

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

"Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 2:4-5

I am just about done with winter! Now, as the snow melts, what it covers is exposed! The stones of our garden can start reclaiming their role as border to beauty. Just like the stones in the garden have purpose, we are called in 1 Peter to rid ourselves of "all malice, guile, insincerity, envy and slander" and become living stones with a purpose.



Because of God's action through Jesus in forgiving us and ruling over death, our waiting is over. The Risen Lord has called us into action, together, to become a "spiritual house," and a "holy priesthood" acceptable to God. Not individually but combined with each other to do as God requires of us; "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God." (Micah) We are called to mind our boundaries and only be manipulated by God's future, not a future that is wrought with greed, hopelessness, and despair. The way we individually can do this is by joining together to be the church of yesterday, today, and forever.

I am encouraged that we can be the church together to continue to strive to look outside ourselves in service, and through expressing God's love in action. In spring the lethargy of winter is put away and growth begins. Come to church and let us grow together!

It is time to leave darkness behind and walk into God's "marvelous light."

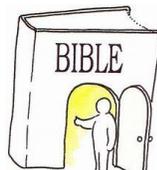
Yours in Christ,
Pastor Fred

Ten Key Passages from the Bible: A Five-Week Bible Study

This Bible Study will be held at Augustana Lutheran (3143 Eggert Road near Colvin Blvd. in Tonawanda) on Friday's from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM beginning on **May 4 and continuing through June 1.**

Come to one or all the dates and take part in exploring the scriptures and sharing your thoughts. Pastor Fred will lead this Bible Study.

All friends and members of Augustana and TOL are welcome. Look forward to seeing you there!



Sunday School

Our last class will be on May 20. Please come and join us for an end-of-the-year celebration!



God bless.
Kelly and Debbie

May Coffee Hour

The WWI Women's Group will host the coffee hour. You are invited to join them following worship on **Sunday, May 20.** Come and enjoy delicious baked goods, coffee and conversation!



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!"

A sign-up sheet with complete details is posted on the bulletin board.

Please think about attending—talk to those who have gone in the past—bring a friend! If you have any questions, please let me know.



Charlie Schmidtke



Hearts and Hands = Neighbors Helping Neighbors

There continues to be an increased need for volunteers! To find out how easy it is to become a volunteer and to learn about the services provided for care receivers, please call 406-8311, Ext. 101 or visit the website at www.hnhcares.org!

TOL is a part of the "Hearts and Hands" community of volunteers!

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.

A Prayer Partner is available after worship every week to pray with anyone in need of prayers.

The Prayer Chain is available to anyone having a prayer request. Please contact Carol Diana at 634-5282 with your requests.



Blessing

TOL's WWI Women's Group sponsored a women's gathering recently in our newly carpeted Fireside Lounge. More than 20 ladies attended an inspirational, interactive talk by Lynn Whitworth. Her theme was "Blessing" and she definitely was a blessing to us.

Lynn is full of spirit, vim and vigor! She brings vitality, humor and a deep, abiding faith to all that she does. Being in her space is like being wrapped in a hug. She teaches and inspires and entertains, perfect attributes for her current position as temporary "pastor" for a local, rural Lutheran church.

We again were reminded of our many blessings as we shared stories with each other and bonded in special ways as women of God. We also had many laughs as we made our "blessing jars." Who knew tying a ribbon could be so complicated?!

With the hope that we are blessed once again next Spring with Lynn in our midst, I strongly recommend all TOL women join in the fun and inspiration!

Diane



Organic Youth

"Spring Play Day" for Youth in 1st to 5th Grades

Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

4007 Main Street in Eggertsville.

Cost: Free!



"Let's get together and celebrate the warmth returning! Parents can take the afternoon off while Nick and the OY Leadership Team lead games, serve snacks, and teach about the wonderful love our God shares with us all." [from Organic-Youth website at www.organic-youth.org]

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April Stewardship

Thank you to everyone for your donations to Augustana Lutheran's Refugee and Immigrant Driving Program. The program was recognized on Sunday, April 22, with a joint worship service, delicious potluck luncheon and Basket Raffle at Augustana.

From Pastor Fred: The Refugee and Immigrant Driving Program Basket Raffle and Celebration at Augustana was a big success! After a combined worship service with Augustana and TOL, we gathered downstairs to welcome Refugees and their families impacted by our program. Following a good meal, Mustafa (from Somalia) described his families' difficult 18-year journey to the USA and Buffalo. Over 100 baskets were donated and \$2,200 was raised. To God be the Glory!

May Stewardship

The 2018 Lutheran Charities (LC) financial appeal begins in May. A brochure highlighting 16 local organizations supported by LC is available in the church office and in the narthex. TOL's TLC Respite Care Program received LC funding this year! Donation envelopes will be available in the church pews and in the church office.

Please read the brochure and use the designated envelopes for your donations, which can be placed in the offering plates or mailed to the church office.

Thank You Received from Ken-Ton Closet

[This organization was the focus of TOL's December 2017 Stewardship. Donations of socks, hats, scarves, gloves and other clothing were collected and delivered in January.]

Dear Friends,

We are so very grateful for the clothing donation to the Ken-Ton Closet! Partnerships like yours are so very important to help us meet our mission. Your support allows us to serve those that need our help the most.

Yours in gratitude,

Jill O'Malley

President/Executive Director



**Memorial Day Observed
Monday, May 28**

Mid-Week Lenten Donations—Thank You

“Now that I, your LORD and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.”
John 13:14

Dear Congregations,

God’s Work, Our Hands (and Generous Giving)!

I am pleased to announce that we collectively made a large impact on the plight of refugees and immigrants both locally and nationally. Throughout the Lenten season, Abiding Savior Lutheran, Augustana Lutheran, Lutheran Parish of the Tonawanda’s, St. Martin Lutheran, and Trinity Old Lutheran collected \$1,324. This money was divided equally between Journey End Refugee Services and Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee services of the ELCA.

On Maundy Thursday, 40 of us gathered together at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church for worship and service. The readings for the night mentioned Jesus telling his disciples to imitate his washing of their feet by washing other’s feet and serving. We organized and loaded up a truck full of goods donated by all the churches. These household, school, and personal items will be shared with refugees and immigrants as they settle in the Buffalo Area.

To God be the Glory.

Yours in Christ,
The Reverend Frederick W. Kopp

Josh’s Eagle Scout Project

I am currently working on my Eagle Project to benefit the Holy Rest Cemetery, which is partially owned by TOL.

My project is cleaning up around the graves that are flush with the ground and adding a curved bench and a garbage can. The garbage can is an outdoor, metal-slatted trash receptacle with rain bonnet lid. It is 41-3/4 inches tall and holds 36 gallons. The bench will be one that curves around the large tree in the middle of the cemetery.



Bottles and Cans...are still being collected in the marked container in the narthex. Matt and Josh take care of the redemption and funds received will support Josh’s upcoming Eagle Scout project!

Upcoming Youth Gathering Fundraiser!



**The Grill at the Dome
 (175 Brompton Road in
 Tonawanda)**

**May 29, 2018
 11:00 AM to Close**

~20% of restaurant sales will support our youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX in June~



Unruly Paris Crowd

Rue de Seine, Paris, May 15
 before 6 in the morning
 a dense crowd gathering
 before a closed shop

Impatient, noisy, riotous
 jumble of carts, cabs,
 wheelbarrows, empty
 baskets on people’s backs

even some raised torches,
 as in an uprising,
 lighting excited faces
 this early this day

not yet 6:30, crowd unruly,
 pushing against the shopfront,
 knocking with redoubled
 force on the door

second-floor window opens,
 above the sign “Paquerre’s
 Bookstore,” Madame Paquerre
 appears: “Be more patient”

all this to get their hands on
 the newly-delivered third part
 of a novel. The year: 1862
 the novel: *Les Miserables*.

Loren Keller

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Online Giving Simply visit our website, www.trinityoldlutheran.com, and click on the Giving tab. On this page, click on "Give Today" and you will be sent to a third party page (hosted by Genesis, PPG of Clarence, NY) to process your contribution using your Master Card, Visa, Discover or AmEx credit and debit cards.

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)
Women’s Dance Group	Mon., 8:00 PM

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

Caregivers Support Group

The group met on Monday, April 2 with three of our regular caregivers in attendance. We spent time talking about how everyone was doing and addressed any concerns. While the group remains small, beneficial dialogue, sharing of thoughts and concerns (the positives and negatives) takes place. The gathering is also a time for fellowship and general conversation—and sharing memories of happy times with loved ones. Caregivers need to know that they are not alone and that this kind of group can offer a safe place to speak—or to just listen.



A variety of hand-out informational and reference materials were available for the attendees.

We will meet again on **Monday, June 4**. All caregivers are welcome!

Jan Sherman

TLC at TOL Respite Care Program, April 4

It wasn't snowing...but the winds were howling on Respite Day. We welcomed nine guests, including two new guests. There are three people on the waiting list.

Spring was the theme of the day—and the Sunshine craft was perfect! Guests participated in chair yoga with Leanne and later joined in a lively round of "Snowball Toss" before Bingo. Nora's delicious Sloppy Joe's were served at lunch with orange Jell-O and assorted Girl Scout cookies for dessert.



There were a couple of changes to the schedule, but the volunteers kept the program moving right along. We have become adept at "going with the flow." Trivia and music time filled in the afternoon activities.

Even the lack of sunshine and Springtime weather couldn't put a damper on the day—or the smiles!

Jan Sherman and Paulette Hotchkiss



"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 the church office (836-4868).