

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

I can't believe how quickly time flies by. 2025 will be my last year serving this church as congregational president. Over these past 6 years, I have been blessed to serve with caring pastors, gifted and dedicated TLC leaders and staff. I very much appreciate all the support I have received. It is especially important that we continue to lift up and support our Leadership Team. They devote time, energy, and sacrifice much for TLC's benefit. We wouldn't be where we are right now without God's grace and their efforts. With that in mind, I'm sharing an article I found on the inspireafire.com website written by Kim Harmes. The title of the article is "7 Ways to Support Your Church Leaders."

Respect their time: It's not an easy task to shepherd a body of believers, and those in leadership expect to make sacrifices with their time as a part of that role. But most of these leaders also have families at home who love and need them. Keep this in mind as you relate with them. Don't push them so hard that their families suffer.

Trust them: Please don't micromanage your church leadership. There are definitely times to question a leadership decision, but micromanaging them not only devalues their abilities, but it also shows a level of distrust and leads to leadership burnout.

Know and accept that leaders will make decisions you don't like. Church leaders have a very tough job. They make a lot of decisions, usually after much prayer, thought, research and discussion. But even when they have prayerfully made a well-informed decision, they will at times arrive at a different conclusion than you think they should. You know that saying "You can't please all the people all the time?" Accept the truth of it.

Speak words of encouragement. From my experience as the wife of an elder, I know they receive far more criticism than words of encouragement. Be the person who looks for ways to uplift instead of tear down.

Pray for them. I've spent numerous nights alone in bed in years past while my husband spent the wee hours of the morning aching and praying over tough situations and decisions that needed to be made. Church leadership is stressful, but God is powerful. Get on your knees and pray for your leaders.

Don't treat the church like a business. In the corporate world, the phrase, "It's just business. It's not personal" has value. But the church differs from corporate America. Church is meant to be a community, a family. By nature the relationships within a church body are personal, so make every effort to treat them that way.

Serve within the church. Is there something you can take off a leader's plate? Do it. Often the person who is the quickest to complain is the slowest to serve. Don't be that person.

Thanks to all of you for your loving support and prayers. TLC is a family of members, pastors, and lay leaders. It takes everyone's involvement in our ministries to fulfill Gods plan for this church. Our vision is, **to be a people that know, love, and share Christ.**

Blessings, Jim McGraw

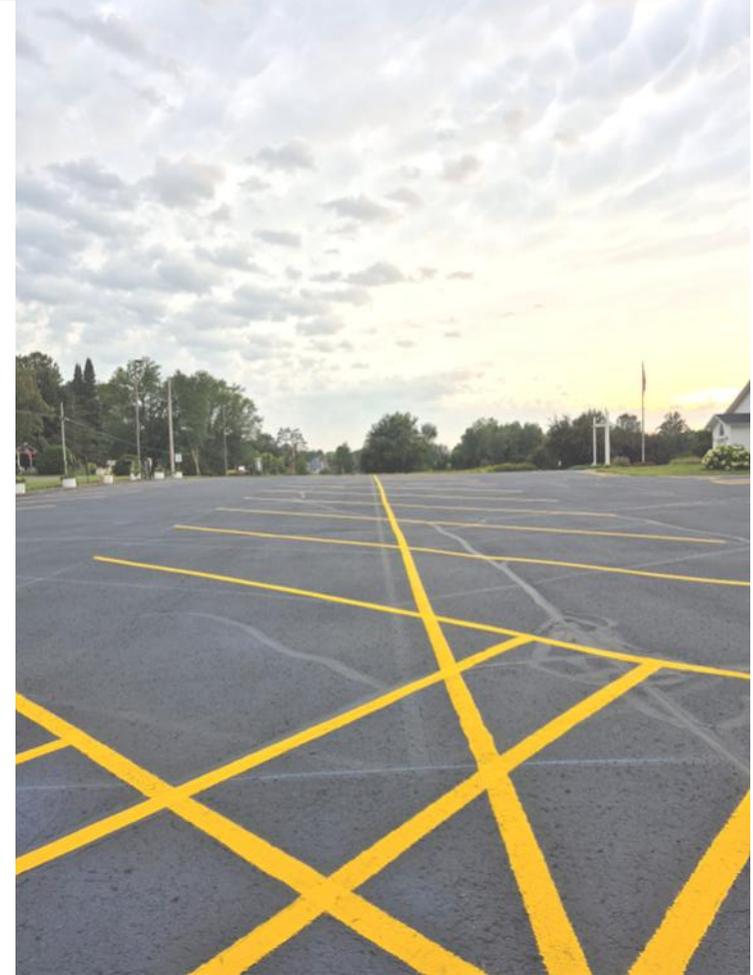
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It's been a busy summer with maintenance projects! This past month, yet one more was completed. Our parking lot was re-sealed and re-stripped. Thanks to Elite Seal Coating in Cameron.



Do you sing in the pew? Then you are eligible to sing in the choir!! Mark your calendar for **SEPT 3**, for our first choir rehearsal for the fall. Rehearsals are from 7 - 8:30 pm. The choir sings on the first and third Sundays of the month and the Praise Team sings on the second Sunday. The first Praise Team rehearsal will be **SEPT 10**, at 8 pm.

Questions?
Call Joanne Schilling
at 715-651-4875.



WOMEN OF TRINITY! MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
The Secret Sister Big Reveal Luncheon will be held **OCTOBER 4, 2025**. For those who have been praying for their secret sisters, this is when they reveal themselves! And it is also the time when those who haven't participated in this heart-warming program can be assigned a secret sister for 2025-2026! It is a fun time with lunch, laughs, and love for our sisters in Christ!
All women are invited! Stay tuned for more information and a signup sheet to come!



SEPTEMBER-SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Sept 7 9:00a	Sept 14 9:00a POTLUCK	Sept 21 9:00a	Sept 28 9:00a
GREETERS	Terri Freeman	Dan & Jackie Healy	Marcia Kampf	Eldon & Joanne Kvale
USHERS	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Kevin Ploessl Tom Svitak	Wally Thom Chad Prebble	John & Janet Schieffer
COMM. ASSTS	Dan Dahl	Ellen Ehrich	Pat Mackey	Joanne Schilling
READER	Kathy Thom	Dianne Buxton	Gloria Widiker	Eric Anderson

Bluegill Fest

Trinity again stepped out into the community and volunteered to cook and serve food at the Lions food tent for the Bluegill Fest.

Thank you to all who volunteered!



9/9 Pat Mackey
9/15 Ida Jahnke
9/20 Tony Kolodzinski
9/22 Barb Kleven



9/12 Don & Joan Fuller
9/12 Pat & Brenda Mackey



Meeting

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open Sept 1 & 15, 10:30a-12:30p**
- Worship & Music Team Sept 8, 9:00a**
- Christian Life Meeting Sep 8, 10:30a**
- Women of Trinity Sept 13, 10:00a**
- Trinity Council Meeting No Mtg**

The Roof Work is Done

The Church Sanctuary Roof was done in a day! What a blessing to have the weather cooperate and the completion of the roof done by 2:00 pm. Then over to the parsonage garage roof. All done in a day! God is Good!



A message from our Associate Pastor.

I love the month of September! Fall days are cooler, the air seems fresher, and life seems freer and a little slower for those of us who are retired or semi-retired!

When thinking of fall, we can sometimes contemplate the last chapter of our lives when we begin to realize our failing strength, loss of energy, and being content to do less, take naps, and think about our health, our past, and our future years.

Here are some key verses to encourage us as we get older:

† Isaiah 46:4: *"Even to your old age I am He, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save."* - This verse assures believers of God's constant presence and support, even in their later years.

† Psalm 71:18: *"So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, that I may declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to all those to come."* - This prayer is a good reminder for us, no matter what age, to focus on sharing our faith and experiences with God with younger generations. This is so very vital for the spiritual health of all children whether they're our grandchildren or children in our community!

† Psalm 92:12, 14 & 15 - *"The righteous will flourish like a palm tree... They will still bear fruit in old age and stay fresh and green. Vs. 15- proclaiming "The Lord is my Rock. - As we walk with God we will flourish like a palm tree even as we get older. Palm trees have deep roots. This Psalm encourages us to be deeply rooted and grow in faith so that we can bear spiritual fruit even as we age. Committing ourselves to learn God's Word helps us to prosper in all that we do!*

† Proverbs 16:31: *"Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness."* - Honor and wisdom are associated with aging and are attained through the wisdom, guidance, correction, and instruction found in God's Word. 2 Timothy 3:16

† 2 Corinthians 4:16 - *Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day."* - This verse offers comfort in the face of physical decline, reminding us that our inner self is being renewed in Christ.

Grace and peace be with you as we grow together in faith,
Pastor Barb

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

When: Friday September 5 and Saturday September 6
Time: Fri (9a-4p), Sat (9a-3p)
\$2.00 bag sale on Saturday September 6 from 2-3 pm.
BBQ lunch served both days 10:00 am -1:30 pm.
Sandwich/chips/bar \$5.00

Donations accepted starting Sunday August 31, drop off at Trinity, Fellowship Hall. Donations accepted throughout the week. Closed on Monday September 1 for Labor Day.

Set up for the sale will begin on Tuesday, September 2 and continue each day that week through the sale. Volunteers may arrive any time after 9:00 am and stay as long as you are able. We provide lunch and laugh our way through the day.

Many hands make little work, please consider signing up to help. There will be sign up sheets in the narthex.

If you are unable to help with setting up and working the sale, please consider baking bars for the lunch sale.

stephen MINISTRY®

More Care Receivers Share How Their Stephen Ministers Made a Difference

After the death of my mom, I needed some people who would listen—even to the same stories over and over—and who wouldn't be afraid to say her name or bring up her memory. That's who my Stephen Minister was, and I don't know how I would have gotten through it without her. Molly

When someone you love is terminally ill, people often pull back because they're scared and don't know what to say. But my Stephen Minister stood with me through it all—listening, talking, and helping me on the journey. It was so reassuring to know he was by my side. Andrew

My Stephen Minister listens—really listens. He doesn't judge me or tell me what to do but walks side by side with me. I never realized how helpful and healing that can be. With his care and support, I'm making it through. Brian

My Stephen Minister loves me, listens to me, cares for me, prays for me, supports me, and gives me a safe, confidential relationship where I can totally share my heart. No matter how much I have to unload on her, she listens to whatever is going on. Celeste

These are real people giving real testimonies on how Stephen Ministers came alongside hurting people allowing God to work through the Stephen Ministry.

Through Stephen Ministry, congregations are able to equip and empower a team of laypeople—Stephen Ministers—who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, health issues, divorce, spiritual crisis, job loss, infertility, or other life difficulties. Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people have received care from a Stephen Minister.

CRAFTING FOR CHRISTMAS EVENT

We will have one crafting for Christmas event after all! Please join in the fun of making stocking stuffers. We will be making decoratively wrapped/bound sticky note pads. All supplies will be provided along with instruction. To help determine supply quantities, please sign up at the welcome center. These stocking stuffers will be sold during Christmas in Birchwood Craft Fair on Saturday, December 6.

WHEN: THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25 TIME: 1 - 4 PM

WHERE: TRINITY FELLOWSHIP HALL

WHAT: WRAPPED NOTE PADS



Dessert and Coffee will be served!

SNACKS AND FACTS

Second Tuesday at 2 pm

Learn about what Regional Hospice Services has to offer.

Linda Shydowski, will present information and answer questions.

September 9, 2025, at 2 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall Birchwood, WI

Join in a short Devotion.

Everyone Welcome!



Mission and Outreach

Mission and Outreach is so grateful for the donations from our congregation. We collected \$3975.65 for the flood victims in Texas. The donations were sent to LCMC Texas district which will get needed items to the victims.

We are winding up this year's mission work for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). On August 20, we will be organizing the personal care kits, the baby care kits and quilts which will be shipped to LWR on October 11.

The kids quilts and items for Embrace will be delivered in the next month or two. Additional items will be the care kits that Women of Trinity made. These kits have a variety of useful items in a small, beautiful wallet.

In August and September, we will be collecting school items for the Birchwood schools. A list of school items will be on the table near the office.

Snacks and Fact will begin again on September 9. Linda Shydowski will be speaking on Regional Hospice Services. The speakers come and speak voluntarily so please support them. We learn, share time in fellowship with others and enjoy delicious desserts. Please join us and bring a friend. This program is open to the entire community.

Thank you so very much for your continued support of TLC Mission and Outreach. We could not accomplish our mission work without you.

Respectively, Elaine Ploessl



If you can push a button on the computer then you can run our Sunday Worship PowerPoint slide show. We have four dedicated volunteers but would like a couple more to help spread the load. Please talk to Joanne to find out what is involved – it is really easy! 715-651-4875.

September 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 OFFICE CLOSED- Labor Day 10:30-12:30p Food Pantry Open	2 1:00p Stephen Ministry Mtg	3 6:30a Men's Bible study 8:30a Prayer 7:00p Choir Reh	4 10:15a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Divine Drama	5 OFFICE CLOSED 9-4:00p Rummage Sale	6 9-3:00p Rummage Sale
7 8a Text Study 9a Worship w/ communion	8 9:00a WMMT mtg 10:30 Christian Life mtg 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	9 2:00p Snacks & Facts	10 8:30a Prayer 7:00p Choir Reh 8:00p Praise Team Reh	11 10:15a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Divine Drama	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13 10:00am WOT mtg
14 8a Text Study 9a Worship w/ communion	15 9a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	16	17 6:30a Men's Bible study 8:30a Prayer &:00p Choir Reh	18 10:15a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Divine Drama	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20
21 9a Worship w/ communion Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	22 9a Quilters 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	23 1:00p Stephen Ministry Mtg 6:00p BAHS mtg Journey Deadline	24 8:30a Prayer 7:00p Choir Reh	25 10:15a Women's Bible Study 6:30p Divine Drama	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28 8a Text Study 9a Worship w/ communion Prayer Shawl Sunday	29 9a Quilters 3:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	30				

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

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Birchwood, WI
54817

Snacks & Facts
Sept 9th @ 2:00p
Regional Hospice services



The JOURNEY

September 2025

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor

Pastor Barb Kleven—Associate Pastor

Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator

Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Donnae Carrell, Custodian

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

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Adult Sunday School	8am
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.



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sept 7 — 9:00a worship service w/communion

Sept 14 — 9:00a worship service w/communion

Sept 21 — 9:00a worship service w/communion

Sept 28 — 9:00a worship service w/communion

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

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