



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

### Notes From the TLC Church Council - the Work of the Church Continues

Thank you to all congregation members who attended our Annual Meeting in January, via Zoom. Those in attendance approved the 2022-2023 budget, elected JoAnn Blaise to serve on the TLC Council, and voted to reduce the number of Council members from nine to seven. Thanks was given to God for His rich blessings, and for the many individuals who serve our church and community with grace and dedication.

And now God's work for 2022 is placed in our hands. How will your faith be active in the coming year? Perhaps you can share your memories of being a Trinity member by writing an article for a future edition of the Tidings. We are especially interested in stories that tell of Trinity's history. Or you may find a place to serve on one of our committees that will become more active in the coming year. If "doing" is your passion, please volunteer to help with Sunday services. The list is endless - Trinity needs every member to become involved in Trinity's mission projects and to nourish one another to strengthen our faith.

In accordance with the Constitutional change we voted on, here are the people who have agreed to lead the church for the coming year. Thank you for supporting them, and for working with them so that Trinity's presence in the Mohawk Valley will be even stronger than it has been in the past. God is leading us!

### TLC Council Members for 2022-23

President: Ann Maher                      Vice President: Amy Manning                      Secretary: JoAnn Blaise  
Treasurer: Kylene Jordan (appointed)                      Financial Secretary: Wendy DeLuca (appointed)  
Phillis Becker                                              Gary Manning                                              Bona Starring

Date	Worship Leader	Format	Communion
February 6	Deacon Patsy Glista	In House	No
February 13	Rev. Gail Wolling	In House/Virtual	Yes
February 20	Rev. Bill Preuss	In House/Virtual	Yes
February 27	Rev. Gail Wolling	In House/Virtual	Yes

To virtually participate in Sunday Service, please join us at 10am on either Zoom, Facebook or the website.  
Zoom Phone: 1 646 558 8656      Meeting ID: 3158666474      Password: 13350  
All in person worship services are subject to change to virtual only if Covid status changes.

*The TLC Council discussed the TLC Covid Safety Practices on January 12, 2022. It was agreed that reinforcement and congregational awareness should be publicized for 2022. This is a draft under consideration. If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, please talk to a Council member before their meeting on February 9th.*

### **Trinity Lutheran Church Draft Covid 19 Protocols**

Using the NYS Department of Health Guidelines and Herkimer County data, the TLC Church Council has set the following expectations in place for anyone using our church facilities. This includes worship, meetings, and all other purposes.

When the County rate of infection is **High or Substantial**:

- Wear a mask, except when seated and consuming food/beverage in the Fellowship Hall or communing. Masks must be worn correctly.
- Sign in on the chart when you enter the church, at the bottom of the stairs.
- Maintain a comfortable and safe distance between yourself and others (six feet).
- Stay home if you are not feeling well or have any symptoms of illness.
- Use good hygiene practices, including use of the hand sanitizing stations provided.
- Respect one another at all times.

When the County rate of infection is **Moderate or Low**:

- Unvaccinated individuals must wear a mask at all times.
- Masks, worn correctly, are required for vaccinated individuals while singing during worship, or singing anywhere in the church building.
- Sign in on the chart when you enter the church, at the bottom of the stairs.
- Maintain a comfortable and safe distance between yourself and others (six feet).
- Stay home if you are not feeling well or have any symptoms of illness.
- Use good hygiene practices, including use of the hand sanitizing stations provided.
- Respect one another at all times.

The county rate is measured weekly, and we share the rate in our Weekly Announcement email. In addition, a sign is posted on the church door to state the risk level of our county. Masks are available to those who are in need.

If we all follow these guidelines, our church will continue to be a welcoming and safe space, both virtually and physically. Thank you for being a part of Trinity!

### **Council Contact Information**

President: Ann Maher	315-891-3952	amaher@trinityherkimer.org
Vice President: Amy Manning	315-868-9224	amanning@trinityherkimer.org
Secretary: JoAnn Blaise	315-867-8426	jblaise@trinityherkimer.org
Treasurer: Kylene Jordan	315-404-3945	kjordan@trinityherkimer.org
Phillis Becker	315-866-2379	pbecker@trinityherkimer.org
Bona Starring	315-868-8393	bstarring@trinityherkimer.org
Gary Manning	315-717-4830	gmanning@trinityherkimer.org
Dean Gail Wolling	518-225-7537	gwolling@trinityherkimer.org

## **News from the UNY Synod**

Is this the year you want to understand more about what it means to be a Lutheran, and how our Synod operates? Check out the Upstate New York Synod website at <https://upstatenysynod.org>.

## **Churches United in Faith**

Members from Trinity, Zion, and Our Saviour continue to meet and share ideas about working together. Two groups are presently meeting. The original group has decided to meet after all three churches hold their Annual Meetings which will be in late February. Patsy Glista has offered to facilitate a Bible Study via Zoom for the Women's Group. That will begin on February 22nd and then meet monthly.

Contact Ann Maher if you would like to join the email exchanges for both groups.

## **Serving and Sharing**

### **Get Ready for the SOUPer Bowl!**

Shared by Amy Manning

I was asked to write a short article about our Congregational participation in "The SOUPer Bowl of Caring." I don't recall an exact year when we started gathering canned food and dollars, but it has gone on for a number of years, probably back to the early 1990's when we were Youth Group Advisors. A pamphlet came in the mail to the Youth Group, an energetic group of teens said yes to asking for donations, and an adult in the congregation took the donated foods & money to the local pantry. As things were more simple then, I telephoned into a call center to give our totals; that has now been replaced by online reporting. A tradition of the Youth Group leading a Sunday worship was in place long before this collecting for a local food pantry, but was also in late January/ early February, so tied together well. We donated to the prior Herkimer Interfaith Clergy Council Food Pantry, which has morphed over time to be housed at the Salvation Army of Herkimer.

We are already beating our goal! With 95+ food items and \$17 we are kicking hunger! Let's put the energy of the "Big Game" into action and make a difference! Food and monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Donations can be put in the offering plate or sent to Trinity's office marked for "SOUPer Bowl". Food donations may be left at the altar railing or in the bin on the parsonage porch. Thank you!

### **FOOD PANTRY**

For the month of February, we will be collecting items to make Chili - canned tomatoes, stewed tomatoes, tomato soup, tomato paste, kidney beans, etc. (or a can of Chili) for the Food Pantry! Please leave any donations in the basket at the entry of the church or in the bin on the parsonage porch. Thank you!

### **BOX FOR SOCKS**

During these harsh cold months, let's help others keep warm. Socks can be left in the box in the sanctuary or in the box on the parsonage porch. Thanks to all who have donated!

## **Learning**

### **FAITH ALIVE**

Well! Here we are again, following Jesus, as He leads us into new and exciting ventures. What a happy place to be.

If you still haven't checked us out, prayerfully consider stopping by, a few minutes before the church service. ALL ages are invited to join the fellowship which includes fun, snacks, drinks and of course, coffee.

The children are so precious and honest, a gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3). We can learn of Jesus' love from them as they learn from us. A circle with our Lord in the middle. That's what makes this time so awesome. Jesus Christ, Emmanuel "God with us".

We get together every third Sunday, so our next time will be Sunday, February 13th 9-10am.

If you are so led in joining with the mission of the church, please bring one food item for our local food pantry every time we meet. In this way we will be sharing God's love with others. Thank you.

Because we are a work in progress, new crafts and/or ideas are always welcome and so appreciated. Thanks!

Questions? Please call Cassie at the church office 315-866-6474, Wendy Catera or Phillis Becker.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

Did you know that there is an active discussion about the Bible and its messages for us happening every Thursday morning at 10 am? You are welcome to join the conversation! The group is led by Phillis Becker, and meets weekly in the Fellowship Hall.

Dean Gail offers virtual Bible Study experiences on Facebook. The study is streamed live on Facebook and can also be viewed at any time after it is posted.

### **BOOK GROUP**

We will be reading "The Possibility Dogs" by Susannah Charlesson for Friday, February 18th. Looking forward, please consider joining us on Friday, March 18th, for a fun activity. No book to read in March as we will be sharing scripture, quotes and poems. We will meet at Harriet's house at 10:00 AM. We welcome new readers to the group! Call Harriet at 315-868-9977 for directions or with any questions. Remember, If you have not had the opportunity to read the book you are more than welcome anyway. It is a time of fellowship and sharing. Be assured, beverages and a snack are always on the table.

## Worship, Music, and Prayer

### BLESSINGS OF PRAYER 🙏:

"Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of Faith, who for the JOY SET BEFORE HIM, endured the Cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2)

### PRAYER NOTES 🙏:

We pray in suffering, and as we do, we are changed. Our hearts are enlarged to receive and accept all people. Here is the wonder: The suffering is not for nothing!! God takes it and uses it for something beautiful, something far beyond anything we can imagine. Right now we catch only glimpses here and there: the moon's reflected light. But a day is coming when the blinders will be removed and the scales will fall off, and we will see a glory in our suffering that will blaze like the noonday SON, JESUS. "For the JOY that was set before Him endured the Cross." Together we stand under the CROSS.

We develop intimacy in prayer by regular association. We are forming "holy habits" which in time will do their work of integration so that praying becomes the easy thing, the natural thing, the spontaneous thing. In time, the hard thing will be to refrain from prayer.

PS: Falling asleep in prayer is no problem. We can rest in God's presence. Besides, next to the heart of God is a good place, a safe place, for sleeping.

Trinity's prayer chain is here for all of us. Would you like to be part of lifting the cares and concerns of others to Jesus for His mercy and grace? Pray about it and see if God is leading you in that direction. Any questions please speak to me, Phillis. Thank you

What an amazing, awesome God we serve. Yes!!!!

In His Service,  
Prayer Ministry

## Volunteer Schedule

Please contact Cassie with questions or any necessary changes.

	February 6	February 13	February 20	February 27
<b>Counter 1</b>	Phillis Becker	Phillis Becker	Amy Manning	Amy Manning
<b>Counter 2</b>	JoAnn Blaise	JoAnn Blaise	Gary Manning	Gary Manning
<b>Reader</b>	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	Bona Starring	Phillis Becker
<b>Technology</b>	JoAnn/Ann	Cassie/Ann	Cassie/Ann	Cassie/Ann
<b>Unlock Door</b>	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker	Joann Blaise	Phillis Becker
<b>Singer</b>	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins
<b>Altar</b>	N/A	Kylene Jordan	Amy Manning	Kylene Jordan
<b>Ventilation</b>	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser

## Stewardship

Thanks to everyone who has continued to mail offerings to church (443 Henry Street, Herkimer, NY 13350) or continues 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 Wendy DeLuca at [wdeluca@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:wdeluca@trinityherkimer.org).

During the first 4 Sundays in December, Trinity received offerings in the following amounts.

Average In-person Attendance	General Fund	Capital Fund	Designated Funds
21	\$5,549.50	\$60.00	\$1,242.50

Designated Funds include: Flowers, Candles, Clinton Homes, World Hunger, Youth Groups, Fundraisers, Synod, Reimbursed Items, Local Charities, Memorial Fund, Capital Fund, Organ Fund & Pastor’s Discretionary Fund.

Needed from 4 Sundays each month - \$8189.33

## FEBRUARY 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 am Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>6</b> 10:00 am Worship Service
<b>7</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>8</b> 10:00 am Virtual Bible Study	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Council meeting via ZOOM	<b>10</b> 10:00 am Bible Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>13</b> 9:00 am Faith Alive Event  10:00 am Worship Service
<b>14</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10:00 am Bible Study	<b>18</b> 10:00 am Book Group Meets	<b>19</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Worship Service
<b>21</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>22</b> 10:00 am Virtual Bible Study  6:00 pm Habitat For Humanity Meeting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00 am Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting	<b>27</b> 10:00 am Worship Service
<b>28</b> 7:30 pm NA Meeting						

**Church Office Hours:** Cassie will be in the office Tuesday-Friday from 1-4pm for any of your church needs. She can always be reached at [csherman@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:csherman@trinityherkimer.org) or leave a message on the church phone 315-866-6474.

## Our Church Family



God's children in need of prayer and support: Ann, Jim, Larry, Logan, Jerry, Michael, Eleanor, Victor, Edith, Joanne, John, Gary, Nancy, Rich, Rose, Jason, Chase, Peter, Tanya, Felix, Irene, Barbara, Bob, Graham, Loren Jr., Asha, Abby, Alyx and all others on Trinity's prayer chain.

Please keep all those around the world and those at home who are suffering from the current natural disasters, oppression, persecution and those who have COVID, also the families who have lost loved ones in the fire in Bronx N.Y., in your prayers. Thank you so much.

John Keiser's sister, Dolly Rogers, went to be with our Lord on Sunday 1/16/2022. Please keep John and his family in your prayers for God's comfort and peace. Whenever Dolly visited John from Texas, she would attend Thursday AM bible study.

Our dear sister in Christ, Millie Marusic at age 96, went to be with Jesus on Thursday 1/20/22. Please keep her two daughters, Linda and Nancy and their entire families in your prayers for God's peace and comfort. Many home communion visits with Millie are held dear in our hearts.

Please keep our dear friend, Hope Ruff, in your prayers as she transitions into her new home. Hope would love to hear from you! Send greetings in the mail to her new address provided below.

Hope Ruff  
Valley Residential Services  
323 Pine Grove Road  
Room 127  
Herkimer, NY 13350

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

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Benjamin Manning  
Andy Schrader  
Christopher Skibinski  
Wendy DeLuca  
Camryn Knoblauch  
Kim Engert-Torres  
Matt Stewart  
Patricia Glogowski  
Ron Snow

Kristen Burger  
Stephanie Gee  
Judy Grande  
Paul Kucerak, III  
Daniel Kornutiak  
Brenda Briggs  
Gertrude Douglas  
Richard L. Becker  
Kelly Merena

Jennifer Lipczynski  
Mason Pawelek  
Sara Lilly Manning  
John Kane  
Lorie Schrader  
Joanne Belcourt  
Hope Ruff  
Macade Knoblauch  
Thomas Manning

### FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jody & Travis Kirk  
Rose & Ron Snow

Jodi & Dan Rivers  
Cathy & Tim Marquissee

**If you spot an error or omission, please notify the office. We will be happy to update this list!**

## **Courtesy Resolution Approved at January Annual Meeting 2022**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT TRINITY’S CONGREGATION:

- Give thanks to God for his amazing grace!
- Give a heartfelt thanks to our members who faithfully serve and give financially to the work of this congregation so that God’s grace will be made known and His work be done in our community and beyond.
- Extend our thanks and gratitude for those who have served on Council this past year: President Ann Maher; Vice-President Phillis Becker; Treasurer Kylene Jordan; Secretary Cathy Mayton-Collins; Amy Manning; Gary Manning, Bona Starring and Paul Kucerak. We uplift with appreciation Paul and Cathy as they complete their terms of service on Council, and welcome those who are elected to serve in the future.
- Extend our thanks and appreciation to our staff: Sue Kubica – Music Director; Cassie Sherman– Administrative Assistant; John Keiser and Paul Keyser – Sextons; Justina Kane, Technology Director, Wendy DeLuca, Financial Secretary; and Dean Gail Wolling, our Pastor of Record . You serve us well!
- Offer appreciation to Sunday worship leaders, congregational volunteers and our Worship and Music Committee for planning, organizing and providing meaningful worship opportunities in both virtual and in-person settings.
- Give thanks to the many folks who keep Trinity’s outreach and fellowship projects going and all who support the work of the church.
- Continue to pray for our ecumenical neighbor churches and our Lutheran sister congregations of Zion and Our Saviour, as we seek ways to share resources and work together.
- Continue to pray for our companion synods of Zimbabwe and Zambia; our own Upstate New York Synod led by Bishop Lee Miller III; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America led by Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.
- Trust in God to lead us forward into peace, joy, and service through our faith.

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**Worship With Us  
From Anywhere!  
Call on your landline  
phone, use your  
computer, receive a  
DVD, or receive a  
printed copy of the  
sermon! See Worship  
Schedule for details.**

### **Helpful Resources:**

Church Calendar: [trinityherkimer.org/calendar](http://trinityherkimer.org/calendar)

COVID CDC Tracker: [covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view)

Facebook: [facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer](https://facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer)

SYNOD website: [upstatenynod.org/](http://upstatenynod.org/)