

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

Blessed to Be a Blessing!

An article in the August edition of *Living Lutheran*, a monthly magazine from the ELCA, began with the above title. The article describes how Preston Meadow Lutheran Church in Plano, Texas challenged its parishioners to be generous.



There was a catch; they did not have to be generous with their own money. Someone donated \$150,000 and broke it down into \$250, \$500, and \$1,000, placed the money in envelopes and on a special Sunday gave them to the parishioners with one instruction. The instruction was that they were to be joyful in their generosity and to act on the greatest need that God had placed in their hearts. Money multiplied and many people were helped that day and week, and the giving continued. When a visitor came to church, instead of being asked to give money, they were asked what charity they would like a \$25 gift to be sent.

Joyful generosity! Though we may not have other people's money to share, we have our own. And once sharing happens, it becomes like a snowball rolling down a hill. It grows and becomes almost unstoppable. A former parishioner had a windfall of \$1,000 come their way, and they needed many things for their family; however, their first thought was to tithe the money. They gave a gift of \$100 or 10% of their windfall to the work of the church.

Being a joyful giver is realizing that God is the provider of all that we have. In response to God's love, to the blessings we have received from God, we are encouraged to be a blessing.

As we trust in God and God's amazing promises through Jesus—of forgiveness, eternal life, and never walking alone—let us respond as a joyful giver!

Blessed to Bless!

Peace,
Pastor Fred

New! Bible Study with Pastor Fred at Augustana

Beginning Friday, September 7, Pastor will lead a new six-week adult Bible study from **10:00 AM to 11:30 AM** at Augustana. "Ten Key Events in Jesus' Life" is a "Bible Basics for Adults" study. Join us!



Sunday School Returns!!

Mark your calendars for Sunday,
September 16 at 9:45 AM! We are excited to welcome you back! See you soon.

God bless,
Kelly and Debbie

Chiavetta's BBQ Chicken Dinner & Basket Raffle Sunday, September 9, from Noon to 6:00 PM

Dinners are \$12.00
(includes salads, dessert and beverage)
Dine In or Take Out!

Basket Raffle

There is still time to help! Bring your donations to the church by Sunday, September 9! Please see Debbie or Kelly if you have any questions.

TOL Bakers and Dessert Makers

We are in need of your desserts to accompany the Chiavetta's chicken dinners on Sunday, September 9. Please, no cakes for this event—they are difficult to portion out and plate. Thank you!



Walk to End Alzheimer's / TOL Fundraiser

Please consider joining us at 10:00 AM on **Saturday, September 15**, in support of raising funds for Alzheimer's research. This year the 2.5 mile walk moves to the Outer Harbor in Buffalo (Outer Harbor Drive and Fuhrmann Blvd.). Join the fun walking with Team TOL—and enjoy the scenery on the walk along Lake Erie!

You can sign up to walk with us at www.alz.org/WNY Team TOL or add your name to the form posted on the bulletin board outside the Respite office. Not walking? Your donations can also be made through the website or with the form.



Also, to help raise funds, I will be selling Watson's chocolate suckers for \$2 and paper butterflies for \$1 after church on each Sunday prior to the walk. Purchase a butterfly and write down the name of someone you know who has been affected by Alzheimer's. An Alzheimer's receptacle will also be available for donations. Thank you for your support!

Earlene

TOL Voice and Handbell Choirs: The Voice choir will rehearse on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM beginning Sunday, September 16! The Handbell Choir will continue to meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM beginning **September 20.**



We hope you will consider joining us—all teens and adults are welcome. Sing to the Lord a new song!

**Sunday Morning Coffee Bar Opening Soon—
details in this issue!**

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.



As summer nears an end, it is not too early to begin thinking of Christmas. Sunday School will again be participating in this outreach project.

Please consider making a child's Christmas brighter by packing a box or donating the \$9 to have a box sent. (Toothpaste and candy are not allowed in the boxes due to customs regulations, along with any liquids.) If you have any questions, please contact Debbie.

Chicken Chowder Prep, Friday, September 14

TOL's annual Chicken Chowder Sale is scheduled for **Saturday, November 10**. If you would like to help with chowder prep, we'll be cooking the chicken and making stock on **Friday, September 14**. We'll be meeting down in the Fellowship Hall kitchen at **9:00 AM**.

If you can come, please bring a sharp knife and cutting board! We'll order pizza for lunch!

Matt

Sunday Morning Coffee Bar Opening Soon!

Our new Coffee Bar is taking shape in the narthex. Thank you to Amy Caron for donating the sturdy table and chairs!

Beginning this September, we'll offer a new opportunity for fellowship around coffee and goodies before worship—right in the narthex. Think of it as a streamlined coffee hour with Keurig® K-Cups, tea and a small assortment of goodies.



The Evangelism Team will get things started, but feel free to grab a box of K-Cups if you see them on sale...or perhaps grab a box of Timbits® on your way to church if you're running early.

The idea is to have a nice gathering time before worship that requires as little planning as possible. By keeping it easy, we'll be able to keep this going year round, every Sunday.

Matt

Adult Ed. With Charlie Schmidtke

Monday Afternoons at 1:00 PM Fireside Lounge

All are welcome to join us this Fall as we focus on Oprah Winfrey's *Belief* video series that we began last year.



- September 17 and 24
- October 15 and 22
- November 19 and 26
- December 3

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September Stewardship

The focus for September will be ELCA Disaster Relief. Many people who were affected by last year's many hurricanes are still in need of assistance. Your donations will be directed to the people of Puerto Rico. Please place your donations in the marked pew envelopes. Thank you for your support.

"Lutheran Disaster Response continues to work with LDR-PR to build their capacity to respond to this disaster. Through our partnership, we are planning to launch a multi-year volunteer rebuild/repair program."

[From the ELCA website: www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/Our-Impact/Hurricane-Relief]

August Stewardship

Thank you for your donations in support of the maintenance and upkeep at Holy Rest Cemetery. Your help with further much-needed cleanup is also welcome and appreciated.

Yoga Classes at TOL

Classes with instructor Leanne will return on **Monday, September 17**. If you are interested in any of the different Yoga classes offered by Leanne, please contact her at 864-1194.



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)

I have always loved the idea of peace. People in church know that my answer to their handshake will always be that wonderful single word: PEACE. I started to think about how little peace, at least on a world-wide level, we have ever had on a lasting basis. My last two brief columns have had to do with winners of the Nobel Peace Prize. There are many other winners who could be mentioned here—heroic people like Martin Luther King, Dag Hammarskjold, Aung San Suu Kyi, Nelson Mandela; but the Prize never went to Mohandas Gandhi, although many people who were living lives patterned on his can be thought of as Gandhi's disciples. Some awards have gone to groups, such as the International Office for Refugees, Amnesty International, and (a favorite of mine) Doctors Without Borders. Peace is a precious thing. We need to keep it in our minds and in our hearts.



Loren Keller

*[Reprinted from Trinity Tidings, December 2016]
Used with permission.*

"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

Caregivers Group

The group met on Monday, August 6, and we welcomed a new caregiver who recently completed the Powerful Tools for Caregivers Program hosted by TOL.

Our conversations touched on many areas of concerns. Everyone was able to share in responses to one another's situations and experiences that included in-home assistance, as well as local adult day programs for loved ones. We also talked about the need for caregivers to be mindful of their own health and wellness, and offered helpful suggestions.



The group will meet again on **Monday, October 3**. All caregivers are invited to join us—and bring a family member or friend.

Jan Sherman



Hearts and Hands

*Neighbors Helping Neighbors ~ Serving Western New York Since 2003
(716) 406-8311*

Visiting the Hearts and Hands website is a convenient way to find out how easy it is to become a volunteer or to make a donation. You will also find detailed information about the services the organization provides to caregivers and their care receivers in Erie and Niagara Counties. There remains a need for more volunteers!

For more information, please visit www.hnhcares.org or phone (716) 406-8311. (Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM)

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

Respite Care Program

Mid-summertime heat and humidity greeted everyone on August 1. For the comfort of all guests and volunteers, the entire program was held in the downstairs Fellowship Hall.

We welcomed eight guests (including one new guest) as well as returning partnering/volunteer Barb. We thank Margaret for volunteering to help us that day. Four people remain on the waiting list.

Guests and volunteers participated in seasonal word games with Diane, chair yoga, bingo and softball toss. Guests decorated wooden frames with colorful markers and a variety of colorful and glittery foam stickers. Each one had a unique creation to take home. Everyone enjoyed sandwiches followed by sliced peaches for dessert—a cool lunch on a hot day. Thank you to the kitchen staff!



Following lunch, Anne and her dog, "Carma," joined us for a visit. After a round of trivia with Margaret, everyone joined in a sing-along featuring music from the '70's! Our next program is Wednesday, September 5.

Paulette Hotchkiss and Jan Sherman

ELCA's "God's Work. Our Hands." Habitat for Humanity Project Workday, Saturday, October 6



Join with volunteers from Augustana LC and other area churches for the annual workday (from 8:45 AM to 3:00 PM). Construction experience is not required—but you must be able to do physical labor that is assigned. Previously, work done included interior painting, stair building, landscaping and installing exterior siding. A few days ahead, the locations and times will be given out to those who have signed up.

If you are interested in joining them or if you have any questions, please contact the Augustana church office at 832-5270 or email at augustchurch@yahoo.com.

Recycling Continues!

Please continue to place your cans and bottles 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 for your support!

Coming in October!

- Habitat for Humanity with Augustana and TOL, Saturday, **October 6**
- Travels with Charlie and Diane—and Potluck Dinner, Friday, **October 26**
- Reformation Sunday Worship with Augustana Lutheran, Sunday, **October 28** (3143 Eggert Road in Tonawanda)

