

TRINITY United Methodist Church

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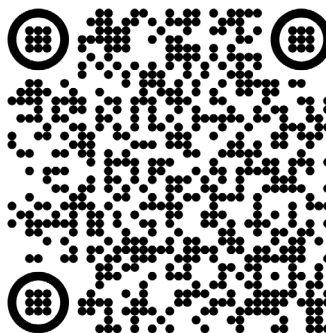
Newsletter Article & Photo Submission Information

Please submit any articles and photos to Tyler
 (tyler@triumc.org) by the last Monday of the month.

For more information about any of our ministries, please visit
 our website at www.triumc.org

Give to Trinity

To give online, visit www.triumc.org/giving or scan the QR code below. Thank you for your generous gift. Your support makes a meaningful difference in our ministry and helps us continue sharing hope, serving others, and growing together in faith. We are truly grateful for you. If you need assistance setting up your online giving account, please don't hesitate to call Tyler or Lori, or stop by the church office Monday through Thursday, 8am through 3pm.



Missions & Announcements



Feed My Starving Children is coming to Salina October 23–25, sponsored by First United Methodist Church. Trinity helped with this event in 2019 and will again assist with hospitality. Volunteers will pack \$101,000 worth of food in just 1½ days! To help with hospitality or food packing, contact Morea Charvat at 785-493-1312. Donations are due by August 27.



The Trinity Talent Show returns Sunday, October 11, with a soup and salad lunch followed by an afternoon of talent. All ages and talents are welcome! Sign-up sheets are by the Family Life Center. Contact Lori Blake, Loren Young, or Morea Charvat with questions.

The Silent Auction, the Missions Committee's main fundraiser, returns November 1–22. Start gathering treasures, crafts, baked goods, and other creative donations. More information coming soon!



Upcoming Dates:

August 27 — Feed My Starving Children donations due

October 11 — All-Church Lunch & Talent Show

October 23–25 — Feed My Starving Children

November 1–22 — Silent Auction

The Missions Committee recently purchased 504 gallons of water for distribution through Eagle Broadcast Radio and the Salvation Army to those affected by unclean water. Thank you to Chris Comeau and his workers and Neal Zouzas for unloading it!

The committee also donated \$500 to Salina Shares, partnering with The Missing Sock to provide free laundry services for neighbors in the Dover area affected by unclean water.



A note from Trustees!

Thank you to Andy Guebara of All Star Parking Lot Striping and Maintenance LLC for repainting all of Trinity's parking stalls at no cost! Andy shared that God has been good to him and he wanted to give back. We are grateful for his generosity!

Farewell Summer Gathering

AT CORONADO HEIGHTS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH
5:30PM-7:30PM

Come enjoy the great outdoors,
watch the sun set on summer, and
welcome fall! Pack a picnic dinner
and we'll make s'mores together!

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FINANCE UPDATE

through 7/31/2026

	Jan - July 26	Jan - Dec 2026	Jan - Dec 2025	Jan - Dec 2025	Over/Under
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
General Fund Giving	364,947.19	605,640.00	608,326.81	\$ 632,476.79	(24,149.98)
Operating Expenses	355,135.40	599,799.72	677,224.99	\$ 632,190.76	45,034.23
Net Operating Revenue	9,811.79	5,840.28	(68,898.18)	\$ 286.03	(69,184.21)
Building Fund Giving	174,087.50	250,000.00	191,315.40	\$ 250,000.00	(58,684.60)
Building Fund Loan Payments(Prin & Interest)	174,087.50	250,000.00	191,315.40	\$ 250,000.00	(58,684.60)
Net Building Fund Revenue	-	-	-	-	-

I am happy to report that the renovations for Building Blocks Early Learning Center went off without a hitch and kids were able to start back with childcare on 8/27/26 and preschool begins on Tuesday, 9/8/26. We are still working with insurance on Phase 2 of the internal renovations. My office hours on Mondays began this month and we moved our staff meetings to 10 am on Monday. I look forward to helping you with your church giving. Please let me know if you need anything at all.



Lori Blake, Treasurer
785-822-4677 lori@triumc.org

Birthdays, Discipleship Moments, Backpack Blessings and more!



Announcements

Providing a meal after a funeral is a meaningful way we support families in times of grief. This ministry depends on our entire congregation, but lately the responsibility has fallen to just a few volunteers. **We invite everyone to help when they can.** Even serving once or twice a year makes a big difference! Ways to help include bringing a dish to share, helping set up or serve, or assisting with cleanup. Questions? Contact Jan Everhart or Kaye Thomann.

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Chancel Choir & Handbells Rehearsals will begin on September 9! Handbells are at 6pm, and Chancel Choir at 7pm - both in the sanctuary! Everyone is welcome to ring and sing, no experience necessary!

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We're looking for congregation members to serve on committees beginning in 2027. Three-year terms are available on Administrative Council, Finance, Trustees, and Staff Parish Relations Committees. Education, Inclusiveness, Youth Advisory, and Missions Committees have no term limits. Most committees meet about once a month. Email Pastor Eric if you are interested.

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We are building up our Sunday Tech Team and have **opportunities to serve at all three worship services!** You can help with slides, cameras, and/or sound, and no experience is necessary. All training will be provided. Contact the church office for more information.

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The Crossroads Marathon Committee is excited to have 2675 registered participants from 47 states for the fifth annual Marathon on Saturday, November 7th. Volunteer registration is open! They will need over 500 volunteers this year. You can sign up to help out at one of the biggest marathon events in Kansas at:

<https://salinacrossroadsmarathon.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=107192>

Volunteer needs include course monitors, finish line and festival, and packet pickup. Course Monitors will ensure safety along the run course by assisting traffic across intersections, providing pedestrians/runners with course direction, and encouraging participants along the course. Festival volunteers will be placed in various areas around the finish line area and assist with the removal of timing chips, handing out participant finisher medals, distributing participant food/beverage items, and cleaning & maintaining a green event. There are shifts on Friday (Nov 6) from 10:00a.m.-8:00p.m. and Saturday morning (Nov 7 starting at 6:00a.m. for packet pickup that includes assigning runners their bib number and getting them their race shirt.

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The Fe For A Cure on September 19th needs around 175 total volunteers. Race organizers have set a goal of 1500 registered participants for this year's event. Fe for a Cure needs about 90 Road Guard Volunteers to direct participants, cheer on runners and re-route traffic at intersections along the race course and also needs volunteers to help with setup and registration. Registration/Set-up Volunteers should report for duty from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m., and Road Guard Volunteers should report for duty from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Race Day – Saturday, Sept. 19th. All volunteers receive a free t-shirt. Additional instructions for volunteers will come via e-mail after sign-up. All volunteers are welcome to enjoy the great food provided by Salina Regional Health Center Food Services after their shift is complete. Sign up to volunteer by registering at the link below. If you prefer filling out a paper form email Daniel Craig, TWCC Cancer Program Manager, at dacraig@srhc.com.

Register to volunteer at the Fe For A Cure at:
<https://feforacurevolunteers.srhc.com/volunteer-registration/>

Intern Program Update

Back in May, a group of us submitted a proposal to the Lilly Endowment for our Campus Community Connection Internship Program. If approved, it would fund the program, including my position, for five years. We won't hear back until December.

Good news in the meantime: our students are back in town and on campus! They'll start back to work after Labor Day, and we're able to support 7 interns until we learn the results of the Lilly Endowment request. It's worth knowing that this program runs entirely on grant funding: when there's no grant, there are no interns, and my own position drops to half-time. We're thankful to be fully covered through the end of the year, but please keep praying for this program. It's easy to think of it as just a job for our college students, but it's so much more. Through it, students build real relationships with our congregation, learn what it means to lead, and grow in their walk with Christ.

Youth News

Youth group is back this fall! High schoolers start September 9th, middle schoolers start September 13th, and we have a great year ahead: mission activities, our annual Christmas lock-in, and more.

Youth meals are also gearing back up, with new recipes on the menu. September's dish is chicken bacon ranch mac and cheese. Place your orders by September 21st. These meals are an important fundraiser for our students, six of whom are heading to Turkey in December 2027. You can also support the trip by shopping our youth snack wishlist (shipped directly to the church) or by dropping off snacks or a donation anytime.

This fall's Confirmation class is open to students in grades 7-12, and we're doing things a little differently this year:

- Two-Day Retreat: Wednesday, October 8th and Thursday, October 9th, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM both days (lunch and snacks provided)
- Sunday Sessions (3:00-4:00 PM, before Middle School Youth Group): October 11th, 18th, 25th, and November 1st
- Confirmation Celebration Sunday: November 8th

Let me know if you'd like your child to take part!

- Kylee



Youth Snacks Donation



Thanks to the incredible generosity of our United Methodist Women's group, who donated \$2,400 to our camp scholarship fund, 24 students were able to attend Camp Horizon this summer! We are so grateful for their continued support of our students and church family. Thank you!

Sunday School Fall Kickoff & Blessing of the Backpacks

There's something special about the beginning of a new school year! We loved welcoming back familiar faces, meeting new students, and watching our kids move into new Sunday School classes. We gathered first in worship for our Blessing of the Backpacks, where each student received an encouraging backpack tag as a reminder that God gives us strength. After worship, the fun continued in Sunday School! Our students jumped into games and activities designed to help them connect, laugh, and discover the many ways God strengthens us. From finding encouragement in one another to remembering that when we struggle, God gives us strength to make it through, the morning was filled with joy, friendship, and faith. And of course, the delicious domino brownies made the morning even sweeter!

This year, our elementary students are beginning a new curriculum from Grow Kids. Over the next five weeks, students will explore God's love through music, Bible stories, conversation, and hands-on activities as they discover these important truths:

- God's love is timeless.
- We can seek God anytime.
- God is good all the time.
- God's timing is different from our timing.
- God is with us at all times.



A huge thank you to Mandy Jarvis for helping create such a meaningful and fun kickoff. I couldn't have done it without you! A huge thank you to our summer intern, Brinley Boyer and Kylee Gragg for all their creativity, planning, and hard work in bringing our Education Wing decorations to life! And a heartfelt thank you to all of our Sunday School teachers and superintendents for creating such a warm and welcoming place for our children to learn, grow, and belong. We are so excited for another year together!

Cookie Round-Up for The Backpack Connection

Backpack is getting ready for another great year, and we're asking our Trinity family to help make snack time a little sweeter! We're hosting a Cookie Round-Up September 1st through 17th, and would love homemade cookie donations to share with our students throughout the year. Please place 40 cookies in each bag. This year, we are asking for cookies that do not contain nuts. Cookies can be dropped off in the FLC kitchen, where you'll find labels and instructions for labeling your cookie donations. Thank you for sharing your baking gifts and helping make Thursdays extra special for our students!

The Backpack Connection Needs Workshop Leaders!

We're excited to welcome our students back for another year of connection, creativity, and fun! The Backpack Connection brings children from different schools and faith backgrounds together, giving them a place to build friendships, explore their faith, and enjoy time together. Each Thursday, our students share a snack, enjoy hands-on workshops, hear the Bible story, share joys and concerns, and close our time together in prayer. It's a simple rhythm, but week after week, these moments create opportunities for kids to feel welcomed, encouraged, and connected.

And we need your help to make it happen! We're especially looking for workshop leaders this year. Could you give just 20 minutes once or twice a month? Lesson plans are provided, and you can choose the kind of workshop that fits you best—games, art, cooking, music, drama, science, or something completely new! You don't have to be an expert. You just need a willingness to show up, have fun, and spend a little time investing in our students. Your creativity, encouragement, and presence can make a lasting difference in a child's week.

Backpack runs through September 17, 2026 through April 29, 2027, and we would love to have you be part of the fun! To learn more or sign up, contact Lyz Garwood, Tammy Dees, Marina Lee, or Mary Ann David. Come help us make this year the best one yet!

Tyler Breneman | Director of Music & Technology

You may have noticed a new piano in the Sanctuary! I wanted to share the story of how we were able to acquire this magnificent instrument, along with a brand-new upright piano for the Choir Room.

In January, the roof in the Choir Room failed and leaked all over the baby grand piano that was in the room. This was my personal piano, which I brought to Trinity when I started in 2020. I was able to move it out of the way of the initial leak and get it dried out, but unfortunately, the roof leaked again in a new location and completely destroyed the piano. After working with our insurance carrier and piano technician, we were able to receive a settlement amount to purchase a replacement piano.

In June, I visited Pianos Unlimited in Hutchinson and spent several hours trying out many different pianos. There was one instrument that immediately caught my attention: a Steinway B grand piano. I sat down and played all sorts of music on it, and found that the touch, the tone, everything about it was incredible.

After talking with the dealer, I developed a plan to present to the Trustees. We would use the insurance settlement from the damaged piano to purchase the Steinway B for the Sanctuary, trade in our current Yamaha C3 grand piano, and use the trade-in toward a brand-new Kawai K-500 professional upright piano for the Choir Room. The entire plan could be completed with no additional cost to the church beyond the insurance settlement.



Choir Room Kawai K-500 Piano

After discussing the plan with the Trustees, it was approved, and the pianos were ordered! They arrived on August 3, and the Steinway was used in worship for the first time on August 9. The Kawai will remain in my office until the choir room is repaired.

Going this direction allowed us to acquire two incredible instruments that we otherwise probably would not have been able to afford. To me, this was truly a God moment: a little bit of light in the darkness following the storm damage. It gives me great joy to lead worship with this instrument, to use it for teaching lessons, and to share it with our community. I am excited about the ways these instruments will serve Trinity's music ministry for many years to come.

This Steinway is particularly special because it was built in 1912. You may be asking, "Why on earth would we purchase a piano that is more than 100 years old?" The answer is that this particular piano was exceptionally well cared for by its previous owners and was completely rebuilt and restored in 2020.

The restoration included a new wooden soundboard, rebuilt action (the mechanism that transfers motion from the keys to the hammers that strike the strings), polished brass, new strings and pin block, and a restored case. Its original ivory keys were in such excellent condition that they were able to be retained.

I absolutely love playing this instrument, and I enjoyed getting to share some of its story with congregation members after worship last week. There is something pretty special about sitting down at a piano that has been making music for more than a century and knowing that it now has a new chapter to write here at Trinity. If you have any questions or would like to know more about our instruments, please let me know! I would love to talk with you.



Sanctuary Steinway & Sons B Grand Piano

September 1, 2026 | www.triumc.org | (785) 825-5270 | 901 East Neal Avenue, Salina Kansas

Eric Meyer | Senior Pastor

Hello Trinity!

Welcome to September! And there is oh, so much going on this month! Our Child Care classroom which provides all-day care services has 23 children enrolled. When we were forced to close because of water damage, we had 11 children in our care. They reopened August 27th. The preschool will open on September 8 with only 2 open seats available. Building Blocks Learning Center will be caring for a total of 102 children this semester!

Our North Central Kansas Justice Ministry is up and running. House meetings will take place between September 10th and October 9th. I will try to attend most of those meetings, and look forward to seeing you there.

The 2027 proposed annual budget will be distributed to the congregation shortly and our annual generosity campaign will launch on Sept 13th. We will collect the giving cards October 4th. Here are key points for you to consider:

- Our staff has not had a raise in 2 years. We are at the minimum level of staffing to keep the church running as is, and to manage all our ministries.
- Our Internship program runs completely on grants. Half of Kylee's salary is paid by those grants. If we do not receive the grants we have applied for, we will need to increase her youth director position from ½ time to full time because she is the reason our youth program is growing.
- We will end the year with just under \$500,000 remaining in mortgage debt. The good news is that we have paid off nearly \$1 million in debt over the past three years. Your giving card will have a place for you to pledge to mortgage reduction.
- I imagine all of you have more experience with insurance policies and deductibles this year than you prefer. You know how expensive insurance has become. On July 1st, Trinity's property insurance deductible increased from \$12,500 to \$84,000. We have always held \$12,500 in reserve to make sure we could always pay that deductible. We would like to do the same for the increased amount. There will be an option for you to give to the deductible fund on your giving card.

The theme for our generosity campaign this year is **Grace in Action** because that is what the members of Trinity are doing! You all are living your faith. Please begin praying about how you can keep that grace in action through your financial gifts. Begin with the general fund. That is critical since 70% of our budget pays for our staff. If you have additional gifts to give, then consider the Mortgage Reduction Fund or the Deductible Fund.

God is with you!
Pastor Eric