

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

NOVEMBER 2023

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



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

“Give Thanks Always”

November is here, and so is our celebration of Thanksgiving. But gratitude is not just a once a year thing but is an everyday need. Let’s dive into the Word of God and discover what it teaches us about giving thanks.

*1 Thessalonians 5:18 - “Give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*

Here Paul is reminding us that giving thanks is not merely a suggestion; it is a command from God. We are called to give thanks in all circumstances, in times of joy and in times of trials. This is because a heart of gratitude aligns with God’s will and helps us to maintain a Christ-centered perspective in our lives.

*Psalm 100:4 - “Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name.”*

Here the psalmist teaches us about the practical expression of thanksgiving. We are encouraged to enter God’s presence with thanksgiving and praise. This means that giving thanks is not just a private matter; it is something we do together and is an expression of our worship of God! As we gather together in God’s house, we should come with grateful hearts and praise His name.

*Colossians 3:17 “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name
of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Paul speaks again on the subject of thanksgiving reminding us that gratitude should permeate every aspect of our lives. Whether in our words or our actions, in our homes or workplaces. We are to do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father. Gratitude is an attitude that transforms how we approach daily tasks and interactions.

In conclusion, giving thanks is not just a seasonal tradition; it’s a continuous practice that should be the hallmark of our lives as Christians. We are commanded to give thanks in all circumstances, to practice it in our worship, to make it an attitude that influences our words and actions and to experience the transformative power of a thankful heart. Let’s use this season as a reminder to live a life of gratitude and may it draw us closer to our loving God.



God’s Blessings,

Pastor Nyck



Daylight Savings Time ends
Sunday, November 5th at 2:00am.
 Remember to turn your clocks back!



Thanksgiving Worship

Wed. November 22 @ 7:00 p.m.

Trinity will hold a worship service on Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 22nd at 7:00 p.m. There **will not** be a service on Thanksgiving Day.



Trunk-or-Treat Sunday, October 29th at 6:00pm

Join us for our annual Trunk or Treat on October 29 at 6:00pm. Come to the Trinity parking lot; park with your trunk facing in, around the perimeter of the parking lot; have 2-3 bags worth of candy in your trunk. You and your children, in costume, will then make your way around the parking lot gathering candy! Bring your own collection containers / bags as well. Some families like to decorate their trunk or car and you may do the same if you'd like. We'll share in a family friendly devotion following the event. Great for grandparents too!

Fellowship Outing

Saturday ~ November 11, 2023

Come join us at Alton's after the Saturday evening service. You don't have to go to the service to be eligible, just be at Alton's between 6:15PM and 6:30PM. We'll have to know how many to expect, so **RSVP** to Teresa in the office (716-674-9188) or Jerry & Linda Meissner (716-648-1281) by November 9th.

Ladies Bible Study

In November, the Ladies Bible Study will meet on **Monday Nov. 6 and Nov. 20 at 7:00pm** (instead of the 2nd and 4th week of the month). All ladies past high school age are welcome!



Operation Christmas Child

Outreach will once again be collecting gift-filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse. Boxes (if needed) and labels can be found on the table in the narthex. Shoeboxes are due to church **by SUNDAY, NOV. 12th** so that they can be checked over and brought to the local drop-off station.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS: Toy cars, jump ropes, dolls, yo-yos, stuffed animals, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), deflated sports ball with pump, shoes, school supplies, coloring books, pictures books, solar calculators, toothbrushes, combs, hairbrushes, sunglasses, socks, jewelry

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE: Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

PLEASE include \$10.00 (cash or check made out to Trinity) to pay for shipping.

PLEASE make sure your box can be closed easily and is **NOT** taped shut. You can however put a rubber band around your box if needed. Thank you!



2024 Altar Flowers & Candles

The 2024 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.*

Property & Grounds Work Day

We will be holding a work day sometime in November, after the leaves drop. Anyone willing to help out is welcome! Refer to upcoming weekly "Life at Trinity" announcement sheets for more information.

Trinity School News

Thankful for YOU!

November is a month where we take time to reflect and be thankful. I feel it is so important to let you know that all of us at Trinity Christian School are thankful for the support we get from the members of Trinity Lutheran Church! We could not do what we do at the school without the actions of the church members. So many of you volunteer in the school! You help serve hot lunch, listen to students read, copy papers, paint classrooms, mow the grass, kill bees, aid in preschool, coach sports and so much more. You are truly the hands and feet of Christ as you help us bring Jesus to the students and families at Trinity Christian School. We are also thankful for your prayers and financial support. It says in Ephesians 6:18, "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." Your prayers are powerful, so please keep remembering us in your prayers. Together, Trinity Church and School are being used as God's tools to bring His word to West Seneca and beyond. We are thankful today and every day for this amazing partnership.

~ Katie Willert, Co-Principal



Soccer Champions!

The Trinity soccer team completed their second undefeated season in a row. They won the WNY Lutheran Schools Championship Game in a 3-2 victory over St. John on 10/16/23. They showed great sportsmanship, determination, and grit! Congrats to all of our players, and our all-stars: Luke Anderson, Gavin Daley, Jeanie McFarland, Ethan Webster, Everett Webster, Sawyer Daley, and Jayce Mathewson. A big thank you to our coaches: Mike Webster, Bob Mathewson, and Ryan Daley. Way to go Hawks!

Chicken BBQ at Trinity School



Saturday, November 4, 2023

11:00am – 4:00pm
(or until sold out)

Take Out Only!

Tickets: \$13 pre-sale* / \$15 at door

*Pre-sale dinners guaranteed until 3:00pm

Dinner includes:

½ chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, Landies Candies pretzel

Presale tickets can be purchased in the narthex after church from Trinity students or from the school office until Thursday 10/26. Proceeds go towards the 7th & 8th grade class trip.

Open House
November 4, 2023
11:00am - 4:00pm

We will be having an Open House on Saturday, November 4th for prospective families. Please tell your friends about our wonderful school and encourage them to come! The most effective student recruitment is parents encouraging other parents. This is during the Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ, so they can come take a tour and get some dinner to take home!

RaiseRight is a **gift card buying program** that is an easy way to fundraise for our school. You can buy gift cards to places you would shop at anyway and raise money for Trinity at the same time! There are 2 easy ways to participate. You can download the RaiseRight app and connect to our school using [this link](#). You can also order on the paper order form that is being sent home in your child's folder today. We will place orders roughly once a month, and gift cards arrive within 1 week of the due date. Share with your friends and family, too! Thank you for supporting our school!



Intergenerational Advent Celebration

Wednesday, November 29, 2023
Starts at 6:00pm in Trinity School's Gym

Looking for a great way to kickoff Advent? All ages (especially the Sr. Adults!) 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 ~ making beautiful wreaths and gingerbread houses (see the below pics from last year's event). All this within an hour and a half to get you back home for your evening. 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 "mkwillert@aol.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 at Trinity and we could use your help for this one. If you would be willing to help with the crafts, music or worship please let Mark Willert know mkwillert@aol.com. Thanks!



El Salvador Mission Trip

In February of 2024, Trinity teen Joanna Anderson will be traveling to Los Naranjos, El Salvador through an organization called Young Life. Founded in 1941, Young Life is a Christian organization focused on sharing and enriching the Gospel of Jesus Christ with young people (middle school through college) and has held this mission trip for 10+ years. The service projects she will be participating in include: setting up and running a medical clinic, doing construction work projects, and sharing the Gospel with the people in the village. They will be accompanied by WNY doctors who will assist in the clinic.

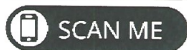
A note from Joanna:

I would greatly appreciate it if anyone could provide financial and prayer support for this mission trip. There is a link below, as well as a QR Code for donations. Any extra money that is raised will be used to purchase additional medical supplies for the clinic.

I am so excited to share God's love with the people of El Salvador. Feel free to contact me (Email: joannaxanderson@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for your support.

*In His service,
Joanna Anderson*

To donate, click on <https://ny21.younglife.support/crowd/el-salvador-2024/fundraiser/13442> or scan the below QR code.



Recycle Greeting Cards

If you'd like to recycle your holiday or special occasion cards, please save them and place them 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



Christmas Poinsettia Plants

We will once again be placing poinsettia plants on the altar for Christmas services this year. Order forms can be found in the weekly bulletins or you can contact the church office (674-9188). Both red and white plants will be offered for \$8.50 each, and you get to take them home after the Christmas Day service. Orders are **due by Sunday, November 26.**

AED's at Trinity

We are grateful to the Brooks Hospital system for the donation of two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to Trinity Lutheran Church, and to Trinity member Chris Kotowski for facilitating this donation. One will be placed in the narthex; the other in a location TBD. In case of an emergency, they are ready to be used.



67th Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers Sunday, December 3rd at 5:00pm At First Trinity Church (1570 Niagara Falls Blvd.)

All are invited! Sponsored by and for the benefit of the Valparaiso University Guild and the Music Conservatory at First Trinity and Holy Cross Lutheran churches. A free will offering will be taken to benefit Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center and Valparaiso University.

Veteran's Day

Did you know ...

- Veterans Day was originally called Armistice Day because it marked the end of World War I on November 11, 1918.
- In 1926, Congress passed a resolution for an annual observance of Armistice Day, and it became a national holiday in 1938.
- In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill that changed the name of the holiday to Veterans Day, to honor all veterans of all wars.

YOUTH SCOOP

Youth Gym Night

Our next youth night will be **November 15, from 6:30pm -8:00pm** in the school gym! Games, a devotion and LOTS of fun. Bring a friend.



Lasertron (in Amherst) Sunday, Nov 12 at 2pm

\$30 per person. Email mkwillert@aol.com to sign up.

Winter Youth Quake in Pittsburgh February 9-11, 2024

Quake events are weekend retreats created specifically for youth in grades 6-12. Since 1966, these Quake events have been hosted at hotels and water parks across the country. Quake partners with youth leaders to encourage teens to become established in their faith, empowered for Christian living, and enabled to live a life of ministry and leadership. And they are a blast! Parent Chaperones needed! **Deadline for a \$50 non refundable deposit is Nov. 12** (checks made to Trinity Lutheran Church). Overall cost is \$230 which includes program, hotel room, meals and travel. We will be doing fundraising to help with some of the cost! More details have been emailed to families. If you have more questions please see Mark Willert.

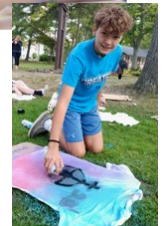
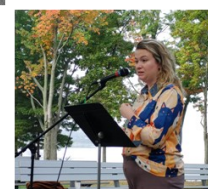
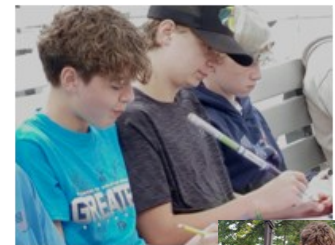
Upcoming Event:

Fundraiser ~ Parents Night Out Babysitting: Saturday, December 2 from 5:30pm-9:30pm. Youth should contact Mark Willert if they are interesting in participating in this fundraiser.

Christmas Caroling to Shut-Ins: Sunday, December 10. Refer to upcoming weekly Life At Trinity announcement sheets for more details.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Retreat at Pioneer

At the Jr. & Sr. Youth Retreat held at Camp Pioneer on September 29 - October 1, two of our church and school youth enjoyed games, table surfing (see pic!), beach walks (and some others went swimming!), devotional and worship times, group building activities, free time, campfires, T-shirt making, the Romans and Christiansblate night game, "deck hockey" with the pool noodles, prayer walk and lots of other neat stuff! Most of all, the chance to grow closer to Jesus through it all. Stephanie Greig and Mark Willert helped lead the retreat that saw about 25 youth from 3 different area churches - Trinity, St. John in Depew and St. John in Orchard Park. The theme was "Be Still", which encouraged youth to rely on God's help and love through challenging times. Start planning to attend the **Spring 2024 Jr. & Sr. High Retreat at Pioneer on May 17-19, 2024**. Mark your calendar for this event! We've already begun the preparation and planning!!



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: Don Meissner, Kevin Kot or Colleen Kot.

Unsere Kirchlichen Wurzeln (Our Church Roots)

Trinity Lutheran Church's History: 1847-1849

“Born in Hope”

The founding fathers left Germany to escape the “blight of rationalism” which threatened the pure doctrine that they cherished. They chose to emigrate to America rather than compromise their beliefs. They settled in West Seneca, which was an undeveloped area in Western New York. During the period of 1847-1849, three families made their way from West Seneca to Buffalo through heavily wooded country over rough trails to attend church at First Trinity in Buffalo. In 1847, Pastor Ernest Buerger of First Trinity began conducting services in the homes of these settlers. In 1848, a public school house in Orchard Park was rented to serve as a place of worship. In the Fall of 1849, more than a dozen Lutheran families decided to form a congregation. In their very first constitution they adopted the descriptive name, “German Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Congregation, Unaltered Augsburg Confession of West Seneca, Erie County New York. This constitution was based on the verbal inspiration of the bible and the expressions of the Augsburg Confession.

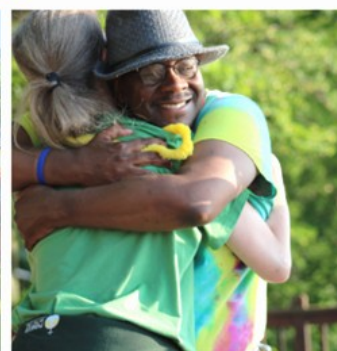
The eight signers of the original constitution were:

Michael Lebert	Godfried Grotke	Carl Kromphart	Adam Koch
Ferdinand Langner	George Roth	Luke Escherich	Jacob Hahn

[Additional articles on Trinity's history will appear in upcoming newsletters as we approach Trinity Lutheran Church's 175th anniversary.]



Pioneer on The Lake SUMMER 2023



Celebrating Our 2nd Summer of New Beginnings! Pioneer is BACK!

2023 was an amazing summer of ministry...continuing a legacy spanning 78 years on the shores of Lake Erie!

Summer Highlights

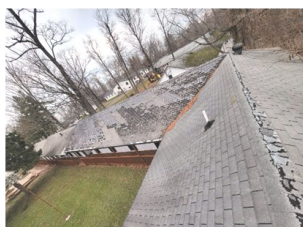
- Family Camps brought together families from Florida to Missouri, and beyond!
 - Agape Campers were welcomed back once again to Pioneer on the Lake for our first "Stronger Together" Camp!
- Our 2nd Annual Pioneer Fest took place with over 500 guests praising and fellowshiping with 3 Christian musicians/bands.
- Music Week served youth and families and concluded with an inspiring concert!
- Retreats were delivered to a youth group from Mexico, men's and women's groups, and schools.

THANK YOU to the Pioneer Community!

We are so grateful for our participants, guests, staff, volunteers, donors, church leaders, and Pioneer champions. Your prayers, volunteer service, and financial donations are so appreciated as we continue to bring back the Pioneer spirit of a "Warm Place in the Son"!

Raise the Roof Campaign Update

We announced in early summer that The Margaret L. Wendt Foundation contributed a transformational grant of \$100,000 to help replace and repair the roofs of 45+ buildings & cabins at Pioneer on the Lake. Since then, our generous Pioneer individuals & families have given a total of \$43,000. Our total campaign goal is \$208,000. Please consider a gift to help 'cover' the remaining \$66,000 needed to complete this project. Your generous gifts are making continued ministry possible at Pioneer!



Happy Birthday

11/2	Dawn Stroh Bonnie Schwab	11/8	Gail Rieman Lisa Manzo	11/21	Aubrey Conti Joshua Barnas
11/3	Carole Jaekle	11/12	Linda Hodge Dawn Barnas	11/23	Paulette Bogumil Courtney Jelowski
11/4	Caitlyn McLaughlin	11/15	Lauren Berton	11/28	Corrine Rodgers Ryan McKernan
11/5	Jane Sirgey Christian Tripi	11/16	Dick Schultz Dennis Glinski	11/29	Renata Schultz
11/6	George Hodge Gary Haas Linda Wrobel	11/17	Charles Gass Abigail Anderson	11/30	Christine Hawkins Robert Meissner Christine Harris
11/7	Riley Greig	11/18	Nathan Barnas		
		11/20	Theresa McKernan		

Happy Anniversary

11/26 Vincent & Lucille Zarbo



The Red Food Pantry Wagon

We will continue to collect non-perishable food to be donated to the food pantry at Bread of Life Outreach Center in Colden and the West Seneca Food Pantry.

LWML MITES and Stamps

MITES and stamps continue to be collected for mission work by the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League. Used ink cartridges are no longer being accepted. Please put your contribution in Linda Meissner’s message center.



Called To Their Heavenly Rest:

Timothy Faries on September 24, 2023
Beverly Osberg on September 27, 2023

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!

Shut-In Members

If you know of a member of Trinity who should be on our **shut-in member list**, please let Pastor Nyck and the church office know. We want to care for all!

Shut-ins can receive our weekly Life at Trinity announcement sheet and monthly Trinity Tidings newsletter by mail or email. Contact the church office (716) 674-9188 to find out more information.

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