

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



TRINITY TIDINGS

OCTOBER 2024

STAFF

Pastor Barbara Jones
prbarb.jones@gmail.com

Cindy McGinnis
Administrative Assistant
office@topekatlch.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

OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|-----------|---|--|-----------|
| <p>EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL DOWNSTAIRS IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP.</p> | <p>9:00 am Quilters 1</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> | <p>5 10 am Prince of Peace Octoberfest</p> | |
| <p> 6 10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along  Bring food for Doorstep 10:30 am Worship 12:00 Noon Congregational Life committee meeting</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>9:00 am Quilters 8</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12</p> |
| <p>9:30-10:15 Adult Sunday School 13 10:30 am Worship Town Hall Meeting during coffee hour 2 pm PFLAG meeting</p> | <p>14</p> | <p>9:00 am Quilters 15 11:00 am Widowed Women of FaiTh</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>19</p> |
| <p>9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg 20 10:30 am Worship WU Campus Ministry donation day</p> | <p>21 October 2024 Trinity Tidings deadline 6 pm Stroke Support Group</p> | <p>9:00 am Quilters 22 7 pm TLHA</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p> | <p>26</p> |
| <p>9:45-10:15 Children's Sunday School 27 10:30 am Worship Reformation Trunk or Treat after worship </p> | <p>28</p> | <p>9:00 am Quilters 29</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>31 Halloween </p> | <p>Oct. 6 is our next Hymn Sing Along & Doorstep Food Collection!</p> | |



Pastor's Letter

... we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; ... (A suggested Reformation Prayer, ELW p. 58)

Hello Ministry Partners,

Comes the question, "How many Lutherans does it take to change a lightbulb?" An exasperated Lutheran replies, "Change!"

When 34-year-old, Martin Luther posted his 95 theses, he was determined a discussion needed to be held about a current policy and supposition of the church: that church held control of the merits (power) of Christ's cross and resurrection and could sell it. Most Christians recognize such a practice is ludicrous and God's grace through the saving work of Jesus Christ is freely given. But that wasn't the only issue that needed discussion: Christian liberty, authority of the church, even the reality of the church were some of the topics. So much of what the leaders and pastors of the church were doing had become mindless "tradition" without question.

This brings to mind the family that always cut off both ends of the ham before baking it. While in the kitchen observing this, one of the children asked why. The answer was simple: "that's the way Grandma always did it and her ham always tastes great."

When next Grandma was baking a ham at her house, the grandchild asked, "Grandma, why do you cut the ends off of the ham before you bake it?" Grandma answered very casually, "I cut the ends off so the ham fits in my pan that fits in my oven."

"Why do what we do?" is an important question. For the church, this means we are always ready to change and adapt. The "what and why" of yesterday may change. Sometimes this could be broad sweeping

change in teaching as happened among Lutherans with the ordination of women in 1970. Sometimes this is congregational when context or circumstance change. The important reality is that God's people are always in discernment and attentive to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to shape and guide the mission and ministries of the church and congregations.

Change can raise anxiety and concern. Being vulnerable to the work of the Holy Spirit is like being freshly tilled soil: ground ready for seedtime. Praying God would make us good soil is precisely our prayer: that we might be changed from a well-worn path, weedy confusion or a rocky institution (*cf. Mark 4:1-9*).

Trinity is in a time of transition - what does the future hold? - what is the Holy Spirit up to at TLC? - what will the tilling of the good soil of Trinity bring forth? I would refer to this time as a "Kairos" time. This ancient Greek word is defined as "God's appointed time to act." Merriam Webster defines it as "a time when conditions are right for the accomplishment of a crucial action: the opportune and decisive moment." Trinity's leaders are focusing on areas of possibility as well as areas of concern. Please see the announcement in this newsletter detailing a time for all to come together (in person or by ZOOM) on October 13th, to share, discuss, examine and listen, listen to the rustling of the Spirit at work in this place, at this time.

The suggested Reformation Prayer is Trinity's prayer during this time of vulnerability. Let the Spirit's life-giving breath breathe; we will be changed.

In Christ's service,
Pastor Barb

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58



OCTOBER READINGS

October 6 — Twentieth Sunday of Pentecost

Genesis 2:18-24
 Psalm 8
 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
 Mark 10:2-16

October 13 — Twenty-first Sunday of Pentecost

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
 Psalm 90:12-17
 Hebrews 4:12-16
 Mark 10:17-31

October 20 — Twenty-second Sunday of Pentecost

Isaiah 53:4-12
 Psalm 91:9-16
 Hebrews 5:1-10
 Mark 10:35-45

October 27 — Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm 46
 Romans 3:19-38
 John 8:31-36

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

14 Marlene Hassan
 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

What is the future of Trinity?

Here are some of the questions that we, as a congregation, need to answer. Our answers may help Synod Leadership and the Bishop know what to look for in terms of recommendations for us.

- ◆ Are we looking for a leader to help us maintain what we have and caretake over the congregation or do we want someone to really challenge and ask much of us?
- ◆ Are we ready to “roll up our sleeves” and go along with whatever a new leader proposes, supporting it even if it's a major change in how we operate?
- ◆ Will we partner in new and unique ways with others in our community in order to continue ministry in this location for a time?
- ◆ Are we financially sustainable?

Come and join in the discussion Sunday, October 13 during coffee hour. For those unable to participate in person, join us on Zoom. A link will be provided prior to October 13.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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

- A letter will be sent to families with memorials containing less than \$1,000.00 requesting a designation for the use of funds, or if they can be moved into the general fund.
- The Doorstep volunteer activity on September 8, centered on the theme “God’s Work, Our Hands”. Pastor Barb and several congregation members participated.
- President Diane reported the cost of the elevator repair has been reduced to \$12,373.00.
- “Sowing the Seeds of Collaboration” presentation was discussed; collaboration needs to be on the table to determine what fits our congregation’s needs. It was delayed for a future meeting.
- There is concern about how to respond to the homeless on the property. It was decided to see if, with recent interventions, the situation resolves.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

- Community Relations committee shared that the “BODS feeding BODS” project at WU accepts food & hygiene items if anyone in the congregation would like to contribute.
- Congregational Life committee noted the seating in the narthex is too low for some members, and a fan is needed in that area. Advent will be kicked off on December 4 with a potluck.
- The CSS Lutherans Restoring Creation Partnership announced a retreat at Hollis Renewal Center March 22, 2025. It is a grassroots effort to promote “earth-keeping”.
- Robinson Middle School reached out to see if we might be willing to provide refreshments for their quarterly parent meetings.

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.

Partnership Opportunities



Central States Synod *Lutherans Restoring Creation* Mission Table invites congregations to partner with them. This is an informal way for us to nurture an ecosystem of support and learning for caring for Creation. If you have an interest in being Trinity’s partner check out their webpage for more information <https://lrc-css.square.site/> Let our church office know if you’d like to be our partner to LRC.



Camp Tomah Shinga is asking each congregation in our synod to designate a person as a liaison to the camp. This person would receive messages from camp to share with their congregation about what is going on at camp. If you would like to be our liaison, let the church office know.





Trunk or Treat on Reformation Sunday October 27th

Come celebrate Reformation Sunday with a Trunk or Treat in the Trinity Hall parking lot after worship in place of our usual coffee hour. You're invited to pick up some treats or open the trunk of your car to share treats with members, friends, and neighbors. Coffee & water will also be available.



Children (and adults) are welcome to wear their Halloween costumes to church. You can also wear red for Reformation Sunday.

Have fun opening your trunk and decorating for the autumn season. Remember healthy treat choices are always appreciated.

This year, we'll be inviting kiddos from the neighborhood and from our sister churches First and Our Savior's, so please plan for around 50.

For this fourth year of Trunk or Treat, Debbie Pomeroy is coordinating with Janice Greenlee as consultant. You can contact Debbie with your questions about the fun event at ddpomeroy@cox.net or 785-234-4385.

WU CAMPUS MINISTRY



Trinity is initiating, on a small scale, a campus ministry at Washburn University. Our connection for now will be the Bods Feeding Bods pantry.

We'll plan collections at least once a semester. Our focus will be on hygiene items since the pantry receives shelf stable groceries as part of the Harvesters Food Bank Agency Network.

For October, our emphasis will be oral hygiene.

Sunday, October 20, please bring donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste, and/or dental floss. Just drop items in the WU Campus Ministry box located by the east entrance. If you want to bring earlier than October 20, the box will be available October 6.

If you have any questions, please check with Steve Luoma or Debbie Pomeroy.

IF YOU ARE A WIDOWED WOMAN YOU ARE INVITED!

Join other "Widowed Women of FaiTh" on Tuesday, October 15th 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 third Tuesday. Questions?

WidowedWomenofFaith@gmail.com or call (913)558-0191.

Sunday School

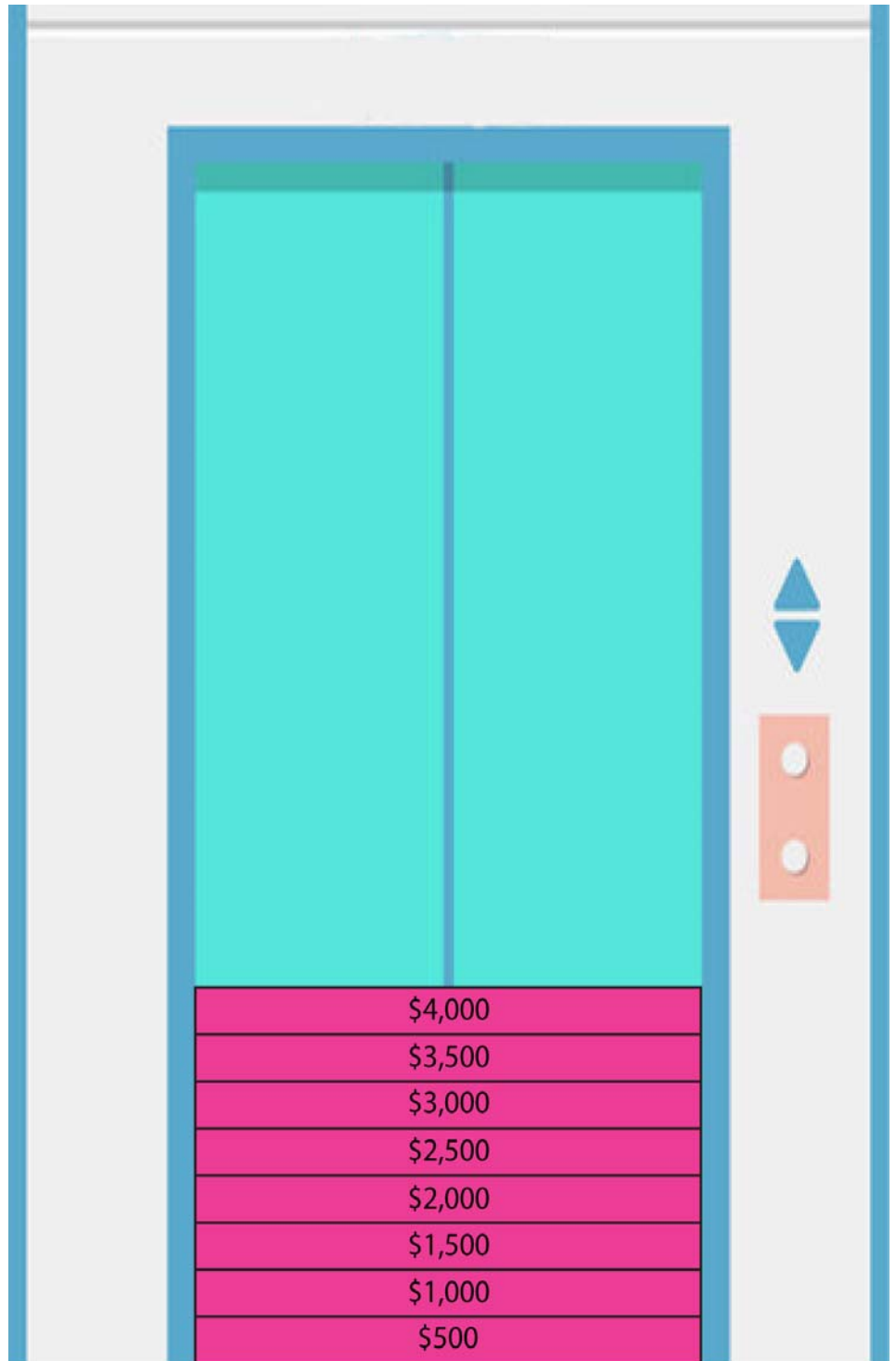
Adult Sunday School will meet Sunday, October 13, the 21st Sunday after Pentecost. We will study the second lesson for that day, Hebrews 4:12-16.

Children's Sunday school will meet on October 27.



Fundraiser for Elevator Repair

Good news! We are over halfway to the amount needed for the anticipated elevator repair bill. But please don't stop now; we are asking you to consider making a donation (or a second one, if you've already donated) to the Elevator Fund. Mark your gift "Elevator Fund" and place it in the offering or mail to the office. Special envelopes will be in your bulletins for a few more Sundays. This fundraiser will continue through the end of October. The repairs to the elevator started September 23rd.





God's Work. Our Hands.
Volunteer Day at Doorstep September 8.





**National Night Out 2024:
The Salty and Sweet Social**
Saturday, Sept. 14





Doorstep



Our neighbors are really struggling to make ends meet this year. From 2023 to 2024 the number of food orders we have provided in eight months has increased by

34%! Keeping food on our shelves has been a challenge! Doorstep has already spent over \$43,000 on food purchases through August. The statistics below show the real need of our neighbors, and Doorstep, as we try to provide a full food order each time. Our neighbors are already struggling to make ends meet, keeping their rent and utilities paid, and dealing with the crisis that life throws at them... having money to keep food on the table and personal hygiene items continues to be a challenge. In the first eight months of 2024, we have spent over \$200,000 on rent, utilities, dental vouchers, prescriptions, Topeka Metro passes, gas vouchers, hygiene products, auto services, and more.

Food Assistance (Doorstep):

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>Jan – August 2024</u> | <u>Jan – August 2023</u> |
| Food Orders: 2,032 | Food Orders: 1,465 |
| Individuals: 5,158 | Individuals: 3,598 |
| Pounds given: 113,708 | Pounds given: 85,135 |
| \$ Spent on Food: \$43,168 | \$ Spent on Food: \$29,364 |

October 2024

We can provide this assistance because of our donors and funders 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 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, at 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. 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).

Please see the flyer on page nine. You may also request any of the forms or information from the church office.

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



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.



Walkers & Runners are invited to participate in our 7th Annual

Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run

A Fundraiser for Doorstep, Inc.

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

Date: Saturday, October 12, 2024

Check-In & Late Registration: 8:30AM to 9:15AM

Time: One Mile Walk & 5K Fun Run to begin at 9:30AM

Celebrity Starter for the Walk/Run is:

Chris Fisher ~ WIBW-TV

Plan to join us at Lake Shawnee for fun & fellowship, raising funds for Doorstep!

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

Enjoy ~ Bagels, granola bars, fresh fruit, juice, coffee, & water

**One Mile Walk/5K Fun Run Registration is Due by September 18, 2024
to Guarantee an event t-shirt!**

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

Registration is \$30 for individuals or pledges (\$30 minimum).

One registered child age 10 & under may 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 18th cannot be guaranteed a t-shirt.

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

Thank you to our sponsors:





Oktoberfest

A Community Event



**Prince of Peace German Food Feast:
Bierocks, German Potato Salad, Brats,
Hot Dogs, Apple Streusel, and more**



\$300 Free Ball Drop

\$250 Free Cash Drawing



Crafts, Artwork, Bakers, Vendors, Food Trucks

Kids Play Area: Blow-ups, Lollipops, Face Painting, Games

Free Cake Walk every 15 minutes

Dogs and Puppies up for adoption

Free pumpkin painting



5

October 2024

10 AM-3 PM

**Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church**

3625 SW Wanamaker Rd.

Topeka, Kansas



*Free
to the
Public*

www.princeofpeacetopeka.org