



Vol. 56 No. 2

Glad Tidings

FEBRUARY 2023

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

The Lenten Journey Begins This Month

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. There will be an Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, February 22 at Trinity at 3 p.m.. Deacon Patsy Glista will be leading the service and dispensation of communion.

Last year during the season of Lent, we took time to reflect and write down things that we were thankful for in our lives. Things like forgiveness, blessings, baptism, grace and love were recorded and put in a large glass jar in our sanctuary. On different Sundays in Lent during worship, our worship leader would pull out a few slips of paper and share them with the congregation to bring attention to these things that we might take for granted.

This year we will bring out that jar again! This can certainly be done in your own home as well if you are participating in Trinity's services on the internet. Sunday, February 26 will mark the first Sunday in Lent. We invite you to write down something you might give up for Lent. Instead of tangible things like desserts or candy or buying new clothes, think about the things you need to work on to be a better person. Why not try to surrender things such as weakness, fear, jealousy, impatience, criticism, or being motivated by others' judgment? Write it down and put those slips of paper in a bowl or jar and really try to work on improving. That container holding the papers shows that God contains our weaknesses and is much bigger than our own self-limiting thoughts.

Another option is to write down things that you are willing to give up your time for, to help those in need during Lent. Volunteer to cook meals or deliver meals to the homeless and shut-ins. Call an elderly person, send a note or make time to visit. You will make their day! Volunteer to help out at local non-profit organizations that reflect your interests, including churches with their many programs. These are just a few suggestions to give up some of your precious time to help others.

Lent is a season for solitary prayer and attentive listening. Listen to your heart, give of your time and don't give up on your own self-improvement with the help of God.

Date	Worship Leader	Format	Communion
February 5	Tom Henry SAM	In House/Virtual	No
February 12	Deacon Patsy Glista	In House/Virtual	No
February 19	Rev. Gail Wolling	In House/Virtual	Yes
February 22 - Ash Wednesday	Deacon Patsy Glista	In House/Virtual	Yes
February 26	Tom Henry SAM	In House/Virtual	No

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

Council President's Musings:

Hello to all! I will admit to thinking & reminiscing in the past few days about when my late father, Bill Fredlund, was part of the leadership of this Church Council. Also of other deceased Council members: Dot Luther, Elmer Smith, my Father-in-law Charlie Manning, Steve Crane, among others. I am hopeful that I can honor them, as we as a Congregation move forward in 2023 and beyond.

I would like to “bring back” the idea of a Spring & Fall “work day” (or days for each, due to people’s personal schedules). In the past, this was done on a Saturday morning, but could be done at people’s convenience, outdoor & indoor basic cleaning & “spiffing things up.” With Easter being April 9th this year, pray for timely spring weather to allow us to hold at least 1 work day prior to Easter Sunday. If you have interest in participating, please contact me, whether by phone, in-person, mail, or e-mail. Is anyone willing to polish brass? Clean wood? Deep clean floors? Yard & garden work? Wash windows & screens? Choose your own task.

Did you know? First Communion training is available to anyone interested; please contact Phillis Becker. Baptism Sacrament is available with a meeting/counseling time first, service at another time with Pastor Gail Wolling. You may contact either Phillis or Pastor Gail to schedule. Confirmation class can be planned, also with Phillis, or off-site with another Lutheran Church if that is your preference. Options for service to others in Jesus’ name include preparing meals for Salvation Army or “Feed My Sheep” distributions. Highway Cleanup will continue also.

I will admit to being taken by surprise at least twice in the past few days, learning of two local Churches in our Valley Villages who have either already closed their congregation’s doors, or plan to close in 2023. We need people to be involved in Worship, activities, and service to others, so it doesn’t happen to us.

Also, on a side note, we are looking ahead to the June Congregational Meeting for possible speech-to-text, or typing comments so they can be read in real-time, to assist those who are hard-of-hearing especially in a meeting situation.

I am thankful for support from Council & Congregation Members, and our Staff!

To be continued in Jesus’ name,
Amy Manning, Trinity Herkimer Church Council President.

Office News

If you would like to receive a copy of Council minutes each month, please contact the office to let us know how you prefer to receive them. And did you pick up your copy of “Inspirational Words”, written by your fellow congregation members? Copies are available on the table in the Narthex, or call the office.

Women United in Faith Gathering

The Women of Faith from Our Saviour, Utica; Trinity, Herkimer; and Zion will next gather in-person on Sunday, February 12 at 12 noon at Zion, New Hartford. Our program, Mary and Elizabeth – 2 Women, Vulnerable Like Us, will be facilitated by Rev. Anita Mohr and Pam Donovan from Our Saviour. We will explore the story of Mary and Elizabeth and wonder about how women coming together invite us into relationship to God and to each other. We will explore our vulnerabilities and the ways God encourages us and protects us. All women are invited to join us. Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided by the women of Zion.

Women In Faith Bible Study

Our February Women of Faith Bible study will be on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 PM via Zoom. All are welcome to attend, no preparation required. Our program presented by Kim Marscher, will be about Hildegard of Bingen, a 13th century Christian woman known as a spiritual leader, holistic healer (some of her practices are still in use today), musician, artist, writer, and mother superior of a Benedictine nunnery. She stood up to the Pope and might have influenced Martin and Katharine Luther. We'll get to hear some of her music, participate in a Faith Devotional she wrote (translated from German), and hear a brief overview of her remarkable life. What remarkable women influenced you, and who do you consider remarkable now? Watch for the Zoom link in the Weekly Announcements closer to the date of the Bible Study.

Lenten Luncheons

Lenten Luncheons will be held at the following churches beginning at noon on these dates:

- ❖ March 1 – St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Ilion
- ❖ March 8 – Morning Star Methodist Church, Ilion
- ❖ March 15 – First Presbyterian Church, Ilion
- ❖ March 22 - First United Methodist Church, Herkimer
- ❖ March 29 – Blessed Sacrament, Mohawk

SOUPer Bowl

It's time for both the Superbowl and the SOUPERbowl of Caring. The sporting event allows us an opportunity to remember to honor Jesus by tackling Hunger!

The SOUPERbowl of Caring is a collection of dollars & canned food in local Churches and Congregations, donated to a local food charity. We have the Salvation Army food pantry as the successor to the previous Herkimer-Mohawk Interfaith Clergy Council. The nationwide collection runs January 15th to March 15th, with focus on submitting numbers to the national website on Superbowl Sunday, February 12th.

Please plan to donate \$1, a canned food item, or more if you possibly could. Look for a soup pot, rather than the offering plate, to make your financial donation. Thank you for tackling Hunger locally!

Serving and Sharing

FEBRUARY'S DONATION FOCUS

For the month of February, our donation focus will be Chili - tomatoes, stewed tomatoes, tomato soup, tomato paste, kidney beans, etc. 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

TLC Book group will meet February 17th at 10 am at Trinity. Our book is any StoryCorps book. Editor is David Isay. These books are interviews recorded for posterity by ordinary people. Stories of relationships, experiences in natural disasters and career choices. These interviews are archived in the Library of Congress so family members can access them to hear stories of past generations. One of the titles is "Listening is an Act of Love". Others are "Mom" and "All there is". Enjoy!

FAITH ALIVE

Something new: We will begin every Faith Alive gathering remembering our Baptism. How??? We will speak out loud, in a personal way, to our Creator (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). Sounds awesome, doesn't it, that's because it is.....

When our Lord leads, great things happen and this is one of them.

We start and end by making the sign of the cross.

"I, Your Name..... Live under the care of:

GOD the FATHER, JESUS CHRIST the SON, and the HOLY SPIRIT, AMEN! "

Simple isn't it, but so powerful! Saying this daily will remind us who we are, God's Children. WOW!!

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."

Faith Alive gatherings scheduled in February will be the 5th and 22nd from 9-10am. Please mark your calendar. Come with an open heart to experience the Joy of the Lord and fellowship with each other. Consider bringing a family member and or friend. All are welcome!!

Would you like to give a little help to someone who might be in need? Please bring a non-perishable food item for our local food pantry. So appreciated and thank you.

It's exciting having Jesus Christ, as the Rock at the helm of the ship, directing and leading us into His next adventure. Experiencing God's Spirit working in all of us no matter what age is great. As Jesus opens His arms in love and invites us with a simple word "COME". How can we resist??

Any questions, new ideas or project suggestions are always welcome and appreciated. Please call the church office at 315-866-6474 leaving a message, or speak to Phillis Becker or Sheila Baker. Thank you so much!!

Worship, Music, and Prayer

BLESSINGS OF PRAYER:

"The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth" (Psalm 145:18)

PRAYER NOTES:

Prayer is at the heart of Christian spirituality. The living Word of God invites us to "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). We are encouraged to "Pray for one another" (James 5:16). We are invited to let our "request be made known to God" (Philippines 4:6).

Food for thought! Why not take time and spend 12 minutes each day with Jesus, one minute for each of the following:

PRAISE: Begin with a prayer to tell God how wonderful He is. (Psalm 9:1)

WAITING: Be quiet and let God get your heart ready. (Psalm 46:10)

CONFESSION: Tell God you're sorry for your sins. (Psalm 139:23)

SCRIPTURE PRAYING: Pray God's words back to Him. (Psalm 119:16,105)

WATCHING: Ask God to open your eyes to see what God is doing around you. (Colossians 4:2)

INTERCESSION: Pray for other people you know. (1 Timothy 2:1,2)

PETITION: Tell God about your needs. (Matthew 7:7)

THANKSGIVING: Thank God for all His Blessings. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

SINGING: Worship God with song. (Psalm 100:2)

MEDITATION: Think about how we got the Bible and what God has done. (Joshua 1:8)
 LISTENING: Listen for God to speak to you. (John 10:27)
 PRAISE: Tell God again how wonderful He is (Psalm 34:1)

What a wonderful revelation to all of us, to be engulfed in the Love and Grace of God in this awesome relationship with our Creator. Glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit!!! YES

In His Service,
 Prayer Ministry

Volunteer Schedule

	2/5	2/12	2/19	2/22-Ash Wednesday	2/26
Counter 1	JoAnn Blaise	Amy Manning	Amy Manning	N/A	Bona Starring
Counter 2	Phillis Becker	Judy Sadlon	Judy Sadlon	N/A	Cathy Mayton-Collins
Reader	Judy Sadlon	Bona Starring	Judy Sadlon	Bona Starring	Phillis Becker
Slideshow/Zoom	Abby McArthur	Abby McArthur	Abby McArthur	JoAnn Blaise	Ann Maher
Unlock Door	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker	JoAnn Blaise
Singer	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon	N/A	TBD
Altar	N/A	N/A	Amy Manning	Kylene Jordan	N/A
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.

DECEMBER Information

Actual Offerings Received for the month: 5,059.89

Actual Expenses Paid for the month: 7,166.03

Income is short by 2,106.14

Paid by using excess Fund Balance from prior years.

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?

Any member of Trinity can contact any Council Member during the year for any questions, comments or concerns throughout the year? Council member contact information is located on the last page of the monthly Tidings. Please reach out to any of us as questions arise. We are a lay led Church and need everyone's input throughout the year, not just at annual meetings.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1	2	3	4	
				Bible Study			
				Office Open			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Faith Alive		Office Open		Bible Study			
Worship Service				Office Open			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Worship Service		Office Open	Council meeting via ZOOM	Bible Study	Book Group		
Women in Faith Gathering				Office Open			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Faith Alive		Office Open	Ash Wednesday Worship Service	Bible Study			
Worship Service				Office Open			
26	27	28					
Worship Service	Women in Faith Bible Study	Office Open					

Our Church Family

God's children in need of prayer and support: Edith, Ann, Jerry, Billy, Joe, Harry, Robert, Brenda, Barbara, Kim, Charlie, Tiffany, Tim, Tanya, Bob, Gary, Chase, Peter, Emily, Veronica, Daniel, Gabriel, Donna, Jeff, Irene, Nancy, Jennifer, Benedict, Terry, Rose B.

Please pray and please pray hard, for the Ukrainian people. Recently we heard again of another attack on these precious people. The murder of children and innocent civilians being deliberately targeted. Also please lift to our Lord in prayer, here at home, help for all those affected by natural disasters. Thank you!

A suggested prayer for February:

Heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for your many blessings,
too numerous for us to count. Your love for your children is so amazing.
Our hearts are heavy, for all those suffering around the world affected
by war or natural disasters. Touch the Hearts of many in Word and Action to
meet their needs with Your Amazing LOVE. In Jesus Name.....Amen

Please keep in your prayers, for God's Comfort and Peace, the family and friends of Kirstie Pedrick in her recent death. The family were members of our church many years ago. Thank you!

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:

Trinity is blessed with many good cooks and helpers that help supply meals for Feed My Sheep and SA Cafe led by JoAnn Blaise and Cathy Mayton Collins. A big thank you to all that work behind the scenes in various ways: monetary, food donations, help in putting the meals together, delivering, etc.. As Jesus says "GOD'S work, our hands".

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Benjamin Manning	Kristen Burger	Mason Pawelek
Andy Schrader	Stephanie Gee	Sara Lilly Manning
Christopher Skibinski	Judy Grande	John Kane
Wendy DeLuca	Paul Kucerak, III	Lorie Schrader
Camryn Knoblauch	Daniel Kornutiak	Joanne Belcourt
Kim Engert-Torres	Brenda Briggs	Hope Ruff
Matt Stewart	Richard L. Becker	Macade Knoblauch
Patricia Glogowski	Kelly Merena	Thomas Manning
Ron Snow	Jennifer Lipczynski	

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jody & Travis Kirk	Jodi & Dan Rivers
Rose & Ron Snow	Cathy & Tim Marquissee

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

Council Contact Information

President: Amy Manning	315-868-9224	amanning@trinityherkimer.org
Vice President: JoAnn Blaise	315-868-0291	jblaise@trinityherkimer.org
Secretary: Ann Maher	315-891-3952	amaher@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
Judy Sadlon	315-868-8387	jsadlon@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. Last reviewed 1/11/23.