

The JOURNEY — *Walking Daily with Jesus*

**Were YOU there when they crucified Jesus?
GOOD FRIDAY DRAMA FOCUSES ON WITNESSES**

This year's Good Friday service will be centered around a dramatic reading for Passion Week, *Were You There When They Crucified My Lord*. The drama uses about a dozen narrators to represent the various people who witnessed Jesus' crucifixion.

If you would be interested in being one of the narrators, please contact the church office or Joanne Schilling. **NO MEMORIZATION REQUIRED!!**

The service will take place on Friday, March 25, at 7 pm.



GOOD FRIDAY

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MARCH LENTEN/HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Mar 2	Mid-Week Lenten Worship	6:30 pm
	<i>Soup Supper</i>	5:30 pm
Mar 9	Mid-Week Lenten Worship	6:30 pm
	<i>Soup Supper</i>	5:30 pm
Mar 16	Mid-Week Lenten Worship	6:30 pm
	<i>Soup Supper</i>	5:30 pm
Mar 20	PALM SUNDAY Worship	10 am
Mar 24	Maundy Thursday Worship	7 pm
	<i>First Communion & Foot-washing</i>	
Mar 25	Good Friday Worship w/Drama	7 pm
Mar 27	Easter Sunrise Service w/Communion	7 am
	Easter Celebration Service with Communion	10 am



**MARCH 13 - Daylight Savings
Time ends! Set your clocks
ahead one hour!**

PASTOR JON'S COLUMN - Good Friday Sermessage - "I Will Never Stop Loving You!"

It was the beginning of Passover Week – the Passover, the most important time in the Jewish religious calendar, a time when all good Jews tried to make the pilgrimage to Jerusalem. A Roman governor once estimated that more than two million came to the Holy City to sacrifice lambs as a thanksgiving to God for their freedom from slavery in Egypt. Jerusalem was under Roman occupation, and so Passover was also a time of tension with religious and national feelings running high. And it was this moment that Jesus chose to declare himself to the world as the Son of God. He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, with the crowd hailing him as their long-awaited king. They shouted "blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" – the expression "he who comes" is another way of saying "Messiah."

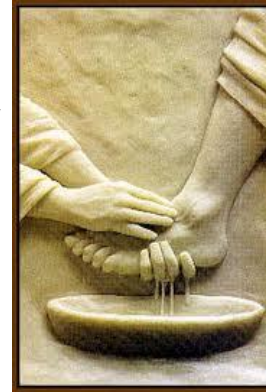
For 1,000 years the Jews had looked for the "golden age," a time when they would conquer all the nations and become masters of the world. They believed that God would help this to happen by sending a Messiah, a new king who would lead them to victory on the battlefield. As Jesus rode into Jerusalem the crowd spread palm branches as a royal welcome, and shouted "blessed is the coming



kingdom of our father David." The long-awaited descendant of King David had come in triumph, God's campaign of military conquest was about to begin. At last, here was the call to arms. But in all their excitement, there was something the crowd didn't seem to have noticed. Jesus was riding a *donkey*.

In those days, when a king went to war, he rode a horse as a sign of power. But when he went among his own people, he rode on a donkey as a sign that he'd come in peace.

This Messiah, this descendant of King David, hadn't come to them in triumph with a call to arms. The Son of God had come in peace to bring the truth to people – the truth about the real nature of his Father. And as Isaiah and others had prophesied, he hadn't come as a king but as a servant – a servant who was to suffer and die to save his people. At Passover, a time when thousands of lambs would be sacrificed, the king had come to give himself as a final sacrifice for the sins of mankind. It was to be a sacrifice not made by priests on a Temple altar, but by Roman soldiers on a cross.



It's a dangerous thing to tell excited and emotional people that their long-held and cherished ideas are all wrong (ever try to institute a small change at your church?) When the crowd realized later that week that Jesus had come to tell them just that they turned against him. In their bitter disappointment, the cries of 'blessed is he who comes' and 'hosanna' turned into ugly shouts of 'crucify him'.

There has been much debate over the centuries about who was to blame for what happened on Good Friday. The crowd? I'm not sure we should blame the crowd; I suspect that we might not have reacted very differently to them under the circumstances. The religious establishment? They had a duty to maintain law and order, and here was a troublemaker. Some years before, after a major anti-Roman riot at a Passover, the Romans had crucified hundreds of Jews as a deterrent against it happening again. Surely it was better to let one man die so that the Jewish people could live in peace, and go on making

their sacrifices in the Temple? Yet the irony was that God had told his people, through the Old Testament prophets, that he didn't *want* all those Temple sacrifices; he told them that he just wanted people to love and obey him. The tragedy was that they didn't listen.

Perhaps God does move in mysterious ways, because, about 40 years later, when the Jewish people did finally revolt against Roman rule, the Roman army completely destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem – and the Jews never rebuilt it. And with the end of the Temple came the end of animal sacrifices. God had given the world the ultimate demonstration of his unchanging, limitless love for mankind with the sacrifice of his own Son on a Roman cross, and by his glorious victory over death three days later.

In the events of the passion we can see the real truth about our God. He is a God who says "you can revile me, mock me, kill me on a cross, but whatever you do to me, *I will never stop loving you.*" This is the loving God he's always been. The merciful God he is today. And the compassionate God he always will be. *May you know this very day... God loves you, always has – always will – PERIOD!*



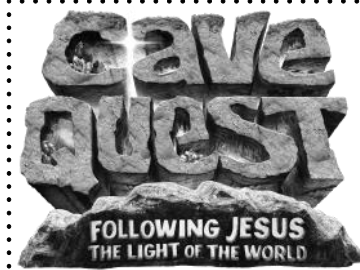
FIRST COMMUNION CLASS — MARCH 12

First Communion instruction will be held on Saturday - March 12, at 9 am. If your child has been baptized and you would like for them to participate, please let Pastor Jon know, by March 6. All ages are welcomed to participate! If you have any questions or concerns please see Pastor Jon.



First Communion in Lutheran congregations is given at different ages—some in 9th grade, some in 5th, some 2nd, some 1st, along with other ages.

We believe this Sacrament is entirely God's work for us, whatever age a person may be. It is important to understand why Communion is given and why it is important, and this is why we offer this class for both students and their parents. During our class, students also will learn how to bake Communion bread and decorate their own chalice (all materials provided), which they will use at their First Communion on Thursday, March 24, during the Maundy Thursday Worship Service at 7 pm at Trinity.



VBS NEEDS YOU!

This year's VBS program theme is CAVE QUEST and set for June 6-10. So gear up for an underground adventure to ground kids in the rock-solid foundation of God's love, a love that takes us through life's dark times.

Now that the theme has been selected, we'll start detailed planning for decoration, publicity, and getting our spelunking volunteers lined up.

We need YOU to help us in these next months, to pray for us, to help make decorations, to donate money for craft, food, and décor items . . . And to be a Station Leader, Crew Leader or other helper during the actual week of VBS. If you are interested in being involved in this wonderful opportunity to help our youth learn of the love of Jesus Christ, then look for the VOLUNTEER BOARD — coming to the narthex SOON!

For more info, call Joanne Schilling at 715-651-4875.

GOOD NEWS FOR "EASTER" PEOPLE INDEED!

At our Lord's Supper at Trinity we remember what is traditionally known as the "Last Supper." Held in the Upper Room, during the season of Passover, Jesus presides over the "Passover" meal which remembers what great work God had done in bringing the captives out of Egypt — setting the captives free!

During the meal, the four promises God makes in Exodus Chapter 6, are remembered:

- "I will take you out,"
- "I will free you,"
- "I will redeem you,"
- "I will take you to myself."

As each promise is remembered, they drink from the cup. This — along with bitter herbs reminding them of the bitterness of captivity, and the unleavened (sinless) bread — make up the focus of the Passover meal. A fifth cup is present, traditionally known as the "Elijah" cup. It is placed there to remind of Elijah's return one day, when Elijah would determine the answers to some of the questions that the people of Israel could not resolve — the Fifth Cup.

In the setting of the "Last Supper," Jesus puts new purpose into this meal in a very significant and specific way. When Jesus takes the unleavened ("sinless") bread, he

breaks it, and gives it to his friends — but then he says in effect, "This sinless bread — is my very body, which will be broken — For You!"



Then, we read in the Gospels that, after supper, Jesus took the cup again — perhaps at the time to remember God's promise of redemption (the third cup), and says, "This redemption we remember — well this redemption is now in my blood which will be shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. For in forgiveness between you and God, there lies redemption."

Well, at Trinity, when we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we also remember that after the supper, Jesus and the 11 move through the Kidron Valley

to the garden at Gethsemane. Once there, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John into the garden to pray. And it is here that we remember that he speaks to his heavenly Father, "Let this cup pass from me, your will not mine be done." What Cup? Perhaps the Fifth Cup, the Elijah Cup, the cup of God's wrath written in scripture in Jeremiah 25 — which speaks of the cup of God's wrath which was to be poured out upon all nations.

As "Easter" people we know that in Jesus' death and resurrection Jesus drank that cup dry — for you! Not one drop left for those who are in Christ Jesus — That, now there is no condemnation for those who are in Him. Jesus came and "decided" the fate of that Fifth cup. He drank it dry, took the punishment and forgave us all the while he was doing so — "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

So this day, and every day of your life — stop believing the lies of the father of all lies. Believe, and live into the truth: The cup of condemnation has been replaced — by the cup of freedom, redemption, and reconciliation! Good News Indeed!

Janitor/Clown/Pastor Jon

YOUTH AND FAMILY

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFIRMATION YOUTH have been busy!



Glory to GOD!

Middle School youth from Trinity, Timber Bay, and friends departed for Rice Lake to attend a **Teens Under Fire** ministry event. We praised God, danced, listened to scripture, and learned about God's AMAZING love for us! **(It was LOUD and clear!)**



Thank you, ladies, for serving at the Mid-week Lenten Supper, Feb 17. Your efforts raised over \$85 for youth ministry! **WE ARE GRATEFUL!**

ANCHOR OUR FAITH!

Please pray for our LCMC Youth Retreat, March 4–6th! Pray for open hearts and minds for the Holy Spirit. Pray for safe travels. Pray for our service. Thank God for the leaders of the event. Thank God for this terrific opportunity. (We have room for one more high school or middle school girl!)

ATTENTION YOUTH ENTERING 9TH—12TH GRADE! CALLED TO SERVE!

2016 LCMC Youth Event: July 19–22, Grand View University, Des Moines, IA

If you've ever been wondering what God's plan for your life is, you're not alone. At **CALLED 2 SERVE**, you'll have a chance to meet other high schoolers from all over the country, lend a hand to people in need, and gain a better understanding of what God might be calling you to do in your local community.

PLAY: Connect with high schoolers and youth group leaders from across the nation through mixers and small groups, PLUS enjoy an outdoor concert on The Green featuring contemporary Christian rock group Remedy Drive!

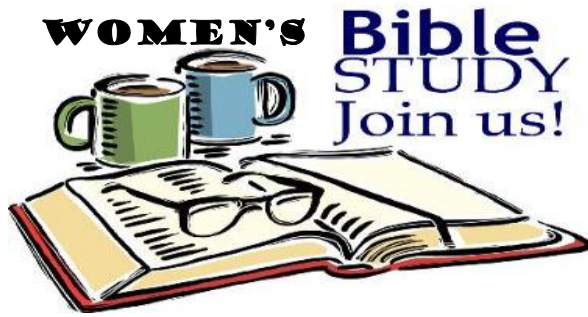
GROW: Get inspired and gain practical advice on how God might be calling YOU to serve through interactive keynote presentations and break out sessions.

SERVE: Make a real difference while at the gathering by taking part in service projects with Random Acts of Kindness, Meals from the Heartland and more!

If you are interested please take a CALLED 2 SERVE brochure from the LET'S GO bulletin board and let Pastor Jon know that you are interested.



called 2 serve



The Women's Precepts study group is changing its format and will begin a new study on March 3. (This is a "no homework" study and not an in-depth study that requires a lot of preparation time like the previous Precepts studies.)

Details:

- Who: Women's Bible Study
- What: "Forgiveness: Breaking the Power of the Past"
- When: Thursdays, 6:30-8 pm starting March 3
- Where: Trinity Room at Trinity Church
- Cost: \$8.50 (includes postage)

The bible study is a powerful study written by Kay Arthur. What the study is about:

In nearly every relationship there's a need to extend or receive forgiveness. Sometimes, when the wounds run deep, forgiveness doesn't come easy. In this bible study we will encounter the depths of God's own mercy and discover how choosing forgiveness can free you from a painful past and propel you toward being all that God intends you to be.

This is a 40-minute, no-homework, 6-week study. There will be no DVD, so this will enable us to have time to share more and pray together.

To order book and sign up for this study, please call Barb Kleven @ 715-834-9988 or email her at bankleven@charter.net

"MEMORIAL TO LOVE" EVENT TO RECOGNIZE SIGNIFICANT LOVES

Come join us on April 16, for a "Memorial To Love" event here at Trinity Lutheran Church. Beginning at 3 pm, we will gather in the sanctuary for worship to recognize the "significant other" in our lives. During a brief worship service, we will together proclaim a vow to the significant love of our lives.

This will be more than a renewal of vows for married couples. It is open to married couples, widows and widowers, and to those who have yet to be formally married! And you are encouraged to invite any family or friends who may be interested in coming to your "Memorial to Love" day! Following the "Memorial to Love" ceremony you are invited into the fellowship hall for heavy hors d'oeuvres, desserts and refreshments.

We need to know of your interest in attending. There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. The deadline for signing up is April 3. Please let us know the number of persons who will be coming. The cost for the event is \$5 per person attending.

Additionally, we would love to have a picture of you and your significant other from your "early" years which we will scan into a slide show for the event. Just bring the picture to church by April 10. You can leave it with Cindy or Joanne. We will treat them with care and return them to you promptly! We look forward to sharing with you a special day of "Memorial to Love!"

Pastor Jon and the MTL Committee



**Retreat Theme of *Abiding in Christ*
LCMC DISTRICT 3RD WOMEN'S RETREAT SLATED FOR APRIL 29-30**

The 3rd Wisconsin Upper Peninsula LCMC Women of the Word Retreat will be held April 29 - 30. Dynamic speaker Diane Brask returns as the entire retreat presenter, leading four sessions on **ABUNDANT FRUIT-FILLED LIFE**.

The retreat will be held at Forest Springs Camp, in Westboro, WI. This beautiful facility is situated about 100 miles away from Birchwood, along the rustic glacial ridge of north central Wisconsin and offers a wonderful opportunity to unplug, have fun, learn and grow.

Rooms have been reserved in Neale Lodge, each with two twin beds, a bunk bed and a trundle bed, which can accommodate up to 5 people/room if one person sleeps on the top bunk! NOTE: There are only 20 rooms and a MAX of 100 beds available — SO BOOK EARLY!

Brochures are available at the Welcome Center. If you missed last year's retreat, you won't want to miss this year's!

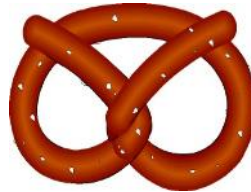


PRETZEL LEGEND



Do you know where pretzels came from? Well, a common story about their origin dates back to the 7th century when a monk supposedly baked strips of dough that he folded into a shape resembling a child crossing its arms in prayer. He would give these treats, which he called "pretiolas" or "little rewards," to children who had memorized their prayers.

They were also possibly called *bracellae* (Latin for "little arms"), later referred to as *bretzel*, and eventually to become *pretzel*. European immigrants brought pretzels to America, and now we enjoy them all year!



WELCOME TO NEW TRINITY MEMBERS

We welcome new Trinity members, Eldon & Joanne Kvale. In 2006, they purchased land in Birchwood in anticipation of retirement. Prior to their move here they had lived in Green Bay for 30 years and been members of Pilgrim Lutheran Church. They decided to make the move to Birchwood in 2013, and in 2014 built a house on their land. Eldon and Joanne like the Birchwood area and look forward to making Trinity Lutheran their new church home. . . As do WE!



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Once again, there weren't enough names on the sign-up sheet to put in the newsletter, so please stop by the Welcome Center and sign up — **WE NEED YOU!**

greet

USHER LAY READER

Communion Assistant

LILIES FOR EASTER

Help beautify the Sanctuary for Easter, March 27
Order a pot of white Lilies
*In Memory of or
In Honor of a Loved One.*

Forms available at the Welcome Center

Cost is \$15 per pot

ORDER BY MARCH 20

(One Hydrangea available for \$30)



PLEASE DONATE YOUR OLD SHEETS TO THE QUILTERS! THEY ARE IN NEED OF USED SHEETS — ANY COLOR! — FOR MAKING SQUARES FOR THEIR QUILTS!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY


Bill Gilgenbach	3/2	Kirby Brunclik	3/11	Karen Dolen	3/21
Ivy Kotel	3/4	Dallas Applebee	3/12	Eunice Kuntz	3/21
Lila Larsen	3/4	Katherine Lane	3/12	Daniel Moline	3/24
Cleo Ries	3/4	Jeanne Sweeney	3/15	Char Mohns	3/24
Jason Colbert	3/5	Don Fuller	3/16	Nicholas Wisti	3/25
Chrissy Gottwald	3/5	Donna Rae Carrell	3/17	Nathan Rich	3/27
Betty Orsund	3/6	Amy Dakins	3/17	Dustin Nap	3/28
Afton Baribeau	3/7	Ron Hartzell	3/17	Louis Larson	3/29
Ardis Wegner	3/7	Gordon Hoff	3/17	Savanah Levake	3/29
Taylor Robotka	3/7	Lea Anderson	3/19	Carol Chasteen	3/30
Landen Gindt	3/8	Jacob Rurup	3/19	Randy Christensen	3/31
Josie Will	3/9	MacKenzie Jenkins	3/20	Noah Lobitz	3/31
Dean Kruegel	3/9	Beth Jutila-Ufferman	3/20	Jenelle Lee	3/31
Tom Olson	3/10	Bev Skar	3/20		

IN OUR PRAYERS

1 - Lloyd Lightner	12 - Dylan Lobitz	24 - Tyler Marcinske
2 - Mariah Lightner	13 - Jeremy Lobitz	25 - Hannah Marske
3 - Christian Lindow	14 - Jessica Lobitz	26 - Hans Marske
4 - Hailee Lindow	15 - Joshua Lobitz	27 - Rick Marske
5 - Jessica Lindow	16 - Karie Lobitz	28 - Vickie Matts
6 - Scott Lindow	17 - Matthew Lobitz	29 - Helen McClyman
7 - Victoria Lindow	18 - Morgan Lobitz	30 - Phil Miles
8 - David Livingston	19 - Noah Lobitz	31 - Rhiana Miles
9 - McKenzie Livingston	20 - Steve Lobitz	
10 - Sara Livingston	21 - Wyatt Lobitz	
11 - Cindy Lobitz	22 - Annesa Loew	
	23 - Eugene Marcinske	



MARCH 2016

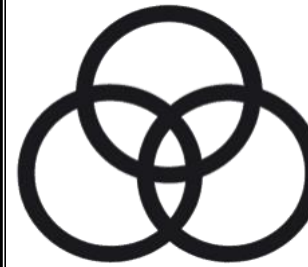
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALTAR GUILD Helen McClyman 		1 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	2 9a - Staff Mtg 5:30p - Lenten Soup Supper 6:30p - Mid-week Lenten Service 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh	3 9:30a - Video Series 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - NEW Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study	4 OFFICE CLOSED <div style="background-color: #cccccc; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">YOUTH RETREAT IN WARRENS</div>	5 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
6 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT 9a - Choir Warmup 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Comm	7 9:30a - Quilters 10a - Worship & Music Team Mtg 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	8 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - Council Mtg	9 9a - Staff Mtg 5:30p - Lenten Soup Supper 6:30p - Mid-week Lenten Service 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh 8:30p - Praise Tm Reh	10 9:30a - Video Series 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - NEW Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 10a - 2p - First Communion Class
13 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Praise Worship <i>Daylight Savings Time Turn Clocks Back</i>	14 9a - Outreach 9:30a - Quilters 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	15 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	16 9a - Staff Mtg 5:30p - Lenten Soup Supper 6:30p - Mid-week Lenten Service 7:15p - Trinity Ch Reh	17 9:30a - Video Series 11a - TLCW Mtg 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - NEW Women's Bible Study NO MEN'S BIBLE STUDY	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
20 PALM SUNDAY 9a - Choir Warm-up 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/ Communion Love Fund & Food Pantry Offerings	21 Journey Deadline 9:30a - Quilters 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	22 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	23 9a - Staff Mtg 6:30p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Ch Reh	24 MAUNDY THURS 9:30a - Video Series Study 9:30a - Journey Assembly 7p - Maundy Thursday Worship w/Communion	25 GOOD FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSED 7p - Good Friday Worship	26
27 EASTER SUNDAY 7a - Easter Sunrise Service w/Communion 9a - Choir Warm-up 10a - Easter Celebration Service w/Communion	28 9:30a - Quilters 7p- AA, Fellowship Hall	29 9a - Intercessory Prayer Session 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class	30 9a - Staff Mtg 6:30p - Confirmation NO CHOIR REH	31 9:30a - Video Series Study 5:45p - Walk By Faith Ex Class 6:30p - NEW Women's Bible Study 6:30p - Men's Bible Study		

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

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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**EASTER SERVICES
 MARCH 27 @ 7 & 10 AM**



The *JOURNEY* MARCH 2016

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Jon Paquette, Pastor
 Cindy Westphal, Parish Administrator
 Melinda Pedersen, Youth & Family
 Joanne Schilling, Choir Director
 501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8
 Birchwood, WI 54817

(715) 354-3790 ♦ (715) 354-3224 (parsonage)

♦ trinitybirchwood@centurytel.net ♦

JOURNEY Editor ♦ Joanne Schilling ♦ jlschilling@hotmail.com ♦

Sunday Worship 8:30 am outdoor (Memorial - Labor Day)
 10 am indoor (Year-round)
 Sunday School 10 am (Sept - May 21)
 Office Hours 8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)
 Pastor's Hours 8a-NOON (Mon-Thu)
 Bulletin info deadline 9 am Wednesdays
 JOURNEY deadline Monday of 3rd week of the month

WORSHIP THIS MONTH

3/2, 3/9, 3/16	6:30 pm Mid-week Lenten Services
3/6	10 am Worship w/Comm— 4th Sun in Lent
3/13	10 am Praise Worship — 5th Sun in Lent
3/20	10 am Worship w/Comm — PALM SUNDAY
3/24	7 pm Worship — Maundy Thursday
3/25	7 pm Worship & Drama — Good Friday
3/27	7 am and 10 am EASTER Services w/Comm

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Amelia	Bill & Eunice Kuntz	Mary Reppe
Dave Beaver	Roy Kuula	Cleo & Merle Ries
Roger Blanch	Bill Lambrecht	Buddy Robotka
George Crust	Ed Leader	Sue Sachs
Annette Gentile	Bob Liermann	Shalom Ministry Team
Laine Guttenberg	Lora & Mary Overgard	Charlotte Snarski
Ron Hartzell	Susan Molin	Katie Sorenson
Gorman Hayes	Lee Namtvedt	Jeremy Spahn
Jordan Howell	Leonard Nysted	Mary Subrt
Becky Hunt	Chuck Peck	Brenda Jean Vogds
Merlin Jahnke	Fred Peck	Sullivan Vogds
Dean Kruegel	Dorothy Perpich	David Yndestad
Jody Kruegel	Jean Peterson	Elaine Yndestad

In the military: Rigil, & Randy Christensen, Rochelle & Alex Fabrizio, Kelsey Will, David Clayton, Eric Bebee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Brian LaGrange and all those serving in the military.

NEXT MEETING OF

Birchwood Food Pantry.	10:30 am, Mar 5, 7, 19 & 21
Worship & Music Team.	9 am, Mar 7
Congregational Council.	6:30 pm, Mar 8
Outreach Committee.	9 am, Mar 14
Trinity Lutheran Church Women.	11 am, Mar 17