

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Trinity Tidings

December 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

December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	9:00 am Quilters 2	3	4	5	6
			5:30pm Soup Supper 6:15 pm Advent Midweek Worship at Our Savior's			
 10:15 am Hymn Sing-Along  Bring food for Doorstep FOOD DONATION	7	9:00 am Quilters 9	10	11	12	13
10:30 am Worship Town Hall meeting during coffee hour 12:00 Noon Congregational Life meeting	8		5:30 pm Council			
			5:30pm Soup Supper 6:15 pm Advent Midweek Worship at Our Savior's			
9:30-10:15 Adult Sunday School	14	9:00 am Quilters 16	17	18	19	20
10:30 am Worship 2 pm PFLAG meeting	15	Volunteer Days at Doorstep				
	January 2026 Trinity Tidings deadline	11:00 am Widowed Women of FaiTh	5:30pm Soup Supper 6:15 pm Advent Midweek Worship at Our Savior's			
9:30 am Community Relations committee mtg	21	9:00 am Quilters 23	24	25	26	27
10:30 am Worship	22					
	6 pm Stroke Support Group		4:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship			
9:45-10:15 Children's Sunday School	28	9:00 am Quilters 30	31	EVERY SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL DOWNSTAIRS IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP.		
10:30 am Worship	29		New Year's Eve			
		7 pm TLHA				



President's Update

As November draws to a close, at Trinity we are celebrating Thanksgiving with a worship service on Thanksgiving eve joining with First Lutheran and Our Saviors Lutheran. It's our turn to host this year. A simple, yet familiar, prayer as you gather for your own celebrations with family and friends might be "Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let this food be blessed. By his hands we are fed. Give us Lord our daily bread."

Looking back over November, we were blessed to have worship on the 9th led by Bishop Donna Simon. There was a time for questions and answers in Fellowship Hall after worship. She shared that seminary enrollment has decreased. One result of that, along with retirements, is congregations such as ours without rostered leaders. Increasing use of lay leadership is being emphasized. Training resources are available.

Our Nominating Committee has begun its work to prepare a ballot for the January 18 Annual Meeting. If a committee member reaches out to you, prayerfully consider the opportunity to serve.

At Council's November meeting we considered possibilities for sharing parts of our space with other entities. A decision was made to ask for congregational input at a Town Hall meeting after worship December 7. This could be an opportunity to extend our ministry to others in the community as well as providing us with additional financial support. Plan to be present December 7.

Here is an opportunity to join with our Lutheran siblings during Advent. Trinity will join with Our Saviors for mid-week services December 3, 10, and 17 at 6:15 at Our Saviors. Christmas Eve we will worship at Trinity at 4pm.

During the Advent season there is a special emphasis on reaching out to our neighbors. A 5th Sunday Special offering will be collected to benefit the Topeka Rescue Mission November 30. Doorstep's Christmas adoption of 250 families is an opportunity to donate gift items or make a cash donation as well volunteering to assist with distribution of gifts to the families December 16, 17, 18.

December Worship Leaders

Dec. 7 Curt Lewis

Dec. 14 Parker Jackson

Dec. 21 Duane Pomeroy

Dec. 24 TBD

Dec. 28 Marcy Carlson

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



Trinity members, please note the pledge card inside this issue of Trinity Tidings. As it states on the card, to pledge is to make a commitment or promise to do something. This church — our church — is asking you to pledge a sum of money to be given joyfully and prayerfully during 2026 so that the work of the church — God's Work, Our Hands — can continue in service to us as members and to the neighbors in our community near and far. If possible, please return the completed pledge card by December 14th. It can be placed in an envelope and dropped in the collection plate, or you may hand it to Shelley Andrews, Troy Abbott or Steve Luoma. Thank you for prayerfully considering Trinity in your 2026 giving.

Please note the deadline for the January issue of Trinity Tidings is December 15, which is earlier than usual due to the Christmas holiday.





DECEMBER READINGS

December 7 — 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10
 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
 Romans 15:4-13
 Matthew 3:1-12

December 14 — 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10
 Psalm 146:5-10 or
 Luke 1:46b-55
 James 5:7-10
 Matthew 11:2-11

December 21 — 4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16
 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
 Romans 1:1-7
 Matthew 1:18-25

December 24 — Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7
 Psalm 96
 Titus 2:11-14
 Luke 2:1-14[15-20]

December 25 — Christmas Day

Isaiah 62:6-12
 Psalm 97
 Titus 3:4-7
 Luke 2:[1-7]8-20

December 28 — 1st Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 63:7-9
 Psalm 148
 Hebrews 2:10-18
 Matthew 2:13-23

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

3 Junior Utech
 22 Troy Pomeroy
 23 Jeff Longren
 27 Cindy McGinnis
 30 Karen Arney
 30 Brett Henry
 30 Adeline Klamm

BAPTISMS

6 Julie Reeves
 9 Junior Utech
 15 Ivan Carlson
 21 Tresa Johnson
 26 Debbie Pomeroy
 29 Janice Greenlee

**Christmas Eve
 Candlelight Worship
 December 24, 2025, 4:00 pm**

Sunday School

December Adult Sunday School will meet on Dec. 14, the third Sunday in Advent. We will study the second lesson for that day, James 5:7-10.

Join us in Trinity Hall lounge at 9:30 am.

Children's Sunday school will meet on Dec. 28th.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER 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

Duane Pomeroy
785.234.4385

- Bob Horton presented the Topeka Literacy Council as a possible renter in our facility. Bob will serve as the contact person.
- Consensus to meet with Pr. Mike (Render's Hope) for more discussion of pre-elementary school.
- A congregational meeting is planned for Dec. 7 to get member's willingness to share our facility in a landlord-tenant arrangement to better utilization our space & help with building maintenance expenses.
- Current income lags behind expenses by \$957.80 each month. Bob Kobbeman shared that giving historically increases during last months of the year.
- Budget line item 110.240 Scholarship Fund was closed & funds (\$100) moved to general fund.
- Executive Committee met with Pr. Bob Dealey; he is willing to serve as pulpit supply once a month beginning Feb. 2026. He is also willing to serve on pastoral care team once role/compensation agreement is defined.
- Business cards for staff & key persons have been created & will be printed & distributed as soon as possible.
- Janelle Meredith has resigned from Council.
- Diane will meet with nominating committee Nov. 16 during coffee hour.
- Pledge cards will be included in December Tidings & bulletins.
- Thanksgiving Eve service planning is under way.
- Christmas trees will be set up on Saturday, Nov. 29, 10am.
- Ministry Site Profile is in need of review/completion.
- Plans for 2026 budget under way.

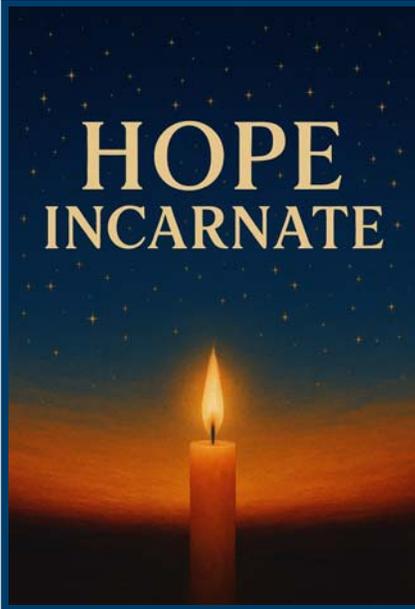
A full copy of the Council minutes is available in the church office and if desired, you may request a copy be mailed or emailed to you.



Food Donation for Doorstep = Food for Our Neighbors

Bob & Janeen delivered 420 items, approximately 329.6 pounds, of food collected during our November food collection.

We continue to be very generous! Our next collection date is December 7th.



HOPE INCARNATE

Advent midweek evening services
 Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th and 17th
 6:15 pm

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
 2021 SW 29th St, Topeka, KS

There will be a soup supper before worship, starting at 5:30 pm.
 Volunteers are needed to provide soup and for speaking parts during worship.



Worship Leaders Needed!

We are very fortunate to have willing leaders in our midst— Marcy, Duane, Bob — but we need more. Please give prayerful consideration to serving at worship in this manner, then call the church office, 785.233.0767, or email office@topekatlc.org to volunteer or get more information. Thanks.

P.S. No singing required.



DOORSTEP

Are you looking for a way to give back this holiday season? Would you like to help some of your neighbors have a brighter holiday? You can do all of that with Doorstep, Inc.! We need your help!

We have volunteer opportunities available, lists of items we need donated, and money to help with the food, gift cards, and gifts.

The Doorstep staff and volunteers have been planning our Christmas Adoption Project for months to make the holiday brighter for the 800+ individuals we adopted from the Christmas Bureau! Each household we adopt will receive a food order, health kit, blanket/quilt, a household item, gifts, games and toys (children), school supplies if appropriate, and a \$20 gift card per person in the household.

Current Needs for Christmas: Gifts needed by December 9th are:

Toys & Teens: Nerf Guns, Legos (ages 6-16), Puzzles, Learning and Sensory Toys, Basketballs, Footballs, Volleyballs, Headphones, Earbuds, Family Board Games, Make-up and Nail Kits, Body Care Sets, Action Figures, Hello Kitty and Paw Patrol toys.

Gifts for Men: Body Care Sets (Axe, Old Spice & Adidas), Tool Sets, Wallets

Gifts for Women: Body Care Sets (body wash, lotion & spray), Nail Sets, Wallets

Household Items: Queen & King size Blankets, Kitchen Utensil and Silverware Sets, Saucepans, Crockpots, Dish Sets, Electric Skillets, Food Storage Sets, Laundry Baskets with Cleaning Supplies

These items should be **NEW** for Christmas.

Doorstep has gift registries at Walmart.com and a Wish List with Amazon.com with items we need for our adopted families. You can search on either site and pick

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gifts to have sent directly to Doorstep, or yourself to bring to us by December 9th.

We also need monetary donations for the gift cards, food, etc. which will total \$45,000 or more. You can mail a check or go to our website (www.doorsteptopeka.org) to donate by credit card. Please note your member faith community with your donation, and don't forget your year-end, tax-deductible donations!

Doorstep Donation and Holiday Schedule:

November 26th – December 29th ~ Please Note:

NO DONATIONS of used clothing or household items will be accepted. We need the space for our Christmas Adoption Project.

Doorstep will be **CLOSED FOR ALL SERVICES AND DONATIONS** during the Christmas Adoption distribution week of December 15th – 19th.

Doorstep Holiday Hours:

Closed from Noon on December 23rd through December 28th & January 1st.

Open for **donations only** December 29th – 31st, January 2nd, 9am-2pm.

Closed for **ALL Services** December 24th – January 4th for year-end wrap-up.

Resume normal operation on Monday, January 5th, 2026.

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays from the Staff at Doorstep!



Doorstep Christmas Project ~ 2025



Doorstep is adopting 260 households with 800+ individuals from the Christmas Bureau again this year. We need your help to make Christmas bright for these families and individuals.

We need the following NEW items:

(Needed by 12/9/25)

Household Items:

- ◆ Sauce Pans, Dutch Ovens & Crockpots
- ◆ Kitchen Utensil Sets
- ◆ Kitchen Food Storage Sets
- ◆ Laundry Baskets & Cleaning Supplies
(glass, all-purpose, toilet, micro-towels, dish soap)
- ◆ Queen & King Sheet Sets (darker colors)



Toys, Teens & Gifts:

- ◆ Learning Toys ex: Vtech
- ◆ Basketballs & Footballs
- ◆ Teen Books ~ Fantasies
- ◆ Family Board Games
- ◆ Dominoes & Card Games
- ◆ Canvases (Value Packs)
- ◆ Paints & Brushes
- ◆ Ear Buds & Headphones

Women's Gifts:

- ◆ Candles
- ◆ Nail Sets
- ◆ Body Care Sets
(Body Wash, Lotion, Spray)

Men's Gifts:

- ◆ Wallets
- ◆ Tool Sets
- ◆ Body Care Sets
(Axe, Adidas, Old Spice)

Money for Gift Cards & Food

Visit Doorstep's Walmart Christmas Registry:

<https://bit.ly/doorstepchristmas2024>

Purchase gifts directly from our registry!

Visit Doorstep's Amazon Wish List:

<https://a.co/ff4EokG>

Purchase gifts directly from our list!

Volunteer Opportunities:

Tuesday, December 16th ~ Opportunities from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm.
(Lunch provided)

Wednesday, December 17th ~ Opportunities available from: 8:30am – 1:30pm,
1:30pm – 4:30pm and 4:30pm - 7:30pm. (Lunch & Dinner provided)

Thursday, December 18th ~ Opportunities available from 8:30am – 12:30pm and
12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

Call Doorstep (785) 357-5341 to sign up & help during distribution week!



Doorstep is located at 1119 SW 10th, 66604 (10th & Buchanan).
Christmas Donation hours are Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm through Dec. 12th.

You can mail your monetary donations, or use our website:
DoorstepTopeka.org under the Donate Tab.