

# TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

## OCTOBER 2020

Trinity Lutheran Church & School  
146 Reserve Road, West Seneca, New York 14224  
Church: (716) 674-9188, School: (716) 674-5353

Rev. Dennis Krueger, Pastor, 674-9188 / C: 997-5666  
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  
Sunday @ 9:30 am

## C H A N G E

### Christ Has A New Goal Envisioned

Mention the word “change,” and you get all kinds of responses from dread to fear and questions: “Why?” This month we celebrate one of the greatest changes in church history as well as the history of the world – The Protestant Reformation! As Lutherans we praise and thank God for this change and those who led it. We sing “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” and we revel in the supremacy of the Word of God over the words of men and traditions, and rightly we should! However, in the midst of our annual celebration, we must admit that while we laud the monumental changes the Reformation brought about, we tenaciously resist change ourselves. Introduce a new song or hymn in worship, or suggest a different time of worship and watch what happens (and you probably ought to duck). And these are insignificant changes when compared to abolishing indulgences and translating the Bible into the language of the people.

We have had no choice but to accept many changes in the past seven months or so due to the threat and spread of the corona virus. Some have resisted like many college students who insist on partying rather than wearing masks and distancing. Do you remember a church that defied the government order to suspend holding public worship services last Spring? Many members ended up contracting the virus and some died, including the pastor as I recall. Many, like myself, have reluctantly complied with the guidelines and accepted the necessary changes. A few have embraced the changes, quarantined, distanced and donned masks. ALL OF US have been affected by these changes. We have yet to see the full impact of all of these changes on our society, including the church. Interestingly enough, studies have been carried out examining the changes brought about by the Black Plague and how it contributed to changes in the Catholic Church and the Reformation!

All of this resistance to change! Change may be difficult, but it is more often necessary and beneficial. I don't like it when a new version of Microsoft Windows comes out and I have to adapt and learn a revised system. But, it brings with it new and improved capabilities. The man who is told he must have heart by-pass surgery and make some changes in his lifestyle may not like it. If he wants to live, he must change. Churches are the same way. They must adapt and change if they want to live and fulfill their mission. The church of 1960 just won't cut it in 2020! Of course I am not talking about theology, doctrine or confession. In the midst of all of this change, **Christ Has A New Goal Envisioned!** Martin Luther understood this and put his trust in God when he challenged the church to change!

Trinity must embrace a new vision of ministry in light of a constantly changing culture inside and outside of the church. Already the pandemic has forced Trinity to expand worship services online and in our drive way! I doubt this would have happened if COVID-19 had not forced it. More changes are coming in the post-pandemic world and as we search for new pastoral leadership. God bless us with '20-20' vision to see that **Christ Has A New Goal Envisioned!**

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger

## Worship Schedule

**Saturdays at 5:00pm**

**Sundays at 9:30am**

**All services are now in the church.**

Weekly worship services are also available

**Online.** Visit our church website

“[www.trinitywestseneca.com](http://www.trinitywestseneca.com)”  
to access On-Line Worship.

## Church Office Hours

**Monday thru Thursday**

**8:00am - 3:00pm**



## **Voters Meeting**

**Sunday, October 4, 2020**

There will be a Voters Meeting on Sunday, October 4, 2020 following the 9:30am worship service. All confirmed members of Trinity are encouraged to attend and vote. On the agenda will be the 2020-2021 Church/School Budget, committee reports, and proposed Property & Grounds projects. Copies of the agenda and budget are available in the church narthex for your review prior to the Voters Meeting.



Ladies Bible Study will resume on **Monday, Sept. 28 at 7pm** in the church narthex. We will meet the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month. October's meetings will be on 10/11 and 10/25. The topic is yet to be determined. Please bring your own chair. All ladies age 18 and over are welcome to attend!

## **Altar Flowers**



We are in need of families to sign up to donate altar flowers for **October & November**. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to the right of the mailboxes in the church coatroom. They are only \$10 and you get to take them home after the 9:30am Sunday service. We ask that two families sign up for each week. Thank you!



## **Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ**

### **Drive-Thru Fundraiser**

**Saturday, October 17, 2020**

**11:00am - 4:00pm (OR until sold out)**

**Tickets: \$10 pre-sale / \$12 at the door**

**\*Pre-sale dinners are guaranteed until 3pm**

**Dinner includes: 1/2 chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, dessert**

The seventh and eighth graders at Trinity School will be hosting their annual chicken barbecue fundraiser! Tickets can be purchased from any seventh or eighth grade student in the narthex after church, or from the school office (674-5353). Please help share the word. If you have any questions, please see Ashley Kopra.



At this time, with church services now moved back inside the building and groups/committees beginning to resume meetings, it is important to remember to follow these important steps when using any of the church meeting rooms and/or facilities:

1. Contact the church office to schedule/reserve your meeting space.
2. Sanitize the table and door handles of the room after you use it. Cleaning products can be found in the janitor's closet off the church entryway.
3. Turn off all lights.
4. Lock the church door as you leave.

Thank you for your cooperation!



## **Operation Christmas Child**

Shoebbox season is right around the corner! Please start collecting items that would be appropriate for the boxes (small toys, school supplies, socks, washcloths, etc). Watch upcoming weekly announcement sheets and monthly newsletters for more details. Thank you!

## Trinity School News



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

Dear Friends in Christ,

At my home congregation, Immanuel in Tonawanda, we're studying Philippians in Bible class. I just love how Paul greets his beloved congregation, with words so exclusive to Christianity and full of the love of Christ: "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you." (Ph.1:2-3) The teachers and I are so thankful for your prayers and support as we continue to minister to God's children at the school and preschool. I thank God that, by His grace, our school is safely open and our students are learning and growing in His love each day. Our population allows us to space and divide desks, take daily temperatures, control lunch room spacing and monitor parent pick-up and drop-off, among many other things. The school building and church classrooms are sparkling clean and full of energy! Hours and hours of volunteer time allowed us to provide as safe an environment as we could, and we pray daily that God continues to bless us all with good health. The teachers have modified their curricula to be effective in this different setting while still caring for the social and emotional needs of the students. We were even able to offer advanced Algebra to our eligible 8th graders by putting the currently empty church Youth Room to good use! Your school administration (principal and Board) and staff work very hard to be responsible stewards of the many blessings He has so richly provided.

Thanks so much to the Outreach Team for providing welcome bags for our new school families! It was a pleasure to distribute them to the students and see their eyes light up. It didn't even matter what was in the bags! Our new families, along with the ongoing ones, are being wonderfully responsible about safety, but we're all trying to adjust to school life without the many great fellowship events that are the basis of our program. Next year, God-willing! The staff is affected, too, in many ways. It's very difficult being so isolated from each other each day. Another example - our Eastern District Professional Church Workers Convocation is virtual this year. We'll all be together at the school to participate, but will dearly miss the 2-day fellowship with our co-workers from across the District.

Have you heard of the Buffalo Burrito Project? It is one of several Burrito Project initiatives nationally that provides a hot meal each week to inner-city homeless. With its home base at St. Paul Lutheran in North Tonawanda, volunteers prepare and distribute burritos every Tuesday night on the streets of Buffalo. Local nursing homes had also previously assisted with preparation, but their help is on hold right now, which increases production costs. The school has adopted the Buffalo Burrito Project as its first trimester offerings and dress down dollars recipient. We'll be hearing from the BBP director in a few weeks at an outdoor chapel service. The students will be assembling "snack bags" of pre-packaged treats, and constructing fleece scarf, socks and candy 'burritos' to donate for distribution along with their monetary donations. Our school year theme, "Sent to Serve", based on Matthew 20:28, is the motivation for our donation recipients this year.

We've been enjoying the use of the outdoor stage by the church portico for our chapel services so far this year. We use a small amp from the school for sound and spread the children's chairs out in the parking lot for a safe and effective worship time! It is the only time our entire student body can be in each other's 'distant' presence, and it makes worship that much more meaningful. We're all praying that we continue to be blessed with cooperative weather! Once again, it is such a joy to spend each day with God's children here at Trinity school. Please continue to pray for all of our ministry and missions here at Trinity!

~ Kathleen Fretthold, Principal

## YOUTH SCOOP

**Parent Meeting:** Hi parents! I hope by this point you've settled okay into the school routine. And I know that can be very different from others, depending on what district you are in. In October, I'd like to have a parent meeting either in person or virtual to see what we can do for our kiddos and teens. We can brainstorm ideas and talk about what people are comfortable doing. Please let me know if you're in and we'll set a date that works! Contact me at [mwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com](mailto:mwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com) or 608-8907.

~ Mark Willert  
Youth & Family Coordinator



### Weekly Bible Reading Coordinator Needed

We are looking for someone to take over the coordination of the Saturday and Sunday service readers. It requires putting together a schedule and notifying the readers in advance of the Bible passages for their assigned week. We can provide you with a list and contact information of members who have read in the past to help get you started. Please contact the church office (674-9188) if you are able to help Trinity in this way or if you have any questions.



**Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>  
At 6:00pm**

As of the time of this writing, we're making plans to hold Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 25th at 6pm. It will be a little different but similar to prior years while being careful and maintaining social distancing. Our plan will be clearly shared upon arrival. Please bring a mask for everyone. Have someone remain with your car, using a glove to hand out the candy to the kids going by. Also, don't forget a bag for your kids to collect the candy as they go around. Families will stay together and kids accompanied by their parent only.

### Recycle Greeting Cards

ALL types of greeting cards are still being collected. Only the card front is collected (cut off back) and must be free of any personal writing on the back of this part. **NO** Hallmark, Disney, or American Greeting cards can be accepted. Please put them in Linda Rowsell church message box. Thank you.

### 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.

## LCMS Foundation Gift Planning

"If I plan my estate or end of life decisions, it means that I accept that I will die, and I don't want to talk about such things."

That was Susan's response to a Gift Planning Counselor of the LCMS Foundation. That counselor pointed her to the words of Jesus in John 11 when He said, "*I am the resurrection and life...whoever lives and believes in me will by no means die, forever.*" Their conversation centered around the truth that because of Jesus and His death and resurrection, "*death no longer has mastery over us.*" (Romans 6)

Whether here on earth or with the Lord in heaven, life continues. "*For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.*" (2 Corinthians 5)

Having this conversation gave Susan a sense of peace. She put her Lifetime Plan for Giving™ together with her LCMS Gift Planning Counselor. She was thankful that this process had finally enabled her to get beyond the fear of death and dying that had haunted her throughout her life.

Is it time for you to do the same? Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Robert Wirth, LCMS Foundation Gift Planner @ [robert.wirth@lfn.org](mailto:robert.wirth@lfn.org) or 716-863-4427.



# ARE YOU EXPERIENCING PANDEMIC FATIGUE?



Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like . . .

- ISOLATION AND LONELINESS
- ANXIETY OVER HEALTH
- GRIEF DUE TO MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF LOSSES
- TENSION FROM JUGGLING WORK, CHILDCARE, AND SCHOOLING
- FINANCIAL STRAIN OR JOB LOSS
- UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUTURE
- OTHER UNEXPECTED LIFE CHALLENGES?



**STEPHEN  
MINISTRY**

If so, you don't have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person—to offer care and support. It's free and completely confidential. For more information, call our church office.

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*  
Matthew 11:28

***Happy Birthday***

10/1	Bob Bogumil Rachel Eising	10/12	Jennifer Szeider Kaitlyn Schwab Liam Cosandier	10/25	Karen O'Brien
10/2	Rachel Jaskier	10/13	Frank Lelito Gabriella Tripi	10/26	Emily Gabel
10/3	Adriano DeMoura	10/14	Nancy Hope David Sirgey	10/27	Sheila Swart Robin Makosy James Rowsell Joanne Jaskier Duane Gabel
10/4	Nakiya Harris	10/15	Bennett Jelowski	10/28	Mary Ann Warner Karl Schultz Michelle Ecker
10/6	Lisa Strong	10/16	Marilyn Smolka	10/29	Kevin R. Kot Ana Royal (n. Zarbo)
10/8	Emily Lelito Jazmine Gable Jonas Herdlein Levi Haas	10/21	Beth McKernan Max Rodgers	10/30	Lacey Harris
10/9	Emma Monahan	10/23	Leigh Farrell Rebecca Hall	10/31	Tara Thompson
10/11	Paulette Darcy Sheri Courteau				

***Happy Anniversary***

10/1	Mary & Joel Havens Bonnie & Mark Schwab	10/15	Carl & Carolyn Lehsten Dawn & Paul Barnas
10/3	Robert & Renee Stefanik	10/19	Harry & Judeen Babcock Alan & Bok Yox
10/4	Peter & Loral Szeider	10/21	Robert & Carol Cislo
10/7	Eve & James LoVullo	10/24	Gary & Lenore Ecker Stephen & Carol Hope
10/9	Michael & Noell McKernan	10/29	Donald & Gail Rieman
10/11	Heidi & Tom Cosandier		
10/13	Christopher & Reacey Malta		

**Portals of Prayer**

**Portals of Prayer** (Oct – Dec 2020) devotion booklets are now available. Booklets can be picked up from the narthex or at any time from the box located outside of the church doors.



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. Visit our church website ([www.trinitywestseneca.com](http://www.trinitywestseneca.com)), click on the “Give Now” button at the top right of the page, and follow the instructions.

**Member Contact Info**

Have you recently moved or changed your phone number or email address? Does Trinity even have your email address? Not sure? If you haven’t been receiving our weekly informational emails, we probably don’t have it or you have changed it and we need the new one. If this pertains to you, please contact the church office (674-9188) or you can leave your new information in the Church Office mailbox in the coatroom. Thank you!



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!!!

**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**

997-5666 / [tlckrueger@verizon.net](mailto:tlckrueger@verizon.net)  
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