

# The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

## From the Pastor's Desk

*“...Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,”*(Ephesian 6:18)

Most of us are aware of the extreme turmoil taking place in the Middle East today. It is tragic to hear of the atrocities which have taken place. War is not a natural part of God's creation but is the result of sin being introduced into God's perfect world by Adam and Eve and their desire to be like God. Because of sin, we now find that fear, hatred, greed, pride, and arrogance have taken hold of the world powers. And the result is war. And in war, real people often suffer the consequences of sin by the various leaders.

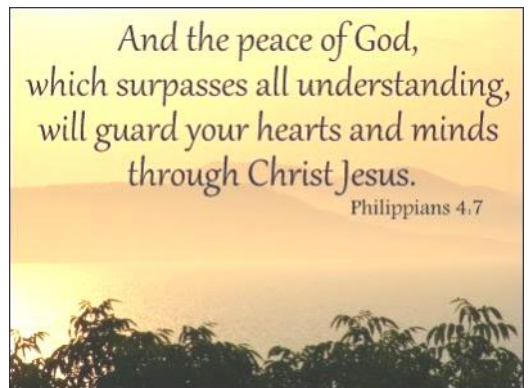
Media reports some but not all of what is taking place, not only in the Middle East but in Ukraine, Sudan, Ethiopia and many other countries. One source I read stated that there are over fifty armed conflicts taking place in the world right now. However, I am reminded of the need for prayer *“for all the saints.”* The vast majority of the people who are impacted by war are not combatants, but civilians. As followers of Jesus, we are united with all other Christians worldwide by *“one Lord, one faith, , one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all.”* (Ephesians 4:5) Thus, we are encouraged to pray for those brothers and sisters in their times of need.

So in this time of divisiveness, I urge each of us to” *keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints...*” In Jesus' name.

P.D.

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## Letter from Trinity President

The TLC Constitution lists duties required of the Church Council. In my mind the following are two of the most important: a. to lead this congregation in stating its mission, to do long-range planning, to set goals and priorities, and to evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals; and b. to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support. Leading up to this year's Annual Meeting, the Council and Executive Team has been discussing setting goals and doing long-range planning. Before each meeting we pray for the Holy Spirit's Guidance and that God would be glorified with what we do. Prayer needs to be emphasized before action. We are asking for and need all your prayers in moving forward with these tasks. As you know I like to do research. I came across this article at the Strategic Renewal.com site. *Seven Marks of a True House of Prayer. Is This Your Church?* Written by Daniel Henderson. The ministries of Strategic Renewal provide resources for spiritual and personal renewal, equip, and mobilize churches to pray. Here are the main points of the article. It gave me some insights on my own prayer life.

**1. Prayer was the priority over all self-centered activities-** A real house of prayer is a place of humility, sacrifice, and spiritual pursuit, not religious enterprise that exists for the reputational, financial, or egotistical advancement of the church, the leaders, or even the denomination. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of prayer and He has one objective – to glorify Christ (John 16:14), not people, man-made enterprises, or evangelical strategies.

**2. Prayer was the birthplace of all vision and ministry** – Based on Christ's instruction, the church was birthed from the womb of a 10-day corporate prayer experience in the Upper Room (Acts 1:12–2:1). This became the pattern of the early church. In Acts 13:1-3 we see extraordinary prayer as the launching pad of mission expansion. In the early church, the Holy Spirit was not some “plug-in” to help them with their humanly-concocted plans. He was the very operating system of ministry. He was the “how-to” for all ministry.

**3. Prayer was a consistent corporate experience at the same level of priority as all other activities** – In Acts 2:42, the entire congregation was continually committed to the apostles' teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayers.

**4. Prayer was the primary resolve and resource in the face of any challenge-** Today, we too easily seek to solve problems via human reason,

more money, or increased ecclesiastical muscle.

**5. Prayer was modeled first in the leadership culture-** A real house of prayer is guided by leaders who spend extraordinary amounts of time together in prayer because they have a conviction that this is the source of power, unity, direction, and blessing

**6. Prayer was the means of God-glorifying power and provision-** The acid-test is our demonstrated devotion to extraordinary united prayer.

**7. Prayer was the fuel for Spirit-inspired mission accomplishment** -In a true house of prayer, prayer is not the end, but the means to the end. It is to be a house of prayer “for all nations” with a local and global gospel passion. Prayer exists to empower us to accomplish the Great Commission of Christ in the power of Christ and for the glory of Christ. There is no other way to do His work and reach this lost world with the truth of the good news.

I believe Trinity is a House of Prayer. We have many prayers offered up in worship services, on the Prayer Chain, at the prayer group praying over written prayer requests, at all our Bible Studies, at Council and Ministry Team meetings and personal prayers offered during the Prayers for the Church. Just to mention a few. James 5:16 AMP tells us “The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action and made effective by God—it is dynamic and can have tremendous power].”

Confession Time: I confess that I find myself not praying fervently from the heart at times. I find myself just going through repetitive motions during worship. Letting busyness take away from my prayer time. The Holy Spirit has shown me this. I plan on rededicating more time to prayer. Anybody with me? I am going to use these 2 scriptures as guidance.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17).

Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:5-7 NIV.

May God give us guidance, empowerment, boldness, and provision to make Trinity the church He wants us to be. Peace and blessing,

Jim McGraw

✠ **October WORSHIP ASSISTANTS** ✠

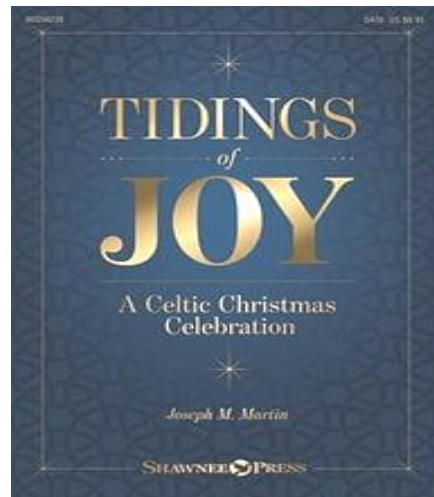
	Nov 5 10:00a	Nov 12 10:00a	Nov 19 10:00a	Nov 21 6:30p <i>Thanksgiving Service</i>	Nov 26 10:00a
<b>GREETERS</b>	Char Mohns	Terri Freeman	Brenda Mackey	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	Dan & Jackie Healy
<b>USHERS</b>	Wes Mohns LeRoy Brensel	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Mike Capra Tom Svitak	LeRoy Brensel Wally Thom	John Schieffer Mike Rubin
<b>COMM. ASSTS</b>	June Bibeau	Kathy Thom	Pat Mackey	Joanne Schilling	Janet Schieffer
<b>READER</b>	Gloria Widiker	Dianne Buxton	Sue Capra	Ellen Ehrich	Cindy Rubin



Thanksgiving Service on **TUESDAY**,  
November 21, at 6:30 pm. Please join  
us for a time of worship and  
thankfulness.



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



Mark your calendars for the Christmas Cantata, *Tidings of Joy* on December 17, at 2 PM! Inspired by Celtic music traditions and time-honored carols, this Christmas musical by Joseph M. Martin overflows with seasonal spirit. From prophecy to Epiphany, the cantata covers the entire Christmas story and wraps it in jubilant and approachable music.

There will be refreshments following the cantata!

# Meeting

**NEXT MEETING OF . . .**

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open. . . . . Nov 6, 20-10:30-12:30pm**
- Worship & Music Team. . . . . Nov 6, 10:00am**
- Women of Trinity . . . . . Nov 11, 10:00 am**
- Trinity Council Meeting . . . . . No Meeting in Nov**
- Men's Ministry of Trinity . . . . . Nov 16, 6:30 pm**



**A letter from our associate Pastor Barb**

A great big THANKYOU for all those who serve here at Trinity! We're thankful for Pastor Dan and all who diligently serve at Trinity. We're thankful for those who faithfully work in the office, who lead, plan, and assist in our worship service. We're thankful for our director of music and those who sing in choir, those who teach our youth and lead Bible studies, the men's and women's groups who serve, those who make quilts and prayer shawls, collect food for the Food Pantry, and work at our school. We're thankful for those who keep our church clean and tidy, those who work to care for our church property and build and do repair work at church and in our community. We're thankful for those who come to worship and those who get our Newsletter but aren't able to attend.

Thankfulness is a marvelous mind-set. In good times and in bad we are called to give thanks! Why? Because God promises that all things work together for good for those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28 Sometimes it can be tough to be thankful for the little things, especially when life is difficult. It's interesting that when our mind is set on being thankful, we begin to count our blessings rather than focus on the difficulty. We then realize how many blessings we have! Thankfulness changes our focus from what we lack to what we have.

The Bible instructs us to give thanks to God for everything—and not only to be thankful but to rejoice: "Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!" Psalm 95:2. Reading Bible verses about thankfulness to God has a way of filling us with hope.

The Mayo health clinic says this about gratefulness (or thanksgiving): *Expressing gratitude is associated with a host of mental and physical benefits. Studies have shown that feeling thankful can improve sleep, mood, and immunity. Gratitude can decrease depression, anxiety, difficulties with chronic pain and risk of disease. If a pill could do this, everyone would be taking it.*

Give Thanks  
To The Lord  
For He Is Good

— 1 CHRONICLES 16:34 —

Pastor Barb cont.

Find a Bible passage about thankfulness to share when you gather around your Thanksgiving meal this year. Here are some on "thankfulness":

Psalm 107:21 "Let us give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind."

Colossians 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Psalm 86:12 "I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever."

Psalm 28:7 "The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."

Psalm 95:2 "Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!"

Psalm 92:1-2 "It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night."

Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Colossians 3:17 "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

I'm thankful to be a part of the family of God here at Trinity! Have a wonderful and blessed November and Thanksgiving!

Pastor Barb Kleven 715-834-9988



**ADVENT IS NEAR!**

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 29, 9:30 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. Lord, I acknowledge my need for other people. I ask You to lead me to relationships whereby I might grow in You and Your will might be fulfilled in me. Show me what steps to take to see that come about. In your Son's precious name, Jesus Christ I pray. Amen.

## Missions and Outreach

Mission and Outreach met on October 18th .  
101 quilts were laid on the backs of the pews on Sunday October 8th for the congregation to enjoy.

We packed 85 quilts for Lutheran World Relief on October 9th . The quilts, personal care kits, school kits and baby kits were taken to Bethany Church in Rice Lake on October 14th. From there they were sent to Minneapolis then distributed where they are needed in the world.

We have 16 children's quilts which will be taken to Embrace. We will also make a trip to the Rice Lake Pregnancy Center to deliver baby items.

We have begun to discuss future mission and outreach ideas for 2024.

Currently we are collecting canned goods and non-perishables for the Birchwood food pantry. Thrivent will donate \$500 to the food pantry if we can collect 500 canned items.

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 LOVE tree that will be in the Narthex.

Thank you very much for your generosity.

The key to living a life of generosity is in having a heart that delights in the Lord. Psalm 119:36  
Elaine Ploessl-Missions & Outreach



## Women of Trinity



### Women of Trinity – October Happenings

The Secret Sisters “Big Reveal” was held October 14<sup>th</sup> at a luncheon following the Women of Trinity’s 10am meeting. What an amazing time of blessing and love as we found out who had been praying for us and sending notes of encouragement and support! Sign-up cards are on the Welcome Center for those wishing to participate this next year and should be turned in to Joanne Schilling or Gelene Tabor by October 29<sup>th</sup>. A praying church makes for a powerful force in the mission for Christ! Come join us!!

Altar Guild for October is Julie Sunderland and November is Janet Schieffer. We wish to thank Jeanne Dahlby for serving as coordinator of the Altar Guild for many, many years! Jeanne wishes to step back from that role and will help the next person take on the position seamlessly. Please consider serving the church in this capacity!

Fall is an exciting time with SO MANY upcoming events! Be on the lookout for:

Trunk or Treat coming up October 28 from 1-3pm.

Lefse Making is November 16<sup>th</sup> at 9am with the sale on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Birchwood Christmas Fest and WOT will provide a chili meal among other treats!

Bake Sale preparation and packing treats for those receiving Meals on Wheels is December 16<sup>th</sup> with a potluck prior.

Bake Sale is December 17<sup>th</sup> before/after the church service and before the afternoon’s Christmas Cantata.

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

The Secret Sisters had an awesome “Big Reveal” luncheon on October 14!! What an amazing time of blessing and love as we found out who had been praying for us and sending notes of encouragement and support! Many commented on how moving it was for them to know someone was praying for them. And that is indeed the focus of the Secret Sister Program – for our sisters in Christ to pray for each other.

So now it is our second year of the Secret Sister Program! This year, we will have a FULL year to do this until our Big Reveal Luncheon in October 2024. If you wish to participate, pick up a card on the Welcome Center and return it to Joanne, Gelene, or the church office by October 29. Joanne and Gelene will then draw names and let each participating sister know for whom they will be praying and SECRETLY sending periodic notes or cards to them during the year.

QUESTIONS? TALK TO JOANNE OR GELENE

A praying church makes for a powerful force in the mission for Christ! Come join us!!

**'SURVEY SAYS'**  
Psalm 133:1-3 ESV

*133 Behold, how good and pleasant it is  
when brothers dwell in unity!*

*2 It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his  
robes!*

*3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of  
Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life  
forevermore.*

As indicated in the September Journey, a survey is being compiled for presentation at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 12, 2023. The survey will present worship service options to promote and encourage unity for the Trinity family.

**Option A:** Services to remain the same, which includes:  
Two services in the summer months, end of May through Labor Day. 8:30 outdoors & 10:00 indoors

**Option B:** One service at 9 AM throughout the year.  
Summer months: hold 1 outdoor service each month of June, July and August.  
Outdoor service time would also be at 9:00 AM

These options will be discussed at the Annual Meeting, November 12th, following the service.  
Please plan to attend, and share your thoughts.  
Thank you.

Your Sister in Christ, Kathy Thom/ WMMT



**Dessert and Coffee will be served!**

**SNACKS AND FACTS**

**Second Tuesday at 2pm**

**Join us**

**Dr. Kristen Dall-Winther**  
will present  
**Direct Primary Care:  
The Way Primary Care was Meant to Be**

**November 14th, 2023, at 2pm**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall**  
**Birchwood, WI**  
**Join in a short Devotion.**  
**Everyone Welcome!**

**Coming up on January 9th, 2024**  
**Police Chief Adam Brunclick**

**WANTED:** Altar Guild Coordinator to oversee the team of monthly Altar Guild personnel. Long-time coordinator Jeanne Dahlby has decided to step down from this volunteer position. We thank her for the many years of dedication to this integral service. Jeanne leaves a very organized process that will be easy for the new coordinator to take over. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this calling!

# November 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 7:00 Praise Team Reh (ONLY)	2 10:00 Women's Bible Study	3 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	4
5 10:00 am Worship	6 9:00a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30 Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	7	8 6:30a Men's Bible Study 7:00p Cantata Reh 8:00p TLC Choir Reh	9 10:00 Women's Bible Study	10 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	11 10a WOT Mtg
12 10:00 am Worship	13 9:00a Quilters 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	14 2:00p Snacks & Facts Dr. Kristen Dall- Winther	15 6:30a Men's Bible Study 11:30a Mission & Outreach mtg 7:00p Cantata Reh 8:00p TLC Choir Reh	16 10:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30p Men's Ministry Mtg	17 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	18
19 10:00 am 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>	22 6:30a Men's Bible Study 7:00p <b>NO</b> Cantata Reh 8:00p <b>NO</b> TLC Choir Reh	23 <b>Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving</b>	24 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	25
26 10:00 am Worship Prayer Shawl Sunday	27 9:00a Quilters 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	28	29	30		



Trinity Lutheran Church  
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Join us for Thanksgiving Service  
Nov. 21 @ 6:30p



# The JOURNEY

## Nov 2023

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor  
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—3:00pm) Wednesdays (8—11:30 pm) other days by apt.

### Sunday Worship Services

Nov 5 — Worship w/communion @ 10 am  
Nov 12—Worship w/communion @ 10 am  
Nov 19 —Worship w/communion @ 10 am  
Nov 21— Thanksgiving Worship @ 6:30 pm  
Nov 26 — Worship w/communion @ 10 am

### **KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

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

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