

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER 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
(Effective 9/8/24)

*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



***“In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help.
From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.”***

Psalm 18:6

Felt anxious lately? I don't blame you. School starting back up again, a presidential election, the start of the Bills season! It all feels like too much sometimes. The psalmist who wrote psalm 18 truly captures the sense of anxiety as he writes verse 6 (seen above). The word we translate as “distress” is *Zarar*. But if we were to translate that word literally it would be “narrow space.” Anxiety tightens: we think in a narrow minded way, or behave in predictable patterns.

It brings to my mind the scene from Star Wars: A New Hope where they escape from the detention level only to find themselves trapped in a garbage chute. The walls slowly start closing in, narrowing, and threatening to squish them. Thankfully they are rescued by the quick actions of R2-D2 and the day is saved.

The antonym of *Zarar* is *Yasha*, translated as “open space.” In fact, *Yasha* can also be translated as “salvation” (it is also the base word for *Yeshua* or Jesus). “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?” (Psalm 27:1). Because of the salvation we have in Jesus we feel less anxious, we feel relaxed because there's more room to breathe. People feel less expansive and joyful when they have open space or freedom.

So as your days tighten up and your schedules fill up trust in the freeing, opening up power of Jesus for your life and your schedule. God is with you and he is here to save!

God's Blessings,

Pastor Nyck Greig



Effective 9/7/24 & 9/8/24:

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)

Congregation Meetings

Call Meeting

Sunday, August 25
After the 9:30am Service

A Call Meeting for a new Director of Youth & Family Ministry will be held following the 9:30am worship service on August 25. A job description for this position, which includes a brief bio on candidate Mr. Nathan Thomack, is on the table in the narthex.

Voters Meeting

Sunday, September 15
After the 10:30am Service

There will be a Voters Meeting on Sunday, Sept. 15 following the 10:30am worship service. On the agenda will be the 2024-2025 church / school budget and election of open executive board positions. All confirmed members are eligible and encouraged to vote.



Sunday School News

Our Sunday School program will begin **September 15th 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 or (716) 982-2586 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!



Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

“Get Out of Your Head” by Jeanie Allen

Are your thoughts holding you captive? Jennie Allen knows what it's like to swirl in a spiral of destructive thoughts, such as I'll never be good enough. Other people have better lives than I do. God couldn't really love me. But Jennie also knows we don't have to stay stuck in toxic thinking patterns. As she discovered, God built a way for us to escape that downward spiral. Freedom comes when we refuse to be victims to our thoughts and realize we have already been equipped with power from God to fight and win the war for our minds.

In *Get Out of Your Head*, Jennie takes groups on a study in Philippians, inspiring and equipping us to transform our emotions, our outlook, and even our circumstances by taking control of our thoughts. When we submit our minds to Christ, the promises and goodness of God flood our lives in remarkable ways. It starts in your head. And from there, the possibilities are endless. **Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15am starting on September 15th!**

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

“Jonah” with David Platt

Jonah: When God's Purpose Isn't in Your Plans. The book of Jonah is best known for Jonah's run-in with a large fish. But there's much more to the story than Jonah's three-day stay in a fish's belly. It's about God's grace, compassion, and love—even toward wayward people—and his commitment to spreading his message around the world.

In this six-session series, pastor David Platt shows us that God is determined to spread his Word to all the nations of the earth and use his people to do it. The book of Jonah shows us that God desires to transform the hearts of his followers, making them more like him as they carry out his purposes in the world. Join David and get a renewed sense of what it means to orient your life around the mission of God. **This study will begin on Wednesday, September 11 and will meet from 10:30am to around 11:30am each session.**

Ladies Bible Study

The Monday Evening Ladies Bible Study group will meet on **Monday, Sept. 16 at 7:00pm** in the church narthex. This study meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. All women past high school age are welcome to attend!

Trinity School News

Trinity School Meat Raffle September 14, 2024

Our annual meat raffle will be on September 14 at 5:00pm /1st spin at 6:00pm. Tickets are \$10 presale and \$15 at the door - individual tickets or tables of 8. You can call the school office to order or scan the QR code. Please type your name and # of tickets in the comment box. Tickets include 2 drinks and a door prize entry. 21 and over only. Proceeds go to financial aid and program costs. There will also be a sign up sheet in the narthex to buy raffle tickets and to volunteer.



We will also need volunteers for this event! If you are able to volunteer, please email Sarah Gabel (principal@trinitywny.org).

Volunteers Needed

Do you have a heart for service? Then we need you! The school is in need of volunteers in the kitchen and classrooms. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Katie Willert and Sarah Gabel at principal@trinitywny.org.

Thank you VOLUNTEERS!

We owe a big THANKS to the MANY volunteers that have helped get Trinity ready for the 2024/2025 school year. This year involved a longer-than-usual list of hefty jobs! From adding a student services room to re-doing the church basement bathrooms, the tasks just kept on coming. We would never be able to get the school ready without our awesome volunteers! Here is a list of everyone that helped this summer:

Kevin and Colleen Kot, Mike McKernan, the Gabel family, John Clark, the Lafferty family, Miriam and Jon Lafferty, Mike Sirgey, the Harris family, Gary Haas, Bob and Joan Kopra, Linda and Gerry Meissner, the Eising family, Jonas Herdlein, Chris and Ashley Kopra, Pastor Nyck, Bob Mathewson, Mike Webster, Tom Sirgey, the Anderson family, Ron and Carolyn Habedank, Luci Zarbo, Mark and Katie Willert, Greg Kopra, Roger and Denise Meissner, Ron Borsch, Bryan Hansen

And a HUGE THANK YOU to **Dave and Jane Sirgey** who were at school working hard almost every day this summer. "Thank you" just seems too inadequate! The students and staff are blessed by your servant hearts and love for Jesus.



Prayer Calendar

We are starting our 173rd school year. Will you please help us cover this year with prayer? In the narthex is a calendar showing all the days of the school year. Please sign up for a day or two, and say a quick prayer for Trinity School on that day. Just add the date to the calendar on your phone for a reminder. Thanks!

Trinity's 175th Anniversary Events



Picnic

Potluck Picnic
September 22, 2024
After the Sunday 10:30am service

Our church is having a special anniversary! It will be **175 years** since the founding fathers of our church signed the constitution establishing Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. On **Sunday, September 22** we will be holding a **Potluck Picnic** following the 10:30am service and backpack blessing. We will be inviting all the school families to join us. More celebrations to come!

Please Send Photos

If you were a student of Trinity School, or if you or a family member was or is in the military service, *please send a photo of them from "then" and "now"* to Kherman@aol.com or Janb21956@icloud.com. The 175th Committee is hoping to put together a display to celebrate those members.



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 on September 12. Please contact Ellen Makey (961-8378 or esmky23@yahoo.com) for more information.

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 8th.



Trinity Fall Campfire
September 6, 2024 at 6:30pm

Here's a chance to hang with your family as well as get to know some others from Trinity church and school! An awesome way to start off the new school year. Dinner will not be served this year. Please bring your own snacks, drinks and lawn chairs or blanket to sit on.

"Called To Be" Verse for September:

"Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life." *Jude 21*



Car Wash & Hotdog Lunch
Fundraiser

Sunday, September 8, 2024 12pm-3pm

Our youth will be holding a car wash and hot dog lunch fundraiser at Trinity on September 8 from 12pm-3pm. Proceeds will go towards the registration fees for the youth attending the 2025 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Church Greeters

We are looking for 1 or 2 more people to be a greeter once per month at our Sunday worship services starting this fall. Greeters 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.



Altar Flowers

There are still openings for flower donations for the remainder of 2024. 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.

YOUTH SCOOP

Youth Night

What a great time it was for the Jr. High at the Webster's house on August 11! With about 18 kids, there was lots of swimming, soccer, football, snacks, and a devotion about sharing with others about God. We'd been planning this event since school was out, however, it was delayed several times due to rain! But finally we got it in. Our next one will be tonight (at the time of this writing - August 21) at the Kot's house which will include swimming, hot tub, games, a devotion time and a taco bar! Thanks you Kots!!

Next Youth Night will be **Wednesday, September 11 from 6:30pm-8:00pm**. We'll be outside if the weather is nice.



“You Want Me To Do What?”

By Mark Willert

Most people (including myself!) are naturally shy and reserved in talking about God or inviting people to church. But there are some ways I've found that can make it a lot easier. No, it's not in a book I've read, but it's some things God has helped me see that really don't have to be way out of my comfort zone. I do roto-tilling for people's gardens as a side gig which gets me out of the church and school bubble, and over the years I've used that to connect with people. So much now that I have a natural passion for it and want to share that passion. Yes, it still takes a step forward but no one has looked at me like I'm crazy and I feel mostly comfortable. And God has blessed it.

I'm going to be starting a little group this fall to see who may join me. I think we'll gather a few times a month according to people's schedules and see how God leads. I do have some other good real down-to-earth resources I recently came across to share that will help encourage us in our efforts.

Two verse phrases that stand out to me that I like to think of together are from Matthew and Acts... "Go! Make disciples of all nations... and you will be my witnesses... to the very ends of the earth." These words really inspire me. Also, I want to see others in heaven. I figure if Jesus loved them so much that he would rather die than be without them, I should care about them too.

Join me on this journey! I don't think you'll regret it and I have to say that God will bless it. How couldn't He? Get in touch with me and let's shoot for October to get started! (716) 601-8570 / mwillert@trinitywny.org .

Trinity Lutheran Church's History (Part 6)

Interesting September History:

At the **September 2009** Council Meeting, it was advised that NYS no longer accepts just mowing the lawn as marking a property line. A workday was scheduled for September 26 for putting in a walking trail, which not only marks the property line but also serves as an outreach to the neighborhood.

On **September 12, 2015**, the West Seneca Historical Society sponsored a commemorative event for the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War here on the cemetery and church campus. A focus was on the grave of Private Christian Ulrich (DOD 1906). He was a relative of the Horn family. Nancy Hope, a Trinity member and former teacher at our school, was instrumental in planning the celebration.

Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

Stephen Ministers are there:

- ... *after* the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ... *after* the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... *after* the doctor says, “I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do.”
- ... *after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- ... *after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ... *after* the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ... *after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.

www.stephenministries.org

Happy Birthday

9/2	Jessica Ecker Benjamin Besch	9/10	Ron Hope	9/22	Ava Bozek
9/4	Amy Lipinoga	9/11	Megan Diehl	9/23	Lori Napieralski
9/5	Marjorie Doan Mark Willert Faith Flattery	9/12	Michael McKernan	9/24	Megan Manzo
9/7	Travis Ecker Jennifer Sherer Brielle McKernan	9/13	Sarah Gabel	9/26	Robert Brown
9/8	Roger McClellan Jack English	9/15	Robert Stefanik Steven Ringle	9/27	Alan Kerner Rachel Antes
9/9	Kim McLaughlin	9/16	Lisa Lopez Katie Wackowski	9/28	Neil Schueler
		9/20	Wesley Pletscher Mark Zawadzki	9/29	Jeremy Heckman
		9/21	David Lein Deborah Kerner	9/30	Chuck Stevens Nora Eising Marcus Wrobel Caleb Eising

Happy Anniversary

9/5	Jeremy & Shannon Heckman	9/17	Mark & Michele Ganschow Gregory & Megan Diehl PJ & Kim Colson
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	9/28	Roger & Laurel McClellan
9/15	Steven & Maria Wrobel		

Members' Email Addresses

Does Trinity have your email address? Not sure? If you haven't been receiving Trinity's monthly newsletter via email, 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) with your email address or you can write your name and email on a piece of paper and place it in the Church Office mailbox in the coatroom.



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.



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.

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

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