



Vol. 58 No. 2

Glad Tidings

FEBRUARY 2025

*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

Trinity's Council is pleased to welcome Pastor Marie Duquette & her partner Deb Bohn to Trinity Herkimer. Pastor Marie will be serving us half-time, and plans to focus on the work for Trinity on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and every-other Sunday. In February, that is Sunday 9th, 23rd. We will revisit how that plan is working after Easter and make any adjustments. Pastor Marie will be reaching out to members who are in need of pastoral care first. If you would like to meet with her, please email her at mduquette@trinityherkimer.org or let Justina know.

We will have volunteers continue to lead worship on the weeks when Pastor Marie is at Zion in New Hartford. For the sermon portion of these services, we will be broadcasting her message live from Zion on our screens in worship. This will enable us to have continuity in sermons, as well as helping us practice good stewardship of our finances.

Council continues to focus on serving our community with our ongoing feeding ministries.

I am pleased to say the results of the Annual Congregational Meeting are as follows:

- The budget passed as proposed for 2/01/2025 to 1/31/2026.
- Council members JoAnn Blaise and Judy Sadlon and Endowment Committee member Paul "P.J." Marusic were re-elected for 3-year terms each.
- At the Council's organizational meeting, I was re-nominated as Council President, JoAnn Blaise as Vice President, and Judy Sadlon Council Secretary. All three accepted these positions.
- Judy Sadlon was reappointed as Treasurer.
- Wendy DeLuca was reappointed as Financial Secretary.

Pastor Marie is also making plans to have a Holy Communion class and begin Confirmation for our youth. I hope you will make time to come meet Pastor Marie & Deb, and join us for worship in-person, by phone, or online. I think you will find her messages to be inspiring, encouraging, and challenging. I invite you to read her article on page two for more information about her plans and schedule.

Peace & Blessings,
Amy Manning, Council President

Date	Worship Leader	Format	Communion
February 2	Judy Sadlon	In House/Virtual	No
February 9	Rev. Marie Duquette	In House/Virtual	Yes
February 16	Wendy Catera	In House/Virtual	No
February 23	Rev. Marie Duquette	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

Great (and clear) Expectations, by Pastor Marie Duquette / February 2025

I have just come in from romping in the backyard with Nala, our black lab (mix) rescue. She is six years old and has never met a ball she could not catch. At the parsonage next to Zion, there is a shelter house in the backyard. Right now, the roof of that shelter is covered in 6"-8" of snow. I was playing catch with Nala using her favorite orange and blue hard rubber ball. I decided to throw it onto the sloped roof of the shelter, imagining the power of my pitch causing the snow on the pitch of the roof to cascade down, followed by the ball itself. I delighted in thinking that this would be a new, unexpected, challenge for Nala.

¹⁰ For the land that you are about to enter to occupy is not like the land of Egypt...¹¹ But the land that you are crossing over to occupy is a land of hills and valleys watered by rain from the sky, ¹² a land that the Lord your God looks after. The eyes of the Lord your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. – Deuteronomy 11: 10-12 NRSVUE

I threw the ball onto the roof, and it landed smack dab in the middle of the snow – and stayed there. Nala had watched its arc and looked at it longingly from below. I DID create a new, unexpected, challenge for Nala, one that will likely not be overcome until the spring thaw.

We all have expectations. We imagine how something will play out in our mind's eye. And when it happens just like we pictured it would, it's glorious! And when it doesn't happen the way we imagined it would, it's disappointing and puzzling. To continue to build the beloved community, we must communicate our expectations on an ongoing basis.

What expectations do you have of your new pastor and your covenant with one another? To continue this conversation that you began many months ago: here's what you can expect from me, for a few months anyway. Let's see how it works and review it after Easter.

Sunday: I alternate preaching & presiding at Zion and Trinity. Once Sunday morning worship and the fellowship events that follow are over, I'll be off until Monday morning.

Monday: Is my study day. I'll be reading and writing, answering communications, preparing and planning for upcoming events. I'll be doing this at Zion and at home.

Tuesday & Thursday - Herkimer, meeting with folks from Trinity and from the surrounding community.

Wednesdays & part of Saturday: I'll be in New Hartford/Utica, meeting with folks from Zion and in the surrounding community.

Friday is my day off. That gets me to about 36 hours, leaving a few hours for the unexpected.

I'm so happy to be with you all. Thank you for welcoming us to the Mohawk Valley. –Pastor Marie

"Each day holds a surprise. But only if we expect it can we see, hear, or feel it when it comes to us. Let's not be afraid to receive each day's surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy. It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity. – Henry Nouwen

A note from Pastor Marie re: Holy Communion: Here is my practice regarding Holy Communion. I commune anyone in the house who wants to receive communion, including children. I also offer Holy Communion education, which is three short lessons, as part of ongoing Christian Education. These classes are not prerequisites to receiving the bread and wine. If you or your child would like to participate in these classes, please let Justina know and we will find dates when everyone who wants to participate is able to do so. In the meantime, please know that all are welcome at the table of the Lord. You need not be a member of this congregation, or a Lutheran, or an adult. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office.

Game Days

Join us for some fun! We will meet at 10am at Trinity for cards or Scrabble or whatever games the participants choose. The dates are February 28th and March 28th. Come and join for a relaxing time of fellowship.

Serving & Sharing

We did very well last year serving 70 meals each month, once a month to the Salvation Army Cafe. We continue to help shut-ins or ill with frozen meal delivery through our program, Feed our Sheep. We will try to continue once a month with coffee hour for sharing ideas and love after church service as we head into 2025. Food pantry will be supplied with our monthly collections. Weekly lunch and juice and snacks are provided for those with no housing at the warming center.

Meet and greet with Pastor Marie was fun and very informative, thank you all for coming. Communications (Justina Kane) along with Bona Starring (worship), did a wonderful zoom service because of inclement weather. We also enjoyed the wonderful sermon by Pastor Marie.

By the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, continue to serve with the love in your heart.

FEBRUARY'S DONATION FOCUS

For the month of February, our donation focus will be money or a canned item for SOUPERbowl. We will also be collecting hats and mittens. Each month we will have a different donation focus, but other items will always be in need and accepted. Thanks to all who continue to donate!

Learning

BOOK GROUP

Finally, finally, finally! We will read *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt for our February TLC Book Group meeting. We will meet on February 14th at 10am at Trinity. Please order the book from your library ASAP as it is a popular choice.

Looking to the future:

Anne of Green Gables by L M Montgomery on March 14th

Camino Island by John Grisham on April 11th

An Irish Country Doctor by Patrick Taylor on May 8th

FAITH ALIVE

Hello everyone, so now a New Year 2025 is upon us, and FA is looking forward to Great God happenings, as we lean on Jesus for His direction. Certainly don't want to depend on anyone but our Lord.

We will continue to meet every other Sunday 9-10am for fellowship, sharing and learning. All ages are always welcome, and if so led by the Holy Spirit, sharing our life stories, in a relaxed environment. For the month of February we will gather on the 2nd and 16th.

Psalm 89:1 "I will Joyfully sing of the loving kindness of the Lord forever, I will make known Thy faithfulness with my mouth." Through WORD and ACTION FA supports Johnson Park Center located in Utica as our outreach ministry by sharing Jesus' amazing love of Joy with ALL!

BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday 10am-12noon. No knowledge of the bible is required . If you have your own bible please bring it, if not we have plenty to share. The fellowship is awesome so come and join us and of course good eats.

Worship, Music, and Prayer

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

PRAYER NOTES: What can we do in 12 minutes? Read a chapter in a book or eat a pizza? PRAFULLLY consider taking 12 minutes every day with Jesus, one minute for each of the following. Try it!! Guaranteed you will be blessed!!

PRAISE: Begin with a prayer to tell God how wonderful He is. (Psalm 9:1)"I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders"

WAITING: Be quiet and let God get your heart ready. (Psalm 46:10a) "Be still and know that I am God"

CONFESSION: Tell God you're sorry for your sins. (Psalm 139:23) "Search me, O God, and know my heart: Try me and know my anxious thoughts"

SCRIPTURE PRAYING: Pray God's words back to Him. (Psalm 119:105) "Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path".

WATCHING: Ask God to open your eyes to see what God is doing around you. (Colossians 4:2)"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving"

INTERCESSION: Pray for other people you know.(1 Timothy 2:1-2)I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgiving be made on behalf of all men,in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity"

PETITION: Tell God about your needs. (Matthew 7:7)"Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you."

THANKSGIVING: Thank God for all His blessings (1 Thess 5:18)"In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"

SINGING: Worship God with song (Psalm 100:3). Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful singing".

MEDITATION: Think about how we got the Bible and what God has done. (Joshua 1:8a)"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night".

LISTENING: Listen for God to speak to you.(John 10:27)"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me"

PRAISE: By telling God again how wonderful He is (Psalm 34:1)." I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth".

Come join the community of Faith by taking part in Trinity's prayer chain. The only requirement is a heartfelt willingness to bring the concerns and needs of others to Jesus. Prayerfully consider joining and if so inspired by the Holy Spirit, please speak to Phillis.

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Faith Alive Worship Service	3	4	5	6 Bible Study	7	8
9 Worship Service	10	11	12 Council meeting via ZOOM	13 Bible Study	14 Book Group	15
16 Faith Alive Worship Service	17	18 Loaves and Fishes Meeting	19	20 Bible Study	21	22
23 Worship Service	24	25	26	27 Bible Study	28 Game Day	

Volunteer Schedule

	2/2	2/9	2/16	2/23
Counter 1	Amy Manning	Amy Manning	Bona Starring	Bona Starring
Counter 2	Judy Sadlon	Judy Sadlon	Cathy Mayton-Collins	Cathy Mayton-Collins
Reader	Bona Starring	Amy Manning	Sue Harkins	Phillis Becker
Singer	Judy Sadlon	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon
Altar	Judy Sadlon	Amy Manning	NA	Judy Sadlon
Worship Leader	Judy Sadlon	Rev. Marie Duquette	Wendy Catera	Rev. Marie Duquette

Please email info@trinityherkimer.org with any changes.

Stewardship

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

December Information

Actual Offerings Received for the month: \$6,710.04

Actual Expenses Paid for the month: \$10,011.48

Income is *short* by \$ 3,301.44

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 with any questions.

Did You Know:

In 1917 the St. Emmanuel Slovak Lutheran Church worshipped with Trinity until this year when they dissolved. Most Slovak members traveled to Little Falls and became members of the Slovak Lutheran Church (now Holy Trinity, Little Falls).

Our Church Family

God's children in need of support through prayer, phone call, or maybe a note of encouragement or short visit. A suggested prayer to share for our brothers and sisters in Christ as named.

"Heavenly Father, in the Name of Jesus Christ we lift to you, by name, those who need your healing touch of mind, body and or spirit: Scott, Sheila, May, Barbara, Michele, Neil, Karen, Jeff, Levi, Gary, Rich, Sue, Jason, Charlie, Asha, Judy, Jim, Alice, Ruth, Leah, Matt, Mary, Rosemarie, Theresa, Billy, Heather, Jennifer. AMEN!"

The Joyful 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 place before the Throne of Grace all those listed above by name, even if you might not know them, yet knowing Jesus does. A suggested prayer is listed above. Thank you!

"Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart.(Psalm 37:4). When we put ourselves before God the Father through Prayer we will find the JOY of being with Him more valuable than anything else in life. Discovering that delighting in the Lord alters the desires of our heart. WOW!

In Christian Love, we at Trinity, welcome Pastor Marie Duquette and her partner, Deb Bohn into our church family.

On December 25,2024 our beloved sister in Christ, Shirley Miller, is now in her eternal home smiling at the face of Jesus her/our Savior. Please keep in your prayers her daughters Ann and Ruth and their families and friends for God's peace and comfort as she will be missed.

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

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jody & Travis Kirk	Rose & Ron Snow	Jodi & Dan Rivers
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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
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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.

Notes of appreciation:

I'd like to thank both the call committee and Trinity's council, for the hard work they have put in the last several months, to consider me, interview me, and welcome us. I know that it was a lot to do, especially during the holidays, in the winter, from a distance. We are thrilled to be with you. And I am grateful to be here to walk with you through the living of these days. --Pastor Marie

Thank you for
the generous gift!
♡
-Hanna
Piers