

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

APRIL 2022

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, Interim School Principal, School: 674-5353

Church Website: www.trinitywestseneca.com
Church Office E-mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

“Pursuit of Immortality”

I recently came across one of those slideshow articles that populate the internet, that are designed to waste your time. This one caught my attention because it was titled, “14 Ways to Achieve Immortality”. It had some interesting (and crazy) ideas included on the list. Some of them include “become a cyborg”, “cloning”, and “befriend a tech billionaire”. But one in particular that caught my attention because of its seeming popularity was “Cryonics: freezing yourself to life”.

In the hot desert of Scottsdale, Arizona, there is a very “cool” facility, the home of the Alcor Life Extension Foundation. Since 1972, this organization has preserved 170 patients and 1,400 others making preparations for their cryopreservation. These patients pay hundreds of thousands of dollars to have their entire bodies frozen, or slightly less for just their head, in hopes that someday in the future they can be revived to live again. Good news for you baseball fans out there, one user of Alcor’s procedure is the legend Ted Williams. The cryonics movement became popular after the publication of Robert Ettinger’s 1964 book, *The Prospect of Immortality*.

The prospect of immortality captivates the imagination of everyone. Standing at the foot of the grave of a loved one, or facing our own mortality, we may contemplate the prospect of cheating death ourselves. If only we could live forever ...

Here we have a hope to offer to the world. The Christian faith doesn’t offer the mere *prospect* of immortality; it offers the certain *promise* of immortality. This is what we celebrate at Easter, the promise of life everlasting becoming a reality! Who doesn’t look forward to the joyful declaration: “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” And as we remember Jesus’ resurrection, we look forward to our own Easter, our resurrection to be, when we will fully experience God’s gift of eternal life. St. Paul asks, “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?” (1 Corinthians 15:55) He is able to ask in the face of death because we have confidence that death is not the victor, but Jesus is. Easter’s empty tomb eliminates the dreaded prospect of death and delivers the promise of immortality to all who believe.

Easter Blessings,

Pastor Nyck





Palm Sunday Services

April 9 at 5:00pm
 April 10 at 10:30am

**Maundy Thursday Service
 (w/ Holy Communion)**

April 14 at 7:00pm

Good Friday Service

April 15 at 12:00pm & 7:00pm

Easter Services

(w/ Holy Communion)

Saturday, April 16 at 5:00pm
 Sunday, April 17 at 10:30am



**Hymns of Faith Experience
 At Trinity Lutheran Church**

Wednesday, April 6 at 7:00pm

The season of Lent is an ideal time to reflect on what it means to be a follower of Christ. However, getting caught up in our busy lives often prevents us from hearing the voice of God. Please take this opportunity to join us for the Hymns of Faith Experience. It is an hour of meditation, contemplation, and worship with Tracy Gerardi on solo piano. Let's focus on Christ and the cross together. *"Be still, and know that I am God..." Psalm 46:10.*

Thank You

Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you so much for your loving prayers. We are doing OK but still have much to go though. Fred is starting to heal from 3 procedures and still has a big one scheduled for mid-June at Roswell. Thea is slowly healing from her cataract surgery and has a 2nd one on April 4. Please continue your prayers through our long healing process. You are all remembered in ours. God bless you now and always.

~ Fred & Thea Schultz

Executive Board

The Executive Board meets monthly, typically on the third Monday of the month. Along with regular reports and business, we are working on growing our church's mission and ministry. We are currently working on the following:

- Ministry Clarity Process (Vision)
- Job Descriptions
- Church Directory

**Trinity Church & School
 Financial Update:**

First Eight Months Summary

We are two-thirds through the fiscal year. We remain on track with the projections included in the approved budget. No NYS school aid has been received to date, but \$18,000 has been approved so far. General offerings and payroll expenses are right on track with the budget.

Property & Grounds Work Day

Saturday, April 23, 2022

9:00am - 12noon

Anyone able to come out for a few hours to help is welcome. Bring work gloves, leaf rakes, trowels, edging spades, and an extra wheelbarrow may come in handy. Bring your own water bottle. The rain date will be April 30.



Altar Candles & Flowers

Flowers: There are many open spots for altar flower donations in the upcoming months. Flowers are \$10 per vase and you get to take them home after the Sunday service! Flowers can also be picked up from the church on Mondays from 8am-3pm. We ask that 2 families sign up for each week. Sign-up sheets are located on the Welcome Center in the narthex or you can contact the church office at 674-9188.

Altar Candles: \$25 per month.

All payments should be placed in the Church Office's message center or can be mailed to the church. Checks should be made payable to *"Trinity Lutheran Church"* (memo: *Altar Flowers or Altar Candles*).

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

Trinity School News



From the Principal ...

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Happy Spring! Seeing the snowdrops blooming and daffodils poking up through the soil are simple pleasures this season brings, just like not having to drive to and from work in the dark and not having to pull a heavy coat on every day! The joy found in these minor changes always surprises me. Speaking of joy ... how about the first day the students could go outside for recess without a coat on? You would have thought it was the last day of school for the summer!! Meanwhile, our Lenten remembrances continue in the classrooms and in Chapel, as we remember our sins and rejoice in Christ's love for us.

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of so many of you and the school families, our fundraiser event on 3/26 was a great success. While it wasn't quite the same as in the past, as COVID regulations were still in place during most of the planning stages, it was definitely a positive step forward! Almost 500 spaghetti dinners were sold, and ticket sales for the baskets allowed us to meet our goals.

I'm so thankful that the staff and I have put most of the year-end activities on the calendar with full participation of students, families and friends! The musical, Lutheran schools field day, walk-a-thon, the Sports Banquet/Class Night, 8th grade class trip, etc... all a go! Praise the Lord! Our preschoolers will be graduating on June 10th, and our Kindergarteners and 8th graders on June 16.

Please take a look at the pictures below: the 7/8 class partnered with the 3/4 class to solve a coding mystery and then use Makey Makey components to build a light-up problem-solving equation. Thanks, Mrs. Willert, for this awesome activity!

~ Kathleen Fretthold
Principal, Trinity Christian School





National Youth Gathering 2022

Three youth from Trinity will be attending the National LCMS Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas! Emma Hope, Abigail and Joanna Anderson have been busy preparing, planning, organizing and fundraising for this event. We will participate in an outreach mission event in the city of Houston. Our youth, along with their chaperone Noel Anderson, will be representing our congregation as they meet many other LCMS youth. We will participate in mass events with featured speakers to encourage and build our faith. These young ladies have each sent in auditions for the mass youth choir which will be directed by Dr. Kurt von Kampen from Concordia University of Nebraska. They are looking forward to the opportunity to strengthen their faith, and represent both Trinity Church and school at this event.

The cost for each student/chaperone is:

- \$395 earlybird event registration
- \$220 hotel plus airport shuttle
- \$600 RT flight to Houston (approx)
- \$250 food
- Total:** Approx. \$1,500 per person (\$6,000 total)

To date we have raised \$640 with the help of our Thrivent Drop and Shop fundraiser.

If you wish to donate directly to the group, please make a check out to Trinity labeled with the National Youth Gathering as the memo. We appreciate any assistance as these youth strengthen their faith to shine Christ's light both here at home and beyond.

Emergency Contacts & Shut-Ins

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.

Are you or another member of Trinity no longer able to attend services for some reason (medical or other) and would like home visits from Pastor Nyck and our elders? Contact Pastor or the church office to a make arrangements.



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 / cord or \$3 for a bundle of 8 pieces. Please place cash or check in an envelope marked "Firewood" in the offering plate.



Trinity Garden Club

Trinity's Garden Club is in need of volunteers on Tuesday evenings during the month of May from 6:00pm - 7:00pm. We will be cleaning up the church lawn and flower beds. Bring your own tools. No experience necessary!

Memorial Plaques

You can remember deceased loved ones who were once members of Trinity in a special way by purchasing a small engraved tab plaque to go on our Memorial Board located in the church's fellowship area. The cost is \$25. Please contact the church office by May 8 if you are interested in purchasing a plaque (674-9188).



Trinity's Rummage / Vendor Sale

Saturday, July 16 10am – 3pm

Mark your calendar!!! While doing your SPRING cleaning, please save items for the rummage sale. Proceeds will benefit Eight Days of Hope Buffalo. Pick up of items will be available ~ details to follow. Contact Steve and Robin Makosy (430-6468) if you are interested in vendor sale information.

RightNow Media

Our church now has unlimited access to RightNow Media—the world's largest streaming library of video Bible study resources (it's been called the "Netflix of video Bible studies"). This extensive library has more than 20,000 videos from leaders like Francis Chan, Jennie Allen, Matt Chandler, Dr. Tony Evans, and many more. These Bible study videos can be used as part of a group study or for personal devotions, and many series include free discussion guides and handouts. In addition to series on books of the Bible, RightNow Media has videos for everyone in your family on a variety of topics like marriage, parenting, personal finances, mental health, and more. There's even a library just for kids with over 2,000 safe, entertaining videos. RightNow Media has a free app that's available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime.

You should have received an email invitation from RightNow Media back in February to set up your account for FREE access to their site. If you haven't received one (make sure to check your spam folder), please let Pastor Nyck know.

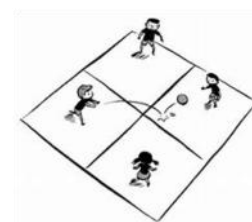
YOUTH SCOOP

April Youth Gym Night

Come for our special Youth Gym Night on **April 20 from 6:00pm-8:00pm** (note the time) that will include a PIZZA dinner! Please let Mark Willert know if you are coming so enough pizza is ordered. We'll also play the new version of 4 square (with hoola hoops) that we had a blast with last time! And we didn't get to the broom dance last time because we were having so much fun, but definitely will this time. What's the broom dance? Come and find out!

March's Gym Night Was Awesome!!!

Can you believe we had our last youth night outside for the entire time? And without masks! We played about a half hour of gaga ball, followed by a new twist with 4 square (with hoola hoops!). What a beautiful evening God gave us. It was capped off with a devotion about the orange fruit ~ it will float in water but will sink without it's peel! The peel is like our biblical armor of God that helps protect and get us through difficult times. (Ephesians 6) And thanks Pastor Nyck for hanging out with us!



YOU ARE INVITED TO A **FREE**....

Easter Egg Hunt

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church & School
146 Reserve Rd, West Seneca NY 14224

When: Sunday April 10th 2022

Time: 12 pm

Ages: 0-10

Dress for the weather as
this is an outdoor event

Bring your own bag or
basket to collect eggs





**Does the joy of Easter seem far away?
Our Stephen Ministers Are Ready to Care!**

Carrying a Butterfly

By Ashley Clark / From: "All God's Creatures"

***"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,
just as in Christ God forgave you."***

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)

A neat thing about living along the Gulf Coast is that every September, I get to see swarms of Gulf fritillaries. We have their host plant, the passion vine, growing along our fence line. As the whimsical purple flower open toward the sun, the butterflies seem to come from north, south, east and west. Then they lay eggs, and a new generation of butterflies is born. I love watching the orange caterpillars, with their menacing black spikes, and the beautiful butterflies they become.

Last week, a cold front came through and brought with it some heavy winds. My son and I were playing outside during a break in the rain, and as we were running, I noticed an old butterfly with worn wings climbing up a tall blade of grass amid the storm. I reached out with care, and it climbed onto my finger. Naturally, I thought about keeping it forever, but instead, I used my other hand to block the wind from its wings while I searched for a better spot in the yard for the butterfly. I settled on a thick bush full of flowers, where it could get nectar and burrow between the leaves as needed between gusts of wind.

The butterfly immediately unrolled its wings and began to drink from the flower, as I stood in awe that for the second time in two weeks, a butterfly had crawled into my hand. I thought about how a similar principle holds true with the people around me. **Sometimes, when the winds of life pick up, others who are struggling may be more apt to accept encouragement or help. I hope and pray that I'm able to see them and take the opportunity to block the wind for a little while. May I always remember the difference I can make in other' lives.**

***Walk of Faith: Did someone who is hurting come to mind as you read these paragraphs?
How can you encourage that person amid struggle, depression, or loss?***

**If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry
by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Don Meissner: 479-4862,
Kevin Kot: 445-5923, Colleen Kot: 445-5922.**



Haiti Upper Room Update

The past few years have been extra challenging for the nation of Haiti. Other than dealing with the pandemic, they've faced a nationwide fuel crisis, the assassination of their president, natural disasters, violent political unrest, and all this while they continue to face the highest hunger rates in the Western Hemisphere. With everything stacked against them, it might be difficult to see God in a country dealing with these challenges. However, God lives in the hearts of many Haitians, especially the children and caretakers of the Upper Room. The love and hope that only Christ can provide is thriving in the hearts of these children and those that care for them.

Due to the ongoing support provided by generous members of our congregation, we've provided thousands of meals to the children of the Upper Room. Not only has your support provided much needed nutrition, but it has provided books, uniforms, and backpacks in order that these children receive a proper education. Josy and Kerline are the primary caretakers of these incredible children and they occasionally send updates and pictures. On behalf of the Haiti mission team, we want to improve our communication with the members of the congregation. We will be requesting more frequent updates and the goal is to provide a brief message in each of the monthly newsletters.

It's an incredible feeling to see pictures of these children, which many of us have met and know personally. Watching them grow and thrive is heartwarming. Shared below is a message received from Josy, along with a recent picture of the children wearing their school uniforms. If you are interested in learning more about our mission in Haiti or how to get involved, please email: trinitylife4christ@gmail.com. You may also speak directly to a Haiti Mission team member, including Andrew Eising, Bob Eising, Brad McKernan, Chris Kopra, Jan Bullock, or Pete Bullock. Please continue to keep the children and caretakers of the Upper Room in your prayers and thank you for your continued support.

Dear Trinity Family,

I want to wish you a prosperous year 2022 in the Lord. I thank you for your assistance to the children through this past year 2021. You have been so helpful in providing food, school books and uniforms. I am at a loss for words to say thank you. I pray that God will continue to bless you in turn. This new year 2022, I prayerfully ask you to keep on providing food for the children. May God provide to enable you to continue with this help. Angeline, Marie Josy Kelly and Matina are in grade 13 this year and are supposed to finish school in June. I will have to plan about university for each of them. This will add a new challenge for us. But, I put all this in God's hands. Please pray for each one of them to be successful. The children are sending a hug to all of you.

*In Christ,
Josy*



Happy Birthday

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|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 4/1 Sarah Makosy | 4/17 Robbin Blajszczak | 4/26 Jean Newton |
| 4/5 Robert Boldt Mary Havens | 4/18 Marcia Nickerson Tim Monahan | 4/27 Kathy Stephen |
| 4/7 Carol McMenamin Kris Zawadzki | 4/19 Heidi Cosandier Bethany Lafferty Austin Smith | 4/28 Justin Cornell Corbin Stefanik |
| 4/9 Robert Cislo Stacy Conti | 4/21 Scot Zawadzki | 4/29 Anne Gurney Sandra Lelito Kelcy Strong |
| 4/10 Betty-Jo Smith | 4/22 Mark Rodgers Lisa Berton Steven Wrobel | 4/30 Natalie Ecker |
| 4/11 Brody Zawadzki | 4/24 Jennifer Canazzi | |
| 4/12 Linda Hope | 4/25 Lori Strong | |
| 4/13 Don Rieman Colleen Kot | | |

Happy Anniversary

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 4/3 Sheri & Christopher Courteau | 4/17 Lindsay & Jordan Iannuzzelli |
| 4/5 Duane & Sarah Gabel | 4/20 Gerald & Linda Meissner James & Ryan Rowsell |
| 4/12 Charles & Nancy Stevens | 4/23 Robert & Anna Eising |
| 4/15 Steve & Robin Makosy | 4/24 Trevor & Courtney Jelowski |
| 4/17 Carol & Francis McMenamin | |

Trinity Cemetery News . . .

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.

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.



National Volunteer Appreciation Week is **April 17-23, 2022**. A sincere "Thank You" to all the people who volunteer their time and talents at our church and school! You are truly appreciated!!!

The Red Food Pantry Wagon

For the month of April, we will be collecting salad dressing and croutons. Items will be donated to the food pantry at Bread of Life Outreach Center in Colden.

Portals of Prayers

Portals of Prayer (April-June 2022) devotion booklets are now available. They can be picked up in the church narthex. Please take one and use it for home devotions.

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

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