

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Trinity Tidings

October 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

October 2025

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

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> 10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along  Bring food for Doorstep 10:30 am Worship</p>		<p>9:00 am Quilters</p>				
<p>9:30-10:15 Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2 pm PFLAG meeting</p>		<p>9:00 am Quilters 5:30 pm Council</p>				
<p>9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>November 2025 Trinity Tidings deadline 6 pm Stroke Support Group</p>	<p>9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Widowed Women of FaiTh</p>				
<p>9:45-10:15 Children's Sunday School Reformation Day 10:30 am Worship</p>		<p>9:00 am Quilters 7 pm TLHA</p>			<p>Halloween </p>	



President's Update

As September comes to a close, I'll recap some of the events of the month and look ahead to October & November.

We observed God's Work Our Hands Sunday September 14 by volunteering at Doorstep. Twelve of us helped sort and organize clothing donations.

A workshop on September 13 was open to all congregations of the Border Conference of our Synod. Three of us chose to attend (Marcy Carlson, Fred Sierks, and myself). It was lead by Rev. Roy Christell, a retired pastor from the St. Louis area. Rev. Christell began by reminding us of the last thing Jesus said to his disciples that is found in Matthew 28:18-20 – make disciples – share your beliefs – love God, love your neighbor – you belong to God through baptism. This passage is often referred to as the Great Commission. Today discipleship is not as it once was. This statement should be no surprise to us at Trinity. Church attendance/affiliation has declined since the 1990's. A number of factors have contributed to this. Rev. Christell referenced a book, *The Great Dechurching: Who's leaving, Why they are going, What will it take to bring them back*, authors are Jim Davis and Micheal Graham. It is available on Amazon.

Our Mission Investment Fund (MIF) account was due for renewal or withdrawal. The account has been closed and the balance of \$11,700 has been placed in our General Fund.

Fifth Sunday Special offering at the end of August resulted in \$300 being sent to Hollis Renewal Center. We will have a Fifth Sunday Special offering November 30 designated to the Topeka Rescue Mission.

Council is continuing to discuss the possibility of partnering with Render's Hope to share space for the development of a pre-elementary school. Council members were asked to review Render's Hope website prior to their October meeting.

There will be no Trunk or Treat in Trinity Hall parking lot this year.

It is Trinity's turn to host the joint ELCA congregations Thanksgiving Eve service November 26.

We look forward to having Rev. Donna Simon with us Sunday, November 9. She is being installed as our new Central States Synod Bishop September 28.

September Worship Leaders

Oct. 5 Duane Pomeroy

Oct. 12 Marcy Carlson

Oct. 19 Bob Horton

Oct. 26 TBD

Please make each one of our pulpit supply persons and lay leaders feel welcome.

We are continuing to have lay worship leaders with a rostered leader once or twice a month for communion. So far this has enabled us to manage monthly operating expenses. Thanks to those who have served. This is an ongoing need. Let the church office or me know if and when you can help.



OCTOBER READINGS

October 5 — 17th Sunday of Pentecost

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
 Psalm 37:1-9
 2 Timothy 1:1-14
 Luke 17:5-10

October 12 — 18th Sunday of Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
 Psalm 111
 2 Timothy 2:8-15
 Luke 17:11-19

October 19 — 19th Sunday of Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31
 Psalm 121
 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
 Luke 18:1-8

October 26 — Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm 46
 Romans 3:19-28
 John 8:31-36

OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

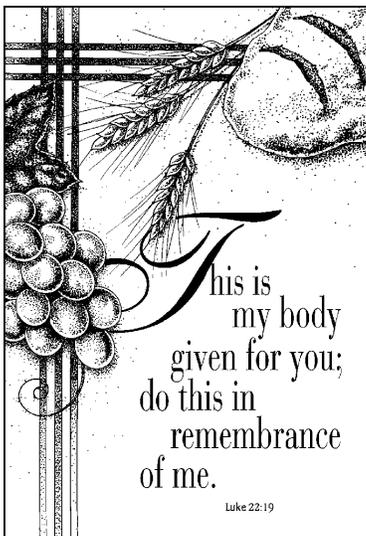
- 14 Marlene Hassan
- 15 Freddie Sierks Jr.
- 16 Rosemay O’Neil
- 17 Tresa Johnson
- 23 Marilyn Heckman
- 28 Charlotte O’Brien

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



Going forward, we will use a slightly altered order of communion. The presiding minister will serve congregation first (including those who remain seated). Once the assembly has been served, then communion assistant(s) and presider will be served. This change is based on a “Servant Leader” theology where the leader is always served last. Currently there is no ELCA/CSS recommended flow for communion.

WIDOWED WOMEN of FAITH

Join other **Widowed Women of FaiTh** on Tuesday, October 21 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? Email WidowedWomenofFaith@gmail.com or call Julie at (913)558-0191.



SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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

- Handout shows expenses to date of \$80,597.10 with income of \$77,689.02. We are short \$2,908.08 to cover expenses (\$363.51 per month).
- 5th Sunday Special collection on November 30 will be donated to the Topeka Rescue Mission.
- Admin committee has not met but they will begin planning 2026 pledge drive.
- RaiseRight fundraising will not be pursued at this time. We will remind congregation of the Dillon’s Community Rewards program in which we are currently participating.
- Congregational Life committee is planning Thanksgiving Eve service to be held at Trinity this year. Plans for Advent & Christmas are also under way. As a reminder, communion flow changes Sept. 28, with congregation being served first, then worship leaders last.
- The area by the northwest door of Trinity Hall will be filled in after the downspout is fixed.
- Duane shared a printed report & reported that he visited Bill Ridinger at St. Francis. Carol Marker sends notes to visitors, etc.
- Diane shared information from Renders Hope’s four tiers for an on-site pre-elementary school. Council members will refer to rendershope.org for discussion at next meeting.
- Gift of Life Narcotics Anonymous is looking for a new meeting place. A motion was made & approved to follow up.
- Shepherd’s Center is needed new meeting & office space. Diane will follow up on specific needs at a meeting Sept. 17.
- Due to vacation days, information for the Oct. 14th council meeting is due to the office no later than Oct. 9th.

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 & Janeen delivered 297 items, approximately 279.3 pounds, collected during our September food collection.

Let’s keep doing God’s Work with Our Hands!



We observed God's Work Our Hands, ELCA's annual day of service, on September 14 with volunteer work at Doorstep.





DOORSTEP

OCTOBER 2025



In 2025, the increased need for food assistance continues and is nearly equal to last year's. The difference this year is the many changes and canceled programs and services that have begun and are still to come. Our neighbors continue to struggle to make ends meet, and we know it can get worse in the future. Below, you can see our numbers are not that different this year compared to 2024. Keeping food on our shelves is still a challenge as we purchase food nearly every 2 months,

spending on average \$6,000 to \$8,000 each time. In 2025, Project Topeka awarded Doorstep \$9,000 to purchase food at Seabrook Applemarket, and we have used those funds in addition to the \$39K+. 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 2025, we spent over \$171k on rent, utilities, dental vouchers, prescriptions, Topeka Metro passes, gas vouchers, hygiene products, auto services, phone bills, and more.

Food Assistance:
(Doorstep)

Jan – August 2024

Food Orders: 2,032
Individuals: 5,158
Pounds Given: 113,708
\$ Spent on Food: \$43,168

Jan – August 2025

Food Orders: 1,998
Individuals: 4,993
Pounds Given: 110,814
\$ Spent on Food: \$39,612

Our Faith Community Mission Members and Partners are the reason we can provide for our neighbors who are struggling to make ends meet or are experiencing a crisis in their lives. Doorstep truly is 'neighbors helping neighbors', and we are grateful for every donation that furthers our mission! If you are in need, or know someone who is, please tell them about Doorstep.

Sunday School
Adult Sunday School meets on Sunday, Oct. 12 at 9:30am in Trinity Hall lounge. We will study the second lesson for that Sunday, 2nd Timothy 2:8-15 All are welcome!
Children's Sunday school will meet on Oct. 26.

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.





DOORSTEP

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

2nd Annual

PUTT OUT HUNGER

Golf Fundraiser and Food Drive



Shawnee Country Club

4-Person Scramble

Friday, Oct. 3rd 2025

Shotgun Start @ 9 AM

\$320/Team

Light Breakfast & Lunch

Sponsorship Packages Available

Raffle Prizes

Team that donates the most food gets a prize!

**DON'T WAIT!
SCAN THE
CODE TO SIGN
UP TODAY!**



**DONATION GOAL:
1000 LBS**

**SPONSORSHIP
DEADLINE
9/5/2025**

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE
9/19/2025**

SCAN ME



bit.ly/PuttOutHunger