



# Glad Tidings

**MAY 2020**

*Disciples of Jesus Christ called to bring God's light into the world: through worship, serving, learning and sharing the Good News!*

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## **“Trinity Lutheran Church” Means People, Not a Place**

The TLC Council decided that the May issue of our Tidings should be sent in the mail, since we are still unable to gather in person. It is our goal in this abbreviated version to provide you with useful information about ways we are communicating in new, digital ways. If you have not yet discovered or used these tools, please give them a try. If TLC does not yet have your email address, there is now an easy way to provide yours on our new website ([www.trinityherkimer.org](http://www.trinityherkimer.org)). If you do not use technology, perhaps you have a family member or friend that can share news and assist you (while maintaining social distancing, of course.) Some people have discovered that many technology tools work easily through cell phones. Our goal is to assure that all Trinity members and friends stay connected through these challenging times.

We encourage you to keep this Tidings issue for future reference. All Trinity Council members now have a church email address so you can contact any of us by phone or email. Our contact information is shared below for easy reference.

In summary, we pray that you stay safe and well until we can meet again in person, which we expect will be at least June. We encourage you to stay in touch with church friends and family through whatever tools work for you.

In God's Love,  
Trinity Church Council

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## **The Technology Team Has Been Hard At Work!**

Whether you prefer to use your computer, tablet, smart phone or home phone we have been doing everything we can to give you options to stay connected with us!

Our **New Website** ([trinityherkimer.org](http://trinityherkimer.org)) is launched and it is the best source of information for Trinity's news. Missed a virtual service? Visit the Worship page to view recent services! When available we will also list a text version of the sermon. Know someone who isn't able to get online? Print a copy of the sermon and send it to them via mail with a note! Staying connected as a church family is everyone's goal. If you are not currently receiving regular emails from Trinity, please visit the website and fill out the Sign Up to Receive Emails section. Going forward, it will be the best way to keep up with our news.

**Virtual Weekly Events** are being held for Worship Service and Bible Study. These events are being done through an online program called Zoom. Once Zoom is installed on your electronic device, users can virtually attend through Zoom sessions on your computer, tablet or smartphone. Only have a landline? You can call in! Our weekly announcement emails are key for getting the information you need so that you can join us.

**Weekly announcements** are being sent out through email! Each week's announcement email will include the information you need to virtually participate in any services or virtual activities happening that week. We will also include information about how our Trinity Family continues to fulfill our mission as well as opportunities for you to also participate when you feel moved to do so. Not currently getting the emails? You can sign up on our website or reach out to someone who can share the information with you

If you have a Facebook account, we encourage you to follow Trinity's main Facebook page at [facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer/](https://facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer/). A live stream of Sunday service starts on our Facebook page at 10am every Sunday.

It's important that we all stay connected! If you would like help figuring out how you can participate in any of the above listed please call the church at 315-866-6474 and be sure to leave us a message.

- The Technology Team

### Sharing and Serving

There are needs being identified amongst our neighbors in the community. Do you know someone who lacks food in the community? Please considering using or sharing information about the following:

- **Food collection** is happening in two ways. We are collecting food for the **Herkimer Food Pantry**. Pasta (boxes of pasta or macaroni/cheese mixes), cereals or any canned foods are appreciated at this time as there is a shortage. Drop donations off safely by adding them to the box, located either at the side door of the church or on the Parsonage Porch. JoAnn Blaise delivers our donations each Monday afternoon. Rebecca (Becky) Walrath is collecting donations for the **Frankfort/Ilion Food Bank**. For more information, call or text Becky at 315-868-7673. Leave a message if she doesn't answer.
- We continue to **provide meals** for the people who come to the **Salvation Army on the third Friday of every month**. These meals are now created to be "taken out". Please understand that meals that were provided throughout the community on a regular basis are now NOT being provided in all places.
- **Feed My Sheep** meals continue to be provided to the community. 48 were made over the past few weeks safely and with physical distancing being maintained.

### Faith Formation/Learning

#### BOOK CLUB

What have you been reading during this unusual time at home? Ideas about how to share and connect with each other are being discussed. Shirley and Sue are compiling a list of the book group books we've read together over the years. How many can you remember? Does anyone know when the book group was started? Was there such a group going before Pastor Ann started this one? Hopefully we can all be in touch soon. Do you know where your phone tree call list for the book group is? It's a good time to find it and call someone to just say hello. Be safe, read lots, and we will be back together as soon as possible!

### Worship, Music and Prayer

#### BLESSINGS OF PRAYER

"Lets us therefore draw near with CONFIDENCE to the throne of GRACE that we may receive mercy and find GRACE to help in time of need". *Hebrews 4:16*

Prayer Notes: A Relationship With Jesus!

How wonderful to have a personal relationship with our Creator! Matthew 6:6 tells us to have a daily appointment with our Lord in our secret closet of prayer, glorifying, enjoying and loving Him with all our heart, soul, and strength. Let us make this our goal as we go through our journey of life here on earth.

PRAISE is what we do! WORSHIP is who we are!

In His Service, Prayer Ministry

### **Stewardship**

Thanks to everyone who has continued to mail offerings to church (443 Henry Street, Herkimer, NY 13350) or continue to use Simply Giving. The mission of the church continues throughout the pandemic. If you wish to receive more information about giving directly to Trinity through the Thrivent Simply Giving Program, please contact [rroche@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:rroche@trinityherkimer.org).

### **Community and Outreach**

#### FRIENDS IN FAITH

It's the time of year when we start looking forward to our annual June luncheon at the Ann St. Deli in Little Falls. At the time of writing this article it is unclear where we stand with that. Will restaurants be open then? If they are, will we want to even gather as a group to eat there? Will we still be advised to sit 6 feet apart?

The date would be June 9th. Plans, whatever they are, will be in the June Tidings, but also we will try and get the word out before then.

In any event, the hope is to do "something" on that particular day. Suggestions welcome as we get closer to that date and see what the situation is. Contact Harriet Neff for information.

#### CHURCH GARDEN

Will There Be a Church Garden This Year? Yes, we will have a garden at church again this year. In fact the peas are already planted. Lettuce will go in next. Last year we had a good crop of tomatoes and beans. We could use some more compost to fill in the raised beds. We welcome suggestions and ideas. Please speak to Joanne or Sue if you can help.

### **Our Church Family**

**Our prayers** are with the family of Gary Ruff, who passed peacefully from this life to be with our Lord recently. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. May all who mourn be lifted up by the powerful presence of the Lord with them and the promise of life eternal in Christ Jesus."

If you have concerns for the prayer chain or other personal/family matters, please call Phillis Becker at 315-866-2379.

### **Looking beyond the time that we need to stay at home!**

We have an **employment opportunity in the office at Trinity Lutheran** and are wondering if there is anyone out there who may be seeking a 15-20 hour a week clerical position. If you have good communications skills, know how to use a computer and printer, and appreciate working somewhat autonomously please let us know. Please contact [cmayton-collins@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:cmayton-collins@trinityherkimer.org).