

# The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

From the Pastors Desk:

March 2023

*Joel 2: 12-14 “Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing—grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God.”*

As I write this, we are preparing for our Ash Wednesday service, and for our time of Lent. Lent is a pretty somber time of the church year. We hear a lot of the Law during this season, and in fact our Midweek and Holy Week focus will be on the Ten Commandments this year. We hear of the Law where we find that we are sinners, who are in desperate need of a Savior. Lent is a time of reflection, and it is a time of repentance.

But the blessing is that the Gospel is not forsaken during this season. The season of Lent lasts for forty days, but, if you do the math, you will find that there are forty-six days until Easter. Why is this? It is because Sundays are not a part of Lent. In this time of reflection and repentance, we still have Sundays to come together to celebrate “Little Easters” where we will be reminded of God’s love for us, a “steadfast love” fulfilled in the sinless life, crucifixion, death, and joyous resurrection from the grave of His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Even in our Ash Wednesday service, where we hear the truth proclaimed: “Remember, you are but dust and to dust you shall return,” we will also hear the comforting Gospel promise, “Rest and rejoice in the name of Jesus.” During this time of Lent, as you reflect on and repent of your sins, remember God’s promise: “*Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you*” (Hebrews 13:5).

Have a blessed Lenten season!

Pastor Dan

## WHAT'S INSIDE

From Pastor's Desk	1
Letter from Trinity President	2
Next Meeting Of.....	3
March Birthdays	3
Worship Assistants	3
Bible Studies	3
From Pastor Barb's Desk	4
Mission & Outreach	4
Lenten Services	4
Stellar VBS	5
WOT Happenings	5
Adopt a Lily	5
Pastor Barb Installed	6
Calendar	7

## Letter From Trinity President

Last month, I shared about what I learned about listening to God. By doing so we hear the will of God for our lives and for our church. It is one thing to say we need to listen to God but it's another to find out how to listen to God. In my searching for practical ways to be open to listening to God, here is what I found.

1. We must schedule a regular time to be alone with God. Our everyday lives can be filled with many activities but if we truly want quiet time to be with the Lord, we need to make time. In order to have quiet time we need to eliminate distractions. Find a comfortable chair, grab a cup of coffee, turn off the television and cell phones, close the door and you are ready to begin your quiet time. I've even heard of individuals finding a prayer closet to shut off any distractions during their prayer time. Must be a big closet.
2. We must be open to hearing the Holy Spirit's guidance and instruction through our prayer time and Bible reading. Scriptures tell us God wants to spend time with us more than anything. Jesus says in Revelation 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." Sharing a meal and spending time with friends is the most intimate of activities.
3. We must believe that God has a personal message for us. This message may be in joyful times as well as times of trials when we really need to feel His presence and peace in our lives. Putting our trust in Him shows how much we love Him. We can be assured that He will meet our every need. Needs not wants. "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19)

As stated above, prayer and Bible study are the tools that we use to listen to God's plan, purpose and provision for us. The Bible is the conduit for us to receive the messages of God directly to our mind, heart and spirit. "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The Bible is our instruction manual giving us answers for any life questions. Start each time of meditation with prayer. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open your ears and heart

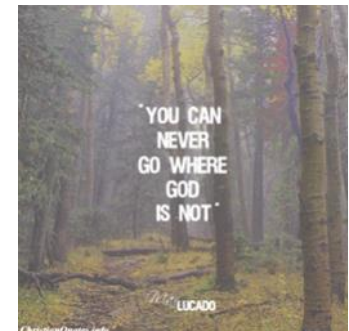
so you can understand what He is teaching you or asking you to do. "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law." (Psalm 119:18.) The closer we get to God by spending time in his Word and prayer, the easier we will find hearing God. Most of all sit quietly listening for the voice of God.

"Finally, a word about God's plans for us in the church. Every person who has been born again has been given a least one special enablement by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:7). The Spirit's gifts equip us to glorify the Father and the Son through serving our brothers and sisters in the church and, in some cases, serving people outside the church in mission. Our gifts normally become evident in the course of active involvement in church life. As we exercise them, the church is built up and strengthened and God's kingdom advances. The gifts of others also minister to us in various ways, including wisdom and counsel to discern God's direction on issues, questions, and challenges. Serving God in His church is a major part of His plan for our lives and also a great source of satisfaction and fulfillment in our life on earth." Thomas Tarrants - CS Lewis Institute

During Lent we enter a time of self-examination, confession, and repentance. I pray that you will all join me in fervently praying and studying God's word. Listen, He wants to tell us something. On a personal note, writing these articles is a faith-building exercise for me. I learn so much by doing this. I do not pretend to know more than you. I prayed for God's guidance and relied on the Holy Spirit's leading on what to write about this month. In fact, I changed the subject of this article three times because God wanted me to write what He wanted rather than what I wanted. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you." Psalm 32:8

May the Holy Spirit guide us to a closer relationship with Him and show which way we should go in all things. God Bless you all.

Jim McGraw





## March WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	<b>Mar 5 10:00 am</b>	<b>Mar 12 10:00 am</b>	<b>Mar 19 10:00am</b>	<b>Mar 26 10:00 pm</b>
<b>GREETERS</b>	Terri Freeman	Sue Svitak	Brenda Mackey	Char Mohns
<b>USHERS</b>	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Tom Svitak LeRoy Brensel	Mike Capra John Schieffer	Wes Mohns LeRoy Brensel
<b>COMM. ASSTS</b>	Kathy Thom	Dan Dahl	Pat Mackey	Joanne Schilling
<b>READER</b>	Ellen Ehrich	Gloria Widiker	Sue Capra	Eric Anderson

### BIBLE STUDIES

- ◆ Men's Bible study will be held on Wednesdays, at 6:30 am in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ Women's Thursday morning Bible Post-poned during March
- ◆ 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.



Ivy Kotel	03/04	Bev Skar	03/20
Lila Larsen	03/04	Karen Dolen	03/21
Chrissy Gottwald	03/05	Jamie Skar	03/22
Taylor Robotka	03/07	Char Mohns	03/24
Alton Baribeau	03/07	Margaret Buchanan	03/25
Landen Gindt	03/08	Jeff Bemis	03/28
Josephine Will	03/08	Carol Chasteen	03/30
Dallas Applebee	03/12	Diane Hubbard	03/31
Jeanne Sweeney	03/15	Noah Lobitz	03/31
Don Fuller	03/16	Jenelle Lee	03/31
Donnarae Carrell	03/17		
Lea Heath	03/19		
Jacob Rurup	03/19		
Beth Ufferman	03/20		



**MARCH 12- Daylight Savings Time begins! Set your clocks ahead one hour!**



# Meeting

### NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open . . . . . 10:30-12:30pm Mar 6, 20**
- Worship & Music Team . . . . . Mar 13, 10:00 am**
- Women of Trinity . . . . . Mar 11, 10:00 pm**
- Trinity Council Meeting . . . . . Mar 21, 6:30 pm**
- Men's Ministry of Trinity . . . . . Mar 16, 6:30 pm**

## From Pastor Barb's Desk

Last month we celebrated Valentine's Day perhaps by giving greetings through cards, gifts, text, or phone messages.

The message from our Lord Jesus is this:



This command is for every day, not just Valentine's Day.

As the body of Christ, we are called to love and care for one another just as Jesus loves and cares for us. John 15:12.

Loving others is how others know we are Christians. Go ahead, spread a little love around—show the world what you have found!!

A big thank you to those who worked so hard to rearrange the Trinity Room and make an office space for me. I love it!

Please feel free to come and see me and my new office!

My office hours will be:

Most Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-12. Call first!

Barb Kleven

Associate pastor

715-834-9988

## Mission and Outreach

### Embrace Donations

Trinity Lutheran Church is truly blessed to have such a wonderful congregation. It is amazing how many items have been donated for Embrace. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, Mission and Outreach will organize the donations after our meeting. On March 17<sup>th</sup> we will bring the kids quilts and the donations to Embrace. Thank you so much. I am sure Embrace and the children seeking shelter there will be thrilled at your generosity.

### Personal Care Kits

The personal care kits are designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more. The kits are a simple and tangible way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need.

During Lent we will be collecting items for personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Each week during lent we will be collecting a different item.

Week of 2/26 – Light-weighted dark bath-size towels between 20x40 and 27x52 inches

Week of 3/5 – Bath-size bars of soap 8-9oz, two or three per kit

Week of 3/12 – Adult-sized toothbrushes

Week of 3/19 – Sturdy combs

Week of 3/26 – Metal nail clippers

Week of 4/2 – Any of the five items above

If you would rather not go shopping, we will have a cash donation container and the ladies of Mission and Outreach will purchase remaining needed items to finish the kits. Thank you for helping those in need here and around the world.

# Outreach

**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

Mid-week Lenten meals will be served before the 6:30 pm service, if people have signed up to provide a meal. Please call the office to check each week.



**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!**

### ADOPT A LILY

EASTER LILIES have spiritual meaning and are mentioned several times in the Bible: Hosea 14: 4-5, 1 Kings 7:19-22, 2 Chronicles 4:4-5, Matthew 6:28-29, Luke 12:27. They symbolize PURITY, REBIRTH, NEW BEGINNINGS and HOPE. The white lily is most associated with the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Trinity Lutheran has long decorated with lilies on Easter Sunday. We want to continue this congregational tradition. Due to the rising cost of quality "live" lilies, we are beginning an annual adoption program for faux lily planters. The planters will be displayed on Easter Sunday AND we can leave their display viewable for weeks to follow! Additionally, the planters will be cared for and stored at the church for years to come. Adoption forms will be available so you can adopt a lily in honor or memory of loved ones. Your mention will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Each adoption is \$10.

## Women of Trinity



### Women of Trinity – February Happenings

- † The Pink Box service project will be at April's meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information on this ministry, please go to: [thepinkboxinitiative.org](http://thepinkboxinitiative.org)! (Note: Date changed for meeting due to Palm Sunday)
- † Altar Guild for February is Karen Hayes and March is Terri Freeman.
- † Thanks to all the volunteers for providing meals for the Youth Meeting on Wednesday nights in February!
- † The Women of the Word retreat at Camp Forest Springs will be March 31 – April 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a truly delightful weekend to laugh, share, learn and refresh the spirit! Please see Joanne Schilling for registration information – registration is due March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- † At next month's meeting we'll discuss a Secret Sister Luncheon starting this fall. Women wishing to participate will receive a name at the luncheon and then provide her Secret Sister prayers and cards of encouragement throughout the year. At the follow year's luncheon will be the "Big Reveal"! Consider participating in this fun and special event!
- † Also at next month's meeting will be a discussion on the Spring Tea, hosted by Mission and Outreach, and ways in which we can assist. Calling ALL Women of Trinity! Our next meeting is March 11, 2023, at 10:00am! Please join us for fellowship, support of our sisters and our church, and planning future events!

**It's a special someone's 90th Birthday. Let's all shower her with Birthday cards and wish her a blessed 90th year!**

**Donna Rae Carrell 15844 W Ol' Hayes Road  
Birchwood, WI 54817**





Pastor Barb Kleven was installed as the Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at Trinity Lutheran Church on February 5, 2023. She will be reaching out to members of Trinity Lutheran Church in an effort to help update our membership roster, as well as connecting with shut-ins and ministering to the needs of the congregation. When you see Pastor Barb say Hi!



# March 2023

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
			1 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 5:00 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal	2 10:00 No Women's bible study	3 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	4
5 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship	6 9:00a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	7	8 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Service 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal 8:00 p Praise Team Reh.	9 10:00 No Women's bible study	10 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	11 Women of Trinity Mtg 10:00 am
12 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship	13 9:00a Quilters 10:00a - WMMT Mtg 1:00 p Christian Life Mtg 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	14	15 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	16 10:00 No Women's bible study 6:30p Men's Ministry Mtg	17 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	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 <b>Journey Deadline</b> 6:30p - Council Meeting	22 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 5:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	23 10:00 No Women's bible study	24 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	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	29	30	31	

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

**JOIN US FOR LENTEN SERVICE**



# The JOURNEY

## March 2023

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor*

*Barb Kleven - Associate 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 - 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month  
Pastor's Office Hours Mondays (8 am—4:30 pm)  
Wednesdays & Thursdays (8—11:30 pm)

### Sunday Worship Services

Mar 5 — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am

Mar 12 —Worship w/Communion @ 10 am

Mar 19 — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am

Mar 26 -- Worship w/Communion @ 10 am

### Mid-Week Lenten Services

Mar 1 - Worship 6:30 pm Mar 22 - 6:30 pm

Mar 8 - Worship 6:30 pm Mar 29 - 6:30 pm

Mar 15 -Worship 6:30 pm

### **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.