



A Publication of Trinity United Methodist Church

In Touch

Volume 64

OCTOBER NEWS ♦ 26 September 2025

Hello, Trinity!

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer and pray that the fall season fills you with joy. In addition to the seasons changing, we are entering the generosity campaign season. We will be discussing the financial needs of the congregation and our innate need to give during worship in the month of October. There are two campaigns that we will be presenting, and this letter is to let you know what to expect.

Next year is the final year of our capital campaign, and we are making significant progress in becoming debt-free. Our plan is to have to have exact mortgage and current pledge details for you the first Sunday in October. Currently we do not have enough pledges to completely pay off the mortgage, so I hope you will be praying about how you might help contribute to eliminating the last bit of debt. The good news is by the end of 2026, with our current pledges, the mortgage remining will be just a fraction of where we began.

The other pledge we are asking you to consider is the funding of our general budget. This funding allows us to offer the ministry and mission work that Trinity has become known for in our community. I am asking you to consider increasing your pledge for the coming year as our ministry and general expenses are steadily rising.

The theme for the campaign this year is A Future with Hope. As a method of offering hope, each day in October we will email a morning devotional message of hope. If you are not currently on our email list and would like to receive the message, please ask Tyler (tyler@triumc.org) to add you to the list.

Estimate of giving cards will be mailed mid-October, and we will return the cards in worship November 2nd.

May God bless you richly with joy in this season of giving!

Pastor Eric



Crafting Connection,, Sept. 21



TUMC welcomes new members on Sunday, Sept. 21, the Koons Family: J.D. & Janel, son Jamison & daughter Elowyn

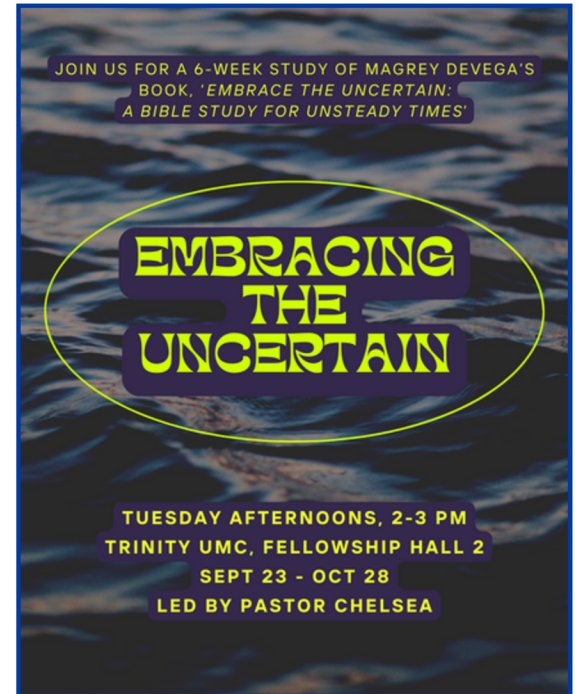
Chelsea Shrack Bell

Pastor
chelsea@triumc.org

Tuesday afternoons, Trinity Bible study led by Pastor Chelsea from 2-3 pm in Fellowship Hall 2. Join us for a six-week study through the book, 'Embracing the Uncertain: A Bible Study for Unsteady Times,' by Magrey deVega. This study will run from Sept 23-Oct 28.



Pastor Chelsea's Tuesday afternoon small group had a fun evening of fellowship at the Charvat home! We celebrated all our September birthdays. Thank you, Gary and Morea, for hosting us!



Lyz Garwood

Christian Education
lyz@triumc.org

Children's Christmas Pageant Registration is Now Open! We invite all children ages 4-yr-old - 6th-grade to join this year's Christmas Pageant! Rehearsals: Every Sunday, 11:00 – 11:30 AM, starting October 26
Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 6; Pageant Presentation: Sunday, December 7
Can't make every rehearsal? No worries! Music will be available for download so your child can practice at home. Students will be placed in mixed-age groups of 10-12 participants.

- Speaking parts: Sign-ups will take place on October 26 and November 2. If you can't make those dates, contact Lyz Garwood and we'll make sure your child is included.
- Speaking parts will rehearse from 11:30 AM – Noon during November. Parts will be announced the week after sign-ups.
- Want to help? We need leaders to assist with music rehearsals or speaking part rehearsals—you choose!

Cookie Roundup Success! Thanks to you, we have enough cookies to last through December! Your generosity will bring smiles to countless children each week. Thank you for supporting The Backpack Connection!

Join the Fun at: The Backpack Connection – One spot available! The Backpack Connection is our weekly afterschool ministry for 1st-5th grade students, meeting on Thursdays from 3:40-5:15 PM at the Family Life Center. We currently have one opening and would love to fill every spot! Students are greeted with a snack and small group leader and placed in mixed-age small groups of four to five children that stay together all year. Each week, they share joys and concerns, pray together, and then rotate through workshops such as art, science, cooking, or games. The program concludes with a Bible story experience as a full group. Pick-up is at 5:15 PM, and bus transportation is available from Stewart & Coronado schools. We would also love your support! You can lead a workshop of your choice, serve as a guide substitute, or come see what Backpack is all about. If you'd like to make a monetary donation, please indicate The Backpack Connection on your giving. Thank you. *Lyz Garwood*

Kylee Gragg

Director of Youth & Intern Ministries
kylee@triumc.org

What a month it's been!

We are excited to welcome eight new interns who will be serving in different areas of the church. This year, they will take part in Gallup Strengths Training to help them discover their unique gifts. Our goal is to walk alongside them as they learn how to apply those strengths in ministry, at school, and in the community.

Our Leadership Lab students have also been busy planning this month's service project. We are collecting hats, scarves, and gloves to include in winter preparedness kits that will be handed out with our meal deliveries. Volunteers are needed on Friday, October 24, to help cook hamburger and prep for chili; and on Saturday, October 25, to help box and deliver meals. If you'd like to lend a hand, please contact me, and I will get you signed up.

Youth group has also been going strong. Our middle school students have been working through a series called, "Strong and Bright," which helps them see how God empowers them to stand firm in their faith and shine His light in the world. High school students are diving into "God Is with Us in the Mountains and Valleys," a study on how God is present in every season of life. Whether we are celebrating, struggling, or somewhere in between, God's presence never changes.

On a personal note, I've started my second year in the Ministry Leadership Center certificate program. I am deeply grateful to this church for supporting me in this journey. The program has given me the chance to learn, grow, and connect with youth leaders from across the country. I also meet regularly with a ministry coach, Sally Wright, who even came to Salina in August to spend the day with me. We toured our youth spaces, shared ideas, and enjoyed time in fellowship together. This program has been such a blessing, and I can't wait to see what this next year will bring!



Pictured on the left. Sally Wright and I painted pottery while she was here.

Pictured below on the right. Our group of middle school youth on our first day!

Pictured below on the left. Youth directors from Belleville, Kansas City, and Enid.



YOUTH GROUP EVENT SCHEDULE	
SEPTEMBER 3RD	High School Youth Group Begins 6-7pm in High School Room
SEPTEMBER 7TH	Middle School Youth Group Begins 4-5pm in Middle School Room
SEPTEMBER 28TH	Million Dollar Spaghetti Pick Up
OCTOBER 4TH	Zach Williams Concert @ Tony's Pizza Event Center
OCTOBER 5TH	Middle School Meet Downtown
OCTOBER 15TH	High School Meet Downtown
OCTOBER 24TH	Service Project Cooking
OCTOBER 25TH	Service Project Packaging and Delivery

JOIN OUR YOUTH IN SPREADING WARMTH!

THE YOUTH ARE COLLECTING HATS, GLOVES, AND SCARVES TO SUPPORT OUR WINTER SERVICE PROJECT.

BRING YOUR DONATIONS BY OCTOBER 17TH.

DONATION CARTS ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER AND SANCTUARY.



Marilla Colson

Communications
marilla@triumc.org



Labor Day Weekend fun at Wilson Lake!



Morea Charvat

Missions

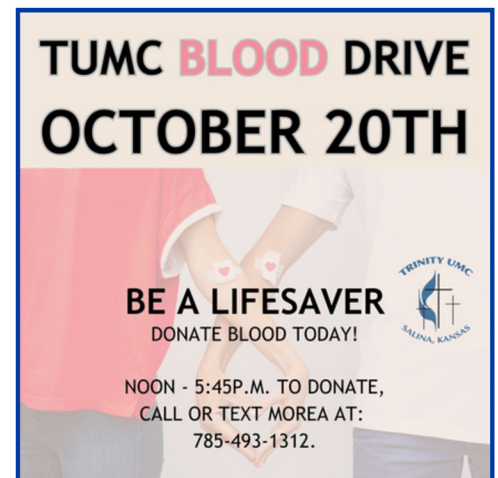
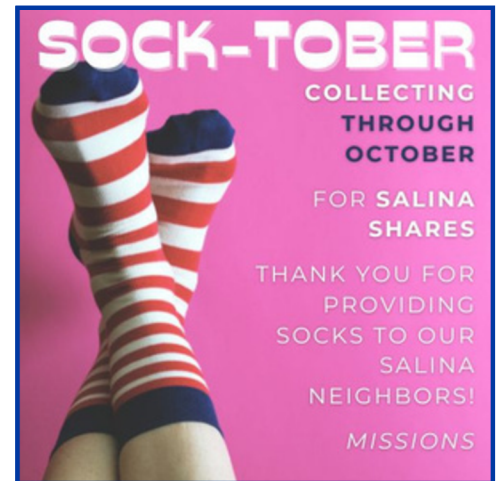
Socktober. The Missions committee will be collecting socks during the month of October for Salina Shares. The socks can be put in the grocery carts by the sanctuary and by the Family Life Center. We are sharing the carts for a few weeks with the youth who are collecting winter warmth items! (It's nice to share!)

Blood Drive. Our next blood drive is Monday, October 20th from 12:00 until 5:45 p.m. This is a Power Red drive so all of you O positive and O negative people, we can really use your blood! Actually we need all blood! To donate and save and change a life, call or text Morea at 785-493-1312. Thank you!!

Silent Auction. We are ready to start receiving donations for the silent auction! We would like the items in the church office by Wednesday, October 29th. We will start putting the items out in the Family Life Center that afternoon.

Please fill out a blue and white bid sheet when you leave your item in the office. There is a place for a minimum bid IF you want one. We need a bid sheet for every item that you donate! If there is something special that you want us to know about your item, please don't hesitate to write that information down. The silent auction is a fun place to donate items you no longer want or need and a great place for others to find a wonderful treasure!! Homemade items, food certificates, Christmas gifts...be creative!! Everything is welcome! This is our main fundraiser for Missions!

2025 Advent Project. The Missions committee has voted on the Boys & Girls Clubs of America to be our Advent project this year! Be watching for more information.



Missions continued...

2026 Mexico Mission Trip Fundraiser.

Support Trinity's Mexico Mission team by purchasing authentic enchiladas through the month of October. Choose beef or cheese, six for \$15 or a dozen for \$30. How to order? Go to: www.triumc.org/enchilada or use the QR code you will find in the Thursday eBlast, October Newsletter, and on our posters around the church. Pick up your order on Sunday, November 2, or during office hours after that date. For more information, call or email Lori Blake at: 785-822-4677 or lori@triumc.org. Thank you for supporting our Mission team!

A poster for the 2026 Mexico Mission Trip Enchilada Fundraiser. It features a background image of a plate of enchiladas with various toppings like cheese, jalapeños, and tomatoes. The text is overlaid on the image. The title "2026 México Mission Trip Enchilada Fundraiser" is in large, bold, red and green letters. Below the title, it says "Support Trinity's Mexico Mission team by purchasing authentic enchiladas through the month of October." Then, "Choose: beef or cheese. 6 = \$15 / 12 = \$30." followed by "*How to order: [www.triumc.org/enchilada](\"http://www.triumc.org/enchilada\")". It also says "Pick up on Sunday, Nov. 2 or during office hours after that date." and "For more information, call or email Lori Blake at: 785-822-4677 or [lori@triumc.org](\"mailto:lori@triumc.org\")". A QR code is in the bottom right corner.

2026 México Mission Trip Enchilada Fundraiser

Support Trinity's Mexico Mission team by purchasing authentic enchiladas through the month of October.

Choose: beef or cheese.
6 = \$15 / 12 = \$30.

*How to order: www.triumc.org/enchilada

Pick up on **Sunday, Nov. 2**
or during office hours after that date.

For more information, call or email Lori Blake at:
785-822-4677 or lori@triumc.org.

Lori Blake

Finance
lori@triumc.org / 785.822.4677

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FINANCE UPDATE through 8/31/2025

	Jan - Aug 2025	Jan - Dec 2025	Over/Under Budget	Jan - Aug 2024	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2024	Over/Under Budget
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Fund Giving	\$ 403,598.22	\$ 632,476.79	\$ (228,878.57)	\$ 393,129.55	\$ 603,030.15	\$ 650,300.00	\$ (47,269.85)
Operating Expenses	\$ 467,908.60	\$ 632,190.76	\$ (164,282.16)	\$ 438,845.99	\$ 662,626.30	\$ 663,172.78	\$ (546.48)
Net Operating Revenue	\$ (64,310.38)	\$ 286.03	\$ (64,596.41)	\$ (45,716.44)	\$ (59,596.15)	\$ (12,872.78)	\$ (46,723.37)
Building Fund Giving	\$ 97,761.73	\$ 250,000.00	\$ (152,238.27)	\$ 335,669.39	\$ 425,247.41	\$ 105,600.00	\$ 319,647.41
Building Fund Loan Payments(Prin & Interest)	\$ 97,761.73	\$ 250,000.00	\$ (152,238.27)	\$ 335,669.39	\$ 380,460.00	\$ 124,050.00	\$ 256,410.00
Net Building Fund Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,787.41	\$ (18,450.00)	\$ 63,237.41

Our cash on hand was a little tight last month, but we've been able to make it through. Please let me know if there have been changes and you will not be able to meet your pledge, so we can make adjustments if needed as we head into the end of the year.



785-822-4677

Lori Blake, Treasurer
lori@triumc.org

Church Activities

Sept. 23, IHOP Celebrating Eric's birthday and Bob Brown's birthday!



TUMC Bridge Group



October 15th / Coffee Bar, 1-4 p.m.

**Contact Cheryl Siemers-Johns
to play at: 785.820.0556**



**United Methodist
Women**

**Next Meeting
Oct. 20, 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall 1**

***The UMW meets
every third Monday
each month.**

Trinity celebrates establishing an All-Gender/Family bathroom.

At the same time that the Great Plains Annual Conference Office was re-designating their bathrooms to be All Gender spaces, the Inclusiveness and Justice Committee was trying to figure out how we could designate a space to do the same at Trinity.

Annual Conference put forth a very welcoming and inclusive theme last spring. Our committee had been trying to add one more gesture to reinforce our commitment to welcoming and including everyone. To add a totally new space was too expensive, so with ADCO's blessing we changed the signage outside the Women's bathroom down by the Family Life Center. The signs now read "All Gender" with figures of all genders and ages of people on the sign as well as braille identification marks. To make things perfectly clear we added the "Family Bathroom" sign so parents would know they could go in to tend to infants and small children's needs. The icons represent families. Both signs designate handicap accessible.

There are only stalls in that bathroom so there is complete privacy. There are many ways to let people know that they are welcome and included at Trinity. Now we have one more.

Church Activities

August Crafting Connection



At our August Crafting Connection gathering we learned how to make mandalas from our friend, Tara! Mandalas begin in the center, with symmetrical rings and unique patterns moving out. Each person's creation was unique! The Crafting Connection group meets once a month on a Sunday afternoon. You can come learn a new craft or bring your own project to work on! All are welcome!

College Connection

Gathering: Names & Addresses

Collecting: donations Sept - Oct.

Mailing: gift cards end of Nov.

Questions: Diane Werth = lwert2@cox.net

**Be sure to mark your donation as
College Connection.**

**Let's show these students how much
TUMC cares for them.**



 **TRINITY**
United Methodist Church
901 East Neal Avenue
Salina, Kansas 67401

College Connection. It is time once again to be gathering names and addresses of College Students from our church. If you have an address please let me know by Nov. 1st. You may contact me via email, lwert2@cox.net. I would like to send out gift cards by the end of November. Donations to this project are always welcome. Be sure to mark your donation as College Connection. Let's show these students how much TUMC cares for them.
Diane Werth

Church Activities

Pastoral Care

Pastor, Eric Meyer: 479.426.8411

Pastor, Chelsea Shrack: 620.546.6059

Pastoral Care Concern, contact church office: 785.825.5270

Prayers

Short-Term

Bob Broughton
Keith Drake
Hoge Family
Stewart Hoss
Chad Knobloch
Jeff Knobloch
Kody Larson
Edie Slack

Long-Term

Bonnie Baldwin
Beth Berridge
Linda Collins
Steve Daily
Hilma Demaree
Michele Gant
Mason Glavin
Nicole Hoss
Richard Howeth
Eli Jackson
Sandy Jones
Mike Killian
Ronnie Knott
Pat Masko
[Rochelle Masterson
(Culley)]
Jimmy Joe Patterson
Don Peterson
Lindsey Pratt
Mark Turner
Denny Wahlgren
Thaine Weber
Cory Wilcox
Ralph Windholz

Prayer Update:

*Founding Member,
Mary Lou Crawford,
passed away on 8.30.25.
Please keep her family in
your prayers.

*Lee Larson passed away
on 9.20.25. Please keep
his family and friends in
your prayers.

*Karl Stutterheim passed
away on 9.21.25. Please
keep his family and
friends in your prayers.


UMCOR Thank-You

UMCOR Global Ministries would like to thank TUMC for the contribution of \$1060 towards US Disaster Response and Recovery received 7/14/2025. Our gift, through your financial support, ... serves within a vital web of interactive relationships partnering to engage globally in direct ministry to people in need. *Grace and Peace, Roland Fernandes, General Secretary, General Board of Global Ministries and UMCOR*

Inclusive Committee to host another beginner ASL class this Fall. Join us from October 14 - November 18 from 6pm to 7pm in the Fellowship Hall 1, led by Stephanie Johannes, 20 participants maximum. Sign up in the Family Life Center lobby.

The Inclusiveness Committee to host another beginner

ASL CLASS



Beginning this Fall,
October 14th – November 18th
6pm – 7pm in Fellowship Hall 1.
20 participants maximum.
Sign up:
Family Life Center lobby

Flu-Shot Clinic, Oct. 5th

LOCATION:
ROOM 8/9
BUILDING
BLOCKS
CHILDCARE
AREA

Flu-Clinic @ TUMC OCT. 5

8:30am-12:30pm

HOSTED BY KYNAN GIBSON

ITEMS TO BRING:
***Bring your insurance
card & fill out the
medical release form.**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A COVID SHOT AS WELL,
YOU WILL NEED TO CALL THE B&K PHARMACY
AHEAD OF TIME SO THEY CAN PROCESS YOUR INSURANCE
AND BRING THE ADDITIONAL SHOT ON SUNDAY.

**Q: CONTACT KYNAN AT:
B & K PRESCRIPTION SHOP
785.827.4455**

Kynan Gibson and his team are bringing back the Trinity Flu Shot Clinic! Sunday, October 5th, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Rooms 8/9 (the Building Blocks childcare area). Bring your insurance card to fill out the medical release form. Forms can be found in the church office.

If you are interested in a Covid shot as well, you will need to call the B&K pharmacy ahead of time so they can process your insurance and bring the additional shot on Sunday. Reach out to Kynan with any questions. (Insert B&K phone number).

Your Trinity Congregational Care team is partnering with the Flu Shot Clinic to offer breakfast snacks! Come chat with us outside Rooms 8/9 and help us learn how we can better serve you!

Prayer Team: The Trinity Prayer Team is a group of people who commit to come to the church once a week to pray for those listed on the Prayer Request Cards (but not cards for pastors only). We also pray for God's work in Love in Trinity, our city, state, country and world. If you feel the call to pray for God's work, contact Sandy Ward, 785.823.2081. She will be glad to give you information.

Trinity Staff

Eric Meyer
Pastor
eric@triumc.org

Chelsea Shrack Bell
Office Coordinator & Pastor
chelsea@triumc.org

Lyz Garwood
Director of Christian Education
lyz@triumc.org

Tyler Breneman
Director of Music & Technology
tyler@triumc.org

Lori Blake
Treasurer
lori@triumc.org

Marilla Colson
Communications
marilla@triumc.org

Kylee Gragg
Director of Youth & Intern Ministries
kylee@triumc.org

April Saskowski
Learning Center Director
april@triumc.org

David Corman
Chancel Choir Director

Jeff Waters
Custodian

Mandy Jarvis
Nursery Director
mandy@triumc.org

Chris Carazo
Sunday AV Admin.



To securely give online, scan the code or go to: triumc.org/giving or visit the office.



We envision vibrant, thriving, teaching congregations which are developing relationships with Jesus and for Jesus in the congregations, in the community, and on campus.

We develop these relationships by inviting people, investing in them, and then inspiring them to use their God-given talents to transform lives, the community, and the world.