

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

JULY 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
Church Office E-mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net



SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday Evenings 5:00pm
(outdoors - weather permitting)

Sunday Mornings 9:30 am

“GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME ...”

Is God “really good” and what does that actually mean? Our Summer Bible Camp / Vacation Bible School theme is based on the premise: “God is Good – in all circumstances!” I went to Scripture and spent some time doing a word study on “good”. Let’s just say, the Bible has a lot of “good” in it! Interestingly, the Bible never explicitly and literally says, “God is good.” And, Luther’s Small Catechism does not list “good” among the attributes of God (holy, fair, faithful, ‘benevolent’ (good?), merciful, gracious and loving).

The first thing I noticed was that God is the ultimate judge of what is good. He was the first one to declare something as good when, in Genesis 1, He called creation into being. He saw that it was good . . . very good! Before we can label a person or situation good, we have to look to God. And if that’s the case, then we need to look at what God’s definition of good is. I’m sure it encompasses many things.

Good is something or someone being perfect. Now before you think you’ve already lost that battle, let’s unpack the statement. When “perfect” is used in the Bible, it doesn’t mean “without flaws”. It actually means “complete.” Something is perfect when it’s finished and whole. Again, look at creation. God declared that each piece of creation was good when it was completed.

Good also means in abundance. The Bible often uses good as an adjective that could be translated to “a lot of” or “very.” Look at Joshua 1. God did not just implore this young soldier to be strong but to be of “good courage” (Joshua 1:9). A good thing should be showing no signs of lack, and that overflow is for our betterment. That’s why God said that it wasn’t good that Adam was alone in the Garden (Genesis 2:18). He was in lack, so God gave him Eve. That’s what good does. It gives us more of what we need to stay in tune with God and to do His will.

Good is morally right. David lamented the evil people of his day saying that “there is none that doeth good, no, not one” (Psalm 14:3). Yet, he goes on to say in chapter 25, “Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way” (Psalm 25:8). We know that good is the opposite of evil, and doing good is a choice we have to make. God gives us that ability to do the right thing as the ultimate source of what is good.

So is God really good? Well, let’s rethink the question. First and foremost, let’s take it out of the context of getting *our wishes granted*. It is always wonderful when our prayers are answered; however, His goodness doesn’t start and end there.

Is God abundant? Absolutely. He cannot be held within the bounds of space and time. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills (Psalm 50:10). His love is infinite, and His mercy endures forever. He is and always will be more than we need.

Is He perfect? Yes, He needs nothing else to be God. He is complete in and of Himself.

Is He morally right? Of course. God literally wrote the book on morality.

So the answer is **YES!** Despite our ups and downs – whether we are rejoicing on the mountaintop or wallowing in the valley – He is good. And His goodness is a foundation solid enough to build our faith upon.

... AND ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD!”

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger

SUMMER HOURS

WORSHIP:

Saturday Evening at 5:00pm
(outdoors if weather permits)

Sunday Morning at 9:30am

OFFICE:

Mon, Wed, & Thurs ~ 8am-3pm
Tues ~ 8am-12pm



Trinity's Men in Ministry 6th Annual Golf Outing Saturday, August 10, 2019 12:00pm - 4:00pm Turkey Run Golf Course

Ladies and men golfers welcome! The cost is \$25 per golfer which includes greens fee, riding cart, and food. Non-golfers are welcome to join us for food and beverages (cash bar) at the course at approximately 2:00pm (\$12 fee for ages 12 and over). A sign up sheet is on the table in the narthex.

Trinity's Men in Ministry

Trinity's Men in Ministry will not meet in July or August. Beginning in September, the time and format of their meetings will be changing. Refer to upcoming newsletters and announcement sheets for details.



The Red Wagon Has Returned!

The red wagon has returned and is located in the church entryway. We will be collecting items on an on-going basis which will be donated to the pantry at Bread of Life Outreach Center in Colden. For the summer months we will be collecting toothpaste, bar soap, deodorant, shampoo, Kleenex, paper towels, and toilet paper. Thank you for your support!

Grants Awarded

We are please to announce that Trinity Lutheran Church & School has been the recipient of two grants from the Lutheran Church Extension Society of Buffalo:

- Trinity Church was awarded \$2,500 for our one day presentation "*Our School, Your School: Partners in Ministry*".
- Trinity School received a \$2,000 grant towards the upgrading of the school stage and sound system.

Thank you to LCES for approving our grant applications!

It Looks Beautiful!



Thanks to all the folks who've helped beautify our church and school property. It's so nice to walk the grounds and see plants, flowers and well trimmed grass. We appreciate your green thumbs and making Trinity look so nice!



Bisons Baseball Game Sunday, July 21 at 1:00pm

Tickets: \$10

Trinity's Men in Ministry is sponsoring a day at the ball park to see the Buffalo Bisons play the Columbus Clippers. A sign-up sheet is in the church narthex; deadline to sign up is July 14. All are welcome to join them at Ballyhoo (211 South Park Ave, Buffalo) following the game. Contact Dan Rowsell (652-1314) with any questions.

Altar Flowers & Candle Oil

We are still in need of weekly altar flower and monthly altar candle donations for 2019. Please refer to the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the church coatroom for open dates. Flowers are \$10 per arrangement and candles are \$25.



Ice Cream Social & Food Drive Saturday, August 17, 2019

Trinity's Assimilation Committee will be hosting an Ice Cream Social on **Saturday, August 17** following the 5:00 p.m. Worship Service.

We are also holding a Food Drive for non-perishable foods. We will be handing out purple Trinity reusable grocery bags for your use. The food will benefit the food pantry at the Bread of Life Outreach Center in Colden.

This event is sponsored by Thrivent Financial.



A grave-side memorial service for Annette Parsons is scheduled for **Friday, July 5 at 10:00am** in Trinity's cemetery. Friends are welcome to attend. Flowers are gratefully declined. Donations can be made in her memory to the Trinity School Memorial Fund.

Trinity School News

From the Principal ...

Are you familiar with the song "Dream Small" by Josh Wilson? It's been on the radio for some months now. As a continuation of my thoughts on trust from last month, and how it pertains to our church /school ministry partnership, this song strikes a note-worthy chord. (ha!)

We have all heard the saying "go big or go home", right? If you're going to do something, do it right, make an impression, don't do it halfway. All practical advice, if used correctly. Our human nature subjectively quantifies our achievements in order to satisfy our self-worth. God uses a different measure, though! To the onlooker, Christ's death was a humiliating and painful experience, while to the Christian, it is our only hope of forgiveness. Christ's love and care for the sick, the poor and the suffering throughout His ministry was often a one-on-one blessing — pretty insignificant to the masses, but life-changing for the blind man or sick woman.

The lyrics to the song remind us that God works miracles in small ways as well as large, and each is a wonderful blessing. Every student here at school is a gift from God, and must be recognized as such! Whether we have 70 enrolled or 170, our purpose is the same. We have been given that which God wants us to have, for His purposes. We trust that God will care for us in His way, and step forward in faith and confidence, knowing that we are in His hands.

You may have noticed lots of activity at the school the last few weeks! The biggest adventure is the tiling of the last carpeted classroom, the 1st and 2nd grade room. All of the furniture and extensive supplies for those grade levels had to come out! Sarah Gabel, teaching those grades starting in the fall, will be moving in, while Christine Harris, the new Kindergarten teacher, will move to Sarah's old room. That's a lot of stuff moving around! And with VBS right around the corner, things are moving quickly. We're also looking forward to the installation of new, high-tech window shades in the classrooms. The old aluminum venetian blinds have served us well these many years! Along with Dave Sirgey's fresh paint jobs, the rooms will be in great shape for the fall. Your support of the annual fund, along with that of friends, school families and alumni, is allowing this to happen — thank you!

Please spread the word about the quality of education and the love that is shared each day here at Trinity. Our children need as much of the Word as possible in this confusing and alarming world. Let's dream "small" — every child counts!

~ Kathleen Fretthold, Principal

Community VBS Programs

Looking for something for the little ones to do this summer? Check out the VBS Programs being offered in our community:

Trinity Lutheran: "Roar" July 8-12 @ 9am-11:45am *Ages PreK 3 - Grade 6. Registration link is on our website "www.trinitywestseneca.com" or call 674-9188; walk-ins welcome.

Fellowship Wesleyan (West Seneca): "In the Wild" July 15-19 @ 6:15pm-8:45pm. *Ages PreK 3 - Grade 5. Register on their church website.

St. Paul's Lutheran (Eden): "To Mars and Beyond" July 22-26 @ 9am-12pm *Ages 3 - 7th grade. Register on their website "www.stpaulseden.com"

Queen of Heaven (West Seneca): "Splash Canyon!" August 5-9 @ 9am-12pm *Ages PreK - Grade 5. **Cost is \$25 per child. Register at "<https://vbsmate.com/qhvbs2019>"





Trinity's Summer Bible Camp (VBS) "Roar! Life is Wild ... God is Good"

July 8-12, 2019
9:00am - 11:45am

Space is limited to 100 children, so register today!! Last year we filled all 100 spots! Children ages 3 (potty trained) thru 6th Grade in the Fall are welcome. Register today at "<https://vbspro.events/p/trinity-vbs>". A link is also available on our church website or you can pick up a form in the church narthex. Please place completed forms in the Church Office mailbox in the coatroom or email them to: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net.



Happy 50th!

Pastor Ron & Carolyn Habedank recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. You are a blessing! "When you have a husband that really and truly loves you the way Christ loved His church, you go through the hard times and it's still good," shared Carolyn. In essence she shared the idea of Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 that says,

"Two are better than one,
because they have a good return for their labor:
If either of them falls down,
one can help the other up.
But pity anyone who falls
and has no one to help them up.
Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.
But how can one keep warm alone?
Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

At Trinity, we thank and praise God for all the marriage relationships He has blessed us with. May He continue to work through and use them to further His ministry here. We especially look forward to the special union happening August 24!



WEDDING BELLS !!!

Church bells and wedding bells will be ringing here at Trinity Lutheran Church on **August 24th at 5:00 P.M.** Everyone is invited to gather for worship and to celebrate the joyous occasion of the marriage of Pastor Dennis Krueger and Lynn Zastrow (Rodgers) at the Saturday evening outdoor worship service. The worship service and wedding service will be blended together and led by Pastor Ron Habedank. The gift of your prayers and presence is most welcome. Cards and presents are not expected or desired. There will be a fellowship-reception following the service and opportunity to congratulate Pastor and Lynn. Light refreshments will be served including cupcakes and cookies, along with punch and water.

So, save the date: **AUGUST 24TH, 5:00 P.M.** to gather and to celebrate! We look forward to all the Trinity family celebrating together!



Local Mission Opportunity “8 Days of Hope - Buffalo” July 19-26, 2019

This eight-day outreach will consist of serving 100 families in the University District in the city of Buffalo! From July 19-26, you will have a chance to experience Eight Days of Hope with your friends and volunteers from around the country. There will be something for everyone to do! We will be doing carpentry work, painting, roofing, flooring, plumbing, electrical, landscaping, clean up, food prep/serving volunteers and so much more!

Eight Days of Hope is family friendly! Every youth volunteer (under the age of 18) that comes with an adult that is not their parent must bring a notarized Parental Consent form signed by one of his/her parents. These forms can be found on our website. We are asking for one adult chaperone per four youth.

If you have any additional questions, please email info@eightdaysofhope.com or call 662-844-6934. You MUST sign up to volunteer on their web page (eightdaysofhope.com)

If interested, please sign the sheet found in the church Narthex or school entrance. This way we can make arrangements to meet with Trinity volunteers before and after the event. Organizers of this event are Colleen and Kevin Kot (knckot@verizon.net or 674-7526).



Bakers Needed!

Trinity is planning to support the Eight Days of Hope mission volunteers by providing snacks for their lunches. If you would like to help, please bake 1-2 pans of brownies (9x13 pan / cut into 20-24 pieces) and individually wrap each piece. Brownies can be brought to church from July 7-14. We will freeze them until the event date. If you don't bake but would still like to support the event, cash donations will also be accepted to purchase other snacks (place in Nancy Hope's church mailbox). Thank you for your support!



Altar Guild News

The Altar Guild will be purchasing 2 new candelabras and candles for the altar. \$4,000 will be needed to cover these expenses. Donations towards this purchase would be greatly appreciated.

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
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.



Ladies Bible Study

The Ladies Bible Study will not meet during the summer months. We will start up again on September 9 promptly at 7:00pm and will meet in the church narthex on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Topic(s) to be determined. All women are welcome!



Trinity Men's Softball

Come out and cheer on our guys! All games are played at the Nike Base / Hamburg Rec Center. The diamond # is indicated in ().

July's game schedule: 7/1 at 8:15pm (#3), 7/8 at 6:30pm (#1), 7/11 at 6:30pm (#3), and 7/25 (time and diamond # TBD).

Emergency Need

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.



Children's Church

Children's Church will continue over the summer during the Sunday 9:30am service.

YOUTH SCOOP

Jr. Youth Nights

Our last Jr. High Night was quite a treat! We had the honor of having Sarah Makosy and the entire staff from Camp Pioneer to lead our fun games and devotion. Trinity members also on staff and helping with the evening were Greg Kopra (leading the devotion in the picture), Caitlyn McLaughlin and Grace Willert.

Do you know what a gaga pit is? In the picture you will see an octagonal area with kids standing in or around it. The goal is to get each person out by hitting them in the legs with the ball. This pit was given as a birthday gift to Chris Kopra by family members. Our day school students, as well as both youth groups, have thoroughly enjoyed it! When Chris first saw the pit he exclaimed, "The kids are gonna love this!" And they certainly have, Chris!

Our Jr. Youth Nights are for students in grades 5 through 8 and also those going into 5th grade this Fall. Our next meeting is **July 11 from 6:30pm-8pm.** Don't miss it!



Teen Boys Small Group

Our last gathering took us out to Chestnut Ridge Park, putting down the phones (they voluntarily kept them in the glove compartment of the car!) and hiking to the eternal flame. We then picnicked with some hot dogs off the grill and shared in discussion topics of "the music we listen to", and "recreational marijuana legalization". We had some excellent discussion and the teens were challenged to find a Christian song in their favorite genre and share it next time.

Our next gathering will take us outdoors once more for a camping excursion! Keep an eye on the weekly bulletin for the date and details!



Welcome!

We would like to welcome Lisa Lafferty to the Trinity Youth Ministry team! We'll be seeing more of her soon and will be helping with planning and activities. Welcome Lisa!

Sr. High Camp Fire

The next one will be **July 12 from 7pm-9pm** at the Willert's house. At the last one we had s'mores, played a few games, and just chilled. Everyone (see picture) had a great time and included Trinity alumni and friends (8 were non-members). Graduated 8th grade students are welcome to all Sr. High summer events! Come on out and invite your friends too!



Prayer Is More Powerful

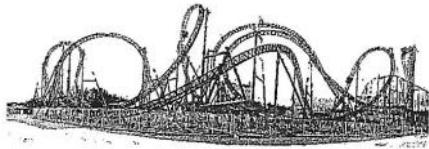
By Linda Meissner

“I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”

1 Timothy 2:1-2

How often do we take time from our busy lives and schedules, to pray for those in authority? How often do we ask God to change their hearts to do things according to His Word? These were the questions posed in the devotion for June 20th from Portals of Prayer. We often grumble and express our displeasure and even disgust in how our government representatives actually represent us. But it's not just that they don't vote and act the way we want them to vote, it's whether they act and vote in accordance with *God's Word* that is important. We make mistakes and don't do according to God's commands, yet God sent Jesus to be our redeemer and the Holy Spirit to be our intercessor when we do not know how to pray. Let's do more praying for our government leaders and authority figures. James 5:16 states, *“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”* We have the power. Let's use it. I would encourage you to read the whole devotion for June 20, 2019 found in the Portals of Prayer.

Stephen Ministry



Life can be like a roller coaster.

Summer brings all kinds of emotions. Vacations can range from spending time at home to visiting far away places. Picnics and BBQs can also be a lot of fun and fellowship. All of these can also bring “remembering.” Maybe people who are not with us any longer, good times, and many other things that can be hurtful. Loss of income or maybe you moved to a different state away from friends or it could even be kids who have moved away. These are just a few of the things that could cause us anxiety. Stephen Ministers will keep everything strictly confidential. Contact either Don Meissner 652-1901, Pastor Krueger 674-9188, or any Stephen Minister: Erin Kotowski, Pat Hartman, Josh Makey, Sue Brehm, Darlene Miller, Judy Schmidt, Kevin Kot, Colleen Kot, Joan Sullivan, Linda Hope.

Cemetery News



With summer upon us, it is important to be reminded of some of the Rules & Regulations of Trinity's Cemetery:

- **ANY** 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.
- Flowers and plants should be placed in rugged, sturdy containers which can be placed on either side of the monuments. They should not be planted directly in the ground. **NO** glass containers are allowed in the cemetery.
- In-ground plantings (trees, shrubs, etc.) are subject to Cemetery Board approval. Approval must be given prior to anything being planted.

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.

LWML Supporters

You can be a passive, yet valuable LWML supporter by donating **Mites**, collecting cancelled **first class stamps** from envelopes (there must be at least ¼ inch border around the stamp), or donating **used electronic equipment or empty brand name ink cartridges**. Stamps and Mites can be put in Linda Meissner's mailbox in the church coatroom. Mite boxes for collecting your extra change can also be picked up from her mailbox. Checks can be made out to Buffalo Zone LWML. Used phones, cameras, tablets, cartridges, etc. can be put into the purple bin in the narthex. All data from used equipment is wiped clean by the recycling company. Donations are redeemed for money and used toward district and national mission projects voted on at the LWML conventions.

Save the Date: LWML Eastern District Retreat at Pioneer will be September 20-22, 2019. More info to come.



Portals of Prayer

July - Sept 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! Give one to a friend who may be in need too!

Happy Birthday

7/1	Lois Galati John Kern	7/16	Kim Meissner	7/24	Thea Schultz
7/5	Aleta Fetzer	7/17	Samantha Canazzi	7/26	Judy Jaeckle
7/7	Joshua Makey Madison Jaskier	7/18	Judy Schmidt	7/27	Rev. Dennis Krueger
7/10	Leslie Tripi Zachary LoVullo	7/19	Barbara Halvorsen Nolan Heckman	7/28	James Smith Diane Roncone Greg Thompson
7/11	Matthew Schreiner	7/20	Annette Neth Jessica Nickerson	7/29	Marie Thompson
7/14	Bryce Zawadzki	7/21	James Manzo	7/30	Hope Willert
7/16	Ken Mann	7/22	Janine Wackowski	7/31	Jenna Runge
		7/23	Andrew Eising		

Happy Anniversary

7/1	Christopher & Erin Kotowski	7/8	Andrew & Rachel Eising
7/3	Larry & Marie Thompson Chris & Lynnae Kwilas	7/12	Ryan & Beth McKernan
7/5	Bob & Lois Rodgers Fred & Thea Schultz Dave & Noel Anderson	7/17	Justin & Betty Jo Smith
7/8	Larry & Peggy Wypior	7/18	C.J. & Lindsey Lehsten
		7/19	Leslie & Tim Tripi



Summer Camps at Pioneer

Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center offers a variety of summer camps and family service weekends. For more information, look for the brochures on the table in the narthex or visit Pioneer’s website (www.pioneercamp.org).

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!!!

Shut-ins can receive our weekly Life at Trinity announcement sheet and monthly Trinity Tidings newsletter by mail. Contact the church office (674-9188) to find out more information.

From the Church Office ...

E-Mail 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. Help us “go paperless”!

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

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.

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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