The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

IT'S HERE!!! THE ANNUAL TLCW RUMMAGE SALE



No more procrastination time left!! The Annual Rummage Sale is just around the corner and needs \underline{YOUR} donations! We're counting on your help, so PLEASE donate all those unwanted treasures.

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. Bring in items beginning Sunday, May 22 and all week. Tables will be set up in the Fellowship Hall.

The Rummage Sale dates are May 26 & 27 (8 am - 4 pm), and May 28 (8 am - noon). BAR-B-QUE lunch available all three days.

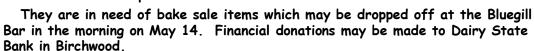
HELPERS NEEDED - SEE THE SIGN-UP SHEET AT WELCOME CENTER.

CANCER BENEFIT for Gorman Hayes SAT., MAY 14, 2016 Bluegill Bar

Gorman Hayes, 33, is the son of Candy & Sonny Hayes, former owners of the Bluegill Bar, and the brother of Trinity member Lisa Bratvold. In 2015, Gorman was diagnosed with Stage 4 Hodgkin's Lymphoma. He is now on his 4th kind of chemo therapy. A transplant of stem cells is planned when he is in remission, during which he will not be able to work

This benefit on May 14, includes :

- ◆ Cake Walk & Bake Sale starting at 2 pm
- ◆ Waffle & Sausage Feed from 5-7 pm
- ♦ Auction at 6 pm



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TLCW Rummage Sale

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PASTOR JON'S COLUMN — Passin' it On!!! – The Ascension!

It would seem that we live in a world in which up is better than down. Singers want to be at the top of the charts, athletes want to be on top of their game, and students want to be at the top of the class. Everyone would rather have an up day than a down day. When the stock market rises we celebrate - but despair when it crashes down. No one wants to be at the bottom of someone's list. We work to climb, not to descend the career ladder. We hear and read about mountain climbers but not much is said or written about valley "descenders." Recently, there has been a commercial on television showing a man jumping on a trampoline, in an effort to "ascend," so he can get a better cell signal. (I can relate to that in the area I live in!).

The reality is that we want to live ascended lives. We want to break free from the things that hold us down and rise above it all. There's nothing wrong with that. In fact, it is right. Something within us knows that we are more than earthbound creatures. The problem is that we have distorted what ascension and an ascended life mean. We forget, or perhaps deny, that Christ's ascension puts humanity next to God, and settle for attempted self-ascension.

That distortion has invaded our theology and understanding of God. In this distorted view. God, heaven, and holiness are up there somewhere while we are stuck down here. So we spend our time jumping up and down like little children, thinking if we jump hard enough, high enough, and fast enough we can touch the moon (or at least get a cell signal). This gets lived out in so many ways. It almost always involves comparison, competition, and judgment of some kind. We compare ourselves and our lives with other people and their lives. We compete with each other believing that for us to ascend, the other has to descend or at least not jump as high as us. We are forever judging ourselves and one another. We fill our lives with busyness hoping to climb to new heights. A life of self-ascension keeps us always searching for the next high.

Our attempts at self-ascension fragment our world and our lives. They separate us from the creator. They destroy relationships with God and each other. Ultimately, they become the gravity that denies us the ascended life we are seeking — a life that, in reality, is already ours in Christ Jesus.

Jesus' ascension reshapes our delusional understanding of an ascended life. His ascension is the cure — the antidote to the brokenness and separation of self-ascension. His is the only authentic and life-giving ascension. Through him we too can live ascended lives — not just when we die – but right now – right here!

Jesus' ascension is not about his absence but about his presence. It is not about his leaving but about "the fullness of him who fills all in all." It is not about a location but about a relationship. Presence, fullness, and relationship must surely be what lie behind the question of the men in white, "Why do you stand looking up to heaven?" It is as if they are saying to us, "Don't misunderstand and distort this moment. Don't deny yourselves the gift that is being given you."

The ascension of Jesus completes the resurrection. The resurrection is victory over death. The ascension, however, lifts humanity up to heaven. Jesus' ascension seats human flesh, your flesh and my flesh, at the right hand of God the Father. We now partake of God's glory and divinity – right here, right now!

The ascension is more about letting go than it is reaching and grasping. The question for us is not, "How do we ascend?" That has already been accomplished. The question is: "What pulls us down?"

What do we need to let go of? Fear, anger, or resentment often weighs us down. The need to be right or be in con-

trol is a heavy burden. For some — self-righteousness, jealously, or pride is their gravity. Many of us will be caught in the chains of perfectionism and the need to prove we are enough. For others it may be indifference or apathy. Far too many lives are bound by addiction. Gravity takes many forms and I wonder, what is the gravity that denies you Jesus' ascension?

The gravity that keeps us down is not creation or the circumstances of our lives. Gravity is not around us but within us. So as you begin to look at your life and identify the places of gravity, do not despair. The very things that hold us down also point the way to ascension. Our participation in Jesus' ascension begins not by looking up but by looking within.

Janitor/Clown/Pastor Jon



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN HAPPENIN'S

- + We met for our monthly meeting April 14, with President Marcia Kampf presiding. It was great to get together again since we hadn't met since January. It was decided not to have a February meeting since we had no pressing business (and so many of us are south for the winter), and our March meeting was cancelled because of a snowstorm
- + The Memorial Garden needs some heavy duty TLC. Some (dead) mature bushes with deep roots need to be removed and new plantings added. June will contact a nursery and see what this might cost.
- + Altar Guild person for April is Carol Addington.
- + Altar Guild person for May is Char Mohns.
- + Starting May 29, communion will be offered at every Sunday church service. The first and third Sundays will be the traditional communion, and the + The LCMC Women's Retreat second, fourth, and fifth Sundays will be communion by Intinction (dipping the wafers into the cup of wine/grape juice). A second person has been added to the summer altar guild services to help serve communion at the early outdoor service.
- + Outreach reports that 20 Health Kits were assembled. and sent out. Due to the generosity of Trinity members, six grocery bags of per-

- sonal care items were delivered to the Birchwood Food Pantry for distribution.
- + Ginger made a beautiful, appliquéd quilt top, which will be finished off soon with quilting. batting, and finished edges. This quilt will be used to raise money for the Birchwood Food Pantry for a walk-in refriger- + The Women's Bible Study will ated unit. Raffle tickets will be sold June through October 8, when the drawing for it will commence at the Community

Trinity Lutheran Church Women



Oktoberfest Meal at the Birchwood School Commons. We decided to sell tickets at \$2 each, and five tickets for \$5. Many thanks to Ginger LaMotte for making this guilt and donating the material for

- will be held April 29-30 at the Forest Springs Camp. Westboro, WI. Diane Brask is the Retreat Presenter. Eight women from our church will be attending the retreat.
- + Put it on your calendar that the SALAD LUNCHEON will be held on TUESDAY. AU-GUST 9. Now all we need is a chairperson (or two) to come forward and organize it. Please consider doing this.

- + At every monthly meeting, starting in May, we will put a donation basket out, and use that money for a selected purpose.
- + There are four confirmands this year, and we will be giving them a gift on their confirmation Sunday.
- start up Thursday, May 5, in the Trinity Room, with Jean Jastram leading it.
 - + Summer Refreshments between services will begin Memorial Day weekend, continuing through Labor Day weekend. Char will be calling the chairperson of each serving group to remind her to round up her workers and food. The food served will consist of quick breads, muffins. fresh fruit, and coffee.
- + Our next meeting is Thursday, May 19, starting at 11 am, in the Fellowship Hall. We're thrilled to have Jill Keefer, a Master Gardener, give us a demonstration on how to make beautiful outdoor flower pot arrangements, and she will put together a display we can use under the bell tower at the church entrance. We'll serve a delicious lunch of salads. fresh rolls, lunch meat, appetizers, vegetable tray, and dessert. Every third monthly meeting we serve a meal for everyone to enjoy. Please join us for this special day. We'd love to have you in our group!



Over 40 people attending the Memorial to Love event on April 16. After a beautiful service, everyone enjoyed yummy appetizers, chocolate fountain, laughing at old pics, and good fellowship! Thanks to all who helped plan this and who attended!

SUMMER WORSHIP INFO

Outdoor Worship Service: Our traditional outdoor worship service at 8:30 am will begin on May 29. So bring your lawn chair and a jacket and come on out to the back of the church. The 10 am worship service will continue to be held indoors.

Coffee Fellowship Time: Our regular coffee time expands a bit during the summer with a Continental Breakfast served between the two worship services. This helps us to stay connected with members who attend the different services.

Surprise Summer Choir: The Trinity Choir will take its regular hiatus over the sum-

mer, but we will have a Surprise Summer Choir on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. The first Surprise Choir will sing on June 5. So meet at 9:15 am, rehearse an easy anthem. and sing during the 10 am

service! The anthem is early in the service. to accommodate those who attend the 8:30 service but want to sing with us.

YOUTH AND FAMILY

We went to the movie!

Judged by the world than stand with God and be judged by God."

You are invited to celebrate the public affirmation of faith by four young people in our Christian family.

Please join us on Sunday, May 15, at the 10 am worship service.

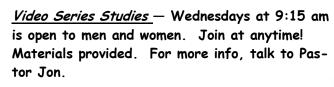
Following the worship service, Trinity will host a public reception in the Fellowship Hall to honor the

There's a

Bible Study Group

for You

confirmands and their families.



Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study — The Thursday morning Women's Bible Study will begin a Women of Faith study on Cultivating Contentment on Thursday, May 5, at 9:30 am. All women are encouraged to attend and to bring a friend. In this study you'll learn how to find satisfaction in daily living. It doesn't come

naturally, and isn't learned quickly. But it can be learned! Come and allow God to cultivate a heart of contentment in you. Please call Jean Jastram at 715-354-7100 if you have questions.

<u>Men's Evening Bible Study</u> — This group will finish the current study on May 5, and begin a new Ray Vander Laan study on MONDAY nights at 6:30 pm.

Women's Thursday Evening Bible Study — Thursdays at 6:30 pm is beginning a new study title Forgiveness, Breaking the Power of the Past. Extra books are ordered, so feel free to just show up! Contact Barb Kleven for more info. at 715-834-9988 or bankleven@charter.net.



RICE LAKE WOMEN'S CONNECTION MEETS MAY 17

Come join your neighbors in a wonderful faith experience. About 50-75 women meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 9 am at Lehman's in Rice Lake for brunch, fellowship and a wonderful program with door prizes.

This event is sponsored by Stonecroft Ministries, an ecumenical Christian organization. On May 17, the speaker will be Nancy Brydges from White Bear Lake in



Minnesota talking on the topic "Challenge of New Beginnings." Special Feature will be a Fashion Show by Christopher and Banks.

Cost is \$8.75 for regular or diet menu...and a great value. Call-Carol Addington at 715-354-3154 by May 13, to reserve.

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, from 8—11:30 am.

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.

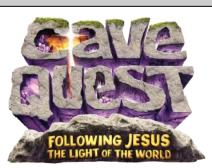
Questions or offers to donate items may be made to Charlotte Snarski at 715-354-7077.

Bake Sale dates are: May 14, June 11, July 4 (in Mikana), July 9, August 13, and September 10.

CAVE QUEST VBS NEEDS YOUR HELP!!

Another Wonderful Week of VBS is coming soon — JUNE 6-10! And we need YOUR help to make this week a reality!

<u>DECORATING:</u> Come help us make our decorations: May 1, May 25, May 29 and June 1, from 6-8 pm. In addition, we will be meeting right after church on May 29 to do some painting that needs to dry before the evening session. FINAL Set-up of all decorations will be SUNDAY, JUNE 5, after 10 am worship.



<u>REGISTRATION:</u> Forms are available at the Welcome Center. You can register online, too! www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/trinitybirchwood

<u>VOLUNTEERS</u>: VBS Station Leaders and/or Helpers are needed for the following areas — please sign up on the board in the narthex:

- ♦ Cave Crew Leaders (Small Group Leaders) help guide each small group from station to station (NEED 12-15)
- Opening/Closing Celebrations help Joanne with teaching songs, doing skits
- *Registration help with registration walk-ins on opening day, June 6
- ♦ Spotlight Photographers take photos each day and help input them into the Spotlight VBS program for viewing Friday night
- ♦ Imagination Station help kids with Sciency-Fun Gizmos
- +Spelunker Games plan and help lead the kids in playing games
- ♦ KidVid Cinema help share videos about real kids living real-life adventures
- ♦ Friday Night Dessert Celebration help setup and serve at the Celebration Dessert

<u>DONATIONS</u> — Check out the Donation Board in the narthex! Pick a "Cave Entrance" to sponsor for \$5—\$10—\$15—\$20, place the cave and your donation in the provided envelopes and turn into the church office or the offering plate! THANKS!

Sue Miles Benefit

Sue Miles has been a mail carrier at the Birchwood Post Office for over 25 years. She lives in the Couderay area, but is also an active member of the Birchwood community, and a member of Trinity. Her husband works around Birchwood and their daughter, Rhiana, was confirmed at Trinity.

In November 2015, Sue was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her family is asking for financial support. More information is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. There will be an account set up for monetary donations at the Dairy State Bank under Sue Miles Benefit Fund. Questions about the donations please contact: Jessie Bender (715) 651-8879 or Brandy Clark (715) 209-4056

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MAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	May I	May 8 Mother's Day	May 15	May 22	MAY 29 8:30 AM	MAY 29 10 AM
Greeters	Wes & Char Mohns	Marcia Kampf	Ruth Clausen	Jim & Ginger LaMotte		
Ushers	Norm & Jean Jastram	PLEASE SIGN UP	Wally & Kathy Thom	PLEASE SIGN UP		sign up
Comm Assts	Rolf & Barb Kleven	NO COMMUNION	PLEASE SIGN UP	NO COMMUNION	please	J
Reader	Marcia Kampf	Lea Heath	Marcia Kampf	Dianne Buxton	11	
Acolyte	Adam Robotka	Wyatt Sunderland	Kyle Bratvold	Payton Schultz	NO ACOLYTE	NO ACOLYTE

Mark your calendars for the 7th Annual Baby Shower JUNE 27 — NOON More info next month!

Ron Larson

MISSION MEXICO INTERNATIONAL

Larry and Gwen Seever have gone as missionaries to Rio Bravo, Mexico to serve LCMC congregation, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Trinity has been invited to make donations to this very poor congregation. Send them directly to: Mission Mexico International, c/o Viren Luthi-Lakeview, 42244 260th St, Hancock, MN 56244, and mark "Good Shepherd" in memo line. A picture board is on display in narthex.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sharyl Miller	5/3	Carley Levake	5/11	Wayne Palm	5/24
Angel Laone	5/3	Kirk Kotel	5/13	Tayber Morrell	5/24
Delilah Snowbank	5/3	Karie Lobitz	5/13	Larry Sibley	5/24
Nicole Breed	5/6	Ben VandeVoort	5/13	Bob Robotka	5/25
Luke Birdsill	5/6	LouAnne Kristensen	5/14	Gloria Widiker	5/27
Lucas Dahl	5/6	Mary Stoeklen	5/16	George Crust	5/28
Cindy Gilgenbach	5/6	Shane Hodgson	5/17	Jacob Lavaliere	5/29
Steve Soltis	5/7	Jeanne Dahlby	5/18	Robert Liermann	5/29
Billy Nordback	5/8	Brandon Darkow	5/19	Angela Roppe	5/31
Matthew Jefson	5/9	Kyle Smith	5/22	Shannon Gindt	5/31
Phyllis Nelson	5/9	Sonja Flora	5/23	Ruth Clausen	5/31
Dick Kuula	5/10	Austin Parenteau	5/23		

Dave Harrod

5/24

IN OUR PRAYERS

1 - Ori-Anne Pagel 13 - Lorie Piram 2 - Paul Pagel 14 - Marly Poff 3 – Wayne Palm 15 – Joey Rauch 4 – Jon Paquette 16 - Mary Reppe 5 – Kathy Paquette 17 - Dawson Rich 6 - John Parkos 18 - Kim Rich 7 - Michele Parkos 19 - Merle Ries 8 - Fred Peck 20 – Cassie Ritchey 9 - Carly Pedersen 21 - Randy Ritchey 10 - Jill Pedersen 22 - Sawyer Ritchey 11 - Melinda Pedersen 23 – Spencer Ritchey 12 - Jean Peterson 24 - BABY Ritchey

25 – Adam Robotka 26 – Bob Robotka

27 – Buddy Robotka 28 – Missy Robotka

29 – Skyler Robotka

30 – Taylor Robotka

30 – Taylor Robotki

31 – Alex Roppe



MAY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 6th Sunday of Easter 9a - Choir Warmup 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Comm 6p - VBS Decorating	9:30a - Quilters 10a - Worship & Music Team Mtg 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg 6p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Ch Reh 8:30p - Praise Tm Reh	9:30a - Women's Bible Study 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	7 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
8 7th Sunday of Easter 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Praise Worship	9:30a - Quilters		9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg 6p - Meal for Confir- mation 6:30a - Confirmation Review Night NO CHOIR REHEARSAL	9:30a - Women's Bible Study 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	8-11:30a - Food Pantry Bake Sale Gorman Hayes Benefit @ Bluegill Bar
9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Comm Love Fund & Food Pantry Offerings 11a - CONFIRMATION RECEPTION	16 Journey Deadline 9a - Outreach 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 6:30p - Men's Bible Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 9a - Rice Lake Women's Connection @ Lehman's — rez by May 13 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	18 9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg	9:30a - Women's Bible Study 11a - TLCW Meeting 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	21 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship Start to Bring Rummage Items	7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg 1p - Journey Assembly 6p - VBS Decorating	26 RUMMAGE SALE 9:30a - Women's Bible Study 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Women's Bible Study	27 RUMMAGE SALE OFFICE CLOSED	28 RUMMAGE SALE
29 2nd Sun after Pentecost 8:30a - OUTDOOR Worship w/Comm 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Indoor Worship w/ Comm 11a - VBS Decorating 6p - VBS Decorating	30 MEMORIAL DAY 7p- AA, Fellowship Hall	9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class				Altar Guild Char Mohns

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× Permit No. Birchwood,

54817

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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irchwood Box

Lutheran Church

Chetac Ave

501 0

RUMMAGE



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 *
 - ♦ trinitylutheranbirchwood.com ◆
- JOURNEY Editor ♦ Joanne Schilling ♦ ilschilling@hotmail.com ♦

Sunday Worship 8:30 am outdoor (Memorial - Labor Day)

10 am indoor (Year-round)

Sunday School 10 am (Sept - May 21)

8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th) Office Hours

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

5/1 10 am Worship w/Communion

10 am Praise Worship — Mother's Day 5/8

5/15 10 am Worship w/Communion

5/22 10 am Worship

8:30 am OUTDOOR and 10 am INDOOR Worship w/Communion 5/29

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

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.

NEVT ACCUTAGO

NEXT MEETING OF	<u>.</u>
Birchwood Food Pantry 10:30	am, May 2, 7, 16, 21
Worship & Music Team	10 am, May 2
Congregational Council	6:30 pm, May 10
Outreach Committee	9 am, May 16
Trinity Lutheron Church Women	11 am May 19