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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



OCTOBER 2023

TRINITY TIDINGS

STAFF

Pastor Andrew C. Patty pr andrew@topekatlc.org

Cindy McGinnis

Administrative Assistant

office@topekatlc.org

Laurie Jackson

Music Director

Marcy Carlson

Custodian

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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



Caring for Neighbors



OCTOBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDA	Y	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9:30 am Congregational Life committee meeting	2	9 am Quilters	3	4	5	6	7
10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along							
10:30 am Worship Pr. Andrew & Youth Gathering Planning Meeting. Pr. Dinah Dutta will be leading worship.							
leading worship. 10:30 am Worship	9	9 am Quilters	10	11	12	13	14
During coffee hour: Town Hall meeting to discuss transition		D 4 1					
		Pr. Andr	ew	@ Pastor's (in Olathe	Conference		
2 pm PFLAG meeting	6 pm Council						
9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg	16	9 am Quilters	17	18	19	20	21
10:30 am Worship		-					
10:30 am 22	23	9 am	24	25	26	27	28
Worship 1:00 pm	November 2023 Trinity Tidings deadline	Quilters	4 1	20	20	21	20
Workday @ Doorstep							
		7 pm TLH	IA				
10:30 am 29 Worship Reformation	30	9 am Quilters	31		7 10:30 AM WOI lults will start at 9:45		
5th Sunday Special for Hawaii Wildfires				and meets in the Tri reading assignments	nity Hall lounge. Wat s.	ch your bulletins for	upcoming dates and
After worship: Trunk or Treat in Trinity Hall parking lot					chool will meet in the at 9:45 am. Parents		



Pastor's Letter

October has made its way to us with the formal change to fall as the leaves crisp to their gold, red, and brown hues. With Halloween at the end of the month, it is a time to go to apple orchards, pumpkin patches, haunted houses, and corn mazes with the little ones. In high school, I remember that a big part of any fall festival was a hay ride followed by a corn maze. Some of them would give you a map or image to get an idea of what was ahead but others would leave you in mystery wondering how you would ever get out from the stalks. There are few events in our modern life where we enjoy getting lost. After all, we have our cell phones, GPS, calendar reminders, and Alexa all to let us know where to go or what is coming up next in our lives. The corn maze is one of the few spaces where we are allowed to be lost. Indeed, during medieval times, allowing yourself to get lost was a central Christian practice from which the modernday corn mazes get their inspiration from. In the floors of the gothic cathedrals, labyrinths were created in tile and marble that allowed people to slow life down and take a small spiritual journey. Indeed, many of these were created to compensate for people having to takes weeks or months

to take a pilgrimage to a holy site. Therefore, just taking a couple of hours to walk the path; to separate yourself from the demands of daily life imparted the gifts of a full pilgrimage. It was also a way for those of the lower classes who would never have the funds or means to take weeks out their lives to participate in this faithful practice of taking time out of our lives to recenter our lives on God and to get lost in the journey.

Allowing ourselves to get lost in the labyrinth or maze might seem like a silly practice to think about faithfully today. What can something created in the times of the knights and fiefdoms inform us about our lives? In many ways, walking the way of the maze is like walking in our lives of faith with God. We often don't know where we are headed and have to recenter our trust in God to find the way home. When we feel like we have figured out the pattern; we run into dead ends and have to backtrack to make our way forward. In some parts, we zoom through skipping confidently at those straight-aways; while in other times, we find ourselves in those four-way stops endlessly praying for God to give us the right answer on where to go. Psalm 119 speaks well of this experience in faith. It talks of the

difficulty that comes with walking in the way of the Lord. That the way includes moments of happiness but also acknowledges that we often fail to live according to God's will. As the hymn Amazing Grace reminds us that we are lost but found in God. We have to also remember that in the maze there is always a way home. We have to remember that God is our beginning and end. We need to be reminded that we are not alone in this maze of our life, but that God is constantly guiding us on the way home. So no matter what maze you find yourself in, corn or life, you can be certain that God will be there waiting for you. While you take your little ones this season for some fall fun in the stalks of corn, take a moment to get lost, to remember God is always with you, and to be certain that you will find your way home.

Peace of Christ. Pr. Andrew Patty



OCTOBER READINGS

October 1 — 18th Sunday of Pentecost
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

October 8 — 19th Sunday of Pentecost Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:7-15 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46

October 15 — 20th Sunday of Pentecost Isaiah 25:1-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14

October 22 — 21st Sunday of Pentecost Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22

October 29 — Reformation Sunday
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 14 Marlene Hassan
- 15 Conrad Youngblom
- 16 Rosemary O'Neil
- 17 Tresa Johnson
- 23 Marilyn Heckman
- 28 Charlotte O'Brien

BAPTISMS

- 3 Loni Reece
- 7 Ella Bosch
- 15 Kade Welp
- 17 Ellen Irwin
- 18 Barbara Apps
- 19 Ted Murphy
- 20 Brooke Ralph
- 21 Collin Horton
- 26 Bob Horton
- 26 Curt Lewis

Wedding Anniversaries

9 Bill & Marsha Ridinger



The money collected via our 5th Sunday Special on October 29th will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Relief to help the island of Maui recover from the devastating wild-fires they experienced in August.

Look for the special offering envelope in your bulletin that day.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 11, 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

Committee reports:

Congregational Life – Attendance for 1st Sunday Hymn Sing has been low. Recommend increasing communication by email/text a few days prior to 1st Sunday. Plan to assist Community Relations Committee with Trunk or Treat. October 8 emphasis on partnership with Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East. There will be a bulletin insert with updated information.

Community Relations – Planning for Service Sunday at Doorstep October 22 and Trunk or Treat October 29. Details for those events will be in October Tidings.

<u>Maintenance</u> – Annual contract with MEI Total Elevator Solutions to include annual inspection and maintenance agreement at

the cost of \$1,026 per year was approved. In addition, the state requires an outside inspector, and the cost of that is \$350.

<u>Administration</u> – Exploring possibility of renting office space in lower level of Trinity Hall.

5th Sunday Special October 29th will be designated to Lutheran Disaster Relief to be directed for relief from the recent Wild Fires in Hawaii.

Transition – Council will complete Sustainability Assessment at its October meeting. It was decided to have a Town Hall meeting during coffee hour October 8 to inform the congregation of the steps going forward in the transition process.

Sunday School

Adults: First Session from "Romans" a study guide from Augsburg Fortress. Please read Romans 5:1-11 before our time together.

Children: See the information about Trunk or Treat on page 5.







Happy Fall Y'all!

Since April 2023 the need for food assistance has drastically increased! Doorstep has already spent \$25,000 on food purchases this year to keep the pantry stocked and our neighbors fed. This is \$15,000 over what was budgeted, and we still have three months left in 2023. We have provided 12,000 – 14,000 pounds each month to households in need, and since April we have received an average of 1,800 – 3,000 pounds of food each month. This is a big difference!

We know everyone is struggling, just as we are to keep our shelves stocked to provide a full food order to our neighbors in need. Please give where you can...

Dry Beans ~ Egg Noodles ~
Canned Milk ~ Powdered Milk ~
Oatmeal ~ Tuna ~ Chicken
Noodle Soup ~ Vegetable Soup
~ Cream of Mushroom Soup ~
Canned Fruit ~ Boxed Potatoes
~ Peas ~ Boxed Pastas ~ Spaghetti O's ~ Ravioli ~ Spaghetti
~ Macaroni & Cheese ~ Pork n
Beans ~ Pancake Mix ~ Hand
Can openers

With the arrival of Fall, the staff and volunteers really ramp up work on our annual Doorstep Christmas Adoption Project. We plan to adopt 260 households with 800+ individuals from the Christmas Bureau again this year. We are not going back to the store-type set-up we did for many years until the pandemic. However, our families will still receive blankets, health kits, school supplies, toys for children, food for several days, a household item, gifts and \$20 gift cards for everyone in the household. The only new clothing items we will have are hoodies, socks, underwear, and children's winter pajamas. (Scarves, gloves & hats as we have them).

We are well stocked on school supplies this year; however, we have very few hygiene products to make health kits for the 260 households. We make these kits up ahead of time and need to collect the following items in October:

OCTOBER 2023

Hygiene Items for Health Kits Full size items only please.

Shampoo ~ Conditioner (2 in 1 ok) ~ Bar Soap ~ Deodorant ~ Toothpaste ~ Toothbrushes ~ Combs ~ Brushes ~ Towel Sets: Bath, Hand & Washcloth.

Bring donations to:

Doorstep, Inc. 1119 SW 10th Ave. Topeka, KS 66604.

Donation hours are Monday through Friday, 9am – 2pm, south door. If you have any questions, please call 785-357-5341.

Please let us know your donations are for Christmas!



Trunk or Treat on Reformation Sunday October 29th

For our third year, we will be celebrating a special Reformation Day with a Trunk or Treat in the Trinity Hall parking lot after worship in place of our usual coffee hour. You are invited to come out and pick up some treats or open the trunk of your car to share treats with members, friends, and neighbors. There will be coffee available.

Children are welcome to wear their Halloween costumes to church.

Janice Greenlee is the coordinator for this Trunk or Treat and you can contact her with questions about how you can participate in all the fun — <u>Janice0914@aol.com</u>

As always, Janice has come up with some fun theme ideas:

Mary and Martha passing out M&Ms;

the Devil passing out Red Hots;

Peter, Andrew, James & John passing out Goldfish crackers;

Judas passing out Hershey kisses,

Noah's ark passing out animal crackers/cookies,

Adam & Eve passing out apples.

OR you can just open your trunk and decorate with fall/autumn pumpkins. Popcorn is always a nice healthy choice, too.

This year, we will be inviting kids from the neighborhood, so please plan for around 50 participants if you are providing treats.



SERVICE SUNDAY AT DOORSTEP OCTOBER 22

After a successful Service Sunday at Doorstep last year, another opportunity has been scheduled for Trinity on October 22, 1 - 3 pm. After coffee hour, those going to Doorstep will have a light lunch of sandwiches, chips and drinks, beginning at 12:15pm.

Doorstep staff will have some projects lined up for us to help with. To help with their planning, they have asked us to let them know how many of us will be on hand to help that day. There will be a sign up sheet at church on October 8 and 15 or you can call or email the church office by Monday, October 16.

We are inviting members from Asbury-Mt. Olive United Methodist Church to partner with us as they did last year.

Christ in Our Home

Each quarter, we receive 15 regular size copies of *Christ in Our Home* and 13 large print copies. At the end of September, when it was time to put out the October through December issue, I recycled nine regular size copies & 11 large print copies.

Do you know this devotional book is available each quarter of the year? If so, please feel free to take one home with you.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TOWN HALL MEETING

OCTOBER 8, 2023

Please plan to join us for coffee hour after worship on Oct. 8.

Pr. Andrew and Duane Pomeroy will be sharing information about the transition process.