

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

OCTOBER 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church & School
146 Reserve Road, West Seneca, New York 14224
Church: (716) 674-9188, School: (716) 674-5353

Rev. Nycholas Greig, Pastor, 674-9188 / C: (716) 336-1767
Mrs. Sarah Gabel / Mrs. Katie Willert, School Co-Principals, 674-5353

Church Website: trinitywestseneca.com
Church Office E-mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm
Sunday @ 10:30 am

*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



Greetings Trinity Family,

Autumn is often a season where we can reflect on the changing of seasons, as well as the changes in our own lives. For some of us, the dropping of leaves makes us sad, not feeling ready for another Buffalo winter. But not all change is negative. As the nights get cooler, and the daylight gets shorter, we can learn from the changing of the seasons of our own need to rest and reflect and renew. We can learn from the trees as they drop their leaves a way of “letting go” from summer and the busy growing season, that we too need to let go and let God guide our steps. For others of us, the falling leaves remind us that just like the trees, we need to let go of the old so that new growth and new life can come.

I pray that you are finding time to get out among God’s creation and appreciate the beauty of the leaves on the trees, the brisk air, and the apples and pumpkins and all that comes with this season of harvest. I pray as well that you are able to find time to rest and reflect. That you can find time to let go of what you need to let go of for a season of new growth to come. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” In this season of change may we see what needs to pass away to take hold of the new life we have in Christ Jesus. You are being made new each day by our God who loves you. Lean in to the change that God has in store for you!



God’s Blessings,

Pastor Nyck Greig

Voters Meeting Results

Trinity held a voters meeting on September 7, 2025 following the 10:30am worship service.

- ♦ The 2025-2026 Budget was presented and approved.
- ♦ Executive Board: David Anderson was re-elected for a second term and has accepted the position of Chairman. Current board member Ryan McKernan accepted the position of Vice-Chairman. Kevin Kot accepted the open board position that was left by Chris Kotowski. Thank you Chris for your years of serving on the board!

Ladies Bible Study

Our next Ladies Bible Study meeting will be on **Monday, Oct. 6 at 7:00pm** in the church narthex. All women are welcome to attend!

Reminder: Please bring your twin bedding items for Sleep in Heavenly Peace to this meeting.



October 26, 2025 at 6:00pm

Join us for our annual Trunk-or-Treat in the Trinity parking lot! We're transforming our parking lot into a walking path of fun, creative, and family-friendly car trunks. Dress up in your favorite costumes and collect treats from trunk to trunk. All are welcome! We'll share in a family devotion and there will be a hot chocolate sale to benefit Trinity's Youth Group.

We need your help to make it a memorable night! Decorate your car trunk and get ready to hand out candy in a fun, safe, and family-friendly environment. You will need to bring 2-3 bags of candy/treats and a clean decoration theme (nothing gory or inappropriate). Scan the QR code to sign up to reserve your trunk's spot and reach out with any questions by emailing youthministry@trinitywny.org or calling Nathan at (715) 938-6225!



Trinity's 175th Anniversary News

ATTENTION!! We need your help! The 175th Anniversary Committee is planning a Music History Celebration during the November 2 worship service (tentatively). Please tell us your favorite hymn(s). Music voting ballots can be found on the table in the narthex. You can vote more than once for the same or different hymns during September and October. We would like to **assemble a choir** to perform during the celebration. If you are willing to sing in the choir, please add that to your ballot.

Do you have photos or programs from past choir, bell choir or concerts here at Trinity? If you'd be willing to share these, put them in Noel McKernan's mailbox at church; please put a note on them with your name so they can be returned to you after the November event.



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Please join us in collecting gift filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse. Please refer to the pamphlets on the table in the narthex for specific items to include and NOT include in the shoeboxes. Shoeboxes will be due back to church **Sunday, November 16th**. Please make sure to attach your BOY / GIRL tag securely to the top of your shoebox. *** If you are paying online via the website or QR code, please make a notation on your tag that it is paid. If you are paying with a check or cash, please attach it in an envelope to the top of your box or inside of your box.*** Thank you!

October is Pastor and Church Staff Appreciation Month!

God bless Pastor Nyck, our youth director, office manager, musicians, Sunday School teachers, and volunteers who carry out the many needed duties necessary to spread the Word of God. Thanks be to God!



69th Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers

The 69th Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers will be at First Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 14th at 5:30pm (pre-service carol sing at 5pm). Invite your family and friends!

All are welcome to sing in the Vesper Choir. Rehearsals will be held on Mondays 7:00pm – 9:00pm beginning October 13th & Thursdays 1:00pm – 3:00pm beginning October 16th.

Contact David Werth dwerth@FirstTrinity.com / (716) 731-7183 with any questions.

Trinity School News

Field Trips

Our students have been busy learning outside the classroom this month! The 3rd and 4th grade classes visited the Buffalo Heritage Museum, a living history museum about the early settlers of Buffalo. They explored historic buildings and artifacts that brought the past to life in a hands-on way. Meanwhile, the 5th and 6th graders enjoyed a boat cruise and museum tour in Lockport, where they learned about the locks and the Erie Canal. Both trips provided opportunities to connect classroom learning with real-life experiences, and the students came away with new knowledge—and lots of great memories!



Exciting Growth News:

DID YOU KNOW ...our Trinity student body has increased by 45% since Fall 2022? That is exciting news! We are in the very beginning of expansion plans, and can't wait to see what God has in store for Trinity in the future! Please continue to keep us in your prayers!

How does Trinity School Incorporate Faith Throughout the Curriculum?

Grade 3 kicked off the school year with stories about the importance of names! Students read *Chrysanthemum* and *Tikki Tikki Tembo*, sparking thoughtful discussions about kindness and the special name we all share—*Child of God*. They created self-portraits and adjective poems using the letters of their own names, now proudly displayed outside their classroom.

Encouraging Parent Email

Good Morning,

I cannot thank you enough for creating such a welcoming, safe, happy environment for my son. The way he confidently walks into school and his classroom brings tears to my eyes. I was telling Mrs. Aures how much Zander used to struggle and fight being separated from me. He lights up when we talk about school now.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

YOUTH SCOOP

Youth Nights

Youth Nights are held every **Wednesday from 6:00pm - 8:00pm**. All 5th-12th graders (members or non-members) are welcome! This month's dates and themes are:

- 10/1: Shuffle Your Buns
- 10/8: Clam Free
- 10/15: Carving Pumpkins **starts at 5:30pm*
- 10/22: Pretty Pretty Princess
- 10/29: Minute to Win It & Costume Party

We had a great turn-out for our September meetings (see pic).



High Point Nights

High Point is a group specifically for high school students that meets on select Thursdays from 6:00pm-8:00pm in the church's youth group room. This month's meeting dates are **October 16 & 30**.

Trinity's Fall Campfire & Dinner

There was an awesome turnout of Trinity church and school families for our Fall Campfire & Dinner on September 12. A great time was had by all!



Family Night Pumpkin Carving

October 15th 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

All 5th – 12th grade students and their families are invited to come carve some pumpkins. Each child will receive a pumpkin and each family will be able to use a pumpkin carving set. Bring a dessert or snack to share. We will be starting "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" around 6:30pm. Scan the QR code to register for this event.



MITES

Mites (loose change or donations) fund the grant projects of the Eastern District and National LWML. Please remember to bring your mites to church and put them in Linda Meissner's mailbox in the coatroom. Change / cash or checks made out to Buffalo Zone LWML are all acceptable. Thank you in advance.



I want to thank all my brothers and sisters in Christ for their prayers, cards, calls and visits as I continue to recover from my recent falls. Your concern and support are greatly appreciated.

~ Ron Hope

Altar Flowers



The 2026 sign-up charts are on the church coat-room bulletin board. Sign up for your special occasion today! Flowers are \$10 per arrangement and you get to take them home after the Sunday service! You can also pick them up on Mondays from 8am-3pm. We ask that 2 families to sign up for each week. Place payment (cash or checks payable to: **"Trinity Lutheran Church"**) in the Church Office message center.

** Please make sure to include your name and special intentions on the sign-up sheets.*



Do you have someone that you would like to add onto Trinity's prayer chain? If so, please contact Judy Schmidt (judyschmidt349@roadrunner.com / 926-9054) with your request.

IMPORTANT: Trinity Has Changed Its On-line Giving Provider!

Exciting news: we've moved Trinity's on-line giving from Vanco to Subsplash! On-line giving will be easier than ever and allow the church to save money. We are grateful for your continued support and partnership in ministry!

If you have a recurring gift established with Vanco, or currently give online, please sign up for Subsplash Giving and then cancel your account with Vanco. Please complete the 2 simple steps below **ASAP**:

Step 1: Set up your recurring gift on our new online giving provider here: <https://subsplash.com/u/-XNMXQR/give>

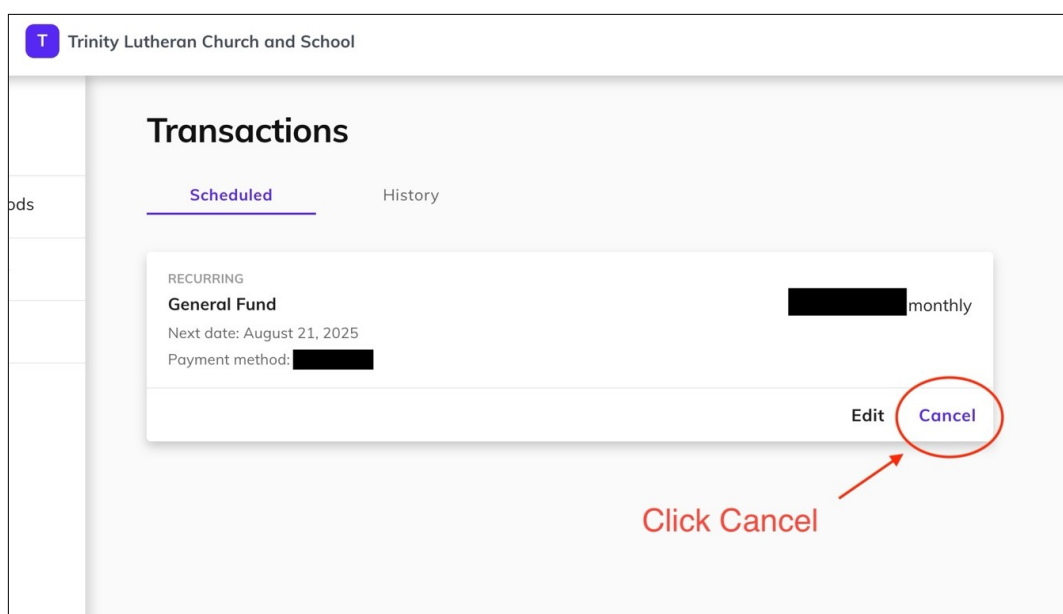
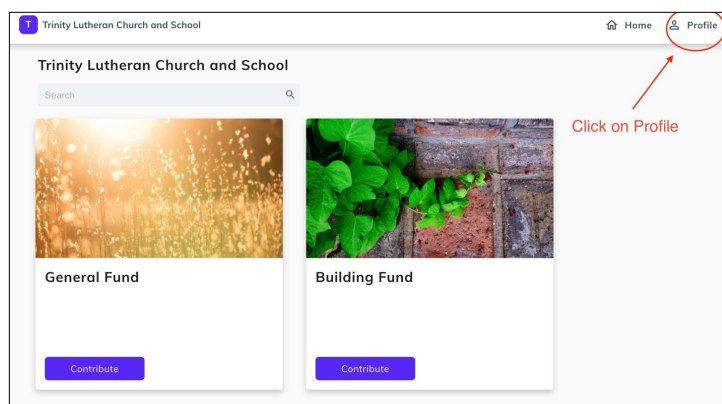
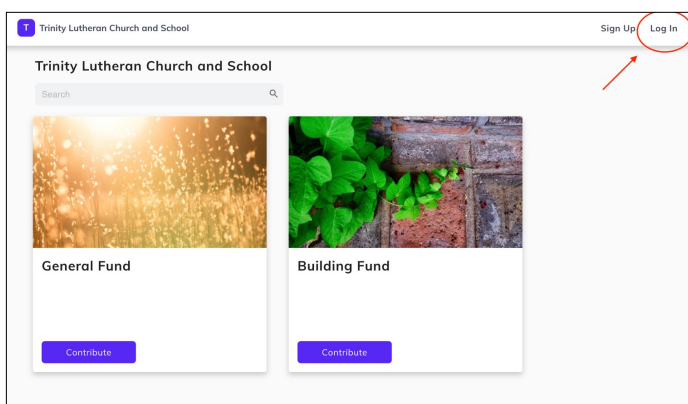
Create a Donor Profile by selecting Log in or Sign up in the upper right corner. Here are helpful links:

[How to Create a Recurring Gift](#)

[How to Link a Bank Account](#)

[How to Link a Credit or Debit Card](#)

Step 2: Turn off your recurring giving in Vanco: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YPC5/home>

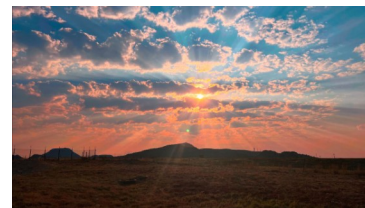


Having problems or need help? Contact our church office and we can help guide you through the process.

We are so thankful for you and your continued participation and support of Trinity Lutheran Church and School. Please let us know if you have any questions!



Hope Willert's Mission Work in Zambia August 2025 Update



Hello, friends and family!

This month's update is going to be all about **Mission 8**, which is a program that Poetice just ran for all of our staff members. Poetice sent out six teams for one week to travel to the countries surrounding Zambia to do ministry and share the Gospel in each of these nations. We ended up setting foot in 10 countries in southern Africa!

My team (as you can see in the picture below) was sent to Botswana and South Africa. Since our team was mostly made up of our Poetice teachers, our main focus was visiting schools and children. Words could never convey all that the Lord did in and through our team during these eight days, but I will try my best to give you all an overview. Please text me or email me if you want to hear more!! I absolutely love sharing about all that the Lord has done.



We left at 3:00 AM on a Friday to drive down to Gaborone, Botswana, where we spent two nights. We spent our one full day there doing ministry in one of the malls there (praying for people and sharing about Jesus with them), which you can see in the first picture below, and doing ministry at the University of Botswana.

At the University we worked with a local church and youth group to walk around the campus and invite students to a bible study that they were starting there. Normally talking to people I don't know tends to freak me out, but I really felt the Lord moving in me while we were doing this. When I would normally feel so nervous about having to walk up to someone and start a conversation, the Lord gave me peace and the words to say for the conversation to flow calmly and naturally. I felt that, while we were talking to students, the Lord was just prompting me to show the students that He sees them. I made an effort to ask the students about their lives, their interests, their culture, and their studies and tried to relate with them. I also reminded them that the Lord sees them and knows them and that he is *so* proud of them. A couple of the students I talked to said that they were basically Christian in name, but they didn't have a personal relationship with the Lord, but I could see that they had this desire to know more. I shared what I could with them, but ultimately the best I could do was connect them with this youth group that could continue to help them along this journey. I am so thankful that the Lord gave me this opportunity because not only did he use me to touch people's hearts, but He also touched my heart.



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Hope Willert's Mission Work in Zambia

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After spending two nights in Botswana we traveled down to Jeffery's Bay, South Africa for three days where we visited two schools - Global Leadership Academy and King's College. At Global Leadership Academy (as seen in the first two pictures below) we were able to learn about leading a school that values a high level of academics as well as a Christ-centered education; we were also able to pray with some of the leaders there. At King's College we were able to learn about how they educate students who come from more impoverished backgrounds and who focus on reminding the students that they are sons and daughters of the King. It was such an inspiration to learn from these schools and these people so that we could bring these ideas back to our won school and apply them here.



In addition to visiting schools we also helped out at a ministry that cares for children with cerebral palsy and provides them with equipment to assist them (you can see us loading some of the equipment into a car in the first image below). We were able to go on house visits to meet some of these children where we had the opportunity to get to know them a little and have fun with them. We were also able to visit a school for students with cerebral palsy where we could interact with the children and learn about what they do there. It was such a blessing to be able to love on these kids and to see what these ministries are doing. It was a great reminder that God loves and cares for every single one of his children.



Lastly, we helped out a ministry called Beats and Books that focuses on after school care for children in Jeffrey's Bay. They teach music lessons as well as help kids with their academics, all while loving them and sharing the Gospel with them. They just started renting this new house to move their ministry into, so we were able to visit this new location and pray over it as well as the people running the ministry. These were such kind and Christ-filled people - I am so excited to see what the Lord continues to do through them.



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Hope Willert's Mission Work in Zambia

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Funny Moments

Our trip was also full of some very fun, hilarious moments! I just had to share a few with you, because God is not only a God of love, which you can see through all that I talked about above, but also of joy and laughter!

At the University of Botswana there are warthogs that wander around and like to eat the garbage! I guess that's a sure sign that you're at a university in Africa.

Jeffrey's Bay is on the Indian Ocean, and some of our Zambian team members had never seen the ocean before, so it was an absolute BLAST to watch them experience it for the first time!

At a restaurant in South Africa... ostrich fillet, anyone?



Thank you all so much for your prayers and support! And especially thanks to everyone who helped to make this trip possible. As always, feel free to email me if you have any questions, comments, or just want to chat!

Blessings,

Hope Willert
hope@poetice.org

LWML Fall Event: Saturday, November 8, 2025

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
8900 Sheridan Drive, Clarence, NY

AGENDA:

- 8:30am Registration (\$5.00) followed by goodies supplied by Board
- 9:00am Voting followed by installation of our new offices by Pastor Browne
- 10:00am Devotions
- 10:30am Speakers: Delegates to National Conventions & LWML President
- 11:00am Hands on project
- NOON Homeward bound, ready to share the day with your church home congregations. Spread the news!!!

Please **RSVP by November 3rd** to Sharon McGuan (716) 803-3767 or salmcg23@gmail.com

There will be an ingathering of winter hats and gloves, which will be given to the Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Buffalo, who are sponsoring Brunswick Block Club. These items will be distributed to their neighborhood community families in need.



Trinity Lutheran Church Presents

TRUNK OR TREAT

JOIN US FOR FUN, FOOD, A CAMPFIRE, DRINKS, AND MORE!
PRIZES FOR THE BEST DECORATED TRUNK
ALL ARE WELCOME!

REGISTER YOUR TRUNK BY **OCTOBER 22ND**

OCT 26TH
6PM-8PM

146 RESERVE RD
IN THE CHURCH'S
PARKING LOT

Contact youthministry@trinitywny.org for
more information and to register your trunk!!



STEPHEN MINISTRY

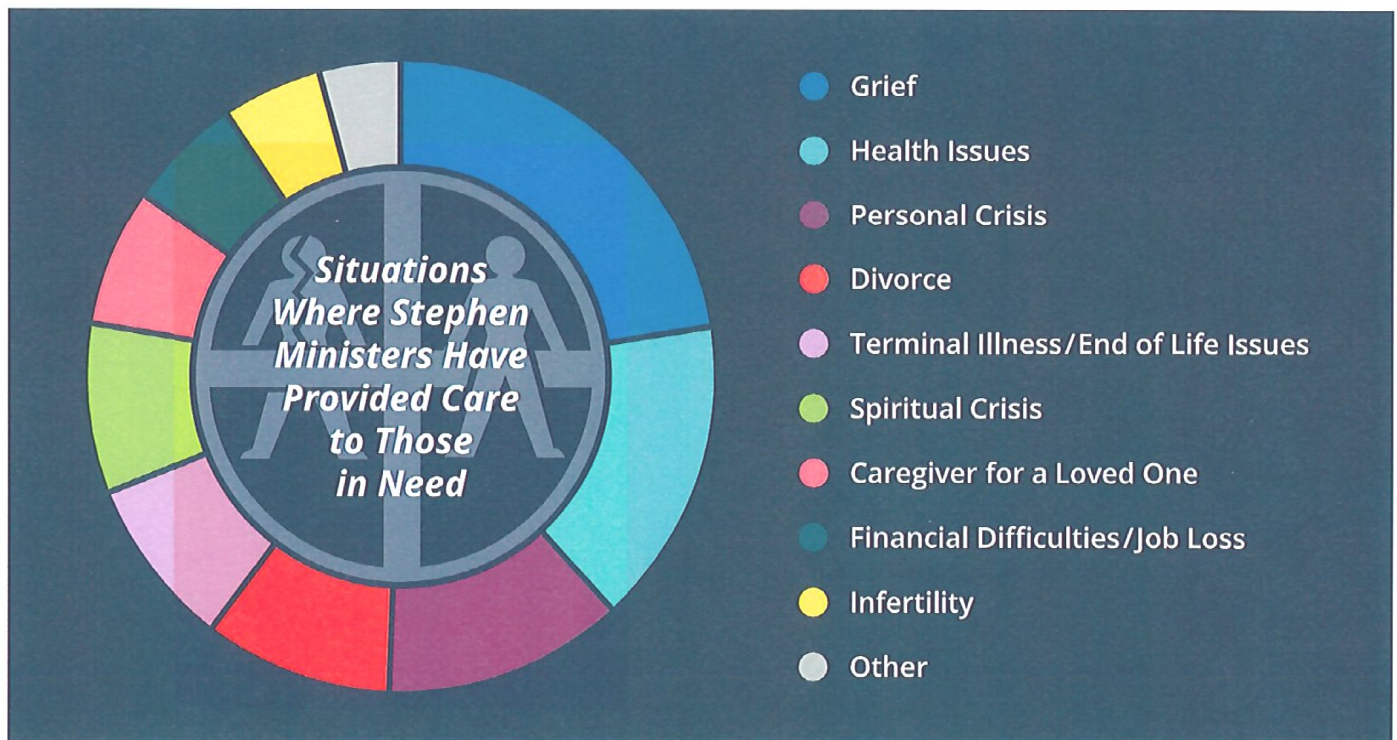
Care Receivers Share How Their Stephen Ministers Made a Difference

*Although my needs changed as I went from wife to caregiver to widow, my Stephen Minister's love and support remained a constant. She was **there at every stage of my journey**, helping me through some of the most difficult moments of my life—so I could begin to heal.*

Susan ●

*When things seemed like too much to handle, **my Stephen Minister brought normalcy and calm.** With him by my side, I knew I could make it from one week to the next. I could feel God's presence when my Stephen Minister was there.*

James ●



*My Stephen Minister was a consistent presence walking with me throughout my divorce. He would always show up, and **most importantly, he refused to give up on me.** I'll forever be grateful for the way he changed my life.*

Ralph ●

*When I was with my Stephen Minister, **I felt Jesus was with me.** I saw the love of God in her eyes while we talked and prayed, and it would fill me with such comfort and peace. It helped me know that I could make it through.*

Ashley ●

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STEPHEN MINISTRY (Continued)

After the death of my mom, **I needed someone who would listen**—even to the same stories over and over—and who wouldn't be afraid to say her name or bring up her memory. That's who my Stephen Minister was, and I don't know how I would have gotten through it without her.

Molly ●

My Stephen Minister listens—really listens. **He doesn't judge me or tell me what to do** but walks side by side with me. I never realized how helpful and healing that can be. With his care and support, I'm making it through.

Brian ●

I'm blessed with an amazing Stephen Minister. She's been genuinely attentive and caring ever since she came alongside me. She's kind of fearless in that way—**she'll just be there without trying to fix me** or talk me out of my feelings as I struggle with what's happening.

Nancy ●

My Stephen Minister's weekly visits became an anchor in my life—something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. **She was a steady reminder of God's presence**, helping me know I was never alone.

Heather ●

When someone you love is terminally ill, people often pull back because they're scared and don't know what to say. But **my Stephen Minister stood with me through it all**—listening, talking, and helping me on the journey. It was so reassuring to know he was by my side.

Andrew ●

My Stephen Minister loves me, listens to me, cares for me, prays for me, supports me, and **gives me a safe, confidential relationship** where I can totally share my heart. No matter how much I have to unload on her, she listens to whatever is going on.

Celeste ●

I needed to know that there was one person in the world who knew the good, the bad, and the ugly about me—and still cared for me. Experiencing that through my Stephen Minister was **a tangible expression of God's love**. It changed my life.

Julia ●

Stephen Ministry showed me the face of Christ. **God brought me exactly what I needed** through the care of my Stephen Minister, and that demonstrated to me how God cares for each and every one of us.

Frank ●

- **Stephen Ministry** is a lay caring ministry being used by more than 13,000 congregations worldwide to increase care and outreach to hurting people.
- Through Stephen Ministry, congregations are able to equip and empower a team of laypeople—Stephen Ministers—who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, health issues, divorce, spiritual crisis, job loss, infertility, or other life difficulties. Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people have received care from a Stephen Minister.
- Visit stephenministries.org to learn more about Stephen Ministry and see stories about the difference Stephen Ministers are making in people's lives.

Happy Birthday

10/1	Bob Bogumil Rachel Eising	10/12	Kaitlyn Schwab Liam Cosandier	10/25	Karen O'Brien
10/2	Rachel Jaskier	10/13	Frank Lelito Gabriella Tripi	10/26	Emily Gabel
10/4	Nakiya Harris	10/14	Nancy Hope David Sirgey	10/27	Sheila Swart Robin Makosy James Rowsell Joanne Jaskier Duane Gabel
10/7	Greg Diehl	10/15	Bennett Jelowski	10/28	Mary Ann Warner Karl Schultz
10/8	Emily Lelito Jonas Herdlein Levi Haas	10/16	Nicole Krause	10/29	Kevin R. Kot Ana Royal
10/9	Emma Monahan	10/21	Beth McKernan Max Rodgers	10/30	Lacey Harris
10/11	Paulette Darcy Sheri Courteau	10/23	Rebecca Hall	10/31	Steven Antonucci
10/12	Jennifer Szeider	10/24	Evan Bozek		

Happy Anniversary

10/1	Mary & Joel Havens Bonnie & Mark Schwab	10/15	Carl & Carolyn Lehsten Dawn & Paul Barnas
10/3	Robert & Renee Stefanik	10/19	Harry & Judeen Babcock
10/4	Peter & Loral Szeider	10/21	Robert & Carol Cislo
10/7	Eve & James LoVullo	10/24	Gary & Lenore Ecker Stephen & Carol Hope
10/9	Michael & Noell McKernan	10/26	Robert & Tracy Meissner
10/11	Heidi & Tom Cosandier	10/29	Donald & Gail Rieman



Shut-In Members

If you know of a member of Trinity who should be on our **shut-in member list**, please let Pastor Nyck and the church office know. We want to care for all!

Shut-ins can receive our weekly Life at Trinity announcement sheet and monthly Trinity Tidings newsletter by mail or email. Contact the church office (716) 674-9188 to find out more information.

Emergency Need

If a family member is **hospitalized** or there is an **emergency need**, please inform and phone Pastor Greig (716) 336-1767, the church office 674-9188, or one of the Deacons.



REFORMATION
Sunday

Ministers: The People of Trinity Church & School

Position

Pastor
School Co-Principals
Youth Director
Church Office Administrator
School Office Administrator

Name

Rev. Nycholas Greig
Sarah Gabel / Katie Willert
Nathan Thomack
Teresa Lynch
Judeen Babcock

Contact Information

674-9188 / (716) 336-1767 / pastornyck@gmail.com
674-5353 / principal@trinitywny.org
(715) 938-6225 / youthministry@trinitywny.org
674-9188 / trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net
674-5353 / jbabcock@trinitywny.org