

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



TRINITY TIDINGS

NOVEMBER 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

NOVEMBER 2024

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL DOWNSTAIRS IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP.		1	2					
Remember: Daylight Savings Time ends November 3rd. Set your clocks back one hour.								
 10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along  Bring food for Doorstep 10:30 am Worship with Blessing of the Quilts 12:00 Noon Congregational Life meeting	3	4	9:00 am Quilters	5	6	7	8	9
9:30-10:15 Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2 pm PFLAG meeting	10	11	9:00 am Quilters	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg 10:30 am Worship Town Hall Meeting during coffee hour	17	18	9:00 am Quilters	19	20	21	22	23
6 pm Stroke Support Group		December 2024 Trinity Tidings deadline	11:00 am Widowed Women of Faith					
7 pm TLHA								
9:45-10:15 Children's Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	24	25	9:00 am Quilters	26	27	28	29	30
					 Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ Our Saviors	 Sharing in God's blessings is at the heart of Thanksgiving and at the core of the American spirit. BILL CLINTON		



Pastor's Letter

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
Colossians 3:15-17

Dear Partners in Ministry,

“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, . . .” words to center us as we enter one of the busiest times of the year. Times of harvests and holidays, traditions and travel, food and families. . . and a much anticipated election – all of these colored by the highs and lows of our 21st century world. How do we find “peace” in our hearts while navigating these busy days, days inundated with national and global news and social media hype, all of which burden our hearts and minds with cares, concerns and gossip, most of which is far beyond our control.

The Apostle Paul encourages us to be filled with the word of Christ as we teach and share wisdom with others. Saturating ourselves with Christ's love, through personal devotion time, Christ-centered music and shared Bible study, produces a heart that is bubbling over with care, concern and encouragement for others. Caring for others in acts of kindness and generosity is one way of letting the peace of Christ rule your heart.

Though opportunities to do this surround us always, this time of the year, one filled with warm

memories, rich traditions and family togetherness for many of us, is instead, a very sad and lonely time for others. The beacon of Christ's light, shining through your patience, smiles and kind words and deeds, just might be the bright spot that is sorely needed by the harried clerk or frazzled mother. Never underestimate the power of a cheerful greeting and a helping hand, and that's not only for the receiver, but the giver, too!

“Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Viewing our circumstances, choices and neighbors through the lens of Jesus Christ – the embodiment of God's grace – strengthens our attitude of gratitude! God's steadfast love and care for all of God's creation, and that includes us, surrounds us in the beauty and peacefulness of nature, in the immeasurable joy of a child's laughter and in the warmth of appreciation in the eyes of our neighbor, touched by a random act of kindness. So much to be thankful for, each and every day! We need only stop, breathe and look.

Relax, reflect, renew. In the busy weeks to come, remember, you are God's chosen child! Be Christ to others. Take the opportunity to not only count your blessings, but to share them. And may *“the peace of God, which passes all understanding, . . . guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

Philippians 4:7

In Christ's Peace,
Pastor Barb



NOVEMBER READINGS

November 3 — All Saints Sunday

- Isaiah 25:6-9
- Psalm 24
- Revelation 21:1-6a
- John 11:32-44

November 10 — Twenty-fifth Sunday of Pentecost

- 1 Kings 17:8-16
- Psalm 146
- Hebrews 9:24-28
- Mark 12:38:44

November 17 — Twenty-sixth Sunday of Pentecost

- Daniel 12:1-3
- Psalm 16
- Hebrews 10:11-25
- Mark 13:1-8

November 24 — Christ the King Sunday

- Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
- Psalm 93
- Revelation 1:4b-8
- John 18:33-37

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will meet Sunday, November 10, the twenty fifth Sunday after Pentecost. We will study the second lesson for that day that the lector will read during worship, Hebrews 9:24 - 28. Join us in Trinity Hall lounge at 9:30.
Children’s Sunday school will meet on November 24.

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Ashley Watson
- 8 Julie Reeves
- 11 Rosie Nichols
- 15 Liz Utech
- 20 Kendall Horton
- 20 Martha Nemeth
- 24 Betty Patton
- 26 Debbie Pomeroy

BAPTISMS

- 4 Laurie Jackson
- 14 Marlene Hassan
- 17 Dean McGinnis
- 24 Heather Klamm

What is the Future Of Trinity? Town Hall Part 2

Put Sunday, November 17 on your calendar. We will meet during coffee hour. If you aren’t able to participate in person, plan to join on Zoom. A link will be provided.

Our meeting on October 13 was facilitated by Rev. Dave Whetter, Bishop’s Associate. At that time information was presented about attendance trends and financial resources available to support our ministry.

Here’s a brief summary of four possible options that were presented as we look to the future:

- +Continue as is until financial and human resources are exhausted.
- +Choose to end ministry at this location
- +Seek partnerships that allow us to remain in our building and share facilities with neighboring congregations or other entities.
- +Sell/Give and Stay - Seek a buyer for our facilities but allow us to continue to “lease” or use our facility as long as needed.

Ongoing conversation around these scenarios is needed as Trinity’s preferred future is discerned. What are the pros and cons of each option? What is Trinity’s ministry? What option will enable us to carry out that ministry?



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

- Some members expressed concerns about new bulletin format.
- Discussion about recordings of Sunday services. Technical concerns are being addressed.
- President’s report included discussion about the MSP. The Transition Team is actively interviewing stakeholders and receiving input from the congregation. Pastor Dave Whetter has been scheduled to facilitate the October 13 congregation meeting during the coffee and conversation hour. A handout is prepared for this.
- Bob Kobbeman is scheduled to present a treasurer’s report at the October 13 meeting.

OCTOBER 8, 2024

- The elevator fund is progressing. Approximately \$3,000.00 is yet to be collected for the initial estimate. Curt Lewis reported more repairs are needed requiring additional funding.
- Discussion for an inclement weather plan for potential church closure during adverse weather. Janelle and Carol offered to come up with a recommendation.
- Pledge cards for 2025 will be available in November.

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.



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.





Hymn Sing Along = Food for Our Soul Food Donation for Doorstep = Food for Our Neighbors

Along with our Hymn Sing Along, the first Sunday of each month is also the day we ask you to bring food to church, which will then be taken to Doorstep to help keep their shelves stocked with food for our neighbors.

Our October donation included 407 items totaling 401.9 pounds!

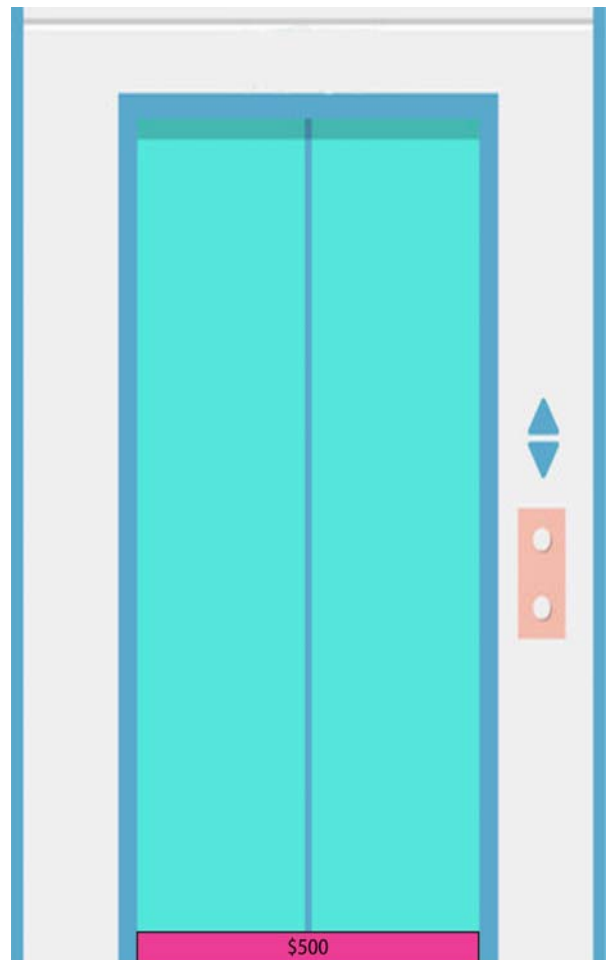
Please keep Doorstep in mind as you do your grocery shopping and pick up a few items for the next collection on November 3rd.

Fundraiser for Elevator Repair

Unofficially, we are still a bit short of reaching our \$12,500 goal for the elevator repair. The repairs that this bid covered have been done, but that, unfortunately, did not get the elevator into working condition. We now have another estimate which has been approved; hopefully that work will begin soon.

As planned, this campaign for funds will end on Oct. 31st, but we need your continued support of the elevator fund for this new bid expense and for upkeep and maintenance in the future.

Mark your gift "Elevator Fund" and place it in the offering or mail to the office. Special envelopes will be in your bulletins through the end of October.





Upcoming Events



+November 3rd is All Saints Sunday, a time when we remember those who have passed to the Church Triumphant in the past year.

This worship service will also include a blessing upon the quilts lovingly made by our quilters for donation to Doorstep.

This is the day to turn back your clock one hour as Daylight Savings Time ends.



+On November 17, we will hold a second Town Hall meeting to discuss the future of Trinity. Please take a moment to read the article on page two of this newsletter.



+Sunday, November 24 is Christ the King Sunday, the last day of our church year.

+We will worship with First Lutheran and Our Saviors on Thanksgiving Eve, November 27th, 7pm, at Our Saviors. Pr. Barb will be preaching.



+Advent begins on December 1st and plans are underway for some special opportunities for worship and fellowship during this season.

IF YOU ARE A WIDOWED WOMAN YOU ARE INVITED!

Join other “**Widowed Women of FaiTh**” on Tuesday, November 19th, 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.



Doorstep



It is that time of year when we begin to really focus on our Christmas Adoption Project. The Christmas Bureau is taking applications from families & individuals who need help providing Christmas this year.

Before Thanksgiving, we will have our 260 households and we'll be preparing their letters, schedules and compiling wish list items for 821 individuals!

We ended 2023 with little or no inventory on blankets, towels, and hygiene items for the health kits we give to each household. We provide each household Christmas gifts, food, blankets, hygiene items, a household item, school supplies & toys for the children, a puzzle and game, and gift cards. This is quite an undertaking, and we cannot do all of this without the help of our member congregations, individuals, and community groups.

Hopefully you know by now, through our newsletter articles, how much need there is in our community. The increased need for food has remained a constant for a year and half now, and our neighbors are struggling to make ends meet, often needing a hand with bills, or the very least with food to feed their families. In the first three quarters of 2024, we have already exceeded the food numbers from all of 2023. Doorstep provided 2,031 food orders, providing meals for 5,872 individuals with nearly 130,000 pounds of food!

Items we currently need donated for Christmas are: (NEW)

Queen & King Size Blankets (New): Please **NO THROWS.**

We need a total of 260 to provide at least one to each household!

Full-Size Hygiene Items: shampoo, conditioner, 2-in-1 shampoo + conditioner, bar soap, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, brushes and combs

November 2024

Household Items: griddles, silverware sets, dish sets, cookware – saucepans, sheet sets (queen & king), small laundry baskets with cleaning supplies (all-purpose cleaner, laundry soap & softener, dish soap, rags, scrubbing pads, window cleaner) (new)

Gifts: tool sets, cologne & perfume sets, body care sets (men/women)

Toys & Games: Nerf guns, Lego sets, action figures, dinosaur toys, family board games, puzzles

Hoodies: men/women/teens – varying sizes (medium – 4X), colors, designs, sports teams, or plain

Monetary Donations: to purchase food, gift cards and items we're lacking.

Christmas Distribution Volunteer Opportunities

(We will start scheduling volunteers in mid-November)

Tuesday, December 17th there will be several opportunities from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

Wednesday, December 18th opportunities are available from 8:30am – 1:30pm and 1:30pm – 7:30pm. (Lunch and dinner provided)

Thursday, December 19th opportunities are available from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

We need your monetary donations to purchase the gift cards, food, and any of the above items not donated.

You can mail your tax-deductible donations to:

Doorstep, Inc., 1119 SW 10th, Topeka, Ks 66604 or go to our website (www.doorsteptopeka.org) to donate by credit card.

Please let us know if you attend one of Doorstep's member congregations for credit.