



*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

Hello All:

Healthy & happy New Year to you all!

I, and our Trinity Church Council, are very pleased to announce that we have a Pastoral Candidate for a half-time Pastor! We will have a Call Worship Service & Congregational Vote to accept & Call our Candidate on **Sunday January 5th. Worship has been moved earlier, to 9:00 am**, to permit the candidate to lead our service, then travel to New Hartford while we vote, then lead the Zion Lutheran service & then they will also vote on the Pastoral Call.

We will host a **“Meet & Greet” for the candidate & their family on Saturday January 4th, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in our Fellowship Hall. Council will provide brunch & coffee for our “Meet & Greet”** time. Due to Synod Guidelines regarding a Call, confidentiality is kept until the weekend of the Call Vote activities.

Trinity's Call Committee met & interviewed the Pastor on the weekend of October 15-17, & Council met & interviewed on December 8-9, and **both voted unanimously** to continue/Call this Pastor. The Congregational vote is the next step of the process.

I am pleased & excited to have you all meet our Pastoral Candidate & join us in Worship!

Peace & Blessings,
Amy Manning, Trinity Council President

Date	Worship Leader	Format	Communion
January 5	Pastoral Candidate	In House/Virtual	Yes
January 12	Rev. Victor McKusick	In House/Virtual	Yes
January 19	Cory Jones	In House/Virtual	No
January 26	Rev. McKusick or New Pastor	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

Annual Meeting

Please plan to join us on Sunday, January 26th for our annual meeting which will be held following worship. We will vote on Council members, Endowment Committee members and the budget for 2025. Voting members will receive a mailing with pertinent information soon! If you do not receive a mailing, but are interested please contact Justina in the office.

Game Days

We will have some Game days again this winter. We will meet at 10am at Trinity for cards or Scrabble or whatever games the participants choose. The dates are January 24th, February 28th and March 28th. Come and join for a relaxing time of fellowship.

Preparing for Winter's Worst

In anticipation of Winter's arrival, and learning from last winter, we are making plans to be able to notify the Congregation in case bad weather causes a need to cancel a Worship Service or meeting.

WKTV will be used to notify of closures due to weather, Parking Bans/Snow Emergency declarations by the Village of Herkimer would cause us to cancel Worship or meetings which were to be in-person at Trinity. We will also put notices on our Facebook pages.

If you are in need of a personal phone call, instead of TV or internet/social media options, please speak to Amy or Justina directly, email info@trinityherkimer.org, leave a message/voicemail on Trinity's phone, 315-866-6474.

Martin Luther Europe Trip

A group which includes some Zion members, is organizing a trip to Europe, Martin Luther's Travels: Berlin to Rome. The trip will now take place July 8 – 19, 2026. Contact Justina in the office for more information.

Serving & Sharing

We give many thanks for the wonderful Thanksgiving dinner. The First Methodist Church and the Lutheran church, with the support of many, served over 350 dinners. Many thanks to George and Ginger Clive from ordering, picking up supplies and use of the church and kitchen and working selflessly to make this dinner look effortless. Blessings to the many donations of money or pies or in person volunteering for the 44th year since inception. Only by God's grace does this all happen.

We continue to distribute frozen meals to those in need. Also a large takeout was brought to the Salvation Army this month. Next month we will be doing something new. Stay tuned to hear what's next and different.

Please continue to help the food pantry with our suggestions or whatever you would like to donate. The Lutheran home appreciated your Christmas gifts.

The Women in Faith will be meeting. Please look at the Weekly Announcements or Sunday Announcements for details.

We would not know what is happening without the wonderful technical advisor and worker Justina, with many more jobs to keep us running.

May God bless and keep you safe, and put Christ first.

JANUARY'S DONATION FOCUS

For the month of January, our donation focus will be **Soup and Crackers** for the Food Pantry. 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

The book group will resume in January. Again we are making a change due to availability of the book.

The January meeting will be Friday, January 10th at 10am. Our book will be *Murder on Bank St* by Victoria Thompson. This is a murder mystery set in New York City in the early 1900's. The main characters are a police detective and a midwife. This is part of a series titled "Gaslight Mysteries". We hope to see you there. We will try to schedule *Surprisingly Bright Creatures* for February 2025.

FAITH ALIVE

As you read this we at "Faith Alive" would have already presented on Sunday 12/22 the pageant "Let's Go To Bethlehem!" Simple words but with much spiritual love. The birth of Emanuel Jesus meaning "God with Us". This is what FA is all about, the Good News for All people. If you noticed all ages took part in proclaiming joyfully the awesome message of our Lord's love, the Gospel.

Admittedly we are not perfect, but the Spirit of the message is there. God's blessings of His Amazing love of Salvation. What an awesome God we serve!! Praise and Glory to His Name JESUS.

January FA gatherings will be the 5th and 12th. Come and enjoy the fellowship, fun and Ron's chocolate chip cookies. Bring a friend or family member. All are welcome. Being a member of Trinity is not a requirement.

Psalm 89:1 "I will Joyfully sing of the loving kindness of the Lord forever, I will make known Thy faithfulness with my mouth." . PASS it on with the JOY of the LORD

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

COMMUNION

If you would like to have 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.

As I've said before! There is currently discussion, at council, about starting this class up SOON. Please contact Phillis Becker with any questions or ideas you might have because your input is important to us. We must remember that the time is always perfect when we totally depend on Jesus and not ourselves. It's called God's blessings of perfection. Hang on a little longer in prayer. Love and Peace!!!!

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:

"Enter into His gates with Thanksgiving and into His courts with Praise: be Thankful unto Him, and bless HIS NAME." (Psalm 100:4).

PRAYER NOTES:

Prayer should be a constant with Christians. Paul said, "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess 5:17). This does not mean to be on one's knees without ceasing, but rather to be in a state of prayer constantly.

Every believer should have a set time each day, if possible, that he gets to be alone with the Lord for a short period of time, and for all the obvious reasons. In fact, without a perpetual prayer life, it's very difficult to have a proper personal relationship with the Lord.

When I was just a child, my mother taught me to pray. She taught me to believe God and she taught me to intercede before the Lord. I can still hear one of her favorite sayings:

"Phillis, God is a big God, so ask big!" I've never forgotten that. It has helped me to touch this world for Christ.

SO HOW DO WE PRAY?

When we go before the Lord, we should make it a habit, first of all, to go before Him with "Thanksgiving and Praise". This simply means that when going to prayer we should not immediately begin petitioning the Lord for certain things. Rather we should thank Him first of all for all the good things that He is presently doing for us. We are then to take our petitions to the Lord, that is, whatever it is we need (Luke 11:5-13). We will also find that, as the Spirit of God draws us into the Lord's Presence, "praise" will make up a great part of our seeking the Lord (Psalm 150).

Admittedly, prayer is hard work, and it's harder still because Satan will do everything within his power to keep us from praying. But prayer is where the battle is won, and where victory is brought about. Remember to learn to pray, is to pray!!!!

Prayerfully consider joining Trinity's prayer chain. Guaranteed you will be blessed.

In His Service,
Prayer Ministry

January 2025							◀	▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
			1	2 Bible Study	3	4 Meet & Greet		
5 Worship Service Congregational Meeting Faith Alive	6	7	8 Council meeting via ZOOM	9 Bible Study	10 Book Group	11		
12 Worship Service	13 Three Church Meeting	14	15	16 Bible Study Worship and Music Committee Meeting	17	18		
19 Faith Alive Worship Service	20	21 Loaves and Fishes Meeting	22	23 Bible Study	24 Game Day	25		
26 Worship Service Annual Meeting	27 Women of Faith	28	29	30 Bible Study	31			

Volunteer Schedule

	1/5	1/12	1/19	1/26
Counter 1	Bona Starring	Bona Starring	JoAnn Blaise	JoAnn Blaise
Counter 2	Cathy Mayton-Collins	Cathy Mayton-Collins	Phillis Becker	Phillis Becker
Reader	Bona Starring	Amy Manning	Sue Harkins	Phillis Becker
Singer	Sue Harkins	Judy Sadlon	Sue Harkins	Lori McKusick
Altar	Amy Manning	Judy Sadlon	NA	Amy Manning
Worship Leader	Pastoral Candidate	Rev. Victor McKusick	Cory Jones	Rev. McKusick or New Pastor

Please email info@trinityherkimer.org with any changes.

Stewardship

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

November Information

Actual Offerings Received for the month: \$4,105.53

Actual Expenses Paid for the month: \$7,170.77

Income is *short* by \$3,065.24

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:

Our present day Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, in 1887 officially became German Lutheran Trinity Church and worship was held in the former blacksmith shop on South Main Street in Herkimer. In 1912 English became the official language for worship.

Our Church Family

God's children are in need of support through prayer, phone call, or maybe a "thinking of you" note of encouragement or short visit. A suggestion prayer: In the precious Name of Jesus Christ we lift to You Your children who are hurting in mind, body and or spirit for need of Your healing touch of Love, Grace and Mercy: Barbara, May, Ebon, Scott, Sheila, Michele, Neil Karen, Jeff, Levi, Gary, Rich, 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, as suggested, even if you might not know them, knowing Jesus Christ does. Thank you!!

"Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart" (Psalm 37:4) ponder on these words of God's wisdom: When we get ourselves into God 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! What a discovery!!!

Please keep Barbara Parkhurst and family, daughter/sister May, grandson Ebon, and friends in your prayers for God's comfort in the passing of her daughter Gayle on Tuesday December 17th as she rests peacefully in the loving arms of Jesus.

Linda, a good friend of Lucille Crane, recently died after a hard battle with cancer. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers for our Lord's comfort and peace in their hearts.

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" WOW! What a promise!!!!

Hanna DeLuca married Sgt. Keagan Piers on November 24, 2024 in Little Falls, NY. In December the happy couple moved to Hinesville, Georgia to live on Fort Stewart Army Base. Congratulations!

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. It's Amazing!!

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
Sec/Tres: Judy Sadlon	315-868-8387	jsadlon@trinityherkimer.org
Bona Starring	315-868-8393	bstarring@trinityherkimer.org
Phillis Becker	315-866-2379	pbecker@trinityherkimer.org
Wendy Catera	315-360-7447	wcatera@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.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM LOAVES AND FISHES WARMING CENTER!

As the year comes to a close, we want to take a moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your support throughout the year. Your dedication and generosity have made a tremendous impact with the homeless population we serve.

From all of us at The Loaves and Fishes Warming Center- Wishing you and your families a Happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year!

Loaves and Fishes Warming Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, serving homeless in Herkimer County. This is a safe place. We meet people where they are at. Here staff act as a liaison. We learn about the needs of our guests then inform them of helpful resources available throughout Herkimer County.

Collaborating with other organizations has made it possible to help those who stay at the warming center find employment, obtain housing, receive mental health care and support those who are ready to go into a rehabilitation treatment center to help overcome addiction.

The Center is open during the Winter months; Oct.1-April 30 from 9:00 p.m-7:00 a.m This is the only warming center in Herkimer County.

*10/1/24-12/23/24

- 50 individuals have stayed at the center
- 13 individuals nightly

*10/1/23-4/30/24 Season

- 144 individuals stayed at the warming Center
- 6 individuals went into permanent housing
- 5 individuals went into rehabilitation facilities

Monetary Donations can be mailed to : P.O.Box 666 Herkimer, NY 13350

For other donations please contact: Christine Lawrence 315-868-9073