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We are a community empowered by the Holy Spirit, called to bring God's comfort,
to work for God's justice, and to share the hope and love of Jesus with all.

AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER

**Food Collection
Success**
~ see pg. 4

**Red Cross
Blood Drive**
~ info. on pg. 8

Our Core Values



faith
acceptance
compassion
gratitude
love

A Message from Our Pastor





New Episode: Small Steps, Big Community!

Hello Hope Members,

Show notes are found with each new episode and include: a summary of the interview; timestamps for different topics within the episode; guest bio, and resources.

You will notice that this episode is “Audio Only” which means there is no video on YouTube but you can still listen on that platform if it is your favorite platform.

Here is the summary:

Welcome to the “hello community®” podcast! Join us as Host Catherine Jura speaks with Tina Fitzgerald of Syracuse, NY. Tina shares how profound loss led her into isolation—and how small, safe steps helped her develop community again. Today, her calendar is filled “from dusk till dawn” with work, service, leadership, and community. Her message is bold and unforgettable: keep trying, because when we stop trying, we stop caring—including caring for ourselves.

In this episode, Tina and Catherine explore:

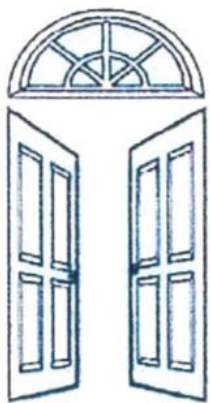
- How the loss of Tina’s husband and mom led to isolation.
- The role of one established community as her starting point for healing.
- How trusted invitations helped Tina take “baby steps” back into the world.
- The importance of purpose.
- Tina’s powerful reminder: “There’s no such thing as failure...it’s only failure when you stop trying.”

Tina reminds us that healing does not require giant leaps; it often begins with one “baby” step toward something that feels safe. By following purpose, honoring her own pace, and letting community love her back to life, Tina found what she calls her “sparkles” again.

To listen to this episode—and see all the show notes--click here: <https://lnk.bio/hellocommunity>

If you find the episode helpful and hopeful, please share it through your communication channels (texting, email, social media, word of mouth) so together, we can create a world where everyone has the connection and community they need and want.

Till next time, Catherine



Doors of Hope

Matthew 25:35

"For I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
naked and you clothed me..."

*Our food pantry can
always need food.
Thanks so much for
your generosity. We
really rely on you!*

God Bless You.



We Did It!

We hid Greg! As you can see from the photo, during July we collected enough breakfast and lunch items for our local food pantries that we were able to hide Greg -- all but the top of his head!

Many, many thanks to all who contributed. Food pantries are especially busy in the summer months, when breakfasts and lunches at school aren't available for the kids. Your generosity helps the food pantries to feed our neighbors!



FAITH Family FRIENDS

Prayer Calendar

AUGUST

2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
					Lois Batsios	Tom Batsios
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Athena Batsios	Dale Zipkin's Birthday	Janis Zipkin	Susan Clemente	Daniel Clemente	Luis Clemente	Marilyn Dyer's Birthday
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Lydia Calabro	Sebastian Schomer	Mark Schomer	Maeve Schomer	Marlies Palka	Wayne Palka's Birthday	Kevin Willis
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Anna-Lisa Hafgren-Willis	Cindy Winter	Diane Cornell's Birthday	Tonya Humphrey	Shane Pucci	Mikayla Humphrey's Birthday	Dominick Pucci
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Dan Churchill	Ciji Churchill	Harper Churchill	Bailey Churchill	Gerry Ungermann	Greg Whitney	Victoria Whitney
31						
Lois Whitney						



EACH MONTH WE LIST NAMES FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYERS. EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY BRINGS UNIQUE GIFTS FOR OUR MISSIONARY JOURNEY. OUR PRAYERS SUPPORT THEM IN THEIR DAILY LIVES. (A REMINDER...THESE ARE NOT PRAYERS FOR HEALING.)



We wish you a very Happy and Blessed Birthday ...

Dale Zipkin ~ August 4th

Marilyn Dyer ~ August 9th

Wayne Palka ~ August 15th

Diane Cornell ~ August 19th





A big THANK YOU to our July Mowing Crew!!!

Mike Daus Debbie Favro Wayne Palka Rick Covey

Kevin Willis Charlie Huff Kelly Jaeger

August Schedule:

August 3rd – 8th: Peggy Farrell & Mike Daus

August 10th – 15th: Wayne Palka

August 17th – 22nd: Debbie Favro & Kelly Jaeger

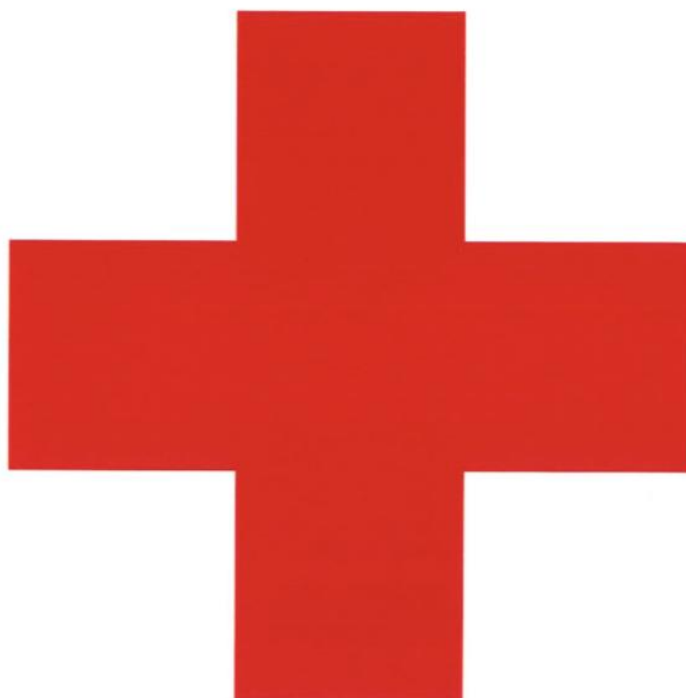
August 24th – 29th: Rick Covey

(August 31st – September 5th: Kevin Willis)

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive
Hope Lutheran Church

470 Winter Street Ext., Troy, NY 12180
Sanctuary
Troy

Saturday, August 15, 2026
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

To schedule your appointment, please call
1-800-RED CROSS, visit
www.redcrossblood.org, or,
download the free Blood Donor App.
Use sponsor keyword: **hopelutheran**



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®



**Come to give blood in August for a \$20 Amazon Gift
Card by email. Terms: rcblood.org/August.**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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2026 Fall Ministerium



October 26-27, 2026 for Rostered Ministers

with Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

October 27-28, 2026 for SAMs, Lay Preachers, & Mentors

with the Rev. Hank Langknecht
Retired Associate Professor of Homiletics,
Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Notre Dame Retreat Center, Canandaigua, NY



Worship Volunteer Duties for August 2026

Please find your own replacement if you cannot be available on date of assignment.

	2 – Aug.	9 – Aug.	16 – Aug.	23 – Aug.	30 – Aug.
	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am
Altar Guild/ Comm. Asst. 2	Charlie H	Debbie F	Donna S	Marilyn D	Bonny M
Greeter	Marlies P	Diane C	Anna-Lisa H	Ja'net M	Jim M
Usher	Debbie F	Diane C	Charlie H	Janis Z	Marilyn D
Lector	Bonny M	Sandra G	Luis C	Janis Z	Pam D
Communion Assistant	Bonny M	Pam D (+ candles)	Luis C	Debbie F	Janis Z
Snack Set-Up	Susan C	Marilyn D	Susan C	Susan C	Marilyn D
Offering Counters	Pam D & Luis C	Diane C & Sandra G	Charlie H & Bonny M	Pam D & Ja'net M	Marion D & Bonny M

TEAMWORK
makes the dream work

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AUGUST OF 2026

We have 'In-Person' Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 AM.

We also live-stream our services on our website, Facebook and YouTube.

Sharing the hope and love of Jesus with all

1st: Regional Food Bank Packing, 10:30 AM – Noon, Meet at RFB.

2nd: Prayers of Hope meets in the small classroom following worship service.

3rd: Podcast Taping, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM, in the sanctuary & large classroom.

4th: Trinity Lutheran Cemetery Meeting @ 5:30 PM in the large classroom.

12th: Worship & Music Committee Meeting @ 6:30 PM in the small classroom.

15th: Red Cross Blood Drive, 8 AM – Noon, in the sanctuary. Register online at:
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=hopelutheran>

19th: RSVP due by noon for Hope's Dine-Out Dinner on August 21st.

Council Meeting @ 6:30 PM in the large classroom & via Zoom.

20th: Grief Support Group @ 5:30 PM in the large classroom.

21st: Dine-Out Dinner Group @ 6 PM for those who RSVP'd.

26th: Newsletter Articles Due to Tonya.

