

# TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

## APRIL 2024

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: (716) 336-1767  
Mrs. Sarah Gabel / Mrs. Katie Willert, School Co-Principals, 674-5353

Church Website: [www.trinitywestseneca.com](http://www.trinitywestseneca.com)  
Church Office E-mail: [trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net](mailto:trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net)



### WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

*From the  
Pastor's  
Desk*



## “Reacting To Easter ”

Jesus’ resurrection on Easter Sunday is *THE* most significant event in the history of the world. Nothing else even comes close. No other event has impacted more people’s lives. No event’s proclamation has led to more joy. No event’s proclamation has led to more persecution and death for those doing the proclaiming. No one else (yet) has ever been raised from the dead and brought into the eternal presence of God the Father in glory. No other event in all of human history has actually dealt with the universal problems of the world: sin, the devil and death. Jesus’ resurrection stands alone as a truly unique event in all of time.

In these weeks after Easter, we will be taking a closer look at how to respond to this unique event. How did the immediate observer’s respond? What does God desire out of us now that Easter has happened? What is the Lord’s plans for his disciples in the aftermath of Easter? How should we respond to Easter?

God’s Blessings,

Pastor Nyck



## Congregation Meeting Results

On Sunday, March 3, the congregation voted to call / contract a Director of Youth and Family Life Ministry. In order to provide compensation for this new position in the budget, it was voted to pay off the mortgage with the Employee Retention Credit funds that we received. By doing this, funds will be available in the budget to provide salary and benefits for this new position.

The Youth and Family Life Board has been working on a job description for the position and this should be in place within the next month or two. We will then select a committee to begin finding a candidate to fill the position, which we hope to have in place by September of 2024.

We will not pay off the mortgage until we have a candidate in place. It is our prayer that our members will continue to support our ministry as we share God's love by equipping every generation to serve all people as Jesus did for us.



## Trinity Garden Club

During the month of May, on Tuesday evenings from 6:00pm-7:00pm, the Grounds & Maintenance committee is looking for volunteers to help clean up the grounds and beds around the church and spread mulch. Bring your own tools, gloves and kneeling pads. We hope to see you! Weather permitting, we may start April 30.

**Time and Talents Gardeners:** Thank you to the volunteers who took care of flowers and shrubs around the church and school last summer. We will need help caring for those areas again this year. If you haven't volunteered and wish to do so, see or call Linda Meissner (716-648-1281) or sign up on the green sheet in the narthex.



## Easter Egg Hunt Success!

**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped to make the Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt a success! We had many people help by filling eggs, setting up, passing out treats, and cleaning up .... we couldn't have done it without you! A special thanks to our Outreach Committee for organizing and running this awesome event. Fun was had by all!



## “Walk With Me ... Out Of Darkness” Easter Production

At Agape United Methodist Church  
(2846 Seneca Street, West Seneca)

April 5 & 6, 2024 at 7:30pm

## Thank You!!!

Trinity Family,

Thank you all so much for all of the support that you have given me as I fundraise for my upcoming 5-month trip back to Zambia! I would like to share the exciting news that I am now fully funded! This is so exciting and I have been blown away at how abundantly God has provided. I want to thank each of you for your prayers and support as I begin this exciting journey. I love you, my Trinity family, and I could not have done this without you!

- Hope Willert

## WANTED: Manager for Property & Grounds Committee

The person will need to refer problems and issues to appropriate persons on the committee or to a contractor; arrange for maintenance of the property and work with executive committee; call meetings quarterly or as needed to address seasonal maintenance and issues as they arise. A manual is in the church office. This is a voluntary position. If interested, contact Brian Makey.

## LADD News

LADD WILL NOT BE CLOSING and have worked out an agreement with the landlord to only close the month of August for them to do the roof and the wall repair.

They are once again accepting all donations for the store. There is a collection box in the church, but please drop off large / heavy items directly at LADD (2280 Seneca Street, Buffalo). Thank you!

## April Ladies Bible Class

The ladies class will meet **April 15 and April 29** instead of our usual 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. We are skipping April 8 because of the expected surge of traffic with the eclipse.

## **Trinity School News**

### **School Growth News**

The Executive Committee officially voted to approve the addition of a full-time teacher for next year! This means we will be splitting the first and second grades. There are a lot of details and logistics for us to work out, but we wanted you to share in the joy with us. It is so exciting that God has blessed Trinity to be GROWING and THRIVING!

### **Spaghetti Dinner Update**

We are so excited to announce that \$10,000 was raised at the Spaghetti Dinner / Raffle! 100% of those funds will go towards scholarships to Trinity School. Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone that donated items and time to help make this event a success. We thank God that this money will help make a quality Christian education affordable to all families.

### **Positive Parent Update**

Jack will be an incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Trinity Christian School in the fall of 2024. He came for a shadow day in mid-March. Here was the email reply his mother, Annie, sent following his shadow day:

*"I wanted to say thank you for Wednesday and allowing Jack to shadow. He had an absolutely amazing day and went back that night for Youth Group. He cannot wait to start in September! My heart is so full and thankful for God leading us to explore a different option for next year. I also want to commend you for the kindness that was shown to Jack. All of the kids were welcoming and accepting of him immediately. He couldn't stop talking about how even older kids were nice and wanted to meet him and gave him high fives etc. Thank you so much for all of this! We are so excited about next year!"*

Annie also wanted information about Youth Group dates, so Jack can keep attending. Great stuff! This email was followed with another, a couple of days later, stating that they had been intending to send Jack's younger brother to Trinity when he hit 6<sup>th</sup> grade, but they were so impressed with the school and were welcomed so warmly, that they want him to start next year in Trinity's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class. What a blessing!

### **Alumni News**

It is with immense pride that we announce that Trinity School alumni Bethany Lafferty ('20) and Joanna Anderson ('21) recently took the stage in the musical production of "Mamma Mia" at St. Francis High School. Their performances were sensational, and they made the entire Trinity community proud!

If you have news about a Trinity alumni, email [principal@trinitywny.org](mailto:principal@trinitywny.org) to let us know what you are doing.





## Trinity School's Academic Rolls for 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester

Our students did a great job in the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester! Congratulations! Keep up the good work!

Grade 3 High Honor Roll: Peyton Hansen, Nathan Farrell, Travis Barnas, Vada Mills, Gavin Gabel

Grade 3 Honor Roll: Caleb Adams, Emma Bertram, Charlotte Giambra

Grade 4 High Honor Roll: Riley Greig, Natalie Schieber, Lucy Hojnacki, Raelyn Mathewson, Norah Daley

Grade 4 Honor Roll: Anastasia Dougherty, Elijah Holmes

Grade 4 Merit Roll: Brianna Burgos, Mackenzie Holley, Kaidyn Ferraraccio

Grade 5 High Honor Roll: Sawyer Daley, Cody Adams, Jesse Hojnacki, Hannah Haas, Lydia Schieber, John Mills,  
Samantha Riordan

Grade 5 Honor Roll: Aliza Haas, Everett Webster

Grade 6 High Honor Roll: Ethan Webster, Elijah Stoddard, Jayce Mathewson

Grade 6 Honor Roll: Ethan Widman

Grade 7 High Honor Roll: Elliana Adams, Luka Dudas, Hayden Sirgey

Grade 7 Honor Roll: Levi Haas, Katelyn Barnas

Grade 7 Merit Roll: Elizabeth McFarland

Grade 8 High Honor Roll: Abigail Lafferty

Grade 8 Honor Roll: Jean-Marie McFarland, Gavin Daley, Luke Anderson

Grade 8 Merit Roll: Jayden Wagner



## PIONEER SUMMER CAMPS 2024

Gather the family – the immediate family, the extended family, and any extras – and head to Pioneer! Here you will enjoy a relaxing vacation with no responsibilities like cooking and cleaning! Just think, you can all be together, and no one is burdened with household chores!

Pioneer on the Lake is also the spot for spiritual refreshment, allowing those worn-down spiritual batteries to get recharged. After the gloomy winter months, plenty of sunshine and beautiful sunsets are a welcome prescription. Add in morning devotions while hearing the Lake Erie waves, Bible studies to engage you, and fireside evening devotions, and your spirit will be blessed!

Plan now on heading to Pioneer on the Lake this summer! Our “Warm Place in the Son” waits to welcome you!

May 31– June 2 Men's Retreat

June 30 – July 5 Family Camp

July 21-26 Family Camp

July 22-26 Stronger Together Agape Camp

July 28- Aug 4 Music Week

Registrations are now being received. Phone or register on-line now on Pioneer's website to ensure you get the accommodation of your choice.

# YOUTH SCOOP

## Youth Gym Night

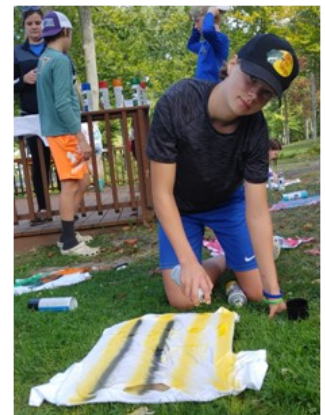
Our Youth Night on March 13 was fantastic! We were able to have it outside most of the evening (upper 50's and sunny) and played gaga ball and football. For our devotion, I brought a car charger and a phone charger and discussed different ways we are recharged in Jesus. We shared Isaiah 40:31 "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." The yummy snack was ice cream bars. We had 14 kiddos (some ducked down in the pic. And one new one invited by a friend who will be coming back! Our next Youth Night will be on **Wednesday, April 17 from 6:30pm-8:00pm.**



## Pioneer Jr. & Sr. High Retreat May 17-19, 2024

Join us for a fun-filled weekend retreat May 17-19! This weekend will be jam-packed with meaningful worship, great teaching, a service project, devotion time, awesome Christian fellowship with friends new and old, and lots of fun games! It's a weekend your teen will wish will never end! Includes five meals - Friday pizza party, Saturday 3 meals, and Sunday breakfast. Cost per weekend - \$125/youth camper and \$75/chaperone.

Sign up/payment **deadline is May 5<sup>th</sup>** to Mark Willert. Once signed up you'll receive permission forms and more info.



## DOMESTIC MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY

Participate in a mission trip right here in the States

Trinity has partnered with Christian Appalachian Project (CAP)  
to serve the people of Appalachia

- When:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 through Friday, August 30, 2024  
**Where:** Eastern Kentucky  
**Age:** Anyone 14 years of age or older  
**Service:** Making homes safe, warm, dry and accessible / home repairs / yard work  
**Cost:** \$325 includes room, board and travel expenses

If interest in participating, add your contact info to the sign-up sheet in the church narthex.

**An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, April 21 after the 10:30am service for anyone interested in going to discuss details of the trip and registration information.**

Any questions? Please contact Kevin Kot (716-445-5923),  
Colleen Kot (716-445-5922), or Mark Willert (716-601-8570)



**National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 21-27, 2024.** A sincere "Thank You" to all the people who volunteer their time and talents at our church and school! You are truly appreciated!!!

### 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 5 if you are interested in purchasing a plaque (674-9188).

### Emergency Contacts & Shut-Ins

If a family member is **hospitalized** or there is an **emergency need**, please inform and phone Pastor Nyck (716-336-1767), 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.



### LWML Buffalo Zone Event

Ladies are invited to the next Buffalo Zone Event at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Clarence, NY on **Saturday, May 4th**. Look for more details soon.

### Eastern District LWML Retreat at Pioneer September 20-22, 2024

Theme: Hope Abounds, *Romans 15:13*. Save the date!  
More details to come.

### MITES

**Mites** are those bits of change that can add up to a treasure for mission work. The **LWML** (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) sponsors mission projects throughout the year, paying for them as mites add up. Some benefit global initiatives in Haiti or Africa, most in the US, and some right here in the Eastern District. **Please consider contributing your mites** or a check made out to Buffalo Zone LWML. Contributions can be put in Gerald & Linda Meissner's message center. You don't have to be a woman to participate!

**PLEASE NOTE:** The LWML is no longer collecting ink cartridges for recycling. Use your recycling credit to contribute to mites.



STEPHEN  
MINISTRY

**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.**



*Happy Birthday*

4/1 Sarah Makosy	4/14 Tracy Meissner	4/25 Lori Strong
4/5 Mary Havens	4/17 Robbin Blajszczak	Bryana Haas
4/7 Carol McMenamin	4/18 Marcia Nickerson	Kennedii McKernan
Kris Zawadzki	4/26 Jean Newton	
4/9 Robert Cislo	4/19 Heidi Cosandier	4/27 Kathy Stephen
Stacy Conti	Bethany Lafferty	4/28 Justin Cornell
4/10 Betty-Jo Smith	Austin Smith	Corbin Stefanik
Destiny Thompson	4/20 Marcia Fenn	4/29 Anne Gurney
4/11 Brody Zawadzki	4/21 Scot Zawadzki	Sandra Lelito
4/12 Linda Hope	4/22 Mark Rodgers	Kelcy Strong
4/13 Don Rieman	Steven Wrobel	4/30 Natalie Ecker
Colleen Kot	4/24 Jennifer Canazzi	

*Happy Anniversary*

4/3 Sheri & Christopher Courteau	4/20 Gerald & Linda Meissner
4/5 Duane & Sarah Gabel	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 Lindsay & Jordan Iannuzzelli	

**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.

**Portals of Prayers**

Portals of Prayer (April-June 2024) devotion booklets are now available. They can be picked up in the church narthex. Please take one and use it for home devotions.



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 / (716) 926-9054 with your request.



**The Red Food Pantry Wagon**

We continue to collect food to be donated to the West Seneca Food Pantry and the pantry at Bread of Life Outreach Center in Colden. Non-perishable items can be placed in the red wagon in the church entry. Thank you!

**Ministers: The People of Trinity Church & School**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Pastor	Rev. Nycholas Greig	674-9188 / (716) 336-1767 / pastornyck@gmail.com
School Co-Principals	Sarah Gabel / Katie Willert	674-5353 / principal@trinitywny.org
Youth & Family Coordinator	Mark Willert	608-8907 / mwillert@trinitywny.org
Church Office Administrator	Teresa Lynch	674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net
School Office Administrator	Judeen Babcock	674-5353 / jbabcock@trinitywny.org