

# TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

## FEBRUARY 2019

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](http://trinitywestseneca.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

## “LOVE! LOVE! LOVE!”

*“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.” Gal. 5:6*

Valentine’s Day... where did the tradition of giving notes of love, gifts and affection every February 14<sup>th</sup> come from? While there are several different versions, St. Valentine was a physician and priest living in Rome during the rule of the Emperor Claudius, and became one of the noted martyrs of the third century. The commemoration of his death, which occurred in the year 270, became part of the calendar of remembrance in the early church of the West. Tradition suggests that on the day of his execution for his Christian faith, he left a note of encouragement for a child of his jailer (her name was “Hallmark” – Ha! Just kidding!) written on an irregularly-shaped piece of paper. This greeting, the first valentine, became a pattern for millions of written expressions of love and caring we are familiar with today. As I noted earlier, there are other traditions of the genesis of Valentine’s Day.

Our Lord knows a little something about love. God **is** love. And He showed forth that loving character by sending His Son to live and die for those who did not love Him, in fact, who despised and rejected Him – us. He did not love us because we loved Him first. Indeed, we cannot by fallen nature ever love Him on our own. No, He loved us first because He alone **IS** love. A sacrificial Love. And since He lovingly sent His Son to us, He has graciously made us truly alive in Him – that is, those who once again by grace through faith are connected to Him and His love. Those who can reflect God’s love and image to those around us.

Martin Luther has these thoughts on love: “Love is the inevitable fruit of faith. This is what Christ meant when He finally gave no commandment except that of love (John 15:12), by which men were to recognize those who are His disciples and true believers. For where works and love do not appear, faith is not genuine, the Gospel has not taken hold, and Christ is not recognized aright.” To this, Luther adds these words: “Now although faith does not fulfill the Law, yet it has that by which it is fulfilled; for it obtains the Spirit and love. By these the Law is fulfilled.

The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Galatians (Gal. 5:6) writes: “The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.” Keeping the Law, observing rituals, honoring traditions, offering all kinds of sacrifices have no value. Christ has fulfilled the Law for us and made all things new. That is why Jesus said a new commandment I give you: LOVE GOD; LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR!

As the 14<sup>th</sup> of February draws closer, may the God Who is Love make you ever mindful of The Valentine of all valentines, His dear Son, nailed to a cross for you, buried in a tomb for you, and raised from the dead for you. And mindful of that Love which made you alive by His work of grace, that you would be so moved to love in kind not only your Lord, but those who are around you, that they too might see the Love of God for them lived out before them. That they might know you are Jesus’ disciples by your love for them.

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger

## ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

### Sunday, 9:15am-10:15am

- 1/27 - Series: "Brand: New" Session 4  
 2/3 - Series: "Brand: New" Session 5  
 Video and Discussion (Andy Stanley)  
 2/10 - Bible Class led by Pastor Bill Miller  
 2/17 - Bible Class led by Pastor Bill Miller  
 2/24 - Bible Class led by Pastor Bill Miller  
 Possibly on Second Corinthians  
 3/3/19 thru 4/14/19 - "The Miracles of Lent"

### Mid-Week Bible Classes - Tuesdays, 7pm and Wednesdays 10am

- 1/22/19 thru 2/20/19 - "Angels and Demons"  
 Not about the book or movie.  
 2/26 & 2/27 - No Class  
 3/5/19 thru 4/10/19 - "Words of Life From the Cross"

## MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES

Wednesdays at 11:15am and 7:00pm  
 March 6<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday thru April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 "A LENT TO REMEMBER"  
 April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm (No Morning Service)  
 "HYMNS OF FAITH"



## First Communion Instruction

All children who have completed the third grade in school are invited to come to the Early Communion Instruction Class on **February 2 from 9am-12noon**. This instructional program will prepare "Pre-Confirmation" youth to participate in receiving the Lord's Supper. This does not replace the Confirmation program, but it does instruct students in the meaning of the sacrament of Holy Communion and Confession. Those who complete the class are invited to come to Holy Communion as a class on Sunday, February 10 at the 10:30am service. This is a privilege not a requirement, so eligible children do not have to attend and participate. Parents - if you have any questions call or talk to Pastor Krueger.

## Men's Small Group Saturday, Feb. 16 at 8:30am

Some guys have expressed interest in getting together around discussion and topic on a regular basis. Frequency, location and time will be decided at the first gathering on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-9:45am in the meeting room at church. Please let Mark Willert know (608-8907) if you are interested but can't make it.



## Trinity's Post Super Bowl SOUP Cook-Off & SOUP Food Drive Sunday, February 10, 2019 Following 10:30 a.m. Service

The Inclusion Committee invites all members of Trinity Church & School to Trinity's Post Super Bowl SOUP Cook-Off. We need your help though - we are looking for volunteers to cook up a batch of their favorite soup or chowder and deliver it in a crockpot to the school gym prior to the 10:30 a.m. service (along with your ladle for serving). Sign up on the poster in the church narthex today! We need tasters too. All participants / guests will have the option to vote for their favorite soup or chowder. We are also asking all members of Trinity to drop off a can or cans of soup that day. The canned soup will be delivered to a local food pantry. We are looking forward to this being a fun social event for all. There will be prizes and there is no fee to enter or taste. Any questions, please call Don & Kim Meissner (652-1901).



## 2018 Financial Statements

The 2018 member financial statements are ready. Statements have been placed in everyone's mailboxes. For those without mailboxes, please see the table in the narthex.



## Men's Cards & Games Saturday, February 9, 2019

**Attention All Men:** Do you enjoy playing cards or board games? If so, please plan to join us on Saturday, February 9 in the church narthex immediately following the Men in Ministry Meeting (at approximately 10:30am) for a social time to enjoy this pastime! Bring your own cards / games ... and a friend if you'd like. All men are welcome!

## Voter's Meeting Sunday, February 24, 2019 Following the 10:30am Service

All confirmed members of Trinity are eligible to vote and are encouraged to attend this meeting. On the agenda are Constitution changes, committee / board reports, and the election of 2 Executive Board Members (candidates are Chris Kopra, Chris Kotowski and Vince Zarbo). Proposed Constitution changes will be available for review on the church's website, via a member-wide email (coming soon), or you can contact the office for a printed copy.

## School News



### **From the Principal ...**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Lutheran Schools Week was an awesome success! Opening Worship on 1/27 was beautiful, with the students singing, the Dance Troupe performing, and so many school parents visiting. Taste of Trinity was truly delicious, as always. We used the theme 'God's Love is Real', based on the National Lutheran Schools Week theme of "Real.Present.God." celebrated by almost 2000 Lutheran schools nationwide. Here at Trinity, we highlighted a different 'Real Truth' each day of the week. Monday was 'Real Strong', based on Psalm 18:32; Tuesday, 'Real Joyful' from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17; Wednesday, 'Real Unique' based on Psalm 139:4; Thursday was 'Real Hardworking' from Colossians 3:23; and Friday 'Real Spirit', John 6:63. We enjoyed many activities, daily dress-up and some snacks that pertained to the daily themes. We made an all-school banner for display in church and constructed bookmarks and cards for our prayer partners and distribution throughout the neighborhood. Open House on Wednesday evening was a huge success. We were blessed by several preschool and K-8 families who, by word of mouth or social/print media, became aware of what Trinity has to offer their children and families. Please pray for continuing growth at the school, so more families can be touched with the Gospel!

On LSW Sunday, we also recognized our church family volunteers who are here on a regular basis: Ron and Nancy Hope, Sue and Neil Schueler, Linda Meissner, Linda and Nevin Hope, Chris Kopra, Brad McKernan, Chris Hawkins, and our Board of Christian Education members Dave Sirgey, Lynnae Kwilas and Nick Gatto. We are very, very thankful for the time and love that these generous folks share with our students and staff. We also praise God for the support of the entire congregation, enabling the school to equip His young workers for a lifetime of service, as well as opening the ears of others to His Truth. We are always glad to welcome congregational volunteers into the school, even for a one-time visit. Come and experience Trinity for yourself!

Our basketball teams are doing an excellent job of displaying true Christian sportsmanship on the court. The Mini Hawks, Varsity girls, and Varsity boys teams do not have many scoreboard wins to their names, but their teamwork, encouragement and courtesy are always evident. Way to go, Hawks!

Please mark your calendar for March 23rd, for the annual Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Auction. Look for the sign-up board in the narthex in mid-February. This fundraiser, our only major on-site fundraiser of the year, is a critical component in reaching our budgetary goals. We were blessed with an incredible turn-out and great results last year - we're hoping for a similar outcome again!

REAL.PRESENT.GOD. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" Ps. 46:10. Celebrate His Love!

~ Kathleen Fretthold  
Principal, Trinity Christian School



## Offering Envelopes

The counting teams ask that you **please** mark the amount enclosed on the outside of your offering envelope in the area provided. Many are blank and the counters have to fill it in for recording purposes. If you forgot your envelope, please use the pew envelopes. Thank you.

## On-Line Giving

Trinity is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit our church website at: [www.trinitywestseneca.com](http://www.trinitywestseneca.com)
2. Click on the "Give Now" button.
3. Click on the Create Profile button.
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.



## Recycle Cards

We will be continuing to recycle cards with the following change. Please separate all CHRISTMAS RELIGIOUS cards from the others. Any brand name, front cover only with no personal notes written on flip side. A local church will use these for booklets. Cards going to St. Jude Ranch for Children will be the same as before. Christmas, Easter, Birthday, etc, front cover only, and no personal notes on flip side. No Hallmark, American Greetings, or Disney. Please leave in the Rowsell message box. Thank you.

## Pew Attendance Books

When attending church services, please remember to sign the red attendance book located in the pew holders. Visitors are encouraged to also provide an address and/or email. Thank you!

Sick & Shut-in



## Shut-In Members

If you know if a member of Trinity who should be on our shut-in member list, please let Pastor Krueger and the church office know! We want to care for all!!!

## St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring volunteers for the Vincent de Paul soup kitchen (1298 Main Street, Buffalo) on **Saturday, February 23**. We need 5 people to sign up. Duties will include: assistance with meal preparation, serving guests and clean-up. Volunteers will meet at St. Vincent de Paul at 9:30am with an end time of 12:30pm. Please sign up on the table in the narthex if you are available to help. Thank you!



*"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34b*

February is thought of as the month of LOVE. We celebrate Valentine's day in many ways . . . special dinner, flowers, cards or even candy are some ways to show our love. Some people may not have someone from who to either give or receive those things. It could be because they have recently lost a loved one, or they have moved away, or possibly in the military or many other reasons. You may be able to show your love by telling them about a Stephen Minister. We are just an empathetic, confidential ear to help. If you or someone you know, even someone not a member of our church family who may just need a good listener, contact Don Meissner 652-1901. Pastor Krueger 674-9188, or any of our Stephen Ministers: Erin Kotowski, Pat Hartman, Josh Makey, Sue Brehm, Darlene Miller, Judy Schmidt, and Vickie Wienke.

## Stephen Ministry Update

We currently have seven Stephen Ministers and two Stephen leaders. There are currently five care receivers who are receiving care from Stephen Ministers. There are four Stephen Minister trainees currently going through the Stephen Ministry training course. If you would like more information on how Stephen Ministry might benefit you or someone you know, please contact Don Meissner (479-4862) or Pastor.

## Parents of Young Children

For your convenience, Trinity has a nursery in the church basement which has audio and video feed of the service. There is a toddler play area, which is surrounded by two half-walls, and a separate infant room. Parents are welcome to use these areas during worship if needed.

# YOUTH SCOOP

## **Sr. High Monthly Event:**

Winter has finally arrived with a vengeance and we'll face it head on meeting at Chestnut Ridge on **Sunday, February 10 at 1:00pm**. Bring your favorite sled (no metal runners) and thermos of hot chocolate if you like. Mark will bring his 6 person toboggan. Pick up at 3PM. Contact Mark Willert if interested.

## **Jr. High Night:**

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, February 28 at 6:30pm-8:00pm!** Come to the school gym for fun, games and a meaningful devotion time!

## **High School Boys Small Group:**

On **February 3rd at 1pm** we'll get together for a topical discussion and maybe a little fun. Topics relate to what teen life and how God fits in. Let Mark Willert know if you are interested.



### **Teen Girls Bible Study**

We will meet on **February 13 & 27 from 7:00pm-8:15pm** at the Willert's house. Led by Hope Willert, we'll continue our Bible study on Esther and how it relates to what girls go through today



### **Youth Will Lead Worship**

Since November, youth and teens (grades 5-12) have been planning and practicing for the music they will lead in worship at the 10:30 a.m. service on March 3rd. Led and organized by Grace Willert, Trinity's first youth only worship team will encompass guitars, keyboard, drums and 6 singers.

### **Sr. High Christmas Party**

On December 23rd, teens took time out of their busy lives and gathered for fun, laughs, and some devotional time to focus on the coming of Christ. As a part of their time together, they each brought a gag or white elephant gift to exchange. You can only imagine some of the gifts that were brought by these teens and the laughs that were had!





## **“Seeing Things New”**

### **LCMS Foundation Gift Planning**

God’s Word often reads somewhat like a last will and testament. Take this final revelation given through the Apostle John recorded in Revelations 21: 5-8: ‘. . . “*Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.*”’

God’s Word reveals His intentions to us and to the entire world. *‘The One seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”’* Each believer should take a deep interest in the Spirit’s gifts provided to His Church. Christ invests in the leadership of our world. The picture of creation, made perfect after falling, shows the Creator’s intent for us to live in a perpetual age of blessedness within a secured divine relationship.

With spiritual eyes, newness is not only seen in a different year or a fresh situation. It is recognized in the accordion of every breath. Each second is manna that sustains life. Without it, we are dust. Newness endures forever because of the one who helps us overcome.

The spiritual life is sustained by belief in the One who makes all things new. Set apart and given the inheritance by faith that produces joy, strength and character, the advantage goes to others. In seeing things new, there isn’t any to whom we cannot go with the good news. The power of sin dies in our life, having been drowned with Christ in our baptism.

Just imagine how seeing things new could affect our lifetime journey? God’s Word promises us that He dwells with us and He is our God with whom we have intimate communion. We are His ornaments; perfect partners without sorrow. We impart blessed satisfaction to others while we foster humility. God’s intent is accomplished through us.

We aren’t required to wait until we die to experience God’s intent. *‘The spring of the water of life without payment to the thirsty’* is His promise. *“The one who conquers will have this heritage’.*

May your lifetime journey reflect this marvelous promise, which is spiritually at work today, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *“He will be your God and you will be His child. It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”*

*For more information, contact Robert Wirth, LCMS Foundation Gift Planner @ [robert.wirth@lfnd.org](mailto:robert.wirth@lfnd.org) or 716-863-4427 to learn how to structure your estate and financial gift plans to direct your passion to give.*

### **TRINITY’S ENDOWMENT FUND**

***Contributions to the Trinity Lutheran Church and School Endowment Fund  
can be made at anytime for praise and thanksgiving, or in memorial.***



## LWML Events & Projects

**Buffalo Zone LWML  
Mission Service Workshop  
February 9, 2019 9:00 am – Noon  
Pilgrim Lutheran Church  
(44 Chapel Road, Kenmore, NY)**

**Agenda:** Devotions, short meeting, and workshop. Refreshments provided by Pilgrim's Esther Circle

Please attend and help us make many caps!! Bring portable sewing machine if you have one. Also needed: 100% cotton fabric (no flannel or glitter) with children's designs, **please pre wash**, ¼ inch elastic, scissors and thread. Non sewers are encouraged to attend and are needed to cut fabric for caps, cut and attach elastic to the caps, and color and write card greetings. RSVP by January 31 to Linda Meissner 648-1281.



### **Save Those Cancelled Stamps!!**

When you receive greetings with postage stamps on the envelopes, save the undamaged stamps on the envelope. Save stamps on light colored paper, not on industrial brown envelopes; cut out (do not tear) 1/4 inch border around the stamp or just leave it on the envelope and turn it into Linda Meissner. Do not save presorted or imprinted stamps. The stamps are used to purchase Bibles for prison ministry. Another LWML project.

### **Recycle Your E-Waste**

LWML Fundraiser: There is an ongoing collection of brand name items, including inkjet and laser jet cartridges, digital cameras, ipads, ipods, hard drives, radar detectors, pagers, video games, laptop computers, cell phones, GPS devices, game consoles and video games. Printers and FAX machines are **NOT** accepted, nor land-line phones or TV remotes. **There is a purple tote in the back of church or just leave your box of used equipment next to the tote.** (The recycling company wipes all data from any device they receive. If it cannot be wiped clean, they destroy the item.) Questions?? Call Linda Meissner at 648-1281

### **LWML MITES**

Remember to turn in your mite boxes or checks to Linda Meissner, either in her church mailbox or to her personally. Mites are sent to the LWML Zone to be distributed to the district and nationally to finance mission projects which have been chosen by the body of women at biennial conventions. They include both local, national and international projects. Donations to Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center was the first project fulfilled in 2018. Recently, a Spanish speaking mission in Rochester completed purchasing books with funds raised through mites. If you would like to reuse your mite box, simply write your name on it or apply an address label. Linda will return it.

## **Welcome to Trinity!**

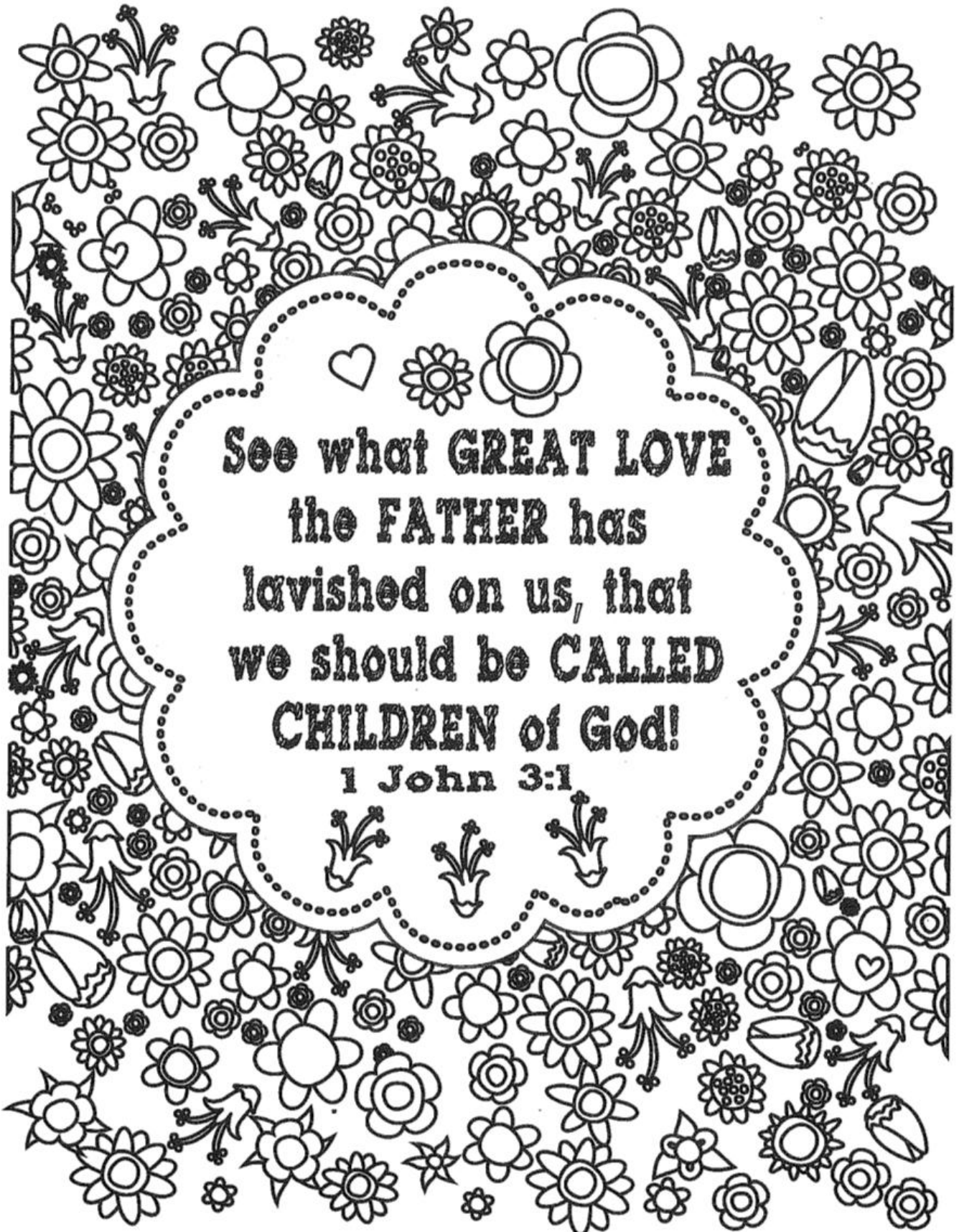
Trinity welcomes Paul Hornquist by transfer of membership. Paul learned about Trinity through the Internet. He was born in Buffalo and through the years, resided in several surrounding towns. He is a world traveler having traveled to Germany, Sweden, and France. He is a U.B. graduate and after 27 years of employment with The New York State Department of Audit and Control, he retired. He was married to his wife of 57 years, Betty, who passed away in 2016. He is a father of four: Bonnie, Paul, Benjamin, and Terri (who passed away in 2017). Paul currently enjoys following the Buffalo Bills and spending his time trying to profitably trade stock options.

You may add Paul's contact information to your church directory:

**ADDRESS:** 100 Weiss Avenue - Apt. 213, West Seneca, NY 14224

**PHONE NUMBER:** 671-2533

# Children's Coloring Page





***Happy Birthday***

2/2	Eric Osberg	2/10	Chris Kwilas	2/14	Morgan Ringle	2/22	Lori Lorigo
2/3	Lois Rodgers	2/11	Heidi Kosicki	2/15	Gregory Kopra	2/23	Amelia Iannuzzelli
2/5	Luke Anderson	2/12	Loren Pletscher		Jamie Makey	2/24	Gary Ecker
2/6	Laurel Szeider		Tonia Minko	2/17	Nathan McClellan	2/25	Olivia Wilkening
2/7	Sue Brehm	2/13	Robert Moeller	2/18	Carolyn Flattery	2/27	Geraldine Swart
2/9	Florence Bogumil		Alan Yox	2/19	Janet Bullock		
	Zachary Powers		Sarah Makey	2/20	Gertraud Warzecha		
2/10	Steve Meden	2/14	Landon Heckman		Bok Yox		
	Kris Heckman		Gay Nichols		Elena DeMoura		
			River Rowsell				

***Happy Anniversary***

2/7	Nevin & Linda Hope	2/25	Bruce & Kristen Heckman
2/11	Richard & Helen Schultz	2/26	George & Linda Hodge
2/14	Michele & Edward Baun		



**2019 ALTAR FLOWERS & CANDLES**

The 2019 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 mailbox** in the coatroom. Make checks payable to **"Trinity Lutheran Church" (memo: Altar Flowers)**.

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

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



**Post Valentine's Day Get-Together**

**Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>  
At 1:00pm**

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

Join Trinity's Men In Ministry for a fun get-together. We will also be awarding the "SON"ational Fantasy Football League Trophies at this event. Everyone is welcome! Contact Chris Kopra with any questions.

**Thank You!**

Thank you to all the wonderful Christmas Carolers who came to sing to me and the other residents of Absolute Care in December. It was just beautiful!

~ Ruth Walczak

**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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