

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

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



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm
Sunday @ 9:30 am



SOLA SOLUTIONS

Do you remember the Game of Scruples? It came out 36 years ago, so many of you may never have heard of it. Basically, the game challenged the players to respond to a variety of challenging dilemmas which would reveal one's scruples, ethics and morality. Real life, which is no game, challenges us daily with many dilemmas for which there are a number of alternative responses. How we respond reveals much about our faith, personality and "scruples." Believe it or not, Martin Luther and the Reformation can help us with these everyday dilemmas!

The Reformers were guided by the conviction that the church of their day had drifted away from the essential, original teachings of Christianity, especially regarding the forgiveness of sins, the grace of God, salvation and the authority of the Word of God. So Martin Luther and the other Reformers sought to re-orient the church and populace on the original and true message of Jesus Christ and the early church. They formulated five basic statements called "Solas" (Latin meaning "alone / only") to summarize the essential theological convictions of Christianity as revealed in God's Holy Word. They are still relevant and very helpful to us today in our walk of faith and responding to life's dilemmas.

1. Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone) God's Word, The Bible, is our highest authority and standard!
2. Sola Fide (Faith Alone) We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ and not by our works!
3. Sola Gratia (Grace Alone) We are saved only by the undeserved love and grace of God!
4. Solus Christus (Christ Alone) Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior and King!
5. Soli Deo Gloria (To God Alone be all the glory) We live for the glory of God alone!

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger



Daylight Savings Time ends
Sunday, November 1ST at 2:00am.
 Remember to turn your clocks back!



Thanksgiving Worship

Wed. November 25 @ 7:00 p.m.

Trinity will hold only one Thanksgiving Worship Service, which will be on Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 25th at 7:00 p.m. There **will not** be a service the next morning on Thanksgiving Day.



Church Facility Usage

Now that church services are being conducted inside the building and groups/committees are slowly beginning to resume meeting, 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. Turn down the heat (if applicable).
5. Lock the church door as you leave.

The Church Coat Room

As the weather gets colder, people will be wearing coats and jackets to church. Please do not hang them up in the coat/mail room. Why? We do not want people to congregate in the small coat room – or in the narthex fellowship area. As an additional precaution we want to avoid people's coats from being hung up and slid into contact with other's jackets. There should be plenty of room in the pews as we maintain social distancing. Thank you for your cooperation!



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

It's Shoebox time for Operation Christmas Child. Pre-printed shoeboxes can be found in the church narthex. The Outreach Committee does have to purchase these boxes, so if you have regular shoeboxes at home, please use those. Remember to pick up the pamphlets and Boy/Girl labels. You can always pay online and print your labels from home if you would like to track your box. Please find out more information at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>. Thank you for your continued support of this project!



Mid-Week Bible Class

On **Tuesday, November 10th** we will begin the Mid-Week Bible Class. (The study books won't be available in time to start on the third.) We will probably gather in the narthex fellowship area so we can maintain social distancing. Class will begin at 7:00pm and last about an hour or so. We plan to meet weekly until December 15th or possibly 22nd depending on the will of the class. Our topic will be: *The Lutheran Difference: Priesthood and Ministry*. As we begin the Call Process for a new Pastor, it was thought that this might be a timely topic to study and consider. Note: This class will study "The Divine Call" and will not even discuss names of whom Trinity might consider calling. Please bring your mask and your Bible with you.

Weekly Service Bible Readings

Readers Needed:

Are you willing to occasionally read the Scripture readings during Saturday or Sunday worship services? If yes, please contact the church office (674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net). Readers will be asked to read 1-2 passages from the Bible, which will be given to them in advance.

Coordinator Needed:

We are looking for someone to take over the coordination of the Sunday 9:30am 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.

Trinity School News



From the Principal ...

Dear Friends,

Last week, a new third grade student asked a teacher about the rainbow pictures on the wall, and the funny looking boats under the rainbows. The teacher explained that those were students' paintings of the Promise of God to Noah in the Bible story of Noah's Ark. The student said she had never heard that story ... the teacher had the joy of sharing that Bible miracle with her. Events of this kind are not uncommon here! Especially with the influx of new students this year, it has become sadly obvious that we have a lot of Gospel sharing to do. Praise God that He has led those students and their families here, and we pray that the Holy Spirit moves in their hearts as they hear and learn the Word of God through our school.

These next few months are taking on a very different look than they have in the past concerning student body activities. From Reformation, Thanksgiving and Christmas worship experiences to Pumpkin Day, Thanksgiving Feast Day and a visit from Santa, new plans are being made. Our upper grade students are bemoaning the loss of most of their favorite non-academic events, but the staff is being very creative in replacements for the usual routine. It takes a lot of thought and extra planning, but we're determined that the children have a school experience this year that is wonderfully, instead of disappointingly, memorable. Santa may have to share his felicitations from the parking lot with the bull horn, but since he is one more voice pointing the children to Christ at Christmas, he will prevail!!

Last week our students assembled our current mission project gifts - mini care packages for the Buffalo Burrito Project volunteers to distribute to the homeless they serve in Buffalo. The children wrapped fleece scarves around a pair of warm socks and some sweet treats, and a notecard of care and a Gospel message. The Buffalo Burrito Project was also blessed by many blankets assembled by Trinity members. The director was so thankful! The current health situation makes the work of many local volunteer organizations even more challenging. Our support is deeply appreciated. The school children are also looking forward to assembling Operation Christmas Child boxes. Their enthusiastic desire to help others is touching to see - the shoeboxes are an annual favorite. While our schedule and activities here at school may look a bit different this year, there are always many ways to serve. We are blessed with children and families (and a congregation!) who are willing servants!

~ Kathleen Fretthold, Principal

Chicken Dinner Success!

Thank you for supporting our chicken BBQ fundraiser on October 17th. We sold about 600 chicken dinners! We really appreciate all your help making this such a successful event!



2021 ALTAR FLOWERS & CANDLES / OIL

The 2021 sign-up charts are on the table in the narthex. Sign up for your special occasion today!

Flowers: \$10 per vase and you get to take them home after the Sunday 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)**.

Altar Candles / Oil: \$25 per month (per family). Two families should sign-up each month to cover the total cost. Checks should be made payable to: **"Trinity Lutheran Church"** and placed in the Church Office message center.

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

1st Community Clothing Event

The Outreach Committee held the first Community Clothing Event on Saturday September 26th. It was a beautiful day and we had a very generous amount of clothing, shoe and accessory donations from the end of season clothing from LADD as well as from church and community members. Thank you to everyone who donated clothing, helped to pick up donations, sorted through clothing and helped on the day of the event. We pray that these donations helped people in need in our community. The leftover items were donated to either LADD (winter/fall items) as well as a church in downtown Buffalo that provides food and clothing after their services. We also received a thank you note from someone who attended (see below). God Bless!

"Thank you for all of the wonderful clothes we were able to get from your clothes giveaway. We were able to provide for all of my five grandkids, my daughter's husband, and a friend of theirs who has limited means. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. May God bless you all." - Sharon

Church Projects

The Old School House Demolition has been paid in full! Thank you to all those who donated to this project!!! Beginning in January 2020, Trinity's offering envelope packets will contain a "Parsonage Windows Project" envelope for anyone who is willing / able to contribute to this new project. Until then, anyone wishing to make contributions can use the Old School House Demolition envelopes and we will apply it to the windows.

Congregational Voters Meeting Results

At the October 3, 2020 Voters Meeting, the following was approved: 1) The 2020/2021 Church & School Budget; 2) The parsonage windows project; 3) Lisa Lafferty will replace Dave Sirgey as the School Board President, and subsequently, will be an advisory member to the Executive Board; 4) This year's Executive Board elections will be deferred to September 2021, resulting in the current members' terms being extended 1 year.

It was also announced at the meeting that: 1) Effective 10/1/20, Pastor Krueger has moved from a full-time to a part-time pastor at Trinity; 2) Robin Makosy will replace Brian Makey as the Church Treasurer effective 11/1/20.

Trinity's Nominations / Call Committee

The following members have agreed to serve on the Nominations/Call Committee:

Dave Sirgey	Trevor Jelowski
Lynnae Kwilas	Erin Kotowski
Nevin Hope	Kevin Kot
Robin Makosy	

Property & Grounds Meeting Saturday, November 14th at 9:00am

The Property & Grounds Committee's next meeting will be on Saturday, November 14th at 9am.



The Red Wagon Food Pantry

For the month of November, we will be collecting cereal. Items will be donated to the food pantry at Bread of Life Outreach Center in Colden. Thank you for your support!

Josh Makey Seminary Update

Sarah and I are doing well! We are currently living in a big house in Mascoutah, Illinois which is about a 35 minute drive to Seminary. I commute to the Seminary each day for classes and Sarah works full time a Childcare facility in Mascoutah. I have just finished the first half of my fall Semester and am looking forward to the second half of the Semester. God is good! Sarah and I send our greetings to all our friends and family at Trinity!!

~ Josh Makey

YOUTH SCOOP

College and Sr. High Students:

Any students that would like to do a zoom topic this month, please let Mark Willert know! He would love to get something going to interact on. We need it! Send a message to Mark at mkwillert@aol.com.



What is the LWML? It's the primary group for the LCMS, where every woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports missions and serves the Lord with gladness. One focus of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to challenge and equip women of all ages, stages, ethnicities, and experiences to make a meaningful difference in the lives of hurting, helpless, and unbelieving people at home and throughout the world. This is done by helping every woman find personal opportunities in her daily life and in her congregation to be nurtured in faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to discover her unique gifts and value in God's family.

MITES (loose change) will continue to be collected throughout the year. Mites fund grants to mission projects for our district and on the national level. They can be put in Linda Meissner's message center.

Cancelled Stamps / Ink Cartridges / Electronic Devices: You can also help by donating cancelled stamps with 1/2 inch border and used ink cartridges and electronic devices. In the coatroom is a purple tote for devices, which has more information posted on it. These are redeemed for money which is put into the mite funds. Stamps can be put in Linda Meissner's message center.



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.

"Joining Jesus as a Family: Discipling Your Family by Living Your Faith"

A webinar with Greg & Susan Finke

Parents, what are you discipling your children to become? Church-goers or Christ-followers?

You, of course, want your children to worship Jesus and study Jesus. But, if you also want them to become life-long followers of Jesus, they will need more than worship and study... they will need you.

That's what we'll be digging into with the Finkes' new webinar "Joining Jesus as a Family: Discipling Your Family by Living Your Faith."

Nervous? Let not your heart be troubled. You're not discipling your child FOR Jesus. You're discipling your child WITH Jesus. And it's simpler than you think and a lot more fun!

Register for Greg and Susan Finke's webinar where they will unpack:

- What discipleship really is.
- Why it is already happening in your family.
- How fun it can be to intentionally disciple your kids to be life-long followers of Jesus by joining Him on His mission every day.

For \$19, you will receive invaluable insights into how discipleship works, a simple outline for how to disciple your family, a recording of the webinar so you can review it on-demand, and the first chapter of the Finke's upcoming book, "Joining Jesus as a Family."

The webinar is **Tuesday, November 10 at noon CST**. Can't make it on November 10? No worries! Register anyway and receive the webinar recording immediately after November 10.

Use the web address below to register for the webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2hRLxCKzQpSre4UgYf4sxx

Greg and Susan present a simple, biblical, practical framework for discipling your family to follow Jesus and join Him on His mission.

Cemetery News . . .

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.

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.

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

“Trunk or Treat . . . Ebenezer?”

By Mark Willert

With great care, planning, and concern for safety, we were able to hold our Trunk or Treat event again this year. Thanks to the Glinksi Family for your help! By God's grace, we had only 4 spaces left for what we safely had room for and didn't have to send anyone away. We estimated there were about 160 people from the church and school, enjoying the event and at the end hearing God's word in a brief devotion talking about an "ebenezer". The word means, "stone of my help". We see in the Bible after fighting the Philistines, Samuel sets up a stone and says, "This far, the Lord has helped us," to memorialize the success of the battle.

We as families can do the same thing. In the devotion, I shared that our family set up one in the woods of Emery Park. Huddled over the pile of rocks we gathered, praying and thanking God for keeping our girls in Christian education all along the way, as they now both headed off to college. We will occasionally take a hike and visit there, and remember the things God has done.

Inviting the Trunk or Treat attendees to do the same, I must say it was quite a sight as I peeked out while leading a prayer from the middle of the Trinity parking lot, looking at all the family huddles I was surrounded by. The simple desire to gather candy led to an opportunity to focus on God's love and providence.



LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as a sacrifice.

Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom.

Thus, we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

Happy Birthday

11/2	Dawn Stroh Bonnie Schwab	11/12	Linda Hodge Michael Hock Dawn Barnas	11/23	Robert Rodgers Paulette Bogumil Courtney Jelowski
11/3	Carole Jaekle	11/15	Lauren Berton	11/26	Debra Howard
11/4	Caitlyn McLaughlin	11/16	Dick Schultz Dennis Glinski	11/28	Corrine Rodgers Ryan McKernan
11/5	Jane Sirgey Christian Tripi	11/17	Charles Gass Abigail Anderson	11/29	Renata Schultz
11/6	George Hodge Gary Haas Linda Wrobel	11/18	Nathan Barnas	11/30	Christine Hawkins Christine Harris
11/8	Gail Rieman Lisa Manzo Roberta DeMoura	11/20	Theresa McKernan		
		11/21	Aubrey Conti Joshua Barnas		

Happy Anniversary

11/2 Keith & Karen Tober

11/26 Vincent & Lucille Zarbo



Christmas Poinsettia Plants

We will once again be placing poinsettia plants on the altar for the Christmas services this year. Plants will be \$7.00 each and will be available in red or white. Order forms will be in upcoming bulletins or you can contact the church office to place your order (674-9188).

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!

Portals of Prayer

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



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.

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
674-5353 / kfretthold@thinktrinitychristian.com
608-8907 / mwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com
674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net
674-5353 / jbabcock@thinktrinitychristian.com