TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS APRIL 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, Interim School Principal, School: 674-5353

Church Website: trinity-lutheranchurch.com Church Office E-mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm - Devotional Sunday @ 8:00 am - Traditional Sunday @ 10:30 am - Contemporary

THE EASTER Bunny BUTTERFLY

There are many symbols around the Easter celebration from Easter eggs and hot cross buns to Easter lilies and Spring flowers, and even the Easter bunny. Some are very helpful in the celebration of the new life in our risen Lord Jesus, while others may be a little confusing (like a bunny hiding chicken eggs!). I think the symbol of the butterfly is one of the more helpful ones. Its whole life cycle is meant to symbolize the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The first stage is that of a caterpillar which might represent Jesus' earthly life as truly a man. The second phase is the cocoon stage, depicting Jesus' death and burial in a tomb. The glorious third stage is that of the beautiful butterfly representing Jesus' victorious resurrection from the dead. What a meaningful symbol of the life death and resurrection of the God-man, Jesus! With this in mind, consider the following butterfly parable:

"As a butterfly soared overhead, one caterpillar said to the other, 'You'll never get me up in one of those things.' Yet for every caterpillar the time comes when the urge to eat and grow subsides and he instinctively begins to form a chrysalis around himself. The chrysalis hardens and you'd think for all the world that the caterpillar is dead. But one spring morning the life inside the chrysalis begins to writhe, the top cracks open, and a beautifully-formed butterfly emerges. For hours it will stand stretching and drying its wings, moving them slowly up and down, up and down. And then, before you know it, the butterfly glides aloft, effortlessly riding the currents of the air, alighting on flower after gorgeous flower, as if to show off its vivid colors to the bright blossoms."

On Easter morning the disciples saw Jesus' grave clothes lying on the cold slab. Only the corpse was gone, much like an empty chrysalis deserted by a butterfly who has left to soar free. "He is risen as He said," an angel told the incredulous disciples. Later that day he appeared to the disciples, and then, over the course of the next few weeks, to as many as five hundred people at one time. Even "Doubting Thomas" didn't doubt for long that Jesus was really risen from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the grave is God's proof to us that death is not the end. He conquered death and the devil, and paid the price of sin. The empty tomb and Jesus' Spirit within us testify that Easter morning is God's triumph over death. And ultimately, Jesus promised, God will raise from the dead all who believe in His Son.

Why do Christians gather to celebrate Easter morning? To show off their fine clothes or give a ritual tip of the hat to religion? God forbid – but sadly for some this is true! Rather we gather to celebrate Jesus' victory over death itself. Since He is our Lord and our Savior with whom we are united through Holy Baptism, His victory is our victory! In celebrating His resurrection we celebrate our own assurance of ultimate triumph over death and the hope of eternal life!

Join us this Easter as we celebrate Life! And if you look closely Easter morning, you might even see a butterfly alight on the lilies.

Pastor Dennis Krueger



Palm Sunday April 9, 2017 ~ 8:00am & 10:30am

> Maundy Thursday April 13, 2017 ~ 7:00pm

Good Friday April 14, 2017 ~ 12noon & 7:00pm

> Holy Saturday April 15, 2017 ~ 5:00pm

Easter Sunday April 16, 2017 ~ 7:00am & 10:30am

WSCC Mid-Week Lent Service

The West Seneca Community of Churches will be holding a mid-week Lent service on **Wednesday, April 5th at 7:00pm** at St. John Vianney (Southwestern Blvd., Orchard Park). The WSCC will be donating half of all donations collected throughout their Lenten services to Haiti! Come to the service and stay afterwards for refreshments and fellowship!



MEN'S RETREAT 2017 SAVE THE DATE

Grilled Chicken Wings and Steak, Fellowship with other Christian Brothers, a Competitive Tournament, Campfire Worship

If you are interested in any of the above, you will not want to miss out on this year's Men's Retreat at Camp Pioneer. Join Trinity's Men-in-Ministry for this year's weekend, which is **May 5th-7th**. The men's group from St. John's Lutheran Orchard Park will be leading the retreat once again, which will run from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. A brochure with additional information will be available soon. Contact Chris Kopra (phone: 207-3008, email: <u>kopracj@yahoo.com</u>) if you are interested in attending.

Cemetery Work Day Saturday ~ April 1, 2017 9:00am - 12:00pm

All are welcome to come out and lend a hand! Remember your work gloves and bring a rake if you can.



Easter Breakfast For ALL

Trinity's Men in Ministry is excited about sponsoring their 4th Annual Easter Breakfast on <u>Sunday, April 16th</u> <u>from 8am-10:15am</u> in the school gym. The menu will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, pastry, juice and coffee. Invite your family, friends and neighbors!!! A freewill offering benefiting Haiti will be taken. We hope to see you there.

<u>Men needed</u>! Any men interested in assisting in the above Easter Breakfast by purchasing food, setting up, cooking or cleaning up should contact Dave Sirgey (djsirgey@adelphia.net).

Attention All Leaders

If your ministry, team, board or committee would like a budget for the new fiscal year starting in July 2017 OR if you are starting a new ministry, please either return the budget request form that will be emailed to you by April 1st or pick one up from Dave Broderdorf's mail box. Please return completed forms to Dave Broderdorf by May 1.



Youth Retreat at Camp Pioneer April 21-23, 2017

Registration Due by Sunday, April 2nd!

Members of Trinity's youth group, confirmation classes, and any friends in grades 6-12 are welcome for the Spring Junior and Senior High Retreat. We will leave from church on Friday evening, April 21st and return Sunday afternoon.

Keep a look out for a brochure and more information regarding cost, registration and what to bring. If you have a child or know someone who would like to attend or have any questions, please contact Chris Kopra (207-3008) or Mark Willert (608-8907). Last year we had over 25 youth attend with Trinity's group!

Trinity School News

From the Principal ...

We were so excited to have a gym full of folks for the spaghetti dinner, and many of them were YOU! It's truly a joy to share the blessing which is our school with you in this way, and through the musical and other events. I know that since you don't see our students daily, you cannot see their growth both academically and in faith, as we are blessed to see, but through events like this you can feel the joy and commitment that our students and staff have for the Lord and for their school. We hope that you'll come and enjoy the food trucks and our open house and curriculum fair on Friday April 28th (see flyer) and also plan on coming to the musical, Nic at Night, on May 12. These events both give the students a chance to shine!

You may remember that we initiated a prayer drive for our school enrollment last spring, and the Lord answered those prayers above and beyond (as He so often does!) As it is enrollment time once again, we are asking that you add a special prayer for 90-15-20 to your list (90 students total, including 15 Kindergarteners and 20 preschoolers.) If you have ANY questions about the school, be it tuition or curriculum or class size, etc., please give me a call. I love talking about our school, giving tours and introducing staff and students. Our school will be re-accredited this coming school year through the updated and stringent standards of the NLSA (National Lutheran Schools Accreditation) which is in alignment with Middle States Accreditation, so there is no doubt as to the quality of mission and purpose, academics and facility to you and the public. You'll be hearing much more about that in the coming months.

By now, you will have received your Annual Fund mailing. Please consider a gift, even \$10 or \$20, to provide opportunities for the school beyond our budget lines. Last year's fund collection is still waiting patiently, drawing interest, for the bathrooms to be completed (we have blueprints!) and this year's fund will help towards playground equipment, robotics and coding kits, and more. The school children are collecting "Pennies for the Playground" so if you have any jars of coins cluttering up your dresser or counter space, we will gladly take them off your hands!

Thank you again, good and faithful servants, for your support of this most worthy mission vehicle. Through your generosity and the hard work of the staff and many volunteers, you are truly "making more and better disciples of Jesus Christ" here at the school.

~ Kathleen Fretthold Principal, Trinity Christian School

Thank You!!!

A Huge Thank You to Dave Broderdorf and all the church members who helped to clean up the music room after a flooding problem last month. Thankfully no major damage was done to any instruments. I greatly appreciate the quick actions of Pastor and all involved to replace the rug so we have no issues with mold. The basement music room has been a wonderful blessing these past few years. The space is perfect for Alleluia Choir which meets there each week. Wednesdays are my favorite mornings because I have the privilege of teaching new music to this enthusiastic group and leading them in lifting their voices and instruments in praise. Their joyful voices always bring a midweek smile to my face. There is nothing more uplifting to me than joining our voices together in singing His praises. I pray the songs we sing will find a permanent place in their minds and hearts as they grow in faith.

Thank you also for the new shelves which were installed this year. They have been perfect for storing instruments and keeping them easily accessible for each class. The large rug space has been wonderful for the younger classes for dance and movement which are a big part of our music time. Our musical this year is an oldie but a goodie : **Nic at Night** - the Bible Story of Nicodemus. You are all invited to come and see it on Friday May 12 at 1:00 and 7 pm. * Help needed -strong men/ladies/older youth to help set up the stage in the school gym directly after Trinity's late church service on Sunday April 30th. Thank You in Advance!

It is a blessing to serve in ministry with you,

~ Noel Anderson, Music/P.E.Teacher

SCHOOL IMPACT

This month's letter form a parent is a bit longer but well worth the read. Neat to see how God's plan worked it's way though to get this mom and son to our school. Be sure to read to the end where she **thanks you** for providing the opportunity to have instilled in her son the Christian values that only come in a school like ours.

TCS: An Answer to Prayer By Michelle Chromy-Russo

All parents have the same feelings when their little one finally reaches the school age. Apprehension, sadness, and excitement hit all at the same time. For me and my son Peter, the excitement was not so prevalent. Peter has always had extreme separation anxiety, although I never realized the severity of it until we had done a tour of a local preschool. It was at that moment I decided homeschooling was in our best interest. Luckily, homeschooling is popular in my family and I had a lot of help and support. Peter was homeschooled for 3 years, during which I also worked full time.

After 3 years, and looking into curriculum for upcoming grades; the material was getting harder and I was getting exhausted. It was then that I began the search for the perfect school. Peter being an only child and me a first time mom at all of this, I knew very little of what I was looking for. I knew Peter was going to need something small and accommodating to his needs, so the public schools in our district, Buffalo, were out of the question. I applied for a nearby charter school and had a few other private schools in mind, until a very close friend of mine, knowing my Christian upbringing and family's background, mentioned Trinity in West Seneca. I was a little hesitant, not being familiar with the school. However, being told we were on a waiting list for the charter school I was hoping Peter would get into, I filled out our application for Trinity, not realizing what a life changing experience we were getting into.

Once Peter was enrolled in Trinity, as we got closer to the end of summer and the beginning of the school year, it was extremely welcoming for Peter to receive a postcard in the mail from his upcoming teacher. Miss Harris would not only be Peter's first and second grade teacher, but an angel sent from God who understood and helped in every way with Peter and his anxiety. Little did I know, I'd also find a lifetime friendship with her. We prepared to attend the orientation the week before school with extreme nervousness. That feeling was completely washed away when, the moment we walked through the doors of Trinity, we were personally greeted by the very loving and warm Mrs. Fretthold. She immediately sat Peter down, welcomed us, introduced herself, and knelt down to make Peter feel as if Trinity was going to be his and our home for the next 8 years. I was completely overwhelmed with the love filling that building. Parents I had never met before were welcoming me with handshakes, hugs, and opening hearts, offering advice and help in any way. Within 2 hours, we had been adopted into a whole new family of parents and kids that completely changed us.

In the past year and a half at Trinity Christian School, I have watched my son grow from a nervous, timid, sometimes angry little boy to a confident, intelligent young man who is no longer afraid to show who he is and is surrounded by friends. It is such a wonderful feeling to see a school full of children who are taught nothing but God's love and to live by his Word. I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to have found such a wonderful school, as well as the friends and family we have found here. In case I don't say it enough, thank you to each and every person at Trinity Christian School and Church for instilling such values into my son, and for being such blessings to both Peter and myself in welcoming us into the Trinity family!

Trinity School on Facebook

Please help our school in an easy, free way! Social media is becoming more and more important, and we are always working on our positive presence on Facebook. Simply follow these 3 steps, and it will help us tremendously!

- 1. Like our page! Go to www.facebook.com/trinitywestseneca, and click "Like".
- 2. Write a review. We have a 5 star rating on Facebook! The more reviews people can read, the more likely they are to give us a call and come visit.
- 3. Stay involved! Like, comment, and share our posts!

We so appreciate your support of our school! Thank you!



Voters Meeting Results

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the Voters Meeting on March 19th. Here is a quick overview of the meeting:

- Lynnae Kwilas was voted in as the new Executive Committee Member to supersede Ron Hope, whose term had expired.
- The Pastor and Executive Committee will review member attendance on a quarterly basis. Information will be shared with the appropriate boards and committees to help address any concerns.
- Repair of the church's stained glass windows will cost approximately \$20,000. Work on these will begin at the end of summer. For those wishing to make donations to this project, a special envelope will be included in your monthly offering envelope packet beginning in May or you can simply submit a donation at any time by clearly marking it "Stained Glass Windows".
- Data obtained from visits made by Executive Committee Members to families with children ages K-8th grade was presented. A meeting with 10 other area churches will be held in June to discuss how they can assist with the promotion of our school.



VBS 2017 - "Rome" July 10-14, 2017 9am-12pm

Mark your calendar!!! All children entering Pre-K 4 thru 6th Grade in the Fall are welcome. We'll sing fun songs, do crazy crafts, eat yummy snacks, play awesome games, and much more. Registration will begin in May.

Helpers are needed in order to make this event a success for the kids! If you can volunteer to help, even for just 1 day, please contact Anna Eising (909-2444 or eising6pak@verizon.net).

New Members Class

New Member Classes

We'd like to offer a New Member series of classes after Easter that would conclude before the summer. Anyone interested in attending places contact either Paster Krugger or the

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.



Email Addresses: Have you been receiving Trinity's monthly newsletter electronically? No? We can fix that! Contact the church office (674-9188) with your email address or you can write your name and email on a piece of paper and place it in the Church Office mailbox in the coatroom.

Pew Sign-In Sheets: When attending services, please take a moment to sign the red attendance booklet that is located in each row's book holder closest to the center aisle.

Contact Information: If you have moved, changed your phone # or email address recently, please contact the church office so we can update your information.

Submission Dates: The deadline to submit items for the weekly "Life at Trinity" announcement sheet is each Monday and the monthly "Trinity Tidings" newsletter's deadline is the 20^{th} of each month.

Trinity's Nursery Rooms

Nursery rooms for children up to 6 years of age are located in Trinity Church's basement and consist of an infant room and a separate toddler play area. Parents are welcome to use these areas during worship if needed. Audio and video feed of the service is available in these areas for your convenience.



Camp Pioneer Golf Benefit Monday ~ July 17, 2017 Brierwood Country Club

The early bird price (before June 1st) is \$135 per golfer. Please call Camp Pioneer at 549-1420 to register. A copy of the golf brochure containing all the details can be found on the bulletin board in the church coatroom. The proceeds will assist children of our military to have a camp experience. Church organizations and businesses are urged to sponsor a hole at the benefit for a donation of \$150.

Memorial Plaques

You can remember deceased loved ones who were once members of Trinity in a special way by purchasing a small engraved tab plaque to go on our Memorial Board located in the church's fellowship area. The cost is \$25. Please contact the church office (674-9188) if you are interested in purchasing a plaque. Orders will be accepted until May 7th.





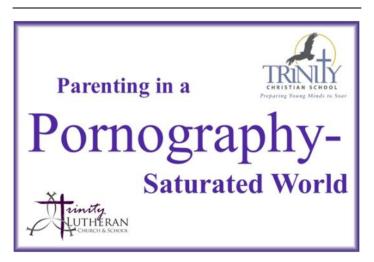
Page 7

Confirmation Goes Technical

It's interesting to look at church history in how Confirmation Sunday took place. For those of you that go back a few years you'll remember that an actual "public examination" would take place in front of the congregation. Pastor or leaders in the church would ask students being confirmed questions of faith and doctrine. The students would have to answer in font of all. Talk about some white knuckles! Then, a few less years ago students would write their profession of faith and with nervous voices read it to the congregation on Sunday morning.

This year something that has never happened before will take place. We will video record the students sharing their statement of faith and show it on the big screen. This way the students can enjoy the process, be seen in a more natural and comfortable way, and genuinely share what they believe.

Our church family is looking forward to Confirmation Sunday on May 21 and we will be confirming 12 students! Please pray for them as they are currently working on writing their profession of faith.



It's not a question of if, but when our children will be exposed to pornography. We will hold a one hour informational and resource time to arm and ready all parents and grandparents. Keep an eye in the May newsletter for the date and time.



Altar Flowers

We are in need of families to sign up to tar donate altar flowers for <u>April and May</u>. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the

church coatroom. They are only \$10 and you get to take them home after the 10:30am service. We ask that 2 families sign up for each week. Payment can be place in the Church Office mailbox. Thank you for helping to beautify our altar!

Cemetery News . . .

<u>ANY</u> burials or spreading of ashes in Trinity's Cemetery are prohibited without pre-approval from the Cemetery Board. Both state and cemetery regulations need to be adhered to.

Burial plots are still available in our cemetery.

- Members \$700 per plot with a \$100 discount per plot when purchasing 2 or more at the same time
- Non-members \$1,400 per plot (no discounts given). Non-members must be relatives of a Trinity member in order to purchase plots.



Plans are in the works for a mission trip to Haiti through Mission of Hope and the Upper Room Orphanage <u>this</u> <u>summer</u>! 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 @ <u>trinityLIFE4christ@gmail.com</u>.

Spaghetti Dinner Success!

Thank you to all who came out to support Trinity School's spaghetti dinner on March 18th. There was a record attendance and a good time was had by all. A special thank you to those who made donations to this event and to those who volunteered to work it. We could not have done this without you!

F

Follow us on Facebook!

Did you know Trinity has a Facebook page? You can post to it and also watch for updates and events. If you are a leader and would like to post your event as "Trinity Lutheran Church" instead of your own user name, contact Mark Willert for login info. We have almost 300 "friends" on this page! To search for it on Facebook, type in "Trinity Lutheran Church West Seneca". Add us as a friend if you have not already!

Operation Christmas Child

Items being collected during the month of **April** are <u>small TOYS</u>. Items can be placed in the Operation Christmas Child bin in the church narthex. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Page 8

Sad News for Compassion International

Trinity Christian School has had the privilege of sponsoring a child from Compassion International for the past 8 years. Her name is Rani, and she lives in India. Compassion International provides Rani with food, education, and spiritual education. This aid extends to Rani's family as well. We have had the privilege of writing back and forth with her, exchanging letters and photographs over the years. We have developed quite a relationship. The students always look forward to hearing from Rani. And we love writing her; giving her encouragement, updating her on the events of the school, and, most importantly, telling her how much God loves her.

This past week we received very sad news regarding Compassion's work in India. The Indian government is withdrawing Compassion's license to provide aid in India. That means that the 145,000 children and families that depend on aid from Compassion will now be left to fend for themselves. All Compassion staff are being required to close their facilities and leave the country. There will be no more contact between Indian Compassion children and their sponsors. Rani is one of those 145,000 children, and our hearts are breaking for her, and for all of those families.

The Indian government is withdrawing licenses from any aid agencies they feel are against their political ideology. That means that of all the aid agencies in India, over half are losing their licenses and being forced to leave the country; even well-known agencies such as Amnesty International and Greenpeace. Compassion estimates that out of the 400 million children living in extreme poverty world-wide, 30% live in India.

Can we please pray for the children and families in India? Can we pray that they hold on to the love of Jesus, even as those professing that love are being forced to abandon them? Can we pray that God raises up Christian leaders in the country to continue to teach about God's love and salvation through His Son? Can we pray for the Indian government? That they see the wisdom of allowing aid to their struggling nation. And, can we please pray for Rani? The sweet Indian girl that has captured our hearts for the past 8 years. Can we pray that she has food, water, and access to education and health care? Can we pray that she stay safe? Most importantly, can we pray that Jesus hold her close and allow His love to grow in her heart?

YOUTH SCOOP

Jr. Youth Nights Fantastic Fun & Fellowship!

If you have a student in grades 6-8 and they haven't come to one of our youth nights, it's time to check it out. We have new kids coming every month and ... they keep coming back! Our next one is **April 24** held in the school gym from 7:00 -8:30pm.



Jr. Youth Team building: get everyone over the rope without touching it!

Sr. High Small Group

Sr. High small group this month is **April 4 & 18** and will be held at the Willert's house next to church from 7:00 - 8:30pm. Come for an evening of meaningful discussion and how God fits in!





OPEN HOUSE / CURRICULUM FAIR & FOOD TRUCKS 4:30-6:30 pm

New Families will receive a \$5 Food Truck Voucher for visiting TCS !

SPRING FLING 6:30-8:00 pm

Donations will kindly be accepted for the Southtowns Care Center NEW, UNUSED baby items to stock the care pantry (ie. diapers, wipes, formula, clothes, blankets, etc.)

Invite your Friends, Family, Alumni & Community



Trinity Christian School 146 Reserve Road West Seneca , NY 14224 (716)674-5353

www.thinktrinitychristian.com

R

4/17

April 2016	

				<u> Happy Birthdo</u>	щ			
/1	Sara	h Makosy	4/17	Robbin Blajszczak		4/24	Jennifer Canazzi	
/3	Evel	lyn Burger	4/18	Marcia Nickerson		4/25	Lori Strong	
4/5	Rob	ert Boldt		Tim Monahan		4/26	Jean Newton	
	Mar	y Havens	4/19	Heidi Cosandier		4/27	Kathy Stephen	
4/7		ol McMenamin		Austin Smith			Brendon Ganschow	
		Zawadzki	4/20	Marcia Fenn		4/28	Justin Cornell	
4/9	Rob	ert Cislo	4/21	Scot Zawadzki		4/29	Anne Gurney	
4/10	Bett	y-Jo Smith	4/22	Kevin Kausner			Sandra Lelito	
4/11	Broo	ly Zawadzki		Mark Rodgers Lisa Berton			Kelcy Strong	
4/12	Lind	la Hope		Steven Wrobel	4/30	Vicky Wienke Natalie Ecker		
4/13	Don Rieman		4/23	Piper Farrell			Tutulie Leker	
	Coll	een Kot						
				74				
			<u>č</u>	<u> Happy Annivers</u>	<u>ary</u>			
	4/5 Greg & Tara Thompson			4/17	4/17 Lindsay & Jordan Iannuzzelli		an Iannuzzelli	
4/12		Duane & Sarah Gabel		4/20			a Meissner	
		Charles & Nancy Stevens	rles & Nancy Stevens		James &	James & Ryan Rowsell		
4/15				4/23	Robert &	Robert & Anna Eising		
		Steve & Robin Makosy		4/24	Trevor &	& Court	tney Jelowski	

ويخاويخا <mark>R</mark>

Carol & Francis McMenamin

Emergency Contacts

If a family member is hospitalized or there is an emergency need, please inform and phone Pastor Krueger (997-5666), the church office (674-9188), or one of the Deacons.

Portals of Prayer Booklets

Portals of Prayer (April-June 2017) devotion booklets are now available. They can be found in the church entryway, on the Welcome Center in the narthex, and in the coatroom. Please take one!

Trinity Food Wagon

The Trinity Food Wagon is now located by the parking lot entrance to the building. Please help fill it with non-perishables, cereals, canned goods, etc. Thank you for helping those in need!



Trinity members who have entered eternal peace with the Lord:

Elva Spellburg ~ February 7, 2017

Ruth Tedesco ~ February 13, 2017

Ruth Brown ~ March 16, 2017

Position

Pastor Interim School Principal Family Ministries Coordinator Director of Music Ministry Church Office Administrator School Office Administrator

Ministers: The People of Trinity Church & School

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

Contact Information

997-5666 / tlckrueger@verizon.net 674-5353 / kfretthold@thinktrinitychristian.com 608-8907 / mwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com 961-8378 / esmky23@yahoo.com 674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net 674-5353 / trinity@thinktrinitychristian.com