story from Jordan Valentine, the camp's program director.

Your mission support  
at work



### Ministry Story – Camp Tomah Shinga

This past summer, we had the opportunity of ministering to over 500 kids through on-site camp and day camp, and our regional youth gathering. Our theme was Get Out of the Boat, encouraging campers to try something new and push past their comfort zone. One of the memories that stands out to me the most is a camper who showed up to camp for confirmation week, was terrified, did not want to leave her mom, and was very hesitant about being at camp. She would come up to us in tears, ready to go home. After talking her down, we could convince her to stay one more night. We did this the first 3 nights and made it to day 4. At this point, she had convinced herself that she could make it the full week and would be ok. Friday arrived, and her mom came to get her. The smile on her face as she left camp was unmatched. She gave all the staff the biggest hugs, telling us she will be back next summer. This is a great reflection of what it means to get out of your boat and push past the comfort zone. This camper has never been away from home, and even though it was a struggle, she kept telling herself to push through, and that is what she did. And she loved camp because of it. This can apply to many things in our life that we are scared to do. But once we tell ourselves that we can do it, in God's hands, we can do incredible things.

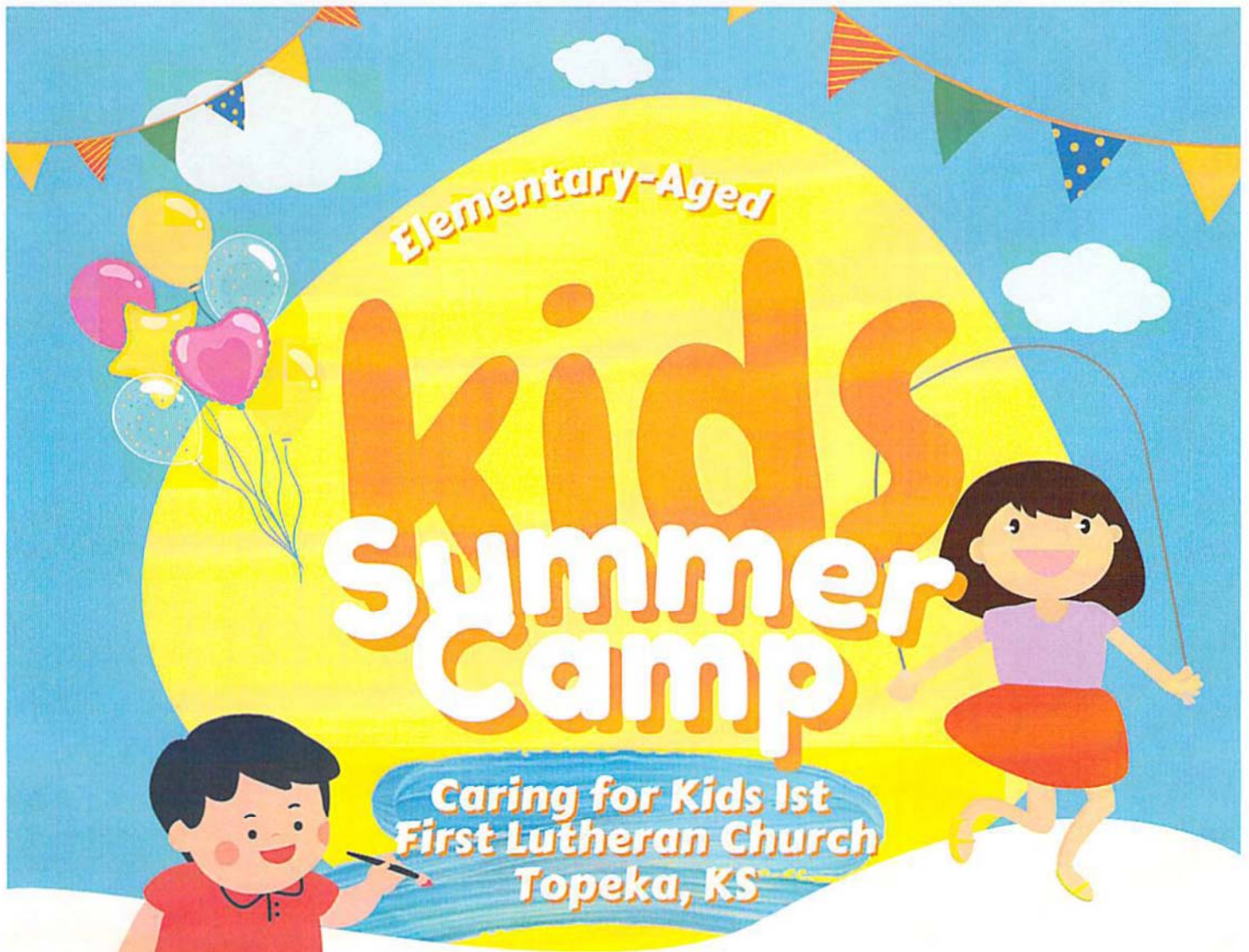
### Mission Support Update

Mission support is undesignated funds we receive from the general offerings from synod congregations to support our work together as the church. 50% of the funds received are passed on to the churchwide ministry. The other 50% is used for synod expenses, including staff salaries, administrative and office costs, and grants to numerous ministries throughout the synod. As of the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year (February 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024), we have received a total of \$301,127 from congregations. Our expenses were \$365,180, leaving a deficit of \$32,807.

### Thanks and Invitation

For those of you that shared mission support, thank you for reality that we do this work together and that it is about Jesus, so that others might hear and know the way of Jesus. For those of you who were unable to give, please consider sending in a financial contribution so that we can continue our important work together. All are invited to share the story of Camp Tomah Shinga, go to their website, [www.camptomahshinga.com](http://www.camptomahshinga.com) and see how you and your congregation can get better connected.





**May 30th–August 11th**

**\$125 per week**

**Activities:**

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

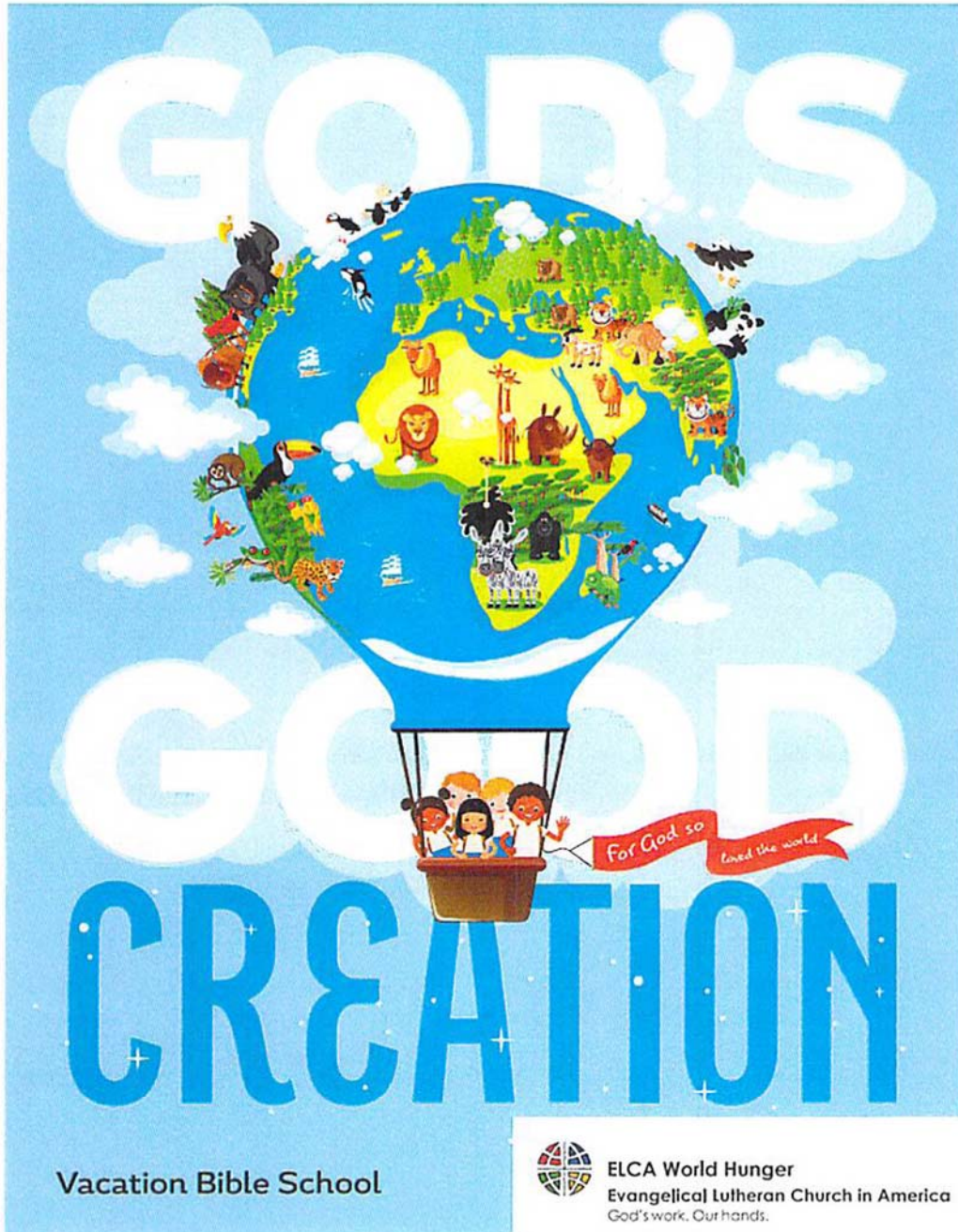
**Breakfast  
and lunch  
included!**



*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

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