



Vol. 56 No. 3

Glad Tidings

MARCH 2023

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

Lent Has Arrived!

Getting Ready for Easter with Flowers

How festive the church looks when the altar is filled with flowers for Easter Sunday! We are working with Price Chopper in Richfield Springs, and are able to take orders for lilies, tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths. An order form is included in this mailing; forms are also available on the table in the Narthex or can be emailed/mailed to the office. Orders are due back to the office **no later than March 15th**. Flowers will decorate the Altar for Easter Sunday and should be taken home by the purchaser following the service.

Inspirational Thinking for Lent

What changes can you make in your life this Lent to improve your wellness, relationships and happiness? What attitudes or ideas no longer fit who you are and hold you back? Lent can be a time for searching out what things God has in store for you!

What do you want to “give up” for Lent? Many of us can benefit from giving up fear, jealousy, impatience, criticism, prejudice, being quick to anger, and other negative traits or emotions. The jar to write down our personal weaknesses will be in the Sanctuary beginning on Sunday, February 26. Take a moment to write down what you need to give up and work on this season of Lent. Let’s help each other grow and improve by Easter.

Date	Worship Leader	Format	Communion
March 5	Deacon Patsy Glista	In House/Virtual	No
March 12	Judy Sadlon	In House/Virtual	No
March 19	Tom Henry SAM	In House/Virtual	No
March 26	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

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 - Herkimer Reformed Church, Herkimer
- ❖ March 29 – Blessed Sacrament, Mohawk

www.trinityherkimer.org

315-866-6474

Council President's Musings:

Hello to all! Your Council has continued to be busy with Congregational work, Task force & Committee meetings. Plans are being made by the Serving & Sharing Committee for the Congregation Garden to provide some of the food for the Salvation Army & Feed My Sheep frozen meals. The Worship & Music Committee has been planning our services, and thought-provoking sermons are being written by our Worship leaders: Pastors, Deacons, Synodically Authorized Ministers, and our Congregational Lay Leaders. The Choir is rehearsing, and has started singing songs we have copyright permission or are in "Public Domain" so can be live-streamed without financial penalty. The Congregation's Annual Report to the ELCA/Synod is being prepared for submission by 3/01/23. I am still waiting for people to volunteer for a "Work Day" for indoor & outdoor clean-up at Church before Easter weekend. Please contact me to get involved.

As this is being written, the SOUPerbowl of Caring has raised \$130 & at least 26 food items for the Salvation Army Food Pantry of Herkimer. As updated totals are available, it will be publicized. Looking slightly ahead, we will need Congregational volunteers to attend the Conference Spring Assembly, & Synod Assembly which is being held this year on Friday June 2nd - Saturday June 3rd at Bethany Baptist Church in Syracuse, NY. Watch for further details. Please consider volunteering for some or all of these larger-Church efforts. Please share your abilities and talents with our congregation!
Amy Manning, 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

A very interesting and thought provoking program was facilitated by Rev. Anita Mohr and Pam Donovan from Our Saviour, Utica. The program was about Mary and Elizabeth - 2 women *Vulnerable Like Us*. We explored the emotions they must have felt and had discussions about the similarity and differences women have faced during biblical and present day times. Women from all three churches were present. It was decided that for the future we may tackle frank discussions on subjects that are often difficult to talk about like sexual harassment, homelessness and rape. Watch for more information on the next gathering.

SOUPER Bowl

It's not too late to donate to the SOUPERbowl of Caring! The SOUPERbowl of Caring is a collection of dollars & canned food in local Churches and Congregations, donated to a local food charity. Our donations will go to the Salvation Army food pantry. Please plan to donate \$1, a canned food item, or more if you possibly can. Look for a soup pot, rather than the offering plate, to make your financial donation in the sanctuary. Our collection will end on March 15th. Thank you for tackling Hunger locally!

Women of Faith Bible Study

Do you know who Mary Magdalene really was? Come join the Women of Faith from Our Saviour, Utica; Trinity, Herkimer; and Zion for our next Bible study on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 7:00pm on Zoom. Let's discuss the true meaning behind Mary Magdalene. If you want to do some reading about her before the Bible study here are some scripture references to check out – Luke 8:1 - 3; Luke 7:37 – 50; Mark 15:40 – 41; John 19:25; John 20:11 – 18; and Luke 24:1. Please mark your calendars now to join us. Thank you to Fran Holzberger who will be our facilitator for March's study. Watch for the Zoom link in the WA.

Serving and Sharing

MARCH'S DONATION FOCUS

For the month of March, our donation focus will be Meat (beef stew, tuna, pre made meat ravioli, canned spaghetti) 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 on Friday, March 17th, at 10 am at Trinity in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Our book will be any book by Donna VanLiere who is a best selling Christian author. Her books include the best seller "The Christmas Shoes". The stories are told with humor and her characters are unforgettable. Happy reading!

FAITH ALIVE

Hi everyone, when you read this we will have already met for Faith Alive on Sunday the 19 of February. So check out the new welcome bags, put together by all of us. They will be of the lovingkindness of the Lord and given out in LOVE, showing the face of Jesus with a big smile. Jesus tells us in Matthew that WE ARE the " Salt of the earth" and that WE ARE the "Light of the world ". WOW, what an awesome message!!

A thought to remember: Jesus smiles to all of us so we can take His smile to others!!!! 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 Faith Alive gatherings for March will be the 5th and the 19th. Please mark your calendar and remember that all ages are welcome. Come and join the fun, goodies, and each other...and if you are able, think about bringing a non-perishable item for someone who just might need a little help.(Focus for Lent is paper products like toilet paper and tissues.) These will be delivered to our local food pantry. Thank you!!

Remember we will begin every time together remembering our Baptism and living under His care. The words of a short prayer are on the far wall in the fellowship hall. Check it out!! 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?? Why would we even want to resist such a GREAT LOVE?????

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!

Celebrating Communion with Our Youth

How do we bring our young children to an understanding of what Communion means in their lives? As has been done in the past, teaching the children first about what Communion means, and then inviting them to the Lord's Supper are the steps that we take. Recently, that experience was offered through Faith Alive! This intergenerational setting seems to be the perfect place to resume this important ritual. Recently, Ty Rigo and Allison Baker took part in the Faith Alive learning and then celebrated communion with family.

Do you know children who are ready for this experience? Another Communion Learning Experience is planned for April or May. Watch for more details in the Tidings and Weekly Announcements, and please be in touch with Phillis Becker if you and your children want to be part of the next experience, or if you have any questions.

Worship, Music, and Prayer

BLESSINGS OF PRAYER:

"Greater LOVE has no one than this, that one lay down HIS life for HIS friends. You are MY friends, if you do what I command you." (John 15:13,14)

PRAYER NOTES:

Reading John 15:15, we see that Jesus had a close relationship with His disciples, calling them His friends. He told them, "All things I have heard from My Father I have made known to you." Jesus wants a personal relationship with us that way too!! Knowing that we are Jesus' friend transforms our prayer time with Him. We don't always have to find a quiet place when we talk to Him. Jesus is there WAITING for us to speak to Him - shopping, driving, walking etc.. After all, He is by our side ALWAYS, calling us His friend. Imagine GOD calling us, His creation, HIS friend. HOW AWESOME is that? TO GOD BE The GLORY!!

Just as we are free to visit a close friend at any time - we are always free to visit JESUS!!

FOOD for THOUGHT: Cell Phone vs. The Bible

I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone??

What if we carried it around in our purse or pocket?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it, if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to our children as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of an emergency?

This is something to make you go.....hmm.... Where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected, because Jesus already paid the price for all of us, at the CROSS.

Prayerfully consider joining Trinity's prayer chain. Guaranteed you will be blessed as well as blessing others. If you are so led, please speak to Phillis.

Volunteer Schedule

	3/5	3/12	3/19	3/26
Counter 1	Bona Starring	JoAnn Blaise	JoAnn Blaise	Amy Manning
Counter 2	Cathy Mayton-Collins	Phillis Becker	Phillis Becker	Judy Sadlon
Reader	Judy Sadlon	Amy Manning	Judy Sadlon	Bona Starring
Slideshow/ Zoom	Volunteer	Volunteer	Ann Maher	Volunteer
Unlock Door	Phillis Becker	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker	JoAnn Blaise
Singer	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins
Altar	NA	NA	NA	Amy Manning
Ventilation	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser	Paul Keyser

Please contact the office with changes.

Stewardship

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

January Information

Actual Offerings Received for the month: 6,567.52

Actual Expenses Paid for the month: 6,878.00

Income is short by 310.48

Paid by using excess Fund Balance from prior years.

Fiscal Year ended 1/31/2023

Approved budget: 106,607.00

Actual Offerings Received for the fiscal year: 61,252.06

Actual Expenses Paid for the fiscal year: 82,072.86

Income is short by 20,820.80

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? You can visit our website and use the donate tab in the top menu. Contact finance@trinityherkimer.org with any questions.

Did you Know?

That the choir is always looking for more people to join in the singing. Practice is after church on Sundays. You just need to show up! Perhaps you would like to participate in the worship service in other ways like reading the lessons, running the slide show, assisting with technology, or being a communion assistant. Please contact the church office so that you can be put on the volunteer list!

March 2023						
←						→
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
				Bible Study Office Open		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Faith Alive Worship Service		Office Open	Council meeting via ZOOM	Bible Study Office Open	Serving & Sharing Committee Meeting	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship Service		Office Open		Bible Study Office Open	Book Group	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Faith Alive Worship Service		Office Open		Bible Study Office Open		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Worship Service	Women in Faith Bible Study	Office Open		Bible Study Office Open		

Our Church Family

God's children in need of prayer and support: Rachel, Ann, Dave, Bo, Judy, Shirley, Shawn, Peter, Gary, Jennifer, Billy, Charlene, Mike, Veronica, Terry, Benedict, Edith, Jerry, Joe, Harry, Brenda, Barbara, Kim, Tim, Charlie, Tiffany, Emily, Chase, Jeff, Donna, Nancy, Irene, Tanya, Daniel, Gabriel, Jim.

So much hardship and grief at home and around the world. As I write this more than 35,000 have been reported as dead and/or injured by the magnitude earthquake in Turkey and Syria recently. Also the Ukrainian people are suffering so much. Please continue to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17) as God's Word instructs us, praying hard for all of their needs, including medical care. Thank you!

A suggested prayer for March:

Precious Jesus, we come before You with one voice praising Your Name with songs of Thanksgiving and deep concerns on our heart, for all those in need. Your Word instructs us to Ask, Seek & Knock. So now we lay all these people at the foot of the Cross for Your Healing and awesome Mercy, trusting in You and You Alone. In Jesus Name we Pray, Amen!

Congratulations to Sue and Todd Kubica on the birth of their new grandson. Kit Brewster Kubica was born 2/4/23 in Vermont to his proud parents Elizabeth and Andy. Along with the family we give praise for Kit, a precious child from God. To God be the Glory!

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:

Faithfully year after year Amy Manning shows her love to those in need in word and action. We see this especially during the SOUPer Bowl, as I said year after year. Thank you, Amy!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Kiya Snyder	Marcy Miller	Nicole Benedict
Patrick Roche	Mary Knoblauch	Abe Stublely
Beth Ann Crouch	Ty Rigo	Amanda MacDougald
John D. Sadlon	Amelia Whitney	Kevin Kirk
Steve Kucerak, Jr.	Cole DeLuca	Connie Engert
Charlee Mae Lyon	Eddie Hermann	John Keiser
Taryn Rackmyer	Samantha Prosser	Stephen Manning
Ann Maher	Judy Burke	Avery Hinckley
Catrina Griewahn	Ella Wilcox	Elaine Fleming
Dustin Sanders	Maegan Manning	Hunter Shaut
Laurie Heiland-Crouch	Ashley Hinckley	Jared Levi
Stanley Swienton	Debra Devereese	Jennifer Burger
Lisa Woods	Jodi Rivers	Melissa McClouskey
Paul Vanderwerken	Jodie Farrington	Riley Lyon

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Cindy & Mark Knoblauch

Carol & Peter Bunn

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
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Rev. Gail Wolling	518-225-7537	gwolling@trinityherkimer.org
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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

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.