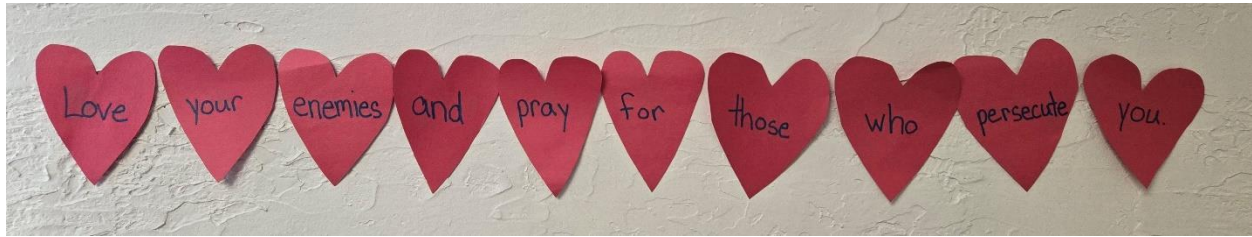


Historical Record 2025



January: Pastors Rick and Serena went on a trip sponsored by the United Lutheran Seminary called, "In the Footsteps of Paul and Revelation: A New Testament Journey," which saw them travelling across the countries of Turkey and Greece. After they returned home, they put together a comprehensive presentation for Lent, which they presented at both Town Line Lutheran and Trinity throughout the Lenten season. There were five presentations held at 10 am at Town Line and 6 pm at Trinity. Trinity members enjoyed a soup supper prior to the presentation each week.



January – May 15th - Bible Study continued on Thursday mornings at 10 am. We continued to study the book of Acts through March 13th. In Lent, we switched to a five-week series called "Give Me a Newheart" based on the 80s TV series "Newhart" that focused on how we can turn back towards God, with a different focus each week.

Sunday, January 5th: The Sunday School put on its annual *Christmas Program* (The Pageant for All) with a light reception following in the Fellowship Hall. This year, the congregation participated by supplying noises and interacting when prompted by the reader, Jane Dorr.

Sunday, January 26th: Our *annual church meeting* and pot-luck was held, at which time, new council members were elected, and the revised constitution was approved. The 2025 proposed budget was also voted on and passed.

Wednesday March 5th: We marked today with our *Ash Wednesday* worship at 7:00 pm, including the imposition of ashes.

Sunday February 9th: *The Souper Bowl of Caring*- Trinity continued to participate in the Souper Bowl program by setting up 2 soup kettles in the back of the sanctuary for worshippers to place money in, depending on which team they thought would win. The money collected went to the Lutheran World Relief to help the people of California who lost everything in the devastating wildfires.



Thanks to Donna Kumpf for setting up the soup kettles and making the signs.



2025 Lenten Drive: This year we joined our Upstate New York Synod churches in raising money to support the Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe and their effort to provide proper medical care for our siblings in Christ. The donations raised went toward purchasing ambulances for a remote region in Zimbabwe to keep access to their hospitals.

Saturday April 5th: *Our Spaghetti Supper & Basket Raffle*- 2025 was a great success bringing in **\$2534** total between the Supper and Basket Raffle! It was well attended. We had over 70 baskets this time! We had a lot of folks from the community who really seemed to enjoy it. The sauce was as delicious as always! Thanks to Donna Kumpf for making up the sign-up and coordinating things.





April 6th: We held a brief *congregational meeting* following worship to vote on proposed revisions to our newly ratified constitution.

April 7th: Ronda Lauridsen, assisted by Tracy Dorr, created a new *Women's Group* that met for the first time at 7:00 pm. The group is a low-key, fun 1–2-hour meeting where women can share stories and laughter and choose a question to answer about how God is present in our lives. We close with a prayer and look forward to the fellowship next time.

April 12th: *Indoor Church Cleanup* – spearheaded by Lois Kruschke, a group of volunteers spent the morning beautifying the inside of the church, including Dale and Lois Kruschke, Tammy Hohannes, Becky Fix, Jennifer Kleparek, Donna Kumpf and Marilyn Plateau. Thank you all!

Sunday April 13th: *Palm Sunday* – With 55 in attendance, we began our 9:30am service with a procession of the palms up the stairs from the foyer to the sanctuary, singing All Glory, Laud, and Honor.

Thursday April 17th: *Maundy Thursday* – worship at 7 pm, 20 in attendance. We had holy communion and the symbolic stripping of the altar.

Thursday April 17th: *Flower Pickup*. The florist we used previously retired, so we began working with a new florist called The New Leaf Greenhouse. This meant we would be picking up our own flowers, thanks to the generosity of Dale and Lois Kruschke, Tammy Johannes, Becky Fix, Pastor Rick and Laura Mollenkopf-Grill, Sue and Jim Kidder and Tracy and Annaleigh Kittel, we took our little group to the greenhouse and picked up the flowers. Laura Pingitore, Tammy Johannes and Becky Fix all performed the hard work of setting up the Sanctuary to look beautiful for Easter Sunday.

April 18th: *Good Friday* Tenebrae service at 7 pm, 26 in attendance.

April 20th: *Easter Worship* was full of beautiful flowers and 100 people! We had a pot-luck brunch with a great number of goodies to choose from! After that, we had an Easter Egg hunt for kids of all ages. We hid 150 eggs and they had a blast! Donna Kumpf and volunteers helped set up and run the pot-luck brunch.

May: It was decided that Pastor Rick Mollenkopf-Grill will be a transition pastor for Zion Lutheran of Gasport. He will split his time between Trinity (3/4) and Zion (1/4) starting in July.

May 4th: Trinity had the opportunity to host *the Alden/Newstead Ecumenical Choral Concert* at 2:00 pm. We enjoyed the music and it had a free-will offering. A light reception of finger foods followed in the Fellowship Hall.



May 11th: We celebrated the ***First Communion*** of Claire and Charlotte Coffta and Anna and Luke Conschafter during worship. Annaleigh Kittel played the piano during communion for Mother's day.



May 15th: Jane and Ryan Dorr purchased and planted one Rose of Sharon tree, one Serviceberry tree and a Red Buds Flame Thrower tree to replace the ones which had been removed in the front yard of the church.

May 18th: The newly formed ***Women's Group*** met for the second time for a friendly lunch of sandwiches, girl talk and stories of how God has positively impacted our lives. We planned to meet again every month or every other month.

June 14th: The annual ***Akron Sidewalk Sale***. Trinity had their usual table at the sidewalk sale with Buck-A-Box items from 9am-3pm. Volunteers including Donna Kumpf, Ronda Lauridsen, Paula Jendrowski and Lois Kruschke, Linda Finger and Carolyn Finger wrapped the boxes and manned the stand. The items were \$1.00 or more value, in shoeboxes wrapped with newspaper, and kids and adults get the surprise of unwrapping to see what item they ended up with. Between the Buck-A-Box and Pies in the Park we brought in **\$1568!**

July 20th: ***Worship in the park*** at Akron Falls Park. WOW! What A Day! The weather was absolutely perfect for a picnic. About 8:30am, a number of members came to Akron Falls - Brooklyn Road entrance, to set up tables for a picnic and a make-shift altar for worship.



Worship began at 10:00am, with the choir singing with David Hofmeier conducting and playing, a children's message, etc. Attendance was slight as to the many other family gatherings taking place. Worship was followed by a delicious picnic of hot dogs, many, many casseroles and salads, topped off by ice cream.

Following worship and while lunch was being prepared, a Silent Auction was held with many items which were brought in, and purchased by others, (who found the items so appealing.) The children found sidewalk drawings of their favorite part of creation a lot of fun, along with other yard games. Of course, there was Bingo with prizes of Candy Bars given to the winners.

All in all, it was a GREAT DAY by the sunshine and fellowship that came to a close around 3:00pm.

July 27th – Pastor Rick's 5-year anniversary as our Pastor – The congregation surprised Pastor Rick with a light reception in his honor in the fellowship hall after worship.



July-August – Summer Tree of Giving – This year we started a summer drive, reflecting the winter Tree of Giving that we usually do. Tracy Dorr set up a summery themed Christmas tree in the back of the sanctuary with paper ornaments on it – each with an item(s) or job that the church needs throughout the year, ranging from Free-\$100, with the exception of a couple of large items. Congregants took an ornament home with them and brought the item(s) back to put under the tree. The drive was a great success, stocking the church for the rest of the year with items like paper products, batteries, office supplies, paper, and loads more.



Summer Campfires: Pastor Rick organized and held informal, fun and relaxing campfires on June 26th, July 24th and August 21st at 6pm. We enjoyed hot dogs and fellowship!

Friday August 1st: Pies in the Park. Our annual pies in the park sale at Russell Park in Akron. Trinity sold hot dogs, pieces of pie and cookies in Russell Park as the community band entertained a number of guests. Thanks to the many bakers who

donated 20 pies and many packages of cookies, and to Pastor Dale Gooch for grilling the hot dogs for us!

September 14th – *Prayer Pal Reveal* – The Prayer Pal Group, run by Sue Kidder, enjoyed a lovely pot-luck lunch at noon at Sue Kidder's home, and found out who had been praying for them throughout the year.



October 11th – *Annual chowder Sale* – After the donations arrived, the chowder prep began on Thursday and continued into Friday. Chaired by Erik Polkowski, the event went smoothly. An amazing group from the Johannes family volunteered to stay up all night stirring and watching the chowder. On Saturday, a large group of volunteers made sure that it was a success, including serving dine-in bowls of chowder, a basket raffle, and the outside service of quarts and gallons to-go. We brought in **\$6637.00!**



November 1st – All Saints Sunday – This is the day we remember our loved ones now in heaven during worship. Congregants filled out their loved ones' names and were invited to hang them on the windows of the Sanctuary to remind us that we're surrounded by the glow of their light and love. Pastor Debi Turley was on hand to lead us in worship, since it was Pastor Rick's week at Zion Gasport. Pastor Turley invited us to bring in pictures of our loved ones and place them on a table in front with candles. That was a new and welcome addition to our service.



November 11th – 15th – Annual Rummage Sale – Chaired by Paula Jendrowski and Mary Lou Groff, a great group of volunteers including Donna Kumpf, Tracy Dorr, Tammy and Becky Johannes, Ronda Lauridsen, Diane Hurne, Flo Goeseke, Rebecca Jendrowski, Pastor Rick, Christine and Tyler Johnason all brought the setup together quickly as we had loads of items donated. We brought in \$1532.00 this year!



November 16th – Ladies' Thankoffering Service – Organized by Donna Kumpf, the ladies of the congregation led the service this day. Volunteers included Jane Dorr, Flo Goeseke, Sue Kidder, Ronda Lauridsen, Tracy Dorr, Tammy Johannes, Sharon Waff, Cheri, Brooke and Abby Young, and Aviaunna Kilmer.

December 7th: Chrismon Sunday – We put the chrismons on the tree and each section was read by a different volunteer reader.



December 22nd – The funeral was held for our dear member, Dale Kruschke. The Akron/Newstead Ecumenical choir performed 2 songs, as well as a flute quartet performed by his granddaughters, Keira and Makenna, and his daughter-in-law Deanna Kruschke. Dale was a beloved member of Trinity, carrying the Property Committee, volunteering for Food Pantry and what seemed like endless tasks around the church, anchoring our choir, and was council president. The Newstead Fire Co. was present for the Ringing of the Bell ceremony, as Dale was a longtime volunteer fireman.



December 24th – *Christmas Eve* – We had two services at 10am and 7pm with our choir singing at both. We had 56 in attendance for the 10 am service and 103 in attendance for the 7pm service, sharing in the service of candle lighting and singing Silent Night with a German verse. Before the 10am service, Abigail, Cheri, William, Jase, Elizabeth and Franklin played Jingle Bell rock on their instruments!

