

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

MARCH 2025

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
Church Office E-mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm

Sunday @ 10:30 am

“Savior, Servant, Friend”

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Lent provides us with a perfect chance to explore the extraordinary attributes of our Savior, Servant, and Friend, Jesus. It is a time to marvel at the many blessings we received when he laid down his life for us on the cross and then rose victorious from the grave. Each service in this series dwells upon a different aspect of our greatest Friend and what each characteristic means to us as his followers and friends.

Ash Wednesday • Forgiver

Jesus forgives us again and again, even though we do not deserve it.

Week 1 • Healer

Jesus heals us when we are wounded and weakened by sin.

Week 2 • Listener

Jesus listens to us like no other and answers our questions and concerns.

Week 3 • Encourager

Jesus encourages us in our faith to live our life for him.

Week 4 • Protector

Jesus protects us from the devil and from danger and keeps us safe in him.

Week 5 • Comforter

Jesus comforts us in struggles and sorrows that we might find rest in his promises.

Palm Sunday • King

Jesus enters Jerusalem as our king, ready to overthrow sin, death and the devil.

Maundy Thursday • Servant

Jesus is a servant to his friends when he washes their feet and serves them his body and blood in bread and wine.

Good Friday • Savior

Jesus is our Savior, who died on the cross to reunite us with God and one another.

Easter Sunday • Redeemer

Jesus is our Redeemer, who frees us to live a new life.

We hope that you are able to join us throughout the Lenten season as we contemplate the character of Jesus our Lord and Savior.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Nyck Greig



Ash Wednesday Services

March 5th ~ 11:00am & 7:00pm

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Starting in March we will be engaging in a companion Bible study to our Lenten worship which will help us to dive into the character of Jesus. Join us Sunday mornings in the conference room from 9:15am-10:15am for conversation and fellowship around God's Word.

Wednesday Bible Study on the Book of Job

Why does God permit suffering? It's a question all of us have asked, and the book of Job points us toward the answer. Job's questions are our questions, and we can identify with his frustration, disappointment, and confusion in the midst of trials. In this series, Dr. Derek W.H. Thomas walks us through the book of Job and considers what the Bible says about our darkest moments. He addresses the difficult question of the relationship between God's sovereignty and the existence of evil, sin, and suffering. In the end, as Dr. Thomas shows, it's in our trials that we learn to trust God and say with Job, "Blessed be the name of the Lord." Join us for this study on **Wednesdays from 10:30am-12:00pm beginning on February 26.**



Daylight Savings Time begins
Sunday, March 9th at 2:00am.
Remember to turn your clocks ahead!

Outreach Meeting

There will be an Outreach Committee meeting on **Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00pm** in the church narthex. New members are always welcome! Come and see what Outreach is all about!

New Group Starting - Reaching Out

It's going so well we're starting a new group! Reaching Out has two goals: Reach out of our comfort zone to have God conversations with people around us, as well as become inviters to our churches.

The six people in the first group meeting since October have been certainly meeting our goals and continue gathering every other week to share, learn and encourage each other. Four are Trinity members and two are not, so feel free to bring a friend along with you. Contact Mark Willert 601-8570 if you are interested. Our new group will start in March, and date and time will be whatever suits the group

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Trinity will hold it's semi-annual Congregation Meeting on Sunday, March 30 following the 10:30am service. All members are encouraged to attend.

Trinity School's Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Basket Raffle

Saturday, March 15, 2025

11:00am-2:00pm

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



Trinity Christian School's Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle is coming up! Tickets can be purchased from any Trinity student, the school office (716-674-5353), or there is a self-serve box in the church narthex. Your continued support of this event is greatly appreciated!

Donations Needed: A list of items needed for this event is on the posted board in the church narthex. Please consider donating items. Monetary donations and gift cards / baskets for the raffle would also be appreciated. Any donations - food or raffle items - may be dropped off at the school office.

Trinity Christian School News

National Lutheran Schools Week

Here are some highlights from our celebrations at the end of January:

1. The students created crafts and baked goods to sell during the week. Over \$500 was raised to support Lutheran Disaster Relief.
2. The Zoomobile came and taught students about animals from each continent.
3. Cards were made for local elderly residents
4. Students came to church to participate in worship.



Basketball Season

Our basketball season has come to a close. All three of our teams had great seasons! The girls varsity team played a close championship game, to come in 2nd in the league. Congrats to all of our teams on a fantastic season, and a big thanks to our coaches: JV boys - Paul Antonucci and Levi Haas, JV girls - Pastor Nyck Greig and Kylene Holmes, Varsity Girls - Bryana Haas and Dawn Barnas, Varsity Boys (at the Hub) Chris Kopra and John Mills. Next up - volleyball!!!!



Upcoming Parent Night

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 6:30pm-7:30pm

Mrs. Gabel and Mrs. Willert will be leading a parent night on April 2 from 6:30pm-7:30pm. The topic of the night will be the book, The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt. Here is a brief summary of the book:

In *The Anxious Generation*, Jonathan Haidt explores how rising anxiety and mental health issues among young people in the digital age are linked to the pervasive influence of social media and cultural changes. He argues that these factors have contributed to a generation that is increasingly isolated, fearful, and less resilient, calling for a reevaluation of how we support youth in navigating their challenges.

Please consider joining us! You do NOT need to have read the book to participate. Free babysitting available.

Trinity's 175th Anniversary Committee Meeting

There will be a meeting of the 175th Anniversary Committee on **Friday, March 14 at 2:30pm** to discuss the organ concert scheduled for May 18, a possible Potluck Picnic in June, and any other ideas. Anyone interested in helping to plan or participate is welcome to attend the meeting. You can contact Linda Meissner if you would like updates emailed to you.

West Seneca Community of Churches Lenten Journey "Renewed By Hope"

Join your neighbors on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm this Lenten season for prayer and guest preachers from the West Seneca Community of Churches. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit Seneca Street Mission - CDC and the Crop Walk.

March 12 at Ebenezer UCC ~ speaker Rev. Rebecca Allis from Agape UMC

March 19 at St. John Lutheran (Clinton St) ~ speaker Rev. Gary Gossel from Ebenezer UCC

March 26 at St. David's Episcopal ~ speaker Father Sam Giangreco from Queen of Heaven RC

April 6 at Queen of Heaven ~ speaker Rev. Claudia Schedas from St. David's Episcopal



Easter Plants

Trinity will once again be ordering plants to be placed in the church for Easter Sunday. Plants can be taken home following the 10:30am Easter Sunday service or can be picked up from the church the following week Monday-Thursday from 8am-3pm. Order forms can be found in upcoming bulletins. **Order deadline will be Sunday, March 23.** Forms, along with payment, should be placed in the church office mailbox in the coatroom (cash or checks made to "Trinity Lutheran Church"). Thank you for helping to beautify our church for Easter!

Shut-In Members

If you know if 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!

Emergency Contacts

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.

URGENT

Urgent Immediate Need: Head of Property and Grounds

After several years of service, Linda Meissner has stepped down as Head of Property and Grounds. We need someone to take over this important ministry position. Please contact Brian Makey at (716) 923-3880 if you have any questions and are able and willing to take on this position.



Altar Flowers Needed

Flowers are needed for March and April! Sign up for your special occasion today! Flowers are \$10 per arrangement and you get to take them home after the Sunday service (or pick them up on Mondays from 8am-3pm)! We ask that 2 families sign up for each week. A sign-up chart is on the church coatroom bulletin board. Place payment (cash or checks payable to: "**Trinity Lutheran Church**") in the Church Office mailbox.

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

World Day of Prayer Friday, March 7, 2025

Come join your neighbors for a prayer service at 2pm at:
AGAPE United Methodist Church
2846 Seneca Street, Buffalo 14210



Easter Egg Hunt Help Needed

Outreach will be hosting the annual Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 13! If you would like to help out with the event by filling eggs, setting up the hay/eggs, passing out snacks on the day of the event, clean up, or anything else, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex, or let a member of Outreach know (Joan Kopra, Jan Bullock, Chris Kopra, Rachel Eising, Lynnae Kwilas). Thank you!

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. Contact the church office, Mark Blajszczak or Roger Meissner for information on procedures and permission.

YOUTH SCOOP

March Youth Nights

- March 5: **NO Youth Night** (Ash Wednesday)
- March 12: **Skate Night at West Seneca Ice Rink**
5:45pm-7:30pm (cost is \$5.00 per person
+ \$5.00 skate rental if needed)
- March 19: **Balloon Games** 6:30pm-8:00pm
- March 26: **Battle Tanks** 6:30pm-8:00pm



Snurball



Parent's Night Out Babysitting

March 22 5:00pm-9:30pm

Parents: The Youth Group will be holding a Parent's Night Out Babysitting fundraiser on March 22 in the school gym. There will be food and a movie at this event. The cost is \$25 per child. Register your child today at: <https://forms.gle/1zujonyfwn6Tj3WB9> . Proceeds will support the youth going to the National Youth Gathering.

Youth: If you are volunteering at this fundraiser, please fill out the below form:

<https://forms.gle/N7eJJBzKKwh7Lu6PA>

March High Point (High School) Nights

Thurs., March 13: Activity TBD 6:00pm-8:00pm

Friday, March 28: Movie Night 6:00pm-8:00pm

Superbowl Sub Sandwich Fundraiser Update

Thank you to everyone who supported Trinity's Youth Group in the Super Bowl Sub Fundraiser! We made 67 sub sandwiches and were able to raise \$686.52. Those proceeds go to benefit the five students and two adults attending the National Youth Gathering. Please continue to support the youth in your prayers. Thank You!



Anything and Everything Youth Related

Any information for Trinity's youth ministry will be on this page.



Youth Director: Nathan Thomack

youthministry@trinitywny.org

(715) 938-6225

YOU ARE INVITED TO A **FREE**....

Easter Egg Hunt

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church & School
146 Reserve Rd. West Seneca NY 14224

When: Sunday April 13th 2025

Time: Starts promptly at 12 pm
(lasts until all eggs are found)

Ages: Walking – 10 years old

Dress for the weather as this is an outdoor event

Bring your own bag or basket to collect eggs





You Can Play an Important Role in Our Stephen Ministry

. . . Because you may know of a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who is going through a difficult time and who could benefit from the focused care, encouragement, and support of a Stephen Minister.

What Do Stephen Ministers Do?

Stephen Ministers are members of Trinity who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people who are facing a crisis or simply going through a difficult time. A Stephen Minister meets with his or her care receiver once a week for around an hour to listen, care, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual encouragement. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers, and women are matched with female Stephen Ministers.

Christ Caring for People through People

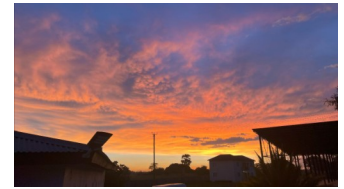
That's the motto of Stephen Ministry. The Stephen Minister's role is to bring God's love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis. What do Stephen Ministers do? They listen, care, support, encourage, and pray with and for a person who is hurting. And in the midst of this confidential, one-to-one, caring relationship, God's healing love comes pouring through.

If someone you know is facing a crisis—large or small—and could benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister, talk to one of our **Stephen Leaders**: Don Meissner (479-4862), Kevin Kot (445-5923) or Colleen Kot(445-5922)

**Our Stephen Ministers are ready
to care for you!**



Hope Willert's January Ministry Update: Starting School



Hello, everyone!

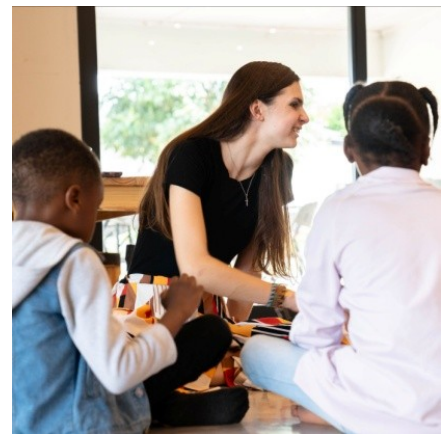
I am so excited to be sending out my first monthly update. I can't believe I have already been back in Zambia for almost a month! Time has flown by.

School & Teaching Update

I have been a Teacher's Assistant in Poetice's Lower Primary class for three weeks now and it has been so good to be back with my kiddos! We have 13 kids in Lower Primary this year and 12 kids in our Preschool. It is so exciting to see our school growing bit by bit each year. Last year we only had 6 in Lower Primary.

These three weeks have really been a journey for me, as I went to college to learn how to teach high schoolers, not 6-9 year olds. However, I have discovered something about myself during this time - I realized that I love these kids more than I have ever loved any other kids before. Words can't even explain how much I love these kids. I am not joking when I say that I am so excited to see them every single morning when they come to school, and it's a treat when I get to see them outside of class. When they walk through the gate onto Poetice property in the morning, they often come running over with big smiles on their faces, and some of them even jump into my arms and give me the biggest hug ever. They look up at me with their big brown eyes and their big smiles (or their blue eyes - we have two red-heads in Lower Primary!) and my heart just melts. I am *so* privileged to be able to see these kids, love on them, and teach them every day.

Don't get me wrong, it is not always sunshine and rainbows - I have had my fair share of children screaming or being frustrated as I try to think of how in the world I am supposed to make a 7-year-old care about math, but I am blown away by the heart that God has given me for each of these children. I know deep down in my bones that this is where God wants me right now, and I am so excited to see what else God will do in and through me if He has already done this much in three weeks!



Life Update

It has been so good to be back in Zambia with my Poetice family! In four days Jess and Jessa, the two girls who I will be living with, are arriving, which is super exciting - I missed them so much. We have a house that the three of us are renting; we are in the process of figuring out when we will move in, which all depends on how much we have all fundraised and when we can afford to buy everything that we need for the house including solar, furnishing, and appliances. I have raised part of the amount that I need in order to be able to afford my share of these items, but I am still fundraising to be able to afford my full share.

It is both so exciting and overwhelming to be starting a life in another country - thank you for all that each of you have done and will continue to do to support me!

(Continued on page 9)

Happy Birthday

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|------|---|------|---|------|-------------------------------|
| 3/1 | Carolyn Habedank Beverly Weiss Abigail Lafferty | 3/7 | Micah Anderson | 3/15 | John McCoy | 3/27 | Maryanne Ringle |
| 3/2 | Nevin Hope | 3/9 | Carolyn Minko Michael Monahan Mary Harris | 3/16 | Gigi LoGalbo Patricia Peterson | 3/29 | Lynn Metzler Karen Tedesco |
| 3/3 | Ryan Hamann | 3/12 | Brady Manzo Gavin Gabel | 3/17 | Emma Tripi | 3/30 | Kimberly Thomack |
| 3/4 | Brian Makey Elliana Colson | 3/14 | Judeen Babcock Rhonda Carlone PJ Colson | 3/24 | Peter Colson Marian Post Debra Wrobel | 3/31 | Dan Sullivan |
| 3/5 | Erin Kotowski | 3/15 | Roger Meissner | 3/25 | Lars Osberg | | |
| 3/7 | Hillary Ferrara Amanda English | | | 3/26 | Bill Haas | | |

Happy Anniversary

| | | | |
|------|---------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 3/30 | Robert & Mary Ann Moeller | 3/31 | Jon & Miriam Lafferty |
|------|---------------------------|------|-----------------------|

Hope Willert’s January Ministry Update *(Continued from page 8)*

Going Forward

A few things...

- I am going to try to send out my monthly update the first weekend of every month, which will cover my ministry and life from the previous month. As you know, I am new to all of this, so stick with me as we figure this out together!
- Sadly, I am not able to post pictures with my students' beautiful faces in them. I will try my best to capture the joy and beauty of my kiddos in pictures that don't include their faces, but it will be tricky. Just know that I am trying my best to show you all who my kiddos are in the pictures that I take. :)

Prayer Requests

I will include a few prayer requests at the bottom of each of my updates so that you are able to support me through specific prayers.

- That the Lord would provide me with the energy and patience that I need every day for school. I have been struggling with having enough patience with my kiddos as well as feeling absolutely exhausted every day at school.
- That the Lord would provide as Jess, Jessa, and I try to get everything figured out to move into our house - there are a lot of moving parts and we are all a bit stressed.
- Thanks that God has me living this amazing life and prayers that I would be able to soak in each moment and live it to the fullest.

Thank you all so much for your prayers and support! None of this would be possible without each of you. Feel free to email me if you have any questions, comments, or just want to chat.

Blessings,
Hope Willert
hope@poetice.org

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 Director | Nathan Thomack | (715) 938-6225 / youthministry@trinitywny.org |
| Church Office Administrator | Teresa Lynch | 674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net |
| School Office Administrator | Judeen Babcock | 674-5353 / jbabcock@trinitywny.org |