



Vol. 56 No. 1

Glad Tidings

JANUARY 2023

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

Creating a Year of Inspiration in 2023

What does God have in store for TLC in this fresh, new year? It will be exciting to see, and we ask each congregation member to pray about this and be open to God's leading in our ministries and church operations. We will start the planning process on **January 8th** when we will gather for the Annual Congregational Meeting. (The snow date for the meeting is January 22nd.) This important business meeting provides the opportunity to approve our annual budget, elect Council and Endowment Committee members, close the books for the year, and give thanks to God for our blessings. This year, it will also provide an opportunity for many of you to meet our new Administrative Assistant Briana Jackson in person. You should have received a packet of information for the Annual Meeting in the mail. Please notify the office if you have not received this mailing.

An "Inspiring" Gift For You

Do you know how much talent we have within our membership at TLC? During January, a collection of poetry, devotions, stories, prayers and reflections written by TLC members or their family members will be published for your enjoyment and inspiration. Titled "TLC Inspirations", we hope it will inspire you and give you hope for the new year. A special thanks to Ann Maher and Sue Harkins for all their work in gathering the pieces for this book.

Date	Worship Leader	Format	Communion
January 1	Deacon Patsy Glista	In House/Virtual	Yes
January 8	Rev. Gail Wolling	In House/Virtual	Yes
January 15	David Grindle SAM	In House/Virtual	No
January 22	Judy Sadlon	In House/Virtual	No
January 29	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

www.trinityherkimer.org

315-866-6474

Office News

With Briana in our church office, 2023 is a great opportunity to give ourselves a fresh start and update our records and our directory! There is a form included with the Annual Meeting letter, requesting updated information. Thank you in advance for returning your completed form as soon as possible to make sure we have accurate information about your family.

Women United in Faith

Join us on Monday, January 23rd at 7pm when we will be studying the book of Ruth. Our gathering will be on Zoom. If you are interested in joining us please watch the weekly announcements for a Zoom link or contact the office (info@trinityherkimer.org).

Help Wanted: Endowment Committee

First and perhaps most importantly, we wish to express our gratitude to Wendy Catera for the dedication and support she has provided to the Endowment Committee for the past many years. Wendy has served as a committee member but also as a record-keeper for the Committee. At this time, Wendy needs to retire from work with the Endowment Committee. If you feel this is a place where your talents may be used, please consider joining Mike Marusic, PJ Marusic, Dan Pollak, and John Sadlon on this committee. Please email info@trinityherkimer.org so that we can connect you with the committee. Thank you to all previous and new volunteer members of the Endowment Committee!

Cans and Bottles

We are seeking a volunteer to redeem the bottles and cans placed at the church at least once a month, sometimes more depending on the amount received. Please contact Kylene at 315-404-3945 or kylene@trinityherkimer.org if you are able to help.

Serving and Sharing

JANUARY'S DONATION FOCUS

For the month of January, our donation focus will be **soup and crackers** for the Food Pantry and socks. Donated socks will be distributed among several community organizations and groups. Each month we will have a different donation focus, but other items will always be in need and accepted. Donations can be left in the box in the sanctuary, on the parsonage porch, or in the Henry Street vestibule. Thanks to all who continue to donate!

Learning

BOOK GROUP

Our first meeting in 2023 will be Friday, January 20th at 10 am at Trinity. Our book is any Mrs Pollifax book by Dorothy Gilman. The first book in the series is [The Unexpected Mrs. Pollifax](#).

FAITH ALIVE

WOW!! God happenings are being recognized all around us, as we follow Jesus. For example, for the first time, since COVID during Sunday worship, a children's service was given by Patsy Glista. Why? Because children were there and the Holy Spirit said to her "Do IT". What Joy was on their young faces, which was contagious throughout the sanctuary. The timing is always perfect with our Lord (Advent: Hope, Love, Joy, Peace).

Psalm 89:1 is the foundation on which Faith Alive stands. " I will sing of the lovingkindness of the Lord forever: to all generations I will make known Thy faithfulness with my mouth."

Our January Faith Alive gatherings will be **Sunday the 8th and the 22nd from 9-10am**. As you know, all ages are welcome. Come and check it out and experience the Joy of the Lord.
Happy New Year!!-no Faith Alive the 1st!

We are still a work in progress. God happenings keep popping up and the amazing thing is we recognize them. Like having 9 precious children and their families at our last time together. Praying together, in a circle, is awesome. Seeing the joy in their faces and feeling the Holy Spirit surrounding all of us is such a blessing of love. Again, we have the Best Leader JESUS CHRIST!!

Reminder: we continue to collect non-perishable food items for our local food pantry for someone who just might need a little help.

Any questions, new ideas or project suggestions are always welcome and appreciated. Please call Phillis Becker or Sheila Baker or the church office at 315-866-6474. Thank you so much with love and Happy New year!!

Worship, Music, and Prayer

BLESSINGS OF PRAYER:

"Draw near to God and HE will draw near to you" (James 4:8)

"Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart" (Psalm 37:4)

PRAYER NOTES:

It is not enough to "believe in God", we want to know God. We want God to become a reality.

But how?

"God we want to know You; shape us to resemble Your Son Jesus Christ".

R-E-L-A-T-I-O-N-S-H-I-P

To help us: Pray more relationally, seek to focus

more on our relationship with Jesus and less on what we need from Him.

(A - Start by presenting ourselves to a Father who loves us just as we are and longs to grow closer to Him.

(B - Tell Jesus we long for Him more than any other blessing.

(C - Walk right into His presence, with confidence, and expect to get what He most wants to give us:

HIMSELF, yes HIMSELF!

The "first thing" is always God: knowing Him, glorifying Him, revealing Him in the way we live our lives. It's called Action on our part.

When we get ourselves into God, through prayer, finding the JOY of being in His presence more valuable than anything else in life, then delighting in the Lord Jesus Christ ALTERS the desires of our HEART!!!

When we pray, we enjoy a close personal

relationship with our heavenly Father through our Lord Jesus Christ. John 14:6 - Jesus says " I am the way, the truth and the life, no comes to the Father, but through Me"

P.S. Prayerfully consider joining Trinity's prayer chain. If so led by the Lord, just let anyone of us know. Thank you!

In His Service,
Prayer Ministry

Volunteer Schedule

	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22	1/29
Counter 1	Amy Manning	Amy Manning	Bona Starring	Bona Starring	JoAnn Blaise
Counter 2	Gary Manning	Gary Manning	Cathy Mayton-Collins	Cathy Mayton-Collins	Phillis Becker
Reader	Judy Sadlon	Phillis Becker	Bona Starring	Judy Sadlon	Bona Starring
Slideshow/Zoom	Abby McArthur	Abby McArthur	Abby McArthur	Abby McArthur	Abby McArthur
Unlock Door	Phillis Becker	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker
Singer	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	David Grindle	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins
Altar	Kylene Jordan	Amy Manning	N/A	N/A	Kylene Jordan
Ventilation	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser

Please contact info@trinityherkimer.org with any necessary changes.

Stewardship

Monthly giving needed to fund the approved budget of \$103,607 is \$8,633.92.

NOVEMBER Information

Actual Offerings Received for the month: \$7,046.53

Actual Expenses Paid for the month: \$5,928.26

Income is over by *\$1,118.27*

Excess monies are added to the Fund Balance.

Designated Funds received monthly **are not included** in the amount above. Examples: Local Charities, Food Pantry, Memorial Funds, etc.

Interested in donating online? The Stewardship/Finance committee has expanded our giving options online through Vanco. Visit our website for a new, updated donation page which allows you more options! If you are currently enrolled in Simply Giving there will be more information about this change coming to you soon. Contact finance@trinityherkimer.org with any questions.

Did you know?

It takes lots of dedicated people to participate behind the scenes and in front of the camera to pre-record the Christmas Eve worship service. Many thanks for sharing your time and talents to Sheila Baker, Phillis Becker, Sue Harkin, Justina Kane, Sue Kubica, Amy and Jerry Manning, Bona Starring, Judy Sadlon, Donna Thompson, and Rev. Gail Wolling.

January 2023							>
<	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Worship Service	2	3 Office Open	4	5 Bible Study Office Open	6	7
	8 Faith Alive Worship Service Annual Congregational Meeting	9	10 Office Open	11	12 Bible Study Office Open	13	14
	15 Worship Service	16	17 Office Open	18	19 Bible Study Office Open	20 Book Group	21
	22 Faith Alive Worship Service	23 Women In Faith Bible Study	24 Office Open	25	26 Bible Study Office Open	27	28
	29 Worship Service	30	31 Office Open				

Our Church Family

God's children in need of prayer and support: Ann, Jerry, Billy, Peter, Jeff, Fred, Charlie, Harry, Joe, Kim, Barbara, Tim, Janet, Brenda, Tiffany, Emily, Gary, Jennifer, David, Sandra, Esther, Donna, Daniel, Gabriel, Irene, Tanya, David .

Looking at all those listed above who need our prayers, let us not forget to lift to the throne of God all people around the world and here at home who are suffering from extreme hardship. Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us to open our hearts in Christian love to all, being persistent in prayer and never giving up.

A suggested prayer for January:

Heavenly Father, open our hearts to
seek to do Your will in heartfelt love
toward others. Help us to depend
totally on YOU, and not ourselves, in
word and action.

In Jesus Name we pray, Amen!!!!

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

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS:

We are blessed and welcome Briana Jackson, Trinity's new "Office Assistant", to our church family. See a new face? Smile and introduce yourself!!!

Have you noticed, we have our choir back, singing praises to God so beautifully with Sue Kubica accompanying them. A big thank you to Bona, Judy, Rose, Ron, Shiela, Sue H. and Sue K. for blessing our church services in music and song!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Christine Stegeman
Cindy Manning
Gabrielle Griffin
Myrtle Irons
Colt Nemecek
Rebecca Shaut
Zachary Snow
Carol Obermann
Jonah Levi

Kali René Fical
Maria Schroeder
Daniel Pollak
Shane Kucerak
Kendall Guccione
Kathy Schrader
Miranda Meinzer
Rebecca Walrath
Carol Farrington

JoAnn Blaise
Timothy Marusic
John Wilcox
Jenna Macri
Joanne Mencer
Arnold A. Schrader
Connor Griffin
Victoria Bunn

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Maria & Jerome Madden
Rebecca & Michael Marusic

Kathy & Frank Kapusta
Kathy & Donald Schrader

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

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	315-868-0291	jblaise@trinityherkimer.org
Treasurer: Kyleene 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
Rev. Gail Wolling	518-225-7537	gwolling@trinityherkimer.org
Office	315-866-6474	info@trinityherkimer.org

**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

COVID CDC Tracker: covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view

Facebook: facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer

SYNOD website: upstatenysynod.org/

Trinity Lutheran Church Covid 19 Protocols

Updated July 13, 2022

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 the church facilities. This includes worship, meetings, and all other purposes. Council discusses this issue monthly at their meetings.

When the County COVID-19 Community Level is **High**:

- All persons will wear a mask at all times, except when taking Communion, or in the Fellowship Hall & seated/consuming food. 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 COVID-19 Community Level is **Medium or Low**:

- Unvaccinated individuals must wear a mask at all times.
- 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!

This policy is reviewed monthly by the TLC council.