

# The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

## Pastor's on Vacation



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**Special Congregational Meeting regarding the Parsonage following service on May 7th. Plan to attend!**

## Letter From Trinity President

On Saturday April 15, we watched the live telecast of the memorial and funeral of the two local police officers who were killed in action. Hearing the family and friends of Emily and Hunter talk about their lives I learned several things from both of their lives. Both had Christ in the center of their lives. In both their careers and personal lives, the Bible was their roadmap for their lives. Their love for Christ, their families, coworkers and even those they had to arrest was very evident. The main Bible verse read by several of the memorial speakers was “There is no greater love than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13.

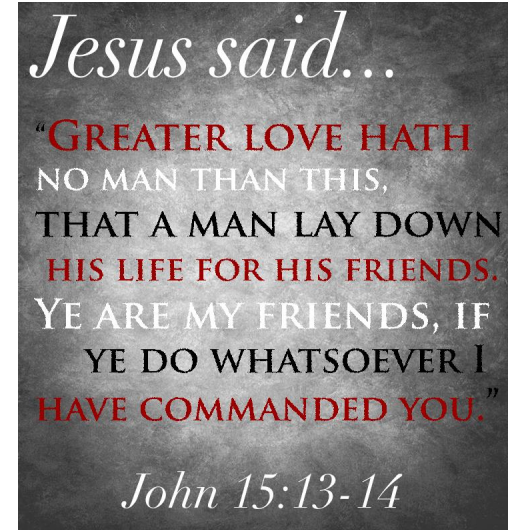
Listen to what Jeffery Curtis Poor says about unconditional love on the rethinknow.org blog. (The mission of Rethink is to help followers of Jesus understand what the Bible says and align their life with God’s word.) Throughout the Bible we are shown what perfect love is. While the world cheapens love and only makes it available to those who are worthy, God’s love goes far beyond. He raises the bar for what love does and what it requires. What Jesus is saying in this passage is that this kind of love is different than what we can find anywhere else. There is no greater love. The love the world displays is conditional. You have to earn it. And if you screw up it’s taken away. But Jesus’ love is unconditional. He gives us His love even when we don’t deserve it. He loved us while we were still enemies (Romans 5:8). In the first part of John 15:13 Jesus is telling us about the kind of love He has for us and the kind of love we are to have for others. ...Jesus laid down His life for you. Therefore, because of what He has done, you are to go do the same for those around you. That means that you are to die to yourself, your desires, for the benefit of those around you. Rather than fighting for your rights and what you deserve, you lay them down for their benefit. Just as Jesus first did for you. And just imagine the impact the church could make if this is what we did. If we laid down our lives, our rights, our desires for the sake of others. Rather than fighting for what we deserve, what if we served? Loved? Sacrificed?

If we are to make an impact on our world, our community, our congregation, we must do something different, something new. Isaiah 43:19 says “ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” I see and feel a new and exciting movement of the Holy Spirit in our church. Do you feel and see the same thing? Usual-

ly, we pray and wait on God to show us His plan for us, but I think God has already shown us through His Word. I feel He is waiting for us to act. James 1:22 (AMP) tells us to prove yourselves doers of the word [actively and continually obeying God’s precepts], and not merely listeners [who hear the word but fail to internalize its meaning]. TLC’s God - given vision statement is to be a people that know, love, and share Christ.” Just as Emily and Hunter jumped into action each time they were called, we should have that same dedication. Do you hear God calling you to do something for Him and His church? There is no greater love than those who work for the needs of their friends. The TLC Leadership Team consisting of Pastors Dan and Barb, the Council, worship and prayer leaders will be meeting on May 19th and 20th to find ways to meet the needs of our congregation, communities, and world. If you know of any spiritual, physical, or emotional need within our congregation or community, we must hear from you. We need you all to be bold enough to tell us of the gaps in our congregational and pastoral care. You can email them to [tlcbirchwood@gmail.com](mailto:tlcbirchwood@gmail.com), [jimmymac6979@gmail.com](mailto:jimmymac6979@gmail.com) or talk to any member of the Leadership Team. Your comments will be held confidential. Also please pray for the Leadership Team during our working sessions. Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead and empower us to fulfill God’s present plan for TLC. After the working sessions, we will be looking to all of you to partner with us to deliver His plan for meeting the needs of all Gods people.

“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.” Ezek.36.26 ESV

Jim McGraw





## April WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	May 7 10:00 am	May 14 10:00 am	May 21 10:00 am	May 28 8:30 am	May 28 10:00 am
<b>GREETERS</b>	Terri Freeman	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	Brenda Mackey	John & Janet Schieffer	Sue Svitak
<b>USHERS</b>	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	LeRoy Brensel John Schieffer	Mike Capra Rolf Kleven	↓	Tom Svitak LeRoy Brensel
<b>COMM. ASSTS</b>	Kathy Thom	Ellen Ehrich	Pat Mackey	↓	Joanne Schilling
<b>READER</b>	Dan Dahl	Karen Hayes	Sue Capra	Eric Anderson	Ellen Ehrich



Lucas Dahl	5/06	Gloria Widiker	5/27
Benjamin Will	5/08	Julie Sunderland	5/28
Billy Nordback	5/08	Jacob Lavalier	5/29
Phyllis Nelson	5/09	Mary Parkos	5/30
Kirk Kotel	5/13	Shannon Gindt	5/31
Ben VandeVoort	5/13	Ruth Clausen	5/31
Lou Anne Kristensen	5/14		
Jason Ufferman	5/17		
Jeanne Dahlby	5/18		
Wayne Palm	5/24		
Bob Robotka	5/25		



### SECRET SISTERS

Calling all women of the Trinity Family to become SECRET SISTERS! What's a Secret Sister, you ask? She is a sister in Christ who prays for and periodically sends notes or cards of encouragement to another sister in Christ.

All women wishing to participate will receive the name of a woman at our Women of Trinity meeting on May 13. No, you aren't confused! Our potluck and project for April 15 were postponed, so we decided to postpone the Secret Sister kick-off.

From May to October, you can secretly pray for and secretly send notes/cards of encouragement, either via US mail or in the person's church mailbox. Then, in October, we will have a luncheon and a "Big Reveal" of each woman's Secret Sister prayer partner. At that luncheon, we will draw names, and start the whole program again until the following October!

Look for the sign-up cards at the Welcome Center. Pick one up and put it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office.

[NOTE: Don't worry if you miss the meeting! Make sure to fill out a sign-up card and we'll select a name for you.]



# Meeting

### NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open . . . . . 10:30-12:30pm May 1,15**
- Worship & Music Team . . . . . May 1, 10:00 am**
- Women of Trinity . . . . . May 13, 10:00 pm**
- Trinity Council Meeting . . . . . May 16, 6:30 pm**
- Men's Ministry of Trinity . . . . . May 18, 6:30 pm**

**A message from Pastor Barb**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,  
 Reflecting on our Savior's death and resurrection has been such an amazing experience for me this past Lent and Easter.

The heart of the gospel is that Jesus became our sin, died the death we should have died, and then conquered our sin to rise again, after which He received an inheritance from God which He shares with those who believe! One of the blessings of the resurrection of Jesus is that ***"He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them."*** Hebrews 7:25. Be encouraged to know that Jesus is alive and caring for you! He destroyed the power of Satan that we may live the abundant life in Him. Jesus cares for you through His body, the church and He is very much alive here at Trinity! We are blessed with rich fellowship, preaching, and understanding of God's Word, encouragement, and hope here at Trinity as we gather for our worship services, choir, Bible Studies throughout the week, and the men's and women's groups that meet monthly.

Come and join us!  
 In Christ's love,  
 Pastor Barb



Get ready for a Church picnic Sunday June 18th after the second worship service. All the dads can come relax and enjoy Father's Day



**Mission and Outreach**

After being delayed by a snowstorm on St. Patrick's Day, Mission and Outreach was able to bring the kid's quilts, a \$250 check from Mission and Outreach and the wonderful donations from the congregation to Embrace in Ladysmith on March 24 . We had a very warm welcome and you would have thought it was Christmas morning due to the excitement of what we were able to bring to them. We have already received a thank you letter from Embrace in appreciation of our gifts.

On April 12, Mission and Outreach met for their meeting. We were able to put together 35 Personal Care Kits which, like the quilts, will go to areas of disaster where people will need them most. The Personal Care Kits will be shipped out in October. We had additional toothbrushes, combs and nail clippers so we are going to try and make more kits through the coming months. During May and June, we will be collecting baby items for Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief and the Pregnancy Center in Rice Lake. We will be collection the following items for each kit:

- † *TWO lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies ®)*
- † *TWO long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)*
- † *TWO receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36" and 52" square*
- † *FOUR cloth diapers, flat fold preferred*
- † *ONE jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap*
- † *TWO pairs of socks*
- † *ONE hand towel, dark color recommended.*
- † *TWO or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars*
- † *TWO diaper pins or large safety pins*

*Mission and Outreach along with the Women of Trinity will be having a Tea on June 3rd. We are working out details with more information to come soon so save the date.*

*As always, thank you so much for your donations. We are so excited that we can make a difference in people's lives. We couldn't do any of this without you. Thank you!*





### We're going to the MOON for STELLAR VBS!

Launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. STELLAR VBS rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun.

STELLAR Vacation Bible School will "launch to the moon" June 12 -16, from 12:30 to 3:30 pm, here at Trinity Lutheran Church Birchwood. All children aged 3 (by 09/01/2022 & potty-trained) thru 5th grade are invited to register for STELLAR VBS.

Registration forms are available at the church and online at [vbspro.events/p/tlcbirchwood](https://vbspro.events/p/tlcbirchwood).

The cost is \$10 per child, and no more than \$20 per family. Scholarship funds are available so that every child can take part in VBS.

**Volunteers.** We need YOU to volunteer to serve as station leaders and assistant station leaders to lead the different stations, and crew leaders and assistants to guide the children from station to station. Please consider volunteering! A Volunteer Sign-up Board will be located in the narthex soon.

**Donations.** We have received a generous \$450 donation from the Lions Club but will need additional funds. A donation board will be located in the narthex soon. We thank you in advance for your donations.

**Decorating Sundays.** We invite young and old to help create some of the decorations. Join us for one or more of the following Sunday nights from 6-8 pm: May 7 & 21, and June 4. (Wear grubby clothes as we might be doing some painting!) We will be creating our lunar world on Sunday, June 11, following worship. Come help us!

For more info, contact Joanne Schilling at 715-651-4875 or the church office at 715-354-3790.

## Women of Trinity



### Women of Trinity – April Happenings

*The April 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting* we held our meeting with 9 in attendance.

The new **Secret Sister program** was delayed but will be launched at our meeting this month on May 13! For all women wishing to participate, they will receive the name of a woman either at the meeting or later, if they are unable to attend. From May to October, women will pray for each other and send notes/cards of encouragement. Then, in October, we will have a luncheon and a "Big Reveal" of each woman's prayer partner. Sign-ups for those wishing to participate will begin soon!

Our **Pot luck** was also postponed and will be held on the **May 13**, meeting!

Altar Guild for May is Char Mohns and June is Sue Capra and Ida Jahnke.

The Women of the Word retreat at Camp Forest Springs was well attended and the women thoroughly enjoyed this beautiful time of fellowship.

The Spring Tea, hosted by Mission and Outreach, will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup>! WOT will assist the team in this wonderful outreach opportunity. Stay tuned for more details!

Our next meeting is May 13, 2023, at 10:00am! Please join us for fellowship, support of our sisters and our church, and planning future events!



**TLC Women at the WOW retreat**

### CPR/ AED Training

Trinity will be offering a 2 hour class in CPR/ AED training. Training will be provided by certified instructors from Northwoods Technical College in Rice Lake. The training is for adult victims, and will not include training of CPR/ AED for children or infants. All equipment needed for training will be provided by Northwoods Tech. No written tests, hands on instruction only.

The class will be offered on Thursday, May 25th at Trinity. It will run from 6-8PM .

The cost is \$25.00 for those 62 and older, under 62 will be \$32.00. We need at least 8 participants to get the training at this cost. Trinity is able to provide several scholarships.

An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is located in the Trinity Room at Trinity Church. We have the equipment, here is an opportunity to learn how to use it.

To sign up:

Find a sign up sheet in the welcome center

Call Trinity Church at 715-354-3790

Call Kathy Thom at 715-296-0114



## He Has Risen Indeed!



### What is Stewardship?

1 Timothy 6:17-19 ESV

*As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.*

I had the opportunity to watch a seminar sponsored by Thrivent, relating to generosity. It had some great information – Generosity and stewardship have many aspects. Christian generosity was broken down into five categories:

- Money
- Gifts
- Hospitality
- Emotional support
- Volunteering



It helped me understand the facets of generosity that we do not usually consider. We here at Trinity ARE RICH in blessings. We all have different gifts. From monetary wealth to musical and singing talent, to serving and helping others, people express generosity differently. It is often based on our personal situations and experiences.

We are fortunate to have a great church family here at Trinity. Consider your blessings. Think about how you can share with your family here.  
Mike Rubin



**Summer outside worship starts May 28 at 8:30am. Bring your lawn chair and head out behind the Fellowship Hall to worship with nature.**

# May 2023

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
	1 9:00a Quilters 10:00a WMMT mtg 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	2	3 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30p The Cross youth 7:00p Choir Rehearsal		5  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	6
7  8:30a Adult Sunday School  10a – Worship	8 9:00a Quilters 1:00p Christian Life Mtg 3:30p Women's Bible Study  7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	9	10 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30p The Cross youth 7:00p Choir Rehearsal 8:00p Praise Team Reh.		12  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	13  Women of Trinity Mtg 10:00 am Secret sisters & potluck
14  8:30a Adult Sunday School  10a – Worship	15 9:00a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	16  6:30p - Council Meeting	17 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30p The Cross youth 7:00p Choir Rehearsal		19  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	20
21 8:30a Adult Sunday School  10a – Worship Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	22 9:00a Quilters  3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	23  <b>Journey Deadline</b>  6:00p- Historical Society Mtg	24 6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30p The Cross youth		26  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	27
28  8:30 am Outside Worship 10:00 am Worship	29 9:00a Quilters  3:30p Women's Bible Study  7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	30	31  6:30a Men's Bible Study 4:30p The Cross youth			

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

**FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**MAY 7TH FOLLOWING SERVICE**



# The JOURNEY

## May 2023

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Rev. Daniel Tabor—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—4:30 pm)  
Wednesdays & Thursdays (8—11:30 pm)

### Sunday Worship Services

May 7 — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am  
May 14 — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am  
May 21 — Worship w/Communion @ 10 am  
May 28-- Outdoor Worship w/Comm. @ 8:30 am  
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.