

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**

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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

Jesus responded to the authorities... "Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'?" Luke 5:23

The paralyzed man, who was brought before Jesus through a hole in the roof, was told by Jesus that his sins are forgiven! People gathered there questioned his authority to forgive sins. Is he God? Jesus then responded with the above quote. He forgave sins and healed the paralytic.

Isn't it the case that we are burdened by our sins, selfish thoughts, actions, and apathy? We are haunted by our grudges, hurts, and other people's statements concerning us. We are anxious and/or depressed because we do not measure-up to our own or other's standards, or we are overwhelmed by the pressures of society, family, work, and living. Jesus is sent to the world in order for God's creation to find peace, wholeness, and a sense of connectedness. So Jesus forgives as a Rabbi, Jesus forgives from a cross, and Jesus tells us to forgive "seventy times seven."

Praise the Lord for this directive and the healing words and actions from Jesus, which lead to a clean slate upon which to build and act. For the paralytic, getting up and walking are steps he never would have fathomed taking. For us getting a clean slate can lead to new opportunities and adventures we would have never fathomed taking. Being forgiven and given the ability to move into action is the call of a disciple. With the Love shown to us through Jesus, we can enter again into relationships, which have been strained. We can move courageously into areas of our lives and the lives of others that were just dreams or were never thought of.

Being forgiven and being given the directive to use that forgiveness, "stand up and walk," opens up many possibilities to further God's kingdom and to give glory to God. I declare we are forgiven! Join me in standing up and walking for the Lord!



Peace,
Pastor Fred

Prayer for Trinity Old Lutheran and Augustana Lutheran Churches

Almighty God, you prosper the work of our hands. We pray for the outreach ministries of these congregations and we ask you to send your Holy Spirit to direct them into a blessed future. Give us the power through your Son to proclaim the Good News boldly, and joyfully fellowship with and serve others. Amen.



**TOL's Adult Retreat
September 28-30
Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center**

This year's theme is: Who Am I?

Here are reasons why you should attend!

- Do you ever ask "Why me?"
- Do you ever feel confused about who you are?
- Do you ever ask why you did what you did?
- Would you like to spend time with people who will listen?
- Would you like to have some time to yourself?
- Would you like to feel uplifted and loved?

Come and spend time with wonderful people! You'll finish the retreat by saying: "I am me!"

Full retreat details were included in the June issue of *Trinity Tidings* and they are also posted on the bulletin board, along with a sign-up sheet.

Please think about attending—talk to those who have gone in the past—bring a friend! (A poster with past attendees photos and comments can also be found at the bulletin board.)

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Charlie Schmidtke



Food Pantry Thank You!

Sincerest thanks to all who generously donated the large number of canned goods and non-perishable items in June—the shopping cart was overflowing! Your donations were delivered to the Food Pantry at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Tonawanda.

Thank you for your continued support of the pantry as it assists local families in need!

A meeting was held on Sunday, June 24 to discuss plans for the coffee bar. Watch for details in the August issue!



Wherever your summer travels take you—or if you're enjoying summer at home—please remember to keep your pledge up-to-date!

Thank you.

Can and Bottle Collection

Please place your donations in the marked container in the narthex—or redeem them at the Bottle and Can Redemption Center located in the Sheridan-Parkhurst Plaza (2790 Sheridan Drive in Tonawanda). Thank you!

TLC at TOL Respite Care Program, June 6

We were back to more spring-like weather—not too warm, but windy and lots of clouds! We welcomed nine guests to our Flag Day-themed program, and we plan to bring in one new guest in August.

Guests and volunteers assembled patriotic Uncle Sam crafts! Following Bingo, guests enjoyed a delicious lunch of hot dogs and Velma's homemade potato salad (just like Mom used to make!) and dessert.



Thank you to Nancy and Lanny for bringing in Penny Lane to visit with the guests at dog therapy time! We all enjoy seeing Penny Lane—and Nancy!

Following Trivia and What Comes Next, we welcomed Sue Wloch back to the piano for music time. We began with singing Happy Birthday to two of our guests who would celebrate June birthdays. Thank you, Sue!

Due to the Independence Day holiday, there won't be a program in July—we'll be back on Wednesday, August 1. We wish all of our volunteers and guests a happy and safe holiday!

Jan Sherman and Paulette Hotchkiss

Our heartfelt thanks go to the anonymous donor of the beautiful Gerbera Daisies that were brought in for each guest! All of the colorful plants were in full bloom—bringing a little touch of summer to the dining tables at lunch!

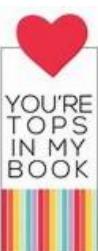


Lutheran Charities Annual Basket Auction

The Annual Golf Classic will take place in August and will feature the Annual Basket Auction. This year, TOL's basket theme is "Curl Up with a Good Book." Donations of items that any reader would enjoy while reading are needed. (Suggested items include: snacks, tea and tea mug, book light, book mark, and books.)

Please place your items in the designated basket located on the desk in the narthex.

All donations should be in the basket by Sunday, July 29. Thank you for your support!



Trinity Tidings

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July Stewardship

During the month, our focus will be on Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC). Your donations will be directed to where they are needed most at the facility.

LCLC is open year-round for outdoor ministry and programmed retreats—not just for summer camp! Programs are offered for children, adults and families. Reminder: TOL's Adult Retreat will take place at LCLC on September 28-30.

Please use the marked pew envelopes for your donations. Thank you!

June Stewardship

Thank you for your donations in support of Vicar Sohail's continuing education at the Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia. Please continue to keep Sohail and his family in prayer.



Love. Grow. Serve.

Some people make things happen.
Some watch while things happen,
and some wonder at the end of their life—what happened?

When I stand before God at the end,
I would hope that I would not have
a single bit of talent left, and I could say,
“I used everything you gave me.”

Regret for things we did, can be tempered by time.

It is regret for things we did not do that is inconsolable.

[Anonymous. Noticed in a restaurant in the Town of Wheatfield.]

Save the Date!



The April 28 TOL car wash was cancelled due to cold and rainy weather. It's been rescheduled for Saturday, August 11.

Watch for more details in the August Tidings and Sunday bulletins.

TOL's Caregivers Group

A small group met in the Fireside Lounge on Monday, June 4. We welcomed a new caregiver who had just completed the Powerful Tools for Caregivers class that was presented at TOL by Sue Wloch. Three of our regulars rounded out the group.

Everyone had an opportunity to discuss their own experiences since our last meeting in April. It was a good session with meaningful interaction and information sharing among caregivers. We also enjoyed some lighter moments.

Caregivers are not alone on their journeys—we are there to support each other. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, August 6** at 7:00 PM.

Jan Sherman



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ELCA World Hunger

Facts from *ELCA LifeLines, Summer 2018*.

"ELCA World Hunger is our church at work, doing what Christ calls us to do. Hunger is a challenge we can overcome, and with generous, loving hands, we work for a just world where all are fed.

- **Agriculture:** Agricultural programs help families grow food to nourish themselves and build healthier communities for the long term. This is one of the ways ELCA World Hunger accompanies communities as we work to put an end to hunger – for good.
- **Refugee Resettlement:** More than 65 million people around the world have been forced to leave their homes due to war, conflict and disaster, according to the United Nations. Helping newcomers resettle in a new country, through our congregations and partners, is one way ELCA World Hunger is pursuing a world of justice where all are fed."

Portals of Prayer for July through September are now available in the narthex. The booklet contains daily devotions and prayers, as well as prayers for other needs, concerns and occasions. Please take a copy! Also, feel free to take an extra copy to pass along to a relative or friend.

"I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy."

Rabindranath Tagore



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 Group...The group will meet on **Monday, August 6 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.



Red Cross Blood Drive at TOL

The next blood drive at TOL is scheduled for **Friday, July 27 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM**. Blood donations will be collected in the Fellowship Hall.

You can schedule an appointment through the church office (836-4868) or by going online to www.redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins are welcome!

Thank You Received

A letter of thanks was recently received from the ELCA (TOL March Stewardship).

Dear Trinity Old Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your recent gift of \$121.00 in support of the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) through ELCA Good Gifts.

With generosity and imagination, you have made a gift that will change a life. Through the programs supported by your "Good Gifts," you are reaching out with a tangible symbol of Christ's love—a Bible for a young disciple or a textbook for an emerging leader, cleaning supplies for a family affected by a disaster, a warm meal at a local soup kitchen, a goat or pig to help a family become self-sufficient, a brick that will help build a house of worship.

Thank you for equipping others to live lives of abundance and witnessing to the healing and hope we share in Christ Jesus. Your generosity is making a difference!

In God's grace,

Christiana Jackson-Skelton
Executive Director, Mission Advancement

Religious Plays of the Middle Ages



Most people have heard of the play called *Everyman*, which was only one of many various plays and cycles of plays that flourished in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries in England. We might be apt to think of the Middle Ages as having been somehow specially favored in the way of their mode of life, their religious stability, and their atmosphere of faith and devotion. How many people are going to rush out to see a modern religious play?

As T.S. Eliot once said, "I suspect that, for the most part, people still tend to regard the performance of a religious play as something to be attended, like a bazaar or a jumble sale, from a sense of duty rather than for the purpose of enjoyment. You may even feel that you fulfilled your duty if you buy tickets and manage to give them away to somebody who will go in your place. You may even think of them as you may think of pageants—as performances which give a great deal more pleasure to the people taking part in them (especially if the costumes are interesting) than to the audience."

Plays in medieval times weren't performed in closed theatres with scenery, but rather on a country cart in the high street of a town. The actors traveled many miles from town to town to town, pretty sure that an audience would be waiting for them. Religious drama was the only kind of drama that the Middle Ages had. All of their dramatic abilities went into it; and since it was the only kind the audience could get, the audience could enjoy it in a much more comprehensive way than we could.

The greatest of the medieval plays, *Everyman*, is in a class by itself. The religious and the dramatic are not merely combined but wholly fused. *Everyman* is on the one hand the human soul in extremity, and on the other any man in any dangerous position from which we wonder how he is going to escape—with as keen interest as that with which we wait for the escape of a film hero, bound and helpless in a hut to which his enemies are about to set fire.

There were many kinds of religious plays performed in the Middle Ages. Morality plays were allegories with actors playing such qualities as Honesty, Holiness, Selfishness, etc. Mystery plays were based on stories from the Bible, usually about the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. There were liturgical dramas centered on Easter. There were cycles of plays performed throughout the Christian year, with audiences faithfully and even eagerly attending every one. Much of the drama was written to teach: to familiarize people with the stories of the Bible as well as to inculcate Christian doctrine and encourage good moral behavior. But there was an awareness, too, of the need to entertain in order to teach. Audiences laughed at the antics and horseplay, but took the message seriously.

Loren Keller

From: *Trinity Tidings*, September 2009



"Summer Fridays" Playgroup at Augustana

The program continues each Friday through August 10 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Children and their caregivers enjoy toys, games, songs, stories, and snacks. The program is free and the activities take place indoors.

Augustana is located at 3143 Eggert Road near Colvin Blvd. in Tonawanda.

For more information on either event, please contact the Augustana church office at 832-5720 or email the church at augustchurch@yahoo.com.

Join the Lutheran Herd for Bison Baseball!

Join the fun on Lutheran Family Night, **Friday, July 20** at Coca-Cola Field! It's the Bisons vs. the Durham Bulls!

Game time is 7:05 PM. Gates open at 5:00 PM with food and drink specials from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM. Fireworks will follow the game—always a great display! Tickets are \$10 and should be ordered by Thursday, July 12.



The event is sponsored by Lutheran Charities of WNY. Reserve your tickets by calling LC (632-2623) or go online at LutheranNightAtTheBisons2018.bpt.me.



North Park Lutheran's Annual Yard Sale, Chicken BBQ & Baked Goods Sale

Rain or Shine!

Saturday, July 14 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
(310 Starin Avenue in Buffalo)

Rental tables are available for the Yard Sale—\$15

Chicken Dinners—Take Out Only
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
(dinners are \$10 and include ½ chicken, mac & cheese, baked beans, roll and butter)

Call 836-2785 to reserve dinners or for table rentals.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity/Buffalo, and the United Lutheran Seminary for scholarships.

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 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 1 st , 2 nd , and 4 th Wednesdays, 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).