

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

DECEMBER 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: trinitywestseneca.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

“O Come, O Come Immanuel”

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and will call Him Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:14

The ancient and prominent Advent hymn bids God to fulfill His promise and come to us in His incarnate Son! It is a call for ransom from the captivity of sin. God had promised long ago to rescue His disobedient and wayward people from the shackles of sin that enslaved them and the ultimate consequence of death. This covenant promise that God extended to His chosen nation was renewed and passed on down through the generations of Abraham, Jesse, King David, and the Children of Israel. We celebrate that gracious and undeserved gift of love forgiveness and salvation at Christmas time in the incarnation of God as the baby Jesus! Through this promise fulfilled, all the nations of the earth would be blessed in the Messiah-Savior, Jesus the Christ! The virgin conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and gave birth to the God-Son, Jesus Christ, who would be sacrificed for the sins of the whole world. And, all who believed in Him would have forgiveness, salvation and eternal life!

“Immanuel Has Come!”

“When the time set had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law.” Galatians 4:4

At the divinely appointed time, God sent forth His one and only Son, the Word became flesh and dwelt among us in the manger in Bethlehem. He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, and taken up in glory! All this took place to fulfill what was spoken of Him by the prophets. Jesus was born as the baby in Bethlehem, the love of God incarnate and “God with us.” He was born as true God and true man so that He would live under the Law that He fulfilled perfectly for us – and so that He could pay the price of the sins of mankind in dying on the cross thirty-some years later. God and man, heaven and earth became very close in this gift of the Christ child. He who knew no sin, no death, no consequence of evil came into the world to know sin, know death and to know the consequences of evil. He offered Himself as the perfect propitiation and sacrifice for our disobedience and sin – the greatest Passover Lamb of God!

“Immanuel Continues to Come!”

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. The bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” John 6:51

This very same Jesus Christ, the Word of promise and the Word of fulfillment who came into the world to save people from their sins continues to come to His people and the world in the means of grace: the Holy Word; and the Holy Sacraments. Granted it is not “incarnate” in the same way as it was when He came to be born of the Virgin Mary. Still, He comes to us in a very real way! He comes to us in His Holy Word, the Bible, as the Bread of Life who nurtures us in His Law and Gospel. He reveals to us who He is, what He has done for us and what His holy will is. He comes to us in the ‘real presence’ of His body and blood in the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood. The very same Jesus who broke bread and passed the cup of Communion comes to us today in His true body and true blood – given and shed for us for the greatest Christmas gift of all time and eternity: forgiveness life and salvation!

May the precious peace of the Immanuel that surpasses all understanding, bless and keep you in this season of the Christmas celebration to eternity! A most blessed Christmas to each and every one of you who are precious and redeemed by the Immanuel, Jesus! Amen!

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger

Holiday Worship Schedule

| | |
|--|---|
| <i>November 28th @ 6:00pm:</i> | <i>Family Advent Celebration</i> |
| <i>December 17th @ 10:30am:</i> | <i>Sunday School Christmas Program</i> |
| <i>December 24th @ 5:00pm:</i> | <i>Family Christmas Eve Service w/ Communion</i> |
| <i>10:00pm:</i> | <i>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service w/ Comm.</i> |
| <i>December 25th @ 9:30am:</i> | <i>Christmas Celebration w/ Communion</i> |
| <i>December 31st @ 8am & 10:30am:</i> | <i>Regular services only</i> |

Christmas Caroling **Sunday, December 10th**

Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins is scheduled for Sunday, December 10th. We will meet at the church at 1:30pm to begin our journey. Please sign up in the church narthex if you can spread the joy of Christmas with us!



Cookie Walk **Sunday, December 10th** **After the 10:30am Service**

What are the holidays without cookies?! Come out and support our annual Cookie Walk. Bakers are needed! Please help make this fundraiser a success by donating 5-6 dozen homemade cookies for our cookie walk. They may be dropped off at church prior to the 10:30 service that morning. Please use a disposable container. This event is sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Proceeds to benefit Trinity families in need.



Sunday School Pageant

Our Sunday School children will be leading worship with their annual Christmas pageant on **December 17st at the 10:30am service**. Please join us!

Men in Ministry Meeting **Saturday ~ December 9, 2017** **At 9:00am**

Men in Ministry will have a breakfast fellowship in December instead of their usual meeting. It will be held at the Depew Deli (4911 Broadway). All men are invited.

2018 ALTAR FLOWERS **& CANDLE OIL**



The 2018 charts are posted in the church coatroom!

Flowers: \$10 per vase and you get to take them home after the 10:30am service! We are asking that 2 families sign up for each week. Payments should be placed in the **Church Office's message center** - make checks payable to **"Trinity Lutheran Church"** (memo: Altar Flowers).

The Altar Candle Oil: \$25 per month (per family). Two families should sign-up each month to cover the total cost of the oil. Checks payable to: **"Trinity Altar Guild"** and placed in Lois Rodgers' message center.

****Please make sure to include your name and special intentions on the sign-up sheets.****

Shoe Boxes a Blessing!

Thanks to all who donated throughout the year and also helped pack our shoe boxes during the Chili Cook-off on November 5th! These boxes will go around the world blessing children with God's love and the true message of Christmas. Just imagine the happy faces when they open them!



In Memoriam ...

Gary Sprung entered eternal peace with the Lord on November 6, 2017.

School News

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

November was an excellent month at the school, with many activities and milestone events taking place. Early in the month, the school staff and Pastor had a wonderful growth opportunity at the Eastern District Professional Church Workers Conference in Niagara Falls. The teachers also spent several evenings meeting with parents for first quarter parent-teacher conferences. It was quite a challenge to use the new GradeLink online system, but we all made it through and now have several weeks to streamline the process even more. The entire student body received their "Jesus Is My Superhero" t-shirts - don't we look great?! And, the school made the final payment on the bathrooms renovation, praise the Lord! After a little decorating, that project can finally be crossed off the list.

Our new students have settled in very well. We were able to purchase enough Chromebooks for them so that all of the students in grades 3-8 have one to use. The laptops are especially important as we dedicate class time to STEM learning - science, technology, engineering and math. Mrs. Willert has really stepped up to take the lead on that, for which we are very grateful. Some districts adapt the STEAM acronym, adding art to the list, but Mrs. Aures, our PK4 and art teacher, is great at integrating art into the curriculum already. If you see "STREAM", that has 'religion' added also, but we do that throughout the curriculum already, as well!

The students have been practicing the school-wide lock down drill as well as fire drills since September. It is a scary and unsettling experience to hear doors slam and silence ensue as the code words are announced over the loud speaker. One of the most important reasons for an updated phone system in the school, one of the goals for this year's Annual Fund drive, is to be better able to communicate more quickly with all classes and from any location in the event of an emergency. Some modifications for increased fire safety are being made to the building also.

December brings the Christmas Celebration on the 13th at 7pm and the Christmas pageant on 12/22 in the morning. Please join us!

As we proceed through our accreditation year, I am very thankful to know that so many aspects of quality education are already in place, and have been in place, for many years. It is also satisfying to know that this process is helping us to be even better stewards of the innumerable blessings that God continues to bestow on us. We are determined to use them to the very best of our abilities. We are so thankful for your ongoing support as we continue to make more and better disciples for Jesus Christ!

~ Kathleen Fretthold, Principal

School Impact

Here's a snippet of a recent email sent to one of our teachers by a new family this year. It's great feedback to help us know new students and families acclimate well and have such a great impression of our school. Spread the word about Trinity. Is God nudging you to tell someone about our school?

"Thank you again for your assistance. We see such a difference in the children this year. The children want to go to school, even when not 100% they still don't want to miss a class. Thank you, I know it is because of you that they are loving school. The dedication we see with all the teachers is something I have never seen with my children."



Pajama-Rama ... Please RSVP Saturday ~ December 2, 2017

On **Saturday, December 2, 2017** church and school families are invited to drop off their child(ren) from 5:30pm until 9:30pm at the school for a Pajama-rama! Children will have a pizza dinner, watch a G-rated movie (with popcorn), play a group game, and complete a craft while parents have a night out (shopping, dinner, or just relaxing!). This is an Action Team Project sponsored by Thrivent Financial. Families are asked to donate a pair of youth pajamas (any size) for children in foster care. Children should be dressed in pajamas and should bring a pillow/blanket or sleeping bag to watch a favorite movie in comfort. Trinity Alumni, High School, and Youth Group members who are interested in volunteering for this fun-filled evening should contact Ms. Christine Harris at 822-0984. Please RSVP with the number of children to Christine by 11/30.

Important Member Vote Sunday, December 10, 2017 Following the 10:30am Service

A vote will be held on whether Trinity wants to entertain the idea to enter into a lease agreement with Verizon on the proposed tower. This vote will determine if the proposed lease will be presented to NYS Court for approval.

Chili Cook-Off Results

The November 5th Chili Cook-Off was a great hit! Thank you to all those who brought chili, made corn muffins, and came out to taste-test and vote. There were about 90 people in attendance and 15 various types of chili to vote on. The winners were:

- 1st Place - turkey chili made by Jan Bullock
- 2nd Place - beef chili made by Chuck Stevens
- 3rd Place - chicken chili made by Mark & Katie Willert



Vendor / Craft / Rummage Sale Saturday, April 14, 2018 11:00am - 3:00pm In the Trinity School Gym

Vendors and crafters are needed! Since there are a limited number of vendor tables available, we are giving members of the Trinity Church and School the first opportunity to reserve space. If you are interested in vendor space, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Kevin or Colleen Kot at 674-7526 or knckot@verizon.net by November 19. Vendor space will be advertised to the general public after this date.

We are also asking you to save items that you would like to donate for the rummage sale! Proceeds from this sale will go to support future local and domestic mission events.

Outreach Committee

Attention all! If you are interested in being part of the Outreach Committee, please let one of the current members know (Joan/Chris Kopra or Andrew/Rachel Eising). We typically meet on the second Wednesday of each month around 7pm. We should all be reaching out to others, but if you feel as though you can't be a part of the committee please visit our Witness Center and make a suggestion for us!

City Mission Thanksgiving Campaign

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Buffalo City Mission Thanksgiving Meal Program! We sent \$420 to them providing a Thanksgiving meal for 210 people!! Thank you!!

Thank You!

Thank you to my Trinity friends for the cards, phone calls, visits, and, most of all, for prayers during my recovery. God bless you all!

~ Judy Jaeckle

Seven Things That God Hates

Proverbs 6:16-20

(Part 7 of 7)

“God Hates ‘The Person Who Sows Discord Among Brethren’ ”

Friend, are you guilty of stirring up discord?
Do you delight in an evil report?
Are your ears tuned to discover a matter,
Never attempting its value to sort?
Do you repeat what another has told you,
Knowing full well it will minister pain?
Then, do you hurriedly run to the other,
Seeking more fuel, and favor to gain?
God hates the sower of discord with brethren -
Feet running swiftly to carry a tale.
Even Tho true, it is best to be silent,
What kind of peace can the telling avail?
Love is the key that will lock every secret
Sparing a brother from heartache and pain.
Love will be silent, when others are raging
Love will bring healing and peace once again.
Close tight the lips and repeat not a secret.
Vow to be peacemaker, healer and friend.
O what a blessing awaits the endeavor!
Long-broken fellowships truly will mend.

Poem by Edna Moore Schultz

Advent Celebration

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

6:00pm at Trinity School

Looking for a way to Celebrate Advent with your family? On Tuesday, November 29th, Trinity families will come together for an evening of food, worship and fun. Be sure to sign up for the evening that includes a FREE pizza dinner, a brief family worship and festive activities. All this within an hour and a half to get you back home for your evening routine. All ages are invited and be sure to **sign up by Nov. 26th** because we need to order the pizza! Let us know your name, phone #, how many children, how many teens, and how many adults! Email "MWillert@thinktrinitychristian.com" to sign up or use the purple form located on the table in the narthex.

NLHS Guild's Christmas Luncheon & Fundraiser

Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 11:30am
St. John's Lutheran Church
(3512 Clinton Street, West Seneca)

Bring Cookies! Basket Raffle!
Door Prizes! Table Prizes!

Christmas Celebration & Fundraiser. Musical program by Roger Griffiths. Menu includes stuffed shells, salad, cookies. Enjoy fun, fellowship, and a great program! General admission is \$5.00 per person. RSVP by December 7 to Sally Gollmann (836-1528).



"Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn." Romans 12:15

Listen: To hear with thoughtful attention. Did you ever talk to someone but felt as if that person just wasn't listening? Stephen Ministers are trained to listen well. They will hear what you have to share and respond lovingly and nonjudgmentally-rather than telling you what you should or shouldn't have done. Everything said is very confidential. If you need someone who will really listen to you as you go through a problem in your life, consider Stephen Ministry. Just contact Don Meissner 652-1901 or Pastor Kruger 674-9188 or any Stephen Minister. Vicky Wienke Erin Kotowski Pat Hartman Josh Makey Sue Brehm Darlene Miller Judy Schmidt



Recycle Your Cards

If you would like to recycle your cards (Christmas, Thanksgiving, birthday, thank-you, etc.), they are still being collected for St. Jude's Ranch for Children. Remove the front cover (there can be no personal notes on the flip side) and place in Lin Rowsell's mailbox. **NO** Hallmark, Disney, or American Greetings can be accepted.

Memorial Plaques

You can remember deceased loved ones who were members of Trinity in a special way by purchasing a small engraved tab plaque to go on our Memorial Plaque located in the church's fellowship area. They're only \$25! Order forms can be obtained from the church office. **Order deadline for this quarter will be January 7th.**



A warm welcome to our newest members, who were accepted into our Trinity family on November 5, 2017:

Theresa McKernan
Bill Westfield
Staci, Gianna, Aubrey & James Conti
Paulette Darcy



Stained Glass Window Project Update

Our stained glass windows have been repaired and installed. How beautiful they look! Thank you for your financial support. A little over \$3,000 is still needed to fund this project. Anyone wishing to make a donation can do so by placing it in the weekly collection plate (marked "Stained Glass Windows") or by contacting the church office.

62nd Annual
Christmas Candlelight Vespers
Sunday, December 3rd 4pm & 7pm
At First Trinity Church
(1570 Niagara Falls Blvd.)



All are invited. A free will offering will be taken to benefit Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center and Valparaiso University.

YOUTH SCOOP

Sr. High Small Group:

Money, money, money ... will be our next topic on **December 19!** Come and join the discussion and see how God fits in! We will meet at 7:00pm at the Willert's house next to the church!

Jr. High Gym Night:

Games, open gym time, our favorite and fast paced game of "keep away", and a meaningful devotion will next be held on **December 14 from 6:30pm-8:00pm** in the school gym. The kids that come are having a blast, if you haven't ... why not? You're missing out! For grades 5-8.

ATTENTION 5th GRADERS: Jr. youth Gym nights are now open to 5th graders! Come and join the fun! See above for details.

Teens Eat Wings While Bills Tank

November 12 brought teens together to watch the Bills game and eat wings. Even though it turned out to be all girls, that didn't stop them from putting away lots of wings! When the football game went south, they decided to play some other games to enjoy the time together.



Jr. Youth Night Goes Sour

Although much fun was had at our gym night on November 16, things took a bitter turn for some during the devotion time. Grace Willert shared a devotional thought with the kids about how our attitudes can sometimes be negative and pungent, especially on a bad day when interacting and responding to others. In front of the kids were lemon juice (representing our negative attitude), sugar (when we temper our bad days with a sweeter tone), and lemonade (the much better product we'd like on the receiving end). Proverbs 15:1 says, "*A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*" The kids were invited to first try the lemon juice to which 75% of the group accepted the challenge. They then were able to wash it down with the lemonade. Ahhhh, the Psalmist had it right after all!



Centered In God's Holy Word!

Q: What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

A: Psalm 117

Q: What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

A: Psalm 119

Q: What chapter is in the center of the Bible?

A: Psalm 118

Facts: There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118.

There are 594 chapters after Psalm 118. Add those numbers together and the result is 1188.

Q: What is the center verse in the Bible?

A: Psalm 118:8

Q: Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives?

A: "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man." Psalm 118:8

The next time someone says he or she would like to find God's perfect will for his or her life and that he or she wants to be in the center of his will, just send him or her to the center of his Word!

Pioneer Helped by Teens

On November 4th the teens answered the call of Sarah Makosy (Trinity member and Camp Pioneer's Program Director) to come out and help move seasonal items inside their shelter for winter storage. Needless to say all their arms were a little longer the next day! Picnic tables, patio tables and chairs, boats and their racks, and various other items were hauled into storage. Last month they were out at camp helping out as well. Pioneer holds a special place in their hearts!



YEAR OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION

"Here I Stand version 2.0"

On Sunday, October 29th, we celebrated the five hundredth anniversary of the nailing of Luther's Ninety-five Theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg (1517). This is accepted by most to be the spark that ignited the Protestant Reformation, even though Dr. Martin Luther could not have imagined the significance of his action. Not quite two weeks later, we gathered on Dr. Martin's birthday to hear more about the reformer, his life and importance to the church, shared by Luther scholar Dr. Paul L. Maier. (Take a wild guess at what the middle initial "L" stands for!) In this year to come, we will continue to focus on the Reformation and its significance to the church today. We have already been reviewing some of the Reformation history in our Sunday morning Bible Class. We'll continue to focus on the Reformation in our Sunday morning class as we go beyond the historical context and review the substance of the Reformation set forth in the Lutheran Confessions. Beginning in January, we will probably start with the document we're most familiar with Luther's Small Catechism. The plan is to at least take a look at the other confessional writings contained in the Book of Concord and, perhaps, some of the lives of the other reformers. God used Dr. Luther in a mighty way, but He also used others as well like Melancthon, Bugenhagen, Jonas, Chemnitz and others.

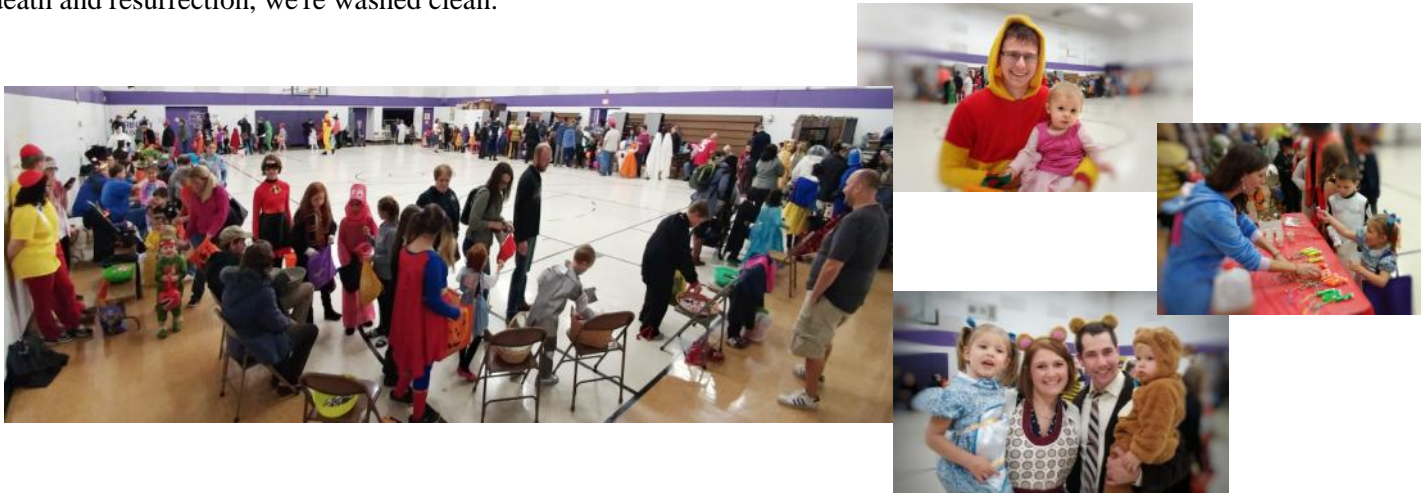
Most importantly, we want to do more than only review and celebrate the past. We want to look at the impact and need for continuous reformation today! Five hundred years ago Martin Luther spoke his historic words at the Diet of Worms, **"Here I Stand."** He stood against the powers of the church and state as He confessed the power and authority of the Word of God. We might call that first bold stand, *"Here I Stand version 1.0"*. Today, Jesus' followers, the church, are compelled to likewise take a stand for Christ on His Word, hence *"Here I Stand version 2.0."* [The Lutheran Layman, November 2017.] With the shifting sands of our culture and times, what could offer a more solid foundation than Jesus Christ and His Word? Join us on Sunday mornings in our continuing study and celebration of the reforming Word of God. Join us in taking our stand on that Word and confession of faith! ***"Here I Stand version 2.0!"***

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger

Rain and Cold Not a Scare

Traditionally held outside, Trinity's Trunk or Treat this year was held indoors due to inclement weather. That didn't stop excited event goers from partaking in this fun and candy filled experience. Usually people put candy in their trunks, dress up in costume, and walk in a circle around the parking lot. This year since it was held in the gym, the candy lined the perimeter of the gym and participants gathered the sweets while Christian music played on the loudspeaker in the background. This now being a decade long tradition for Trinity, we find parents, grandparents, cousins, and friends looking forward to this event. Some see it as a safe alternative to going into neighborhoods, or partaking in Halloween because of their beliefs.

The church also uses this as a way to connect with folks in a way we wouldn't otherwise have the chance to. The Outreach Team shared cider and doughnuts, gave out flashlights with an inscripted Biblical message, and made connections with people while passing out worship times and other information. Teachers talked and related with present school families and were introduced to non-school families and children. Mark Willert shared a brief devotional time that compared us to apples - while we look bright, shiny and good on the outside, our insides can be sinful and rotten. Like Jesus compared the Pharisees in Matthew 23 to, "dead and rotten things" on the inside. However, through Jesus' death and resurrection, we're washed clean.



Outreach Committee - Witness Center

Many of you may have noticed or heard about our new Witness Center in the narthex, but if you haven't...please take a moment to read more about it. As an Outreach Committee we have begun to understand the importance of having an outward focus as a Christian- that is thinking about others and their needs. We know as Christians that people's #1 need is Jesus and that starts with hearing about Him. We wanted to help by encouraging YOU and all of Trinity's members in what we have all struggled with personally...witnessing to others. You may be asking "How is a Witness Center in the back of church going to help make more disciples for Christ?". Well, that's where you come in! We have assembled some resources and ideas in the center that are meant for you to take and use in your daily lives- from Acts of Kindness cards and Blessings in a Box, to a small collection of books and movies. There will always be items at the center, along with half sheets that have suggestions and tips for you to take and use. We will try to rotate the resources as well from time to time. We won't always know the impact our "small" reaching out might have, but sometimes God gives us some insight so we also would LOVE to hear about that! We have index cards and a small box for you to leave a note about your witnessing and how it has had an impact on someone's life. This first and foremost will help us as a congregation give God the glory and help to be an encouragement to others. For everyone that shares their experience with us, we would like to bless you with a small gift. Please make sure to leave your note and your name on the index card, place it in the box on the Witness Center and we will get you your gift! We look forward to any suggestions and simply the AWESOME stories of how God will use YOU to build His kingdom!

For our Christian "mini-library", please try to return the books and DVD's after you have lent them out to your family/friends. If you feel moved to give the book/DVD to that person to keep, please notify a member of the Outreach Committee so that we can replace the resource. The provided greeting cards, Acts of Kindness cards, & Blessings in a Box are NOT items that we expect to be returned so take them as you wish! Thank you!

Watch the Center and our weekly inserts for the December Outreach of the Month!

Thank-You Lord!

Recently I read a story about a man who dreamed he went to heaven. When he arrived, an angel began showing him around. Here's the story:

The angel and I walked side-by-side inside a large workroom filled with other angels. My angel guide stopped in front of the first section and said, "This is the Receiving Section. Here all the prayer petitions to God are received."

This area was terribly busy with many angels sorting out petitions written on countless sheets and scraps of paper from people all over the world. Then we moved down a long corridor until we reached the second section.

The angel said, "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here all the blessings people asked for are processed and delivered to those who requested them."

I noticed again how busy that area was. There were lots of angels working hard at that station. Many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth.

Finally, at the farthest end of the long corridor we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgment Section," my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed.

"How is it that there is no work going on here?" I asked.

"So sad," the angel sighed. "After people receive the blessings they asked for, very few respond with acknowledgments."

"How does one acknowledge God's blessings?" I asked.

"Simple," the angel answered. Just say, "Thank you, God."

"What blessings should they acknowledge?" I asked. The angel replied:

"If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead, and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of the people in this world."

"If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy."

"If you received this message on your own computer, you are part of the 1% in the world who have that opportunity."

"If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this day."

"If you have never experienced the fear of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 700 million people in the world."

"If you can attend a church without the fear of any harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are envied by and more blessed than three billion people in the world."

"If you can hold your head up high and smile, you are quite different from all those in the world who live in doubt and despair."

"If you can read this message, you are more blessed than billions of people in the world who cannot read at all."

Motivated to action, I said, "What now? How can I start?"

The angel said, "Bow your head right now and thank God for his bountiful blessings!"

Happy Thanksgiving! Count your blessings, and pray: "Thank you Lord, for the many blessings I have received and continue to receive every day. Help me never forget the source of these blessings and always to remember to praise you for all your goodness in my life. Help me do so every day, until the day that, with all your saints, I will praise you eternally in your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen,"

Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

Your School Staff



Happy Birthday

| | | | | | |
|------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 12/1 | Logan Cosandier | 12/11 | Peter Schueler | 12/19 | Jerry Meissner |
| 12/2 | Michele Baun | 12/12 | Bradley Ringle | | Evan McCoy |
| 12/3 | Helen Boldt | 12/13 | Nancy Stevens | 12/20 | Eleanor Gass |
| | Luci Zarbo | | Frank Lelito | | Karen McCoy |
| | Aaron Yox | 12/14 | Anna Eising | 12/21 | Sandra Gertis |
| 12/4 | Jordan Paz | 12/16 | Vince Zarbo | 12/22 | Kevin Kot |
| 12/5 | Jonah LoVullo | | Christopher Malta | | Lisa Cislo |
| 12/6 | Ella Thompson | | Gianna Conti | 12/28 | Beverly Osberg |
| 12/7 | Joan Sullivan | 12/17 | Noell McKernan | | Judith Boersch |
| | Justin Smith | | Katelyn Barnas | | Carolyn Lehsten |
| | Emma Hope | 12/18 | Tristan Sullivan | 12/29 | Joy Belasic |
| 12/8 | Steve Makosy | | Bransen Gabel | | Nick Gatto |
| 12/9 | Matthew Wrobel | | Gavin Courteau | 12/30 | Eve LoVullo |
| | | | | 12/31 | Donna Yox |

Happy Anniversary

12/23 Dan & Joan Sullivan

12/27 Brian & Ellen Makey

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON !

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

Edna Gaske, Greenfield Terrace - Rm D-1, 5979 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

Ruth Hope, Greenfield Rehab Center - Rm C- 117, 5949 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

Herb Jaekle, 11 Hazel Court, West Seneca, NY 14224

Loretta Miller, 90 Wildwood Place, Buffalo, NY 14210

Melba Veros, 1311 East & West Road, West Seneca, NY 14224

Ruth Walczak, Absolute Care, Willink Building #156, 292 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052



Portals of Prayer

Portals of Prayer (Jan-March 2018) devotion booklets will be available soon. Please take one and use it for home devotions! God bless your devotion and prayer times!

Trinity's Endowment Fund

Contributions to the Trinity Lutheran Church & School Endowment Fund can be made on a regular basis or in recognition of special or end-of-life events. The fund was established in 2016 and is growing at a rate of 9% - 10%.

Ministers: The People of Trinity Church & School

Position

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

Name

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