

Worship Helpers

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

March 25/26

Altar Guild.....Susan DePlato
Laura Zimberg

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Greeter.....Martha Miller
Ushers.....Tony D'Amico
Randy Wert

Reader.....Martha Miller

Communion.....

Prayers.....Karen Wert

Projection.....Jim Brese

Sunday, 8:45 a.m.

Acolyte.....Jack Kaczmarowski

Greeter.....Fern Innes
Charlene Beno

Ushers.....Joe Carr
Erhard Moosmann
Joel Rockensuess
Jude Rockensuess

Reader.....Phil Reed

Communion.....

Prayers.....Nancy Stuckwisch

Projection.....Russ Thomas

Sunday, 11:15 a.m.

Worship Assistant.....Sue Steege

Acolyte.....Ethan Lyons
Lucas Benton

Greeter.....Jim Brese

Ushers.....Frank Kraemer
Paris Adams
Abby Pedersen
Judy Pedersen

Reader.....Pete Bulger

Communion.....

Prayers.....Marsha Phillips

Brian Bunny
Projection.....Stacy DiCenso

April 2/3

Ginny Schrembs
Beth Vance
Laura Zimberg

Evelyn Schleidt

Tony D'Amico
Steve Puscheck

Susan DePlato

Susan DePlato

Bob Strassburg

Bill Wood

Noah Rockensuess

Tom Knapp
Debbie Knapp

Gerry Schrembs
Ginny Schrembs

Fran Dawe

John Faller
Carl Fretthold

Wendy Binkley
Paul Gerlach

Bekah Freed
Jason Christ

Cindy Allsop

Bill Wood

Pat Canfield

Paris Adams

Jim Brese

Rachel Bissell
Ben Bell

Dick McKie
Paris Adams

Jennifer Tresch

Wendy Morris
Barb Reardon

Kim Kwietniewski
Marty Doster

Bekah Freed

Anne DiCenso

Jon Whited

David Phillips

Education Hour Sunday 10-11 a.m.

Children

Childcare Infants - Age 2

Meets in Upper Preschool 2

Preschool - Ages 3 & 4

Meets in Upper Preschool 3

Kindergarten - Age 5

Meets in Lower Preschool 4A

FT Kids - Grades 1-5

Meets in Gym

Just Us - Adults

With Developmental Disabilities

Meets in Gym

Youth

Middle School Grades 6 - 8

Meets on Lower Level

High School Grades 9 - 12

Meets on Lower Level Lounge

Adult Education Classes

Sundays, 10-11 a.m. Until April 9

Hebrews *Led by Pastor Chuck on Lower Level.*

The New Testament book of Hebrews is a great contrast between the Old Testament and the New Testament, the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. It shows just how the Old Covenant pointed to Christ and how the New Covenant finds its fulfillment in Him.

The Reformation *Led by Gary Praetzel in the Library.*

At the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, it's a great time to learn about this pivotal event in world history. Who was Martin Luther? How did the Bible and the events of his life shape the reformation of the known Christian faith of his time? Come and explore!

Bible Journaling Basics *Led by Sue Steege on Upper Level.*

Bible journaling is a creative way to meditate on God's Word. This will be a hands on class for trying Bible journaling. You do not have to be an artist! Colors are involved!

Movies You Won't Want to Miss

In addition to the Luther movie coming out April 6, you won't want to miss these Christian movies shown at the Transit Regal Cinema **one day only**. For more information and/or to view the trailers, go to Fathomevents.com.

Thursday, March 30, Facing Darkness – presented by Samaritan's Purse, is the true story of Dr. Kent Bradley, the first American to survive Ebola.

Thursday, April 6, The Case for Christ – based upon the best-selling book by Lee Strobel.

Tuesday, April 25, Laugh, Cry, Love with Chonda Pierce Enough! Make it a ladies' night out with the queen of clean comedy!

Tuesday, May 2, Sight & Sound Theatres presents Jonah – On Stage! An amazing production for the entire family.

Is there anyone in your life that you could be handing the enclosed monthly Lifetree Café flier to?



Altar Flowers

Presented to the Glory of God

In Loving Memory of Benjamin Milak
By Mary Ann Milak-Young & David Young



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.

Unlocking the Mystery of Music: New Findings on How Music Heals & Relieves

A filmed interview with Sarah Johnson, a neurologic music therapist.

"The power of music does come on many different levels, and it's probably different for every person," Johnson says. "It grabs our attention and is a very motivating stimulus to listen to."

Participants will have the opportunity to discuss how music can help them accomplish personal goals.

This Monday night
7:00 - 8:00 PM
Here in our beautiful, cafe-like lower level. Free snacks & beverages - hope you'll join us!
LIFETREE CAFE
LifetreeCafe.com

Sermon Topic

March 25/26
2017

Traffic and Tears on the Journey

Ezekiel 18:27-32, Acts 17:22-31, Luke 13:31-35

Smart phones changed the way people drive. In the past, you charted your own path on a map. Frustrated with being unable to re-fold said map, we outsourced the work to Triple-A and their TripTiks. Technology advanced, and those gave way to printed directions from MapQuest at first and Google Maps later, followed by TomTom and other GPS devices in the car.

Smart phones changed the game entirely by bringing in real-time information. Road closure ahead? The phone re-routes. Traffic slowing down the current path? Rerouting. Thanks to smart phones, we're able to avoid most issues, but sometimes the only way to our destination is through the roadblocks and traffic.

Jesus experienced some traffic on His journey to Jerusalem. The Pharisees, determined to stop Jesus at all costs, tried to "help", feigning concern for Jesus:

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." Luke 13:31 (ESV)

Jesus would not be deterred. There was no rerouting or turning back. Jesus was resolute in His mission to reach Jerusalem and fulfill the purpose for which His Father had sent Him: to save His people from eternal condemnation. He knew full well what traffic and pain lay ahead—and He willingly endured it for you!

You will undoubtedly experience some traffic in your own walk with the Lord. It might be in the form of people "helping" you see the futility of trusting in Jesus, or it may be the circumstances and trials of life. Thankfully, Jesus is there, speaking into our hearts, giving us clear direction no matter what comes.

Sometimes, He reroutes us around the traffic and we avoid the struggles altogether. Other times, there's no alternate route, and so we face into the traffic and plow through, never alone, for Jesus goes with us.

Jason Christ, Director of Attract and Middle School Ministries

Sunbeam Sunday, March 26, 11:15 a.m.
Preschool Art Show! After 11:15 worship.

Welcome to our preschoolers and their families!

Join Us At
First Trinity
Next
Saturday

Give Kids The World Village
Ice Cream For Breakfast
APRIL 1 9:30-11 AM
FUN FOR ALL AGES!

Free Ice Cream
Service Project
Life-Sized
Candy Land
Stories From
Our Mission
Team

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

1570 Niagara Falls Boulevard • Tonawanda, NY 14150
(716) 835-2220 • FirstTrinity.com • office@FirstTrinity.com

Worship Times

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

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 March 26–April 2, 2017

For calendar details, visit our website: FirstTrinity.com/calendar

Sunday 3/26	8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship 10 a.m. Education Hour 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship 12:30 p.m. Preschool Art Show 4:30 p.m. Pickleball	Thursday 3/30	9 a.m. Faith in the Home Workshop 10 a.m. Preschool Chapel 6:30 p.m. Remix Gr 6-8 CONNECT 6:45 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Monday 3/27	10 a.m. Monday Bible Study 6 p.m. Youth Advantage Basketball 7 p.m. Lifetree Café	Friday 3/31	9:30 a.m. Ice Cream for Breakfast 12:30 p.m. FACES 5:30 p.m. Traditional Worship
Tuesday 3/28	10:30 a.m. Creole Lessons 12:30 p.m. Staff Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Prayer Time 7 p.m. Band Rehearsal Generosity Team	Saturday 4/1	8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship 10 a.m. Education Hour 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship 12:30 p.m. Workcamp Meeting 4:30 p.m. Pickleball
Wednesday 3/29	9 a.m. Faith in the Home Workshop 9:30 a.m. Women's AA Meeting 12 p.m. Lunch with the Staff 7 p.m. Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m. Volleyball	Sunday 4/2	8:45 a.m. Traditional Worship 10 a.m. Education Hour 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship 12:30 p.m. Workcamp Meeting 4:30 p.m. Pickleball

Interested in Joining First Trinity?

Wednesday, April 26, 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, click on Coming Events, or call the church office (716-835-2220), so that we know how much food and supplies to buy.

Reformation 500 Celebration

Sunday, April 23, 2 p.m. *Festive Choral Vespers* at Holy Ghost Lutheran Church

Upcoming Sermons - Listen to past sermons at FirstTrinity.com/Listen

April 1/2	The Beginning or the End of the Journey? Luke 19:11-27
April 8/9	The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem Luke 19:28-40

A Good Friday Unlike Any Before

Following the regular 12:30 p.m. corporate (*that means all together*) worship service, our church's entire first floor will become a new, individual worship experience. There will be 16 stages depicting the events that Jesus endured on Good Friday. It will be a self-guided, meditative, and interactive worship event that's called, **Journey through Good Friday**.

At each stage there will be things for you to read, see, and do as you contemplate the suffering and sacrifice that Jesus made for us. Come anytime between 2 and 8 p.m. and stay as long or as little as you'd like, but anticipate around 30 minutes.

Please take a postcard from the Welcome Center and invite a friend or family member to come with you.

If you'd like to help set up on Thursday, April 13, please add your name to the list at the Sign-Up table in the Lobby.

Preschool 2017-18

Enroll now - classes fill quickly!
Openings in 2- & 4-year old classes.



Enroll for September 2017 now. If you are interested in enrollment, turn in your applications soon to assure a spot. Forms are available at the Welcome Center or FirstTrinityPreschool.com.

For more information contact **Debbie Ferrante** (dferrante@FirstTrinity.com, 716-835-2220)

MAKER FUN FACTORY

Register April 1 at FirstTrinity.com
July 17-21, 9-Noon



Participants: Birth to completes Grade 5 in June.
Volunteers: Completes Grade 6 in June to Adult.
VBS is a high energy, child-centered fun learning environment. Students travel with a crew leader to various learning stations as they learn that **God will always love you!**

Songs! Bible Buddies! Videos! Games! Snacks! New Friends!
Tracy Bramwell (716-698-9608, tracybramwell@gmail.com)

Thank You From Jaime Christ

(on behalf of Abandelwa, Christine and their kids)
To the anonymous donor who left grocery gift cards for my refugee friends: thank you for your great generosity! I wish you could've seen the joy on their faces in February when I delivered the groceries. They are so thankful. Also, they had a couple of friends visiting (refugee neighbors from the same camp); I am certain they were visiting because our friends planned to share what they had. They are generous people too!

Since their staple diet is relatively inexpensive (rice, beans, potatoes, etc.), I had some money left over and was able to bring them some March groceries as well.

I have been working with them on developing resumes and applying for jobs. They are limited on transportation and English, but they take ESL classes and are very motivated.

Please continue to pray for employment for them! In the meantime, your generosity and God's grace sustains them.

Join Us for Pickleball!



Sunday, March 26, 4:30 p.m.

Donation—\$2 per person.
In our gym—paddles are supplied or bring your own.
Rich Ferrante (Call or text 716-774-1060)

Easter Plants for the Altar

In Memory of or In Thanksgiving for a Loved One

Order envelopes are in your mailboxes and are available at the Welcome Center.
All plants are 6 1/2 inch pots and cost \$8.50.



Deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 26. Plants may be picked up after 11:15 a.m. worship on Easter Sunday.

Faith in the Home Workshop

March 29 or 30, 9-10:30 a.m.

Do you wish you had more quality time with your family? Do you want to help your kids or grandkids connect with Jesus but aren't sure how? Could you use some simple tools to help your family slow down, have fun, and enjoy life a little more?

Join us for a free "Faith in the Home" workshop (*The content is the same both days, we're just offering it twice. Pick which day fits your schedule best!*).

Each family that attends will receive a free "Family Five" kit with some tools to help your family connect more with each other and with Jesus!

Contact Debbie Ferrante (716-835-2220) if childcare is needed.

Come For Worship!

Wednesdays During Lent
March 29 - Worship Service at 7 p.m.

Services feature personal testimonies to convey the hope Jesus gives. **Annie Reed** will give her testimony this week. Our prayer is that we will see the power Jesus has to change our lives. He heals, restores and cares.

Help Needed

Sprucing Up the Church

Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m.

If you would like to help us prepare the sanctuary and chancel for Easter, please join us and bring a pail and some rags. We will be cleaning and polishing the pews, altar, lectern, and pulpit.

Everyone is welcome to join us! Please contact Laura if you are able to help! **Laura Zimberg** (716-435-0020)

Easter Food Baskets

Baskets will be given to needy families in our community and to La Santa Cruz Lutheran Church in the city of Buffalo.

To volunteer to help assemble baskets on **Saturday, April 8 at 10 a.m.**, or if you know a family in need, please contact:

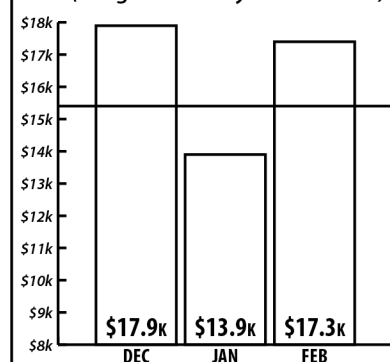
Bill Stuckwisch (westuckwisch@roadrunner.com, 716-625-8177) or the church office.

The Lutheran Hour
Sundays 9:30 a.m.
WXRL 1300AM LutheranHour.org

UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN WORSHIP: 477 **UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS REACHED IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: 187**

FEBRUARY BY THE NUMBERS

Average Weekly Giving Comparison
(Budgeted Weekly Need = 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

Fiscal Year Giving to Mission and Ministry (\$800k Budgeted)



(All data through February 28, 2017)