

# The JOURNEY – Walking Daily with

Our Romans epistle study, that began earlier this year on Memorial Day weekend, will be put on hold until 2020 in order to celebrate the coming Messiah. However, it's my hope that we don't lose sight of what the Apostle Paul was teaching. Our last Sunday before Thanksgiving, we looked at the most practical section of Paul's letter to the believers in Rome. It is true, all scripture is useful for teaching and guidance, but this section of Romans chapter 12 could easily be described as **"How to Really Love Others"**. The writer of the Message version, Eugene Peterson, does a wonderful job of putting Paul's words into everyday language. He interprets verses 9-21 to read:

Keep a smile on your face!

Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it.  
Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good.

Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.  
Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame.  
Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant.

Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder.  
Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.  
Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath.

Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down.  
Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up.  
Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody.

Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it." Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.

Live in a way that *really* loves! As we enter this season of Advent, let these words of instruction guide you. Love God by loving others; all others. Give thanks in all things. Bless your friends, family, church, and neighbors as He has richly blessed you. In Jesus name. Amen?

Pastor Jack

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# BIBLE STUDY

## WOMEN'S MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Monday Night Bible Study will be on hiatus through the Advent and Christmas season.

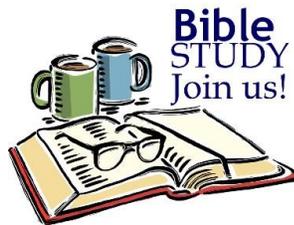
Instead, you are encouraged to join us for our Mid-week Wednesday Advent services beginning at 5:45 pm with a light meal followed by the service at 6:30 pm. We will reconvene our Bible Study beginning January 6 at 6:30 pm.

## WOMEN'S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Christianity & Action, Do you want to be a part of it? The Women's Thursday morning bible study will begin a new study in James December 5, at 9:30am in the Trinity room!! JOIN US!!!

## THURSDAY EVENING GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Thursday evening Bible study is underway. Join us at 6:30pm in the Trinity room, as Di & Kyle Hubbard lead use through the book of Acts. Everyone is Welcome!! For more info contact Kyle @ 715-790-1401 or Di @ 941-893-0311.



## PASTIES

If you didn't get to try them at the fall fest you missed out, but Di will be doing another sampling:-) If you want to help make these



tasty treasures there is a sign up sheet at the welcome center. We also need donations of the ingredients if you can't help make them. Pasties will be sold by pre-order

## CHRISTMAS CANTATA—DEC 15

The Trinity Cantata Choir will present the choral musical, *The Glorious Story of Christmas*, during the 10 am worship service, December 15.

How many times have you heard the Christmas Story? Dozens? Hundreds? Maybe thousands of times?

Consider the story of Bethlehem. Consider the story of the angels and the story of the shepherds. Consider the story of the wise men who come from the East. Consider Mary's story. Once again, we've heard the story of Christmas: Of wise men and kings, angels and shepherds, Mary and Joseph and a baby. And yet, you can hear the story but still miss the glory. The glory of Christmas is that God invites you and me into his story!

Come celebrate the Christmas story through this musical performance!



## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

- DEC 1 1st Sunday of Advent – Worship w/ Communion @ 10 am
- DEC 4 Mid-week Advent Service at Trinity @ 6:30 pm (Meal @ 5:30 pm)
- DEC 8 2nd Sunday of Advent – Children's Program @ 10 am
- DEC 11 Mid-week Advent Service at Trinity @ 6:30 pm (Meal @ 5:30 pm)
- DEC 15 3rd Sunday of Advent—Cantata *The Glorious Story of Christmas*
- DEC 18 Mid-week Advent Service at Trinity @ 6:30 pm (Meal @ 5:30 pm)
- DEC 22 4rd Sunday of Advent – Worship w/Communion @ 10 am
- DEC 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service w/Holy Communion @ 5 pm





# Trunk or Treat



## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	December 1 (10 AM)	December 8 (10 AM)	December 15 (10 AM)	December 22 (10 AM)	December 29 (10 AM)
<b>GREETERS</b>	Kyle & Di Hubbard	Rob & Terri Freeman	Jackie & Dan Healy	YOUTH	Leo & Mary Diehl
<b>USHERS</b>	Leo Diehl LeRoy Brensel	Wes & Char Mohns	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	YOUTH	Sunderland's
<b>COMM. ASSTS</b>	Kathy Thom Jim McGraw	Rolf & Barb Kleven	Jeanne Dahlby Wally Thom	YOUTH	Wally & Kathy Thom
<b>READER</b>	Marcia Kampf	Travis Soper	Melinda Pedersen	YOUTH	Janet Schieffer

## Happy Birthday!

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Kevin Kotel 12/02<br>Jacki Rich 12/02<br>Tyler Marcinske 12/03<br>Bob Skar 12/03<br>Brent Wahtke 12/03<br>Jason Ivers 12/04<br>David Miller 12/04<br>Stacy Anderson 12/05<br>Betty Blanch 12/06<br>Anne Gilbertson 12/06<br>Lauren Gustafson 12/06<br>Wally Thom 12/06<br>JoAnn Schupp 12/07<br>LeRoy Brensel 12/08<br>Cody Miller 12/30 | Logan Saldana 12/10<br>Judith Ede 12/12<br>Eldon Kvale 12/14<br>Cody Rurup 12/15<br>Karen Scott 12/16<br>Donna Willis 12/18<br>Brian Russ 12/20<br>Alexander Jasper 12/22<br>Pete Baribeau 12/24<br>Ray Buxton 12/24<br>John Will 12/26<br>Joan Fuller 12/29<br>Sheila Moline 12/29<br>Auston Cherney 12/30<br>Cody Miller 12/30<br>Brody Rurup 12/30 |
|--|---|

### WOMEN OF TRINITY HAPPENINGS.....

- We held our November meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:30 p.m., with 16 women attending the meeting.
- Altar Guild chair, Jeanne Dahlby, reported all months are filled for 2020. We will be looking for volunteers for December Altar Guild as one of our members recovers from surgery.
- The 2020 Service Booklet will be updated and published in January. Any women who attend Trinity should be willing to serve in a service capacity. If you are not in the book, please give your name and number to Julie in the office.
- The dishwasher is in place, but not ready to use, though it should be soon.
- Lefse making took place Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, with a dozen people helping with the making. Lefse will be offered for sale Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, just in time for Thanksgiving.
- Christmas Bake Sale will be



Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, which is the same day as the Christmas cantata. Ladies, please provide Christmas cookies or some kind of baked goods and bring them to the church by Saturday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. They will be priced and displayed between 1:00 and 3:00 on that day.

- The carpet in the Fellowship Hall will be cleaned soon, thanks to Eleanor Kuala, who found a cleaner willing to take on the job. The Women of Trinity will pay for the cleaning.
- At our next meeting on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10:00 a.m. we'll decide on which charities will receive our hard-earned money, have a luncheon, and then pack up Christmas cookie boxes for shut-ins. Women, please bring a minimum of 3 dozen Christmas cookies. All women attending Trinity Lutheran are considered members of Women of Trinity Service group. If you're not attending a meeting, please consider it. The meetings have been changed to nights and occasionally a Saturday meeting to accommodate those women who are still working.

### WOMEN OF TRINITY TO MEET DECEMBER 7

The Women of Trinity will have meet on Saturday, December 7, starting at 10:00 a.m. with their monthly meeting. It's important for women to attend this meeting as we'll be deciding which charities will receive the hard-earned money we have to offer them.



After the meeting we'll have a Christmas luncheon, enjoying the company of our fellow women and getting to know each other better.

After the luncheon, we will be packing up Christmas cookie boxes for shut-ins, so women, bring at least 3 dozen cookies. We'll enclose a Christmas card and information on our church.

### BAKE SALE AT TRINITY DECEMBER 15

The Women of Trinity will have their annual Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, before and after the morning service, which is also the day of the choir Christmas cantata. Women are asked to drop off their baked goods at the church kitchen anytime before Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, when the goodies will be packaged and priced.



Advent Midweek Worship

**MID-WEEK ADVENT MEALS AND SERVICES**

Come join us for simple mid-week advent meals at 5:45 pm on Dec. 4, 11, and 17.

The mid-week Advent services will follow at 6:30 pm. No cost — free-will donation.



The Trinity Sunday School and *The Cross* Youth are performing the Christmas play, *'Twas the Light Before Christmas*, on December 8, during the 10 am worship service.

They have been busy making props in Sunday School and will be able to take them home after the performance.

Rehearsals are:

- Dec. 1, during Sunday School for Sunday School kids
- Dec. 4, 5:15—7:30 pm for *The Cross* Youth

**2020 BUDGET SET AT ANNUAL MEETING**

**TRINITY MEMBERS SET UP TO SERVE**

Trinity's annual meeting was held November 10, to vote on various items for the upcoming year.

Newly elected council officers and members are:

- ✦ President — *Jim McGraw*;
- ✦ Vice President — *Wally Thom*;
- ✦ Secretary — *Brenda Mackey*;
- ✦ Fellowship & Growth—*Di Hubbard*;
- ✦ Congregational Care — *Barb Kleven*;
- ✦ Outreach — *Karen Hayes*;
- ✦ Worship & Music — *Kathy Thom*;
- ✦ Evangelism — *LeRoy Brensel*;
- ✦ Stewardship—*Kyle Hubbard*

Nominations were taken for the 2020 Nominating Committee and Leo Diehl, Di Hubbard & Pat Mackey were elected to the committee.

Thank you to all who have stepped forward to serve our congregation in these leadership roles.



**HELP NEEDED IMMEDIATELY**

Looking for Family units to do the readings and lighting of the Advent Candle on two Sundays during Advent: December 15 and 22.

If you would be willing, please call Julie in the church office ASAP.



*Red Cedar Choir Presents*  
**"The Beautiful Sing"**  
*2019 Holiday Concert*  
*Beth Joosten Director*     *Barbara Lancaster Accompanist*  
*Featuring:*  
**Bethany Brass**  
*Sunday, December 8, 2019*  
*2:00 & 4:00 p.m.*  
**St. Joseph's Catholic Church**  
*111 W. Marshall St.*  
*Rice Lake, WI*

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire     Barron COUNTY     *Free will donation*

**RED CEDAR CHOIR CONCERT**

The Red Cedar Choir Christmas Concert will be held on December 8, at 2 and 4 pm, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rice Lake. There is no cost. Come start the Christmas Season with the beautiful music of the choir and Bethany Brass.



**Trinity will hold its Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship service at 5 pm on December 24.**

**The service will include Lessons and Carols as well as Holy Communion.**

**All are welcome to attend.**



**NEXT MEETING OF . . .**

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open. . . . .10:30 am, Dec 2, 7, 16, 21**
- Worship & Music Team. . . . .9:30 am, Dec 2**
- Trinity Lutheran Church Women. . . . .10:00 am, Dec 7**
- Mission & Outreach. . . . .11:00am, Dec 11**
- Trinity Council Meeting . . . . .6:30 pm, Dec 17**



The Adopt a Family tree is up in the Narthex. Stop by and grab a tag off the tree. Bless a family this year!!! Please have your presents wrapped with the tag you select back under the tree by December 16 for distribution.

## December 2019

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:30a—WMMT mtg 10:30a—Food Pantry open  6:30p— NO Wmns Bible Study  7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 5:45 Advent Meal 6:30 Advent Service 7p—Cantata Rehearsal  8:00p—Trinity Choir	<b>5</b> 9:30a—Women's Bible Study  6:30 -Group Bible Study at Trinity	<b>6</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>7</b> 10:00 -WOT Meeting  10:30a-1:30p –Food Pantry Open
<b>8</b>  <b>9:30 am - Coffee</b>  <b>10am—Worship</b> <b>Children's Program</b>	<b>9</b>  6:30p—NO Wmns Bible Study  7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10a-Northland Meeting  11a—Missions Meeting  5:45 Advent Meal 6:30 Advent Service  7p—Cantata Rehearsal  8:00p—Trinity Choir	<b>12</b> 9:30a—Women's Bible Study  6:30 -Group Bible Study at Trinity	<b>13</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>Love Fund/Food Pantry</b>  <b>9:30 am - Coffee</b>  <b>10am—Christmas Cantata</b>	<b>16</b> Journey Deadline 6:30p—NO Wmns Bible Study  7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>17</b> 6:30 pm Council Meeting	<b>18</b> 5:45 Advent Meal 6:30 Advent Service  8:00p—NO Trinity Choir	<b>19</b> 9:30a—Women's Bible Study  6:30p—Group Bible Study at Trinity	<b>20</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>21</b> 10:30a-1:30p – Food Pantry Open
<b>22</b> <b>Prayer Shawl</b>  <b>9:30 am —Coffee</b>  <b>10am—Worship</b>	<b>23</b> 10:00am Journey Assembly  10:30a —Food Pantry Open  6:30p—NO Wmns Bible Study  7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>Merry Christmas</b>	<b>26</b> 9:30a—Women's Bible Study  6:30—Group Bible Study at Trinity	<b>27</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>  <b>9:30 am – Coffee</b>  <b>10am—Worship</b>	<b>30</b> 6:30p—NO Wmns Bible Study  7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	<b>31</b>				

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

**FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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Birchwood, WI  
54817



**KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DEC 8**

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA DEC 15**



# The JOURNEY December 2019

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Jack Jorgensen, Pastor*

*Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator*

*Ashley Beffa, Youth & Family*

*Joanne Schilling, Choir Director*

*Betty Blanch & Donnarae Carrell, Custodians*

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**(715) 354-3790 ♦ (651) 592-8961 (Pastor's cell)**

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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

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP THIS MONTH**

12/1 –10am Worship w/ Communion

12/8–10am Worship w/ Communion

12/15 –10am Worship w/ Communion –Love Fund/Food Pantry

12/22 –10am Worship w/ Communion-Prayer Shawl Sunday

12/29–10am Worship w/Communion

## **KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Vicki Busick	Lora	Carter Sackmann
Debbie Davis	Sharon Mackey	Collette Sandow
Barb Fegan	Rusty Morrell	Cindy Schaan
Annette Gentile	Leonard Nysted	Timothy Wallace
Dan Gowan	Fred Peck	Elaine Yndestad
Andy Hedman	Jean Petersen	Carol Addington
Eileen Koefler	Jim Pravda	
Bill & Eunice Kuntz	Tom Reed	
Roy Kuula	Tracy Reid	
Bill & Joyce Lambrecht	Bill Rice	
Rebecca Langham	Buddy Robotka	
Ed Leader	Ro Sackmann	

***In the military:*** Rigil & Randy Christensen, Rochelle & Alex Fabrizio, Eric Bebee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Cody Davis, Bennett Jorgensen and all those serving in the military.