

# TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

## FEBRUARY 2017



Trinity Lutheran Church & School  
146 Reserve Road, West Seneca, New York 14224  
Church: (716) 674-9188, School: (716) 674-5353

Rev. Dennis Krueger, Pastor, C: 997-5666 / H: 671-8130  
Mrs. Kathleen Fretthold, School Principal, School: 674-5353

Church Website: [trinity-lutheranchurch.com](http://trinity-lutheranchurch.com)  
Church Office E-mail: [trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net](mailto:trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net)

### WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm - Devotional

Sunday @ 8:00 am - Traditional

Sunday @ 10:30 am - Contemporary

## F A K E N E W S

While not a brand new phenomena, “fake news” has sure been in the news a lot lately! “Fake news” is the deliberate reporting of news that is inaccurate or not true and intended to manipulate and mislead the readers. With the widespread usage of the internet and social media, fake news seems to have taken off as was seen in the recent presidential election. Sadly now, one has to always wonder if the news we read and hear is truly accurate and truthful.

In a couple of weeks or so we will celebrate the holiday of love, Valentines’ Day. Have you ever tried to figure out the truth behind all the romance, chocolate, roses and heart shaped cards? If you have, you quickly discovered that other than the fact that there was a St. Valentine (more than just one) and that he was purported to have been martyred, that’s all that is known for sure! There are a number of legends and traditions, but they don’t really hold up to scrutiny. The truth may well be that the facts about Valentine’s Day have been greatly embellished as a way to counter the celebration of the pagan celebration of the Feast of Lupercalia. Yet, we continue to observe and celebrate this day with little concern over its legitimacy. Actually, guys, I would not recommend ignoring Valentine’s Day just because it smacks of fake news!

## G O O D N E W S !

There is “Good News,” of course, that is not fake. In fact it is the way, the TRUTH, and the life! It is the ultimate celebration of love – God’s love! God loved the world, all people of all time, so much, that He gave His one and only Son – who redeemed sinful mankind by His sacrifice on the cross. All who believe in Him, and that this is true and not fake, receive forgiveness, life and eternal salvation! How sad it is that a growing number of people believe that this celebration of love is fake news! They probably observe Valentine’s Day without question, but doubt the truly amazing grace and love of God in His Son, Jesus. The historical facts of Jesus of Nazareth and His death on the cross are documented. Granted, the significance of what it means is received by faith. But, for those who believe, what a wondrous celebration of the God who is love!

This Valentine’s Day let us celebrate the TRUE gift of love in our Savior, Jesus! Let us love one another as He has loved us. Let us share the Good News of God’s love with others. And, if you are moved to share a card, some flowers or some chocolate with a loved one – go for it!

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger



**Taste of Trinity**  
**January 29, 2017**  
**11:45am - 1:30pm**  
**At Trinity School**

Come out and sample some delicious food! A sheet of tickets is only \$5!

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## Ladies Bible Study News

**February Meetings:** This month the Ladies Bible Study will meet on **Monday, February 13 & 27 at 7:00pm** in the church narthex. All ladies are welcome!

**Backpack Project:** Ladies, start collecting items for the backpack project. Bring items any Sunday or class night and place them in the designated crate in the coat room. We will collect items until March 13. Questions? Call Ruth Z. or Nancy H. Thanks for your participation.

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## Valentine's Get-Together



**Sunday, February 12th**  
**1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**At the Hamburg Brewing Company**  
**(6553 Boston State Rd, Hamburg)**

Join Trinity's Men In Ministry for a Valentine's Afternoon Get-Together. All couples and families are welcome! Contact Chris Kopra with any questions.

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## Operation Christmas Child

The items being collected during the month of February are **children's socks and underwear**. Items can be placed in the "Operation Christmas Child" box in the church narthex. Thank you for your ongoing support!




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## 2016 Financial Statements

The 2016 member financial statements are ready. Statements have been placed in everyone's mailboxes. For those without mailboxes, please see the long table in the narthex .

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## Altar Guild Ladies Night Out

**Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**  
**At Alton's (Transit & Seneca Street)**

Current Altar Guild members and any other ladies who might be interested in Altar Guild are invited out for this fun evening. Please RSVP to Rhonda Carlone (674-3192) by 1/31/17 if you can attend.

## Florence Bogumil's 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday

Life-time Trinity member Florence Bogumil turns 92 years old on February 9<sup>th</sup>! Let's make her birthday extra special by inundating her with birthday cards. Cards can be mailed to her attention at:

Fox Run at Orchard Park - Rm 404D  
 One Fox Run Lane  
 Orchard Park, NY 14127




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## February Flowers Needed

Altar flower donations are needed for February! A sign up chart is posted in the church coatroom. They are only \$10 per arrangement and can be taken home after the 10:30am service. We ask that 2 families sign up each week. Payments should be clearly marked "**Altar Flowers**" and placed in the **Church Office's message center** (cash or checks payable to "**Trinity Lutheran Church**").

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## New Member Classes

I'd like to offer a New Member series of classes after Easter that would conclude before the summer. Anyone interested in attending, please contact either Pastor Krueger or the church office. If you know of someone who might be interested, please let them know about the upcoming class. We will determine the best time to offer the class for those who plan to attend, in our first gathering.




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## Bible Classes

**The Mid-Week Bible Class** meets on Tuesdays at 7:00pm and Wednesdays at 10:00am and is studying the Gospel of St. Matthew. We are following the Life Light study program that involves the student completing some homework in preparation for the class. Please join us at any time.

**The Sunday Morning Bible Class** meets from 9:15am to 10:15am between the worship services on Sunday mornings. We took a brief look at the history of the Reformation, but decided to postpone further study until the Fall of the year in conjunction with our observance of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Starting on January 29<sup>th</sup> we began a study of Paul's Letter to the Romans which will probably take us through Lent and up to Easter. Hope to see many of you there!

## School News



### From the Principal ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"I have a dream..." We heard these words many times over in January as we celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. day. Now it's my turn to ask you the same question! Do you have a dream for Trinity School? Do you see our school popping at the seams with students and families desiring the loving, Christian atmosphere that pervades our building? Do you see our school gym packed with an audience anxious to see the annual musical on our new stage in the beautiful new classroom/arts wing? Do you see our refurbished gym busy with our school and church basketball and volleyball teams, with youth Bible studies and movie nights? Can you see the student robotics projects on display and hear the band practicing? MOST IMPORTANTLY, can you see our students and alumni out in the world, witnessing to Christ and preaching and teaching through word and action? I see that happening now, absolutely, but can we grow? Can we do more? Is God calling us to continue to push beyond our current state to reach more children? We have an incredible staff, a beautiful facility, a congregation dedicated to service, and a mission field right outside our door...what is your dream?

~ Kathleen Fretthold  
Principal, Trinity Christian School

### Re-Enrollment

Our Re-enrollment for 2017-2018 has begun! Please tell your family and friends about Trinity. Our wonderful school has been growing steadily, and we want to continue this trend, by God's grace, for years to come. **Word of mouth (we have a 5 star rating by our families on Facebook!) and prayer** is our best resource and I hope that you will help reach as many families as we can with the saving Word. Remember to re-enroll before the registration fee increases at the end of January! Please call the school office if you have questions. Thank you!



### **Applebee's Pancake Breakfast Sunday, February 5, 2017 8:00am - 10:00am Southgate Plaza Location**

Come out and enjoy a delicious breakfast and support our school! **Tickets are \$7.00** and can be purchased for any 8th grade student or the school office. Proceeds will benefit Trinity's 8th grade class trip.

## **“Thank You!” from Camp Pioneer**

Camp Pioneer sent Trinity Lutheran Church & School the following letter in response to the donations made to them from our Cookie Walk and Youth Group Pancake Breakfast in December:

*Dear friends in Christ,*

*Thank you for your generous gifts of \$430 and \$336! This year of record growth and improvements could not have happened without you. This is YOUR Pioneer!*

*Please know that your gift is a blessing for so many of all ages. Through the chapel, devotions, Bible study and songs, kids and adults of all ages will continue to be told the story that has always been told at Pioneer - that Jesus loves them and because of His love for us, we can stand in faith in this broken world.*

*Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and prayers as we continue to tell the story at “A Warm Place in the Son”.*

*In His Service,*

*Rev. Alexander H. Knowles  
Executive Director*

## School Impact

by Mark Willert

Sometimes events are beyond our control. Especially when it's time for school dismissal and you're in the midst of having 26" inches of snow dropped wreaking havoc on transportation and getting the kids home. While some of our kids were on their busses past 11:00 PM (we thank God for those bus drivers!), there were also a group of students, parents, and faculty that waited it out at the school overnight. This is a brief chronicle of students and parents who experienced this event. We'll start with Rosey Swiger, an 8th grade student, who wished to share her experience with you. Following that we'll share a few quotes and excerpts from social media from parents. Through it all we thank God for his safety and provisions, and also to the faculty who chose to remain.

### “Make Believe Stories Can be Real”

~ Rosey Swiger, Trinity 8th grade student

I remember growing up as a kid I would continuously say things like “what if we got stuck at school?” and “what if we had to sleep at school?” I used to laugh at the thought of that ever happening. So you can imagine my shock when I discovered that all those childish thoughts were about to become true.

In my english and social studies classroom (the one off the back of the gym) there is a very big window that shows the whole backyard of our school. We come into class around 1:30 and I remember it was beginning to snow. As time went on, the snow began to increase in speed and in the amount coming down. By 2:15 it was one big blanket of white in front of our window. It was getting hard to pay attention to what we learning because it was fascinating to see that much snow accumulated that fast. By 2:50, when we get ready to go home, the snow had not stopped coming. A few kids had been picked up by their parents a few minutes early because the roads were starting to get bad. It was around 3:15 and there were still a group of kids waiting for our parents and buses to pick us up. I remember not being too worried because I thought the plows would be able to clear the roads in time and my mom could pick me up and take me home. I did begin to worry when it was 4 o'clock and my mom still hadn't come. We played in the gym for a while and then watched movies. It was actually really fun. I had a good time running around with the little kids. Around 5:30, I decided to call my mom. She told me that there was no way she could get on the road and that I was going to have to sleep at school. I was actually in shock. We ended up sleeping in my classroom! We watched movies until the younger kids fell asleep. It took my brain a little bit to adjust to the fact that I had to sleep at school. I finally got comfortable and fell fast asleep.

When I woke up the teachers had made breakfast. I found out that my mom was coming and I was able to go home. I could never be more grateful for the kindness the teachers showed toward us. They made everything feel better. I most likely would have been scared and upset if they hadn't been there. It is something I will never forget. All those made up stories about possibly having to stay overnight at school actually came true. In the end, those make believe stories can be real. :0

(See page 5 for additional parent comments.)

Chicken  
finger  
dinner with  
veggies and  
fruit!



Fun and  
games!



Sleeping at school- look comfy?



Some brave adults!

## School Impact Parent Comments

*(Continued from page 4)*

*"While my friends were getting robo call updates from their schools, it was so reassuring to receive calls from an actual person about my daughter."*

*~Shannon Swiger*

*"My daughter started Kindergarten here this year. What a loving, safe, and educational environment for kids to learn! Mrs. Gabel, all teachers and the principal clearly are in this wholeheartedly. When we had the snowstorm on Thursday, teachers were kind enough to stay with some kids overnight for kids and parents safety. It was a total Godsend and my daughter had a ball with a camp-out! Not one person complained!! My daughter already can't wait until fall 2017 and she loves the 1st grade teacher!! Send your kids here if you're considering a private school ... you won't be disappointed!"*

*~Diana Marie*

*"Thank you for taking such good care of all of us in the Trinity family! You guys are amazing!"*

*~ Michelle Chromy*

## Southtowns Care Center

**Open House:** The Southtowns Care Center will host an open house at their brand new location (4535 Southwestern Blvd., Suite 808, Hamburg, NY 14075) on **Saturday, March 4th, from 10 AM to 2 PM.** The SCC is a pregnancy resource center providing free services to women of our community facing difficult pregnancy decisions. If you interested in becoming a volunteer for the Southtowns Care Center, please contact them by phone at 716-508-0660, or e-mail them at [info@southcc.org](mailto:info@southcc.org). Their location is

**Volunteer:** If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please plan to attend our upcoming volunteer training beginning February 20th. This training is specifically for individuals who want to work directly with clients through peer counseling or answering phones. This will be four evenings of hard work and fun, February 20th, 21st, 27th, and 28th, from 6 PM-9PM each evening. Additionally, we are in need of other volunteers to help regularly with office work and cleaning, and more flexible times of move in and furniture assembly. To be involved in this capacity, you do not need to go through training. To register for volunteer training, or if you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please respond to this e-mail or call 716-508-0660.

## Healing / Prayer Service Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 12:00noon New Hope United Methodist Church (2846 Seneca Street, West Seneca)

Come and receive prayer for yourself, stand in for someone else in need of prayer, and offer prayers for others and with others. We will pray for healing of body, mind, and spirit. We will pray for healing of family, friends, our church, our country, and our world. Communion and anointing with oil will be available for those who choose to receive. All are welcome!



## Winter VBS ~ "Frosty Fun" February 21-23, 2017

**Ebenezer United Church of Christ  
(630 Main Street, West Seneca)**

Join us for a wonderful winter adventure ~ science, stories, and "snow" much more! For more information, to register, or to volunteer please contact Pastor Marcia Tolman at 674-6641 / [marciatolmancm@gmail.com](mailto:marciatolmancm@gmail.com).

## February Meetings at a Glance

**Outreach Committee:** Wednesday, 2/8/17 at 7pm

**Men in Ministry:** Saturday, 2/11/17 at 8:30am

**Deacons Meeting:** Saturday, 2/11/17 at 10am

**Sr. High Parent Mtg:** Sunday, 2/12/17 at 11:45am

**Executive Committee:** Monday, 2/13/17 at 7pm

**Jr. High Youth Group:** Monday, 2/13/17 at 7pm

**Inclusion Committee:** Tuesday, 2/14/17 at 6:30pm

**Sr. High Group:** Tuesday, 2/14/17 & 2/28/17 at 7pm



## Ash Wednesday and Lent

**LENT** Lent and Easter are a little later this year. Ash Wednesday is on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Mid-Week Lenten services will be offered at 11:30am (following the Mid-Week Bible Class) and at 7:00pm on the Wednesdays in the season of Lent (3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 4/5). Our theme this year is, "Standing at the Cross," a series based on the themes from some of Martin Luther's Lenten sermons. It's designed to serve as a lead-in to the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation.

Please remember to save used 1<sup>st</sup> class postage stamps. Leave them in Nancy Hope's mailbox. Funds raised are used to purchase Bibles for members of the Armed Forces. Thanks!



## YOUTH SCOOP

### Jr. High Youth Night:

If you either have a child in 6-8th grade or are yourself and haven't been to any of our Jr. High nights, you might not know what you're missing. Any of the teens that have come always try to make it back to the next one! When is it you may ask? **Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm-8:30pm.** We start out with some open gym time, then move to some organized games followed by a devotional talk and some snacks. Fun, fantastic talk about God, food! Don't come alone though... bring a friend (or a cousin).



**Lots of fun at  
Jr. High Night!**



Can you start with an OREO on your forehead and get it to your mouth without using your hands or dropping it?

### Sr. High Small Group:

Sr. High Small Groups move to Tuesdays starting February! High school teens have had some great topics so far including revenge, being new, pressure to succeed, disappointments and expectations, and self image. The teens themselves choose the topics and then the trained student leaders lead the group through the discussion which does not disappoint. Our dates for February are **Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm-8:30pm** at the Willert's house.

### Parent Meeting for Sr. High

We'll have a half hour parent meeting on **Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:45am** (right after worship). It will include information sharing for those HS students that need to be confirmed as well as Sr. High ministry opportunities for our teens. Mandatory for those wishing to be confirmed this year.



### Youth Bowling

Much fun was had by all on this Sr. High bowling event... guess you could say they had a **ball**. Held on MLK Day, some of them had a challenging time trying to **pin** down their score. Total score by the group was 1,277 over two games each. Better luck taking a better **strike** at it next time. High scorer was Zack Powers (top row center), who actually also bowls on his high school team. Mark Willert lost a Tim Horton's iced hot chocolate to Powers as the result of a little pre-game competition talk. Willert says there just wasn't any room to **spare** in his game.

*Happy Birthday*

2/2	Eric Osberg	2/11	Heidi Kosicki	2/15	Gregory Kopra	2/23	Tamie Dirrigl
2/3	Lois Rodgers	2/12	Loren Pletscher		Jamie Makey		Amelia Iannuzzelli
2/6	Gary Sprung		Tonia Minko	2/17	Jeremy Paz	2/24	Gary Ecker
	Laurel Szeider	2/13	Ruth Brown		Nathan McClellan	2/25	Olivia Wilkening
2/7	Sue Brehm		Robert Moeller	2/18	Carolyn Flattery	2/26	Robert Johnson
2/9	Florence Bogumil		Alan Yox	2/19	Janet Bullock	2/27	Geraldine Swart
	Zachary Powers		Landon Heckman		Robert Summerville		
2/10	Steve Meden	2/14	Gay Nichols	2/20	Gertraud Warzecha		
	Kris Heckman		River Rowsell		Bok Yox		
	Chris Kwilas		Morgan Ringle	2/22	Lori Lorigo		

*Happy Anniversary*

2/3	Patricia & Jack Peterson	2/14	Michele & Edward Baun	2/26	George & Linda Hodge
2/7	Nevin & Linda Hope	2/22	Marcia & Gary Fenn		
2/11	Richard & Helen Schultz	2/25	Bruce & Kristen Heckman		

**Audio / Visual Fund Update**

**We did it!** Our technology upgrade is completely paid off!!! Thank you to everyone who was able to donate to this project! Periodic maintenance / updates will need to be made, so any continued support for this fund in the future would be appreciated.



Plans are in the works for a Mission Trip to Haiti through Mission of Hope and the Upper Room Orphanage this summer! For more information or if you are interested in being a part of this (or future) trips, please contact a member of the Haiti Mission Team (Andrew/ Bob Eising, Chris Kopra, Brad McKernan, or Rachel Antes) or email LIFE @ [trinityLIFE4christ@gmail.com](mailto:trinityLIFE4christ@gmail.com).

**Haiti Update**

**Upper Room Sponsorship**

THANK YOU TRINITY! Our prayers have been answered with our sponsorship of the Upper Room Orphanage and we are proud to say that we have met our goal for the monthly sponsorships! Thank you to each and every one of you who have pledged to contribute to these wonderful children on a monthly basis. Your generosity is overwhelming and we are so glad to be able to share this wonderful news with Papa Josy and Mama Kerlin. The first month's sponsorship's will be sent down to Haiti in February to help provide for the physical, spiritual, mental, and social needs of the children. If you are still interested in sponsorship or giving a one-time donation, there are always additional needs as well. Look for future bulletin messages, emails, and announcements about the latest update with our friends at the Upper Room. To God be the glory!

**Ministers: The People of Trinity Church & School**

Position

Pastor  
 School Principal  
 Youth & Family Coordinator  
 Church Office Administrator  
 School Office Administrator

Name

Rev. Dennis Krueger  
 Kathleen Fretthold  
 Mark Willert  
 Teresa Lynch  
 Judeen Babcock

Contact Information

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