

TUCC

TRINITY UNITED CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Affiliated with

The United Church of Christ

Pastor Travis Smith McKee, Editor

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Sarah Diamond, Secretary

The mission of TUCC is: Connecting people with Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, and service.

Wow! We Had the Fair!



Wow! Since I started talking with this church in 2019, I don't think we made it very many conversations without talking about the fair. I don't think many people in Cheney or Sedgwick County can think of Trinity United without thinking of bierocks. And yet... 2020 did not see a fair. Which made 2021 that much more important.

Folks, the fair was amazing! I mean sure, the food, the rides, the activities... those were all great. But seeing our congregation come together and do amazing work, that was great! If you've never been out to a bierocks making day (I'm looking at you, men!) it is an operation to be seen! From Paula running to every station to oversee, to the folding of the bierocks, and the finishing after they are baked... wow!

But behind the scenes, there are people running back-and-forth to stores, making sloppy joe's and taco meat, cleaning the fair booth, triple checking the amount of supplies, recruiting volunteers... And then on those fair days! People come and volunteer throughout the entire day, getting by on those hot July afternoons, being thankful for the surprise rain shower that cools everything off, serving the food as fast as possible, and sticking around to clean up after everything.

So many special thanks to go around, and I don't want this to be a 20-page newsletter, so I won't name everybody that helped. But specifically, Paula Voth organizing our kitchen and bierocks and Jo Luehrs (and Michael) organizing the booth and volunteers. I don't think we recognize how hard these folks work, some even coming after their normal day job! For this week in July, there is so much going on, and I cannot be more thankful for everybody who helped to make this 2021 fair absolutely amazing!

About \$13,000 was raised this year!



REMINDER ONLINE GIVING

You may select a one-time gift each time or you may set up reoccurring contributions at your request. You may always give in the Sunday offering or by mail or bring it to the office. The link to give online is on TUCC web page. (www.cheneytucc.com)

The weekly signup sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are needed to help care for the lawn area at the Church. TUCC has a riding lawn mower that may be used to cut the grass.



We are looking forward to the new school year. Enrollment is open. There are limited openings for each session. Trinity Learning Center offers sessions for 2-3-4 or 5 days a week. For the 2022-20221 school year! Call Becca Burdick at 316-680-8152 for details!



Updates from Pastor Travis

Back in the Swing of Things

Well folks, here we are... By the time you're reading this, probably just a week away from school starting and many other things seemingly back to routine. Didn't summer just get here?

But as we're all aware, this has been more than just a summer issue, we are also starting to see some hope for a routine returning around here. In September, we are starting back with TOWN. We are doing a really great interview series for sermons right now. And our regular worship attendance is including more people each week.

My question, maybe my challenge for this church: what are we going to do? How are we going to live out God's Grace in the Cheney community and beyond? There absolutely have been some limitations and some struggles in how we do things, and a lot of routine that has not been in place. And trust me, vacations after a year without them are certainly necessary! But as we are coming back, as we are settling into our weekly routines, what role does the church play in it?

Have I mentioned how great it was to finally get to see the fair!?!? This section of Cheney that felt very dormant, hard to see the purpose in, for that week felt so alive! We saw our town light up with it's joyful passion! And as much as we have been able to do here in the church, it also has felt a little dormant... Subdued compared to the 10 weeks I saw before Covid hit!

So my question, how are we going to be church? How are we going to share God's grace in this community? And more than that, how are we going to do it together? A church is never just one person, your pastor is not the professional Christian acting on your behalf. We are a community who need volunteers for town, people who will help us explore new mission opportunities, people who will help in big and small ways to accomplish our goals.

I look forward to getting back in and to our routines, and look forward to dreaming with you, together.

~Travis

Disciples Connect and Equip

August 14, 2021 @ 8:45 am – 4:00 pm

All Kansas Disciples are invited to Tawakoni for our Disciples Connect and Equip regional gathering. Keynote speakers are General Minister and President Terri Hord Owens and Erin Wathen from Week of Compassion.

In addition to worship, workshops, and fellowship time, there will be opportunities for fun, renewal, and reconnection. A celebration for Regional Minister Steve Martin's 24 years of regional ministry is planned for closing worship. Steve is retiring at the end of August.

Introducing Our New Secretary!

We welcome Sarah Diamond to Trinity United Christian Church as our new secretary! Sarah and her family moved to the Pretty Prairie area spring of 2020 from Riley, Kansas (near Manhattan). They live on a farm where they raise livestock and Border Collies.

Sarah and her husband, Jeremy have two children, Dawson (6th grade) and Owen (kindergarten) who attend school in Pretty Prairie. Dawson and Owen are very active boys who like everything related to animals and the outdoors!

Sarah brings an extensive background working in different churches and other non-profit organizations. Her area of expertise is volunteer development, education, and philanthropy in community-based non-profits. In 2016, Sarah established a non-profit, [The Heart of MFB](#) to provide awareness and support for families impacted by congenital heart defects in honor of her son, Owen who was born with a serious and complex heart condition Sarah is also passionate about grant writing and fundraising.



Kansas Disciples Women Updates

Cupcake Chatter

Our first Cupcake Chatter was held on June 13, 2020 and has continued weekly. This weekly gathering allows women from across the region as well as friends in far-away states to gather on Zoom to share thoughts on a discussion question, celebrate joys and bring concerns before we close our time together with prayer. Cupcake Chatter has provided an opportunity to develop new friendships and reconnect with those we have not been able to see

for an extended time. Consider logging on Sunday evenings at 7:30. The fellowship time lasts for 1 hour. Contact Carla Pearson if you would like to be added to the email for log on information.

KDW Fall Retreat

Have you registered for the KDW fall retreat? Registration is open and we are looking forward to a great retreat. Join us for midweek October 6-8 or the weekend retreat October 8-10 at Disciples Center. Our keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Beth Rupe, Interim Minister of The Christian Church of Illinois and Wisconsin Women's Ministries. The theme is "Who Needs a Bridge." There are so many things to do at retreat. Take part in workshops, work on service projects, enjoy a massage, worship with women from across the Region. Come join in and watch as we build our bridge.

Registration may be completed at [Disciples Women – Kansas Disciples of Christ](#) or with your Engage account. A copy of the information flier and the registration form may be downloaded here <https://bit.ly/2021RetreatInfo> and <https://bit.ly/2021RetreatRegistration>, if you would like to complete the form and mail in your registration.

Book Chat

The Retreat Planning Team has selected "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" for the Book Chat session at the 2021 retreat. If you would like to purchase a copy of the book, please contact Carla Pearson (carla.pearson58@gmail.com). The cost of the book is \$8.50 plus shipping. The midweek Book Chat will be led by Lorna Stover, Columbus and Rhonda Machlan, Topeka will lead the weekend session.

