

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

From the Pastor’s Desk:

“For God loved the world in this way: so much that he would give up his Son, The Only One, so that everyone who trusts in him shall not be lost, but he shall have eternal life.” (John 3:16.)

Here we are in February already! We have come to the season where we will celebrate what my good friend, Jeff, labels a “Hallmark” holiday, Valentine’s Day. Since this holiday celebrates love, I wanted to talk a bit about the greatest Love of all.

I recently read this very common verse from the Aramaic Bible in Plain English. In these words, I suddenly came to know the power of God’s love for you and me just a bit more clearly. Just look at how deeply God loves us, brothers and sisters. God loves us so much that He has proved it to us in a profound, almost unspeakable way. He has given up His Son for us. God did not just give up a Son, but He has given us *“The Only One.”* There was and is no other Son of God except Jesus. Jesus was given for you and for me.

We sinners were going about our lives, lost in our sin, separated from our Creator. But our Creator was not satisfied to simply let us remain lost and wandering. God created us to be in fellowship with Him. He created this very earth, placing us here to not only care for the world itself but to care for our neighbors. However, we thought that we wanted so much more. We wanted to be gods ourselves.

But our loving God was not satisfied to leave us to wander and die, eternally separated from Him. So, He gave us His *“Only One,”* to live among us, to walk among us, as one with us, to experience all that we experience, except for this one thing: Jesus did not sin. Yet, because of God’s powerful love for this world, for you and for me, God’s Son suffered the cost of our sin, suffering and dying for each sin; past, present, future. Jesus died for your sins, for my sins, and for the sins of the entire world.

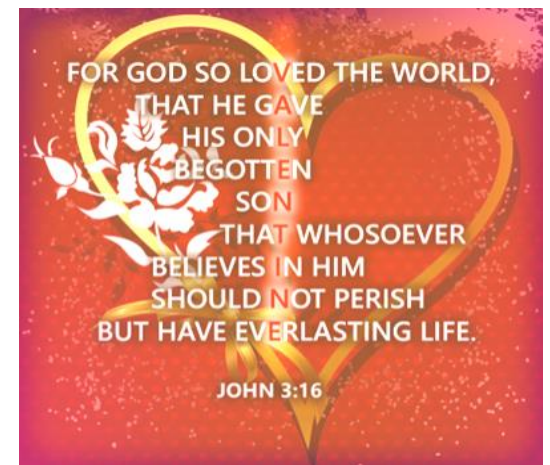
Why? *“...So that everyone who trusts in Him shall not be lost, but he shall have eternal life.”* Jesus died for sinners. Jesus died for you. Jesus died for me. He did this so that we would be with Him forever and always. What amazing Love!

I pray that as you go about your February, your days will be filled with the knowledge of just how much God loves you. In Jesus’ name.

Pastor Dan

WHAT’S INSIDE

From Pastor’s Desk	1
Letter from Trinity President	2
Next Meeting Of.....	3
February Birthdays	3
Worship Assistants	3
Associate Pastor	4
Women of the Word	4
Stellar VBS	5
WOT Happenings	5
Lenten season	6
Missions and Outreach	6
Bible Studies	6
Calendar	7



Letter From Trinity President

The other day I was surfing through our cable channels and I had a hard time finding something I wanted to watch. I finally came across Charles Stanley's In Touch program. Charles' sermon was part of a series entitled "Taking Advantage of the Privilege." The greatest privilege we will ever have, is to know and walk with God. Dr. Stanley taught about Noah's character and his trust in God while living in a corrupt and evil world. Noah sought the will of God and found favor with God. We can learn some things from Noah and his character.

Genesis 6 tells us how great the wickedness of the people was during Noah's time and how they fell away from God. You know the story of the Fall of Man, the building of the Ark and the subsequent Flood. If not, read Genesis 6-8. God regretted creating man but Genesis 6:8 says Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God meaning he had a close intimate relationship with God. Noah had frequent conversations with God. Noah had a character separate from that of the world he lived in. I believe God is asking His church to do the same. Noah did not care what people thought of him. He faced ridicule. His intimate relationship with God was the most important thing in his life. More important than being rich or famous or being popular with the people of his time.

Here are some practical things we can learn from Noah when God reveals His will to us.

1. Listen to God through prayer and what scriptures tell us. God told Noah his plan. Noah didn't question God but trusted in His plan. God will ask us to act when no one else agrees.
2. Trust God-God gave Noah his first action step. God said get busy and Noah didn't need an explanation for everything. Noah faced the challenges of his faith.
3. Obey- we do not need all the answers. Following God might open an opportunity for witnessing to others. People will ask,

"Who is this God who asked you to do the impossible?" If God asks us to do something, God accepts responsibility to give you skills or resources to accomplish it.

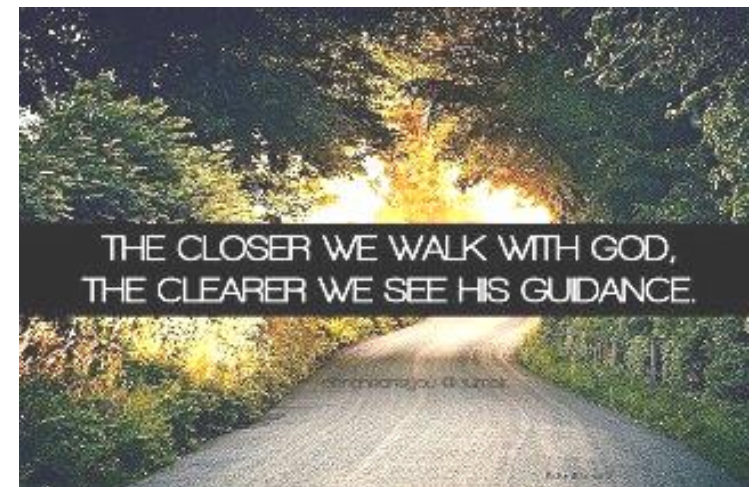
Noah showed courage and boldness. People would ask, why would I do this? The answer is, because God asked me to do it. We can trust our creator, our maker, our all-knowing and all-powerful God to do it.

The thing I took away from this teaching was how close, loving and intimate God wants our relationship with Him to be. It's not something far away off in the distance. It's not only a story in the Bible. It's something for us. We're missing out on not being in constant contact with the Lord of the Universe. We need to listen, trust and obey God to receive the love, joy and peace He wants for us.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil." Proverbs 3:5-7

May you experience the presence of Holy Spirit today.

Jim McGraw



February WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Feb 5 10:00 am	Feb 12 10:00 am	Feb 19 10:00am	Feb 22 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday	Feb 26 10:00 pm
GREETERS	Terri Freeman	Sue Svitak	Brenda Mackey		Char Mohns
USHERS	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Tom Svitak LeRoy Brensel	Mike Capra John Schieffer		Wes Mohns LeRoy Brensel
COMM. ASSTS	Kathy Thom	Dan Dahl	Pat Mackey		Joanne Schilling
READER	Ellen Ehrich	Gloria Widiker	Sue Capra	Janet Schieffer	Eric Anderson



Happy Birthday

Jessica Lindow	02/06	Billy Strand	02/14
Helen McClyman	02/07	Leona Olson	02/14
Madeline Swanson	02/09	Kayla Kristensen-Sundby	
Brien Gindt	02/10		02/15
Joanne Kvale	02/12	Daryan Schultz	02/16
Rolf Kleven	02/13	Alyce Tracey	02/24
Tiffany Rurup	02/13	Scott VandeVoort	02/24
Catherine Krance	02/13	Ken Dahlby	02/24



Anyone that still needs their picture taken please get ahold of Julie in the office and we will get it done at your convenience.

Meeting

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open 10:30-12:30pm Feb 6, 20**
- Worship & Music Team Feb 6, 10:00 am**
- Women of Trinity Feb 11, 10:00 pm**
- Trinity Council Meeting Feb 21, 6:30 pm**
- Men's Ministry of Trinity Feb 16, 6:30 pm**



Barb Kleven joins Trinity as New Associate Pastor

Pastor Barb Kleven has been offered and has accepted a position as the new Associate Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church. With our membership growing in Age we need to take care of the needs of our people. Pastor Barb will be a valuable asset in helping make sure the needs of our congregation members are met.

Dear Trinity Brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

I thank God and remember you in my prayers that we can grow together in faith and knowledge of Christ Jesus and share in the ministry He has for us.

I am grateful to be Trinity Lutheran's associate pastor and ask for your prayers and help in this ministry. Pastor Dan and I are working together for a plan to effectively care for members in our congregation. It's exciting to be involved in this rewarding ministry of visiting, listening, learning, caring, praying, supporting, and encouraging in Christian love.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him. Psalm 28:7

God bless and keep you in His care!

In His love,



Women of Trinity are invited to be Remade at the 9th Annual Women of the Word Retreat, March 31 – April 1, at Forest Springs Camp and Conference Center, Westboro, WI. Registration and payment (\$110) are due by March 15. Registration forms are available in the narthex.

There is hope in the trashy stuff of life! Through each challenge, disappointment, victory, or defeat we face, God remakes us into people who look more like Jesus. Guest Speaker Michelle Rayburn wants to help others discover the joy of finding God in the most unexpected places. She's an author and podcaster who emphasizes how life's difficulties can turn out to be opportunities to learn and grow.

Get ready to laugh, get into Scripture, and shed tears together as we celebrate the beauty of what it means to experience a repurposed life.

In addition to these sessions of learning and growing, we will have:

- Live Worship Music - Christy joins us again to lead us in making a joyful noise unto the Lord!
- Mission Project - Bring ideas on ways to serve others.
- Time - Take a walk, spend time with the Father, nap, or visit with others.
- Craft Project - We'll make something to remember the weekend.
- Holy Communion - We conclude our time together with worship and partaking of Holy Communion.

For more information, contact Joanne Schilling, 715-651-4875.



We're going to the MOON for STELLAR VBS! The fun and faith-filled week launches kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world! The out-of-this-world adventure is tentatively scheduled for June 12-16, 12:30 – 3:30 pm.

Planning has just begun with a Co-Director Team comprised of Joanne Schilling, Cindy Rubin, Wally Thom, Rob Freeman, and Sue Svitak. They'll be reaching out to the Trinity family for help in putting together another awesome VBS. If you're interested in assisting, contact one of them or the church office. And stay tuned for more information coming!



Women of Trinity



Women of Trinity

Women of Trinity – January Happenings

- Kitchen Cleaning 2023** was a great success! Many thanks to all who participated and made the kitchen shine – many hands definitely made light work!
- The Pink Box service project will be explored with an eye toward March or April's meeting.
- Yarn and patterns are available to make mini prayer shawls or full-size ones.
- Altar Guild for January is Joanne Schilling and February is Karen Hayes.
- The Youth Meeting for Wednesday nights is looking for volunteers to provide and serve a simple meal for about 8 participants. Please see the sign-up in the Narthex.
- The Women of the Word retreat at Camp Forest Springs will be March 31 – April 1st. This is a truly delightful weekend to laugh, share, learn and refresh the spirit! Please see Joanne Schilling for registration information.

Calling ALL Women of Trinity! Our next meeting is February 11, 2023 at 10:00am! Please join us for fellowship, support of our sisters and our church, and planning future events!





Ash Wednesday
February 22 @ 6:30 pm
 Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
ALL ARE WELCOME
Trinity Lutheran Church * 501 E. Chetac Ave. * 715-354-3790



**MID-WEEK LENTEN
 WORSHIP SERVICES**

Wednesdays
Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
@ 6:30 pm
ALL ARE WELCOME
Trinity Lutheran Church * 501 E. Chetac Ave. * 715-354-3790

OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach

Missions and Outreach would like to thank the entire congregation for their generous giving for the Adopt-a-Family tree. It was an incredible success. We were able to provide Christmas gifts for the children of four families plus provide a family basket for each family to share time together.

Missions and Outreach met on January 11th. Five women were in attendance. We discussed our giving calendar for 2023. For the months of January and February, we will have a basket with a list of items in the Narthex to collect for Embrace in Ladysmith. This year we are focusing on items for children who are forced to leave their homes due to domestic violence. The donations will be delivered in March along with the beautiful children's quilts made by Karen Hayes. Below is a list of items we will be collecting. Any donations are appreciated.

- Art supplies Children's books
 - Board games Children's movies
 - Diapers ,Toothbrushes
 - Soap ,Toothpaste
 - Brush/Comb ,Lotion
- Respectfully submitted by: Elaine Ploessl

BIBLE STUDIES

- ◆ Men's Bible study will be held on Wednesdays, at 6:30 am in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ Women's Thursday morning Bible study meets at 10:00 in the Trinity room all women are welcome!
- ◆ Monday Women's Bible study is at 3:30 pm in the Trinity room.
- ◆ Adult Sunday school - Is held Sunday mornings 8:30 am prior to service.



February 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	2 10:00 Women's bible study	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship	6 9:00a Quilters 10:00a - WMMT Mtg 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 1:00 p Christian Life Mtg 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	7	8 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 7:00p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Praise Team Reh.	9 10a Women's Bible study	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 Women of Trinity Mtg 10:00 am
12 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship	13 9:00a Quilters 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	14 Happy Valentines Day!	15 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 7:00 Choir practice	16 10a Women's Bible study 6:30p Men's Ministry Mtg	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	20 9:00a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	21 Journey Deadline 6:30p - Council Meeting	22 Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm 7:00 Choir practice	23 10a Women's Bible study	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship Prayer Shawl Sunday	27 9:00 a Quilters 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	28				

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

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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



The JOURNEY

February 2023

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor
Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator
Joanne Schilling, Choir Director
Betty Blanch & Donnarae Carrell, Custodians
501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8 ♦ Birchwood, WI 54817
(715) 354-3790 ♦ (715) 416-4966 (Pastor's cell)
♦ trinitylutheranbirchwood.com ♦
♦ tlcbirchwood@gmail.com ♦
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 Tuesdays
JOURNEY deadline Monday - 3rd week of the month
Pastor's Office Hours Mondays (8 am—4:30 pm)
Wednesdays & Thursdays (8—11:30 pm)

Sunday Worship Services

Feb 5 — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am
Feb 12 —Worship w/Communion @ 10 am
Feb 19 — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am
Feb 22 — Ash Wednesday Worship @ 6:30 pm
Feb 26 -- Worship w/Communion @ 10 am

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Debbie Davis	Lora	Carter Sackmann
Annette Gentile	Sharon Mackey	Timothy Wallace
Andy Hedman	Tracy Reid	Donna Willis
Barb Hinderman	Bill Rice	
Ed Leader	Ro Sackmann	

In the military: Rigil Christensen, and all those serving in the military.