

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

From the Pastor’s desk:

I am writing this note on Christmas Day, and for many pastors, this is a time of reflection. All of the anticipation, the hurried pace, and the hype of the Christmas season is behind us. Now, we are moving into the New Year. But, I have found that the message of Christmas, that is “God is among us,” is a message that is not bound by the Christmas season. No, it is the very message that carries us throughout the year.

“God is among us” is the message that defines who we are as Christians. No matter what we will face in 2022, it is essential that we remember that all of our struggling to reach God is for naught. For God has come to us, in the flesh. He has walked among us. He has experienced what we experience. We read in John 1, *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth....And from his fullness we have received grace upon grace.”*

“God is among us.” What a comforting and encouraging Christmas promise for 2022. We have a God who left the glory that was His to walk among us in flesh and blood. Hear the word of the Lord for the New Year. *“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”*

Gelene and I pray that you will have a blessed New Year.

In Christ,
Pastor Dan

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A Letter from Council President

“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Sound familiar. This phrase is part of The Lord’s Prayer that we pray every Sunday if not more frequently. In Matthew 6 we see Jesus using The Lord’s Prayer to teach his disciples how to pray.

“One component of Christ’s training in prayer involves understanding that God’s kingdom has not yet been wholly fulfilled on this earth. Thy kingdom come is not just an expectant yearning for the coming of Christ in the future, even though this longing is contained in the plea. But Thy kingdom come also expresses the prayerful desire of Christ’s servants to see God’s Kingdom broaden and become increasingly established throughout the world in the here and now.” GotQuestion.org

“A Kingdom worker is somebody who takes whatever God gives them – whether that’s a talent, whether it’s a circle of influence, whether it’s a relationship or even an opportunity at work or school – and says, ‘How can I use this to advance the message of Christ?’” said Eric Epperson, CIY’s senior director of [Effect](#). “Another question they ask is: ‘How can I use this to bring Heaven to earth, and live out King-

dom principles through whatever God has given me?’”

“The Lord has given every single believer a spiritual gift to aid in the work of His kingdom. These aren’t natural abilities but instead are the Holy Spirit’s power manifested through us—a special enablement that helps us serve according to His plan.

Paul reminds us that we are the Lord’s ‘workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them’ (Eph. 2:10). We should always remember that God’s power works through our gifts so there is no reason to shy away from the opportunities He opens up for us, even if they seem daunting.

“Don’t spend your life just sitting in a pew! Experience the joy of participating in God’s kingdom work. The Holy Spirit will empower you to obey the Lord in whatever He calls you to do.

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common

good.” Charles Stanley Devotion December 9,2020

With all this in mind, you may be asking “What spiritual gifts has God given me and how can I use these gifts to help advance His Kingdom here at TLC?” No worries. Pastor Dan will soon be teaching about spiritual gifts and how to determine your special spiritual gifts. To provide information about TLC’s ministries and opportunities for advancing God’s Kingdom, our Ministry Teams will be giving short temple talks during worship. In addition, we will be holding a Ministry Fair in the future. Stay tuned for announcements when these exciting events will take place. In the meantime, pray that God would show you ways to do His Kingdom work and be ready for His answer.

Jim McGraw





Advent Season



JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	Happy New Year	Jan 2 (10:00 am)	Jan 9 (10:00 am)	Jan 16 (10:00 am)	Jan 23 (10:00 am)	Jan 30 (10:00 am)
GREETERS		Betty Blanch	Cheri & Eric Anderson	Kathy Thom	Kathy Thom	Char Mohns
USHERS		LeRoy Brensel Mike Capra	LeRoy Brensel Mike Capra	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Wes Mohns LeRoy Brensel
COMM. ASSTS		Joanne Schilling	Karen Scott	June Bibeau	Kathy Thom	Kathy Thom
READER		Carol Addington	Eric Anderson	Dan Dahl	Gloria Widiker	Dan Dahl

- Sue Capra 1/1
- Jill Pedersen 1/1
- Lilly Gottwald 1/2
- Colette Sandow 1/2
- Andy Hedman 1/3
- Adam Robotka 1/3
- Eric Flora 1/5
- Leo Diehl 1/9
- Andy Janetski 1/12
- Madyson Schultz 1/15
- Gloria Sibley 1/17
- Steven Tracey 1/18
- Brad Bratvold 01/20
- Carly Pedersen 1/23
- Amy Roppe 1/24
- Connie Dahl 1/25
- Maryann Cowans 1/25
- Shay Sunderland 1/25
- Jeffery Arvesen 01/26
- Jerry Chasteen 1/27
- Bob Hayes 1/31

Thank You!

A huge shout out to this year's Christmas decorating team! Many hands make light work. Last year we began staging the decorations the day before and found this allowed for a super smooth set up. I will continue with this plan.

THANK YOU, past and present helpers! Pictured for Sanctuary and Narthex set up are Ryan, Pr. Dan, Gelene, their 3 grandchildren, Karen, Susan, Joanne, Janet, Donna, Bob and Tom.

Not pictured are Donnarae who beautifies the Welcome Center annually with her angel set and our outdoor manger set up crew Wes, David and LeRoy. Finally, a special thanks to Wally who restored the outdoor manger set with fresh paint. I apologize if I missed your name. WOW! This is a lot to be thankful for as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior and anticipate his second coming.



Love to all of you in Christ Jesus, Sue Svitak

Meeting

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

Birchwood Food Pantry Open. 10:30-12:30pm Jan 3, 17

Worship & Music Team. 10 am, Jan 3

Women of Trinity. 10 am, Jan 8

Trinity Council Meeting 6:30 pm, Jan 18



Lefse



“Men’s Ministry of Trinity”



Women of Trinity Lutheran Church HAPPENINGS

December, 2021

Our meeting was held on December 11 at 10 AM. 13 women were in attendance. We opened and closed with prayer. Devotion by Cindy Rubin.

Altar guild coverage for 2022 is in place. Thanks to everyone for a great job

Garage sale will need a new co-chair

Cookies for shut-ins will be packaged, Thursday 12/16

Lefse sale earned \$330. Christmas Fest meal earned \$227.

Kitchen cleaning will be January 18 (service group 1) & 19 (service group 2)

Year-end charitable donations totaling \$3000 were decided on Following the meeting there was set up for the bake sale on 12/11

Next meeting will be January 8 at 10 AM.

*Women of
Trinity*



Food Pantry Challenge Update. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Challenge during November. Over 1500 items were collected for the Birchwood Area Food Pantry! Thrivent had challenged us to gather 500 items and then they would provide \$500 for the food pantry as well. They increased the match from \$500 to **\$1000!** What an amazing blessing! Thanks again.



THANK YOU to the Cantata Singers for all your hard work, practicing and making rehearsals in preparation for the Christmas Cantata, *Night of the Father's Love*. I have received many comments on how beautiful and moving it was. And some were amazed at the amount of sound from our small choir! You are awesome! I look forward to making more music in praise to God in 2022.



To God be the Glory, Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Trinity Choir and Praise Team rehearsals will kick off again in 2022, so if anyone wishes to join us, come on out! The Choir rehearses weekly at 7 pm, and the Praise Team rehearses on the Wednesday BEFORE the 2nd Sunday of each month, at 8 pm. SO! Both will be starting on January 5, 2022. For more information, please contact Joanne Schilling, at 715-651-4875.



ADOPT -A-FAMILY

M/O received the lists of four families that were chosen for Adopt-a-Family. Families are chosen by the suggestions of teachers and guidance staff. A special thanks to Jo Henks and Sara Nelson who again this year took charge of this project. They work hard to make sure families are matched with ones who want to help. Also, special thanks to Bob Robotka who comes with the school van to collect the presents and deliver them to the school. Then it becomes the responsibility of the parents to pick up presents and then put their own tags on them.

The tags quickly disappeared from the tree. They soon came back adorning brightly wrapped boxes and bags full of presents. Many thanks to all who participated again this year.



January 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship 11:30 Confirmation Class	3 9:00 Quilters WMMT Mtg 10:00 am 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 1:00 pm Text Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	4	5 7-8:30p Choir Practice	6 10p Women's Bible study	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8 WOT Meeting 10 am
9 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship 11:30 Confirmation Class	10 9:00 Quilters 1:00 pm Text Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	11	12 7-8:30p Choir Practice	13 10p Women's Bible study	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15
16 Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship 11:30 Confirmation Class	17 9:00 Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 1p Text Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	18 Journey Deadline 6:30p - Council Meeting	19 7-8:30p Choir Practice	20 10p Women's Bible study 6:30 pm Carpenter's Son's mtg	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday 10a - Worship Prayer Shawl Sunday 11:30 Confirmation Class	24 9:00 Quilters 1p Text Study 6 p MONDAY NIGHT Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	25	26 7-8:30p Choir Practice	27 10p Women's Bible study	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday 10a - Worship Prayer Shawl Sunday 11:30 Confirmation Class						

Trinity Lutheran Church
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The JOURNEY

January 2021

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor

Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator

Ashley Beffa, Youth & Family

Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Betty Blanch & Donnarae Carrell, Custodians

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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

SUNDAY WORSHIP THIS MONTH

- 1/2 — 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 1/9 — 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 1/16 — 10 am Worship w/Communion — Love Fund Offering
- 1/23 — Worship w/Communion Prayer Shawl Sunday
- 1/30 — Worship w/Communion

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

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