



# THE *talking trinity*

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOPEKA, KANSAS



## "DEAR TO MY HEART" 2021 STEWARDSHIP

**Autumn brings us fond memories of homecomings,** harvest seasons and thanksgiving for God's bounty. It also reminds us of the many blessings we have received and those things that are dear to our hearts. Fall is also stewardship season and this year's theme for the Stewardship and our Commitment Campaign will be "Dear to My Heart". The Stewardship Committee invites you to reflect on those people and activities that you hold dear to your heart and then prayerfully consider how you will commit your time, talent and treasure to express your thanks to God and Trinity.

From Becky Schooler:  
*Line dancing at Trinity is dear to my heart because exercising is one way of taking care of my health. From my heart, I pledge annually to Trinity because I am grateful for my church*

*family and the opportunity to worship so close to home.*

From Stan McAdoo:  
*The Men's Group, which I have been attending for the past 10 years, is dear to my heart because it gives me an opportunity to know Trinity's men better and enjoy my favorite sports in a group setting. I pledge annually to Trinity because I feel it is my responsibility and privilege to do my part to give back to others and to support my church in a good measure to what God has given me.*

From Dana Schoffelman:  
*Topeka Jump is dear to my heart because advocating for justice is a great way to show love for my neighbors. From my heart, I pledge annually to Trinity because together we can do so much!*

From Marvin Burris:  
*My wife, Susan, and I have been Trinity members for more than forty years. And in all that time, virtually*

*everything about Trinity has been very dear to our hearts. Trinity is a family of caring and committed people who generously give their time, talents and money to support Trinity's activities and missions. Dear to our hearts are the people who: care for the sick and elderly; plan and participate in worship; teach Sunday School; work with our youth; maintain and improve our building; manage our finances—and much more. And because all of these people are dear to our hearts and make Trinity what it is, we pledge our time, talents and money.*

**Watch for more announcements regarding the "Dear to My Heart" campaign in upcoming newsletters and the annual pledge card mailing.**

**OCTOBER  
2020**

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## A MESSAGE FROM MERE

“Unprecedented,” “unusual,” and “disorienting” are some words that I have used to describe 2020. In early March, Trinity made a complete switch from in-person worship, meetings, and other activities. Those first few weeks were unprecedented as we, for the first time ever, held a virtual Maundy Thursday worship, each of us partaking in Holy Communion from our own homes. At times, these past few months have felt unusual and disorienting. However, I have also experienced a deep clarity, especially about those things I hold dear to my heart. For example, I will never again take for granted the privilege of gathering in person to worship. I

hold dear to my heart, not just the act of worship, but the blending of voices in singing of hymns, hugs and handshakes, and voices young and old reciting the Lord’s Prayer.

This year, the Stewardship Committee is inviting you to consider what you hold dear to your heart. Even in the midst of a disorienting year, Trinity has maintained a strong mission presence through its continued support of Doorstep. This year, we donated 105 cases of food to Doorstep. When the switch was made from in-person to online groups, participation remained strong and, in some cases, increased. **I hold dear to my heart** the volunteers and staff members who have

demonstrated tenacity, energy, excitement, and creativity. And so, in spite of the on-going global pandemic, I believe that Trinity is growing into an even more faithful and spiritually dynamic community.

Your giving of money, time, and skills reflects what is dear to your heart. We rely on the generosity of the congregation to support our ministries at Trinity. Please prayerfully consider filling out a pledge card for 2021. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you, if you have any questions or concerns.

In Christ,  
Rev. Meredith



## THIRD QUARTER PLEDGE STATEMENTS

Third quarter pledge statements will be sent the first part of October. Please review your statement to confirm the accuracy of our records and to see whether you are up to date on your pledge. Please contact the Financial Secretary if you have any questions.

Carol Shannahan,  
by phone: 559-8551 or

by email:  
carolsbutterflies1@gmail.com



## OPERATION FOOD SECURE - AT TRINITY

OPERATION FOOD SECURE is a nation-wide project to provide free food to those who need it during these difficult times. The government is buying food from the farmers that would normally go to restaurants so that it doesn't have to be discarded. It is a win-win situation for the farmers and the recipients. Trinity's Mission Committee is excited to be sponsoring the distribution in our part of the city and would like to dedicate the effort in the name of Deacon Oroke.

Unless unforeseen circumstances push the date

back, we will begin food distribution in our parking lot on October 7th and then every Wednesday morning from approximately 9:30 – 11:00. We are dependent on the arrival of the food trucks so will need to be flexible. If you have to be at the church during that time, please park in the grass lot across the street from the church.

If you would like to volunteer or if you have a truck or trailer to bring, please contact Stan McAdoo, Volunteer Coordinator. All volunteers must watch a

### **HAPPINESS IN A BOX:**



training video via Zoom (date to be announced soon.) Other questions can be directed to Karen Meenen or Christa Sloop.

## DOORSTEP NEWS ~ OCTOBER 2020

### **Fall is here... it's the beginning of the holiday season!**

Doorstep's Fall Fundraiser, Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run has transitioned into a Virtual Event due to COVID-19. It is Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at Lake Shawnee. Packet Pick-Up and Late Registration will be from 1:00pm - 2:30pm in Shelter Houses 1 & 2. Your packet will contain drinks, snacks, your event t-shirt and sponsor information. Chris Fisher from WIBW is our honorary celebrity starter. You can choose when and where to walk/run this year to be socially distanced from others. Please plan to join us on October 4<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't already signed up, you can

register at [www.DoorstepTopeka.org](http://www.DoorstepTopeka.org) or at the Walk/Run on October 4th. \$30 per person, children 10 and under can walk for Free with a paid adult!

Of course, 2020 has become the year of COVID-19, and with that we are all experiencing doing things in new ways, or not at all. Doorstep will still have a Christmas Store, and we will still adopt families and individuals. This year there will be changes, such as those we adopt will not shop for themselves, we will have volunteers do the shopping, and the families will pick up their items... there will be other changes as we figure this all out. But, we will still need your help with donations of new winter

### **Items we currently need:**

Hamburger	Oatmeal
Helpers	Egg Noodles
Spaghetti Sauce	Can Fruits – any
Spaghetti	kind
Rice	Cold Cereal
Dry Beans	Powdered Milk
Ramen Noodles	Diapers Size 5

clothing for all ages, blankets, other gift items, and money for food. As we get more changes figured out, we will start to get volunteer information out, and our needs list. Keep your eyes open for information in November, and sales!





The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently released strong recommendations that **all** eligible children 6 months of age and older receive their flu vaccinations by the end of October. It does seem like it gets earlier every year! However, with COVID 19's pandemic, 2020 has been a year of uncertainty to say the least! Even though your child may be remotely learning, It is also important to have their other vaccinations up to date!

Adults also need their vaccinations too! I remember when we didn't give the flu shot until November so as to make sure one still had immunity during Jan-March, the height of the flu season. But today's flu vaccinations are supposed to be good for an entire year, and it is best to receive it earlier so as to have some immunity response before the flu and cold season arrive. Three of the 4 viral strains in this year's influenza vaccine are new. Contracting multiple viruses or other illnesses at the same time, or one after the other is potentially serious. Because of a weakened state, it may cause even more damage to the body, and especially the lungs!

Take care of yourself! Exercise safety precautions! And above all....Don't SMOKE or VAPE (or breathe it second hand)... It is extremely hazardous to your body and will destroy healthy lung tissue! We are now hearing about how 3rd hand smoke is also hazardous..... Breathing in the residue that is on our surroundings... it's hard to get rid of the smell!

## Adults—Children—Infants

WebMD				
COLD vs. FLU vs. ALLERGIES vs. COVID-19				
SYMPTOMS	COLD	FLU	ALLERGIES	COVID-19** (can range from mild to serious)
Fever	Rare	High (100-102°F), Can last 3-4 days	Never	Common
Headache	Rare	Intense	Uncommon	Can be present
General Aches, Pains	Slight	Usual, often severe	Never	Can be present
Fatigue, Weakness	Mild	Intense, can last up to 2-3 weeks	Sometimes	Can be present
Extreme Exhaustion	Never	Usual (starts early)	Never	Can be present
Stuffy/Runny Nose	Common	Sometimes	Common	Has been reported
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes	Usual	Has been reported
Sore Throat	Common	Common	Sometimes	Has been reported
Cough	Mild to moderate	Common, can become severe	Sometimes	Common
Shortness of Breath	Rare	Rare	Rare, except for those with allergic asthma	In more serious infections

Sources: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. CDC. WHO.

\*\*Information is still evolving

<https://www.webmd.com/lung/printables/graphic-covid-flu-allergies-cold>

Vaccines have saved many lives over the years. One only needs to look at the lives lost, and for those who survived, the long-term health consequences. Polio, 1918 influenza, measles, mumps, rubella, meningitis—Hib, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, hepatitis A & B vaccinations and others have improved our lives. (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/diseases/forgot-14-diseases.html>). Don't confuse it with the cold virus. Consider walking through the local cemetery and see all the infant, children and young adult graves of those who succumbed to the 1918 flu... or watching a documentary on pandemics.... an eye opener.

2020 has been a year of many unknowns resulting in our lives and our world being turned upside-down. Many of our lives seem in disarray causing much confusion, anxiety, heartache, and suffering.

Turn to prayer and the scriptures for encouragement and HOPE! "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Is 40:31) The apostle, Barnabas, who journeyed with Paul, is a great example of a role model during this time... for his name means "son of encouragement, exhortation and consolation."

Blessings in Christ,  
Kathy Welch, Parish Nurse

## PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING 2020

### MAY THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU.

Each year we collect several special offerings here at Trinity. Maybe you know their names: Pentecost, One Great Hour of Sharing, Christmas Joy,...

Each of these offerings goes to address a specific need- Pentecost for youth missions and activities, Christmas Joy for retired church workers and Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

During October, we receive the Peace and Global Witness offering, which as its name implies goes to global and local work for peace and witness. The PCUSA still has a global mission office that supports mission co-workers (missionaries) in over 50 countries around the world.

When you give to the Peace and Global Witness offering, 50% of the gift

will support global mission projects, 25% will go to the Presbytery of Northern Kansas to support mission projects like Topeka Jump and Presbytery Wide Mission trips, like the one Art, Susan and Anton went on in March to King Lake (outside Omaha).

The remaining 25% will stay in the Topeka area to support the "The YWCA Center for Safety and Empowerment," formerly the YWCA Battered Women's Task Force, which provides free and confidential services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Shawnee, Jackson, and Wabaunsee Counties in Kansas.

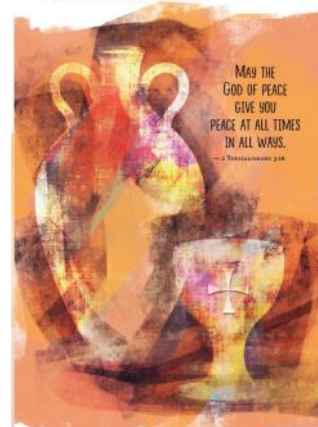
During the COVID crisis, the center has seen an increase in requests for short term housing for victims of abuse and their families. Trinity's donation through the

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
Northeast Kansas

Peace and Global Witness Offering will meet this need for additional housing.

Thank you for giving generously to the Peace and Global Witness offering by writing a check to "Trinity Presbyterian Church" and putting "peacemaking offering" on the memo line.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



## COVID UPDATE FROM TALPETATES, EL SALVADOR

Trinity member, Anton Ahrens, has had weekly communication with our brothers and sisters in El Salvador. It turns out, they are most concerned with our welfare here at Trinity. They constantly send their prayers and love.

The COVID virus has closed El Salvador to travel. The government is not issuing visas, but most of the cases of sickness and death have been in the large cities.

Talpetates has been relatively unaffected through the pandemic, but all the schools in the country have converted to an online format. This is true of the 325 student K- 8th grade school in Talpetates.

The kids are still being given work to

do and the teachers still working, but they are not meeting in person.

Last time Anton talked with Carmen, the Talpetates director of the Trinity/Talpetates program, she said school would likely remain virtual until the new year. More information will be passed along as it becomes available.

"Talpetates has been relatively

unaffected through the pandemic..."

"It turns out, they are most concerned with our welfare here at Trinity."



Friends in El Salvador

Please look for videos from Talpetates during Trinity worship services and on the Trinity website at <https://trinitypresbyterian.net/el-salvador/>



## LIVING GREEN

## LIVING GREEN

## LIVING



## SHAWNEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT CURBSIDE RECYCLING

YES, these items can be placed in your cart:



Office Paper



Magazines /Catalogs

Corrugated  
Cardboard

Junk Mail

Shredded Paper Place  
in Clear Plastic Bags

**Recycling cart with a blue lid.**



Place your container with the front of the lid facing the street/alley, and follow the 3' rule below.



Plastics



Phone Books



Paper Sacks

Cereal & Cracker  
Boxes

Aluminum Cans



Clean Aluminum Foil



Plastic Water Bottles



Tin Cans

Plastic Bottles & Tubs  
Plastic #1 & #2

Plastic Buckets

Be sure to break down cardboard boxes before placing in the cart. Do not bag your recyclables.

Shawnee County Solid Waste Department Non-Tax Supported, Service Oriented  
Department - Serving Shawnee County and Topeka

For other recycling locations, visit [kansasrecycles.org](http://kansasrecycles.org)

**GREEN CORNER**

# GREEN LIVING GREEN LIVING GREEN



## SHAWNEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT CURBSIDE RECYCLING

STOP, these items cannot be placed in your cart:



Used Motor Oil Bottles



Wax Coated Milk Cartons and  
Juice Boxes



Food Contaminated Aluminum Foil



Plastic Grocery Bags



Pizza Boxes



Plastics



Food Waste



Windows



No Styrofoam of any Kind



No Paper Plates



No Dishes



No Light  
Bulbs are  
acceptable

Household Hazardous Waste such as Paint, Batteries, Herbicides and Pesticides can be taken to the Facility located at 131 NE 46th St.



Left Over Paint



Used Oil



Herbicides/Pesticides



Batteries

For other recycling locations, visit [kansasrecycles.org](http://kansasrecycles.org)

GREEN CORNER



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - CHILDREN'S

Sunday school classes for kids will be done remotely this fall. The churches in the Presbytery of Northern Kansas have put together an extraordinary cooperative effort to create access to this year's curriculum, *Growing in God's Love*. The kindergarten-third grade Bibles arrived in Salina and have been delivered to Trinity's Kindergarten through 3rd grade children.





## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - ADULT'S

### FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### Adult Sunday School via ZOOM.

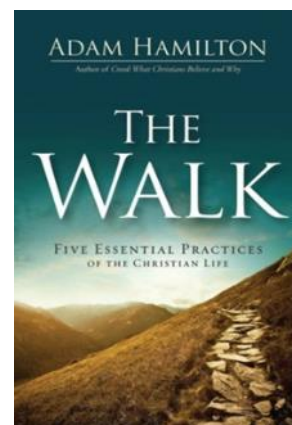
Sunday School begins at 8:45am.

This gives those who want to worship in-person at the church enough time to get there.

- ❖ We continue our study of Adam Hamilton's *The Walk* through October. The book is NOT a must for the Sunday School class, but a good resource to have.

Carol Thomas will continue to be the ZOOM host. Contact Carol at: [ctmshm@gmail.com](mailto:ctmshm@gmail.com)

The ZOOM waiting room will open at 8:40am. We begin sharing joys and concerns at 8:45, conclude Joys and Concerns with prayer at 9:00, and then we will begin the lesson.



#### PAGE TURNERS BOOK STUDY

Join us on ZOOM at 1:30pm Fridays. We are studying Richard Rohr's book, "The Universal Christ."

Our next book will be 'A Year of Biblical Womanhood' by Rachel Held Evans. Contact Jenny Lee if you would like more information: [jenny222lee@gmail.com](mailto:jenny222lee@gmail.com).

Join the group by contacting Carol Thomas at [ctmshm@gmail.com](mailto:ctmshm@gmail.com) and receive a ZOOM invitation.



#### TUESDAYS WITH THE WORD

Join Rev. Meredith and others for a time of fellowship and study using the Wired Word. We meet via ZOOM Tuesdays at 9:00am. If you would like a ZOOM invite, please email or call Rev. Meredith.

### September 13th ZOOM Sunday School

**"Building  
and  
Maintaining  
Relationships"  
led by  
Laura Sidlinger**







# WHAT’S HAPPENING AT TRINITY, YOU ASK?

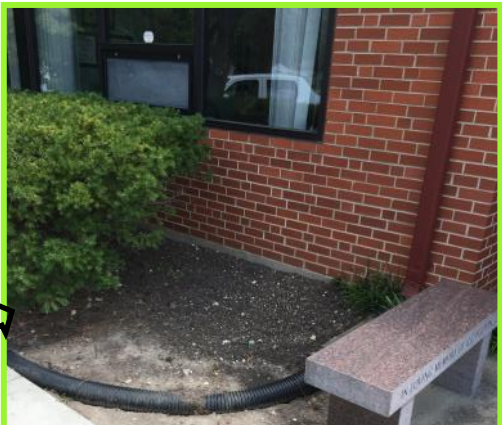
Trinity’s Campus Beautification committee continues to “toil in the soil” with absolutely wonderful results

## THIS IS HOW IT LOOKS TODAY!

Volunteer, Art Lancaster, creates two lovely flower beds. They’re welcoming spaces for the congregation to enjoy on Sunday. **And, we just must say... How very Great, *they* Art!**



Before



Thank  
you,  
Art!



After





## Happy Anniversary

01-Oct Karen (Leon) & Mark Boswell  
 06-Oct Carol & Danny Thomas  
 08-Oct Bruce & Kelly Voigt  
 10-Oct Art & Carrie Lancaster  
 11-Oct Allen & Melissa Ansberry  
 22-Oct Jim & Ruth Jenkins  
 31-Oct Randall & Kay Graham Scott

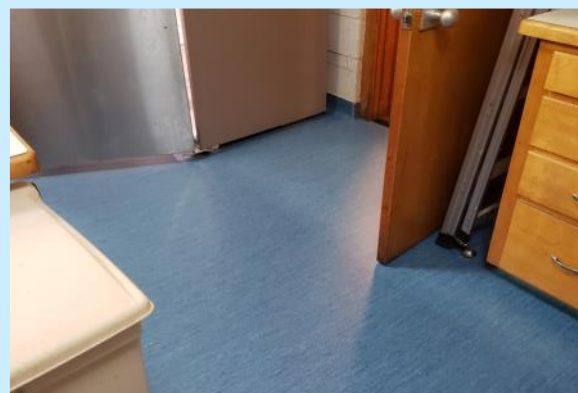
01-Oct Michael Langfitt  
 05-Oct Susan Parry  
 06-Oct Margaret Danner  
 06-Oct Jerry Thompson  
 06-Oct Cindy Hall  
 09-Oct Tom Ashley  
 09-Oct Matt Williams  
 12-Oct Brad Parry  
 12-Oct Adele Wallace  
 13-Oct Audrey Chestnut  
 13-Oct Virginia Chapman  
 14-Oct Dennis Williams  
 15-Oct Susan Whipple  
 21-Oct Cathy Armstrong  
 22-Oct Claire Stevenson  
 23-Oct Carrie Lancaster  
 24-Oct Martha Miller

26-Oct Nelson Spaulding  
 26-Oct Wanda Sorber  
 28-Oct Marion King  
 28-Oct Rosetta Casselle

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**THANK YOU TO  
 OUR PROPERTY  
 COMMITTEE  
 FOR  
 COORDINATING  
 THE  
 INSTALLATION OF  
 NEW LINOLEUM IN  
 THE KITCHEN!**





Trinity Presbyterian Church  
4746 SW 21st Street  
Topeka, Ks 66604-3592  
785-272-2620

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[www.facebook.com/TrinityTopeka](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityTopeka)

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## IN - PERSON WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 13TH

