



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

Council President's Musings

Happy New Year to all!

I pray that you each had positive family times and treasured traditions to share in the past few weeks. I want to say "Thank You" to all who contributed to Trinity's Advent devotional, I enjoyed the heartfelt & genuine expressions.

I urge you all to plan to attend the Annual Congregational meeting, upcoming on 1/21/2024. The Mailing will be coming shortly, if you have not already received it. A list of "Voting Members" will be compiled, Confirmed/Adult Members who have communed & given a donation of \$.01 or more in an envelope with your name on it in the past year. A person must be 18 years old or older, per NY state law, to vote on financial matters.

We are working together to get estimates for repairs for the Parsonage & Church roof, to maintain our Buildings/property. If possible this information will be included in proposal voting at the Annual meeting, otherwise it will cause a special meeting for that purpose. Vendors must have a Certificate of Insurance to provide to us, in case you know a Roofing Vendor who would give an estimate. All estimates should be received by council prior to their meeting on January 10, 2024.

Do you know of any members who were December 2023 Graduates? Please share their info, so we can include & celebrate them & their good news in the February Tidings. Also let us know ahead of time if there are upcoming Graduates for May/June 2024.

Also, we are beginning something called a "Vitality Survey" with assistance from our Upstate New York Synod, so please look for its arrival & fill it out/return it. More details to come.

Enjoy what remains of the 12 days of Christmas, and the upcoming Epiphany Season!

Peace & Blessings,
Amy Manning, Council President

Date	Worship Leader	Format	Communion
January 7	Rev. Gail Wolling	In House/Virtual	Yes
January 14	Judy Sadlon	In House/Virtual	No
January 21	Rev. Gail Wolling	In House/Virtual	Yes
January 28	Rev. Victor McKusick	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

The Souperbowl Of Caring 2024

This is a brief Public Service Announcement: The Souperbowl of Caring will be held, coinciding with the NFL's Super Bowl on 2/11/2024, and we're going to plan an early start, to optimistically collect more food for the local Food Pantry housed at The Herkimer Salvation Army. Please look for locations in the church building for non-perishable food, and a Soup Kettle to collect cash for the Food Pantry. If you want further information, visit www.tacklehunger.org

Women Of Faith

There will be a planning meeting held on Zoom on January 22nd at 7pm to plan future WOF events. Please plan to join us! The Zoom link will be shared as the date approaches. Contact the office if you don't receive it.

Offering Envelopes

Our 2024 Offering Envelopes are available for pickup in the Narthex. If you do not see envelopes with your name, but you would like them, please contact Wendy at wdeluca@trinityherkimer.org or by calling the office.

Serving and Sharing

DONATION FOCUS

For the month of January, our donation focus will be Soup and Crackers as our food emphasis. Each month we have a different donation focus, but other items will always be in need and accepted. Food donations can be left in the box in the sanctuary or in the Henry Street vestibule. Donations of socks are also requested. The Box for Socks is on the table in the narthex. Thanks to all who donate!

May the new year be filled with many new adventures and missions. May the grace of God guide us to these new missions with the help of the soldiers and warriors of Jesus. Many meals have been made and shared, may that continue throughout the year. Some things are taking breaks for the winter but new things I hope will replace them. With and always with the help of the lord let's not survive but thrive and share all our talents god has given to us.

Watch for announcements for foods or help in making meals may appear. That is our way of staying vigilant in God's work.

Blessings for a wonderful New Year,
JoAnn Blaise

Learning

FAITH ALIVE

Faith Alive on December 10th was filled with the love of Jesus. Again Allison, with a big smile, set up a chair for Jesus so all could visualize His presence among us. What JOY!! We were as one, united in the Love of the Lord. And then, worshiping together in the sanctuary! WOW!!

More joyful cards for Christmas were made by Annabelle, Tommy, Marty, Allison, Ty and many adults sharing the Good News message of Jesus' birth and His precious GIFT of LOVE, shown to all of us at the Cross. WOW, what a GIFT!! These also will be delivered to the residents at Johnson Park. Also, we started making wreaths with ribbon, which will continue as a work in progress. Thank you Sue and Shiela for sharing your gift of craft with us.

Included in the last page of the January tidings is a letter of thanks from the residents at Johnson Park for the love Thanksgiving cards delivered. Sharing God's love is absolutely contagious, another God happening. Thank you Jesus!

Can't stop now, we must continue sharing God's love, that beautiful Gospel message to all. So FA will be coming up with our own unique Mission logo soon, so keep an eye out for it. We will work together, so put your thinking caps on!!!!

Our next FA gatherings being held in January are the 7th, 21st. Come and enjoy the fun & fellowship, all ages are welcome.

Psalm 89:1 - "I will sing of the lovingkindness of the Lord forever: I will make known Thy faithfulness with my mouth "

COMMUNION: As a parent or guardian would you like your baptized child to learn about why we as God's children are instructed by Jesus Christ to remember Him through the bread and wine offered at communion? If so, then bring them to Faith Alive where they will learn, in an environment of love and hands on, the beauty of communion. Please speak to Phillis Becker if the timing is difficult due to various reasons. I would be happy to make different arrangements for you and your child. Peace!!

CONFIRMATION: Things are happening at Trinity in a positive way, all led by the Holy Spirit. One of them is praying over the question, What Would Jesus Do?. Our young people are precious to all of us at Trinity. Our goal is teaching them to grow in their Faith in a unique way, both spiritually and righteously, even after classes are over. To realize that our God is a banner over us/them with LOVE. In other words, being active in spreading God's love to All in a hurting world, through WORD and ACTION. So parents/guardians of those eligible for confirmation, please be patient and call Phillis 315-866-2379 with any thoughts/questions you might have. Blessings!

God's Blessings for a Happy New Year!

Worship, Music, and Prayer

BLESSINGS OF PRAYER:

" I AM the VINE; you are the branches", JESUS said. If a man remains in ME and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from ME you can do nothing ". (John 15:5)

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

PRAYER NOTES:

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

Prayer is: Communicating Intimately with Our Creator..

It is not enough to believe in God, we want to KNOW GOD. We want Jesus to become a reality. BUT HOW?? Is the big question????

We pray " O Lord help me to KNOW YOU; shape me to resemble Your Son Jesus Christ" Amen!

To help us pray more relationally, seek to focus more on our relationship with Jesus and less on what we need/want from Him. Start by presenting ourselves to a Father who loves us just as we are and longs to grow closer to Him. Tell Jesus Christ we long for Him more than any other blessing.

Through prayer, we walk right into His presence with confidence and expect to get what He most wants to give: HIMSELF demonstrated at the CROSS, an awesome gift of LOVE and ETERNAL LIFE. What an amazing GOD we serve!!

The first thing is always JESUS: KNOWING HIM, glorifying HIM, revealing Him in the way we live our lives. When we get ourselves into a close relationship with Jesus we find a unique Joy, by the power of the Holy Spirit, of being in His presence more valuable than anything else in life. Than delighting in the Lord altars the desires of our Heart !! WOW!!!

As Davis tells us in Psalm 37:4 "Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart" We live in the light of the fact that we are desperately dependent upon the Lord!!!!

In God's hands, can we think of a safer or loving place to be? Jesus tells us to lean on Him and He will give us rest, peace and much more. Amen!!

In His Service,
Prayer Ministry

Volunteer Schedule

	1/7	1/14	1/21	1/28
Counter 1	Amy Manning	Amy Manning	JoAnn Blaise	JoAnn Blaise
Counter 2	Judy Sadlon	Judy Sadlon	Phillis Becker	Phillis Becker
Reader	Sue Harkins	Bona Starring	Phillis Becker	Amy Manning
Unlock Door	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker	JoAnn Blaise	Phillis Becker
Singer	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkin	Judy Sadlon
Altar	Amy Manning	Judy Sadlon	Amy Manning	Judy Sadlon

Please email info@trinityherkimer.org with any 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: 5,288.02

Actual Expenses Paid for the month: 8,309.91

Income is short by 3,021.89

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.

January 2024							>
<	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
				Bible Study			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Faith Alive			Council meeting via ZOOM	Bible Study		
	Worship Service						
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Worship Service				Bible Study		
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Faith Alive	WOF Planning Meeting			Bible Study		
	Worship Service						
	28	29	30	31			
	Worship Service						

Our Church Family

God's children in need of support through Prayer, phone call or maybe a card or visit: Levi, Ann, Barry, Randy, Peter, Donna, Judy, Jim, Hope, Rachel, Irene, Barbara, Arnold, Jeff, Gary, Harry, Joe, Charlene, Bill, Mindy, Michelle, Edith, Paul, Patti, Carol, Sandy, Skyben, Tanya, Gayle, Mike, Charlie, Tiffany, Tom, Jeanette, Julia, Theresa.

We, as God's children, have much to pray about! All those listed above for healing of mind, body and or Spirit. There is also much needed prayer for America and the Nations of the world, especially Israel, Ukraine, Hawaiian people and the list goes on and on. God's Promised Word, of absolute truth, instructs us in, 2 Chronicles 7:14, "to humble ourselves, call on His Name, seek His face, repent, and He will forgive us our sins and heal our land" WOW, what a promise from our Lord! This certainly is a bible verse worth memorizing to carry close in our heart.

Please pray for comfort and peace for the family and friends of Paul Kucerak, our brother in Christ, who went peacefully to be with our Lord Sunday evening December 10th.

Please pray for the Kiser family for peace and comfort in the death of their loved one Debbie.

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS AND BLESSINGS:

Have you noticed the beautiful Poinsettia plants on the Altar and the Christmas wreaths on the German Street door of our church? These were graciously donated by Eleanor Clements as a memorial for: her husband, Bill Clements(Poinsettias) and the Schrader family (wreaths) to the Glory of God!

A great big thank you to all those who participated in making the Thanksgiving Dinner a total success. There were over 400 meals served. Another example of "God's Work our Hands" all again to God's Glory. Praise God for putting this mission/ministry into the hearts of our forefathers many years ago here at Trinity. Our God does work in mysterious ways and this is one example when we listen to the Holy Spirit and follow Jesus.

If someone has been inadvertently omitted please bring it to our attention. Thank you!

If you have concerns for the prayer chain or other personal family matters, which are kept in confidence, please speak to Phillis or call 315-866-2379.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

Kali Gorski
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: 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
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 Judy Sadlon 315-868-8387 jsadlon@trinityherkimer.org
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 Wendy Catera 315-360-7447 wcatera@trinityherkimer.org
 Reverend Gail Wolling 518-225-7537 gwolling@trinityherkimer.org
 Treasurer: Kylene Jordan 315-404-3945 kjordan@trinityherkimer.org
 Financial Sec.: Wendy DeLuca 315-866-6474 wdeluca@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.**

If you would like to receive a copy of finalized Council meeting minutes please contact the office.

Helpful Resources:

Church Calendar: trinityherkimer.org/calendar
 Facebook: facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer
 SYNOD website: upstatenysynod.org

A letter of gratitude from Johnson Park Center:

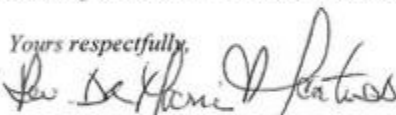
Dear Faith Alive

Thank you for your support toward JCTOD Outreach, Inc. dba Johnson Park Center (JPC). You are a part of the rebuilding of lives and revitalizing hope in our community and we truly appreciate your gift.

One of the purposes of JPC is to institute programs that address problems characteristics of low-income urban areas. Your contribution will be used to provide needed services to inner city youth and families.

Your gift is an investment of love in the future of our nation. Once again thank you for standing united with us to bring positive and lasting change to our community.

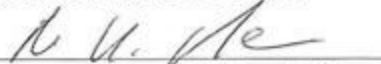
Yours respectfully,



Rev. Dr. Maria A. Scates, D.D.

Donated Items:	Date Donated: 11-15-2023	Amount
60 - Handmade Thanksgiving Cards		0.00

*All contributions to JCTOD Outreach, Inc. dba Johnson Park Center are Tax Deductible in the USA..
 "JCTOD Outreach, Inc. dba Johnson Park Center" HAS NOT PROVIDED ANY GOODS OR SERVICES TO
 THE DONOR IN EXCHANGE FOR THE CONTRIBUTION."*

JCTOD Outreach Fiscal Officer: 
 Reference #: 511