

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus



“Hey Pastor, I’ve Got a Question!”

Pastor Dan

“Hey Pastor, I’ve got a question!” a woman says as she passes through the greeting line after worship. I lean in to hear her better, and she asks, “Can you tell me what hell means? Is it a real place?” It is a good question—and a difficult one to answer while others are waiting to leave the church. So how should I respond?

Every pastor has encountered a moment like this. We want to answer thoughtfully and faithfully, drawing on Scripture as we respond. We also want to be theologically sound, knowing that others in the congregation may be wondering the same thing.

After reflecting on this dilemma, I have decided to introduce a new column for our Journey called “Hey Pastor, I’ve Got a Question!” This column is an opportunity for you to send me your theological questions so I can offer responses that may help all of us grow in faith.

This column is not intended to be a “Dear Abby” column. I am not a sage offering advice on child-rearing or solving relationship problems. I am simply the pastor you have called to help meet the spiritual needs of this congregation. As a theologian, my desire is to answer your questions with Scripture as the primary source, drawing on Lutheran resources when helpful.

So please send me your questions. You may email them to me at tlcbirchwood@gmail.com, place them in the “church” in the narthex, or put them in the black mailbox outside the church office. All responses will remain anonymous.

In Christ, Pastor Dan

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Don't put
a question
mark
where God
put a
period.



AUGUST - SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	Aug 2 9:00a	Aug 9 9:00a	Aug 16 9:00a	Aug 23 9:00a	Aug 30 9:00a Outdoor Worship
GREETERS	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	Terri Freeman	Marsha Kampf	Sue Svitak	Cyndi & Jim McGraw
USHERS	Wes Mohns John Schieffer	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Steve Tracey Kevin Ploessl	Tom Svitak Mike Capra	↓
COMM. ASSTS	Joanne Schilling	Ellen Ehrich	NEED	Dan Dahl	
READER	Eric Anderson	Kathy Thom	Donnarae Carrell	Gloria Widiker	Kathy Thom



8/12 Virginia Hurckman
8/14 Sandi David
8/15 John Schieffer
8/31 Rose Cutsforth



8/5 Kevin & Julie Sunderland
8/9 Dan & Meaghan Ruff
8/17 Scott & Hannah VanGilder
8/21 Eldon & Joanne Kvale
8/28 Mike & Sue Capra



Trinity Lutheran Church Birchwood
501 East Chetac Avenue
September 11-12, 2026
Friday September 11th 9am -3pm
Saturday September 12th 9am - 3pm
Saturday only: Bag sale 1-3 pm \$2:00/bag
BBQ lunch served both days 10:00 - 1:30p
Includes: sandwich/chips/bar
Coffee, water and bars available separately.
You can drop off items for the Rummage sale
On Sept. 6 after service and Sept. 8-10, 8-3p

Meeting

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

Birchwood Food Pantry Open. Aug 3 & 17, 10:30a-12:30p
Worship & Music Team. Aug 3, 9:00a
Christian Life Meeting. Aug 3, 10:30a
Women of Trinity Aug 12, 3:00p
Trinity Council meeting. No mtg

ALTAR GUILD HELP NEEDED!

Women of Trinity - We are in need of help with Altar Guild!

Due to one of our members needing to step down from her position, we are in need of someone for September to fulfill these duties. This is not a hard job but one of joyful service.

If this is something you would be willing to do, please contact Janet Schieffer. If you would like further information or have general questions regarding what this role entails, talk with me or any of the ladies who are currently a part of this service:

- Joanne Schilling
- Karen Hayes
- Terri Freeman
- Cindy Rubin
- Connie Dahl
- Sue Capra
- Ida Jahnke
- Eleanor Kuula
- Julie Sunderland
- Ellen Ehrich



ALTAR GUILD

They would be happy to share with you.

August 25, 9 am—3 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church

Blood Drive

American Red Cross

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PARTISAN PRIMARY



★★ TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026 ★★

 **POLLS OPEN: 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM**

BEFORE YOU VOTE	EVERYTHING IN ONE PLACE	IMPORTANT DATES
 REGISTER TO VOTE Make sure you are registered to vote.  CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION Confirm your voter information is up to date.  FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE Locate where you vote on Election Day.  VIEW YOUR BALLOT See what will be on your ballot before you vote.  REQUEST OR TRACK AN ABSENTEE BALLOT Request, track or return your absentee ballot.	 myvote.wi.gov Register to vote, find your polling place, view your ballot and more with MyVote Wisconsin.	 VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE • Postmarked by: Wed Jul 22, 2026 • Online by: Wed Jul 22, 2026 11:59PM • In-Person Request by: Fri Aug 7, 2026 5:00PM • Election Day Registration & Voting: Tue Aug 11, 2026  ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST DEADLINE • Email, Online or Fax by: Thu Aug 6, 2026 • Post Received by: Thu Aug 6, 2026 5:00PM • In-Person Request by: Sun Aug 9, 2026 • Emergency Ballot Period: From Tue Aug 4, 2026 to Tue Aug 11, 2026  ABSENTEE BALLOT RETURN DEADLINE • Received by: Tue Aug 11, 2026 8:00PM  EARLY VOTING AVAILABLE • In-person Absentee Voting: From Tue Jul 28, 2026 to Sun Aug 9, 2026
NEED TO REGISTER?	ABSENTEE VOTING	BRING YOUR PHOTO ID
 REGISTER ONLINE Register at myvote.wi.gov before the registration deadline.  AT YOUR MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE Register in person during regular office hours.  AT YOUR POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY You can register at your polling place when you vote. You will need proof of residence.	✓ Any eligible voter may request an absentee ballot. ✓ You may request your ballot online at myvote.wi.gov, by mail, email or in person from your municipal clerk's office. ✓ You may return your completed absentee ballot by mail, in the drop box at your clerk's office, or in person at your clerk's office. ✓ Your ballot must be received by 8:00 PM on Election Day.	 Wisconsin law requires an acceptable photo ID to vote. Find a list of acceptable IDs at bringit.wi.gov

★ **YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE. OUR FUTURE.** ★

For official election information visit MyVote Wisconsin: myvote.wi.gov



Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Dear Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

I am bringing you great news from the Stephen Ministry Leadership. This fall, the second Stephen Minister training class will begin for a group of 4 laypeople from our congregation. Over the next few months these future Stephen Ministers will receive extensive training in Christian caring skills. Some of the areas they will cover include listening effectively, addressing feelings, confidentiality, using the resources of Christianity, being assertive, and a number of topics dealing with specific life crises. Throughout, the training will emphasize the theology of caring for the whole person.

Following the training, these women will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers and will join Cindy Rubin, Sue Janetski and Dan Dahl (our previously commissioned Stephen Ministers) to carry out TLC ministries of caring within our congregation and community. They will provide care for people experiencing hospitalization, grief, divorce, job loss, and many other life crises. Working under Stephen Leaders' guidance and supervision, our newest Stephen Ministers will extend the capacity of our congregation to care.

Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers as they receive this training for caring ministry.

Faithful God, we begin a new training class of Stephen Ministers this fall. We ask you to guide our Stephen Leaders and our Stephen Minister trainees through this equipping experience. Bless our trainees' learning, give them dedicated hearts and open minds, nurture the community they are forming, and walk with them now and throughout their ministry. In your name we pray. Amen.

Also continue to keep Cindy, Sue and Dan in your thoughts and prayers.

Gracious God, we lift up our Stephen Ministry in prayer today. Grant wisdom and discernment to our Stephen Leaders as they guide

others in this ministry. Grant patience and compassion to our Stephen Ministers as they faithfully meet with their care receivers each week. Grant healing and peace to the care receivers in the midst of their pain. And open all our eyes and ears so that we might recognize and reach out to those who are hurting. Help us to make TLC the caring and loving community you have called us to be. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

If you have any questions about Stephen Ministry training and care-giving, please contact Gelene Tabor (218) 576-9939 or me (612) 859-3046.

Jim McGraw, Stephen Ministry Leadership Coordinator

LAST OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND POTLUCK

Summer is almost over which means our last Outdoor Worship service will be August 30.

Bring your lawn chair and a dish to pass for the potluck that follows.



CALLING ALL SINGERS

Choir and Praise Team rehearsals will kick off Wednesday, September 9, at 1 pm.

If you sing in the pew, you are invited to join us! Rehearsals run till 2:30 pm. The choir sings the 1st and 3rd Sundays, and the Praise Team sings the 2nd Sunday.

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



August 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 8a Text Study 9a Worship w/ communion	3 9a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 2:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	4	5 7:00a Men's Bible study 8:30a Prayer	6 10:30a Women's Bible Study	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8
9 8a Text Study 9a Worship w/ communion	10 9a Quilters 2:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	11	12 8:30a Prayer 3:00p WOT mtg	13 10:30a Women's Bible Study	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15
16 8a Text Study 9a Worship w/ communion Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	17 9a Quilters 10:30a-12:30p—Food Pantry Open 2:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	18	19 7:00a Men's Bible study 8:30a Prayer	20 10:30a Women's Bible Study	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 8a Text Study 9a Worship w/ communion Prayer Shawl Sunday	24 9a Quilters 2:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall	25 9:00a Blood Mobile 6:00p BAHS mtg Journey Deadline	26 8:30a Prayer	27 10:30a Women's Bible Study	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 8a Text Study 9a Outdoor Worship w/ communion (weather permitting) Pot Luck to follow service	31 9a Quilters 2:30p Women's Bible Study 7p AA, Fellowship Hall					

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

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Blood Mobile 8/25



The JOURNEY **August 2026**

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Daniel Tabor—Pastor

Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator

Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Donna Rae Carrell, Custodian

501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8 ♦

Birchwood, WI 54817

(715) 354-3790 ♦ (715) 416-4966 (Pastor's cell)

♦ trinitylutheranbirchwood.com ♦

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JOURNEY Editor ♦ Julie Sunderland ♦ tlcbirchwood@gmail.com

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

Aug 2 —9:00a worship service w/communion

Aug 9 —9:00a worship service w/communion

Aug 16 —9:00a worship service w/communion

Aug 23 —9:00a worship service w/communion

Aug 30 —9:00a worship service w/communion

Last Outdoor service-weather permitting

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.

