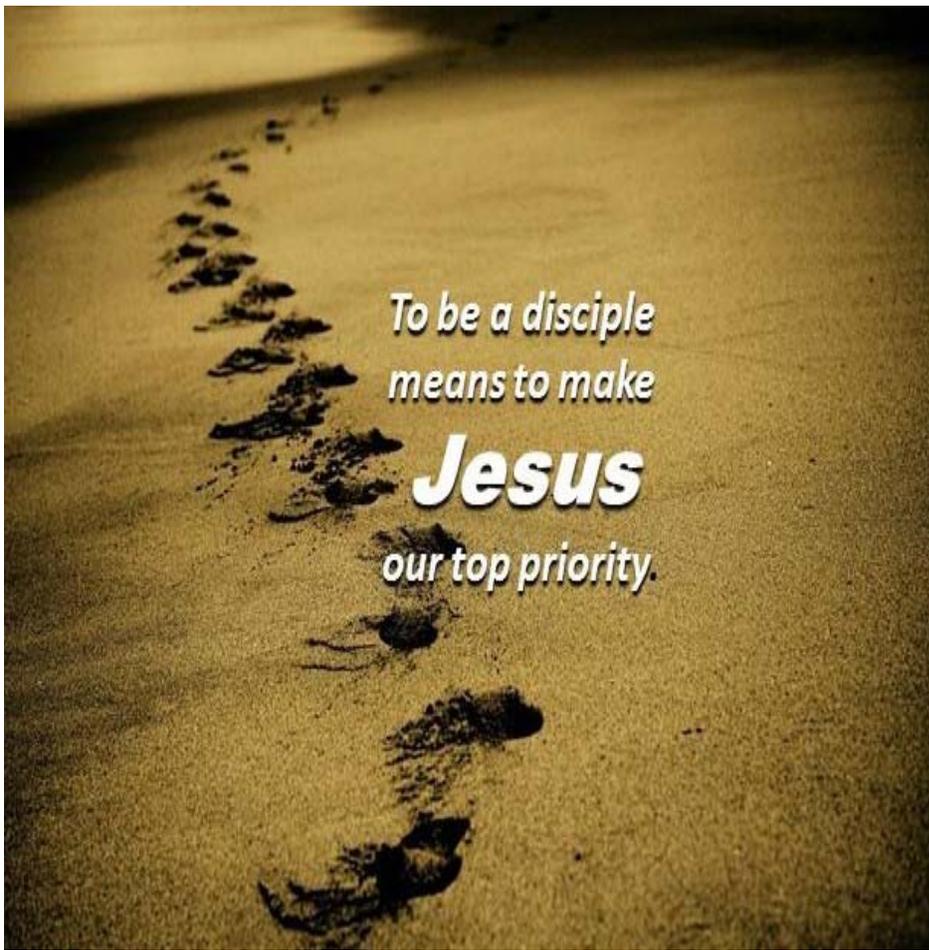




# 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Trinity Lutheran Church



*To be a disciple  
means to make  
**Jesus**  
our top priority.*

September  
**7**  
2025

Thirteenth Sunday  
of Pentecost

Together  
in Community  
Living  
with Christ  
Caring  
for Neighbors

Whoever does  
not carry the  
cross and  
follow me  
cannot be my  
disciple.  
Luke 14:27

[www.trinitylutherantopeka.org](http://www.trinitylutherantopeka.org)

***We are glad you are here!***  
***It is always good to be together, hearing the Word.***  
***Thank you for choosing to worship at Trinity Lutheran Topeka.***  
*Thank you Bob Horton for leading worship today.*

**PRELUDE**

***Evangelical Lutheran Worship — Setting 2***

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**GATHERING**

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**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C Amen.**

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L Most merciful God,

**C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

**C Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

**ELW 335**

1 Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain; free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

*Refrain*

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever; till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

- 2 Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me; there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me. *Refrain*
- 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me; help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. *Refrain*
- 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever, till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. *Refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

**GREETING**

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C And also with you.

**KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us  
pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*Refrain*

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Let us pray.

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

*Please be seated.*

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## WORD

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### FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

<sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 1

*Sung responsively*



- <sup>1</sup> Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!
- <sup>2</sup> **Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God’s teaching | day and night.**
- <sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with  
leaves that | do not wither;  
everything they | do shall prosper.
- <sup>4</sup> **It is not so | with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**
- <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.
- <sup>6</sup> **For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.**

## SECOND READING: PHILEMON 1-21

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup>to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. <sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. <sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

L The Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: LUKE 14:25-33**

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them,  
<sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children,  
brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does  
not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intend-  
ing to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he  
has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not  
able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This fellow began  
to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against  
another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thou-  
sand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he can-  
not, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the  
terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give  
up all your possessions.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

**SERMON**

**BOB HORTON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

**ELW 798**

Please stand for the final verse of the hymn.

- 1 “Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- 2 “Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray’r in you and you in me?
- 3 “Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris’ners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
- 4 “Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

- 5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949. Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### APOSTLES CREED

- L Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived  
by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at  
the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and  
the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  
everlasting. Amen.**

#### THE PRAYERS

- A Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A brief silence.*
- A We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A We pray for those who are hungry, unhoused, or sick, especially Kelly Irwin Patton, Bill Ridinger, Shelley Andrews, Julie Reeves, Martha Nemeth, and David McGinnis. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.**

A We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

A We pray for those in our church family who celebrate this week. We pray for Laurie Jackson as she celebrates her birthday, Hudson Ralph and Ted Quast as they remember their baptisms, and Larry & Mary McGinnis as they celebrate their wedding anniversary. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

L We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

L We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

**C Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

*Let us greet one another with God's peace.*

*Please be seated.*

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### THANKSGIVING

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#### OFFERING AND OFFERING SONG

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

A O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **C Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

L Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

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**SENDING**

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**BLESSING**

L The love of God abound in us; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill our hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless us and give us peace.

**SENDING HYMN**

*Lift High the Cross*

**ELW 660**

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

2 All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956. Text © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**C Thanks be to God.**

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**POSTLUDE**

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### UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Sept. 7 ..... Doorstep Food Collection Day .....  
 ..... Hymn Sing Along ..... 10:15 AM  
 ..... Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
 ..... Coffee Hour .....after worship

Tues., Sept. 9 ..... Quilters ..... 9:00 AM  
 ..... Church Council ..... 5:30 PM

Sat., Sept. 13..... *Growing as Disciples* workshop ..... 9:00 AM

Sun., Sept. 14.....Adult Sunday School..... 9:30 AM  
 ..... Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
 ..... Coffee Hour .....after worship  
 ..... *God's Work, Our Hands* workday @ Doorstep ..... 1:00 PM  
 ..... PFLAG meeting..... 2:00 PM

#### Worship Assistants

Date	Acolyte	Ushers	Musician	Lector	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Worship Leader	Coffee Hosts
Sept. 7	Braxdon Penry	Ted Murphy, Dean McGinnis	Laurie Jackson	Diane Bottorff	Carol Marker & Team 1	Marcy Carlson	Bob Horton	Marilyn Heckman
Sept. 14	Curt Lewis, Ella Bosch	Marcy Carlson, Howard Reece	Mitchell Bean	Marcy Carlson	Carol Marker & Team 1	Ted Murphy	Duane Pomeroy	Duane/Debbie Pomeroy
Sept. 21	Cindy McGinnis	Curt Lewis,	Laurie Jackson	Loni Reece	Carol Marker & Team 1	Marcy Carlson	Bob Horton	
Sept. 28	Janeen Horton	Diane Bottorff, Dean McGinnis	Mitchell Bean	Loretta Hoerman	Carol Marker & Team 1	Bob Horton	Pr. Barb Jones	

## WU CAMPUS MINISTRY

Fall brings students to the Washburn University campus. So the time has come for Trinity to collect dental hygiene items for the *Bods Feeding Bods* pantry.

Be on the lookout for good buys and sales of toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, dental floss and floss picks. Individual items are best as individual students shop at the pantry.

The Ichabod box is by the east entrance. Debbie & Duane Pomeroy will deliver our donations to campus the last week of September.

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!



First Lutheran Church announces *Growing as Disciples*, a daylong workshop on Saturday, September 13th at the church.

Rev. Roy Christel, who serves Trinity Lutheran Church, Town and Country, MO as Pastor Emeritus, will lead the event.

The program will run from 9:00 to 2:30 and will focus on Discipleship as Fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission.

Lunch will be served and registration is required and will begin in early July.

Please save the date and plan on joining us for this important event.



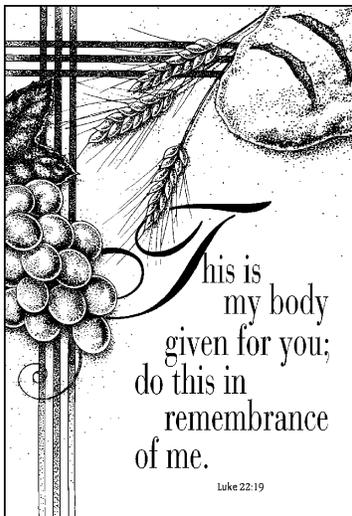
Our 5th Sunday Special collection garnered \$200 which will be forwarded to the Hollis Renewal Center in Bonner Springs, KS. If you have not yet contributed, please do so soon so it can be included.

Deacon Dave Mareske is the executive director of Hollis and we are so grateful for his past and future willingness to serve as our worship leader and preside at communion.





We are observing God's Work Our Hands, ELCA's annual day of service, on September 14. Our service opportunity will be at Doorstep, beginning at 1pm. If you've volunteered there before or haven't been able due to your weekday schedule, plan to join in September 14. There will be a sign-up sheet passed around today. A light lunch will be available during coffee hour before we head there.



Beginning on the first communion Sunday in September (Sept. 28), we will change the order of serving 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.



## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Website: [trinitylutherantopeka.org](http://trinitylutherantopeka.org)

### OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday through Thursday

**Together in Community**

**Living with Christ**

**Caring for Neighbors**

### **Caring for Our Neighbors**

Jesus commands us that when we care for the least of these; that we are in the presence of Christ (*Matthew 25:44-45*). As a congregation, we deeply care about serving those in need in our community. We hope to be a place of refuge and support for our neighborhood and to be a place to uplift those people that struggle around us. We also support ministries both local, national, and global as a church in the ELCA. As a congregation, we focus our efforts to partner with community organizations like Doorstep, while expanding opportunities to help our neighborhood through activities like our food ministry and community garden. We continue to be open to the ways that God calls us to be a presence in our community and to create a world where all are cared for in our society (*Philippians 2:4*).

### **CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

**President** Diane Bottorff

**Vice-President** Curt Lewis (Maintenance)

**Secretary** Dean McGinnis (Congregational Life)

Shelley Andrews (Administration)

Marilyn Heckman (Community Relations)

Parker Jackson (TBD)

Steve Luoma (Administration)

Janelle Meredith (Community Relations)

Duane Pomeroy (Spiritual Care)

**Treasurer** Bob Kobbeman