

The *JOURNEY* — *Walking Daily with Jesus*

Vote set to extend call to new pastor . . .

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SET FOR DEC 3

A Special Congregational Meeting is scheduled for December 3, following the 10 am worship service, to vote to approve the issuance of a Letter of Call to pastoral candidate, Pastor Jack Jorgensen, as recommended by the Church Council.

Pastor Jack came to Trinity on November 19, to lead the worship service. He and his wife, Cheryll, returned on November 20, to meet with members of the Call Committee, Council and Trinity staff.

He previously served as the interim pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Hudson, WI.

Come to Sunday's meeting to learn more!



Pastor Jack, his wife Cheryll with sons Bennett, August and Winter

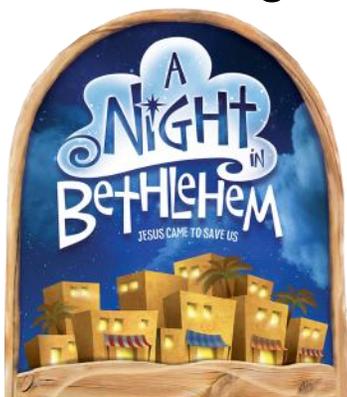
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

- DEC 3 1st Sunday of Advent — Cantata *Love Came Down* @ 10 am
- DEC 6 Mid-week Advent Service at Trinity @ 6:30 pm (Meal @ 5:45 pm)
- DEC 10 2nd Sunday of Advent — Praise Worship w/Communion @ 10 am
- DEC 13 Mid-week Advent Service at Trinity @ 6:30 pm (Meal @ 5:45 pm)
- DEC 16 *A Night in Bethlehem* VBS at Trinity — 9 am -1:30 pm
- DEC 16 *A Night in Bethlehem* Celebration Worship @ 1:30 pm
- DEC 17 3rd Sunday of Advent — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am
- DEC 20 Mid-week Advent Service at Trinity @ 6:30 pm (Meal @ 5:45 pm)
- DEC 24 4th Sunday of Advent — Worship w/Comminion @ 10 am

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A Night In Bethlehem — A Bible-Times Christmas Event for Families



VBS in the WINTER, no way! YAHWEH is our King born in a Stable! Let's create memories of the manger together.

Children from ages Pre-K through 5th Grade are invited to participate. However, families are welcomed to participate with their children.

Wanna help in this ministry? See page 6 for more info or call Melinda Pedersen, 715-296-2073.

All are invited to the CELEBRATION WORSHIP at 1:30 pm, Dec 16!

Celebrate the birth of our Savior!
Vacation Bible School in the Winter? YES!
Saturday, December, 16
9:00 am — 12:45 pm
Celebration Worship 1:30—2:00 pm
Lunch for VBS kids and adults at 12:45 pm



Elizabeth Joosten, Director
Barbara Lancaster, Accompanist
With
Barron County Brass

December 10, 2017
2:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Rice Lake, Wisconsin

Free Will Donation

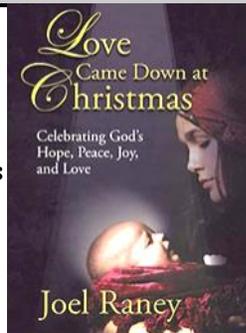
CHRISTMAS CANTATA TO BE PERFORMED DECEMBER 3

The Trinity Cantata Choir will present the cantata, *Love Came Down at Christmas*, during the 10 am worship service, December 3.

Love is the central theme of Christmas. The incarnation story tells us that God so loved the world that he came to earth as a Baby, and that love is creatively illustrated in this compelling Christmas work by Joel Raney.

A rich tapestry of original and familiar melodies, diverse musical styles, accessible choral settings, and engaging accompaniment options combine to ensure a rich and meaningful Christmas worship experience for everyone.

Come celebrate the Christmas story through the music of this cantata!

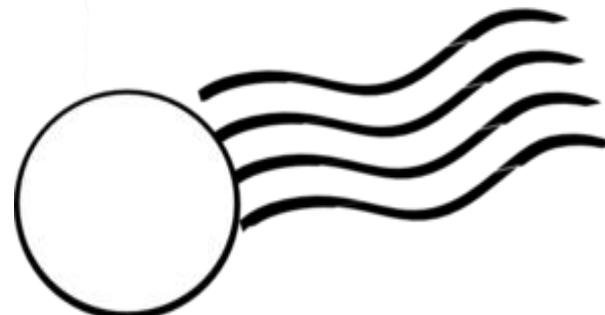


WANTED: YOUR CANCELLED STAMPS

It's time to bring in your saved cancelled stamps and place them in the box on the Welcome Center.

They will be collected and sent to the Bethel Stamp Collection Centre in Germany, which creates valuable jobs for handicapped persons.

You're making a difference!



MISSION & OUTREACH UPDATE

On Nov 10, three of the members from M/O delivered items collected for Embrace. Response this year by the congregation was phenomenal. There were four totes full of blankets, towels, and personal beauty products. Laundry baskets had paper products and art and craft supplies. We were able to cross off many items from Embrace's wish list.



Names and wish lists for the Adopt-A-Family project have been received and ornaments with gift suggestions are now on the tree.

Haiti's Children (HCI) Update

I received a letter from Gladys Mungo a short time ago and thought I would share her news from Haiti. Trinity sponsored a child through her organization Haiti's Children Inc. (HCI)

Gladys had a busy summer talking at 21 different services to diverse groups including "Revelation Riders" and "Recycled Teenagers." This resulted in finding sponsors for 41 more children. Her message to us was about spreading God's wordSpreading the Seed. From "Seeds of Hope" sales, \$4000 was made along with 1,800 seed packets to take back to take back to Haiti for planting!

When Gladys returned to Haiti it was one month later than usual due to having shoulder surgery. Gladys endured many other delays returning caused by the devastation from Hurricane Irma. With the help of Agape Flights they were able to get the remaining tarps they had on hand, to Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria hit there. Luckily the area where

Gladys is from, didn't receive hurricane damage this year.

In 2016 Haiti was hard hit by Hurricane Matthew. Returning in the fall of 2017 there were still issues that continued as the results of Matthew. HCI received a grant to help supply materials for 100 roofs. HCI was gifted with not one but two 40' containers of food from Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) 544,320 meals! Water and rice was received from Convoy of Hope. Funds came in to purchase spaghetti, mackerel, and other staple products. Over 100 tons of food have been delivered to villages where HCI works. Churches from Illinois, Wisconsin, Washington and Minnesota stepped up and immediately sent tarps, food, and hygiene kits to get out to people.

There are always ways for us to help support Gladys' mission in Haiti.

- ❖ HCI has been accepted as a Service Organization by LCMC.
- ❖ HCI has been accepted by Thrivent as a Charitable Organization for "Choice Dollars"
- ❖ Consider getting a group together to plan a mission trip.
- ❖ And the biggest of all is to Pray, Pray and Pray!

Karen Hayes
Mission & Outreach Chair



**December meeting set for Dec 14
WOMEN CHANGE MEETING DATE**

The Women of Trinity will hold their monthly meeting on December 14, instead of December 21. The reason is to be able to make up the Christmas Cookie Boxes for those in need so they can be distributed in time for Christmas.



The meeting will start at 11 am, in the Fellowship Hall, cookie boxes will be made up, and then a potluck lunch will be held. Please put this on your calendar and join us!

TEENS UNDER FIRE (TUF)

Pastor Lauren and Trinity Youth (Brien, Kathy, Julie, Melinda, Jill, Payton, Josie, Kenya, Chole, Wyatt, Shay, Kayla, Landen) attended a Teens Under Fire event on Nov 15.



We prayed, praised our Savior, heard messages about living a life for God with choices that we make, and celebrated fellowship with Him and one another.

BAKE SALE AT TRINITY SUNDAY, DEC 3

The Women of Trinity will hold their annual Bake Sale before and after the worship service and Cantata presentation on Sunday, December 3.



Anyone willing to donate baked goods is asked to bring their donations to the church narthex Saturday, December 2, between 9 and 11 am.

The Birchwood Bluegill Christmas Festival will be on December 2, and with all the other bake sales around town, the Trinity Women are catering to their own congregation with homemade and baked goods.

All money received from the sale goes back to our church, or local charities.

**2018 Budget approved at Annual Meeting
TRINITY MEMBERS SET UP TO SERVE**

ANNUAL MEETING



Trinity's annual meeting was held November 5, to vote on various items for the upcoming year.

Newly elected council officers and members are: President — *Wally Thom*; Vice

President — *Leo Diehl*; Secretary — *Brenda Mackey*; Congregational Care — *Ginger LaMotte*; Education, Youth & Family — *Kathy Paquette*; Operations — *Kevin Sunderland*; Fellowship & Growth — *Melinda Pedersen*; Stewardship — *Kyle Hubbard*; Worship & Music — *Jean Jastram* (1 year to finish Barb Kleven's term); Missions & Outreach — *Karen Hayes*).

Nominations were taken for the 2018 Nominating Committee and *Leo Diehl*, *Marcia Kampf*, and *Ginger LaMotte* were elected to the committee.

THANK YOU

Thank you all so very much for your thoughts and prayers during my recent illness. I give God thanks and praise every day for how he has blessed me with loving friends and family.

God Bless You, *George Crust*

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry. . . . 10:30 am, Dec 2, 4, 16, 18
- Worship & Music Team.10 am, Dec 4
- Mission & Outreach. 10 am, Dec 12
- Congregational Council6:30 pm, Dec 12
- Trinity Lutheran Church Women. 11 am, Dec 14

WOMEN OF TRINITY HAPPENIN'S

- * The November meeting was held November 16, in the Trinity Room.
- * Two "thank you cards" were read: One from the L.I.G.H.T Keepers, which is a youth group headed by *Sue Jostad*, and one from the Benjamin House in Rice Lake, both thanking us for our support.
- * It's the year-end, and we work all year to raise money so we are able to make monetary contributions to the following deserving groups:
 - ◇ The Angel Fund. This is a Birchwood School fund where money is used for students who can't afford things they absolutely need in school.
 - ◇ Family House, Rice Lake. This is next to Benjamin's House on Heart Island for those who need an immediate place to stay overnight.
 - ◇ Timber Bay Kids, Birchwood. A Monday night group that meets at the Birchwood Senior Center, headed by *Charity Knauff*.
 - ◇ Benjamin House, Rice Lake. A place for homeless families to stay on a long-term basis.
 - ◇ The Love Fund, Birchwood. Churches in Birchwood donate to the Love Fund every month with that money going to needy people who need help with their bills. Trinity administers this fund and writes the checks.
 - ◇ Embrace, Ladysmith. A time-out shelter for abused families.
 - ◇ Pregnancy Help Center, Rice Lake. A place unwed mothers can go to earn credits to "buy" baby necessities, and learn how to be a mother.

- ◇ Birchwood Food Pantry. This is open four times a month and on special holidays. Donations are needed to buy food.
- ◇ Christmas gifts to Trinity's staff of six.
- * December Altar Guild is as follows: Dec. 3, *Char Mohns*; Dec. 10, *Karen Hayes*; Dec. 17, *Jean Jastram*; Dec. 24 (2 services), *Jeanne Dahlby*; Dec. 31, *Dianne Buxton*.
- * The 2018 Service Book for Altar Guild is being finalized by chair, *Jeanne Dahlby*.



- * Christmas Bake Sale will be December 3, before and after the 10 am service. This is also Cantata Sunday.
- * Lefse, which was made November 17, will be offered for sale the Sundays of November 19 and 26. Thanks to *Karen Scott* and *Virginia Johnson* for heading up this activity.

- * 2018 Women of Trinity Officers are: President, *Ginger LaMotte*. Vice President, *Cindy Rubin*. Secretary, *Dianne Buxton*. Treasurer, *Marcia Kampf*. Many thanks to these ladies for their past and future dedication to Women of Trinity.
- * The December meeting will be scheduled a week early on December 14, starting at 11 am, so Christmas cookie boxes can be put together, and distributed to those in need. A potluck lunch will follow.
- * Our next meeting is November 16 at 11 am.



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas . . .



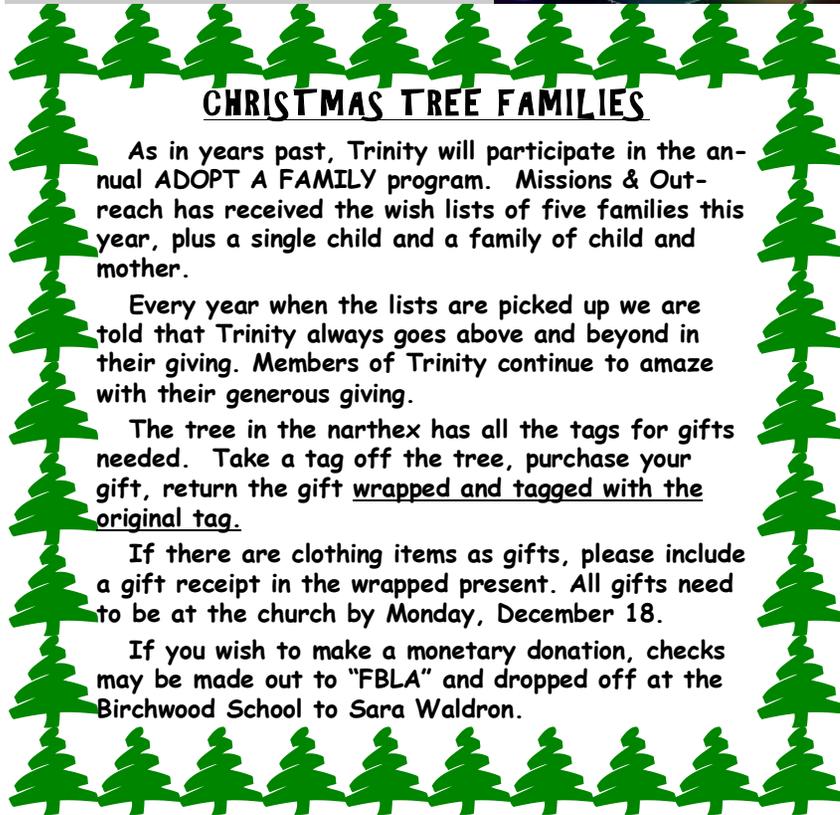
DECORATING ELVES!

Many Thanks to the many hands who helped on November 27, to put up of the Advent and Christmas decorations, including the outdoor Nativity scene.

What goes up, must come down. So come, if you can, and help to take down the decorations and put them away on January 2 at 10 am.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFIRMATION!

December 6: 5:30 small group, meal, Advent worship at 6:30–7:15 pm
December 13: 4:30 serve meal, small group, Advent worship at 6:30–7:15 pm
December 20: 5:30 small group, meal, Advent worship at 6:30–7:15 pm



CHRISTMAS TREE FAMILIES

As in years past, Trinity will participate in the annual ADOPT A FAMILY program. Missions & Outreach has received the wish lists of five families this year, plus a single child and a family of child and mother.

Every year when the lists are picked up we are told that Trinity always goes above and beyond in their giving. Members of Trinity continue to amaze with their generous giving.

The tree in the narthex has all the tags for gifts needed. Take a tag off the tree, purchase your gift, return the gift wrapped and tagged with the original tag.

If there are clothing items as gifts, please include a gift receipt in the wrapped present. All gifts need to be at the church by Monday, December 18.

If you wish to make a monetary donation, checks may be made out to "FBLA" and dropped off at the Birchwood School to Sara Waldron.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

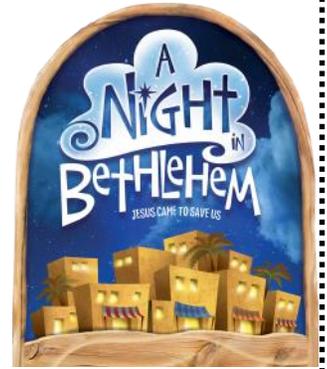
Once again, there were too few names to run the Worship Assistants chart. So please stop by the Welcome Center and sign up — **WE NEED YOU!**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for A Night in Bethlehem!

- ❖ Bethlehem Bakery: Snacks
- ❖ Lunch: light meal for adults and youth
- ❖ Decorating Help : A small set design
- ❖ Adult group leaders: accompany a small group
- ❖ Photographer: photo booth

Please sign up in the narthex or contact Melinda Pedersen at 715-296-2073.



MID-WEEK ADVENT MEALS

Come join us for simple mid-week advent meals at 5:45 pm on Dec. 6 (Sue Jostad & Choir host), 13 (Youth host), and 20 (Fellowship & Growth host).

The mid-week Advent services will follow at 6:30 pm. No cost — free-will donation.



Advent SUPPER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kevin Kotel	12/02	Wally Thom	12/06	Ray Buxton	12/24
Tyler Marcinske	12/03	JoAnn Schupp	12/07	Rodney Corbin	12/28
Bob Skar	12/03	LeRoy Brensel	12/08	Joan Fuller	12/29
Brent Wahtke	12/03	Logan Saldana	12/10	Sheila Moline	12/29
Jason Ivers	12/04	Judith Ede	12/12	Auston Cherney	12/30
David Miller	12/04	Eldon Kvale	12/14	Cody Miller	12/30
Stacy Anderson	12/05	Cody Rurup	12/15	Brody Rurup	12/30
Betty Blanch	12/06	Karen Scott	12/16		
Rochelle Fabrizio	12/06	Donna Willis	12/18		
Anne Gilbertson	12/06	Alexander Jasper	12/22		
Lauren Gustafson	12/06	Pete Baribeau	12/24		



DECEMBER 2017

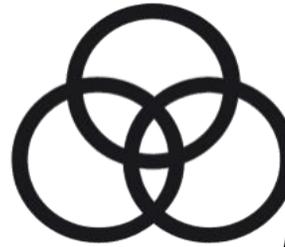
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 9-11am - CAN-TATA REH 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
3 1st Sunday of Advent BAKE SALE!!! 9:15a - Choir Warm-up 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship w/Communion <i>Love Came Down</i> Cantata 11a - Special Congregational Meeting	4 9:30a - Quilters 10a - Worship/Music Mtg 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	5 5p - L.I.G.H.T Keepers	6 10a - Msn/Outreach 5:30p - Confirmation 5:45p - Advent Meal 6:30p - Advent Service 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh 8p - Praise Team Reh	7 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Praise Worship w/ Communion 2 & 4 pm - Red Cedar Choir Concerts @ UW-BC	11 9:30a - Quilters 5:30p - M/O provides meal for Timber Bay 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	12 5p - L.I.G.H.T Keepers 6:30p - Council Mtg	13 4:30p - Confirmation 5:45p - Advent Meal 6:30p - Advent Service NO Trinity Choir Reh	14 9:30a - Women's Bible Study 11a - WOT Mtg [NOTE Date change]	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16 9a-1:30p - VBS 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 1:30p - CELEBRATION WORSHIP
17 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:15a - Choir Warm-up 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship w/Communion <i>Love Fund/Food Pantry Off</i>	18 Journey Deadline 9:30a - Quilters 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	19 5p - L.I.G.H.T Keepers	20 5:30p - Confirmation 5:45p - Advent Meal 6:30p - Advent Service 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh	21 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23
24 4th Sunday of Advent/ Christmas Eve 9:15a - Choir Warm-up 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship w/Communion 5p - Christmas Eve Candle-light Worship with Communion	25 CHRISTMAS DAY OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED NO L.I.G.H.T Keepers	27 1p - Journey Assembly NO - Confirmation NO Trinity Choir Reh	28 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30
31 1st Sunday after Christmas 9:30a - <i>COFFEE TIME</i> 10a - Worship w/Communion						

Trinity Lutheran Church
 501 E. Chetac Ave
 PO Box 8
 Birchwood, WI 54817

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
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 Permit No. 3
 Birchwood, WI
 54817

**SPECIAL
 CONGREGATIONAL
 MTG -- DEC 3**



The *JOURNEY* DECEMBER 2017

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lauren Ley, Interim Pastor
 Cindy Westphal, Parish Administrator
 Melinda Pedersen, Youth & Family
 Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Betty Blanch & Donnaræ Carrell, Custodian

501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8 ♦ Birchwood, WI 54817

(715) 354-3790 ♦ (715) 354-3224 (parsonage)

♦ tlcbirchwood@gmail.com ♦ trinitylutheranbirchwood.com ♦

JOURNEY Editor ♦ Joanne Schilling ♦ jlschilling@hotmail.com ♦

Sunday Worship 8:30 am outdoor (Memorial - Labor Day)
 10 am indoor (Year-round)
 Sunday School 10 am (Sept - May 21)
 Office Hours 8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)
 Pastor's Hours 8a - noon, M-Th
 Bulletin info deadline 9 am Wednesdays
 JOURNEY deadline Monday of 3rd week of the month

WORSHIP THIS MONTH

12/3 10 am Worship w/Communion — CHRISTMAS CANTATA
 12/10 10 am Praise Worship w/Communion
 12/17 10 am Worship w/Communion
 12/24 10 am Worship w/Communion
 5 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service w/Communion
 12/31 10 am Worship w/Communion

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Tom Allard	Harry Heath	Lee Namtvedt
Amelia	Andy Hedman	Leonard Nysted
Dave Beaver	McKel Heebink	Mary Nysted
Michelle Bender	Becky Hunt	Betty Orsund
Betty Blanch	Merlin Jahnke	Fred Peck
Hazel Bonkrud	Kirk Kotel	Jim Pravda
Katelyn Bratvold	Eileen Koefler	Buddy Robotka
Bryar	Jody Kruegel	Ro Sachman
Vicki Busick	Bill & Eunice Kuntz	Carter Sackmann
George Crust	Dick Kuula	Collette Sandow
Barb Fegan	Roy Kuula	Shalom Ministry Team
Annette Gentile	Bill & Joyce Lambrecht	Denise Spiller
Laine Guttenberg	Ron Larson	Marlene Wendt
Ron Hartzell	Ed Leader	David Yndestad
Candy Hayes	Lora	Elaine Yndestad
Gorman Hayes	Susan Molin	

In the military: Rigil, & Randy Christensen, Rochelle & Alex Fabrizio, Eric Bebee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Cody Davis and all those serving in the mili-

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

This section has moved to page 4 in order to fit in all our prayer concerns. So please pray for all those listed above!