



Trinity Old Lutheran Church is a member of the Niagara Frontier Conference of the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

New!

1st Peter Bible Study...

...this letter exhibits a triumphant conviction of faith.



Pastor Fred will lead a six-week Bible Study on Friday mornings from **10:00 AM to 11:30 AM at Augustana Lutheran Church**. The class will meet on **September 10, 17, 24** and October 8, 15, 22.

A Zoom invite will be offered for those who can't make it in person. Hope to see you there!

Table Talk

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM



Please join us for this bi-weekly discussion group—beginning Wednesday, September 8! We will use Charlie Schmidtke's new book, "My I's," as a resource for

the topics of discussion (including love and respect for the world, family and friends). However, reading the book is not a pre-requisite for attending. This class will be held in the evening so that those who might work during the day will be able to attend.

Topics for the first two discussions are listed below.

- September 8: Discovering our racial prejudices
- September 22: Examining religious intolerance



Sunday, September 12: Designated as ELCA's "God's work. Our hands." Sunday

In our baptismal journey we serve our neighbors daily, but on this day we celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor — in partnership with local congregations and ministries, social service organizations and community residents.

From: *ELCA Prayer Ventures, September 2021*
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Adult Ed. 2021-2022 Charlie Schmidtke

Mondays, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Classes will be held in the Fireside Room with a Zoom option for those who do not want to attend in person. Please be sure to let Charlie know that you want to be included in the Zoom invitation.



World Religions:

Hinduism	September 13, 20
Buddhism	October 4, 11, 18
Daoism	November 8, 15, 22

Abrahamic Religions:

Judaism	January 10, 17
Islam	January 31, February 7, 14, 21
"Other" Christianities	March 28

Other Traditions

Native American	April 4, 11
Tribal African and Aboriginal	April 25, May 2, 9

Chiavetta's BBQ Chicken Dinner & Theme Basket Raffle

Sunday, September 12, Noon to 3:00 PM

Dinners are Take-Out Only

Dinners: \$12.00 (include two salads, roll and butter)

**Volunteers are needed to help with the dinner—
if you can help, please contact Earlene!**



Theme Basket Raffle...

...will be held in the Fellowship Hall from Noon until 3:00 PM. All winners will be called on the phone, and they can then arrange to pick up their basket(s).

Your baskets or donations need to be brought to church by Sunday, September 5. Thanks!

Debbie



Items for the Worship Bulletins

All items for the Sunday bulletins should be submitted to the church office by **9:00 AM on Wednesdays**. Thank you!



September 2021

In-church Worship Guidelines

Based on new CDC and Upstate New York Synod recommendations, we are strongly urging everyone to please wear a mask indoors and continue to socially distance.

We understand that getting vaccinated and wearing masks are personal decisions, and we ask everyone to be respectful and nonjudgmental about the decisions of others.

Prayer for Trinity Old Lutheran and Augustana Lutheran Churches

Inspire us to be good stewards of the resources you have entrusted to us. Teach us to give freely of ourselves and to offer our lives in service. Show us your will for the ministries at Augustana and Trinity Old Lutheran. Strengthen our relationships in this community as we serve our neighbors in love.

The Prayer Chain is available to anyone having a prayer request. Please contact the church office with your request (836-4868).



ELCA Prayer Ventures, September 2021: People of Haiti

Pray for the people of Haiti, who endure poverty, political turmoil and the long, difficult recovery from their 2010 and 2021 earthquakes. Ask God to build up their faith, hope, courage and strength in the face of daunting difficulties, and resolve to support them with prayers, advocacy and generosity.

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ELCA Hurricane Response



As needs of those affected are assessed, please pray for all who have been impacted by Hurricane Ida.

What you can do now? Pray

Please pray for the communities impacted by Hurricane Ida. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those who mourn and strength to those working diligently to rescue survivors.

From: ELCA Website (elca.org)

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"Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer."

Romans 12:12

Trinity Tidings

Published monthly by
Trinity Old Lutheran Church
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Karen Mulartrick and Jan Sherman, Co-Editors



August Mission Thank You

Thank you to all who supported Family Promise of Western New York (FPWNY)! Your donations will help the organization to continue providing emergency care and services for homeless families in Buffalo and focusing on keeping families together during difficult circumstances.

September Mission

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) will be the mission focus. The organization has been welcoming migrants and refugees from around the world for over 80 years (more than 500,000 individuals). LIRS remains in urgent need for donations that would provide the Afghan Allies with food, housing assistance, clothing and other basic needs.



From the LIRS website at: www.lirs.org

"Driven by our faith and our nation's values, LIRS works to protect and embrace refugees, migrants, and children seeking a new life in America. Having carried out this work for more than eight decades, LIRS and our national network of service providers are uniquely equipped to provide holistic, trauma-informed, and age-appropriate care to the vulnerable individuals we serve."

Services include: Refugee Resettlement; Foster Care; Family Reunification; Empowering New Americans; Welcoming Immigrants; and Engaging Communities.

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Please use the marked envelopes located in the narthex, or mail your donations to the church office (please indicate on your check that it is designated for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service).

Adult Retreat, October 1, 2 and 3 Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center



This Year's Theme is: "Love in the Time of COVID: What have we learned about ourselves and others."

You're welcome to join us as we gather in fellowship, laughter and prayer. The Retreat is open to all who are 18+ years of age and have been vaccinated. Please use the sign-up sheet that is posted on the main bulletin board! If you worship with us on Zoom, please call or email the church office and we will add your name to the list.

Retreat Coordinator: Charlie Schmidtke



Hearts and Hands: Faith in Action

Excerpts from: *Neighborly Pages*, Summer 2021 Highlights.
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From: Aaron Carlson, Executive Director

"Hearts and Hands is about neighbors and fostering a community of folks who have a vision of seeing a neighborhood where neighbors come together to foster community connections, live independent and healthy lives. We facilitate this by introducing neighborly volunteers with other neighbors to provide transportation, in-home supports, and caregiver respite.

I am absolutely thrilled to announce that our volunteers are now able to deliver in-home services and respite services again ... However, we are now resuming these services if both parties consent and are vaccinated."

Hearts and Hands (HNN) continues to serve Amherst, Clarence, North Tonawanda, and the Southern Tier and is now welcoming all residents of Erie County and Eastern Niagara County.

- In-Home Support includes: Food Preparation, Laundry, Coffee and Conversation, Housekeeping, Minor Home Repairs
- Caregiver Respite Services include: Canine Caregivers, Coffee and Conversation, Friendly Visiting at Home, Sharing a Meal

For more program details and information (and how to become a volunteer), please visit the HNN website at www.hnncares.org/services or call 716-406-8311.

TOL is a part of this community of volunteers—Neighbor Helping Neighbor Volunteer Program!

ELCA Prayers for Afghanistan



Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own, look with mercy on the Afghan people who are fleeing from danger, persecution, violence, and seeking the safety of home.

Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts; and guide the leaders of this nation and nations of the world toward that day when all will rejoice in your kingdom of justice and peace.

From: *ELCA Website (elca.org)*

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Local Food Pantries



Thank you for your continued support of the pantries at Good Shepherd LC in Tonawanda and Community of Good Neighbors (CGN) in Buffalo. Please place your donations in the shopping cart in the narthex or leave your items in the marked boxes at the elevator entrance during the week (Tuesdays – Fridays, 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon).

Suggested items include:

- Canned goods (vegetables, soups, tuna, etc.)
- Jar items (spaghetti sauce, peanut butter)
- Boxes of pantry staples (cereal, pasta)
- Paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, etc.)
- Feminine hygiene products
- Gift cards (Tops or Wegmans stores) can be taken to the church office.

TOL Book Sale Continues

Please stop in and browse after worship services or anytime you visit TOL!

The sale continues in Room 103 (the first room in the hallway near the main bulletin board). There's a large



selection of books, puzzles, magazines, CDs—something for every age! New items continue to be added (feel free to bring in your items to add to our inventory).

Ways to Give to TOL

Online: [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) is available. For instructions, please visit the church website at

www.trinityoldlutheran.com or download the

Tithe.ly app to your smartphone. Please call the church office if you have any questions (836-4868).

Giving by mail: Please send your checks to the church and to the attention of the Financial Secretary.





ELCA Prayer Ventures—September 2021

Pray for the relief and resilience of people and communities impacted by wildfires, flooding, severe storms and extreme heat.

Ask the Spirit's help in responding to the diverse needs, circumstances and challenges of our neighbors, and in opening our hearts and minds to those who are forgotten, neglected, ignored or unfamiliar to us.

Labor Day On this day, we recognize, rejoice in and pray for the work people do to sustain their families and benefit their communities and society. Pray that all will receive fair wages, work in safe environments, be renewed through times of sabbath and experience fulfillment in their labor. Pray for the success of all those seeking employment and for the well-being of people unable to work.

Pray that we will not act with prejudice, indifference or injustice, or shy away from the complexities of service and ministry, with our neighbors who suffer poverty, hunger or homelessness. Ask God to help us concentrate on our neighbors in need, acting with boldness, generosity, humility and concern for the dignity of those we serve.

These days are filled with challenges and distractions. Pray that we will not forget the growing number of people victimized by gun violence and the trauma and fear it spreads through families and communities. Ask God to strengthen our resolve and inspire our advocacy to prevent gun violence, care for those who suffer, and bring hope and change to our nation.

Pray that we will walk in the presence of God, trusting that God is gracious, righteous and merciful, hearing our every prayer.

Pray that the Spirit will stir our compassion and commitment and that God will energize us to empower, support, welcome and advocate for people driven from their homes by conflict, persecution, poverty and climate change.

Pray that, when we encounter problems in life or when everything seems to be working against us, we will trust in God to uphold our lives and deliver us — sometimes in ways we neither seek nor expect.

Pray for the well-being of health care workers who continue to labor long and hard in responding to the pandemic, preventing the spread of COVID and its variants, and equitably treating the ill and infected.

Give thanks and praise to God that, as siblings in Christ, we have a vast faith community that is caring and supportive, equips and encourages us to serve and to share the good news, and strives to do God's work in the world together

with its ministry companions and partners — locally and globally.

Give thanks for the mysteries of creation and the universe that stir our wonder, inspiration, gratitude and desire to explore. Praise God!

Pray for our presiding bishop, secretary and 65 synod bishops as they gather for the Conference of Bishops to worship, study, share insights, conduct church business, provide support for rostered ministers and help identify, invite, equip and support new leaders in the church.

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Book Signing and Fellowship

Trinity Old Lutheran Church
3445 Sheridan Dr. (near Sweet Home Rd.)
Amherst, NY

Saturday, September 11
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Author Readings:

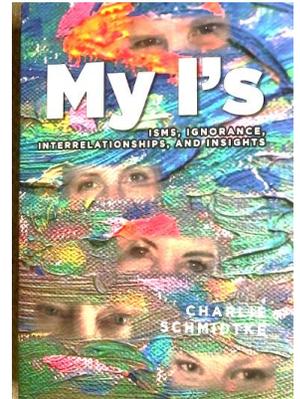
10:15

11:15

12:15

Tea, coffee,
cookies available

Books available for
purchase



Charlie Schmidtke's book is a memoir which includes his reflections on life, cast within the topics of race, religion, gender, generations, grief, friends, family, love and respect.

Come and join us for some relaxation and conversation.

Feel free to come anytime and stay as long as you wish.

Charlie will sign books you already have.

Introduction: Charlie lives in Tonawanda with his wife of 53 years. They have four daughters and eight grandchildren. He is a Professor Emeritus from Canisius College, having spent 35 years there in administration and as a multidisciplinary faculty member.

The eyes on the cover are those of his wife and daughters who were his guide and inspiration for addressing the Isms and ignorance in his life.