

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

OCTOBER 2021

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

Rev. Nycholas Greig, Pastor, 674-9188 / C: (804) 382-6199
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



“Grace and Peace to You!”

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” - 1 Corinthians 1:3.

These words or words like them occur at the beginning of each of the letters of Paul we find in the Bible. But these are not some meaningless words to be ignored. They are the beginning, and form the foundation for everything Paul is doing. This is a prayer for the grace of God to be upon the recipients of his letters. The peace he proclaims is not just peace with our God through the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ, but also peace between people from a variety of backgrounds and competing ideas.

As we begin the work of ministry together, we gather around the same central idea, the grace we have through Jesus Christ. At the end of this month we will celebrate Reformation Sunday, the day when we remember the work of important figures in Christian church history, including Martin Luther, who worked hard to bring us the message of the grace of God.

But where do we go from here? Certainly, we meditate on and dwell on His grace in our lives. But like Paul, we exist to share the grace and peace of God with others. We live in a community that needs to hear about the love of our God. Nearly 50,000 live in the town of West Seneca, and how many more in the greater Buffalo area! We have a great opportunity to impact the lives of countless families and grow the kingdom of God right here and now!

God's Blessings,
Pastor Nyck Greig



Voters Meeting Sunday, October 10, 2021

There will be a Voters Meeting on Sunday, October 10 following the 9:30am worship service. All confirmed members of Trinity are encouraged to attend and vote. On the agenda will be the 2021-2022 Church/School Budget and open Executive Board positions. Copies of the budget are available in the church narthex for your review prior to the Voters Meeting.

Name Tags

To help Pastor Greig get to know our members, we are asking everyone to start wearing name tags beginning this weekend. Come to church a few minutes early to fill out your tag. Some people still have tags in their church mailboxes from when Pastor Krueger arrived at Trinity; feel free to re-use them instead of making a new one. Please continue to wear your name tag every week for the next few months. Thank you!



Adult Bible Studies Wednesday Evening

Millions of Christians are disconnecting from church as they transition to adulthood. The real question is why? In this study we will take a closer look at the unique challenges affecting younger Christians and create discussion and deep thinking about practical ways to engage all generations within our church. This Bible Study will be held at the church on **Wednesday evenings at 7pm beginning on October 6** and will be led by Pastor Nyck.

Sunday Morning

Pastor Nyck will lead an adult Bible study on the book of Acts on **Sunday mornings at 8:30am starting on October 10th**. Join as we take a closer look at this Book chronicling the history of the early Christian Church and see how this book of the Bible is still relevant today.

The Red Food Pantry Wagon

For the month of October, we will be collecting canned tomato products. Items will be donated to the food pantry at Bread of Life Outreach Center in Colden.



The members of Trinity would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to Pastor Ron for serving as our Vacancy Pastor for the past 8 months. His leadership, devotion and compassion has truly been a blessing during this time of transition at our church.



Sunday School will meet at the school on **Sunday mornings at 8:30am beginning on October 3rd**! Registration forms can be found in the church narthex. Return completed forms to Sarah Gabel.

We need your help to make Sunday School a success. If you are interested in helping lead music, being a teacher or aide for a class, or are willing to be on a substitute list, please contact Sarah Gabel at sgabel@thinktrinitychristian.com.

Confirmation Class

We'll be starting our confirmation classes back up on **October 3 at 8:30am**. What is confirmation? Simply, it's to publicly profess your relationship with Jesus, agree with what it means to be Lutheran, and express the desire and interest of becoming an active and living member of our church. We generally confirm students at the end of their 8th grade year after having 2 years of classes.

Sr. High Sunday School

Sr. High Sunday School will begin on **Sunday, October 3 at 8:30am**. We will meet each Sunday in the youth group room in the church basement. Please bring masks in case we cannot distance.



Ladies Bible Study resumed in September. We meet on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the church narthex. Our current topic is Women of the Bible. All ladies age 18 and over are welcome to attend!

Trinity School News



From the Principal ...

Dear Friends in Christ,

Hello! The teachers and aides at the school exchange names randomly each week and pray for that staff member throughout the week. It's a wonderful way to keep us in mind of the other's gifts and needs. I find myself getting caught up in my own schedule and my own challenges at times, and praying for others quickly redirects my thoughts. Along those lines, the staff is anxiously awaiting the return of congregational prayer partners! The students love knowing adults are praying for them, and we are so thankful for your prayers on behalf of the students. It is our joy to pray for you, as well! You know that all children these days are experiencing pressures that not even adults know how to process. The more Christian love and assurance we can provide, the greater their opportunity to produce fruit. Please keep an eye out for Prayer Partner information soon.

I hope that you'll take a few moments to visit the school after worship this Sunday 9/26. During the service, the teachers will be Installed, it's the Blessing of the Backpacks, and the school children will sing. After, the school will be open for your perusal. The classrooms and hallways look great - freshly painted and covered in student work. I'm so proud of our staff who continue to be exceptional instructors while handling all of the classroom health requirements as well. Stop outside to take a look at the new concrete pad in the playground too (see below picture)! This pad was one of the improvements funded by the school's Annual Fund and we're thrilled that it finally came to be a few weeks ago. Soil and grass will fill in the sides, and basketball and 4-Square lines will be painted on. There's always more to a project than you plan on, isn't there?!

Speaking of our teachers, I recently received an email from the President of Central Christian Academy in Williamsville, where some of our graduates are attending high school. He wrote: "*If I have failed to say so previously, please know that the academic preparation of Trinity Christian School students for the rigors of CCA's High School has been terrific!*" I am always gratified to get this kind of feedback from educators and students alike, and share it with the staff. Their dedication is a blessing to our children.

I'm excited about partnering with Pastor Nyck to enhance the pastoral presence at the school! We have a large population of un-churched or non-churched, and his input will be invaluable. Once again, our mission statement, "Guiding our children in faith, learning, character and leadership by nurturing their relationship with Jesus Christ and educating them for a lifetime of service to God and man" guides our actions and decisions, by God's grace, to lead souls to Jesus. May He bless our efforts in His name!

~ Kathleen Fretthold, Principal



New concrete playground pad!





Sunday, October 24th at 6:00pm

As of the time of this writing, we're making plans to hold Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 24th at 6pm. We made it work fantastically last year! Again, 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 and please bring a mask for everyone in case it will be necessary. 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 with kids accompanied by their parent only. Like last year, we will still have a family devotional time. Looking forward to being together on the 24th!



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 Welcome Center in the church narthex. 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!

Opportunity to Serve

In the Bible, the words *servant* and *minister* are synonyms, as are *service* and *ministry*. If you are a Christian, you are a minister, and when you're serving, you're ministering.

There will soon be two openings on the Board of Elders due to the expiration of existing members' terms of service. If you are a spiritually mature man or woman who desires to care for, pray for, and serve the people of God at Trinity, please contact any member of the Executive Committee, the Board of Elders, and/or Pastor Nyck and indicate your wish to be considered for appointment to the Board of Elders. God has a *ministry* for you in His church and a *mission* for you in the world.

LWML Fall Rally

October 30, 2021 9:00am - 2:00pm

SAVE THE DATE! There will be an LWML Fall Rally at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 30, 2021, from 9 am - 2pm. After a meeting and topic by the Hearts for the Homeless speaker, lunch will be served. After lunch we will make fleece blankets for Hearts for the Homeless. There will also be an ingathering of supplies for the organization. Blankets can be made prior to the Rally and donated to the cause. See/call Linda Meissner for more info.

Thank-You Trinity!

Almost seven years ago I moved to West Seneca in the freezing cold aftermath of the 'Snovember' snow storm. At the end of August, Lynn and I moved out amid the hottest and most humid days of 2021. All the days in between have been a true blessing at Trinity. There were some difficult and stormy days when Ruth Ann was called to heaven and I experienced cancer and other health challenges. There were also some wonderful warm days when God blessed me with a daughter of Trinity who became my wife. Through them all, the Trinity family has been very caring and supportive. Even though I am sure that I was called by the Lord to serve the residents and staff at GreenFields, I have missed serving as the pastor of Trinity. I am glad that the Lord has provided the pastoral leadership for Trinity in Pastor Ron and now Pastor Nyck.

Thank-you very much for the "Appreciation Fellowship" and the gift following the Saturday worship service on August 21st. Also, thank-you for allowing Lynn and I to stay in the parsonage after concluding my active ministry at Trinity while we searched for a home. Sadly, our search for a home in the current market continues and is not over, but the Lord has provided for us once again. As some of you may know, the home we were planning to buy at the beginning of September fell through when the sellers could not clear the title in order to sell it. Our furniture is in storage and we are camping out at the vacant parsonage at Faith Lutheran in Elma.

I had hoped that Lynn and I could remain active and involved at Trinity. For awhile at least, I believe it best that we stay away and allow Pastor Nyck time to settle in without the shadow of the previous pastor. When I'm not preaching elsewhere, I hope we can visit and worship back home at Trinity now and then. God bless you all and thank-you for your loving care, partnership and support!

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger

YOUTH SCOOP



Jr. & Sr. High Youth Night

Our next Jr. & Sr. High Youth Night is **Wednesday October 6 from 6:30pm-8:00pm**. At last month's Youth Night we played 4 square (and 6 square for the first time in Trinity history!), some basketball, and ate s'mores around the camp fire. In our devotion time, we took an ember away from the fire and watched what happened as it slowly dimmed and went out. Once you put it back with the other embers, it re-lights and becomes ablaze once again. It is the same way with our relationship with God and being around our Christian family.

Book / Game Exchange: Sunday, 9/26 at 10:30am

Bring in books and games you no longer want for someone else to enjoy! Think children / young reader books. We'll have a big giveaway after church on the 26th!

October Jr. & Sr. High Calendar:

- 10/3 - 8:30am Sr. High Sunday School
- 10/3 - 8:30am Confirmation Class
- 10/6 - 6:30pm-8pm Jr. & Sr. High Youth Night
- 10/10 - 8:30am Sr. High Sunday School
- 10/10 - 8:30am Confirmation Class
- 10/10 - 12:15pm-6pm Pioneer Serving Event
- 10/17 - 8:30am Sr. High Sunday School
- 10/17 - 8:30am Confirmation Class
- 10/23 - Escape Room (See upcoming announcements for details!)
- 10/24 - 8:30am Sr. High Sunday School
- 10/24 - 8:30am Confirmation Class
- 10/24 - 6:00pm Trunk or Treat (see article on pg 4)
- 10/31 - 8:30am Sr. High Sunday School
- 10/31 - 8:30am Confirmation Class

Pioneer on the Lake Service Day

We are so excited to be going back out to Camp Pioneer once again to serve! On October 10 we will be heading out at 12:15pm to rake leaves and after go for a beach walk. Bring your own rake as well as a water bottle! We return at 6pm. To sign up, contact Mark Willert or Lisa Lafferty by Oct. 8 so we can arrange rides. If any parents are willing to go along, please let us know as we may need drivers.

Trinity's Youth Band Together to Help!

Trinity's mighty youth banded together on August 31st to help unload Pastor Nick's 95 ft moving truck (ok it wasn't that big). They hefted, carried, pushed, pulled, dropped (oops!), lugged and moved lots of boxes, furniture and belongings. Not a complaint was heard as they lived up to the verse in 1 Timothy "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example..." These kids gladly gave up their youth night (and s'mores!) to lend a hand. Way to represent!



Trinity's Family Ministry

Mark Willert, Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator



Campfire & Campout

Our 10th Annual Trinity Campfire and Campout was greatly appreciated considering all the limitations we've had with Covid, and especially not having the event last year. About 90 people from our Trinity family and friends attended the picnic, many stayed for the devotion and campfire and about 15 camped out overnight! God gave us an amazing evening to enjoy. Thanks to all who helped out and we look forward to next year!

FeedMore Service Event

On August 25th a group from Trinity went to FeedMore of WNY in Buffalo to pack boxes to be shipped out to organizations to distribute for people in need. It was an extremely simple 2 hours, was mindless work and you felt good at the end seeing the pile of boxes you packed. The length of time was perfect.

Our group found it so easy to sign up as well as commit to the short time to serve and we all said it'd be worth doing again (just yesterday Pastor Ron was saying now that he is in retirement again, he would like to go back). Thanks to Kevin and Colleen Kot who initiated the opportunity and got us rolling!

The Food Bank and Meals on Wheels are now FeedMore WNY. In 2020, they served more than 16 million meals to homebound neighbors and through the nearly 300 pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters and other hunger-relief agencies throughout Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties.

To sign up your group, contact the Volunteer Manager at volunteer@feedmorewny.org or at (716) 822-2005 ext. 3077 to learn more.



"Pioneer on the Lake" is the new name of the beloved place that everyone affectionately calls Camp Pioneer. The new phone number (same address of course) is (716) 383-6157. Where are they at in the rebirth process? Currently, you can rent out cabins and starting next summer they will begin programming. The board is also going through a visioning process as well as putting a fundraising program together.

Would anyone at Trinity be willing to be a main contact for Pioneer? They would receive occasional communications and excitedly share them either verbally or in print with our church. Pioneer is trying to get a liaison or "champion" within each congregation. It could also be a group of people.

Many at Trinity have had long standing and deep roots with this wonderful place and are thankful for the impact it has had. It is so reassuring to know it is going to continue to be used by God, impacting and shaping lives in such a unique and special setting.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

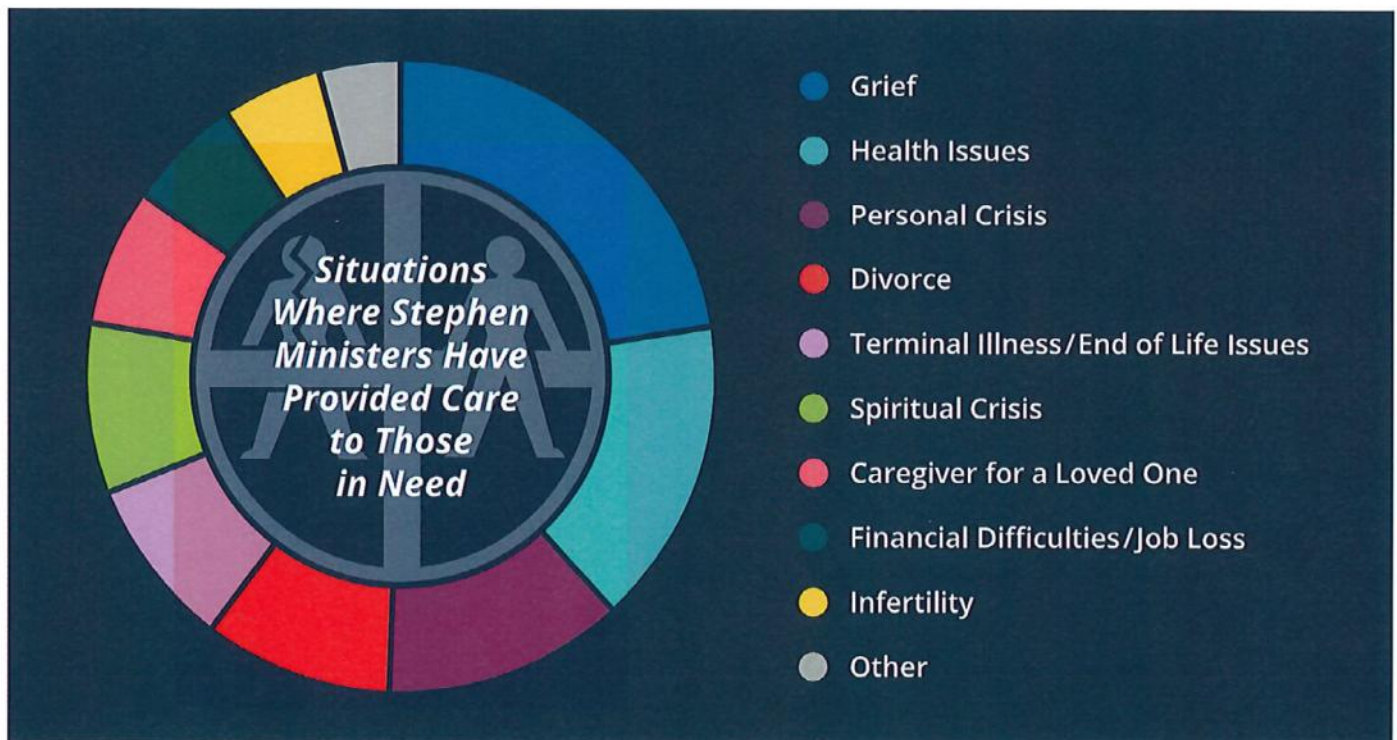
Care Receivers Share How Their Stephen Ministers Made a Difference

*Although my needs changed as I went from wife to caregiver to widow, my Stephen Minister's love and support remained a constant. She was **there at every stage of my journey**, helping me through some of the most difficult moments of my life—so I could begin to heal.*

Susan ●

*When things seemed like too much to handle, **my Stephen Minister brought normalcy and calm**. With him by my side, I knew I could make it from one week to the next. I could feel God's presence when my Stephen Minister was there.*

James ●



*My Stephen Minister was a consistent presence walking with me throughout my divorce. He would always show up, and **most importantly, he refused to give up on me**. I'll forever be grateful for the way he changed my life.*

Ralph ●

*When I was with my Stephen Minister, **I felt Jesus was with me**. I saw the love of God in her eyes while we talked and prayed, and it would fill me with such comfort and peace. It helped me know that I could make it through.*

Ashley ●

(Continued on page 8)

STEPHEN MINISTRY (Continued)

*After the death of my mom, **I needed someone who would listen**—even to the same stories over and over—and who wouldn't be afraid to say her name or bring up her memory. That's who my Stephen Minister was, and I don't know how I would have gotten through it without her.*

Molly ●

*My Stephen Minister listens—really listens. **He doesn't judge me or tell me what to do** but walks side by side with me. I never realized how helpful and healing that can be. With his care and support, I'm making it through.*

Brian ●

*I'm blessed with an amazing Stephen Minister. She's been genuinely attentive and caring ever since she came alongside me. She's kind of fearless in that way—**she'll just be there without trying to fix me** or talk me out of my feelings as I struggle with what's happening.*

Nancy ●

*My Stephen Minister's weekly visits became an anchor in my life—something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. **She was a steady reminder of God's presence**, helping me know I was never alone.*

Heather ●

*When someone you love is terminally ill, people often pull back because they're scared and don't know what to say. But **my Stephen Minister stood with me through it all**—listening, talking, and helping me on the journey. It was so reassuring to know he was by my side.*

Andrew ●

*My Stephen Minister loves me, listens to me, cares for me, prays for me, supports me, and **gives me a safe, confidential relationship** where I can totally share my heart. No matter how much I have to unload on her, she listens to whatever is going on.*

Celeste ●

*I needed to know that there was one person in the world who knew the good, the bad, and the ugly about me—and still cared for me. Experiencing that through my Stephen Minister was **a tangible expression of God's love**. It changed my life.*

Julia ●

*Stephen Ministry showed me the face of Christ. **God brought me exactly what I needed** through the care of my Stephen Minister, and that demonstrated to me how God cares for each and every one of us.*

Frank ●

- **Stephen Ministry** is a lay caring ministry being used by more than 13,000 congregations worldwide to increase care and outreach to hurting people.
- Through Stephen Ministry, congregations are able to equip and empower a team of laypeople—Stephen Ministers—who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, health issues, divorce, spiritual crisis, job loss, infertility, or other life difficulties. Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people have received care from a Stephen Minister.
- Visit stephenministries.org to learn more about Stephen Ministry and see stories about the difference Stephen Ministers are making in people's lives.

Happy Birthday

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

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
10/4	Peter & Lural 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		

Portals of Prayer

Portals of Prayer (Oct – Dec 2021) 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 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), 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 Greig 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. Nycholas Greig
Kathleen Fretthold
Mark Willert
Teresa Lynch
Judeen Babcock

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