

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

From the Pastor's Desk:

“June 2024 Journey

Pastor Dan

“Take care lest you forget your God by not keeping His commandments and His rules and His statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them...then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery...Beware lest you say in your heart, “My power and might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.” You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power and wealth.” Deuteronomy 8:11-12, 14, 17-18

Here we are, moving into the summer months already. While I really try not to have a negative outlook, I just realized that we are only a month away from the longest day of the year, bringing to mind how quickly the warmth of the spring and summer seem to pass. (I can almost hear the collective moan of the congregation saying, "Stop it, Pastor!!" My sincere apologies to all!) This time of year, we are reminded that we are blessed to live in an area where many people come to vacation. We are surrounded by vacation homes, ATV trails, and boats of all styles and sizes. We see expensive cars cruising the streets where we don't tend to see them in the cooler months. The reality is that we live in an area where people come to play and to relax. But here is a question to ponder: Do the people who come up here for pleasure, or do we for that matter, take time to think about the fact that all of our blessings are from God.

The worlds of Moses in Deuteronomy remind us that, whether we have many material things or few, you and I are exceedingly blessed by God in far greater and eternal ways. While we were not slaves in the land of Egypt, we each find that we have been slaves to sin. Jesus tells us in *John 8:34*, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin."

But we rejoice that we who believe in the name of Jesus Christ have been saved from the power of that sin in our lives. The Apostle Paul tells us in *Romans 6: 22-23*: "But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

What a blessing we have in Christ! As we go through these few sunny and warm months, and as we spend time enjoying the things that bring us joy as we are living in such a beautiful area, let us always remember that we are blessed all the more by the free gifts of God, found in His grace and mercy poured upon us, through Jesus Christ.

Have a blessed summer!

Pastor Dan

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Letter from Trinity President

On May 10-11th, the TLC Leadership Team met for their annual workshop. The Leadership Team consists of Pastors Dan and Barb, Council members, Lay Worship Assistants, Planning Team members and church staff. This important gathering allowed us time of reflection on the 5-year plan for TLC and hearing what God was calling the church to do. Even before doing the business of the workshop, we spent time in worship and in individual prayer. Each workshop participant found a quiet place to take time to listen what the Holy Spirit had to say to us. Many times, we all get so much in a hurry we forget to include God in our business. At the last few annual workshops, the Leadership Team studied and discussed chapters from Thom Rainer's book, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church, 12 Ways to Keep yours Alive*. (Disclaimer: We don't think TLC is dying. Far from it. We are learning from this book, ways how to keep our church vibrant and alive.) This is what Rainer said about the New Testament example churches should follow regarding prayer. "It was the first church, the Jerusalem church. Many had become Christians and they began to gather together in places at Jerusalem. Luke, with his eye for detail and historical accuracy, describes the early days of the church in Acts 2:42: 'And they **devoted** themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and **to prayers**.' Don't read too quickly past the word "devoted" in Acts 2:42. The word meaning has much intensity and deliberation. It is like a wild hungry beast ready to devour its prey. When the Jerusalem church members devoted themselves to prayer, they were doing a lot more than reading names off a list. They were fervent, intense, and passionate about prayer. They had no doubt that God was listening and responding. A failure to pray was tantamount to a failure to breathe. Prayer was not an add-on to give them permission to eat a meal. It was serious stuff for a serious group of church members."

With all the strife and problems going on in this world and the important decisions we must make on how to minister to this world, I'm asking that we as a congregation would be devoted to Biblical teaching, to fellowship with one another, to the Sacrament of Communion and especially to prayer. When the Acts Christian Church were devoted to prayer, they received the power of the Holy Spirit and the church grew by thousands of new believers. Please fervently and passionately join me in praying that:

Our congregation and visitors would be fed by the Word of God, Biblical teaching, and loving fellowship

Our Pastors and their families would have time for rest and relaxation, time for personal study and prayer time.

Our Leadership Team would be filled with God's wisdom and discernment, be energized, and empowered to fulfill God's plan for TLC

Our communities would be open to receiving the grace and love of Christ.

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. 1 John 5:14-15

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Jim McGraw



JUNE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	June 2 9:00a	June 9 9:00a	June 16 9:00a	June 23 9:00a	June 30 9:00am Outdoor
GREETERS	Terri Freeman	Sue Svitak	Brenda Mackey	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	John & Janet Schieffer
USHERS	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Tom Svitak Mike Capra	Rolf Kleven NEED	Wes Mohns NEED	John & Janet Schieffer
COMML ASSTS	Dan Dahl	Ellen Ehrich	Pat Mackey	Joanne Schilling	
READER	Kathy Thom	Sue Capra	Donnarae Carrell	Gloria Widiker	Cindy Rubin



Karen Brantner 6/25
Tom Svitak 6/29



Steven Minor 6/1
Janet Schieffer 6/1
Bob Scott 6/1
Kevin Ploessl 6/3
Dianne Buxton 6/8
Carol Addington 6/20
June Bibeau 6/24

JoAnn & Steve Miner 6/11
Karen & Bob Scott 6/23
Elaine & Kevin Ploessl 6/30

June 30 BRUNCH POTLUCK

Calling all Lutherans!

This is one of those things we do best: EAT TOGETHER!

You are invited to join in fellowship for our potluck-style BRUNCH on June 30, immediately following the outdoor 9 am service. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex mid-June to ensure a variety of dishes to share. The WOT Service Committee #2 will assist with setting up the food, serving and clean-up.

To ease the kitchen efforts, please bring any hot-style meal items **FULLY** cooked. A quick re-warm in the oven is manageable.

Did you know? The power of fellowship is not just socialization or spending time together; It is the biblical command to support and motivate each other in the faith. In fellowship, we find the strength that comes from unity as the body of Christ.



NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open June 3 & 17, 10:30-12:30pm**
- Worship & Music Team June 3, 10:00am**
- Women of Trinity No Meeting til Aug**
- Trinity Council Meeting June 18, 6:30p**
- Men's Ministry of Trinity June 20, 6:30pm**



**A letter from our Associate
Pastor
The Call to Adventure**

The month of June is the start of the season in our Northwoods community of the adventure of biking, four-wheeling, hunting, fishing, gardening, boating, golfing, or just relaxing. But something, deep within our heart hungers for a higher purpose than just going about doing what we want to do. This hunger is why people are drawn to the adventure that God invites us to each day, to set aside our comforts, desires, and impulses and join Him on the journey of discipleship, which is the process of learning to love and follow Jesus and become more like Him in our attitudes and actions.

How do we begin?

*We ask God!
James 4:8 says, "Draw close to God and He will draw close to you! His great love inspires us to learn, understand, and follow His teachings and do what He tells us. This adventure is not based on our ability, but on enjoying fellowship with God. This fellowship with God comes from knowing His wonderful forgiveness and love through what*

*His Son Jesus has done for us on the cross, and sharing the joy and love that it brings with others.
Reach Out in Love to Others
Encountering the forgiveness, compassion, and love of Jesus is so transformational we want to reach out to others and share with them this amazing adventure of God's love and salvation. Knowing God's unconditional love for us helps us to love those who have disappointed us, and even love those who don't like us. When the unlimited love of Jesus flows in us, we become more Christlike in our thoughts and actions- which is the greatest adventure!*

Come, follow me, Jesus said, and I will send you out to fish for people." Matthew 4:19

*Love one another with brotherly affection. Romans 12:10
May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord."*

2 Peter 1:2

*In Christ's love,
Pastor Barb*

Women of Trinity

Women of Trinity – May Happenings

Such a wonderfully busy time in the life of our church!

The 2024 Service Booklet has been published! Please get your copy and review it to ensure the information is correct.

Operation Christmas Child shoe box packing will be after the Women of Trinity meeting November 9th. Maranatha Church will collect the boxes the week of November 18-24. Please save your average-sized shoe boxes this summer! We will start collecting for the shoeboxes the month of October. Joanne Schilling will put together a Shoebox Board for donations.

We are looking for a childcare provider for the WOT meetings as we have moms with kids who would like to participate. If you know of any volunteers, please let someone from WOT know!

Graduation Sunday is June 2nd when we will celebrate Ethan Meyer. Please join us as we bless and honor Ethan and the graduation seniors.

May 26 begins our one service year-round with a potluck to follow. The Service Committees will take turns organizing the potluck and cleaning up afterwards. Service Committee 1 will be in charge of the May potluck.

Upcoming Dates

May 26 – Outdoor Worship Service and Potluck, Service Committee 1 to serve

May 31 – Dheins' funeral service, Service Committee 2 to serve

June 1 – Women's Tea with speaker Michelle Raeburn

June 10-14 – Vacation Bible School. Still needing Crew Leaders!

September 21 – The Pregnancy Help Center Baby Shower Event

Calling ALL Women of Trinity! Our next meeting is August 10 at 10:00am! Please join us for fellowship, support of our sisters and our church, and planning future events!





Fellowship and Growth

Some interested crafters got together to create these delightful hanging planters.

These will be sold at the Christmas Fest held in December.

Fellowship has been having these crafting get togethers to help with the Christmas Fest table Trinity will have in December.

Look for the next craft session and join in the fun!



It's that time of year again to sign up for your flower barrel. If you would like to plant and care for a barrel out by the road please sign up on the sheet out in the Narthex.

We also need someone to plant and care for the bell tower planter.



Mission and Outreach

Missions & Outreach would like to Thank You for all your donations. We were able to put together 30 care kits for Lutheran World Relief and places of disaster.



SCUBA VBS is almost here – June 10-14, from 12:30 - 3:30 pm! Have you registered your grandkids or neighbors?! The online website for registrations is at www.myvbs.org/tlcvbs

Thanks so much for the donations and support you have given so far. Now, we need YOU to help us decorate the church on JUNE 9, after worship, and to help us de-decorate on Monday, June 17, at 10 am.

Keep praying for all the staff and kids attending as we Dive into Friendship with God.



Our first outdoor worship service and potluck is in the books and was well attended. Join us for our outdoor worship services on the Last Sunday of the month in June, July and August, followed by a Potluck! Services begin at 9:00am. This is our New Time and the 9:00am service will continue from here on.



June 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 11:00a Women's Tea
2 9a Worship w/communion	3 9:00a Quilters 10a WMMT Mtg 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p NO Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	4	5 6:30a Men's Bible Study 7p TLC Choir Rehearsal 8p PT Rehearsal	6 10a Women's Bible Study	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8
9 9a Worship w/communion	10 NO Quilters NO Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall VBS 12:30-3:30 p	11 VBS 12:30-3:30 p	12 7p TLC Choir Reh VBS 12:30-3:30 p	13 NO Women's Bible Study VBS 12:30-3:30 p	14 OFFICE CLOSED VBS 12:30-3:30 p	15
16 9a Worship w/communion Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	17 9a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p NO Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	18 6:30p Council Mtg Journey Deadline	19 6:30a Men's Bible Study 7p TLC Choir Reh	20 10a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Men's Ministry Mtg	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 9a Worship w/communion Prayer Shawl	24 9:00a Quilters 3:30p No Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	25 6:00p Historical Society Mtg	26 7p TLC Choir Reh	27 10a Women's Bible Study	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 9a Worship w/communion OUTDOORS Potluck Brunch following service						

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**JOIN US FOR VBS
 JUNE 10-13**



The **JOURNEY** June 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor
 Pastor Barb Kleven—Associate Pastor
 Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator
 Joanne Schilling, Choir Director
 Donnarae Carrell, Custodian

501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8 ♦ Birchwood, WI 54817
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Sunday School	9am (Sept – May)
Office Hours	8 – 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)
Bulletin deadline	9 am Tuesdays
JOURNEY deadline	Tuesday - 3 rd week of the month
Pastor's Office Hours	Mondays (8 am–3:00pm) Wednesdays (8–11:30 pm) other days by apt.



June Worship Services

June 2 — Worship w/communion @ 9 am
June 9 — Worship w/communion @ 9 am
June 16 — Worship w/communion @ 9 am
June 23--- Worship w/communion @ 9 am
June 30— Outdoor Worship w/communion @ 9 am
Pot luck brunch to follow service

Outdoor Worship is the Last Sunday of the Month during June, July & August

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

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