RINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The JOURNEY - Walking Daily with Jesus

"Can I get an AMEN?!" FAREWELL TO INTERIM PASTOR LAUREN LEY

Three months can certainly fly by fast! On January 28, Trinity's congregation bid farewell to interim Pastor Lauren Ley and his wife, Sarah. The Women of Trinity presented them with a prayer shawl and all shared in a farewell cake.

During his short tenure here, Pastor Lauren brought his unique sense of humor to Trinity — often punctuating his sermons with a robust "Can I get an AMEN?!" or "Yee-hah!" Who will forget that?!

More importantly, however, he analyzed Trinity's records and wrote a report, "A Growth Analysis of Trinity Lutheran Birchwood, Wisconsin from 1990-2011," which he has presented to the Council. Copies are available from the church office.

May God continue to bless Pastor Lauren and Sarah as they return to their home!

And a new chapter starts for Trinity on February 6, when Pastor Jack

Jorgensen arrives. His installation will be held on February 18, followed by a potluck. More details on page 4.

Come hear about missionary work in Asia JASTRAM MISSIONARY PRESENTATION SET FOR FEBRUARY 7



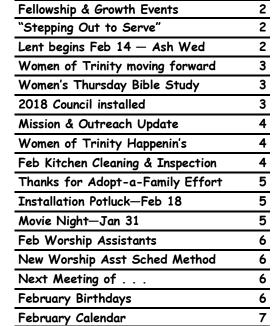
Missionary Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and his wife, Dr. Joan Jastram, will make a mission presentation on Wednesday, February 7, at 6 pm here at Trinity Lutheran Church. A light supper will be served by the Fellowship Ministry at 5:30 pm. The couple serves as missionaries on behalf of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) throughout Asia, based in Tokyo, Japan.

Rev. Jastram, called to career mission work in Japan and Asia, is currently in the United States for a two-month period of home service to report on how support from congregations and individuals accomplishes the church's missionary goal.

Daniel was born in Shibata, Japan, and was raised overseas in an LCMS missionary family. His childhood congregation was Shibata Lutheran Church, Japan. He received his Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. Later, he earned both a master's degree and a doctorate in Classical Languages from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Before serving in Asia, he was a professor of theology at Concordia Uni-

(Continued on page 2)

AMEN



WHAT'S INSIDE

Farewell to Pastor Lauren

Jastram Missionary Presentation



FEBRUARY 2018

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FELLOWSHIP & GROWTH EVENTS

Wednesday, February 7: 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall: Chicken Tortellini Soup and Sandwich Supper with Missionary Presentation at 6 pm.

Sunday, February 18: Potluck following Pastor Jack's Installation. Baked Chicken will be provided so please bring a salad or dessert

to share. General sign-up at the information center but all are encouraged and welcomed to attend.

P†TL[©]CK

Wednesday, February 21: Lenten meal served by Women of Trinity at 5:30 pm, with worship beginning at 6 pm.

Saturday, February 24: Tubing at Christie Mountain. Leave church at 9:30 am, to meet at Christie Mountain for 2 hours (10 am —noon) of private tubing. Snacks provided. I know this is Birkie Day but tube first and then head up to Hayward! We need 20 people by Wednesday, February 21, to make this event happen. Call the church office at 715-354-3790 to sign up! Call Melinda Pedersen at 715-296-2073 if you need more information.



Wednesday, February 28: Lenten meal served by Trinity Council at 5:30 pm, with worship beginning at 6 pm.

STEPPING OUT TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY



The Women of Trinity have decided to focus on a monthly project to benefit our community, beginning in February.

The month of February focus will be Book Buddies at the Birchwood School. Do you wonder how you need to qualify to be book buddy? Very simple: just read a Book with a child in elementary grades. You will benefit as much, if not more, than they will benefit.

For more information, call

Ginger LaMotte, Women of Trinity President, at 715-417-2734. To sign up for this Book Buddy program, please call Rose Cutsforth, program coordinator at 715-977-2905. If you're already a Book Buddy, do as you always do: show up at school by 8:30 am on any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Of course, Book Buddies are always needed every week school is session. (Continued from page 1)

versity, St. Paul, St. Paul, Minn., and Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon. He also served as sole pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church, Forest Lake, Minn. In his free time, Daniel enjoys reading, hiking and bookbinding.

Joan was born in Mitchell, S.D., where her childhood congregation was Zion Lutheran Church. She received both a bachelor's and a master's degree in Communication Disorders from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion. She received her Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) degree from the Minnesota School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University, Twin Cities, Minn. Before her missionary service in Asia, Joan worked as a clinical psychologist and plans to continue in this capacity. Joan enjoys reading, hiking and cooking in her free time.

Daniel Jastram is the son of Norman Jastram's brother, Robert, who was a missionary in Japan for 23 years, and Daniel was born in Shibata, Japan. Please come to hear Rev. Jastram's message and for an evening of fellowship.

LENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 14

We begin Lent on February 14, at 6:30 pm, with our Ash Wednesday service of communion and the imposition of ashes. Please come join us in the start of our Lenten journey of repentance and renewal.

Lent is a forty-day season of reflection for Christians. The "forty days" correspond symbolically to the forty years Israel journeyed through the desert towards the Promised Land and the forty days Jesus lived alone in the wilderness for a time of fasting and spiritual preparation.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Palm Sunday (also a called "Passion" Sunday because it remembers the <u>passio</u> or suffering of Jesus on the cross). Holy Week follows as we walk with Jesus on his journey towards the cross.

The journey ends at sunrise on Easter — *the Sunday of the Resurrection* — when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from death and our own resurrection into new lives, new community, new hope through Christ.



STEP OUT AND SERVE

WOMEN OF TRINITY - MOVING FORWARD in 2018

As we begin a new year with the excitement of Pastor Jack coming on board very soon, and as I begin as the new President of this beautiful group of women, I would like to thank all of you and all the women that served before you, for the continued commitment to Trinity Lutheran and the surrounding community. Through difficult times and many changes, this church has risen to the challenges and is shining brighter because of members' strong faith and courage. Just beginning my fourth year as a member of this wonderful church, I am looking forward to working with all of you. We will be reaching outside of our footprint to encourage more community involvement right here in Birchwood.

I believe that for our church to grow, the more of us that walk out our doors into the community to serve, the likelihood of more community members being interested in our church will grow. Thank you to all of you who currently volunteer. Without you, many current services offered in our school and community would be struggling to continue.

What we do now will not change. We will continue to offer Bible studies for everyone. Our three service groups will still provide funeral meals, kitchen inspection and cleaning the kitchen continues on a rotating basis. Altar Guild, Annual Rummage Sale, Memorial Garden, Prayer Chain, and the Christmas Bake and Lefse Sale will continue as they always have.

We will be adding our involvement with the Church Council through the Congregational Care position. This is something that we will all learn about and do together.

Beginning in January 2018, Women of Trinity will hold their business and plan-



ning meeting every other month. We will also plan on having a speaker at these meetings along with a fun pontoon party and luncheon in July!

Alternating months, I have proposed that we Step out and Serve by participating outside in our community helping others. Our first Step out and Serve month is February. The February focus will be Book Buddies at the Birchwood School. For more information call Ginger LaMotte at 715-417-2734. To sign up for this program please call Rose Cutsforth, program coordinator at 715-977-2905. If you are currently a Book Buddy, show up at school by 8:30 am, on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings during the month of February. Of course, Book Buddies are always needed every week school is in session!

Please watch for announcements for our next project in The Journey and on church bulletin boards. There will be something for everyone throughout the year. Please join in as we Step out and Serve!

> In Appreciation, Ginger LaMotte, President

WOMEN'S THURSDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

The Thursday morning Women's Bible Study will continue its study of the Book of Acts through the month of February. This study teaches us how the mission of Paul and the other apostles was taken to all of their known world.



They encountered many problems even as the church grew, and we are able to learn their method of problem resolution to apply when similar issues arise in our own congregation. Through it all, they knew they would not be stopped because the Holy Spirit sent them and went with them, just as we have this same assurance at Trinity Lutheran Birchwood!

All women are welcome to join us on Thursday mornings at 9:30 am. Questions? Call Jean Jastram at 715-354-7100.



Pastor Lauren installed the 2018 Council on January 14. Pictured from left to right are Donnarae Carrell, Karen Hayes, Kyle Hubbard, Dave Webster, Kathy Paquette, Leo Diehl, Ginger LaMotte, Melinda Pedersen, Rolf Jostad, Kevin Sunderland, and Jean Jastram (not pictured: Wally Thom and Brenda Mackey).

Dear Community Organizations, Churches, Friends, and Families

Wow! The Birchwood community did it again! Together, we helped make Christmas just a little bit brighter for 32 families through our Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Adopt-A-Family program. This is the largest number of families we have helped EVER. What a rush it has been, and more importantly a rewarding and humbling experience for many people involved.

It's interesting how things always seem to fall into place with the Adopt-A-Family program. This year, the first phone call came in October from a family looking for a wish list of a family that needed help. The week before Thanksgiving, there were more sponsors and donations than wish lists and families to help. This is a good problem to have. But then I started getting more wish lists and my panic set in - how were we going to pull this off? But, then I received more phone calls, Facebook messages, emails, letters and notes in the mail with donations. Then I got a couple of last minute wish lists, but then I got yet more phone calls, emails, and donations. In the end, we had just what we needed. Enough sponsors and donations to ensure all of our families had what they needed for the holidays. It's an incredible feeling to know how much we were able to give back and provide.

This year, I had several people inquire into our checks and balances in making sure that people really have a need, and we do our best. But the tears shed in appreciation, and the honest thank yous when gifts are picked up do make me realize that there is hope in the world. Most of our families really do value and appreciate what we give them and although some of them don't show it, or say it, we have to realize that we do this because we care and we want to help.

With that being said, we need to extend a huge thank you to everyone who made this such a successful year. Our community sponsors included: Masonite, Omni Designs, Trinity Lutheran Church, Long Lake Lutheran Church, St. John's Catholic Church, Grace Lutheran Church, New Beginnings Church, Birchwood Community Parent Teacher Organization (CPTO), Paul's Pizza Den, Ed's Pit Stop, J&J Concrete, Reel Em' Inn, Paul's Sheet Metal, the Harmonettes, and numerous individuals and families.

There is no way to adequately express how grateful I am for each and every one of you. Your contributions and genuine kindness help teach a valuable lesson to our students-of giving back to others and the value of service to ones community. This year was like no other, unreal from my perspective, and in the end we had just what we needed. Incredible how that happened.

Thank you again for your part in the Adopt-A-Family Program.

Sincerely,

Sara Waldron Future Business Leaders of America Adviser Birchwood School Business & Information Technology Teacher

INSTALLATION POTLUCK

Pastor Jack Jorgensen will be installed as Trinity's new pastor on February 18, at the 10 am worship service.

A Potluck meal will be held immediately after the worship service.

Baked Chicken will be provided by the Fellowship & Growth Team, so please bring a salad or dessert to share.

A General sign-up will be available at the information center but all are encouraged and welcomed to attend.



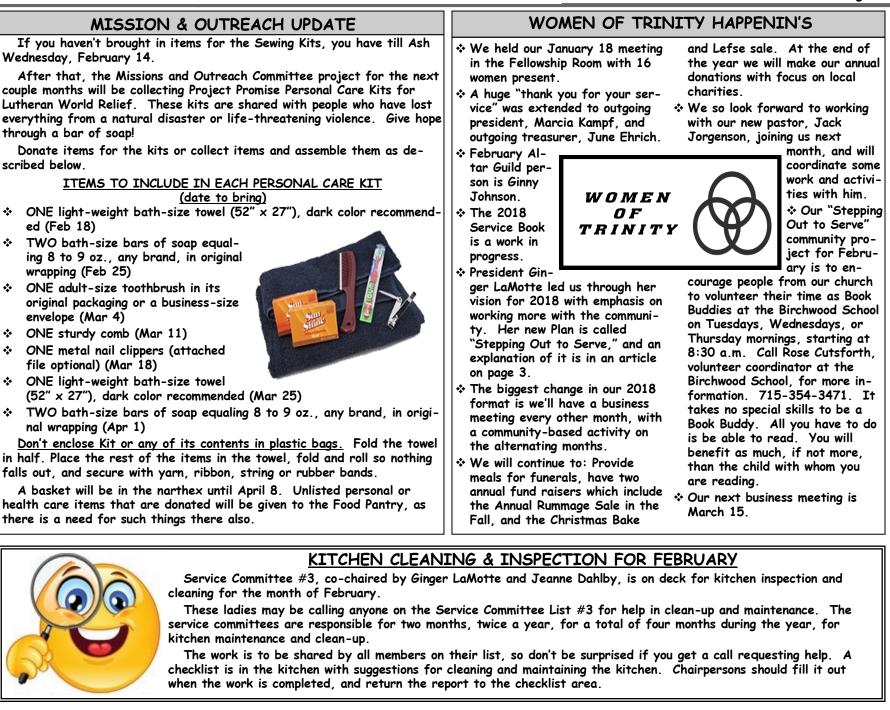


MOVIE, NIGHT

Join the middle school confirmation youth in celebrating Pastor Lauren's last day serving Trinity!

GOD'S NOT DEAD 2 movie at Trinity Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall, Wednesday, January 31, 6 pm movie start

Pizza served at 5:45 pm. Popcorn provided during the movie! Bring a comfy lawn chair if you wish! ALL ARE WELCOMED!



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FEBRUARY 2018

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS							
	FEB 4	FEB 11	FEB 14 Ash wed	FEB 18	FEB 21	FEB 25	FEB 28
Greeters	Eldon & Joanne Kvale	Norm & Jean Jastram		Ken & Jeanne Dahlby		Art & Ginny Johnson	
Ushers	Kevin & Shay Sunderland	Wes & Char Mohns	PLEASE VOLUNTEER	Sandi David Brenda Mackey	PLEASE VOLUNTEER	Norm & Jean Jastram	PLEASE VOLUNTEER
Communion Assts	Art & Ginny Johnson	Mike & Cindy Rubin	Bob & Karen Scott	Leo Diehl Mel Pedersen	PLEASE VOLUNTEER	Rolf & Sue Jostad	PLEASE VOLUNTEER
Reader	Carol Addington	Norm Jastram		Leo Diehl		Rolf Jostad	

NEW WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHED

Long ago many Trinity members filled out a Time and Talents Survey, on which they indicated they would be interested in serving in some way as a Worship Assistant.

To eliminate the weekly uncertainty of who will be the Worship Assistants, the Worship & Music Ministry Team would like to create a monthly schedule to fill these positions, using the method that is currently used by the Altar Guild and the people who mow the lawn.

In some cases where a person indicated on the survey that they would be willing to be a Scripture Reader, a Greater and/or a Communion Assistant, they have been assigned two responsibilities on the same Sunday.

As has been the tradition, Greeters will assist the Ushers in taking the offering.

If a person or couple is unable to perform the Worship Assistant position for the service assigned, that person would be responsible for recruiting their replacement.

The Team is also recruiting new persons to fill these responsibilities. If you are interested, or have questions/comments, please call Jean Jastram at 715-354-7100.

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

Birchwood Food Pantry	. 10:30 am, Feb 3, 5, 17, 19
Worship & Music Team	
Mission & Outreach	10 am, Feb 7
Congregational Council	6:30 pm, Feb 20
Trinity Lutheran Church Women	11 AM, MARCH 15

HAPPY BİR THDAY

Steve Saldana	2/3	Carol Pedersen	2/12	Spencer Ritchey	2/19
JoLynn Kotel	2/5	Rolf Kleven	2/13	Leah Saldana	2/21
Jessica Lindow	2/6	Catherine Krance	2/13	Merlin Johnson	2/23
Helen McClyman	2/7	Tiffany Rurup	2/13	Samantha Soper	2/23
Madeline Swanson	2/9	Leona Olson	2/14	Ken Dahlby	2/24
Brien Gindt	2/10	Billy Strand	2/14	Scott VandeVoort	2/24
Penny Iverson	2/11	Kayla Kristensen-S	Sundby 2/1	15 Luke Olson	2/28
Joanne Kvale	2/12	Jean Peterson	2/16		
Sherri Seelnacht	2/12	Daryan Schultz	2/16	BRE	HA

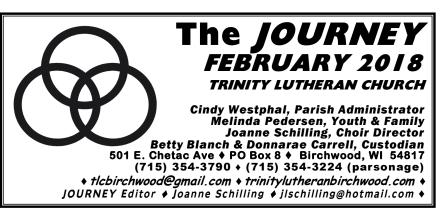
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FEBRUARY 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
<i>9:30a - COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship w/Communion	9:30a - Quilters 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open	6 5p - L.I.G.H.T Keepers	 7 10a - Msn/Outreach 5:30p - Confirmation 5:30p - Meal for Mission Presentation 6 pm - Jastram Mission Presentation 7:30p - Trinity Ch Reh 8:30p - Praise Team Reh 	8 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	9 OFFICE CLOSED 10a - Worship/ Music Mtg	10
	12 9:30a - Quilters 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	13 5p - NO L.I.G.H.T Keepers	 14 ASH WEDNESDAY 5:30p - Confirmation 6:30p - Ash Wed Worship 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh 	15 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
9:15a - Choir Warm-up 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion Love Fund/Food Pantry Off	 19 Journey Deadline 9:30a - Quilters 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 5:30p - M/O provides meal for Timber Bay 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall 	20 5p - NO L.I.G.H.T Keepers 6:30p - Council Mtg	21 5:30p - Confirmation 5:45p - Lenten Supper 6:30p - Mid-week Len- ten Worship 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh	22 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24
25 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion			28 5:30p - Confirmation 5:45p - Lenten Supper 6:30p - Mid-week Len- ten Worship 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh			

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

INSTALLATION & POTLUCK FEBRUARY 18



Sunday Worship8:30 am outdoor (Memorial - Labor Day)
10 am indoor (Year-round)Sunday School10 am (Sept - May 21)Office Hours8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)Pastor's Hours8a - noon, M-ThBulletin info deadline9 am WednesdaysJOURNEY deadlineMonday of 3rd week of the month

WORSHIP THIS MONTH

- 2/4 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 2/11 10 am Praise Worship w/Communion
- 2/14 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service w/Communion
- 2/18 10 am Worship w/Communion—Pastor Jack Installation & Potluck
- 2/21 6:30 pm Mid-week Lenten Service
- 2/25 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 2/28 6:30 pm Mid-week Lenten Service

<u>keep in your prayers</u>

<u>REEF IN IOUR PRAIERS</u>					
Tom Allard	Harry Heath	Leonard Nysted			
Amelia	Andy Hedman	Mary Nysted			
Dave Beaver	McKel Heebink	Betty Orsund			
Michelle Bender	Becky Hunt	Kathy Paquette			
Betty Blanch	Merlin Jahnke	Fred Peck			
Hazel Bonkrud	Kirk Kotel	Jim Pravda			
Katelyn Bratvold	Eileen Koeferl	Buddy Robotka			
Bryar	Bill & Eunice Kuntz	Ro Sackmann			
Vicki Busick	Roy Kuula	Carter Sackmann			
Barb Fegan	Bill & Joyce Lambrecht	Collette Sandow			
Annette Gentile	Ron Larson	Marlene Wendt			
Laine Guttenberg	Ed Leader	David Yndestad			
Ron Hartzell	Lora	Elaine Yndestad			
Candy Hayes	Susan Molin				
Gorman Hayes	Lee Namtvedt				
<u>In the military:</u> Rigil & Randy Christensen, Rochelle & Alex Fabrizio, Eric Be- bee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Cody Davis and all those serving in the mili- tary.					

NEXT MEETING OF .

This section has moved to page 6 in order to fit in all our prayer concerns. So please pray for all those listed above!