

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



TRINITY TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER 2024

STAFF

Pastor Barbara Jones
prbarb.jones@gmail.com

Cindy McGinnis
Administrative Assistant
office@topekatic.org

Laurie Jackson
Music Director

Marcy Carlson
Custodian
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 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>1 10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along Bring food for Doorstep 10:30 am Worship 12:00 Noon Congregational Life committee meeting</p>	<p>2 Labor Day (office will be closed)</p>	<p>3 9:00 am Quilters</p>	4	5	6	7
<p>8 9:30-10:15 Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Grandparent's Day God's Work. Our Hands. Our day of service at Doorstep. 2 pm PFLAG meeting</p>	9	<p>10 9:00 am Quilters 5:45 pm Council</p>	<p>11 6:30-8 pm Historic Old Town NIA meeting</p>	12	13	<p>14 11am - 1pm National Night Out</p>
<p>15 9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg 10:30 am Worship</p>	16	<p>17 9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Widowed Women of Faith 6 pm Stroke Support Group</p>	<p>18 October 2024 Trinity Tidings deadline</p>	19	20	21
<p>22 9:45-10:15 Children's Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 1st day of Fall</p>	23	<p>24 9:00 am Quilters 7 pm TLHA</p>	25	26	27	28
<p>29 10:30 am Worship</p>	30	<p>EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL DOWNSTAIRS IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP.</p>				



Pastor's Letter

Dear Partners in Ministry,

“To say that we are one in Christ is more than a pious platitude,” writes Michael Casey. “It is a mandate that we are called to make a reality.”

Only unity seems almost impossible these days. Doesn't it? Our world is coming apart at the seams. Wars rage, people seem more interested in shouting at one another instead of listening for understanding, societal ills continue to grow, and even congregations are divided. Many ask, “Where can we turn for guidance? Where can we find hope?”

In my own search for meaning, I am drawn to what Dietrich Bonhoeffer referred to as the “theology in the doing.” Struggling to make sense of what it meant to be the Church in Germany during World War II, Bonhoeffer declared, ***“The church is only the church when it exists for others.”***

Recently I attended a lunch hosted by Doorstep for Topeka area clergy new to the area in the past year. Along with enjoying a nice meal with local colleagues, I was intrigued with the history and mission of Doorstep that was shared. A tour of the facility and an explanation of their routine and ongoing ministries was highlighted with words of anticipation of the Christmas blessings that will be bestowed on numerous Topeka families in December of 2024. Not only am I humbled and impressed with this local mission, that started decades ago with just a few families who saw a need and wanted to help, but also by the long time ongoing partnership that Trinity has with Doorstep! Sunday, September 8, the people of Trinity will be participating in the ELCA's annual “God's Work, Our Hands” day by giving our time and service at Doorstep wearing our bright yellow “God's Work, Our Hands” t-shirts!

This is what it means to be the Church, the body of Christ in the world. Like it or not, discipleship *should* move us beyond our own needs, wants, and desires outward in loving service to our neighbors in need, both where we live and beyond, where many of our siblings in Christ live in extreme poverty, even though people often work 12-hour days to provide for their families.

The many opportunities to learn and to serve right in our own communities has challenged me (and I suspect others) to embrace the call to discipleship, to follow the Way of Jesus in everyday life, and to look for and discover the face of Jesus reflected back to me in my neighbor. After all, isn't this what it means to be the Church?

You know I love our beautiful hymns with their powerful lyrics. One that comes to mind at this time, “As the Grains of Wheat” ELW 465, is based on the ancient text Didache 9:4, “As this fragment of bread was scattered upon the mountains and gathered to become one, so may your church be gathered together from the ends of your earth into your Kingdom” (Didache 9:4).

Yes, we are the church together in God's mission for the sake of the world!

Thanks be to God!

In Christ's service,
Pastor Barb



SEPTEMBER READINGS

September 1 — Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
 Psalm 15
 James 1:17-27
 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8 — Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Isaiah 35:4-7a
 Psalm 146
 James 2:1-17
 Mark 7:24-37

September 15 — Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost

Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm 116:1-9
 James 3:1-12
 Mark 8:27-38

September 22 — Eighteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Jeremiah 11:18-20
 Psalm 54
 James 3:13—4:3,7-8a
 Mark 9:30-37

September 29 — Nineteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
 Psalm 19:7-14
 James 5:13-20
 Mark 9:38-50

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

3 Ellen Irwin
 3 David Ralph
 6 Bob Horton
 7 Laurie Jackson
 14 Janice Greenlee
 18 Diane Borttorff
 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
 19 Brian McGinnis
 23 Janelle Meredith
 28 Andy Winsor

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

9 Larry & Mary McGinnis
 24 Junior & Liz Utech



Trinity's Facebook page is **Trinity Lutheran Topeka.org**. Please like and follow our Facebook page. Whenever you watch, click on "like" and leave comment, even if you just say "hi".

Our services are on Facebook live every Sunday and can be watched 24/7 on our page anytime. When you like and follow our page, it helps our placement when people search Facebook for a church.

Please share this information with your contacts.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 13, 2024

CONGREGATION
COUNCIL

President

Diane Bottorff
785.231.0379

Vice President

Curt Lewis
785.633.6661

Secretary

Shelley Andrews
785.554.1454

Treasurer

Bob Kobbeman
785.478.0381

Members

Parker Jackson
785.633.3353

Steve Luoma
517.974.9191

Carol Marker
785.338.1734

Dean McGinnis
785.221.7141

Janelle Meredith
785.408.2566

Duane Pomeroy
785.234.4385

- All members of the council were present. Pastor Barb Jones was present via Zoom.
- Bob Kobbeman delivered the treasurer’s report via Zoom. Contributions are running behind through July. Some line items may still need revision and re-assignment.
- Marcy Carlson gave a presentation detailing the contracted custodial responsibilities she delivers, as well as what the contracted lawn care provider delivers to Trinity Lutheran Church.
- Curt Lewis reported our utility bill went up \$467.35 from June 12-July 12, 2024, so efforts to control the thermostats and other cost saving measures are appreciated.
- A special council meeting” is scheduled at 6 PM on August 20 to continue with the transition process.
- A back pack blessing is scheduled during the church service on August 25, 2024.
- A special congregational meeting is planned on August 25 to explain the elevator repair, as it exceeds \$10,000.00.
- A special offering for the elevator repair is recommended and will be announced in church on Sunday.
- Sunday, September 8 is a special volunteer day at Doorstep. It is also “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday.
- The National Night Out is scheduled on Saturday Sept. 14, from 11 am to 1 pm, co-sponsored by Historic Old Town NIA & Trinity.
- Church council voted to postpone the Trinity Hall basement clean up day.
- Next council meeting will be Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 5:30 PM.

A full copy of the Council minutes is available in the church office and if desired, you may request a copy be mailed or emailed to you.



Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will meet Sunday, September 8, the sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost. We will study the second lesson for that day that the lector will read during worship, James 2:1-10,14-17.

Children’s Sunday school will meet on September 22nd.



Doorstep — September 2024



The need for food assistance has remained high this year. For our neighbors who are already struggling to make ends meet, keeping their rent and utilities paid, having kids

out of school and home this summer, and dealing with the crisis that life can throw at us... keeping food on the table has continued to be a challenge. We have already spent \$38,210 purchasing food to meet the need, and keep our neighbors fed. In the first seven months of 2024, we have also spent \$177,589 on rent, utilities, dental vouchers, prescriptions, Topeka Metro passes, gas vouchers, hygiene products, auto services, and more.

Food Assistance

Jan – July 2024 Jan – July 2023

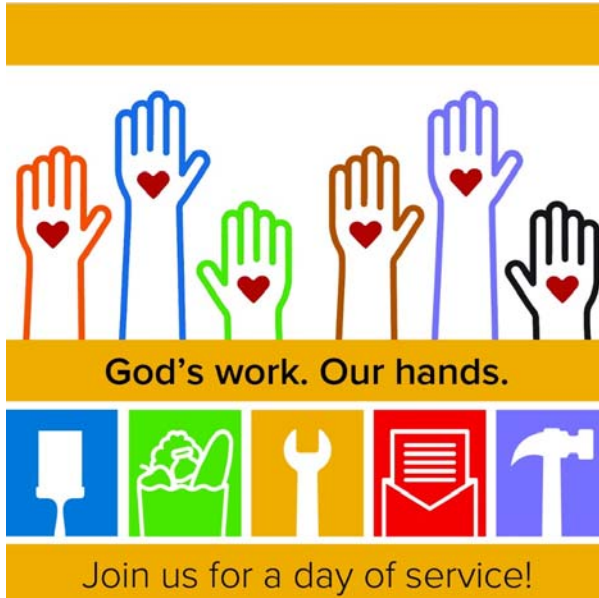
Households	1,718.....	1,182
Individuals	4,369.....	2,938
Pounds Given	96,869.....	71,234
\$ Spent on Food	\$38,210.....	\$16,440

We can provide this assistance because of our donors who believe in neighbors helping neighbors and give where they can. We are grateful for every donation, large or small, and we appreciate our donors sharing in our mission with us! If you are in need, or know someone who is, please tell them about Doorstep.

Join us for our **7th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run** set for **Saturday, October 12th, 9:30am**, at Lake Shawnee. Get your family and friends together for some exercise, breakfast, and fellowship at the lake while raising funds for Doorstep! To sign up visit our website under the Events Tab: www.DoorstepTopeka.org. 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 18th**. However, we will continue to 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).

Our pal, **Chris Fisher** with WIBW-TV will be our Celebrity Starter again this year!

Doorstep is participating in the Great Topeka Duck Race again this year! We have a goal of 200 ducks! You can buy your ducks through our link on their website to support Doorstep and try to win prizes! Look for **Ducks for Doorstep!** The **“Virtual Race”** is **Saturday, September 14th** at 10am. Visit www.duckrace.com/topeka/teams, select Doorstep, Inc. and adopt a Duck, a Family, Flock or an Oodle with a credit card payment. It’s as easy as that! We also have paper forms; email lisa@doorstepinc.com



Mark your calendar for Sunday, **September 8. It's God's Work, Our Hands Sunday**, ELCA's annual day of service. Our service opportunity this day will be at Doorstep, beginning at 1pm. If you've volunteered before at Doorstep or haven't been able due to your weekday schedule, plan to join us on September 8. A light lunch will be available during coffee hour. Again this year we have asked members of Asbury Mount Olive United Methodist Church to join us.

National Night Out 2024: The Salty and Sweet Social Saturday, Sept. 14, 11am-1pm

Join us for our yearly National Night Out event! Join your neighbors for some salty and sweet treats resources, and some fun! There will be hot dogs, ice cream, a bubble machine. This event is open to Historic Old Town neighbors and Trinity members & friends.



IF YOU ARE A WIDOWED WOMAN YOU ARE INVITED!

Join other **Widowed Women of FaiTh** on Tuesday, September 17th for lunch and companionship from 11am to 1pm in the back room at Perkins Restaurant, 1720 SW Wanamaker Road, Topeka. No RSVP needed, just come. Please, invite other Widowed Women of FaiTh. We meet every month on the 3rd Tuesday. Questions? Widowed-WomenofFaith@gmail.com or call (913)558-0191.



Fundraiser for Elevator Repair

We need to raise funds to cover the cost for repair of our elevator. Currently the elevator is not operational. MEI Total Elevator Solutions gave us a bid for the repairs needed. The cost exceeds \$10,000. As is required by our constitution for an expenditure of this amount, a special congregational meeting was held August 25 after worship, at which this expenditure was approved.

Covering this amount will put a strain on Trinity's financial resources. We are asking you to consider making a donation to the Elevator Fund. Matching funds up to \$1,000 are available. Mark your gift "Elevator Fund" and place it in the offering or mail to the office. Watch for special envelopes in your bulletins and pews. This fundraiser will continue for the next 60 days (ends mid-October).

As you can see by the graphic, we have received \$1,000 toward the elevator repair expense. One pink bar will disappear for every \$500 received.

