

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Trinity Tidings

July 2025

STAFF

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



TOGETHER IN COMMUNITY

LIVING WITH CHRIST'S LOVE

CARING FOR NEIGHBORS

July 2025

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p>EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP 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>5</p>	
<p> 10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along  Bring food for Doorstep 10:30 am Worship/ Communion 12:00 Noon Congregational Life meeting</p>	<p>6 7</p>	<p>9:00 am Quilters 8</p> <p>5:30 pm Council</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>9:30-10:15 Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>2 pm PFLAG meeting</p>	<p>13 14</p>	<p>9:00 am Quilters 15</p> <p>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</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>20 21</p> <p>August 2025 Trinity Tidings deadline</p> <p>6 pm Stroke Support Group</p>	<p>9:00 am Quilters 22</p> <p>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</p> <p>10:30 am Worship/ Communion</p>	<p>27 28</p>	<p>9:00 am Quilters 29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>		



President's Update

As I write this update we look forward to the fourth and final session of *What Does It Mean to be a Disciple of Jesus?* led by Pr. Bob Dealey. Each Wednesday 12 or 13 of us have enjoyed a meal and fellowship while trying to answer this question. One possible outcome of this class could be looking at new ways of serving God in response to the blessings he has given us.

Council members and one person from our Task Force met with Darren Griffith of Narthex. As a follow-up to that meeting, discussion continues about possible sharing of our space.

Early in June Marcy Carlson and I were voting members at the Central States Synod Assembly (refer to page 5 in this *Tidings* for a report from us). One of the highlights of the Assembly was election of Rev. Donna Simon as the next Bishop of our synod, effective September 1. I have invited her to Trinity and she will be our worship leader Nov. 9. Plan to be here that Sunday to meet her and welcome her to our community.

At the Assembly comments made by several speakers, including Bishop Candeia, Bishop-elect Simon, and ELCA Bishop Eaton, resonated with me. These comments were:

- Being renewed by the Spirit is not a rewind. It means changing. We need to rewire how we think about the church.
- We can't do the same things for 50 years and expect to have results.
- We have to be willing to collaborate.
- The success of a congregation has been measured by number of members and money (financial resources). Congregational vitality no longer depends on these metrics.
- We are all connected to the body of Christ.

What do you think? Do these statements have relevance for Trinity?

July & August Worship Leaders

July 6Deacon Dave Mareske
 July 13 Rich Akins
 July 20 Rick Friedstrom
 July 27 Pr. Dinah Dutta
 August 3Deacon Dave Mareske
 August 10Deacon Dave Mareske
 August 17 lay leader
 August 24 Pr. Dinah Dutta
 August 31Deacon Dave Mareske
 Please make each one of our pulpit supply persons and lay leaders feel welcome.

A little help please...

- If you have any church keys that you no longer need, please turn them in to the church office. Thanks.
- Did you know we have an Instagram account? <https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranelca/>
- Please visit our website... <https://trinitylutherantopeka.org/>... and tell us what you think. We need your ideas to update.



JULY READINGS

July 6 — Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

- Isaiah 66:10-14
- Psalm 66:1-9
- Galatians 6:1-16
- Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 13 — Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

- Deuteronomy 30:9-14
- Psalm 25:1-10
- Colossians 1:1-14
- Luke 10:25-37

July 20 — Sixth Sunday of Pentecost

- Genesis 18:1-10a
- Psalm 15
- Colossians 1:15-28
- Luke 10:38-42

July 27 — Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

- Genesis 18:20-32
- Psalm 138
- Colossians 2:6-19
- Luke 11:1-13

JULY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Andy Winsor
- 14 Janelle Meredith
- 15 Curt Lewis
- 20 Rhonda Webb
- 21 Barbara Apps
- 22 Ted Quast
- 25 Kade Welp
- 26 Hudson Ralph
- 29 Parker Jackson
- 30 Brooke Ralph

BAPTISMS

- 3 Marsha Ridinger
- 7 John Carlson
- 13 Cindy McGinnis
- 18 David McGinnis

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 David & Brooke Ralph
- 26 Andy & LaVell Winsor

WIDOWED WOMEN of FAITH

Join other “**Widowed Women of FaiTh**” on Tuesday, July 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 3rd Tuesday and will continue all through 2025. Come join us! Questions? WidowedWomenofFaith@gmail.com or call Julie at (913)558-0191.

WU CAMPUS MINISTRY

Bods Feeding Bods

Thanks to all who helped brighten the smiles of Washburn University students. A total of 107 items were collected for the summer session and delivered to the pantry on campus in June. Our generous donation of oral hygiene products are so appreciated!





COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE 10, 2025

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President

Diane Bottorff
785.231.0379

Vice President

Curt Lewis
785.633.6661

Secretary

Dean McGinnis
785.221.7141

Treasurer

Bob Kobbeman
785.478.0381

Members

Shelley Andrews
785.554.3005

Marilyn Heckman
785.221.4905

Parker Jackson
785.633.3353

Steve Luoma
517.974.9191

Janelle Meredith
785.408.2566

Duane Pomeroy
785.234.4385

- Troy Abbott presented info on RaiseRight, a fund-raising program. Council will review materials for July agenda.
- Carol shared info from meeting with Darren of Narthex: no interest in buying Trinity; Bob K. advised selling property should be last step; consensus of Council to pursue more info re: pre-elementary school.
- Bob K. stated we are holding our own on budget. We have a slight excess in elevator fund which will be kept there.
- Diane encourages Trinity to focus on calling members disciples versus members.
- Congregational life committee was asked to gather info on name tags in light of new members & varying pulpit supply.
- Shelley expressed concern about members we have not seen for a while. Referred to Spiritual Care committee.
- Diane talked with Roger Wark, owner of property west of church. He would like to sell it to us for \$40,000.
- On August 31 we will collect a Fifth Sunday Special to benefit Hollis Renewal Center as Deacon Dave Mareske has been very supportive in pulpit supply.
- Diane reported election of new synod bishop Rev. Donna Simon. She will be invited to Trinity for a meet & greet.
- Diane shared recent Doorstep activities & Debbie said we will continue to collect hygiene products for Washburn in June.
- Curt reported that water bill is very high; water has been left running in sink bathroom.
- Spiritual Care will meet June 29th.

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.



Food Donation for Doorstep = Food for Our Neighbors

Bob and Janeen delivered 377 pantry items to Doorstep in June — 321.9 lbs!



DOORSTEP

JULY 2025

We started our “Kick-Off to 60” ~ Doorstep’s 60th Anniversary! 1966 – 2026

Doorstep has three events during July.

First, we are collecting items for **Christmas in July** to help alleviate some of the strain of providing gifts during the holiday season for more than 800 of our neighbors in need in the 260 households Doorstep will adopt this December from the Christmas Bureau. See our flyer for items you can donate that are available year-round and help us get a jumpstart on Christmas 2025! Please bring your Christmas donations to your faith community services in July, or to Doorstep, Monday – Friday, 8am – 3pm.

Our 5th Summer Cash Bash is happening thanks to our generous, anonymous donor who is offering up to \$10,000 in match money if we receive donations of \$25,000 or more, during the month of July! All donations made during the month of July will go towards our tally, and hopefully we will exceed \$25,000 to earn us the extra \$10,000!

Please note your Mission Member (formerly congregation) on your donations for proper credit! Donations typically drop during the summer months, and this will help Doorstep continue to operate, pay our bills, and help our neighbors in need pay theirs.

Our third event is a ***Re-Imagined Jewelry Benefit for Doorstep in July!***

Drop by [Café Quetzal at 2111 SW Belle Ave](#) and check out this jewelry made mostly from up-cycled popcorn tins! Doorstep, Inc. will receive 95% of the proceeds on all purchases of **Re-Imagined Jewelry in July!** Watch Doorstep’s Facebook page for photos of the earrings you could find at the Café in July. Most earrings range from \$10-\$15!!

Support Doorstep and treat yourself!

Café hours:

- Monday – Thursday.... 6:45am - 4:00pm
- Friday 6:45am - 9:00pm
- Saturday 8:00am - 4:00pm
- Sunday 10:00am - 1:00pm

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School meets July 13 at 9:30 am in Trinity Hall lounge. We will study the second lesson for that day, Colossians 1:1-14.

Children’s Sunday school will meet on July 27.

Please like and follow Trinity at **Trinity Lutheran Topeka.org**. Whenever you watch, click on “like” and leave a comment, even if you just say “hi”.

Our services are on Facebook live every Sunday and can be watched 24/7 on our page any-time. 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.





Renewed by the Spirit

2025 Central States Synod Assembly

Renewed by the Spirit was the theme of the Central States Synod (CSS) Assembly held in Olathe, KS from June 5-7, 2025. Diane & Marcy were your voting representatives from Trinity Lutheran, Topeka. One representative has attended many assemblies while the other was attending for the very first time. There was much business to attend to in a relative short amount of time. Your repre-

sentatives were well prepared for the Assembly and worked diligently in voting in a way that represented TLC, not necessarily their own preferences. This was accomplished by having conversations and reaching a consensus between the two of us.

Bishop Candea is retiring as is the Bishop's Associate, Rev. Dave Whetter. After five voting rounds, Rev. Donna Simon was elected as our new Bishop. She takes office September 1st, 2025. Her term lasts six years. Our Bishop-elect currently is half-time staff in our Synod as Director of Evangelical Mission and serves part time as pastor of St Mark's Hope and Peace in Kansas City, Mo.

ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was present and addressed the Assembly. Along with Cathy Hohl, Chair of the Bishop Election Discernment Team, Bishop Eaton conducted the multiple rounds of voting for the election of our new bishop. A new ELCA bishop to replace Bishop Eaton will be elected at the Churchwide Assembly later this summer.

Some of TLC's previous pastors and church leaders are celebrating ordination anniversaries this year:

- Rev. Roger Gustafson -35 yrs. Former CSS Bishop
- Rev. Merle Brockhoff - 40yrs. Former interim at Trinity
- Rev. David Fulton- 50yrs. Former Trinity pastor
- Rev. Charles Maahs - 60 yrs. Former CSS Bishop

Renewed by the Spirit was not simply a catch phrase. The whole assembly was built around helping each of us grow in our understanding of the Holy Spirit, giving each of us room to inward & outwardly feel, experience, and accept what was being offered. Your representatives both felt our "our little lights" shining brighter as they combined with all the other "little lights" in the room.

In case you're curious, here's some statistical information:

- Total congregation in Central States Synod- 153 (KS - 95) (MO- 58)
- 17 of the 153 churches can't support full-time pastors
- 76 of the 153 churches have total annual receipts less than \$200,000
- 89 of the congregations worship less than 50 persons & 17 congregations worship less than 20.

Here's some Bible passages referred to & discussed at the assembly. We might find some food for thought in these about how they relate to Trinity and our relationship with each other:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Psalm 104 | Ephesians 4:11-16 | Isaiah 43: 1-7 & 14-21 |
| John 14: 8-17 & 25-27 | John 13: 31-35 | |

Doorstep's Christmas in July

Donations Needed for this Christmas!



Help us collect items for our 2025 Christmas adoption of 260 households, with 800+ individuals! Items selected based on previous requests.

Creativity Sets

Canvases (3pk/6pk) + Brushes & Paints (Teens & Adults)
Adult Coloring Books with Markers or Colored Pencils



Toys

Footballs & Basketballs ~ Lego Sets ~ Pokemon ~ Hello Kitty ~ Avenger & Marvel Themed Items ~ Lilo & Stitch ~ Star Wars ~ Educational Toys (all ages) ~ Toys for Ages 5 - 12 ~ Puzzles Family Board Games ~ Teen Girls Jewelry~ Make-Up & Nail Kits



Other Items

Towel Sets - (Bath, Hand & Washcloth) ~ Blankets - Queen & King Sizes
Hygiene Items ~ Shampoo + Conditioner ~ Bar Soap ~ Combs ~ Hair Brushes ~ Deodorant ~ Toothpaste ~ Toothbrushes. (Full Size Items) ~ Cleaning Supplies
Bathroom Sets ~ (Rugs, Trash Can, Shower Curtain, Toothbrush & Soap Holders)



Notebook Paper (College/Wide) ~ Spiral Notebooks (College/Wide) ~ Folders (2 Pocket) ~ Pens ~ Pencils ~ Glue ~ Erasers ~ Backpacks ~ Rulers ~ Markers ~ Scissors



Kitchen Items

Sauce Pans ~ Bakeware Sets ~ Skillet Sets
Dish Sets ~ Utensil Sets ~ Pots & Pans

Men's & Women's Gifts

Women's Bath & Lotion Sets Men's
Body Wash Sets Men's &
Women's Cologne Sets
Sweatpants (All Sizes, branded a plus)
Hoodies (All Sizes, Branded a plus)

School Supplies

Bring donations to Doorstep during the month of July!
Thank you for making the holiday season brighter for your neighbors in need!
Doorstep, 1119 SW 10th Ave - Donation Hours: M-F, 9am-2pm, South Door

Doorstep's 5th Summer Cash Bash



Donate to Doorstep during the month of July, and help us earn 'match money' from an anonymous donor!

If we receive \$10,000 - We earn \$5,000!

If we receive \$17,500 - We earn \$7,500!

If we receive \$25,000 - We earn \$10,000!



Ways to Donate:

- **Mail it to Doorstep**
- **Bring it to our office**
- **Online DoorstepTopeka.org**

**PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR DONATION IF YOU BELONG
TO ONE OF OUR MEMBER CONGREGATIONS...
AND THAT YOU ARE DONATING TOWARDS OUR
CASH BASH MATCH!**

This is Doorstep's 5th Summer Cash Bash Event! We started this event in 2019 as a way to help us during the summer months when donations often decrease, and the need for our services typically increase!

Please consider making a donation to help your neighbors in need this July, and help us earn matching funds for Doorstep!

**Doorstep, Inc. 1119 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, Ks 66604**

Online: www.DoorstepTopeka.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8am - 3pm



DOORSTEP
Neighbors Helping Neighbors



2025 Doorstep Events

- July** **Christmas in July** collection of items for adopted families.
(Tentative) **Summer Cash Bash** donations with matching funds.
 Re-Imagined Jewelry purchased from Café Quetzal with
 the funds going to Doorstep.
- Sept 13th** **Sertoma Duck Race** ~ Our Goal = 60 donors buying ducks!
- Friday Oct 3rd** **2nd Annual Putt Out Hunger Golf Tournament**
Shawnee Country Club
- Nov & Dec** **Collection of items** for Christmas Adoption Project.
 Doorstep adopts 260 households from the Christmas Bu-
 reau each year. We need help providing gifts, food, health
 kits, blankets, toys, school supplies, and gift cards for
 800+ individuals. Gifts needed by Wed, December 10th.
- Dec 16th - 18th** **Christmas Adoption Project distribution days.**
 Volunteers will be needed!