

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

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



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am



“A Day To Remember”

Memorial Day is just a few days away. On the last Monday of May, we pause from the usual day-to-day routines of life and work to remember and honor the legacy of the men and women who died while serving in the United States military.

Memory can be a strange thing. Why do we remember some things but forget others? Why can I remember the lyrics of popular songs from when I was in high school and college but forget where I put the car keys when I came home for lunch? Why can I quote lines from movies I haven't seen in years but not remember for what reason I walked into a room? As citizens of this country, our freedoms are constantly exercised, and the benefits of this nation are continually enjoyed. Yet, we can easily forget or take for granted how these gifts have come to us.

Memorial Day forces us to stop—even if it is only a fleeting, momentary pause—to remember that this nation and our freedoms have not been handed to us without cost. My grandfather fought in World War II. Although wounded, he returned home. Sadly, many soldiers did not. Many more lives have been lost in conflicts since then. We rightly remember the brave sacrifice of the men and women of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard who died to help keep our nation free and to fight for the cause of freedom around the world.

Yet, on Memorial Day, there is an even greater sacrifice to remember. It is the sacrifice of God's own Son, Jesus Christ, who gave His life on Calvary's cross that all people might be free from sin, death, and the power of the devil. His death and resurrection assures us that by faith in Him our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). Even if the goodness of this nation and our liberties cease to be, Jesus' gifts cannot be undone or taken from us.

God's Blessings,

Pastor Nyck Greig



VBS 2024 - Scuba

July 22-26 9am-12pm

Trinity will be hosting a Vacation Bible School program this summer the week of July 22-26 from 9am-12pm! All kids entering PreK-3 (potty trained) thru 5th grade will be welcome to join us. A registration link will soon be open on Trinity's website (www.trinitywestseneca.com) or simply scan the below QR code.



Volunteers Needed: We need many volunteers to make this event a success. Please refer to the poster in the narthex for a variety of different volunteer opportunities (along with their descriptions). You can also speak with Joan Kopra (thekoprafamily@gmail.com) or Pastor Nyck (pastornyck@gmail.com) if you would like to help out in any way! Thank you so much!

New Member Class

Interested in becoming a member at Trinity Lutheran Church? Or perhaps you are a visitor who would like more information about our church? Come and join us for a three week introductory class about what we believe and what makes Trinity different from other churches. At the end of the class people will be invited to join our family here at Trinity. Classes will be held after the 10:30am services Sunday morning (roughly 11:45 am) and will last for about an hour. Classes will take place on May 19th, June 2nd and June 9th with a welcoming ceremony during the weekend of June 22/23. Come and learn more about our life together as part of the Trinity family!



Church Greeters

We would like to resume having greeters at our worship services. Each greeter would be scheduled about once every 2 months or so, depending on the number of volunteers. They would need to be at church 15 minutes before the service begins, welcome people as they enter the church from the narthex, give them a bulletin, direct new people / visitors to visit our Welcome Center, and then stand by the narthex glass doors after church to thank people for coming and wish them well. If you could share your time/talents in this way, please contact Teresa in the church office (716) 674-9188 or see Don Meissner.



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.

Transportation Needed

Pastor David Belasic's family is asking for your help. He is no longer driving, so they are looking for Trinity members who would be willing to transport him to and from weekly worship services. If you can help out with this, please contact his daughter Mary Hackett (707-496-3073).

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.



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

Trinity School News

Job Announcement

Trinity is seeking a passionate Elementary Classroom Teacher with a valid teaching certification for the 2024-2025 academic year. If you're dedicated to integrating faith-based teachings with academic excellence and nurturing young minds in a supportive environment, we want to hear from you! To be considered, please submit your resume to principal@trinitywny.org. Come be a part of our mission to educate and inspire future leaders grounded in faith and service.

Funding the new teacher position: The new teaching position is being funded by increased enrollment tuition money. There will be no impact to the church budget.

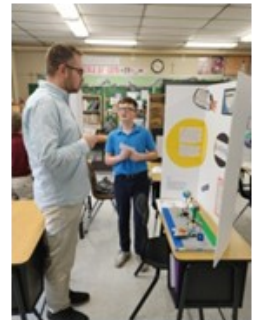
Storage Assistance Needed

The Board of Education at the school is looking for a storage option for the stage and risers that the school uses for the spring musical. While essential to the music program, these items take up a lot of storage space in the school, and are only used for about 1 month of the year. The Board is wondering if anyone has space (must be clean and dry) in a pole barn or warehouse to store them when not in use. There are 2-3 stacks of 8x4 feet each. Please let Brad McKernan or the principals (principal@trinitywny.org) know if you have an available area or any questions.

Family Blessings Breakfast

At Trinity Christian School, all the students' parents were invited to the school on the morning of April 17th to celebrate families. Around 150 parents came. The morning started with breakfast and a preview song from the school musical, "Back to the Cross," performed by the students.

Afterward, parents visited each classroom to see presentations prepared by the students. The morning ended with a chapel led by Pastor Habedank, focusing on the importance of family. Pastor Habedank shared the verse, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15), encouraging all families.



Trinity School Musical: "Back to the Cross"

Friday, May 3rd at 1:00pm & 7:00pm

The Trinity students will present the musical, "Back to the Cross", on Friday, May 3rd at 1:00pm and 7:00pm. Come and enjoy this Christian musical about kids that travel back in time (similar to Back to the Future) to learn more about Jesus and faith. Mrs. Anderson has been working hard with the students, and they are excited to present this show. All are welcome!



Clubs at Trinity School

Clubs are going strong at Trinity Christian School. March and April found the 4th-8th graders doing STEM Club, led by Mrs. Willert. They designed ping pong ball projectile launchers, and then used them to compete for accuracy, distance, and most cups knocked over. Board Game Club, led by Pastor Nyck, is currently underway. They meet one day a week to learn and play new board games. Running Club, led by Mrs. Gabel will be starting soon. These students will train one afternoon a week, and eventually run the West Seneca 5K in June.

YOUTH SCOOP

Youth Gym Night

Our next Youth Night is **May 8 from 6:30pm-8:00pm!** If the weather is nice we'll be outside for some fun and games. We'll also have a meaningful devotion, a team building activity and a snack! A perfect night to bring a friend too!

Adult volunteers are needed for our Youth Nights! As a part of our vision process and our mission, Trinity is trying to grow a vibrant youth ministry. To accomplish this, we need people to help make the different aspects of our Youth Nights happen. They are the simplest way to grow and use people's gifts or talents and interact with our youth. We have a fantastic group of kids who do love to interact! To get plugged in, please connect with Mark Willert, Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator.



New Youth Group Room

The youth group room has moved to a new location in the church basement! Thanks to all who helped move everything!

Youth Board Meeting

Our next youth Board meeting is **Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30pm** in the church! If you'd like to help out with this meaningful and impactful ministry, please speak to Mark Willert, Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator.

Spring Jr. & Sr. High Retreat

The information for this retreat was emailed to all families. Cost per weekend - \$125/youth camper and \$75/chaperone. **Sign up/payment deadline is May 5th** to Mark Willert. Once signed up you'll receive permission forms and more info about this amazingly fun and impactful weekend.

Kentucky Mission Trip

Our summer mission trip is August 25-30 in Kentucky once again! We will be making homes safe, warm, dry and accessible / home repairs / yard work, etc. For more information, pick up a Mission Trip 1/2 page sheet from the table in the narthex or contact Kevin Kot, Colleen Kot or Mark Willert. This is a multi-generational event and the interaction between teens and adults is just fantastic (so adults, you can sign up too!). Come with us to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

2025 National Youth Gathering

The National Youth Gathering is July 19-23 of 2025! There will be plenty of fundraising and the deadline for sign up is July 15, 2024. This event is parent-led and initiated, and any who have gone in the past shared that it is absolutely worthwhile. More info forthcoming.

Trip to the Holy Land

Dr. Charles and Susan Whited of First Trinity (Tonawanda, NY) invite you to join them for a 10 day tour of the Holy Land, leaving **October 29, 2024**. It is the spiritual adventure of a lifetime. For information call (716) 835-2220 or email Pastor Chuck cwhited@firsttrinity.com.

“Joy in the Journey” Handbell Concert

Faith Lutheran Church, Elma, N.Y. invites our area congregations and members to a free, family-friendly handbell Spring concert performed by the BUFFALO BELLS (not the Buffalo Bills!), on **Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.** Refreshments will be served following the concert. Faith is located at 1230 Bowen Road, Elma, N.Y., at the corner of Jameson and Bowen about 1 mile from the Rt. 400 exit.

Crop Walk

A "Crop Walk" against hunger is planned for **Sunday, May 5** in West Seneca. The walk is from Ebenezer UCC on Main Street to the corner of Union and Reserve and then back to Ebenezer UCC (2 miles). It is open to all ages and groups. Walker donation envelopes can be found on the table in the church narthex. Set a goal and start collecting donations today!

Property & Grounds Manager Needed

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.



Altar 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. Thank you!

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

LADD

If you are doing some spring cleaning, please consider donating clothing, small appliances, toys, dishware, footwear, jewelry, and linens to LADD. You can place items in the collection box at Trinity (top of stairs by the side door entrance) or drop them off at the store (2280 Seneca Street) on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday from 10am - 3pm and Thursday 10am - 2:30pm. The shop is closed on Friday. Thank you!

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 for this period will be accepted until May 8th.



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**.

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.

Cemetery News . . .

Burial plots are still available in our cemetery. Cost is:

- 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 to purchase plots in our Cemetery

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.

Emergency Contacts & Shut-Ins

If a member is **hospitalized** or there is an **emergency need**, please inform Pastor Nyck (716-336-1767), the church office (716-674-9188), 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? Is so, please contact Pastor or the church office to a make arrangements.

What is a Stephen Minister?



A Christian Caregiver

- Someone who will be there with you and for you
- Christ caring for people through people

Trained Listeners - Confidential

- 50 hours of Classroom Training
- 2 Training Manuals
- 5 Additional Books

On-Going Continuing Education

- Monthly meetings to review previous training materials

Stephen Leaders – 5 day Conference

- 45 hours of additional training

We are CARE givers

- God is the CURE giver
- Meet with you 1 hour per week
- Listen to you without judging
- Ask questions
- Address your feelings
- Pray with and for you



Happy Birthday

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 5/1 Julie Blamowski | 5/16 Chris McLaughlin | 5/22 Stephen Hope |
| 5/2 Amanda Kern | Rebekah Lafferty | 5/23 Ingrid Hamann |
| 5/6 Vince Canazzi | 5/17 David Kosicki | 5/24 Carson Wackowski |
| Rachel (Colson) Graham | Renae Makey | 5/25 Rev. Ron Habedank |
| Grace Willert | Jackson Ecker | 5/26 Christopher Kopra |
| 5/10 James Conti | 5/18 Linda Meissner | Sarah McLaughlin |
| 5/12 Ethan Kopra | Theodore Rood | 5/27 Carl Lehsten |
| 5/14 Laurel McClellan | 5/19 Joshua Ecker | Justine Monahan |
| 5/15 Katie Willert | Nathan Ecker | 5/28 Michael Canazzi |
| 5/16 Arlene Burger | Matthew Lafferty | 5/30 Neil Halvorsen |
| Peggy Wypior | Henry Greig | |
| | 5/21 David Brown | |

Happy Anniversary

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5/1 Peter & Bisty Colson | 5/11 Gerry & William Swart | 5/23 James & Lisa Manzo |
| 5/9 Marcia & Daniel Nickerson | 5/14 Dave & Jane Sirgey | 5/28 Roger & Denise Meissner |
| 5/10 Robert & Joan Kopra | 5/16 Robert & Paulette Bogumil | |

Trinity’s Men’s Softball

Come cheer on our guys as they compete in the Southtowns Church Softball League! All games are played at the Nike Base (2982 Lakeview Road, Hamburg). The diamond is indicated in () after each date.

- Mon. 5/6 at 7pm (3) vs Revive Wesleyan I
- Thurs. 5/16 at 7pm (2) vs First Baptist West Seneca
- Thurs. 5/20 at 6:30pm (3) vs Life Church
- Mon. 5/30 at 6:30pm (3) vs First Baptist Hamburg
- Mon. 6/3 at 6:30pm (4) vs The Tabernacle
- Thurs. 6/10 at 6:30pm (2) vs Angola Wesleyan
- Mon. 6/17 at 6:30pm (1) vs Revive Wesleyan II
- Mon. 6/24 at 6:30pm (4) vs St. Bernadettes
- Mon. 7/1 at 8:15pm (2) vs St. John Lutheran II
- Thurs. 7/8 at 8:15pm (1) vs St. John Lutheran I
- Mon. 7/15 at 8:15pm (1) vs Big Tree Wesleyan
- Thurs. 7/22 at 6:30pm (TBD) vs Position / TBD



**Men’s Retreat at Pioneer
May 31-June 2**

All men are invited to the 2024 LLL Men’s Retreat at Pioneer on the Lake in Angola, NY. The retreat begins May 31, 2024 at 5pm with dinner and ends June 2, 2024 with brunch at 10am. The speaker will be Rev. Barry J. Keurulainen with the topic: “Living Your Life Rooted in Prayer”. This retreat is sponsored by Eastern District Lutheran Hour Ministries and Eastern District LLL. If you have any questions, please contact George Havens (georgehavens765@gmail.com or 585-223-3445).

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 / (716) 336-1767 / pastornyck@gmail.com
674-5353 / principal@trinitywny.org
608-8907 / mwillert@trinitywny.org
674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net
674-5353 / jbabcock@trinitywny.org