

# 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

September 2019

Number 9

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

I recently attended a coach training session in Baltimore, MD. This conference was held at Christ Lutheran Church. On its campus the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) has its office. At the office I was able to get a button that states "Welcome the Stranger" (Matthew 25), and a sticker that says "Jesus was a Refugee." (Remember Herod was trying to kill them, and Joseph, Mary and Jesus left their home and went to Egypt.)

The Bible is clear that it is our duty to help the refugee. The Bible is clear that no country is ordained to be "thee" country. All countries are filled with special children of God; so it is imperative that we stand for those who are unfortunate to be in danger in their country of origin. It is imperative that we provide relief, shelter and hope. I stand with the Immigrant and Refugee.

"Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action."  
1 John 3:18

"Mark of a true Christian:"...Extend hospitality to strangers..."  
Romans 12:13

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me."  
Matthew 25:31-46

Verse upon verse in the Old Testament also points to the duty of those who believe in God to care for the refugee and immigrant:

"...do not deprive a resident alien...of justice."  
(Deuteronomy 24:17-18), "you shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien," (Exodus 22:21), and "The Lord watches over the strangers" (Psalm 146:9).

Paul Kennedy, director for the Refugee and Immigrant Driving program at Augustana, shared a concern with me. He stated that a number of people who are in the country legally, have the correct papers, and have gone through the training for getting a driver's license are afraid, and will not pursue this important skill and opportunity. This is tragic because a license helps them be productive, drive to jobs, fulfill the requirements of the government for establishing United States as their residence; they are afraid.

These and other refugees, have shared of the horror happening in their own countries, and it is not safe for women, children and families to live normal lives. Violence, intimidation, and oppression are rampant.

Let us pray, welcome, and help the United States address this humanitarian situation with a safe, dignified way for people to assimilate into our culture. In the not so distant past, many of our descendants were welcomed at Ellis Island.

With a heavy heart, and strong motivation, I write this letter to share a part of the challenge people face.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Fred he/him/his

## Chiavetta's BBQ Chicken Dinner & Basket Raffle

**Sunday, September 8  
New Times: Noon to 3:00 PM**

Dinners: \$12.00 (include salads, dessert and beverage)

**Basket Raffle...**There is still time to help! Bring your donations to the church by Sunday, September 1! If you have any questions, please speak to Debbie or Kelly.

**TOL Bakers and Dessert Makers...**We are in need of your desserts that will accompany the chicken dinners on Sunday, September 8. Please, no cakes for this event. Thank you!



## Walk to End Alzheimer's / TOL Fundraiser

You're invited to join Team TOL at 10:00 AM on **Saturday, September 14** in support of raising funds for Alzheimer's research. This will be the second year at Buffalo's beautiful Outer Harbor (Outer Harbor Drive and Fuhrmann Blvd.). Car-pooling will be available. You can sign up to walk at [www.alz.org/WNY](http://www.alz.org/WNY) TEAM TOL or add your name to the sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board.

Not walking? You can make a donation through the Alzheimer's website shown above. Please see Earlene if you are making a cash/check donation for the walk.



**Fundraiser:** Watson's chocolate suckers for \$2.00 and paper butterflies for \$1.00 will be available in the narthex. Purchase a butterfly and write down the name of someone you know who has been affected by Alzheimer's. Butterflies will be placed on the walls in the sanctuary and nave. Thank you for your support!

**TOL Voice and Bell Choirs...**The Voice Choir begins rehearsals on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM beginning Sunday, September 15!** The Handbell Choir will meet on **Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM beginning September 19.** All adults and teens are invited to join in!

**Sunday School...Wow!!** Summer is almost over and it is time to turn our thoughts to school—especially Sunday School. We will meet on the third Sunday of the month and begin on **Sunday, September 15** at 9:45 AM—for ages 4-14. Come and join us!



God Bless,  
Kelly and Debbie

**Bible Study with Pastor Fred at Augustana on Fridays,  
September 13 – October 4 (10:00 AM to 11:30 AM)**

Pastor Fred invites you to join the group as they study 1st Corinthians, "Being the Body of Christ." Augustana is located at 3143 Eggert Road (near Colvin Blvd.) in Tonawanda. All are invited—attend any or all sessions!

## Prayer for Trinity Old Lutheran and Augustana Lutheran Churches

Almighty God, bring us into a community guided by your love. Inspire in us a spirit of hospitality and kindness, and teach us to bear one another's burdens with compassion. Show us your will for the ministries at Augustana and TOL, and strengthen our relationships in this community as we serve our neighbors in love. Amen.



### Adult Retreat Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center October 4, 5, and 6

#### What's Next: Here and Now / There and Then

Complete information is posted on the main bulletin board—along with a sign-up sheet. The Retreat is open to everyone 18 years and older.

There are three package options available: two nights and meals; one night and meals; and meals only.

**There is still room for more attendees — and there is still time to sign up!**

Please speak to Charlie Schmidtke if you have any questions.

### 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, October 7, 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](http://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

Trinity Tidings email: [jesherm86@roadrunner.com](mailto:jesherm86@roadrunner.com)  
Karen Mulartrick and Jan Sherman, Co-Editors  
©Microsoft Office 2000, 2014



### August Stewardship

Thank you for your donations in support of ELCA Disaster Response—Flooding in the Midwest. The ELCA response is in coordination with congregations, synods and affiliates across Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin and Missouri.

### September Stewardship

During the month, our focus will be the ELCA Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Service (LIRS). The following was taken from the ELCA website at <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Immigration-and-Refugee-Services>.



"We are a church that does God's work in the world and in local communities pursuing justice, peace and human dignity for and with all people.

The work of the ELCA through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service includes responding to people caught in conflict and facing persecution, advocating for their needs and interests, helping people access resources for basic human needs, working with foster care programs for minors, legal assistance, developing new and innovative service programs and partnerships, and much more."

Pew envelopes are available for your donations. Thank you for your support!

*Stewardship Team*

### Thank You...

...to everyone for your donations of school supplies collected for the basket raffle at the Lutheran Charities Golf Outing held in August! The items will help a family to get children ready for the new school year.

### LWR Quilters—Thank You!



Thank you to everyone who donated sheets over the summer! Your donations are appreciated and the group looks forward to turning them into beautiful quilts that will be sent worldwide to help those in need. The group will begin again in September.

**TLC at TOL Respite Care Program, August 7, 2019**

It was a beautiful summer day for the program, with sunshine and warmth. Seven guests participated in activities, which were held in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. Additional fans and pitchers of ice water were available for everyone.



Following the morning snack, guests and volunteers participated in chair yoga with Leanne. Word games were led by Earlene (with assistance from Sandra). The crafts for the day were colorful smiling turtles and pineapples (each adorned with sunglasses).

The Kitchen Staff prepared a delicious summertime lunch of hot dogs and baked beans—with ice cream for dessert—perfect on a hot day!

Afternoon activities began with Everyone Wins Bingo. Then, Earlene kept everyone active with Beach Ball Toss! Music time was “Sing-along with Susie Q—Happy Days,” which included many of our lively favorites. We also sang Happy Birthday to Babs—a perfect way to end the day!

*Jan Sherman and Paulette Hotchkiss*



**Habitat for Humanity—God’s Work Our Hands  
Saturday, September 28**

Members from Augustana, TOL, Good Shepherd, Abiding Savior and St. Mark are invited to participate in the work day. New this year: Habitat has a limit of six volunteers per work crew and a limit of two groups that will work the same day and time but at different locations. It is hoped to have two full groups that day.



Those interested will need to register and sign a release online several days before the work day. Work begins at 8:00 AM (or 8:30 AM) and finishes at 3:00 PM (or 4:00 PM).

If you can’t participate in the work, members are needed to provide lunch for the volunteers.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Donna or Paul at Augustana (church email, [augustchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:augustchurch@yahoo.com); church phone, 832-5720).

Please contact them as soon as possible—there are only 12 spaces available!

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

*1 Thessalonians 5:11*



**Online Giving to TOL...**Tithe.ly is available for online giving. You can set up your account through the TOL website ([www.trinityoldlutheran.com](http://www.trinityoldlutheran.com)) or download an easy-to-use app to your phone. The site is user-friendly and safe to use.



**Adult Classes Led by Charlie Schmidtke**

**Adult Ed.—Resumes Monday, September 23!**

Most people don’t know that 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.



This fall we’ll continue examining these works, their backgrounds and what they may mean for us today.

**Join us on Monday’s at 1:00 PM!**

- Sept. 23 and 30: The Gospel According to Thomas
- Oct. 7 and 28: The Gospel According to Mary
- Nov. 4 and 18: The Book of Q
- Dec. 2: The Gospel of Truth

**Human Sexuality Study—Begins Wednesday, September 18**

Years ago, the Synod trained leaders in using an ELCA study guide for congregational programs. Charlie was one of the trainees who has already used the program.

The guide is biblically and culturally based. It has six sections, which provide readings, discussion questions, some commentary and Bible verses. The topics are ageless and far reaching.

Please join us at TOL on **Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30 PM**. The dates are September 18 and 25 and October 2, 9, 16, and 23. Come to any or all of the sessions. You’re invited to bring a friend or spouse!



**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 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> 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 the 1 <sup>st</sup> 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).