



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

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23

In the midst of summer I welcome eating raspberries, blueberries, strawberries, watermelon, cantaloupe, and so many other fruit! As I eat fresh blueberries and pick raspberries from a neighbor's prickly vine, I am reminded of Paul's call to the Galatians to reflect the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. These fruit are so needed now as we continue to be a divided world which focuses on self, power, and the other (in not a good way).

I intend to try to taste these precious expressions of God's love as I interact with God's creation. Love is # 1 and the most important. This type of love is selfless and includes the rest of the words in Paul's list, like generosity. Joy is helpful when things get overwhelming, and anxiety or depression take over. A little joy brings a moment of peace, like seeing the blooming flowers and bright colored birds, or by remembering a treasured time with friends or family. Kindness is not trite; it is an expression and action that might recharge a relationship or lower tension in a room. Faithfulness includes loyalty to relationships and to the call of forgiveness that Jesus gives to us. As you trust the relationship with God, we will start trusting the relationship with others. The self-control fruit helps us have more to give others and to be an example in the midst of excess.

Paul also challenges the reader in Galatians to "bear one another's burden," and "work for the good of all."

As the sun shines brightly in our lives during the summer, May God grant that God's "son" shine brightly in our lives!

God bless and keep you.
Pastor Fred he/him/his

"Pray that the Spirit will fill us with God's goodness and truth, making us hearers and doers of the word — God's word."

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TOL's Annual Chiavetta's BBQ Chicken Dinner AND Theme Basket Raffle!

Sunday, September 12 from Noon to 3:00 PM

We are planning another Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner—this time, the Theme Basket Raffle is returning! Baskets, gift cards, and other items will be needed to make this year's event a success. If you'd like, we can assemble baskets with the items you donate. Please bring your basket or items/donations to church **on or by Sunday, September 5.**

If you have any questions about the basket raffle, please see Debbie or Kelly.

Stay tuned for further details about the chicken dinner, and watch for the sign-up sheets!



Bishop-Elect Lee Miller's Installation Service—Join Me?

Dear Folk,

I will be going to Bishop-elect Lee Miller's installation service in Syracuse on **September 18, 2021.**

If you would like to join me, please let me know and we will travel together.

Pastor Fred

TOL Eucharistic Ministry Meeting Scheduled

A Eucharistic Ministry meeting is planned for **Tuesday, August 10 at 1:00 PM.** If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please let Pastor Fred and Velma know.

Eucharistic ministry is bringing communion to those who could not receive it at church.

Items for the Worship Bulletins

All items for the Sunday bulletins should be submitted to the church office by **9:00 AM on Wednesdays.** Thank you!





August 2021

In-church Worship Guidelines

While we await new COVID-19 guidance from the Synod, we will continue to follow the procedures listed below. Further updates will be provided in future issues.

- Vaccinated people can be in the building without a mask.
- Unvaccinated people should continue to wear a mask while in the building.
- Anyone who is more comfortable wearing a mask, please continue to do so.

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.



Holy Rest Cemetery Work Day—Thank You!

The Board of Holy Rest Cemetery wishes to thank everyone who came out on Saturday, July 24 to help spruce up the cemetery grounds. It was very much appreciated. Josh did an Eagle Scout Project three years ago putting in a bench and garbage can and putting up a new sign as well as cleaning the grounds.

TOL and its “daughter” congregation, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, established Holy Rest jointly in 1858. When St. Andrew closed its doors many years ago, its remaining members joined other area Lutheran churches, but the legal corporation continues and provides funds for upkeep. There is a house on the property for the groundskeeper and we provide the grounds equipment and upkeep of the house such as lawnmower, snow blower and line trimmer maintenance.

Sincerely,

*Matt Grabau, Linda Bauer, Robert Schober, Janet Barnes,
John Voss, Lanny Repman, Jim Gordon*

Trinity Tidings

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Trinity Old Lutheran Church
3445 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, NY 14226
Church Office: 836-4868 or 836-4990
Church email: trinityoldlutheran@verizon.net
Karen Mulartrick and Jan Sherman, Co-Editors



July Mission

Thank you for your donations in support of Holy Rest Cemetery! As part owner of the cemetery, TOL assists both financially and through a summer “clean-up” day. Your donations will help where it’s needed most—general upkeep. Thank you again to all who helped on Saturday, July 24, and for your monetary donations.

August Mission

This month’s mission will be to support Family Promise of WNY (FPWNY). TOL participated in the program that began as the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Today, FPWNY has reached its 25th year of service to homeless families in Buffalo, functioning as an emergency shelter for homeless families, and keeping affected families together while in their care. Over 70% of the guests are children.

“We’ve always known that most homelessness is a result, pure and simple, of poverty.”

[from the organization’s website at www.fpwny.org.]

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Please use the marked envelopes located in the narthex, or mail your donations to the church office (please indicate on your check that it is designated for Family Promise of WNY). Thank you for your support.

2021 Walk to End Alzheimer’s Returns to the Buffalo Outer Harbor Saturday, September 18!



As of right now, TOL does not have a team registered for the walk. If you are interested in walking, you can register on the Alzheimer’s website. If we have enough people interested that want me to register us as a team, I’ll be happy to do that. Please let me know of your interest by Monday, August 9, 2021. Thanks!

Earlene

**Adult Ed. 2021-2022
Charlie Schmidtke**



Mondays, 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Classes will be held in the Fireside Room with a Zoom option for those who do not want to attend in person. Please be sure to let Charlie know that you want to be included in the Zoom invitation.

World Religions

Hinduism	September 13, 20
Buddhism	October 4, 11, 18
Daoism	November 8, 15, 22

Abrahamic Religions

Judaism	January 10, 17
Islam	January 31, February 7, 14, 21
“Other” Christianities	March 28

Other Traditions

Native American	April 4, 11
Tribal African and Aboriginal	April 25, May 2, 9

“Hearts & Hands”—Neighbor Helping Neighbor

Hearts & Hands (H&H) continues to serve residents in Erie and Niagara counties. Volunteers provide assistance with: Transportation; In-Home Services and Caregiver Support.



Volunteers are needed! H&H provides quick and ongoing training. You may select assignments that fit into your schedule, as well as receive mileage reimbursement and supplemental insurance coverage. For more program information (and how to become a volunteer), please visit the H&H website at www.hnhcares.org/services or call 406-8311.

TOL is a part of this community of volunteers-- Neighbor Helping Neighbor Volunteer Program!



Table Talk Returns in September!

**Discussion Group for Charlie Schmidtke’s book:
“My I’s: Isms, Ignorance, Interrelationships and Insights”**

The phrase “An unexamined life is not worth living” is a truism that became a guide for Charlie’s journey of self-reflection. This program is less about discussing Charlie’s stories and more about how his stories and reflections can prompt discussions aimed at self-awareness in our lives. Although reading the book is not a necessity for attending, it does serve as the basic resource for the discussion topics. However, please join us even if you haven’t read the book.

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM at TOL

September 8:	Discovering racial prejudices
September 22:	Examining religious intolerance
October 6:	Gender differences and our misunderstandings
October 20:	Generational relationships and myths and realities of aging
November 3:	“Societal Griefism” and its impact in our lives
November 17:	Respect and love for the world and places in our lives
December 1:	Respect and love for family and friends

Local Food Pantries



Thank you for your continued support of the pantries at Good Shepherd LC in Tonawanda and Community of Good Neighbors (CGN) in Buffalo. Please place your donations in the shopping cart in the narthex or leave your items in the marked boxes at the elevator entrance during the week (Tuesdays – Fridays, 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon).

Suggested items include:

- Canned goods (vegetables, soups, tuna, etc.)
- Jar items (spaghetti sauce, peanut butter)
- Boxes of pantry staples (cereal, pasta)
- Paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, etc.)
- Feminine hygiene products
- Gift cards (Tops or Wegmans stores) can be taken to the church office.



ELCA Prayer Ventures—August 2021

Pray for people in our country and around the world who are suffering from persistent drought and extreme heat. Ask God to keep them safe, restore life-giving water to their lands and grant us the wisdom to use our water resources with respect, responsibility, restraint and concern for the present and the future.

Though we have different gifts, perspectives, life experiences and passions as siblings in Christ and children of God, pray that we will receive and take to heart God's assurance that our faith and baptism unite us to do God's work in the world, together.

Remember in prayer victims of gun violence, their families and friends, impacted communities and all who are working to prevent gun violence in our country. Ask God to remind us that when anyone suffers, grieves or experiences trauma, we are all affected.

Give thanks for the critical work and ministry we accomplish together in the world through Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR). Our generous support and prayers and the work of LDR and its partners bring God's hope, healing, renewal and assistance to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world.

International Youth Day: "Transforming Food Systems"
Pray for youth and adults working together to implement stable and sustainable food production, provide equitable food distribution, address nutrition-related chronic diseases, improve nutrition education and decision-making, and seek new solutions to other complex issues related to food systems, nutrition and the environment.

Give thanks and praise to God, for the Lord is good, delivers us from our fears and offers a welcoming refuge.

Pray that Mary's song in the Gospel of Luke will remind us of God's power, mercy, loving kindness, concern for the humble and neighbors in need, and great work in the world for our sake.

Give thanks to God that the Spirit fills us and gathers us as siblings in Christ to worship and praise our Creator, care for one another, serve our neighbor and share the good news of Christ in our daily life.

Give thanks for ELCA Racial Justice Ministries, which encourages us to embrace each person and confront barriers of race, ethnicity, culture, class, religion, age, gender, family and sexual orientation that often manifest themselves in unjust treatment, inequality, exclusion and violence.

Give thanks and praise that God hears our cries for help, attends to the brokenhearted, saves those whose spirits are crushed and rescues us from our troubles.

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Book Signing and Fellowship

Trinity Old Lutheran Church
3445 Sheridan Dr. (near Sweet Home Rd.)
Amherst, NY

Saturday, September 11
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Author Readings:

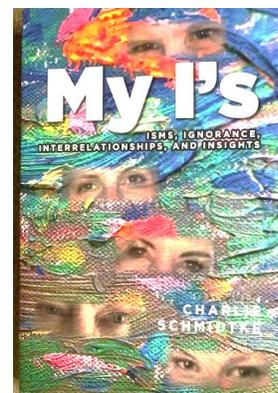
10:15

11:15

12:15

Tea, coffee,
cookies available

Books available for
purchase



Charlie Schmidtke's book is a memoir which includes his reflections on life, cast within the topics of race, religion, gender, generations, grief, friends, family, love and respect.

Come and join us for some relaxation and conversation.

Feel free to come anytime and stay as long as you wish. Charlie will sign books you already have.

Introduction: Charlie lives in Tonawanda with his wife of 53 years. They have four daughters and eight grandchildren. He is a Professor Emeritus from Canisius College, having spent 35 years there in administration and as a multidisciplinary faculty member.

The eyes on the cover are those of his wife and daughters who were his guide and inspiration for addressing the Isms and ignorance in his life.