

Trinity Tidings

The Mission of Trinity Old Lutheran Church is
Proclamation, Fellowship and Service
in the name of Jesus.



The Reverend Frederick W. Kopp
Pastor

Volume 59

November 2019

Number 11

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.

Pastor's Ponderings

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new Creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

I thought of this verse while I was holding our one-week old grand baby, Felix. A new creation! The parents and grandparents are very much aware that this one is new, small and reliant on mom and dad—new, with a bright future.

As we enter Reformation Sunday and All Saints Sunday, I am reminded that all of us are new creations in Christ. Through the power of forgiveness from the Cross and the Grace of God, we begin new with Christ. Of course, responsibility for our actions and reconciliation with our neighbor continues as the forgiveness becomes implanted in the people of God. We are made a new creation to move out and tell others of this good news.



One of Martin Luther's rallying cry was faith alone, grace alone, and word alone. We are made a new creation through faith in Jesus Christ, and God's grace is given to the undeserving, and we Lutherans follow a man, Jesus Christ, not a book. The Holy Scriptures testify to the Word of God becoming flesh in Jesus Christ. Therefore, we enter All Saints day with the assurance that God's grace abounds for us and for our loved ones who have died.

I hope we can enjoy each day as a new creation!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Fred he/him/his



NEW! You are invited to TABLE TALK!

Martin Luther would gather his family, colleagues and students together and talk about various subjects of his day, from theology to politics. A student would record the conversation, and because of this we have insightful, blunt, bawdy, controversial, and inspiring quotes from Luther and others.

We are asking anyone who is interested, to join us for listening to one another and sharing ideas or concerns. Don't worry about any record being kept—the people of the sessions will be asked to be confidential.

Pastor Fred Kopp and Dr. Charlie Schmidtke are leading the Table Talk sessions at Trinity Old Lutheran on **Wednesday evenings from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM**, on November 13, December 11, January 8, February 12, April 8, and May 13.

The first topic that we will be exploring is faith and science. Other possible topics include societal grief-ism, end of life decisions, lying, sin, mental health, separation of church and state, capital punishment, and abortion. All are invited and welcome. Wine, coffee, and refreshments will be served.

TLC at TOL Recognition Sunday, November 3

TOL's Respite Care Program will be recognized during worship—everyone is invited to celebrate this special day with us. We will look back on the year, and honor our guests and the volunteers who make *TLC at TOL* possible. There will also be a coffee hour following worship.



We hope you will be able to join us!

Jan Sherman and Paulette Hotchkiss

Veterans Day, Monday, November 11 at 11:00 AM

Please join us as we come together to honor our Veterans in song, worship and prayer.

We will gather at TOL to honor our Veterans at this special worship service. All Veterans are welcome to participate in our opening processional, our flag ceremony, and our closing recessional (please arrive at 10:45 AM). This service is open to all religious denominations and faiths. A coffee hour will follow.



Our service bulletin also includes an Honor list of surviving Veterans as well as a Memorial list of deceased Veterans. Attendees are invited to provide the following information for the lists: Name, Branch, Unit and Dates of Service. Please send your information to the church office.

You're Invited to a Non-Wedding Reception!

Saturday, November 16 at TOL, 5:00 PM
It's for all ages!

Everyone is invited to attend the first ever "non-wedding reception" in the Fellowship Hall. TOL and Augustana families and friends will get together for an evening of good, old-fashioned fun—including wedding reception tunes and dancing favorites!



Please bring a potluck dish to pass. If you plan to join in the fun, please RSVP the church office at 836-4868 or see Earlene. Invitation cards are also available in the narthex.

This event is not a fundraiser, but there will be a "wishing well" available for donations to support the Carpet Fund.

Coming Very Soon!

TOL's Christmas Program will be held during worship on Sunday, December 8—followed by a Hot Chocolate Hour! Watch for more details about this annual musical event.

Please tell Don or Earlene if you are interested in participating! More information will be in the Sunday bulletins and the December *Trinity Tidings*.

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.

Operation Christmas Child—Deadline, November 17

There is still time to support this annual Sunday School project—time for you to put together a shoe box!

Boxes and directions are still available in the narthex and boxes are due back in church **by Sunday, November 17**.



Please remember—no candy or toothpaste. A donation of \$9 will help with the cost of sending the boxes on their way.

If you have any questions, please see Debbie. Thank you!



TLC at TOL...TOL's free Respite Care Program continues every first Wednesday of the month from **10:30 AM to 2:30 PM** for those caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's or any form of dementia. Guests are partnered with a volunteer (trained by the Alzheimer's Association) and they participate in various activities in a secure environment. A morning snack and nutritious lunch are provided. For more information on registering for the program, please contact Jan or Paulette at 836-4868.

TOL's Caregivers Support Group...The group will meet on **Monday, December 2 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM** in the Fireside Lounge. It's an informal setting and the conversation is caregiver driven—or one may wish to just listen. Ideas, tips, and shared experiences can prove helpful to caregivers. For more information, please contact Jan at 836-4868.

"Hearts & Hands"

TOL is a part of this community of volunteers—Neighbor Helping Neighbor Volunteer Program! Volunteers choose assignments that fit into their schedules and they may help once a month or as much as they wish.

HNH serves Amherst, Kenmore and Tonawanda and services include: transportation, light housekeeping, yard work and caregiver respite.



For more program details and information, please visit the HNH website at www.hnhcares.org/services or call 406-8311, Ext 107.

Trinity Tidings

Published monthly by
Trinity Old Lutheran Church
3445 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, NY 14226
Karen Mulartrick and Jan Sherman, Co-Editors
©Microsoft Office 2000, 2014



September Stewardship

Thank you for your donations in support of Hearts and Hands: Neighbor Helping Neighbor (HNH)! Trinity Old Lutheran is part of this community of volunteers, which assists the elderly and physically challenged adults in Erie and Niagara Counties (Amherst, Kenmore and Tonawanda). Additional information can be found elsewhere in this issue.

November Stewardship

The focus for the month is TOL's Respite Care Program, *TLC at TOL*. Your monetary donations will help offset program costs, including food, kitchen supplies, new activities and crafts, new music CDs and DVDs. Thank you for your prayers and support!

Thanksgiving Dinners—Good Shepherd LC Food Pantry

The Pantry assists 50-60 families each month, and it is hoped to provide each family with everything needed for a complete Thanksgiving dinner. (Turkeys, stuffing mix, corn and green beans have already been collected.) Your help is needed to help fill in the remaining items, which as a group include:

- 1 can, peas
- 1 can, carrots
- 1 box instant potatoes
- 1 envelope, turkey gravy mix
- 1 box, cake, brownie, or cookie mix.



There is a sign located in the narthex with more information—and a large box for your donations.

Deadline: Sunday, November 10

TOL's Coffee Bar, Open Every Sunday!

With the colder weather returning—stop by for a cup of hot coffee, tea or hot chocolate before worship. There is a good variety to choose from—something for every taste!

Online Giving to TOL

Tithe.ly is available for online giving. You can set up your account through the website www.trinityoldlutheran.com or download an easy-to-use app to your phone. The site is user-friendly and safe to use.

TLC at TOL Respite Care Program, October 2

The early Fall day started out as warm and rainy, with the rain clouds departing before the guests and volunteers arrived.

Eight guests were welcomed for the day's activities, which started with a delicious snack (provided by Elderwood). Diane then led the group with seasonal word games, trivia, and the newly-named Guest of Honor word game. Leanne followed with gentle chair yoga exercises.



As part of the Alzheimer's Association Memories in the Making painting project, the guests created their own beautiful butterflies. They used paint sticks for their artwork—with a rainbow of colors to choose from.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch—Joan and Sally's Stuffed Pepper Soup and Nora's mega-brownies for dessert!

Thank you to Charlie for leading the group in Everyone Wins Bingo—Everyday Objects! Karen and her gentle Golden, Jack, joined us for Dog Therapy time. They are part of the SPCA's Paws for Love program and have joined us many times over the years. Jack is now seven years old and Karen let us know that he is doing well on his diet—down to 95 pounds!

We ended the day's activities with Music Time—enthusiastically singing along with Susie Q and her Sizzlin' 70's songs!

Jan Sherman and Paulette Hotchkiss

**Thank You,
Volunteers!**



**Monday Afternoons, Adult Ed., 1:00 PM
Led by Charlie Schmidtke**

There were over 16 gospels and many other writings that were not included in the Bible but were familiar to Jesus' followers in the first and second centuries.

During the Fall and Winter, we will continue to examine these works, their backgrounds and what they may mean for us today. **Please join us** in the Fireside Lounge for any or all of the classes!

- November 4 and 18: The Book of Q
- December 2: The Gospel of Truth
- January 20: What is the Apocrypha
- January 27: Books of Esdras
- February 3: Tobit and Baruch



"A Pitch from Satchel Paige" — A Play for One Actor

Recently, a staged reading of Loren Keller's play "A Pitch from Satchel Paige" was performed at The New Phoenix Theatre in Buffalo on Sunday, October 13.



Loren wrote this play in collaboration with his oldest son, Jim. "A Pitch from Satchel Paige" is a one-man show from the point of view of the famous pitcher from the Negro baseball league.

One year ago, Jim and Loren entered the play in the New York New Works Competition in New York City. It won the entire competition! Loren and Jim are hoping to have the play produced at some point in the future.

ELCA Thank You—Lutheran Disaster Response



The following thank you letter was recently received following TOL's donation in support of Flooding Relief in the United States.

Dear Trinity Old Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$317.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."
(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

With your Spirit-filled generosity you bring help and hope to families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response make possible short- and long-term recovery and rebuilding of lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for sharing the gifts God has activated in you!

In Christ,
The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations



Recycle!

Please continue to place your cans and bottles in the marked container located in the hallway near the main bulletin board.

You may also redeem them at the Bottle and Can Redemption Center located in the Sheridan-Parkhurst Plaza (2790 Sheridan Drive in Tonawanda). Thank you!



Recycle your can tabs too! Place them in the marked container in the narthex.

Our Community Partners Meeting at TOL

Gamblers Anon.	Sun., 7:00 PM
Gam-Anon,	Sun., 7:00 PM
Overeaters Anon.	Mon., 10:00 AM
Co-Dependents	Tues., 7:30 PM
Eta Sigma	Meets on 2 nd and 4 th Tuesdays, 6:30 PM (Fellowship Hall)
Fitness Room	Mon., Yoga Pilates, 5:45 to 7:00 PM Wed., Back and Hip Yoga, 12:00 Noon Thurs., Gentle Yoga, 9:30 to 10:45 AM Thurs., Beginner Yoga, 5:45 to 7:00 PM
Love Life Self Help Group	Meets on the 1 st Wednesday of the month 6:45 PM (Fireside Lounge)

Note: If you are interested in any of the different Yoga classes offered at TOL, please contact Leanne (864-1194).

Martin Luther as a Hymn Writer

"I feel strongly," Martin Luther once said, "that all the arts, and particularly music, should be used in the service of Him who has created and given them."



We may think first of Luther's translations of the Bible and of hymns into the people's own language. This let people hear God's word more directly and allowed them to answer God in their songs. The Bible, the Catechism, and more than one Hymnbook may sound like a lifetime's work for some, but Luther was the extraordinary man who launched the Protestant Reformation and taught us that God's favor is a gift to be accepted, not a prize to be won; and who said that salvation comes solely through faith in God's grace.

Luther lived from 1483 to 1546. His first Hymnbook was published when he was about forty, but before he died, nearly sixty collections of hymns by various authors had appeared. Samuel Taylor Coleridge regarded Luther as doing "as much for the Reformation by his hymns as by his magnificent translation of the Bible."

The number of hymns written by Luther is usually set at 42. Almost half of them are in our Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW). To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord contains the wonderful quotation, "This man is my beloved son, in whom my heart has pleasure." Come, Holy Ghost goes on to say, "now cause the Word of Life to shine." "Your holy body unto death was given, life to win for us in heaven" is from O Lord We Praise You.

Luther's most famous hymn is A Mighty Fortress is Our God, with its powerful message:

A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing.

Out of the Depths I Cry to You reminds us that "All our good works are done in vain without our Lord and Savior." God the Father, Be Our Stay has the memorable rhymes "Uphold our faith most holy/ and let us trust you solely/ with humble hearts and lowly." May God Bestow on Us His Grace pleads "to the unbelieving show/Christ's riches without measure."

The fighting spirit of A Mighty Fortress is balanced by Luther's famous lines on peace: "Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord/ Peace in our time, oh send us!" And he wrote several Christmas hymns for his own children, including Away in a Manger and From Heaven Above to Earth Below.

Martin Luther: along with everything else,
a great writer of hymns.

Loren Keller

From: Trinity Tidings, March 2008

Thank You from the Alzheimer's Association

The following letter was recently received acknowledging TOL's donation from the Chiavetta's Dinner.

Dear Trinity Old Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your support of the Alzheimer's Association®. Your donation of \$150.00 in support of the Walk to End Alzheimer's®, which was received on 09/18/2019 is appreciated now more than ever. Alzheimer's is the only cause of death among the top 10 in America without a way to prevent it, cure it or even slow its progression.

Your gift allows us to continue in our mission to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Each day in your community and across the country, the staff and volunteers of the Alzheimer's Association are joined by passionate supporters like you who share in our vision of a world without Alzheimer's.

Your contribution today and every day is greatly appreciated by all of us. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Jill Horner

Executive Director, Western New York Chapter



Therefore, encourage one another
and build up each other,
as indeed you are doing."

1 Thessalonians 5:11