

# The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

## From the Pastor's Desk

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* (Philippians 4:6-7, ESV)

Greetings in Christ Jesus.

This past week Gelene and I had yet another deer encounter on Highway 48. Unfortunately, the deer, a young buck, did not fare as well as the fawn in our first encounter. The story goes like this: Gelene was driving and had just turned onto Highway 48. It was late in the evening, and it was raining. Before she had reached highway speed, several deer appeared from the shadows of the ditch to our right, running at full speed to cross the road. Even though Gelene tried to avoid the deer, this young buck, the leader of the pack, struck the passenger side of our car. While Gelene and I were uninjured, the buck did not survive. The car did not fair well either. This incident fits into the definition of “a bad day.”

Now we enter the struggles that so many people in our area encounter as we work with the insurance adjusters, the claim representatives, and the auto repair people to get the car repaired.

There are too few auto body repair shops in our area, and our insurance company has us driving to Eau Claire for the repairs. However, all of the above-mentioned people have been very helpful and polite to us during this process. But still, the claim process can get frustrating, can't it? The process can induce anxiety as we wonder; “How much is this encounter going to cost us?”

For the many among us who have had similar things happen to them, we can easily understand the aggravation which can so easily arise in the lives of people, even Christians. And while the process of getting a car repaired can seem daunting at times, the anxiety it produces pales in comparison with the issues which so many of us face daily: addictions, illnesses, financial shortfalls, loneliness, and family concerns of all sorts. We can ask ourselves if God even cares about what we are going through.

The apostle Paul understood trials and tribulations. By the time he wrote the letter to the Philippians, Paul had been through more than his fair share of bad days. He was in prison for his faith. It is quite possible that this letter was written by Paul during his final imprisonment before his death. Despite all of his trials, though, he was able to write this letter, which is a note of encouragement. Paul encourages the church to stand faithful in their love and service to Christ, finding the source of their true joy and contentment in Christ alone.

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”* Here you will find the key to real contentment: taking everything before the Lord in prayer, trusting that He alone will walk with you, and will answer your every prayer according to His perfect will. Most importantly, you have the promise that as you take your every need before our Heavenly Father, against all human reasoning and understanding, *“...the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

As you go through trials today, I pray that you will feel free to take them to the Lord in prayer and find the peace that is there ‘for you’, found only in the cross of Jesus. Amen.

P.D.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

From Pastor's Desk	1
Letter from Trinity President	2
Worship Assistants	3
October Birthdays	3
Choir & Praise Team	3
Next meeting of....	3
Donate Candy	3
From Pastor Barb's Desk	4
Secret Sister	4
Missions & Outreach	5
WOT Happenings	5
Men's Ministry of Trinity	5
WMMT - Survey Says	6
Snacks & Facts	6
Piano Recital	6
Red Cross Blood Drive	6
Calendar	7



## Letter from Trinity President

“A couple months ago, I presented a devotion to the Council entitled “God Instills Leadership”. It was a devotion I found on the Lutheran Hour Ministry website that was published on Dec. 7, 2004. At that meeting, the Council discussed the need to build up and mentor new leaders here at TLC. New leaders under the Holy Spirit’s inspiration bring added energy and new ideas to help promote Christ in our communities and lead TLC into the future. It also gives the present leaders a time of rest and the opportunity to move into new directions. In the devotion, the author asks the questions, are you a leader or a follower or both? And what is preventing you from being a leader?”

This is part of the devotion, “David also said to Solomon his son, *“Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you....”* 1 Chronicles 28:20.

It’s hard to find leaders. Most will agree to serve on a church board, but when we ask who will chair, no one is eager to sign up. Why? The usual answer is they feel unqualified. They are glad to follow and do what needs to be done, but having the vision and leading the group is more than many want to do. Are you like that? Do you find leadership an overwhelming task beyond your reach? I want to encourage you by letting you in on a secret—you can do it because God has proven you can.

After all, look who God used: Moses said, *“Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”* (Exodus 3:11). Young Joshua led God’s people to the Promised Land. Solomon inspired God’s people to build the temple. And God uses you and me to lead His people in the faith. No doubt it’s a daunting task, but we are not alone in what we do. When our Lord, in His boldness, instills and blesses our leadership, great and wonderful things happen to His glory.

Where is your Advent heart calling you to serve? Pastor Bonnie Sala on Guidelines.org wrote an article named “A Call to Reluc-

tant Leaders:” “God will never call you to do something without giving you what it is you need to complete the call. He may not give you all that you think you need, but it will be all that you do need. Most of all, remember that when you lead in God’s strength, you will never be without His presence. Cultivate a spirit of willingness and when He calls, step out in obedience, knowing you’ll be equipped.” All of us have leadership qualities that are needed for God’s kingdom. If you have raised a family or led a meeting at church or at work, you have the skills to be a church leader. You just need the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The Nomination Team of Joanne Schilling, Ellen Ehrich and myself are looking for candidates to fill the President, Vice President, Secretary, Operations Team Leader and Fellowship Team

Leader at the November Annual Congregational Meeting. If you feel led to take on one of these positions, you would not be on your own. We have persons on the Council that are willing to help give guidance and mentor you in these positions.

If you are feeling led to lead in other ways at TLC, we can help you. Is God urging you to start a new Bible study, lead a new ministry team or becoming a

pastoral care partner? TLC needs to continuously build up, nurture new leaders so we can continue to move in the direction God wants us to move. We need leaders not only followers.

In the LHM devotion, the author had this bold action for the day. “See where the ministry in your congregation is in need and offer to serve.” I know God is raising up new leaders at TLC. Has God put leadership on your heart today? Don’t just leave it up to others. Contact Joanne, Ellen or myself if you want to be listed as a candidate at the Annual Meeting. Contact Pastor Dan or Pastor Barb if you have some other way you want to serve Christ at TLC.

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, use us in service as You see fit. If You call us to leadership, we pray You give the gifts needed to fulfill the task. Amen.*

Called to *Serve*

Jim McGraw

✠ **October WORSHIP ASSISTANTS** ✠

	Oct 1 10:00a	Oct 8 10:00a	Oct 15 10:00a	Oct 22 10:00a	Oct 29 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

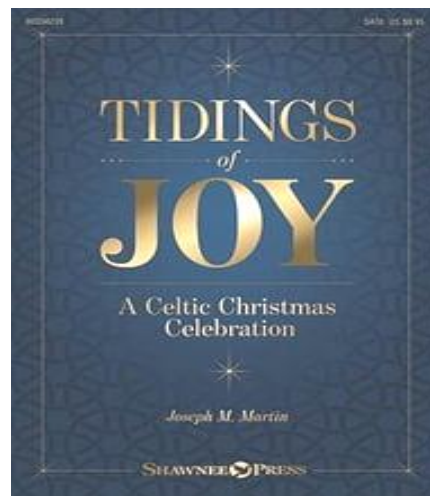


Want to donate  
candy for Trunk or  
Treat?

Drop your candy  
donations off in the  
church office



- |                  |       |                   |       |
|------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| Kathy Thom       | 10/01 | Dawson Flora      | 10/22 |
| Alyssa Langham   | 10/02 | Joanne Schilling  | 10/24 |
| Jolene Scribner  | 10/04 | Mike Rubin        | 10/26 |
| Kenya Anderson   | 10/05 | Dan Dahl          | 10/26 |
| Alex Roppe       | 10/11 | Katrina Gustafson |       |
| Benda Mackey     | 10/12 |                   | 10/30 |
| Al Widiker       | 10/14 | Jacob Colbert     | 10/30 |
| Christian Lindow | 10/22 |                   |       |



**CANTATA REHEARSALS TO  
START OCT 11 AT 7 PM**

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA  
REHEARSALS** will begin October  
11 at 7 pm, followed by the regular  
Trinity Choir rehearsal at 8  
pm. So, if you just want to sing the  
cantata, come join us then! The  
cantata will be performed on  
December 17, at 2 pm.



**NEXT MEETING OF . . .**

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open. . . . . Oct 2, 16-10:30-12:30pm**
- Worship & Music Team. . . . . Oct 2, 10:00am**
- Women of Trinity . . . . . Oct 14, 10:00 am**
- Trinity Council Meeting . . . . . Oct 17, 6:30pm**
- Men's Ministry of Trinity . . . . . Oct 19, 6:30 pm**

A letter from our associate Pastor Barb  
 “FALL”owing Jesus.



As we come into the most colorful month of Fall, we all can now meet and worship together in one church service and see all our brothers and sisters in Christ that we have missed during the summer when we had two services!

As we enjoy our fall season, with the beautiful colored leaves, the crisp cool air, and the sound of dry leaves crunching under our feet, we remember the fun of watching children run and leap into a huge pile of leaves. It’s a big “WOW” as we look at the glorious colors of fall, and we cry out, “Isn’t that beautiful”; or “This is just glorious!”

As we look at the beauty of creation, we remember our Creator who created this world and all that is in it, and for how He brings meaning and beauty in our lives. Unlike the leaves on the trees that change color and die, God’s love for us never changes or dies! It’s new every morning! *It never changes, never ceases, and His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is His faithfulness!* Lamentations 3:22-23.

As we keep “FALL”owing Jesus, His light radiates love through us to those around us creating an atmosphere of care and acceptance! I am reminded of a recent survey I read concerning why people “FALL” away from church. One reason people drop out is due to lack of connectedness. One way we can stay connected is to keep in touch with those who both attend church and have not attended for a while.

How? By calling them and finding out how they are doing. It’s such a warm feeling knowing someone cares enough to find out how you’re doing and what you’ve been up to. Whether the person you call has been sick or out of town with family or other events, it’s a great way to show warmth and care and concern. It’s especially easier to connect with others now when our schedule slows down in the fall and winter months by inviting different ones to share an evening together, perhaps with a meal, movie, puzzle, or game, or invite others to women’s or men’s group, join our quilting ladies, or even our Bible studies.

“FALL”owing Jesus is finding the joy of connectedness and getting to know those who attend our church!

A fellow “FALL”ower of Jesus- Barb Kleven

**SECRET SISTER  
REVEAL LUNCHEON**

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**OCTOBER 14 @ 11 AM**  
 (Following the WOT meeting @ 10 am)

**Sandwiches  
Assorted Salads  
Assorted Desserts**

Please sign up to bring a  
salad or dessert

**ALL Women of Trinity  
are invited to attend**

**SECRET SISTERS REVEAL LUNCHEON OCT 14 AT 11 AM**

Twenty-five Sisters in Christ are participating in the Secret Sisters program! Although we got a little bit of a late start, we’ve had a couple months to pray for our secret sisters, and possibly send a note or two. Now it’s time to do the “Big Reveal!”

Mark your calendars for October 14, (our regular Women of Trinity meeting date, at 10 am), and join us for a Reveal Luncheon. If you’ve been part of the Secret Sister program, you’ll find out who has had your name as a Secret Sister, and draw again for a new Secret Sister for the following year.

**NOTE! ALL TRINITY WOMEN** are invited to attend this luncheon, even if they were not participating in the Secret Sisters program, and to consider participating in the new year’s program.

The luncheon will consist of small sandwiches, assorted salads and desserts. A sign-up sheet for those attending and to bring a salad or dessert will be available at the Welcome Center.

Trunk  
or  
Treat

**October 28 ♦ 1-3 PM**  
**Trinity Lutheran Parking Lot**

## Missions and Outreach

Mission and Outreach met on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We finished putting together and packing the care kits for Lutheran World Relief. There were 35 personal care kits, 21 baby care kits, and 32 school care kits. Extra baby items will be donated to the Rice Lake Pregnancy Center and extra school items will be donated to the Birchwood schools. On October 14<sup>th</sup> we will deliver all kits and quilts to a truck at Bethany Lutheran Church in Rice Lake to be delivered to Lutheran World Relief in Minnesota. Thanks to everyone in our congregation for their generosity. Thank you to the Quilters who have made over 100 quilts this year for LWR and Kids quilts for Embrace.

Elaine Ploessl-Missions & Outreach



## Men's Ministry of Trinity

With the siding and roofing done the garage is complete with the excepting of the overhead door. A BIG Thank You goes out to all involved in the garage project! Men -- stay tuned for future projects to be completed before the snow flies.

## Women of Trinity



### Women of Trinity – September Happenings

Many, many thanks to all who volunteered and supported the annual Rummage Sale! It was even more successful than last year, and ideas are coming in to continue to improve and expand! The true blessing is that the monies received will greatly bless many ministries and organizations this next year – which is the reason for the Sale!

The Secret Sisters “Big Reveal” will be October 14<sup>th</sup> at the luncheon following the Women of Trinity’s 10am meeting. Find out who has been praying for you and sending those notes of encouragement! ALL women are invited, not just those participating in Secret Sisters, as this is an opportunity to gather and fellowship with our sisters in Christ! For those wishing to participate, names will be drawn for this next year’s Secret Sister. Please consider joining us!

Altar Guild for September is Dianne Buxton and October is Julie Sunderland.

The nominating committee is looking for people to fill the roles of President, Vice President, and Secretary. Prayerfully consider if God is calling you to serve in one of these roles on the church council!

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

- Trunk or Treat coming up the end of October.
- 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.
- Bake Sale preparation is December 16<sup>th</sup> – possibly with a potluck prior (why not??).
- 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 October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 10:00am! Please join us for fellowship, support of our sisters and our church, and planning future events!



**'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

**Snacks and Facts Second Tuesday at 2pm**

Please join us on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 2pm for Snacks and Facts in the fellowship hall. Our guest speaker will be Birchwood Chief of Police Adam Brunclik. He will be speaking on Prescription drug and other potential scams which we should be aware. We will have pie, ice cream and cookies as snacks. Come join us for fellowship and information.



**AMBER BEFFA PIANO RECITAL**

Please join us!


When: 7:00 pm Tuesday, October 24,  
2023 Where: Trinity Lutheran sanctuary  
Refreshments following



**American Red Cross**  
Wednesday Oct 11  
10:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Make your appointment today  
Redcross.org



# October 2023

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
<b>1</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>2</b> 9:00a Quilters 10:00a WMMT Mtg 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry 3:30 Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study  7:00 Praise Team Reh (ONLY)	<b>5</b> 10:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>6</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>9</b> 9:00a Quilters 3:30 Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study  7:00p Cantata Reh 8:00p TLC Choir Reh	<b>12</b> 10:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>13</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>14</b> 10a WOT Mtg 11a Secret Sister Luncheon
<b>15</b> 10:00 am Worship  Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	<b>16</b> 9:00a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open  3:30p Women's Bible Study  7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>17</b> 6:30 Council Meeting	<b>18</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study  11:30a Mission & Outreach mtg  7:00p Cantata Reh 8:00p TLC Choir Reh	<b>19</b> 10:00 Women's Bible Study  6:30p Men's Ministry Mtg	<b>20</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>23</b> 9:00a Quilters  3:30p Women's Bible Study  7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>24</b> <b>Journey Deadline</b>  7:00 p Amber Beffa Recital	<b>25</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study  7:00p Cantata Reh 8:00p TLC Choir Reh	<b>26</b> 10:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>27</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:00 am Worship	<b>30</b> 9:00a Quilters 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>31</b> 				

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

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Birchwood, WI  
54817



Trunk or Treat Oct 28  
1:00-3:00 pm



# The JOURNEY

## Oct2023

**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*

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**JOURNEY Editor ♦ Julie Sunderland ♦ [tlcbirchwood@gmail.com](mailto: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 (8—11:30 pm) other days by apt.

## Sunday Worship Services

**Oct 1 — Worship w/communion @ 10 am**

**Oct 8 — Worship w/communion @ 10 am**

**Oct 15 — Worship w/communion @ 10 am**

**Oct 22 — Worship w/communion @ 10 am**

**Oct 29 — 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.