

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

JANUARY 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, Cell phone: 997-5666
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

“JESUS ‘RESURRECTS’ CHRISTMAS!”

In the December 2018 issue of The Lutheran Witness, an official publication of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, a title of one of the articles really grabbed my attention: *“When Jesus Ruins Christmas.”* It begins, “Up against the glorious reality of Christ’s incarnation, a ‘holly jolly Christmas’ loses all it’s luster.” He continues, “The theology of the incarnation (Jesus taking on flesh and blood) has ruined Christmas for me. It sounds weird, right? Jesus is the “reason for the season” so how could any discussion that involves Him ruin Christmas?”

As I mentioned, the title really caught my attention so I had to read on. Actually, I suspect that was exactly what the author hoped the title would do. In his article he then explains the awe and wonder of the miracle of the baby Jesus being true God and true man who came into the world to pay the price for the sins of mankind – to shed His blood and die on the cross. When you remember that the little baby in the manger was the Lamb of God who would be sacrificed on the cross, it may diminish the joy of candy canes, Christmas cookies and jolly old St. Nick. On the other hand, as he concludes, hopefully it deepens the celebration of the gift of the Immanuel and all that His death and resurrection mean for us. Three days after Jesus died on the cross, He arose victoriously over the grave, death and the devil. He ransomed all sinful mankind and gave the greatest Christmas gift ever in the forgiveness of sins and eternal life! The greatest gift under the tree is the One who was nailed to the tree. Jesus doesn’t ruin Christmas. Jesus resurrects Christmas!

God bless all of you with a jolly and joyous celebration of “the Word that became flesh!” May every day in the new year, and all your years, be marked by the hope of salvation in Jesus’ resurrection!

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger





Trinity's Cookie Walk

Thank you to all the bakers and those who purchased Christmas cookies last month. A special thank you to Brian Makey and Thrivent Financial for sponsoring this event. The total raised was \$455.00! These funds will help aid two of Trinity's families who have a special need this Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Thank You Christmas Carolers!

Thank you to all those who ventured out to Christmas carol for our shut-ins this season. We had approximately 30 carolers and the shut-ins and other nursing home residents were very appreciative and enjoyed singing along. Thank you also to the Outreach Committee for their donation of gifts to the nursing home residents and shut-ins. It brought a smile to their faces.!



St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen Event

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring two dates to volunteer at the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen (1298 Main Street, Buffalo). We need 5 people to sign up for each date. Duties will include: assistance with meal preparation, serving guests and clean-up. The dates are both Saturdays, January 19 & February 23. 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!

Member Information

If you were unable to attend services over the last few weeks and did not fill out a Member Information Update Form, please pick one up from the Welcome Center in the church narthex. Completed forms can be placed in the church office mailbox in the coatroom. Thank you!



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 Board 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 6th.**



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.



Recycle Your Cards

Christmas 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 the Rowsell mailbox. **NO** Hallmark, Disney, or American Greetings can be accepted. This will be my last collection of cards due to postage. I will collect them through January. Thank You to all of you who have helped send so many boxes over the years!

~ Lin Rowsell



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
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.



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!!!

School News



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace and joy to you as we begin yet another New Year full of promise and expectations!

After a December filled with projects, activities and celebrations, and a 7 day break from school, it's time to get back to work! The tree will stay up until after Epiphany, but it's looking kind of bare. The school families did a wonderful job emptying the Angel Tree of ornaments and returning the gift requests and much more. We're thankful to the Outreach Committee for partnering with us on that worthy project. It enabled our students and families to participate in giving in a meaningful way. I hope you were able to attend the school Christmas Celebration here at the church on 12/19. It was a beautiful expression of praise, and epitomizes the mission of the school: "...nurturing their relationship with Jesus Christ." The preschoolers shared their faith through song prior to Christmas chapel on Friday, 12/21. Nothing compares to the joy of a three or four-year-old belting out a favorite song, especially to a captive audience! They were a glorious sight!

Many thanks for your enthusiastic support of your prayer partners at Christmas. Thinking of and praying for someone else, as well as writing thank you notes, is an important learning experience for the children. Thank you, also, for your generous support of our chocolate sale. We'll continue to offer it, at least through Easter, but you've already allowed us to make some inroads on our LEA Convocation attendance expenses.

January brings Lutheran Schools Week and Taste of Trinity to the school and church. Our LSW Worship kick-off, followed by the "Taste", is on January 27th this year. We'll be building on our theme of "Real.Present.God." with educational and service activities, along with some fun events, throughout the week. Also in January, the staff and students will be learning to use a new online testing benchmark and instructional programming system. This new process, unlike the current Stanford testing, allows all K-8 students to participate in short but concise testing sessions which provide insight not only on the students' academic and cognitive strengths and needs, but also classroom implementation strategies. Many of our sister Lutheran schools across the country are using this NWEA growth tracking suite with great success. It will be an excellent tool for our staff, with less stress on the students. We will continue to offer NY State testing in Math and ELA to 7th and 8th grade only, to prepare for the testing rigors of high school. The first semester is already coming to an end this month!

Please continue to pray for your school, your pastor, and for the strength and efficacy of Trinity Lutheran Church. As we begin our re-enrollment process this month, we pray that God will continue to bless us with an excellent staff and many loving families to share in the joy and power of Christian education here at Trinity.

~ Kathleen Fretthold
Principal, Trinity Christian School



Taste of Trinity **Sunday ~ January 27, 2019** **11:45am - 1:30pm** **At Trinity School**

Please join us on January 27 in the school gym for the annual Taste of Trinity. The Taste starts following the 10:30am service. This event is a great way to kick off Lutheran Schools Week! Tickets will be available at the door for sample-sized portions of Trinity's favorite foods. Please mark this event on your calendars. Also, please consider cooking/baking one of your favorite dishes. More information to come! Contact Katie Willert (kwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com or 674-5353) with any questions.

LADD Thrift Shop

Southtowns LADD Thrift Shop are desperately in need of donations. Since the Salvation Army in South Buffalo closed, they have been getting many more customers. Donations can be dropped off directly at LADD (2280 Seneca Street) or placed in the LADD bin in the Church hallway leading to downstairs.



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). 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).

Portals of Prayer

Portals of Prayer (Jan-March 2019) 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 and use it for home devotions! God bless your devotion and prayer times!

Thank You!

Thank you to all the men and women who helped decorate the church to make it look so nice for the holiday season!

~ Mark Ganschow, Deacon

Cemetery News

Plots are available in Trinity's 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.



NEW YEAR

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.” Isaiah 60:1

We have just celebrated the birth of our Savior and looking to a new year. Many new beginnings and excitement for a lot of life events. There may be “not so good” life changing events too. Illness, loss of a loved one, remembering a loved one who has gone on before or not being able to do the things that were so easy before, can cause heart ache. We sometimes think that our issues are too “silly” viewed by others. There are no problems great or small, good or not so good, that are “silly” to a Stephen Minister. We are good listeners who don't judge and keep everything very confidential. If you or someone you know, even someone not a member of our church family who may want an emphatic ear, contact Don Meissner 652-1901 or 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. We would all like to wish God's Blessings to everyone for a wonderful New Year!

Property & Grounds

Saturday, January 19, 2019 at 9:00am

There will be a meeting on January 19 for the Property & Grounds Committee at 9am. A work day will immediately follow the meeting at approximately 10am.



Men's Cards & Games

Saturday, January 12, 2019

Attention All Men: Do you enjoy playing cards or board games? If so, please plan to join us on Saturday, January 12 in the church narthex immediately following the Men in Ministry Meeting (at approximately 10:30am) for a fun social time! Bring your own cards / games ... and a friend if you'd like. All men are welcome!

Holy Land Trip

“In the Footsteps of Jesus”

Pastor Mike Blackwell, Care Pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church, Orchard Park, invites you to join him on a tour of the Holy Land with Mejditi Tours **July 9-17, 2019**. For complete information, go to www.mejditours.com/open-tour/footsteps-of-jesus or call Pastor Mike (713-7305).

YOUTH SCOOP

Jr. High News:

Jr. Youth Night: Our next gym night is **January 17 from 6:30pm-8:30pm**. What do we do? Open gym time, a few organized games and a brief devotion. So much fun and you also get to meet other peeps! 5th through 8th graders welcome, as well as any Sr. High or adult helpers! Contact Mark Willert if you're interested in helping out!



Sr. High Bowling

On an afternoon in January (date TBD), the Sr. High Youth Group will head to the lanes to knock down some pins. If you're interested contact Mark @ 608-8907.

Girls Bible Study

The date of our January Senior High Girls Bible Study is yet to be determined. Please refer to upcoming weekly announcement sheets for more information. Contact Hope Willert with any questions 608-8907.

Youth Worship Team

Trinity's got talent ... and gifts, so let's use them and develop them! Any youth and teens in grades 5-12 interested in being a part of a worship team (vocal or instrumental) to lead worship on February 3rd, contact Grace Willert at 608-8907 or gwillert19@mtmercy.org.

Witness Center

Many of you may have noticed or heard about our Witness Center in the narthex, but if you haven't...please take a moment to read more about it. As an Outreach Committee we continued to understand and work on the importance of having an outward focus as a Christian: 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!

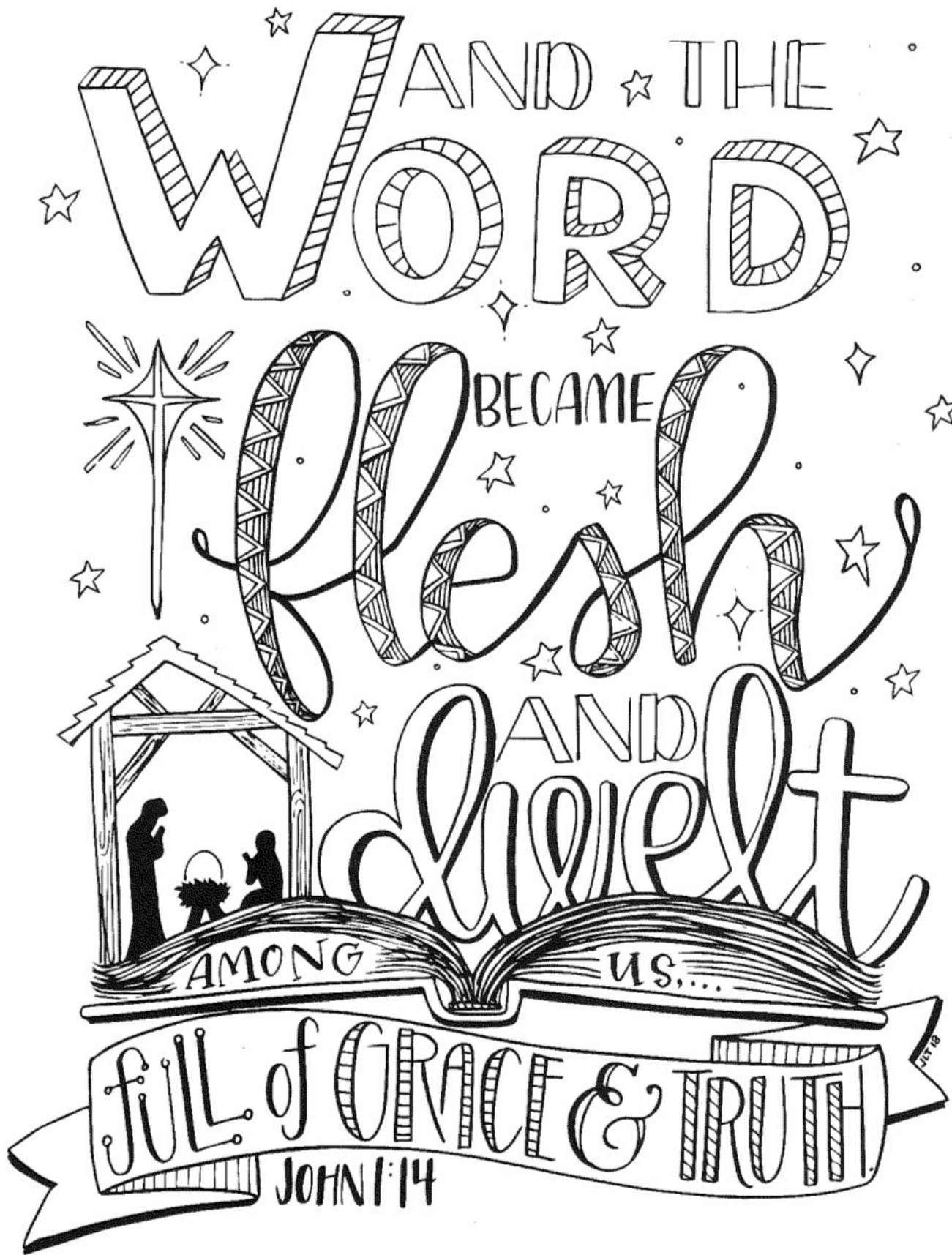
Thank you! Watch the Center and monthly newsletters for new ideas that are incorporated at the center as we will be rotating ideas.



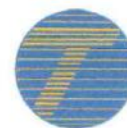
Annual Advent Celebration Fun!

On November 27th, about 90 Trinity folks and friends gathered for food, fellowship, worship and fun to kick-off this year's season of Advent. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the meal, the Anderson family for wonderful worship music, to the high school youth helping run the fun centers and Thrivent for sponsoring. What a neat way to begin Advent!





New York State
Department of Transportation



Introducing the Flashing Yellow Left Turn Arrow

The New York State Department of Transportation is now using flashing yellow left turn arrows at select intersections. These arrows have been used successfully in other states and are approved by the Federal Highway Administration.







Why:

It's Safer: In a national study conducted by the Transportation Research Board as part of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program, drivers made fewer mistakes with the new signals than with traditional left turn arrows.

It's More Efficient: The signals can help reduce delays at intersections, which helps save time and fuel.

It's More Adaptable: The new signal configuration provides traffic engineers with a greater variety of options to handle variable traffic volumes.

How It Works: The following shows what drivers will see during one full cycle of the new signal configuration.

-  The **steady red arrow** requires left turning vehicles to stop and wait.
-  The **steady green arrow** means that oncoming traffic has a red signal and must stop. Left turning vehicles have the right-of-way and can proceed.
-  The **steady yellow arrow** warns the driver that the left turn signal is about to turn red. A left turning driver must yield to oncoming traffic during this phase. Drivers should stop before they enter the intersection, if they are able.
-  The **steady red arrow** will then be displayed for a second time during the signal cycle.
-  The **flashing yellow arrow** permits drivers to turn left when it is safe to do so. During this phase, left turning traffic must yield to oncoming traffic and can only turn left when a safe gap in traffic is available. Pedestrians crossing have the right-of-way over left turning vehicles.
-  The **steady yellow arrow** will then be displayed a second time before starting the signal cycle again.

For More Information Visit Our Website:

<https://www.dot.ny.gov/regional-offices/region9/other-topics/flash-yellow-lt-turn-arrows>

Or Contact:

Tony Signorelli,
Acting Regional Traffic Safety & Mobility Engineer
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton, NY 13903
607-721-8080
dot.sm.r09.traffic@dot.state.ny.us

Remember a Flashing Yellow Left Turn Arrow = Turn With Caution

Happy Birthday

1/3	Susan Tedesco	1/10	Joanna Anderson	1/20	Ruth Zawadzki	1/27	Stacie Bookhagen Ella Meunier
1/4	Daniel Rowsell Abigal Blamowski	1/11	Linda Rowsell	1/21	Christa Wilkening	1/28	Tricia Glinski
1/6	Peter Szeider Macsen Courteau	1/13	Brynn Gabel	1/22	Kim Caldarella	1/31	Larry Wypior Paul Thompson
1/7	Robert Eising	1/14	Jack Iannuzzelli	1/23	Karen Tober		
1/8	Daniel Nickerson	1/18	Dennis Glinski Jr.	1/24	Kathy Herman Kyle Lelito		
1/10	Carolyn Carr	1/19	David Anderson Lindsay Iannuzzelli Myah Meunier	1/26	Patricia Hartman		

Happy Anniversary

1/2 Bill & Bryana Haas

**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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