

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

"Pay attention to your patterns. The ways you learned to survive may not be the ways you want to continue to live. Heal and shift." Dr. Thelma via twitter in 2018

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Dear Folk,

This has been a month of shifting, of starting fresh, of eyes open, mouths shut, and bodies moved to action. Who would have guessed that there would be an awakening of empathy and awareness concerning our dark skinned siblings? A call to listen and grow in our understanding of how white privilege and racism are knotted together. I am in the process of listening and shifting my actions, thoughts, and prayers to become a new creation, with new habits and new ways to view the world.

As I have said before, for three months the United States cared about others, shutting down, wearing masks, and keeping social distance. These actions were done for the most vulnerable and to protect those who are serving the public in the medical field and elsewhere. Wow, three months of selflessness! Selflessness is needed when addressing systemic racism. We are engaged in the discussion and actions towards change because God's children are impacted, and they need our selfless participation for change.

Because we are new creations in Christ, we can begin again in our relationship to others. We can put aside our old self and start fresh. Through respect for others, humility in the midst of possible accusations, and repentance in order to build relationships we can follow God's call of love and be examples of that love.

The world seems to have changed and there are many things to get us down. However, there is Jesus who is the light of the world to guide us through the darkness caused by a pandemic and the darkness our siblings in Christ experience daily because of systemic racism.

As a new creation, Jesus says that we are called to "let our light shine before others, so that they may see our good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Learning, Growing, Changing, Being Created New, and Shining Jesus' Light, I Remain,

Pastor Fred he/him/his

Giving to TOL

Online: Tithe.ly is available. You can set up your account through the TOL website at www.trinityoldlutheran.com or download an easy-to-use app to your phone. The site is user-friendly and safe to use.



Giving by mail: Please send your checks to the church and to the attention of the Financial Secretary.

Thank you for your continued giving.



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!

From Pastor Fred's Letter: Sunday, June 14

Dear Folk,

Being born anew with Christ, and ready to defend the hope that is in me, I am encouraging everyone to remain vigilant in their use of masks, social distancing guidelines, and hand washing. The selflessness we saw from the beginning of the lockdown until now needs to be maintained to keep people safe, especially the vulnerable and health compromised folk.



Yours in Christ,
Pastor Fred

Thank You from Vicar Sohail



Thank you very much for being an important part of my journey with Christ. You have always been a great support and pillar of encouragement for me and my family. Thank you for the gift too.

Yours in Christ,
Vicar Sohail

Pastor's Videos—Available Online Every Week!

Pastor creates a new brief video, with messages and prayers. They are posted on Instagram, Facebook and the TOL website!

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.

From Pastor Fred's Letter: Sunday, June 7

Dear Folk,

As we enter Holy Trinity Sunday, I pray we call on the full measure of God's presence. Come Holy Trinity, Come.

We continue to worship apart, through Zoom, this bulletin, and connecting to TV worship. We are moving into our 4th month. Yet we are not a church apart, but a church together. The church is people gathering together in the name of the Trinity to praise God, share the good news, support one another, and be Jesus' presence in the world through word and deed.

Come Holy Trinity, Come.

This week, let us pause to remember, to pray, to look for God's presence, and to see blessings. Jesus says, "Let not your hearts be troubled, believe in God, Believe also in me, for in my father's house are many rooms. I am the way the truth and the life."

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Fred

June Mission

Thank you for your support of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS).

"Driven by our faith and our nation's values, LIRS works to protect and embrace refugees, migrants and children seeking a new life in America. Having carried out this work for more than eight decades, LIRS and our national network of service providers are uniquely equipped to provide holistic, trauma-informed, and age-appropriate care to the vulnerable we serve."

From the LIRS website at: <https://www.lirs.org.our-work/>

For Giving Thanks and Praise to God: Prayer Ventures for July 2020 (excerpts)

Give thanks for God's ever-present love and care, and for the message of the psalmist who proclaims, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Give thanks that God's word is a light to our path throughout life that guides us in our baptismal journey, fills us with hope and joy, and illuminates truth and justice.

What gives you cause for happiness and hope these days? Give thanks and praise to God for desiring joy, healing, renewed life and freedom for us and all humanity.

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Happy Independence Day!

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Prayer Ventures, July 2020 (excerpts)

For COVID-19

As this time of stress and uncertainty continues, pray that we will be persistent in our generous support for the mission of the church: comforting and caring for our neighbors, responding to the global impact of the pandemic, providing food and basic necessities for people in need, reaching out to the isolated and lonely, and aiding organizations that work for the health, well-being and restoration of our communities.

Pray for wisdom and patience as we navigate how to gather as congregations and discern what is appropriate, safe, caring and respectful of the ongoing concerns of our members, communities and nation.

Pray for businesses that are struggling or reopening or have shut down, and for their owners, their employees and all the other people and businesses they impact. Ask God to help them make decisions and implement new health precautions that take into consideration the well-being and needs of their employees, the people they serve and their community.

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For Humankind

Remember in prayer refugees and immigrants throughout the world and at our borders who hope for and seek welcoming, safe communities where they can reestablish their lives and raise their families. Pray that they will have access to health services, food and resources to meet their daily needs during this time of heightened vulnerability and isolation.

Lift up in prayer our neighbors who are unemployed or underemployed and seek safe, meaningful work that will help them develop self-sufficiency and confidence and meet the needs of the people for whom they provide care, assistance and support.

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For the ELCA and Member Congregations

Pray for the 120 ELCA companion synods that connect our congregations with Lutherans and ministries worldwide. Give thanks that together we participate in God's mission, support each other, share our joys and sorrow, and use our gifts and resources to respond to human needs and grow the church.

Give thanks for rostered ministers in our church who are active in call, on leave from call, awaiting call or retired. Praise God for their faith, gifts, caring leadership, example and sacrifices in response to God's call to a life of ministry and service.

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