

Worship Helpers

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

	Sept 9/10	Sept 16/17
Altar Guild.....	Laura Zimberg	Laura Zimberg
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.		
Greeter.....	Martha Miller	Evelyn Schleidt
Ushers.....	Tony D'Amico Steve Puscheck	Tony D'Amico Steve Puscheck
Reader.....	Martha Miller	Susan DePlato
Prayers.....	Karen Wert	Bob Strassburg
Communion.....		Bob Strassburg
Projection.....	Charlie Ellis	Bill Wood
Sunday, 8:45 a.m.		
Acolyte.....	Jude Rockensuess	Peter Cross
Greeter.....	Paul Gerlach Fern Innes	Julie Miller George Miller
Ushers.....	Walter Zimberg Joe Carr Gerry Schrembs Ginny Schrembs	Ray Voit Erhard Moosmann Kevin Cross Jonah Cross
Reader.....	Cindy Allsop	Jennalise Olson
Prayers.....	Nancy Stuckwisch	Ron Opferbeck
Communion.....		Carl Fretthold John Faller Leo Figini Lisa Cross Sue Steege Jason Christ Bill Wood
Projection.....	Marlene Carr	
Sunday, 11:15 a.m.		
Worship Assistant.....	Sue Steege	Pat Canfield
Acolyte.....	Ethan Lyons Lucas Benton	Paris Adams
Greeter.....	Paul Gerlach	Dennis Cassidy
Ushers.....	Frank Kraemer Paris Adams Abby Pedersen Judy Pedersen	Rachel Bissell Ben Bell Dick McKie
Reader.....	Wendy Morris	Gordon Tresch
Prayers.....	Marsha Phillips Marsha Peth	Marsha Peth Brian Bunny
Communion.....		Barb Reardon Marty Doster Jim Passage Jon Whited Sue Steege
Projection.....	Stacy DiCenso	David Phillips

FT Kids & Youth Sunday School Starts September 10

Education Hour Sunday 10-11 a.m.

Children	Just Us - Adults
Childcare Infants - Age 2	With Developmental Disabilities
<i>Meets in Upper Preschool 2</i>	<i>Meets in Gym</i>
Preschool - Ages 3 & 4	Youth
<i>Meets in Upper Preschool 3</i>	Middle School Grades 6 - 8
Kindergarten - Age 5	<i>Meets on Lower Level</i>
<i>Meets in Lower Preschool 4A</i>	High School Grades 9 - 12
FT Kids - Grades 1-5	<i>Meets on Lower Level Lounge</i>
<i>Meets in Gym</i>	

One-Time Adult Education Class Sunday, September 10, 10 a.m.

How Can I Be Jesus' Hands and Feet in a Practical, Real-life Way?

A special one-time class led by **Cathi Brese Doebler**, a trainer for the Center for Creative Leadership, a global provider of leadership development. This class will look at natural, practical ways that you can live out your faith in your everyday life. We'll look at the Bible, talk with each other and come away with doable action items for our real life. This class will meet on the Lower Level and will be interactive and fun!

All-Church Study: Starts Sept 16-17

The Miracle of Mercy By Rick Warren

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.

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	6:30 p.m.	Starting September 19
In Life Groups		Starting week of September 17

You can sign-up online at FirstTrinity.com or in the lobby. You can also pick up a book in the lobby for a suggested donation of \$10.



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.

Sermon Topic

Joining Jesus on His Mission In Nepal

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

School is finally here! Our whole family has been excited for the start of school, even the kids. As parents, we love it because it means a return to structure and routine. It provides an anchor of stability for our family (after the first week anyway). The kids love it because they get to see their friends and learn new things.

I'm always surprised how much sticks with them—Eli especially. He will learn a new interesting fact and squirrel it away for just the right moment. We'll be out somewhere and it pops into his head, which prompts the phrase, "Oh! Did you know...?", then he tells us the fact. We'll ask where he learned this and he'll tell us his teacher told it to him.

Jesus was out with His disciples one day and asked them who people thought He was. They gave some answers, and then Jesus essentially says, "Yea, well what about you? Who do you say I am?" Peter correctly identifies Jesus as the Savior they have been waiting for, but rather than point to Peter's correct answer, Jesus emphasizes where the answer came from:

Jesus replied, "You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. Matthew 16:17"

The truth that Peter confessed that day did not come from him, but from his heavenly Father. God revealed the truth to Peter—and continues to reveal it to you and I. When we share this amazing, life-saving truth, we recognize that it has nothing to do with our own intelligence or hard work, but rather that it depends on God and His work.

Are you struggling to believe that Jesus is the Savior? Ask God to help you. He is the one that reveals truth and works faith. He did it for Peter; He'll do it for you also. So just ask: "Father, help me believe!"

Jason Christ, Director of Attract and Middle School Ministries

A Safe Place: Confronting Child Abuse in Your Corner of the World

Tips are provided for recognizing signs of child abuse and ways to prevent it. Participants will also see an exclusive screening of *Muted*, an award-winning, independent short film. "Child abuse is a difficult but necessary subject to talk about," says Lifetree representative Craig Cable. "We'll take a look at the different roles people play in child abuse and discuss practical ways people can help prevent it."

This Monday night 7:00 - 8:00 PM

LIFETREE CAFE Here in our beautiful, cafe-like lower level. Free snacks & beverages - hope you'll join us!

LifetreeCafe.com

It Is With Great Joy

that we welcome our brothers and sisters in Christ into the membership of First Trinity Lutheran Church.

Marcia Daugherty
Josh & Katie Gardner
Bill & Sharon George
Sam, Lindsay, Sammy, & Louis Gugliuzza
Marilyn Werner

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.



Altar Flowers

Presented to the Glory of God
In Loving Memory of Neal Schmidt
By Beth Schmidt

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

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

Calendar for September 10-17, 2017

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

Sunday	9/10	Thursday	9/14
8:45 a.m.	Traditional Worship	6:30 p.m.	Youth/Parent Meeting
10 a.m.	Education Hour	6:45 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
11:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship <i>Baptism Keegan Edward Orlando</i>	7:45 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
12:30 p.m.	2018 Haiti Mission Team Info Mtg	8 p.m.	Guatemala Mission Trip Info Mtg
Monday	9/11	Friday	9/15
10 a.m.	Morning Bible Study	8 a.m.	Work Team
6 p.m.	Youth Advantage BBall		Men's Basketball
7 p.m.	Lifetree Café	9 a.m.	All-Church Study Training
Tuesday	9/12	Saturday	9/16
12:30 p.m.	Staff Prayer Time	4:15 p.m.	All-Church Study
6:30 p.m.	Tuesday Night Prayer Horizon Support Group 2018 Haiti Mission Team Info Mtg	5:30 p.m.	Traditional Worship
	7 p.m.	7 p.m.	Saturday Night Light Christian Music
	Band Rehearsal All-Church Study Training	Sunday	9/17
Wednesday	9/13	8:45 a.m.	Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m.	Women's AA Meeting Executive Ministry Team	10 a.m.	Education Hour
1 p.m.	Senior Life Group	11:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship
6:30 p.m.	Loss of Parent/Sibling Support Grp	12:30 p.m.	Guatemala Mission Trip Info Mtg
7 p.m.	Grief Share		
7:30 p.m.	Volleyball		

Upcoming Sermons - The Miracle of Mercy

Sept 16/17	God Can Use Anybody
Sept 23/24	God's Mercy and My Failures
Sept 30/Oct 1	Mercy Forgives
Oct 7/8	How Much You Matter to God
Oct 14/15	Your Ministry of Mercy
Oct 21/22	Being an Agent of Mercy in the World

Listen to past sermons at FirstTrinity.com/Listen

Thanks From Cindy Lackie

I would like to thank my First Trinity family for all the prayers, love, care and delicious meals provided to my family after my surgery. I am recovering well. I praise God for all of you.

Military Ministry

Please help me serve our military members by providing me with updated names and addresses for any military member or family member to whom I might be able to provide support and encouragement. I have increasingly had cards and prayer books returned to me as our servicemen have been reassigned and I have no forwarding address. You may put names and addresses of anyone you would like me to send cards/care packages to in my church mailbox, **Mary Ann Gettman** or maharhigetman@roadrunner.com.

Mission Madness Is Coming SOON!

Basket Auction, Lunch & Bake Sale

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!

An Idea Board is up at the Collection Center in the Main Hallway! Please start bringing your donations as soon as you have them, or by October 1.

Sue Steege (ssteege@FirstTrinity.com, 716-440-5025)

Chili was our number one seller at lunch last year. Please consider making your favorite recipe. We can accept donations early and will store in the big kitchen freezer. Please put chili in a plastic freezer bag labeled Mission Madness.

Dona Trautwein (dtrautwein@FirstTrinity.com)

Preschool Prayer Partners

Please consider praying for a preschool teacher or preschool class during the 2017/2018 school year. Fill out the flyer in your mailbox or at Welcome Center and return to Debbie Ferrante's mailbox. More information will follow after sign up.

Ministry Council Nomination Committee is Formed

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.

Congregational Meeting

Saturday, September 30 – 10 a.m.

Come for coffee and conversation at 9:30!

Agenda items include approval of the annual budget and Ministry Council elections.

We Are Looking for Your Input! One of First Trinity's strategic outcomes is *Increase opportunities for celebration and expressions of joyfulness*. At our next Congregational Meeting, we will be asking for input and ideas for events, happenings, etc. that would help us meet this outcome. Please come with your thoughts!

2018 Haiti Mission Trip Info Mtgs

Sept 10, 12:30 p.m. & Sept 12, 6:30 p.m.

Our next Haiti Mission Team is forming. If you are interested in hearing more about the trip, including dates, possible mission focus and projected costs, please join us.

For more information, contact:

Renee Gietz (716-773-2847, rgietz@roadrunner.com)

Horizon Health Services

Tuesday, September 12, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Horizon Parent & Family Support Group

Understanding Substance Abuse & Addiction

Meets at First Trinity the second Tuesday of each month.

For more information: **Colleen Babcock** (716-907-2585)

2018 International Youth/Young Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala!

This trip is for those in Grade 10 through Young Adult Age and will take place **July 28-August 5, 2018**.

Come to one of the three info meetings to find out more!

September 13 - 7 p.m. at Bekah's House

September 14 after Youth Parent Mtg at 8 p.m. at First Trinity

OR September 17 at 12:30 p.m. after worship

Rebekah Freed (RFreed@FirstTrinity.com, 716-835-2220)

Grief Share: Your Journey from Mourning to Joy

Wednesdays, September 13, 7 p.m.

Grief Share is a 13-week study. The content includes comfort, answers, and hope. Provides help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. Grief Share fliers available at the Welcome Center.

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

Choir Practice Starts September 14

Thursdays, 7:45-9 p.m.

Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord all the earth. Psalm 96:1

God desires our praise, and we desire your presence in our choir. You are so welcome to join us!

Susan Brese (sbrese@FirstTrinity.com, 716-835-2220)

Fall Youth & Parent Meeting

Thursday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m.

This informative meeting will provide program details for both the **Middle School** (Cornerstone) and **High School** (Crossroads) groups.

An Evening of Christian Music

Saturday, September 16, 7-9:30 p.m.

All are Welcome at First Trinity Lutheran Church

Live Music, Open Mic, Snacks

John Angelucci (716-946-9804,

LockportDrumShop@yahoo.com)

Sisters In Spirit Meeting (SIS)

Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m.

At Laurie Kinsella's, 7025 Bear Ridge Rd, N Ton. 14120

All women are welcome for Bible study and fellowship—bring a friend! All women welcome

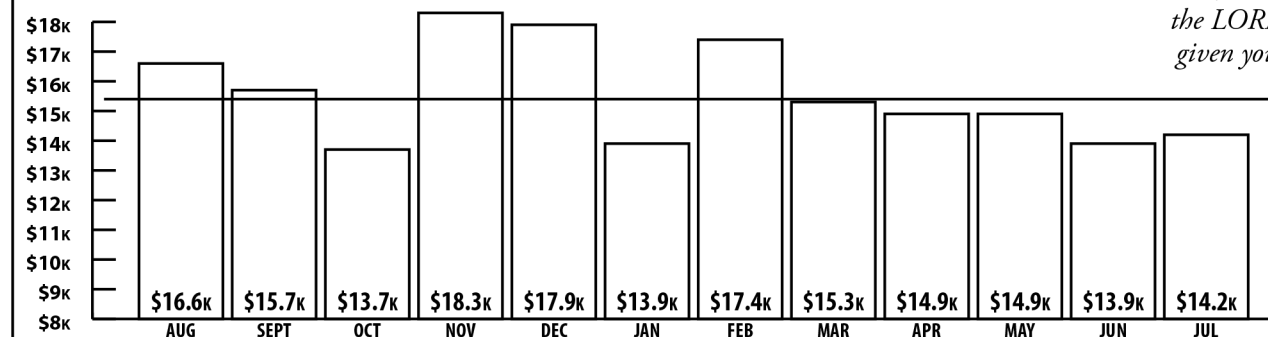
Laurie Kinsella (716-864-0572)

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