

The JOURNEY — *Walking Daily with Jesus*

PASTOR JACK'S COLUMN

A few years ago I began to question, “What is God’s will for my life?” I knew what *my* will was; it included raising good kids, being a good husband, trying to be honest and helpful in my dealings with others, and working to save money while enjoying family. I’d guess my will was not much different than the will of many reading this. But was that really God’s will? How could I know? In fact, many scripture passages address this!

Here’s a short list to start:

1 Timothy 2:3-4, Matthew 21:28-32, 1 Peter 2:15, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Luke 9:23, Psalm 34:7 and more...

I loved the Lord. I believed the parts of the Bible that I had read were true, and according to John 1:12, that made me a child of God. That fact made me reflect a little deeper. I asked another question: “What does it mean to be a child of God?” These questions must be connected, one answer leading to another. My human way of thinking brought me to thoughts of my relationship with my own children; they’re mine, they know me well because they’ve spent time with me. They know what I hope for their lives because I’ve told them and shown them. They followed me from when they were young, and continue to confide in me now. I believe this is how relationship with our Heavenly Father works too.

I began to spend more time with God; one on one. Reading and processing His words. I discovered God’s will really is knowable. Scripture proves this. Romans 2:2 says, “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. **Then** you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.” This passage was actually the focus of devotion during a Christian event I recently attended. I realize now it actually provides an important guiding sequence for members of Gods family (Mark 3:35):

- 1) A child of God refuses to be conformed to the world; they don’t desire the same things most others do.
- 2) A child of God allows themselves to be transformed, in submission to the Holy Spirit. They request guidance.

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3) A child of God is renewed according to the things of God, as we become more aware of His Word. Only when we read, spending time with Him, can we begin to know God's plan and perfect will.

4) A child of God lives their life, stepping out in faith, seeking to pattern their own life on the life of Jesus Christ.

No matter my age or my experience, I can know I am in God's will when my life bears a closer resemblance to Jesus' life. Am I growing in holiness, standing out as different from the rest of the world? Am I willing to help others, even when it cost me my time, money, or energy? Am I willing to share with others, unashamed, the impact God has made upon my life? Am I drawn to reading the Word; more than just on Sunday, more than a couple convenient verses sometimes? Do I encourage other believers do the same?

I'm retired. I'm done learning and growing. I just want to enjoy the rest of my days without feeling obligated... In his book, *Rethinking Retirement-Finishing Life for the Glory of Christ*, Pastor John Piper wrote, "Finishing life to the glory of Christ means finishing life in a way that makes Christ look glorious. It means living and dying in a way that shows Christ to be the all-satisfying Treasure that he is."

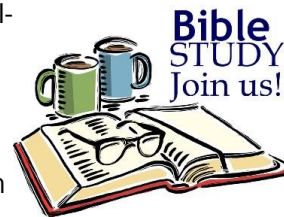
I follow **stopplayingchurch** on Instagram. Their latest post offered thoughtful challenge: "The *do what makes you hap-*

py" culture is so toxic for Christians. We are NOT called to do what makes us happy. We're called to do what glorifies God. Christianity isn't always sunshine and happiness. It's hard work & dedication to Him, not us. Do. What. Glorifies. God."

If we are living in God's will, under His influence, and truly desiring what He wants for our lives we'll know. Holy Spirit will place His desires in our hearts.

WOMEN'S MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

All women are welcome to our 6:30 Monday evening bible study to discover the bond of love, joy and faith that comes from the sweet fellowship we share as beloved sisters in Christ, learn about our Awesome, Almighty, Forgiving and Faithful God, and share prayer concerns and encouragement in sharing our faith with others. We are currently studying the Psalms. Each week we are given 4 Psalms to read and be familiar with to discuss the following week. Bring your bible, come and be blessed! Please contact Barb Kleven at 715-834-9988 if you have questions. Watch the bulletin for changes in scheduled meetings.



WOMEN'S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday morning bible study will resume August 1. If you have any questions or would like to join, please contact Marcia Kampf at 715-354-3048 .

THURSDAY EVENING GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Night Group study will be suspended for July and August. If you have any questions please call Pat Mackey 715-296-0309.

PRAYER CHAIN:

Please contact Sue Svitak with any prayer requests. She can be contacted at sksvitak@hotmail.com or by cell at 715-651-3299.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

If you seek God , He will show up.

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you. Declares the Lord"- Jeremiah 29:13-14 NIV

This is the first secret from the book, **The Secret Things of God** by Dr Henry Cloud. Dr. Cloud is an acclaimed leadership expert, psychologist, and best-selling author. He also has many videos on interpersonal relationships and leadership on Right Now Media.

Dr Cloud tells us *you don't need to have the biggest faith, or belief, in the world. Just the act of believing enough to seek is enough for him to come to you. Seek and you shall find. Matthew 7:7*

To live out this secret means that you will, first, take a step from your heart. So go to a quiet place and tell him you are looking for him. Pour out your heart. Ask Jesus to meet you and come to you. Ask him to show up in your life.

Second, you might want to do this with someone who knows him well. Get with that person and pray together. If you have never done that, it may seem strange, but you will

find it one of the most incredible spiritual experiences you can have. Ask him how he found God and what God does in his life.

Third, seek him by reading the Bible. He will talk to you there. It is his love letter to you. Forget your preconceptions, and let go there. If you have never read the Bible, begin in the Psalms and book of John. Talk to God about what you have been reading, and sit still and let him talk to you. Next, seek him for the answers you need in your life. Relationships, finances, troubles, guidance, kids, or whatever you need help with. Seek and you will find.

You may ask what does Henry know about searching for God. In his sophomore year of college, he sat on his dorm room bed wondering why all the dreams of his life had gone. A chance of having a relationship with the girl of his dreams and chance at a college golf career. He had come to a low point in his life. Depressed looking around his room he spotted a Bible on the bookshelf. He opened the Bible and it opened to Matthew 6:33-34. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. Not being a religious person, he didn't know what God's kingdom and righteousness meant but after reading this, he walked to the empty college chapel and asked God if he was real and if he was, to find him. Henry needed His help. No lightning bolts, nothing miraculous happened until he got a call from an acquaintance who said out of the blue he was led to call Henry and ask him to join his Bible study. Henry joined the Bible Study Group and found God.

Whether you are a young or experienced believer, you may at times need to seek God's presence in your life. You may find God in your quiet place, reading a daily devotional or by joining a Bible Study. Happy hunting.

WOMEN OF TRINITY HAPPENINGS

- We held our July meeting on the 18th.
- Our donation of \$1,000.00 toward the new door leading to the Fellowship Hall has been made.
- No decision on a family-size dishwasher for the kitchen until next month.
- On July 20th Service Committee #2 served a funeral luncheon to approximately 90 people following Merlin Jahnke's Memorial Service.
- We haven't had a representative from our organization to attend the monthly church council meetings for quite some time, but were very happy to have Jeanne Dahlby volunteer to do this for our group. She will have voting privileges for Women of Trinity.
- The annual church rummage sale, sponsored by our group, is coming up on September 6th and 7th. Chairpersons for this sale are Dianne Buxton and Cindy Rubin. An announcement for same appears elsewhere in the 'Journey.' We will work with Cindy McGraw to see if a donation from Thrivent is available.
- After listening to Gladys Mungo, a missionary from our area, talk to our congregation this month about the needs of children in Haiti, we passed a motion to sponsor a girl child at the cost of \$345.00/year.
- We need to revitalize our 'Stepping Out' program to serve our community. Come to our next meeting with your ideas.



THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 15TH, STARTING AT 11:00 A.M.,

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

AUGUST BRUNCH SCHEDULE

August 4 – Karen Scott, lead, Colleen Gindt, Judy Ede

August 11 – Char Mohns, lead, June Bibeau, Elain Hagen

August 18 – Karen Hayes, lead, Cindy McGraw, Sharon Dhein, Amy Dakins

August 25 – Ginny Johnson, lead, Sue Svitak, Jeanne Dahlby

September 1— Kathy Thom, lead, Susan Janetski, Barb Kleven, Cindy Gilgenbach

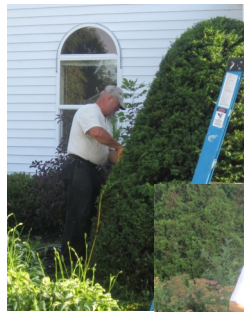
ANNUAL CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE SEPTEMBER 6 & 7

- The Women of Trinity Lutheran Church sponsor this sale, and it is the major fund raiser for our annual charitable donations, including improvements to our church, and church kitchen.
- These dates coincide with the annual Birchwood Area Rummage Sale, which will be held September 7th. We add a day, the 6th, because of the volume we have.
- Drop-off days for your precious 'stuff': September 1, after church. Tuesday, Wed., and Thursday, Sept. 3, 4, & 5: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Workers are needed for those days to sort and price.
- DO NOT BRING: televisions, large appliances, computers, printers, magazines, or other very large items.
- A sign-up list for helpers will be posted in the narthex beginning August 11th. Please consider signing up for:

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS								
	AUGUST 4 (8:30 AM)	AUGUST 4 (10 AM)	AUGUST 11 (8:30 AM)	AUGUST 11 (10 AM)	AUGUST 18 (8:30 AM)	AUGUST 18 (10 AM)	AUGUST 25 (8:30 AM)	AUGUST 25 (10 AM)
GREETERS	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	Pat & Brenda Mackey	The Sunderlands	YOUTH	Rolf & Barb Kleven	Terri & Rob Freeman	Wes & Char Mohns	Diane & Kyle Hubbard
USHERS		Rob Freemann LeRoy Brensel		YOUTH		Jim McGraw Kyle Hubbard		Leo Diehl Pat Mackey
COMM. ASSTS		NEEDS 2		YOUTH		Jeanne Dahlby		Wally & Kathy Thom
READER	Donnarae Carroll	Carol Addington	NEED	YOUTH	NEED	Marcia Kampf	Karen Hayes	Melinda Pederson

THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEER GROUND CREW!

Thanks to Wes Mohns, David Dakins, Donnarae Carrell, Wally Thom and LeRoy Brensel for giving of their time to beautify the front landscaping of the church! Anyone who wishes to volunteer their time and talent to maintaining the landscaping is encouraged to do so at any time!



- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Matt Jasper 8/1 | Sandi David 8/14 |
| Brent Anderson 8/1 | Zach Liermann 8/14 |
| Andrew Flora 8/1 | Kyle Scribner 8/14 |
| Colleen Gindt 8/4 | John Schieffer 8/15 |
| Julane Boesen 8/6 | Sharon Ivers 8/16 |
| Art Johnson 8/6 | Marie Poulter 8/16 |
| Ron Nelson 8/6 | Mary Subrt 8/18 |
| Eric Seelnacht 8/6 | Marly Applebee 8/22 |
| Katelyn Bratvold 8/8 | Ken Krattiger 8/28 |
| Tara Stanley 8/10 | Shanna Darkow 8/29 |
| Chris Suriano 8/11 | Steve Janetski 8/29 |
| Ginny Hurckman 8/12 | Rose Cutsforth 8/31 |
| Theresa Stanley 8/12 | Mark Larson 8/31 |
| Skyler Robotka 8/13 | Angela Sweeney 8/31 |
| Saige Buchholz 8/14 | |

VBS WAS ROCKIN'

It was a ROYALLY ROCKIN' TIME at KINGDOM ROCK VBS, July 22-25, when over 30 children descended on the transformed Trinity Lutheran Church for an epic adventure that empowered kids to "stand strong for God." Aged 3 through 5th grade, they learned that God's victorious power isn't a fairy tale – it changes lives forever.

The four day-long Kingdom Rock VBS was filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences, cool songs, tasty treats, fun games, and other activities that helped them to see faith flow into real life. Those activities were planned and presented by a staff of volunteers from Trinity's congregation. Each child who attended Kingdom Rock VBS was given a Bible to take home with them.

The last day concluded with a celebration that shared with the children's families and friends what they had learned. In addition, kids at Kingdom Rock VBS collected money to send to Haiti's Children, Inc, a non-profit organization which works to develop, educate and feed the children in the remotest areas of Haiti, helping them grow in mind, body and spirit; providing hope and a better life.



Children sing cool songs in front of the Kingdom Rock castle.



Cindy Rubin helps the kids tie-dye T-shirts.



Each child received their own (appropriate age) Bible to take home.



The Royal Crews played fun games outside



Barb Kleven shares Epic Bible Adventures with the Royal Crews.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Now that VBS is finished it is time to start planning our Sunday School program for this coming school year. The kick off date for Sunday School is September 15. A program called "All In One Sunday School" has been purchased to use this year. Please spread the word to any 3-10 year olds and their families that we would love to see them weekly!



I am looking for an individual or two to job share the teaching with me. If you might be interested in knowing more about this, please contact me at 507-250-0628 or by email at cinrubi81@gmail.com.

Confirmation Information/Registration Night!



Mission Statement: With the help of God, using His faithful servants in our congregation, we will teach, guide, and mentor young people in our community toward a closer relationship with their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; putting God first and the needs of others ahead of our own.

Date: September 11th, 2019

Time: 6:00 P.M

Location: Fellowship Hall

Join us September 11th, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall for information/registration night! Food is provided; this is your opportunity to hear program details and see what will be happening this year at The Cross! Register youth grades 6th-12th. (Early registration fee \$20 or \$30 after September 30th) Sign up to be a mentor, or volunteer to provide a meal. For more information please contact Ashley Beffa at (715) 790-1491 or Pastor Jack Jorgensen at (651) 592-8961.

DO YOU SING IN THE PEW?!

Join the Choir or Praise Team! NEW VOICES WANTED! NO AUDITIONS! You don't need to read music . . . We'll make sure you learn your part!

High-school age or older, just **show up** on **September 4**, at 7 pm, for choir rehearsal. The returning members will make you feel very welcome! Rehearsals run from 7- 8:30 pm, and the choir usually sings the first and third Sundays of each month.

Just interested in singing with the Praise Team? Come rehearse **September 18**, at 8 pm, and the Wednesday before every fourth Sunday, as Praise Team leads the music on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Questions? Call Joanne Schilling, 715-651-4875.

IT'S SCHOOL KIT TIME!

WOW! Summer is almost over! The beginning of school is right around the corner! So the school supplies are sitting on the shelves of area stores just waiting to be purchased and put to good use! During August the basket will be again in the narthex for school supplies.

Once again Trinity's Outreach/Missions will be collecting school supplies to be put in handmade book bags and sent off to needy children in other parts of the world. The items for the schoolbags are:

- ◆ Four 70-sheet notebooks (wide ruled); NO loose-leaf paper
- ◆ One blunt safety scissors
- ◆ One 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on at least one side
- ◆ One pencil sharpener
- ◆ Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, secured together with a rubber band
- ◆ Five black or blue ballpoint pen, secured together with a rubber band
- ◆ One 2-1/2" eraser
- ◆ One box of 16 or 24 crayons



Other school items that are purchased and not on the schoolbag list will be given to Birchwood School as there are always needs there as well. Outreach/Missions is grateful for the congregation's phenomenal support of this and all other projects!

THANK YOU!


Thank you Trinity Family for the past 8+ years. It has been a pleasure serving all of you. They say that when you leave a job you miss the people and not the work. but being your Parish Administrator—the people was the job and I will miss all of you!

Cindy Westphal

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- ◆ **Birchwood Food Pantry Open**.....10:30 am, Aug. 3, 5, 17, 19
- ◆ **Worship & Music Team**.....9:30 am, August 5
- ◆ **Mission & Outreach**..... 10:00am, August 14
- ◆ **Trinity Lutheran Church Women**.....11:00 am, August 15
- ◆ **Congregational Council**6:30 pm, August 20
- ◆ **Christian Life**.....4:00 pm, August 7

AUGUST 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>Altar Guild</i></p> <p>Eleanor Kuula (10am) Ida Jahnke (8:30am)</p> 				<p>1</p> <p>9:30a—Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open</p>
<p>4 8th Sunday After Pentecosts 8:30a—Outdoor Worship w/ Communion 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion</p> <p>Power Point: Melinda Pedersen Money Counters: Terri Freeman & Julie Sunderland</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30a—Worship & Music Mtg 10:30a-1:30p Food Pantry Open 6:30p—Wmns Bible Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>6</p> <p>4:00p—Staff Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4:00p—Christian Life Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30a—Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 9th Sunday After Pentecost 8:30 a—Outdoor Worship Service w/ Communion 9:30a—COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/ Communion YOUTH SUNDAY</p> <p>Power Point: Rob Freeman Money Counters: Brenda Mackey & Mike Rubin</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30p—Wmns Bible Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10a—Missions & Outreach Mtg</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30a—Women's Bible Study 11a—Women of Trinity Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open</p>
<p>18 10th Sunday After Pentecost 8:30 a—Outdoor Worship Service w/ Communion 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/ Communion</p> <p>Love Fund & Food Pantry Offerings</p> <p>Power Point: Mike Rubin Money Counters: Char Mohns & Joan Fuller</p>	<p>19 Journey Deadline</p> <p>10:30a-1:30p Food Pantry Open 6:30p—Wmns Bible Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30p - Council Mtg</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30a—Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 11th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 a—Outdoor Worship Service w/ Communion 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion PRAYER SHAWL SUNDAY</p> <p>Power Point: Joanne Schilling Money Counters: Sandi David & June Ehrich</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30p—Wmns Bible Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:30a—Journey Assembly</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30a—Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>

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

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



**Rummage Sale
September 6 & 7!**

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



The JOURNEY August 2019

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Jack Jorgensen, Pastor
Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator
Ashley Beffa, Youth & Family
Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Betty Blanch & Donnarae Carrell, Custodians

501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8 ♦ Birchwood, WI 54817

(715) 354-3790 ♦ (651) 592-8961 (Pastor's cell)

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JOURNEY Editor ♦ Julie Sunderland ♦ tlcbirchwood@gmail.com

Sunday School 10 am (Sept - May)
Office Hours 8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)
Bulletin deadline 9 am Wednesdays

SUNDAY WORSHIP THIS MONTH

8/4 – 8:30 and 10am Worship w/ Communion
8/11 – 8:30 and 10am Worship w/ Communion (Youth Sunday)
8/18 – 8:30 and 10am Worship w/ Communion
8/25 – 8:30 and 10am Worship w/ Communion

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Tom Allard	Roy Kuula	Jim Pravda
Vicki Busick	Bill & Joyce Lambrecht	Tom Reed
Ray Buxton	Rebecca Langham	Bill Rice
Debbie Davis	Ed Leader	Buddy Robotka
Barb Fegan	Lora	Ro Sackmann
Annette Gentile	Sharon Mackey	Carter Sackmann
Dan Gowan	Rusty Morrell	Collette Sandow
Ron Hartzell	Leonard Nysted	Cindy Schaan
Andy Hedman	Mary Nysted	Timothy Wallace
Art Johnson	Betty Orsund	Elaine Yndestad
Eileen Koefel	Fred Peck	
Bill & Eunice Kuntz	Jean Petersen	

In the military: Rigil & Randy Christensen, Rochelle & Alex Fabrizio, Eric Bebee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Cody Davis, Bennett Jorgensen and all those serving in the military.