



St. John's

Ev. Lutheran Church

VOL. 173 NO. 2 MONTHLY

FEBRUARY 2023

A BLESSED CONTEMPLATION

On the last Wednesday of February, we will observe Ash Wednesday - the beginning of the solemn season of Lent. One of the most powerful images and messages of Ash Wednesday is the imposition of ashes and these words spoken: "Remember that from dust you came and to dust you shall return." Taken from God's curse to Adam after his fall into sin and disobedience, this prophecy of man's end and outcome provides us an opportunity to recognize the result of our own disobedience to God, and to look to our substitute Jesus Christ and how he took our place. Those without Christ rarely have the opportunity to contemplate their own death; to recognize why they should meet this fate and how they could possibly escape it. But, you dear Christians have more than just a knowledge of how your death came to be. You know and trust how your Lord's death, burial, and resurrection have become your death, burial, and resurrection so that you possess now and forever more eternal life. By examining how our Lord took your place we may see the concrete examples of his life and death as a benefit to you.

Jesus Christ came not to be served, but to serve; and give his life as a ransom to all. As you look upon your God, hanging on the cross, know that his death is your death. The road where Jesus trod remains marked for you - there is necessary navigating or discovery on your own. The cross is the waypoint and guide as you pass through the portal from death to everlasting life. As each of us sits on his deathbed, even as hard and terrifying as it will be, we can say to ourselves, "Ah yes, but my Savior has already experienced this and he shall carry me through because of his promises." Your God not only suffered but he also was buried and laid in a grave. Even as he died on his own authority, he still needed the help of his disciples and friends to be prepared for a grave in a dignified manner - with linen shroud, various spices, perfumes, and ointments. He might have died as a criminal and outlaw, but he was not interned as one. He hallowed the grave so that your short rest in the tomb may not be frightening nor ghastly, but pleasant - like a short slumber. And our Lord has provided you with dear friends who will treat you as Joseph of Arimathea, or as the women who traveled to that tomb that early Easter morning. Those friends are your brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. John's who will make sure your resting place is as worthy and dignified as our Lord blessed it to be.

Of course, the meaning and significance of our Lord's death and burial is empty and hollow without that which occurred on Sunday morning. The resurrection of Jesus is the guarantee for you that his life was the accepted sacrifice of righteousness, and that you share in that same life. We see this in two ways: Jesus tells Mary that he is ascending to your God and your Father (not just his God and Father) (John 20:17), and his post-resurrection appearances always bear God's peace, "Peace be with you" (John 20:21, 26). Where Jesus' death and burial give you comfort and peace that you follow where Jesus has triumphed, his resurrection gives you confidence and joy that you share in his eternal life. Even as we contemplate and meditate on our own mortality, on our due punishment for disobedience, our own return to dust, the end of this thought is always on the Lord who took your life and gave you his. – Vicar Kastner

ADULT CATECHESIS

We will begin a new Adult Catechesis on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. For more information on joining the class, contact the church office.

GIVEN AND SHED FOR YOU – THE LORD’S SUPPER FOR LENT

This Lent for our Midweek services we will be hearing about and meditating upon the Sixth Chief Part in the Small Catechism, The Sacrament of the Altar. Come join us as we study and rejoice in this great gift of our Lord’s Body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

ST. JOHN’S 150TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

St. John’s will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2024! We are re-forming a committee to help with the planning of this joyous celebration. A committee was created in 2020, but the pandemic hit and the committee hasn’t met in over two years. We are now forming a new committee and plan on having our first meeting in February. Please contact Andy Gritman (andy@gritman.com) or call the church office if you would like to be on the committee.

BECOME A VOTING MEMBER

Our constitution defines “voting member” as a communicant member who has reached the age of 18 years and been received as a voting member upon application for such privilege and approval of the voters of the assembly. **We encourage all eligible St. John’s members to join the voters assembly.** If you would like to become a voting member of our congregation, you can contact the office, pastor, or any elder to get instructions on how you can become a voter. Our next voters meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 26 at 12:30 p.m.

HYMN OF THE MONTH

“LORD KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD” (LSB 655)

As we head toward the Lenten season this month during the three weeks leading up to Ash Wednesday, this is an appropriate prayer now and always: Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word. It is a prayer of the Church that she remains strong in the faith against her enemies of both body and soul. It is a prayer that acknowledges Christ as the one who is victorious over our enemies of sin, death, and the devil. And it is a prayer that brings comfort to the sinners who are distressed, that they look to Christ for the source of their final rest and peace in heaven.

If you’re wondering what to sing to your children at night or in your daily devotions, “Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” (LSB 655) is an excellent choice. This hymn was actually written as a children’s hymn, and it serves well as a simple prayer. It was written by Luther during a time when they were enduring opposition by Roman Catholicism, as well as physical attacks of the Muslims as the Ottoman Turks invaded German lands. The original text of this hymn actually included the phrase, “Preserve us, Lord, in Your Word, and restrain the murder of the pope and Turks,” and it was later changed to have a more general context. Though the text changed, it is certainly applicable in this time, since the same physical and spiritual attacks exist. Though circumstances change, we continue to pray for the entire Church undergoing these various attacks.

The devil tries hard night and day to pull us away from the faith and to tear apart the Church. As the father of lies, he places those lies in our consciences, teaching us what is against God’s Word. 1 Peter 5:8-9 says, “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking

someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.” When we suffer, it is Christ who suffers for us. He is our true defender (stanza 2) and the source of our strength.

Stanza 3 ends this Trinitarian hymn with a prayer to the Holy Spirit, “Comforter of priceless worth” that He may send “peace and unity on earth,” bringing all believers into the safety of His Church where Jesus defends us from all evil and brings us to everlasting life in Him. God will lead us in the faith unto life everlasting, from our final battle of death into the victory of life over death where we will reach our heavenly peace and joy in Christ’s kingdom.

ST. JOHN’S MUSIC ACADEMY “Meditatio” in Music

Among the other musical pieces and exercises for method instruction for their instruments, students at St. John’s Music Academy also learn from some of the greatest treasures of church music – our hymnody! Here is a snippet of the “meditatio” (a theologian’s meditation on God’s Word) that takes place during the lesson and while playing music:

One of our organ students is learning an arrangement on “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright.” This hymn is known as the Queen of Chorales and is an appropriate hymn during the season of Epiphany. During this season we learn how God manifests His glory among us and sheds His light of salvation upon us as we receive His blessings of salvation from Him and thus take part in this glory. This particular musical arrangement lends itself to a brighter registration (the particular sound of the piece), which means that the sounds are higher, reflecting the clear Light (Christ Himself) that pierces the darkness of our sin. This is a wonderful way to understand the character of this hymn in a deeper way and portrays the message in an appropriate fashion.

We encourage all children of God to delight in His gift of music for us! For more information on SJMA, please contact Bethany Johnson (bjohnson@stjlcms.org or 469-400-4382) or visit our website: <https://stjohnlcmstopeka.org/learning/sjma/>



Thank you for your support for St. John’s Music Academy

Check us out on Facebook!

Interested in private lessons for piano, organ, trumpet, violin or
flute? Contact Bethany Johnson

[\(bjohnson@stjlcms.org\)](mailto:bjohnson@stjlcms.org)

SJMA Spring Recital

By piano, violin, and trumpet students

Sunday, April 2 at 4:00 p.m.

St. John's Luther Hall

All are invited and encouraged to attend!

MONTHLY BREAKFAST IN FEBRUARY

Our next monthly breakfast will be pancakes and sausage served by our St. John's men's group on Sunday, February 12 in Luther Hall after our early Divine Service. There will be no Adult Bible Study, but the children's Sunday School will be held. We look forward to food and fellowship with you.

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH

Save the Date!

St. John's youth have several opportunities to serve with music and their talented voices!

15 February, 7:00 Evening Prayer: Rhythm of Faith choir

5 March, both services: all St. John's TLS students

12 March, both services: youth girls choir

2 April, both services: Sunday School choir

10 May, 7:00 Choral Evening Prayer: Rhythm of Faith choir

Summer Camps

- **Music Camp** will take place 9-11:30 a.m. on June 26 – 30 for children in 1st-5th grade.
- **VBS** will take place 9-12:00 p.m. on July 10-14 for children preK-5th grade. Older children are encouraged to volunteer!

EASTER LILIES

Members of St. John's have the opportunity to purchase an Easter lily to be placed in the church for Easter Sunday, April 9. Complete the form found in the Sunday bulletin and return it to the church office by Wednesday, March 1– with \$10 per lily. **You may take your lily home following the 11:00am service on Easter Sunday.** For memorials you may list up to 2 names or you may prefer “in memory of loved ones.”

CAPITAL JOURNAL AD

You may have noticed our advertisement in the Capital Journal newspaper is incorrect and not up to date. We want you to know that we have been attempting to fix it for several months and will continue to contact the paper until it is fixed. We appreciate everyone who has notified the office of the issue and thank you for your patience as we get it resolved.

2023 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2023 Flower Calendar is now up on the bulletin board in the church office. There are several dates available for this spring and summer. If you would like to provide flowers for a particular service this coming year, sign your name next to the date of your choice. The office will notify you a week in advance.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: BUDGET AND RECEIPTS REPORT

In an effort to keep our congregation informed about our financial situation, the Board of Stewardship has agreed to publish monthly budget reports. These reports are designed to give you a snapshot of our congregational support of the budget adopted by the voter’s assembly. We hope that you will find this information useful.

YTD Projected Receipts through December 2022	\$743,124.00
Actual Receipts through December 2022	\$736,538.80
Year to Date Receipts Over (Under) Budget	\$(6,585.20)

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS NOW AVAILABLE

If you are in need of larger print, the St. John’s office has a few new large print hymnals available. You are welcome to borrow one for services and return to the office or purchase one to keep. Contact Erika in the church office for more details.

Larger Text, Same Hymnal

All the LSB hymns, psalms, and services you love are included, with a 40% font increase. The Large Print Edition keeps the same page numbers and footnotes as the original, so worship can continue without needing to adjust for different hymnals.



THANK YOU

Thank you for all the love and care you showed us at the birth and baptism of our son, Emmett Shepherd. We truly appreciate all the measures you took to support us; the meal train, gift cards, and even babysitting to make sure we were well cared for. Thank you! – *Kastner family*

Thank you for the lovely Christmas cards and phone call. – *Joyce Lohmann*

Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia. It was greatly enjoyed. – *Geri Tate*

ST. JOHN’S WOMEN’S LEAGUE

Sarah circle meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. for bible study, a short meeting and fellowship.

Dorcas circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. for bible study, a short meeting and fellowship.

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14 ladies of the congregation met and worked on quilts on Sunday, January 22. They completed 8 quilts. A Mustard Seed devotion was read, followed by a prayer and refreshments. It was a delightful time with fun and fellowship.



Quilting will continue to meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. Donations for quilt projects continue to be accepted. Items needed at this time are bed sheets of any size or color. Thank you in advance.

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Our annual **Christmas Bazaar and Cookie Walk** took place Friday, December 2 and Sunday, December 4, 2022. Again, we want to thank everyone who donated items for the sale, help with the setup, sale and clean up. Our total for distribution is \$6,000.00 and will announce the recipients and amounts in next month’s newsletter.

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The Spring LWML Topeka Zone Rally will be held April 29, 2023 at St. John’s LCMS in Topeka, Kansas. Registration and Servant Event will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the meeting following at 10:00 a.m. The theme is “He Showers All with Many Blessings” based on Philippians 4:19: ¹⁹And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

For this event we will be collecting personal hygiene items, shampoo, conditioner, bath gels/soap, deodorant, men/women’s socks and underwear, towels and wash cloths.

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The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) has wonderful news! Through the generous women of LWML and all of our benevolent givers, God has allowed us to surpass the \$2,150,000 Mission Goal for the 2021–2023 bienniums! “And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19). The Mite offerings you have shared now total \$2,154,511. We continue to praise God for His provision and for each one of you for your generosity in stewarding the

gifts you have been given. Thank you for coming alongside LWML as together we proclaim Christ, support missions, equip women, and serve others!

LWML will host its annual Women’s Retreat at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, (600 N. Greenwich Rd. Wichita, KS 67206) on Saturday, March 4, 2023. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. for registration and breakfast. The retreat begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. The retreat theme is “Love Rules: A Study of the Ten Commandments” (based on John 15:10- 12) and the presenter will be Christina Hergenrader. Early bird tickets are \$25 (\$30 after February 17). Registration is open at holycrosslutheran.net/LWMLretreat/.

Mission Statement *Led by the Holy Spirit, the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, Kansas District will equip women to proclaim Christ, support missions and serve the Lord with gladness.*

<u>Dates to Remember</u>	
March 4, 2023	Holy Cross Wichita Women’s Retreat
April 29, 2023	Zone Gathering, St. John’s, Topeka
June 22-25, 2023	National LWML Convention, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

DOORSTEP NEWS

On behalf of the Doorstep staff, volunteers and clients, we thank you all at St. John’s for your donations totaling \$1,847.00 in 2022. We are grateful for your donation to help provide emergency services to your neighbors in need. It is this very same kindness of neighbors helping neighbors that Doorstep was built on over 56 years ago. Your generosity will brighten each of their lives.

It is this very same kindness of neighbors helping neighbors that Doorstep was built on over 56 years ago. Your generosity will brighten each of their lives.

SouperBowl Sunday is February 12 Collect soup and crackers and help stock Doorstep’s pantry! You can bring your items to St. John’s at our drop off location in the hall near Luther Hall.

Doorstep has decided going forward they will no longer give our clothing and shoes in its Christmas Adoption Project. Instead, they will continue to provide gift cards in lieu of clothing. The only exceptions are NEW pajamas for kids, NEW hoodies for men, women and teens. As winter clearance sales go on, look for warm pajamas for newborn to sizes 18 for kids (boys & girls) and hoodies in all sizes, colors, sports teams etc.

**DOORSTEP’S 2023
“SOUPERBOWL
SUNDAY” IS
FEBRUARY 12TH**





**BRING
SOUP
AND
CRACKERS**

Our Goal this year is 2.5 ton... 5,000 pounds!

**TO YOUR CONGREGATION TO HELP
STOCK DOORSTEP’S FOOD PANTRY!**



**March is St. John's
Lutheran's Month at
Doorstep!
How You Can Help...**

Volunteer at Doorstep any **Wednesday** during the month of March. You will assist with sorting donations, running dryers, and assisting clients with clothing. (8:45am-1:30pm)

Or volunteer on Monday, March 13th, sorting donations and re-stocking the clothing room. (9am-1pm)

Donate food items for the pantry. We are one of five congregations responsible for stocking the food pantry during the month of March. **Needed items are:**

Macaroni N Cheese	Pinto Beans	Powdered Milk
Spaghetti Sauce	Canned Fruit	Oatmeal
Evaporated Milk	Canned Soups	Dry Cereal
Peanut Butter/Jelly	Tuna	Egg Noodles

Make a monetary donation to Doorstep and note your membership with St. John's Lutheran for credit.

Your Doorstep Contacts are:

Board Member - Cheri Berggren
Coordinator- Chris Graverson

Doorstep Annual Banquet & Quilt Drawing

Watch for information on the Banquet for 2023! We have not had this special event where we honor our volunteers, and celebrate Doorstep for the past three years, due to COVID. We are hoping to bring it back this year!

March is St. John's Lutheran's month at Doorstep. Consider volunteering and/or donating items from the list in the photo. Your donation, support and generosity continue to be a blessing for families and individuals in need.



January 31, 2023

St. John's Lutheran Church
901 SW Fillmore St
Topeka, KS 66606-1445

Thank you for your investment in Lifeline's ministry in 2022. Your generosity allows us to continue the work of equipping the body of Christ to manifest the gospel to vulnerable children and families. Our team is grateful for all the ways God used us last year and we look forward to what this year holds! Below are a few ways that your donation made an impact this past year.

Adoption - 75 children were placed in Christian families through domestic adoption; 121 children were placed in Christian families through international adoption.

Pregnancy Ministry - We received 740 expectant mother referrals for our team to counsel and serve, in over 30 states. We trained 150 Pregnancy Resource Centers.

Education and Counseling - 2,003 counseling sessions were provided to children and families. Our team held 441 parent coaching sessions and tutored 120 children through Bridge Educational Services.

Family Restoration - We trained 59 new foster families throughout the year. 167 individuals graduated from Families Count™ classes around the country. Families Count is Lifeline's curriculum for parents working toward reconciliation with their children who have been placed into state care.

Global Orphan Care - Through our Global Orphan Care ministry, there were 493 Life Skills Education Training (LSET) influencers impacted. 32 countries were reached with more than 1,710 children served through (Un)adopted.

Lifeline Children's Services Inc., is a 501(c)3 organization, and our EIN is 63-0896878.

YOUR 2022 CONTRIBUTION WAS: \$575.89

TOPEKA LUTHERAN SCHOOL



KINDERGARTEN STEP UP DAY

COME MEET MRS. BALCH AND SEE
EVERYTHING TLS HAS TO OFFER!

Join us on February 25th at 9:00
OR 10:00. RSVP by scanning the QR
code below or calling the school
office at (785) 357-0382.



<https://www.topekalutheran.org/>



TOPEKA
LUTHERAN
SCHOOL



Growing God's Children
for generations to come
Topeka Lutheran School

PRAYER

Oh Lord Our Lord, how majestic is Your Name. We are not worthy to come into Your presence, yet You give us grace and mercy each and every day. We pray that You continue to bless Topeka Lutheran School, the students, teachers, staff, families and supporters. We give thanks to the overwhelming support and generosity that has been given over the years by not only the congregations and families of TLS but the community as a whole. We pray that you continue to give us guidance and allow us to serve you in all we do. All this we ask in Christ's name, Amen.

SUPPORT TOPEKA LUTHERAN TODAY!

<https://www.topek Lutheran.org/pledge-tracker>

TOTAL COMMITMENTS

Growing God's Children Capital Campaign

Total Amount Committed: \$846,943

Total Pledged Gifts Received: \$845,258

Total # of Pledges Received: 125

November 2022 Giving Tuesday Gifts Received: \$1,100

Watch for a campaign summary next month from the Campaign Directors Darrel and Kim Savage who will be highlighting the campaign's purpose, goals met, and how the campaign will be wrapped up. Thank you all for your continued prayers and generous support for this important campaign!

TLS GGC BUILDING UPGRADE COMMITTEE

The committee met late January and upgrades will proceed (weather permitting) with the first priority being the additional fencing/gates on west side of the school, south end of playground. Completion of the remaining upgrades will occur shortly following and include additional lighting and cameras (interior and exterior), new security mirrors (interior), and redesign of the west entrance (exterior and interior) to strengthen campus security, visibility, and aesthetics. As previously reported, these upgrades are being done at the recommendation of the KS Dept of Education and approval given by the TLS governing boards. All related costs will be covered by the balance of capital campaign gifts.

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL JOHNSON

National Lutheran School Week was celebrated last month. Thank you TLS teachers for planning special activities and chapel services to commemorate that week. And thank you to those who celebrated with us with prayer and by joining the live-stream chapel services! The month of February will bring the Kindergarten Step-Up event on Feb 25 for new kindergartners and their families. Thank you to the two generous donors who have made special gifts to reduce enrollment fees for the new kindergartner families. Additional enrollment events for next school year K-8 students are being planned and families will be notified as soon as details are final. If you know of a family or friend with child(ren) who would be interested in learning more about TLS, please have them call the school office (785 357 0382) to schedule a tour or a visit with TLS faculty.

TLS UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 12: TLS Sunday at Faith Lutheran Church
- Feb 17/18: TLS 71st Annual Basketball Tournament
- Feb 22: Ash Wednesday Chapel Service
- Feb 24: No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Feb 25: Kindergarten Step-Up/Enrollment
- March 3: Family Reading Night
- April 29: Luke Savage Memorial Golf Tournament

THANK YOU!

- To those who generously responded, including four new donors and seven TLS alum, to the Dec 2022 year-end appeal for gifts for the Grant in Aid Fund (tuition assistance). Approximately \$20,000 in year-end gifts were received and will have direct benefit to our students and families.
- To PTL, parents and friends who made a donation and/or volunteered at the annual Chili Feed and to those families who joined us that evening to support PTL.

WILDCAT SCIENCE LAB

Did you know that TLS has a brand new science lab? Thanks to generous financial gifts from the Snethen families, the former Art Room was transformed into a Science Lab/STEM Classroom, with state-of-the-art SmartBoard instruction tool, new cabinetry, demonstration tables, and study tables. And new microscopes for Middle School students were donated by a TLS grandparent.

February 2023 St. John's Lutheran Church - Topeka, Kansas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 29 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30 VOTERS MEETING	30 1pm LWML EXEC	31	1 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 2:45pm TLS CHAPEL 5:15pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm EVENING PRAYER	PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD 2 7pm TLS BOARD MTG 7pm VESPERS	3	4
SEPTUAGESIMA 5 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	6 1pm LWML EXEC	7	8 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 2:45pm TLS CHAPEL 5:15pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm EVENING PRAYER	9 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS 7:15pm KANTOREI	10	11
SEXAGESIMA 12 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	13 6pm SARAH CIRCLE	14	15 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 2:45pm TLS CHAPEL 5:15pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm EVENING PRAYER	16 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	17	18
QUINQUAGESIMA 19 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 SHROVE TUESDAY 4pm PARISH ED 4:30pm TRUSTEES 5:30pm STEWARDSHIP 6:15pm MISSONS/EVANG	22 ASH WEDNESDAY 8:15am TLS CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00pm DIVINE SERVICE 5:15pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7:00pm DIVINE SERVICE	23 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	24 7pm YOUTH RETREAT	25
INVOCAVIT 26 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 3-5pm K-5 YOUTH EVENT	27	28 9:30am MATINS 6:30pm COUNCIL	1 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 LENTEN VESPERS 2:45pm TLS CHAPEL 5:15pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm LENTEN SERVICE	2 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7pm TLS BOARD 7:15pm KANTOREI	3	4



901 SW Fillmore, Topeka, KS 66606-1445



THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19–20a)
 So that we may obtain faith in Christ, God instituted the ministry of teaching the gospel and administering the sacraments. Through the gospel and sacraments, as through means, God gives the Holy Spirit who produces faith, where and when He wills, in those who hear the gospel. (*Augsburg Confession*, Article 5)