



Vol. 57 No. 11

# Glad Tidings

## NOVEMBER 2024

*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***

By the time you're reading this, our Congregation will have hosted Pastor Imani Olear and heard our results of the Vitality Survey, done this spring, as well as celebrating Reformation Sunday with SAM David Grindle. In November, we have the opportunity to participate in a combined, collaborative All Saints Day service on Friday evening November 1st, hosted by Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Utica at 7:30pm. We will be sharing our Congregation's list of names we will use for our Sunday Worship service, and Pastor Anita welcomed us to submit other names, non-members, & others who we wish to remember, not only those that have died in the past year. Trinity will also celebrate All Saints Sunday at worship on November 3rd at our 10am Sunday service. Please contact Justina if you want to add a name for our list, she has been keeping a list of members who have died throughout the year.

Pastor Imani will meet with us again, next on Saturday November 23, from 1:30 - 3:30pm. We individually have some "homework questions" to answer for that meeting, which will be both 'on paper' & 'electronically' so all can participate & be prepared for the conversation.

Thinking ahead a bit, it's time to start to take a collection of Staff Gifts for Christmas. Please either make a donation in a Pew Envelope and write "Staff Gifts" on it, or look for a brown/manilla envelope circulating at worship services. Next month's 'Musings' will include the target donation cutoff date (in December), so we may get checks written & given out to employees before Christmas. Last year I missed that target & our gifts weren't given out until January. Our paid employees are: Sue Kubica, Paul Keyser, Tina Diehl, Wendy Deluca, Justina Kane, & Pastor of Record, Rev. Victor McKusick.

On a side note, there won't be a Vendor Fair in December this year, as both our past chairpersons have not had time to plan one due to work & family needs.

Another Collaborative event will be on December 8th, also at Our Saviour in Utica. Plans are for this to be a 'Carol Sing' including the Organ, & pulling together a brass quartet or quintet from Trinity, Our Saviour & Zion. Plans are still in development, but likely 2:00 - 3:00pm, so participants have time to get home before dark. Also, Our Saviour hosts Advent week-day worship, planned for Tuesdays, December 3rd, 10th, & 17th. Please watch for more information on this in the December Tidings.

Our Christmas Eve Worship Service is being planned for 3:00 - 4:00pm, with Pastor Victor McKusick leading Worship, watch for further details in December's Tidings.

Peace & Blessings,  
Amy Manning

<b>Date</b>	<b>Worship Leader</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Communion</b>
November 3	Cory Jones	In House/Virtual	No
November 10	Rev. Victor McKusick	In House/Virtual	Yes
November 17	Cory Jones	In House/Virtual	No
November 24	Judy Sadlon	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

## **Devotional Booklet**

We are looking for a few more original devotions and poems for a 3rd inspirational booklet. We all have stories to share about how God touches our lives. We will also consider some photographs with scripture. If you are working on a piece please contact Sue Harkins to let her know.

## **Vitality Survey Follow-Up**

ALL CONGREGATION MEMBERS - mark your calendar for Saturday, November 23.

Rev. Imani Olear will return to present her suggestions, insights and the opportunities that we have based on our unique geographics and characteristics. This is a follow-up from the October 20 meeting with the congregation to review the results of the Vitality Survey. This meeting is more of a call to action for our future.

Fellowship Room - November 23rd - 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Remember the representatives from Synod said, "Trinity is not surviving but thriving!"

See you all on the 23rd - We will save you a seat!

## **LutheranCare Donations**

Christmas gifts for residents of LutheranCare will be gathered in November. This "wish list" includes: Personal care items such as unopened boxes of tissue, lotion & bath gel, jewelry, afghans, throws & comforters, Ballerina slippers, moccasins, slipper socks with gripper bottoms, wall & room decorations, robes, button-down or zipper-front sweaters both male & female. There will be a box outside the sanctuary to receive these items. Last day to drop off items is December 5th, at Trinity.

## **Shout Out to December Graduates**

We would like to say Congratulations & Best Wishes to Hanna DeLuca, who is about to be a College Graduate. Hanna will graduate in December from Hartwick College of Oneonta NY, with a Bachelor Degree in Anthropology & Museum Studies.

If you have a Graduate for us to celebrate, please let Amy know so we can celebrate them in the next Tidings!

## **Annual Meeting**

Part of our Annual Meeting each January is voting for Council and Endowment committee members. We encourage everyone to commune with us and make a donation indicating it is from you (not loose plate) each year, so that you can participate in these important decisions for the church. If you have any questions about your current voting status please contact the office.

## **Hanging of the Greens - Save the Date**

We will be decorating the church after worship on Sunday, December 1st. We hope you will join us!

## **Serving & Sharing**

Thank you to all who donated their time and foods to make our shared event of Catherine Luther such a wonderful event. In October, we also enjoyed the presentation of Pastor Olear, her sermon and presentation of the Vitality survey.

Our next big event for November is the Thanksgiving dinner. This event was started by a few men in our church and has continued into its 44th year. We provide turkey dinner with all the fixings for free, or a donation if able. Please look for sign up sheets to volunteer or to donate pies. A few minutes of your time to help with setup, delivery, packing take outs, or cleanup all helps. This is definitely God's Work Our Hands, because without him this would not be done.

Be sure to keep an eye on our many communication tools that keep us informed, linked, and connected. Keep coming and sharing with our small but mighty church! Blessings to all.

## NOVEMBER'S DONATION FOCUS

For the month of November, our donation focus will be **Baking Ingredients** for the Food Pantry. We will also be collecting items for Lutheran Care. (See article on page 2). 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 Henry Street vestibule. Thanks to all who continue to donate!

## **Learning** BOOK GROUP

The TLC book group will meet at Trinity on Friday, November 8th at 10 AM. Our book this month is *The Haunted Bookshop* by Christopher Morley. It is a mystery set in a bookshop in 1911. The bookstore is "haunted" by the authors of the books and the wisdom in the books, not the supernatural. All are welcome.

## FAITH ALIVE

As I was meditating, in prayer, the Holy Spirit spoke to me in my heart and gave me this message, from His Word, to pass on to all who read this. " O COME, let US sing for JOY to the Lord; Let us shout Joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with a song of Thanksgiving; let us shout Joyfully to Him with psalms" Psalm 95:1, 2

Our God works in mysterious ways and it goes right alongside Psalm 89:1.

" I will Joyfully sing of the loving kindness of the Lord forever, I will make know Thy faithfulness with my mouth"

Again! Pass it on because this is what FAITH ALIVE is all about!! A hint, try reading both scriptures slowly.

November FA gatherings will be the 10th and the 24th 9-10am. Remember All ages are welcome, actually we compliment each other. The best part is building new relationships with each other and a stronger personal relationship with Jesus. This is voluntary, we can say yes or no to our Lord. He does not force any of us, it is totally our choice, called free will.

Johnson Park Center, located in Utica, continues to be FAITH ALIVE's outreach ministry. Sharing Jesus' amazing love to all is our JOY!

So bring a friend or family member along with you. Being a member of Trinity is NOT a requirement. Our current project, which is ongoing, is a perfect way to share God's love and it's so much fun to make. A big thank you to Theresa and Sue for sharing their ideas with us. Come and see! Let's not forget Mr Snow's homemade chocolate chip cookies. Thank you Ron!

## COMMUNION

The door is open! If you would like your baptized child to learn about why, we as God's children, are instructed to remember Jesus Christ through the bread and wine then prayerfully consider bringing them to FA where they will learn in an environment of love and hands on. Please call Phillis Becker and special arrangements may be made, if needed.

## CONFIRMATION

Our youth are precious to all of us at Trinity. Our goal is teaching them, in a unique way, to grow in their faith both spiritually and righteously into their adult life. To know that our God is a banner over all of us with His Love. To be active in spreading God's love in a hurting world through WORD and ACTION.

Don't lose heart for your child. There is presently discussion, during council, about starting this class up SOON, and I mean SOON. In the meantime please contact Phillis Becker with any questions you might have. Your input is very important to us. Please remember that our God is working in His time, not ours, which is always perfect. Peace!!

## BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday 10am-12noon downstairs in the fellowship room. No knowledge of the bible is required. If you have your own bible please bring it, if not, we have plenty to share . Come and enjoy the fellowship and of course good eats.

### **Worship, Music, and Prayer**

#### BLESSINGS OF PRAYER:

" I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy. Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live." (Psalm 116:1,2)

#### PRAYER NOTES:

What happens when we worship God in our darkest moments???

Instructions to Praise God, in all situations, are everywhere in the Bible. They aren't just nice isolated suggestions for certain kinds of prayer. Those who wrote many of the psalms did not pray in a protective environment. In fact, their circumstances were often much more exhausting than ours. But somehow they managed to turn their eyes from the visual situation of the world to the invisible God, and what began with distress ended with saturated Prayer. And nowhere along the way did they completely lose heart and quit praying.

The Praise we offer when our desperate prayers remain unanswered is far more precious to God than the Praise we offer when all is well. He loves it all, of course, but when our worship is a deep painful sacrifice, it smells much sweeter to Him.

Prayer.....it sounds so important, so intimidating, so religious. But it doesn't have to. Prayer isn't just something we do -- it's WHO WE ARE. "Every sound we utter, every thank you we say, every tear we cry in God's presence is Prayer."

Discover intimacy with a God that loves us as we are. And since He loves us as we are, we can talk to Him as we are.

What a friend we have in Jesus.

What a privilege to carry,  
everything to God in prayer.

PRAYERFULLY consider joining Trinity's prayer chain. Guaranteed to receive God's blessings as you bless others in prayer for their needs/concerns. Glory in God's Love and Grace spending a special time with Jesus in prayer. It's Amazing!

In His Service,  
Prayer Ministry



## Volunteer Schedule

	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24
Counter 1	JoAnn Blaise	JoAnn Blaise	Amy Manning	Amy Manning
Counter 2	Phillis Becker	Phillis Becker	Judy Sadlon	Judy Sadlon
Reader	Phillis Becker	Amy Manning	Sue Harkins	Bona Starring
Singer	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon
Altar	Judy Sadlon	Amy Manning	NA	Judy Sadlon
Worship Leader	Cory Jones	Rev. Victor McKusick	Cory Jones	Judy Sadlon

Please email [info@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:info@trinityherkimer.org) with any changes.

### Stewardship

Monthly giving needed to fund the approved budget of \$152,472 is \$12,706

#### August Information

Actual Offerings Received for the month:   \$4,102.24

Actual Expenses Paid for the month:         \$6,754.58

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Income is *short* by   \$ 2,652.34

Paid by using excess Fund Balance from prior years.

Designated Funds received monthly **are not included** in the amount above.

Interested in donating online? You can visit our website and use the donate tab in the top menu. Contact [finance@trinityherkimer.org](mailto:finance@trinityherkimer.org) with any questions.

#### **Did You Know:**

Rev. Imani Olear, who led worship on October 20th and will be returning on Saturday, November 23rd for a Vitality Survey wrap up meeting, is the ELCA Director of Evangelical Missions and Assistant to the Bishop for Justice Ministry in the Upstate New York Synod.

She is experienced in creating partnerships and new communities. Pastor Olear is the founder of Yoga 4 A Good Hood, a first of its kind "pay what you can" yoga studio in Rochester, N.Y. Pastor Olear developed a 200-hour Essential Yoga Teacher Training Curriculum based in Social Justice principles and practices and which is income based for its participants. In addition to experience building community organizations Reverend Olear has completed training in grant writing and strategic planning for nonprofits as well as SMART Goals training.

## Our Church Family

God's children in need of support through Prayer, phone call, or maybe a card or short visit: In Your Precious Name Jesus, we lift to you all those hurting in mind, body and or spirit for Your healing touch of Mercy: Sheila, Michelle, Neil, Linda, Jeff, Levi, Gary, Rich, Barbara, Jason, Sue, Charlie, Asha, Judy, Jim, Alice, Harry, Joe Ruth, Leah, Matt, Mary, Rosemarie, Scott, Theresa, Billy.

The beautiful blessings of prayer is that we can be anywhere, in any state of mind, at any given time and connect immediately through the Holy Spirit with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please pray for all those listed above by name, even if you might not know them, remember Jesus does. Thank you!

Our sister in Christ, Irene Krupa, went home on October 9, 2024 and is resting in the loving arms of Jesus. Please pray for her daughters Debbie and Linda and her 4 granddaughters Nichole, Bethany, Mara & Kelsie, family and friends for God's comfort and peace.

Please keep in your prayers the Bunn & Busch families, especially her father Jim, & extended family/friends for God's comfort and peace as God's precious child, Penny Busch, is now resting in His loving arms.

Charlene Goodman and David Archer also are resting in the peaceful mercy of our Lord's blessings of love & His Grace. Please keep in your prayers their families and friends for God's comfort and peace.

Norman Manning, a child of the living God, is now at Peace in heaven because of what Jesus did for all of us on the Cross. What a God we serve, with so much LOVE. Please keep the entire Manning family in prayer asking Jesus to give them His Peace and Comfort which passes all understanding. Norman was a cousin to Charlie Manning.

Remembering the Words of Jesus in the Gospel of John 11:25. "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies" Awesome words of God's love!

PRAYERFULLY consider joining Trinity's prayer chain. If you have concerns for the picture prayer chain or other personal family matters, which are kept in confidence, please speak to Phillis Becker.

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

John Skandera	Julie Gavalo	Elizabeth Kennedy
Dennis Shaut	Sarah Taylor	Yvonne Winter
Kerissa Marquissee	Benjamin Kapusta	Joseph Joy
Brian Macri, Jr.	Kelly Ivanchak	Dominick George
Daniel Engert	Harper P. Jones	Karen Bruns
Harriet Neff	Brandon King	Nathan Farrington
James Lynch	Colleen Gross	Austin Becker
Jeff Osley	Arlene Fisher	Megan Miller
Sandra Marusic	Brice Griffin	Erlene Manning
Kyle Austin	Frank Kapusta	Chad Blaise
Olivia Derleth	Sandra Mizerak	Ethan Madison

### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Cassie & Thomas Sherman	Dan & Cathy Mayton-Collins	Martha & Robert Smith
Ashley & Joshua Hinckley	Rebecca & Nicholas Perlmutter	
Barb & Gordon Marquissee	Shannon & Jared Levi	

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

**Council Contact Information**

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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.**

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

**Helpful Resources:**

Church Calendar: [trinityherkimer.org/calendar](http://trinityherkimer.org/calendar)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer](https://facebook.com/TrinityLutheranChurchHerkimer)  
SYNOD website: [upstatenysynod.org](http://upstatenysynod.org)