

The JOURNEY — *Walking Daily with Jesus*

"MEMORIAL TO LOVE"

IT'S NOT JUST FOR MARRIED COUPLES!! REALLY!

The "Memorial To Love" event on April 16, is for ALL who wish to celebrate a great love in their life — whether a living partner or spouse, or the memory of one.

We will gather in the sanctuary at 3 pm for worship to recognize the great loves in our lives. During the brief worship service, we will together proclaim a vow to the significant loves of our lives.

So the event is open to married couples, widows and widowers, and to those who have yet to be formally married! And you are encouraged to invite any family or friends who may be interested in coming to your "Memorial To Love" day!

Following the ceremony, we will move to the Fellowship Hall for heavy hors d'oeuvres, desserts and refreshments.

Please sign up by April 3, at the Welcome Center if you are attending, and total number in your party. The cost for the event is \$5 per person attending.

Additionally, we would love to have a picture of you and your significant other from your "early" years which we will scan into a slide show for the event. Just bring the picture to church by April 10. You can leave it with Cindy or Joanne. We will treat them with care and return them to you promptly! We look forward to sharing with you a special day of "Memorial to Love!"



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PASTOR JON'S COLUMN - Who is Going to Roll Away my Stone? - "Jesus, at your service!"

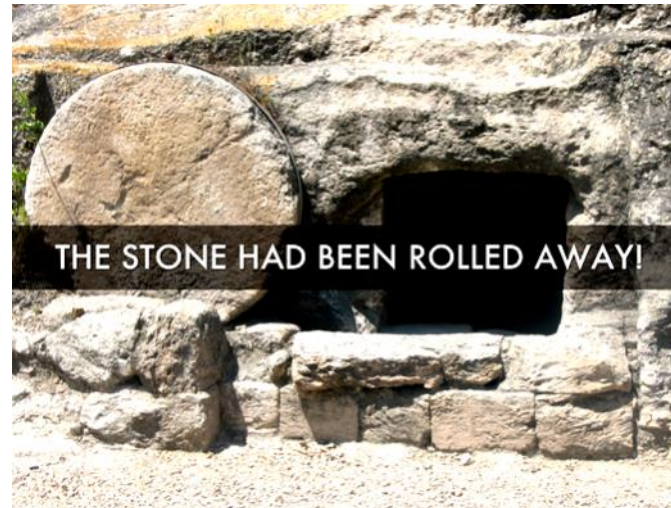
The women who were on the way to the tomb to embalm Jesus asked it. *"Who will move the stone for us?"* In order to complete the proper burial process they needed to get to the body of Jesus. And there was a big darn stone in the way. Rolled there to keep Jesus in? Of course, the scripture tells us that when they arrived their concern was misplaced. The stone had been removed.

In my experience, as I have traveled along my way, I have at times found myself separated from God. Sometimes I know where I'm going, sometimes I am unsure, and sometimes I cannot take the first step. There is a rock in my way – (or is it a landslide?) – and I am on the opposite side of some boulder, some stronghold that stands between me and God, between me and others . . . At times I can't even see past it, not to mention get around it or go through it. Who will move that stone for me? Who will move that stone for you? The crazy thing about some *stones*: Often they are invisible, many times they are of no weight that gravity can grasp, but all too often they are crushing us, our spirits, our very lives.

Maybe, just maybe, yours is the stone of reason and of self-sufficiency. Oh, you may go to church – but to commit your life to something you can't see, and touch, and exactly prove that it exists? And there is no real concession for you – no heartfelt confession for you; because if you did, you would insult your own intellect – your own ability. If that is you, you stand in

good company! You are a true companion of Thomas, Doubting Thomas (more accurately "Unbelieving Thomas") – who said "Unless I see the nail holes in Jesus' hands, and place my hand in his side I will not believe." Is that *you*? Who will move the stronghold for you? Jesus has already done so and given you the freedom to come, see, doubt – believe!

Maybe you are standing behind a boulder of bitterness, a mound of



resentment, a pile of hatred. Things have happened along your way. Living itself has dealt you an incredible blow, and somewhere along the way you have concluded that it is God punishing you for something you did or didn't do. How could you trust a God like that? I wouldn't blame you – I didn't. God gets too much credit and too much blame for the stuff that happens in this world. Who can move this heavy burden from your

path? Jesus has already done so and given you the freedom to travel through – to yoke himself to you and lighten your load.

Maybe it's the stronghold of a rocky past – the weight of shame or the mass of guilt that prevents you from feeling good enough to be loved by God. You perhaps have never heard of the name "John Newton" but you have probably sung his song: "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me I once was lost, but now I'm found was blind, but now I see." Newton became a minister after years in the slave trade, and would later tell his congregation "If God can love a wretch like me, he can surely love a wretch like you." If your life is littered with memories of dreadful words and deeds, broken relationships, unrealized dreams; loneliness . . . Who will remove that bag of dead flesh for you? Jesus has already done so and offers you the freedom to lighten your load.

So, perhaps you are carrying the stone of self-reliance, or the stone of uncertainty, or the stone of pride, or the stone of fear, or the stone of hatred; how about the stone of resentment – unable to move past hurts of the past – and you are drained, so exhausted from carrying it through this life. Who will take this weight off your shoulders? Who will remove the barrier between you and the Creator God? Jesus has already done so.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Brothers and sisters — whatever *your* stone is, I will tell you who removed it. Jesus, the Risen One, that's who.

You see, it doesn't matter what our stone looks like, or what it's called, or what it is made of; whether a pebble, a rock, a slab of concrete, a full-on landslide. We are all in the same rubble. At the core of the pile is our sin that stands between us and God. We can't move it. We can't change it. We can't get to God by going over it, around it or through it. But Jesus can, and Jesus has. This is the decisive reality of Easter; that the stone which had blocked humankind from God for generations was blown to bits on the day of Resurrection. Jesus stands ready with a hard hat of salvation and a jackhammer powered by the love and grace of the Holy Spirit — Jesus — at your service!

Janitor/Clown/Pastor Jon

**PLEASE DONATE YOUR OLD SHEETS TO THE QUILTERS!
THEY ARE IN NEED OF USED SHEETS — ANY COLOR! —
FOR MAKING SQUARES FOR THEIR QUILTS!**

MOVIE NIGHT!

Trinity Confirmation Youth will be attending the movie *GOD'S NOT DEAD 2* on April 6.

They are encouraged to invite friends to join them and ANY and ALL Trinity members are also invited to attend.

The cost for youth is \$5, \$8 for adults and \$6 for Seniors. Come to church at 5:30 pm for a light supper, and then car-pool to the theatre in Rice Lake for a 7:05 showtime.

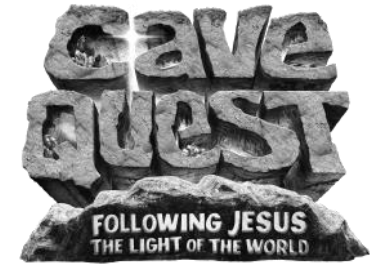
Please let Melinda or Pastor know by APRIL 3 if you are attending or bringing friends.

P.S. Drivers are needed, so please consider joining the group for a great movie!



VBS DECORATING SESSIONS SET

Shannon "Magical Decorator" Gindt, Theresa "Creative Genius" Stanley, and Joanne "Mistress of the Lists" Schilling are once again scheming and dreaming about the decorations for this year's VBS program, which will be June 6-10. But we need your help to MAKE our decorations!



Decorating Sessions. We'll be making decorations over the next months and ALL are welcome to help out! New this year will be a couple Wednesday evenings to augment the Sunday sessions.

Sunday sessions will be April 3, 10, 17; May 1 & 29. Wednesday sessions will be May 25 and June 1. All sessions will be from 6—8 pm.

For more info, call Joanne Schilling at 715-651-4875.

BAKERS NEEDED FOR FOOD PANTRY SALES



Birchwood Area Food Pantry needs bakers for its Summer Bake Sales. These monthly bake sales are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month from May to September, plus July 4 in Mikana.

If you would be willing to donate baked goods to any of these, it would be greatly appreciated. Items can be dropped off at the Food Pantry on the day before, from 4-6 pm or the morning of the bake sale, from 7-8 am. The Food Pantry will price the items for you.

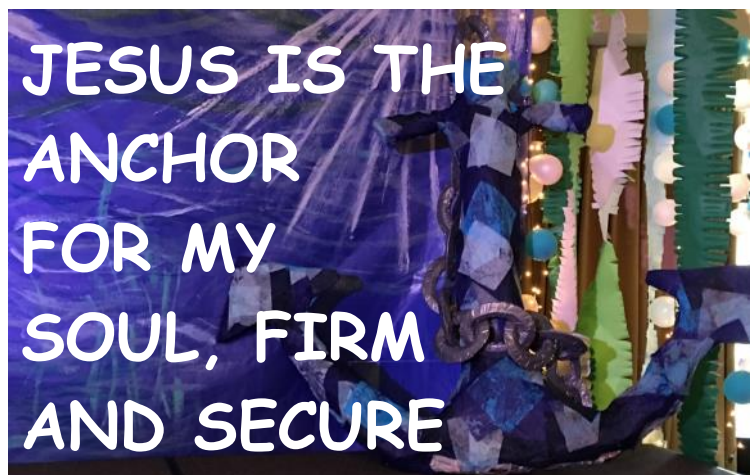
Floral bouquets and produce are also welcome. All proceeds from the bake sales go toward operating expenses and to purchase food for the Pantry.

Questions or offers to donate items may be made to Charlotte Snarski at 715-354-7077.



YOUTH AND FAMILY

JESUS IS THE ANCHOR FOR MY SOUL, FIRM AND SECURE



2016 LCMC YOUTH EVENT was held on March 4–6 at Three Bears Resort in Warrens, WI. We focused on eyes, prayers, and thoughts towards God's word in Hebrews 6:19 which says, *We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.* We praised God, thanked God, served a community and each other, swam, laughed, sang, listened and occasionally slept!

Our main speaker was Molly Sanborn who shared her life story including life storms and provided tools such as using post-it notes, journaling, reading God's word, and building a relationship with God through reading His word. Molly shares her relationship with God towards others through sharing cheese balls! Check out her cheese ball video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsyS0criRjA.



Pictured from left to right in the first row: Lucas Gindt, Landen Gindt, Payton Schultz, Brien Gindt; second row: Pastor Jon, Wyatt Sunderland, Molly Sanborn, Jill Pedersen; back row: Alyssa Langham, Melinda Pedersen, Shannon

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
 Would you like to serve a meal at the homeless shelter in Rice Lake? We are scheduled to serve on Wednesday, April 13! Please sign up on the bulletin board. Check out on the LET'S GO bulletin board for the CALLED 2 SERVE opportunity this summer in Iowa. Please let Pastor Jon or Melinda know if you are interested in attending.

**THANK YOU BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!
 WE WERE GRATEFUL TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND WITH EACH OTHER!**

**Registration Deadline is APRIL 14
CALLING ALL WOMEN FOR ABIDING IN CHRIST WOMEN'S RETREAT**

The April 14 deadline for registration is fast approaching for the 3rd Wisconsin Upper Peninsula LCMC Women of the Word Retreat on April 29 - 30.

This exciting event will feature dynamic speaker Diane Brask who returns as the entire retreat presenter, leading four sessions on **ABUNDANT FRUIT-FILLED LIFE**.

The overnight retreat will be held at Forest Springs Camp, in Westboro, WI. This beautiful facility is situated about 100 miles away from Birchwood, along the rustic glacial ridge of north central Wisconsin and offers a wonderful opportunity to unplug, have fun, learn and grow.

Rooms have been reserved rooms in Neale Lodge, each with two twin beds, a bunk bed and a trundle bed, which can accommodate up to 5 people/room, if one person sleeps on the top bunk! NOTE: There are only 20 rooms and a MAX of 100 beds available — **SO BOOK EARLY!**

The cost per person differs depending on the number of women per room, but ranges from \$69-75 per person. This fee covers one night's lodging, breakfast, lunch and snack on Saturday, and use of the facilities. Bedding/towels are provided.

If you are unable to arrive on Friday night, you still can attend Saturday's events for a reduced cost of \$35 per person. This fee covers only lunch and snack on Saturday, and use of the facilities.

Brochures are available at the Welcome Center. If you missed last year's retreat, you won't want to miss this year's!

Questions? Talk to Barb Kleven or Joanne Schilling.



Diane Brask



SAVE SPRING CLEANING THROW-AWAYS FOR RUMMAGE SALE

Can you believe the RUMMAGE SALE is only about eight weeks away? The time for cleaning out your closets is closing in!

Remember, "Who would buy this?" turns into, "Wow, did I get a deal on this!" So remember us when doing your spring cleaning and dividing perennials outside.

Don't throw anything away - we need your unwanted clothing and household items. Clothing, books, plants, perennials, kitchenware, bedding, artwork, fishing & lawn equipment, tables, dressers. *Everything except microwaves, computers, printers and TV's.*

The Rummage Sale dates are May 26-28. So mark your calendars!



Spell-Check doesn't always work in Church Bulletins! Enjoy these chuckles —

These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water."

The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang, 'I Will Not Pass This Way Again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

And this one just about sums them all up . . .
The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday:
"I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."



The Aging and Disability Resource Center Presents

Just the Basics –

Living Well with Memory Loss and Brain Change

April 28, 9:00 a.m – 1:00 p.m.

Department of Natural Resources
810 W. Maple Street
Community Room 112
Spooner, WI 54801



Free event, registration required

To register call the ADRC at (715) 635-4460 or email Trisha Bailkey at trisha.bailkey@co.barron.wi.us.

Managing independence for those with Alzheimer's or other dementias and their caregivers

At this free seminar you can:

- Improve communication skills
- Connect with speakers and caregivers
- Understand the symptoms of diseases that cause dementia

TRINITY'S CHILI COOK-OFF WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Trinity's 6th Annual Chili Cook-off/Talent Show was held Saturday, February 27, at the church.



As per popular vote, the best chili cooks pictured are: (right to left) Doreen Hutera, first place; Virginia Johnson, second place, and Julie Sunderland, third place.

A free-will offering was taken and \$110.70 was divided between the Birchwood Food Pantry and the Community Love Fund. Thanks to Melody and Rick Hedke for taking charge of this event and to all who participated and helped put this on.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Once again, there weren't enough names on the sign-up sheet to put in the newsletter, so please stop by the Welcome Center and sign up –

WE NEED YOU!

greeter **Communion Assistant**
USHER LAY READER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY


Susan Jostad	4/1	Kaitlyn Roppe	4/10	Sharon Dhein	4/17
Jeremy Lobitz	4/2	Denise Deraitus	4/11	Travis Saffert	4/17
Bill Lambrecht	4/3	Todd Hogen	4/11	Mary Webster	4/17
Jeff Parenteau	4/3	Stacie Deraitus	4/12	Alice Bhend	4/18
Karisa Scribner	4/5	Sterling Sweeney	4/12	Neva Slayton	4/18
Donna Soper	4/5	Corbin Nordback	4/13	Jim Gronberg	4/21
Sharon Klabunde	4/6	Mark Soper	4/13	Dave Webster	4/23
Sandy Beaver	4/6	Adam Anderson	4/14	Chris Iverson	4/26
Eric Landes	4/7	Bellah Buxton	4/14	Selene Johnson	4/27
Douglas Matts	4/7	Bradey Gottwald	4/14	Dave Beaver	4/28
Taylor Schultz	4/8	Marlys Poff	4/14	Eric Moline	4/29
David Dakins	4/9	Brayden Anderson	4/17	Pat Brenn	4/30
Brittany Boumeester	4/10	Jody Anderson	4/17	Nannette Kordus	4/30

IN OUR PRAYERS

1 - Sue Miles	13 - Phyllis Nelson	25 - Luke Olson
2 - Char Mohns	14 - Ron Nelson	26 - Tammy Olson
3 - Wes Mohns	15 - Billy Nordback	27 - Betty Orsund
4 - Randy Molin	16 - Corbin Nordback	28 - Dee Orsund Cartwright
5 - Susan Molin	17 - Otto Nordback	29 - Andy Ortery
6 - Rusty Morrell	18 - Rebecca Nordback	30 - Sandi Ortery
7 - Sabrina Morrell	19 - Sara Nordback	
8 - Tayber Morrell	20 - Tate Nordback	
9 - Todjer Morrell	21 - Bob Olson	
10 - Jim Muckerheide	22 - Dale Olson	
11 - Karen Muckerheide	23 - Dana Olson	
12 - Bonnie Namtvedt	24 - Leona Olson	



APRIL 2016

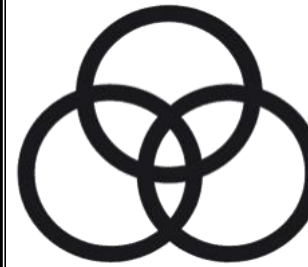
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALTAR GUILD Carol Addington 					1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
3 2nd Sunday of Easter 9a - Choir Warmup 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship w/Comm	4 9:30a - Quilters 10a - Worship & Music Team Mtg 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	5 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	6 9a - Staff Mtg 6p - Confirmation Movie Night 7p - Trinity Ch Reh 8:30p - Praise Tm Reh	7 8a - Memorial To Love Planning Mtg 9:30a - Video Series 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Praise Worship	11 9a - Outreach 9:30a - Quilters 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	12 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Council Mtg	13 9a - Staff Mtg 4p - Memorial To Love Decorating 6:30p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Ch Reh	14 9:30a - Video Series 4p - Memorial To Love Decorating 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study	15 OFFICE CLOSED Memorial To Love Decorating (if needed)	16 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 3p - Memorial To Love
17 4th Sunday of Easter 9a - Choir Warm-up 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship w/Comm Love Fund & Food Pantry Offerings	18 Journey Deadline 9:30a - Quilters 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	19 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	20 9a - Staff Mtg 6:30p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Ch Reh	21 9:30a - Video Series Study 11a - TLCW Mtg 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23
24 5th Sunday of Easter 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship	25 9:30a - Quilters 7p- AA, Fellowship Hall	26 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	27 9a - Staff Mtg 9:30a - Journey As- sembly 6:30p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Ch Reh	28 9:30a - Video Series Study 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - NEW Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study	29	30

Trinity Lutheran Church
 501 E. Chetac Ave
 PO Box 8
 Birchwood, WI 54817

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
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 Permit No. 3
 Birchwood, WI
 54817

**MEMORIAL TO LOVE
 APRIL 16 @ 3 PM**



The *JOURNEY* APRIL 2016

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Jon Paquette, Pastor
 Cindy Westphal, Parish Administrator
 Melinda Pedersen, Youth & Family
 Joanne Schilling, Choir Director
 501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8
 Birchwood, WI 54817
 (715) 354-3790 ♦ (715) 354-3224 (parsonage)
 ♦ trinitybirchwood@centurytel.net ♦
 JOURNEY Editor ♦ Joanne Schilling ♦ jlschilling@hotmail.com ♦

Sunday Worship 8:30 am outdoor (Memorial - Labor Day)
 10 am indoor (Year-round)
 Sunday School 10 am (Sept - May 21)
 Office Hours 8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)
 Pastor's Hours 8a-NOON (Mon-Thu)
 Bulletin info deadline 9 am Wednesdays
 JOURNEY deadline Monday of 3rd week of the month

WORSHIP THIS MONTH

4/3 10 am Worship w/Communion
 4/10 10 am Praise Worship
 4/17 10 am Worship w/Communion
 4/24 10 am Worship

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Amelia	Bill & Eunice Kuntz	Mary Reppe
Dave Beaver	Roy Kuula	Cleo & Merle Ries
Roger Blanch	Bill Lambrecht	Buddy Robotka
George Crust	Ed Leader	Sue Sachs
Annette Gentile	Bob Liermann	Shalom Ministry Team
Laine Guttenberg	Lora & Mary Overgard	Charlotte Snarski
Ron Hartzell	Susan Molin	Katie Sorenson
Gorman Hayes	Lee Namtvedt	Jeremy Spahn
Jordan Howell	Leonard Nysted	Mary Subrt
Becky Hunt	Chuck Peck	Brenda Jean Vogds
Merlin Jahnke	Kelly & Joann Peck	Sullivan Vogds
Art Johnson	Fred Peck	David Yndestad
Dean Kruegel	Dorothy Perpich	Elaine Yndestad
Jody Kruegel	Jean Peterson	

In the military: Rigil, & Randy Christensen, Rochelle & Alex Fabrizio, Kelsey Will, David Clayton, Eric Bebee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Brian LaGrange and all those serving in the military.

NEXT MEETING OF

Birchwood Food Pantry. 10:30 am, Apr 2, 4, 16, 18
 Worship & Music Team. 9 am, Apr 4
 Congregational Council. 6:30 pm, Apr 12
 Outreach Committee. NO MEETING
 Trinity Lutheran Church Women. 11 am, Apr 21