

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

NOVEMBER 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

“Bigger Than Blessings”

Each year as Thanksgiving approaches, we are told to “count our blessings.” It is one of the reasons Thanksgiving became a national holiday. In one of several presidential proclamations regarding a day of national thanksgiving, President Abraham Lincoln, said, “It has seemed to me fit and proper that [our blessings] should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people” (in a speech, October 3, 1863). Some families may even have a tradition of going around the Thanksgiving table asking one another to share a blessing for which they are particularly thankful.

Throughout this month each of us at Trinity is invited to recall our blessings. Every Sunday morning as part of our act of worship, all worshippers – adults and children – will be encouraged to write down or draw something for which they are thankful. There will be a special time during worship where we will be able to bring up these signs of thanksgiving and place them in the offering plate as a way of showing our thanks to God.

Perhaps this year hasn’t been easy for you. The effects of the pandemic have continued into this year, bringing with it sickness, death, and a whole lot of uncertainty. Perhaps your health, or the health of a loved one, has declined. Maybe you have experienced economic hardship. However, even in tough times, God’s blessings are present. In Martin Luther’s explanation to the first article of the Apostles’ Creed, he asks, “What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me a body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food, and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.”

Of course, the ultimate blessing he gives us is the gift of eternal life, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ. All of life’s joys and blessings are but a preview of this ultimate blessing. Whatever circumstance we find ourselves in, we can find a way to be thankful because we have been given God’s love and grace. These are blessings that last a lifetime and beyond! God blesses us with this good news and then asks us to be an avenue of God’s blessings in the lives of others.

Psalm 103:2 - “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.”



God’s Blessings,
Pastor Nyck Greig



Daylight Savings Time ends
Sunday, November 7th at 2:00am.
 Remember to turn your clocks back!



Thanksgiving Worship

Wed. November 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

Trinity will hold only one Thanksgiving Worship Service, which will be on Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 24th at 7:00 p.m. There **will not** be a service the next morning on Thanksgiving Day.



Altar Guild Meeting Monday, November 1st at 7:00pm

There will be a meeting for all Altar Guild members on November 1 at 7:00pm in the church narthex. Refreshments will be served.

New members are always welcome!!! Are you interested in joining the Altar Guild or would like to know more information about what we do? If so, please plan to attend this meeting or you can contact Ruth Zawadzki or Gerry Swart.



2022 Altar Flowers & Candles

The 2022 sign-up charts are on the church coatroom bulletin board. Sign up for your special occasion today!

Flowers: \$10 per arrangement 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: \$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.*



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

It's Shoebox time for Operation Christmas Child! Pre-printed shoeboxes can be found in the church narthex. Remember to pick up the pamphlet outlining which items are allowed and NOT allowed in the boxes. The Outreach Committee checks over the boxes before they are dropped off at the collection site and we often have to remove items, such as toothpaste and candy, please adhere to the guidelines. You can also choose to pay for your box online and print your labels from home if you would like to track your box. Please find out more information at <https://www.samaritanpurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>. Shoeboxes will be due back to Trinity by **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14**. Thank you for your continued support of this project!

Advent Celebration Tuesday, November 30, 2021 6:00pm at Trinity School



Looking for a great way to kickoff Advent? All ages are invited to come together for an evening of food, worship and fun that will include a FREE pizza dinner, a brief family friendly worship, and festive activities. All this within an hour and a half to get you back home for your evening. All ages are welcome! Be sure to sign up **by November 26th**! Let us know your name, phone #, how many children, and how many teens/adults. Email Youth and Family Coordinator, Mark Willert "MWillert@thinktrinitychristian.com" to sign up or use the form included in upcoming worship bulletins. Thanks to Thrivent for sponsoring this event!

Advent Celebration Help Needed:

We have some great events for families at Trinity and we could use your help for this one. If you would be willing to help run one of the fun centers or crafts — we provide all the materials -- please let Mark Willert know mwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com. Thanks!

Attention Seniors & Grandparents:

We realize how important you are to our youth and we hope you do too! We would love to have you come to one of our events and interact. Our Pie Baking Servant Event - 11/20/21 from 9:00am-12:00pm in the school gym would be perfect to have you work right along side our youth group kids. Laugh, giggle, help them with the pies, tell them a story of when you were younger ... it won't be the same without you and we can't wait to see what God is up to in all of this! Come for as long or as little as you are comfortable. Be a part of this first event of it's kind of inter-generational awesomeness! ♥

Trinity School News



From the Principal ...

Dear Fellow Missionaries,

The school children were thrilled to hear about the arrival of the shoeboxes and materials for OCC! Their joy in giving, especially to children in need, is a potent reminder of the importance of Christ's many admonitions to us to care for others. The joy and peace it brings to the giver far outweighs the value to the receiver, although the receiver is blessed as well! Through His grace, all are strengthened in faith by an act of kindness and generosity. The recipient for the school's chapel offerings this trimester is the Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Service, which is currently working extensively with Afghanistan refugees. Our dress-down dollars are supporting disaster relief in Haiti. We're hoping to invite a representative from "Hearts for the Homeless" to come and speak with the children after Thanksgiving and adopt that worthy cause for the second trimester.

We've been very blessed to have only one positive COVID case among our entire student body this year! While many students have had to be tested for symptoms, no one else was positive (ironically, the one positive student was asymptomatic). God is good!

Your Trinity school staff will spend 2 days during the first week of November at the Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua with Lutheran educators from across the Eastern District. Every three years, the District sponsors both a Pastors' and Educators' Conference for spiritual renewal, Christian fellowship and professional development. The teachers will be participating in a social/emotional support program called "Run Hard. Rest Well", developed by a Christian organization and being used by Lutheran teachers across the country. It's parallel program, for middle-schoolers, is being implemented here at Trinity already, with the cost to our schools being covered by the District. We are very appreciative of the opportunity to support our students in this way!

In this season of Thanksgiving, the school faculty and staff, as well as our families, continue to praise and thank God for the generous prayers, energies and financial support of this congregation that allows us to minister to over 100 students every day! We are equipping young disciples for ongoing service in His kingdom on earth, and more importantly, nurturing their love for Jesus. To God be the Glory!

~ Kathleen Fretthold, Principal



Trinity School Prayer Partners

We have an exciting opportunity to support our Trinity students! Please fill out the attached form to sign up to be a prayer partner for a student or sibling group in our school. We have many new students and this is a great way to connect them with our church family. Please fill out a separate form for each person willing to be a prayer partner. Please also fill out the form even if you have participated in the past.

Prayer partners pray! You will also send and receive small notes and cards from your partner to encourage each other in your faith journey. Lifelong friendships have been formed through our prayer partner program, and your support gives them a strong Christian role model in their life.

Go to "https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSef7jKXE0OQSn3jljz_UeynQFTHdh_usc8bJ_IS9LgAJQuy_A/viewform" to sign up or add your name to the Prayer Partner sign up sheet located in the church narthex.

Teen Parenting Study

If you've ever lain awake at night wondering what might be around the corner of your child's adolescence, this study is for you! *Tough Guys and Drama Queens* is for parent of TEENS and PRETEENS. It presents time-tested, biblical techniques to guide you through these unavoidably challenging years.

Mark Gregston, author, helps parents realize that some natural parenting approaches are counterproductive and therefore totally ineffective. He offers tried-and-true wisdom on the vital importance of relationship and forgiveness, and he explains how conflict is actually the precursor to change. This study will help you address such issues as: appearance, performance, authority, respect, and boundaries.

Mark and Katie Willert will lead this video and discussion based small group starting the 3rd week in January. To sign up or for more info, contact Mark at mwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com.



Trinity's 15th Annual Trunk or Treat!

On October 24th, about 45 families attended this annual event and our gracious God held off the rain drops with it just spitting enough to make the ground wet. Lots of candy, fellowship and a devotion at the end encouraging families to be in devotions and God's word together. Families with an 8 year old or younger were gifted a copy of the "Jesus Storybook Bible" thanks to a \$250 Thrivent action grant!

Name Tags

Please continue to wear your name tag at church services to help Pastor Nyck get to know our members. If you don't have one yet, come to church a few minutes early to make one. Thank you!



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!

Firewood Available

Dead ash tree wood from the property has been cut into 16-18 inch pieces, split and stacked next to the school and playground. It is for sale for \$90 per cord or \$3 per bundle of 8 pieces. Please place cash or check in an envelope marked "Firewood" in the offering plate.

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.

October's Voters Meeting

A Voters Meeting was held on 10/17/21 following the 9:30am worship service. The 2021-2022 Church/School Budget was passed and the congregation voted Brian Makey and Robin Makosy into the two open Executive Board positions. It was also announced that Ben Makosy will be taking over the Treasurer's position.



Recycle Greeting Cards

If you'd like to recycle your holiday or special occasion cards, please save them and place in my message box at church. Cut off the front cover of your card (NO personal writing allowed on the flip side). NO Hallmark, Disney or American Greetings cards are accepted. They will be sent to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. Thank you.

~ Linda Rowsell

Thank You Trinity!

We receive the following thank you note:

Dear Members & Friends of Trinity,

Thank you for your generous support of me in my seminary studies. I am so blessed to be a son of Trinity and am grateful for your support of those called to be pastors. Sarah and I hope to visit Buffalo sometime before the end of the year. Blessings!

*In Him,
Joshua Makey*

YOUTH SCOOP

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Night

Our next Jr. and Sr. High Youth Night is **November 17 from 6:30pm-8:00pm** in the school gym! Invite your friends for some fun, time to hang out and a devotion that will slip through your fingers! Grades 5-12 welcome!!

For the devotion at last month's Youth Night, the kids were challenged with jumping over the length of a dollar bill while holding on to their ankles - it's impossible! Same way with us working our way into heaven. It's only accomplished by God's grace - a gift we don't deserve.



Fun and craziness was had at October's Youth Night!



Fun goofing around at Green Acres mini-golf!

Pie Baking Servant Event Saturday, 11/20/21 9:00am-12:00pm In the School Gym

We'll be baking pies for members of the congregation, as well as attendees we haven't seen in a while, and those we feel may just need a pie to brighten their holiday! The cost is \$10 for 2 pies; one for you and one for someone who needs it. What we need from you:

- **Come bake!!** Last time, we made over 40 pies for Greenfield, and it took a lot of hands! This definitely includes parents/grandparents/friends - lots of help needed!
- Let us know if you know someone who could use a pie! We just need their name & address and we'll get one to them.
- Let us know if you'd be willing to deliver a few pies for someone's Thanksgiving feast!



Laser Tag at Lasertron Thursday, 11/11/21 At 6:30pm

RSVP to trinitywsyouth@gmail.com by 11/7 so we can register & arrange carpooling!



Escape room fun! Unfortunately none of our groups made it out in time, so we had to be rescued! Thanks Lisa Lafferty for organizing!

Our Stephen Ministers Are Ready to Care!

By Rick Warren — 09/30/2020

“Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights. No one said a word to Job, for they saw that his suffering was too great for words.” Job 2:13 (NLT)



If you're always in a hurry, then you're never going to be a great listener. To have great conversations, you start by looking with love at the other person, but then you must invest as much time as needed. Why? Because you can't listen well in a hurry. Great listening takes time.

Job was a wealthy man who lost virtually everything, including his money, health, and even his children. *“When three of Job’s friends heard of the tragedy he had suffered, they got together and traveled from their homes to comfort and console him . . . Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and nights. No one said a word to Job, for they saw that his suffering was too great for words”* (Job 2:11, 13 NLT).

This is called the ministry of presence. When you're ministering to someone in pain, you must remember this: The deeper the pain, the fewer words you use. If somebody's having a bad hair day, then you can talk about it for 30 minutes. But if that person has a major crisis, talking about it for a long time is probably not going to help. The truth is that you don't need to say anything. Just show up and shut up. You can't talk people out of their pain. Some pain is beyond words. This kind of investment takes time. Notice how many days Job's friends sat on the ground with him . . . seven. Do you have anybody in your life who'd sit on the ground with you for seven days without saying anything?

Stephen Ministers are members of Trinity who have been through extensive training and provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. They listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide weekly support for as long as the need persists. If someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Pastor Krueger, Don Meissner, Kevin Kot or Colleen Kot.

Ten Ways for Families to Engage Kids in Worship

~ Taken from Faith Formation Ministries

1. **BE POSITIVE:** Instead of saying, "We have to go to church" say "we get to go to worship." Teach your kids that worship isn't just a place we go, it's something we are able to do. You might also set a positive tone by adding words like the ones Parenting in the Pew author Robbie Castleman used with her kids: "Jesus must be so excited! It's his special day!"
2. **MAKE SUNDAY SPECIAL:** Create patterns that help your whole family experience Sabbath rest and anticipation. Set out clothes the night before and set the alarm a little earlier so that you can arrive at worship in a peaceful state of mind. As you get ready, play your family's favorite Christian or worship music.
3. **TAKE ALONG WORSHIP TOOLS:** It can be difficult to sit quietly for a long period of time - especially when you're little! Take along tools that will engage your children in worship rather than simply keep them busy. Some ideas: a children's storybook Bible, a small clipboard with a finger labyrinth for prayer (search flamecreative-kids.blogspot.com), a small notebook and colored pencil for drawing/writing questions, impressions, and prayers (visit prayingincolor.com for info) Tip: invite your child to decorate a blank journal to use as their worship journal. Read through it together after worship.
4. **LET KIDS CHOOSE THE SEATS:** Parents with young children often sit toward the back of the worship space so they won't be embarrassed by their children's behavior and can exit easily. But often children prefer the front because they can see, hear, and participate better.

**** See next month's Trinity Tidings newsletter for tips 5-7! ****



As you probably know by now, the sale of the Pioneer land is complete and **Concordia Lutheran Ministries** is now the new owner of the property! **Pioneer on the Lake** is the new name for the camp and retreat center which will be dedicated to continuing the Pioneer tradition and 75+ year legacy of Christian camping and programming. In partnership with Concordia, **The Friends of Pioneer, Inc.** will be the organization responsible for raising funds, developing programs, and managing and restarting operations.

Purpose and Programming:

This is a time of “rebirth” for Pioneer. Our primary purpose is to provide an experience of Christian community and renewal in an outdoor setting for families and groups based on a plan to build “A Firm Foundation” for the future (Matt. 7:24). We are refocusing our efforts and vision on offering camp and retreat programs for families and church groups and providing more exciting camping opportunities in the future. To support our mission, we will also host and partner with families and other Christian organizations to utilize the facilities for their own independently staffed programs and events. At this time, we are working with a camp ministry planning organization to create an operating plan, raise funds, hire staff, and develop camp programming.

We need your support in these 3 critical areas:

- 1. PRAYER:** The board of the Friends of Pioneer has sensed your prayers for us along this journey. Please continue to pray for unity, wisdom, and guidance as we move into the future, navigating operations and ministry.
- 2. CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS:** Our immediate need is for funding to support operating costs, hire staff, and update facilities in order to restart camp and retreat ministries, and serve a new generation of families and children. Please join us in sending your generous contributions to support your camp and become a part of this exciting rebirth by building a firm foundation for the future. **Donations: Please send donations in the name of "Friends of Pioneer" at <https://www.friendsofpioneer.org/give>**
- 3. REFERRALS:** Please refer new ministry partners to Pioneer on the Lake for Christian-based outdoor programming. We are organizing our scheduling and are in the process of booking inquiries for late fall 2021 and 2022.

Contact: Erika Schroth-Gajdos, Administrative Manager, at office@pioneeronthelake.com . Serving together as we carry camp into a bright future!

Because of Him,

The Friends of Pioneer and Concordia Lutheran Ministries



Pioneer On the Lake Service Event

On October 10th a group of youth from Trinity traveled out to Pioneer to slay spiders, organize and take stock of kitchen supplies in the Woodland Cottages, and deep clean Schroeder Circle cabins 6-8! Pastor Nyck, Stephanie, Riley and Henry helped too!

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
11/7	Riley Greig	11/20	Theresa McKernan		
11/8	Gail Rieman Lisa Manzo	11/21	Aubrey Conti Joshua Barnas		

Happy Anniversary

11/7 Jamie & Cory Smith

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. Order forms will be placed in upcoming weekly bulletins or you can contact the church office (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 2021) 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 Nyck (804-382-6199), 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. Nycholas Greig
Kathleen Fretthold
Mark Willert
Teresa Lynch
Judeen Babcock

Contact Information

(804) 382-6199 / pastornyck@gmail.com
674-5353 / kfretthold@thinktrinitychristian.com
608-8907 / mwillert@thinktrinitychristian.com
674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net
674-5353 / jbabcock@thinktrinitychristian.com