

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

April 2019

Number 4

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

"Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow *humans* throughout the world who live in poverty and hunger; give them through our hands this day their daily bread and by understanding love, give peace and joy."

Mahatma Gandhi

The disciplines of the followers of Jesus, who are part of the body of Christ, begin with acknowledging a relationship with Jesus and then recognizing the need to follow in a faithful way the calling Jesus set out for us. In the book *Real Faith for Real Life* by Michael Foss, we are introduced to some activities that happen in response to believing in Jesus. They include Prayer, Worship, Bible reading, Service to others, Nurturing relationships, and Giving. The author dives deeply into these subjects and empowers the reader to take up the mantle and grow in their relationship to God. The above quote from Mahatma Gandhi was on my mind when the mosque in New Zealand was attacked, when the cyclone hit Mozambique and other countries in South Africa and I hear the challenge of this quote thinking about the recovery process happening in areas where flooding (Nebraska), wind, (Florida Panhandle), and earthquakes happened. We are challenged to serve with what we have received from God.

Our food pantries, world hunger appeals, and seeing the big picture, that we are in the world's 1% of wealth, helps us to get in touch with the call to serve, which is integral to being a Christian. Michael Foss writes "that the call for justice in the Bible is so repetitive that we can become deaf to its drumbeat!"



I challenge all of us to hear the drumbeat and do what we are called to do as Christians in whatever little or big way we can. Remember, it starts with one step to go the distance.

"God has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?"

Micah 6:8

In relationship to you and our Lord, I remain
Pastor Fred

"Christ in Our Home"

Christ in our Home is our new devotional booklet. We have replaced *Portals of Prayer* with a devotion that is printed by our ELCA and uses ELCA members as authors. It is in a similar format as *Portals of Prayer*. We share this purchase with Augustana and we encourage all to participate in daily prayer and reading. The booklets are on the desk in the narthex—please take a copy.

Online Giving to TOL

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



April Coffee Hour

You're invited to stay after worship on **Sunday, April 14**, to enjoy coffee and delicious baked goods! The coffee hour will be hosted by the WWI Women's Group.



Remaining Mid-week Lenten Soup Dinner Schedule 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Theme: Encountering God in the World

April 3: Abiding Savior Lutheran
(1534 Ruie Road in North Tonawanda)

April 10: Augustana Lutheran
(3143 Eggert Road in Tonawanda)



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 14

9:30 AM at Augustana Lutheran
11:00 AM at Trinity Old Lutheran

Holy Thursday, April 18

7:00 PM at Abiding Savior Lutheran
(1534 Ruie Road, North Tonawanda)

Good Friday, April 19

11:00 AM at Good Shepherd Lutheran
7:00 PM at Trinity Old Lutheran



Easter, April 21

Augustana Lutheran, 9:30 AM
Trinity Old Lutheran, 11:00 AM

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.

LWR Quilters Group

The group will have their creations on display at the TOL/Augustana combined worship service on Sunday, April 28 at Augustana. The quilts will be blessed and then packed for shipping. The quilts are labors of love and we thank the group for continuing to help those in need around the world.



March Respite Care, March 6

It was a beautiful day—with sunshine! We welcomed eight guests (including a new person), and Sue, a new partnering volunteer.

Diane led us in Spring and St. Patrick's Day word activities (with some trivia questions, too) and guests worked on St. Patrick's Day crafts. Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch and dessert before going upstairs for afternoon activities.

Karen and her golden retriever, Jack, visited with everyone. Jack is now six years old and he is a very large, gentle, and affectionate dog. Karen told us that he joined her family as a rescue puppy. She and Jack participate in the SPCA Paws of Love program and we always enjoy their visits.



Diane led us in a sing-along song and exercise routine before music time. All of us were sufficiently warmed up for Music Time with Sue-at-the-Piano—we always look forward to having Sue play for us! She has added some new songs—and she encouraged those who were able, to stand and march in place for the "Battle Hymn of the Republic." So much energy from guests and volunteers! The program ended with lots of smiles!

Jan Sherman and Paulette Hotchkiss



We need additional Respite volunteers. Please speak to Jan or Paulette if you are interested!



TLC at TOL Respite Care Program

TOL's free 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.

Trinity Tidings

Published monthly by
Trinity Old Lutheran Church
3445 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

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



March Stewardship

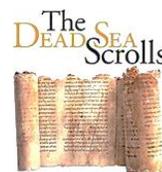
Thank you for your donations in support of Vicar Sohail Akhtar as he continues his studies towards becoming a minister in the ELCA while also serving as Vicar at First English Lutheran Church in Lockport. He is planning to complete the four-year program in three years and he is currently mid-way through his second year of study.

During Lent, Here's a Way to Help Those in Need

The shared ministry congregations will be collecting donations of items to support Community Missions of Niagara Frontier (located in Niagara Falls). Some of the needed items include: baby wipes, baby clothes and blankets; shampoo, deodorant, lotions and soap; kitchen utensils, dish soap, pots and pans and kitchen towels. There is a marked container in the narthex. Donations must be received by Sunday, April 14, and they will be assembled at Abiding Savior on Holy Thursday.

Adult Ed. With Charlie Schmidtke Monday Afternoons at 1:00 PM

Discussions for our remaining sessions will concentrate on The Lost Gospels. The remaining class schedule follows: April 1 (Gospel of Judas); April 15 (Gospel of Thomas); May 6 (Gospel of Mary).



Hope you can join us in the Fireside Lounge on Monday afternoons at 1:00 PM!

"Hearts and Hands: Faith in Action"

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 often as they wish.



Along with the need for volunteers, monetary donations are also greatly needed in order to continue providing free services.

For more program details and information, please visit www.hnhcares.org/services or call 406-8311, Ext 107.



Earth Day, April 22
Arbor Day, April 26



Celebration at Augustana — Sunday, April 28!

Refugee and Immigrant Driving Program of Augustana Lutheran Church

**Joint Worship with TOL at 9:30 AM
11:00 AM Brunch (Free) and 12:30 PM Basket Raffle**

Augustana has been helping refugees and immigrants for over 25 years by helping individuals earn their driver licenses. Over the years, Augustana volunteers have assisted over 100 participants from 30 different countries.

Having a driver's license allows individuals to gain better access to employment opportunities, healthcare, neighborhoods and schools, as well as to become involved in community activities.

In addition to those receiving their licenses, others have earned their driving permits. For more information, please call 832-5720 (church office), or visit www.augustanaonline.org.

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

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Something New for Mid-week Lenten Soup Dinners

The shared ministry churches (Abiding Savior, Augustana, Good Shepherd, St. Martin and TOL) chose a new service format this year. Each church hosts a soup dinner that also includes time for "holy conversation" and devotions. This year's theme is "Encountering God in the World."

TOL was the first host with a focus on the elderly, the frail and the infirm. Pastor Fred selected a few relevant Bible verses, including Psalm 71:9.

"Do not reject me now that I am old;
do not abandon me now that I am feeble."

He also included prayers, Bible verses and a reading from Matthew 25.

TOL's topics of conversation focused on the following:

- how our views and thoughts of the elderly and those needing respite care have changed through life.
- relating a time when we encountered God in elderly populations or by serving them.
- the challenges and joys of serving them.
- thinking about how we, and the church, can make a difference in their lives.

The service closed with prayers of the people, the singing of "Change My Heart O God," and a blessing.

You are invited to the remaining two soup dinners—
April 3 (Abiding Savior) and April 10 (Augustana).

Easter Words from Henry Vaughan

Unquestionably my favorite Christian poet is Henry Vaughan, who lived from 1622 to 1695, but whose poetry is very much alive today. He wrote on many subjects besides Easter, but I've tried to give you some of his words on that day of days in our spring.

But He that with His blood (a price too dear)
My scores did pay
Bid me, by virtue from Him, challenge here
The brightest day

There above noise and danger
Sweet Peace sits crowned with smiles,
And One born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files,
He is thy gracious Friend,
And (O my soul awake)
Did in pure love descend
To die here for thy sake...

He alone
And none else can
Bring bone to bone
And rebuild man,
And by his all subduing might
Make clay ascend more quick than light.

Ah, my dear Lord! What couldst thou say
In this impure, rebellious clay,
That made thee thus resolve to die
For those that kill thee every day?
O what strange wonders could thee move
To slight thy precious blood and breath!
Sure it was Love, my Lord, for Love
Is only stronger far than death.

I hope Vaughan's words may give an extra dimension to your Easter prayers.

Loren Keller

*[From: Trinity Tidings, April 2009]
Used with permission.*

Recycling Continues!

Please continue to place your cans and bottles in the marked container now located in the hallway near the main bulletin board. You may also redeem them at the Bottle and Can Redemption Center located in the Sheridan-Parkhurst Plaza (2790 Sheridan Drive in Tonawanda). Thank you!



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 Tues., Lower Back Yoga, 12 Noon to 1:00 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 st Wednesday of the month 6:45 PM (Fireside Lounge) |