

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

It's that time again for your TLC Leadership Team (Council and Staff) to start planning its spring retreat where we will set ministry goals and objectives for 2022 and beyond. Many Christian leadership organizations reference the leadership principles of Nehemiah. Nehemiah was the cup-bearer/assistant to the Persian King Artaxerxes during the time that some of the Jews were returning to Jerusalem from a 70-year exile. Nehemiah hears that the walls of Jerusalem were still in disrepair from the destruction of the city and of the bitter suffering and hardship of his people. Without having secure gates and walls, the people of Jerusalem didn't have a safe place to live or seek shelter during severe weather. Worst of all, Jews didn't have good place to go when they returned from exile. The self-esteem of Israel was at a low point and people's faith in God was waning. Here is what Nehemiah did and what we can learn from his actions.

Show compassion and empathy for those suffering and in need.

Nehemiah mourned, cried bitterly and showed heartfelt empathy of his countrymen.

Pray for God's vision and guidance on how to help those in need.

Nehemiah immediately spent days fasting and praying that God would show him how to help the people of Jerusalem. He continued praying until he received a vision from God.

Communicate the vision/plan. Nehemiah communicated God's plan to rebuild Jerusalem to the Persian King and the nobles, priests and people of Israel.

Find people and resources that can help you reach your goals.

Nehemiah asked the King for help and Nehemiah was promoted to Governor and given authority to repair the walls. Nehemiah enlisted all peoples and all groups in Jerusalem and surrounding villages to help repair the gates. All people provided labor and resources to help rebuild Jerusalem. Nehemiah managed this big undertaking by delegating smaller easily obtainable tasks.

Assess Needs, then set goals and project timeline

Nehemiah assessed all the gates and walls that needed repair when he arrived in Jerusalem. He determined when and how they should be repaired.

Pray for wisdom, discernment and God's guidance in all circumstances.

Nehemiah in Nehemiah 1 prays a fervent emotional prayer to God. He didn't stop praying once he received God's vision. He asked for discernment and help when confronted by opposition. He prayed for the restoration of spiritual health and practices of the people of Israel when the people were being mocked or opposed in their work. In all Nehemiah prayed 12 times in the Book of Nehemiah.

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Practice perseverance and flexibility to change in the face of opposition.

Leaders from surrounding countries that were appointed to be governors of their regions by the Persian King opposed the rebuilding of Jerusalem. These countries were those that God gave to Israel when they came into the Promised Land. Of course, these governors wanted to keep Israel weak and without hope. These governors mocked and said Jerusalem had no hope of rebuilding. They also threatened attacking Jerusalem, conspired to make false accusations about Nehemiah and even conspired to kill him. Nehemiah countered by asking God to thwart their enemies' efforts. He armed half of the workers to be on guard in case of attack. The number one thing Nehemiah did was encourage Israel that with God anything is possible. Nehemiah also met with opposition within Israel. Some people feared the attack from enemies without secure walls and gates. They thought the job was too big to do and lacked the confidence that they could rebuild Jerusalem. Nehemiah kept encouraging the people by telling them rebuilding was God's plan.

Worship, read God's Word and celebrate successes. Nehemiah along with Ezra, the priest called the entire assembly together after Jerusalem was restored. Ezra read from the Book of Law of Moses and all were attentive. Ezra blessed the Lord and all people responded with fervent worship and praise. "Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them." Nehemiah 8:12.

"Nehemiah, a rather ordinary person in a servant position, became a transformational leader when apprised of the discontent of the postexilic Jews in Jerusalem and Judah. By praying to God for discernment of His holy will, Nehemiah followed God's calling to rebuild the walls of the city of Jerusalem. In doing so, he enacted various leadership strategies in addition to the one that came most naturally to him as a devout man of faith; namely, prayer to his Maker and Provider". *What Made Nehemiah an Effective Leader? The Journal of Applied Christian Leadership*

It took all of Israel to come together to realize the vision that God gave to Nehemiah. Last year, your Leadership Team came together to draft God's vision for TLC. **"To be a people that know, love and share Christ"**

As the Leadership Team plans how to further this vision, we need everyone to pray that God would give us wisdom and discernment and help us bring this vision to fruition. If anyone has ideas how we can reach out better to our congregation, visitors and communities, contact myself or a Council member. May the God of vision draw us closer to Him, give us a heart for reaching out to people and show us which path to take through prayer and scriptures.

Your brother and partner in Christ,

Jim McGraw





Valentine's Dinner

The Men's Ministry Team did a wonderful job on their Valentine's Dinner

The Dinner was enjoyed by 29 and included Salisbury Steak or Ham dinner with all the fixings along with some beautiful desserts that was enjoyed by all.

Thank You to the Men's Ministry Team!!



MARCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Mar 6 <i>(10:00 am)</i>	Mar13 <i>(10:00 am)</i>	Mar20 <i>(10:00 am)</i>	Mar27 <i>(10:00 am)</i>
GREETERS	Rob & Terri Freeman	Betty Blanch	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	Betty Blanch
USHERS	LeRoy Brensel Wally Thom	Janet & John Schieffer	Mike Capra Tom Svitak	LeRoy Brensel Wally Thom
COMM. ASSTS	Kathy Thom	Karen Scott	Pat Mackey	Joanne Schilling
READER	Karen Hayes	Gloria Widiker	Sue Capra	Dan Dahl



William Gilgenbach	03/02	Char Mohns	03/24
Ivy Kotel	03/04	Jeff Bemis	03/28
Lila Larsen	03/04	Louis Larson	03/29
Chrissy Gottwald	03/05	Diane Hubbard	03/31
Taylor Robotka	03/07	Noah Lobitz	03/31
Alton Baribeau	03/07	Jenelle Lee	03/31
Landen Gindt	03/08		
Josephine Will	03/08		
Dallas Applebee	03/12		
Jeanne Sweeney	03/15		
Don Fuller	03/16		
Donnarae Carrell	03/17		
Amy Dakins	03/17		
Lea Heath	03/19		
Jacob Rurup	03/19		
Beth Ufferman	03/20		
Bev Skar	03/20		
Jamie Skar	03/22		



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Turn away
from sin

MARCH LENTEN SERVICES

Mar 2 ASH WEDNESDAY Worship	6:30 pm
Mar 9 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	6:30 pm
<i>Lenten Meal</i>	5:30 pm
Mar 16 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	6:30 pm
<i>Lenten Meal</i>	5:30 pm
Mar 23 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	6:30 pm
<i>Lenten Meal</i>	5:30 pm
Mar 30 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	6:30 pm
<i>Lenten Meal</i>	5:30 pm



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

Meeting

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open 10:30-12:30pm Mar 7, 21**
- Worship & Music Team. 10 am, Mar 7**
- Women of Trinity. 10 am, Mar 12**
- Trinity Council Meeting 6:30 pm, Mar 15**

8th Annual Women's Retreat
Rest, Renew, Restore
 presented by Stephenie Hovland, author & speaker

Women of Trinity! Come to the 8th Annual Women of the Word Retreat on April 22-23, at Forest Springs Camp, Westboro WI. The retreat theme "Rest, Renew, Restore" will be presented by Stephenie Hovland.

wife ever since third grade. Recently, she left the classroom to pursue another passion in her life: words! She writes devotions for all ages, educational articles and resources for teachers, picture books, and much more. Stephenie has worked with Concordia Publishing House and Creative Communications for the Parish for several years. Stephenie has been speaking professionally to women's mission groups, church retreats, school groups, writers, and teachers.

Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center. Cost is \$100, and includes dinner on Friday night, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and lodging. Questions? Ask Joanne Schilling for more info!



LENT BEGINS MARCH 2

We begin Lent on March 2, at 6:30 pm, with our Ash Wednesday service of communion and the imposition of ashes. Please come join us in the start of our Lenten journey of repentance and renewal.

Lent is a forty-day season of reflection for Christians. The "forty days" correspond symbolically to the forty years Israel journeyed through the desert towards the Promised Land and the forty days Jesus lived alone in the wilderness for a time of fasting and spiritual preparation.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Palm Sunday (also called "Passion" Sunday because it remembers the *passio* or suffering of Jesus on the cross). Holy Week follows as we walk with Jesus on his journey towards the cross.

The journey ends at sunrise on Easter —*the Sunday of the Resurrection* — when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from death and our own resurrection into new lives, new community, new hope through Christ.



Youth Bible Study

4:30 p.m.

March 2nd - April 13th

A life-changing encounter with God's Word

MATTHEW

Walk through Jesus' most famous teachings during this 7-week bible study and learn what it means to live with Him now so you can live with Him forever.

Meal provided at 5:30 p.m.



Trinity Lutheran Church Monthly Treasurer's Report – Month of January 2022 Summary

For January 2022, income and expenses were below plan. Expense exceeded income by about \$1104. Income was about \$2,688 below plan, at \$11,940 (plan is an average of \$14,628). Expenses were \$1,472 below plan. (Expense plan is an average of \$14,517 monthly).

Thanks again to all members for their continued generosity.
 Respectfully submitted, Mike Rubin,
 Treasurer, TLC



LILIES FOR EASTER

Help beautify the Sanctuary for Easter, April 17.

Order a pot of white Lilies *In Memory of* or *In Honor of* a Loved One. Forms available at the Welcome Center. Cost is \$20 per pot.

ORDER BY APRIL 10



WEEKLY TEXT STUDIES WITH PASTOR DAN

Want to help focus Pastor’s sermon? Then come to the weekly text studies on Mondays at 1 pm, where Pastor and those present will dive into the Scripture texts for the coming Sunday. Copies of the Scriptures are available outside Pastor’s office door. Pick one up and join the text study group.



Women of Trinity Lutheran Church HAPPENINGS

February, 2022

Our meeting was held on February 12 at 10 AM. 12 women were in attendance. We opened and closed with prayer.

Devotion by Di Hubbard.

Altar guild– February, Karen Hayes March, Terri Freeman

More thank you’s were received for year-end donations

Deep cleaning of the kitchen was completed.

Thanks to everyone who assisted with kitchen cleaning and Wed evening meals for youth.

Will approach Men of Trinity about assisting with the garage sale.

Will have election of officers in November.

Need to provide information on WOT to new members and invite them.

WOT will serve the April 6 Lenten meal

Women of the Word 8th annual retreat will be 4/22-24. Info at the welcome center

Joanne Schilling and Kathy and Wally Thom will be planning VBS. Will be looking for volunteers

Volunteers will bring bars to the Bluegill meeting room for reception following Fred Peck’s funeral on 2/18.

Next meeting will be March 12th at 10 AM

Women of Trinity



Community Food Drive

The “Souper Bowl of Caring” annual event is national in scope yet was a local impact. Neighbors were invited by The Cross Youth to join in helping the families and people of our area who need food assistance. Flyers were posted around town encouraging the filling of a bag with family-friendly food items to leave in front of their home to be picked up on Super Bowl Sunday. On the day of the big game, **341 canned and non-perishable food items were gathered and an additional \$162 in monetary donations were collected.** This will be given to stock our local food pantry to feed our neighbors in need. Check out the nationwide totals at www.tacklehunger.org.

An important aspect of youth doing ministry is service to others. We are proud to help hunger relief in our community. “Put God first, the needs of others second, and live third.” Introduce Trinity Lutheran Church in Birchwood, Wisconsin to your youth and family. Follow us on Facebook for upcoming events in your community.

Written By: Ashley Beffa



March 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 6:30p Ash Wednesday Service 7:15 -8:30p Choir Practice	3 10a Women's Bible study	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5
6 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship 11:30 Confirmation Class	7 9:00 Quilters 10:00 WMMT Mtg 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 1:00 pm Text Study 3:30 Woman's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	8	9 5:30 p Lenten Meal 6:30p Lenten Service 7:15 -8:00p Choir Practice 8-9:00 Praise Team rehearsal	10 10a Women's Bible study	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 WOT Meeting 10 am Jean Peterson Funeral
13 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday School 10a - Worship 11:30 Confirmation Class	14 9:00 Quilters 1p Text Study 3:30 Woman's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	15 6:30p - Council Meeting	16 5:30 p Lenten Meal 6:30p Lenten Service 7:15 -8:00p Choir Practice 8-9:00 Praise Team rehearsal	17 10a Women's Bible study 6:30 pm Men's Ministry Mtg	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19
20 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday 10a - Worship Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering 11:30 Confirmation Class	21 9:00 Quilters 1p Text Study 3:30p MONDAY Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	22 Journey Deadline	23 5:30 p Lenten Meal 6:30p Lenten Service 7:15 -8:00p Choir Practice 8-9:00 Praise Team rehearsal	24 10a Women's Bible study	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 8:45-9:45a Adult Sunday 10a - Worship Prayer Shawl Sunday 11:30 Confirmation Class	28 9:00 Quilters 1p Text Study 3:30p MONDAY Women's Bible Study 7p—AA, Fellowship Hall	29	30 5:30 p Lenten Meal 6:30p Lenten Service 7:15 -8:00p Choir Practice 8-9:00 Praise Team rehearsal	31 10a Women's Bible study		

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

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**JOIN US FOR ASH WEDNESDAY
MAR 2 @ 6:30P**



The JOURNEY

March 2022

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor

Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator

Ashley Beffa, Youth & Family

Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Betty Blanch & Donnarae Carrell, Custodians

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

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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 - 3rd week of the month

SUNDAY WORSHIP THIS MONTH

- 3/2 — Ash Wednesday service 6:30p
- 3/6 — 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 3/9 - Lenten Meal 5:30 Service at 6:30p
- 3/13 - 10 am Worship w/Communion
- 3/16 - Lenten Meal 5:30 Service at 6:30p
- 3/20 - 10 am Worship w/Communion -Love Fund Offering
- 3/23 - Lenten Meal 5:30 Service at 6:30p
- 3/27 - Worship w/Communion Prayer Shawl Sunday
- 3/30 - Lenten Meal 5:30 Service at 6:30p

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Debbie Davis	Tracy Reid
Annette Gentile	Bill Rice
Andy Hedman	Ro Sackmann
Barb Hinderman	Carter Sackmann
Eunice Kuntz	Timothy Wallace
Ed Leader	Elaine Yndestad
Lora	Donna Willis
Sharon Mackey	Kathy Paquette

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