The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

From the Pastor's Desk:

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and from our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we wrap up this very busy June, I have one Scripture verse which I cling to because its words best express what I feel for all of the work that so many of you have done to ensure that the success of the events which have culminated in these past few weeks. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 107:1, ESV)

God has blessed Trinity with many members who bring so many gifts to the table, gifts which they so freely offer in response to a call to serve.

Vacation Bible School was held on June 20th through the 24th. I have to admit that this was one of the best organized VBS sessions that I have experienced during my ministry. The planning, the training, and the work to put the scenes together began several months ago. The result was that many children heard the message that the 'Monumental' love of God is found in His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. I witnessed a similar experience with the Church Picnic today. Again, many came together, working as one, to ensure that the Picnic provided an opportunity for many people, members and non-members, children and adults, to gather. Even with the cooler, windy weather, we joined together for some wonderful food, games, and long-awaited fellowship.

I could start naming names for all of whom I am grateful, but I fear that I might miss someone. So, I will merely say that I am deeply indebted to, and grateful for, the team leaders, co-leaders, teachers, staff, and to those who did so much work behind the scenes. I thank God for all that He has given to Trinity. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!"

In Christ, Pastor Dan

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From the Council Presidents Desk

During the private meditation and prayer at the Council Retreat, we were asked to pray about the following three questions:

- Is Trinity Lutheran Church failing in any way in its goal to follow Christ alone?
- Is there something in the Church which is causing disunity among the flock?
- Is there something I am doing that might be contributing to disunity in the flock?

The last 2 questions really hit home with me. It wasn't until Pastor Dan preached on unity in the church and the Men's Bible Study group studied what Jesus said about the 7 churches in Revelations 2-3 that I really started to think about unity in the church. I'm sure it was a shock for the Revelation churches to hear of their shortcoming. They probably thought they were OK. Do we as TLC see anything that might be causing disunity? Do we really know what unity in the church really means?

Here is one instance what Paul wrote about unity in the Church.

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2) Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3) Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4) There is one body and

one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5) one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6) one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. Ephesians 4:1-6.

David Schrock on his Via Emmaus blog, (davidschrock.com) wrote an article entitled, <u>What Does Unity in the Church Look Like? Ten Truths from Ephesians 4</u>.

These are the 10 Truths:

Unity is a gift from God.

Unity is maintained, not created by man.

Unity grows over time.

Unity is most opposed by pride and self-interest.

Unity is a uniquely Christian adornment.

Unity requires a doctrinal center – the gospel.

Unity does not mean uniformity.

Unity depends on grace and gifts.

Unity grows when it is stretched, pressured, and even threatened.

Unity glorifies God and attracts unbelievers.

A few of these truths are things I never thought about before.

Unity is a gift from God not something we can work toward.

Pastor Schrock says: Because unity is a gift from God, the church is called to maintain unity, not create it. Ephesians

4:3 calls us to be "eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Notice, Paul doesn't say, "find," or "create," or "produce" unity, but maintain the unity that he has created and given. Indeed, unity is something every church should pray for and grow in, as it gives itself to the truth of the gospel and the love that comes from the triune God. Truly, growth in unity is the work of God. As Ephesians 3 teaches us, it is the result of prayer and the fullness of the Spirit. But again, this is what the church is—a people filled with the Spirit, commissioned to love one another, and proclaim gospel truth.

Unity is most opposed by pride and self-interest.

This is one truth that's hard for me because at times I want things to go my way and don't recognize the pride that gets in the way. Scriptures and the Holy Spirit at times convicts us to pray for humility, gentleness and love



when our personal interests and wants takes preference over the Father's Will. Every Council and Ministry Team meeting opens with prayer for the Holy Spirit's guidance when doing ministry and making important decisions. At the Leadership Retreat, we all agreed to try to improve communications with the congregation. We wanted to make sure we as servant leaders were asking and listening to the needs of the church. To accomplish this, we need you all to tell us those needs and concerns. Together, we all need to ask, "Is what we are doing at TLC bringing glory to God and promote Christ's Kingdom?" The leadership tries to communicate with the congregation through worship bulletins and announcements. Journey newsletter articles, website and Facebook postings. These communication methods are a oneway path. From the church leadership to you. We need to hear your ideas and concerns about TLC. As an effort to hear and listen to congregational needs, we will be planning listening group sessions and personal one-on-one sessions. We will let you know when these sessions get scheduled.

David Schrock wrote this about pride and self-interest:

Therefore, we must behold with increasing wonder the gentleness, humility, and love of Christ. Only as we

adore those traits in him—rather than the arrogant bravado of our world leaders and entertainment stars—will those spiritual fruits take root in our life. But when they do, when love roots our pride and gentleness replaces impatience, then we will see unity catalyzed in the church.

What makes the church unique is how our unity is based on the invisible realities of God, and not anything visible to the natural man. Christian unity is based upon the Triune God and the work of salvation he has done in us.

Unity does not mean uniformity. It does not mean everyone looks the same, talks the same, or thinks the same. It means, however, that because we believe the same gospel, we can abide in grace together learning how to accentuate gospel truth. Thus, the whole church is built upon God's word, and the saints are equipped to use their gifts to build up the body as the pastor-teachers teach and explain the Bible to them. In this way, the whole church is built up in love, with the result being a body that grows together in maturity.

As we bring our diverse and unique gifts together as one body and one church family, may we listen in peace, humility, patience and love on how we can build up our church to its fullness.

Jim McGraw

VBS

VBS was a MONUMENTAL SUCCESS the week of June 20-24, with 19 children attending and over 25 volunteers helping out! It couldn't have been done without everyone's prayers, help, donations and support. We especially thank the Lions Club for their generous donation of \$450, Just Rite on Main for the generous donation of assorted paints, and the Trinity Family for your generous donations totaling over \$450!

Our awesome decorations will be donated to First Lutheran Church in Rice Lake for their Monumental VBS the end of July. They loaned us many decorations as well and we thank them.

The VBS Co-Directors greatly appreciate YOU!

Joanne Schilling, Kathy Thom and Wally Thom



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July WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	July 3 (8:30 am)	July 3 (10:00am)	July 10 (8:30 am) Indoors	July 10 (10:00 am)	July 17 (8:30am)	July 17 (10:00am)	July 24 (8:30am)	July 24 (10:00am)	July 31 (8:30am)	July 31 (10:00am)
GREETERS	John & Janet Schieffer	Rose Cutsforth	NEED	Rose Cutsforth	Jim & Cyndi McGraw	Betty Blanch	Char & Wes Mohns	Terri Freeman	NEED	Sue Svitak
USHERS		Wally Thom LeRoy Brensel		Rolf Kleven LeRoy Brensel		Wally Thom Steve Tracey		Mike Capra Rob Freeman		Tom Svitak NEED
COMM. ASSTS	1	Kathy Thom		Barb Kleven	1	Pat Mackey	1	Joanne Schil- ling	1	Cheri Anderson
READER	Janet Schief- fer	Gloria Widiker	Karen Hayes	Stacey Anderson	Dianne Buxton	Jimmy Kolodzinski	Donnarae Carrell	Sue Capra	NEED	Eric Anderson



Jerry Janetski 7/1 Grace Kotel 7/2 Hannah Hayes 7/3 Melinda Pedersen 7/5 Robert Gindt 7/6 Wyatt Sunderland 7/9 Don ZillImer 7/9 Eric Anderson 7/11 Joshua Brown 7/11 Karen Hayes 7/11 Chuck Ede 7/12 Alijah Braden 7/13 Jake Deutsch7/13
Missy Robotka 7/13
Sue Svitak 7/13
Linda Zillmer 7/13
Penny Sedvig-Bemis 7/14
Otto Nordback 7/18
Tina Tainter7/18
Lorie Piram 7/21
Adara Glenz 7/23
Arthur Kordus 7/27
Kevin Sunderland 7/31

The Trinity Choir and Praise Team are on hiatus for the summer. But if you would like to provide Special Music during the summer months, vocal or instrumental, please contact Joanne Schilling at 715-651-4875.

Pastor's New Contact Number

I have a new telephone number! And it is a local number!! Pastors' emergency contact number is now 715-416-4966.

In addition, I will be setting new office hours to allow for me to take advantage of additional congregational visitation opportunities. My plan is to be in the office:

★ Monday: 8:00am—4:30 pm.

→ Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8:00—11:30 am I am available outside of these officer hours as well by appointment. Christ, Pastor Dan

t. In



NEXT MEETING OF . . .

Birchwood Food Pantry Open	10:30-12:30pm July 4, 18
Norship & Music Team	
Vomen of Trinity	No Meeting this Month
Trinity Council Meeting	6:30 pm, July 19
Men's Ministry of Trinity	6:30 pm, July 21

VBS WAS MONUMENTAL



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Our 1st Annual
Trinity Reunion Picnic was a smashing
success! Over 100
people attended,
feasting on hamburgers, hot dogs,
salads, and root
beer floats!

We plan to make this a new Trinity Family tradition.

Hope to see YOU next year!

Mission and Outreach June 2022

Mission and Outreach participated in the All Community Picnic June 26 th to support our Youth and Family outreach in the Community. OUTREACH

I attended the Women of the Word

Retreat in April and since have been appointed the Co- Chair person for 2023. The 2023 Retreat is being held at Camp Forest Hills on March 31 -April 1 2023. This is a great opportunity to offer to women of the community of Birchwood and to bring women to the event by car pooling and building bridges and new friendships in the Spirit of the Word.

I have a second call out to the Global seed planters Diane Brask to discuss their mission and how we may become partners with them.

I spoke with Wisconsin Foster Care System regarding the needs we may be able to help fill with Prayer and Mission Outreach projects on a local level. I will be having a meeting with them in the near future.

I will be hosting a small group on August 27th to bring a few people with Testimonies and gifts of prayer and healing. This will be held at my home. Other small groups will also be taking root if you have any specific ideas please contact me and we can work together to do God's work here in Birchwood.

I am looking for ideas and suggestion for **Additional Mission and Outreach** events. Please feel free to call me with your ideas.

Di Hubbard - 941-893-0311

The Women's afternoon bible study will be on hiatus until August 1, 2022. We will look forward to seeing you in August. Have a great summer!!





Church Mice.

Women of Trinity Lutheran Church HAPPENINGS WOT Happenings—June 2022

Our meeting was held on June 7 at 6:30. There were 7 women in attendance.

Devotions were led by Di Hubbard

Altar Guild: June: Dianne Buxton July: Carol Addington

Early Service: Ida Jahnke Cards will be sent to shut ins

VBS needs volunteers. Contact Kathy Thom or Joanne Schilling.

The WOT will pay for the meat for the church reunion picnic.

The council is developing a list of drivers to assist with medical appointment transportation.

The 2023 Women of the Word retreat will be March 31-April 1.

There will be no meeting in July. The next meeting will be August 9 at 6:30 in the fellowship hall.



July 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	10a Women's Bible study	OFFICE CLOSED	2
3 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10a – Worship	ÖFFICE CLOSED NO Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	5 WOT Meeting 6:30 pm	6 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	7 No Women's Bible study	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10 8:30 Inside with Amplified- Worship 10a – Worship	9:00 Quilters 10:00a - WMMT Mtg 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	12	13	10a Women's Bible study 6:30 pm Men's Ministry Mtg	0FFICE CLOSED	16
17 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10a – Worship Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	18 9:00 a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	19 6:30p - Council Meeting Journey Deadline	6:30 am Men's Bible Study	10a Women's Bible study	0FFICE CLOSED	23
24 8:30a—Outdoor Worship 10a - Indoor Worship 31 8:30a—Outdoor Worship 10a - Indoor Worship	25 9:00 Quilters 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	26	27 5:30p The Cross	10a Women's Bible study	OFFICE CLOSED	30

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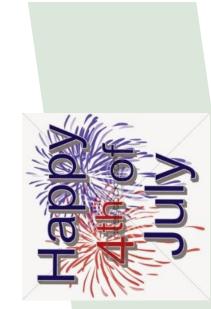
FORWARDING

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Birchwood, WI



The JOURNEY **July 2022**

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator Ashley Beffa, Youth & Family 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 Tuesdavs

Monday - 3rd week of the month JOURNEY deadline Mondays (8 am—4:30 pm) Pastor's Office Hours

Wednesdays & Thursdays (8-11:30 pm)

SUNDAY WORSHIP THIS MONTH

7/3 — 8:30 am Outdoor Worship w/ Communion 10 am Worship w/Communion

7/10 —8:30 am inside Worship w/ Communion 10 am Worship w/Communion

7/17–8:30 am Outdoor Worship w/ Communion 10 am Worship w/Communion

7/24–8:30 am Outdoor Worship w/ Communion 10 am Worship w/Communion

7/24-8:30 am Outdoor Worship w/ Communion 10 am Worship w/Communion

7/31–8:30 am Outdoor Worship w/ Communion 10 am Worship w/Communion

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

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