

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER 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. Sarah Gabel / Mrs. Katie Willert, School Co-Principals, 674-5353

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



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

(Effective 9/11/22)

“A New School Year”

As we embark upon the new school year, and as we continue our work on the vision, some questions come to mind. How might God work in the hearts and lives of the many people who call Trinity their church home? How might God use this time to improve relations between our church and school communities? This time of visioning encourages us to dream big! We are free to dream big trusting that we have a God who is “able to do immeasurable more than all we ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20).

What dreams do you have for our families and our school? We have so many children and young families it is a wonderful opportunity. But we need to remember these are not the church of tomorrow, they are the church of today.

How is God’s love for us taught to each coming generation? How do our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren hear about what God has done for them in Jesus Christ? How will generations of children yet to be born come to learn the truth of God’s Word if that Word isn’t first shared today?

God planned for families to talk about His truth together: “These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). The Psalm writer says “We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done” (Psalm 78:4).

This month school starts again. Students and teachers return to the classrooms. New administrators and teachers take on their new responsibilities alongside returning staff to assist parents in teaching and training students in the Christian faith. The ministry of our school is a partnership with parents and families to keep these spiritual conversations going. Students, faculty and staff together are encouraging one another around the theme “Kids Under Construction”. But we know it is not just kids who are under construction. All of us engage in learning more and more about God and His creation. All of us are daily challenged with understanding how we can serve God through our gifts and talents. God the Holy Spirit uses our conversations at home, at school, at church and everywhere to form us into faithful disciples of Jesus in each generation.

As we continue this vision process, we need your input into how our church and school can continue to be vibrant, effective resources for parents and children of our congregation and community. Help us as we seek to use the ministries of our church and school to serve God and pass faith from one generation to the next.

God’s Blessings,

Pastor Nyck Greig



Effective 9/10/22 & 9/11/22:

Saturday at 5:00pm

*(Traditional / Blended - liturgy, hymns
and worship songs)*

Sunday at 10:30am

*(Contemporary - music led by praise teams;
service projected on the screen)*



Our Sunday School program will begin **September 18th at 9:15 AM!** Registration forms can be found on the table in the narthex. Place completed forms in Sarah Gabel's mailbox in the church coatroom.

Volunteers Needed: Please contact Sarah Gabel at sgabel@thinktrinitychristian.com if you are interested in volunteering. We provide all the materials and curriculum. All that is required is a love for children and sharing Jesus with them!

Confirmation

Confirmation classes are scheduled to begin on Sunday, **September 18 at 9:15am.** This year Confirmation will include 6th, 7th & 8th graders. Families will receive information soon!



Trinity Fall Campfire September 16, 2022 at 6:00pm

All are invited to Trinity Fall Campfire on September 16 at 6pm. There will be a free hotdog dinner, a night of fellowship, friends, and songs around the campfire and a devotion.



Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Our schedules are overwhelming. Even with the countless time-management resources available to us, our ability to find balance between work and life can feel fruitless. But when we look at the lifestyle of Jesus, we see an example of what it looks like to be efficient while finding balance. In this four-session series, bestselling author Jordan Raynor discusses seven principles, rooted in the example of Jesus, that will help us use the time we have in the best way. Join us as we study Redeeming Your Time on RightNow Media **Sunday mornings from 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM starting September 18th!**

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Starting September 7th, we will meet to study the Old Testament book of Judges using materials from the J.D. Greear study on RightNow Media. The book of Judges cracks a window into depths of the human soul. Watch a nation struggle with its identity and relationship to its God. Heroes and heroines arise, who seem to have the potential to save Israel. But in the end, each proves to be a broken savior that cannot deliver.

In this series, pastor and author J.D. Greear wades into the book of Judges to shine a light onto the muddy waters of human rebellion. The stories and truths within are not just archaic tales with no relevance for us today. Rather, J.D. works through each chapter unpacking the truth of God's grace in the midst of human wickedness, and shows how only the divine can redeem the fallen.

Join our conversation on **Wednesday mornings from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM** in the Trinity Meeting Room as we study this book of the Bible together!

Ladies Bible Study

The Monday Evening Ladies Bible Study group will meet for re-organizing and planning on **Monday, Sept. 12 at 7:00pm** in the church narthex, as usual. Please come with your ideas and suggestions. If it is a nice evening, bring your lawn chair and we can meet outside. All women past high school age are welcome.

Diaper Collection: We will be collecting baby and toddler sized disposable diapers starting September thru Thanksgiving. Please consider donating to this collection. There will be a clearly marked box/tote in the church entryway near the food wagon. Thank you!

~ Nancy Hope

Trinity School News



From the Principal ...

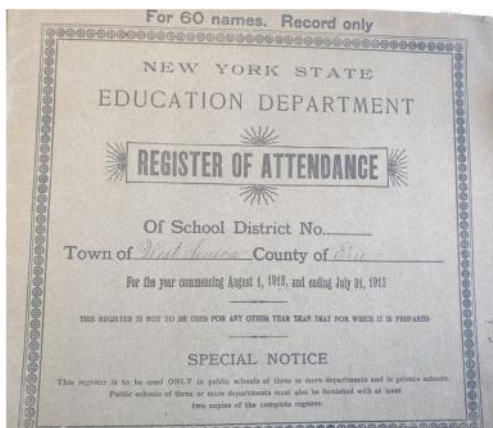
LEGACY:

Legacy...that is the word that keeps coming to my mind as we begin the 171st school year at Trinity Christian School. It has been an interesting summer for Sarah and I as we have sorted and organized the principal's office. We have found some amazing treasures! I'd like to share with you some of them below.

1. Many old attendance registers. These date back to 1912! That was 110 years ago. Wow! Some of the names in them are familiar - Boldt, Meissner, Schultz, Hillger, Haas - to name a few. I will bring them to church some weekend for everyone to look through. What a gift to be able to look back at something so concrete from our school's past. What an amazing reminder of God's faithfulness through the years!
2. A Trinity Lutheran School brochure from 1960. This brochure has some great pictures of the school, students, and grounds from that time. It also has a panel that lists "Why a Lutheran Elementary School?" I believe the bullets listed on that brochure are as valid today as they were back in 1960. Here are a few of them:
 - ♦ In no other way can the fundamental work of religious education in the Church be carried out so thoroughly and so effectively.
 - ♦ Only Christian schools, where religion is not only taught regularly, but dominates the whole curriculum and imbues it with its spirit, can give to religion the importance and the primary place in the child's education and life which it should have.
 - ♦ The Public Schools of America, good as they are, cannot teach RELIGION, the most important subject to all. No education can be said to be complete which ignores God.
3. A Centennial history book of Trinity, published in 1949. Here is what it says in its summary of the history of the school, "Since 1851, Trinity congregation has steadily supported a school, and God blessing our feeble efforts as we enter a 2nd century of our existence, our school shall ever remain one of the brightest jewels in our congregational life and activity. 'Feed my lambs,' and 'Train up a child in the way he shall go,' and 'Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord'. These and similar exhortations of our God make it mandatory that we continue to maintain our school."

As I said at the start of this article, "legacy" is the word that I keep coming back to this summer. And what is that legacy? I believe that it is a legacy of *faithfulness*. God has gotten Trinity through some very tough times, and He is always faithful. I know He will continue bringing students and families closer in their relationships with Him at Trinity Christian School, this school year, and for many more to come.

~ Katie Willert, Co-Principal



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

A big thank you to all volunteers that helped out this summer! We had some major work to do at the school, and so many people helped out. Thanks so much to Dave and Jane Sirgey, Ron and Nancy Hope, Ron and Carolyn Habedank, the Lafferty family, the Sirgey family, Andrew and Nora Eising, Mike McKernan, Miriam Lafferty, Gerry and Linda Meissner, Kevin and Colleen Kot, Pastor Nyck, Bryan Hansen, Mike Webster, the Anderson family, the Gabel family, the Willert family, and anyone else we may have overlooked (sorry!). Thank you for sharing your servant hearts!

The mission of Trinity Christian School is to guide 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.

Vision Creative Event

September 18, 2022

Join us here at Trinity after church on September 18th starting at 12noon for lunch and conversation. We will be discussing the four mission pillars of the church and goals that would be appropriate for each of those mission pillars. This conversation will be led by Rev. John Scott from LCEF as we continue through our vision process. This is an important step in making sure we are all on track and moving together toward the plans God has for Trinity.



Music News

Trinity's Handbell Choir: Can you ring a bell (or would like to learn)? Trinity's Handbell Choir rings about once per month, October through June, at various services. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm, beginning in September. Please contact Ellen Makey (961-8378 or esmky23@yahoo.com) for more information.

Lutheran Chorale: Are you a singer looking for a chorus? The "open to all" Lutheran Chorale may be a good fit for you! For more information, see their website: www.thelutheranchoraleoftheniagarafrontier.com or call (716) 741-4573.

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 (674-9188) if you are interested in purchasing a plaque. Orders will be accepted until September 4th.



Altar Flowers

There are many openings for flower donations for the remainder of 2022. Arrangements are only \$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 bulletin board in the church coatroom. Remember to list your special intentions, which will be printed in the Life at Trinity announcement sheet on the date you sign up for.



Fall Retreat

September 23-25, 2022

The Buffalo Zone LWML Retreat is once again at beautiful Lutherlyn Camp & Retreat Center in Butler, PA. It will be held the weekend of Sept. 23-25. "Fear not. I have redeemed you", from Isaiah, is the theme. Registration deadline is September 1. See the registration form online or contact Linda Meissner for more info. (716-648-1281)

Fall Event

November 5, 2022

SAVE THE DATE! The LWML Fall Event will be held at St. Paul in Eden on Saturday, November 5, 2022. It will include a bible study this year. See upcoming weekly "Life at Trinity" announcements and the October newsletter for more information and updates.

MITES and Stamps

MITES and stamps continue to be collected for mission work by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Please put your contribution in Linda Meissner's message center.

Thank You!

Thank you to the Trinity member(s) who sent me the wonderful care package. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated!

~ Claire Carlson
(Pastor Nyck's mother-in-law)



Are you willing to occasionally read the Scripture readings during worship services? We have a wonderful group of individuals who currently volunteer to read each week, but there's always room for more! If you would like to be a part of this rotation, please contact the church office (trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net / 674-9188). Readers are needed for both the Sunday and Saturday services. Volunteers will be asked to read 1-2 passages from the Bible, which will be given to them in advance.

YOUTH SCOOP

Items from Mark Willert, Youth & Family Coordinator:

- ♦ **Youth Gym Night:** Wednesday, September 21, 2022 from 6:30pm-8:00pm at the school.
- ♦ **Fall Schedule:** Soon I'll be meeting with Lisa Lafferty to plan our Fall Schedule. One of our events will be taking the youth out to Pioneer for a day to help rake leaves or other tasks. If anyone would like to go along, please let me know. We do need some adults that could help with the youth as we split up into groups for different tasks. Please join us!
- ♦ **Sr. High Group:** I hope to start some separate times for Sr. High Youth to talk with them to see what the possibilities or wants might be. It is a small group but, as the core group matures, they need times and activities separate from the younger Jr. High Group. We hope to continue growing the core group as they mature.
- ♦ **Worship Participation:** I've started up a focus with the youth on doing some puppet and skits to share in worship and I'm excited about that.
- ♦ **Sunday Morning Sr. High Sunday School & Confirmation:** Lisa Lafferty will be leading our Sunday morning Sr. High Sunday School and Chris Kopra will once again be helping teach Confirmation. I will be helping lead and teach those as well and **we'll start on Sunday, September 18 at 9:15am.**
- ♦ **Teen Small Group ~ Tough Guys and Drama Queens:** Starting in January 2023, Katie and I will be leading a parenting teens small group, "Tough Guys and Drama Queens". It's really packed full of practical advice helping parents navigate some of the challenges of the teen years. We were going to do this last year but 40 Days of Purpose started at that time.
- ♦ **Thank you Kevin & Colleen Kot!** Thanks to the Kot's for arranging details for summer service events (Harvest House, Feed More and 8 Days of Hope) as well as hosting our summer pool party for the youth. Lots of opportunity to serve as well as good times!
- ♦ **National Youth Gathering:** Thanks to Noel Anderson for arranging and taking 3 youth to the National Youth Gathering in Texas this summer. Lots of heat but some very meaningful, spiritual, worshipful and fun times as well for Emma, Joanna and Abby. On behalf of Trinity, for so much preparation, enduring the heat and your heart in it all, thank you for all you did!
- ♦ Pastor Nyck and I meet regularly every other week and at our last meeting started discussing possibilities for the Youth and Family Ministry in the results of the Trinity visioning process.



Lost and Found Concert at Pioneer!

Lost And Found, Michael Bridges and George Baum, two LCMS Eastern District natives are returning to the area for a concert at Pioneer on the Lake in Angola, NY to celebrate and support the place where they began their 35 year career in music. They no longer tour full time, but they've played 5,000 concerts, travelled 5 million miles, and got their start at Pioneer way back in the last century. If you are old enough to remember the last century, or old enough to wonder what concerts at camps were like in those days, don't miss this fabulous Friday evening. Bring

a picnic dinner, watch the sunset over Lake Erie, enjoy the concert, and stay for a bonfire on the beach. Now, come on! When was the last time you had a Friday evening like that? And all at Pioneer -- A Warm Place in the Son -- surrounded by God's love and great friends, some you already know and some you will meet on September 30.

And there's even one more option ... there are still some cabins available for the night, so you can even stay over if you like, or stick around for a service project on Saturday!



TRINITY MEN IN MINISTRY

INVITES ALL MEN, AGES 19 – 90,
TO JOIN US IN

“The Quest for Authentic Manhood”

WHERE : TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
146 RESERVE ROAD
WEST SENECA, NY

WHEN: EVERY SATURDAY MORNING @ 8:30 AM
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2022
ENDING MARCH 25TH, 2023

The Quest for Authentic Manhood is a 24-session journey that equips men to live the life that God intended for them. During this journey, men learn how to overcome some of life's painful wounds and move forward embracing a clear definition of manhood and end up developing a personal manhood plan.

Men's Fraternity™ hits men where they are more than anything I have ever seen in a biblical curriculum. It is more than a Bible Study, it is a process that enunciates what men have been feeling for years, but not talked about.

Charles Ficks
Chattanooga, TN

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX
OR TALK TO CHRIS KOPRA,
JOHN CLARK, DAVE SIRGEY,
OR NEVIN HOPE TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT THE SESSIONS

MEN'S
FRATERNITY
JOIN THE JOURNEY



Dear Pastor Nyck and members of Trinity congregation,

From the beginning of the Ukrainian crisis, the generosity of congregations across the country has been overwhelming. You saw our Ukrainian neighbors fleeing their homeland, children and belongings in tow, and you welcomed them with quilts and kits. You saw refugees separated from loved ones, in strange new countries, and you provided them with emergency supplies and support to rebuild their lives after destruction.

Thank you for your compassion, prayers and incredible generous gift of \$1,374 in total for our Ukraine relief effort. I will keep you updated in the fall on what LWR is doing in Ukraine and elsewhere in today's world.

Thank you for being a church that extends God's love when and where it's needed most. Please reach out to me at any time with questions about your congregation's partnership with Lutheran World Relief.

In gratitude,

Jon Diefenthaler, Church-Relations Advisor
Lutheran World Relief

(See the "Crisis in Ukraine" report on page 8.)

Stephen Ministers: The After People Carrying a Butterfly

***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's 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).***

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

SITUATION REPORT: CRISIS IN UKRAINE

June 3, 2022 | No. 5

BY THE NUMBERS

 **6.8 Million+** fleeing to other countries
3.6 Million+ to Poland | 989,357 to Romania
479,513 to Moldova | 461,164 to Slovakia
682,594 to Hungary

 **7.1 Million+**
Internally displaced persons

Source: OCHA June 3, 2022

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF RESPONSE

We have committed more than \$10 million to respond to this crisis, and we will expand our response to reach more Ukrainians as we secure additional funding. We have deployed technical staff to support our relief operations, including program managers, a health advisor, and an advisor to lead our efforts to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in Ukraine and for Ukrainian refugees.

Our response in Ukraine includes:

- **Caring for Ukrainians who fled their homes.** We are partnering with the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine (FPU) to support six union-run centers that are being used for temporary housing. We're helping more than 15,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) forced to flee heavy fighting in the eastern and southern parts of the country with no other means of support. We are also providing toys for children, food and essential supplies and equipment, like folding beds, pillows, heaters, laundry detergent, toilet paper, and person hygiene items. We are also channeling quilt and kit inventory to these facilities.
- **Delivering medical supplies and equipment.** We are supporting hospitals in Ukraine with supplies, including surgical and wound care kits, gauze, IV kits, oxygen masks, defibrillators, stretchers, and medicines, like insulin, morphine and medications for treating chronic illnesses.
- **Identifying key gaps in the availability of health services.** This assessment is informing our ongoing response in Ukraine, which will likely expand to include support for mental health services and psychosocial services and the treatment of communicable diseases.
- **Expanding response efforts.** Our team in Ukraine is assessing how and where we can expand response efforts in the coming weeks.



A young boy in the Kraków Główny Main Station after arriving from Ukraine.

Our response in Poland includes:

- **Providing emergency cash and vouchers** for Ukrainian refugees in Poland. We've committed \$2 million to this effort in a combined program with Lutheran World Federation that will support an initial caseload of more than 1,300 refugee families for the next three months.
- **Providing sexual exploitation and abuse protection services.** We're integrating protection services for refugee women and children into our cash programming and have established training and referral systems in Ostroda, Gdansk, Wroclaw and Bytom.
- **Supporting the Evangelical-Augsburg Church of St. Martin in Krakow,** which has established a hostel for Ukrainian women and children. We have provided essential supplies including milk, energy biscuits, personal hygiene products and room partition panels.
- **Shipping and distributing LWR Quilts and Care Kits** in partnership with local organizations.

We have also committed funding to respond to the escalating global ripple effects of the war, which have decimated critical supply chains of commodities such as wheat, cooking oils and fertilizers. The effects are further escalating food crises being fueled by inflation and price hikes, climate related shocks and widespread conflict in many of the countries where we work. Our initial efforts will focus on the Sahel area of Africa, including Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso and will include both humanitarian interventions to address acute needs as well as longer term efforts to build resilience and stronger local markets.

We are grateful for the thousands of Lutherans across the United States whose care and generosity have made it possible for us to respond immediately. Financial gifts are the number one need to assist refugees on the move.

**Until your love reaches
every neighbor.**



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

LWR.ORG



The information in this document may be copied, distributed and adapted for non-commercial purposes. Lutheran World Relief should always be cited as the author.

Happy Birthday

9/2	Jessica Ecker	9/11	Megan Diehl	9/24	Megan Manzo
9/4	Amy Lipinoga	9/12	Michael McKernan	9/26	Robert Brown
9/5	Marjorie Doan Mark Willert Faith Flattery	9/13	Sarah Gabel	9/27	Alan Kerner Rachel Antes
9/7	Travis Ecker Jennifer Sherer Brielle McKernan	9/15	Robert Stefanik Steven Ringle	9/28	Neil Schueler
9/8	Roger McClellan	9/16	Lisa Lopez Katie Wackowski	9/29	Jeremy Heckman
9/9	Kim McLaughlin	9/20	Wesley Pletscher Mark Zawadzki	9/30	Chuck Stevens Nora Eising Marcus Wrobel
9/10	Ron Hope	9/21	David Lein Deborah Kerner		

Happy Anniversary

9/5	Jeremy & Shannon Heckman	9/17	Mark & Michele Ganschow Gregory & Megan Diehl PJ & Kim Colson
9/6	Rev. David & Joy Belasic		
9/8	Neil & Sue Schueler	9/20	Alan & Deborah Kerner Christopher & Kim McLaughlin
9/10	Linda & Leslie Wrobel Timothy & Justine Monahan	9/24	David & Marilyn Lein
9/11	Joanne & Craig Jaskier	9/26	John & Karen McCoy
9/14	Paul & Kristen Zawadzki	9/27	Michael & Lori Hock
9/15	Steven & Maria Wrobel	9/28	Roger & Laurel McClellan

Pioneer On The Lake

It's exciting to having had our first successful season at Pioneer for people to come together once again to experience God's presence and love in such a beautiful and special place. We now shift our focus to hosting retreat groups for the fall, some evaluation of the summer season, as well as preparation for next year. We will shut the camp down to save expenses from about November to March. We've received some pretty neat letters from campers this summer. Some of the challenges facing us that we continually work on are having the funds needed to operate. We continue to repair buildings, grounds and equipment and are trying to get the word out and bring more people to all Pioneer has to offer. God certainly blessed us this summer and we look forward to what God will continue to do! Please see this as your camp too. Please consider how you can help as well as be a part of and enjoy this ministry of "A warm place in the Son".



Do you have someone that you would like to add onto Trinity's prayer chain? If so, please contact Judy Schmidt at: judyschmidt349@roadrunner.com or 926-9054 with your request.

Ministers: The People of Trinity Church & School

Position

Pastor
School Co-Principals
Youth & Family Coordinator
Church Office Administrator
School Office Administrator

Name

Rev. Nycholas Greig
Sarah Gabel / Katie Willert
Mark Willert
Teresa Lynch
Judeen Babcock

Contact Information

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