

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

From the Pastor’s Desk

November 2022

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden light.” Matthew 11: 28-30, NIV

Here we are at the end of October. There are just days before we arrive at Election Day, followed by our Congregation’s Annual Meeting, Thanksgiving, Advent, then Christmas. I hear of all the hustle and bustle that many are facing right now. Cabins and homes are being prepared for the coming winter. Holiday travels and gatherings are being planned. Many are preparing to go South for the winter. I often hear from people just how weary they get during this time of year. Many feel burdened, even overwhelmed, by all that there is to do.

Some of us, as we slug through this time, may long to hear the words from that old McDonalds slogan, “You deserve a break today!”

As we read this promise from Jesus in Matthew 11, these words can bring comfort to us as we lean on Him, to trust in Him, in all areas of our lives. While these words seem to speak to the earthly business of our lives, their meaning is actually far more freeing. Jesus is speaking to those of us who are “weary and burdened” as we seek to accomplish all of the things that religious leaders tell us that we have to do in order to earn our salvation.

Jesus Christ removes that burden from you in this one short verse. He tells us, “*Come unto me...*” Jesus is saying, “Come to me, and me alone. For only I can give you the rest that you long for. It is only in me that that you will find that your need to labor is gone forever. Your struggle to earn your way to heaven has ended. You find assurance of your salvation in my cross alone.”

Jesus removes all of the sin and guilt that you carry, taking it as His own at the cross. Jesus said, “*It is finished*” (John 19:30). He has done it all for you. In short: It is Jesus who does the saving, not us.

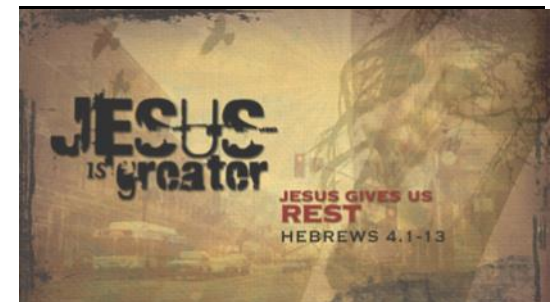
As we go into this season of autumn, it is my prayer that the Holy Spirit may grant that “... *the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*” (Phil. 4:7)

In Christ,

P.D.

WHAT’S INSIDE

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| From Pastor’s Desk | 1 |
| Letter from Trinity President | 2 |
| Next Meeting Of..... | 3 |
| November Birthdays | 3 |
| Worship Assistants | 3 |
| Food Pantry | 3 |
| Time and Talent & Insert Sheet | 3 |
| Men’s Ministry of Trinity | 4 |
| Love Tree | 4 |
| Propane Challenge | 4 |
| Thanksgiving Service | 4 |
| ATV Ride | 5 |
| Garage , the next step... | 5 |
| Lefse | 6 |
| Advent season Decorating | 6 |
| Bible Studies | 6 |
| WOT Happenings | 6 |
| Calendar | 7 |



Letter From Trinity President

The Men's Bible Study Group is studying the Book of Daniel. In Chapter 3, we learn about the friendship of Daniel's friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These young men were living in a strange land with different customs after being deported to Babylon. Together they stood up against their captors' demands that they follow the Babylonian diet, bow down and worship the king's statue even at the threat of death. Together they prayed in faith to God as they were to be executed in the fiery furnace.

The Life Application Bible commentary lists these lessons we learn from their lives.

1. There is great strength in real friendship.
2. It is important to stand with others with whom we share convictions.
3. God can be trusted even when we cannot predict the outcome. Does this not seem like the environment that Christians live in today?

Biblestudytools.com lists five characteristics of a genuine Christian friend. Here is a short synopsis of that article.

1. **Be Willing to Pray for Them ... and Actually Do It-** instead of just saying you will pray for that person, you follow through by either immediately praying for that person right then and there, or making a note in your prayer list to pray for them along with other requests.
2. **Do not View Prayer Requests as Reasons to Gossip-** Being discrete with prayer requests allows the person's privacy to be honored and your friendship to stay authentic as more people join to lift them up in prayer.
3. **Offer Grace as God Gives Us Grace-** It is evident that we would not be where we are today if it was not for God's grace showered on our lives daily. And just as we are given grace freely by God, we should do the same with one another, especially our friends.
4. **Always Be Ready to Welcome a New Friend into the Group-**

Proverbs 27:17, stating that "as iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Even if you are the busiest person ever, the time you take to welcome someone new into your group of friends can bless you twofold in what that person can bring to the group in terms of faith, encouragement, and love.

5. **Do not Be Afraid of Honesty-** being honest with a friend about something that concerns you, you are showing more of the love and care you have for them and the hope that this will be a healthy change for them.

The apostle John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, tells us what Jesus said about friendship. *My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.* John 15:13-15.

This teaching was given to the 11 disciples and us on Jesus' last night before his crucifixion about his desire and plan for His church. His teaching as we know from scriptures were on what to expect in the future living in this world and how to love and be friends with one another. Being united as brothers and sisters in Christ. Family of the

Living God. Additionally, God's word gives us instruction on how to be the church and meet the needs of our congregation, community and those that do not know the love and friendship of Jesus. As we meet at the TLC Annual Meeting on November 13th, I would ask we all pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and revelation on the path we would take in the next year and future. Hope to see you all there for this important meeting.

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Psalm 133:1

Jim McGraw

November WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

| | Nov 6 10:00 am | Nov 13 10:00am | Nov 20 10:00 am | Nov 22 6:30 pm Thanksgiving | Nov 27 10:00am | Nov 30 Midweek Advent |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| GREETERS | Terri Freeman | Alyce Tracey | Brenda Mackey | | Betty Blanch | |
| USHERS | Wally Thom Rob Freeman | Steve Tracey LeRoy Brensel | Mike Capra LeRoy Brensel | | Jim McGraw Mike Rubin | Wally Thom |
| COMM. ASSTS | Kathy Thom | Karen Scott | Pat Mackey | | Joanne Schilling | |
| READER | Gloria Widiker | Dan Dahl | Sue Capra | | Carol Addington | Kathy Thom |



- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Lisa Bratvold 11/02 | .Diane Brensel 11/17 |
| Mark Roppe 11/03 | Karl David 11/19 |
| Eleanor Kuula 11/03 | Jill Lavigne 11/20 |
| Susan Janetski 11/09 | Cassandra Sweeney 11/21 |
| Jeff Iverson 11/09 | Mary Arveson 11/22 |
| Connie Leader 11/11 | Marcia Kampf 11/22 |
| Michael Hedman 11/12 | Becky Christensen 11/23 |
| Ginger LaMotte 11/12 | Jim LaMotte 11/23 |
| Amber Jutila 11/13 | Emma VandeVoort 11/28 |
| Wyatt Gargulak 11/15 | Lane Healy 11/29 |
| Wes Mohns 11/17 | |



Feeding the Community

Support the Birchwood Area Food Pantry—if the Birchwood area can collect 500 cans of nonperishable food for the Food Pantry before November 24, Thrivent Financial will donate \$500 to the Birchwood Food Pantry—Plus it gets all the food collected! That’s a Win-Win!! Please donate items if you can.

TIME & TALENT SHEETS

Please fill out the Time & Talent sheet that is inserted in this Journey and turn it into the church office.

Meeting

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open 10:30-12:30pm Nov 7, 21**
- Worship & Music Team Nov 7, 10:00 am**
- Women of Trinity Nov 12, 10:00 pm**
- Trinity Council Meeting Nov 15, 6:30 pm**
- Men’s Ministry of Trinity Nov 17, 6:30 pm**

Men's Ministry of Trinity

A lot has taken place since the last Journey article as far as the work the men have been doing. For instance, the side walk project that has been on the radar for several years has finally been completed. Thanks to some generous donations and the coordination of the project by Wes Mohns and Kevin Sunderland. Like I always have said, with many hands, this makes little work. I am so glad this was completed before winter and there are no more tripping hazards. The new furnace is installed and working in the fellowship hall, another item that was a major concern.

The Garage: Well that too is coming along, as the excavation and sand lift for the concrete floor is complete. The concrete forms were put in on October 18th and we are waiting for the word from the concrete contractor as to when the delivery will be. It may have happened by the time this Journey reaches your hands. The garage has a very bright future as to what it could all be. Not just a storage garage but hopefully a venue for outside events. Funding is still being sought but I am confident that the Lord will guide all.

For any men who would like to be part of the snow removal teams, contact Wes Mohns and get your name on the list. It is an easy job since we have a snow blower and let's not forget shovels! The more two-man teams we have the fewer times your opportunity to move snow will come up. Consider being part of the The snow Men.

Do we have any guys who like cooking, or working in the kitchen? We will be providing a Lenten meal in mid-December for our church family and can always use an extra hand.

We are back into the monthly meeting mode so mark your calendars for the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. The November meeting will be November 17th.

I have mentioned this before but if you know of any of your Church family in need of help, yard work, fix something simple, drive someone to a Dr. appointment, or maybe just want to talk to someone, let Julie (in the office) know or myself and we will see what we might be able to do for them.

Yours in Christ,

Wally Thom



Propane Challenge

We still need your help to donate towards the Propane Challenge. We are almost there

Please consider contributing.



LOVE TREE

On Wednesday October 19, I was told there was a letter in my mailbox at church. Curiosity had me wondering what could it possibly be about. I arrived a little early for the new member's class. (Yes, indeed everything is possible through Christ!)

The letter that was in my mailbox was from the Birchwood school. I still was anxious about what the letter could contain. With some trepidation I opened the letter to find out that it was from the two new staff members that this year will be in charge of the Adopt A Family program. The words were music to my ears!

Those of you who are new to the area or to our congregation are probably not aware of the awesome job that Birchwood Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) does with this job. Every year FBLA seeks out those families who for many reasons are not able to give a nice Christmas to their children.

The letter was sent to Trinity citing the many years that this has been a long-standing project of Trinity. The letter was asking if Trinity planned to do the same this year. Of course, they were citing the outstanding generosity of the Trinity family in previous years.

So, in the weeks ahead prepare your hearts to once more be generous! Trinity will soon be getting "the wish lists" and shortly there will be ornaments on the small tree that will be in the Narthex.

I'm excited about keeping with tradition for another year. But I'm also proud of the Trinity family and their kindness toward others.



Karen Hayes -Any questions please call the church or myself.



We had a beautiful ride in the Blue Hills looking at the fall colors. Made a stop at Mary's Bluegill for lunch and then a return trail back to the Freeman farm. We were blessed with warm weather, fall colors and fellowship. Till next year, happy trails.....



We would like to give a big **THANK YOU** to the Men's Ministry of Trinity, Scott Frolik and his crew and Redimix for all the hard work on the sidewalks, they are beautiful.

And now the garage is under way, trying to get the slab in before the snow fly's.



Lefse Making

We will be making lefse on Friday, November 18 @ 9:00 am, in the Trinity Church kitchen. If you want to help or learn how to make lefse come join us!!!

If you can't help but have lefse-making equipment to loan, please let Karen Scott or Joanne Schilling know.



Women of Trinity



Women of Trinity Happenings—October 2022

Our meeting was held on October 8 in the Fellowship Hall. There were 11 women in attendance.

Altar Guild: October-Julie Sunderland November – Janet Schieffer

please review the service booklet and contact Julie or Cindy with any changes

elections will be held in January. Please contact Cindy Rubin if you are interested in serving in an officer capacity

Volunteers are needed for Wednesday night meals for the youth group.

There is a sign-up in the narthex

Trunk or Treat will be October 29 from 2-4 pm

Quilters sent 85 quilts to Lutheran World Relief and 14 quilts to Embrace.

Advent meal sign up sheets will be in the narthex soon.

Lefse making will be scheduled for November

Bake sale will be December 11

A quilt has been donated as a potential raffle item. Will check into the process for that.

Next meeting will be Saturday, November 12 at 10:00 am.



THE SEASON IS NEARING!

Join in Christian fellowship while beautifying the church in honor of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and his second coming.

What: Decorate the upcoming Advent and Christmas season.

When: Wednesday November 30, 10 a.m.

A sign up sheet will be available in November for various decorating options such as the Christmas and Chrismon trees, the outdoor and indoor mangers and more.

ON FELLOWSHIP: *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

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! **The next study on Driven Heroes of the Faith will begin Nov 3.**
- ◆ Monday Women's Bible study will meet at 3:30 pm in the Trinity room. They are studying the book of Esther.
- ◆ Adult Sunday school - currently studying The Spiritual Realms.



November 2022

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | 1 | 2 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 7:00p Cantata Rehearsal 8:00p TLC Choir Reh | 3 10a Women's Bible study | 4 OFFICE CLOSED | 5 |
| 6 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship | 7 9:00a Quilters 10:00a - WMMT Mtg 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall | 8 8:00a ASFAB Testing | 9 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 7:00p Cantata Rehearsal 8:00p Praise Tm Reh | 10 10a Women's Bible study | 11 OFFICE CLOSED | 12 Women of Trinity Mtg 10:00 am |
| 13 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship | 14 9:00a Quilters 1:00p Christian Life Mtg 3:30p Women's Bible study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall | 15 Journey Deadline 6:30p - Council Meeting | 16 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 7:00p Cantata Rehearsal 8:00p TLC Choir Reh | 17 10a Women's Bible study 6:30p Men's Ministry Mtg | 18 OFFICE CLOSED Lefse making 9:00 | 19 |
| 20 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering | 21 9:00a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall | 22 Thanksgiving Service 6:30 pm 7:15p Cantata Reh | 23 NO Men's Bible Study | 24 10a Women's Bible study | 25 OFFICE CLOSED | 26 |
| 27 8:30a Adult Sunday School Prayer Shawl Sunday 10a - Worship | 28 9:00 a Quilters 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall | 29 | 30 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30 The Cross youth 5:30p Midweek Advent Meal 6:30p Midweek Advent Service 7:15p Cantata Rehearsal 8:15p TLC Choir Reh | | | |

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

**Thanksgiving service
Tuesday Nov. 22 - 6:30 pm**



The JOURNEY

November 2022

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)

WORSHIP THIS MONTH

- 11/6 — 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 11/13 — 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 11/20 — 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 11/22 — 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Worship service
- 11/27 — 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 11/30 — 6:30 pm Midweek Advent Service

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.