

**Sermon Topic**

**Joining Jesus on His Mission  
At VBS—**

**Created by God: Built for a Purpose.**

**H**ey builder buddies! Miss Sue told me there was a reunion to celebrate all the great stuff we learned and experienced at Maker Fun Factory! I can't believe it's been a month since we were together! I don't know about you, but I had such a great time learning about God's love that week!

You may remember my crazy invention. It didn't really have much of a purpose, and it didn't do much, but Miss Sue thought it would make an excellent scarecrow for my mom's garden. She was so happy to get it. She even said it was **perfect** for her garden!

I've been thinking about that last day at Maker Fun Factory a lot. Do you remember the Bible memory verse for day 5? God made me for a reason and He has plans for me. Wow!

**“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord.”**

*(Jeremiah 29:11)*

I feel good knowing that God has a plan for me. I sometimes wonder why things happen, especially the sad or “bad” things in life. I wonder if God knows or cares... But He has a plan for me! I know that whatever comes my way, God is always with me, even when those hard times come.

That helps me a lot when I'm feeling sad or down. I hope it helps you too! God is for you and He has plans for you too. When you are feeling down or worried or upset, He is there for you. He is with you wherever you go!

Well, I need to wrap this up because my Automated Taco Maker™ is going haywire it seems. I programmed it to make me a taco, but now it won't stop. Back to the drawing board I guess!

*Ian Victor, Inventor of the Greatest Invention the World has Ever Seen™*



**Summer Classes  
Sundays, 10-11 a.m.  
Until September 3**

**Intergenerational Sunday School**

*Led by Sue Steege - Upper Level*

All Ages welcome! Parents, come with your kiddos. This summer we'll be digging into **The Armor of God** as it's found in Ephesians 6.

**The Kings of the Old Testament**

*Led by Rev. Dr. Charles Whited - Library*

**All Church Study:  
The Miracle of Mercy By Rick Warren**

**Starting September 16-17**

We are going to take six weeks as a congregation to see what mercy really looks like!

Did you know that mercy is God's number one characteristic in the Bible? The world portrays God as a God of anger and judgment. But God shows Himself first and foremost as a God of mercy.



**Blessed are the merciful: for they shall be shown mercy.**  
*Matthew 5:7*

If mercy is God's number one characteristic that He reveals to us in the Bible—then it must be the most important thing for us to learn about Him. And it must also be the most important character trait that God wants to develop in us.

Classes offered:

- Saturdays 4:15 p.m. Starting September 16
- Sundays 10 a.m. Starting September 17
- Tuesdays 7 p.m. Starting September 19
- In Life Groups Starting week of September 17

**Sign up at [FirstTrinity.com](http://FirstTrinity.com).**

**Thank You**

Jennifer and I have been members of this Christian community since 1979, having served in various capacities over the years. But, never before have I (we) been the recipients of its healing ministry. At a vulnerable time, it had real effect. Thank you so much for your caring and being a visible presence of our faith. Much appreciated. **Gordon & Jennifer Tresch**



**Altar Flowers**

**Presented to the Glory of God**

In Loving Memory of Mom - Ruth Innes  
By Jennifer & Harris Bartz

**Worship Helpers**

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a replacement & inform the office.

	<b>August 19/20</b>	<b>August 26/27</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Darlene Helming Charlene Beno Laura Zimberg	Darlene Helming Charlene Beno Laura Zimberg

<b>Saturday, 5:30 p.m.</b>		
<b>Greeter</b> .....	Evelyn Schleidt	Martha Miller
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Tony D'Amico Steve Puscheck	Tony D'Amico Randy Wert
<b>Reader</b> .....	VBS Reunion	Rich Ferrante
<b>Prayers</b> .....	Karen Wert	Bob Strassburg
<b>Communion</b> .....	Susan DePlato	
<b>Projection</b> .....	Bill Wood	Jim Brese

<b>Sunday, 8:45 a.m.</b>		
<b>Acolyte</b> .....	Jonah Cross	Eli Schiferle
<b>Greeter</b> .....	Tom Knapp Debbie Knapp	Darlene Helming Charlene Beno
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Ray Voit Erhard Moosmann Gerry Schrems Ginny Schrems	Gretchen Wright Garrick Wright David Gettman MaryAnn HarhiGettman
<b>Reader</b> .....	VBS Reunion	Jubal Myer
<b>Prayers</b> .....	Nancy Stuckwisch	Cindy Allsop
<b>Communion</b> .....	Wendy Binkley Paul Gerlach Carl Fretthold Leo Figini Sue Steege Jason Christ	
<b>Projection</b> .....	Bill Wood	George Miller

<b>Sunday, 11:15 a.m.</b>		
<b>Worship Assistant</b> .....	Sue Steege	Pat Canfield
<b>Acolyte</b> .....	Ben Trautwein Rebekah Jaenecke	Jared Doebler Matthew Klapp
<b>Greeter</b> .....	Jim Brese	Dennis Cassidy
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Frank Kraemer Paris Adams Abby Pedersen Judy Pedersen	Rachell Bissell Ben Bell Dick McKie
<b>Reader</b> .....	VBS Reunion	Mark Bramwell
<b>Prayers</b> .....	Brian Bunny Marsha Phillips	Brian Bunny
<b>Communion</b> .....	Marty Doster Jim Passage Jon Whited Tracy Bramwell Jason Christ	
<b>Projection</b> .....	David Phillips	Edu Obot

**Announcements Deadline - Thursday at 9 a.m.**  
*KFigini@FirstTrinity.com*

1570 Niagara Falls Boulevard • Tonawanda, NY 14150  
(716) 835-2220 • [FirstTrinity.com](http://FirstTrinity.com) • [office@FirstTrinity.com](mailto:office@FirstTrinity.com)

**Worship Times**

Saturday 5:30 p.m. Sunday 8:45 & 11:15 a.m.



**FIRST TRINITY**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Welcome!**

If you are a guest with us today, we are so glad you are here! We invite you to fill out a yellow card from the pew rack and put it in the offering plate during worship.

You will find all of the words in the worship service projected at the front of the church. If you require a printed copy, they are available from the ushers in the back of the church.

If you have something you would like us to pray about this week, you can write it on the back of the yellow card. Our staff and prayer team will pray for the requests during the week. If you so choose, we will post your request at our online prayer wall as well.

First Trinity is a Bible-based church. We believe God's Word is the sole authority for this life. We are imperfect people loving imperfect people.

Our prayer for you today is that you would connect to God and grow closer and closer to Him each day.



**L I F E T R E E**  
C A F É

**Lifetree Café  
will resume on  
September 11.**

**Interested in Joining First Trinity?  
Sign-up Today!**

**Tuesday, August 22, 6-8:30 p.m.**

If you have been worshipping with us, and you would like to learn more about our church, or if you think you might be interested in becoming a member, we invite you to consider attending our next **New Member Class**.

Participation in the class does not commit you to church membership, but it is an opportunity for you to find out more about the life and ministry of our church and to give prayerful consideration to entering into membership. We start with a light supper served at 6 p.m.

Please register at [FirstTrinity.com](http://FirstTrinity.com), click on Coming Events, or call the church office (716-835-2220), so that we know how much food and supplies to buy.

Connect With Us: [Facebook.com/FirstTrinity](https://www.facebook.com/FirstTrinity), @FirstTrinity, @FTmissions

*Transforming our world, one life at a time, through the power of God's living Word.*

## STAFF

### Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited Jr.

Senior Pastor  
cwhited@FirstTrinity.com

### Jason Christ

Attract/Middle School Ministry  
jchrist@FirstTrinity.com

### Marsha Peth

Care Ministry  
Homebound/Hospital Visits  
mpeth@FirstTrinity.com

### Susan Steege

Transformation Ministry  
ssteege@FirstTrinity.com

### Carl Fretthold

Serve Ministry  
cfretthold@FirstTrinity.com

### Timothy Hartnett

Ministry Operations  
thartnett@FirstTrinity.com

### Rebekah Freed

High School/Young Adult Ministry  
rfreed@FirstTrinity.com

### Kathy Figini

Office Manager  
kfigini@FirstTrinity.com

### Dona Trautwein

Administrative Assistant  
dtrautwein@FirstTrinity.com

### Susan Brese

Traditional Worship  
sbrese@FirstTrinity.com

### Marcus Deveso

Worship Band Leader  
mdeveso@FirstTrinity.com

### Debbie Ferrante

Preschool Director  
dferrante@FirstTrinity.com

## Calendar for August 20-27, 2017

For calendar details, visit our website: [FirstTrinity.com/calendar](http://FirstTrinity.com/calendar)

<b>Sunday 8/20</b>	VBS Reunion	<b>Thursday 8/24</b>	
8:45 a.m.	Traditional Worship	<b>Friday 8/25</b>	
10 a.m.	Education Hour	3 p.m.	Office Closes
11:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship	<b>Saturday 8/26</b>	
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	Food Trucks	9 a.m.	Men's Basketball
<b>Monday 8/21</b>		5:30 p.m.	Traditional Worship
<b>Tuesday 8/22</b>		<b>Sunday 8/27</b>	
12:30 p.m.	Staff Prayer Time	8:45 a.m.	Traditional Worship
6 p.m.	New Member Class	10 a.m.	Education Hour
6:30 p.m.	Tuesday Night Prayer	11:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship
7 p.m.	Band Rehearsal		
	Men's Basketball		
<b>Wednesday 8/23</b>			
9:30 a.m.	Women's AA Meeting		
	EMT Meeting		
12 p.m.	Lunch With the Staff		
7:30 p.m.	Volleyball		

## Upcoming Sermons

**August 26/27** **Joining Jesus on His Mission At First Trinity**

Psalm 42:1-6a, Acts 2:41-47, Matthew 9:9-13

**Sept 2/3** **Joining Jesus on His Mission In My World**

Isaiah 8:1-8, 1 Peter 3:13-17, Matthew 5:13-16

**Sept 9/10** **Joining Jesus on His Mission In Nepal**

Isaiah 30:18-22, Romans 6:3-11, Matthew 16:13-19

Listen to past sermons at [FirstTrinity.com/Listen](http://FirstTrinity.com/Listen)



## Mission Madness Is Coming SOON!

**Saturday, October 28, 11-2 p.m.**

This is our once a year fundraiser for sending missionaries out to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Last year we raised over \$14,000 between baskets, lunch, and bake sale. This couldn't be done without your generous donations. Please consider donating a basket with a retail value of \$50 (what it's worth- not what you spend), gift card/gift certificate in any amount. We are also in need of large ticket items (value \$200 or more), a great way for a whole life group to chip in. If making a basket isn't your thing, we will take your items and make the basket for you, or make a monetary donation and we'll shop for you too! There will be an idea board soon. Please start bringing your donations to the Collection Center in the Main Hallway as soon as you have them, or by October 1.

## Project Connect Booklets

Project Connect Booklets are distributed by **Lutheran Hour Ministries**, and are on our display rack by the Welcome Center. These booklets cover a wide variety of topics and are also available to you at [lhm.org/projectconnect](http://lhm.org/projectconnect). You are welcome to use Project Connect and we trust it will be helpful for you and your family and friends.

### The Lutheran Hour

Sundays 9:30 a.m.

WXRL 1300AM [LutheranHour.org](http://LutheranHour.org)

## Preschool 2017-18

Openings in 2- & 4-year-old classes.

**Debbie Ferrante**

([dferrante@FirstTrinity.com](mailto:dferrante@FirstTrinity.com),  
716-835-2220, [FirstTrinityPreschool.com](http://FirstTrinityPreschool.com))



## So Grateful for Debbie

Debbie Ferrante is celebrating her 5 year anniversary as **Preschool Director**. We give thanks to God for her Christ-like servant leadership.

## Give Thanks to God For Loved Ones

### All Saints Service November 2017

If you have a loved one who has passed away since January 2016 and you would like them remembered at our next **All Saints Service** in November, please email a photo (or give us one to scan) with name and date of death to **Kathy Figini** ([kfigini@FirstTrinity.com](mailto:kfigini@FirstTrinity.com)).

## How To Get News From First Trinity

Sign up to receive First Trinity's email updates including notices of events, funerals, and prayer requests.

Register online at [FirstTrinity.com](http://FirstTrinity.com).

Scroll to the bottom to find "Register for Email Updates".

If you do not have email and would like to get news from First Trinity, please contact **Marsha Peth** (716-691-5799) to be linked with someone who will call you.

## Ministry Council Nomination Committee is Formed

The Constitution and governing By-Laws of First Trinity provide that the voting members of First Trinity (that's all confirmed members over the age of sixteen) must elect a President, Vice-President, as well as one at-large member to serve as the leadership that develops policies, procedures and ministries as required to execute the vision of First Trinity. Terms on the Council are staggered every other year.

This September the Council will need to fill the position of **President, Vice-President, and one at-large board member**.

The positions are all for two year terms. A Nominating Committee consisting of **Kevin Cross, Joel Rockensuess, Garrick Wright, and Christine Hartnett** (as well as Pastor in a non-voting capacity) has been formed to identify those individuals who would be willing to serve.

If you are aware of a member who would be particularly suited to such a position, please submit that name to **Kevin Cross** (Cell: 716-698-0905 or Home: 716-831-9811) or in writing in a sealed envelope to the church office. Additionally, if you would like to hear more about the open positions' responsibilities or the nominating process, please feel free to contact any member of the committee.

Please submit your nominations as soon as possible! The formal election will take place at the September 30th Congregational Meeting.

## Grief Share: Your Journey from Mourning to Joy

**Wednesdays, Begins September 6, 7 p.m.**

Grief share is a 13-week study. The content includes comfort, answers, and hope.

To reserve your place, call **Ron Opferbeck** (716-812-1695).

## Reconciliation Training Events

**Go and Be Reconciled: What Does This Mean?**

**Sept. 9**—*Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Lockport, NY, \$25.*

This seminar is a full-day Bible study on reconciling relationships and resolving conflict. It reflects on the biblical teaching for reconciliation while reviewing the six chief parts of Christian doctrine from Luther's Small Catechism. The study answers "What does this mean?" through two parts: "Be Reconciled to God" and "Be Reconciled to Others".

### Lay Leadership Training

**September 10** *Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Clarence, NY, \$49.*

The objective of this interactive training is that you will be inspired and equipped to fulfill your responsibilities as a spiritual leader in vocations such as elder, council member, school board member, etc.

### Coaching People through Conflict Practicum

**September 11 & 12** *Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center-as low as \$299.*

Prepares leaders – reconcilers, pastors, elders, teachers, administrators, parents – to guide people to reconciliation through one-on-one coaching. Almost everyone can benefit from this training, since all of us at times give advice to others on responding to conflict.

### Mediating People through Conflict Practicum

**September 13 & 14** *Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center, as low as \$399.*

Prepares leaders—reconcilers, pastors, elders and other lay leaders, to mediate disputes between parties in a biblically faithful manner. The practicum is presented in 2 intense days of practicing mediation skills. Your instructors will demonstrate specific skills and then you will practice parts of the mediation process. The first day you will practice parts of a mediation in exercises. The second day you will experience two longer mediation role-plays, both as a mediator and as a party.

*A special feature of this training is one-on-one live evaluation from one of our instructors.*

If you would like more information on any of these Reconciliation Training Events, please speak to Pastor Chuck.

## Knitters and Crocheters!

We give handmade white baby blankets to every child baptized at First Trinity. We also give prayer shawls to sick and bereaved members.

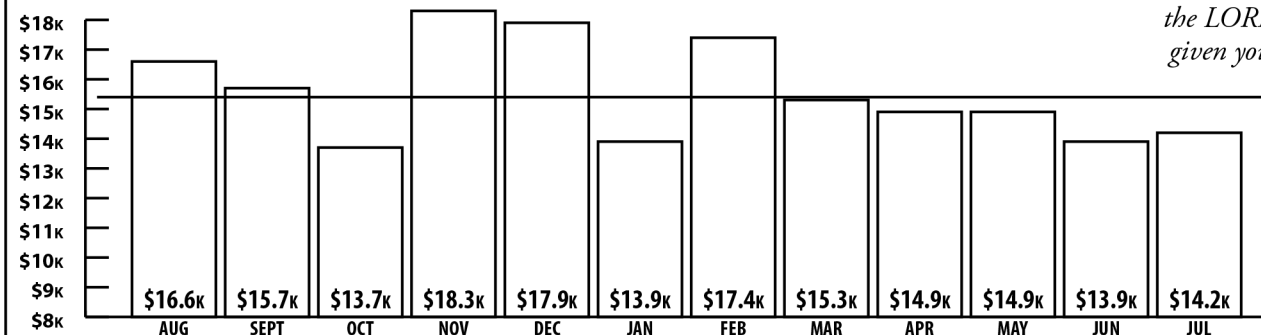
Would you be interested in helping us make baptism blankets or prayer shawls? Lynn Shaffer has very easy instructions. **Lynn Shaffer** ([lynnshaffer@gmail.com](mailto:lynnshaffer@gmail.com), 716-837-4478)

UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN WORSHIP: 979

UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: 321

### FISCAL 2017 BY THE NUMBERS

Average Weekly Giving Comparison (Needed Weekly Average = 15.4k)



*Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you. Deuteronomy 16:17*

**\$800,000**  
Budgeted Giving

**\$806,145**  
Actual Giving

## Friday Summer Office Hours

8:30 a.m.—3 p.m.